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(54) **SOCIAL-TOPICAL ADAPTIVE NETWORKING (STAN) SYSTEM ALLOWING FOR COOPERATIVE INTER-COUPLING WITH EXTERNAL SOCIAL NETWORKING SYSTEMS AND OTHER CONTENT SOURCES**

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G06F 3/01 (2006.01)

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A cross-pollination subsystem is provided within a Social-Topical Adaptive Networking (STAN) system. The cross-pollination subsystem cooperatively interacts with external platforms to bring fresh cross-pollination data to topic nodes or on-topic Notes Exchange rings (TCONE's) of the STAN system. Users are provided with an interface that allows them to browse through the cross-pollinated topic space to thereby connect with online content sources that are likely to correspond to topics of interest currently on the minds of the STAN system users.

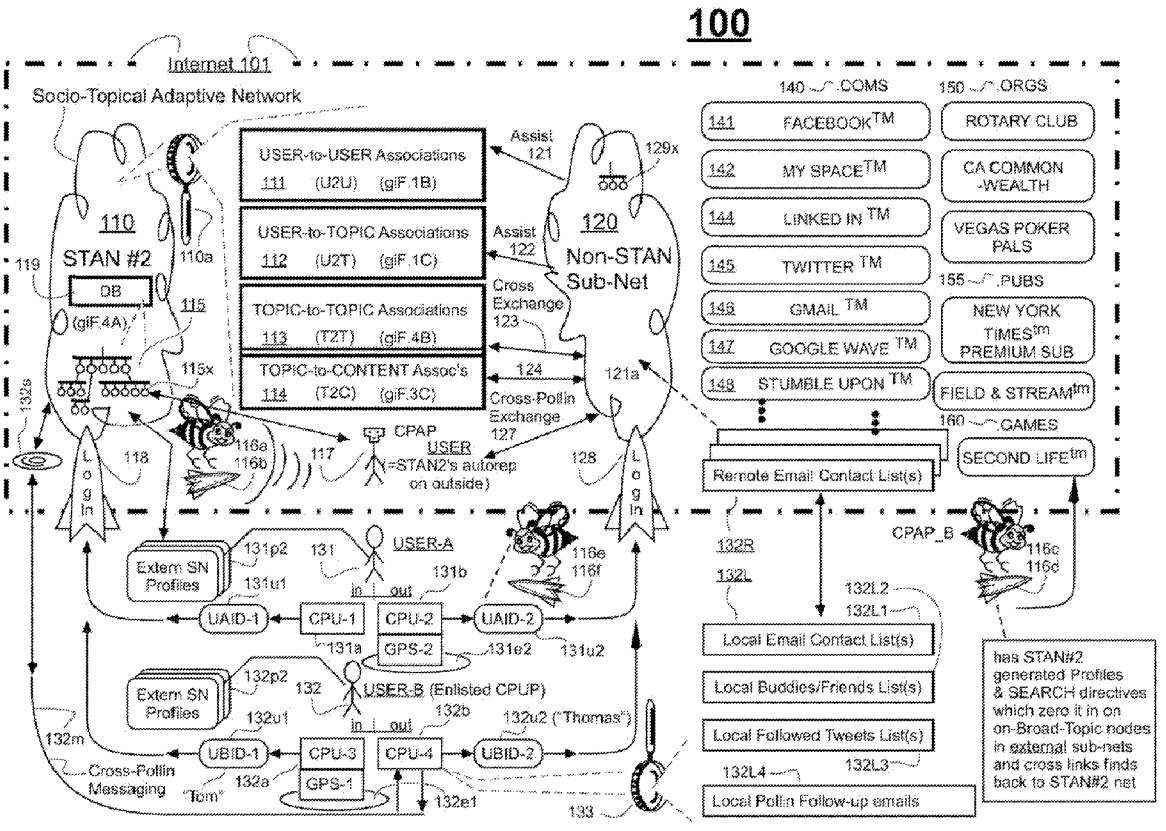


Fig. 1A 100

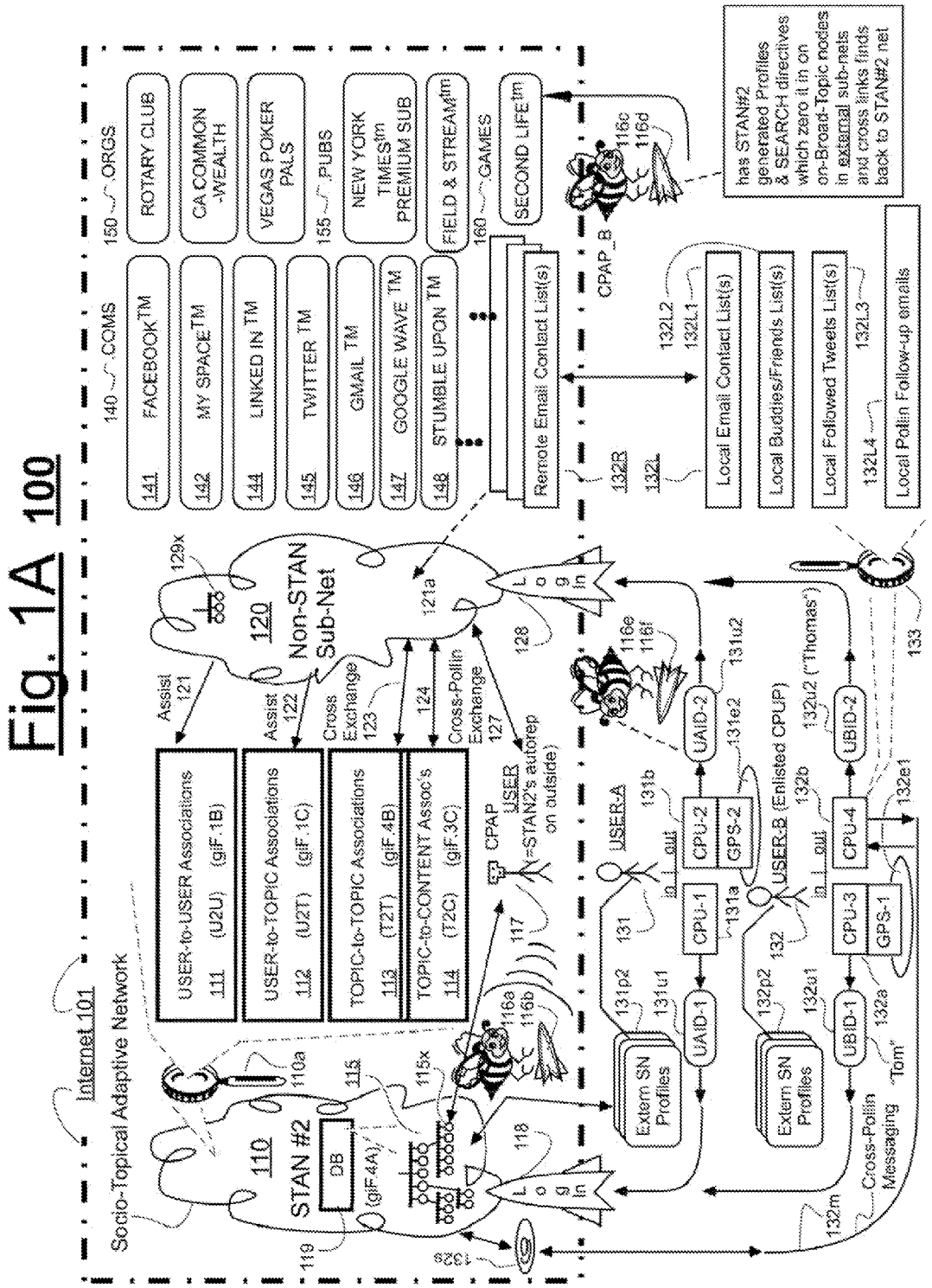

Internet 101
Socio-Topical Adaptive Network
110
STAN #2
DB
(giF.4A)
119
110a
115
115x
118
132s
116a
116b
117
CPAP
USER
(=STAN2's autorep on outside)
USER-to-USER Associations
111 (U2U) (giF.1B)
USER-to-TOPIC Associations
112 (U2T) (giF.1C)
TOPIC-to-TOPIC Associations
113 (T2T) (giF.4B)
TOPIC-to-CONTENT Assoc's
114 (T2C) (giF.3C)
Assist 121
Assist 122
Cross Exchange 123
124
Cross-Pollin Exchange 127
120
Non-STAN Sub-Net
129x
121a
128
Log In
140 COMS
141 FACEBOOK TM
142 MY SPACE TM
144 LINKED IN TM
145 TWITTER TM
146 GMAIL TM
147 GOOGLE WAVE TM
148 STUMBLE UPON TM
150 ORGS
ROTARY CLUB
CA COMMON -WEALTH
VEGAS POKER PALS
155 PUBS
NEW YORK TIMES tm PREMIUM SUB
FIELD & STREAM tm
160 GAMES
SECOND LIFE tm
Remote Email Contact List(s)
132R
132L
Local Email Contact List(s)
132L1
132L2
Local Buddies/Friends List(s)
Local Followed Tweets List(s)
132L3
132L4
Local Pollin Follow-up emails
CPAP_B
116c
116d
has STAN#2 generated Profiles & SEARCH directives which zero it in on on-Broad-Topic nodes in external sub-nets and cross links finds back to STAN#2 net
133
116e
116f
USER-A
131
131b
in out
CPU-1
131a
CPU-2
GPS-2
UAID-1
131p2
131u1
UAID-2
131u2
131e2
Extern SN Profiles
USER-B (Enlisted CPUP)
132
132b
CPU-3
GPS-1
CPU-4
132e1
132u2 ("Thomas")
UBID-1
132a
132p2
132u1
UBID-2
"Tom"
Cross-Pollin Messaging
132m

Fig. 1B

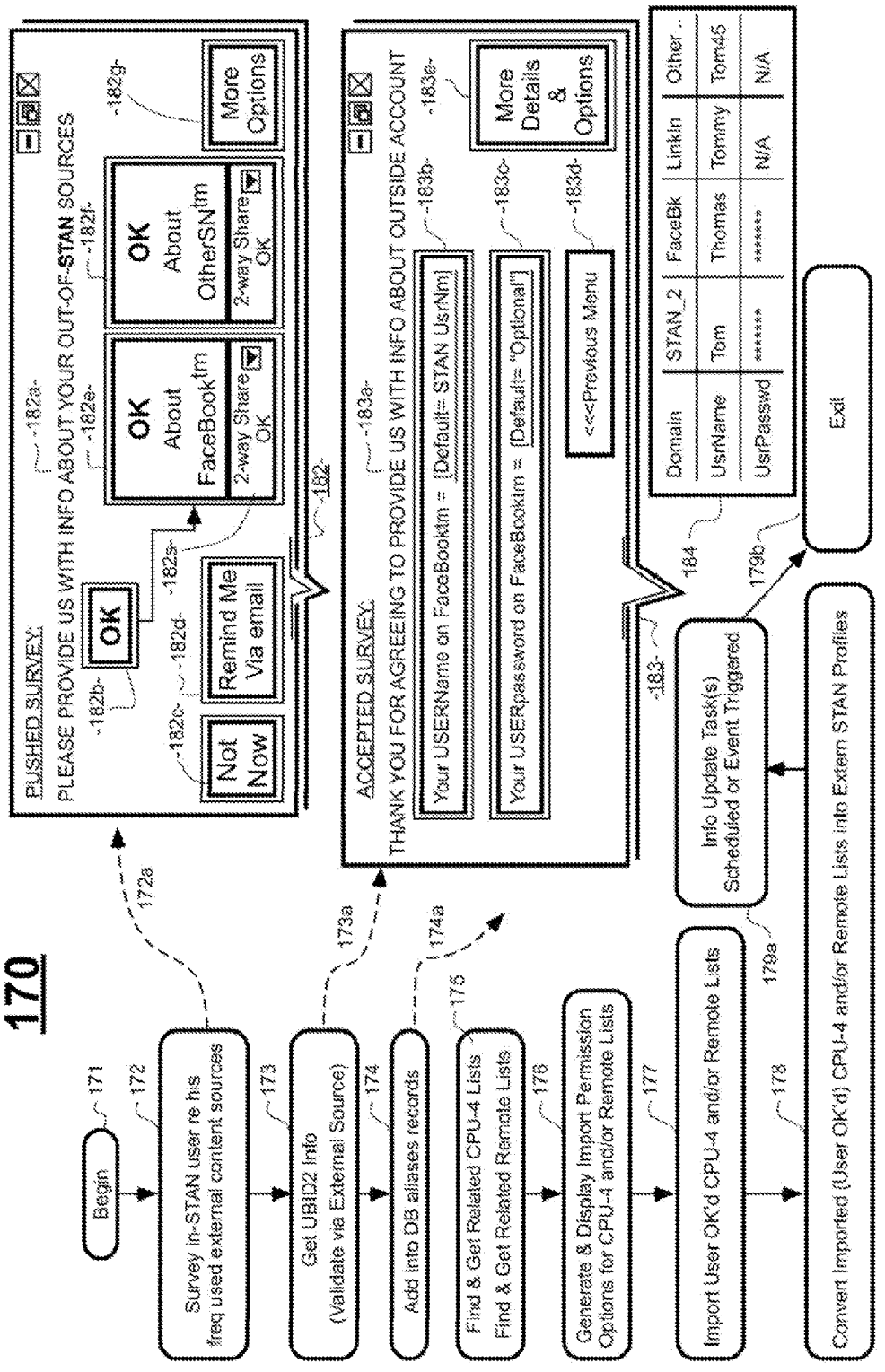

170
Begin
171
Survey in-STAN user re his freq used external content sources
172
172a
Get UBID2 Info (Validate via External Source)
173
173a
Add into DB aliases records
174
174a
Find & Get Related CPU-4 Lists Find & Get Related Remote Lists
175
176
Generate & Display Import Permission Options for CPU-4 and/or Remote Lists
177
Import User OK'd CPU-4 and/or Remote Lists
178
179a
Convert Imported (User OK'd) CPU-4 and/or Remote Lists into Extern STAN Profiles
Info Update Task(s) Scheduled or Event Triggered
179b
Exit
PUSHED SURVEY:
PLEASE PROVIDE US WITH INFO ABOUT YOUR OUT-OF-STAN SOURCES
182a
182
182b
OK
182c
Not Now
182d
Remind Me Via email
182e
OK About FaceBook™
182f
OK About OtherSN™
182g
More Options
2-way Share OK
ACCEPTED SURVEY:
THANK YOU FOR AGREEING TO PROVIDE US WITH INFO ABOUT OUTSIDE ACCOUNT
183a
183
Your USERName on FaceBook™ = [Default= STAN UsrNm]
183b
Your USERpassword on FaceBook™ = [Default= "Optional"]
183c
<<<Previous Menu
183d
More Details & Options
183e
184
Domain | STAN_2 | FaceBk | LinkIn | Other ..
UsrName | Tom | Thomas | Tommy | Tom45
UsrPasswd | ******* | ******* | N/A | N/A

Fig. 2

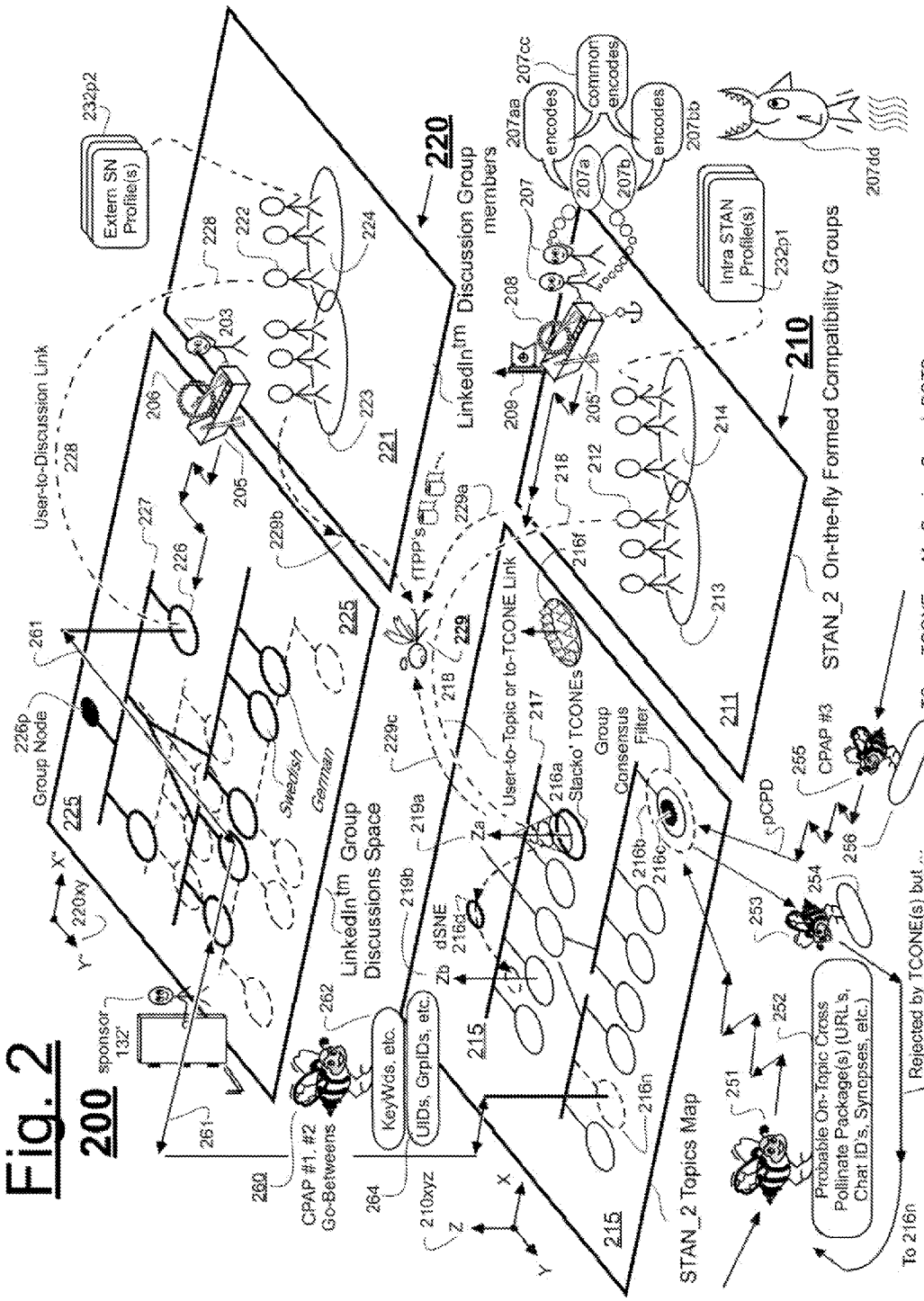

200
220
210
221
225
226p
Group Node
User-to-Discussion Link
228
Extern SN Profile(s)
232p2
Intra STAN Profile(s)
232p1
LinkedIn^tm Discussion Group members
LinkedIn^tm Group Discussions Space
Swedish
German
User-to-Topic or to-TCONE Link
Stacko' TCONEs
Group Consensus Filter
STAN_2 On-the-fly Formed Compatibility Groups
STAN_2 Topics Map
sponsor 132'
CPAP #1, #2 Go-Betweens
KeyWds, etc.
UIDs, GrpIDs, etc.
dSNE
pCPD
CPAP #3
TC- or TCONE- or Me-Serving Search BOTS
Probable On-Topic Cross Pollinate Package(s) (URL's, Chat ID's, Synopses, etc.)
Rejected by TCONE(s) but ... (all or part of delivered packaged)
To 216n
253a/254a
210xyz
220xy
X
Y
Z
X'
Y'
Za
Zb
encodes
common encodes
207aa
207bb
207cc
207dd
207a
207b
207
208
209
205'
206
203
222
223
224
227
226
229b
229a
229c
218
217
216a
216b
216c
216d
216f
216n
219a
219b
212
213
214
215
251
252
253
254
255
256
260
261
262
264

Fig. 3A

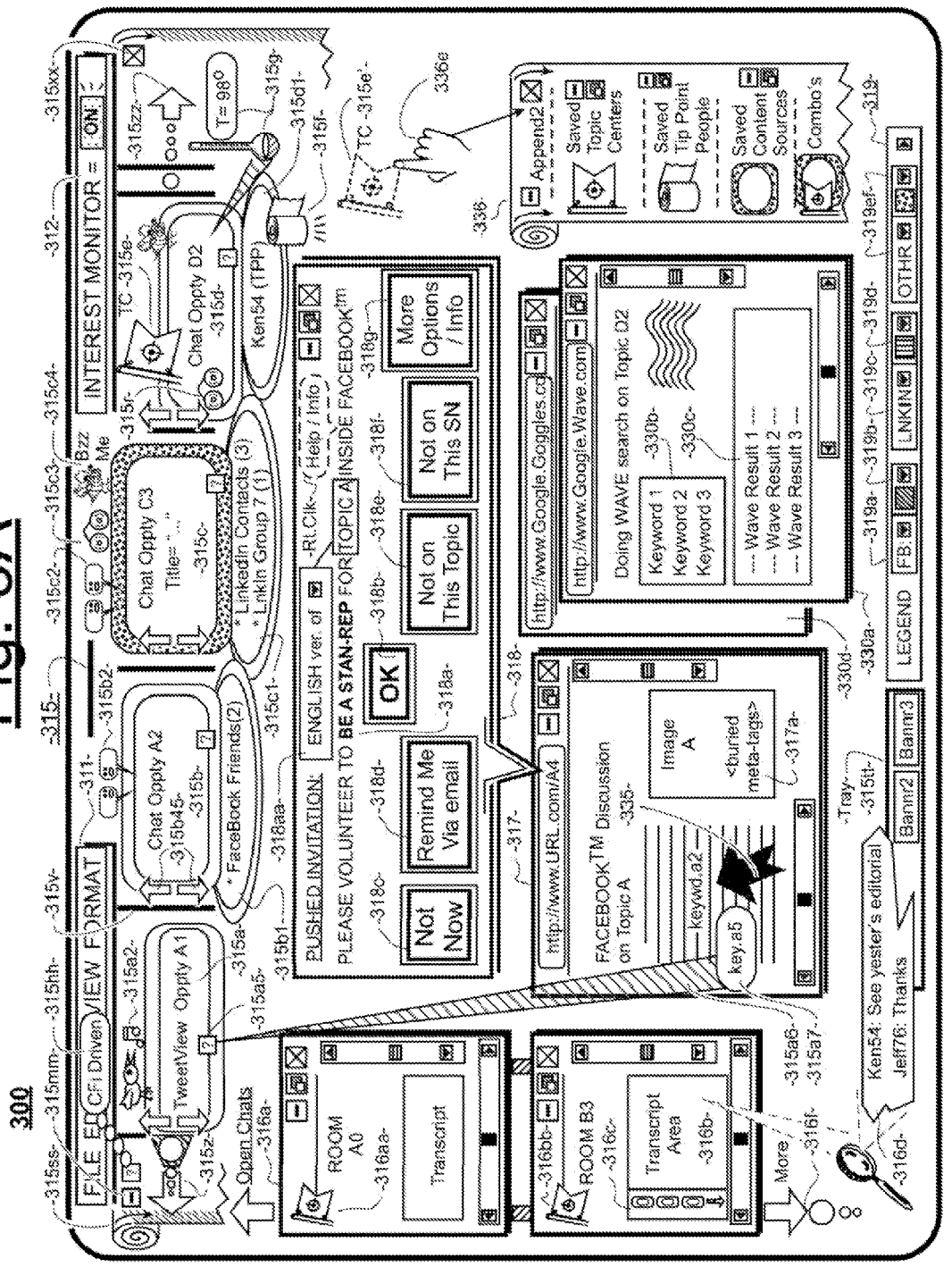

300
INTEREST MONITOR = ON
Chat Oppty C3
Chat Oppty D2
Chat Oppty A2
TweetView Oppty A1
FaceBook Friends(2)
LinkedIn Contacts (3)
LinkIn Group 7 (1)
Ken54 (TPP)
T= 98°
PUSHED INVITATION
ENGLISH ver. of
PLEASE VOLUNTEER TO BE A STAN-REP FOR TOPIC A INSIDE FACEBOOK™
Not Now
Remind Me Via email
OK
Not on This Topic
Not on This SN
More Options / Info
http://www.URL.com/A4
FACEBOOK™ Discussion on Topic A
Image A
<buried meta-tags>
keywd.a2
key.a5
http://www.Google.Goggles.com
http://www.Google.Wave.com
Doing WAVE search on Topic D2
Keyword 1
Keyword 2
Keyword 3
--- Wave Result 1 ---
--- Wave Result 2 ---
--- Wave Result 3 ---
Append2
Saved Topic Centers
Saved Tip Point People
Saved Content Sources
Combo's
Open Chats
ROOM A0
Transcript
ROOM B3
Transcript Area
More
Tray
Ken54: See yester's editorial
Jeff76: Thanks
LEGEND
FB:
LNKIN
OTHR
Banm2
Banm3

Fig. 3B

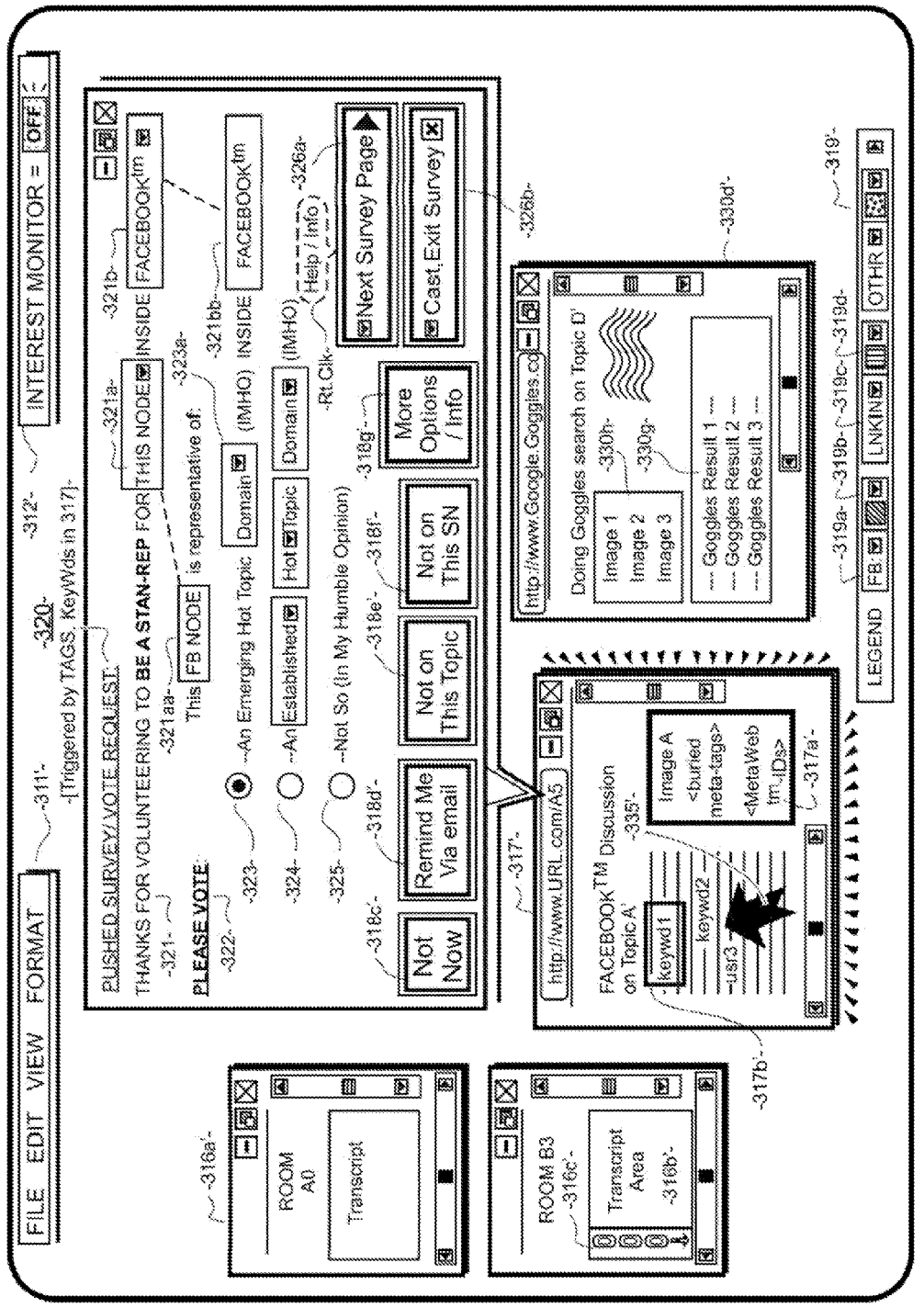

301
FILE EDIT VIEW FORMAT
INTEREST MONITOR = OFF
PUSHED SURVEY/VOTE REQUEST
THANKS FOR VOLUNTEERING TO BE A STAN-REP FOR THIS NODE INSIDE FACEBOOK
PLEASE VOTE
This FB NODE is representative of:
An Emerging Hot Topic Domain (IMHO) INSIDE FACEBOOK
An Established Hot Topic Domain (IMHO)
Not So (In My Humble Opinion)
Not Now
Remind Me Via email
Not on This Topic
Not on This SN
More Options / Info
Next Survey Page
Cast,Exit Survey
Help / Info
Rt.Clk
http://www.Google.Goggles.co
Doing Goggles search on Topic D'
Image 1
Image 2
Image 3
Goggles Result 1
Goggles Result 2
Goggles Result 3
http://www.URL.com/A5
FACEBOOK TM Discussion on Topic A'
keywd1
keywd2
usr3
Image A
<buried meta-tags>
<MetaWeb tm-IDs>
ROOM A0
Transcript
ROOM B3
Transcript Area
LEGEND
FB
LNKIN
OTHR

Fig. 3C

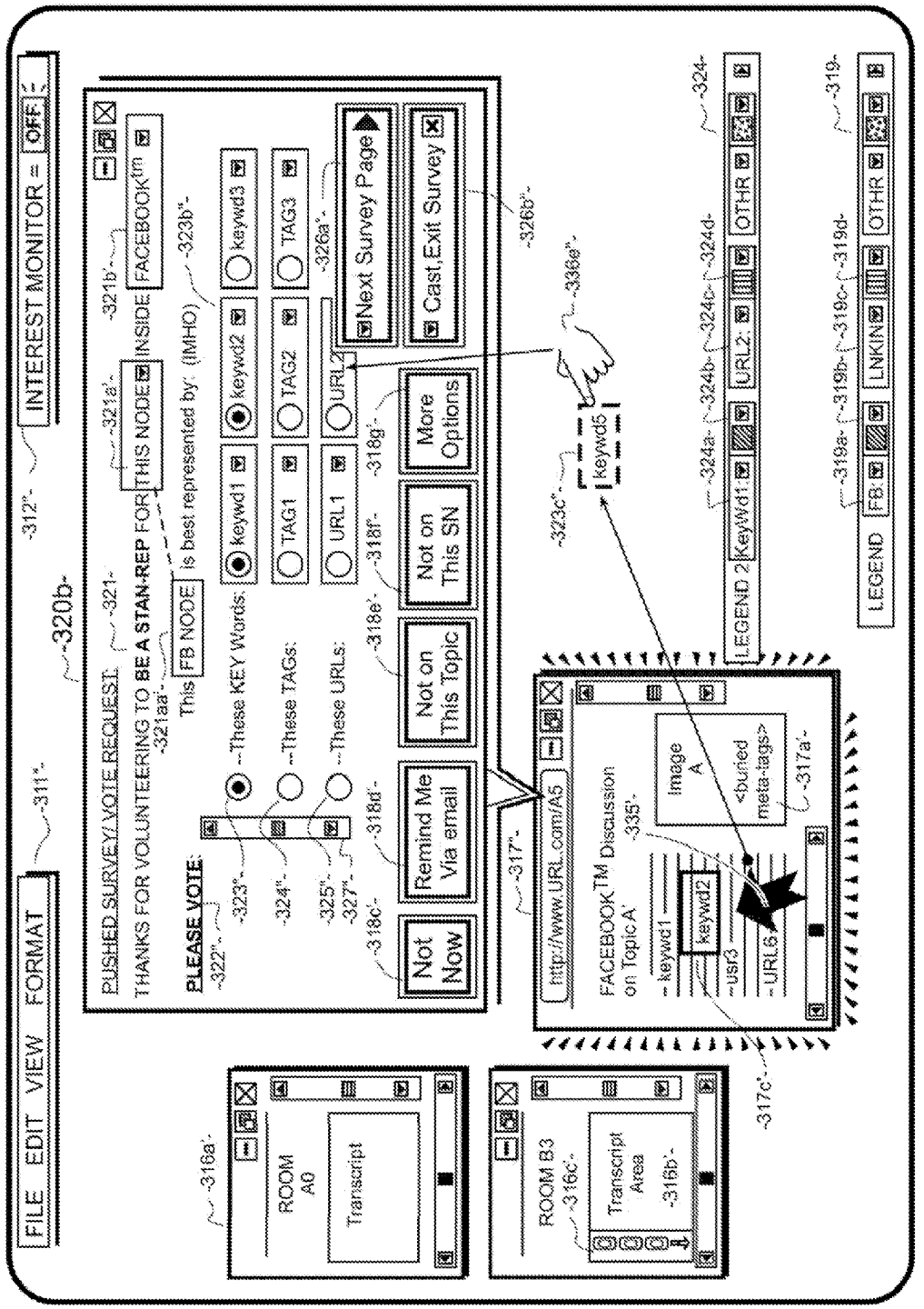

302
FILE EDIT VIEW FORMAT
-311'-
-312'-
INTEREST MONITOR = OFF
-320b-
PUSHED SURVEY/VOTE REQUEST:
-321-
THANKS FOR VOLUNTEERING TO BE A STAN-REP FOR
-321aa'-
This FB NODE is best represented by: (IMHO)
-321a'-
THIS NODE
INSIDE
-321b'-
FACEBOOK(tm)
-323b'-
PLEASE VOTE:
-322'-
--These KEY Words:
-323'-
keywd1
keywd2
keywd3
--These TAGs:
-324'-
TAG1
TAG2
TAG3
--These URLs:
-325'-
-327'-
URL1
URL2
-326a'-
Next Survey Page
Cast,Exit Survey
-326b'-
-318c'-
-318d'-
-318e'-
-318f'-
-318g'-
Not Now
Remind Me Via email
Not on This Topic
Not on This SN
More Options
-336a'-
-323c'-
keywd5
-316a'-
ROOM A0
Transcript
-316b'-
-316c'-
ROOM B3
Transcript Area
-317'-
http://www.URL.com/A5
FACEBOOK(TM) Discussion on Topic A'
-335'-
- keywd1
keywd2
-usr3
-URL6
Image A
<buried meta-tags>
-317a'-
-317c'-
-324'-
LEGEND 2
Keywd1
URL2
OTHR
-324a'-
-324b'-
-324c'-
-324d'-
-319'-
LEGEND
FB
LNKIN
OTHR
-319a'-
-319b'-
-319c'-
-319d'-

Fig. 3D

303

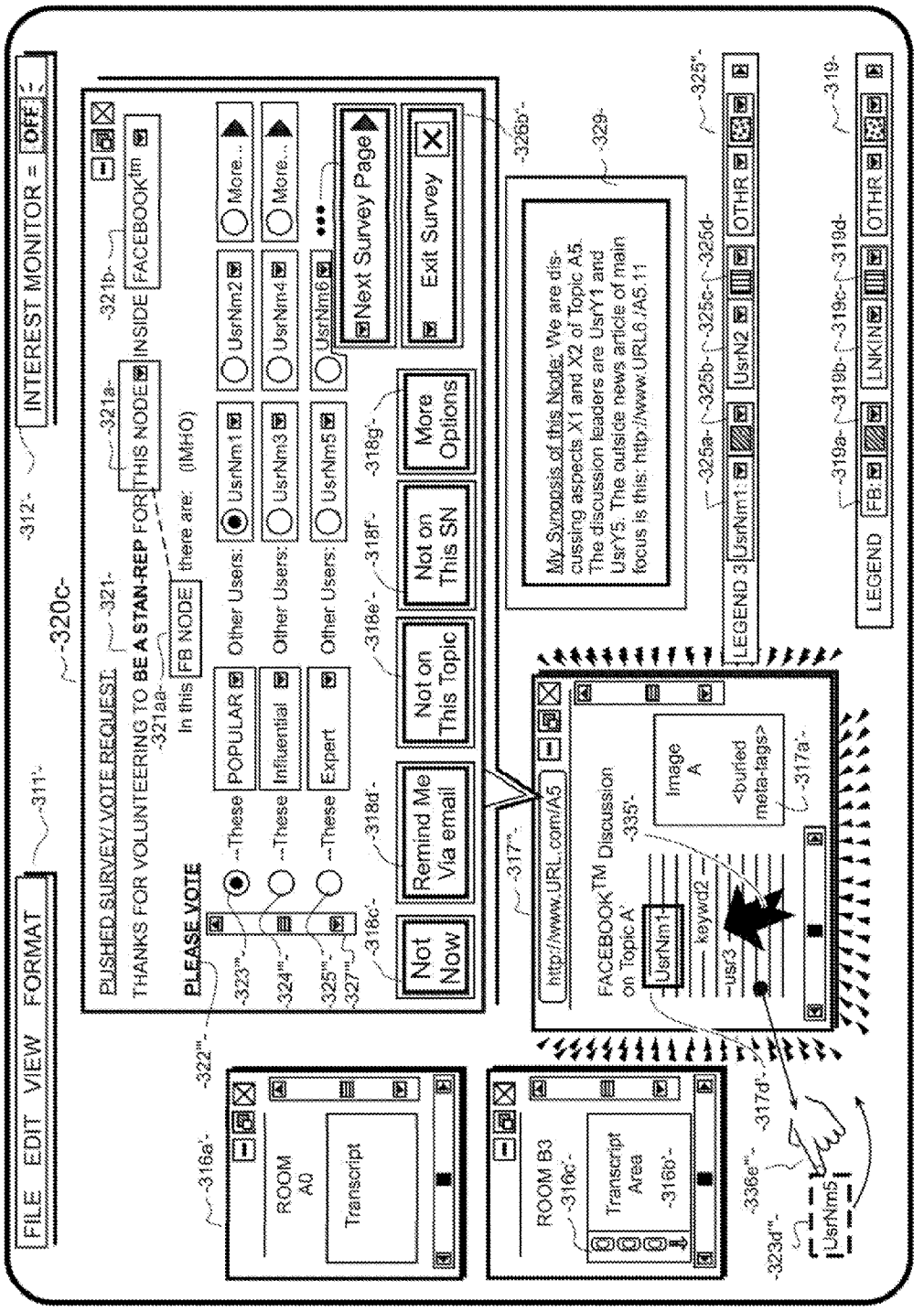

FILE EDIT VIEW FORMAT
INTEREST MONITOR = OFF
PUSHED SURVEY/ VOTE REQUEST
THANKS FOR VOLUNTEERING TO BE A STAN-REP FOR THIS NODE INSIDE FACEBOOK™
In this FB NODE there are: (IMHO)
PLEASE VOTE
These POPULAR
These Influential
These Expert
Other Users: UsrNm1 UsrNm2 More...
Other Users: UsrNm3 UsrNm4 More...
Other Users: UsrNm5 UsrNm6
Next Survey Page
Exit Survey
Not Now
Remind Me Via email
Not on This Topic
Not on This SN
More Options
My Synopsis of this Node: We are discussing aspects X1 and X2 of Topic A5. The discussion leaders are UsrY1 and UsrY5. The outside news article of main focus is this: http://www.URL6./A5.11
LEGEND 3 UsrNm1 UsrN2 OTHR
LEGEND FB LNKIN OTHR
http://www.URL.com/A5
FACEBOOK™ Discussion on Topic A'
UsrNm1
keywd2
usr3
Image A
<buried meta-tags>
ROOM A0
Transcript
ROOM B3
Transcript Area
UsrNm5

