TEMPORAL DISPLACEMENT ICON IN A GRAPHICAL USER INTERFACE

ABSTRACT

This invention permits users to conveniently examine functions, applications, data, and other parameters for different periods of time. A region (180) of the graphical user interface (130) is provided to which other icons (170, 172, 174) may be dragged so that the function represented by the dragged icon (170, 172, 174) returns to a prior state or is extrapolated to a future state. By storing the previous m versions of a file, application, database, etc., where m is user selectable, the user can review prior versions of that file, application, or database without explicitly having to track those versions. The graphical nature of the present invention provides a significantly more intuitive way to manipulate the time.

Fig. 1