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INVENTOR(S)							
1.	Isaac	Levanon	3 Nachal Besor St., Ramat Hasharn, Israel				
2.	Yoni	Lavi	21 Bar Ilan St., Raanana, Isr	ael	JC8		
TITLE OF THE INVENTION							
	FAST QUA AND N	LITY BUILD-UP OF IM NARROWBAND COM RENT VIEWING FRUS	RCEL DOWNLOAD SEQUEN MAGE DATA STREAMED OVER MUNICATION CHANNELS W STUM FROM A DYNAMIC THR NAL VIEWPOINT	LIMITED /ITH			
X	Direct all correspon	dence to Customer N	Number <u>23488</u> .				
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Palo	Alto, California 94301						
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	Declaration Assignment and Cover Sheet						
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	Gerald B. Ros		Application Docket No:	FLVT3001			
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1	OPTIMIZATION OF IMAGE PARCEL DOWNLOAD
2	SEQUENCE FOR FAST QUALITY BUILD-UP OF
3	IMAGE DATA STREAMED OVER LIMITED AND
4	
5	
6	DYNAMIC THREE-DIMENSIONAL VIEWPOINT
7 8	
9	
10	
11	Inventors:
12	Isaac Levanon
13	Yoni Lavi
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	Background of the Invention
19	The present invention is generally related to the delivery of high-resolution
20	highly featured graphic images over limited and narrowband communications
21	channels.
22	
23	Summary of the Invention
24	The objective is to display a two-dimensional pixel map, a16-Bit RGB color
25	image in the preferred embodiments, of very large dimensions and permitting the
26	viewing of the image from a dynamic three-dimensional viewpoint. Multiple such

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images are remotely hosted for on-demand selection and transfer to a client system for viewing.

Images, as stored by the server, may individually range from gigabytes to 3 multiple terabyte in total size. A correspondingly large server storage and 4 processing system is contemplated. Conversely, client systems are contemplated 5 to be conventional personal computer systems and, in particular, mobile, cellular, 6 embedded, and handheld computer systems, such as personal digital assistants 7 (PDAs) and internet-capable digital phones, with relatively limited to highly 8 constrained network communications capabilities. For most wireless applications, 9 conventional narrowband communications links have a bandwidth of less than 10 approximately three kilobytes of data per second. Consequently, transmittal of 11 entire images to a client system in reasonable time is infeasible as a practical 12 13 matter.

Description of the Invention

16 <u>Overview:</u>

For purposes of the present invention, each image (Figure 1) is at least 17 logically defined in terms of multiple grids of image parcels with various levels of 18 resolutions (Figure 2) that are created through composition of information from 19 all level of resolutions, and stored by the server to provide an image for transfer 20 to a client system (Figure 3). Composed and separate static and dynamically 21 created layers are transferred to client system in parcels in a program selectable 22 order to optimize for fast quality build-up of the image presented to a user of the 23 client system, particularly when the parcels are streamed over a narrowband 24 25 communication link.

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1 The multiple layers of an image allow the selectivity to incorporate 2 topographical, geographical, orientational, and other terrain and mapping 3 related information into the image delivered. Other layers, such as geographic 4 grids, graphical text overlays, and hyperlink selection areas, separately provided 5 or composed, aid in the useful presentation and navigation of the image as 6 presented by the client system and viewed by the user.

Compositing of layers on the server enables the data transfer burden to be
reduced, particularly in analysis of the requirements and capabilities of the client
system and the connecting communications link. Separate transfer of layers to the
client system allows the client system selectivity in managing and presentation of
the data to the user.

The system and methods of the present invention are designed to, on demand, select, process and immediately transfer data parcels to the client system, which immediately processes and displays a low-detail representation of the image requested by the client system. The system and methods immediately continue to select, process and sequentially transfer data parcels that, in turn, are processed and displayed by the client system to augment the presented image and thereby provide a continuously improving image to the user.

Selection of the sequentially transferred data is, in part, dependent on the progressive translation of the three-dimensional viewpoint as dynamically modified on the client system during the transfer process. This achieves the above-stated objective while concurrently achieving a good rendering quality for continuous fly-over of the image as fast as possible, yet continuously building the image quality to the highest resolution of the image as stored by the server.

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1 To optimize image quality build-up over limited and narrowband 2 communication links, the target image, as requested by the client system, is represented by multiple grids of 64x64 image pixels (Figure 4) with each grid 3 4 having some corresponding level of detail. That is, each grid is treated as a sparse data array that can be progressively revised to increase the resolution of 5 6 the grid and thereby the level of detail presented by the grid. The reason for 7 choosing the 64x64 pixel dimension is that, using current image compression 8 algorithms, a 16-bit 64x64 pixel array image can be presented as a 2KByte data 9 parcel. In turn, this 2KByte parcel is the optimal size, subject to conventional 10 protocol and overhead requirements, to be transmitted through a 3KByte per 11 second narrowband transmission channel. Using a smaller image array, such as 12 32x32, would create a 0.5KByte parcel, hence causing inefficiencies due to packet 13 transmission overhead, given the nature of current wireless communications protocols. 14

15 Image array dimensions are preferably powers of two so that they can be 16 used in texture mapping efficiently. Each parcel, as received by the client system, 17 is preferably immediately processed and incorporated into the presented image. 18 To do so efficiently, according to the present invention, each data parcel is 19 independently processable by the client system, which is enabled by the selection 20 and server-side processing used to prepare a parcel for transmission. In addition, 21 each data parcel is sized appropriate to fit within the level-1 cache, or equivalent, 22 of the client system processor, thereby enable the data processing intensive 23 operations needed to process the data parcel to be performed without extended 24 memory access delays. In the preferred embodiment of the present invention,

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