

recency of use or repeated use of the linguistic object by the user or within an application program.

**21.** The system of claim 1, wherein said list of predicted linguistic objects are ordered by a combination value of a calculated weighted distance value and a linguistic model.

**22.** The system of claim 21, wherein said linguistic model comprises one or more of:

frequency of occurrence of a linguistic object in formal or conversational written text;

frequency of occurrence of a linguistic object when following a preceding linguistic object or linguistic objects;

proper or common grammar of the surrounding sentence;

application context of current linguistic object entry; and

recency of use or repeated use of the linguistic object by the user or within an application program.

**23.** The system of claim 21, wherein the linguistic object with the highest combination value is selected by default.

**24.** The system of claim 1, wherein the linguistic objects longer than the number of actions of direction selection means are included in said list of predicted linguistic objects.

**25.** The system of claim 1, further comprising a means for extending a selected linguistic object with completions.

**26.** The system of claim 25, wherein said completions are displayed in a pop-up list after a button press or directional input.

**27.** The system of claim 1, further comprising a means for precisely selecting said letters of said linguistic object.

**28.** The system of claim 1, wherein an exact spelling sequence is displayed in said text display area.

**29.** The system of claim 1, wherein the last entered letter is indicated in said exact spelling sequence.

**30.** The system of claim 2, wherein the last entered letter is indicated in said onscreen keyboard.

**31.** The system of claim 1, further comprising a means to change the last entered letter.

**32.** A text input method using a directional selection means, wherein each direction entered corresponds, directly or indirectly, to one or more letters or symbols, said method comprising the steps of:

a user indicating a desired direction using said directional input means;

recording the direction in an angular notation comprising radians, gradients, degrees, or an equivalent units; and

retrieving a letter from a table or database based on the angle recorded.

**33.** The method of claim 32, wherein the angular direction is derived from recording the X-Y offset of a directional input device and converting that offset into an angular notation comprising radians, gradients, or degrees.

**34.** The method of claim 33, wherein the conversion is a variation on the standard Cartesian to Polar formula of  $\text{Angle}=\arctan(Y/X)$ .

**35.** The method of claim 32, wherein said letter retrieved can be one of any number of adjacent or nearby letters or symbols.

**36.** The method of claim 32, wherein said possible matching letters are presented in order of predicted likelihood of desired match.

**37.** The method of claim 32, wherein the letters presented are limited to those that match certain positions in linguistic objects listed in a database.

**38.** The method of claim 32, wherein the letters are presented only in the context of linguistic objects that the letters are a part of.

**39.** The method of claim 32, further comprising the steps of:

retrieving a list of predicted linguistic objects which are corresponding to the sequence of various angles recorded.

**40.** The method of claim 39, wherein the order of said list of predicted linguistic objects is based on a combination value of a calculated weighted distance value and a linguistic model.

**41.** The method of claim 40, wherein the linguistic model comprises one or more of:

frequency of occurrence of a linguistic object in formal or conversational written text;

frequency of occurrence of a linguistic object when following a preceding linguistic object or linguistic objects;

proper or common grammar of the surrounding sentence;

application context of current linguistic object entry; and

recency of use or repeated use of the linguistic object by the user or within an application program.

**42.** The method of claim 39, further comprising the step of:

selecting a desired linguistic object from said list of predicted linguistic objects.

**43.** The method of claim 32, wherein said directional input means is associated with an on-screen keyboard.

**44.** The method of claim 43, wherein said on-screen keyboard comprises a ring of letters, numbers or other symbols.

**45.** The method of claim 43, wherein said on-screen keyboard is represented in Polar or Cartesian coordinate system for calculation.

**46.** The method of claim 39, wherein said list of predicted linguistic objects is retrieved from a vocabulary database, and wherein a plurality of linguistic objects stored in said vocabulary database is ordered according to a linguistic model.

**47.** The method of claim 46, where said linguistic model comprises one or more of:

frequency of occurrence of a linguistic object in formal or conversational written text;

frequency of occurrence of a linguistic object when following a preceding linguistic object or linguistic objects;

proper or common grammar of the surrounding sentence;

application context of current linguistic object entry; and

recency of use or repeated use of the linguistic object by the user or within an application program.

**48.** The method of claim 46, wherein said plurality of linguistic objects is stored in a mixed case format in said vocabulary database.