

states that tapping (selecting) items at a display screen edge is much easier and more effective than elsewhere on the display screen.

[0038] The text input method may involve the steps of

[0039] detecting selection by said user of one of the presented suffices; and

[0040] for the selected suffix, replacing a presentation of said partial word on said display screen with a presentation of the word completion candidate to which the suffix belongs.

[0041] Advantageously, after said step of replacing a presentation, the presented suffices are removed from presentation in the predetermined area. Moreover, the presented suffices may be removed from presentation in the predetermined area upon detecting selection by said user of said space bar, the user thereby indicating that the current text input is a complete word.

[0042] In other words, word completion candidates will only be shown in the predetermined area during such times when it is relevant to do so, and during other times the space bar may be used solely for inputting space characters. In one embodiment, if the current partial word which has been input by the user contains less than a certain number of characters, such as two, no suffices will be shown in the predetermined area. Thus, in this embodiment, single-character candidates are not displayed; a candidate needs to have at least two characters in order to be displayed to the user. This conforms well to the general purpose of a virtual keypad with word completion functionality, namely to reduce the amount of key taps—tapping single character candidates obviously does not fulfill that purpose.

[0043] In this document, a “writing tool” is an object suitable for interaction with a touch-sensitive display so as to input text in the manner described. Thus, a “writing tool” may be a stylus, pen, a user’s finger or any other physical object suitable for such interaction with the touch-sensitive display.

[0044] Preferably, the predetermined area only overlaps a predefined maximum part of the space bar, the maximum part being such that a sufficient area of the space bar is left available for convenient selection by said user.

[0045] The extent of the sufficient area that is deemed enough for convenient selection of the space bar, even when the predetermined area is used to the maximum for presentation of suffices, will of course have to be decided for each actual implementation. However, at least an area corresponding to a certain number of characters, such as 2, of typical size is presently believed to be appropriate to leave unoccupied for convenient selection of the space bar.

[0046] The text input method may involve the step of selecting, among the set of word completion candidates derived by the word completion functionality, candidates to be included in said sub set for presentation in a way such that shorter suffices are favored over longer suffices, thereby allowing a larger number of suffices to be presented in the predetermined area. For instance, suffices containing only two or three characters may be favored over ones that contain four or more characters. In this way, it may be possible to include e.g. 4 shorter suffices in the presented sub set, rather than just 2 or 3 longer ones. Alternatively, if no

such favoring is applied, it may be necessary sometimes to reduce the number of suffices presented in the predetermined area, so that the permitted maximum part that overlaps the space bar is not exceeded. Another alternative would be to truncate the suffices, at least the longer ones, so that only the leading characters thereof are presented to represent the suffix in question.

[0047] A second aspect of the invention is an electronic apparatus having a user interface with text input means and a display screen, and a controller coupled to said display screen, the user interface including word completion functionality for predicting word candidates for partial word inputs made by said user employing said text input means, the controller being adapted for performing the steps of:

[0048] receiving a partial word input from said user;

[0049] deriving a set of word completion candidates using said word completion functionality, each of the word completion candidates in said set having a prefix and a suffix, wherein the prefix corresponds to said partial word input; and

[0050] presenting the suffices for at least a sub set of the word completion candidates in a predetermined area on said display screen, wherein each of the presented suffices is made selectable for said user.

[0051] The electronic apparatus may for instance be a mobile terminal for a mobile telecommunications system, such as GSM, UMTS, D-AMPS or CDMA2000, or a portable/personal digital assistant (PDA), a pocket computer, or another type of similar apparatus.

[0052] A third aspect of the invention is a computer program product directly loadable into a memory of a processor, where the computer program product comprises program code for performing the method according to the first aspect when executed by said processor.

[0053] The second and third aspects may generally have the same or corresponding features and advantages as the first aspect.

[0054] Other objectives, features and advantages of the present invention will appear from the following detailed disclosure, from the attached dependent claims as well as from the drawings.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0055] Embodiments of the present invention will now be described in more detail, reference being made to the enclosed drawings.

[0056] **FIG. 1** is a perspective view of an electronic apparatus according to one embodiment, in the form of a pocket computer which is shown in a typical operating position in the hands of a user.

[0057] **FIGS. 2 and 3** are different perspective views of the pocket computer of **FIG. 1**.

[0058] **FIG. 4** illustrates a computer network environment in which the pocket computer of **FIGS. 1-3** advantageously may be used for providing wireless access for the user to network resources and remote services.

[0059] **FIG. 5** is a schematic block diagram of the pocket computer according to the previous drawings.