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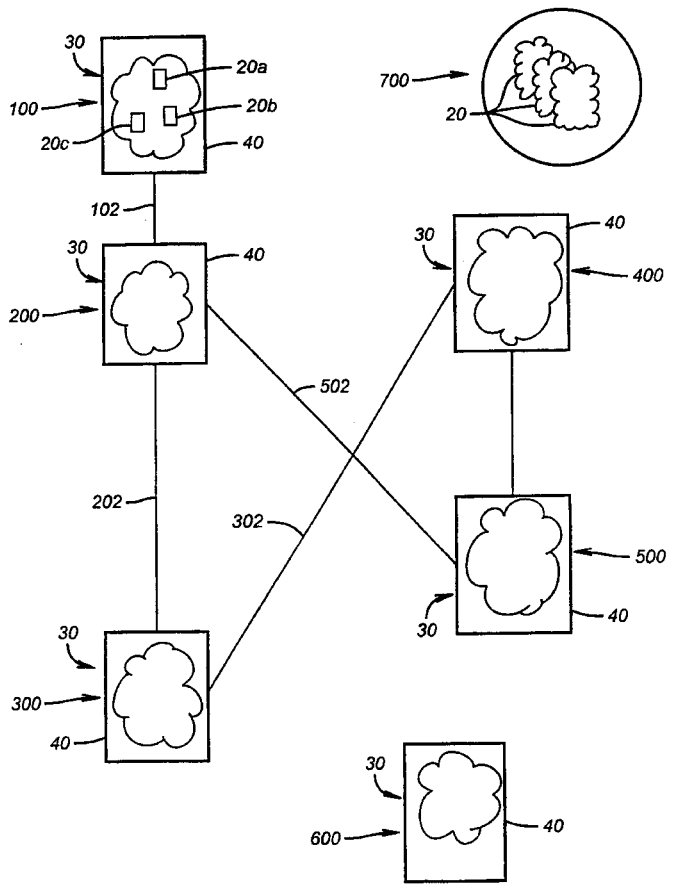
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(54) Title: METHOD OF AND SYSTEM FOR DESIGNING AN N-TIER SOFTWARE ARCHITECTURE FOR USE IN GENERATING SOFTWARE COMPONENTS



(57) Abstract: A system and method for designing a software architecture for utilizing software components (20) (FIG. 1 as 20a, 20b, and 20c) in building extensible N-tier software applications is described, the method comprising specifying a set of software component rules for creating software components; specifying a set of tier rules for creating tiers; and specifying a set of assembly rules further comprising association rules by which each tier (30) may be associated with at least one software component and linkage rules by which each tier may be linked to at least one other tier. The tier rules may further comprise a set of association rules by which each tier created with the set of tier rules may be associated with at least one software component created using the software component rules; a set of tier framework rules to provide an architected context for software components within a tier; and a set of package rules to provide for logical grouping of interfaces within a framework defined by the tier framework rules to provide a set of specific behaviors for the tier.

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