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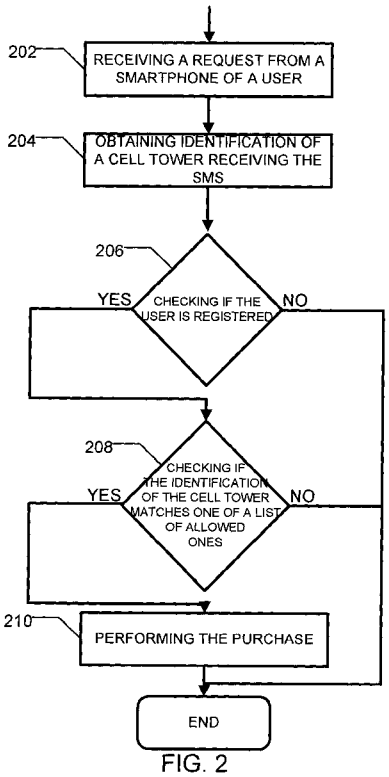

FIG. 2

(57) Abstract: A system and method are disclosed for performing a purchase of a lottery ticket using a mobile phone, the method comprising receiving an SMS message sent by a user using the mobile phone, the SMS message comprising data associated with the lottery ticket to purchase; obtaining data associated with a position of the mobile phone, the data associated with a position of the mobile phone comprising an identification of a cell tower receiving the SMS message; determining if the user of said mobile phone is allowed to purchase the lottery ticket, the determining comprising checking if the identification of a cell tower receiving the SMS message matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and checking if the user is registered and performing the purchase if the identification of a cell tower receiving the SMS message matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and if the user is registered.

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SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PERFORMING A WAGER USING A MOBILE PHONE

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This patent application claims priority of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 61/560,871, filed on November 17, 2011, entitled "*System and Method for Performing a Purchase of a Lottery Ticket Using a Mobile Phone,*" the specification of which is herein incorporated by reference.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The invention relates to SMS lottery systems. More precisely, the invention pertains to a system and method for performing a wager using a mobile phone.

BACKGROUND

Lottery tickets have to be purchased by players who are geographically within a given jurisdiction in order to comply with applicable laws.

Performing a wager can therefore be very complicated to implement when it is made using a mobile phone, since the requirement for ensuring that the user is within the given jurisdiction has still to be met.

In some instances, the task of locating a smartphone is easy since the mobile phone is provided with a global position system (GPS) device. The task of locating precisely the smartphone can be cumbersome when the smartphone or a mobile phone is not provided with any positioning system. This can be also complicated in the case where the global position system (GPS) device is not able to provide a position such as, for instance, if the user is inside a building.

There is a need for a method and system that will overcome at least one of the above-identified drawbacks.

Features of the invention will be apparent from review of the disclosure, drawings and description of the invention below.

BRIEF SUMMARY

According to one aspect, there is disclosed a method for performing a wager using a mobile phone, the method comprising receiving a request for

performing a wager using a mobile phone; obtaining an identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing the wager; determining if a user of said mobile phone is allowed to perform the wager, the determining comprising checking if the identification of the cell tower receiving the request for performing the wager matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and checking if the user is registered; and performing the wager if the identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing the wager matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and if the user is registered.

In accordance with one embodiment, the mobile phone is a smartphone and the request for performing a wager is generated by an application running on the smartphone.

In accordance with another embodiment, the method further comprises the user registering on the application.

In accordance with one embodiment, the method further comprises the user registering on a web page.

In accordance with one embodiment, the user is not registered and the method further comprises inviting the user to register.

In accordance with one embodiment, the identification of a cell tower comprises longitude and latitude coordinates of the cell tower and the checking if the identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager matches one of a list of allowed cell towers is performed by comparing the longitude and latitude coordinates of the cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager with acceptable coordinates.

In accordance with another embodiment, the performing of a wager comprises performing a purchase of a lottery ticket, further wherein the request for performing a wager comprises an SMS message provided by the mobile phone.

In accordance with another embodiment, the obtaining of an identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing the wager comprises providing a number corresponding to the mobile generating the phone request for performing a wager to a geolocalization server and receiving from the geolocalization server the identification of a cell tower.

According to a broad aspect, there is disclosed a method for performing a purchase of a lottery ticket using a mobile phone, the method comprising receiving an SMS message sent by a user using the mobile phone, the SMS message comprising data associated with the lottery ticket to purchase; obtaining an identification of a cell tower receiving the SMS message; determining if the user of said mobile phone is allowed to purchase the lottery ticket, the determining comprising checking if the identification of the cell tower receiving the SMS message matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and checking if the user is registered and performing the purchase if the identification of a cell tower receiving the SMS message matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and if the user is registered.

According to another broad aspect, there is disclosed a method for generating a list of allowed cell towers for a given jurisdiction to be used in a system for performing a wager using a mobile phone, the method comprising obtaining for each given cell tower of a plurality of cell towers an indication of the given cell tower and corresponding geographic coordinates of the given cell tower; obtaining an indication of a size of an uncertainty zone; obtaining a list of a plurality of geographic coordinates defining a border between two jurisdictions; determining for each given cell tower of the plurality of cell towers if the given cell tower is in the uncertainty zone using the corresponding geographic coordinates of the given cell tower, the indication of the size of the uncertainty zone and the list of a plurality of geographic coordinates defining the border between the two jurisdictions and; if the given cell tower is not in the uncertainty zone, determining if the given cell tower is in the given jurisdiction; and if the given cell tower is in the given jurisdiction, providing a corresponding indication of the given cell tower.

According to a broad aspect, there is disclosed a computer-readable storage medium for storing computer-executable instructions which when executed cause a computing device to perform a method for generating a list of allowed cell towers for a given jurisdiction to be used in a system for performing a wager using a mobile phone, the method comprising obtaining for each given cell tower of a plurality of cell towers an indication of the given cell tower and corresponding geographic coordinates of the given cell tower; obtaining an indication of a size of an uncertainty zone; obtaining a list of a plurality of

geographic coordinates defining a border between two jurisdictions; determining for each given cell tower of the plurality of cell towers if the given cell tower is in the uncertainty zone using the corresponding geographic coordinates of the given cell tower, the indication of the size of the uncertainty zone and the list of a plurality of geographic coordinates defining the border between the two jurisdictions and; if the given cell tower is not in the uncertainty zone, determining if the given cell tower is in the given jurisdiction; and if the given cell tower is in the given jurisdiction, providing a corresponding indication of the given cell tower.

In accordance with one embodiment, the geographic coordinates comprise longitude and latitude coordinates.

According to a broad aspect, there is disclosed a system for performing a wager using a mobile phone, the system comprising a display device; a central processing unit; a first communication port operatively connected to the mobile phone; a second communication port operatively connected to a unit providing an identification of a cell tower used by the mobile phone; a memory comprising a database for storing a list of allowed cell towers and an application for performing a wager, the application for performing a wager comprising instructions for receiving via the first communication port a request for performing a wager sent by a user using the mobile phone, the request for performing a wager comprising data associated with the wager to perform; instructions for obtaining via the second communication port an identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager via the communication port; instructions for determining if the user of the mobile phone is allowed to perform the wager, the determining comprising checking if the identification of the cell tower receiving the request for performing the wager matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and checking if the user is registered; instructions for performing the purchase if the identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager matches is in the list of allowed cell towers and if the user is registered.

According to a broad aspect, there is disclosed a computer-readable storage medium for storing computer-executable instructions which when executed cause a computing device to perform a method for performing a wager using a mobile phone, the method comprising receiving a request for performing a wager sent using the mobile phone; obtaining an identification of a cell tower

receiving the request for performing a wager; determining if the user of the mobile phone is allowed to purchase the lottery ticket, the determining comprising checking if the identification of the cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and; checking if the user is registered and performing the wager if the identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and if the user is registered.

