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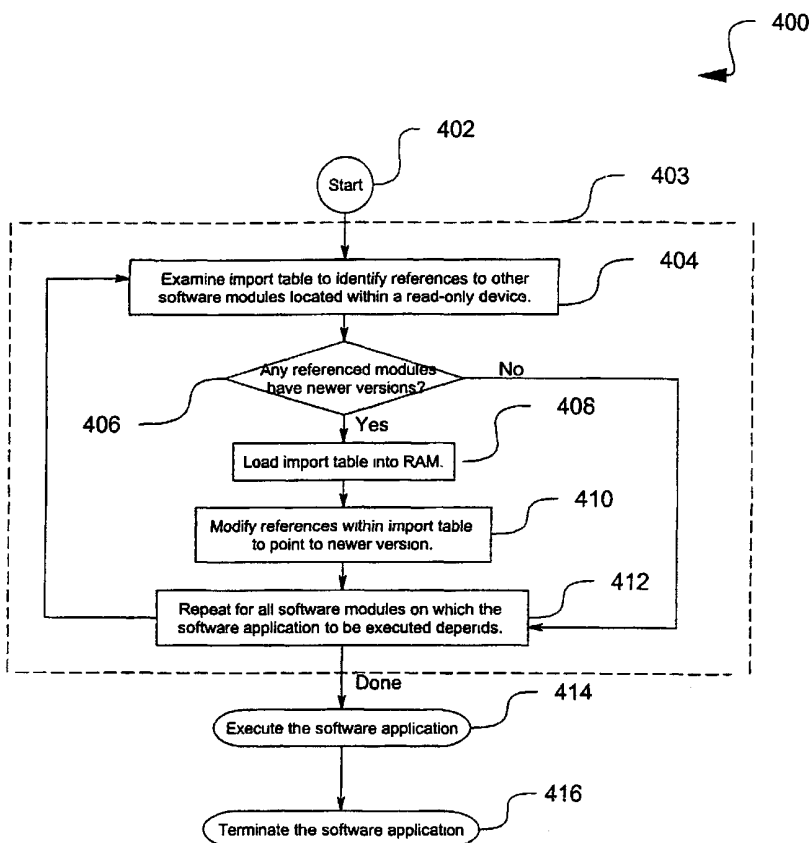
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: UPDATING READ-ONLY SOFTWARE MODULES



(57) Abstract: A method and system are described for updating software modules bundled in a read-only device of a computer. According to the invention, when a software module is to be executed from the read-only device, the operating system identifies any other software modules stored within the read-only device on which the application depends. After identifying all of the dependencies, the operating determines whether a newer version of any of the identified software modules has been installed on the computer. The operating system copies into a read/write device a portion of the software module that references the old software modules. After copying the portion, the operating system modifies all references to point to the new versions of the software module. The invention allows software modules to be primarily executed from the read-only device with only a small updated portion being executed from a read/write device.



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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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

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C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 810 522 A (SUN MICROSYSTEMS INC) 3 December 1997 (1997-12-03)	1,2, 4-12, 14-19, 21-23, 25-28
Y	column 2, line 43 -column 3, line 28; figures 3,12	3,13,20, 24
Y	US 5 581 768 A (GARNEY JOHN ET AL) 3 December 1996 (1996-12-03) abstract; figure 2 column 6, line 32 - line 55	3,13,20, 24
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Information on patent family members

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