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(54) Title: LOADING ATTRIBUTE FOR PARTIAL LOADING OF CLASS FILES INTO VIRTUAL MACHINES

(57) Abstract: Improved techniques for loading class files into virtual computing machines are disclosed. The techniques seek to provide a mechanism that will generally improve the efficiency of virtual machines by selectively loading information into a virtual machine. A new class attribute ("load-attribute") is defined and implemented for class files. This can be, for example, implemented as a "load-attribute" table that lists the components that have been selected for loading into the virtual machine. In addition, the load-attribute may provide references to the selected components in the class file. Accordingly, various components of the class file can be marked for loading and selectively loaded.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7  G06F9/445

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 7  G06F

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

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)
EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, IBM-TDB, INSPEC

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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11 September 2003

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<td>EP 0 996 059 A (IBM) 26 April 2000 (2000-04-26) abstract; figures 1, 2 column 3, line 6-18, 27-29 column 4, line 33-47 column 5, line 34-44; figure 3</td>
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