ABSTRACT

EFFICIENT PATCHING

A facility for augmenting software in a target computer system is described. The facility receives and augmentation specification in the target computer system. The augmentations specification specifies: (a) a function to be augmented, (b) a parameter of the function to be tested, (c) a test to apply to the specified parameter, and (d) and modification to perform to the behavior of the function if the specified test is not satisfied by the specified parameter. When the specified function is invoked on the target computer system, if the specified tested is not satisfied by the specified parameter, the facility performs the specified modification to the behavior of the specified function.

Figure 6