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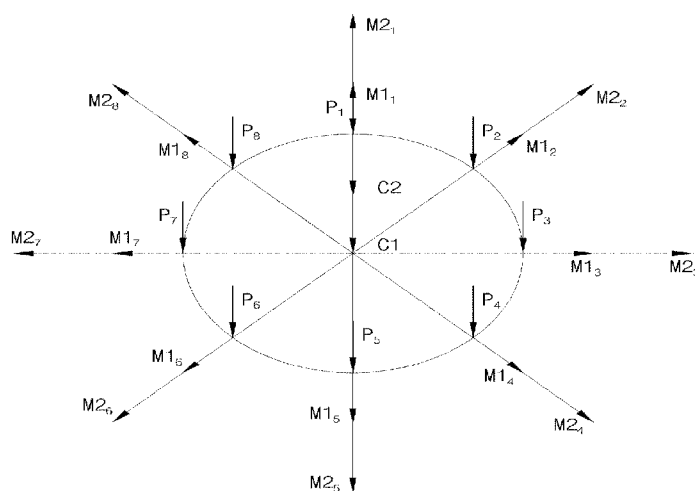
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(54) Title: CHARACTER INPUTTING DEVICE



(57) Abstract: Disclosed is a character input device including an input means for enabling direction movement input and direction pressing input; a movement input detector for detecting the direction movement input; a pressing input detector for detecting the direction pressing input; and a controller for extracting characters from a memory for execution, the characters corresponding to a result of detection performed by the movement input detector and the pressing input detector. The new type of character input device enables its user to input desired characters accurately while minimizing space necessary for character input. In addition, direction movement input and direction pressing input can be combined to input at least two phonemes through a single consecutive operation. This guarantees rapid character input. Furthermore, the minimized input space facilitates compactness and slimness of the product. Therefore, the character input device is applicable to various types of portable electronic appliances, including PDAs, laptop computers, and portable mobile communication terminals.

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