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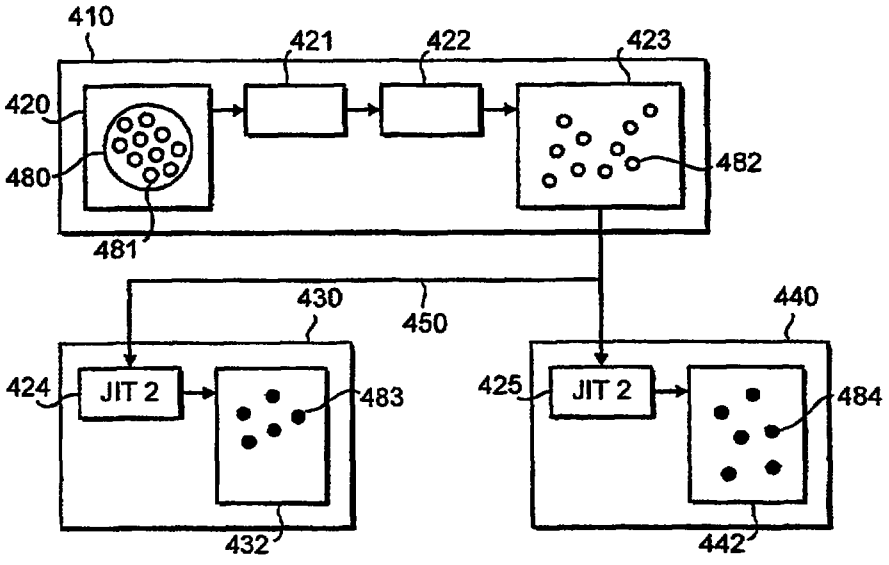
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(54) Title: LOADING OBJECT-ORIENTED COMPUTER PROGRAMS



(57) Abstract: A method of executing an object-oriented computer program comprises loading into the execution environment the selected methods that are to be run without necessarily loading the entirety of the class. In a multiprocessor environment, a server (410) maintains a store of processor-independent virtual processor tools (482). Individual tools may be transmitted as requested across a communications network (450) to individual clients (430, 440), without any need to transmit the whole of the original class file (480). Each client carries a small processor-dependent native translator (424, 425) with which it translates the downloaded processor-independent tool into native code. The invention finds particular application in embedded systems, and particularly in wireless client networks such as mobile phone networks.

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