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United States Patent [19]

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Allen et al.

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[54] **INFORMATION ORGANIZATION AND COLLABORATION TOOL FOR PROCESSING NOTES AND ACTION REQUESTS IN COMPUTER SYSTEMS**

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[21] Appl. No.: **08/798,453**

[57] ABSTRACT

[22] Filed: **Feb. 10, 1997**

A natural language-based information organization and collaboration tool for a computer system is disclosed. The present invention includes an apparatus and method for processing text expressions in a computer system, the apparatus including: 1) an object database defining an information object with an associated keyword; 2) a user input device for receiving an input text expression; 3) a parsing device for identifying the keyword in the input text expression, the parsing device including functions for linking the input text expression to the information object based on the keyword identified in the input text expression; and 4) a user output device for displaying to the user the identity of the information object to which the input text expression was linked. The apparatus of the present invention further includes supplemental information in the object database which is related to the information object, the user output device further including functions for displaying the supplemental information when a corresponding keyword is identified in the input text expression. The apparatus of the present invention further includes a method and apparatus for collaboration between users of a time and project management system.

[51] **Int. Cl.⁷** **G06F 17/30**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **707/104; 707/200; 704/270**

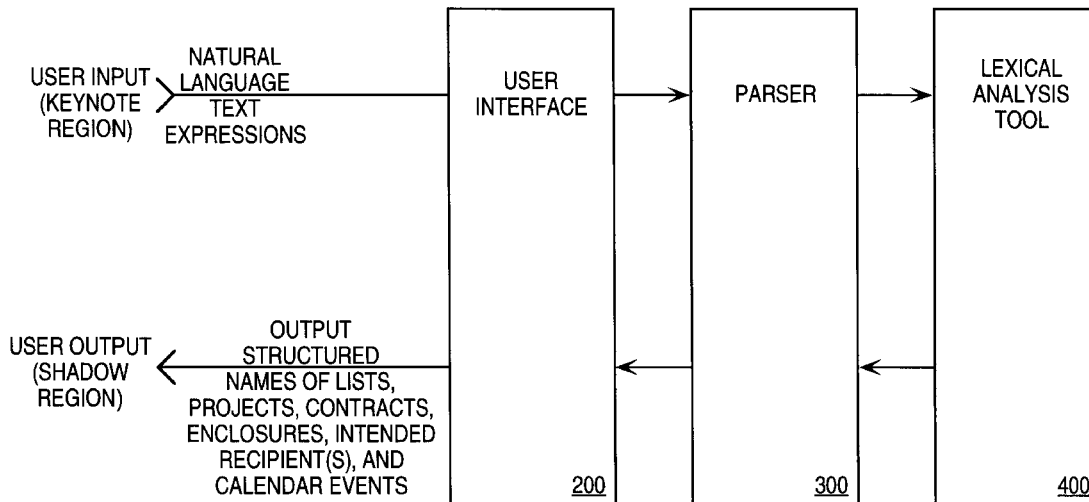
[58] **Field of Search** 707/1, 100, 104, 707/2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 102, 103, 200, 201; 704/9, 270, 275

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37 Claims, 26 Drawing Sheets



