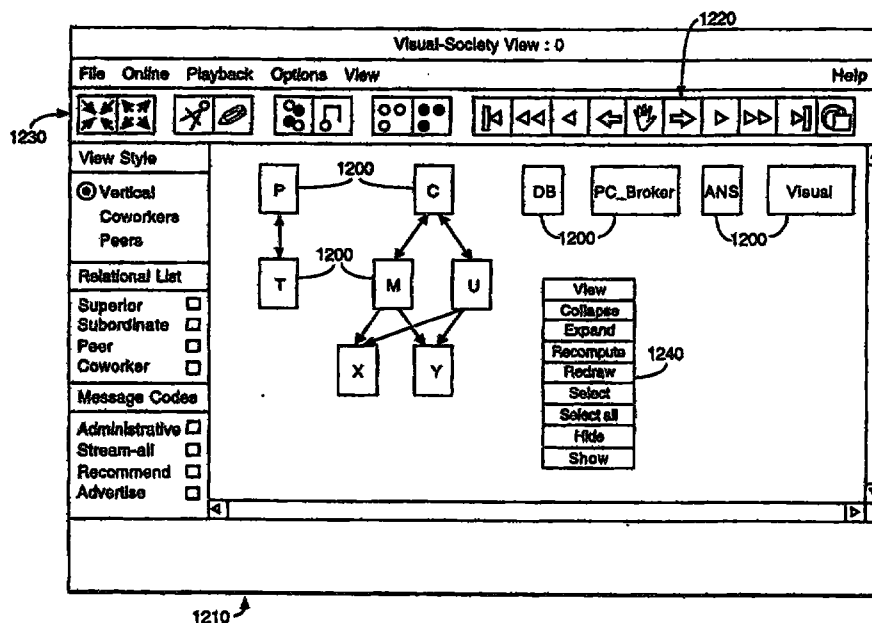




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(54) Title: VISUALISATION IN A MODULAR SOFTWARE SYSTEM



(57) Abstract

A community of collaborative software agents works together in a domain to provide functionality such as provision of communications services or control of a chemical process. A system is provided for building such communities of collaborative software agents. Each software agent has data concerning its relationship(s) with other agents of the community. A visualiser is provided for debugging the community which offers several partial views of the communications between and within agents, organised according to the relationships between agents. By using multiple partial views, such as messages between selected agents and job status reports within single agents, the visualiser is capable of particularly effective debugging.