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United States Patent [19]

Ellis

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[54] **PERSONAL COMPUTER MICROPROCESSOR FIREWALLS FOR INTERNET DISTRIBUTED PROCESSING**

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Related U.S. Application Data

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[51] Int. Cl.[7] **G06F 15/173**

[52] U.S. Cl. **709/201**; 709/209; 713/201

[58] Field of Search 709/201, 200, 709/203, 208, 209, 210, 211, 100, 104, 105; 713/200, 201

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

This invention relates to computer networks having computers like personal computers (1) or network servers (2) with microprocessors linked (5) by transmission means (4, 14) and having hardware, and other means such that at least one parallel processing operation occurs that involve at least two computers in the network. This invention also relates to large networks composed of smaller networks, like the Internet (3), wherein more than one separate parallel processing operation involving more than one set of computers occurs simultaneously and wherein ongoing processing linkages can be established between microprocessors of separate computers connected to the network. This invention further relates to business arrangements enabling the shared used of network microprocessors for parallel and other processing wherein personal computer owners provide microprocessor processing power to a network, in exchange for linkage to other computers including linkage to other microprocessors; the basis of the exchange between owners and providers being whatever terms to which the parties agree.

83 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets

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