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(54) **SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR
AUTOMATIC UPLOADING OF CELL PHONE
IMAGES**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Systems and methods are disclosed for communicating image data in a cell phone with an integrated camera by capturing image data using the integrated cell phone camera; detecting when the cellular device is in range of a wireless local area network (WLAN); and transferring the image data from the cell phone camera to a remote computer over the WLAN without an explicit user request.

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capture image data using the integrated cell phone camera (80)

detect when the cellular device is in range of a wireless local area network (WLAN) (82)

transfer the image data from the cell phone camera to a remote computer over the WLAN without an explicit user request (84)

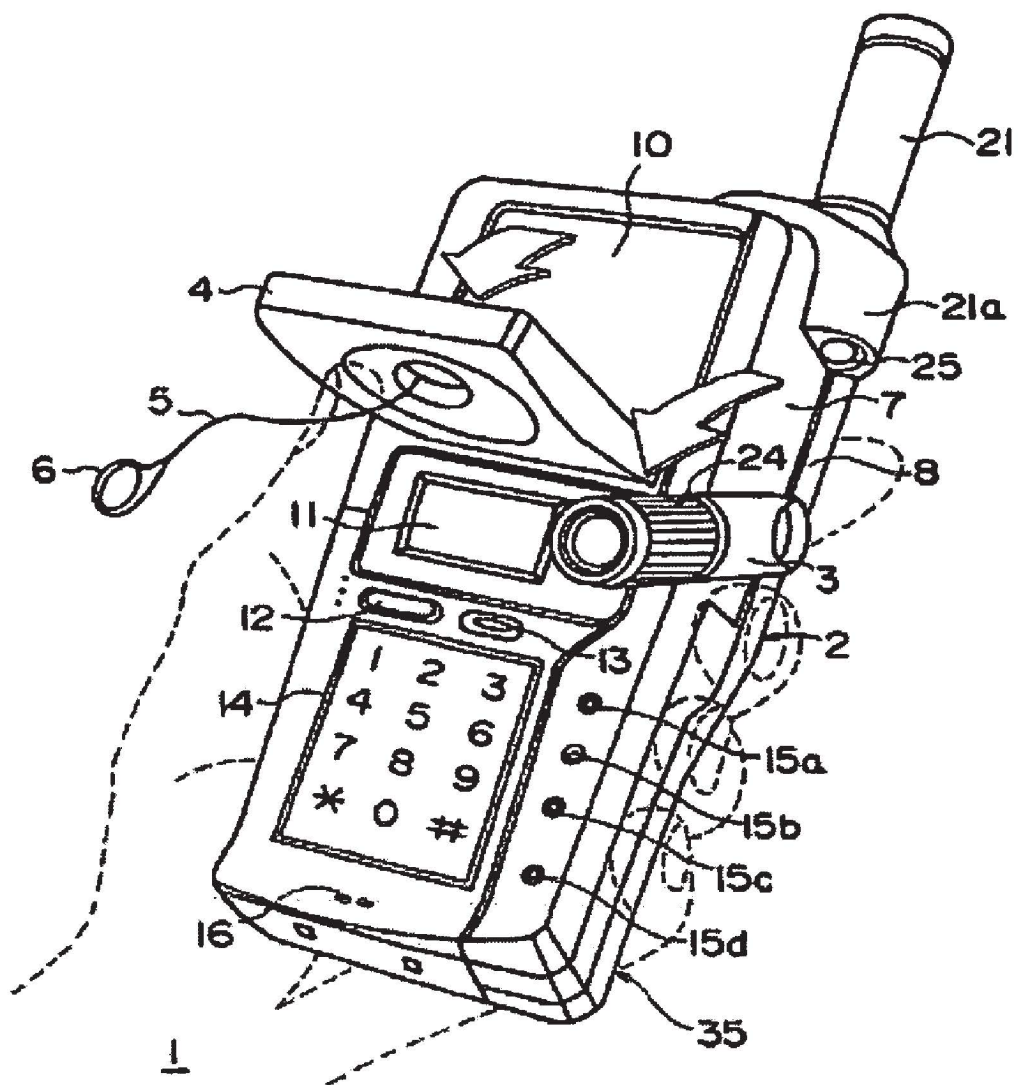


FIG. 1 (PRIOR ART)

