

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

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 6,240,448 B1**  
 (45) **Date of Patent:** **May 29, 2001**

(54) **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR AUDIO ACCESS TO INFORMATION IN A WIDE AREA COMPUTER NETWORK**

(58) **Field of Search** ..... 709/229, 217, 709/218, 219, 246; 379/88.15, 90.01, 93.01, 93.25, 101.01

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(\*) **Notice:** Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

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(21) **Appl. No.:** **09/091,591**

(57) **ABSTRACT**

(22) **PCT Filed:** **Dec. 20, 1996**

Method and system for representing different types of information on a wide area network in a form suitable for access over an audio interface (12). Audio enabled pages (29) are created to link particular text data, which data can be from the World Wide Web (WWW). The audio enabled pages (29) can be retrieved by an audio web server (16, 18) for interpreting the pages into audio which is displayed at the audio interface (12). Audio input means are created to traverse the links of the audio enable pages (29). A user can use the keypad of the phone (12) or spoken commands to traverse the audio menus. In addition, dynamic audio input means can be created to selectively traverse a database of the WWW information.

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§ 102(e) Date: **May 7, 1999**

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**PCT Pub. Date:** **Jul. 3, 1997**

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(51) **Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup>** ..... **H04L 12/16; H04M 1/64**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **709/218; 709/246; 379/90.01**

