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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CLUSTERED SSL ACCELERATOR

(57) Abstract: Method and apparatus for clustered Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) acceleration where two or more SSL relays (#14) are connected in a cluster. Information is transferred between a first node (typically, the client) and one of the SSL relays where the transferred information is related to communication between the first node and a second node (typically, the server) (#30). The state information of an SSL connection between the first node and the one SSL relay is clustered. The clustering includes sharing the state information between the one SSL relay and each of the one or more SSL relays. Any of the SSL relays can take over all the connections of another of the clustered SSL relays, therefore providing no interruption in the communication, should any of the SSL relays fail.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER				
IPC(7) : G06F 3/00, 15/16; H02H 3/05; H03K 19/003; H04B 1/74; H04K 1/00; H04L 1/22, 9/00; H05K 10/00				
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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. : 380/30, 279; 709/203; 710/17; 714/4, 43, 56				
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.		
Y	US 6,094,485 A (WEINSTEIN et al.) 25 July 2000 (25.07.2000), columns 1-24	1-27		
Y	US 6,148,410 A (BASKEY et al.) 14 November 2000 (14.11.2000), columns 1-18	1-27		
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.				
* Special categories of cited documents: <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"> "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 </td> <td style="width: 50%;"> "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 </td> </tr> </table>			"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
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