2126. The method according to any one of claims 1924 and 2025 wherein said step of retrieving said file further comprises:

determining all slices of said subset of download information are retrieved;

determining a total number of slices retrieved in response to said determination that all slices of said subset of download information are retrieved;

comparing said total number of slices with said *m* in said proxy attachment;

generating a request for said secret matrix in response to said total number of slices being equal to or more than said *m* in said proxy attachment; and

transmitting said request to said server.

~~27. The method according to claim 26 wherein in response to receiving said request for said secret matrix, said server performs the following steps:~~

~~retrieving said secret matrix from said persistent storage;~~

~~transmitting said secret matrix to said one of said plurality of e-mail clients.~~

~~28. The method according to claim 27 wherein in response to receiving said secret matrix from said server, said one of said plurality of e-mail clients performs the following step:~~

~~re-combining said slices based on said secret matrix to form said file.~~

22. The method according to claim 5, wherein said step of determining said one of said plurality of e-mail clients has obtained a minimum number of slices required for combining said slices by said server comprises:

determining a number of slices retrieved by said one of said plurality of e-mail clients;

comparing said number of slices with said *m* in said attachment information;

retrieving said secret matrix from said attachment information in response to said number of slices being equal to or more than *m*.

23. The method according to claim 22 wherein in response to receiving said secret matrix from said server, said one of said plurality of e-mail clients performs the following step: