## Abstract

Hypermedia links such as Uniform Resource Locators (URL) are used to identify and control access to resources on the Internet. These links are usually very long, and difficult to remember, and are difficult to enter for those who seldom have access to a computer. This limitation may be overcome by storing a hypermedia link with a numerical input such as a corresponding telephone number in a remote network server web database, to greatly simplify access to favorite resources on the Internet.

In order for a user to access the web site by means of a numerical input or Numerical Locator (NL) instead of a URL, the user needs to set his/her default home page to the Numerical Locator web site, or alternatively, download a plug in program into his/her computer to enhance the web browser program, and add an icon to the desk top screen in the user computer which will appear in web browser address bar. When the user enters an NL, such as telephone number into the enhanced web browser, the browser will send the request to the server and search the server database for the validity of the NL. If the input NL finds a matching number in the server database, the corresponding URL for the web site may be activated and accessed. If the input NL cannot find a matching number in the server database, the web server may reply with an error message and prompt the user to re-enter the number, and depending on the design of the database, may request additional information, such as a fax number, company name, etc.

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