



(12) **United States Patent**  
**Vasudevan et al.**

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(54) **METHOD AND DEVICE FOR RECEIVING AND PROVIDING PROGRAMS**

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**Related U.S. Application Data**  
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(51) **Int. Cl.**  
**H04J 1/00** (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **370/486; 370/537**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** ..... **370/537, 370/485, 486, 487**  
See application file for complete search history.

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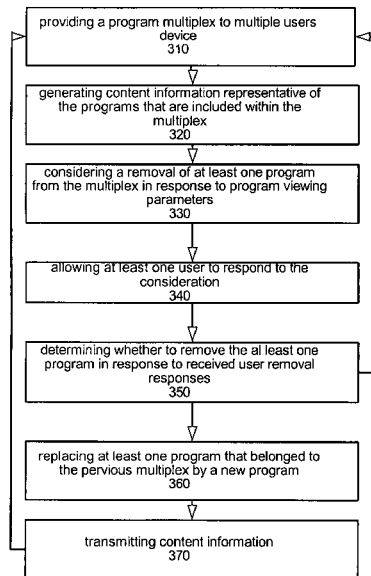
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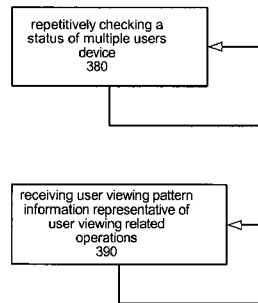
(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method for providing programs, the method includes: (i) providing a program multiplex to multiple users device; (ii) considering a removal of at least one program from the multiplex in response to program viewing parameters; (iii) allowing at least one user to respond to a possible removal of the program; and (iv) determining whether to remove the at least one program in response to received user removal responses. A user device that includes a transceiver unit that is connected to a controller, wherein the device is adapted to receive a program multiplex, to receive an indication that at least one program is to be removed from the multiplex, and to selectively transmit a program removal response.