Fig. 4A

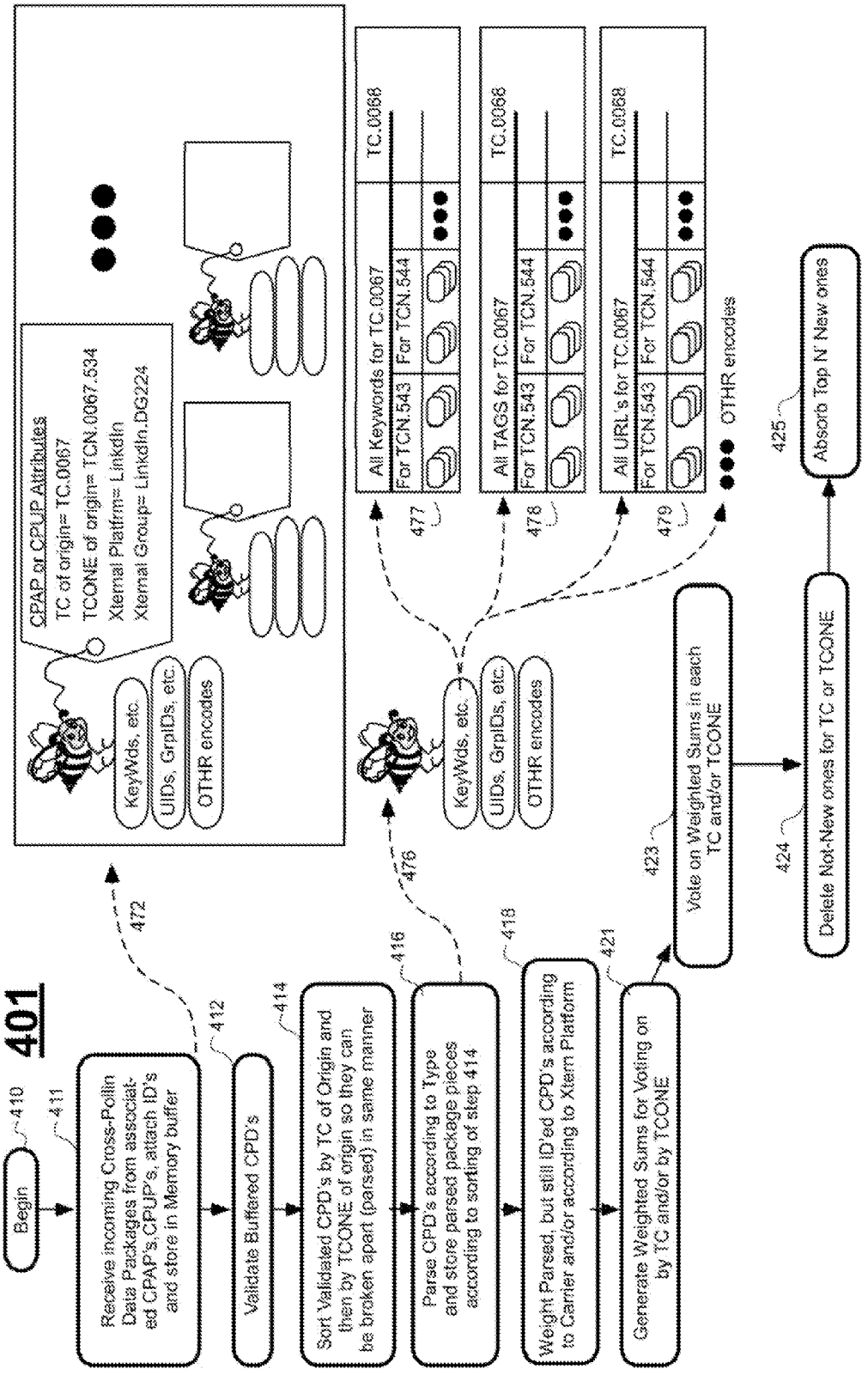

401
Begin
410
411
Receive incoming Cross-Polin Data Packages from associated CPAP's,CPUP's, attach ID's and store in Memory buffer
412
Validate Buffered CPD's
414
Sort Validated CPD's by TC of Origin and then by TCONE of origin so they can be broken apart (parsed) in same manner
416
Parse CPD's according to Type and store parsed package pieces according to sorting of step 414
418
Weight Parsed, but still ID'ed CPD's according to Carrier and/or according to Xterm Platform
421
Generate Weighted Sums for Voting on by TC and/or by TCONE
423
Vote on Weighted Sums in each TC and/or TCONE
424
Delete Not-New ones for TC or TCONE
425
Absorb Top N' New ones
472
476
CPAP or CPUP Attributes
TC of origin= TC.0067
TCONE of origin= TCN.0067.534
Xternal Platfrm= LinkdIn
Xternal Group= LinkdIn.DG224
KeyWds, etc.
UIDs, GrpIDs, etc.
OTHR encodes
All Keywords for TC.0067
TC.0068
For TCN.543
For TCN.544
477
All TAGS for TC.0067
478
All URL's for TC.0067
479
OTHR encodes

Fig. 4B

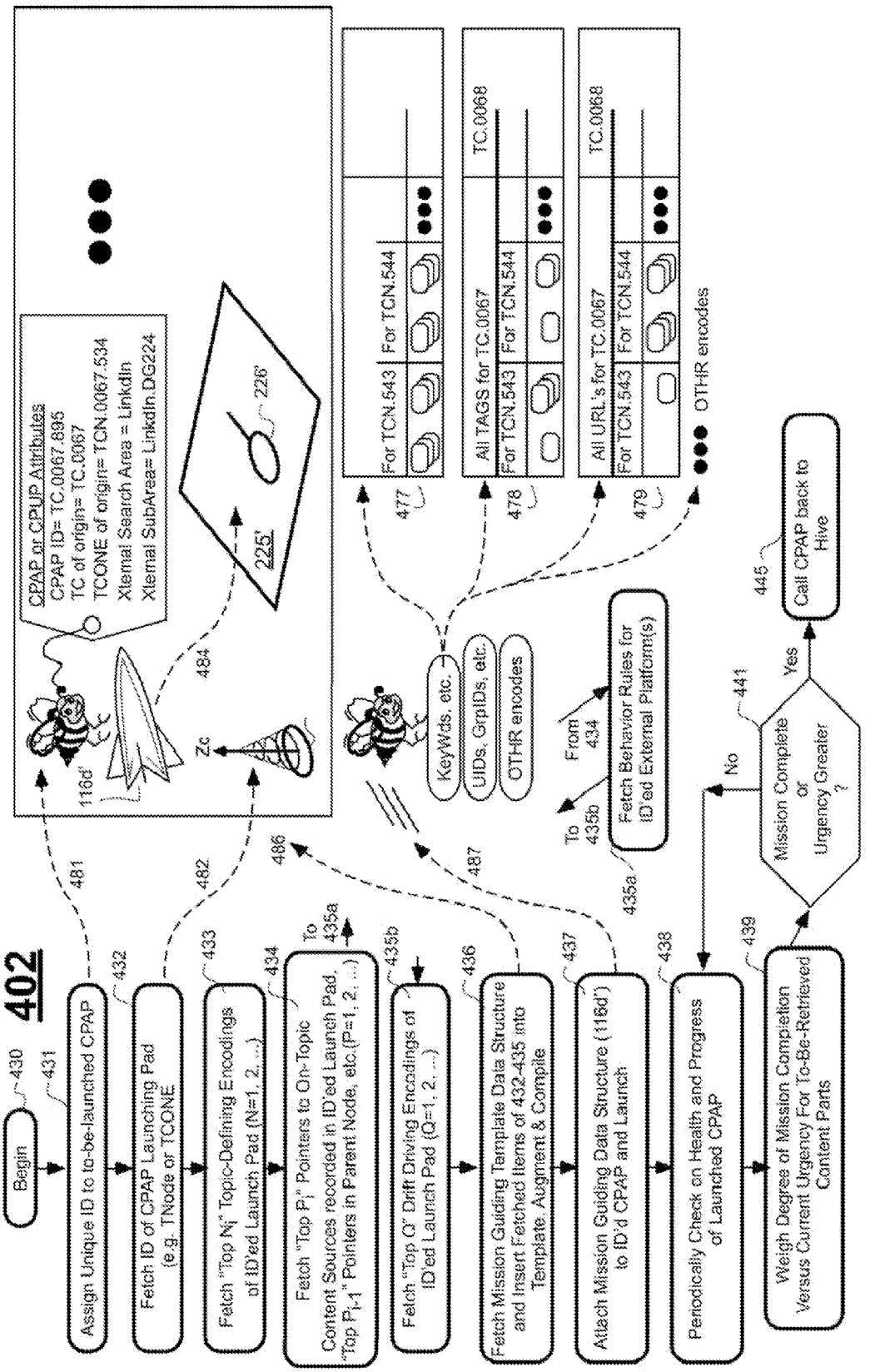

402
Begin
430
431
Assign Unique ID to to-be-launched CPAP
432
Fetch ID of CPAP Launching Pad (e.g. TNode or TCONE
433
Fetch "Top Nj" Topic-Defining Encodings of ID'ed Launch Pad (N=1, 2, ...)
434
Fetch "Top Pj" Pointers to On-Topic Content Sources recorded in ID'ed Launch Pad, "Top Pj-1" Pointers in Parent Node, etc.(P=1, 2, ...)
To 435a
435b
Fetch "Top Q" Drift Driving Encodings of ID'ed Launch Pad (Q=1, 2, ...)
436
Fetch Mission Guiding Template Data Structure and Insert Fetched Items of 432-435 into Template; Augment & Compile
437
Attach Mission Guiding Data Structure (116d') to ID'd CPAP and Launch
438
Periodically Check on Health and Progress of Launched CPAP
439
Weigh Degree of Mission Completion Versus Current Urgency For To-Be-Retrieved Content Parts
Mission Complete or Urgency Greater ?
441
No
Yes
445
Call CPAP back to Hive
From 434
To 435b
Fetch Behavior Rules for ID'ed External Platform(s)
435a
481
482
486
487
484
CPAP or CPUP Attributes
CPAP ID= TC.0067.895
TC. of origin= TC.0067
TCONE of origin= TCN.0067.534
Xternal Search Area = LinkdIn
Xternal SubArea= LinkdIn.DG224
116d'
Zc
225'
226'
KeyWds, etc.
UIDs, GrpIDs, etc.
OTHR encodes
For TCN.543
For TCN.544
477
All TAGS for TC.0067
TC.0068
478
All URLs for TC.0067
479
OTHR encodes

Fig. 4C

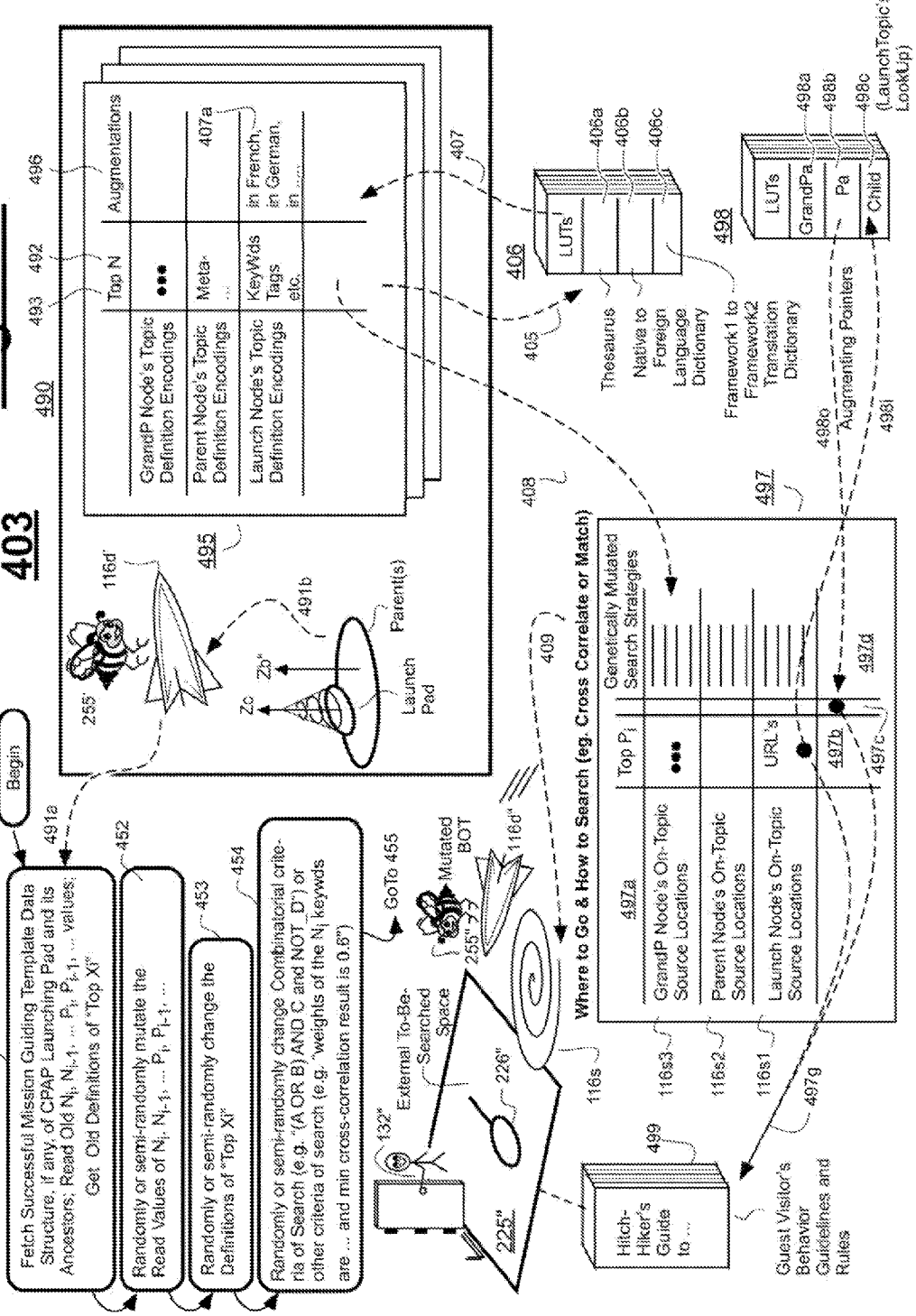
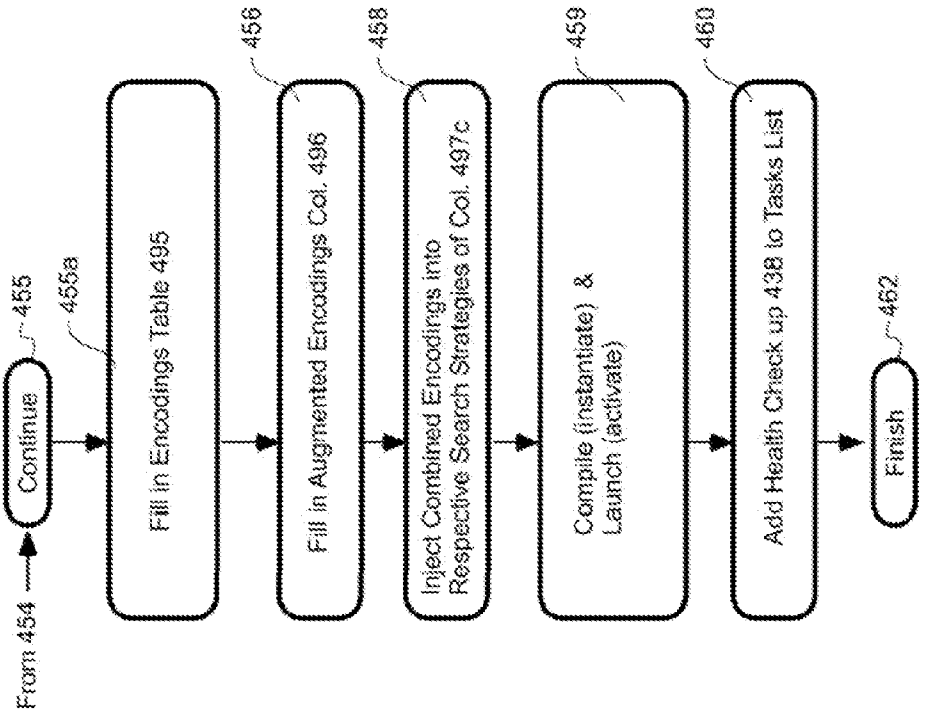

403
490
493
492
496
Top N
Augmentations
GrandP Node's Topic Definition Encodings
Parent Node's Topic Definition Encodings
Launch Node's Topic Definition Encodings
Meta-...
KeyWds Tags etc.
407a
in French, in German, in ...
407
495
116d'
255'
Launch Pad
Parent(s)
491b
Zc
Zp'
405
406
LUTs'
406a
406b
406c
Thesaurus
Native to Foreign Language Dictionary
Framework1 to Framework2 Translation Dictionary
498
LUTs
GrandPa
Pa
Child
498a
498b
498c
(Launch Topic's LookUp)
498o
Augmenting Pointers
498i
497
408
409
Where to Go & How to Search (eg. Cross Correlate or Match)
497a
Top Pi
Genetically Mutated Search Strategies
GrandP Node's On-Topic Source Locations
Parent Node's On-Topic Source Locations
Launch Node's On-Topic Source Locations
URL's
497b
497c
497d
497g
116s
116s3
116s2
116s1
450
Begin
451
Fetch Successful Mission Guiding Template Data Structure, if any, of CPAP Launching Pad and its Ancestors; Read Old N_i, N_{i-1}, ... P_i, P_{i-1}, ... values; Get Old Definitions of "Top Xi"
491a
452
Randomly or semi-randomly mutate the Read Values of N_i, N_{i-1}, ... P_i, P_{i-1}, ...
453
Randomly or semi-randomly change the Definitions of "Top Xi"
454
Randomly or semi-randomly change Combinatorial criteria of Search (e.g. "(A OR B) AND C and NOT_D") or other criteria of search (e.g. "weights of the N_i keywds are ... and min cross-correlation result is 0.6")
GoTo 455
Mutated BOT
116d"
255"
External To-Be-Searched Space
132"
226"
225"
499
Hitch-Hiker's Guide to ...
Guest Visitor's Behavior Guidelines and Rules

Fig. 4D

403"


From 454
Continue
455
455a
Fill in Encodings Table 495
456
Fill in Augmented Encodings Col. 496
458
Inject Combined Encodings into Respective Search Strategies of Col. 497c
459
Compile (instantiate) & Launch (activate)
460
Add Health Check up 438 to Tasks List
Finish
462

SOCIAL-TOPICAL ADAPTIVE NETWORKING (STAN) SYSTEM ALLOWING FOR COOPERATIVE INTER-COUPLING WITH EXTERNAL SOCIAL NETWORKING SYSTEMS AND OTHER CONTENT SOURCES

1. FIELD OF DISCLOSURE

[0001] The present disclosure of invention relates generally to online networking systems and uses thereof. The disclosure relates more specifically to social networking (SN) systems and in particular to cases where one or more social-topical networking (STN) systems are cooperatively coupled to other kinds of online networking and/or content providing systems.

2A. CROSS REFERENCE TO CO-OWNED APPLICATION

[0002] The following copending U.S. patent application is owned by the owner of the present application, and its disclosure is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety as originally filed:

[0003] (A) Ser. No. 12/369,274 filed Feb. 11, 2009 by Jeffrey A. Rapaport et al. and which is originally entitled, Social Network Driven Indexing System for Instantly Clustering People with Concurrent Focus on Same Topic into On Topic Chat Rooms and/or for Generating On-topic Search Results Tailored to User Preferences Regarding Topic.

2B. CROSS REFERENCE TO PATENTS/PUBLICATIONS

[0004] The disclosures of the following U.S. patents or Published U.S. patent applications are incorporated herein by reference:

[0005] (A) U.S. Pat. App. 2008/0,065,468 A1, published Mar. 13, 2008 on behalf of Berg; Charles John; et al. and entitled "Methods for Measuring Emotive Response and Selection Preference".

3. DEFINITIONS

[0006] As used herein, the terms "software", "software agent", "BOT", "virtual BOT", "virtual agent", and the like do not mean a purely nonphysical abstraction. Claims appended hereto which use terms such as "software", "software agent", "BOT", "virtual BOT", "virtual agent", and the like do not preclude others from thinking about, speaking about or similarly non-usefully using abstract ideas, laws of nature or naturally occurring phenomenon. When in an active (e.g., an executing) mode, a "software" entity, be it a BOT, a spyware program or the alike is understood to be a physical ongoing process being carried out in one or more real physical machines where the machine(s) entropically consume(s) electrical power and/or other forms of real energy per unit time as a consequence of said physical ongoing process being carried out there within. When in a static (e.g., non-executing) mode, an instantiated "software" entity, be it an instantiated BOT, instantiated spyware program or the alike is understood to be embodied as a substantially unique and functionally operative pattern of transformed physical matter preserved in a more than elusively transitory manner in one or more physical memory devices so that it can functionally cooperative interact with a software instructable machine as opposed to being merely descriptive and nonfunctional matter, where the one or more physical memory devices include, but not limited to, memory devices which utilize electrostatic effects to represent stored data, memory devices which utilize magnetic effects to represent stored data, memory devices which utilize magnetic and/or other phase change effects to represent stored data, memory devices which utilize optical and/or other phase change effects to represent stored data, and so on.

[0007] As used herein, the terms, "signaling", "transmitting", "informing" "indicating", "logical linking", and the like do not mean purely nonphysical and abstract events but rather physical and not elusively transitory events where the former physical events are ones whose existence can be verified by modern scientific techniques. Claims appended hereto that use the aforementioned terms, "signaling", "transmitting", "informing", "indicating", "logical linking", and the like or their equivalents do not preclude others from thinking about, speaking about or similarly using in a non-useful way abstract ideas, laws of nature or naturally occurring phenomenon.

BACKGROUND AND DESCRIPTION OF RELATED TECHNOLOGY

[0008] The above identified and herein incorporated by reference U.S. patent application Ser. No. 12/369,274 (filed Feb. 11, 2009) discloses a type of Social-Topical Adaptive Networking (STAN) System (hereafter, also referred to as "Sierra#1" and "STAN_1") which enables isolated online users of a network (or even strangers at a social gathering, e.g., a large business conference) to automatically join with one another (electronically or otherwise). The joinder may occur at times when they are in the mood to do so (to join in a so-called Notes Exchange session) and when they have roughly concurrent focus on same or similar content and/or when they have approximately concurrent interest in a same or similar particular topic or topics and/or when they have current personality co-compatibility for instantly chatting with, or for otherwise exchanging information with one another in short order online (or even in person) and for example with regard to the content and/or topic of shared current focus or with regard simply to a likelihood that they have current personality co-compatibility for instantly chatting online (or even in person) with each other and potentially developing focus on a particular topic of common interest. Because the network system (STAN_1) disclosed in Ser. No. 12/369,274 operates to adaptively change a topics defining map thereof (which has physically represented topic nodes or the like defined by recorded data signals) according to changing moods of user populations as well as individual users (e.g., user mood or other current user persona), it may be referred to as a Social-Topical 'Adaptive' Networking (STAN) system.

[0009] In the case where two or more online users join (make contact) with one another (e.g., electronically) based on commonality of topic(s) of concurrent interest, the joint activity between the users may be termed as "Social-Topical Networking" (STN). In one embodiment, the place for such an over-the-line exchange of notes may be termed as a "TCONE" (Topic Center Owned Notes Exchange), which terminology will be elucidated on below as being directed to a physical meeting mechanism such as an online chat room where that room is primarily "owned" by a topic defining mechanism known as a topic node or a topic center (TC). The STAN-mediated or in-TCONE activity can be differentiated from conventional "Social Networking" (SN). In the conventional form of social networking (SN), instantiation of a pri-

vate dialog often requires the existence of a pre-defined and pre-recorded "buddies" list or "accepted friends" list or "accepted contacts" list before participants can join electronically and privately with one another on a spur of moment and in a so-called, online discussion group to discuss no pre-ordained topic in particular. In other words, in the conventional form of social networking (SN), there is no system-driven automated mechanism for defining Topic Centers (TC's, also referred to herein as 'Topic Nodes') and for generating adaptive association data wherein a private or public Social Notes Exchange (SNE) is primarily "owned" by a first topic center but may adaptively drift so as to be primarily owned by a different TC if and when, for example, the electronically-facilitated exchange of notes (or of other data) drifts onto a different or narrower or broader topic.

[0010] As those skilled in the art of conventional online social networking (SN) will appreciate, the so-called "accepted friends" list is an operative part of the widely-used FaceBook™ online system. Similarly, the "buddies" list is an operative part of the earlier developed AOL™ Instant Messaging (AIM™) system. A similar mechanism exists in the also well-known, MySpace™ SN system and LinkedIn™ system. In these mentioned examples there are pre-defined "friends", "buddies", vouched-for "contacts" listed on co-mutual and pre-recorded friend/buddy permission lists. Based on the current permission settings, one friend/buddy may be allowed to (or not, if he/she has been "de-friended") join electronically for a "private" conversation (e.g., a "behind the (privacy) wall" conversation) with another friend/buddy for an online chat or an alike online social interaction that has no pre-ordained topic in particular to be discussed.

[0011] By contrast, according to one aspect of the "Social-Topical Networking" (STN) approach disclosed in the here incorporated "STAN_1" patent application (Ser. No. 12/369,274), people who are substantially strangers to each other rather than being pre-recorded as "buddies" or "friends" or known "contacts" may nonetheless meet electronically (or otherwise) and privately or semi-privately (where 'semi-privacy' may be due to constraints on who and how many can enter an STNE (Social-Topical Notes Exchange)) for a mutually beneficial exchange based on machine-determined mutuality of a concurrent topic of interest (TOI) as well as based on other filtering criteria (e.g., overlap of chat co-compatibilities, of expertise requirements, etc.). In one embodiment, the STAN_1 system automatically invites co-compatible strangers (but they could be friends as well) to privately or semi-privately meet up online with one another. The system may be viewed as one that provides real time "in-STAN-vitations"™ to plural people based on mutuality of a concurrent topic of interest (as guessed at by automated means of the STAN_1 system) and usually based on overlap of current content being focused upon by them and possibly based on a number of other invitation filtering criteria (e.g., co-compatibility to now chat with one another, level of expertise, trustworthiness, etc.).

[0012] The above identified and herein incorporated U.S. patent application Ser. No. 12/369,274 (filed Feb. 11, 2009) ("STAN_1") also provides as one embodiment thereof, a cloud computing system that evolves with use (in other words, it is adaptive) so as to provide real time changing, topic indexing trees having hierarchically interconnected nodes (topic nodes, which terminology is herein used interchangeably with the terminology, topic centers or TC's) representing both broad and narrower topics of interest of STAN_1 users, where the configuration of the tree can change adaptively and dynamically in response to real time reactions of the STAN_1 system users to online or otherwise shareable content they are detected to be focusing upon as well as new contributions by STAN_1 system users. Real time reactions of the STAN_1 system users are determined in one embodiment by means of uploaded, Current Focus indicating record signals (CFi's) and Current Vote indicating record signals (CVi's). In one embodiment, nodes of the STAN_1-maintained topic-nodes tree correspond to topics in a dynamically changing topics space and the nodes link to on-topic private, semi-private or public chat rooms (in other words, to gathered groups of on-topic focusing users) and/or to on-topic other content sources. If a logged-in user connects to a first topic node within the STAN_1 tree, he (or she) can then use the tree hierarchy structure to navigate to nearby parent, child or sibling topic nodes so as to then connect (via logical linking) through those other nodes to further content that is sourced through those other topic nodes. Over-the-line conversations (SNE's) that are monitored by the STAN_1 system (using the CFi, CVi mechanism) can drift from one topic node to another as the central topic of the respective conversation drifts. In one embodiment, participants in the conversation can vote implicitly or explicitly on which one or more STAN_1 topic nodes the conversation should primarily belong to and if so, to what degree of linkage. A STAN_1 system tracked Notes Exchange session (e.g., chat room session) can swing in Tarzan-like style from being primarily logical linked (tethered) to one topic node and then a next and yet another one.

[0013] In one variation, the STAN_1 system assumes that all its users will be logged-in (registered and STAN_1-tracked via CFi's or CVi's) into the STAN_1 cloud computing system. In one variation, the STAN_1 system assumes that most in-STAN_1 users will be using on-topic chat rooms sponsored by, entry-wise controlled by and tracked by the STAN_1 system (in other words, persistently ties to a STAN_1 maintained topic node) to interact with one another and to gain access to on-topic content sourced through the on-topic chat room or through a topic node with which the chat room is logically associated (logically associated by association data stored and maintained by the STAN_1 system).

[0014] However, the Internet is a vast network of many different kinds of computerized networks and content sources, used by a vast number of different people and thus the Internet can be hosting numerous topic-directed exchanges (e.g., tweets, emails, social games, Gmails™, GoogleWaves™, GoogleBuzz(es)™, Google Social Search (es)™, FriendFeed(s)™, blogs, Wikipedia™ posts and discussions, Stumbles™, ClearSpring™ shares, Yelps™, listserves, etc.) and these can be providing numerous on-topic content sources and/or on-topic notes exchanging sessions where a bulk of these lie outside of the finite set of STAN_1 sponsored chats being tracked by, controlled by, and indexed (in its topics tree) by the STAN_1 cloud computing environment. For example, registered users of a social networking system known as LinkedIn™ can spontaneously form Groups and then form Discussion threads under Discussion Group Domains. The discussions which take place in the LinkedIn™ Discussion threads space (where LinkedIn™ is here mentioned merely as an illustrative example) may by happenstance co-relate to broad or narrow topics being simultaneously covered by STAN_1-sponsored chat rooms. It may

be mutually beneficial for users of the heretofore separate systems (e.g., the STAN_1 system and the LinkedIn™ system) to learn of one another's existence and of their concurrent interest in a specific common topic and it may be mutually beneficial for them to join into larger or re-shuffled group exchanges of information, opinions and so forth about the common topic of interest under the auspices of either one or both of a Social-Topical Adaptive Networking (such as the STAN_2 system disclosed herein) and/or a more conventional social networking (SN) system such as that of a vintage year 2009 FaceBook™, MySpace™ or LinkedIn™ system. The here given example of on-topic Notes Exchange sessions occurring within LinkedIn™ discussion groups is understood to be non-limiting. On-topic Notes Exchange sessions may take place in online role playing and/or social networking games such as SecondLife™ and the like wherein, despite the fact that role-playing characters or avatars are portrayed as animated beings, the information output by and exchanged between such player characters is controlled by character-driving human beings.

[0015] It is to be understood that this background of technology section is intended to provide useful background for understanding the here disclosed inventive technology and as such, the technology background section may and probably does include ideas, concepts or recognitions that were not part of what was known or appreciated by those skilled in the pertinent art prior at corresponding invention dates of invented subject matter disclosed herein. As such, this background of technology section is not to be construed as an admission regarding what is or is not prior art.

SUMMARY

[0016] In accordance with one aspect of the present disclosure, cross-pollination (CP) is provided manually and/or automatically as between two or more social networking (SN) systems where at least one of the systems is a Social-Topical Adaptive Networking (STAN) system. The cross-pollination may be of a kind that improves, expands, advances or helps to evolve one or more of: (a) user-to-user associations (U2U) regarding common topics of interests, (b) user-to-topic associations (U2T—in both directions; so therefore topic-to-user as well), (c) topic-to-topic associations (T2T) and (d) topic-to-content associations (T2C—in both directions) as may be provided by cooperative exchanges of information allowed between the two or more social networking (SN) systems.

[0017] More specifically, in accordance with a first aspect of the present disclosure, techniques are provided for causing one or more of the following machine-implemented processes to take place: (a) an automated software agent (a 'BOT') automatically brings from out in the 'untracked/unmonitored' field and to a so-called STAN_2 system, a proposed-content package (a pCPD package) containing for example, hyperlinks (e.g., URL's) to potentially on-topic content that exists in an external platform but which probably co-relate to current topics of one or more topic centers (TC's) defined by and maintained as stored data signals in a topic space of the STAN_2 system; (b) the relevance of the BOT-brought content (as linked to or carried by the proposed-content package) to the topic of the TC (or to the specific topic of a TC-owned, TCONE) is voted on by in-node users (or by the in-TCONE users) and/or by an automated content-intake filtering mechanism of the TC or TCONE such that the most relevant-to-topic content of the pCPD package (or relevant-to-TCONE content) is logically absorbed into and logically positioned (ranked as being) as being closer to a core center point of the topic center (TC) or of the TCONE and such that less relevant-to-topic content of the pCPD package is either rejected or logically positioned (ranked) farther away from the node's or TCONE's core center point; (c) the ranking of most to least relevant-to-topic content is repeatedly updated over time as the population of in-node users (or in-TCONE users) changes and as newer BOT-brought content is proposed for addition to the on-topic node and it is voted on (ranked) for corresponding rejection or acceptance and logical positioning within the TC or TCONE; (d) STAN_2 users who are currently focusing upon a given topic (which focus is in one embodiment determined automatically and in the background by machine-implemented processes) preferably do not navigate directly to a content-supplying one URL but instead they navigate to the on-topic STAN_2 node (topic center or TC) which has been cross-pollinated with the freshest on-topic cross-pollinating content packages and the topic center (TC) is then used as a logical linking source for conveying the latest on-topic content (including on-topic dialogs) to those STAN_2 users who are interested in learning the latest about the corresponding topic. The STAN_2 users typically enter as participants into a TCONE (topic center owned note exchange, e.g., chat room) whose entry criterion (e.g., level of expertise) closely matches their current status (e.g., current level of expertise).

[0018] As alluded to above, the current topic of interest of a given user may be determined automatically and in the background by one or more machine-implemented processes which attempt to reduce ambiguity as to which specific topic the user is most probably now thinking about (consciously or subconsciously) by gathering and processing (e.g., competitively ranking) a dynamic flow of so-called "encodings" which encodings can provide contextual clues as to what the user is most likely thinking to be his or her current topic of interest. An example of one "encoding" in a stream of encodings can be a single keyword that the user appears to be intensely and primarily physically focusing upon (e.g., with his/her eyes) at the moment. Another example of an "encoding" in a stream of other kinds of encodings can be a facial grimace or other significant facial expression (as defined for example by the user's active PEEP record—the user's pre-recorded Personal Emotion Expression Profile) that an automated facial expressions detection sub-system of the here disclosed STAN_2 system picks up as having been made by that user in conjunction with his physically focusing upon a primary keyword encoding.

[0019] Suppose for example that the primary keyword of focus is the one word, "bridge". Suppose the user is determined by the machine system to have significantly raised an eyebrow in conjunction with this intensely focused upon primary keyword. However, even with those two determinations as givens, a term like "bridge" can be highly ambiguous. What specific version of "bridge" is the user thinking about and perhaps raising an eyebrow over? Is it a card game called "bridge"? Is it a road structure that crosses over a river, a room on board a ship from where the ship's captain commands, a portion of the human nose, some other noun that qualifies as "bridge" or perhaps none of the above and instead the verb sense of "bridge" or its adjective sense (e.g., bridge loan)?

[0020] More peculiarly, what if "bridge" at this moment means a magical kind of bridge that has one end thereof connected to the given user and the other end extending

through a fog to unseen shores but nonetheless automatically swinging to connect to content and/or people which/who are highly relevant to a topic the given user is currently thinking about? What if this magic bridge has a pushbutton at the user's end that says "Bring it on"? What if the given user merely has to provide a single primary keyword and then simply press the single magical button ("Bring it on") at his end of the "bridge" and then in response, the magic "bridge" automatically conveys a stream of informational traffic to the given user where that stream puts the user into virtual contact with on-topic content and/or with co-compatible people who are now exchanging discussion or other forms of signaled notes (also referred to herein as Notes Exchange session) on the same topic the user intended when he supplied his end of the magical bridge with the one primary keyword (e.g., "bridge") and then pressed the "Bring it on" pushbutton?

[0021] In accordance with the present disclosure, an automated machine system (e.g., the STAN_2 system) is provided that automatically seeks to do something like that. However the here disclosed machine system does not operate by magic. Instead it automatically tries to disambiguate ambiguous first encodings (e.g., a primary keyword such as "bridge) by trying to collect additional and/or substantially contemporaneous further "encodings" that give more context to one or more primary, but often ambiguous encodings (e.g., the exemplary primary keyword, "bridge). The disambiguating other encodings may be automatically collected signals that indicate where the given user is in terms of time, space, planning and/or perhaps emotional moods. In one embodiment, a continuous flow of encodings surrounding the user either physically and/or logically are persistently being collected and analyzed by the STAN_2 system (when so-called "monitoring" is turned on) for the purpose of reducing or eliminating the ambiguity as to which specific topic the user currently has in mind (consciously or subconsciously). The persistently collected other "encodings" may include identifications of on-screen or off-screen other information that appears currently or in recent usage history of the user (in the dynamic flow of the user's recent life) to be correlated to current primary encodings (e.g., to the primary keyword, "bridge"). These additional encodings can help place the primary keyword(s) (e.g., "bridge") in better context for the machine system and can thus enable the automated machine system (the STAN_2 system) to appear as if it has intuitively guessed what was on the user's mind without subjecting the user to an endless list of ambiguity reducing questions.

[0022] More specifically, and by way of a first example, suppose the here described system (the STAN_2 system) automatically acquires from the user's in-hand, personal data processing device (e.g., his GPS-enabled, Apple iPhone™) a signal indicating he is currently located at coordinates (including altitude and/or building floor number) matching those of owned properties of a branch office of a banking company. Suppose the here described STAN_2 system also automatically acquires from the user's personal data processing device (e.g., his iPhone™) a second signal indicating that his iPhone™ is in close proximity (e.g., 6 feet or less away) from an information-sharing second personal computer (could also be an iPhone™) that reports itself to belong to a loan officer of the bank's. Suppose the here described STAN_2 system also automatically determines that it is 10:00 AM on a Monday morning (for the user) and the STAN_2 system further automatically acquires from a meeting-calendaring file of the user that he was scheduled to meet with a bank loan officer on this Monday morning to negotiate a bridge loan for his business.

[0023] All these contextually enriching and automatically collected encodings acquired by the STAN_2 system increase the probability that the primary keyword, "bridge", if so presented by that user at that time and place to his personal data processing device (e.g., his palm-held computer phone) is intended to mean that the user is thinking about a "bridge loan" and not about a bridge that crosses a river.

[0024] However, suppose further that a so-called history of recent topics of interest (rTOI's) of the given user exists and this recorded and machine system readable history indicates the user has been recently using a STAN_2 topic node directed to the question of what lowest rate can someone like himself obtain for a bridge loan. In that case, the STAN_2 system can further automatically deduce that the more specific topic of interest (TOI) on the given user's mind probably is: "What is the lowest rate that I can negotiate for myself right now and here when trying to obtain a bridge loan from this banking company, and perhaps even from this particular loan officer?" Accordingly, and in response to the given user having submitted just the single keyword, "bridge", the STAN_2 system can automatically present to the user an informational offering (also referred to herein as a "content source recommendation") that basically says, "Press here to obtain more informational content and/or to obtain online connection to other STAN_2 users who are currently interested in the question of "What is the lowest rate that I can negotiate for myself right now and here when trying to obtain a bridge loan from this banking company?"

[0025] But that is not all. Suppose that the STAN_2 instant offering to connect the user with on-topic content sources (e.g., instant chat opportunities corresponding to the specific exemplary topic of "What is the lowest . . . bridge loan from this banking company?") include not only instant chat opportunities (and/or other Notes Exchange sessions) that are being supported by STAN_2 system resources (e.g., STAN_2 server computers or STAN_2 cloud computing data centers) but also Notes Exchange sessions that are being supported by external platforms and are nonetheless on-topic. How can that be done? It will be disclosed herein how the STAN_2 system can operate to automatically and persistently enrich its so-called topic nodes or topic centers (TC's) with additional, on-topic and cross-pollinating, and substantially contemporaneous data obtained from out-of-STAN resources.

[0026] Given the above example (the "bridge loan" example) and in further summary thereof, in one embodiment, the here-disclosed machine system automatically seeks to determine where and when the user is disposed in terms for example of one or more of physical location, proximity to other persons or things, in terms of time zone, calendar date and pre-scheduled events—which calendar date could be a holiday or a scheduled vacation day (and optionally in terms of other metrics such as what velocity, acceleration, owned real estate spaces) and in terms of topics of interest (TOI's) recently declared by the user (implicitly or explicitly) to be recent topics of interest (rTOI's) of that user. The STAN_2 system may further seek to determine what sounds, smells, additional content, or other attributes currently surround the user (physically and/or virtually) so as to better be able to determine the user's current topic of interest. Is the user at home, at work, driving a car, visiting a bank or at the eye glass store (for example)? This work of determining most probable

current topic of interests (cTOI) is preferably performed in the background by machine-implemented automated processes so that the user is not distracted by having to answer infrastructural questions and instead the machine system gives the appearance to the user of being able to intuitively read the user's mind and understand from one or a few keywords (e.g., "bridge") or other such encodings what the user is thinking about; and better yet to guide that user to, or recommend to the user, content sources (including recommended instant chat rooms to connect to or recommended people to contact for example) that are, with a high degree of probability, on-topic with and highly relevant to what the user is currently thinking about.

