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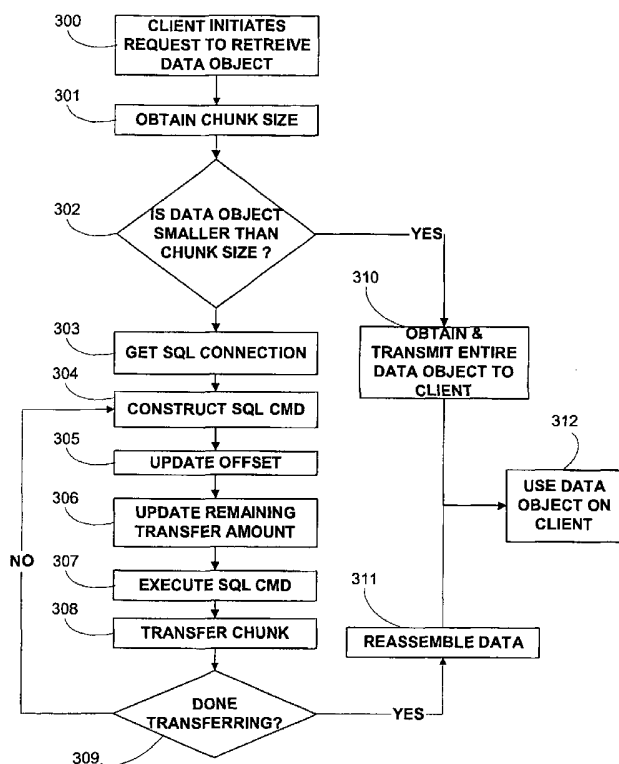
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MANAGING DATA OBJECT SIZE IN A MULTI-USER ENVIRONMENT



(57) Abstract: One or more embodiments of the invention enable improved communication with a database comprising multiple clients utilizing multiple large data objects concurrently. For example when a client system interacts with a server with respect to a data object that is over a threshold size, the system may utilize a communication methodology that minimizes system resource usage such as CPU utilization and network utilization. In one embodiment of the invention when a client request for an object falls within the relevant size threshold, one or more embodiments of the invention segment the object into smaller size chunks. Hence the server is not required to assemble all data associated with a request at once, but is instead able, to immediately start transmitting smaller segments of data. Allowing for the transmission of smaller data chunks prevents the server from allocating large blocks of memory to one object and although the server may be required to handle more memory allocations, each allocation is smaller in size and can therefore be processed much faster. The determination of the chunk size is dependent on inherent system resources such as the amount of server memory, and the available bandwidth of the network. In addition, the determination of chunk size is dependent on environmental factors such as the time of day, the day of the week, the number of users, the number of predicted users for a given time and day based on historical logging, and the current and predicted network utilization for a

given time and day. One or more embodiments of the invention obtain the chunk size and optionally obtain a chunk transfer size from a server that may alter these quantities dynamically in order to minimize resource utilization.

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

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
WEST AND EAST (US PG PUB, US PT, EPO, JPO, DERWENT AND IBM TDB).

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5,999,943 A (NORI et al) 07 December 1999 (07.12.1999), see the entire prior art.	1-26
Y	US 5,506,980 A (Inagami et al) 09 April 1996 (09.04.1996), see the entire prior art.	1-26
Y	DB2 LOBs: The Teenage Years, 26 February - 01 March 1996, IEEE, pages 192-199.	1-26

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See patent family annex.

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