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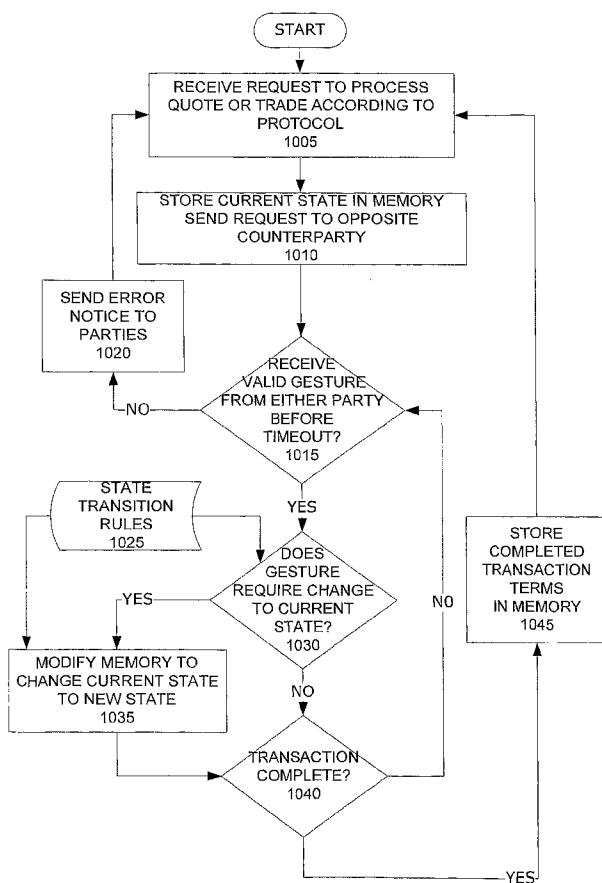
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(54) Title: PROTOCOL-INDEPENDENT ASSET TRADING SYSTEM AND METHODS



(57) Abstract: Systems and methods for executing trades on an interconnected computer network, such as the Internet, using a catalog of protocol-independent fundamental asset trading messages, called "gestures," that support multiple higher-level trading protocols which characterize most asset trading transactions. Trading transactions requiring protocol-dependent workflows are composed from protocol-independent gestures selected from the catalogue of gestures and then passed one at a time to an online asset trading server. The online asset trading server transitions pending quotes and trades through a series of distinct states, based on the current state, the selected protocol-independent gestures it receives and a set of state transition rules, thereby implementing the higher-level protocol-dependent workflows.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US04/39654

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC: G06Q 40/00(2006.01)
US CL : 705/37

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. : 705/37

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)
Please See Continuation Sheet

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 5,794,234 A (CHURCH et al) 11 August 1998 (11.08.1998), Abstract, column 2, lines 21-54	1-43
Y	US 5,950,176 A (KBISER et al) 07 September 1999 (07.09.1999), Abstract, column 1, lines 34-50	1-43
Y	US 4,949,248 A (CARO) 14 August 1990 (14.08.1990), Abstract, col. 4, lines 53 to col. 7, line 10	1-43
Y	US 6,408,282 B1 (BUIST) 18 June 2002 (18.06.2002), Abstract, column 2, line 62 to column 3, line 61	1-43

<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	"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
"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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
"E"	earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"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
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:
East

Search terms: trade or trading, online, Internet, network