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(54) Title: SOCIAL MEDIA INTERACTION SYSTEM AND METHOD

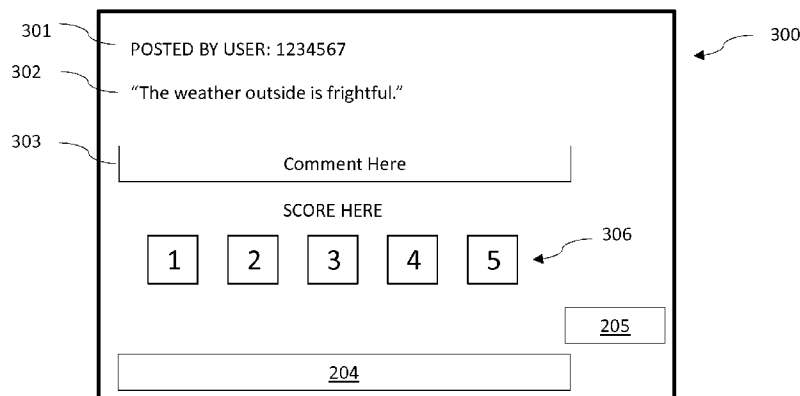


FIG. 3

(57) Abstract: Systems and methods are disclosed that enable or facilitate a word association interaction between users. In some embodiments, a list of words may be presented to a user, who creates a sentence using one or more of the words. Sentences may be scored or rated by a reviewing user, and accumulated scores may be selectively distributed to users or groups of users. In other embodiments, a registered account at a provider may be synchronized with an identified registered account at a social media platform, and the provider may aggregate approval data based upon user interaction with content on the platform; these data may be used by the provider to host contests or to provide business intelligence information to the platform.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 15/44499

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - A63F 9/24 (2015.01)

CPC - G07F 17/32

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)
IPC(8): A63F 9/24 (2015.01); CPC: G07F 17/32Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
USPC: 463/9 or 463/10 or 463/42 or 434/156 or 434/167
IPC(8): A63F 9/24 (2015.01); CPC: G07F 17/32 or A63F 13/10 or A63F 9/24 or A63F 13/12 or A63F 9/183Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
Patbase; Google Scholar; word, sentence, phrase, verification, leaderboard, score, rate, game, player, reviewer

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 8,465,355 B1 (Liang) 18 June 2013 (18.06.2013) entire document (especially col. 2, ln 40-41; col. 4, ln 25-28; col. 6, ln 33-49; col. 7, ln 22-32; col. 10, ln 8-9; col. 12, ln 50 to col. 13, ln 3; col. 13, ln 40-43; col. 14, ln 35-42; col. 21, ln 51 to col. 22, ln 24; col. 25, ln 21-34)	1-8
A	US 8,606,792 B1 (Jackson et al.) 10 December 2013 (10.12.2013) entire document	1-8

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

* 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

06 January 2016 (06.01.2016)

Date of mailing of the international search report

28 JAN 2016

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US 15/44499

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of 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. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims 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. Claims 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:

-see extra sheet-

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 claims Nos.:
4. 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 claims Nos.:
1-8

- 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

International application No.

PCT/US 15/44499

Continuation of Box III: Lack of Unity

This application contains the following inventions or groups of inventions which are not so linked as to form a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1. In order for all inventions to be examined, the appropriate additional examination fees must be paid.

Group I: Claims 1-8 are drawn to a method enabling word association interaction between users by verifying a sentence received from a user meets verification criterion.

Group II: Claims 9-12 are drawn a method enabling competitive interaction between users by synchronizing a registered user account with a social media platform account, associating the user with a contest, and selectively distributing the score and reward received from interacting with the social media platform at the end of the contest.

The inventions listed as Groups I through II do not relate to a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1 because under PCT Rule 13.2 they lack the same or corresponding technical features for the following reasons:

Special Technical Features:

The special technical features of Group I are presenting a list of words to a user, receiving a sentence from the user, and verifying that the sentence meets a verification criterion.

The special technical features of Group II are synchronizing a registered user account with a social media platform account, associating the registered user with a contest and at the end of contest, selectively distributing the score and reward received from interacting with a social media platform, not present in any other group.

Common Technical Feature:

Groups I-II share a technical feature of enable...interacting between users, accumulating score data and selectively distributing the score data. However, this shared technical features does not represent a contribution over the prior art:

US 8,606,792 B1 (Jackson et al.) 10 December 2013 (10.12.2013)

Jackson teaches enable... interactions between users (e.g. interaction between the users, col. 7, ln 1-3); accumulated score data (e.g. the personal score may be generated by weighting individual signals or factors that are subsequently combined to generate the score, col. 10, ln 19-21) and selectively distributing the score data (e.g. the score may be transmitted to the second user if the score exceeds a threshold value, col. 27, ln 59-61; e.g. the post score is transmitted with the post, col. 29, ln 11-13).

Therefore, Groups I - II lack unity under PCT Rule 13 because they do not share a same or corresponding special technical feature.