

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for coordinating edits of shared digital data by multiple user computers, the method comprising:
In a coordinating device:
receiving commands to edit shared digital data from multiple independently operated user computers,
determining that two or more of the commands from respective user computers are mutually exclusive;
incorporating one of the multiple commands into a global command queue and annulling the other(s); and
transmitting the global commands to all user computers to be executed locally for implementing the same shared digital data.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein a command received from one of the user computers triggers the coordinating device to restrict commands from the other user computers.
3. The method of claim 2, comprising, in the coordinating device, annulling commands from the other computers that pertain to editing the same region of the shared digital data as the trigger command.
4. The method of claim 1, comprising, in the coordinating device, giving one of the multiple computers temporary exclusive permission to edit a portion or the entirety of the shared digital data.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein the computer with exclusive permission to edit the portion or entirety of the shared digital data is the first of the user computers to transmit a command within a predetermined time period to edit the portion or the entirety of a document.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein commands are determined to be mutually exclusive when they relate to editing of the same or overlapping digital data.
7. The method of claim 1, wherein commands are determined to be mutually exclusive when they are transmitted or received simultaneously or within a predetermined time interval.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein each version of the shared digital data stored locally on each of the multiple user computers may be modified independently before implementing the global commands into the shared digital data.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein all user computers have equal priority to control the shared digital data.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein the user computers may have different priority for controlling the shared digital data.
11. The method of claim 1, wherein editing comprises modifying the content of the shared digital data.
12. The method of claim 1, wherein editing comprises modifying the display of the shared digital data.

CLAIMS

1. A method for coordinating edits of shared digital data by multiple independently operated user computers, the method comprising:
In a coordinating device:
receiving commands to edit the shared digital data from the multiple independently operated user computers,
determining that two or more of the commands from respective ones of the multiple independently operated user computers are mutually exclusive when the two or more of the commands modify content of the shared digital data in a contradictory manner;
incorporating one of the two or more mutually exclusive commands into a global command queue and annulling the other(s) of the two or more mutually exclusive commands; and
transmitting the global command queue and not the shared digital data to all of the multiple independently operated user computers so that the two or more of the incorporated commands are to be executed locally on a version of the shared digital data stored on each of the multiple independently operated user computers, wherein said global command queue is transmitted to each of said multiple independently operated user computers for said incorporated commands to be executed locally only after said incorporating step.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein a command received from one of the multiple independently operated user computers triggers the coordinating device to restrict commands from the other multiple independently operated user computers.
3. The method of claim 2, comprising, in the coordinating device, annulling commands from the other multiple independently operated user computers that pertain to editing the same region of the shared digital data as the trigger command.
4. The method of claim 1, comprising, in the coordinating device, giving one of the multiple independently operated user computers temporary exclusive permission to edit a portion or the entirety of the shared digital data.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein the user computer with exclusive permission to edit the portion or entirety of the shared digital data is the first of the multiple independently operated user computers to transmit a command within a predetermined time period to edit

the portion or the entirety of a document.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the two or more of the commands are determined to be mutually exclusive when the two or more of the commands relate to editing of the same or overlapping portions of the shared digital data.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the two or more of the commands are determined to be mutually exclusive when the two or more of the commands are transmitted or received simultaneously or within a predetermined time interval.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein each version of the shared digital data stored locally on each of the multiple independently operated user computers may be modified independently before implementing the global commands into the shared digital data.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein all of the multiple independently operated user computers have equal priority to control the shared digital data.

10. The method of claim 1, wherein the multiple independently operated user computers may have different priority for controlling the shared digital data.

11. The method of claim 1, wherein editing comprises modifying the content of the shared digital data.

12. The method of claim 1, wherein editing comprises modifying the display of the shared digital data.

13. A system for coordinating edits of shared digital data by multiple independently operated user computers, the system comprising a coordinating device comprising a memory and an operatively coupled processor to:

receive commands to edit the shared digital data from the multiple independently operated user computers;

determine that two or more of the commands from respective ones of the multiple independently operated user computers are mutually exclusive when the two or more of the commands modify content of the shared digital data in a contradictory manner;

incorporate one of the two or more mutually exclusive commands into a global command queue and annul the other(s) of the two or more mutually exclusive commands;
and

transmit the global command queue and not the shared digital data to all of the multiple independently operated user computers so that the two or more of the incorporated commands are to be executed locally on a version of the shared digital data stored on each of the multiple independently operated user computers, wherein said global command queue is transmitted to each of said multiple independently operated user computers for said incorporated commands to be executed locally only after said incorporating step.

14. The system of claim 13 comprising a shared memory location storing the shared digital data accessible by the multiple independently operated user computers.