

LANGUAGE PROCEEDING APPARATUS AND METHOD

ABSTRACT

A Chinese word inputting apparatus (100 - 106) and method are disclosed which convert a Pinyin alphabetic string into a Chinese character, and divide the string input via a keyboard (101) into Chinese syllables by a Chinese word syllabifying mechanism (5). The input Pinyin alphabetic string includes a symbol or numeral indicating an unknown portion of the string and may include tone data. The string may also be input in the form of initials, each initial corresponding to a Chinese character. A word boundary setting mechanism (6) determines a word boundary of the input Pinyin alphabetic string by using a list of possible Pinyin alphabetic strings stored in a dictionary (4). The input Pinyin alphabetic string is converted into a Chinese word by a Chinese word converting mechanism (7).

Fig. 2.