An advantage of the method disclosed is that it enables to readily check if a user should be allowed to purchase a lottery ticket using a mobile phone which does not have positioning means, such as a GPS.

An advantage of the method disclosed herein is that it enables SMS lottery operators to be certain that their lotteries are operated within the geographical boundaries of a specific jurisdiction and this in compliance with the laws of the jurisdiction's regulatory gaming authority.

Another advantage is that the method disclosed uses a conservative approach to find out if a mobile phone is within a proper jurisdiction which is desirable for a lottery application.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

In order that the invention may be readily understood, embodiments of the invention are illustrated by way of example in the accompanying drawings.

FIG. 1 is a diagram which shows an example of a border between two jurisdictions. A plurality of cell towers is provided on each side of the border.

FIG. 2 is a flowchart which shows an embodiment of a method for performing a wager using a mobile phone.

FIG. 3 is a flowchart which shows an embodiment of a method for performing a method for performing a wager using a mobile phone.

FIG. 4 is a block diagram which shows an embodiment of a system for performing a purchase of a lottery ticket using a mobile phone.

FIG. 5 is a flowchart which shows an embodiment of a method for generating a list of allowed cell towers for a given jurisdiction to be used in a system for performing a wager using a mobile phone

Further details of the invention and its advantages will be apparent from the detailed description included below.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

In the following description of the embodiments, references to the accompanying drawings are by way of illustration of an example by which the invention may be practiced. It will be understood that other embodiments may be made without departing from the scope of the invention disclosed.

Now referring to Fig. 1, there is shown an example of a border separating two jurisdictions, namely jurisdiction A and jurisdiction B.

It will be appreciated that each jurisdiction is characterized by its own regulations pertaining to gaming. The skilled addressee will appreciate that a jurisdiction may therefore be a country, a state, a province, a zone defined by a given native tribe, or the like.

Still referring to Fig. 1, it will be appreciated that a plurality of cell towers is provided along the border in each of the two jurisdictions. Each of the plurality of cell towers may be used to communicate with a mobile phone. The plurality of cell towers comprises for instance a first cell tower 100, a second cell tower 102, a third cell tower 104, a fourth cell tower 106, a fifth cell tower 108, a sixth cell tower 110, a seventh cell tower 112, a eighth cell tower 114, a ninth cell tower 116, a tenth cell tower 118, a twelfth cell tower 120, a thirteenth cell tower 122, a fourteenth cell tower 124, a fifteenth cell tower 126 and a sixteenth cell tower 128.

It has been contemplated by the inventor that there exists an uncertainty zone comprising a plurality of cell towers in which the probability of having a signal received by a cell towers on a first side while the mobile phone transmitting the signal is on the other side of the border is high.

The skilled addressee will appreciate that while the example disclosed below relates to sending an SMS, it should be understood by the skilled addressee that more generally any communication signal transmitted between the mobile phone and the cell tower could be used as an example.

In one embodiment, this uncertainty zone extends from about 2-3 km from each side of the border. The skilled addressee will appreciate that the size of the

uncertainty zone depends on various parameters such as a phone range to the cell tower.

In the embodiment disclosed in Fig. 1, the uncertainty zone comprises the first cell tower 100, the second cell tower 102, the fourth cell tower 106, the fifth cell tower 108, the sixth cell tower 110, the seventh cell tower 112, the ninth cell tower 116, the twelfth cell tower 120, the thirteenth cell tower 122, the fourteenth cell tower 124 and the fifteenth cell tower 126.

Outside the uncertainty zone and, for instance, in the case of an SMS received by one of the third cell tower 104 and the tenth cell tower 118, it can be readily determined that the SMS was sent by a mobile phone located in the jurisdiction A. In the case of an SMS received by one of the eighth cell tower 114 or the sixteenth cell tower 128, it can be readily determined that this SMS was sent by a mobile phone located in the jurisdiction B.

It becomes therefore possible to determine a list of cell towers located in a first jurisdiction for which the uncertainty of receiving an SMS originating from a cell phone located in the second jurisdiction is very low. By checking if an SMS has been received by anyone of those cell towers, it becomes possible to make sure a user is really in a determined jurisdiction which is of great advantage for a gaming application.

Now referring to Fig. 2, there is shown an embodiment of a method for performing a method for performing a wager using a mobile phone.

According to processing step 202, a request for performing a wager using a mobile phone is received.

It will be appreciated that the request for performing a wager may be provided according to various embodiments.

In one embodiment, the request for performing a wager is provided by an application running on the mobile phone. In another embodiment disclosed in Fig. 3, the request comprises an SMS message provided by a user of the mobile phone.

It will be appreciated that the request may comprise various elements which depend on the application running on the mobile phone. In particular the request may comprise an indication of a user handling the mobile phone and running the application.

The request may further comprise information related to the wager such as for instance the type of wager, the amount wagered and player information.

According to processing step 204, an identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager is obtained. It will be appreciated by the skilled addressee that the identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager may be obtained according to various embodiments.

In one embodiment, the identification of the cell tower is obtained using a geolocalization server. More precisely, a number of a phone number sending an request for performing a wager is provided in a request to the geolocalization server. In return, the geolocalization server provides latitude and longitude coordinates of the cell tower which received the request for performing a wager.

According to processing step 206, a check is performed in order to determine if the user is registered.

It will be appreciated that the check to find out if the user is registered is performed in one embodiment by using the phone number of the cell phone and checking it against a database of pre-registered users.

In fact, it will be appreciated that the pre-registering may be performed according to various embodiments. For instance, the pre-registering may be performed via a website by creating an account in which an authentication/validation is performed using at least one of a driver's license, a social security number, a passport, etc. The skilled addressee will appreciate that various alternative embodiments may be provided.

Alternatively, the pre-registering may be performed in the application running on the mobile phone and which provides the request for performing a wager.

The skilled addressee will therefore appreciate that the user may therefore be either registered beforehand or may register on the fly while performing the request.

Accordingly and in one embodiment, the user may be invited to register if the user is not registered.

The skilled addressee will appreciate that the purpose of performing the registration is to make sure the user is of legal age and consents to playing, an

indication that the player has an amount of funds in its account sufficient for performing the wager.

In the case where the user is not registered, the purchase is not performed and in accordance with processing step 212, the user is invited to register.

In the case where the user is registered and according to processing step 208, a check is performed in order to determine if the identification of the cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager matches one of a list of allowed cell towers.

It should be understood by the skilled addressee that processing step 208 may be alternatively performed prior processing step 206.

It will be appreciated that in one embodiment, the check is performed by ensuring that the latitude and longitude coordinates are not comprised in the uncertainty zone and are therefore acceptable.

In the case where the identification of the cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and according to processing step 210, the purchase is performed.

In the case where the identification of the cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager matches one of a list of allowed cell towers the purchase is performed.

Now referring to Fig. 3, there is shown an embodiment of a method for performing a purchase of a lottery ticket using a mobile phone. In this embodiment, the wager is performed using an SMS message send by the user of the mobile phone. This may be used in the case where the mobile phone does not have the technical capabilities of running a gaming application.

According to processing step 302, an SMS message sent by a user using the mobile phone is received. The SMS message comprises data associated with the lottery ticket to purchase. It will be appreciated that the data associated with the lottery ticket to purchase may be of various types.

In one embodiment, the data associated with the lottery ticket to purchase comprises a given keyword. It will be appreciated that the given keyword is indicative of a lottery ticket to buy.

According to processing step 304, an identification of a cell tower receiving the SMS message is obtained. It will be appreciated by the skilled addressee that

the identification of a cell tower receiving the SMS message may be obtained according to various embodiments.

In one embodiment, the identification of the cell tower is obtained using a geolocalization server. More precisely, a number of a phone number sending an SMS message is provided in a request to the geolocalization server. In return, the geolocalization server provides latitude and longitude coordinates of the cell tower which received the SMS message.

According to processing step 306, a check is performed in order to determine if the user is registered.

It will be appreciated that the check to find out if the user is registered is performed by using the phone number of the cell phone and checking it against a database of pre-registered users.

It will be appreciated that the pre-registering may be performed according to various embodiments. For instance, the pre-registering may be performed via a website by creating an account in which an authentication/validation is performed using at least one of a driver's license, a social security number, a passport, etc. The skilled addressee will appreciate that various alternative embodiments may be provided.

In the case where the user is not registered, the purchase is not performed and in accordance with processing step 312, the user is invited to register.

In the case where the user is registered and according to processing step 308, a check is performed in order to determine if the identification of the cell tower receiving the SMS message matches one of a list of allowed cell towers.

It will be appreciated that in one embodiment, the check is performed by ensuring that the latitude and longitude coordinates are not comprised in the uncertainty zone and are therefore acceptable.

In the case where the identification of the cell tower receiving the SMS message matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and according to processing step 310, the purchase is performed.

In the case where the identification of the cell tower receiving the SMS message matches one of a list of allowed cell towers the purchase is performed.

Now referring to Fig. 4, there is shown an embodiment of a system for performing a wager using a mobile phone.

In this embodiment, the system 400 comprises a central processing unit (CPU) 402, a display device 404, input devices 406, communication ports 408, a data bus 410, and a memory 412.

It will be further appreciated that the display device 404 may be of various types.

Still in one embodiment, the input devices 406 comprise a keyboard and a mouse.

It will be appreciated that the communication ports 408 are used for communicating with a cellular network. More precisely, the communication ports 408 may comprise a first communication port operatively connected to the mobile phone. The communication port 408 may comprise a second communication port operatively connected to a unit providing an identification of a cell tower used by the mobile phone.

It will be appreciated that the central processing unit (CPU) 402 may be of various types. In fact, it will be appreciated that the system for performing a purchase of a lottery ticket using a mobile phone disclosed herein are typically processing between 60-100 SMS messages per second which are one embodiment of a request for performing a wager. It will be appreciated by the skilled addressee that the specifications of the system for performing a wager may vary greatly from the most basic computer to an advanced server depending on the size jurisdiction in which the system is deployed.

The memory 412 is used for storing data. More precisely and in one embodiment, the memory 412 comprises an operating system module 414, an application for performing a wager 416 and a database of cell towers.

In one embodiment, the operating system module 414 is provided by Microsoft(TM).

Still in one embodiment, the application for performing a wager 416 comprises instructions for receiving a request for performing a wager sent by a user using the mobile phone, the request for performing a wager comprising data associated with the wager to perform.

The application for performing a wager 416 further comprises instructions for obtaining an identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager.

The application for performing a wager 416 further comprises instructions for determining if the user of the mobile phone is allowed to perform the wager, the determining comprising checking if the identification of the cell tower receiving the request for performing the wager matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and checking if the user is registered.

The application for performing a wager 416 further comprises instructions for performing the purchase if the identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager matches is in the list of allowed cell towers and if the user is registered.

The database of cell towers 418 comprises a list of allowed cell towers. It will be appreciated that the list of allowed cell towers may be generated according to various embodiments.

The central processing unit (CPU) 402, the display device 404, the input devices 406, the communication ports 408 and the memory 412 are operatively interconnected via the data bus 410.

It will be appreciated that in one embodiment, transactional data are maintained for a period of 5 years. The transactional data include data, time, mobile number, latitude and longitude for each transaction. Still in one embodiment, the transactional data are stored in a secure location.

Also, it will be appreciated that a computer-readable storage medium may be provided for storing computer-executable instructions. Such computer-executable instructions, when executed, would cause a computing device to perform a method for performing a wager using a mobile phone, the method comprising receiving a request for performing a wager sent using the mobile phone, the request for performing a wager comprising data associated with the lottery ticket to purchase; obtaining an identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager; determining if the user of the mobile phone is allowed to purchase the lottery ticket, the determining comprising checking if the identification of the cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and checking if the user is registered and performing the wager if the identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and if the user is registered.

Now referring to Fig. 5, there is shown an embodiment of a method for generating a list of allowed cell towers for a given jurisdiction to be used in a system for performing a wager using a mobile phone. The skilled addressee will appreciate that the method may be used for a plurality of jurisdictions. A list of a plurality of allowed cell towers will be generated, each for a given jurisdiction.

More precisely and according to processing step 502, an indication a given cell tower and corresponding geographic coordinates of the given cell tower is obtained for each of a plurality of cell towers.

It will be appreciated that in one embodiment, the geographic coordinates comprise longitude and latitude coordinates.

It will be appreciated that the indication of a given cell tower and its corresponding coordinates may be provided by various providers which will depend from one jurisdiction to the other.

According to processing step 504, an indication of a size of an uncertainty zone is provided.

It will be appreciated that the indication of a size may be of various types. In one embodiment the size is defined by a width center around a border line.

According to processing step 506, a list of a plurality of geographic coordinates defining a border between two jurisdictions is obtained.

It will be appreciated that the geographic coordinates defining a border between two jurisdiction may be obtained via a website in one embodiment.

According to processing step 508, a test is performed in order to determine if for each given cell tower of the plurality of cell towers, the given cell tower is in the uncertainty zone using the corresponding geographic coordinates of the given cell tower, the indication of the size of the uncertainty zone and the list of a plurality of geographic coordinates defining the border between the two jurisdictions.

In the case where the given cell tower is not in the uncertainty zone and according to processing step 510, a test is performed in order to find out if the given cell tower is in the given jurisdiction.

The skilled addressee will appreciate that since a border is used to separate two different sides, the given cell tower may be in one of the two sides, i.e. in the given jurisdiction or not.

In the case where the given cell tower is in the given jurisdiction and according to processing step 512, a corresponding indication of the given cell tower is provided.

Also, it will be appreciated that a computer-readable storage medium may be provided for storing computer-executable instructions. Such computer-executable instructions, when executed, would cause a computing device to perform a method for generating a list of allowed cell towers for a given jurisdiction to be used in a system for performing a wager using a mobile phone, the method comprising obtaining for each given cell tower of a plurality of cell towers an indication of the given cell tower and corresponding geographic coordinates of the given cell tower; obtaining an indication of a size of an uncertainty zone; obtaining a list of a plurality of geographic coordinates defining a border between two jurisdictions; determining for each given cell tower of the plurality of cell towers if the given cell tower is in the uncertainty zone using the corresponding geographic coordinates of the given cell tower, the indication of the size of the uncertainty zone and the list of a plurality of geographic coordinates defining the border between the two jurisdictions and; if the given cell tower is not in the uncertainty zone, determining if the given cell tower is in the given jurisdiction; and if the given cell tower is in the given jurisdiction, providing a corresponding indication of the given cell tower.

Clause 1. A method for performing a wager using a mobile phone, the method comprising:

receiving a request for performing a wager using a mobile phone;

obtaining an identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing the wager;

determining if a user of said mobile phone is allowed to perform the wager, the determining comprising checking if the identification of the cell tower receiving the request for performing the wager matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and checking if the user is registered; and

performing the wager if the identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing the wager matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and if the user is registered.

Clause 2. The method as claimed in clause 1, wherein the mobile phone is a smartphone, further wherein the request for performing a wager is generated by an application running on the smartphone.

Clause 3. The method as claimed in clause 2, further comprising the user registering on the application.

Clause 4. The method as claimed in clause 2, further comprising the user registering on a web page.

Clause 5. The method as claimed in any one of clauses 1 to 2, wherein the user is not registered, further comprising inviting the user to register.

Clause 6. The method as claimed in any one of clauses 1 to 5, wherein the identification of a cell tower comprises longitude and latitude coordinates of the cell tower, further wherein the checking if the identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager matches one of a list of allowed cell towers is performed by comparing the longitude and latitude coordinates of the cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager with acceptable coordinates.

Clause 7. The method as claimed in clause 1 wherein the performing of a wager comprises performing a purchase of a lottery ticket, further wherein the request for performing a wager comprises an SMS message provided by the mobile phone.

Clause 8. The method as claimed in any one of clauses 1 to 7, wherein the obtaining of an identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing the wager comprises providing a number corresponding to the mobile generating the phone request for performing a wager to a geolocalization server and receiving from the geolocalization server the identification of a cell tower.

Clause 9. A method for performing a purchase of a lottery ticket using a mobile phone, the method comprising:

receiving an SMS message sent by a user using the mobile phone, the SMS message comprising data associated with the lottery ticket to purchase;

obtaining an identification of a cell tower receiving the SMS message;

determining if the user of said mobile phone is allowed to purchase the lottery ticket, the determining comprising checking if the identification of the cell tower receiving the SMS message matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and checking if the user is registered; and

performing the purchase if the identification of a cell tower receiving the SMS message matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and if the user is registered.

Clause 10. A method for generating a list of allowed cell towers for a given jurisdiction to be used in a system for performing a wager using a mobile phone, the method comprising:

obtaining for each given cell tower of a plurality of cell towers an indication of the given cell tower and corresponding geographic coordinates of the given cell tower;

obtaining an indication of a size of an uncertainty zone;

obtaining a list of a plurality of geographic coordinates defining a border between two jurisdictions;

determining for each given cell tower of the plurality of cell towers if the given cell tower is in the uncertainty zone using the corresponding geographic coordinates of the given cell tower, the indication of the size of the uncertainty zone and the list of a plurality of geographic coordinates defining the border between the two jurisdictions and; if the given cell tower is not in the uncertainty zone,

determining if the given cell tower is in the given jurisdiction; and

if the given cell tower is in the given jurisdiction, providing a corresponding indication of the given cell tower.

Clause 11. A computer-readable storage medium for storing computer-executable instructions which when executed cause a computing device to perform a method for generating a list of allowed cell towers for a given jurisdiction to be used in a system for performing a wager using a mobile phone, the method comprising:

obtaining for each given cell tower of a plurality of cell towers an indication of the given cell tower and corresponding geographic coordinates of the given cell tower;

obtaining an indication of a size of an uncertainty zone;

obtaining a list of a plurality of geographic coordinates defining a border between two jurisdictions;

determining for each given cell tower of the plurality of cell towers if the given cell tower is in the uncertainty zone using the corresponding geographic coordinates of the given cell tower, the indication of the size of the uncertainty zone and the list of a plurality of geographic coordinates defining the border between the two jurisdictions and; if the given cell tower is not in the uncertainty zone,

determining if the given cell tower is in the given jurisdiction; and

if the given cell tower is in the given jurisdiction, providing a corresponding indication of the given cell tower.

Clause 12. The method as claimed in clause 10, wherein the geographic coordinates comprise longitude and latitude coordinates.

Clause 13. A system for performing a wager using a mobile phone, the system comprising:

a display device;

a central processing unit;

a first communication port operatively connected to the mobile phone;

a second communication port operatively connected to a unit providing an identification of a cell tower used by the mobile phone;

a memory comprising a database for storing a list of allowed cell towers and an application for performing a wager, the application for performing a wager comprising:

instructions for receiving via the first communication port a request for performing a wager sent by a user using the mobile phone, the request for performing a wager comprising data associated with the wager to perform;

instructions for obtaining via the second communication port an identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager via the communication port;

instructions for determining if the user of the mobile phone is allowed to perform the wager, the determining comprising checking if the identification of the cell tower receiving the request for performing the wager matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and checking if the user is registered;

instructions for performing the purchase if the identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager matches is in the list of allowed cell towers and if the user is registered.

Clause 14. A computer-readable storage medium for storing computer-executable instructions which when executed cause a computing device to perform a method for performing a wager using a mobile phone, the method comprising:

receiving a request for performing a wager sent using the mobile phone; obtaining an identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager;

determining if the user of the mobile phone is allowed to purchase the lottery ticket, the determining comprising checking if the identification of the cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and;

checking if the user is registered and performing the wager if the identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and if the user is registered.

CLAIMS:

1. A method for performing a wager using a mobile phone, the method comprising:

receiving a request for performing a wager using a mobile phone;

obtaining an identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing the wager;

determining if a user of said mobile phone is allowed to perform the wager, the determining comprising checking if the identification of the cell tower receiving the request for performing the wager matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and checking if the user is registered; and

performing the wager if the identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing the wager matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and if the user is registered.

2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the mobile phone is a smartphone, further wherein the request for performing a wager is generated by an application running on the smartphone.

3. The method as claimed in claim 2, further comprising the user registering on the application.

4. The method as claimed in claim 2, further comprising the user registering on a web page.

5. The method as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 2, wherein the user is not registered, further comprising inviting the user to register.

6. The method as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 5, wherein the identification of a cell tower comprises longitude and latitude coordinates of the cell tower, further wherein the checking if the identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager matches one of a list of allowed cell towers is performed by comparing the longitude and latitude coordinates of the cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager with acceptable coordinates.

7. The method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the performing of a wager comprises performing a purchase of a lottery ticket, further wherein the request for performing a wager comprises an SMS message provided by the mobile phone.

8. The method as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 7, wherein the obtaining of an identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing the wager comprises providing a number corresponding to the mobile generating the phone request for performing a wager to a geolocalization server and receiving from the geolocalization server the identification of a cell tower.

9. A method for performing a purchase of a lottery ticket using a mobile phone, the method comprising:

receiving an SMS message sent by a user using the mobile phone, the SMS message comprising data associated with the lottery ticket to purchase;

obtaining an identification of a cell tower receiving the SMS message;

determining if the user of said mobile phone is allowed to purchase the lottery ticket, the determining comprising checking if the identification of the cell tower receiving the SMS message matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and checking if the user is registered; and

performing the purchase if the identification of a cell tower receiving the SMS message matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and if the user is registered.

10. A method for generating a list of allowed cell towers for a given jurisdiction to be used in a system for performing a wager using a mobile phone, the method comprising:

obtaining for each given cell tower of a plurality of cell towers an indication of the given cell tower and corresponding geographic coordinates of the given cell tower;

obtaining an indication of a size of an uncertainty zone;

obtaining a list of a plurality of geographic coordinates defining a border between two jurisdictions;

determining for each given cell tower of the plurality of cell towers if the given cell tower is in the uncertainty zone using the corresponding geographic

coordinates of the given cell tower, the indication of the size of the uncertainty zone and the list of a plurality of geographic coordinates defining the border between the two jurisdictions and; if the given cell tower is not in the uncertainty zone,

determining if the given cell tower is in the given jurisdiction; and

if the given cell tower is in the given jurisdiction, providing a corresponding indication of the given cell tower.