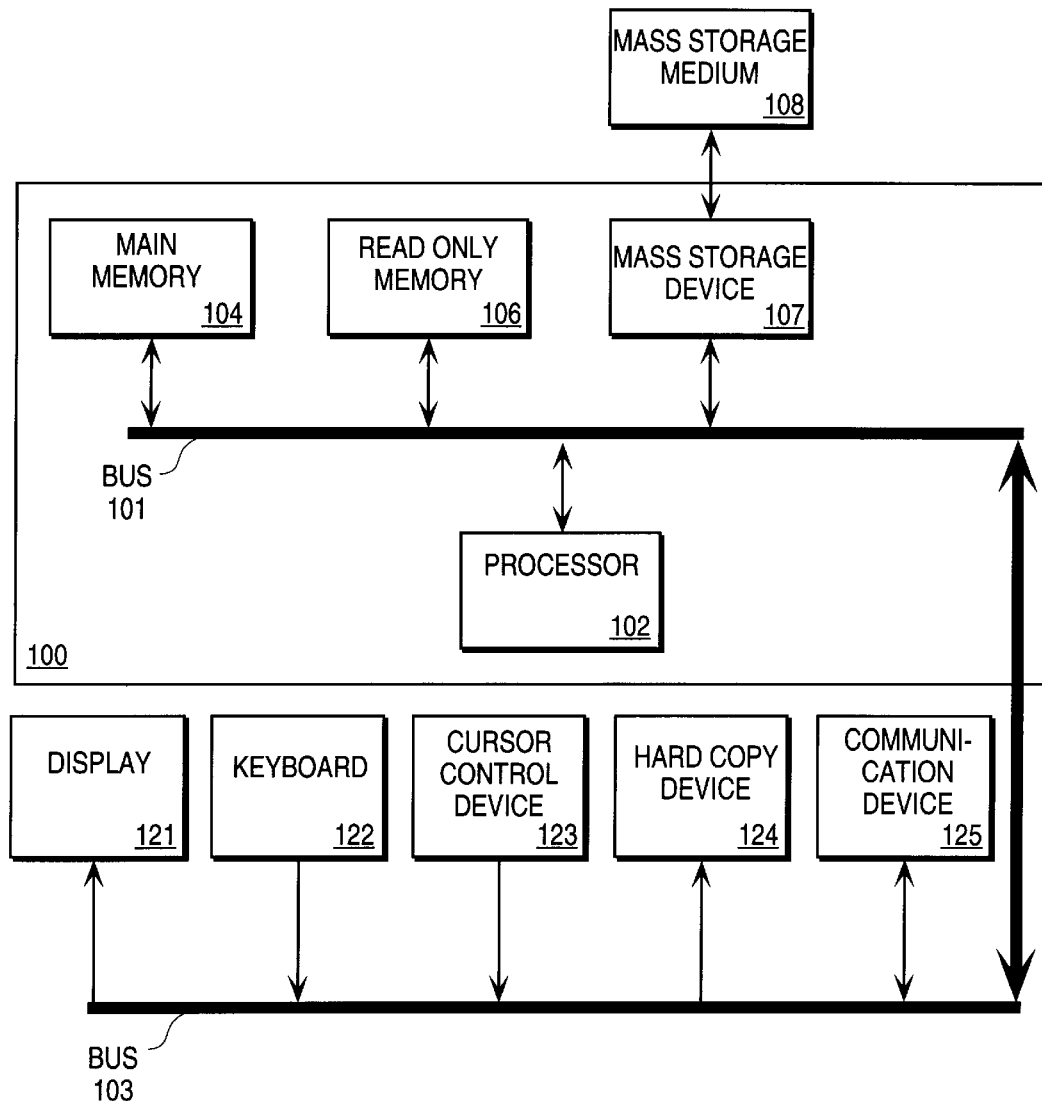


FIG. 1

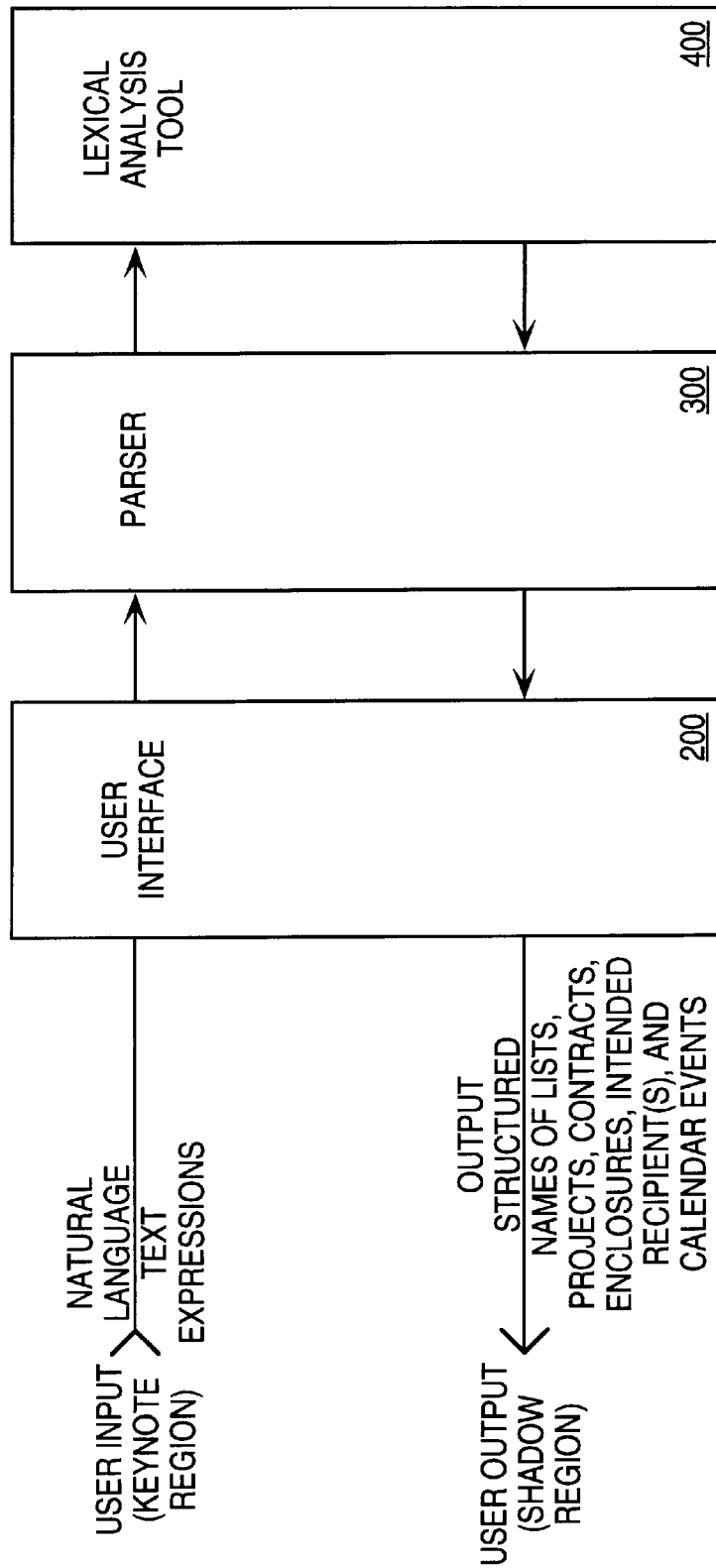


FIG. 2