[0027] The above is to be contrasted with machine systems that force the user to consciously and explicitly define his or her current topic of interest (cTOI) at the infrastructural level (e.g., by explicitly modifying the search strategy). When the mind is forced to jump to an infrastructural level of detail, it can often lose track of the higher-level, substantive material it was concentrating on. More specifically, suppose the user is thinking about Wheatstone bridges (these are a type of sensitive electronic measuring circuits) but the search engine the user is employing comes back annoyingly and asks: "Did you mean Whitestone Bridge?" (where the latter is a popular river crossing in New York City). Needless to say, the user is now distractingly thrown off his/her main track of thought and has to annoyingly deal with the infrastructural mechanics of getting the automated search tool to navigate away from its incorrect guess and towards the correct current topic of interest (cTOI). The better approach would be to have an automated machine system which seems to intuitively know that when "this" user (who for example is currently logged in as "Stanley the Engineer") uses the word "bridge" in his current location (e.g., the office at the electronics design company) and at this time (e.g., normal business hours) he probably means, "bridge" as in the topic of Wheatstone type bridge circuits and not some other topic that might have "bridge" as one of its keywords (or tags, or meta-tags, etc.). Various means by way of which an automated machine system can be made to appear to have such intuition are described herein.

[0028] In accordance with another aspect of the present disclosure, various user interface techniques are provided for allowing a user to conveniently interface with resources of the STAN_2 system.

[0029] Other aspects of the disclosure will become apparent from the below detailed description.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0030] The below detailed description section makes reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:

[0031] FIG. **1**A is a block diagram of an electromagnetically linked (e.g., electronically and/or optically linked) networking environment that includes a Social-Topical Adaptive Networking (STAN_2) sub-system in accordance with the present disclosure and includes other network sub-systems whose resources may be used for cross-pollination and for thereby improving benefits obtained by users of the one or more of the sub-networks due to cross-pollination actions provided by the STAN_2 sub-system;

[0032] FIG. **1**B is a combination of a first process flow chart, of sample pop-up windows which may be displayed to a user of the STAN_2 sub-network system of FIG. **1**A and of an aliases cross-referencing data structure generated by the flow charted process;

[0033] FIG. **2** is a perspective view type of mapping diagram showing how topic-to-topic associations (T2T), user-to-topic associations (U2T), user-to-user associations (U2U) and/or topic-to-content associations (T2C) may be enhanced by actions for example of Cross-Pollinating Automated Persona bots (CPAP's) which are automatically generated by the STAN_2 sub-network system of FIG. **1**A and sent out into the field to bring back proposed on-topic-content;

[0034] FIG. **3**A is a diagram showing a drag-and-drop operation and also showing one possible on-screen presentation whereby a live user is invited to enlist as a cross-pollinating un-artificial persona (CPUP) at times when this CPUP will be using an external SN system while his focus is not being tracked in real time by the STAN_2 sub-network system;

[0035] FIG. **3**B is a diagram showing a first on-screen presentation wherein STAN_2 monitoring (e.g., CFi uploading) is turned off and an enlisted cross-pollinating un-artificial persona (CPUP) is nonetheless surveyed about attributes of potential cross-pollinating material which might warrant being linked into;

[0036] FIG. **3**C is a diagram showing a second on-screen presentation wherein STAN_2 monitoring is turned off and the enlisted CPUP of FIG. **3**B is further surveyed about attributes of the potential cross-pollinating material;

[0037] FIG. **3**D is a diagram showing a third on-screen presentation wherein STAN_2 monitoring is turned off and the enlisted CPUP of FIG. **3**B is further surveyed about attributes of the potential cross-pollinating material;

[0038] FIG. **4**A is a combination flow chart and data structure showing diagram illustrating how incoming cross-pollination material may be processed in accordance with one embodiment;

[0039] FIG. **4**B is a combination flow chart and data structure showing diagram illustrating how the mission guiding data structure of a to be launched CPAP is formulated; and

[0040] FIGS. **4**C-**4**D are a combination flow chart and data structure showing diagram illustrating how an initially formed (instantiated) mission guiding template can be augmented with alternate language and/or alternate disciplinary area encodings and pointers to alternate areas of search.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0041] FIG. **1**A is a block diagram of an electromagnetically inter-linked (e.g., electronically and/or optically linked) networking environment **100** that includes a Social-Topical Adaptive Networking (STAN_2) sub-system **110** in accordance with the present disclosure and which environment **100** includes other sub-network systems (e.g., Non-STAN subnet **120**) and whose resources may be used to enhance online experiences of real person users (e.g., **131**, **132**) of the one or more of the sub-networks **110**, **120**, etc. due to cross-pollination actions instigated by the STAN_2 sub-network system **110**.

[0042] Background descriptions on how a Social-Topical Adaptive Networking (STAN) sub-system may operate can be found in the above-cited and here incorporated U.S. application Ser. No. 12/369,274 filed Feb. 11, 2009 by Jeffrey A. Rapaport et al. and originally entitled, "Social Network Driven Indexing System for Instantly Clustering People with Concurrent Focus on Same Topic into On Topic Chat Rooms and/or for Generating On-topic Search Results Tailored to User Preferences Regarding Topic". As such, a detailed repetition of said incorporated by reference material will not be

provided here. For sake of avoiding confusion between the drawings of Ser. No. 12/369,274 and the figures of the present application, drawings of Ser. No. 12/369,274 will be identified by the prefix, "giF." (which is Fig. written backwards) while figures of the present application will be identified by the normal figure prefix, "Fig.".

[0043] In brief, giF. 1A of the here incorporated '274 application shows how topics of current interest to (not to be confused with content being currently 'focused upon' by) individual online participants may be automatically determined based on detection of certain content being currently and emotively 'focused upon' by the respective online participants and based upon pre-developed profiles of the respective users (e.g., registered and logged-in users of the STAN_1 system). (Incidentally, in the here disclosed STAN_2 system, the notion is included of determining what a user is not, or is less focusing upon as well as what the user is most focusing upon for automatically determining most probable topic(s) of current interest. For example, if a user's personal profile records (e.g., DsCCp's) indicate that focus upon Topic 'A' usually occurs when the user is focusing on both URL**1** and keyword**2**, but it is clear that in the instance the user is not focusing on URL**1**, then the STAN_2 system can for some users automatically determine that the user's thought patterns are probably not focusing upon Topic 'A' but rather on some alternate topic that is also heavily linked to the same keyword**2**.)

[0044] Further in brief, giF. 1B of the incorporated '274 application shows a data structure of a first stored chat co-compatibility profile that can change with changes of user persona (e.g., change of mood); giF. 1C shows a data structure of a stored topic co-compatibility profile that can also change with change of user persona (e.g., change of mood, change of surroundings); and giF. 1E shows a data structure of a stored personal emotive expression profile of a given user, whereby biometrically detected facial or other biotic expressions of the profiled user may be used to deduce emotional involvement with on-screen content and thus degree of emotional involvement with focused upon content. One embodiment of the STAN_1 system disclosed in the here incorporated '274 application uses uploaded CFi (current focus indicator) packets to automatically determine what topic or topics are most likely ones that each user is currently thinking about based on the content that is being currently focused upon with above-threshold intensity. The determined topic is logically linked by operations of the STAN_1 system to topic nodes (herein also referred to as topic centers or TC's) within a hierarchical parent-child tree represented by data stored in the STAN_1 system.

[0045] Yet further and in brief, giF. 2A of the incorporated '274 application shows a data structure of a stored CFi record while giF. 2B shows a data structure of an implied vote-indicating record (CVi) which may be automatically extracted from biometric information obtained from the user. The giF. 3B diagram shows an exemplary screen display wherein so-called chat opportunity invitations (herein referred to as in-STAN-vitations™) are provided to the user based on the STAN_1 system's understanding of what topics are currently of prime interest to the user. The giF. 3C diagram shows how one embodiment of the STAN_1 system (of the '274 application) can automatically determine what topic or domain of topics might most likely be of current interest for a given user and then responsively can recommend, based on likelihood rankings, content (e.g., chat rooms) which are most likely to be on-topic for that user and compatible with the user's current status (e.g., level of expertise in the topic).

[0046] Moreover, in the here incorporated '274 application, giF. 4A shows a structure of a cloud computing system that may be used to implement a STAN_1 system on a geographic region by geographic region basis. Importantly, each data center of giF. 4A has an automated Domains/Topics Lookup Service (DLUX) executing therein which receives up- or in-loaded CFi data packets (Current Focus identifying records) from users and combines these with user histories uploaded form the user's local machine and/or user histories already stored in the cloud to automatically determine probable topics of current interest then on the user's mind. In one embodiment the DLUX points to so-called topic nodes of a hierarchical topics tree. An exemplary data structure for such a topics tree is provided in giF. 4B which shows details of a stored and adaptively updated topic mapping data structure used by one embodiment of the STAN_1 system. Also each data center of giF. 4A further has one or more automated Domain-specific Matching Services (DsMS's) executing therein which are selected by the DLUX to further process the up- or in-loaded CFi data packets and match alike users to one another or to matching chat rooms and then presents the latter as scored chat opportunities. Also each data center of giF. 4A further has one or more automated Chat Rooms management Services (CRS) executing therein for managing chat rooms or the like operating under auspices of the STAN_1 system. Also each data center of giF. 4A further has an automated Trending Data Store service that keeps track of progression of respective users over time in different topic sectors and makes trend projections based thereon.

[0047] The here incorporated '274 application is extensive and has many other drawings as well as descriptions that will not all be briefed upon here but are nonetheless incorporated herein by reference.

[0048] Referring now to FIG. **1**A of the present disclosure, in the illustrated environment **100** which includes a more advanced STAN_2 system **110**, a first real and living user **131** (also USER-A, also "Stan") is shown to have access to a first data processing device **131***a* (also CPU-**1**). The first user **131** may routinely log into and utilize the illustrated STAN_2 Social-Topical Adaptive Networking system **110** by causing CPU-**1** to send a corresponding user identification package **131***u***1** (e.g., user name and user password data signals) to a log-in interface portion **118** of the STAN_2 system **110**. In response to validation of such log-in, the STAN_2 system **110** automatically fetches various profiles of the logged-in user (**131**, "Stan") from a database (DB, **119**) thereof for purpose of determining the user's currently probable topics of prime interest, moods, chat co-compatibilities and so forth. In one embodiment, a same user (e.g., **131**) may have plural personal log-in pages, for example, one that allows him to log in as "Stan" and another which allows that same user to log-in under the alter ego identity of say, "Stewart" if that user is in the mood to assume the "Stewart" persona at the moment rather than the "Stan" persona. If a user (e.g., **131**) logs-in via interface **118** with a second alter ego identity (e.g., "Stewart") rather than with a first alter ego identity (e.g., "Stan"), the STAN_2 Social-Topical Adaptive Networking system **110** automatically activates personal profile records (e.g., CpC-Cp's, DsCCp's, PEEP's) of the second alter ego identity (e.g., "Stewart") rather than those of the first alter ego identity (e.g., "Stan"). Topics of current interest to the logged-in persona may be identified as being logically associated with specific

nodes (herein also referred to as TC's or topic centers) on a topics domain-parent/child tree structure such as the one schematically indicated at **115** within the drawn symbol that represents the STAN_2 system **110** in FIG. **1**A. A corresponding stored data structure that represents the tree structure in the earlier STAN_1 system (not shown) is illustratively represented by drawing number giF. 4B. The topics defining tree **115** as well as user profiles of registered STAN_2 users may be stored in various parts of the STAN_2 maintained database (DB) **119** and/or in the user's local and/or remotely-instantiated data processing equipment (e.g., CPU-**1**, CPU-**2**, etc.). The database (DB) **119** may be a centralized one or one that is semi-redundantly distributed over different service centers of a geographically distributed cloud computing system. In the distributed cloud computing environment, if one service center becomes nonoperational or overwhelmed with service requests, another somewhat redundant service center can function as a backup (yet more details are provided in the here incorporate STAN_1 patent application).

[0049] As used herein, the term, "local data processing equipment" includes data processing equipment that is remote from the user but is nonetheless controllable by a local means available to the user. More specifically, the user (e.g., **131**) may have a so-called net-computer (e.g., **131***a*) in his local possession where that net-computer is operatively coupled to a virtual computer or desktop instantiated in one or more servers on a connected to network (e.g., the Internet **101**) and through operations of the relatively minimally equipped net-computer that cooperate with greater computing resources (hardware and/or software) available in the instantiating server(s), the user is made to feel as if he a has a much more resourceful computer locally in his possession (more resourceful in terms of hardware and/or software, both of which are physical manifestations as those terms are used herein) even though that might not be true. For example, the user's locally possessed net-computer (e.g., **131***a*) may not have a hard disk or a key pad but rather only a touch-sensitive display screen. However the server (or cloud) instantiated virtual machine that services that net-computer can project itself as having an extremely large hard disk and a versatile keyboard that appears with context variable keys on the user's touch-responsive display screen. Occasionally the term "downloading" will be used herein under the assumption that the user's personally controlled computer (e.g., **131**) is receiving the downloaded content. However, in the case of a net-book or the like, downloaded is to be understood as including the more general notion of inloaded, wherein a virtual computer on the network (or in a cloud computing system) is inloaded with the content rather than having that content being "downloaded" from the network to an actual local and complete computer. Of course, certain resources such as the illustrated GPS-**2** peripheral of CPU-**2** may not always be capable of being operatively mimicked with an in-net or in-cloud virtual counterpart; in which case it is understood that the GPS resource is local. (On the other hand, cell phone triangulation technology and/or other technologies may be used to mimic the effect of having a GPS unit although one might not be present.)

[0050] It is to be understood that the CPU-**1** device (**131***a*) used by first user **131** when interacting with (e.g., being tracked in real time by) the STAN_2 system **110** is not limited to a desktop computer having for example a "central" processing unit (CPU), but rather that many varieties of data processing devices having appropriate minimal intelligence capability are contemplated as being usable, including laptop computers, palmtop PDA's, tablet computers, net-computers, 3rd generation or higher smart-phones (e.g., an iPhone™, and Android™ phone) and so on. The CPU-**1** device (**131***a*) used by first user **131** may have any number of different user interface (UI) and environment detecting devices included therein such as, but not limited to, one or more integrally incorporated webcams (one of which may be robotically aimed to focus on what off screen view the user appears to be looking at), one or more integrally incorporated audio (e.g., Bluetooth™) interfacing devices, an integrally incorporated GPS (Global Positioning System) location identifier and/or other automatic location identifying means, an integrally incorporated accelerometer and/or other such MEMs devices (micro-electromechanical devices), various biometric sensors (e.g., pulse, respiration rate, eye blink rate, eye focus angle) that are operatively coupleable to the user **131** and so on. As those skilled in the art will appreciate from the here incorporated STAN_1 disclosure, automated location determining devices such as integrally incorporated GPS and/or audio pickups may be used to determine user surroundings (e.g., at work versus at home, alone or in noisy party) and to thus infer from this sensing of environment, the current user persona (e.g., mood, frame of mind, etc.). One or more (e.g., stereoscopic) first sensors may be provided in one embodiment for automatically determining what off-screen or on-screen object(s) the user is currently looking at; and if off-screen, a robotically amiable further sensor (e.g., a webcam) may be automatically trained on the off-screen view in order to identify and categorize it. In one embodiment, an automated image categorizing tool such as GoogleGoggles™ may be used to automatically categorize imagery that the user appears to be focusing upon. The categorization data of the automatically categorized image may then be used as an additional "encoding" for assisting the STAN_2 system **110** in determining what topic or finite set of topics the user (e.g., **131**) currently most probably has in mind. It is within the contemplation of the present disclosure that alternatively or in addition to having an imaging device near the user and using an automated image categorizing tool such as GoogleGoggles™, other encoding detecting devices and automated categorizing tools may be deployed such as, but not limited to, sound detecting, analyzing and categorizing tools; ambient chemistry and temperature detecting, analyzing and categorizing tools (e.g., What human olfactorable and/or unsmellable vapors, gases are in the air surrounding the user and at what changing concentration levels?); velocity and/or acceleration detecting, analyzing and categorizing tools (e.g., Is the user in a moving vehicle and if so, heading in what direction?); and virtually-surrounding or physically-surrounding other people detecting, analyzing and categorizing tools (e.g., Is the user in virtual and/or physical contact with other personas, and if so what are their current attributes?).

[0051] Each user (e.g., **131**, **132**) may project a respective one of different personas (e.g., an "inside" versus "outside" persona) based on the specific environment (including presence of other people virtually or physically) that the user finds him or herself in. For example, there may be an at-the-office or work-site persona that is different from an at-home or an on-vacation persona. More specifically, one of the many personas that the first user **131** may have is one that predominates in a specific environment **131***e***2** (e.g., as geographically detected by integral GPS-**2** device of CPU-**2**). When user **131**

is in this environmental context (**131***e***2**), that first user **131** may choose to identify him or herself with (or have his CPU device automatically choose for him/her) a different user identification (UAID-**2**, also **131***u***2**) than the one utilized (UAID-**1**, also **131***u***1**) when typically interacting in real time with the STAN_2 system **110**. A variety of automated tools may be used to detect, analyze and categorize user environment (e.g., place, time, calendar date, velocity, acceleration, surroundings—objects and/or people, etc.). These may include but are not limited to, webcams, GPS, electronic time keeper, MEMs, chemical sniffers, etc.

[0052] When operating under this alternate persona (**131***u***2**), the first user **131** may choose (or pre-elect) to not be monitored in real time by (and through the CFi, CVi mechanisms) or to otherwise be generally interacting with the STAN_2 system **110**. Instead, the user **131** may elect to log into a different kind of social networking (SN) system **120** or other content providing system (e.g., **148**, **160**) and to fly, so-to-speak, solo inside that external platform **120**. While so interacting with the alternate SN system **120** (e.g., FaceBook™, MySpace™, LinkedIn™, YouTube™, GoogleWave™, ClearSpring™, etc.), the user may develop user-to-user associations (U2U, see block **111**) that are different than those developed under real time tracking auspices of the STAN_2 system **110**. Moreover, the user **131** may, while interacting only with the alternate SN system **120** (and possibly under an alternate ID and/or persona **131***u***2**—i.e. "Stewart" instead of "Stan"), develop user-to-topic associations (U2T, see block **112**) that are different than those developed under auspices of the STAN_2 system **110**. Also, topic-to-topic associations (T2T, see block **113**) that are operative within the context of the alternate SN system **120** may be different from those that at the same time have developed inside the STAN_2 system **110**. Additionally, topic-to-content associations (T2C, see block **114**) that are operative within the context of the alternate SN system **120** may be different from those that at the same time have developed inside the STAN_2 system **110**.

[0053] Before providing a more concrete example of how a given user (e.g., Stan/Stew **131**) may have multiple personas and may interact differently when influenced by contexts of different social networking (SN) or other platforms, a brief discussion about those possible other SN's or other platforms is provided here. There are many well known dot.COM websites (**140**) that provide various kinds of social interaction services. One of the currently most well known and used ones is the FaceBook™, system **141** (hereafter also referred to as FB). FB users establish an FB account and set up various permission options that are either "behind the wall" and thus relatively private or are "on the wall" and thus viewable by any member of the public. Only pre-identified "friends" (e.g., friend-for-the-day, friend-for-the-hour) can look at material "behind the wall". FB users can manually "de-friend" and "re-friend" people depending on who they want to let in on a given day or other time period to the more private material behind their wall.

[0054] Another well known SN site is MySpace™ (**142**) and it is somewhat similar to FB. A third SN platform that is gaining popularity amongst so-called "professionals" is the LinkedIn™ platform (**144**). LinkedIn™ users post a public "Profile" of themselves which typically appears like a resume and publicizes their professional credentials in various areas of professional activity. LinkedIn™ users can form networks of linked-to other professionals. The system automatically keeps track of who is linked to whom and how many degrees of linking separation, if any, are between people who appear to the LinkedIn™ system to be strangers to each other because they are not directly linked to one another. LinkedIn™ users can create Discussion Groups and then invite various people to join those Discussion Groups. Online discussions within those created Discussion Groups can be monitored (censored) or not monitored by the creator (owner) of the Discussion Group. For many Discussion Groups, an individual has to be pre-accepted into the Group (for example, accepted by the Group moderator) before the individual can see what is being discussed behind the wall of the members-only Discussion Group. Accordingly, as is the case with "behind the wall" conversations in FaceBook™, Group Discussions within LinkedIn™ may not be viewable to relative "strangers" who have not been accepted as a linked-in friend or contact for whom an earlier member of the LinkedIn™ system sort of vouches for by "accepting" them into their inner ring of direct (1st degree of operatively connection) contacts.

[0055] The Twitter™ system (**145**) is somewhat different because any member of the public can "follow" the "tweets" output by so-called "tweeters". A "tweet" is conventionally limited to only 140 characters. Twitter™ followers can sign up to automatically receive indications that their favorite "tweeters" have tweeted something new and then they can look at the output "tweet" without need for any special permissions. Typically, celebrities such as movie stars output many tweets per day and they have groups of fans who regularly follow their tweets. It could be said that the fans of these celebrities consider their followed "tweeters" to be influential persons and thus the fans hang onto every tweeted output sent by their worshipped celebrity (e.g., movie star).

[0056] The Google™ Corporation (Mountain View, Calif.) provides a number of well known services including their famous online and free to use search engine. They also provide other services such a Google™ controlled Gmail™ service (**146**) which is roughly similar to many other online email services like those of Yahoo™, EarthLink™, AOL™, Microsoft Outlook™ Email, and so on. The Gmail™ service (**146**) has a Group Chat function which allows registered members to form chat groups and chat with one another. GoogleWave™ (**147**) is a project collaboration system that is still maturing at the time of this writing. Incidentally, Microsoft Outlook™ in whole also provides calendaring and collaboration scheduling services whereby a user can propose, declare or accept proposed meeting or other events to be placed on the user's computerized schedule. It is within the contemplation of the present disclosure for the STAN_2 system to periodically import calendaring and/or collaboration/event scheduling data from the user's Microsoft Outlook™ and/or other alike scheduling databases (irrespective of whether those scheduling databases and/or their support software are physically local within a user's computer or they are provided via a computing cloud; and if importation is permitted by the user) so that the STAN_2 system can use such imported scheduling data to infer at the scheduled dates, the user's more likely environment. Incidentally, it is within the contemplation of the present disclosure that essentially any database and/or automated service that is hosted in and/or by one or more of a user's physically local data processing device, a website's web serving and/or mirroring servers and parts or all of a cloud computing system or equivalent can be ported in whole or in part so as to be hosted in and/or by

different one of such physical mechanisms. With net-computers, palm-held convergence devices (e.g., iPhone™, iPad™ etc.) and the like, it is usually not of significance where specifically the physical processes of data processing take place but rather that timely communication and connectivity are provided so that the user experiences substantially same results. Of course, some acts of data acquisition and/or processing may by necessity have to take place at the physical locale of the user such as the acquisition of user responses (e.g., touches on a touch-sensitive tablet screen) and of local user encodings (e.g., what the user's local environment looks, sounds and/or smells like). Returning back to the digressed-away from method of automatically importing scheduling data to thereby infer at the scheduled dates, the user's more likely environment, a more specific example can be this: If the user's scheduling database indicates that next Friday he is scheduled to be at the Social Networking Developers Conference (a hypothetical example) and more particularly at events **3**, **5** and **7** in that conference at the respective hours of 3:00 PM, 5:00 PM and 7:00 PM, then when that date and corresponding time segment comes around, the STAN_2 system may use such information as one of its gathered encodings for then automatically determining the user's likely mood, surroundings and so forth. On the other hand, if the user's scheduling database indicates that next Friday he is planning to take off from work and go to a named vacation resort, the STAN_2 system may use that alternate imported information for automatically determining the user's likely mood, surroundings and so forth at the corresponding dates and times.

[0057] Additionally, the Microsoft Outlook™ product also provides a Tasks tracking function wherein various to-do items and their criticalities (e.g., flagged as a must-do today, must-do next week, etc.). It is within the contemplation of the present disclosure for the STAN_2 system to periodically import Task tracking data from the user's Microsoft Outlook™ and/or other alike task tracking databases (if permitted by the user) so that the STAN_2 system can use such imported task tracking data to infer during the scheduled time periods, the user's more likely environment and moods. More specifically, if the user's task tracking database indicates that the user has a high priority, high pressure work task to be completed by end of day, the STAN_2 system may use this imported information to deduce that the user's mind is most likely focused on topics related to the must-be-done task(s) as their deadlines approach and they are listed as not yet complete. Similarly, the user may have Customer Relations Management (CRM) software that the user regularly employs and the database of such CRM software might provide exportable information (if permitted by the user) about specific persons, projects, etc. that the user will more likely be involved with during certain time periods and/or when present in certain locations. It is within the contemplation of the present disclosure for the STAN_2 system to periodically import CRM tracking data from the user's CRM tracking database(s) (if permitted by the user) so that the STAN_2 system can use such imported CRM tracking data to infer the user's more likely environment and moods based on detected time and place and/or then-in-contact other persons.

[0058] The StumbleUpon™ system (**148**) allows registered users to recommend websites to one another. Users can click a thumb-up icon to vote for a website they like and can click on a thumb-down icon to indicate they don't like it. The voted upon websites can be categorized by use of "Tags" which generally are one or two short words to give a rough idea of what the website is about.

[0059] Another well known social networking (SN) system is the so-called SecondLife™ network (**160**). The SecondLife™ network presents itself to its users as an alternate, virtual landscape in which the users appear as "avatars" (e.g., animated 3D cartoon characters) and they interact with each other as such. The Second Life™ system allows for Non-Player Characters (NPC's) to appear within the SecondLife™ landscape. These are avatars that are not controlled by a real life person but are rather computer controlled automated characters. The avatars of real persons can have interactions within the SecondLife™ landscape with the avatars of the NPC's.

[0060] Aside from these various kinds of social networking (SN) platforms (e.g., **141**-**148**, **160**), other social interactions may take place through email exchanges, list-serve exchanges, comments posted on "blogs". Various organizations (dot.org's, **150**) and content publication institutions (**155**) may publish content directed to specific topics (e.g., to outdoor nature activities such as those followed by the Field-and-Streams™ magazine) and that content may be freely available to all members of the public or only to subscribers in accordance with subscription policies generated by the various content providers.

[0061] A user (e.g., **131**) of the STAN_2 system **110** may also be a user of one or more of these various other social networking (SN) and/or other content providing platforms (**120**, **140**, **150**, **155**, **160**, etc.) and at times the user (e.g., **131**) may choose to be disconnected from (e.g., not logged-into and/or not monitored by) the STAN_2 system **110** while instead interacting with one or more of these various social networking (SN) and other content providing platforms (**120**, **140**, **150**, **155**, **160**, etc.). So now a hypothetical example will be studied where User-A (**131**) is going to be interacting with an out-of-STAN_2 subnet **120** (where the latter could be any one of outside platforms like **141**, **142**, **144** etc.).

[0062] In this hypothetical example, the same first user **131** (USER-A) employs the username, "Stanley" (or "Stan" for short) when logged into and being tracked in real time by the STAN_2 system **110** (and may use a corresponding Stanley-associated password) while on the other hand, the same first user **131** employs the username, "Stewart" (or "Stew" for short) when logging into the alternate SN system **120** (e.g., FaceBook™, MySpace™, LinkedIn™, etc.) and he then may use a corresponding Stewart-associated password. The Stewart persona (**131***u***2**) may favor focusing upon topics related to music and classical literature whereas the Stanley persona (**131***u***1**) may favor focusing on topics related to science and politics (this being merely a hypothesized example). Accordingly, the Stewart persona (**131***u***2**) may more frequently join and participate in music/classical literature discussion groups when logged into the alternate SN system **120**. By contrast, the Stanley persona (**131***u***1**) may more frequently join and participate in science/politics topic groups when logged into or otherwise being tracked by the STAN_2 system **110**. The local interface devices (e.g., CPU-**1**, CPU-**2**) used by the Stanley persona (**131***u***1**) and the Stewart persona (**131***u***2**) may be a same device (e.g., same laptop computer) or different ones or a mixture of both depending on hardware availability and mood of the user. The environments (e.g., work, home, coffee house) used by the Stanley persona (**131***u***1**) and

the Stewart persona (**131***u***2**) may also be same or different ones depending on a variety of circumstances.

[0063] Despite the possibilities for such difference of persona and interests, there may be instances where user-to-user associations (U2U) and/or user-to-topic associations (U2T) developed by the Stewart persona (**131***u***2**) while operating exclusively under the auspices of the SN system **120** environment and outside the tracking radar of the STAN_2 system **110** may be of cross-pollination value to the Stanley persona (**131***u***1**)—and/or to other users (e.g., **132***u***1**) of the STAN_2 system **110**.

[0064] More specifically, a cross-discipline discussion may erupt within a given Discussion Group (e.g., node **129***x*) of the external SN system **120** (e.g., LinkedIn™) that involves both politics and classical literature. (Recall that the 'Stewart' persona likes literature while the 'Stanley' persona of user **131** likes politics.) In such a case, it may be beneficial to join together (by invitation) some of the out-of-STAN2 participants in the given external Discussion Group (e.g., **129***x*) with some in-STAN2 participants who are currently interacting under a co-related topic node (**115***x*, understood to be a node of the in-STAN_2 topics tree **115**) and are equally enthusiastically involved in the same point of interest that encompasses a cross-discipline crossover between politics and classical literature.

[0065] But how is such a joinder of out-of-STAN2 participants (coupled to node **129***x*) and in-STAN2 participants (coupled to node **115***x*) to take place? It should be recalled that the first user **131** is operating under his Stewart persona (**131***u***2**) when participating enthusiastically in this hypothetical example with the out-of-STAN2 Discussion Group (e.g., **129***x*) of the external SN system **120**. In the heat of discussion at node **129***x*, it may never occur to user **131** (in his Stewart persona) to think of alerting an in-STAN2 participant of node **115***x* to come take a look at what is happening at the moment inside discussion node **129***x*. Moreover, a random in-STAN2 participant of node **115***x* might not be a member of the out-of-STAN2 platform **120** and thus cannot quickly and easily pop in to take a look. (That other user may first have to register and get "accepted" as a friend, buddy etc. where all this takes time.)

[0066] Suppose that at a later time, long after the heated discussion about politics and classical literature erupted at outside node **129***x*, the first user **131** finally logs-in (via interface **118**) into the STAN_2 system **110**. By that time, this first user **131** may have already forgotten what transpired inside discussion node **129***x* of external SN system **120**. Moreover, that first user **131** may not at this time navigate his topic focus to coincide with the topic covered by in-STAN2 node **115***x*. So the participants of the out-of-STAN2 Discussion Group (e.g., **129***x*) do not get an opportunity to link together with the participants of the in-STAN2 node **115***x* even though such cross-platform linkage might beneficially enhance the Internet using experiences of all involved. If this kind of failure-to-link was happening under auspices of the older, STAN_1 system (not shown), the STAN_1 system might have no way of knowing that it should "invite" the Stanley persona (**131***u***1**) of user **131** to take another look internal node **115***x* and also at external discussion **129***x* even if the STAN_1 system (not shown) were cognizant of the existence of that external discussion node **129***x*.

[0067] However, the STAN_2 system **110** (FIG. **1**A) is different as compared to the older STAN_1 system (not shown).

[0068] Firstly, the STAN_2 system **110** actively tries to develop and store so-called External SN Profile records **131***p***2**, **132***p***2** for each of its registered members (e.g., **131**, **132** respectively). The External SN Profile records (e.g., **131***p***2**, **132***p***2**) may reflect user compatibility characteristics (e.g., co-compatibilities to other users, compatibilities to specific topics) of one or more external personas (e.g., **131***u***2**, **132***u***2**) of registered members of the STAN_2 system **110** who agree to have their out-of-STAN_2 characteristic indicating records automatically scanned into (imported into) and periodically re-scanned by the STAN_2 system **110**. In one embodiment, the out-of-STAN_2 characteristic indicating records may alternatively or additionally be partly or wholly manually entered into records of the STAN_2 database (DB) **119** and optionally validated by entry checking software or other means and thereafter incorporated into the user's External SN Profile records.

[0069] The external profile importing mechanism is more clearly illustrated for the case of second user **132**. In one embodiment, while this second user **132** was logged-in into the STAN_2 system **110** (e.g., under his STAN_2 persona as "Tom", **132***u***1**), a somewhat intrusive and automated first software agent (BOT, see process **170** of FIG. **1**B) of system **110** invited the second user **132** to reveal by way of a survey his UBID-**2** information (his user name, "Thomas" and optionally his corresponding password) which he uses to log into interface **128** of the Out-of-STAN other system **120**, and if applicable; to reveal the identity and grant access to the alternate data processing device (CPU-**4**) that user **132** uses when logged into the Out-of STAN other system **120**. The automated software agent (not explicitly shown in FIG. **1**A) then recorded an alias record into the STAN_2 database (DB **119**) where the stored record (see **184** of FIG. **1**B) logically associates the user's UAID-**1** of the 110 domain with his UAID-**2** of the 120 domain. Yet another alias record would make a similar association between the UAID-**1** identification of the 110 domain with some other identifications, if any, used by user **132** in yet other external domains (e.g., **141**, **142**, **144**, etc.) Then the agent began scanning that alternate data processing device (CPU-**4**) for local friends and/or buddies lists **132**L**2** stored in the local memory of CPU-**4**. The automated importation scan may also cover local email contact lists **132**L**1** and Tweet following lists **132**L**3** held in that alternate data processing device (CPU-**4**). If it is given the alternate site password for temporary usage, the STAN_2 automated agent also logged into the Out-of-STAN domain **120** while pretending to be "Thomas" (with user **132**'s permission to do so) and began scanning that alternate contacts/friends/followed tweets/etc. listing site for remote listings **132**R of Thomas's email contacts, Gmail™ contacts, buddy lists, friend lists, accepted contacts lists, followed tweet lists and so on depending on predetermined knowledge held by the STAN_2 system of how the external content site **120** is structured. Different external content sites (e.g., **120**, **141**, **142**, **144**, etc.) may have different mechanisms for allowing logged-in users to access their private (behind the wall) and public friends, contacts and other such lists based on unique privacy policies maintained by the various external content sites. In one embodiment, database **119** of the STAN_2 system **110** stores accessing know-how data (e.g., knowledge base rules) for known ones of the external content sites. In one embodiment, a registered STAN_2 user (e.g., **132'** of FIG. **2**) is enlisted to serve as a sponsor into the Out-of STAN platform for automated agents output by the STAN_2 system **110**. In one

embodiment, cooperation agreements are negotiated and signed as between operators of the STAN_2 system **110** and operators of one or more of the Out-of STAN other platforms (e.g., external platforms **120**, **141**, **142**, **144**, etc.) that permit automated agents output by the STAN_2 system **110** or live agents coached by the STAN_2 system to enter the other platforms and operate therein in accordance with restrictions set forth in the cooperation agreements.

[0070] Referring now to FIG. **1**B, shown is a machine-implemented and automated process **170** by way of which user **132** might be coaxed into allowing the STAN_2 system **110** to import all or a filter-criteria determined subset of the second user's external lists, **132**L, **132**R into STAN_2 stored profile records **132***p***2** of that second user **132**.

[0071] Process **170** is initiated step **171** (Begin). The initiation might be in automated response to the STAN_2 system determining that user **132** is not heavily focusing upon any on-screen content of his CPU (e.g., **132***a*) at this time and therefore this would likely be a good time to push an unsolicited usage survey or favor request on user **132**.

[0072] The unsolicited usage survey push begins at step **172**. Dashed logical connection **172***a* points to a possible survey dialog box **182** that might then be displayed to user **132** as part of step **172**. The illustrated content of dialog box **182** may provide one or more conventional control buttons such as a virtual pushbutton **182***b* for allowing the user **132** to quickly respond to the pushed (e.g., popped up) survey proposal **182**. Reference numbers like **182***b* do not appear in the popped-up survey dialog box **182**. Embracing hyphens like the ones around reference number **182***b* (e.g., "-**182***b*-") indicate that it is a nondisplayed reference numbers. A same use of embracing hyphens is used in other illustrations herein of display content to indicate nondisplay thereof.

[0073] More specifically, introduction information **182***a* of dialog box **182** informs the user of what he is being asked to do. Pushbutton **182***b* allows the user to respond affirmatively in a general way. However, if the STAN_2 has detected that the user is currently using a particular content site (e.g., FaceBook™, MySpace™, LinkedIn™, etc.) more heavily than others, the popped-up dialog box **182** may provide a suggestive and more specific answer option **182***e* for the user whereby the user will not have to push a sequence of numerous answer buttons to navigate to his desired conclusion. If the user does not want to be now bothered, he can click on (or otherwise activate) the Not-Now button **182***c*. In response to this, the STAN_2 system will understand that it guessed wrong on user **132** being in an idle mode and thus ready to participate in such a survey. The STAN_2 system will adaptively alter its survey option algorithms for user **132** so as to better guess when in the future (through a series of trials and errors) it is better to bother user **132** with such pushed (unsolicited) surveys. Pressing of the Not-Now button **182***c* does not mean user **132** never wants to be queried about such information, just not now. The task is rescheduled for a later time. User **132** may alternatively press the Remind-me-via-email button **182***d*. In the latter case, the STAN_2 system will automatically send an email to a pre-selected email account of user **132** inviting him to engage in the same survey (**182**, **183**) at a time of his choosing. The More-Options button **182***g* provides user **132** with more action options and/or more information. The other social networking (SN) button **182***f* is similar to **182***e* but guesses as to an alternate network account which user **132** might now want to share information about. In one embodiment, each of the more-specific affirmation (OK) buttons **182***e* and **182***f* includes a user modifiable options section **182***s*. More specifically, when a user affirms (OK) that he or she wants to let the STAN_2 system import data from the user's FaceBook™ account(s) or other external platform account(s), the user may simultaneously wish to agree to permit the STAN_2 system to automatically export (in response to import requests from those identified external accounts) some or all of shareable data from the user's STAN_2 account(s). In other words, it is conceivable that in the future, external platforms such as FaceBook™, MySpace™, LinkedIn™, GoogleWave™, GoogleBuzz™, Google Social Search™, FriendFeed™, blogs, ClearSpring™, YahooPulse™, Friendster™, Bebo™, etc. might evolve so as to automatically seek cross-pollination data from the STAN_2 system and by future agreements such is made legally possible. In that case, the STAN_2 user might wish to leave the illustrated default of "2-way Sharing is OK" as is. Alternatively, the user may activate the options scroll down sub-button within area **182***s* of OK virtual button **182***e* and pick another option (e.g., "2-way Sharing NOT OK"—option not shown).

[0074] If in step **172** the user agreed to now being questioned, then step **173** is next executed. Otherwise, process **170** is exited in accordance with an exit option chosen by the user in step **172**. As seen in the next popped-up and corresponding dialog box **183**, the user is again given some introductory information **183***a* about what is happening in this proposed dialog box **183**. Data entry box **183***b* asks the user for his user-name as used in the identified outside account. A default answer may be displayed such as the user-name (e.g., "Tom") that user **132** uses when logging into the STAN_2 system. Data entry box **183***c* asks the user for his user-password as used in the identified outside account. The default answer may indicate that filling in this information is optional. In one embodiment, one or both of entry boxes **183***b*, **183***c* may be automatically pre-filled by identification data automatically obtained from the encodings acquisition mechanism of the user's local data processing device. For example a built-in webcam automatically recognizes his/her face, a built-in audio pick-up automatically recognizes his/her voice and/or a built-in wireless key detector automatically recognizes presence of the user possessed key device whereby manual entry of the user name and/or password is not necessary and step **173** can be performed automatically without the user's awareness. Pressing button **183***e* provides the user with additional information and/or optional actions. Pressing button **183***d* returns the user to the previous dialog box (**182**). In one embodiment, if the user provides the STAN_2 system with his password (**183***c*), an additional pop-up window asks the user to give STAN_2 some time (e.g., 24 hours) before changing his password and then advises him to change his password thereafter for his protection.

[0075] Although interfacing between the user and the STAN_2 system is shown illustratively as a series of dialog boxes like **182** and **183** it is within the contemplation of this disclosure that various other kinds of control interfacing may be used to query the user and that the selected control interfacing may depend on user context at the time. For example, if the user (e.g., **132**) is currently focusing upon a SecondLife™ environment in which he is represented by an animated avatar, it may be more appropriate for the STAN_2 system to present itself as a survey-taking avatar (e.g., a uniformed NPC with a clipboard) who approaches the user's avatar and presents these inquiries in accordance with that

motif. On the other hand, if the user (e.g., **132**) is currently interfacing with his CPU (e.g., **132***a*) by using a mostly audio interface (e.g., a BlueTooth™ microphone and earpiece), it may be more appropriate for the STAN_2 system to present itself as a survey-taking voice entity that presents its inquiries (if possible) in accordance with that predominantly audio motif, and so on.

[0076] If in step **173** the user provided one or more of the requested items of information (e.g., **183***b*, **183***c*), then in subsequent step **174** the obtained information is automatically stored into an aliases tracking portion (e.g., record(s)) of the system database (DB **119**). An exemplary DB record structure is shown at **184**. For each entered data column, the top row identifies the associated SN or other content providing platform (e.g., FaceBook™, MySpace™, LinkedIn™, etc.). The second row provides the username or other alias used by the queried user (e.g., **132**) when logged into that platform (or presenting himself otherwise on that platform). The third row provides the user password and/or other security key used by the queried user (e.g., **132**) when logging into that platform (or presenting himself otherwise for validate recognition on that platform). Since providing passwords is optional in data entry box **183***c*, some of the password entries in DB record structure **184** are recorded as not-available (N/A) this indicating the user (e.g., **132**) chose not to share this information. As an optional substep in step **173**, the STAN_2 system **110** may first grab the user-provided username (and optional password) and test these for validity by automatically presenting them for verification to the associated outside platform (e.g., FaceBook™, MySpace™, LinkedIn™, etc.). If the outside platform responds that no such username and/or password is valid on that outside platform, the STAN_2 system **110** flags an error condition to the user and does not execute step **174**. Although exemplary record **184** is shown to have only 3 rows of data entries, it is within the contemplation of the disclosure to include further rows with additional entries such as, alternate UsrNm and password (optional) used on the same platform, user name of best friend(s) on the same platform, user names of currently being "followed" influential personas on the same platform, and so on.

[0077] In next step **175**, the STAN_2 system uses the obtained username (and optional password and optional other information) for locating and beginning to access the user's local and/or online (remote) friend, buddy, contacts, etc. lists (**132**L, **132**R). The user may not want to have all of this contact information imported into the STAN_2 system for any of a variety of reasons. After having initially scanned the available contact information and how it is grouped or otherwise organized in the external storage locations, in next step **176** the STAN_2 system presents a set of import permission options to the user, including the option of importing all, importing none and importing a more specific and user specified subset of what was found to be available. The user makes his selection(s) and then in next step **177**, the STAN_2 system imports the user-approved portions of the externally available contact information into a STAN_2 data storage area (not shown). The STAN_2 system checks for duplicates and removes these.

[0078] Then in step **178** the STAN_2 system converts the imported external contacts data into formats that conform to data structures used within the External STAN Profile records (**131***p***2**, **132***p***2**) for that user. With completion of step **178** for each STAN_2 registered user (e.g., **131**, **132**) who has allowed for external contacts information to be imported, the STAN_2 system **110** can now automatically inform that user of when his friends, buddies, contacts, best friends, followed influential people, etc. as named in external sites are already present within or are being co-invited to join a chat opportunity such as **315***b* and **315***c* in below described FIG. **3**A. This kind of additional information (e.g., displayed as **315***b***1** and **315***c***1** and **315***d***1** in FIG. **3**A) may be helpful to the user (e.g., **132**) in determining whether or not he wishes to accept a given in-STAN-vitation™ (e.g., a STAN-provided content source recommendation like **315***b* and/or **315***c*) to view a recommended content source and/or to save (e.g., into **336**) some associated data of that given in-STAN-vitation™. Additionally, the External STAN Profile records (**131***p***2**, **132***p***2**) for the corresponding user (e.g., **132**) can now be used as part of the co-compatibility and desirability analysis when the STAN_2 system is automatically determining in the background the rankings of chat or other connect-to opportunities that STAN_2 system might be recommending to the user for example in the opportunities banner area **315** of the display screen **300** shown in FIG. **3**A (which area **315** is incidentally optionally out-and-in scrollable as an opaque or shadow shade—described below) based on the monitored activities (e.g., as reported by up- or in-loaded CFi's) of the user in for example, open windows **317** (the user's FaceBook™ account data), **330***a* (the user's research results from using the GoogleWave™ tool) and **330***d* (the user's research results from using the GoogleGoggles™ tool).

[0079] When the STAN_2 system **110** is processing various ones of possible connect-to recommendations (e.g., chat opportunities like **315***b*) in the background to thereby determine which connect-to recommendations should be ranked as highest priority for recommending to the user and which as lower ranked and thus perhaps not even presented, recommendations to the user, the STAN_2 system may be generating ranking scores based on data provided in: (a) the user's Current Personality-based Chat Compatibility profiles (CpCCp's, as described in conjunction with giF. 1B of the STAN_1 application); (b) the user's Domain Specific Current Chat compatibility Profiles (DsCCp's, as described in conjunction with giF. 1C of the STAN_1 application); (c) the user's Personal Emotion Expression Profile (PEEP, as described in conjunction with giF. 1E of the STAN_1 application); and (d) the user's Current Focus Indicators (CFi's, as described in conjunction with giFs. 2A and 3C of the STAN_1 application). The STAN_2 system **110** may be cross-correlating data and/or preference rules extracted from such CpCCp's (a), DsCCp's (b), PEEP's (c), CFi's (d) with attributes and/or joinder rules of possibly matching topic nodes (such node 450' of giF. 3C) and/or on-topic chat rooms as defined within the STAN_2 system's topics tree (**115** of FIG. **1**A of this application, see also **215** of FIG. **2**). In one embodiment, the automated cross-correlating and automated recommendation making rules of the STAN_2 system include rules (where these rules are configured for use by corresponding rule-driven knowledge base algorithms) that are selectively activated if the user has corresponding data contained in the user's External STAN Profile record (e.g., **131***p***2**, **132***p***2**).

[0080] One default, but over-rideable, knowledge base rule might say: IF user's External STAN Profile record exists and includes imported FaceBook™ friends AND topic node under consideration has at least one such friend connected to that topic node THEN increase compatibility score of that

topic node by +1, and IF the topic node under consideration has at least three such friends now connected to that topic node THEN increase compatibility score of that topic node by an additional +3. In other words, by default, the STAN_2 system **110** automatically begins to give greater preference toward recommending connect-to opportunities (e.g., on-topic chat rooms) if the user's external site "friends" (and better yet, "best friends") are already connected to the content source that is being considered as a connect-to recommendation.

[0081] In one embodiment, premium subscription users of the STAN_2 system **110** are allowed to override the default external friends rules with specific rules of their choosing or creation. It may be that a given user prefers not to be connected to (or given the recommendation to do so) to a content source (e.g., an online chat room) in accordance with a user provided exception rule such as: IF Topic=Vacation Plans AND Contacts already connected to potential content source (e.g., chat room) include LinkedIn™ contacts THEN add −5 to Recommendation Score. In other words, for a certain topic and/or if certain people are already at the target site (e.g., chat room), this user prefers to not connect to that site and/or not to have that content source recommended to him by the STAN_2 system. Specialized knowledge base rules that use data from the user's External STAN Profile record may be incorporated within the STAN_2 system into: (a) the user's Current Personality-based Chat Compatibility profiles (CpC-Cp's, see 175 of giF. 1B); (b) the user's Domain Specific Current Chat compatibility Profiles (DsCCp's, see 195 of giF. 1C); and (c) the user's Personal Emotion Expression Profile (PEEP, see 199 of giF. 1E but add to it a friend-related rule such as: IF Ken54 (TPP) is present THEN increase Gladness by +5). (Here, TPP stands for influential Tipping Point Persona as shall be better explained immediately below.)

[0082] In one embodiment, premium subscription users of the STAN_2 system are allowed to categorize their imported friends or other contacts, as for example, "Tipping Point" Personalities (TPP's) and more specifically, categorized as "Tipping Point" Early Adapter/Salesman, "Tipping Point" Maven and "Tipping Point" Influential Connector in conformance for example with the book, "The Tipping Point: How Little Things Can Make a Big Difference" (ISBN 0-316-31696-2) by Malcolm Gladwell, whose concepts are incorporated herein by reference. As explained in the book, "Tipping Point" people can be critical to getting an emerging meme to take root and there are different categories of "Tipping Point" people: Salesmen, Mavens, and Connectors. By categorizing their imported friends using a categorizing function like this of the STAN_2 system **110**, users enable the STAN_2 system to specially flag out such people with a TP icon (e.g., the flashing Toilet Paper icon at **315***f* in FIG. **3**A). Such system flagging of a given person as being a recognized TPP may be based on consensus voting by numerous users instead of, or in addition to such designation by an individual user. Consensus-wise elected TPP's may be specially flagged out as sTPP's (super Tipping Point persons). Then if a user spots such a TPP-indicating icon (**315***f*) or an sTTP-indicating icon (not shown), the user can elect to drag and drop an attribute of the Connect-to Recommendation (e.g., of Chat Opportunity **315***d*) into a Favorites or Saved attributes list (e.g., **336** of FIG. **3**A). In one embodiment, the savable attributes include one or more of: (a) a link to the topic node (also called Topic Center or TC) that is associated with the Connect-to Recommendation; (b) an identification of another user such as a "Tipping Point" person **315***f* displayed in associated with the Connect-to Recommendation; and (c) a link to the content source (e.g., Chat Room D**2**—not shown but to be popped open if user double clicks on center area of **315***d*) that the Connect-to Recommendation (e.g., Chat Opportunity **315***d*) is recommending. In the example of FIG. **3**A, the user is shown at **315***e*' to be using his mouse (having counterpart hand icon **336***e*) to drag and drop a copy of TC flag **315***e* into the Saved Topic Centers area of scrollable list **336**. The user could have instead dragged and dropped a copy of TP icon **315***f* or a copy of the Chat Opportunity border to list **336**. More will be said on this when FIG. **3**A is discussed in yet further detail.

[0083] Incidentally, "Tipping Point" Personalities (TPP's and sTPP's) are a nonlimiting example of personas who may be logically linked to a given chat room (e.g., pointed to by **315***d*) or to another form of recommended content source (e.g., a blog, a listserve, etc.) and/or who may be logically linked to a given topic center (TC) and/or to a given TCONE (topic center owned note exchange). Depending on topic and context, consensus-wise elected authors of publications (e.g., peer reviewed publications), lecturers (e.g., college professors), expert witnesses (e.g., those who have testified in court-room cases) and so on (including medical professional who specialize for example in esoteric diseases) may be so logically linked to a TC or TCONE within the STAN_2 system **110**/**210**. One process that can usefully exploit such logical linking to TC's and/or TCONE's will be detailed when bounce back operation **229***c* of the FIG. **2** is explained below. Briefly, in one example, a general practice physician who is trying to diagnose a patient with an unusual set of symptoms navigates to a medicine-related topic center (TC), retrieves identifications of topic center noted experts and then contacts the experts in hopes of obtaining from them directly-on-topic advice about the unusual set of symptoms.

[0084] Referring again to FIG. **1**B, after an external list of friends, buddies, contacts and/or the alike have been imported for a first external social networking (SN) platform (e.g., FaceBook™) and the imported contact identifications have been optionally categorized (e.g., as TPP's and/or other), the process can be repeated for other external content resources (e.g., MySpace™, LinkedIn™, etc.). As a last step **179***a* before exiting process **170** for each external resource, in one embodiment, the user is asked to schedule an updating task for later updating the imported information. Alternatively, the STAN_2 system automatically schedules such an information update task. In yet another variation, the STAN_2 system alternatively or additionally, provides the user with a list of possible triggering events that may be used to trigger an update attempt at the time of the triggering event. Possible triggering events may include, but are not limited to, detection of idle time by the user, detection of the user registering into a new external platform (e.g., as confirmed in the user's email—i.e. "Thank you for registering into platform XP2, please record these as your new username and password . . . "); detection of the user making a major change to one of his external platform accounts (e.g., again flagged by a STAN_2 accessible email that says—i.e. "The following changes to your account settings have been submitted. Please confirm it was you who requested them . . . "). When a combination of plural event triggers are requested such as account setting change and user idle mode, the user idle mode may be detected with use of a user watching webcam as well as optional temperature sensing of the user wherein the user is

detected to be leaning back, not inputting via a user interface device for a predefined number of seconds and cooling off after an intense session with his machine system. Of course, the user can also actively request initiation (**171**) of an update. The information update task may be used to add data (e.g., user name and password in **184**) for newly registered into external platforms and new, nonduplicate contacts that were not present previously, to delete undesired contacts and/or to recategorize various friends, buddies, contacts and/or the alike as different kinds of "Tipping Point" persons (TPP's) and/or as other kinds of noteworthy personas. The process then ends at step **179***b* but may be re-begun at step **171** for yet a another external content source when the STAN_2 system **110** determines that the user is probably in an idle mode and is probably willing to accept such a pushed survey **182**.

[0085] Referring again to FIG. **1**A, it may now be appreciated how some of the major associations **111-114** can be enhanced by having the STAN_2 system **110** cooperatively interacting with external platforms (**120**, **141**, etc.) by, for example, importing external contact lists of those external platforms. More specifically, the user-to-user associations (U2U) **111** can be strengthened by virtue of a displayed window such as **300** of FIG. **3**A being able to now alert the user as to when friends, buddies, contacts and/or the alike of an external platform (e.g., **141**, **144**) are already associated with a displayed Connect-to Recommendation (e.g., **315***b*, **315***c* of FIG. **3**A). The user-to-topic associations (U2T) **112** can be strengthened by virtue of a displayed window such as **300** of FIG. **3**A being able to now show the viewing user how certain influential individuals (e.g., Ken54 TPP) are associated with a specific topic center (e.g., TC **315***e*) due to their being associated with a Connect-to Recommendation (e.g., **315***d*) that comes under the flag (**315***e*) of that topic center (e.g., TC **315***e*).

[0086] Referring next to FIG. **2**, it will now be explained from a different perspective how cross-pollination actions instigated by the STAN_2 system **110** can work to enhance (enhancement shown as action **121**) user-to-user associations (U2U, **111**), to enhance (**122**) user-to-topic associations (U2T, **112**), to expand/evolve (**123**) topic-to-topic associations (T2T, **113**), and to expand/evolve (**124**) topic-to-content associations (T2C, **114**). Two platforms, **210** and **220** are respectively represented in the multiplatform space **200** of FIG. **2**. A first of the platforms, **210** (corresponding to **110** of FIG. **1**A) is schematically represented as a 3-dimensional lower prismatic structure having a respective 3D axis frame **210***xyz*. A second of the platforms, **220** (corresponding to **120** of FIG. **1**A) is schematically represented as a 2-dimensional upper planar structure having respective 2D axis frame **220***xy*. Each of the first and second platforms, **210** and **220** is shown to respectively have a compilation-of-users-of-the-platform space, **211** and **221**; and a messaging-rings supporting space, **215** and **225** respectively.

[0087] The planar first platform **220** will be described first because it follows a conventional approach such as that of FaceBook™ and LinkedIn™ for example. Assume first that the upper messaging-rings supporting space, **225** of platform **220** is completely empty (it has no rings like **226**). A single circle-creating user **203** starts things going by launching (for example in a figurative boat **205**) a nascent discussion proposal **206** from space **221** into space **225**. In the LinkedIn™ environment this is known as simply starting a discussion by attaching a headline message to it (example: "What do you think about what the President said today?") and pushing it (**206** in its outward bound boat **205**) out into the then empty space **225** where it can be seen by other members (e.g., **222**) of a predefined Discussion Group **224**. The launched discussion proposal **206** transforms into a fixedly attached child ring **226** of parent node **226***p* (attached with linking branch **227**), where **226***p* is merely an identifier of the Discussion Group but does not have message exchange rings like **226** inside of it. Typically, child rings like **226** attach to growing branch **227** according to date of attachment. The LinkedIn™ platform will thus have proposed discussions posted thereon according to date and ID of its launcher (e.g., posted 5 days ago by discussion leader Jones).

[0088] At this stage the launched and attached discussion proposal **226** has only one member of the discussion group **224** associated with it, namely, its single launcher **203**. If no one else (e.g., a friend, a discussion group co-member) joins into that solo-launched discussion proposal **226**, it remains empty and just sits there, aging at its attached position along growing branch **227** and under parent node **226***p*. On the other hand, if another member **222** of the discussion group **224** jumps into (**228**) the affixed discussion proposal **226** (e.g., "What do you think about what the President said today?") by posting a responsive comment inside that ring **226**, for example, "Oh, I think what the President said today was good.", then the discussion has begun. The discussion launcher/leader **203** may post a counter comment or other members of the discussion group **224** may also jump in and add their comments. Irrespective of how many other members of the discussion group **224** jump into the ring **226** or later leave the ring **226**, that ring **226** stays affixed to the parent node **226***p* in the historical position where it originally attached. Some discussion rings in LinkedIn™ can grow to have hundreds of comments and a like number of members commenting therein. Other launched discussion rings (**206**) of LinkedIn™ may remain forever empty while still remaining affixed to the parent node in their historical position and having only the one discussion launcher **203** logically linked to that otherwise empty discussion ring.

[0089] It is to be understood that not all discussion group rings like **226** need to be carried out in a single common language such as lay-person's English. It is quite possible that some discussion groups conduct their internal exchanges in respective other languages such as, but not limited to, German, French, Italian, Swedish, Japanese, Chinese or Korean. It is also possible that some discussion groups have members who are multilingual and thus conduct internal exchanges within certain discussion groups with mixed use of several languages, for example, throwing in French or German loan phrases (e.g., Schadenfreude) into a mostly English discourse where no English word quite suffices. It is also possible that some discussion group keywords are of a mixed or alternate language type. It is also possible that some discussion groups have members who are experts in certain esoteric arts (e.g., patent law, computer science, medicine, economics, etc.) and use art-based jargon that lay persons not skilled in such arts would not normally understand or use.

[0090] The birth (instantiation) in the lower platform space **210** (corresponding to the STAN_2 system **110**) of a messaging ring (irrespective of whether its discourse is to be conducted in lay English, French or mixed languages or specialized jargon) is often (there are exceptions) a substantially different affair. Firstly, a nascent messaging ring **208** is generally not launched by only one member of platform **210** but rather by at least two such members **207** (assumed to both be

ordinary-English speaking in this example). In other words, at the time of launch (of figurative boat **205'**) the two or more launchers **207** of the nascent messaging ring **208** have already agreed to enter into an ordinary-English based discussion (or another form of "Notes Exchange" which is the NE suffix of the TCONE acronym) within ring **208**. Accordingly, as a general rule, ring **208** never launches with a solo-rower and as a having-no-joined other members-therein ring, as its boat (**205'**) floats into the messaging-rings supporting space **215** of platform **220**. Instead and as a general proposition herein (there could be exceptions such as if one launcher immediately drops out for example or when a credentialed expert launches a course-to-be taught ring), each nascent messaging ring like **208** enters a corresponding ring-supporting and mapping (e.g., indexing) space **215** while already having at least two members joined in discussion (or in another form of mutually understandable "Notes Exchange") therein as its figurative boat **205'** sets temporary anchor in a not-fixed floating position within the topics supporting space **215** of platform **220**. Discussion about how an initially launched (instantiated) and anchored (moored) Social Notes Exchange (SNE) can become a drifting one that swings from one anchoring node (TC) to a next, in other words, it become a dSNE **216***d* will be provided shortly.

[0091] First however, it is to be observed that the birth of a messaging ring (e.g., **208**) in the lower platform space **210** not only often involves at least two joined launchers **207** (typically using a common and mutually understood exchange language, e.g., lay person's English) but also that it involves the attachment of a temporary topic center flag **209** to the launched boat **205'**. It is the two or more joined launchers **207** who initially decide (directly or indirectly; consciously or subconsciously) what the initial "topic" of their jointly launched messaging ring **208** will be. The launched messaging ring **208** is not necessarily married for life to one or more of its birthing launchers. All the initial launchers can abandon ship (so to speak) and other STAN_2 members can jump onboard and take control as new captains over the drift direction of that already launched messaging ring **208**. This too will be explained shortly. In one embodiment, each discussion ring (a.k.a. TCONE) within topic space **215** is recorded by the STAN_2 system as having a named set of birthing launchers (e.g., **207**) and first anchored position (birth place), a named set of current anchor-controlling members (a.k.a. current captains, can be same **207** or different members) with corresponding current anchored-to position or positions, and a named set of currently most influential mutineers who wish to drift the boat so it becomes more so anchored (tethered) to one or more new positions (different TC's). These respective birthers (**207**), current captains and rebels (those seeking change of course and/or mooring points) can be identified in many other ways besides by their user names (e.g., by STAN_2 issued unique user identification numbers). Stated otherwise, each TCONE is tracked where the tracking records store the identifications of two or more of its initial parents and initial one or more anchoring positions in topic space **215**, identifications of one or more of its current captains and current anchoring positions in topic space (plus optionally, current drift direction) and identifications of one or more of its want-to-be-new captains and their desired new anchoring position(s) in topic space (plus optionally, new drift direction).

[0092] It is assumed that when original launchers **207** first join in a Notes Exchange session (or are invited by STAN_2 to do so), each launcher has a respective, on-topic thought pattern (**207***a* and **207***b* respectively, and not necessarily expressed verbally and/or visually) in his her mind. The on-topic portion of the thought pattern (**207***a* or **207***b*) may be subconscious or conscious or both. Each launcher is understood to "encode" his respective on-topic thought pattern(s) (**207***a* and **207***b*) with a corresponding one or more topic-directed and objectively detectable "encodings" (**207***aa* and **207***bb* respectively). A nonlimiting example of such encodings may be a respective keyword proposed by each launcher for what the topic is "about". More specifically, launcher-A might first say, 'I think the keyword for our shared topic is Apples' while launcher-B might first say, 'I think the keyword for our shared topic is Oranges' and thereafter they may agree that a better set of keywords for defining the topic of their mutually launched TCONE (**208**) is 'Apples, Oranges and like fruit'. Later, if the instantiated boat is taken over by new captains, they may redefine what topic(s) the launched boat most closely is tethered to as being 'all fruit'. This of course, is a relatively simplistic example. If the boat's topic is switched to 'all fruit', the machine-implemented definition of what topic node(s) the boat is now tethered to may jump up a level in a hierarchical topic tree where 'Apples' and 'Oranges' are two discrete topic nodes that are children of broader and thus parent, "All Fruits" topic node.

[0093] Keyword-based encoding of the topic definition (as agreed to implicitly or explicitly by discussion boat launchers **207**) is but one of many options. Another for-example could be pictures or sounds. Launcher-A might first explicitly or implicitly indicate (e.g., through his up- or inloaded CFi's): 'I think attached image-A and SoundTrack-A best represent our common topic'. On the other hand, Launcher-B might first explicitly or implicitly indicate: 'No, I think attached image-B and SoundTrack-C best represent our common topic'. As indicated, the encodings of the on-topic thought patterns may be generated consciously, subconsciously or by both ways. Uploaded (or in-loaded) CFi's and CVi's from TCONE members who currently control topic definition may be combined (through a voting process or otherwise) to implicitly indicate the consensus topic definition. More generally speaking, topic defining and/or topic-directed "encodings" (**207***aa* and **207***bb*) may be expressed in the form of any one or more encoded (and thus storable and transmittable) expression-representing signals including, but not limited to, on-topic keywords; on-topic tags; on-topic meta-tags; on-topic graphic images; on-topic whole or partial content pointed to by a URL; on-topic sound tracks; on-topic haptics (e.g., tactile sensations) on-topic kinesics (e.g., muscles tensings), on-topic olfactics (e.g., smells, tastes as detected and characterized by standardized chemical sniffing or tasting devices), identifications of key (e.g., famous) persons associated with the topic and their association to it, hyper-links to the foregoing, and so on. As already explained in the here incorporated STAN_1 application, up- or in-loaded CFi's and CVi's may be used to automatically convey these various expressible encodings to an automated encodings-weighting and encodings-processing device that then automatically defines the probable "initial topic" for each launcher (of respective thought patterns **207***a*, **207***b*) based on predetermined profiles (e.g., CpCCp's, DsCCp's) of the respective launchers **207**. Often there will be at least one or more common encodings (**207***cc*) that are shared by the launchers **207** (e.g., "fruit") because, for example, they both encoded with a same keyword and/or a same tag/meta-tag and/or by emo-

tively focusing on same whole or partial content (e.g., an image of a fruit store) pointed to by a common URL or equivalent URL's pointing to similar content or because their respective but different encodings (**207***a*, **207***b*) nonetheless logically group under a same encompassing other encoding **207***dd* (e.g., apples and oranges are fruit) where the definition of the encompassing encoding (e.g., fruit) and its encompassed sub-encodings (e.g., apples, oranges, bananas) is stored in DB **119**, maintained therein (automatically updated) and automatically consulted by the STAN_2 system **220**. The preceding are non-limiting examples. The STAN_2 system **210** can use the common encodings **207***cc* and/or its own logical linked and augmenting-wise provided and/or encompassing encoding(s) **207***dd* to automatically determine where in topic space **215** the initially launched topic **209** initially should be tethered to.

[0094] Yet another example of not-just-word-based encoding of topic definition may play out like this. A first jazz musician is sitting at his music keyboard in a New Orleans Cajun restaurant (he's getting ready for tonight's show) and taking in the sights, sounds, smells (e.g., cooking smells) and tastes (e.g., nibbling on a Cajun dish before him) of his environment and because of that he gets a notion for a new variation on a jazz musical score he had been collaborating with a friend across town. He calls up his friend using his newest convergence type palm-held data processing device (in the nature of an advanced iPhone™, Android™ device) and says, 'Turn on your sniff-onometer, I want you to feel this and help me out with this new musical idea I have'. H is friend's convergence type palm-held or forearm worn data processing device has a standardized chemical sniffing/tasting device built into it (e.g., using MEMs style chemical detection technology) that outputs chemical composition detection and concentration signals similar to those of the first musician's device whereby, as the second musician moves around a Cajun kitchen he happens to work at, he can find a spot that smell-wise and/or taste-wise feels roughly the same as that of the first musician. This is so because the two convergence type palm-held data processing devices can upload respective chemical signature signals to a common and automated analysis and comparison machine system (e.g., included in one embodiment of the STAN_2 system **210**) and the smell/taste analysis and comparison machine system can feedback indications of how far apart their surrounding smell/taste environments are. A high quality audio pick up on the first musician's palm-held or forearm worn data processing device relays the new music track he is playing to the sound output of the second musician's wireless device where the relay flows through the STAN_2 system (of this embodiment). At least one of the musicians has his STAN-monitoring control (like **312** of FIG. **3**A) turned ON. This means that the STAN_2 system is monitoring the CFi's up or in-loaded from that at least one musician's and is looking for corresponding chat or other Notes Exchange sessions to recommend as being intuitively on-topic. The up or in-loaded CFi's include the sound tracks and sniff-onometer's output signals. The STAN_2 system automatically infers from the encodings (see again **207***aa*) it is receiving from the at least one being-monitored musician's device and from his personal profiles (e.g., DsCCp's) that his current on-mind topic is most likely experimental jazz and that he probably would like to share the on-topic experience with other co-compatible jazz musicians who are also currently being similarly monitored by the STAN_2 system. As a result, the STAN_2 system automatically finds a third jazz musician who is at the moment substantially on-topic (based on his up or in-loaded and possibly nonverbal encodings) with the first two jazz musicians and automatically makes a recommendation (e.g., like **315***d* of FIG. **3**A) that they should virtually connect based on their current co-compatibilities as to topic and direction of its development. As a result, all three musicians collaborate and come up with a new music innovation.

[0095] It is to be understood that the above example of three collaborating musicians could instead have involved collaborating chefs whose convergence type palm-held or forearm worn data processing devices with standardized chemical sniffing/tasting devices built into them also had radiant temperature detectors as well as steam tolerant webcams so that the chefs can cross-exchange nonverbal notes about cooking temperatures, odors and visuals of their ongoing cooking efforts with one another on-the-fly and so that an embodiment of the STAN_2 system **210** can recommend online joinder with similarly situated other chefs, thereby providing for online meeting and collaboration based at least in part on nonverbal encodings. And of course, over-the-net jamming musicians and over-the-net collaboratively cooking chefs are but two examples of many other such cross-collaborations that can be instigated on the basis of nonverbal encodings (e.g., optionally within **207***aa* and **207***bb* of FIG. **2**). Other examples of cross-collaborations that might be instigated by the STAN_2 system on the basis of nonverbal encodings may include: wine tasters, cigar smokers, bird watchers (who use long distance sound pickups) and clothing or other apparel buyers. In the case of clothing/apparel buyers, the specific textures (haptically detected and analyzed) of different cloths or other worn materials may be an important factor as well as possibly smells and visuals. Thus in the latter cases, their convergence type palm-held or forearm worn data processing devices with standardized chemical sniffing/tasting devices built into them may also have standardized texture detecting and reporting devices incorporated into them where the texture reporting signals are up or in-loaded into the STAN_2 system so that remote seekers of same or similar clothes and/or other apparels (e.g., shoes, purses, etc.) may compare their findings online with similarly interested, co-compatible and STAN_2 found users. The palm-held or forearm worn data processing devices may also include software means for deciphering 2D and/or 3D (e.g., holographic) bar codes and up or in-loading those to the STAN_2 system so that brand name products can be compared based on online specifications. More specifically, the scenario may play out like this. A shopaholic is out shopping at her favorite apparel store for a new sweater, blouse, shoes, etc. She finds something that appears to be of value but she is not sure about price and quality. Her iPhone™ like device has a cloth texture feeler and cloth chemicals sniffer. She uses an embodiment of the STAN_2 system to hook up (via chat room or otherwise) with a similar but remote shopaholic who is studying a similar item of similar texture, chemical off-gassing attributes and in roughly the same price range. They exchange notes and each decides based on those exchanged notes whether to buy her being-examined item. This is another example where spaced apart users of the STAN_2 system who may previously be strangers to one another can nonetheless find one another for mutually beneficial (e.g., mutually supportive) sharing of experience and of impressions about things that are of current interest to both (or all) of them.

[0096] Referring back to the TCONE-birthing parents **207** of FIG. **2** and for sake of simplicity, let it be assumed that launching parents **207** have agreed (by consensus, e.g., by means of commonly shared encodings **207***cc* and/or encompassing but STAN_2 provided encoding(s) **207***dd*) that their launched ring **208** should initially buoy itself (tether itself) to a pre-existing topic center **219***a* located as a "topic node" somewhere on a hierarchical topics tree data structure maintained in space **215** by the supporting platform **210** (where **210** can be **110** of FIG. **1**A and where topic space **215** is defined by data records stored in database (DB) **119** of system **110**). When their boat **205'** arrives and anchors at topic center **219***a*, the launchers may be surprised to discover that there are other rings already moored to (tethered to), or stacked up along a Z-axis pole **219***a* of that topic space location. The launchers' ring **208** will be automatically stacked up by the STAN_2 system onto that shared Z-axis pole **219***a* along with other rings that have chosen for themselves (directly or indirectly) to anchor at that same "topic node". For sake of example, let us assume that the collectively defined topic of shared Z-axis pole **219***a* is: "What do you think about what the President said today?" (Common keywords or tags for this topic might include the words: U.S.A., President, speech and latest.) However, not all rings (**216***a*) stacked up on Z-axis pole **219***a* are the same in their respective attributes. Some of the messaging rings (or "TCONEs" as they are alternatively here referred to) require all members inside that messaging ring to have a high degree of expertise in the subject matter that the President was talking about (let it be assumed to be foreign affairs). Such expertise demanding rings may be visualized as having relatively small diameters because only a rare few members qualify to enter into discussion within that ring (e.g., chat room). By contrast, others of the "topic center owned note exchanges" (TCONEs) **216***a* may have much looser restrictions on who can enter the ring (e.g., chat room) and participate in its discussion. The latter may be visualized as having relatively larger diameters because a larger number of members qualify to enter into discussion within those less restrictive rings.

[0097] The stacked collection of rings (TCONEs) **216***a* centered on the Za pole **219***a* (where such stacking implies that pole **219***a* is the controlling or primary tethering node for those rings) may be visualized as forming a 3D cone composed of removable hoops or rings of varying diameters. For any given Z-pole in topic space **215** there does not have to be a hoop at the Z=0 level and hoops may be disposed in negative Z territory as well as or in opposition to other hoops disposed in positive Z territory. More specifically and by way of example, hoops in positive Z territory may be constrained to discussion groups that lean one way politically and hoops in negative Z territory may be constrained to discussion groups that lean in an opposed direction politically. This is just an example. The stacked hoops do not have to form a cone shape (i.e. a single cone) in any given territory of the Z-axis. There could be cylinders, undulating forms and so on. It would have been convenient if the acronym, TCONE corresponded to the 3D cone shown at **219***a*. But it does not. The TCONE, or more fully, the Topic Center Owned Note Exchange ring, is just one Z-pole ringing hoop (or tethered thereto hoop) among a potentially large number of other such figurative hoops that are currently (but not necessarily permanently) primarily "owned" by the Topic Center (TC) **219***a*.

[0098] Because in the general case, the topic center Z-pole **219***a* can have a large number of primarily-owned TCONEs hooped onto it, the topic center Z-pole **219***a* can have a life of its own that becomes independent of the life of any one TCONE hooped around it. A topic center Z-pole **219***a* can start to "drift" in one direction on an XY plane of 3D axis **210***xyz* while one or a few (but not all) of its hoops (i.e. drift-apart hoop **216***d*) drift off in an opposed direction and attach more strongly to (tether to) other Z-poles. The mechanisms that make this possible are already spelled out in the here incorporated STAN_1 application and thus will not be repeated. The STAN_1 application described the phenomenon as akin to a Tarzan character using vines to swing from one tree to a next, where at one point in the swing the Tarzan character can of course simultaneously be holding onto the vines of two trees. Briefly and in more detail, members of an individual TCONE (e.g., a chat room) can vote to change the definition of topic of their individual TCONE (e.g., **216***d*). At the same time the collective members of a stack of TCONEs hooped around one topic center Z-pole **219***a* can collectively vote to change the definition of topic of their collectively hooped Z-pole **219***a*. Accordingly, a rogue individual TCONE (e.g., **216***d*) can drift off in one direction and the rest of the hooped Z-pole **219***a* can drift off in a different direction. In one embodiment, the controlling majority of members whose TCONEs are hooped around a given topic node (a.k.a. TC) such as that of Z-pole **219***a* can vote implicitly (e.g., with their CVi's) and/or explicitly so as to constantly and dynamically redefine how the topic of the TC is encoded (e.g., via its Top N keywords, its Top N' meta-tags, its Top P pointers (e.g., URL's) to on-topic content and so on).

[0099] In the STAN_2 system (as represented by lower space **210** of FIG. **2**), a registered member (e.g., **212**) can be in-STAN-vitated™ to join a recommended one TCONE among the stack **216***a* of TCONEs hooped onto Z-pole **219***a*. Briefly, this is done in the embodiment **300** of FIG. **3**A (detailed below) by the user double-clicking (opening up) on a banner-displayed TweetView-Opportunity glyph such as **315***a*, in which case a corresponding content displaying window like **316***a* opens up (could be a Tweet™ stream instead of a chat room transcript) and the invitation accepting user can then view content provided by, and/or can interact with the members already linked with the content of the newly-opened window **316***a*. This is an example of a STAN_2 member entering into the discussion ring of a given TCONE. (In one embodiment, each so-opened Notes Exchange session; e.g., Room A**0** (**316***a*), Room B**3** (**316***b*), has a topic center flag gadget (e.g., **316***aa*, **316***bb* respectively) attached to it and, as will be better detailed for flag gadget **315***e* below, activation of the TC flag gadget initiates navigation to a corresponding topic node in system topic space.) As indicated in exemplary banner **315**, the opened Notes Exchange session can be a Tweet™ stream (**315***a*), or an instant chat room (**315***b*), or a blog commenting area (icon not shown in the recommendations banner area **315**) or any other appropriate online mechanism by way of which members can exchange on-topic notes, data, pointers, etc. with one another in real time or over prolonged periods of time (e.g., in the sense for example of chess players exchanging next moves with one another by way of once-a-day emails). In one embodiment, prior to opening up a Notes Exchange session such as **316***a* (Room A**0**) by double clicking on a headline recommendation (e.g., **315***a*) of banner **315**, the user may first actuate (e.g., by left clicking on it) an encoding inquiry tool portion of the recommendation (e.g., **315***a*) such as by actuating the boxed question mark tool **315***a***5** of headline recommendation area **315***a*. In response to

this actuation, the user interface mechanism automatically presents an indication (e.g., connection flaring **315***a***6**) of which, on-screen one or more keywords (e.g., **315***a***7**), tags or other encodings are being deemed as being primarily representative of the topic of the correspondingly headlined Tweet-View-Opportunity (**315***a*) or of the corresponding other such content source recommendation (e.g., **315***b*, **315***c*, **315***d*). In the illustrated example, actuation of the encoding inquiry tool **315***a***5** causes a color coded and translucent connection flaring **315***a***6** to be temporarily displayed while at the same time the corresponding on-screen encoding (e.g., keyword **315***a***7**) is also highlighted (e.g., color reversed, or flashed or otherwise differentially flagged out). Release of depression of the mouse button and/or removal of the cursor from hovering over the encoding inquiry tool **315***a***5** causes the temporarily flared connection beam (**315***a***6**) to disappear and also the temporary flagging (**315***a***7**) of the corresponding encoding (e.g., key.a**5**) to be undone. In an alternate embodiment, the temporarily flared connection beam **315***a***6** is not presented and instead only the corresponding encoding (e.g., key.a**5**) is temporarily flagged out (**315***a***7**). In the same or an alternate embodiment, depressing the keyboard Control key while hovering over any boxed question mark tool (like **315***a***5** of glyph **315***a*) of any of the presented content source recommendations (e.g., **315***b*, **315***c*, **315***d*) causes differently colored connection beams (like **315***a***6**) from all the respective recommendation glyphs to extend from those glyphs to all corresponding topic-related encodings then present on the screen. Thus a user can quickly tell, if he wants to, which on-screen encodings (e.g., keywords, tags, images, etc.) belong to a given one or more of the then presented recommendations (e.g., **315***a*, **315***b*, **315***c*, **315***d*).

[0100] It is also within the contemplation of the present disclosure to have the logical link between a given encoding and a corresponding one or more recommendation glyphs (e.g., **315***a*, **315***b*, **315***c*, **315***d*) temporarily light up (e.g., with use of a reverse flaring beam like **315***a***6**) when the user hovers the cursor (**335**) over a selected and potential encoding (e.g., **315***a***7**) and the user hits a predefined hot keys combination. If the suspected encoding (e.g. key.a**5**) is indeed logically linked to one or more of the then displayed recommendation glyphs (e.g., **315***a*) the suspected encoding becomes temporarily flagged out (e.g., with flag out mechanism **315***a***7**) and the reverse connection beam (like **315***a***6**) flares from the suspected encoding to the correlated recommendation glyphs (e.g., **315***a*). If the suspected encoding (e.g. key.a**5**) is not logically linked to any of the recommendation glyphs then basically nothing happens (the user's compute may however sound a failure bell tone). Logical linkage between a suspected encoding (e.g. key.a**5**) and its corresponding recommendation glyphs (e.g., **315***a*, **315***b*, **315***c*, **315***d*) may be temporarily indicated in a variety of other ways including a case where the reverse flaring beam (like **315***a***6**) is not displayed.

[0101] In one embodiment, the nature and type of each Notes-Exchange that is being recommended in the recommendations banner area **315** (an optionally scrollable area) of FIG. **3**A is indicated by a showing of a given title (e.g., as shown in **315***c*) for the corresponding content and by showing of an appropriate Notes Exchange session-type indicating icon. For example, an icon showing a singing bird **315***a***2** may be displayed as attached to the Tweet™ recommending area **315***a* to intuitively indicate to the user that this recommended content source points to a Tweet™ or to a stream of on-topic Tweets. By way of another example, a pair of talking balloon heads **315***b***2** may be displayed as attached to the chat room recommending area **315***b* to intuitively indicate to the user that this content source recommendation **315***b* logically links to a corresponding on-topic chat room (which room will be automatically opened and displayed in side area **316***a*-**316***f* of the screen if the user double clicks on recommendation providing area **315***b*). In one embodiment, a wide variety of intuitive type-of-source indicators and gadget icons may be displayed as being attached to a corresponding content source recommendation glyph. For example, source recommendation glyph **315***c* is shown to have the talking balloon heads **315***c***2** attached to it as well as a transcript recording gadget **315***c***3** and a BuZZ-Me gadget **315***c***4**. Moreover, source recommendation glyph **315***d* is shown to have TC gadget **315***e* attached to it as well as transcript recording gadget **315***r* and temperature-indicating gadget **315***g* and a TP flag **315***f*. Some of these indicators or gadgets have been described above and some may be described in more detail below. Displaying all indicators or gadgets at once can create undesired clutter in the recommendations banner area **315**. Accordingly, in one embodiment, the user is given access to a banner display options menu (not shown) through which the user can specify which indicators or gadgets are to be displayed and if so, in what manner (e.g., large icons, small icons, with or without text labels, with or without unique color codings, etc.). In one embodiment, when the user hovers his cursor (e.g., **335**) over, or right clicks on the desired source recommending (source headlining) glyph (e.g., **315***b*, **315***c*, **315***d*), one of the options displayed to the user is that of controlling settings for all, or specific types of source recommending glyphs where the settings specify what indicators or gadgets will be displayed by default for that type and if so, in what manner. Another option is that of now showing all indicators or gadgets for the hovered-over or right-clicked on recommendation glyph as being attached to that glyph or alternatively displayed in a sideline frame (not shown).