**31 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets**

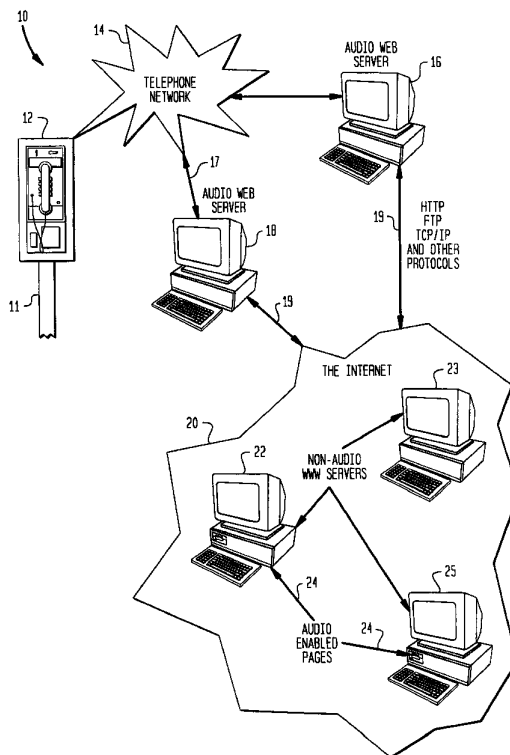


FIG. 1

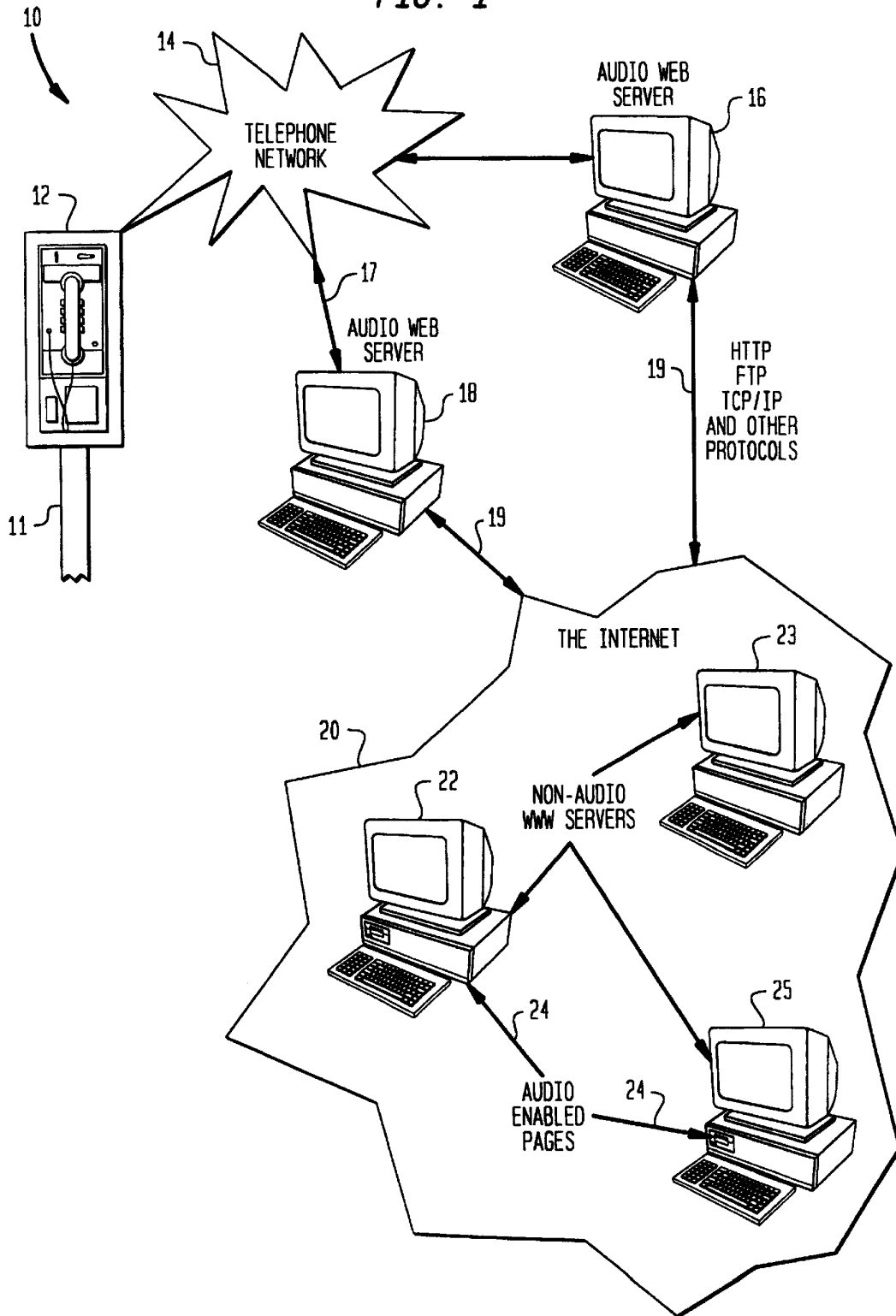


