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**Jones et al.**

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(54) **TECHNIQUES AND SYSTEMS FOR SUPPORTING PODCASTING**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**  
**G06K 5/00** (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **235/380; 235/375**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** ..... **235/375, 235/380, 382**

See application file for complete search history.

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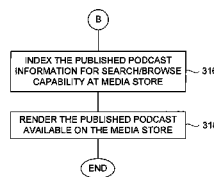
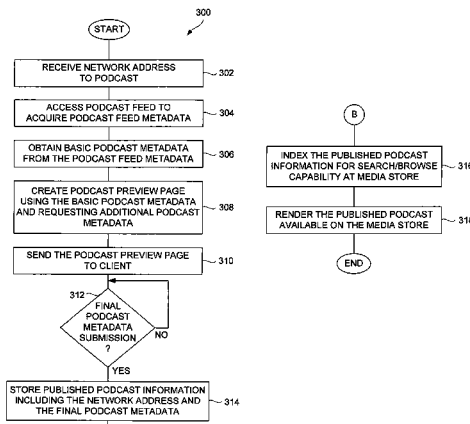
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Improved podcasts and techniques that facilitate their use are disclosed. The improved techniques can pertain to creating, publishing, hosting, accessing, subscribing, managing, transferring, and/or playing podcasts. According to one aspect, a client application can subscribe to podcasts and then automatically monitor the podcasts for updates to be downloaded. In the event that user interest in a podcast becomes inadequate, downloading of further updates can be restricted. According to another aspect, a podcast can be subscribed to through use of a portable subscription file. According to still another aspect, podcast feeds can be enhanced to include segment elements and other metadata.

**39 Claims, 23 Drawing Sheets**



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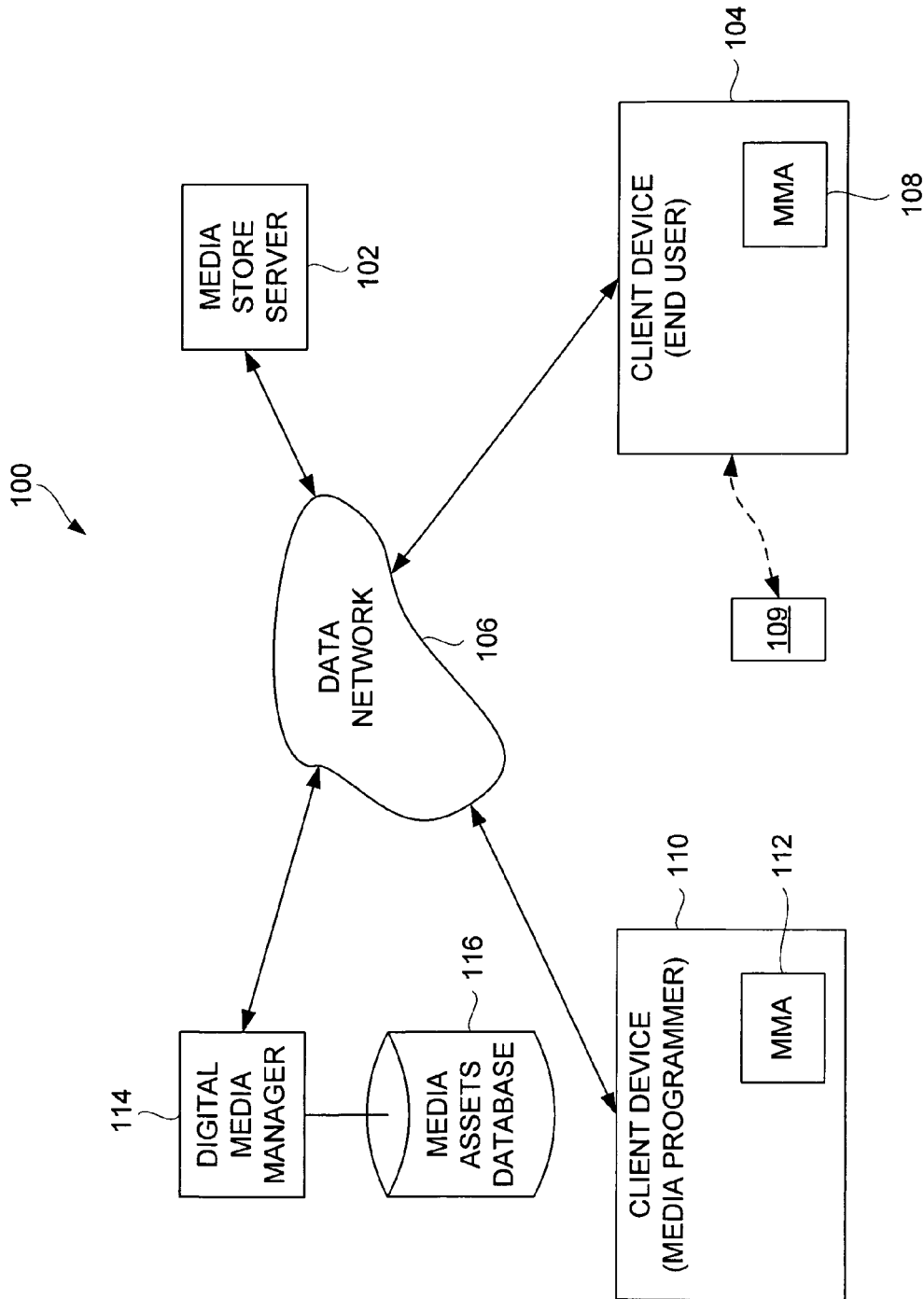


