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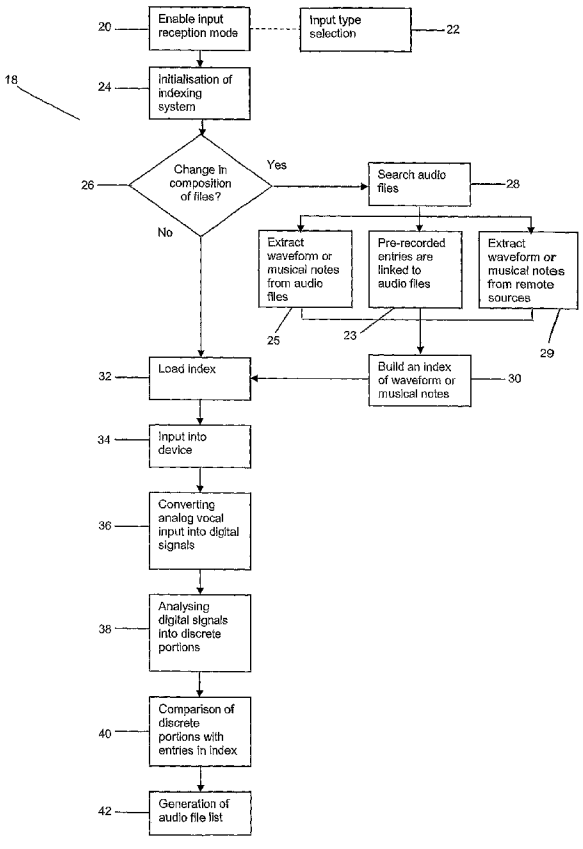
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(54) Title: A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ACCESSING AN AUDIO FILE FROM A COLLECTION OF AUDIO FILES USING TONAL MATCHING



(57) Abstract: There is provided a method for accessing at least one audio file from a collection comprising more than one audio file stored within or accessible with an electronic device. The method includes generating one index comprising of information entries obtained from each of the more than one audio file in the collection, with each audio file in the collection information being linked to at least one information entry; receiving an input during an input reception mode; converting the input into a digital signal using an analog-digital converter; analysing the digital signal using either frequency spectrum analysis or melody contour analysis into discrete portions; and comparing the discrete portions with the entries in the index. It is advantageous that the audio file is accessed when the discrete portions substantially coincide with at least one of the information entries in the index. The discrete portions may be musical notes, melody contours or waveforms. The at least one information entry may also be musical notes, melody contours or waveforms. An apparatus employing the aforementioned method is also disclosed.

WO 2007/136349 A1

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