**42 Claims, 13 Drawing Sheets**



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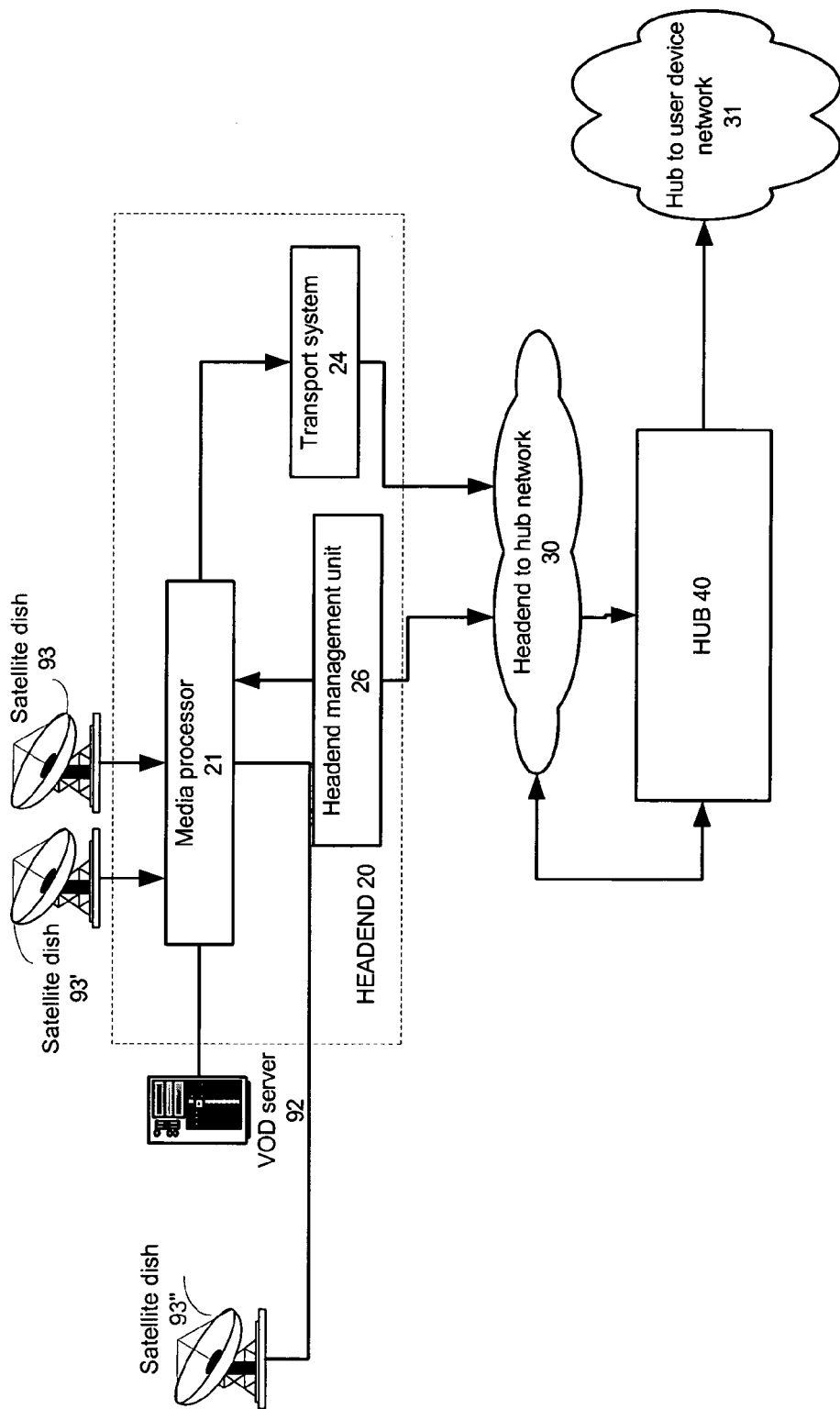
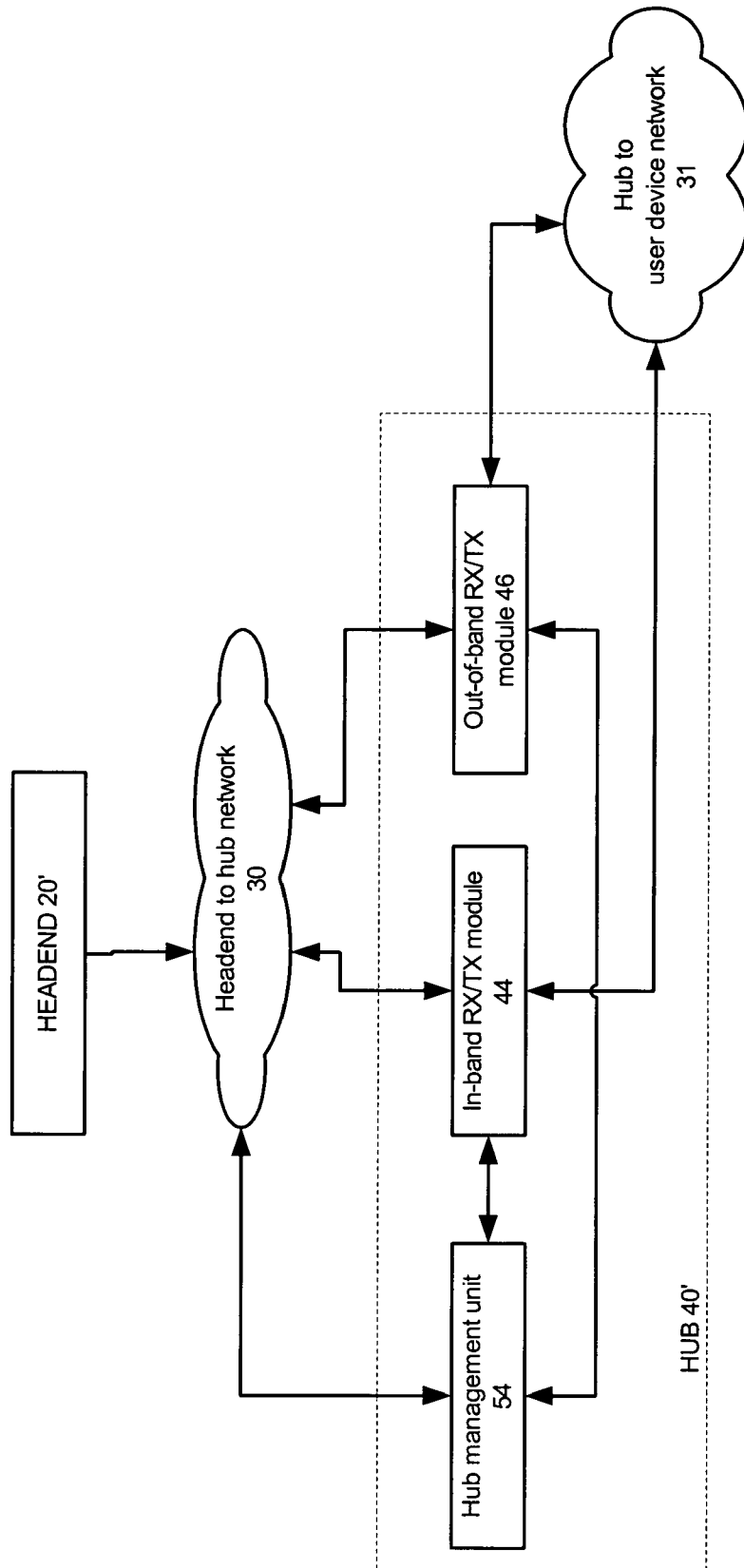


