ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A versioning policy included in a target component indicates how the target component is to be accessed, for example, either as a library component or a platform component. A component may be designated as a library component when it is not versioned in a binary compatible manner. When other components request such a component they receive specifically the version of the component they requested. On the other hand, a component may be designated as a platform component when it is versioned in a binary compatible manner. When other components request such a component they may receive the latest upgraded version of the component requested instead. Thus, access to an appropriate version of the component (even a version differing from the requested version) is facilitated. Other embodiments include mechanisms for stratifying component scope based on different processing levels.

Fig. 1