TEXT INPUT DEVICE AND METHOD WITH KEY AMBIGUITIES

Abstract of the Disclosure

A data entry method and apparatus for inputting text where key ambiguities exist and need to be resolved. Keys of a keypad (16) of a data entry device (10, FIG. 1) are activated, where a key represents a plurality of characters, to provide an input digit stream. A table (33 and FIG. 3) of digit streams is maintained representative of characters in a desired language and character addresses corresponding to the digit streams. The table (33) is searched, e.g. by a binary search, for a digit stream corresponding to the input digit stream and a corresponding character address is obtained. In another aspect, a table (34 and FIG. 4) of characters and rank-ordered relative addresses of the characters is stored and the relative addresses of the characters are reordered in the memory dependent on a character selected.

Figure 2 accompanies this abstract.