11. A computer-readable storage medium for storing computer-executable instructions which when executed cause a computing device to perform a method for generating a list of allowed cell towers for a given jurisdiction to be used in a system for performing a wager using a mobile phone, the method comprising:

obtaining for each given cell tower of a plurality of cell towers an indication of the given cell tower and corresponding geographic coordinates of the given cell tower;

obtaining an indication of a size of an uncertainty zone;

obtaining a list of a plurality of geographic coordinates defining a border between two jurisdictions;

determining for each given cell tower of the plurality of cell towers if the given cell tower is in the uncertainty zone using the corresponding geographic coordinates of the given cell tower, the indication of the size of the uncertainty zone and the list of a plurality of geographic coordinates defining the border between the two jurisdictions and; if the given cell tower is not in the uncertainty zone,

determining if the given cell tower is in the given jurisdiction; and

if the given cell tower is in the given jurisdiction, providing a corresponding indication of the given cell tower.

12. The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the geographic coordinates comprise longitude and latitude coordinates.

13. A system for performing a wager using a mobile phone, the system comprising:

a display device;

a central processing unit;

a first communication port operatively connected to the mobile phone;

a second communication port operatively connected to a unit providing an identification of a cell tower used by the mobile phone;

a memory comprising a database for storing a list of allowed cell towers and an application for performing a wager, the application for performing a wager comprising:

instructions for receiving via the first communication port a request for performing a wager sent by a user using the mobile phone, the request for performing a wager comprising data associated with the wager to perform;

instructions for obtaining via the second communication port an identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager via the communication port;

instructions for determining if the user of the mobile phone is allowed to perform the wager, the determining comprising checking if the identification of the cell tower receiving the request for performing the wager matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and checking if the user is registered;

instructions for performing the purchase if the identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager matches is in the list of allowed cell towers and if the user is registered.

14. A computer-readable storage medium for storing computer-executable instructions which when executed cause a computing device to perform a method for performing a wager using a mobile phone, the method comprising:

receiving a request for performing a wager sent using the mobile phone; obtaining an identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager;

determining if the user of the mobile phone is allowed to purchase the lottery ticket, the determining comprising checking if the identification of the cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and;

checking if the user is registered and performing the wager if the identification of a cell tower receiving the request for performing a wager matches one of a list of allowed cell towers and if the user is registered.

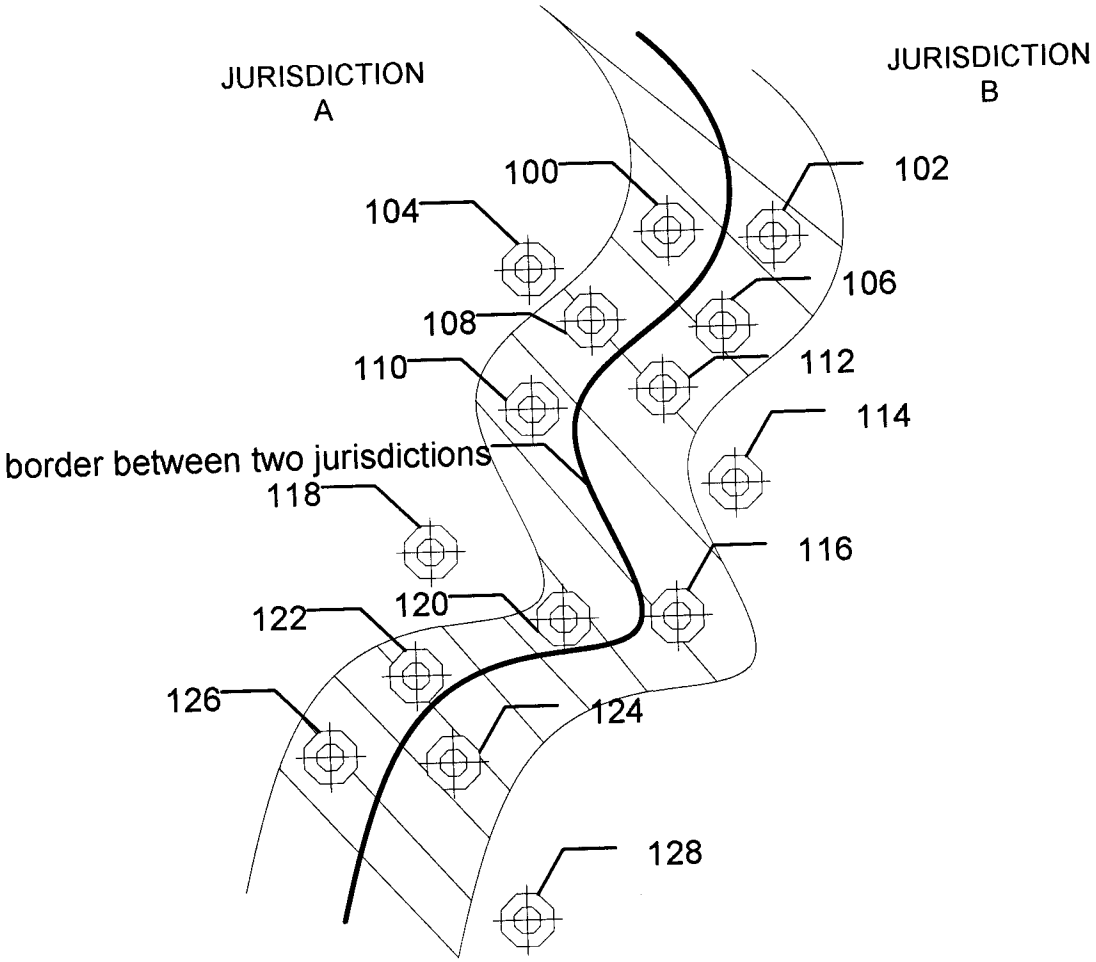
JURISDICTION A
JURISDICTION B
100
102
104
106
108
110
112
114
border between two jurisdictions
118
116
120
122
126
124
128

