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**Lai et al.**

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(54) **DISTRIBUTED ON-DEMAND MEDIA  
TRANSCODING SYSTEM AND METHOD**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**<sup>7</sup> ..... **H03M 7/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **341/50; 341/51; 341/52; 341/56; 341/62; 341/63; 341/75; 348/470; 348/192; 348/469; 348/434; 348/466; 348/384; 375/240; 375/270; 375/133; 370/255; 370/278; 370/282; 370/477; 709/203; 709/217; 709/218; 709/223; 709/229**

(58) **Field of Search** ..... 341/51, 50, 58, 341/61, 87, 65, 56; 709/203, 217, 218, 223, 229; 370/255, 278, 282, 477; 375/133, 220, 240; 348/192, 469, 434, 466, 384, 470

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*Primary Examiner*—Michael Tokar

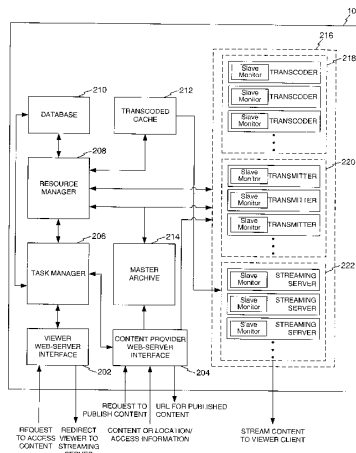
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A system and method for the on-demand transcoding of media content from a source type to a destination type is provided, wherein the system includes a plurality of transcoders for transcoding from a plurality of source types to a plurality of destination types, and wherein the system receives a transcoding request for media content, fetches the media content in response to the transcoding request, sends the media content to one of the plurality of transcoders based on the source type and destination type, transcodes the media content from the source type to the destination type, thereby generating transcoded media content, and transmits the transcoded media content. The system fetches, sends, and transcodes the media content and transmits the transcoded media content in a pipelined fashion. The system also provides for the publication of media content as a file or stream of digital data, for the archiving of media content, and the caching of transcoded media content to improve system efficiency.

**47 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets**



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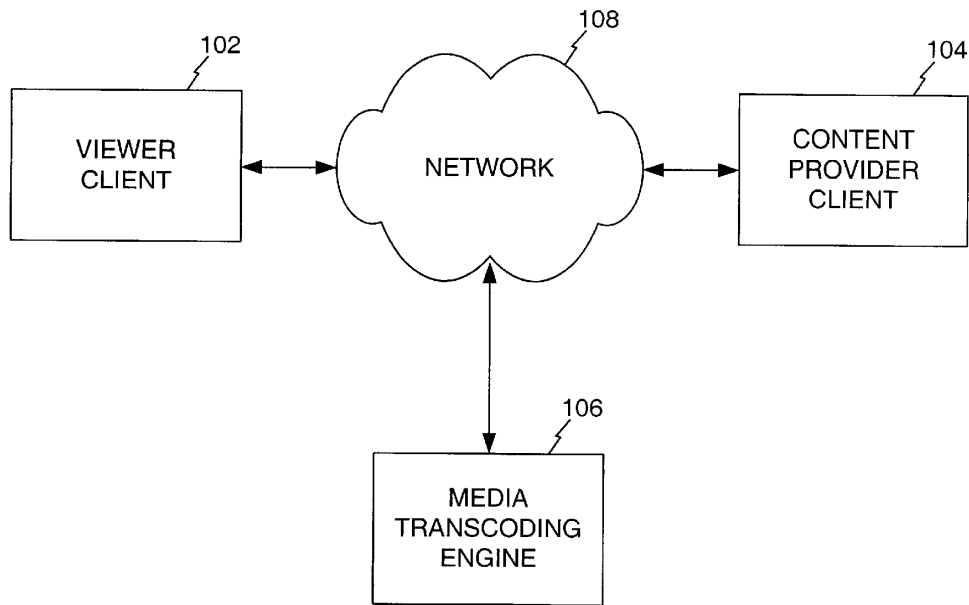


FIG. 1

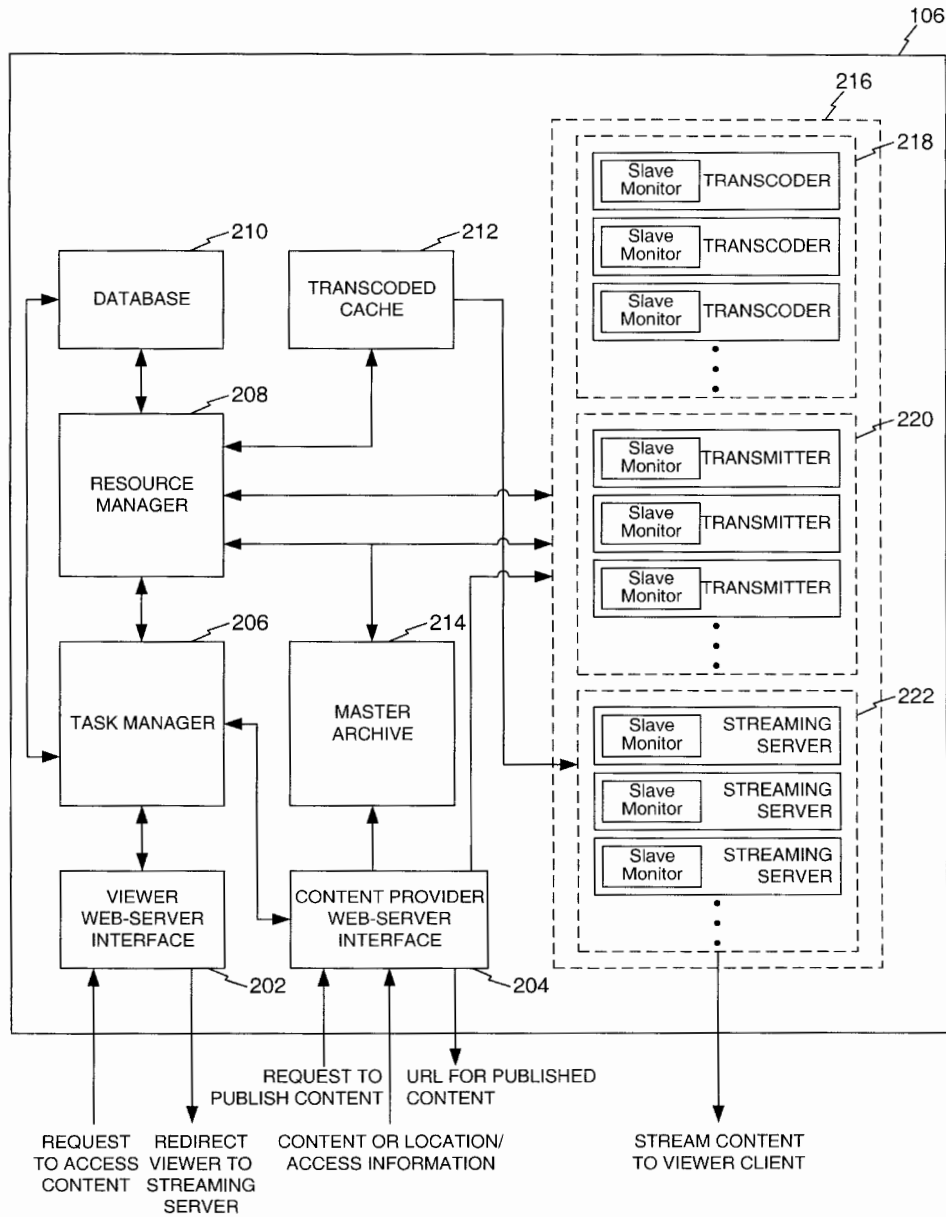


FIG. 2

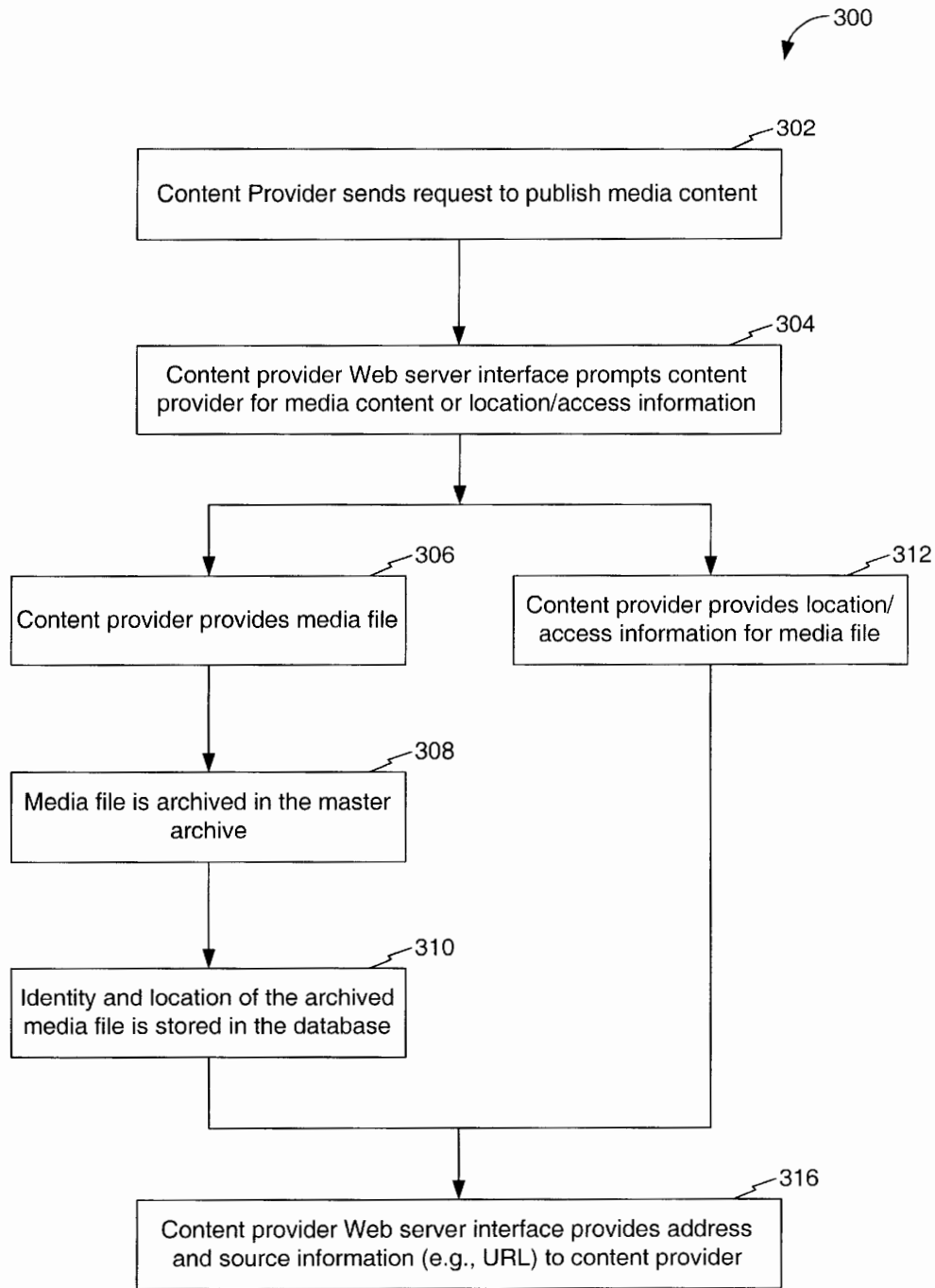


FIG. 3