FIG. 2

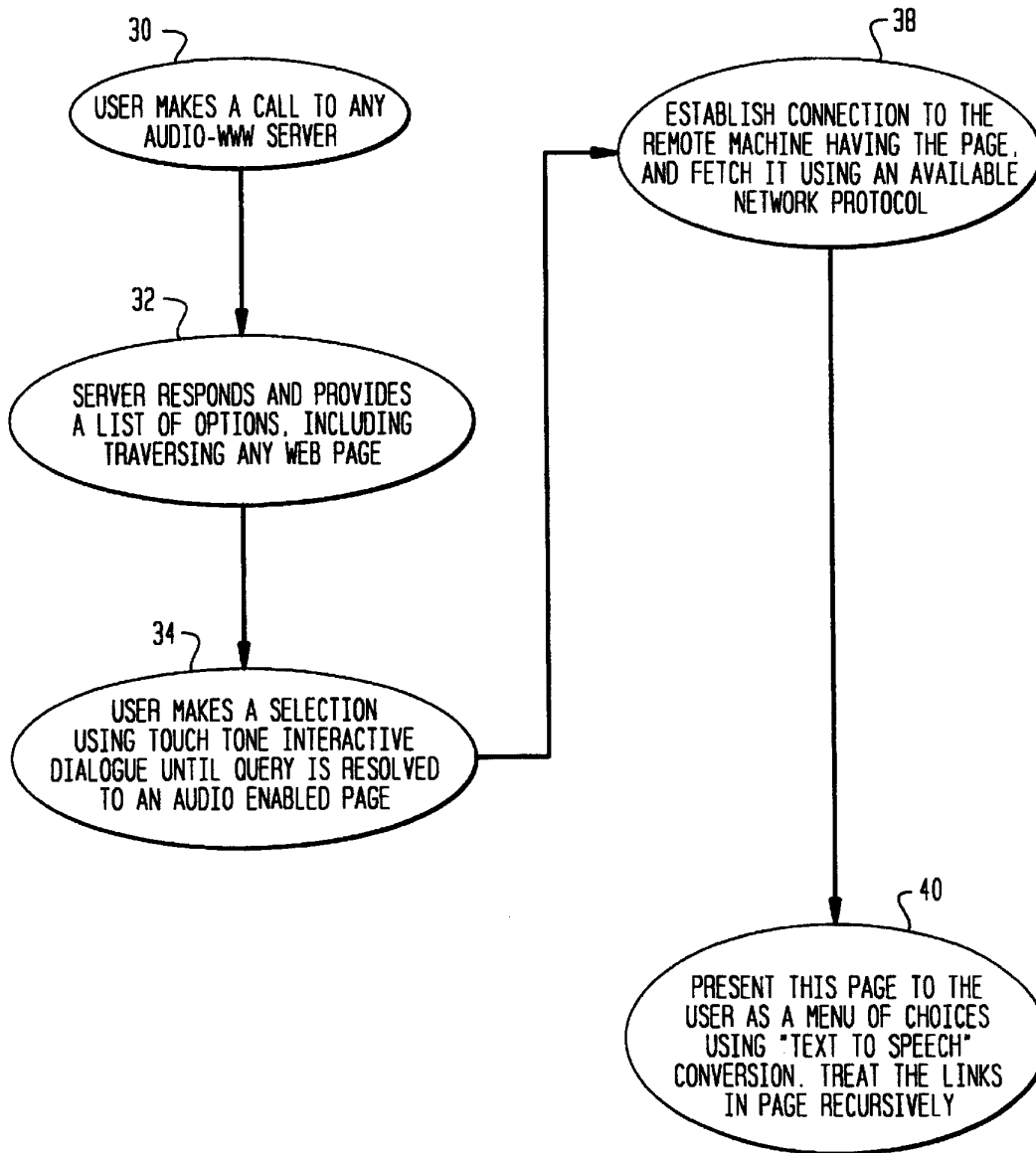


FIG. 3

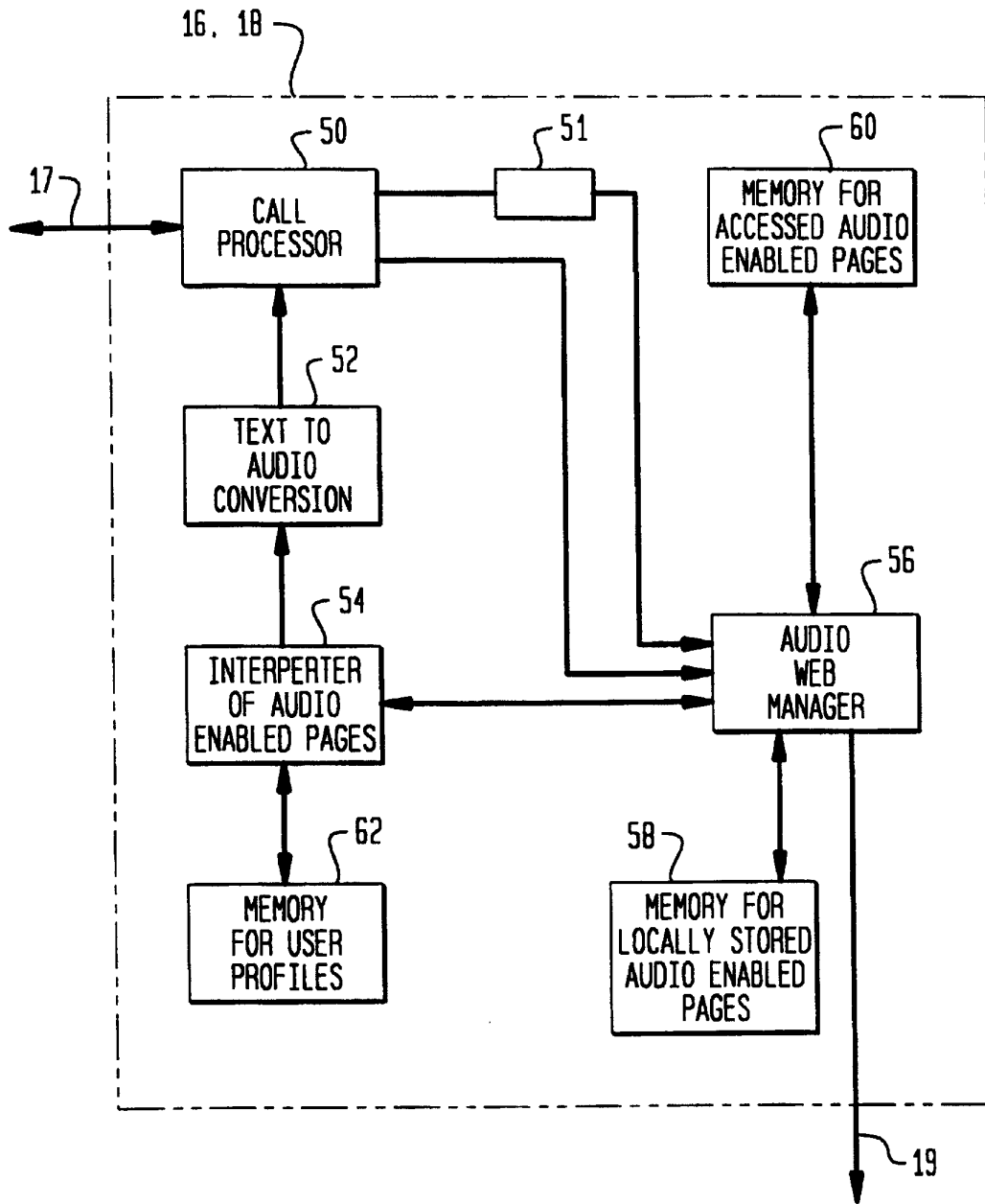


FIG. 4

