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Goodman et al.

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(54) **AUTOMATIC HIERARCHICAL CATEGORIZATION OF MUSIC BY METADATA**

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(52) U.S. Cl. **386/243**; 707/999.003; 707/999.004;
707/999.102; G9B/27.019; G9B/27.021;
G9B/27.051

(58) **Field of Classification Search** 707/104
See application file for complete search history.

(56) **References Cited**

To view the complete listing of prior art documents cited during the proceeding for Reexamination Control Number 95/001,274, please refer to the USPTO's public Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system under the Display References tab.

Primary Examiner — Mary Steelman

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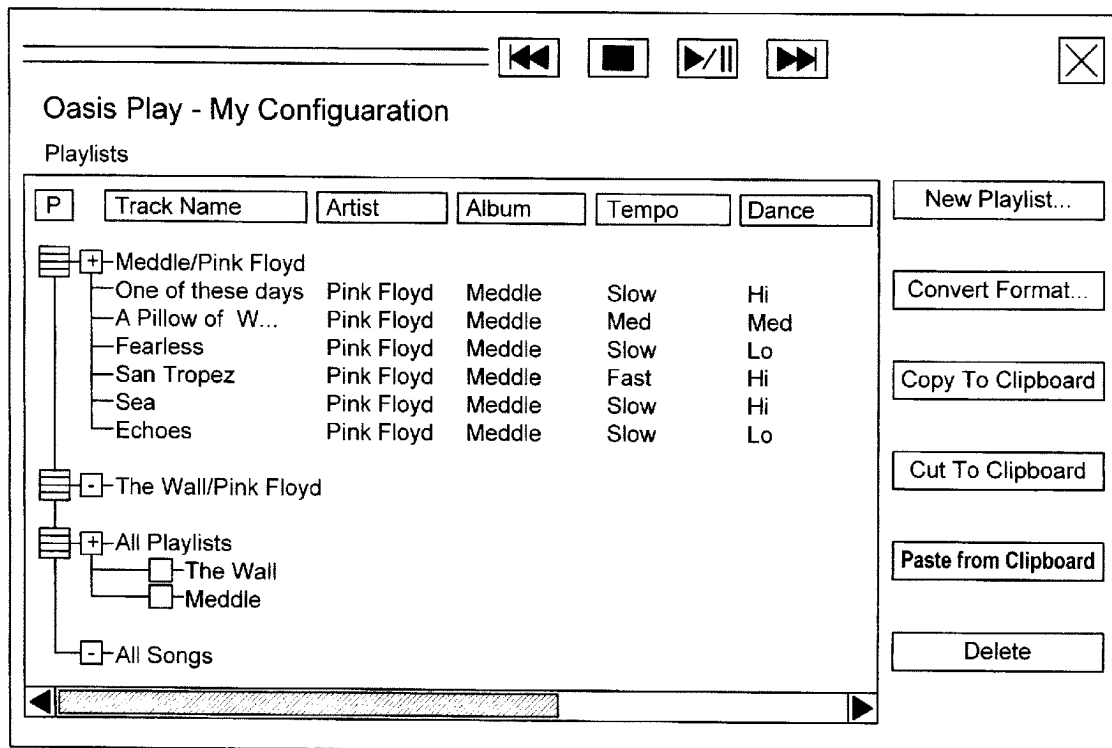
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method, performed by software executing on the processor of a portable music playback device, that automatically files tracks according to hierarchical structure of categories to organize tracks in a logical order. A user interface is utilized to change the hierarchy, view track names, and select tracks for playback or other operations.

- (51) **Int. Cl.**
- G11B 27/11** (2006.01)
 - G11B 27/10** (2006.01)
 - G11B 27/34** (2006.01)
 - G06F 17/30** (2006.01)



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INTER PARTES
REEXAMINATION CERTIFICATE
ISSUED UNDER 35 U.S.C. 316

THE PATENT IS HEREBY AMENDED AS
 INDICATED BELOW.

Matter enclosed in heavy brackets [] appeared in the patent, but has been deleted and is no longer a part of the patent; matter printed in italics indicates additions made to the patent.

AS A RESULT OF REEXAMINATION, IT HAS BEEN DETERMINED THAT:

The patentability of claims 2, 3, 5 and 7 is confirmed.

Claims 1, 4, 6 and 8-16 are cancelled.

New claims 17-28 are added and determined to be patentable.

17. *The method of selecting a track as recited in claim 3 wherein the playlist is an active queue list of songs that is currently being played.*

18. *The method of selecting a track as recited in claim 5 wherein the playlist is an active queue list of songs that is currently being played.*

19. *The method of selecting a track as recited in claim 5 wherein the selected item in the third display screen is associated with a plurality of tracks, and wherein the accessing at least one track comprises adding the plurality of tracks associated with the selected item to a playlist.*

20. *The method of selecting a track as recited in claim 19 wherein the playlist is an active queue list of songs that is currently being played.*

21. *The method of selecting a track as recited in claim 5 wherein the selected item in the third display screen is a selected album name, and wherein the accessing at least one track comprises adding the plurality of tracks associated with the selected album name to a playlist.*

22. *The method of selecting a track as recited in claim 21 wherein the playlist is an active queue list of songs that is currently being played.*

23. *The method of selecting a track as recited in claim 1 wherein:*

the category album is selected in the first display screen from available categories that include at least artist and album;

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the subcategories listed in the second display screen comprise a listing of album names and one of the album names is selected; and

the accessing at least one track comprises adding a plurality of tracks associated with the selected album name to a playlist.

24. *The method of selecting a track as recited in claim 23 wherein the playlist is an active queue list of songs that is currently being played.*

25. *The method of selecting a track as recited in claim 1 wherein:*

the category genre is selected in the first display screen from available categories that include at least artist, album, and genre;

the subcategories listed in the second display screen comprise a listing of a plurality of genre types, and one of one genre types is selected;

the items displayed in the third display screen comprise a listing of a plurality of album names associated with the selected genre type, and one of the album names is selected; and

the accessing at least one track comprises adding a plurality of tracks associated with the selected album name to a playlist.

26. *The method of selecting a track as recited in claim 25 wherein the playlist is an active queue list of songs that is currently being played.*

27. *The method of selecting a track as recited in claim 1 wherein:*

the category artist is selected in the first display screen from available categories that include at least artist, album, and genre;

the subcategories listed in the second display screen comprise a listing of artist names, and one of the listed artist names is selected;

the items displayed in the third display screen comprise a listing of album names associated with the selected artist name, and one of the listed album names is selected; and

the accessing at least one track comprises adding a plurality of tracks associated with the selected album name to a playlist.

28. *The method of selecting a track as recited in claim 27 wherein the playlist is an active queue list of songs that is currently being played.*

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