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(54) **Title:** METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING AUTHENTICATION REQUEST MESSAGE IN A SOCIAL NETWORK

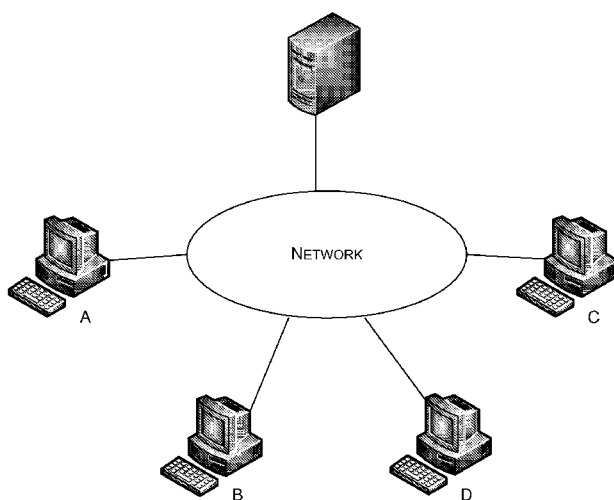


FIG. 1

(57) **Abstract:** A method and an apparatus for processing an authentication request message in a social network are provided. To improve the inefficiency of existing technology in processing user authentication and request to establish social relationship as well as inadequacy of parameters available for said authentication, the disclosed method includes a social network server detecting an authentication request message sent by a first client to a second client requesting to establish a social relationship with the second client. The social network server obtains information social attributes that are common to the first client and the second client, forwards the authentication request message, and sends the obtained information of common social attributes to the second client. The social attribute information is used by the second client to decide whether or not to authenticate the authentication request message.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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USPC - 726/4

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)

USPC: 726/4

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
USPC: 709/217, 225; 726/2-4 (text search)

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

PubWest (PGPB, USPT, EPAB, JPAB), Google,

Search terms used: social, network, authenticat, request, message, characteristic, common, shar, relat, client, user, subscriber, attribute, server, key, word, keyword, friend, personal, trait, index, invert, column, correlat, identification, threshold, similar

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X — Y	US 2008/0215623 A1 (Ramer et al.) 04 September 2008 (04.09.2008), para [0005]-[0007], [0777], [0988]-[0997]	1-7, 9-14 8
Y	US 2005/0177614 A1 (Bourne) 11 August 2005 (11.08.2005), para [0005]	8
A	US 2008/0115192 A1 (Kulkarni et al.) 15 May 2008 (15.05.2008), entire document	1 - 14
A	US 2009/0077124 A1 (Spivack et al.) 19 March 2009 (19.03.2009), entire document	1 - 14

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