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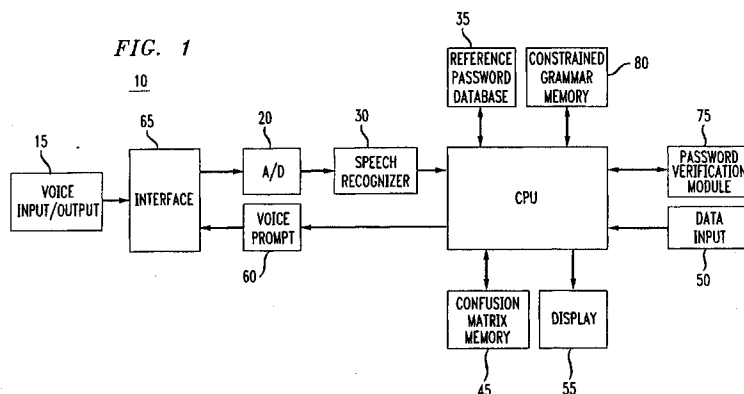
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(54) **Statistical database correction of alphanumeric account numbers for speech recognition and touch-tone recognition**

(57) A method and apparatus for recognizing an identifier entered by a user. A caller enters a predetermined identifier through a voice input device (15) or a touch-tone keypad of a telephone handset. A signal representing the entered identifier is transmitted to a remote recognizer (30), which responds to the identifier signal by producing a recognized output intended to match the entered identifier. The present invention compares this recognized identifier with a list (35) of valid reference identifiers to determine which one of these reference identifiers most likely matches the entered identifier.

In performing this determination, the present invention employs a confusion matrix (45), which is an arrangement of probabilities that indicate the likelihood that a given character in a particular character position of the reference identifier would be recognized by the recognizer as a character in the corresponding character position of the recognized identifier. This determination yields an identifier recognition probability for every reference identifier, and the present invention selects the reference identifier with the highest identifier recognition probability as most likely corresponding to the entered identifier.





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 97 30 9311

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 20 January 1999	Examiner Ramos Sánchez, U
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.**

EP 97 30 9311

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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