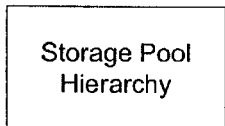
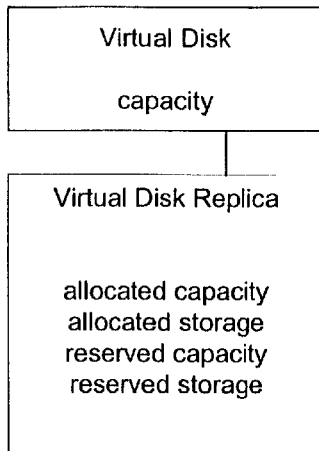
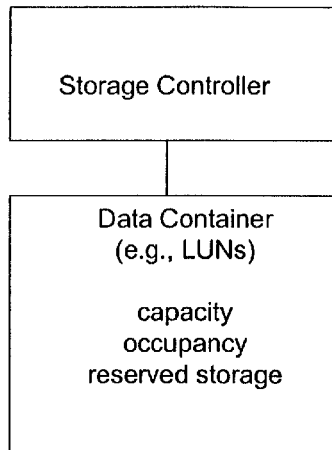
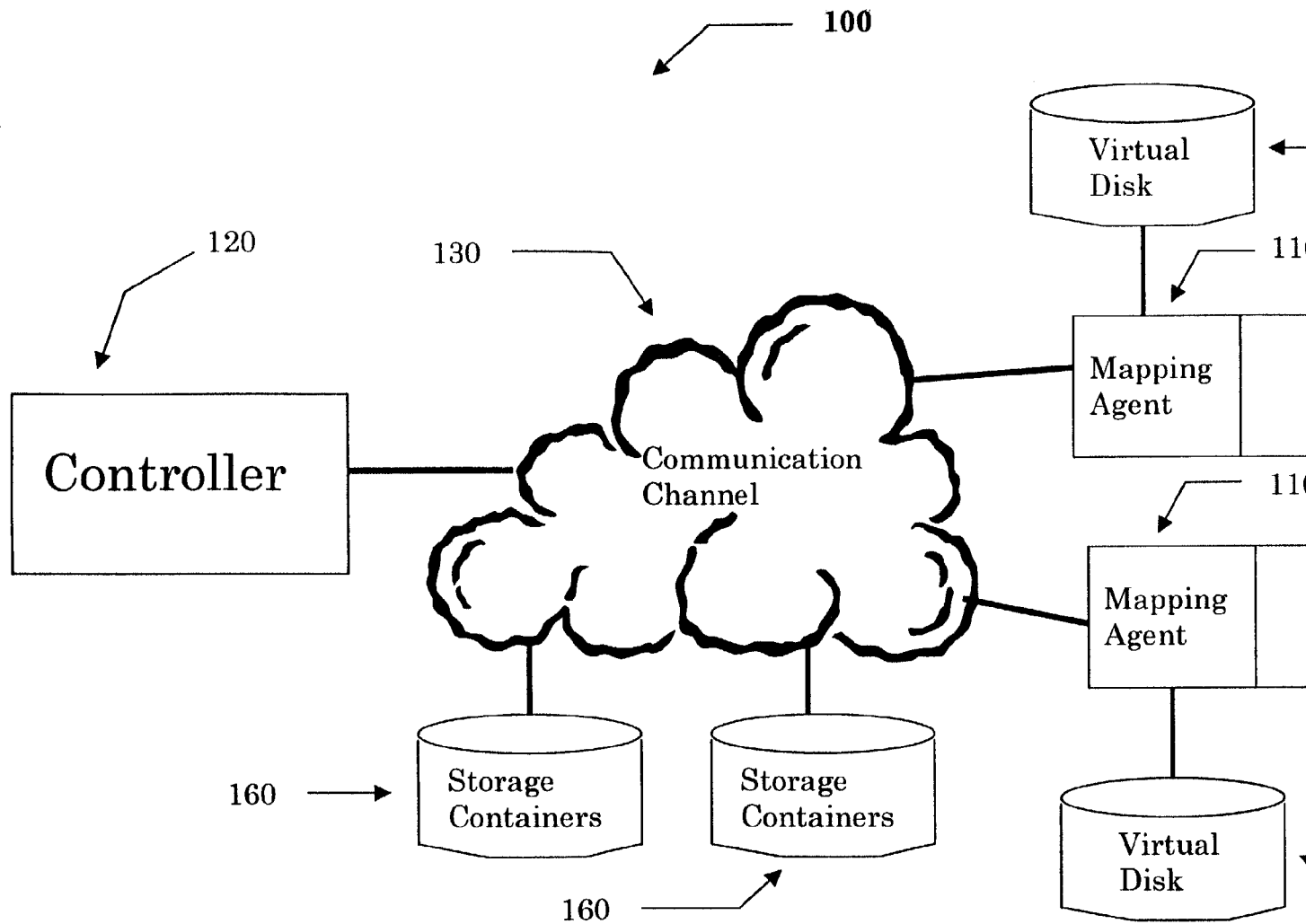


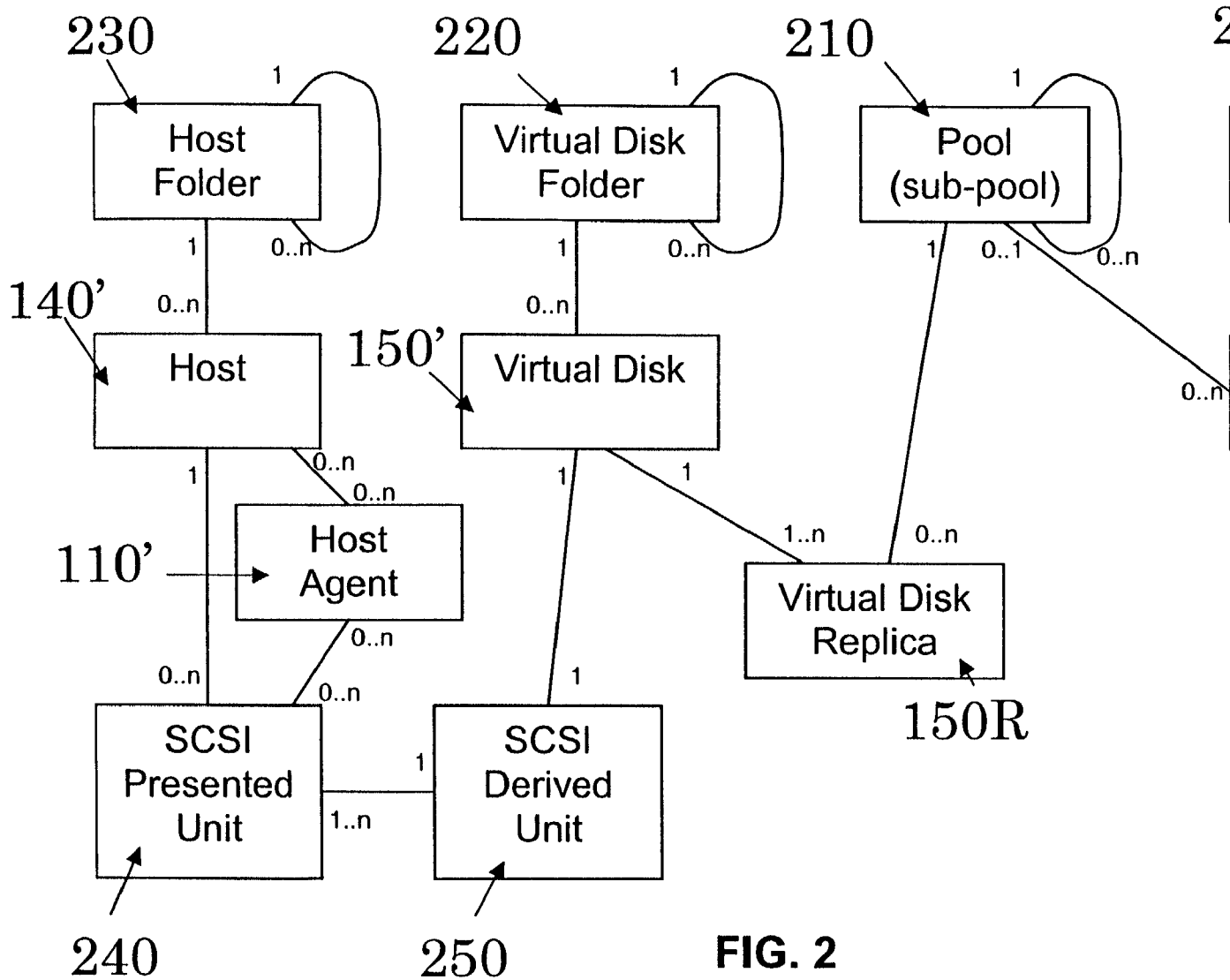
(19) **United States**(12) **Patent Application Publication** (10) **Pub. No.: US 2002/0019908 A1**  
**Reuter et al.** (43) **Pub. Date: Feb. 14, 2002**(54) **SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR MANAGING  
VIRTUAL STORAGE****Publication Classification**(51) **Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup>** ..... **G06F 12/00**(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **711/112; 711/203; 711/114**(76) Inventors: **James M. Reuter**, Colorado Springs,  
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**DENVER, CO 80202 (US)**(21) Appl. No.: **09/872,583**(22) Filed: **Jun. 1, 2001****Related U.S. Application Data**(63) Non-provisional of provisional application No.  
60/209,108, filed on Jun. 2, 2000.(57) **ABSTRACT**

Preferred embodiments of the present invention provide a system and method for the management of virtual storage. The system and method include an object-oriented computer hardware/software model that can be presented, for example, via a management interface (e.g., via graphical user interfaces, command line interfaces, application programming interfaces, etc.). In some preferred embodiments, the model separates physical storage management from virtual disks presented to hosts and management can be automated such that the user (e.g., customer, manager and/or administrator) specifies goals rather than means-enhancing ease of use while maintaining flexible deployment of storage resources.

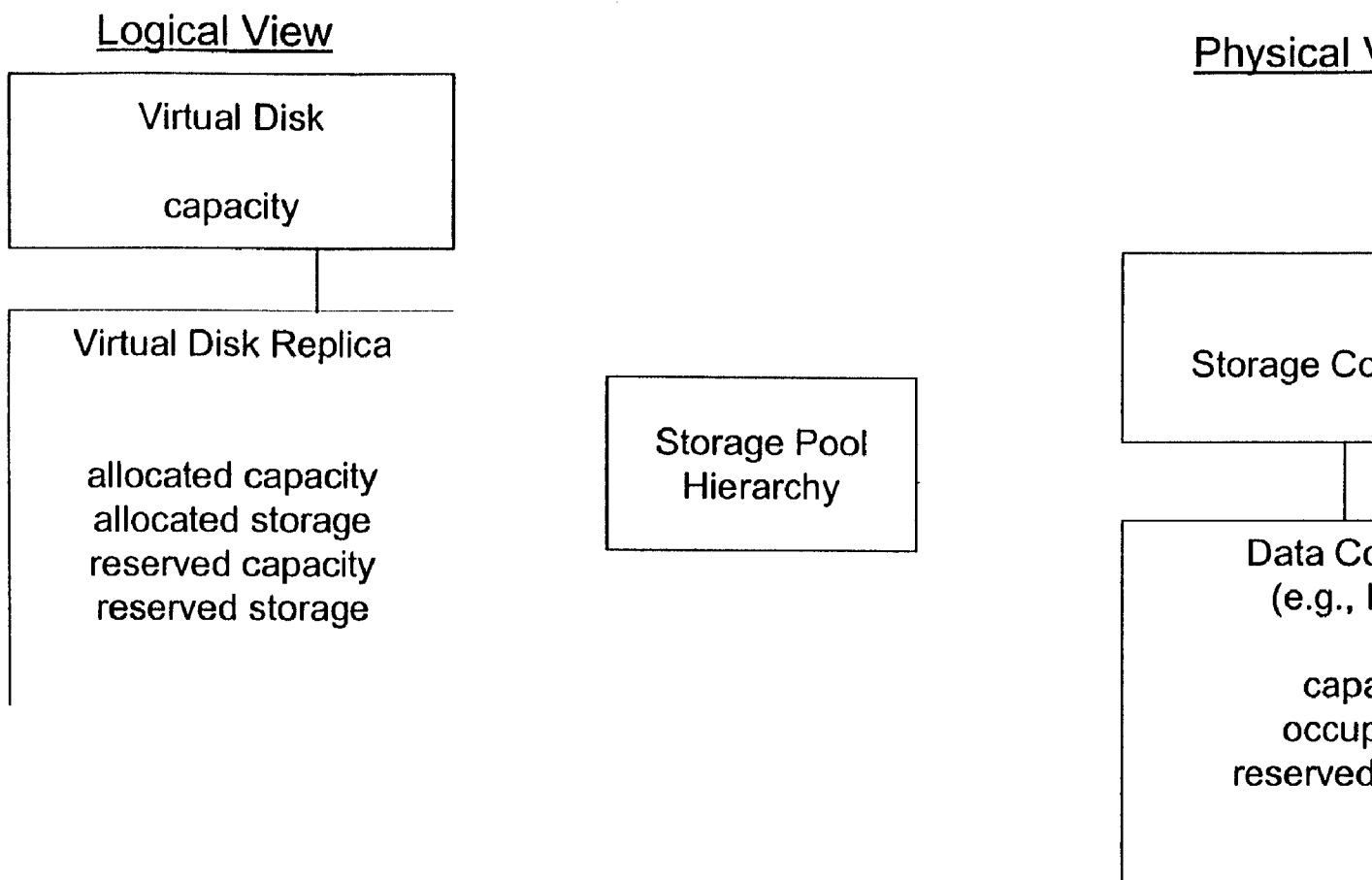
**Logical View****Physical View**



**FIG. 1**

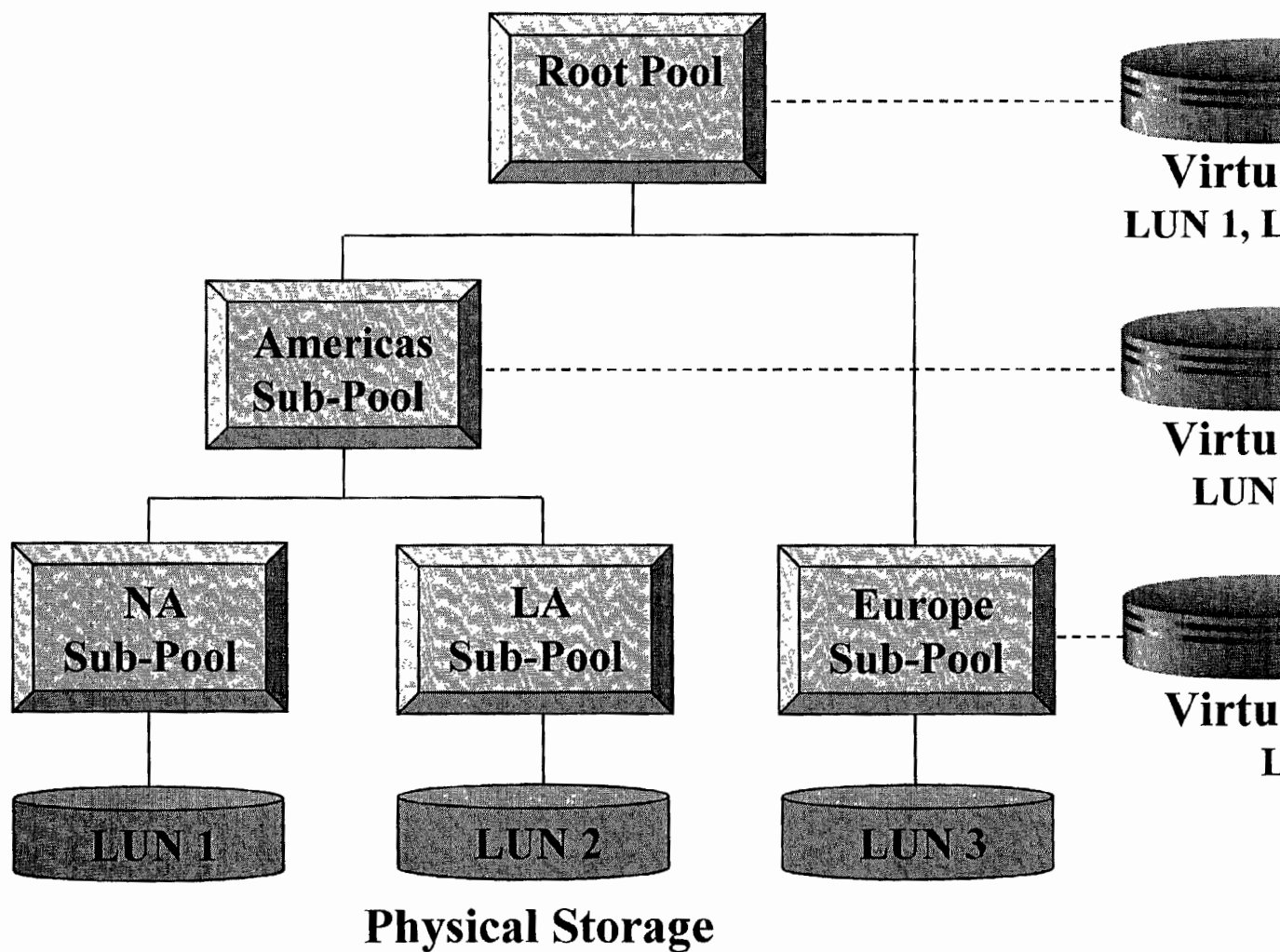


**FIG. 2**



**FIG. 3**

**FIG. 4**



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