~~an~~ passive time register for identifying times at which the container can be acted upon by other containers, processes, systems~~,~~ or gateways; and

a neutral ~~tune~~ time register for identifying times at which the container may interact with other containers, processes, systems or gateways.

a'

10. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~ apparatus of claim 1 or 37, wherein the plurality of registers includes at least one acquire register for controlling whether the container adds a register or a container from other containers when interacting with them.

11-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~ apparatus of claim 37~~11~~,~~.~~ wherein the plurality of registers includes:

an active space register for identifying space in which the container will act upon other containers, processes, systems or gateways;

~~an~~ passive space register for identifying ~~from~~ space in which the container can be acted upon by other containers, processes, systems~~,~~ or gateways; and

a neutral ~~time~~ space register for identifying space in which the container may interact with other containers, processes, systems or gateways.

15. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~ apparatus of claim 1 or 37, wherein the gateway includes means for acting upon another container, the means for acting upon another container using the plurality of registers to determine whether and how the container acts upon other containers.

16. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~ apparatus of claim 1 or 37, wherein the gateway includes means for allowing interaction, the means for allowing interaction using the plurality of registers to determine whether and how another container can act upon the container.

17. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~ apparatus of claim 1 or 37, wherein the gateway includes means for gathering information, the means for gathering information recording register information from other containers, systems ~~and~~ or processes that interact with the container.

a'

18. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~ apparatus of claim 1 or 37, wherein the gateway includes means for reporting information, the means for reporting information providing register information to other containers, systems ~~and~~ or processes that interact with the container.

19. (Currently Amended) The ~~system~~ apparatus of claim 1 or 37, wherein the gateway includes an expert system including rules defining the interaction of the container with other containers, systems ~~and~~ or processes.

20-36. (Cancelled)

37. (New) An apparatus for transmitting, receiving and manipulating information on a computer system, the apparatus including a plurality of containers, each container being a logically defined data enclosure and comprising:

an information element having information;

a plurality of registers, the plurality of registers forming part of the container and including

a first register for storing a unique container identification value and

a second register having a representation designating space and governing interactions ofthe container with other containers, systems or processes according to utility of information in the information element relative to an external-to-the-apparatus three-dimensional space; and

a gateway attached to and forming part of the container, the gateway controlling the interaction of the container with other containers, systems or processes.

REMARKS

Claims 1-36 were pending in the present application. Claims 1-7, 9-10, 14-19 have been amended. Claims 8, 11-13, and 20-36 have been cancelled. Claim 37 has been added.

No new matter has been added by way of this amendment. Support for newly added claim 37 can be found in the specification, for example, at page 5 lines 20-26, page 19 lines 6-7, and page 35 lines 25-30. Reconsideration and reexamination are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and following remarks.

Claim Rejections 35 USC § 102(e)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-36 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,016,495 to McKeehan et al. ("McKeehan"). The applicant respectfully disagrees.

The applicant's invention as defined in the amended claims provides an apparatus for transmitting, receiving, and manipulating information on a computer system, and includes an information element, a plurality of registers, and a gateway. Claim 1 requires a gateway that controls the interactions of the container, and a register that has a representation of time that governs the container's interactions according to the utility of the container's information relative to external-to-the-apparatus time.

In contrast, McKeehan describes an object-oriented framework mechanism that provides an infrastructure for persistent storage. McKeehan does not describe or suggest, as required by amended claim 1, "a second register for controlling the relationship of the container with other containers, systems or processes, the second register having a representation designating time and governing interactions of the container with other containers, systems or processes according to utility of information in the information element relative to an external-to-the-apparatus event time".

Rather, McKeehan describes a "LockManager class … responsible for providing concurrency control of objects stored in persistent containers" (Column 19, lines 25-27). Applicant respectfully submits that McKeehan's LockManager class does not "govern[] interactions … according to utility of information … relative to an external-to-the-apparatus

event time", as required by claim 1, because the LockManager class controls simultaneous access to an object by multiple objects without regard to the utility of such access relative to "an external-to-the-apparatus event time."

Applicant's new claim 37 requires a gateway that controls the interactions of the container, and a register that has a representation of space that governs the container's interactions according to the utility of the container's information relative to external-to-the-apparatus space. McKeehan does not describe or suggest, as required by claim 37, "a second register for controlling the relationship of the container with other containers, systems and processes, the second register having a representation designating space and governing interactions of the container with other containers, systems or processes according to utility of information in the information element relative to an external-to-the-apparatus three-dimensional space".

As noted by the Examiner with respect to previously asserted claim 11, McKeehan describes a "[c]omputer system 800 [that] utilizes well known virtual addressing mechanisms that allow the programs of computer system 800 to behave as if they only have access to a large, single storage entity (referred to herein as computer system memory) instead of access to multiple, smaller storage entities such as main memory …" (Column 15, line 66 to column 16, line 5). Applicant respectfully submits that McKeehan's virtual addressing mechanism is limited to the memory of the computer system, and as such, does not suggest "governing interactions … according to utility of information … relative to an external-to-the-apparatus three-dimensional space".

Accordingly, the applicant respectfully submits that claim 1, as amended, and new claim 37 are allowable. Claims 2-7, 9-10, and 14-19 depend from claim 1 or 37, and are allowable for at least the reasons discussed for claims 1 or 37. Allowance of claims 1-7, 9-10, 14-19 and 37 is thereby respectfully requested.

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