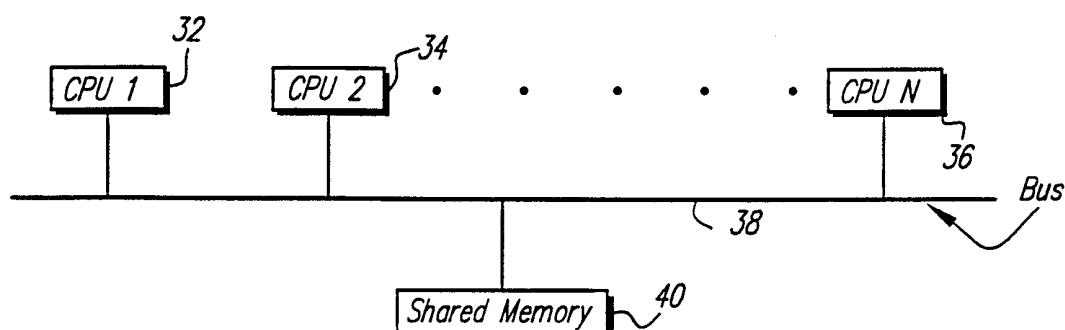




INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification ⁷ :	A3	(11) International Publication Number:	WO 00/26765
G06F 9/44, 15/163, 9/46		(43) International Publication Date:	11 May 2000 (11.05.00)
(21) International Application Number:		(81) Designated States:	
PCT/SE99/01950		AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).	
(22) International Filing Date:			
29 October 1999 (29.10.99)			
(30) Priority Data:			
09/185,079	3 November 1998 (03.11.98)		
US			
(71) Applicant:			
TELEFONAKTIEBOLAGET LM ERICSSON (publ) [SE/SE]; S-126 25 Stockholm (SE).			
(72) Inventor:			
NILSSON, Hans; S:t Eriksgatan 81, S-113 32 Stockholm (SE).			
(74) Agents:			
BERG S., A. et al.; Albihns Patentbyrå Stockholm AB, P.O. Box 5581, S-114 85 Stockholm (SE).			
		(88) Date of publication of the international search report:	
		5 October 2000 (05.10.00)	

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR EVALUATING A DATA PROCESSING REQUEST PERFORMED BY DISTRIBUTED PROCESSES



(57) Abstract

A database processing request is performed by distributed processes. Each of the distributed processes involved in the task performs some data processing function and includes process identifying information along with a substantive task message to another process. Ultimately, messages along with the identifying information reach a controlling process which then deduces from that identifying information whether all of the messages from all processes involved in the task have completed their part of the task. If it deduces they have, the task is complete.

FOR THE PURPOSES OF INFORMATION ONLY

Codes used to identify States party to the PCT on the front pages of pamphlets publishing international applications under the PCT.

AL	Albania	ES	Spain	LS	Lesotho	SI	Slovenia
AM	Armenia	FI	Finland	LT	Lithuania	SK	Slovakia
AT	Austria	FR	France	LU	Luxembourg	SN	Senegal
AU	Australia	GA	Gabon	LV	Latvia	SZ	Swaziland
AZ	Azerbaijan	GB	United Kingdom	MC	Monaco	TD	Chad
BA	Bosnia and Herzegovina	GE	Georgia	MD	Republic of Moldova	TG	Togo
BB	Barbados	GH	Ghana	MG	Madagascar	TJ	Tajikistan
BE	Belgium	GN	Guinea	MK	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia	TM	Turkmenistan
BF	Burkina Faso	GR	Greece	ML	Mali	TR	Turkey
BG	Bulgaria	HU	Hungary	MN	Mongolia	TT	Trinidad and Tobago
BJ	Benin	IE	Ireland	MR	Mauritania	UA	Ukraine
BR	Brazil	IL	Israel	MW	Malawi	UG	Uganda
BY	Belarus	IS	Iceland	MX	Mexico	US	United States of America
CA	Canada	IT	Italy	NE	Niger	UZ	Uzbekistan
CF	Central African Republic	JP	Japan	NL	Netherlands	VN	Viet Nam
CG	Congo	KE	Kenya	NO	Norway	YU	Yugoslavia
CH	Switzerland	KG	Kyrgyzstan	NZ	New Zealand	ZW	Zimbabwe
CI	Côte d'Ivoire	KP	Democratic People's Republic of Korea	PL	Poland		
CM	Cameroon	KR	Republic of Korea	PT	Portugal		
CN	China	KZ	Kazakhstan	RO	Romania		
CU	Cuba	LC	Saint Lucia	RU	Russian Federation		
CZ	Czech Republic	LI	Liechtenstein	SD	Sudan		
DE	Germany	LK	Sri Lanka	SE	Sweden		
DK	Denmark	LR	Liberia	SG	Singapore		
EE	Estonia						

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/SE 99/01950

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC7: G06F 9/44, G06F 15/163, G06F 9/46

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)

IPC7: G06F

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.
X	US 5535393 A (CHRISTOPHER L. REEVE ET AL), 9 July 1996 (09.07.96), column 2, line 1 - column 4, line 59, abstract	1-6,8,10-17, 20-25
A	--	7,9,18,19, 26-30
A	US 5668714 A (HISASHI MORIKAWA), 16 Sept 1997 (16.09.97), column 7, line 16 - column 8, line 13; column 8, line 57 - column 9, line 24, abstract	1-30
A	--	1-30
A	US 5297255 A (NAOKO HAMANAKA ET AL), 22 March 1994 (22.03.94), see whole document	1-30
	--	

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"I" 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

Date of the actual completion of the international search

27 April 2000

Date of mailing of the international search report

08.06.00

Name and mailing address of the International Searching Authority
European Patent Office P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL-2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel(+31-70)340-2040, Tx 31 651 epo nl
Fax(+31-70)340-3016

Facsimile No. .

Authorized officer

Oskar Pihlgren/CL
Telephone No. .

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

S. 158443

Information on patent family members

02/12/99

International application No.
PCT/SE 99/01950

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
EP 0233993 A2	02/09/87	AU 545596 B	18/07/85
		AU 8224582 A	07/10/82
		CA 1175577 A	02/10/84
		DE 3279162 A	01/12/88
		DE 3280352 A	02/10/91
		EP 0070083 A,B	19/01/83
		JP 1620457 C	09/10/91
		JP 1731760 C	17/02/93
		JP 1801569 C	12/11/93
		JP 1889444 C	07/12/94
		JP 2045221 B	08/10/90
		JP 2049626 C	10/05/96
		JP 2049627 C	10/05/96
		JP 2054888 C	23/05/96
		JP 2118709 A	07/05/90
		JP 2118747 A	07/05/90
		JP 2118756 A	07/05/90
		JP 2118759 A	07/05/90
		JP 2118760 A	07/05/90
		JP 2118761 A	07/05/90
		JP 2118762 A	07/05/90
		JP 2118763 A	07/05/90
		JP 2132560 A	22/05/90
		JP 2138656 A	28/05/90
		JP 2140035 A	29/05/90
		JP 2555450 B	20/11/96
		JP 2555451 B	20/11/96
		JP 2560118 B	04/12/96
		JP 2607696 B	07/05/97
		JP 2628811 B	09/07/97
		JP 2651473 B	10/09/97
		JP 4013739 B	10/03/92
		JP 4026726 B	08/05/92
		JP 5290002 A	05/11/93
		JP 5324573 A	07/12/93
		JP 6019762 B	16/03/94
		JP 7050462 B	31/05/95
		JP 7050463 B	31/05/95
		JP 7092791 B	09/10/95
		US 4445171 A	24/04/84
		US 4543630 A	24/09/85
		US 4814979 A	21/03/89
		US 4945471 A	31/07/90
		US 4956772 A	11/09/90
		US 5006978 A	09/04/91
		US 5276899 A	04/01/94

S. 158443

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

02/12/99

International application No.
PCT/SE 99/01950

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 5535393 A	09/07/96	CA 2078315 A		21/03/93
		EP 0533445 A		24/03/93
		JP 5298272 A		12/11/93
US 5668714 A	16/09/97	JP 7084973 A		31/03/95
US 5297255 A	22/03/94	US 5710932 A		20/01/98
		DE 68928173 D,T		05/02/98
		EP 0326164 A,B		02/08/89
		JP 1194055 A		04/08/89
		JP 1194056 A		04/08/89
		US 5867679 A		02/02/99