FIGURE 1



10'

FIGURE 2

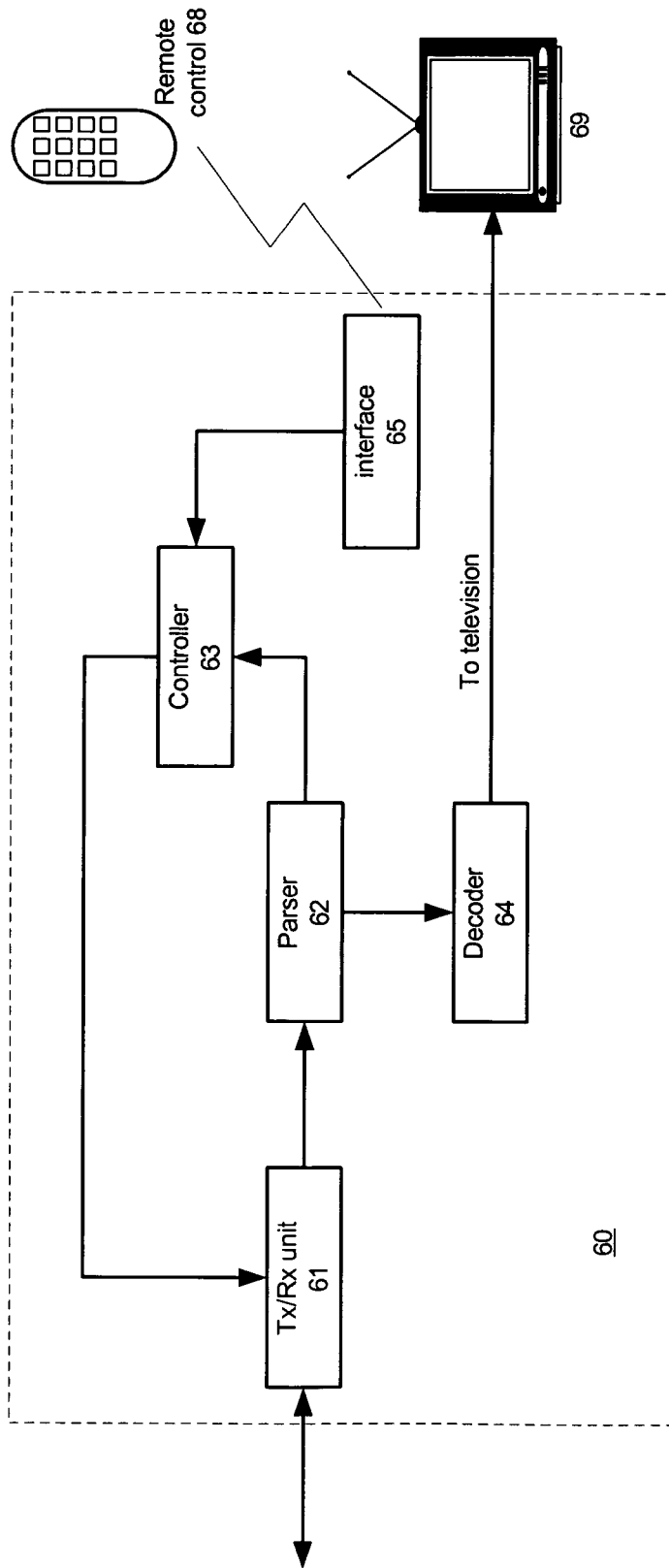


FIGURE 3

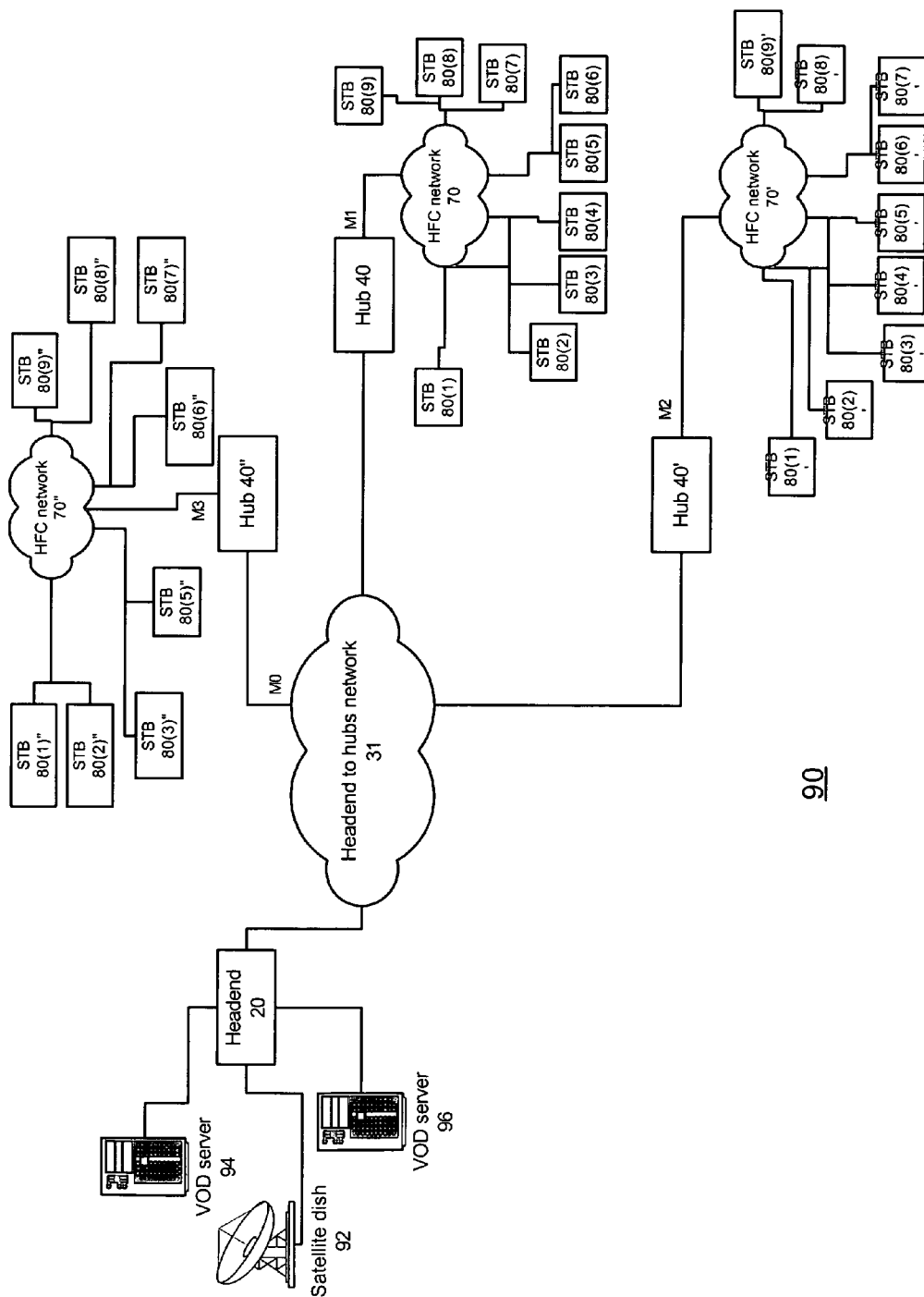


FIGURE 4

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