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12/892,735 28 September 2010 (28.09.2010) US(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **AMAZON TECHNOLOGIES, INC.** [US/US]; P.O. Box 8102, Reno, Nevada 89507 (US).

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(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING FLEXIBLE STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL OF SNAPSHOT ARCHIVES

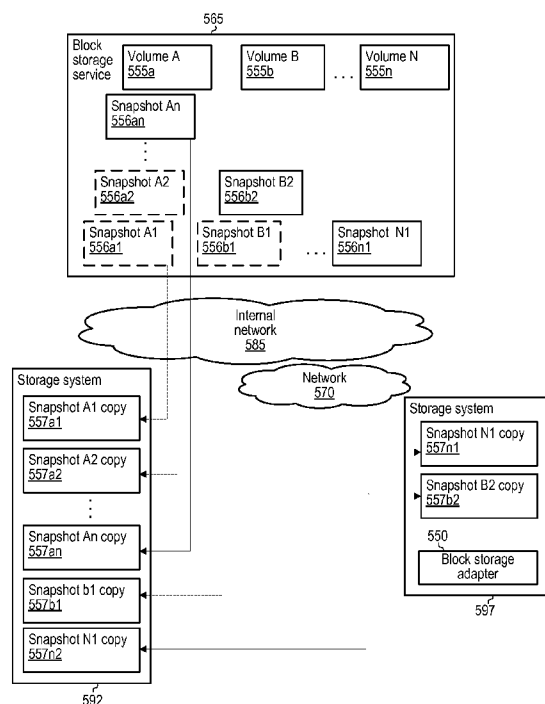


FIG. 5

(57) Abstract: A group of computers is configured to implement a block storage service. The block storage service includes a block-level storage for storing data from a set of distinct computing instances for a set of distinct users. An interface is configured to allow the set of distinct users to specify respective destinations for storing backup copies of respective data stored in the block-level storage for the distinct users. At least some of the respective destinations are for different storage systems remote from one another. A backup copy function is provided for creating backup copies of data stored in the block-level storage by the set of distinct computing instances for the set of distinct users. The backup copies are stored in different destination locations specified by respective ones of the plurality of distinct users via the interface.



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