[0102] In the illustrated example of the recommendations-providing banner **315**, the banner is organized like a top-headlines showing, multi-column newspaper (e.g., a four column headlined format in the case of FIG. **3**A) where a headlining having the implied message of "click-here-to-read-more" is provided in the displayed horizontally extending area of banner **315** in the form of a limited number of currently hottest and headlined recommendations (e.g., the four shown respectively at **315***a*, **315***b*, **315***c*, **315***d*). Banner **315** acts as a sort of hottest-now radar screen that lets the user know what additional Notes Exchange sessions (besides the sessions already popped open on his main screen, e.g., at **316***a*, **316***b*, **317**) the user might want to take a look at because those additional Notes Exchange sessions (a.k.a. in one form as chat opportunities) are now deemed by the STAN_2 system to be on-topic with what currently uploading CFi's are indicating as being the topics that are now most prominent on the user's mind. If a newer topic shifts into the apparent top focused upon ones of the user (because his CFi's have started implying the newer topic) and one of the previous top topics drops out of favor (again because the user's latest CFi's have started implying that) then the falling out of favor headline (one of recommendations **315***a*, **315***b*, **315***c*, **315***d*) is seen to slowly fall down in its respective newspaper column while a newer headline descends to take its place in the respective, newspaper like column. In this way the user is given the intuitive understanding that the previous recommendation

(the before headline) has dropped down in rating and the newer one has dropped in to take its place. However, if the user wants to keep the older, or before recommendation—say it is **315***b*—still on his top headlines row of banner **315**, in one embodiment, the user clicks on the down scroll arrow of arrow pair **315***b***45** and the older recommendation scrolls back up while a bottom piece of the newer recommendation remains displayed in that newspaper-like column to remind the user there is newer and deemed more "hot" recommendation awaiting above. The user may later click on the up-pointing scroll arrow of arrow pair **315***b***45** to see the next newer one, or even one above that, as desired. Each of the newspaper-like columns of banner **315** has its own respective set of up and down scroll control arrows like the arrow pair **315***b***45** identified in opportunity recommending area **315***b*. In the illustrated example, the separations between the newspaper-like columns of banner **315** are indicated by thickened separation lines (vertical lines) **315***v*. Left and right pointing arrow tools to the left (**315***z*) and to the right (**315***zz*) of the four central newspaper-like columns of banner **315** allow the user to see other side columns which the STAN_2 system is determining to be less on-topic with what the user probably has in mind. Sometimes, of course, the STAN_2 system can be wrong in its guesses as to what specific topics (e.g., top 1, 2, 3 or 4 topics) are on the user's mind and by scrolling left (**315***z*) or right (**315***zz*) and clicking on one of those off-center newspaper-like columns, the user implicitly lets the STAN_2 system know (and lets the STAN_2 system adaptively alter itself accordingly) that it is the more sidelined topic that the user actually had in mind.

[0103] The exemplary newspaper-like headlined columns format of banner **315** is just one of many possible formats that can be used and is not to be seen as limiting. In one embodiment, the user is allowed to change the banner (e.g., **315**) to have a different format, for example, a four quadrant Picture-in-Picture format where the four quadrant PiP structure (not shown) floats as a moveable and resizeable window on the main screen **300** along with other windows like windows **317**, **330***a* and **330***d*.

[0104] Still referring to the method wherein the user double-clicks on (and thus indicates a desired opening up operation) on a banner-displayed TweetView-Opportunity recommendation glyph such as **315***a*, there is a more advanced action that a STAN_2 member can take. Rather than jumping right into the midst of a system-recommended first TCONE (e.g., one recommended by a glyph such as **315***a* or **315***d*), the user can elect to instead navigate himself to the primary Z-pole **219***a* (herein also referred to as the topic center or topic node) of the system-recommended TCONE and to browse about the neighborhood of that primary Z-pole **219***a* (or optionally about the neighborhood of a secondary Z-pole if the TCONE is tethered to more than one). Such a navigating to, and browsing about operation, may encompass the STAN_2 system generating a 3D or 2D displayable image that maps the TC or TCONE neighborhood onto a local view screen for viewing by the user. The displayed map image may very well include coned shaped 3D structures such as that shown **219***a* of FIG. **2**. The displayed map image may also include 3D fractal structures such as that represented by glyph **216***f*, where the latter will be described below. The STAN_2 system generated representation of its topic space **215** may of course take on other forms including, but not limited to, two-dimensional or multi-dimensional tabular representations.

[0105] In one embodiment, each system-recommended Social Notes Exchange (SNE; a.k.a. discussion ring or TCONE) that is iconically recommended on the user's data processing device (e.g., CPU-**1** of FIG. **1**A) also has a gadget icon connected to it that represents the location of the topic center (the TC prefix of the TCONE acronym) within the topic nodes tree map (**215**) of the STAN_2 system **110**/**210**. More specifically, in FIG. **3**A, the TC flag **315***e* that pokes up from the block representing Chat Opportunity A**2** (**315***d*) may be double clicked on and then in response the system automatically displays a section of the topics tree map (**215**) to the user that shows the corresponding Z-pole **219***a* and the TCONEs that are currently tethered to that pole, and also some neighboring poles like Zb (**219***b*) and the TCONEs that are currently tethered to that other pole. In one embodiment, the TC flag icon **315***e* includes a circle and a cross-hair centered on that circle so as to intuitively indicate that it flags out a center point. Right clicking on the flag icon **315***e* provides the user with some synopsis information about the targeted topic node (e.g., **219***a*, **219***b*) without yet opening up a map of the corresponding area in the topic nodes space (**215**). More specifically, the synopsis information may provide the user with a name and brief description of the topic of that TC (topic center), an indication of how many TCONEs (e.g., chat rooms or other Social Notes Exchanges (SNEs)) are currently tethered to that TC, and an indication of various TCONE entry restrictions (example: "Minimum level of expertise needed to enter least restrictive chat room here is High School Diploma, Minimum level of expertise needed to enter most restrictive chat room here is PhD in World History").

[0106] Once a user (e.g., **212**) has navigated his way (e.g., via path **218** of FIG. **2**) to the Z-pole (**219***a*) of a chosen topic center, the user may request admittance into any one of the displayed TCONEs (e.g., chat rooms). In one embodiment, Premium service subscribers to the STAN_2 system get to see more displayed TCONEs than base service registrants. In one embodiment, the STAN_2 system automatically prevents display to a user (e.g., **212**) who has navigated to a TC point on the map **215** of TCONEs which the user clearly cannot gain participating admittance into because his currently active user profiles (e.g., CpCCp's, DsCCp's) and more current CFi's indicate he does not qualify to enter and/or he would not want to enter. A user (e.g., **212**) who has navigated (**218**) to a TC point on the map **215** of TCONEs may not succeed in gaining entry as an active participant (with commenting privileges) into one or more of the displayed TCONEs for any number of reasons including, but not limited to, that the limit of allowed active participants in that TCONE (ring) has been reached or that the user does not meet the stringent restriction rules established for participating entry or even watching/lurking entry into that TCONE. For those TCONEs that the user manages to obtain at least watching/lurking entry into, the user can learn the user names of the active participants in that TCONE and can see (or otherwise perceive, or get a copy of) what they are discussing or otherwise exchanging notes about (including on-topic content data and/or links to on-topic content data and/or links to other on-topic or near-topic nodes of mapped space **215** and, in one embodiment, to nodes of outside platform space **225** that are on-topic or near-topic).

[0107] A user (e.g., **212**) who has navigated his way (e.g., via path **218** of FIG. **2**) to the Z-pole (e.g., **219***a*, **219***b*) of a chosen topic center, need not request admittance into any one of the displayed TCONEs (e.g., chat rooms) in order to make

use of the visited topic center (TC, a.k.a. Z-pole). Many of the topic centers (a.k.a. topic nodes) will have their own content and pointers to content where the topic center's content and/or pointers are directed to the general topic of that topic center and access to this material is not restricted by potential access restrictions of specific TCONEs now tethered to that TC. Aside from having its own (not TCONE controlled) content and pointers, a visited TC may have, as logically linked thereto and stored as such in the DB **119**, various encodings (e.g., keywords, tags, meta-tags, etc.) that define the general topic of that TC taken in whole (in the averaged aggregate) as opposed to the in-TCONE topic definitions of specific ones of the rings now tethered to that TC. A user who is browsing just to the TC itself and not into any of the specific TCONEs currently owned by the TC may take advantage of the TC's general on-topic content and/or topic definitions.

[0108] The following is an exemplary but non-limiting example of such usage. A general practice physician (GP MD) has a patient who has been taking drugs D and P for a long time to treat chronic conditions. However recently, the patient has begun to exhibit allergic reactions to drug P, this indicating that P is now Poisonous in so far as the allergically reacting patient is concerned. The GP MD is thinking about prescribing a new drug named N to the patient to replace the now poisonous P. However the GP MD is worried about possible adverse interactions as between drugs D and N. Usage of the combination of the D and N is not widespread in the population and thus there are no generally-available guidelines on such a unique drug combination (D and N). The GP MD is not sure how to phrase a keyword search looking for esoteric online articles about unique drug combination D+N. The GP MD uses the STAN_2 system to navigate (browse) to a topic node (a TC) that has both of D and N as its keywords are other primary encodings (e.g., as its tags, meta-tags, etc.). When browsing at such a topic center (e.g., Z-pole **219***a*), the GP MD finds additional keywords, tags, meta-tags, etc. that the physician feels will be useful for isolating esoteric online content addressing his unique problem. While still logically linked to this TC, the GP MD user requests instantiation and launch of a so-called Me-Serving Search BOT (see **255** of FIG. **2**) from that TC and on behalf of himself. In response, the STAN_2 system automatically asks the GP MD to specify the primary encodings (e.g., keywords, tags, meta-tags, etc.) that will be loaded into a mission guiding data structure of the to be launched, Me-Serving Search BOT (**255**).

[0109] A better representation of such a mission guiding data structure is provided as icon **116***b* in FIG. **1**A and shown to be logically linked to an instantiated BOT **116***a* being launched from node **115***x* of the STAN_2 system **110**. When a BOT **116***a* (a virtual robotic or software agent) is armed with such a mission guiding data structure **116***b* and launched as such a combination (**116***a* plus **116***b*) from the corresponding launch point (e.g., **115***x*), the launched BOT combination **116***a*/**116***b* may be viewed as morphing into a launched CPAP **117** (a Cross-Pollinating Artificial Persona). The logically attached mission guiding data structure (**116***b*) may instruct the CPAP **117** as to where out there on vast territory of the Internet **101** to start searching and how to search and what to look for. More will be said about this below in conjunction with FIGS. **4**C-**4**D. However, for purpose of the present hypothetical where the GP MD user has asked the STAN_2 system to launch a Me-Serving Search BOT (**255**), the identification of the requesting user is logically attached to the launched BOT and the BOT is aimed towards out-of-STAN and/or in-STAN content sources that the visited TC (e.g., **219***a*) generally points to as having on-topic content (e.g., its Top P pointers to on-topic content sources). Accordingly, the launched Me-Serving Search BOT (e.g., **255**) is being pointed to search areas that have likelihood of possessing on-topic content (because those areas have been vetted to be such on-topic content sources by earlier users of the visited TC, e.g., **219***a*). At the same time the launched Me-Serving Search BOT is loaded with a search-narrowing specific search request formulated by the GP MD user and thus the Me-Serving Search BOT will search the probably on-topic areas for presence of the more narrowly defined and specifically sought content. In one embodiment, the STAN_2 system automatically augments the specific search request formulated by the GP MD user, for example by adding cross-language translations and cross-disciplinary frame translations to the mission guiding data structure (**116***b*). That aspect will be explained below in conjunction with FIGS. **4**C-**4**D. When the launched Me-Serving Search BOT (a.k.a. CPAP) returns to the node (e.g., TC **219***a*) from which it was originally launched, an email or alike other alert is automatically sent to the search requesting GP MD user to let him know useful results may now be available.

[0110] The package contents **256** brought back by the returning Me-Serving Search BOT **255** will all be accessible to the user (the general practice physician or GP MD) who requested its specific instantiation and launching. In one embodiment, the alert email sent to the GP MD includes a first hyperlink to the TC or TCONE (**216***c*) from within whose jurisdiction the user requested the launching and a second hyperlink to all the returned contents **256** being brought back by the automated BOT **255**. Using the second hyperlink, the user can browse through the returned material **256** and determine whether any of it helps answer his problem. The returned material **256** may include, but is not limited to: (a) hyperlinks to external platform nodes (e.g., **226**) whose content cross-correlated well with the user's search criteria, (b) lists of the alternate keywords or alternate encodings which the user may wish to employ in the future within his search criteria in place of, or in additional to the keywords and/or other encodings he submitted, (c) identifications of STAN_2 internal user names and/or of user names on external platforms (where names are attached to external platform ID) where postings by those users appear to cross-correlated well with the user's search criteria, and (d) short summaries or synopses or biographies of the found on-topic material and on-topic other users. The request generating GP MD may then go through this returned material and determine which is on-point and credible and which, in his opinion, is to be rejected. Additionally, the request generating GP MD may next formulate an improved search request based on the BOT-returned material **256**. Alternatively or additionally, the request generating GP MD may try to contact the other users whose user names (or other ID's) were returned by the Me-Serving Search BOT **255** in hope that those other users will be willing to and able to help him with his inquiry. In one embodiment, expert other users who respond to such requests are automatically given monetary or other rewards for their cooperation. In one embodiment, the STAN_2 system **110**/**210** automatically presents one or more survey questions to the user (e.g., the GP MD) who caused launching of the Me-Serving Search BOT **255** and who returned to examine the brought back contents **256**. The posed survey questions

may ask the user how satisfied he is with the returned results **256** and may ask further questions (if the user has patience for such) that will help the STAN_2 system improve its automated formulation of the Me-Serving Search BOTS (e.g., **255**).

[0111] That is not necessarily the end of process however. In one embodiment, the material **256** brought back by the Me-Serving Search BOT **255** is automatically tested for its usefulness to other members of the TC or TCONE (**216***c*) from which the first user launched that BOT. It could be that part or all of the brought back material is useful to them as well. This testing process includes passage of the brought back material **256** through a buffering or filtering outer layer **216***b* of the TC or TCONE (**216***c*), where such buffering may employ automated filters and/or voting by selected members of the corresponding TC or TCONE (**216***c*). If the voting and/or filtering ranks the material (in part or in whole) as being useful, it is absorbed into inner or outer planetary circles (e.g., the one between **216***b* and **216***c*) of the TC or TCONE according to a cross-correlation score that logically positions it in ranked relation relative to other absorbed content of the corresponding TC or TCONE (**216***c*). (This process will be further detailed below as well.) While Me-Serving Search BOTS are generally instantiated and launched at the instigation of specific users or user groups, there are other kinds of Search BOTS (also denoted as **255**) which are automatically instantiated and launched on behalf of a respective TC or TCONE (**216***c*) on a regular basis and/or in response to various predefined triggering events (e.g., increased user activity detected at the respective TC or TCONE). These other Search BOTS, which may be referred to as TC-Serving or TCONE-Serving Search BOTS can be regularly and automatically bringing back cross-pollination data (e.g., **262**/**264**/**252**) to their respective launch pads (a TC or TCONE) for assessment by the respective launch pads (e.g., by manual voting on and/or by automated filtering of returned package material) and for possible incorporation of the returned material into the TCONE and/or its associated topic nodes (TC's) based on the assessment. Accordingly, various ones of the TC's and/or TCONEs in topic space **215** of the STAN_2 system **220**/**110** are being periodically or even constantly updated by cross-pollination material being automatically brought back to those TC's and/or TCONEs by corresponding Search BOTS (a.k.a. a species of CPAP's) and/or by corresponding CPUP's (human agents, aided by spyware software **132***s* as shall be described in conjunction with **318** of FIG. **3**A).

[0112] User-launched or TCONE-launched or TC-launched Search BOTS are one species of CPAP's. The STAN_2 system **220**/**110** can alternatively or additionally utilize other types of BOT's including Lurking BOT's, User-following BOT's and Web-Crawling BOT's. Briefly, Lurking BOT's (e.g., **116***c* of FIG. **1**A) are assigned to hover at (to lurk at) a predefined external and content sourcing area of the Internet **101** such as for example, inside a particular room of a role playing game such as SecondLife™, and to behave therein as a NPC (Non-Player Character) if need be, and to simply collect data as it comes into that lurked at area and sift through the data looking for noteworthy indications of emphasis. The indications of emphasis can be predefined by the STAN_2 system and may include, but are not limited to, meta-tagged data, XML-tagged data; bolded, underlined, italicized, in-quotes, highlighted, all-capitalized or otherwise so differentially emphasized data, hyperlinked words and phrases, and so on. The Lurking BOT (e.g., **116***c*) returns such differentially emphasized data as CFi data to an automated Domains/Topics Lookup Service (DLUX) of the STAN_2 system **110** and in response, the STAN_2 system generates signals indicating the most probable topic nodes (a.k.a. TC's or topic centers) to which the CFi data (the differentially emphasized data returned by the Lurking BOT e.g., **116***c*) belongs. The probable topic nodes identification data (produced by the DLUX) is thereby logically linked to the lurked-at location (e.g., a SecondLife™ room, a website, a Podcast, a Tweet™ stream, etc.) which the Lurking BOT (e.g., **116***c*) was assigned to lurk at. A number of different subsequent actions can then follow. In one embodiment, the combination of the DLUX output signals (e.g., identifications of top T topic nodes) and the associated CFi data signals and the signal identifying the lurked-at location (e.g., SecondLife™ room) is automatically transmitted to automated Domain-specific Matching Service (DsMS) of the STAN_2 system and the DsMS automatically finds a matching one or more TCONEs to which it forwards the so-combined and re-package data. The receiving TCONE(s) (see **216***c* of FIG. **2** as an example) then use(s) automated and/or manual filtering means (buffer **216***b*) thereof to determine what to do with the so-packaged and received combination data. In one embodiment, the TCONE can absorb it, reject it, or redirect it to another spot (e.g., **216***n*) in the topic space **215** of the STAN_2 system. In one embodiment, the receiving TCONE automatically uses the so-packaged and received data for formulating a more sophisticated TCONE-Servicing BOT (e.g., **116***a*) which then goes out to investigate the associated data and content sourcing location in more detail for the purpose of bringing back more on-topic cross-pollination data (e.g., **262**/**264**/**252**).

[0113] In summary, instantiated and activated Lurking BOT's (e.g., **116***c*) operate as if they were a dumbed down STAN_2 user who remains at one pre-assigned and content sourcing location on the Internet (e.g., a single and periodically refreshed webpage) and keeps feeding CFi's back to the system DLUX server(s) as new and noteworthy data appears at that assigned location. In one embodiment, associated dummy user profiles of the Lurking BOT (e.g., **116***c*) are automatically formed as an amalgamation of user profiles of real STAN_2 users, more specifically, of STAN_2 users who are known to frequent the lurked at site under their STAN_2 personas and/or under their alter ego personas (see **184** of FIG. **1**B). The associated dummy user profiles of the Lurking BOT (e.g., **116***c*) may be automatically varied from time to time so as to provide some dynamic variation to the corresponding results. As taught in the here incorporated STAN_1 application, the DLUX server(s) automatically combine the user's profiles (e.g., CpCCp and DsCCp's) when automatically determining from the received CFi's what the most likely associated topic(s) is/are.

[0114] User-following BOT's (e.g., **116***e* of FIG. **1**A) are another form of instantiated and activated BOT's and these assigned a particular one or more STAN_2 users (e.g., **131**) to follow or one or more out-of-STAN users (e.g., **222** of FIG. **2**) to follow (as best as such users can be followed) while those followed users utilize out-of-STAN content sources while not at the time being monitored by the STAN_2 system **110**. More specifically, the User-following BOT's (e.g., **116***e*) may subscribe to various external platform services that allow its users (including permitted NPC users) to sign up for "following" and receiving alerts about the activities of certain

followed other users. In other words, certain ones of external platforms provide follower-alerting notifications indicating new recent activities of the followed personalities. More specifically, in the LinkedIn™ system, registered members may sign up as "followers" of the other members. Then, when the "followed" other member joins a new discussion group or launches a proposed discussion, a notification of that new event is made available to his or her "followers". The User-following BOT's (e.g., **116***e*) of the STAN_2 system accordingly subscribe to such follow-notification services and periodically refresh or check in on their follower's-notification area in wait for the follow-notification alerts to appear regarding the being-followed users that have been assigned to them by the STAN_2 system. Since the aliases storing record **184** of FIG. **1**B provides cross-linked external user names and ID's of users of the associated external platforms (e.g., FaceBook™, MySpace™, LinkedIn™, etc.), the STAN_2 system has ready access to external platform identifications of some users; and as will be seen below, can gather external platform identifications of identifications of other users through cross-pollination mechanisms actuated by the STAN_2 system.

[0115] In one embodiment, the to-be followed users of the User-following BOT's (e.g., **116***e*) include influential and/or famous persons or personas (see fTPP's **229** of FIG. **2**). The User-following BOT's try to keep track of what new discussion groups or new other content sources their followed-users join and/or what older discussion groups or older content sources their followed-users frequent and report the same as CFi data back to the system DLUX server(s) of the STAN_2 system. The resulting combination data (CFi's plus probable topics plus identification of source) is then forwarded to corresponding automated Domain-specific Matching Service (DsMS) of the STAN_2 system and so on as is the case described above for the Lurking BOT's. User-following BOT's (e.g., **116***e*) may also gather differentially emphasized content output by their respectively followed users in various discussion group sessions or other Notes Exchange sessions and report the gathered data as CFi signals back to the system DLUX server(s) of the STAN_2 system, where after the CFi data is treated in similar fashion to the way that other such CFi data is treated.

[0116] In one embodiment, the results obtained from the feedback data of the User-following BOT's (e.g., **116***e*) and/or the Lurking BOT's (e.g., **116***c*) are processed by automated Trending Data Store services of the STAN_2 system and respective trend projections are generated for the targets of those respective BOTS. As a result, trending projections for watched external sites (lurked at sites) and trending projections for watched (followed) users (including especially "influential" TPP or other users) are automatically produced by the STAN_2 system **110**. These generated trending projections are then automatically cross-correlated by the STAN_2 system with those of alike, watched external sites (lurked at sites) and/or with those of alike, watched (followed) users to thereby generate more general trending projections for groups of alike watched targets. The more general trending projections may then be used by STAN_2 system operators to manually modify the STAN_2 topic space **215** by for example, creating special groupings of TC's or TCONE's. The special groupings are discussed elsewhere herein.

[0117] In one embodiment, Lurking BOT's (e.g., **116***c*) are assigned (via their mission control commands e.g., **116***d*) to scan through assigned sets of audio PodCasts that have XML files attached thereto and to report back as CFi's, the differentially treated content of the scanned audio PodCasts as meta-tagged by their respective XML files. In one embodiment, Lurking BOT's are assigned to scan through multi-media presentations (e.g., PowerPoint™ slides) and to detect differentially treated content therein and to report the same back as CFi signals to the STAN_2 system. The scanned through multi-media presentations may include video presentations that have XML and/or other semantic providing data logically linked to them. In one embodiment, the Lurking BOT's (e.g., **116***c*) keep track of the number of Notes Exchanges (e.g., back and forth talking points) generated by different users per unit of time (e.g., per 5 minute interval, per hour, etc.). When the Notes Exchanging rate exceeds a predetermined threshold for the watched site, the Lurking BOT automatically feeds that information back as a noteworthy CFi. In this way, the STAN_2 system can detect when discussions (or other Notes Exchanges) are becoming "heated" at various watched content sourcing locations on the Internet **101** and can automatically take further investigatory action as deemed appropriate for the corresponding nature of the watched location.

[0118] Web-Crawling BOT's (not shown, but similar to Lurking BOT's e.g., **116***c* of FIG. **1**A) are also used in one embodiment of the STAN_2 system. Unlike Lurking BOT's, the Web-Crawling BOT's are commanded by their attached mission control data structures (e.g., **116***d*) to randomly step through randomly selected online content (if it is accessible to the public) and to look for differentially treated content therein and to then report the same back as CFi signals to the STAN_2 system for further analysis and use. The Web-Crawling BOT's may alternatively or additionally be commanded by their attached mission control data structures (e.g., **116***d*) to use one or more search engines (e.g., Yahoo™, Bing™, Google™) as a means of scouting out content having differentially treated content provided therein and to then report that differentially treated content back as CFi signals to the STAN_2 system for further analysis and use. In one embodiment, the feedback CFi signals of the Web-Crawling BOT's (not shown) are automatically cross-correlated with trending projections provided by the Trending Store services of the STAN_2 system (and in particular with trending projections of selected influential personas e.g., TPP's **229**) and when there is a strong cross-correlation, this information is automatically forwarded to STAN_2 system operators for possible further action. By way of summary, it should be noted that the watched targets of Lurking BOT's and Web-Crawling BOT's can have specially differentiated content which is so identified as specially differentiated because the originators of that content chose to specially differentiate that content by bolding it, by otherwise highlighting it, by meta-tagging it, by attaching tagged semantics to it with use of XML data and the like, and so on. The target watching Lurking BOT's and Web-Crawling BOT's are thus often relying on the originators of the watched content to flag out what parts of the content are noteworthy and should be relayed back as CFi data. In one embodiment, however, target watching, Lurking BOT's and/or Web-Crawling BOT's may take periodic samplings of just randomly picked content portions of their watched targets and relay that back to the STAN_2 system as CFi data signals. In contrast to the Lurking BOT's (e.g., **116***c*), the User-following BOT's (e.g., **116***e*) can be thought of as relying on the greater intelligence of their followed users for determining what might be noteworthy information that

warrants relaying it back to the STAN_2 system as CFi data signals. Moreover, the user's profile assigned to each User-following BOT (e.g., **116***e*) can be adaptively updated on trial and error or regression algorithm basis so that it begins to more correctly model the behavior of the targeted, BOT-followed user. As a result, decisions made by the STAN_2 DLUX server(s) in response to feedback CFi's of the User-following BOT's (e.g., **116***e*) can be more on target with respect to what topics the followed targets have in mind as they join new discussion groups, engage in heated discussions within previously joined discussion group and so on.

[0119] With presently available technology, automated BOT's cannot fully mimic the cognitions of real people when acting alone and/or in social groups. The ultimate source for information about socially significant events on the Internet **101** is thus the objectively determinable behaviors of people when acting alone and in social groups. Later below it will be explained (e.g., in conjunction with FIGS. **3**A-**3**D) how real people can be enticed to function as on the ground feedback agents for the STAN_2 system especially when those persons (e.g., Thomas **132***u***2** of FIG. **1**A) are not having their activities monitored so as to produce up- or in-loadable CFi and/or CVi signals for the STAN_2 system.

[0120] Before reaching that description however, reference continues here to FIG. **2** and more generally as it regards any STAN_2 user (e.g., **212**) who has used his/her local data processing device(s) to navigate to a given topic node (TC) on the STAN_2 system's topic space map **215** and has optionally gained at least watching/lurking entry into one or more TCONEs thereat. That user (e.g., **212**) can then and as a result of such browsing and navigating, get hold of the (optionally periodically updated) on-topic content data and/or links to on-topic content data and/or links to other on-topic or near-topic nodes provided not only within the STAN_2 space **215**, but also; because some TC's or TCONE's (e.g., **216***c*) receive and absorb cross-pollination links (e.g., **261**) to external on-topic discussion groups or other such external on-topic content sources (e.g., **226**) of external platforms (e.g., **220**), the user may be able to sometimes gain access to the on-topic material within the linked-to (**261**) external platform space **225**. Of course, some external platforms only allow their own registered members (members only) to enter into and browse within their respective discussion group spaces (e.g., **225**). In some cases, a first STAN_2 member may gain access into the members-only space (e.g., **225**) of an external platform by having another STAN_2 member (e.g., **132'** shown on plane **225** as opening the access door) vouch for the first STAN_2 member. In some cases, the external platform allows automated BOT's (e.g., NPC's or non-player characters) to enter their members-only space (e.g., **225**) if the BOT is vouched for by a trusted and already-registered member (e.g., **132'**) of the external platform (e.g., **220**). In one embodiment, the STAN_2 system provides an automated service whereby a first STAN_2 member seeking to gain otherwise blocked access to on-topic material in an external platform can send automated messages to STAN_2 users who are already-registered members (e.g., **132'**) of the external platform asking them to open the door (if possible) for the first STAN_2 member or otherwise convey to that first STAN_2 member relevant parts of on-topic material found in the external but on-topic discussion group or other external content source (e.g., **226**). Given this access through the STAN_2 topic space **215** to both internal, and sometimes even external, on-topic content, the topic space browsing user can be enriched with a wide variety of information about the topic that is currently of interest to him or herself. Among the rich panoply of information that such a user (e.g., **212**) can extract is the identity (e.g., user names) of other personas who are currently involved in the same topic of interest (e.g., that of topic node **219***a*).

[0121] In terms of a more specific example of how browsing of the STAN_2 topic space **215** may be useful, suppose that a given user **212** is also a registered member of outside platform **220** and when logged into that outside platform **220**, user **212** goes under the guise of user **222**, where this alter ego persona **222** is a member of discussion group **224** but not of discussion group **223**. There could be members of discussion group **223** whose interests (but not group membership) overlap with those of discussion group **224** where the overlap includes current interest in the topic of topic node **219***a*. (Just because they are interested in the "topic" of topic node **219***a* does not mean that the external platform members all make use of the STAN_2 system in the same manner that registered user **212** does. Accordingly, the rest of the members of groups **223** and **224** of external platform **220** may not know of each other's existence or of their overlapping current interest in the "topic" of topic node **219***a*.

[0122] By contrast, user **212** can learn of this overlapping interest even in the realm of external platform **220** if so-called cross-pollination packages (**252**, **254**, **256**, **262**, **264**) have been brought into one or more TCONEs (e.g., **216***c*) of the STAN_2 topics space **215** and those cross-pollination packages (e.g., **264**) provide information about the identification of the overlapping-wise interested members (e.g., **223**) of the external platform **220**. The so-called cross-pollination packages (**252**, . . . , **264**) may be carried into the TCONEs of the STAN_2 topics space **215** by automated agents (**251**, **253**, **255**, **260**—represented as bumble bees in FIG. **2**) generated and controlled by the STAN_2 platform **110**/**210** and/or such cross-pollination packages may also be manually brought in by unartificial (in other words, real and live) volunteer members of the STAN_2 system (who are aided by software, more specifically, downloaded; or more generally, in-loaded spyware programs like **132***s* which will be detailed below).

[0123] As already mentioned above, the unartificial volunteer members of the STAN_2 system are also referred to herein as CPUP's (Cross-Pollinating Un-artificial Persona) and the automated bumble bee agents (software agents) are also referred to herein as CPAP's (Cross-Pollinating Artificial Persona). It will be easier (and in some cases necessary) to first understand how the real and live volunteer members of the STAN_2 system (the CPUP's) operate before trying to understand how the CPAP's (bumble bee software agents) operate.

[0124] Firstly, it should be observed that some registered members (e.g., **132** of FIG. **1**A) of the STAN_2 system **110**/**210** by happenstance are also registered members (even if under a different user names and/or passwords) of one or more of the external platforms. Because these multi-platform using users (e.g., **132**) can easily gain entry into the outside platforms (even if under a different user name and/or password; i.e., "Thomas" instead of "Tom"), such multi-platform using users (e.g., **132**) can be asked to volunteer to act as Cross-Pollinating Un-artificial Persona (CPAP's) on behalf of the STAN_2 system and to bring back cross-pollinating packages like **252**, . . . , **264** of FIG. **2** to appropriate TCONEs of the STAN_2 system.

[0125] Although FIG. **2** shows automated software agents (CPAP's) **251**, **253**, **255** and **260** as carrying the cross-pollinating packages **252**, . . . , **264**, it shall soon become apparent that real person CPUP's (e.g., user **132**) can also cause delivery of the cross-pollinating packages to the STAN_2 system. In one embodiment, there are at least three different kinds of cross-pollinating packages and there are at least three different kinds of CPAP's that go out in the field to find such packages and bring them back to the STAN_2 hive for possible absorption and use by the hive. The Me-Serving Search BOT (**255**) has already been mentioned above.

[0126] However, aside from BOT's that are launched at the behest of individual users and with mission guiding data structures **116***b* containing the individual user's search specifications, another kind of CPAP (a TCONE-Serving Search BOT, also identified at **255**) is automatically and periodically launched from a respective TCONE (or automatically launched in response to a predetermined triggering event) with a mission guiding data structures (**116***b*) containing machine-inferred desires of the TCONE membership. Background control and tracking programs within the STAN_2 system (a.k.a. SS2) may be continuously executing and scouring the topic space **215** for TCONEs that are most active, most popular, fastest changing (e.g., drifting) and so on. The background control and tracking programs (not explicitly shown, but understood to be instantiated across the fabric of the STAN_2 system **110**; i.e. distributed through its cloud is SS2 **110** is implemented as a cloud computing system) compare a pre-recorded previous top N (e.g., N=2, 3, 5, 10) topic-defining encodings (e.g., keyword, URL's) of the investigated TCONE against the current top N topic-defining encodings and uses a predefined scoring algorithm to assign a score to the amount of change (it could be 0). If there is a change score exceeding a predefined threshold, the current top N topic-defining encodings (or a subset thereof) are automatically loaded into a newly created mission guiding data structure (i.e. **116***b*) of a BOT and the BOT is automatically launched into promising external platform areas (e.g., **225**) in search of external content that well cross correlates with the in-loaded current top N topic-defining encodings (or a subset thereof). Topic defining and/or on-topic content found at the external search areas is returned as a proposed cross-pollination (CP) data package (**256**) to the BOT launching TCONE (e.g., **216***c*). Contents of the presented CP data package (e.g., **256**) are then processed by buffering launcher **216***b*. All or part of the presented CP data package may be rejected (**254**) or accepted on a ranked basis (voted on as being more or less currently on-topic) and thereafter absorbed into respective ranked inner and outer circles inside the TCONE. The more inner circles are deemed closer to the TCONE core **216***c* while the outer ones are, in terms of cross-correlation with core attributes of the core **216***c*, deemed to be less tightly cross-correlated to the core. Logical (virtual) positioning of absorbed material on the inner through outer circles indicates where in the cross-correlation spectrum they belong. Just at TCONEs can "drift" over time from one TC to another, absorbed topic defining and/or on-topic content within a given TCONE can drift from the inner planetary orbits (circles) to the outer ones, or vise versa as the nature of the TCONE changes over time. In one embodiment, aside from blanket rejecting the presented cross-pollination data (e.g., **254**) or voting to accept it on a ranked basis, vote-eligible members of the TC or TCONE (**216***c*) or an automated voting mechanism that emulates their behavior are/is given an option of voting to "Reject-But", where the "-But" part is that of indicating that while this rejected material is not currently on-topic for the launcher TC or TCONE (**216***c*), and thus a genetic failure as regards the launcher TC or TCONE, some or all of the rejected material **254***a* should be nonetheless treated as a successful genetic mutation (successful by happenstance) and used to automatically create a new topic node **216***n* in the STAN_2 topic space **215** if such a different topic node **216***n* is not already present. If enough "Reject-But" votes/indications above a predefined threshold are cast for returning BOTS **253** bringing such "Reject-But" material **254***a*, the returning BOTS **253***a* and their corresponding "Reject-But" material **254***a* are automatically re-directed to the topic space area of the new topic node **216***n* and the Reject-But" material **254***a* is used to build the new topic node **216***n* while the genetically successful mission guiding data structures (i.e. **116***b*) of the re-directed BOTS (**253***a*) are used as initial templates for re-birthing TC or TCONE-serving BOTS (also denoted as **255**) form that new TC or TCONE (**216***n*). In this way, when an emerging new topic begins to show up in the out-of-STAN domain (e.g., **220**) and there is not yet a corresponding topic node in topic space **215** for that emerging new topic, the returning BOTS **253** bringing such "Reject-But" material **254***a* back are automatically diverted to the task of building the corresponding new topic node **216***n* in the STAN_2 topic space **215** and their reborn progeny (explained in FIG. **4**C) are re-aimed to the task of servicing the new topic node **216***n* with cross-pollination data (e.g., **254**) fetched from out-of-STAN sources (e.g., **120**, **141**, **144**, . . . , **160**, etc.).

[0127] Another type of search BOT, namely, the above-mentioned TC-Serving Search BOT (also identified at **255**) is automatically and periodically launched from a respective TC (or automatically launched in response to a predetermined triggering event related to that topic center) with a mission guiding data structures (**116***b*) containing machine-inferred desires of the current TC membership. Since the TCONE-Serving Search BOT has been described above, it is not necessary to repeat substantially the same explanation for the TC-Serving Search BOT. The latter serves the needs of the whole of the topic center (TC) rather than the inferred needs of an individual topic center owned note exchange (TCONE). Per the teachings already provided in the here incorporated STAN_1 application (see giF. 4B and giF. 3C thereof), In one embodiment of the STAN_2 system, substantially all nodes in the hierarchical topics tree have a basic same structure. In other words, essentially every domain node (and even the root node) can have the same internal data structure as its child nodes and essentially every child node can have the same internal data structure as its grandchild nodes, and so on until the leaf nodes are encountered. Leaf nodes point to the specific on-topic content (e.g., the TCONEs) of their respective specific topics. The hierarchical tree nature of the STAN_2 topics space **215** means (for that embodiment, other variations are possible) that the topic space **215** has a fractal organization as is hinted at by multi-cones layer **216***f* drawn within FIG. **2**. Accordingly, not only can each lowest level topic node (e.g., a leaf TC) have TC-Serving Search BOTS automatically launched on its behalf by the background control and tracking programs (not explicitly shown), but also parent topic nodes and grandparent topic nodes and so on can also have similar such Search BOTS automatically formulated and launched to crawl the Internet **101** or specified areas thereof on behalf of the topic nodes of origin. Each topic node

can have its own filter and vote buffer layer similar to **216***b* of the exemplary TCONE **216***c* and each topic node can have its own inner and outer placement circles for node-absorbed content similar to the cross-correlation orbits described for exemplary TCONE **216***c*.

[0128] It is to be noted that although at times the present disclosure describes a given TCONE as being hooped around or stacked over a corresponding TC or Z-pole see **219***a* of FIG. **2**) that does not mean that all TCONEs are limited to being "owned" by only a single topic node (a.k.a. TC). It is fully within the contemplation of the present disclosure that one or more TCONEs can be simultaneously "owned" by (e.g., tethered to) two or more TC's. In one embodiment, the degree of ownership exercised by each TC to which a TCONE is tethered or moored is weighted in accordance with tether weighting factor signals stored in the DB **119** for and logically linked to the multi-owned TCONE. A given TCONE can for example "drift" back and forth from being more owned by one TC and later more owned by another. When various actions are described herein as being taken on behalf of a TCONE and with regard to its owning parent or grandparent node, it is to be understood that the owning parent or grandparent node may be deemed, in one embodiment, to be the majority stake holder who thereby controls on a winner takes all basis, or in an alternate embodiment, the described action operates on a pro-rata apportionment basis; where for example, overview topic definitions for a multi-owned TCONE are automatically derived as being a top 60% of such definitions (e.g., keywords) taken from a respective 60% owning TC, as being a top 30% of such definitions taken from a respective 30% co-owning TC, and as being a top 10% of such definitions taken from a respective 10% co-owning TC.

[0129] It is to be additionally noted that; while the automated formulation of TCONE-Serving Search BOTS and TC (topic node)-Serving Search BOTS has been described above as serving individual TCONEs and individual topic nodes found within the STAN_2 topic space **215**, it is within the contemplation of the present disclosure to allow for operator defined "groupings" of specific TCONEs and/or specific topic nodes to be recorded and stored as such in the DB **119** of the system **110**/**210**. It is within the contemplation of the present disclosure that the above described background control and tracking programs (not explicitly shown) will also service these operator formed groupings and that grouping nodes, similar in structure of data to that of topic nodes will be recorded and stored as such in the DB **119** of the system **110**/**210**. In one embodiment, premium subscription members of the STAN_2 system are granted browsing access to specific ones or more of the specially formulated grouping nodes. (Normal topic nodes and their encompassed TCONEs are automatically formed and logically linked by actions of the STAN_2 user population. However, that user population may nonetheless fail to recognize special or eclectic connections as between disparate TCONEs and/or as between disparate TC's. The STAN_2 system operators may instead isolate those unrecognized eclectic connections; i.e. as between a TC dedicated to "economics" for example and another TC dedicated to "computer science and The Mythical Man Month" for example and formulate groupings for such apparently disparate topic nodes and/or apparently disparate TCONE's.