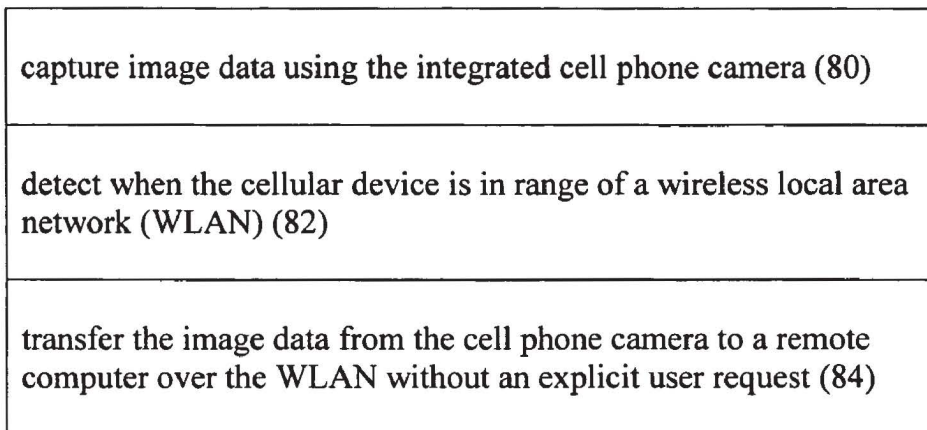


FIG. 2

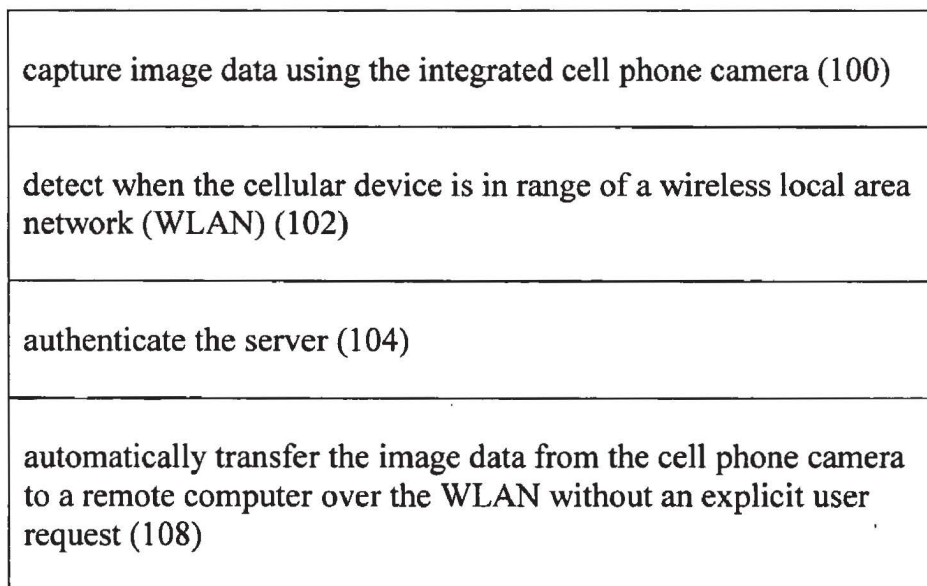


FIG. 3

200

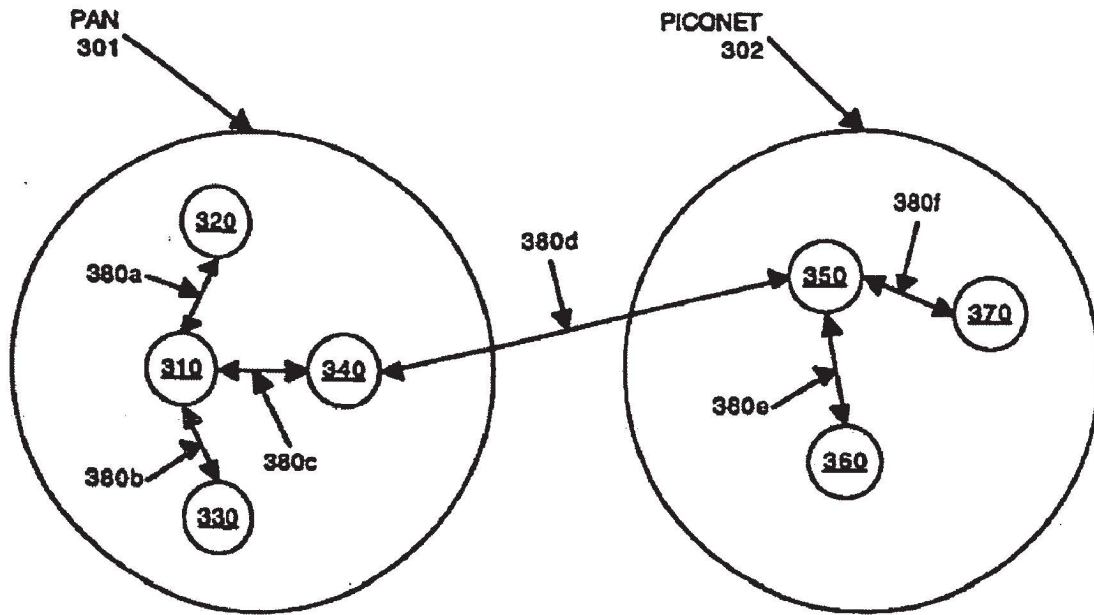


FIG. 4

SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR AUTOMATIC UPLOADING OF CELL PHONE IMAGES

BACKGROUND

[0001] Technological advancements in communication technologies have permitted the introduction, and popularization of usage, of new types of communication systems. Communication devices of both increased processing capacities and of smaller sizes are able to be utilized in applications and in situations not previously possible or practical.

