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(54) **Method and system for identity verification using multiple simultaneously scanned biometric images**

(57) Accuracy and speed of biometric identity verification are significantly improved by use of multiple simultaneous scans of biometric features of a user, such as multiple fingerprints, using multiple scanners (40, 50) of smaller size than would be needed to accommodate all of the fingerprints in a single scanner (30), and using multiple parallel processors (42, 52), or a single higher speed processor, to process the fingerprint data more efficiently. Obtaining biometric data from multiple user features by use of multiple scanners increases verification accuracy, but without the higher cost and slower processing speed that would be incurred if a single large scanner were to be used for improved accuracy.

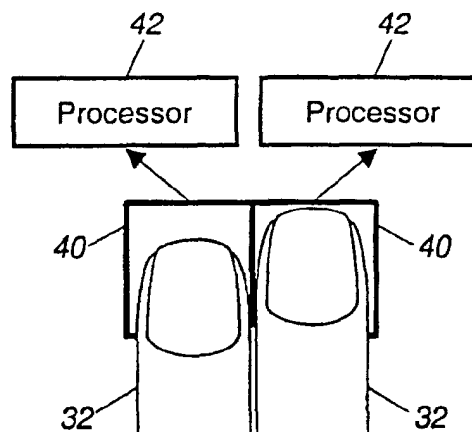


Figure 3