FIG. 1

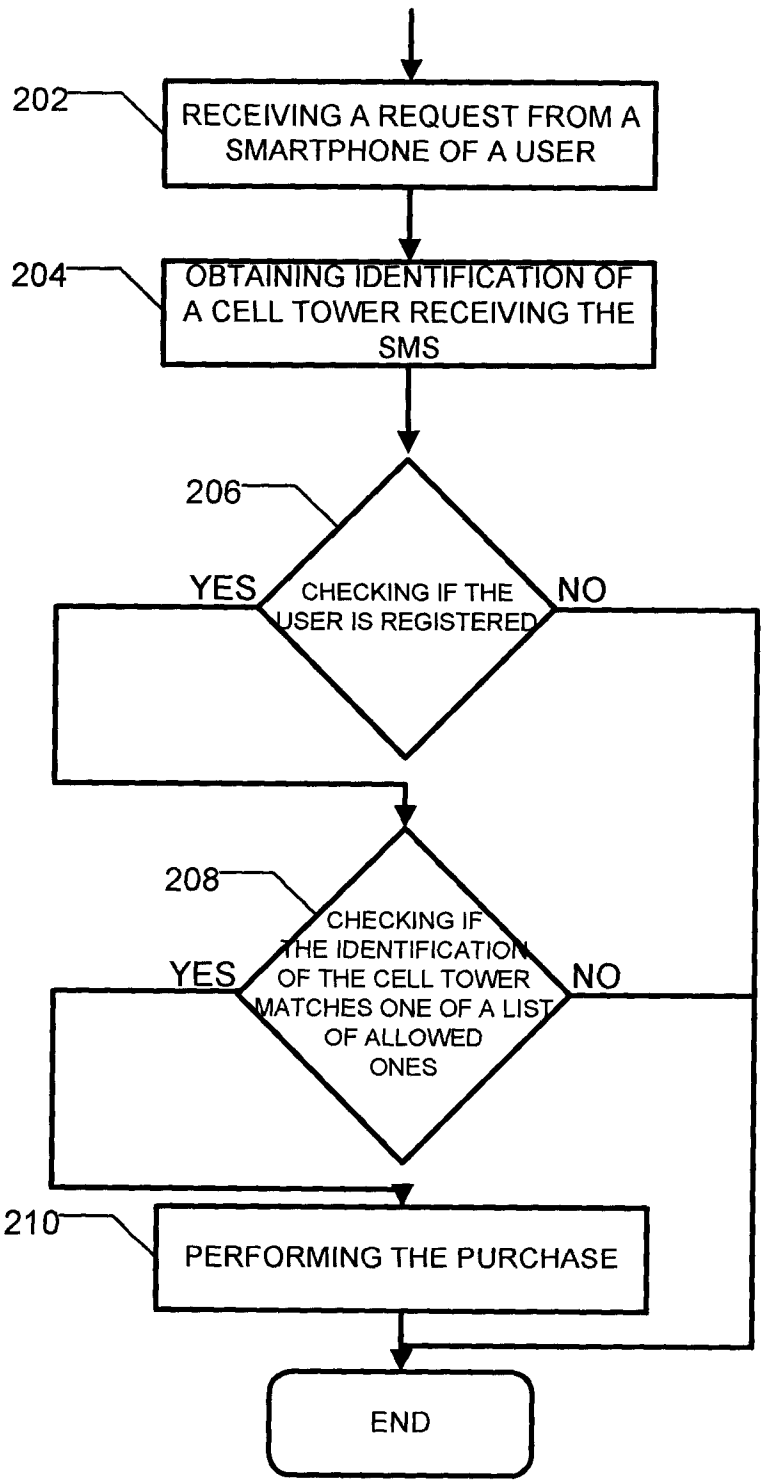
202
RECEIVING A REQUEST FROM A SMARTPHONE OF A USER
204
OBTAINING IDENTIFICATION OF A CELL TOWER RECEIVING THE SMS
206
CHECKING IF THE USER IS REGISTERED
YES
NO
208
CHECKING IF THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE CELL TOWER MATCHES ONE OF A LIST OF ALLOWED ONES
YES
NO
210
PERFORMING THE PURCHASE
END

FIG. 2

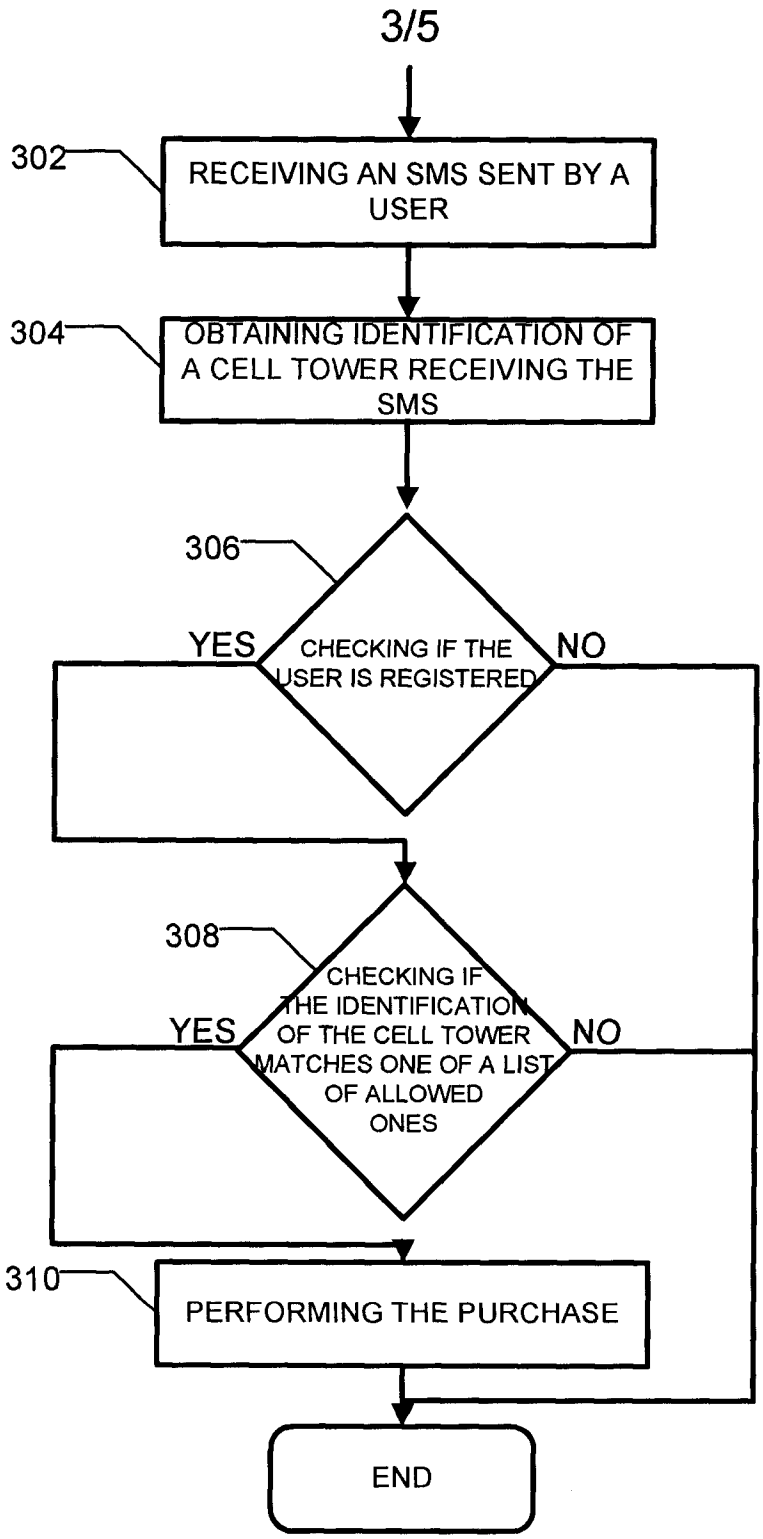
302
RECEIVING AN SMS SENT BY A USER
304
OBTAINING IDENTIFICATION OF A CELL TOWER RECEIVING THE SMS
306
CHECKING IF THE USER IS REGISTERED
YES
NO
308
CHECKING IF THE IDENTIFICATION OF THE CELL TOWER MATCHES ONE OF A LIST OF ALLOWED ONES
YES
NO
310
PERFORMING THE PURCHASE
END