[0130] In one embodiment, individual users are enabled to formulate and save their own "groupings" of favorite TC's and/or TCONEs. One of these favorites "groupings" can be stored as the user's STAN_2 Home page. When the user opens up this STAN_2 Home page, he sees a topic space map (like **215**) but showing the local neighborhoods of only his specified favorite TC's and/or TCONEs. He can observe if a new TC or TCONE has recently moved into the local neighborhood of one of his "favorites" and he can browse the new TC or TCONE (assuming it allows general browsing or participating entry—if it does not, it may not even show up on the user's Home page). Alternatively or additionally, the user may quickly jump in from his Home page into (for browsing purposes) one of his specified favorite TC's and/or TCONEs. A user may of course have more than one such Home page and the STAN_2 system may automatically pick the appropriate Home page and display it upon log-in based on the detected mood, environment, etc., that the logging-in user is detected to be in.

[0131] Another kind of "personal grouping" which the user can specify is his history grouping of recently used TC's or TCONE's, where the user can specify the storage depth (how many TC's and/or TCONE's) and whether it should be TC's alone, TCONE's alone or both.

[0132] Yet another kind of "personal grouping" which the user can specify is his filtered history grouping of recent and, for example, heavily focused upon TC's or TCONE's, where the user can again specify the storage depth (how many TC's and/or TCONE's), whether it should be TC's alone, TCONE's alone or both, and what the filtering parameters are to be applied by the automated filtering mechanism (e.g., how intense of a focusing upon qualifies as above threshold and/or what other filtering criteria are to be applied.) In one embodiment, when the user first activates STAN_2 operations in his local data processing device (e.g., hand held computer/phone), rather than immediately going into monitoring mode and feeding back content source recommendations (e.g., chat opportunities) based on currently up- or in-loaded CFi's, the STAN_2 operations first feed the user with recommendations based on at least one of his Home Page TC's and/or TCONE's, his unfiltered history of TC's and/or TCONE's and a user-selected one of his filtered history of TC's and/or TCONE's. In one embodiment, if active interest monitoring (see **312** of FIG. **3**A) is turned off by the user, the STAN_2 operations automatically revert to the boot-up mode of displaying content source recommendations based on his Home, unfiltered history or selected filtered history of TC's and/or TCONE's. Only if the user completely shuts off the banner mechanism (**315**) by clicking on the banner close tool (**315***xx* in FIG. **3**A) does the STAN_2 recommendations supplying mechanism shut off in such an embodiment.

[0133] Having describe several different types of Service-providing BOT's above, it is worthwhile to here note some of the different types of packaged content that such BOTS (e.g., **260**, **251**, **255**, **116***a*, **116***c*) may bring back to the hive upon their return from a search and retrieve mission (one defined by the attached mission guiding data structure (i.e. **116***b*, **116***d*). Bubble **264** represents a first of the possible different types of cross-pollinating packages and, as can be seen in FIG. **2**, this first package type (**264**, and with help of its payload-carrying CPAP or BOT or in some cases a CPUP) conveys identification information from external platforms such as a user's external user name and external password (optional), and such as an external Group Discussion name and/or ID number and/or ID of discussion thread from an external platform. In one embodiment, each conveyed ID (in the type 1 package **264**) that is used in an external platform has attached to it an

indication of where it came from (e.g., from which specific external platform (e.g., FaceBook™, MySpace™, LinkedIn™, etc.) if not also from which specific discussion group or which specific discussion thread or other subarea of the external platform it was obtained. In the above-described FIG. **1**B, it was already explained how a user (e.g., **132**) can convey his own external user name and external password (optional) from one or more external platforms (e.g., **120**/**220**) into the STAN_2 system **110**/**210**. And it has also been already described above with reference to FIG. **1**B how the STAN_2 system can then automatically import the external user names (but not passwords) of his friends, buddies, email contacts and so forth if user **132** gives permission for such automated importation of external user ID's. When so importing external user names, one embodiment also attaches to each imported external ID an indication of where it came from so as to thereby inform any software program, or other entity looking at it, as to what specific external platform the imported ID applies if also not informing as to what specific members group and so on.

[0134] By using a slightly different procedure than **170** of FIG. **1**B, the same user (e.g., **132**) can be asked to manually convey or to let the STAN_2 system automatically import the names and/or other identifications (e.g., group numbers) of external platform groups that the user has listed in his external user's account(s) or external profiles or external service providing resources (e.g., MS Outlook™, CRM (Customer Relationship Management) databases, etc.). The conveyance of such information into the STAN_2 system **110**/**210** helps to expand the user-to-user associations (U2U) which the STAN_2 system can then automatically make as between a STAN_2-monitored first user and his external friend names and/or external favorite group names. Then, in FIG. **3**A, when that STAN_2-monitored user (e.g., **132**) has his monitoring function turned ON (see box **312** of FIG. **3**A), the STAN_2 system can not only automatically make on-topic content recommendations in upper scrollable banner **315** (e.g., recommended chat rooms to join into based on current CFi's), but the STAN_2 system can also automatically inform the user (**132**) of how many and/or which of his external friends, buddies, contacts, CRM-clients or customers, etc. are already joined into and/or have been co-invited to join into the recommended chat opportunities. Color coding may be used to differentiate between already inside versus co-invited to join friends. More specifically, under chat room recommendation **315***b* (for identified topic A**2**), the STAN_2 system **110**/**210** has also downloaded (or in-loaded) to the user's computer (or up-in the cloud virtual instantiation thereof), information indicating that two (2) of the user's FaceBook™ friends are already inside that chat room, or have been similarly invited to enter that chat room, where one or both such indications (invited versus entered) appear in subscripting info-plate **315***b***1**. By right clicking on plate **315***b***1**, the user may learn of the external user names of those friends and their status relative to the room (e.g., have they already entered and started participating or are they merely in the invited but not yet joined mode?). Similarly for next chat room recommendation **315***c* (for identified topic C**3**), the STAN_2 system **110**/**210** has also downloaded to the user's local display screen **300**, information indicating that three (**3**) of the user's LinkedIn™ contacts are already inside that chat room and that one (1) of them is a member of the Discussion Group number **7** to which he happens to belong. The latter information appears in subscripting info-plate **315***c***1**. By right clicking on plate **315***c***1**, the user may learn of the external user names of those LinkedIn™ contacts and/or of the external names of those LinkedIn™ discussion group(s) if they are already not yet listed on plate **315***c***1**. In the same or an alternate embodiment, similar and/or additional information of this nature may be provided when the user hovers his mouse cursor icon (e.g., **335**) over the chat room recommendation (e.g., **315***c*) and/or right clicks over the content recommendation (e.g., **315***c*).

[0135] When a user's encodings (e.g., focused upon keywords, tags, URL's, facial expressions etc.) are being actively monitored by the STAN_2 system, where for example such active monitoring is continuously indicated to the user by a blinking indicator or the like (and optionally where rate of blink indicates rate of CFi's or CVi's being then up- or in-loaded), the data being thus provided by the user's monitored activities to the STAN_2 system can provide cross-pollination data to the STAN_2 system if, for example, the user is visiting an external content source (e.g., he is playing a new Zynga™ role-playing game, i.e. like FarmVille™) that has not been previously recorded as being logically linked to a current topic that the STAN_2 system deems to be on the user's mind. In that case, depending on how 'influential' the given user is deemed to be to the current topic node and/or depending on how many other users have similarly begun to focus on the same or a similar new content source, the STAN_2 system may automatically and responsively link an identification (e.g., URL) of the new content source and/or an abstract derived from that source to the current topic node (or Notes Exchange session, a.k.a. TCONE) that is deemed to be currently associated with the most probable topic(s) the user has in mind and thus incorporation of new, cross-pollinating content takes place even without the user's conscious awareness of it. However, sometimes the user decides to turn the STAN_2 active monitoring OFF (see **312'** of FIG. **3**B) and/or forgets to turn it on (see **312** of FIG. **3**A), in which case when the user comes upon potentially relevant and new cross-pollinating content, the STAN_2 system will not be able to acquire it through the active monitoring and background intake process.

[0136] Still referring to FIG. **3**A, it will now be explained how a now-still-being-monitored STAN_2 user (e.g., **132**) can be asked to volunteer (**318***a*) to bring back to the STAN_2 system even from his STAN_2 un-monitored activities, yet more information (beyond his external aliases of record **184**), which this time can include those of cross-pollination package type 2 (associated keywords, tags, meta-tags, MetaWeb™ entity identifiers**, etc.) of bubble **262** where the latter can also be conveyed by the illustrated CPAP **260** or by a STAN-REP with help of in-loaded spyware (**132***s*—to be described below). (**Explanation: MetaWeb™ entity identifiers incidentally are meta-tag like buried identifiers that may be used in place of or in addition to keywords where such MetaWeb™ entity identifiers act to remove some of the ambiguity that may otherwise be present in keywords with multiple meanings. It is to be noted that mere removing some of the ambiguity that may otherwise be present in a keyword may not of itself reveal the specific topic that a user is most likely to be subjectively and intently thinking about.)

[0137] But before explaining the popped-out Please-Volunteer pane **318**, one additional mechanism, **315***ss* of the STAN_2 user interface will be described. Mechanism **315***ss* of FIG. **3**A represents an opaque or optionally translucent and thus "shadow"-like pull down window shade (a.k.a. 'shadow shade') that may be unscrolled and rescrolled at the user's

behest. Various mouse gestures and/or finger gestures (on touch pad or touch screen) may be pre-programmed to initiate the window shade unscrolling (partial or over entire display, whole unscrolling) and rescrolling (partial or whole) operations of mechanism **315***ss*. Of course, pre-programmed hot keys or pop out menus may also be used. Although not shown (due to space limitations in the drawing area of FIG. **3**A), when the full unscroll in shadow mode operation of mechanism **315***ss* is instigated by user action (and sometimes automatically by a user permitted script), the display is operated to give the impression that a translucent screen is being pulled down over the original screen area the user is viewing. This translucent screen (not shown, and whose degree of translucency can be controlled by the user) has on it translucent images of the chat opportunities (e.g., **315***b*) and/or of other content source recommendations (e.g., **315***a*) being then provided by the STAN_2 system. However, unlike the case of the partial opaque unscroll mode shown in FIG. **3**A, when full unscroll in shadow mode is actuated, each displayed chat opportunity (e.g., **315***b*) and/or of other content source recommendation representing glyph (e.g., **315***d*) moves to translucently overlie the on-main-screen content (e.g., pane **317**) to which that translucent recommendation glyph most closely associates with. More specifically, chat opportunities glyphs related to general Topic 'A' (such as glyphs **315***a* and **315***b* for example) will appear to float translucently over content pane **317** (also logically linked to general Topic 'A'). Similarly, chat opportunity representing glyph **315***d* (and its associated gadgets if those are being displayed) will appear to float translucently over content pane **330***a* which; like glyph **315***d*, is most logically linked to general Topic 'D' (and more specifically, to sub-topic D**2**). A variety of user input actions may be pre-programmed to indicate that they apply to either the main screen or the pulled thereover translucent shadow screen. Accordingly, a user may not need to move his finger, stylus, or other pointing/actuating device far away from an item (e.g., **330***a*) on the main screen in order to activate and operate on a corresponding shadow screen item (e.g., TC flag **315***e*) for drag-and-drop operation (e.g., **336***e* described elsewhere herein) or opening or other activity. In one embodiment, when the scrollable recommendations showing mechanism **315***ss* is fully scrolled up (and optionally minimized with tool **315***mm*), the blink rate monitoring warning area **312** and/or sliding volume and importance scales (not shown) optionally provided thereon let the user know what volume and/or rate of incoming recommendations he is not seeing due to the scrolled up (or minimized) state of showing mechanism **315***ss* and what min/max and/or average importance ratings (e.g., temperature) of the current recommendations are.

[0138] As mentioned elsewhere herein, in one embodiment, just because CFi-based monitoring (**312**) is turned off, that does not mean that the STAN_2 automatic recommendations function is turned off. In one embodiment, as long as the user does not click on the close-banner-function tool **315***xx*, the illustrated one banner **315** continues to supply content source recommendations; except that in this case the recommendations in that banner **315** are based on at least one of the user's Home Page of TC's and/or TCONEs, his recent History Page of TC's and/or TCONEs, or another filtered subset of T' TC's and/or TCONEs where T' is set by the user to an appropriate value such as his Top 3 or Top 5 favorites and the filtering function is also programmably established by the user to, for example, provide his Top T' of most heavily focused upon TC's or his Top T' of most heavily participated in TCONE's.

[0139] Although FIG. **3**A shows only one un- and re-scrollable banner **315** at the top of the screen **300**, in one embodiment, a user may alter the STAN_2 operation settings of his local data processing device (e.g., **131***a*) so as to have multiple recommendations-providing banners like **315** running at the same time, for example all in minimized mode (in a bottom screen tray area **315***tt* in the form of minimized recommendations-providing banners such as Bannr**2** and Bannr**3** for example). Each recommendations-providing banner (e.g., Bannr**1**-Bannr**3**) can have its recommendations driven on a different basis. More specifically, if in FIG. **3**A and for one embodiment the user hovers his cursor (**335**) over the question-mark tool (adjacent to banner-minimizing tool **315***mm*), the user's data processing device (e.g., **131***a*) automatically responds by showing what the driving basis of that banner (e.g., displayed top banner Bannr**1** **315**) is, where in the illustrated example, the hover-provided indication **315***hh* shows that Bannr**1** (a.k.a. **315**) is currently being primarily driven on the basis of the user's current CFi's. However, if the user had hovered over minimized and in-tray (in **315***tt*) Bannr**2**, the corresponding hover-provided indication (not shown) might have shown that the latter recommendations-providing banner (Bannr**2**) is being primarily driven on the basis of the user's specified Home Page TC's and/or TCONE's. If the user had instead hovered over minimized and in-tray (in **315***tt*) Bannr**3**, the corresponding hover-provided indication (not shown) might have shown that the latter recommendations-providing banner (Bannr**3**) is being primarily driven on the basis of the user's specified, recently heavily focused upon history grouping of TC's and/or TCONE's. Any one or more of the minimized and in-tray (in **315***tt*) banners may be de-minimized and moved to a user-picked location on screen. For example, the user may elect to stack a plurality of de-minimized and recommendations-providing banners (e.g., Bannr**1**-Bannr**3**) one just below or even slightly overlapping the next. The user may elect to differently color code his different banners so that he can easily tell them apart.

[0140] In one embodiment, the user may design and store a recommendations-providing banners defining page (not shown) where the latter displays a grid of minimized banner boxes like those of tray **315***tt*, each with its own unique color perhaps and each with its own unique name if desired. The user may right click on selected ones of these minimized banner boxes and choose an Add-Now to main screen function where upon the selected banner will be activated into its recommendations-providing mode and appended to tray **315***tt*. Another chooseable selection that the user has shown to him when right clicking on a banner box in his stored recommendations-providing banners defining page (not shown) is Change Auto-Trigger and Other Settings.

[0141] The latter, optional function can be user activated so that different recommendations-providing banners become activated or de-activated in automatic response to different triggering events, such as for example, detected time and place. More specifically, assume the user (e.g., Tom) has certain daily habits. When he gets up in the morning at home, he likes to read (or view) the latest news and gossip about his favorite sports teams. Later, when he gets to the office and has his second cup of morning coffee, he likes to read (or view) the latest news and gossip about his favorite financial topics and his favorite world politics topics. Then in the afternoon he

likes to catch up on the latest news and gossip concerning his career. In one embodiment, that user (e.g., Tom) can pre-establish and store different personal groupings of his favorite TC's and/or TCONE's, for example a first whose corresponding content source recommendations will automatically cause a corresponding and activated recommendations-providing banner (e.g., Bannr**2**) to display recommendations regarding the latest news and gossip about his favorite sports teams. The user can program the banner box that is driven on the basis of this first personal grouping to be automatically activated (triggered on) in response to machine system detection that he is at home (e.g., based on GPS readings) and it is morning and it is a weekday; but to shut down (become de-activated) by 12 noon. Continuing with the example, the user (e.g., Tom) can pre-establish and store a second personal groupings of his favorite TC's and/or TCONE's so that the latter will cause the corresponding and activated recommendations-providing banner (e.g., Bannr**3**) to display recommendations regarding the latest news and gossip about his favorite financial topics and his favorite world politics topics. The user can program the banner box that is driven on the basis of this second personal grouping to be automatically activated (triggered on) in response to machine system detection that he is at the office (e.g., based on GPS readings) and it is morning and it is a weekday; but to shut down (become de-activated) by 3:00 PM. A third personal groupings of his favorite TC's and/or TCONE's and activation criteria for the banner box driven by it can be similarly formulated and stored so as to meet his personal desires for seeing career related news after lunch and so on.

[0142] When it is explained above that the displayed recommendations of illustrated Bannr**1** (a.k.a. **315**) are being primarily "driven" by currently uploading (or in-loading) CFi's; as is indicated by the illustrated hover-over response **315***hh* of FIG. **3**A, it is to be understood that current user CFi's are being fed to one or more DLUX servers (not shown) of the STAN_2 system and the DLUX servers are then responsively generating signals indicating the probable topic nodes whose topics are probably the ones on the mind of the monitored user. Thereafter, the STAN_2 automated DsMS sub-systems (the automated Domain-specific Matching Services) are converting the probable-topic-of-interest signals received from the DLUX('s) into corresponding content source recommendation signals (e.g., chat opportunity indicating signals) which are then ranked and the top ranked ones are displayed horizontally across illustrated banner **315** at a user pre-selected recommendations presenting rate. The term, "primarily" as used in conjunction with how a banner is being driven is to be understood as indicating that there could be other, secondary drive mechanisms, for example, an occasional "surprise me" recommendation may be displayed even though the uploaded CFi's did not directly cause the same to be generated.

[0143] On the other hand, when another displayed banner (say Bannr**2**) is said herein to being in a mode where it is primarily driven on the basis of the user's specified Home Page TC's and/or TCONE's, then generally speaking there will be no need to use the STAN_2 DLUX's (the automated Domains/Topics Lookup Services inside **110**) because at least the broader topics of current interest will have already been pre-specified in the user's Home Page of favorite TC's and/or TCONE's by the favorite TC's recorded therein. Moreover in the case where it is a favorite TCONE that is pre-specified in the user's Home Page of favorites, there may also be no need to use the STAN_2 automated DsMS sub-systems (the automated Domain-specific Matching Services) because a co-compatible chat opportunity or alike content source (if it still exists—some chat rooms can close and disappear) will have already been picked out and specified. However the relative rankings of the Home Page TC's and/or TCONE's (assuming those TCONE's have not closed or drifted far away) is still a variable to be played with because the user may prefer to rank some topic centers (TC's) as being more favored than others within his Home Page and some TCONE's as being more favored than others recorded within his Home Page. To this end, in one embodiment of the STAN_2 system, the user is given the option of logically attaching different preference weights to the respective TC's and/or TCONE's recorded within his Home Page. Then, as between the various TC's recorded within his Home Page, the more heavily weighted and thus more heavily preferred will be submitted to the STAN_2 automated DsMS sub-systems more frequently (at least on average even if not so consistently) than the less heavily weighted and thus relatively less preferred; and as a result, recommendations (e.g., **315***b*, **315***c*) based on the user's more heavily preferred TC's will on average tend to appear more often on the user's, Home-Page driven banner (e.g., Bannr**2**; shown as minimized in tray **315***tt*) and content source recommendations based on the user's less preferred TC's will on average tend to appear less often.

[0144] In one embodiment, even where the user has recorded specific TC's in his Home Page as being the preferred TC's of interest, when the Home Page driven banner (e.g., Bannr**2**) is active, the STAN_2 system nonetheless automatically submits the identified favorite TC's of the user's Home Page to its DLUX's (the automated Domains/Topics Lookup Services inside **110**) with a request that the DLUX's lookup other TC's with substantially similar topics. The submission of the user's current Home Page favorite TC to the DLUX's may be accompanied with, and logically linked to, a submission to the DLUX's of the user's recorded, recent topics of interest (rTOI's). The rTOI's may be used by the DLUX's to better determine what other TC's are closest in topic space **215** to the user's Home Page favorite based on the user's recent history. Typically, a user's interests do not jump discontinuously from one topic to a completely new topic overnight. Instead they tend to evolve over time and have some continuance from recent topics of interest (rTOI's). Accordingly the DLUX's may use the user's rTOI's in combination with the user's Home Page identification of what is his Home Page favorite TC('s) to better identify what other TC's in the STAN_2 topic space **215** are more likely than not to be of further interest to that same user.

[0145] When the DLUX's of the STAN_2 system lookup the additional TC's that are probably interrelated to the user's Home Page favorite TC('s), in one embodiment, the DLUX's take into account a recent recorded history of the so-called captains and mutineers of the Home Page listed TC as such compares to the date when the user's Home Page favorite TC('s) were recorded as such in his Home Page. Recall that most TC's (except the fixed reference point ones) can drift over time just as TCONE's can drift over time in the usually changing STAN_2 topic space **215**. Accordingly, the TC that the user recorded as being his favorite a month ago may no longer be the same positioned TC because during the month it drifted to a new position in the STAN_2 topic space **215**. The DLUX's may conclude, based on when this user last

visited the Home Page identified TC, that the user intends to navigate to a topic space position corresponding to where his listed TC was a month ago, when the old captains of the TC were in charge as opposed to a new topic space position that the Home Page identified TC has drifted to ever since the mutineers took command two weeks ago. In one embodiment, rather than offering just content sources (e.g., chat opportunities) derived from his Home Page identified TC (when Bannr**2** is activated), the STAN_2 system also automatically offers as recommended alternative content sources, those derived from TC's that remained in the original topic space vicinity of the Home Page identified TC (e.g., a month ago) before it drifted. When the user preferentially picks one choice over the other, the STAN_2 system can use this as an adaptive learning experience (e.g., using neural net adaptive technology for example) to know for the next time what content source recommendations to offer more aggressively when the Home Page identified TC drifts yet again (e.g., in one month in the future).

[0146] Similar to the way that Home Page identified TC's are managed, if the user chooses to differently weigh his favorite TCONE's (if any) recorded on his Home Page of favorite TC's and/or TCONE's with one particular skew or another, the recommendations displaying sub-system (not shown) will automatically favor the making of the more heavily weighted TCONE's over the less weighted ones. In one embodiment, however, a fair chance mechanism is incorporated into the automated ranking and selecting mechanism of the recommendations displaying sub-system (not shown) and operated such that even the lowest weighted of the favorite TCONE's on the Home Page shows up (e.g., drops into a displayed newspaper-like column) on Bannr**2** with a frequency corresponding to its relative weight as compared to the weights of the more heavily weighted TCONE's recorded within the user's Home Page. The deemed hottest recommendations will remain displayed on the banner (e.g., Bannr**2**) and thus if and when it is given such a fair-chance, a recommendation for the lowest weighted of the favorite TCONE's rises up from under the least hot of the already displayed recommendations. A similar, fair chance mechanism is incorporated into the automated TC submitting mechanism that automatically submits the user's favorite TC's of his Home Page to the STAN_2 automated DsMS sub-systems so that over the long haul, the DsMS will provide content source recommendations for display on Bannr**2** where those recommendations are derived from the user's least weighted, but nonetheless favorite, TC on a frequency basis corresponding to its relative weight as compared to the weights of the more heavily weighted TC's recorded within the user's Home Page.

[0147] Also similar to the way that the possibility of drift by the Home Page identified TC's is managed, one embodiment of the STAN_2 system automatically submits the Home Page identified TCONE's to the DsMS services with a request that the latter automated Domain-specific Matching Services nonetheless locate other TCONE's similar to the Home Page identified TCONE's. This is done for at least two reasons. Firstly, a Home Page identified TCONE that was recorded into the Home Page say a month or two ago may have drifted significantly in topic space **215** since new captains took over. Secondly, the Home Page identified TCONE of say two months ago may no longer exist or its participants may have abandoned it and it now floats as a ghost ship in the STAN_2 topic space **215**. What the user is typically desirous of is a now active TCONE that substantially matches what the old TCONE used to be. Accordingly the STAN_2 system automatically gives the user a choice as between the old TCONE and one or more fresher TCONE's that substantially match the attributes of the old TCONE (the one recorded in the user's Home Page) but are more recently active with users and also more conform to the user's recorded recent history of the topics of interest (rTOI's). Additionally, since the DsMS services tend to provide recommendations that are more in tune with the user's current mood and currently activated profiles, content source recommendations provided through use of the DsMS services will tend to be more in tune with what the user wants now (e.g., a TCONE with a hot debate raging therein) as opposed to what the user may have wanted a month or two ago when the Home Page identified TCONE was recorded in that Home Page.

[0148] In one embodiment, the STAN_2 system also provides an automated, "surprise me" function wherein, rather than using the assigned and recorded weights of the favorite TC's and/or TCONE's on the user's Home Page (or less drifted away equivalents thereof), the system randomly picks out TC's from the Home Page to periodically forward to the DsMS services and/or randomly picks out TCONE's from the Home Page to periodically forward to the recommendations displaying sub-system (not shown) that populates the corresponding banner (e.g., Bannr**2**, Bannr**3**, etc.) with scrolled-in (e.g., scrolled-down into newspaper-like columns) recommendations at a user-selected or automatically-selected recommendations making rate. The automatically-selected recommendations making rate may be based on various importance ranking algorithms wherein the user's known preferences for certain influential other users (e.g., TPP's) and/or known preferences for certain topics causes the scrolling (e.g., replacement) rate to decrease when the associated "temperature" or heat rises; this typically indicating that discussions over a certain favorite topic of the user's are heating up and the user will probably want to have that recommendation kept in view. At the same time, temperature gauge (not shown) in region **312** might show the increased "hotness" thereby alerting the user to what is going on.

[0149] In summary, a user can program any one or more of his locally-used data processing devices (**132***a*, **132***b*, etc.), if their available resources so permit, to operate in automatically triggered multi-banner mode and one of those banners (e.g., Bannr**2**) may be feeding recommendations primarily based on the user's Home Page of favorites while another of those banners (e.g., Bannr**3**) may be feeding recommendations primarily based on another pre-weighted grouping of TC's and/or TCONE's specified by the user or even by STAN_2 operators if the user elects to use one of the editor's choices groupings to drive one of his activated banners. In such cases, the one or more recommendations-providing banners (e.g., **315**, Bannr**2**, Bannr**3**) that unfurl on the user's screen (**300**) will appear as if they are like personalized television-channel-guide scrolls that are custom made for him, with the scrolling-in recommendations made within each banner offering him more detailed and on-respective-topic(s) content as well as in-tune with mood and surroundings content (e.g., with each news-paper column like and scrolled down new recommendation being like a content supplying channel in its own respects) for him to pop open and probe deeper into if he so chooses. These personalized television channel guide-like banners will appear to intelligently change according to time and the place he happens to be at (as well as perhaps his current mood) thanks to the automated place and

time banner triggering mechanisms as well as mood and past history detecting mechanisms. Stated otherwise, in one embodiment, the user may program certain ones of the multiple banners to be automatically activated and de-activated based on his mood changes as detected by his up- or in-loaded CFi's as well as being based on time, place and/or other triggering encodings. Of course, display of the STAN_2-recommended chat opportunities and/or other content sources need not be in the form of scrolling marquee-style banners like **315**. The recommendations could, for example, pop up one at time at a rate of one changed recommendation every 30 seconds in a Picture-Picture (PiP) grid that has, say 4 squares and each square is dedicated to a respective and currently activated, drive basis means (e.g., one being the user's currently uploaded CFi's, the second being user CFi's uploaded 4 hours ago, the third being TC's and/or TCONE's of his Home Page and the fourth being another personal groupings of his favorite TC's and/or TCONE's).

[0150] Now finally referring to the Please-Volunteer pane **318** of FIG. **3**A, assume that while an in-STAN user (e.g., Tom **132***u***1**) is doing research online on a given topic of interest to him (let it be called topic 'A'), where the research is conducted under the auspices of an external content provider (in this case FaceBook™ as is indicated in open window **317**), the user (Tom) has his STAN_2 monitoring function turned ON. In one embodiment, the state of that active monitoring is displayed to him by status box **312** (optionally blinking and/or optionally having rate and importance gauges (not shown) included therein). Assume the STAN_2 system has determined from recent intense activity by the user (**132**; for example from his recently uploaded Tom's CFi's) as well as his historically tracked past activities that the user (Tom version of **132**) may be classified as a potential evangelist for topic 'A'. Since the user is detected to now be again intensely involved with topic 'A', but taking a short break (in a machine-detected user idle mode); the STAN_2 system automatically pops open a somewhat intrusive proposal as shown by pushed dialog box **318**. There could be various reasons why the STAN_2-monitored user will agree to becoming a so-called STAN-REP with regard to topic 'A' when the latter topic is covered by content appearing on an external platform such as FaceBook™. One reason for volunteering is that the potential evangelist (Tom) for topic 'A' may wish to promote discussion about topic 'A' (it could for example be a political cause Tom strongly believes in) among a greater number of people and that alone is reason enough for agreeing to be a STAN-REP for topic 'A'. Alternatively or additionally, the STAN_2 system may offer various types of incentives such as lottery prize opportunities or accomplishment-based prizes (e.g., being pictured as the STAN-REP of the Month to his peers) for participating STAN-REP's who produce above average results. For example, monetary and/or subscription level enhancement prizes may be given out to participating STAN-REP's who are voted by members of their respectively serviced TC's or TCONE's as having brought in the best and most useful cross-pollination data (CPD) this month, week, day, etc. The awarding of such prizes may be communicated to other STAN-REP's so as to encourage the rest to try harder. In one embodiment, and of importance, the BE-A-STAN-REP proposal **318** is pushed onto this particular registered member (e.g., Tom **132***u***1**) of the STAN_2 community because he is proficient in two or more languages that are highly useful for the topic being covered by the particular STAN_2 system node (or TCONE) from which he will be launched (similar to how a CPAP is launched—see FIG. **4**B) and/or he is proficient in an esoteric technical aspect of the topic and/or in esoteric technical or slang jargon used with respect to the topic. By way of example, let it be assumed that Topic A is a technical one which is covered by German and Swedish periodicals as well as technical peer-reviewed journals written in English. (Note the optional German and Swedish discussion groups in discussions space **225** of FIG. **2**.) If the user who is being invited to BE-A-STAN-REP (**318**) in FIG. **3**A is proficient in one or both of German and Swedish as well as English, he may be particularly of value to the other members of the launching TC or TCONE (e.g., **216***n*) who are not equally proficient in one or both foreign languages because he can identify topic relevant content within the foreign language using discussion groups and he can cause that foreign-based content to be returned to the hive, for optional automated translation by the STAN_2 system before it is presented as a post-translation proposed cross-pollination data package (**262**/**264**/**252**) for possible absorption by the launching TC or TCONE (e.g., **216***n*). As a result, English-only conversant members of Tom's on-Topic 'A', favorite TCONEs or TCs may have intelligible access to on-topic information from the foreign language using content sources thanks to Tom's ability to use multiple languages and Tom's willingness to serve as a STAN-REP.

[0151] The pushed proposal window **318** (e.g., "Please volunteer") has an external language specifying area **318***aa* in it. The illustrated example indicates that the system is asking the would-be-volunteer (Tom) to serve as a STAN-REP for English-only discussion groups in the named external platform (e.g., FaceBook™) However, if the would-be-volunteer's personal profile records (e.g., Tom's active CpCCp or active DsCCp's—see giF. 1B and 1C) indicate he is generally proficient in one or more foreign languages, or better yet he is (as is indicated in his active DsCCp's) proficient in an on-topic highly technical and/or esoteric aspect of the one or more foreign languages (where technical jargon in foreign languages may not be known to lay speakers of those languages just as technical aspects of English; i.e. those relating to chemistry, physics, advanced math, etc. may not be understood by lay speakers of English), then the pushed proposal window **318** could have alternatively and automatically asked in region **318***aa* for the would-be-volunteer to serve as a STAN-REP for German-only or combined German and English discussion groups in the named external platform (e.g., FaceBook™). The proposed language combinations may be trilingual as well as bilingual. The proposed language options of window region **318***aa* may alternatively or additionally indicate a desired technical jargon proficiency as well as language proficiency. For example, and even though not shown in FIG. **3**A, window region **318***aa* might have indicated a need for proficiency in English AND Biochemistry or a need for proficiency in Japanese AND Computer Science, and so on. The method of presenting the "Please Volunteer" proposal **318** may vary depending for example on the nature of the local data processing device (e.g., **132***a*) that the proposed-to user (e.g., Tom) is using when the proposal is made. More specifically, if the local data processing device is set to use an audio-only interface (because Tom is driving his car at the time, the "Please Volunteer" proposal and responses thereto may be carried out in an audio-only mode. On the other hand, if the local data processing device the proposed-to user (e.g., Tom) is using at the time the proposal (**318**) is made has a relatively small viewing screen (e.g., it is a small palm

held device), different parts of the proposal may be presented in sequence and voice-over audio explanations may be provided at the same time to the user (e.g., Tom) to make it more clear what is being proposed and why and what alternative options are available.

[0152] In one embodiment, the would-be-volunteer (Tom) may activate the scroll down options tool (the down-pointing triangle) in the variable language proposing region **318***aa* to thereby pick an alternate option. More specifically, with such a pick, the would-be-volunteer may be indicating back to the STAN_2 system, 'Thank you for asking. However, although my profile indicates I am proficient in technical Russian as well as in Quantum Mechanical Physics, I am not feeling up to such a challenge and instead I am willing to volunteer only for English and Newtonian Physics'. If after that, the user hits the OK pushbutton **318***b*, the STAN_2 system may approve the counter offer or it may politely turn him down.

[0153] Before moving on to describe other virtual pushbuttons of popped up pane **318**, it is to be noted that just as there may be need for would-be-volunteers to serve in multi-lingual environments (e.g., English and Korean) and/or in highly technical subareas of specified languages (e.g., Chinese and Semiconductor Fabrication expertise); in the case of some topic areas there could be a desire for would-be-volunteers who are proficient in two or more areas of expertise that are normally far apart from one another. By way of example, consider the well known book in computer science by Fredrick R. Brooks, entitled "The Mythical Man-Month", 1995 (ISBN 0-201-83595-9). It describes how adding more workers to a software development project can not only fail to speed up completion of the project, but may very well slow it down severely or cause the project to fail all together. Consider also for sake of example, an area of economic study known as transaction cost theory and Managerial-Behavioral theories. In one sense transaction cost theory and the like can cross-correlate with aspects of The Mythical Man-Month. Typically, computer science professionals flock into discussions mostly with other computer science professionals and economics theorists flock together mostly with other economics theorists (per the adage, birds of feather flock together). However there may be instances where a discussion group on computer science (e.g., discussing The Mythical Man-Month) may be drifting in terms of discussed topic toward confluence with a discussion group on economics (e.g., that happens to be discussing Managerial-Behavioral and transaction cost theories). In such a case it may be useful to members of both groups to merge their discussions. However, a competent cross-disciplinary person is often needed to bridge the language chasm between the two disciplines. More specifically, the computer science professionals may use a first language "frame" that is unique to computer scientists and the economics theorists may use a different second language "frame" that is unique to them, whereby only a competent-in-both cross-disciplinary person can serve as a living Rosetta Stone, so to speak and thus help create a cross-frame dictionary (see briefly **406***c* of FIG. **4**C) that allows the two otherwise disparate groups to beneficially exchange notes with one another. Incidentally, the examples given above of cross language and cross discipline capabilities are to be viewed as non-limiting examples. A given volunteer such as Tom may be someone who can speak in a lay-person's terms or in a specific type of slang while also being proficiently conversant in a highly technical area and that would-be-volunteer might be willing to serve as a go-between simplifier or translator for a first group of lay-persons whose topic of discussion centers about a subject having the highly technical area at its core. In one embodiment, the STAN_2 system automatically recognizes this special attribute of the would-be-volunteer (Tom) from his personal profile records and asks him to volunteer on this basis by locating external content that correctly explains the highly technical area in terms that are understandable by lay members of his home TCONE (e.g., his favorite in-STAN discussion group, i.e. **216***n* on this Topic 'A').

[0154] To summarize therefore, in accordance with one aspect of the present disclosure, proposal defining region **318***aa* of popped up pane **318** can present the would-be-volunteer (Tom) with a cross disciplines proposal (as between two or more normally disparate disciplines). Once again, the reason that the STAN_2 system would be proposing such an esoteric, cross-disciplines proposal to a given one of its users is because that user's personal profile records (e.g., Tom's active CpCCp or active DsCCp's—see giF. 1B and 1C) indicate he is proficient to a predefined desired level in both disciplines. If the would-be-volunteer accepts (e.g., by activating the OK button **318***b*), then later, when he is responding to STAN-REP survey questions (see **320***b* of FIG. **3**C), he will be helping the STAN_2 system to develop and store a cross-disciplinary and Rosetta Stone-like, lookup table (see again **406***c* of FIG. **4**C) whereby keywords, tags etc., of a first identified discipline are cross-correlated to keywords, tags etc., of a second identified discipline. This recorded cross-disciplinary, Rosetta Stone like lookup table may be later used to compile and augment mission guiding data structure (i.e. **116***d*' of FIG. **4**B) for launched CPAP's where the cross-disciplinary augmentation allows a launched Cross-Pollinating Artificial Persona (CPAP) to automatically find external cross-disciplinary Notes Exchanging nodes (e.g., external discussion group sessions) where members of the otherwise disparate discussion groups (NE's) may benefit from exchanging cross-pollination material with one another.

[0155] Still referring to FIG. **3**A, some of the virtual pushbuttons in box **318** are substantially similar to those described above for dialog box **182** of FIG. **1**B and thus their function need not be described again, namely, pushbuttons **318***b*, **31***bc* and **318***d*. Introduction message **318***a* informs the user that he is being asked to volunteer to be a special envoy or representative for the STAN_2 system (optionally in a foreign language and/or special discipline) but while he is operating in semi-monitor-free mode within an external platform (FaceBook™ in this example) and he appears to be focused upon topic 'A' while under auspices of the external platform (FaceBook™ in this example). By activating virtual pushbutton **318***g*, the user can get more information about what this means (including information about potential prizes for agreeing to serve as a STAN-REP). Additionally, in one embodiment, right clicking (Rt.Clk.) on introduction message **318***a* provides help and/or more information.

[0156] Activation of pushbutton **318***e* (Not This Topic) lets the STAN_2 system know that the user (e.g., Tom **132***u***1**) wants to be an evangelist (a STAN-REP) because he is passionate about a certain topic (e.g., a different political cause), but not this specific topic 'A'. Basically, he is letting STAN_2 know that it guessed wrong as to what his greater topic of passion is. Perhaps it is topic 'D' or more specifically, subtopic 'D**2**' of open frames **330***a* and **330***d* where he had just been doing some research using the GoogleWave™ and GoogleGoggles™ tools respectively. (GoogleGoggles™ is a

search engine tool that receives images as input rather than search words and returns associated webpages or the like as its results. See results panel **330***g* of FIG. **3**B. GoogleWave™ is project collaboration tool which can return collaborative research results such as in panel **330***c* of FIG. **3**A.) In response to the user pressing pushbutton **318***e*, the STAN_2 system may present a next dialog box (not shown) asking for information about what alternate topic the user has in mind. In one embodiment, the STAN_2 system has predefined criteria for who may or may not operate as a STAN-REP while soloing inside an external platform (e.g., FaceBook™, LinkedIn™, etc.) and may politely refuse the user's offer to volunteer as a STAN-REP for the alternate topic if the user has insufficient credentials in that alternate topic (e.g., not enough of a historical record evidencing probable proficiency, trustworthiness, etc., in that topic 'D'). In one embodiment, there is higher level or STAN-SUPER_REP, which level is occupied by especially trusted and reputable registered members of the STAN_2 system who are allowed to operate essentially as free-ranging human bumble bees; to go anywhere they like and bring back any sort of new cross-pollination data they want and present it to the DLUX servers and/or to any topic node they choose. When a STAN-SUPER_REP presses **318***e* (Not This Topic) or next described **318***f* (Not This SN), the STAN_2 system lets the STAN-SUPER_REP define whatever alternate topic and/or alternate external platform he/she chooses because the STAN-SUPER_REP is pre-designated by system operators to be a free-roaming representative who is trusted to pick out any online content he/she deems to be noteworthy as a linking package to be brought back to the STAN_2 collective hive. The STAN-SUPER_REP's unlimited ability to choose any alternate topic and/or alternate external platform with depression of pushbuttons **318***e* and **318***f* applies more to FIGS. **3**B-**3**D as shall soon be appreciated. In one embodiment, the STAN-SUPER_REP can self-initiate the posed survey popups of FIGS. **3**B-**3**D (popups **320**, **320***b* and **320***c*) rather than waiting for an accepted and downloaded (or in-loaded) spyware program (**132***s*) to automatically push the surveys onto the then out-of-STAN user (e.g., Thomas **132***u***2**).

