

**ABSTRACT**

In the method for determination of an identification code from fingerprints at least  
5 two of the following features: ridge distances L, Gradients G, curvatures K and  
bifurcations B are registered over the image region and histograms H of the features  
are determined. From these histograms characteristic values (mean value, variance,  
maximum and class values) and additionally from selected bifurcations feature  
values (Ci) are determined which, as vector components, form the identification code  
10 C. With the inventive method relatively simply determinable and short identification  
codes with high security of recognition for a plurality of applications can be formed.

(Fig. 18)