

(51) International Patent Classification:
G06F 15/16 (2006.01)(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2012/054038(22) International Filing Date:
7 September 2012 (07.09.2012)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

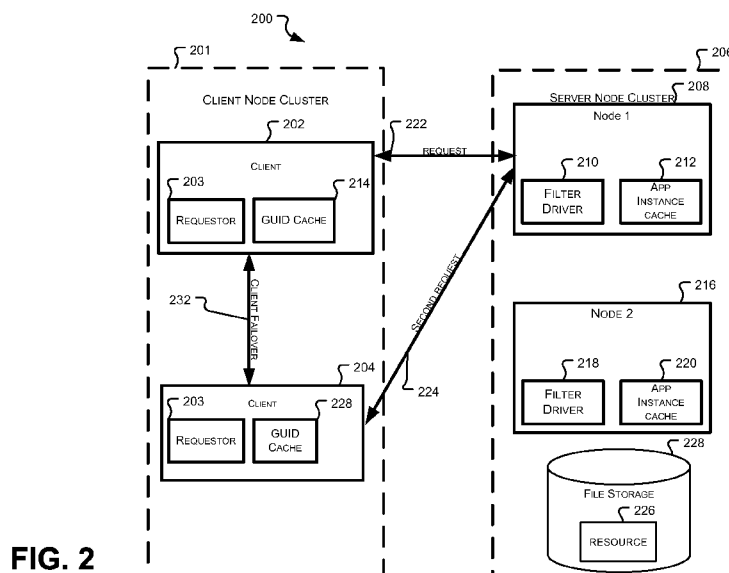
(30) Priority Data:
13/228,732 9 September 2011 (09.09.2011) US(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **MICROSOFT CORPORATION** [US/US]; One Microsoft Way, Redmond, Washington 98052-6399 (US).(72) Inventors: **KRUSE, David, M.**; c/o Microsoft Corporation, LCA - International Patents, One Microsoft Way, Redmond, Washington 98052-6399 (US). **FATHALLA, Diaa**; c/o Microsoft Corporation, LCA - International Patents, One Microsoft Way, Redmond, Washington 98052-6399 (US). **PINKERTON, James, T.**; c/o Microsoft Corporation, LCA - International Patents, One Microsoft Way, Redmond, Washington 98052-6399 (US). **GEORGE, Mathew**; c/o Microsoft Corporation, LCA - International Patents, One Microsoft Way, Redmond, Washington 98052-6399 (US). **PRAHALAD, Prashanth**; c/o Mi-crosoft Corporation, LCA - International Patents, One Microsoft Way, Redmond, Washington 98052-6399 (US). **JOLLY, Thomas, E.**; c/o Microsoft Corporation, LCA - International Patents, One Microsoft Way, Redmond, Washington 98052-6399 (US).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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(54) Title: CLUSTERED CLIENT FAILOVER

**FIG. 2**

(57) Abstract: An application instance identifier is employed with various systems and methods in order to provide a requestor with continuous access to a resource when operating in a client clustered environment. A requestor residing on a first client in may attempt to access a resource. The first client sends a request to access the resource. The request may be associated with an application instance identifier that identifies the requestor. At some point, the first client fails and the requestor is associated with a second client via a failover mechanism. The second client sends a second request to access the resource on behalf of the requestor. The second request is associated with the requestor's application instance identifier. The application instance identifier is used to identify the second request as belonging to the same requestor as the first request, thereby granting the second request to access the resource while avoiding a conflict situation.

**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))*
- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*

Published:

- *without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report (Rule 48.2(g))*