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[54] **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR COMPRESSING PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS IN A COMPUTER SYSTEM BY SELECTIVELY ELIMINATING REDUNDANCY FROM A HIERARCHY OF CONSTITUENT DATA STRUCTURES**

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[75] Inventor: **Benjamin Eric Ross**, Seattle, Wash.

Primary Examiner—Joseph H. Feild
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Jones & Askew, LLP

[73] Assignee: **Microsoft Corporation**, Redmond, Wash.

[57] **ABSTRACT**

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A method and system for compressing publication documents in a computer system is provided. In a preferred embodiment, one or more computer documents are initially represented in a data structure. The data structure is made up of a number of constituent data structures connected by links. In order to compress the data structure, two or more constituent data structures that match are identified. All but one of the identified constituent data structures are then deleted. Finally, links to the deleted constituent data structures are replaced with links to the selected constituent data structure.

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[51] **Int. Cl.⁶** **G06F 17/30**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **707/514; 707/101; 707/104**

[58] **Field of Search** 395/612, 774, 395/776, 613; 707/500, 501, 513, 514, 515, 101, 102, 104, 202

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20 Claims, 11 Drawing Sheets