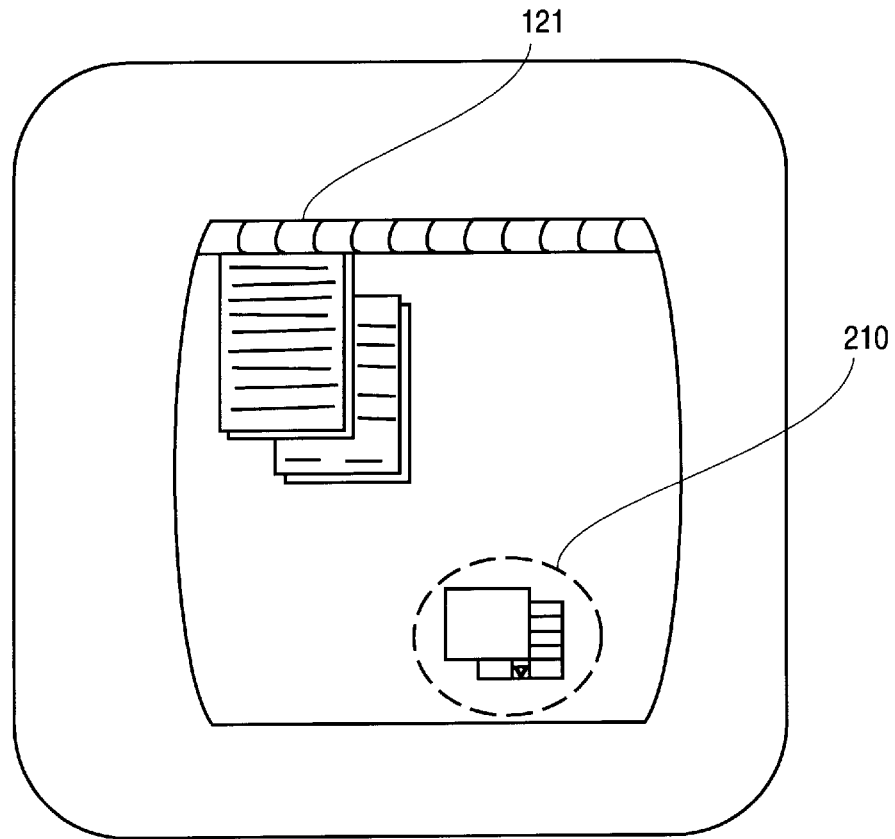


FIG. 3

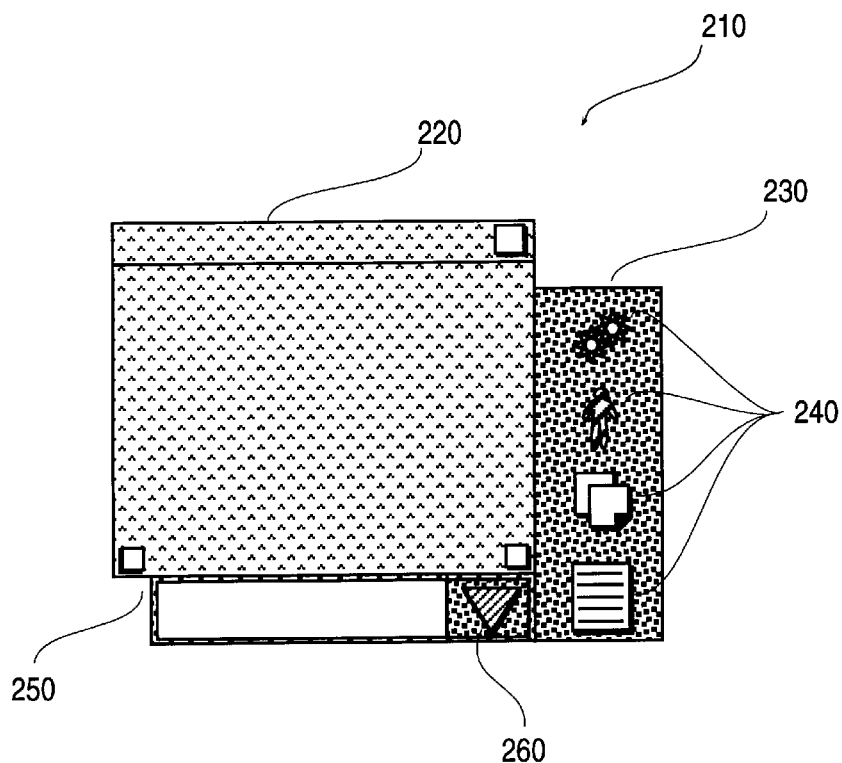


FIG. 4A

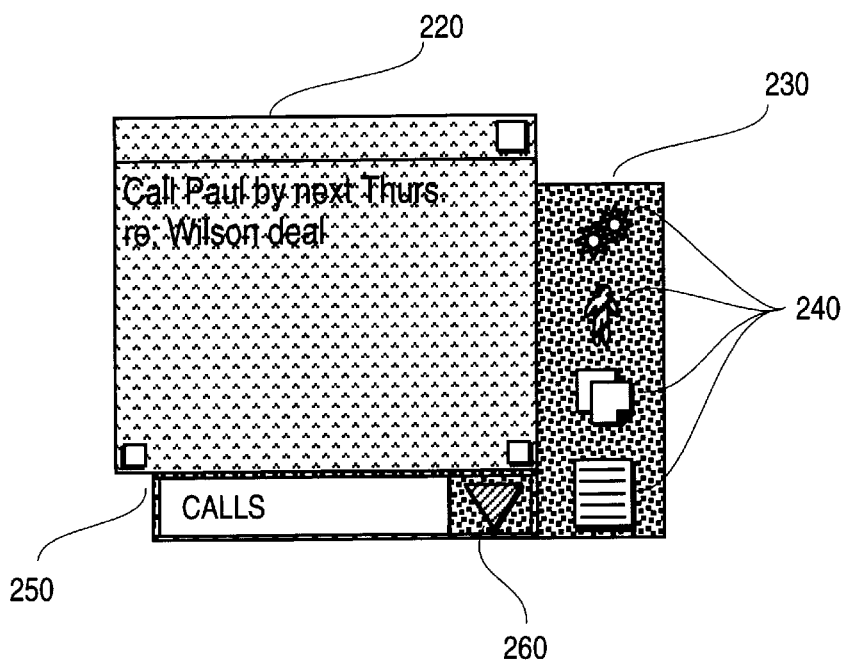


FIG. 4B

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