[0002] New wireless communication systems and communication devices operable therein, have been made possible as a result of such advancements. A cellular communication system capable of communicating packet data is exemplary of a new wireless communication system made possible as a result of technological advancements. A cellular communication system includes a network infrastructure which is installed in a geographical area and affixed in position. Mobile terminals operable in a cellular communication system communicate by way of the network infrastructure.

[0003] Additional types of communication systems are also available to take advantage of the advancements in communication technologies. For instance, ad hoc, i.e., infrastructure-free, communication systems such as the Bluetooth standard set forth an ad hoc, communication system which provides for wireless connectivity of a large number of different devices. Bluetooth devices are connectable in an ad hoc manner by way of short-distance radio links, thereby to permit data to be communicated between such Bluetooth devices. U.S. Pat. No. 6,795,688 discloses a method in a wireless personal area network. An attribute setting constitutes a discretely variable value conforming to the location of the device. In one embodiment, the device and network incorporate communicative capability compliant with the Bluetooth specification.

[0004] U.S. Pat. No. 5,491,507 discloses a telephone which permits a user to transmit and receive pictures and speech with a casing held in one hand. A speaker is arranged at the upper end part of the front of the casing which is thin and vertically long, while a microphone is arranged at the lower end part thereof. A display panel and a control panel are interposed between the speaker and the microphone. A camera is mounted on the casing so as to be capable of altering its angle. The speaker is detachably mounted, and it is usable as an earphone when detached. The user's movements are not hampered during the transmission and reception, and the equipment can assume various communication or service attitudes conforming to the contents of information for the communications.

[0005] FIG. 1 shows an exemplary cell phone with a camera for taking pictures or videos. As mentioned in the '507 patent, the phone 1 is mainly constructed of the body 2 thereof which is thin and flat and which is in a vertically long shape, a camera 3 which is turnably mounted on the right side surface of the body 2, an ear pad 4 which is foldably mounted on the upper part of the front of the body 2, a speaker 6 which is arranged at the central part of the ear pad 4, an antenna 21 which is mounted on the right side of the body 2, a microphone 16 which is mounted on the front

of the body 2. In addition, a grip 35 (chamfered parts 35a) is formed extending from the rear surface of the handy type video telephone equipment 1 to both the side surfaces thereof. A display panel 11, a transmission/reception key 12, a termination key 13, a control panel 14, function keys 15, and a microphone 16 are arranged on the front surface of the body 2, in addition to the ear pad 4. The phone includes a processor and a memory, a communication device which includes a radio/video codec, a speaker, a display panel, a control circuit, a microphone, a battery, an antenna 21, and the camera 3. Additionally, Bluetooth and/or 802.11 transceivers are coupled to the control circuit so that the phone 1 can communicate with a WLAN.

[0006] Recently, smart phones such as AudioVox's SMT5600 run on Microsoft's Windows Mobile 2003 OS and contain built-in VGA cameras that take both still and video images. When finished with taking the photos, the user can save them to the phone or send them to friends via a multimedia message, Bluetooth, or an infrared port. In addition to Bluetooth, WiFi capable cellular phones have appeared. For example, Nokia's 9500 Communicator is a tri-band voice device with wide color screen and full keyboard, email, web and office applications, and the ability to connect to compatible company and public network via high-speed 802.11 Wireless LAN, GPRS and EDGE. With this device, the user can access the Internet without incurring cellular data charges whenever the user is within range of an 802.11 Wireless LAN.

[0007] Bluetooth can be used to transfer image and other data. For example, as noted in US Application Serial No. 20030157960, a Bluetooth equipped digital camera communicates with an intermediary electronic device such as a 3G cellular telephone. A user can take one or more pictures with the camera and then cause the camera to transfer one or more of the pictures through an intermediate electronic storage device such as a Bluetooth cell phone to a remote storage device. When the camera detects the memory to be full or nearly full, it initiates a connection to the cell phone, transfers data and then disconnects. In manual mode the user decides when to perform the transfer.

[0008] U.S. Patent Application 20030030731 discloses a digital camera and image processing system configured for transferring image data. Transferring image data includes wireless transmission, transmission through a telephone network, and copying image data to detachable memory modules. Recorded images are optionally previewed and selected for transmission prior to actual transmission. Wireless transmission may be through a cellular telephone network and may be to an internet-based image processing system configured to process digital images and optionally deliver them to a client. The digital camera optionally receives data from an internet based image processing system and/or from other digital cameras. In addition to image data transmission optionally includes processing preference data, user identifying data, and address data.

SUMMARY

[0009] Systems and methods are disclosed for communicating image data in a cell phone with an integrated camera by capturing image data using the integrated cell phone camera and transmitting the image data to a remote server.

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