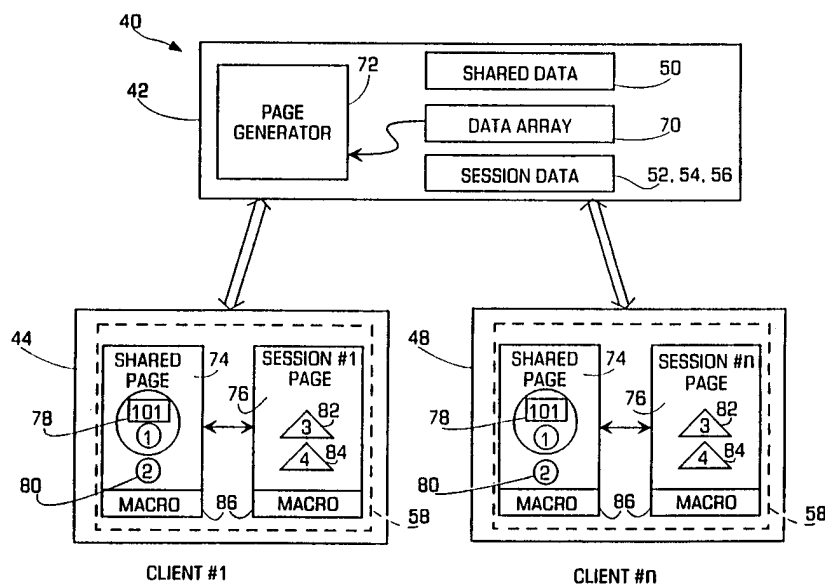




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(54) Title: A DISTRIBUTED DATABASE SYSTEM AND METHOD



(57) Abstract

A distributed data processing system (40) comprising a server (42) and connected clients (44, 48), each client computer engaging a separate session with the server. The server generates (72) a template (58) comprising a graphical representation of data structures, the template selected from a shared and a session template, the session template employing graphical representation of data structures containing a data item having a value that is unique for each client session and the shared template comprising graphical representations of hierarchical data structures containing session data for all sessions; tracks the session data item values (52, 54, 56) for each session and the shared data item values (50); and transfers the session template to a particular client upon starting of a session with the server. Each client displays the session template (76); receives user input changes to the data in the displayed template; and updates shared data item values in the shared template (74) using user changes to the session data.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US98/02315

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(6) :G06F 15/17

US CL :395/200.33; 707/201; 345/357

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. : 395/200.33, 200.34, 200.35; 707/8, 201; 345/356, 357

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

NONE

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

USPTO APS

search terms: session, template, client-server, shared, graphical representation, hierarchical, update, data, item, value, object

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5,423,034 A (COHEN-LEVY et al.) 06 June 1995 Abstract, Fig. 1, col. 14, ln. 33 - col. 15, ln. 66	1-15
A, P	US 5,615,325 A (PEDEN) 25 March 1997 Abstract, Fig. 1-2, col. 1, lns. 10-60, col. 2, lns. 4-41, col. 3, ln. 20 - col. 5, ln. 4	1-15
A, P	US 5,630,125 A (Zellweger) 13 May 1997 Abstract, Fig. 2-3, col. 14, ln. 1 - col. 16, ln. 16	1-15

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 ☐ See patent family annex.

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