

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
7 February 2008 (07.02.2008)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2008/016656 A3

(51) International Patent Classification:

A63F 9/24 (2006.01) G06F 17/00 (2006.01)

A63F 13/10 (2006.01) G06F 19/00 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2007/017209

(22) International Filing Date: 2 August 2007 (02.08.2007)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:

60/834,935 2 August 2006 (02.08.2006) US

(71) Applicant and

(72) Inventor: REINER, Martin [US/US]; 1708 N. Orchard St., Unit D, Chicago, IL 60614 (US).

(74) Agent: SAMPSON, Matthew, J.; McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP, 300 S. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois 60606 (US).

(81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM,

AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- with international search report
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments

(88) Date of publication of the international search report:

13 November 2008

(54) Title: METHODS AND SYSTEM FOR GAME PLAYABILITY AND EXPECTATION WAGER PAYOUT

(57) Abstract: A system and methods are presented for allowing single or multi-player interaction at multiple intermediate states between the initiation and conclusion states of a game of chance or skill. In certain embodiments, each player may choose to terminate their participation in the game at an intermediate state by accepting an early payout option. In another aspect of the invention, multiple players may participate in single version of a game, where a system keeps track of the individual decisions of each player and independently applies subsequent changes in game states to the decisions of each player.



WO 2008/016656 A3

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US07/17209

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC: A63F 9/24(2006.01),13/00(2006.01);G06F 17/00(2006.01),19/00(2006.01)

USPC: 463/12,13

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

U.S. : 463/12,13; 273/272

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

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2006/0252512 A1 (WALKER et al) 9 Nov. 2006 (09.11.2006), paragraphs [0056], [0217], [0277], [0329], [0360], [0362], [0364], [0366], [0381], [0457]	1-28
A	US 5,390,934 A (GRASSA) 21 Feb. 1995 (21.02.1995)	1-28
A	US 6,626,433 B2 (SCIBETTA) 30 Sept. 2003 (30.09.2003)	1-28
A	US 7,086,943 (MUGNOLO et al) 8 Aug. 2006 (08.08.2006)	1-28
A	US 2006/0246981 A1 (WALKER et al) 2 Nov. 2006 (02.11.2006)	1-28
A	US 2006/0252511 A1 (WALKER et al) 9 Nov. 2006 (09.11.2006)	1-28
A	US 5,046,736 A (BRIDGEMAN et al) 10 Sept. 1991 (10.09.1991)	1-28

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T"

later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X"

document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y"

document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&"

document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

22 June 2008 (22.06.2008)

Date of mailing of the international search report

04 SEP 2008
Authorized officer

Robert E Pezzuto

Telephone No. 571-272-3700

Name and mailing address of the ISA/US

Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201