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(71) **Applicant: TRADING TECHNOLOGIES INTERNATIONAL, INC.** [US/US]; 1 South Wacker Drive, Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60606 (US).

(72) **Inventors: ANGUIANO, Frederick, J.**; c/o Trading Technologies International, Inc., 1 South Wacker Drive, Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60606 (US). **KANNAN, Praveen**; c/o Trading Technologies International, Inc., 1 South Wacker Drive, Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60606 (US). **RICHARDS, Jeffrey, S.**; c/o Trading Technologies International, Inc., 1 South Wacker Drive, Suite 1200, Chicago, IL 60606 (US).

(74) **Agent: RIDSDALE, Matthew T.**; McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP, 300 South Wacker Drive, Chicago, IL 60606 (US).

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(54) **Title:** DETERMINING AN AVAILABILITY OF A DATA CENTER

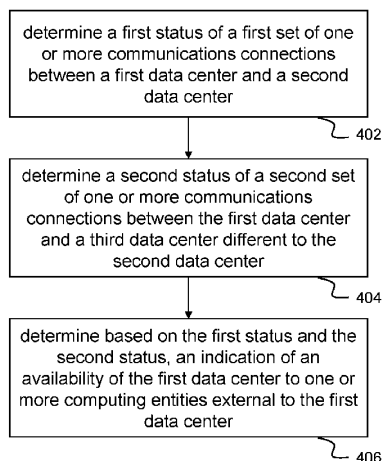


FIG. 4

(57) **Abstract:** Techniques for determining an availability of a data center, DC, to one or more computing entities external to the DC are described. A DC may, for example, operate one or more applications which are controllable by one or more external computing entities. Disclosed techniques include determining a first status of a first set of one or more communications connections between the DC and a second DC, and a second status of a second set of one or more communications connections between the DC and a third DC. Disclosed techniques include determining an indication of the availability of the DC based on the first status and the second status. Disclosed techniques may involve taking an action responsive to determining that the DC is unavailable, for example, causing applications running at the DC to operate in a disaster recovery mode, and/or failing over functionality of the DC to a failover DC.

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