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(51) **Int. Cl.⁷** **G06F 15/16**
(52) **U.S. Cl.** **709/203; 709/219**

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A network connects first, second, and third apparatuses. The first apparatus generates a first list of contents represented by data stored therein. The second apparatus generates a second list of contents represented by data stored therein. The first apparatus gets the second list of contents from the second apparatus, and combines the first list of contents and the second list of contents into a third list of contents. The second apparatus gets the first list of contents from the first apparatus, and combines the first list of contents and the second list of contents into a fourth list of contents which is equal to the third list of contents. The third apparatus refers to one of (1) the third list of contents which is generated by the first apparatus and (2) the fourth list of contents which is generated by the second apparatus.

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Sep. 30, 2002 (JP) 2002-286237

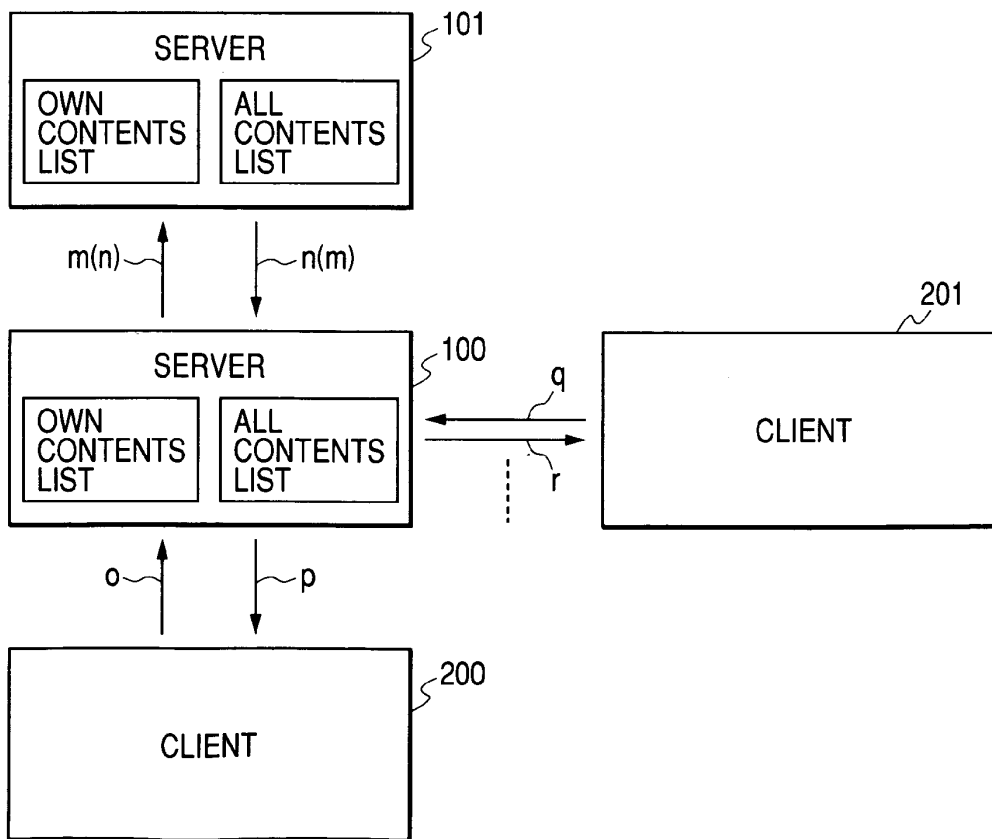


FIG. 1

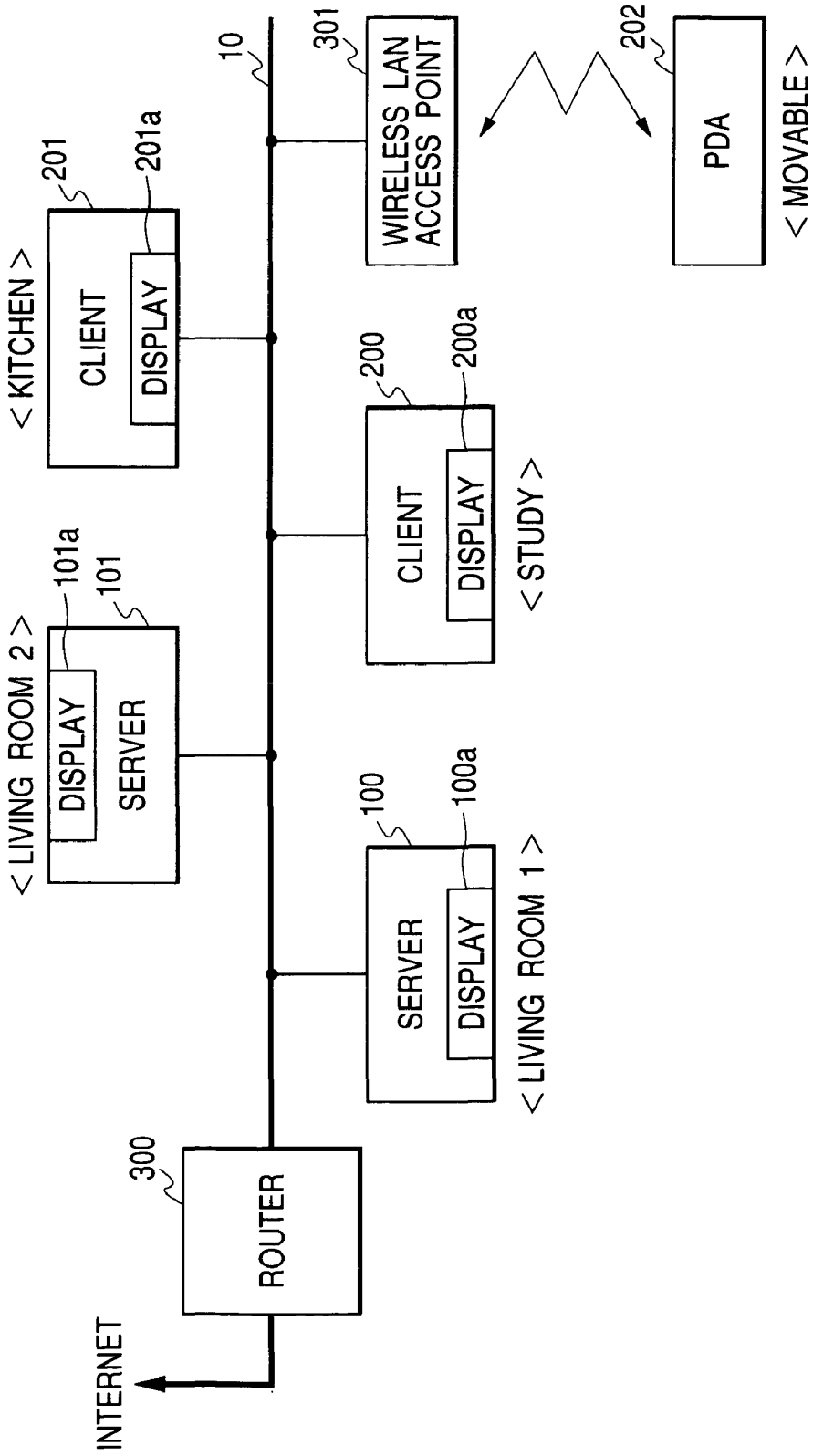