FIG. 3

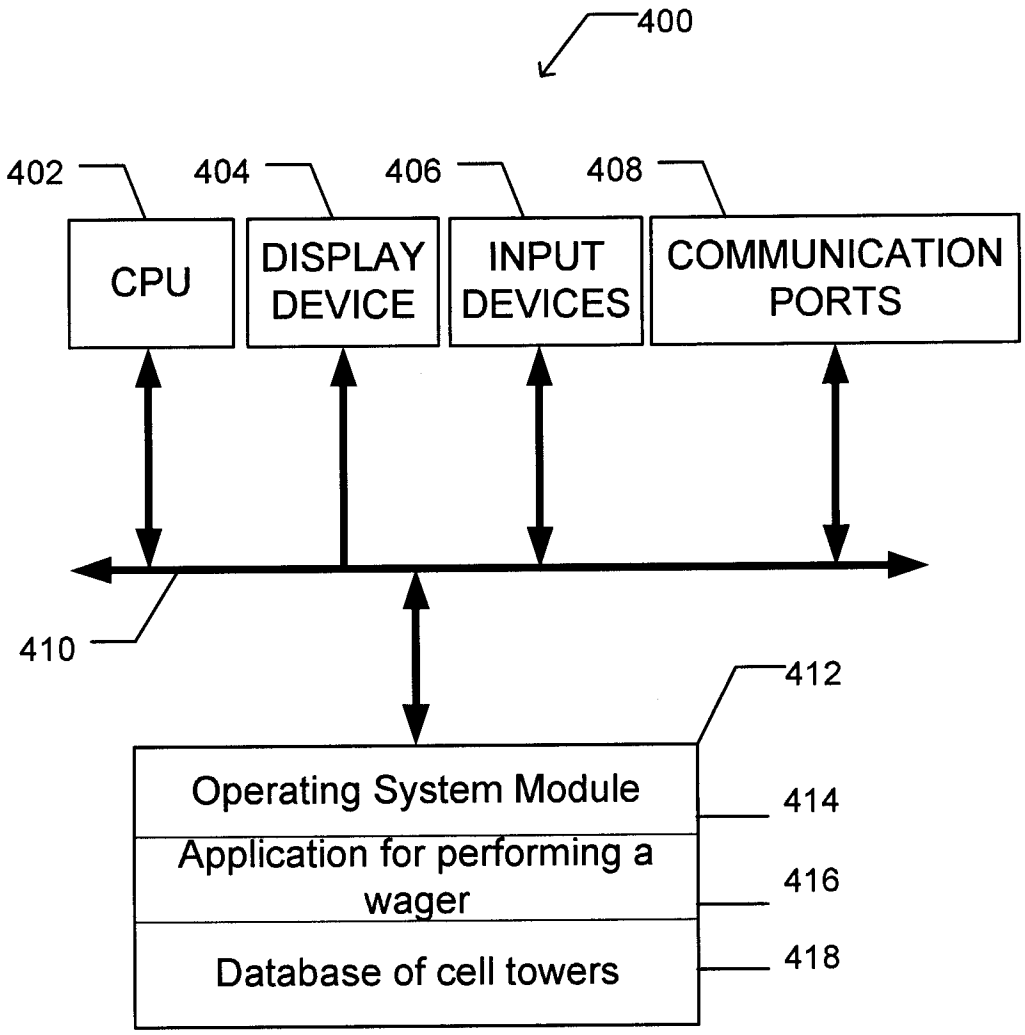
400
402
404
406
408
CPU
DISPLAY DEVICE
INPUT DEVICES
COMMUNICATION PORTS
410
412
Operating System Module
414
Application for performing a wager
416
Database of cell towers
418

FIG. 4

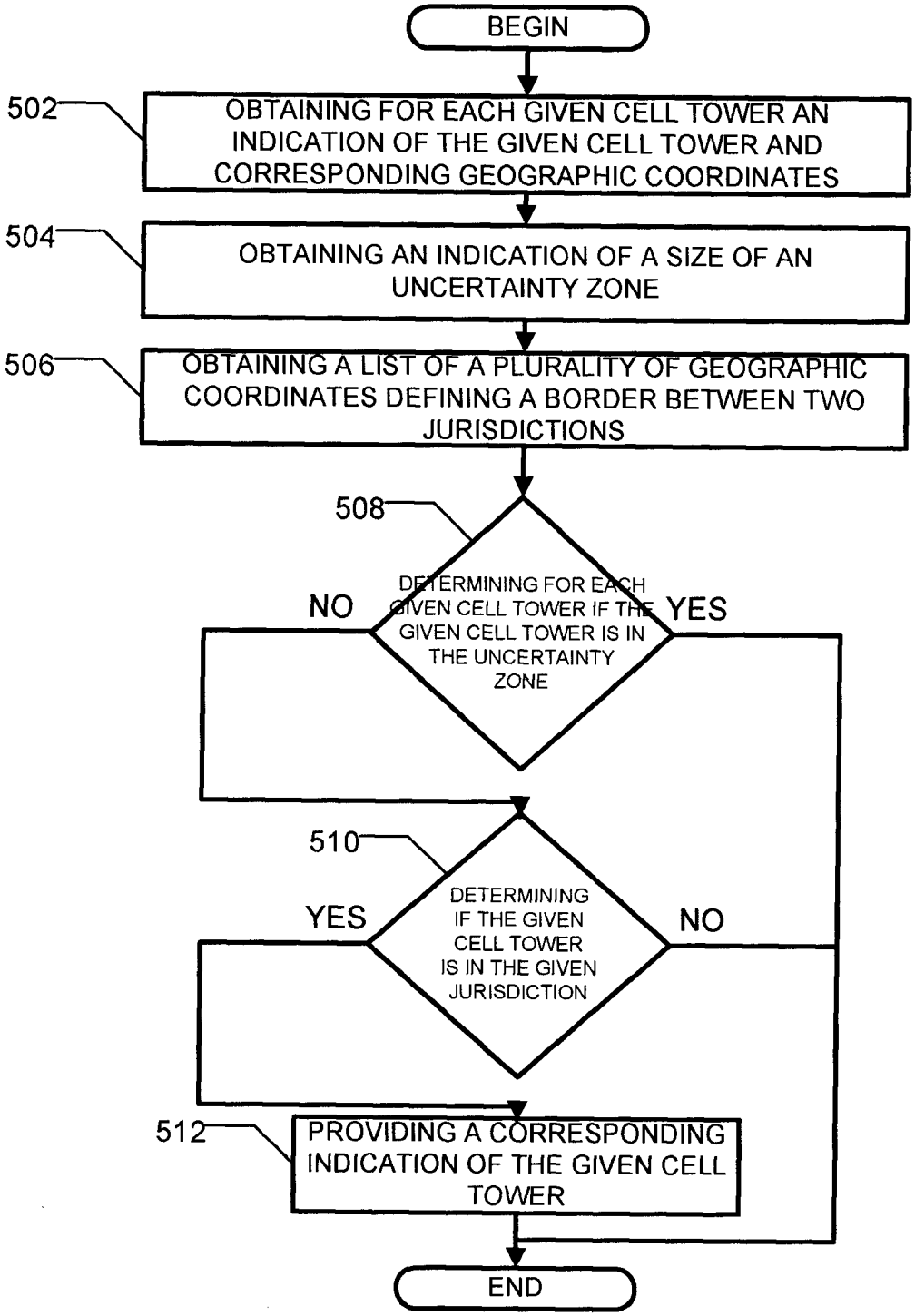
BEGIN
502
OBTAINING FOR EACH GIVEN CELL TOWER AN INDICATION OF THE GIVEN CELL TOWER AND CORRESPONDING GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES
504
OBTAINING AN INDICATION OF A SIZE OF AN UNCERTAINTY ZONE
506
OBTAINING A LIST OF A PLURALITY OF GEOGRAPHIC COORDINATES DEFINING A BORDER BETWEEN TWO JURISDICTIONS
508
DETERMINING FOR EACH GIVEN CELL TOWER IF THE GIVEN CELL TOWER IS IN THE UNCERTAINTY ZONE
NO
YES
510
DETERMINING IF THE GIVEN CELL TOWER IS IN THE GIVEN JURISDICTION
YES
NO
512
PROVIDING A CORRESPONDING INDICATION OF THE GIVEN CELL TOWER
END

FIG. 5

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/CA2012/001090

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC: ***G07F 17/32*** (2006.01) , ***H04W 4/00*** (2009.01) , ***H04W 48/04*** (2009.01)
According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
G07F 17/32 (2006.01), H04W 4/00 (2009.01), H04W 48/04 (2009.01)

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic database(s) consulted during the international search (name of database(s) and, where practicable, search terms used)
Epoque™ (Epodoc, X Full), Canadian database, and Total Patent™ (Keywords: mobile phone or cell phone or smart phone, wagering, cell tower, registration, request, checking, matching, lottery, sms, and similar terms).

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	WO 2007/078533 A2 (ANDERSON et al.), 12 July 2007 (12-07-2007) *entire document and particularly, abstract & page 4, line 30 to page 5, line 17* *page 13, line 30 to page 14, line 4; Fig. 2, 5 and 6*	1 - 9, 13 and 14
Y	US 2007/0259709 A1 (KELLY et al.), 08 November 2007 (08-11-2007) *entire document and particularly, para 0536 and 0552 - 0555*	1 - 9, 13 and 14
Y	EP 2071878 A1 (HOLGER et al.), 17 June 2009 (17-06-2009) *entire document and particularly, para 0031 and 0037; Fig.4, 5 and 6*	1 - 9, 13 and 14
A	US2010/0087188 A1 (GRIFF et al.), 08 April 2010 (08-04-2010) *entire document and particularly, para 0067, 0068, 0097 and 0098*	1 - 9, 13 and 14
Y, P	US 2012/0122561 A1 (HEDRICK et al.), 17 May 2012 (17-05-2012) *entire document and particularly, para 0159*	1 - 9, 13 and 14

[ ] Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. [X] See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date
"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed
"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
13 March 2013 (13-03-2013)	13 March 2013 (13-03-2013)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/CA	Authorized officer
Canadian Intellectual Property Office Place du Portage I, C114 - 1st Floor, Box PCT 50 Victoria Street Gatineau, Quebec K1A 0C9 Facsimile No.: 001-819-953-2476	Veeresh Nadarajan (819) 953-1575

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/CA2012/001090

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of the first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons :

1. [ ] Claim Nos. :
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely :

2. [ ] Claim Nos. :
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically :

3. [ ] Claim Nos. :
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows :

1. [ ] As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.

2. [ ] As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.

3. [ ] As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claim Nos. :

4. [X] No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claim Nos. : 1 - 9, 13 and 14

Remark on Protest

[ ] The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.

[ ] The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.

[ ] No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Information on patent family members

International application No.
PCT/CA2012/001090

Patent Document Cited in Search Report	Publication Date	Patent Family Member(s)	Publication Date
WO2007078533A2	12 July 2007 (12-07-2007)	CA2633341A1	12 July 2007 (12-07-2007)
		EP1973617A4	02 March 2011 (02-03-2011)
		US2008300049A1	04 December 2008 (04-12-2008)
		WO2007078533A3	13 September 2007 (13-09-2007)
US2007259709A1	08 November 2007 (08-11-2007)	AR059567A1	16 April 2008 (16-04-2008)
		AU1241701A	14 May 2001 (14-05-2001)
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		AU2439097A	29 October 1997 (29-10-1997)
		AU2918801A	14 May 2001 (14-05-2001)
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		AU2002340050B2	28 May 2009 (28-05-2009)
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		AU2003262844A1	30 April 2004 (30-04-2004)
		AU2005287120B2	30 June 2011 (30-06-2011)
		AU2005287157B2	30 June 2011 (30-06-2011)
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		AU2007203223B2	15 November 2012 (15-11-2012)
		AU2007221743A1	17 April 2008 (17-04-2008)
		AU2007319989B9	30 August 2012 (30-08-2012)
		AU2008323670A1	14 May 2009 (14-05-2009)
		AU2009200275B2	26 May 2011 (26-05-2011)
		AU2009236024A1	03 June 2010 (03-06-2010)
		CA2461632C	24 April 2012 (24-04-2012)
		CA2461819A1	10 April 2003 (10-04-2003)
		CA2498617A1	25 March 2004 (25-03-2004)
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		CN1568209A	19 January 2005 (19-01-2005)
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		CN101095987A	02 January 2008 (02-01-2008)
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		CN101232925A	30 July 2008 (30-07-2008)
		CN101312772B	14 September 2011 (14-09-2011)
		CN101512511A	19 August 2009 (19-08-2009)
		CN102302855A	04 January 2012 (04-01-2012)

Patent Document Cited in Search Report	Publication Date	Patent Family Member(s)	Publication Date
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		EP1432486A4	25 October 2006 (25-10-2006)
		EP1629338A4	03 June 2009 (03-06-2009)
		EP1799318A4	20 August 2008 (20-08-2008)
		EP1799319A4	27 August 2008 (27-08-2008)
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		EP1879143A3	11 February 2009 (11-02-2009)
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		TWI236924B	01 August 2005 (01-08-2005)
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		US6007426A	28 December 1999 (28-12-1999)
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		US6306035B1	23 October 2001 (23-10-2001)
		US6454648B1	24 September 2002 (24-09-2002)
		US6645068B1	11 November 2003 (11-11-2003)
		US2002077169A1	20 June 2002 (20-06-2002)
		US6758755B2	06 July 2004 (06-07-2004)
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		US6942571B1	13 September 2005 (13-09-2005)
		US2005147116A1	07 July 2005 (07-07-2005)
		US7244182B2	17 July 2007 (17-07-2007)
		US2003064771A1	03 April 2003 (03-04-2003)
		US7338372B2	04 March 2008 (04-03-2008)
		US7479065B1	20 January 2009 (20-01-2009)
		US2007207850A1	06 September 2007 (06-09-2007)
		US7699697B2	20 April 2010 (20-04-2010)
		US2005097247A1	05 May 2005 (05-05-2005)
		US7721006B2	18 May 2010 (18-05-2010)
		US2008288639A1	20 November 2008 (20-11-2008)
		US7730198B2	01 June 2010 (01-06-2010)
		US2005005155A1	06 January 2005 (06-01-2005)
		US7730325B2	01 June 2010 (01-06-2010)
		US2006079333A1	13 April 2006 (13-04-2006)
		US7749076B2	06 July 2010 (06-07-2010)
		US2005026694A1	03 February 2005 (03-02-2005)
		US7762885B2	27 July 2010 (27-07-2010)
		US2007006329A1	04 January 2007 (04-01-2007)

Patent Document Cited in Search Report	Publication Date	Patent Family Member(s)	Publication Date
		US7857698B2	28 December 2010 (28-12-2010)
		US2009069087A1	12 March 2009 (12-03-2009)
		US7896735B2	01 March 2011 (01-03-2011)
		US2007082737A1	12 April 2007 (12-04-2007)
		US7905780B2	15 March 2011 (15-03-2011)
		US2005044401A1	24 February 2005 (24-02-2005)
		US7907729B2	15 March 2011 (15-03-2011)
		US2009029776A1	29 January 2009 (29-01-2009)
		US7937464B2	03 May 2011 (03-05-2011)
		US2008004101A1	03 January 2008 (03-01-2008)
		US7938723B2	10 May 2011 (10-05-2011)
		US2006068906A1	30 March 2006 (30-03-2006)
		US7950999B2	31 May 2011 (31-05-2011)
		US2008220857A1	11 September 2008 (11-09-2008)
		US2009005158A9	01 January 2009 (01-01-2009)
		US7972209B2	05 July 2011 (05-07-2011)
		US2009131150A1	21 May 2009 (21-05-2009)
		US7972212B2	05 July 2011 (05-07-2011)
		US2009258701A1	15 October 2009 (15-10-2009)
		US8012021B2	06 September 2011 (06-09-2011)
		US8052518B1	08 November 2011 (08-11-2011)
		US2009137311A1	28 May 2009 (28-05-2009)
		US8057305B2	15 November 2011 (15-11-2011)
		US2009209350A1	20 August 2009 (20-08-2009)
		US8062134B2	22 November 2011 (22-11-2011)
		US2008146326A1	19 June 2008 (19-06-2008)
		US8066566B2	29 November 2011 (29-11-2011)
		US2008254886A1	16 October 2008 (16-10-2008)
		US2009186699A9	23 July 2009 (23-07-2009)
		US8092307B2	10 January 2012 (10-01-2012)
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