

- ii. a reference to a tag record, said tag record listing names and types of said plurality of fields in said referencing record, said tag record further recursively referencing a plurality of tag records each referencing an associated tag record listing the names and types of fields in said referencing tag record, and ultimately, referencing a root record which includes a self-reference and fields listing names and types of plurality of fields in said root record;
- b. a second application program referencing said data, said tag record and said plurality of tag records, recursively, until reaching said root record; and
- c. said second application processing said data according to said tag record and said plurality of tag records.

15 **15.** The method of claim 14 wherein said record further includes a platform field for specifying a platform in which said data is native.

16. The method of claim 14 wherein said record further includes an operations field for use by said second application program during said manipulating of said data.

17. The method of claim 14 wherein said record further includes a size field for use by said second application program to determine said size of said record.

18. The method of claim 14 wherein said record further includes a name field for identifying said data.

19. The method of claim 14 wherein said record comprises an event record which includes fields identifying a runtime event in said first application program.

20. The method of claim 19 wherein said fields in said event record include a type field identifying a type of runtime event which occurred in said first application program.

10 **21.** The method of claim 19 wherein said fields in said event record include a time field identifying a time at which said runtime event occurred in said first application program.

15 **22.** The method of claim 21 wherein said time field includes a relative time in said first application at which said runtime event occurred.

23. The method of claim 19 wherein said fields in said event record include an address field identifying an address at which said runtime event occurred in said first application program.

24. The method of claim 14 wherein said reference to said tag is at a predetermined position from a start of said record.

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