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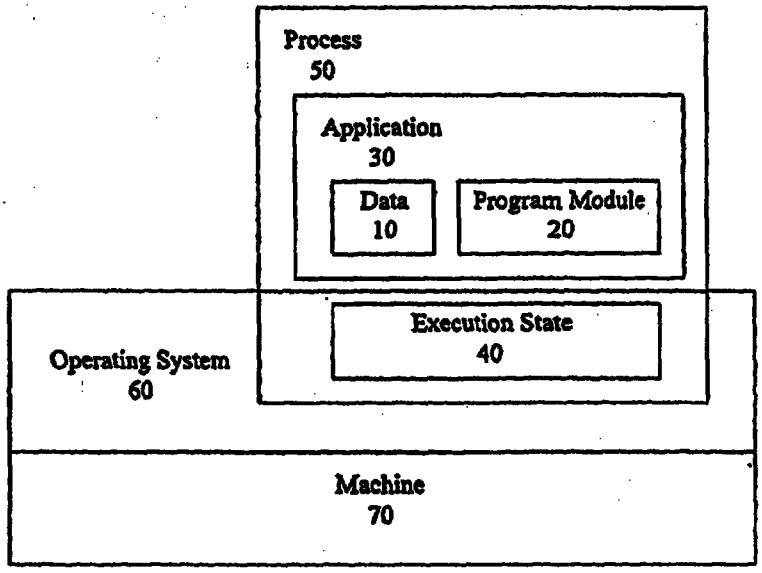
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(57) Abstract

A novel software paradigm is disclosed in which processes comprising data, program modules and execution states are treated as first-class entities that may be operated on directly. By forming a hibernaculum that "stores" such a process, the process may be enabled to migrate, or be incorporated into another process, or incorporate another process within it, or mutate by either dropping or loading selected elements. The paradigm provides a computing environment in which process migration and evolution may be facilitated.

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