FIG. 2

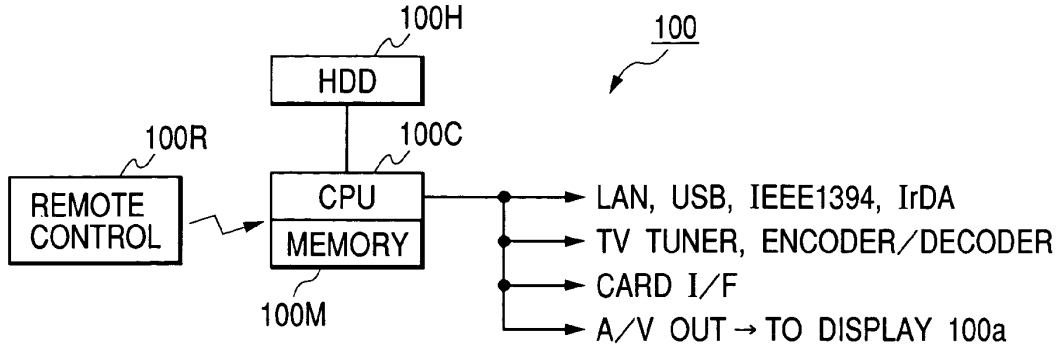


FIG. 3

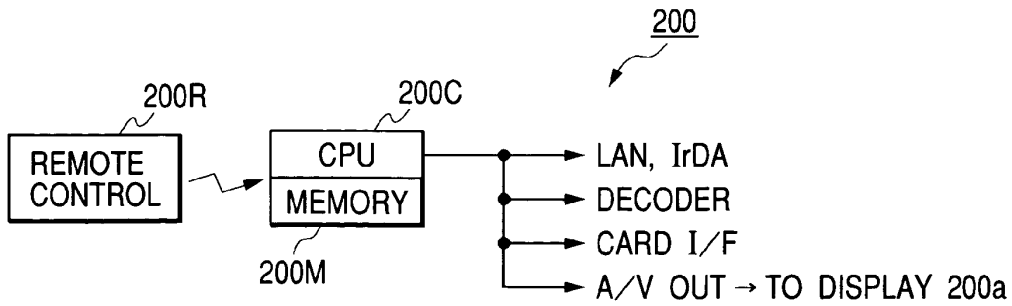


FIG. 4

MACHINE NUMBER	IP ADDRESS	SERVICE TYPE
#100	200.100.100.001	SERVER
#101	200.100.100.002	SERVER
#200	200.100.100.003	CLIENT
#201	200.100.100.005	CLIENT
#202	200.100.100.009	CLIENT

FIG. 5

CONTENTS LIST IN
MACHINE #100

aa1
aa2
aa3
⋮

FIG. 6

CONTENTS LIST IN
MACHINE #101

bb1
bb2
bb3
⋮

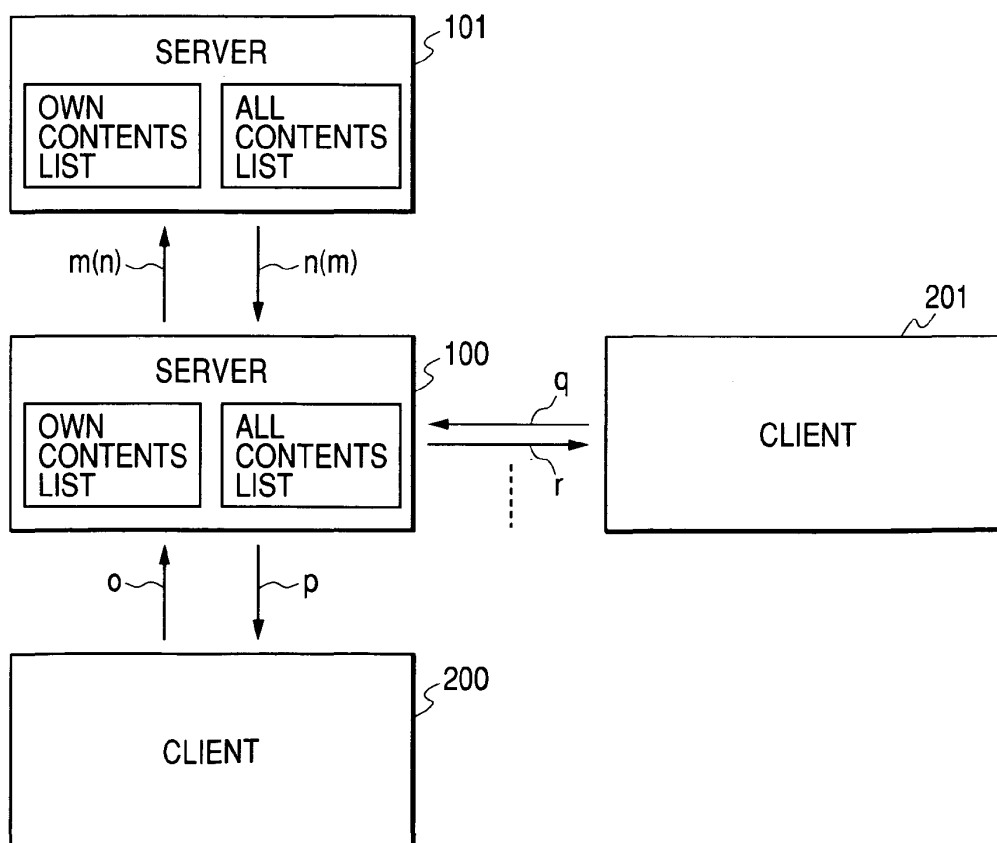
FIG. 7

CONTENTS TITLE : bb2

ADDRESS : #101/MPG/bb2. MP

ADDED INFORMATION : (SINGER'S NAME, GENRE)

FIG. 8



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