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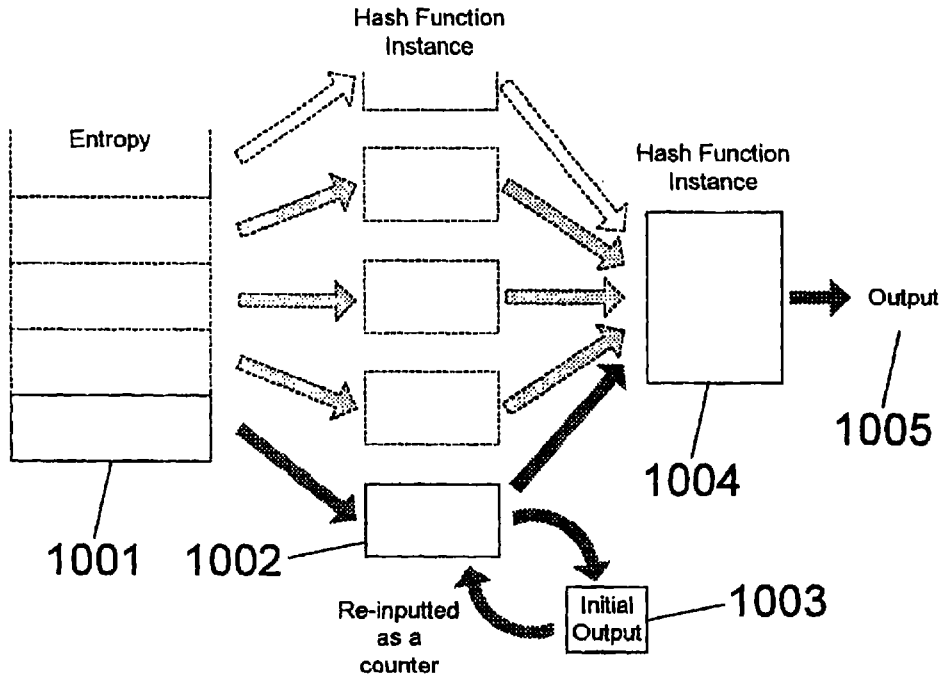
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(54) Title: PSEUDO-RANDOM NUMBER GENERATOR



(57) Abstract: A pseudo-random number generator comprises: (a) a plurality of first-tier (1002) means each capable of receiving an entropy input (1001) and generating a respective hash output; and (b) a second-tier hashing means (1004), which takes as input the respective first-tier hash outputs and generates as output a pseudo-random number (1005). The generator of the present invention has particular application in cryptosystems, and particularly in public key cryptosystems where long sequences of data chosen from a large space of possible sequences need to be created quickly.

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