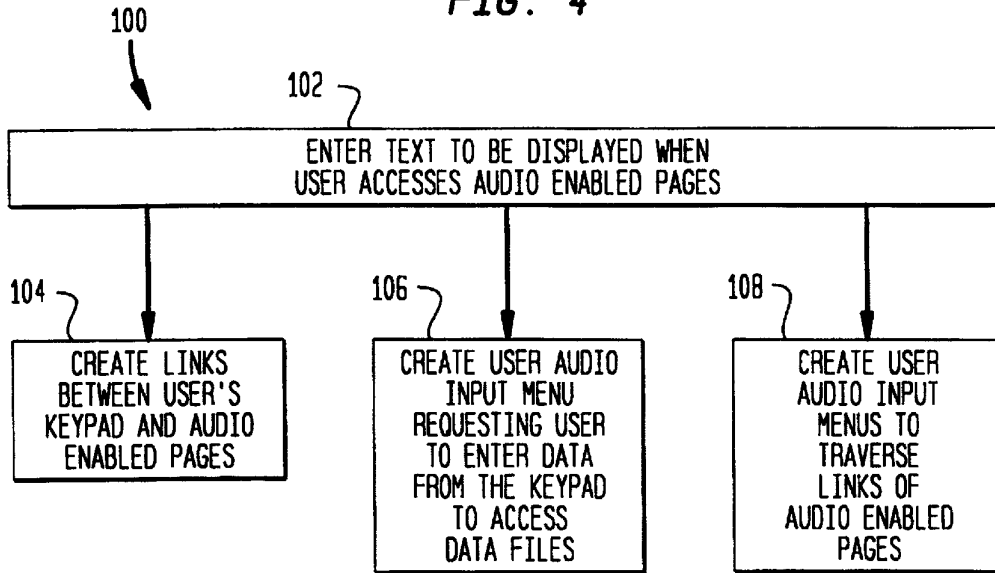
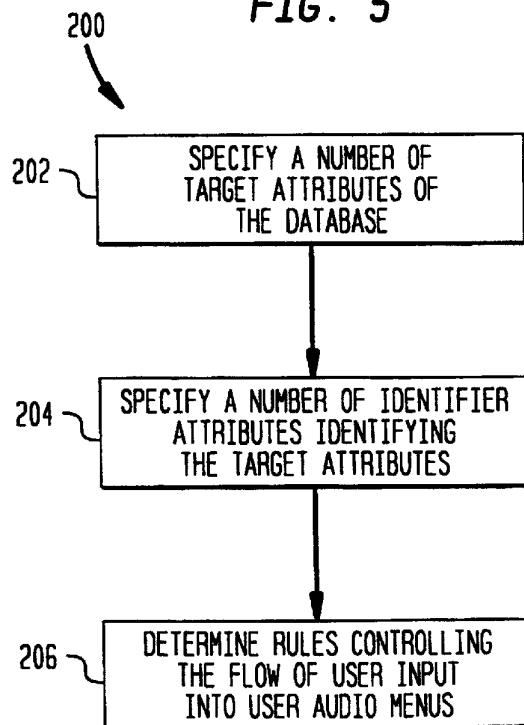


FIG. 5



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