ABSTRACT

In a search engine with two-dimensional scalable architecture for searching of a collection of documents D, the search engine comprises data processing units which form sets of nodes (N) connected in a network, a first set of nodes comprising dispatch nodes (N_α), a second set of nodes search nodes (N_β) and a third set of nodes indexing nodes (N_γ). The search nodes (N_β) are grouped in columns which via the network are connected in parallel between the dispatch nodes (N_α) and an indexing node (N_γ). The dispatch nodes (N_α) are adapted for processing search queries and search answers, the search nodes (N_β) are adapted to contain search software, and the indexing nodes (N_γ) are adapted for generally generating indexes *I* for the search software. Optionally, acquisition nodes (N_δ) provided in a fourth set of nodes and adapted for processing the search answers, thus relieving the dispatch nodes of this task. The two-dimensional scaling takes place respectively through a scaling of the data volume and a scaling of the search engine performance through a respective adaptation of the architecture.

(Figs. 8, 9)

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