[0157] Activation in FIG. **3**A of pushbutton **318***f* (Not This SN, not this social network) lets the STAN_2 system know that the user (e.g., **132**) wants to be an evangelist (a STAN-REP) because he is passionate about this certain topic 'A', but he does not want to be the STAN-REP inside the specific external platform (e.g., FaceBook™) that he happens to be using in window **317** but rather a different platform. In one embodiment, right clicking (Rt.Clk.) on various pushbuttons or messages whose function the user does not fully understand (e.g., PB **318***f*) provides help and/or more information about the function and options of the right clicked-on entity. In response to the user pressing pushbutton **318***f*, the STAN_2 system may present a next dialog box (not shown) asking for information about what alternate platform the user has in mind and optionally presenting the user with a list of plausible selections. In one embodiment, the STAN_2 system has predefined criteria for who may or may not operate as a STAN-REP while soloing inside specific ones of external platforms and may politely refuse the users offer to volunteer in the alternate platform if the user has insufficient credentials in that topic (e.g., not enough of a historical record evidencing probable proficiency in that topic 'A' or not a STAN-SUPER_REP) so as to warrant him becoming a volunteer STAN-REP (a CPUP) while soloing in certain external platforms for which the STAN_2 system operators indicate (through pre-programmed software) that they want more credentialed CPUP's.

[0158] Before moving on to FIG. **3**B, it is to be observed in FIG. **3**A that one embodiment of the STAN_2 system **110**/**210** downloads (or in-loads) chat opportunity recommendations (or tweet viewing opportunities other on-topic content source accessing opportunities) like **315***a*, **315***b*, **315***c*, **315***d* with additional information objects tacked onto the content source recommending (e.g., chat opportunity) glyphs. The tacked on, additional information objects may include one or more of: (a) an indication (e.g., **315***b***1**) of how many friends, buddies, contacts, etc. from an external platform are already logically linked to the recommended content source (e.g., to chat opportunity **315***b*, because they accepted and/or because they were co-invited); (b) an indication (e.g., **315***c***1**) of how many or what external groups (e.g., Group **7** in plate **315***c***1**) are logically linked to the recommended content source by virtue one or more of their members being logically linked to the recommended content source, and if so, optionally indicating how such members of the group are so linked (e.g., accepted or merely co-invited); (c) an indication of what topic the recommended content source (e.g., chat opportunity **315***c* identified as tied to topic C**3**) focuses on; and (d) an identification of important/famous//influential people (e.g., Ken54 (TPP) in plate **315***d***1**) who are currently logically linked to the recommended content source (e.g., chat opportunity **315***d*), where importance may be as deemed (predefined) by the individual user (e.g., **132**) viewing the screen **300** and/or importance may be defined as deemed so by a group of people whom the individual user has pre-identified to the STAN_2 system as being his delegated selectors of important people to follow. As already explained above, TPP means Tipping Point Person and in one embodiment, the system flashes a special TP icon **315***f* to help the user intuitively appreciate the significance of who is being identified as an influential and followed-persona (e.g., Ken54) that is now deemed to be logically linked to the given chat opportunity (or other recommended Notes Exchange session). Upon seeing the flashing TP icon **315***f*, the user may instantly think to himself, "Why if Ken54 is now logically linked to that recommended content source (e.g., chat opportunity **315***d*), then I definitely want to look in on it right now". In that case the user may immediately double click inside the border of recommendation glyph **315***d* so as to add that chat room to his left panel of already opened and being followed chat rooms (**316***a*, etc.). In one embodiment, there is also a temperature gauge icon **315***g* that is movably attached to the central body of the recommendation glyph **315***d*. It indicates how "hot" the recommended content source (e.g., chat opportunity D**2**) currently is based on a weighted sum of heating and cooling attributes that may be logically linked to that recommended content source, for example due to certain pro and con (for and against) influential persons now being engaged in a heated Notes Exchange session within that recommended content source. In one embodiment, the user may use his cursor to move a probe tip (hatched triangle area) of the temperature gauge icon **315***g* to instead contact the TC flag **315***e* and thereby indicate how "hot" the associated topic center currently is. Or the user may move the probe tip to instead contact a gadget representation of a specific persona (e.g., Ken54) or group name (see **315***c***1**) to thereby cause the temperature gauge icon **315***g* to instead indicate how "hot" the associated persona is or how "hot" the associated named group is. The algorithm for determining

current temperature may vary as a function of the entity being probed and/or as a function of the user who is doing the probing. For example, current temperature of a probed TC flag **315***e* may be made a function of how many influential (e.g., TPP) personas are currently logically linked to the topic center (as being co-invited or as actually having joined in) and what amount of heating (positive attribute) or cooling (negative attribute) 'energy' the weighted aggregate of influential (e.g., TPP) personas is currently casting on that topic center (for example with thumb up or thumb down votes or with their current CVi votes—see giF. 2B). The gauge shown temperature may alternatively indicate how hot of a debate is going on inside the recommended content source (e.g., chat room). Some STAN_2 users may wish to keep track of where the hottest debates are on a given topic rather than where the largest number of general other users are or where the largest number of influential users (e.g., Ken54) are flocked together. The machine-implemented algorithm for detecting hottest debates may use a statistical variance function to automatically determine how spread apart the debating parties are in their positions and it may use various weighting factors so as to give recognized influential debaters more weight than unrecognized debaters. In one embodiment, premium subscription members of the STAN_2 system can custom tailor their own 'temperature' and 'energy' attributing algorithms according to their desires. Basic subscription members may have to rely on template 'temperature' and 'energy' attributing algorithms provided by operators of the STAN_2 system.

[0159] Suppose the user (e.g., Tom) sees the flashing TP icon **315***f* and/or a hot indication on gauge **315***g*, but the user is at the moment too busy to open the recommended content source (e.g., chat room) and in the same instant the user thinks to himself, "Why if Ken54 is now logically linked to recommended content source (e.g., chat opportunity **315***d*)—or if its 'temperature' is above 80 degrees—, then I definitely want to look in on it, but not just right now". In that case the user may drag and drop the content recommendation (box **315***d*) into a saved (e.g., favorite or recent) content sources area of a resources saving-and-retrieval tool such as scrollable tool **336**. At a later time when the user is not fully occupied by a priority task, he can unscroll the saving tool **336** and try to pop open the saved content source (e.g., **315***d*). In some instances, the saved content source (e.g., if it is an on-the-fly opened and closed chat room) may not be later accessible to him for any of numerous reasons (e.g., it no longer exists; it has reached its room population limit and so on). However, the user is not without recourse in such a case. An alternate option for the user when, for example he is too busy, is to not pop open the recommended content (e.g., chat room **315***d*), but to instead click on a tape recording option icon **315***r* and thus cause the STAN_2 system to record at least a transcript of part of the Notes Exchange session (e.g., chat **315***d*) for the user so the user can review it later. In one embodiment, a menu pops up asking how long of a recording the user wants. In one embodiment, the STAN_2 system automatically emails the user to remind him he has a recorded transcript now available for review. Yet another alternate option for the user when, for example he is too busy, is to not pop open the recommended content (e.g., chat room **315***d*), and not to save a link to the recommended content (e.g., by drag and dropping only box **315***d* into saved content sources area of tool **336**), or to not initiate and save a recording of the recommended content (e.g., by activating icon **315***r*), but to instead drag and drop TC (topic center) flag **315***e*; whose being-dragged copy is shown as phantom flag **315***e*' into the saved topic centers area of save-and-retrieve tool **336**.

[0160] At the later time when the user is not fully occupied by a priority task, he can unscroll the saving tool **336** and pop open the saved transcript recording; or saved topic center identification (**315***e*'); or saved combination (Combo) of source, topic center and/or attached TPP's. When he does so, the STAN_2 system responsively causes a 2D or 3D topic space map similar to what is shown in 3D region **215** of FIG. **2** to be automatically displayed to the user. The displayed map is by default zoomed in on the local neighborhood of the topic center (e.g., Z-pole **219***a*) of the topic to which the earlier recommended chat room (**315***d*) primarily belonged. In one embodiment, the earlier recommended chat room (**315***d*) is highlighted as being hooped around or strongly tethered to that primary topic center (e.g., Z-pole **219***a*) or as having drifted (**216***d*) to a nearby other topic center (e.g., Z-pole **219***b*). With the various on-topic content sources (rings; e.g., chat rooms) in view, the topic map viewing user (e.g., Tom **132**) can attempt to enter those that seem most promising to him (not necessarily the originally recommended room **315***d*). As earlier explained, some of the displayed content sources (rings; e.g., chat rooms) may deny him participant level entry or any entrance at all for any of various reasons (e.g., room population limit has been reached, the room is reserved for a private chat, etc.).

[0161] Yet another option for the user who sees the Ken54 (TPP) notification in plate area **315***d***1** (where TPP is understood to flag out a Tipping Point Person) is to left or right click on an attached BuzzMe gadget icon (not shown at **315***d*, but similar to **315***c***4** of displayed recommendation glyph **315***c*). A left single or double click will automatically formulate a Me-Serving BOT (see also **255** of FIG. **2**) with launch guides derived by automated algorithms of the STAN_2 system based on its current understanding (from up- or in-loaded CFi's) of what the user probably intends as the search strategy for such a Me-Serving BOT where the search strategy (detailed below in conjunction with FIGS. **4**C-**4**D) includes a search for external content sources similar to those (of same kind and similar encodings) as that now exemplified by the recommendation/invitation **315***d*. A right click on the attached BuzzMe icon of **315***d* (not shown at **315***d*, see instead **315***c***4**) will give the user more detailed options in a pop out menu to pick from for thereby more specifically tailoring his to be instantiated and launched Me-Serving BOT (e.g., **255**) according to his likings. However, in the case where the user is too busy at the moment, this latter option may be counterproductive. In either case, the STAN_2 system signals the user that a corresponding Me-Serving BOT (e.g., **255**) has been, or soon will be formulated (instantiated) and launched on his behalf (the task is appended to a to-do list of the STAN_2 system as data processing bandwidth allows) with the understanding that the user will receive an email and/or alike other notification when the launched BOT (**255**) returns with its search results.

[0162] It is to be understood that when the flashing TP icon **315***f* was displayed to the user, another option he had was to drag and drop a copy of the TP icon **315***f* into a saved Tipping Point People (TPP) region of the save-and-retrieve tool **336**. This has the effect of allowing the user to later declare Ken54 as an influential and preferably followed, other user (preferably followed for everything or preferably followed only for a predefined one or more topics). In one embodiment, the user

may pick one of a predefined plurality of 'energy' (e.g., heat-) radiating profiles for attachment to his virtual version of the influential persona (e.g., Ken54). The 'energy' or 'heat' radiating profile may define how much positive or negative influencing 'heat' energy the influential persona (e.g., Ken54) is deemed to project onto nearby topic centers when that influential persona is interacting with a topic center that is in the TC neighborhood (where distance is measured according to a distancing function of topic space **215**). When potential chat opportunities or the like are later analyzed and scored in the background by the STAN_2 system for possible recommending to the user (e.g., **132**), those that feature a preferably to-be-followed (or avoided) persona (e.g., Ken54) as being logically linked to them or as having a high aggregate temperature due to aggregated heating by positive radiations or cooling by negative virtual radiations being projected thereto (e.g., with $1/r$ or $1/r^2$ or other radial distance decay) will have their ranking scores increased by a predetermined or proportional amount (e.g., +20 points) or appropriately decreased if the effect is a negative one. Premium subscription users of the STAN_2 system may be given the option to develop more complex scoring rules for various ones of preferably followed persona (e.g., Ken54) and cross-associated topics or topic centers. In one embodiment, one of the options included in the right-click pop out menu of the BuZZ-Me icon (e.g., **315***c***4**) is that of searching for external and/or internal content sources that feature the followed influential persona (e.g., Ken54) and/or other such influential personas (e.g., Jeff67, Seymour89). One of optional search templates that may be automatically or manually in-loaded into a Me-Serving BOT (e.g., **255**); or into another form of such BOT, is one that looks to detect if a multitude (exceeding a predefined threshold number) of followed, influential personas (e.g., **229** in FIG. **2**) are flocking towards (where such 'towards' flocking is denoted by path **229***a*) a specific TC neighborhood (e.g., **219***a*). If that is found to be the case, then the influencer's heat-seeking search template operates to automatically home in on such a hot spot (e.g., **219***a*) and optionally on external platform rings (e.g., **226**) pointed to by the in-STAN hot spot (e.g., **219***a* when TPP's **229** flock to it). As already mentioned, bounce back path **229***c* allows a topic space browsing user to seek out influential personas (e.g., **229**) who are now flocking, or have in the past flocked to a particular TC (e.g., **219***a*) or TCONE (e.g., **216***c*). The topic space browsing user who seeks out the influential personas (e.g., **229**) may want to send a question or other online message to those influencers (**229**; e.g., Ken54, Jeff67, Seymour89, Jim32, Gid10) about the same or a related topic. In one embodiment, the STAN_2 system automatically generates a template email or the like addressed to the desired influencers.

[0163] Still referring to FIG. **3**A, in one embodiment, if the user holds down a special key such as the Control key when dragging his cursor from the vicinity of a STAN_2 recommended content source (e.g., **315***d*), then a plurality or all of the associated objects (e.g., TC flag **315***e*, TPP **315***d***1**, Group ID (in **315***c***1**), link to the recommended content source, partial transcript, etc.) may be simultaneously dragged and dropped into respective 'Combo' save-and-retrieve subareas of the save-and-retrieve tool **336**.

[0164] In one embodiment, the user is given the option of color coding various parts of different icons that have been downloaded (or in-loaded) from the STAN_2 system into his local data processing device (e.g., CPU-**3** **132***a*). In one embodiment, a color coding options tool bar **319** is automatically displayed to the user. Within this color coding options tool bar **319**, the user is given the options of selecting colors, hatchings, textures and so on for respective ones of displayed icons of text in the STAN_2 driven recommendations banner **315**. For example, if plate **315***b***1** is indicating the presence of FaceBook™ friends, then at least a portion of plate **315***b***1** will be colored, textured, blinked, etc. in accordance with one or more selections made by the user in scroll down menu **319***b*. Adjacent and counterpart scroll down menu **319***a* of course lists the attribute that is to be so tagged with color and/or other graphic markers (e.g., highlighting). Companion scroll down menu **319***c* and **319***d* show other example where the user is causing indicators related to the LinkedIn™ external platform to be different colored and/or otherwise marked. In scroll down menu pair **319***ef*, the user can pick other attributes and associated color and/or other graphic markers (e.g., highlightings). The OTHR attribute does not have to be the identification of another external platform. It could instead be an identification of a topic center (TC) or of a topic domain within which one or more topic centers (child topic nodes) reside. It could instead be an identification of a single or predefined group of followed personas (e.g., Ken54). In one embodiment, the user has the option of increasing or decreasing the number of ancillary icon objects (e.g., **315***d***1**, **315***e*, **315***f*, **315***g*) that are displayed in banner area **315** so as to thereby make the banner area less cluttered or more detailed as desired. And of course, the user has the option of minimizing the recommendations banner area **315** to a bottom, top or side tray as may be preferred.

[0165] Referring to FIG. **3**B, it is assumed here that user **132** has virtually pressed the OK pushbutton **318***b* of FIG. **3**A at an earlier time. Of importance, in the environment **301** of FIG. **3**B (also environment **132***e***2**/**132***u***2** of FIG. **1**A), the volunteering user (CPUP **132**, who was "Tom" but now is calling himself "Thomas") is not being directly monitored by the STAN_2 system **110**/**210** anymore (by way of CFi's or CVi's). The monitoring status box **312'** indicates that interest monitoring is turned OFF (and in the illustrated example, scrollable opportunities banner **315**/**315***ss* is thus no longer displayed). Either the user **132** has just turned it off or he shut down his computer and at a later time logged into external platform **120** but not into platform **110**.

[0166] Something happened between the time when the volunteering user (CPUP **132**, then calling himself "Tom" in environment **132***e***1**) pressed the OK pushbutton **318** of FIG. **3**A and the time when the pushed survey **320** of FIG. **3**B appears. In that interim time the STAN_2 system **110**/**210** automatically (but with user **132**'s knowing permission) caused a spyware program **132***s* to be downloaded (or in-loaded) from the STAN_2 platform **110** and via secured messaging link **132***m* into the user-designated physical or virtually instantiated CPUs (e.g., **132***b*) where the latter will be interfacing on a sometimes not-STAN_2-monitored basis with the external platform **120**. The latter happens when user **132** is logged on as "Thomas" (for example) into the external platform **120** but not into platform **110** as "Tom". The downloaded spyware program **132***s* is not as capable as the full STAN_2 system **110** (e.g., a cloud computing supported system) to automatically determine what topic of interest Thomas (**132**) is currently focusing upon when flying solo inside of external platform **120**. In one embodiment, for example, the spyware program **132***s* does not upload (or in-load) CFi's or CVi's to the STAN_2 system. The down or in-loaded spyware program **132***s* is however configured to

have some modicum of intelligence and to selectively intrude on Thomas with a predefined and pushed survey **320** when one of a few predetermined triggering events happens, such as when certain predefined keywords (e.g., keywd**1** **317***b*') appear while at the same time an unmonitored Thomas (**132**) is logged into a predetermined external interest group (e.g., **224** of FIG. **2**). In one embodiment, it has been predetermined beforehand that general topic "A" of FIG. **3**A (or sub-topic A**4**) is more likely than not to come up when Thomas (**132**) is logged into that predetermined interest group (e.g., **224** of FIG. **2**). Otherwise the downloaded spyware program **132***s* remains substantially dormant and just periodically checks to see if Thomas (**132**) is logged into that predetermined interest group (e.g., **224** of FIG. **2**). The downloaded spyware program **132***s* may occasionally also use secured channel **132***m* (FIG. **1**A) to see if there are any updates for it to be downloaded (or in-loaded) from the STAN_2 platform **110** into CPU-**4** (**132***b*).

[0167] In the state where survey dialog box **320** is being presented to the user (Thomas **132**) in FIG. **3**B, it is the downloaded spyware program **132***s* and not the full STAN_2 system that is controlling the survey. It is assumed for the case of FIG. **3**B that user Thomas (having logged in via interface **128** into platform **120** with user ID **132***u***2**) is deeply embroiled in a social networking exchange inside platform **120** with other users of that external platform **120**. Thomas is probably not thinking about the STAN_2 system and its needs. But at this time, the downloaded spyware program **132***s* detects that Thomas is logged into the predefined external users' group **224** and that one or more of predefined keywords (e.g., **317***b*') have been recently used to an extent exceeding a predefined threshold in the highlighted window **317**' (the window, frame or pane where within members of the predefined external users group **224** are exchanging notes). Incidentally, the survey triggering algorithm does not have to be based on keywords or keywords alone. It could be alternatively or additionally based on predefined meta-tags, or on predefined MetaWeb™ entity identifications, and so on and these may be buried inside a subframe **317***a*' of the highlighted window **317**'.) In response to this unique set of survey triggering circumstances, the downloaded spyware program **132***s* automatically causes the intrusive survey dialog box **320** to be pushed into the attention area of the user (Thomas). (Or if the user interface is purely audio at the time, the intrusive survey akin to dialog box **320** may be in purely audio format.) The displayed content in the survey dialog box **320** is a function of not only the user having earlier pressed pushbutton **318***b* (OK) in FIG. **3**A and the accepted spyware program **132***s* having been downloaded (or in-loaded) into Thomas's computer **132***b*. The displayed content of survey box **320** is also a function of various keywords, meta-tags, MetaWeb™ ID's (buried in **317***a*'), etc. being picked out by the downloaded spyware program **132***s* as being present in the FaceBook™ driven user window **317**' (now highlighted by action of the spyware program **132***s*) that is currently the basis of the pushed survey **320**. Pushbutton options **318***c*' through **318***g*' have already been described with reference to FIGS. **1**B and **3**A and thus do not need repeated explanation here. Introduction message **321** reinforces for the volunteering user (CPUP **132**, a.k.a. Thomas) the nature of the task he is being asked to undertake and for whom he is being asked to do this (for STAN). The user has been recently using window of frame **317**' that is being driven by an external platform (FaceBook™ in this example) and now a survey triggering event such as presence of one or more keywords such as **317***b*' (keywd**1**) within the subject window **317**' are highlighted by operation of the spyware program **132***s* to thereby show the volunteered user (CPUP **132**) what content triggered the spyware program **132***s* to present the pushed survey proposal **320**.

[0168] Different external platforms use different terminologies or metaphors for marking off different parts of their virtual geographies. The "THIS NODE" descriptor in selection box **321***a* of message **321** may not be the best descriptor for FaceBook™ and instead may have said THIS WALL or THIS GROUP. In one embodiment, the user can pick a different terminology and can right click to get more information or options in selection box **321***a*. Selection box **321***b* reinforces the identity of the external platform (FaceBook™ in this example). In some embodiments, the user (e.g., a STAN-SUPER_REP) may select a different external platform name as being the more correct name for the platform that is driving the content originally shown in window **317**' (before spyware program **132***s* starts highlighting some of it). The choices made in selection boxes **321***a* and **321***b* are mirror copied into associated boxes **321***aa* and **321***bb*.

[0169] A first voting (or survey question) **322** presented to the volunteering user (CPUP **132**) inquires as to whether what is happening inside the now highlighted window **317**' is worthy of further attention. In other words, does it represent an emerging hot topic or hot topic domain in the being-surveyed-about FaceBook™ environment (e.g., discussion group **224**)? There is no need at this time to define what the topic or topic domain is. The survey **320** is merely testing to first see if the surveyed user (Thomas) merely "feels" that something of attention worthy value is now happening inside highlighted window **317**'. (Unlike human in-the-field agents like Thomas, automated CPAP's cannot "feel" and thus they cannot provide emotion-based evaluation of what is developing in external discussion group windows such as **317**'.) It should be recalled that STAN_2 monitoring is OFF (per box **312**') at this time and therefore the STAN_2 system cannot be aware of what is now happening inside window **317**' or how the STAN-(SUPER or regular)-REP user **132** is responding to it (feeling about it) emotionally and/or otherwise based on uploaded ones of his CFi's and CVi's because the latter are not being uploaded into the STAN_2 system. However, since the downloaded spyware program **132***s* detected that a usage threshold has been crossed by the user as he interacts with content inside window **317**', that could be indicative of an important and survey-worthy new development in the subject social networking space (e.g., **224**) or not. The STAN_2 system **110** is relying on Thomas to report back about it via the secured messaging provided by communications link **132***m* of FIG. **1**A and via the survey process being mediated by the downloaded spyware program **132***s*. The simple vote options in FIG. **3**B allow Thomas to quickly indicate (with a simple turn on of radio button **323** for example) that in his humble opinion (IMHO) this is an emerging and hot topic "domain" or a hot topic "node" (if selection of later is made in box **323***a*). Alternatively, Thomas may vote (with radio button **324**) that the activity currently developing in window **317**' represents merely an already established "warm" (not shown selection that is nonetheless chooseable) topic domain per the default options presented in voting line **324**. It could also be deemed a "cold" or "old" topic by Thomas. Alternatively, Thomas may vote (with radio button **325**) for the none-of-the-above option. This locally cast and recorded vote is eventually reported back to the STAN_2 system via messaging

link **132***m* (when STAN_2 has spare bandwidth for such low priority information being down or in-loaded into to it from metaphorically, out-in-the-field spyware programs **132***s*).

[0170] The spyware-pushed first survey page **320** provides the user (Thomas) with a pushbutton option **326***b* of casting the first vote and immediately thereafter quitting the survey so as to thus not be bothered by further survey questions at this time. In response to such a survey quitting action, the downloaded spyware program **132***s* collects the identity of the surveyed user (Thomas), the identity of the associated external platform (e.g., FaceBook™), the identity of the discussion group (**224**) that triggered the survey push **320**, an identification of current users inside that discussion group if possible, and the time date and time of the vote as well as Thomas's cast voting information and eventually relays it back to the STAN_2 system **110** (as a cross-pollination data package—explained below). Many volunteered STAN-REP users like Thomas will also be reporting back with their ID's, their votes and their respective impressions about the same and/or other external discussion sessions (e.g., **226**). The STAN_2 system will be automatically collecting all these votes and impression reports, sorting them (e.g., as to topic center of origin of the volunteer), weighting them (e.g., according to who are more influential or more trustworthy STAN-REP users and who less so), summing and normalizing the weighted and counted votes and developing trending maps or histograms that will help the STAN_2 system to automatically or with aid of its human operators, determine where the trending-to-hot discussions and/or topics are out there in the STAN_2-not-monitored external content space (not-monitored because no STAN_2 user is focusing upon that external content area with his or her SS2 monitoring switch **312** turned ON). However, a top priority of the STAN_2 system remains that of first servicing its currently logged-in members, collecting their CFi's, CVi's, and responsively making automated content source recommendations to them. As mentioned, the surveying of user impressions (e.g., Thomas's) about content found on external platforms (e.g., **120**) is a lower priority task and is carried out as, and if, spare bandwidth becomes available within the data processing resource banks of the STAN_2 system **110**/**210**. Since the spyware program **132***s* can record its collected data and wait until the STAN_2 system flags that it is ready to receive spyware program messages (because spare bandwidth is now available), the STAN_2 system is not unduly burdened with having to deal in real time with reports at the instant they become available from the many, out-in-the-field spyware programs **132***s*.

[0171] Still referring to user actions in FIG. **3**B, if on the other hand, the user (Thomas) virtually presses pushbutton option **326***a*, the downloaded spyware program **132***s* responsively presents a next survey page such as page **320***b* shown in FIG. **3**C. In this next surveying box (**320***b*) the downloaded spyware program **132***s* is gathering more detailed information; for example, which words and/or other content inside highlighted window **317**" does Thomas think/feel are best representative of what is going on inside of window **317**"? Again, the spyware program **132***s* is not asking Thomas to do any deep thinking at the moment and to insightfully define or describe the topic of discussion that is emerging in the social networking (SN) exchange happening inside highlighted window **317**". The downloaded (or in-loaded) spyware program **132***s* may automatically provide default suggestions such as keywords (e.g., **317***c*') that it has automatically picked out of highlighted window **317**". This may help reduce Thomas's workload if and when he decides to respond to the popped open survey window. (Thomas may elect to minimize the window—by using a minimize icon in the upper right corner—and to get back to the survey shortly afterwards.) Although default suggested keywords (e.g., **323***b*") are displayed when the survey **320** is popped open, a scroll down option is provided in each checkable vote box like **323***b*" to thereby allow Thomas to pick something else or to copy and paste (or drag and drop) another part of highlighted window **317**" (e.g., the being dragged object **323***c*") so as to make it a checked on vote option in place of those suggested by the spyware program **132***s*.

[0172] Voting line **324**" lets Thomas indicate which of possible 'TAG' words that can be associated with highlighted window **317**" is or are in his humble opinion (IMHO) best representative of what is going on inside the highlighted window **317**". Similar to the pick or drag-and-drop option for keywords (**323***c*", **336***e*"), the spyware program **132***s* lets Thomas choose or fill in (e.g., by drag-and-drop or type-in) alternate vote responses in place of the default ones originally displayed in the TAGs voting line **324**".

[0173] Voting line **325**" lets Thomas indicate which of possible hyperlinks (e.g., URL's, universal resource locators) appearing in highlighted window **317**" (e.g., URL**6**) is or are best representative of what is going on inside the highlighted window **317**". Similar to the drag-and-drop option for keywords (**323***c*", **336***e*"), the spyware program **132***s* lets Thomas fill in alternate vote response in place of the default ones originally displayed in the key Users voting line **325**".

[0174] In one embodiment, a displayed scroll bar **327**" lets Thomas scroll down to see other, vote-upon options and he can choose which to vote on and which to ignore as he sees fit. For example, the other vote-upon options may ask: which images are best representative (for possible submission to GoogleGoggles™ or an equivalent tool). In one embodiment, when Thomas clicks on a vote line (not shown) directed to "buried" meta-tags, "buried" MetaWeb™ identifiers and so on, the locations of those "buried" objects are indicated on his screen **302** by highlighting or flashing of corresponding pixels in target window **317**". In one embodiment, scroll bar **327**" lets Thomas scroll to a representative users voting line (not shown, but see also FIG. **3**D) that lets Thomas indicate which of possible user names appearing in highlighted window **317**" is or are best representative of what is going on inside the highlighted window **317**". Similar to the drag-and-drop option for keywords (**323***c*", **336***e*"), the spyware program **132***s* lets Thomas fill in alternate vote response in place of the default ones originally displayed in the key Users voting line (not shown). In one embodiment, when a user name (e.g., usr**3**) is picked up from a window (**317**") that is being driven by an external platform (e.g., **120**), the identification of that external platform (e.g., FaceBook™) is concatenated to the picked up user name (e.g., usr**3**) and the concatenated combination is what is sent back to the STAN_2 system as part of the votes or survey answers gathering operation. This is done because a same user can have respective different user names on respective different platforms and thus a "Ken54" (for example) on a first platform (e.g., **142**) may not be the same person as a "Ken54" on a second platform (e.g., **144**). It is to be understood that when users are identified by the STAN_2 system according to their user name, the identification generally includes something more than just the raw user name (e.g., "Ken54") so that the specific person being referenced

by that user name is correctly pointed to (as best as can be practically done). In one embodiment, the displayed scroll bar **327"** is configured to present survey questions of more complex or difficult nature the further down the vertical that Thomas scrolls. The more difficult questions may ask Thomas to start defining the general and specific topic nodes (of topic space **215**) that the current discussion in target window **317"** is most nearly connected with.

[0175] With regard to identifying STAN_2 topic nodes, in one embodiment, a finite subset of the topic nodes in topic space **215** of FIG. **2** are made unmovable and are assigned respective fixed root locations in that space **215** and are assigned fixed virtual distances as between each other. (A root location is a 3D point and does not have to reside on the Z=0 plane.) It should be recalled that in general, most topic nodes (whose locations are represented in FIG. **2** for example by Z-poles such as **219***a* and **219***b*) can migrate in position within the topic space **215** due to shifting moods of the membership population that currently occupies and controls the TCONEs (rings) that are logically hooped or strongly tethered to the respective topic nodes (a.k.a. topic centers or TC's). Members of a given TCONE or a given topic center can vote to move their respective TCONE or whole topic center to a different topic domain if they so choose. Accordingly, a general purpose topic center is a variable and movable software entity (as represented by physical and not elusively transitory signals). Nonetheless, a finite number of unmovable and fixed in location (in topic space **215**) Z-poles are virtually created in accordance with one embodiment for the purpose of serving as reference points around which the variable and movable other entities may orbit or move between. In other words, the finite set of unmovable root points and/or Z-poles may be viewed as if they were fixed stars (or virtual GPS satellites) in an otherwise constantly shifting sky dome. In one embodiment, the finite set of unmovable root points or Z-poles are defined as MetaWeb™ like entities and are assigned MetaWeb™ or equivalent identifications that can be universally used by participants of the Internet for pinpoint wise pointing to those unmovable root points or Z-poles in the STAN_2 topic space **215**. In one embodiment, neighborhoods around the unmovable root points or Z-poles (e.g., MetaWeb™ pinpointed points/poles) may be defined by providing one or more virtual radius values as measured relative to surrounding fixed root points or Z-poles. In this way a topic "neighborhood" that surrounds a fixed root point or Z-pole may be specified. Specific points and/or micro-neighborhoods in the STAN_2 topic space **215** may also be specified by triangulating as between three or more of the GPS-like, fixed root points or Z-poles.

[0176] While the above discussion regarding root points, Z-poles and topic space (**215**) might be argued by others to be "abstract", the inventors here are directing this disclosure to the non-abstract and machine-implemented carrying out of these teachings wherein real physical signals (e.g., electromagnetic signals) are physically transmitted through and as between real physical machines (e.g., computers, servers, cloud computing centers) and stored in physical memory devices thus transforming the memory devices from one physical state to another). The inventors here are directing this disclosure to the non-abstract and machine-implemented carrying out of these teachings wherein real physical and not-elusively transitory signals, that consistently represent the here described virtual entities, are used, stored and interacted with one another and/or in accordance with predefined, non-abstract instructing signals (e.g., software) that control the actions of non-abstract instructable machines so as to actually effect the outcomes described herein. As such, unsupported allegations (if any) about the present disclosure being directed to un-useful and abstract arts are to be seen as being wholly without merit.

[0177] Before moving on to the next survey taking screen **303** of FIG. **3**D, attention is redirected here to the multi-platform, multi-framework depiction of FIG. **2**. The Z-direction axis of frame **210***xyz* of topic space **215** may be viewed as having points disposed therealong which represent any selected ones or combinations of potentially differing attributes of each of the TCONE's (or rings) that hooped around (or tethered to) respective ones of the Z-poles (only a few shown as such at **219***a* and **219***b* so as to avoid illustrative clutter). One of the potentially differing attributes of each of the TCONE's, as may be represented by spaced apart points on the Z-axis of frame **210***xyz*, can be maximum number of participating members allowed at one time inside the Notes Exchange activity (the "NE" part of the TCONE acronym) of the corresponding TCONE. Since respective TCONEs can be formed with many different and respective values for such participating populace limits, the TCONE's may be viewed as being stacked with larger sized ones of allowable population on the bottom and smaller ones towards the top to thereby create the impression of a cone formed by an ordered stacking of the hoops (rings) as shown for example at **219***a* in FIG. **2**. However, at least some TCONEs may be deemed to have no thickness in the Z-direction. Accordingly any desired number of TCONEs with a chat room population limit of say 5 members maximum may be stacked about a Z-pole (or strongly tethered to that Z-pole) without taking away Z-direction space that is usable for other attributes of the respective TCONEs.

[0178] Another attribute that is assignable to the different TCONEs is that of minimum required (and possibly also maximum allowed) "expertise" in the topic of the topic center owned note exchange (TCONE). Level of expertise in the given topic, like room population, may be viewed as defining the radius of the respective TCONE. For example, a Notes Exchange (NE) session that requires a very high level of expertise (and for example into languages) might be symbolized as having a very small hoop radius while a Notes Exchange session that allows for a relatively broad class of people to participate (e.g., expertise level from beginner to novice, intermediate and so forth and in only a single layperson's language) might be symbolized as having a relatively larger hoop radius and thus cone structures with such variations of hoop radius might be displayed to a user when the user navigates to the topic space **215** (via connection path **218**) so that the user may perceive it as a sorted and thus organized set, the various options available to him or her when viewing a topic center neighborhood or browsing through the STAN_2 topic space **215** in search of a Notes Exchange (NE) session that the user might want to view and/or enter into as a Notes Exchanging participant.

[0179] In one embodiment, a STAN_2 user (e.g., **212**) who is viewing a STAN_2 generated display of the STAN_2 topic space **215** may variably reset the Z-axis of frame **210***xyz* to represent any one or more attributes in a desired ordered fashion, for example as a multivariate combination of average historical room population and average level of participant expertise. In one embodiment of a STAN_2 generated display of its topic space **215**, at least some of the 3D cones

displayed as each primarily belonging to a respective topic center (to a Z-pole) are composed not just of stacked hoops of changing radius but as stacks of layers each having cones in that layer (see **216***f* as an example of such a cones-containing layer) where the mini-cones in each layer may have individual TCONEs. This approach may be fractal-wise carried out to an Nth degree where N=2, 3, etc. For example, if N=3, each macro cone has layers of mini-cones and each mini-cone has its own plural layers of micro-cones where the micro-cones finally are formed of stacked TCONE rings. It is within the contemplation of the present disclosure incidentally to display the STAN_2 topic space **215** with methods that show more than 3 dimensions at a time. For example, time sequenced snapshots of the topic space **215** may be displayed wherein the attribute represented by the Z-axis switches from one displayed snapshot to the next. Color coding may be used to differentiate between one snapshot and the next as they are displayed in round robin fashion.

[0180] With that explained, the connection between FIG. **3**B and FIG. **2** can now be better explained. The surveyed user (e.g., Thomas) was acting as a more intelligent (and "feelings" capable) substitute for a CPAP like **260**. By answering the various questions of survey page **320***b* (FIG. **3**B), the surveyed user, together with the automated survey return action of the spyware program **132***s*, was gathering up cross-pollination data (**262** and **264**) from an external platform node (e.g., **226**) wherein an external group (e.g., **224**) was engaged in a Notes Exchange session (e.g., chat room discussion, blog comments, etc.). The surveyed user was being used for bringing that human-evaluated (voted on) cross-pollination data (**262** and **264**) back to the hive (to the STAN_2 system **110**/**210**), and more specifically back to the topic center (or TCONE) from which his alter ego (Tom) came for processing and possible absorption by that TC or TCONE of origin.

[0181] More specifically, either a CPUP (e.g., Thomas plus the spyware program **132***s* loaded in his computer) or a CPAP (shown as BOT bee **260**) returns to the hive with new cross-pollination data (**262** and **264**). Then that data is automatically analyzed by the STAN_2 system to determine what topic nodes it might belong to (if it is raw CFi data such as provided by Lurking BOTS like **116***c*) and/or if a topic center (TC) does not already exist that corresponds to the cross-pollination data, whether a new topic center (e.g., **216***n*) should now be instantiated to receive that returned data package. Usually the answer is yes, a topic node already exists, because Thomas (**132** in FIG. **1**A) originated from a STAN_2 topic center to begin with (unless in the rare exception, Thomas is a free ranging STAN-SUPER_REP). The logical linking of Thomas to one or a limited few STAN_2 topic centers happened in FIG. **3**A when Thomas pressed the virtual OK button **319***b* and agreed to be a STAN-REP for a specified topic (e.g., Topic A) and for a specific external platform (e.g., FaceBook™). At that time, the STAN_2 system automatically recorded in its database (**119**) the association between the ID of the volunteering STAN_2 user (Thomas, actually operating as Tom at that point but whose alternate UBID-**2** is obtainable from alias lookup record **184** of FIG. **1**B) and the topic he or she was agreeing to be surveyed on and the external platform (e.g., FaceBook™) for which the surveys will be conducted. Accordingly, when the spyware program **132***s* in Thomas's physical or virtually instantiated CPU automatically reports back with Thomas's ID and the ID of the external platform and the ID of the external discussion group (e.g., **224**), the STAN_2 system can automatically generate a corresponding logical link (e.g., **261**) and record it as such in its DB **119** where the link extends between the external discussion (e.g., **226**) and/or the external discussion group (e.g., **224**) and the topic center (e.g., **216***n*) from which Thomas originated when he originally volunteered to be a STAN-REP. In one embodiment, the volunteering user has limited access to his STAN-REP account and can perform various system allowed actions such as temporarily de-volunteering or trying to change his volunteer parameters (e.g., the ones established in FIG. **3**A).

[0182] After either a CPUP (e.g., Thomas plus the spyware program **132***s* loaded in his computer) or a Searching-type CPAP (BOT bee **260**) returns to the hive with new cross-pollination data (**262** and/or **264** and/or **252** as shall soon be described) and presents that new cross-pollination data to a corresponding topic center (e.g., **216***n*), in one embodiment, that presented cross-pollination data (pCPD **262**/**264**/**252**) is not immediately absorbed into the topic node itself and/or into specific TCONE's (rings) of the TC (e.g., **216***n*). Instead, vote-eligible members of the TC and/or TCONE may first inspect and vote on the admissibility and value (ranking) of the presented cross-pollination data (**262**/**264**/**252**). Alternatively or additionally, a data buffering program provided by the STAN_2 system for each TC or TCONE may first or substitutionally inspect and vote on the admissibility and value (ranking) of the presented cross-pollination data (**262**/**264**/**252**), where after if the automated filtering is not a substitutional one, live members of the TC and/or TCONE may elect to further inspect and vote on the admissibility and value (ranking) of the presented cross-pollination data. Accordingly not all pCPD (presented cross-pollination data such as **262**/**264**/**252**) is absorbed and logically linked to a core center (**216***c*) of the TC or TCONE to which it is brought by a CPUP or CPAP. Some pCPD (e.g., **254**) may be wholly or partially rejected by the surrounding buffer (**216***b*) of the corresponding core center (**216***c*) of the respective TC or TCONE. Presented cross-pollination data **254** of rejected (and dejected) BOT **253** represents an example of such wholly or partially rejected data. Repeated rejections (e.g., to a BOT with inherited, software-DNA like that of BOT **253**) may operate to reduce populations of search BOTS having constantly turned down software-DNA (software defined search characteristics) that brings back the wrong kind of presented cross-pollination data (**262**/**264**/**252**). Repeated acceptances, on the other hand, may operate to increase populations of search BOTS having consistently approved software-DNA that causes the BOT to bring back the right kind of presented cross-pollination data (**262**/**264**/**252**) to the TC or TCONE (e.g., **216***c*) from where it was born (instantiated and launched). This aspect will be more clearly understood when step **451** of FIG. **4**C is detailed below.