FIG. 1

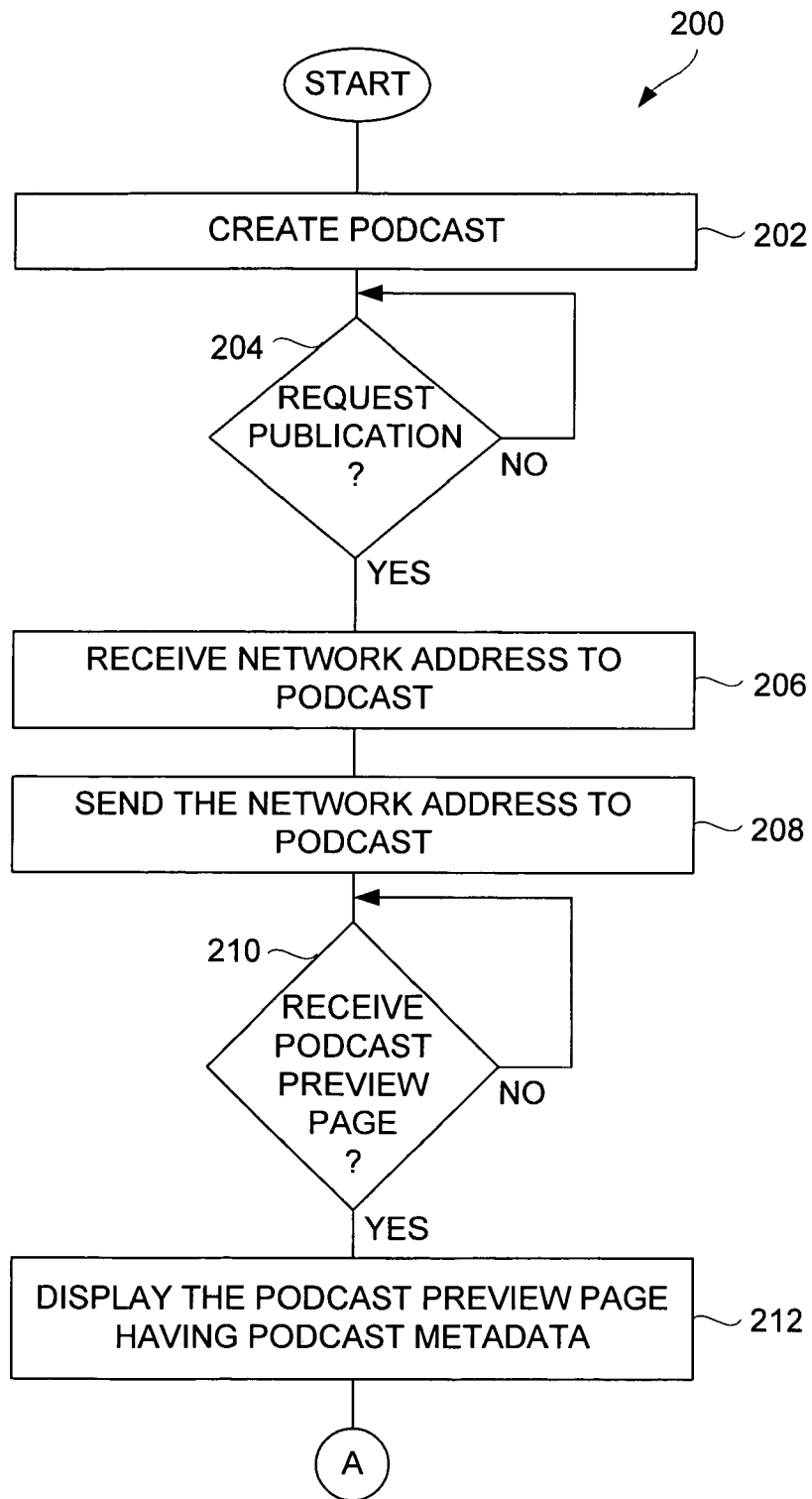


FIG. 2A

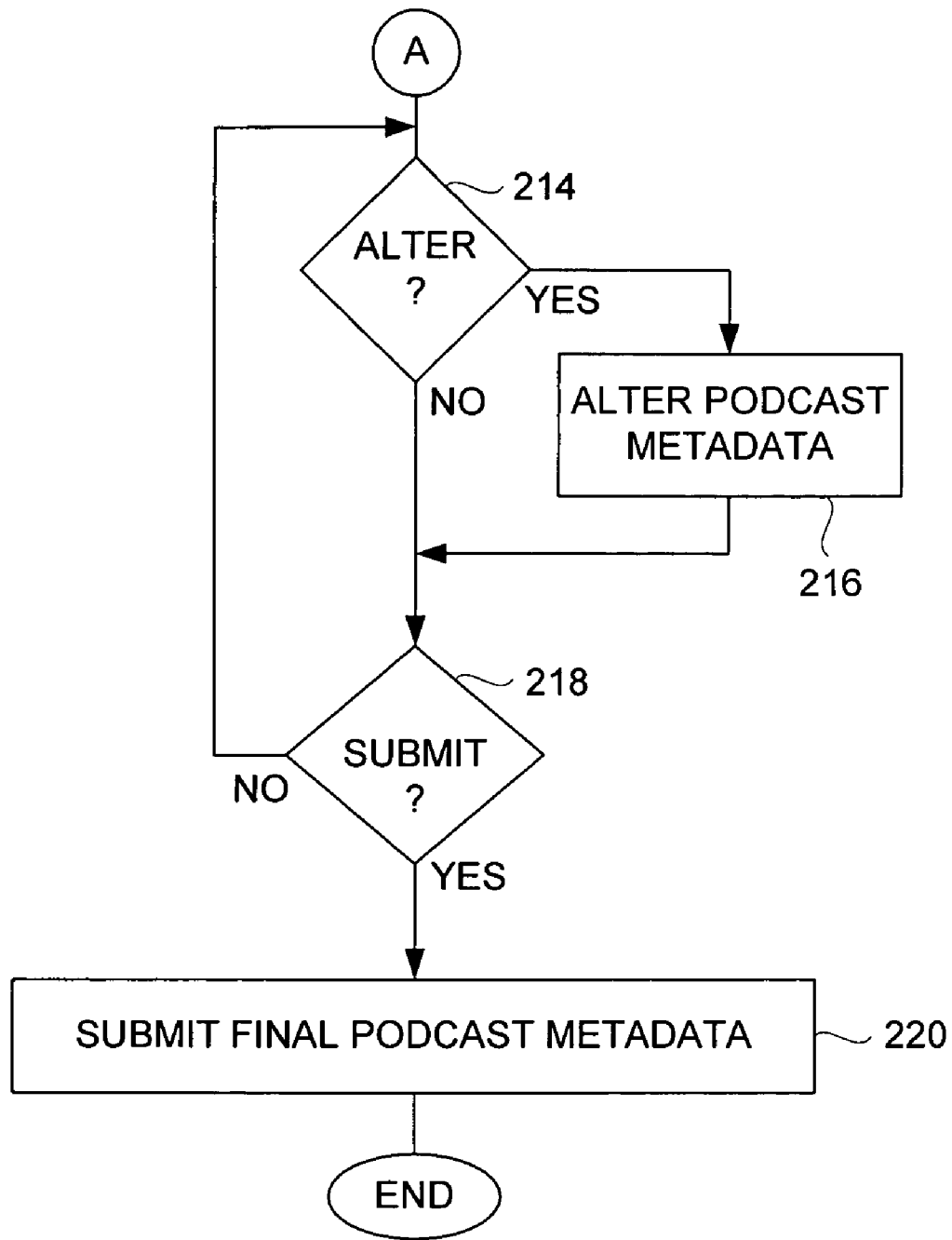


FIG. 2B

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