

CLAIMS

1. A computer-implemented method for map interaction, the method comprising:

receiving user input specifying a map search operation from a visual map interface, the
5 map search operation including a first location and a distance determining point, each of the first
location and the distance determining point representing a first physical location and a second
physical location, respectively;

determining a physical distance between the first location and the distance determining
point;

10 generating a demarcated range based on the first location and the distance determining
point, the demarcated range comprising a shape representing a circular sector area having a
predetermined angle, wherein the circular sector area has the first location as a start point of the
circular sector area, the physical distance between the first location and the distance determining
point as a radius of the circular sector area, and a direction of a drag operation defining the
15 circular sector area as a central direction of the circular sector area; and

displaying one or more target objects in the demarcated range on the visual map
interface, each target object associated with a physical location in the circular sector area.

2. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, further comprising:

20 prior to the displaying one or more target objects:

sending a search request to a map server, the search request including the demarcated
range; and

receiving a search response from the map server including the one or more target objects
in the demarcated range.

25 3. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein receiving the user input includes
receiving the drag operation from the first location to the distance determining point.

4. The computer-implemented method of claim 3, wherein the direction of the drag operation
30 establishes an orientation of the circular sector area with respect to the first location.

5. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein receiving the user input includes receiving text entered by a user in a text form, the text representing the first location and the physical distance between the first location and the distance determining point.

5 6. The computer-implemented method of claim 1, wherein receiving the user input specifying the map search operation includes receiving touch input from the visual map interface displayed on a touchscreen display representing the first location, the distance determining point, and the drag operation, and wherein displaying the one or more target objects in the demarcated range includes displaying the demarcated range on the visual map interface displayed on the
10 touchscreen display.

7. A non-transitory, computer-readable medium storing one or more instructions executable by a computer system to perform operations comprising:

receiving user input specifying a map search operation from a visual map interface, the
15 map search operation including a first location and a distance determining point, each of the first location and the distance determining point representing a first physical location and a second physical location, respectively;

determining a physical distance between the first location and the distance determining point;

20 generating a demarcated range based on the first location and the distance determining point, the demarcated range comprising a shape representing a circular sector area having a predetermined angle, wherein the circular sector area has the first location as a start point of the circular sector area, the physical distance between the first location and the distance determining point as a radius of the circular sector area, and a direction of a drag operation defining the
25 circular sector area as a central direction of the circular sector area; and

displaying one or more target objects in the demarcated range on the visual map interface, each target object associated with a physical location in the circular sector area.

8. The non-transitory, computer-readable medium of claim 7, the operations further comprising:

30 prior to the displaying one or more target objects:

sending a search request to a map server, the search request including the demarcated range; and

receiving a search response from the map server including the one or more target objects in the demarcated range.

9. The non-transitory, computer-readable medium of claim 7, wherein receiving the user input includes receiving the drag operation from the first location to the distance determining point.

10. The non-transitory, computer-readable medium of claim 9, wherein the direction of the drag operation establishes an orientation of the circular sector area with respect to the first location.

11. The non-transitory, computer-readable medium of claim 7, wherein receiving the user input includes receiving text entered by a user in a text form, the text representing the first location and the physical distance between the first location and the distance determining point.

12. The non-transitory, computer-readable medium of claim 7, wherein receiving the user input includes receiving touch input from the visual map interface displayed on a touchscreen display representing the first location, the distance determining point, and the drag operation.

13. The non-transitory, computer-readable medium of claim 12, wherein displaying the one or more target objects in the demarcated range includes displaying the demarcated range on the visual map interface displayed on the touchscreen display.

14. A computer-implemented system, comprising:

one or more computers; and

one or more computer memory devices interoperably coupled with the one or more computers and having tangible, non-transitory, machine-readable media storing one or more instructions that, when executed by the one or more computers, perform one or more operations comprising:

receiving user input specifying a map search operation from a visual map interface, the map search operation including a first location and a distance determining point, each of the first location and the distance determining point representing a first physical location and a second physical location, respectively;

determining a physical distance between the first location and the distance determining point;

generating a demarcated range based on the first location and the distance determining point, the demarcated range comprising a shape representing a circular sector area having a predetermined angle, wherein the circular sector area has the first location as a start point of the circular sector area, the physical distance between the first location and the distance determining point as a radius of the circular sector area, and a direction of a drag operation defining the circular sector area as a central direction of the circular sector area; and

displaying one or more target objects in the demarcated range on the visual map interface, each target object associated with a physical location in the circular sector area.

15. The computer-implemented system of claim 14, the operations further comprising:

prior to the displaying one or more target objects:

sending a search request to a map server, the search request including the demarcated range; and

receiving a search response from the map server including the one or more target objects in the demarcated range.

16. The computer-implemented system of claim 14, wherein receiving the user input includes receiving the drag operation from the first location to the distance determining point.

17. The computer-implemented system of claim 16, wherein the direction of the drag operation establishes an orientation of the circular sector area with respect to the first location.

18. The computer-implemented system of claim 14, wherein receiving the user input includes receiving text entered by a user in a text form, the text representing the first location and the physical distance between the first location and the distance determining point.

19. The computer-implemented system of claim 14, wherein receiving the user input includes receiving touch input from the visual map interface displayed on a touchscreen display representing the first location, the distance determining point, and the drag operation.

20. The computer-implemented system of claim 19, wherein displaying the one or more target objects in the demarcated range includes displaying the demarcated range on the visual map interface displayed on the touchscreen display.