[0183] More specifically in FIG. **2**, CPAP **251** (but it could instead be the spyware program **132***s* of Thomas's physical local or remotely instantiated machine **132***b*) is shown bringing back one or more so-called cross-pollination package(s) **252** where the payload inside the cross-pollination package (s) **252** can be any type of potentially useful cross-pollination data (CPD) such as, but not limited to: (a) a chosen URL (e.g., URL**6** of FIG. **3**C) that is believed to be on-topic with regard to the core topic of the destination TC or TCONE (**216***c*) and is further believed to be new for that TC or TCONE; (b) a chosen keyword (e.g., **323***c*" (keywd**5**) of FIG. **3**C) that is believed to be on-topic with regard to the core topic and further new for that TC or TCONE; (c) a chosen meta-tag or

overt tag (e.g., **324"** of FIG. **3**C) that is believed to be on-topic with regard to the core topic and further new for that TC or TCONE; (d) a chosen user name (e.g., usr**3** of FIG. **3**C) that is believed to be important with regard to the core topic of the destination TC or TCONE (**216***c*) and further new relative to other user names already logically linked to that TC or TCONE; and (e) an identification of a chosen external discussion group (e.g., **224**) and/or of a chosen external discussion thread (e.g., **226**) or subthread and/or an identification of alike other external content that is believed to be of value to the core topic of the destination TC or TCONE (**216***c*), new for that TC or TCONE (not yet represented therein by a logical link) and thus worthy of partial or wholesale absorption by the destination TC or TCONE (**216***c*). More generally, the payload inside the cross-pollination package(s) **252** can be any type of potentially useful, on-topic "encoding" or on-topic content that might be valuable for incorporating into the CPAP or CPUP launching TC or TCONE (**216***c*) or for incorporating into another TC (e.g., **216***n*, where n is for "new" here) that may not have yet even been created within the STAN_2 topic space **215**. (See again the above description of re-routing path **253***a*.)

[0184] In one embodiment of the STAN_2 system, there is instantiated a so-called "double-cross" pollination operation which may be at least some of the time automatically executed (as data processing bandwidth permits) when a returning BOT (e.g., **255**) brings back a payload (e.g., **264** plus **262**) containing one or more native user names (such as may appear in a transcript area **316***b* of FIG. **3**A) and brings back encodings (e.g., produced Notes, keyword etc.) that are logically linked to those native user names; where each native user name or other equivalent user identification is based on the user account that is native to the source external platform from where the CP data (**254**) came from. (That source external platform will be referred to here also as the first external platform.) The logically cross-linked encoding(s) that are thus associated with the native user name and/or other native user ID may be the full comment (a Note) that the native user made in an external discussion thread (e.g., in transcript area **316***b* or its equivalent) or a full other Note presentation the native user provided or a synopsis thereof or a set of primary encodings extracted therefrom. The logically cross-linked encoding(s) are automatically tested by the STAN_2 system to determine how well they cross-correlate with current top encodings or other attributes (e.g., Top N encodings, Top P pointers, or Top Q drift indicators) of the returned-to launcher TC or TCONE (**216***c*). If the cross-correlation(s) is/are above predefined threshold(s), the STAN_2 system searches its database (DB **119**) for an aliases lookup record (e.g., like **184** of FIG. **1**B) that reveals not only the identification of the target native user on the first external platform—from where the payload (**264+262**) came—but also reveals alter ego identifications of the same user on other external platforms and/or within the STAN_2 system itself. Then, as data processing bandwidth allows, TC or TCONE-Serving BOTs are launched toward those other external platforms and/or within STAN_2 itself with instructions to search for substantially contemporaneous Notes (e.g., discussion group contributions) made by the identified target user when in his or her alter ego form on the other (secondary) platforms. These are brought back by the launched TC or TCONE-Serving BOTs (**255**) and tested (e.g., voted on by buffer layer **216***b*) for possible relevance the launcher TC or TCONE (**216***c*). In one embodiment, the targeted native user of the first external platform is automatically first asked for permission (one time or always) by the STAN_2 system to use his alter-ego personas (of the other/secondary platforms and to use the thereto-attributed content contributions. In one embodiment, the targeted native user may elect to have his alter ego other ID's automatically converted into "Anonymous" or the like before such is introduced for possible cross-pollinating absorption into the launcher TC or TCONE (**216***c*) space of the STAN_2 system. If the targeted native user allows his alter ego ID to be shown to STAN_2 users, after viewing the retrieved external content, those STAN_2 users may elect to instigate a chat proposal (or other form of proposed Notes Exchange) with the original author(s) by means of a contact bounce back tool (not shown) made available to them by the STAN_2 system. In other words, and for purpose of summarizing this "double-cross" pollination operation; once a relevant outside user name is found (relevant to the current TC or TCONE, e.g., **216***c*), the STAN_2 system automatically uses its internal cross-aliases records (e.g., **184**) to lookup the alter-egos of the same person inside STAN_2 and/or on yet other external platforms and the STAN_2 system then automatically performs a seek to those internal or yet other external sourcing areas to see if yet further and well cross-correlated cross-pollination data (**262**/**264**/**252**) can be brought back from the yet further content sources.

[0185] It is worthwhile to step back at this point and look at the bigger picture presented by FIG. **2**. With the help of cross-pollinating CPAP's (e.g., **255**, **260**) and/or CPUP's (e.g., Thomas), a logical link such as **261** can be established within the STAN_2 system (in the form of linking data pointing to an external node) as between a Notes Exchange session or node (e.g., **226**) of an external platform (e.g., **220**/**120**) or a corresponding Notes Exchanging group (e.g., **224**) of people and a TC or TCONE (e.g., **216***n* or **216***c*) within the topic space **215** of the STAN_2 system **110**/**210** and/or with a corresponding Notes Exchanging group (e.g., **213**) of people who are users of the STAN_2 system and who are logically linked to the in-STAN TC or TCONE (e.g., **216***n*). This can occur because an entity (e.g., Thomas **132***u***2**) who was at the time of focusing upon relevant content (in FIG. **3**B), NOT being monitored by the STAN_2 system (through use of uploading CFi's and CVi's). Nonetheless there is detection (e.g., by spyware program **132***s*) of external material which could be of value to a particular TC or TCONE (e.g., **115***x* of FIG. **1**A) from which TC/TCONE (e.g., **216***c*) this unmonitored entity (e.g., Thomas **132***u***2** or CPAP **116***a*, a.k.a. CPAP **117**) was originally launched. In the case of the unmonitored human agent (e.g., Thomas) the cross-pollination data (**262**/**264**/**252**) was collected by means of a timely and automatically presented survey proposal (e.g., **320** of FIG. **3**B) which the unmonitored human agent (e.g., Thomas) agreed to respond to either immediately then (e.g., in FIGS. **3**B, **3**C and **3**D—where FIG. **3**D will be described shortly) or at a later time (e.g., by pressing Remind Me button **318***d*').

[0186] Next, in the here overviewed process, the survey responses automatically came back to the TC or TCONE (e.g., **216***n* or **216***c*) of origin of the surveyed person (e.g., Thomas). The survey-answering responses contained information (physical data signals) which allowed the survey-answering responses to be tested for cross-correlation with expansion/evolution needs or desires of the returned-to TC or TCONE (**216***n* or **216***c*). Those expansion/evolution needs or desires may include, but are not limited to, a desire to attach new keywords (e.g., **323"**), new tags or meta-tags (e.g., **324"**),

new hyperlinks (e.g., **325**"), new images (not shown), and/or identifications of new external platform users (e.g., usr**3** of FIG. **3**C) to database records of the STAN_2 system that define or are otherwise logically linked to the returned-to TC or TCONE (**216***n*) so that the value and/or up-to-datedness of the absorbing TC or TCONE is enhanced. Those expansion/evolution needs or desires of the launcher TC or TCONE (e.g., **216***c*) may further include, but are not limited to, a desire to detect and possibly link to (**261**) external platform Notes Exchange sessions (e.g., **226**) and/or external platform Notes Exchanging groups or individuals (e.g., **224**) whose current topics of interest may closely overlap with current topics of interest of the returned-to TC or TCONE (**216***n*) or with current topics of interest of STAN_2 users (e.g., **212**) who reference the returned-to TC or TCONE (**216***c*).

[0187] In terms of a more concrete and specific example, suppose that in-STAN user **212** operates his local data processing device (e.g., **132***a*, or its remotely instantiated equivalent) to navigate via a browse connection like **218** (see also **315***e* of FIG. **3**A) to a corresponding TC or TCONE represented by circle **216***n* of FIG. **2**. Suppose further that in-STAN user **212** is also (perhaps in an alter ego form) a member of external platform discussion group **223**. But this user **212** (a.k.a. member of **224**) does not yet know about the existence of external discussion group **223** on external platform **220**. Suppose however, that when in-STAN user **212** is browsing about TC or TCONE **216***n*, he discovers the cross-pollination link **261** back to not only external platform node **226** and perhaps from there back to external discussion group **224** (if platform **220** allows the STAN_2 system **210** to obtain back link **228** from **226** to **224**) but also he discovers other cross-pollination link (not **261**) from TC **216***n* back to yet another external discussion group **223** of external platform **220**.

[0188] As a result of this activity, the in-STAN user **212** who (perhaps in an alter ego form) is a member of external platform discussion group **224** has used the topic center (TC) based data structure of the STAN_2 system to locate overlapping discussion group **223** (or its node similar to **226** but not referenced) on the external platform **220** where beforehand user **212** was not aware of the same; even though discussion groups **223** and **224** are on the same external platform **220** and share at least some topic of common interest!

[0189] The reason that members of discussion groups like **223** and **224** may not know of each other's existence is because the discussion groups space **225** of external platform **220** is flat. Notes Exchange sessions (e.g., discussion threads) are not logically tethered or hooped to a common topic center (topic node) in external space **225**. Accordingly, a first discussion by members of discussion group **224** may take place in node **226** and may center on Topic 'A' (assume for the moment it is also the topic of STAN_2 TC or TCONE **216***n*) while another discussion by members of discussion group **223** may simultaneously take place in a spaced apart node (far from **226**) in flat space **225** and may also center on the same Topic 'A' and nonetheless members of discussion groups **223** and **224** may not know of each other and of their concurrent overlapping interest in a same topic (e.g., 'A'). This is so because discussion groups space **225** is flat and its Notes Exchange sessions (e.g., rings) are dispersed about that flat space in an often non-topical manner (e.g., chronologically ordered). It may very well be that one or more members of discussion groups **223** and **224** may greatly benefit from being joined (electronically or otherwise) with a member or more of the other group. The presence of a commonly linking and on-topic, topic center like **216***n* of the STAN_2 system **220** makes such cross discussion group pollination possible. Although FIG. **2** shows just one logical link **261** being established between in-STAN node **216***n* and out-of-STAN node **226**, it should be apparent now that, just like a first go-between CPAP **260** or CPUP (e.g., Thomas) helped create cross-platform link **261** between nodes **216***n* and **226**, yet other go-between CPAP's **260** or CPUP's would likely create a cross-platform link (like **261**) between in-STAN node **216***n* and the other out-of-STAN node (not **226**) whose members (**223**) are discussing the very same topic 'A'. Thus the STAN_2 system can serve as a intermediating or joining mechanism that allows external but separated discussion groups (e.g., **223**, **224**) on a same external platform (e.g., **220**) or even sometimes on different external platforms (e.g., **146**, **147**, depending on usage restrictions of the external platforms) to join with one another when they have a common topic of interest (e.g., Topic 'A'). In other words, thanks to the cross-platform cross-pollination activities of go-between CPAP's (e.g., **260**) or CPUP's (e.g., Thomas **132***u***2**), joinder of persons having a common topic of interest can take place as between members of external platforms as long as one of the members is a STAN_2 user (e.g., **212**) who takes advantage of the STAN_2 browsing function that allows STAN_2 user (e.g., **212**) to browse within the STAN_2 topic space **215**.

[0190] By the same token, members of different groups (e.g., **213**, **214**) in the STAN_2 membership space **211** may be connected with one another when a member of a first of the groups visits the common topic center (TC, e.g., **219***a*) and learns of the existence of and common topic of interest by the other group.

[0191] Referring to FIG. **3**D, aspects thereof will now be described in greater detail. The higher and/or emotive/social intelligences (IQs) of the human volunteer (Thomas) may be exploited more fully with the nonlimiting further examples given in FIG. **3**D (screen **303**). Firstly, the spyware program **132***s* may pop up a synopsis requesting, data entry box like **329**. Originally, and in one embodiment, this box **329** is substantially empty except that it starts with the suggestive text: "My synopsis of this node is:". Then the volunteer (e.g., Thomas) fills in the rest. For example, he provides a definition "A**5**" of what he thinks the topic is and as set of aspect definitions X**1**, X**2** which he believes are aspects of the so defined topic. Next he identifies the topic or discussion group leaders by their user names as they appear in the highlighted external platform transcript area **317**'''. In one embodiment, he can simply drag-and-drop any desired user name (e.g., UsrNm**5** at **323***d*''') from out of external platform transcript area **317**''' and into any of his response areas including synopsis-providing area **329** and/or voting areas under request **322**'''. Additionally, in the exemplary synopsis providing area **329**, the volunteer is show to have identified a key outside content source (URL**6**/A**5**.**11**) that he believes to be the main focal point of the discussion group at this time.

[0192] In an alternate embodiment, the spyware program **132***s* may provide template cues in synopsis providing area **329** for the volunteer to complete. They may be similar to but perhaps not as smooth flowing as the illustrated response in FIG. **3**D of the user's typed (and copy and pasted) synopsis **329**. For example, a more heavily cued synopsis template may still include the introduction line but with further hints such as: "My synopsis of what is happening in this node (URL.com/A**5**) is as follows:", where this is followed by a next line, "The primary topic is (fill in the blank, or accept

default answer). The next more heavily cued template line after that may say: "A secondary or subsidiary topic being discussed here is (fill in the blank, or accept default answer). This may be followed by: "Major aspects of the primary or secondary topics are: (fill in the blank, or accept default answers). This may be followed by: "The top 2 or 3 contributors to this discussion group are: (fill in the blank, or accept default answers)." This may be followed by: "The top 2 or 3 outside news or other articles we are discussing are: (fill in the blank, or accept default answers)." And so on; as may be appropriate for the nature of the highlighted Notes Exchange session **317'''**.

[0193] In the exemplary voting area, a first proposed voting request **323'''** may ask the volunteer (Thomas) to identify who he thinks (IMHO) are the most "popular" personas in the highlighted Notes Exchange session **317'''**. An alternate choice tool (down triangle) in the attribute describing box (illustrated as showing "POPULAR") allows the volunteer to change it to show a different attribute. Originally some of the answers in vote line **323'''** are prefilled with default answers guessed at by the spyware program **132***s* based on what currently appears inside the highlighted Notes Exchange session **317'''**. The human volunteer (Thomas) may of course change these selections by picking from readily available drop-out menus or by way of a drag-and-drop operation (e.g., **336***e'''*).

[0194] In the exemplary voting area, a next proposed voting request **324'''** may ask the volunteer (Thomas) to identify who he thinks (IMHO—In My Humble Opinion) are the most "influential" personas in the highlighted Notes Exchange session **317'''**. Once again, the user can alter the voting question and/or the default provided answers. Generally, the first few presented voting questions will be relatively easier to answer and then if the volunteer so chooses, he can use scroll down tool **327'''** to scroll down to more difficult or complex questions about social interactions that the volunteer sees or feels as occurring within the highlighted Notes Exchange session **317'''**. The more difficult or complex questions may include: who in your opinion are the top three captains of this Notes Exchange session (in order, 1, 2, 3)?; who in your opinion are the top three mutineers of this Notes Exchange session (in order, 1, 2, 3)?; who in your opinion are the top three Tipping Point Mavens of this Notes Exchange session (in order, 1, 2, 3)?; who in your opinion are the top three Tipping Point Salesmen of this Notes Exchange session (in order, 1, 2, 3)?; who in your opinion are the top three Tipping Point Connectors of this Notes Exchange session (in order, 1, 2, 3)?; and so on. At any time after having responded to as few or as many vote-like questions about the highlighted Notes Exchange session **317'''**, the user may hit the Exit Survey Button **326***b''* and thus cast whatever votes he has checked and end the survey session. It is within the contemplation of the disclosure that the survey-taking panes like **320***b* (FIG. **3**C) and **320***c* (FIG. **3**D) may provide answering opportunities in other formats besides check boxes; fill in the blanks format for example. When the Exit Survey Button **326***b''* is virtually depressed, the spyware program **132***s* records all the answers given by the volunteer and packages the same for transmittal back to the STAN_2 system along with other appropriate information such as the ID of the volunteer, the time and date of the survey, the identification of the highlighted Notes Exchange session **317'''** and perhaps samples of content found therein, the synopsis **329** provided by the volunteer and other useful survey data as deemed appropriate for the nature of the surveyed volunteer and the nature of the highlighted Notes Exchange session **317'''** over which he is being surveyed.

[0195] In one embodiment, the spyware program **132***s* also provides the volunteer with highlighting tools such as the illustrated **325''** whereby the user can elect to temporarily or more permanently highlight various internal objects within the highlighted Notes Exchange session **317'''**. This may include adding differently colored highlightings to different user names per illustrated options **325***a*, **325***b* and picking different other objects (e.g., keywords, unburied tags, buried but temporarily unburied meta-tags like in **317***a*' and so on) to differentially highlight these with desired colors and/or texturings per the illustrated OTHR option.

[0196] While in one embodiment, Lurking BOT's are expected to behave as if flies on the wall at the external platforms and not to actively participate in discussion group exchanges of external platforms, in some embodiments, Lurking BOT's and the like are instantiated so that they do interact, at least in the role of survey takers that ask questions similar to those asked of the STAN-REP in FIGS. **3**B-**3**D. In some instances, Lurking BOT's may launch their own discussion group proposals (e.g., solo-launched ring **206** of plane **221**) where the BOT-launched proposal is in the form of a survey-taking opening question such as: With regard to subtopic D**2**, who in your opinion are the most influential participants in this (lurked at) discussion group? The responses, if any, are then fed back as CFi's to the STAN_2 DLUX server(s).

[0197] Referring to FIG. **4**A, when large numbers of presented cross-pollination data packages (pCPD **262**/**264**/**252**) are returned to the hive from the various, reporting in CPUPs (e.g., Thomas) and or Search-BOTS it can be overwhelming for system resources and/or vote eligible members of receiving TC's or TCONE's (e.g., **216***c*) to individually process each presented CPD package. An automated process **401** by way of which pCPD packages can be more efficiently selectively absorbed and/or rejected will now be explained with reference to FIG. **4**A.

[0198] Step **410** (Begin) is repeatedly activated as data processing bandwidth allows. In step **411** each received pCPD package is given a unique (but temporary) identification number and stored in system memory for further processing. These unique (but temporary) identification numbers will follow each of to be broken-apart pieces of the each package (which happens in **416**) so that proper weighting can occur in to be performed step **418**. In step **412**, and as data processing bandwidth allows, the internal contents of the buffered pCPD packages are automatically validated and/or repaired. Validation may include verifying that the reporting back CPUP or CPAP is a valid one and not a transmission damaged or spoofed one and verifying that various URL's provided therein are valid ones and not pointing to inappropriate content and verifying that various keywords or other encodings provided therein are correctly spelled and do not present inappropriate content. The automated fixing operation may include repairing spelling errors or machine-detectable grammatical errors in the user's synopsis and so on.

[0199] Step **414** sorts the validated and repaired CPD's are hierarchically sorted according to their TC or TCONE (e.g., **216***c*) of launched origin. The hierarchy is according to that currently used in the STAN_2 topic space **215**. In this way the otherwise randomly received CPD's are now collected into groups for respective processing according to the desires

or needs or nature of the TC's or TCONE's (e.g., **216***c*) into which they may be ultimately absorbed (or not).

[0200] Step **416** parses apart the CPD package pieces according to type (e.g., keywords, tags, external user names, etc.) while retaining for each parsed piece the temporary ID provided at step **411** and stores the parsed pieces (or pointers to them or tokens representing them) in an orderly manner as shown by table structures **477-479**. In other words, the storage scheme indicates which parsed pieces are being presented for voting thereon and/or for automated filtering (by buffer layer **216***b*) for the whole TC and then for individual TCONE's that are hooped on or primarily tethered to that TC.

[0201] In step **418**, pre-voting weights are logically attached to the parsed pieces. The weighting scheme may vary and may be based on the identification of the carrier (CPAP or CPUP) who brought the package, on the identification of the external platform from where the package contents were obtained or derived, on the identification of certain influential (e.g., TPP's) persons with whom some of the package pieces are linked to, and so on.

[0202] In pre-voting step **421** the respectively weighted and parsed pieces of each sorted storage bin of storage structures **477**, **478**, **479**, etc. are summed, first as for each individual topic center node or TCONE and then for the hierarchically overlying parent node.

[0203] In step **423**, votes on the weighted sums are carried out, first on the basis of the child topic nodes or TCONE's and then for each successively higher topic node in the topics tree as deemed appropriate. The number of times that a same keyword, tag, etc., has been presented for absorption counts on a one-to-one basis in this particular voting form. If frequency of presentation is not to be evaluated on a one-to-one basis, then a count of redundant keywords, tags, etc. may first be taken and the counts may adjusted on a non-linear basis whereafter the counts are used as further weights and redundant copies of same keywords, tags, etc. are deleted before the vote is taken.

[0204] In step **423**, it is determined which of the presented cross-pollination data pieces (keywords, tags, etc.) are not new for each respective, potential recipient (TC or TCONE) listed in table structures **477**, **478**, **479**, etc. Although a given keyword, tag, etc. may not be novel for a first TC or TCONE, it may nonetheless be novel for a sibling such entity. In one embodiment, the weightings ascribed in step **418** (and optionally in step **423**) vary as a function of which TC or TCONE the offering is being presented to for possible absorption. In one embodiment, after a first voted is taken on behalf of each TC or TCONE, a second round of voting is carried out for those potentially accepting TC's or TCONE's where the offering is novel (as determined within step **424** for example) and where the second round of voting is a function of voting results generated by sibling TC's or TCONE's. Then after the first and/or second rounds of voting complete, the sorted and parsed offerings are ranked according to their respective votes and in step **425**, those meeting or exceeding predetermined thresholds of the respective TC's or TCONE's are absorbed and logically positioned at inner core or more outer ranking rings (see **216***c* of FIG. **2**) of the respectively absorbing TC's or TCONE's. The acceptance and rejection results are fedback as genetic affirmations or reducers for the mission guiding data structures (i.e. **116***d'* of FIG. **4***c*) so that a next round of instantiated and launched BOT's will tend to get more affirmations and less reducers. As mentioned above, in one embodiment it is possible for rejecting TC's or TCONE's to cast Reject-But votes whereafter the package contents of a rejected BOT (e.g., **253***a* of FIG. **2**) are re-directed to another data processing mechanism that uses the Reject-But contents **254***a* to build a brand new topic node (e.g., **216***n*).

[0205] Referring to FIG. **4**B, it will now be described how the mission guiding data structures (i.e. **116***d'*) of TC or TCONE-Serving BOT's may be instantiated prior to launch. Machine-implemented and automated process **402** begins at step **430**. At step **431**, a unique ID is assigned by the STAN_2 system to the to-be-launched CPAP (a.k.a. BOT).

[0206] At step **432**, the identification of the TC or TCONE (e.g., **216***c*) on whose behalf the BOT is to be launched, is obtained and logically linked to the being instantiated mission guiding data structure (i.e. **116***d'*). At step **433**, the so-called Top N_i topic defining encodings of the identified launch pad (TC or TCONE) of step **432** are fetched. Here N_i may vary for each type of topic defining encoding, be it a keyword, a tag, a meta-tag and so on. More specifically, N_i might be Top 3 for keywords but at the same time Top 5 for tags. Also the definition of what is meant by "Top" can vary on an encoding type by encoding type basis. "Top" may mean most often repeated irrespective of which launch pad user is repeating it. On the other hand, "Top" may alternatively mean used by the greatest number of unique members within the TCONE or by the greatest number of TCONE's primarily owned by a launching TC. "Top" may yet alternatively mean that it is rated as such by one or more influential members (e.g., TPP's) within the TC or TCONE (e.g., **216***c*) or that a largest number of such influential members use it. These are nonlimiting examples of how the definition of "Top N" can be varied aside from the value of N also being varied.

[0207] At step **434**, a similar process is undertaken for so-called pointers (P) that are going to direct the to be launched BOT as to where in the vast landscape of the Internet **101** to search. Generally the plurality of P pointers are URL's taken respectively from the launch point (could be a TC or a TCONE) and its ancestors (e.g., parent, grandparent TC's). Once again, the definition of "Top P" can be varied and aside from that the value of P also being varied on a contributor by contributor basis. In other words, "Top P" for BOT launching child need not mean the same thing or have same value P as "Top P" for the parent of grandparent node of the BOT launching child.

[0208] After the potential search areas have been identified in step **434** as being the respective "Top P" pointers of respective child and/or parent and/or grandparent node, corresponding behavior rules (see also **499** of FIG. **4**C) are fetched in step **435***a*. These behavior rules instruct the BOT (after it is instantiated and launched) how to behave when it arrives and begins searching or lurking at a target site on an external platform. Should it operate as a lurking and unseen watcher and gatherer or as a more active survey taker? What special navigation steps does it need to exercise if at all when using the public interface provided by the external platform? Does it first have to sign in and provide a valid password? Does it have to navigate to a particular "wall" or "discussion group" or other such construct of the being-visited external platform? Does it have to follow special protocols in order to join new groups within the being-visited external platform? Does it have to dress in a special avatar uniform that is prescribed by the being-visited external platform for NPC's? Questions like these and the alike are accounted for by the fetched behavior rules of each targeted external platform area that is to be searched by the BOT and/or lurked at.

[0209] In subsequent step **435***b*, the "Top Q" drift direction encodings of the launching pad TC or TCONE are fetched. Once again, the definition of "Top Q" can be varied and aside from that the value of Q also being varied on a contributor by contributor basis. The drift direction encodings may indicate to the Search BOT what variations from the Top N topic definitions of step **433** should be pursued when searching for fresh cross-pollination material. As mentioned earlier, each TC or TCONE may have its most dominant "captain" type members who are trying to keep the boat moored to one place in topic space **215** or are trying to keep the boat drifting in a captain-preferred direction. On the other hand, the same figurative boat (it could be TCONE or TC in this case) may have its most dominant "mutineer" type members who are trying to change the boat's primary mooring and/or are trying to change the boat's drift direction to a new direction other than the captain(s)-preferred direction. The fetched "Top Q" drift direction encodings (they could be tags, meta-tags, URL's etc.) may those of the captains and/or of the mutineers.

[0210] In subsequent step **436**, a template mission guiding data structure is fetched from a library of such structures stored and maintained by the STAN_2 system. The template mission guiding data structure has a foundational structure for defining a search strategy, but it does not have the variables defined by the "Top N", "Top P" and/or "Top Q" permanently encoded therein. Accordingly at step **436**, the results of steps **433**-**435***b* are appropriately inserted into respective blank or default-wise pre-specified spots of the fetched template mission guiding data structure. Optionally, a so-called augmenting step (which will be detailed in conjunction with FIG. **4**C) may be carried out within step **436**. The filled-in and optionally augmented template mission guiding data structure is then compiled to thereby instantiate the mission guiding data structure (i.e. **116***d*' of FIG. **4**B). Dashed association path **486** indicates that the corresponding BOT is now tagged with its launching pad TC-of-origin or TCONE-of-origin identification data (per association paths **481** and **482**) and with its instantiated the mission guiding data structure (i.e. **116***d*'), where the latter may guide (dashed path **484**) to search area **225**' and/or more specifically, into discussion ring **226**' of an identified external platform (e.g., **220**).

[0211] If not yet done in step **436**, in subsequent step **437**, the instantiated mission guiding data structure is logically linked to a corresponding and instantiated BOT agent (software agent) and they are activated, thereby launching them (metaphorically) on their virtual journey through the Internet so as to search in and/or lurk in the targeted external territory (e.g., discussion ring **226**').

[0212] Step **438** tasks the STAN_2 operating system with periodic checking in on the health and mission progress of the launched BOT. If the launched BOT freezes up for any reason, the STAN_2 operating system may try to unfreeze it, and if not successful, the STAN_2 operating system may alternatively launch another copy of the previously launched BOT.

[0213] In step **439** a periodic test is undertaken to see how far along in its mission the launched BOT is, with this being weighed against possible urgency pings for returned content, where the urgency pings may come from members of the launching pad TC or TCONE, who by their uploaded CFi's and/or CV's may be indicating a desire to see fresh new material which the launched BOT is expected to bring back from its respectively targeted search zone (e.g., discussion ring **226**').

[0214] In step **441**, it is periodically determined if the mission appears to be complete or if urgency for incomplete results exceeds a predetermined threshold. If yes, the launched BOT is recalled back to the hive (step **445**). If no, the BOT is allowed to remain lurking or searching in its respectively targeted search zone (e.g., discussion ring **226**') a little bit longer.

[0215] Referring to FIG. **4**C, now details of one automated process **403** for genetically mutating the mission guiding data structures (i.e. **116***d*') will be described. Search and lurk BOT's that persistently return pCPD's whose contents are all rejected are re-instantiated at progressively decreasing rates over time until their populations die out if not success is attained. Search and lurk BOT's that receive acceptances are re-instantiated more often, but nonetheless competition is maintained as between different strains of BOT's that service a same launching pad TC or TCONE so that the more successful BOT's are rewarded with increased or sustained populations. That said, at the same time in one embodiment, mutations of both successful and unsuccessful BOT's are also instantiated and launched so as to provide a potentially wider variety of cross-pollination material.

[0216] In FIG. **4**C, mission guiding data structure **116***d*' represents the virtual DNA of a corresponding successful BOT (one whose pCPD was at least partially accepted). In step **451** (after begin step **450** of machine-implemented and automated process **403** is carried out) the old virtual DNA of the corresponding successful BOT is read out. Dashed path **491***a* also represents this reading of old DNA process.

[0217] In step **452** the values of one or more of the old virtual DNA parameters are varied either randomly or semi-randomly, where semi-randomly indicates that additional steps are taken to more intelligently decide which of the old virtual DNA parameters are to be varied and if so to what extent and in what direction, increasing or decreasing? The more intelligent decision making may be based on trends uncovered in previous trial and error, random mutations. In step **453**, a similar mutation is undertaken for definitions of Top Xi, where Xi can be Ni, Pi, Qi or another like parameter. In one variation, one of steps **452** and **453** is occasionally bypassed. In step **454**, the old search algorithm is also randomly or semi-randomly varied. For example, a previously used combinatorial search specification (e.g., (A OR B) AND C AND (NotD)) is varied slightly as to its named variables and/or utilized logical operators and/or their order of evaluation. As another example, a previously used cross-correlation search specification (e.g., one that attributes weights for cross-correlations of respective keywords and/or tags) where weights are varied and/or thresholds are varied. After the results of steps **451**-**454** are obtained a new template mission guiding data structure is filled in with the mutated results in step **455***a* of FIG. **4**D.

[0218] Before explaining FIG. **4**D, a recap is provided here of the possible mutations to old mission guiding data structure **116***d*' before it is re-instantiated as mutated and launched new item **116***d*''. The one or more variables that can be mutated include: 1) What is value of N_i, N_{i+1} (of parent), N_{i+2} (of grandparent node), etc.?; 2) What is meaning of "Top" when a "Top X_i" is specified?; 3) What augmentations are to be added into table column **496** of table data structure **490** of FIG. **4**C?; 4) What is the logic (see again step **454**) of the search algorithm?; 5) When performing the search in a target area, is the search BOT to spiral (**116***s*) inwardly from a more general and wider search area to a more specific and thus

narrower search area or, vise versa, spiral out from specific destination **116***s***1** to a more general and thus wider outer orbital **116***s***3** when searching in targeted external platform space **225**"?. As may be appreciated, there is some overlap between the steps shown in FIG. **4**B (see **436**, **437**) and steps shown in combined FIGS. **4**C-**4**D.

[0219] Referring to step **456** of FIG. **4**D and also to corresponding Lookup Table (LUT) **406** of FIG. **4**C, there may be instances in which better search results (e.g., higher rated pCPD's) are obtained if the topic defining encodings obtained directly from the launching pad TC or TCONE and/or it ancestor(s) (Parent, Grandparent, etc.) are augmented with additional such encodings. The case where a search into a foreign language or multi-language target zone is to be conducted by a BOT has already been discussed above. Thus the benefit of using a native-to foreign language LUT **406***b* to insert equivalent foreign language augmentations (e.g., **407***a*) for the native language encodings obtained directly from the launching pad TC or TCONE should now be apparent. Moreover, the case where a search into a different disciplinary area (e.g., from computer science Man Month to economics counterpart) has already been discussed above. Thus the benefit of using a Frame**1**-to-Frame**2** Rosetta Stone like LUT **406***c* to inserting equivalent augmentations as used in a different but nonetheless related disciplinary area should now be apparent. By similar token there may synonyms and/or antonyms provided from a Thesaurus-like LUT **406***a* that can provide useful augmentations. For example, sometimes it is beneficial to search for the opposite of a given original encoding. Of course the outputs of Thesaurus-like LUT **406***a* may be subsequently passed through LUT's **406***b* and/or **406***c* so as to obtain yet further augmentations. One of the mutation driven variables may be a variable number specifying how many augmentations are to be used in step **456**.

[0220] Referring to step **458** of FIG. **4**D and also to corresponding data transfer flow **408** of FIG. **4**C, the combination of (or a selected subcombination thereof) of the directly obtained topic defining encodings and their augmentations are inserted into corresponding fill-in blanks of the optionally mutated search algorithms in column **497***d* of table data structure **497**. (Mutation of the optionally mutated search algorithms was described as being optionally carried out in step **454**.)

[0221] Column **497***b* of table data structure **497** was filled in with the Top P_i, P_{i+1}, P_{i+2}, etc. pointers of the respective child launching pad TC or TCONE and its ancestors after step **453** completed. Thereafter, a second set of augmenting LUTs **498** may be used to add respective augmenting pointers by reading in the Top P_i, P_{i+1}, P_{i+2}, etc. pointers of the respective child launching pad TC or TCONE and its ancestors via intake path **498***i* and outputting corresponding augmenting pointers via output path **4980**. The output augmentations **498***o* (which are stored into column **497***c*) can be ones that were elsewhere in the STAN_2 system determined to provide alternate websites and/or other content sources that are relatively similar, but not entirely the same as the corresponding input ones (**498***i*) of LUTs set **498**.

[0222] After columns **497***b* and **497***c* of table data structure **497** are filled in, they are used to fetch the appropriate behavior guidelines and rules **499** for the to-be instantiated and launched BOT. As mentioned above, the guidelines and rules **499** instruct the instructable BOT how to function and behave when operating in the domain of external space **225**". In some instances, behavior protocol may require the BOT to seek assistance of a STAN-REP such as **132**" for letting the BOT in through a limited entry door of the targeted space **225**". Of course cooperation agreements with operators of the external platform may need to be reached before some of these activities can be undertaken.

[0223] For sake of completion, FIG. **4**D also shows the compile and launch step **459** and the periodic health check up step **460** for the launched BOT.

[0224] The present disclosure is to be taken as illustrative rather than as limiting the scope, nature, or spirit of the subject matter claimed below. Numerous modifications and variations will become apparent to those skilled in the art after studying the disclosure, including use of equivalent functional and/or structural substitutes for elements described herein, use of equivalent functional couplings for couplings described herein, and/or use of equivalent functional steps for steps described herein. Such insubstantial variations are to be considered within the scope of what is contemplated here. Moreover, if plural examples are given for specific means, or steps, and extrapolation between and/or beyond such given examples is obvious in view of the present disclosure, then the disclosure is to be deemed as effectively disclosing and thus covering at least such extrapolations.

[0225] By way of example, it is understood that the configuring of a user possessed data processing device (e.g., **131***a*, **131***b* of FIG. **1**A) to provide a user interface for interfacing with the STAN_2 system in accordance with the present disclosure (e.g., in accordance with FIGS. **3**A-**3**D) can include use of a remote computer or network subsystem and its respective software (e.g., **110** of FIG. **1**A and its downloadable spyware program **132***s*) to carry out download of and activation of interfacing software into the user possessed data processing device (e.g., **131***a*, **131***b*. A computer-readable tangible medium (e.g., hard disk, optical disk, flash drive etc.) or another form of a software product or machine-instructing means (including but not limited to a downloading of (or in-loading of) manufactured instructing signals over a network (e.g., **101**) may be used for instructing an instructable machine (e.g., **132***a*, **132***b*) belonging to a user or to system operators to carry out various activities described herein, where the activities can include selective activation of one or more of various user interface functions described herein as being provided to users of the STAN_2 system and/or as being provided to its system operators. As such, it is within the scope of the disclosure to have an instructable machine carry out, and/to provide a software product adapted for causing an instructable machine to carry out machine-implemented methods that use encodings of a user's physical and/or logical environment to automatically determine most probable topics of interest on that user's mind, to automatically determine what other users and/or content sources the SS2 user is currently co-compatible with and to accordingly and automatically provide the SS2 user with content source recommendations in accordance with those determinations.

Reservation of Extra-Patent Rights, Resolution of Conflicts, and Interpretation of Terms

[0226] After this disclosure is lawfully published, the owner of the present patent application has no objection to the reproduction by others of textual and graphic materials contained herein provided such reproduction is for the limited purpose of understanding the present disclosure of invention and of thereby promoting the useful arts and sciences. The owner does not however disclaim any other rights that may be

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[0227] If any disclosures are incorporated herein by reference and such incorporated disclosures conflict in part or whole with the present disclosure, then to the extent of conflict, and/or broader disclosure, and/or broader definition of terms, the present disclosure controls. If such incorporated disclosures conflict in part or whole with one another, then to the extent of conflict, the later-dated disclosure controls.

[0228] Unless expressly stated otherwise herein, ordinary terms have their corresponding ordinary meanings within the respective contexts of their presentations, and ordinary terms of art have their corresponding regular meanings within the relevant technical arts and within the respective contexts of their presentations herein. Descriptions above regarding related technologies are not admissions that the technologies or possible relations between them were appreciated by artisans of ordinary skill in the areas of endeavor to which the present disclosure most closely pertains.

[0229] Given the above disclosure of general concepts and specific embodiments, the scope of protection sought is to be defined by the claims appended hereto. The issued claims are not to be taken as limiting Applicant's right to claim disclosed, but not yet literally claimed subject matter by way of one or more further applications including those filed pursuant to 35 U.S.C. §120 and/or 35 U.S.C. §251.

What is claimed is:

1. A cross-pollination urging method for use with a Social-Topical Adaptive Networking (STAN) system and with external platform systems, where the STAN system maintains a topic space populated by unique topic nodes each having topic defining data logically linked thereto, the method comprising:

instantiating a software agent (e.g., BOT) that is structured to convey potentially new or different, and thus potentially cross-pollinating data signals to the STAN system;

causing the instantiated software agent to begin collecting from the one or more external platform systems, potentially new or different, and thus potentially cross-pollinating data; and

causing the instantiated software agent to begin conveying collected potentially new or different, and thus potentially cross-pollinating data as corresponding data signals to the STAN system.

2. A machine-implemented, user interface structured to provide a corresponding user with content source recommendations corresponding to topics of interest that are probably currently on the user's mind, said interface comprising:

(a) a content source recommendation presenting mechanism that can present one or more recommendation-representing objects to the user that are user-activatable and which, when activated by the user will connect the user virtually to corresponding on-topic content, where the recommendation-representing objects indicate at least one of:

(a.1) the topic of the content source that is being recommended by the object,

(a.2) the platform from which the on-topic content of the object is being obtained;

(a.3) a topic center to which the on-topic content of the object is logically linked;

(a.4) one or more persons to which the on-topic content of the object is logically linked;

(a.5) one or more membership groups to which the on-topic content of the object is logically linked;

(a.6) a current temperature of an attribute of the object;

(a.7) a Notes Exchange type that the on-topic content of the object has; and

(a.8) a launchable search BOT that can be launched from a topic node to which the on-topic content of the object is logically linked.

3. The machine-implemented, user interface of claim **2** wherein the launchable search BOT launches from a node in a cross-pollinated topic space of a Social-Topical Adaptive Networking (STAN) system with which said user interface interfaces.

4. The machine-implemented, user interface of claim **2** wherein the topic center indicating object is user activatable and when activated provides the user with a browsing view of a corresponding neighborhood of a corresponding topic center in a cross-pollinated topic space of a Social-Topical Adaptive Networking (STAN) system with which said user interface interfaces.

5. A machine-assisted process of obtaining one or more answers to questions of potentially esoteric nature, the method comprising:

(a) submitting a question to a STAN_2 system question processing program;

(b) interacting with the question processing program so as to converge on one or more topic centers in STAN_2 topic space whose respective topic or topics are well connected with a topic intended by the posed question;

(c) receiving from the system question processing program a list of Tipping Point Mavens or other consensus-wise elected experts who are logically linked to the converged upon one or more topic centers and whose works of expertise match one or more of keywords, tags and/or URLs associated with the posed question;

(d) picking a subset of the listed experts; and

(e) automatically forwarding the posed question to the selected subset of experts.

* * * * *