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[54] **OPERATING SYSTEM SHELL HAVING A WINDOWING GRAPHICAL USER INTERFACE WITH A DESKTOP DISPLAYED AS A HYPERTEXT MULTIMEDIA DOCUMENT**

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[52] **U.S. Cl.** **707/513**; 345/333; 345/115; 707/501

[58] **Field of Search** 345/326, 333, 345/315, 349; 395/200.57; 707/501, 513

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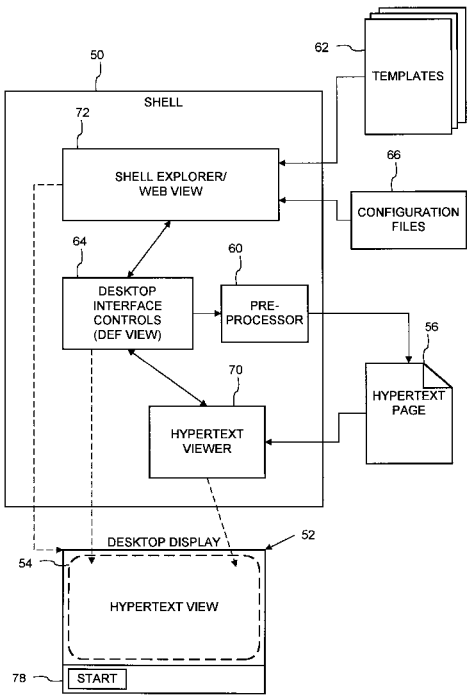
[57] **ABSTRACT**

An operating system shell provides a graphical user interface having a windowing environment with a desktop. The shell synthesizes a hypertext page for display as the desktop in the graphical user interface. The hypertext page has an embedded software object which provides graphical icon-oriented and menu-driven user interface elements for activating operating system services in the displayed hypertext page. The shell also provides windowed hypertext pages for managing file system folders. The shell synthesizes the hypertext pages from templates which can be edited to incorporate a variety of multi-media enhancements with the user interface elements in the graphical user interface. Templates can be associated with specific folders in the file system to provide folder specific hypertext pages integrated with user interface elements for managing the folder.

17 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets