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(54) Title: METHOD OF PROTECTING COPYRIGHTED DIGITAL FILES IN A DISTRIBUTED FILE SHARING NETWORK

(57) Abstract: Protection for copyrighted digital files from infringing distribution on a file sharing network is provided through auto competition measures designed to reduce or eliminate the proliferation of infringing copies of protected digital files on the file sharing network. The system searches for protected content on the network, verifies the existence and distribution of infringing content, and engages in passive and active auto competition measures. Passive measures involve the distribution of degraded or defective content on the file sharing network while active auto competitive measures reduce or eliminate the ability of an infringing node to distribute infringing content to the file sharing network.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US04/35782

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
 IPC(7) : G06F 11/30, 15/173, 15/16
 US CL : 713/201; 709/224, 225, 229
 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED
 Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
 U.S. : 713/201; 709/224, 225, 229, 223; 380/229; 705/57, 51

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
 EAST (US PGPUB, USPAT, USOCR, EPO, JPO, DERWENT, IBM_TDB)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2002/0087885 A1 (Peled et al) 4 July 2002 (4.07.2002), page 1, paragraph [0002, 0007, 0008, 0096, 0112].	1-17

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

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