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Ide et al.

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(54) **COST EVALUATION AND PREDICTION**

(56) **References Cited**

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(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

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(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

(57) **ABSTRACT**

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A mechanism is provided for enabling prediction of a cost between an origin and a destination even in the case of insufficient past route information. Data D, which includes an origin, a destination, and information on cost between these points, is prepared as well as a subroutine for calculating cost c_e along an arbitrary link e on the basis of the set along with a variable denoted by f_e . In the first step, the minimum cost route is found from the current $\{f_e\}$ with respect to all pairs of the origin and the destination included in the data D, thereby forming transformed data D'. $\{f_e\}$ is recalculated by using the above subroutine from D' by computer processing and then compared with $\{f_e\}$ calculated last time. If a change is equal to or greater than a threshold, control returns to finding the minimum cost route. Otherwise, $\{f_e\}$ is fixed.

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G06F 17/50 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
USPC **703/13**; 709/223; 709/238

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
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See application file for complete search history.

8 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets

