

[0213] FIG. 10c shows a device having been bent to resemble a roof or a tent. The associated institution is according to table 2 a hotel or motel. A search will thus be performed for a hotel, motel or guest house either a specific franchise or any hotel, motel or guesthouse in the neighborhood.

[0214] In one embodiment the resembled form can be more closely associated with a franchise or trademark. For example bending the device into an M-shape may initiate a search for the closest McDonald's™ restaurant and bending the device into a C-shape may initiate a search for the closest vending machine offering Coca cola™ drinks.

[0215] In one embodiment the feature of searching for an institution can be associated to a graphical object where the shape then determines which institution is to be searched for.

[0216] In one embodiment other shortcuts are associated with a pre-specified gesture or bending pattern so that as that pattern or gesture is recognized the associated short cut is executed.

[0217] FIG. 11 shows a flowchart of an embodiment. A bend is detected in a step 1110 and a shape is determined in a step 1120. The shape is matched for resembling objects and associated institutions or brands in step 1130 identifying an institution to search for. In an alternative solution an intersection with a specific graphical object either indicating a search or an institution to search for is detected in a sub-step to either of the steps 1130 or 1120. In a step 1140 a search is conducted for the identified institution. As an institution is found in step 1150 it is output to a user in step 1160.

[0218] As an alternative if no institution is found in step 1150 a broader search criterion is used to initiate another search by returning to step 1140. For example if a search is conducted for the institution of an establishment of a specific franchise, say McDonald's™ is conducted and no McDonald's™ is found a broader search looking for any fast food restaurant may be conducted. If this also fails an even broader search looking for any restaurant may be conducted.

[0219] In general it should be noted that a combination of the shape of the device, the movement of the device and the current state of the device's user interface and what is displayed on the display is used to determine what function should be executed.

[0220] FIG. 12 shows an embodiment of a device 1200. In this embodiment each corner is associated with a function. This function may be predetermined or it may vary such as the function of a softkey. By bending a corner the associated function is executed. FIG. 12a shows a device 1200 where a graphical object 1210 is displayed in each corner of a display 1203. In one embodiment the graphical objects 1210 display information informing a user of the associated function. This information may be a symbol or a text label. As a corner is bent a foldline 1211 is detected as intersecting a graphical object 1210a and the function associated with this graphical object 1210a is executed.

[0221] In one embodiment the graphical objects 1210 have an intersecting area 1215 that is larger than the actual graphical object 1210 and any foldline 1211 intersecting this intersecting area 1215 is determined to have intersected the corresponding graphical object 1210. See FIG. 12b.

[0222] In one embodiment, see FIG. 12c, the functions associated with each corner is fixed for an application. In FIG. 12b the graphical objects resembling a PLAY function 1210a, a STOP function 1210b, a SKIP BACK function 1210c and a

SKIP function 1210d are displayed on the display 1203. In this embodiment a bend of a corner will execute the function associated with that corner.

[0223] In this embodiment a corner bend is identified by the direction of the foldline 1211, not necessarily which graphical objects 1210 are intersected.

[0224] In one embodiment the graphical objects 1210 are not displayed on the display 1203, but outside the display 1203 printed or engraved or otherwise displayed on the device 1200, see FIG. 12d.

[0225] In one embodiment the graphical objects 1210 have enlarged intersecting areas 1215 that extend onto the display.

[0226] The various aspects of what is described above can be used alone or in various combinations. The teaching of this application may be implemented by a combination of hardware and software, but can also be implemented in hardware or software. The teaching of this application can also be embodied as computer readable code on a computer readable medium. It should be noted that the teaching of this application is not limited to the use in mobile communication terminals such as mobile phones, but can be equally well applied in Personal digital Assistants (PDAs), game consoles, MP3 players, personal organizers or any other device designed for providing an advanced user interface allowing access to a variety of functions and/or applications.

[0227] The teaching of the present application has numerous advantages. Different embodiments or implementations may yield one or more of the following advantages. It should be noted that this is not an exhaustive list and there may be other advantages which are not described herein. For example, one advantage of the teaching of this application is a user interface offering a multitude of possibilities for executing functions in an intuitive manner without requiring extra screen space or additional keys.

[0228] Although the teaching of the present application has been described in detail for purpose of illustration, it is understood that such detail is solely for that purpose, and variations can be made therein by those skilled in the art without departing from the scope of the teaching of this application.

[0229] For example, although the teaching of the present application has been described in terms of a mobile phone, it should be appreciated that the teachings of the present application may also be applied to other types of electronic devices, such as music players, palmtop computers and the like. It should also be noted that there are many alternative ways of implementing the methods and apparatuses of the teachings of the present application.

[0230] Features described in the preceding description may be used in combinations other than the combinations explicitly described.

[0231] Whilst endeavouring in the foregoing specification to draw attention to those features of the invention believed to be of particular importance it should be understood that the Applicant claims protection in respect of any patentable feature or combination of features hereinbefore referred to and/or shown in the drawings whether or not particular emphasis has been placed thereon.

[0232] The term "comprising" as used in the claims does not exclude other elements or steps. The term "a" or "an" as used in the claims does not exclude a plurality. A unit or other means may fulfill the functions of several units or means recited in the claims.