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[54] **METHOD FOR RAPID WINDOWING OF DISPLAY INFORMATION IN COMPUTER GRAPHICS**

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[58] **Field of Search** 340/721, 723, 747, 789, 340/724, 709, 802, 748

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[57] **ABSTRACT**

A method for rapid windowing of display information in computer graphics is disclosed herein. Image display data is maintained in a hierarchical data tree structure. Small numbers of bits of data called summaries are maintained at the nodes of the tree. The large complete data image is divided into units called boxes. These boxes combine to form a master box for a particular window size. By searching the summaries for each box and locating the window within the master box, traversal of an entire subtree may be terminated quickly, proceed on only some of the subtrees, or proceed through to completion. A clipped image is rapidly generated that can be rendered to the viewer.

7 Claims, 15 Drawing Figures