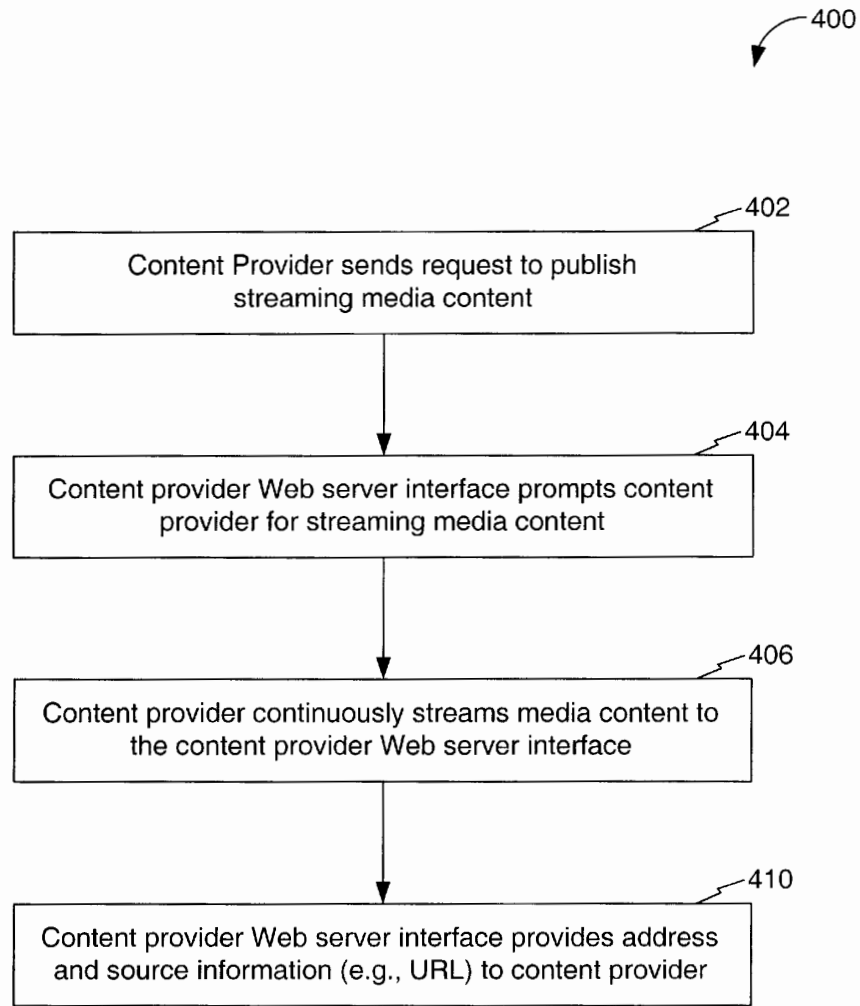


FIG. 4

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