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(54) Title: METHOD, APPARATUS AND SYSTEM FOR TIME STAMPING AND SEQUENCING DATA ITEMS

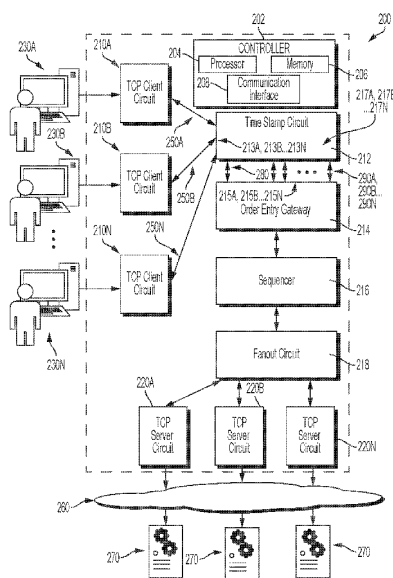


FIG. 3

(57) Abstract: Method, apparatus and system may control chronological sequencing of data items received from a plurality of client computing devices, according to times of completion of transmission respectively from the client computing devices and distributing the data items according to the chronological sequencing to one or more destination computing devices with minimal latency. In an exemplary implementation, trade orders from participant computing devices may be distributed by an electronic trading platform with minimal latency to exchange gateways, based on time of transmission of the trade orders to the platform instead of time of receipt of the trade orders by the platform, thereby avoiding unfairness to those participants whose computing devices are located at greater distances from the platform than other computing devices respectively of other participants.

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