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(54) **DISTRIBUTION AND RIGHTS MANAGEMENT OF DIGITAL CONTENT**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Techniques and systems for for managing digital rights can be implemented to protect against unauthorized copying of digital content and to help ensure payment to content owners and distributors. Digital wrappers can be applied to data files to prevent access without a valid authorization. Information relating to authorizations to access data files and/or keys for accessing the data files may be stored and retrieved using data stored in a non-volatile storage area of a user device. Software on the user device can be used to recognize files and to apply digital wrappers to recognized files. In addition, the software can be used to remove digital wrappers from files in accordance with authorizations to access the files. Payments or other credits can be allocated among distributors of a data file using information associated with the digital wrappers.

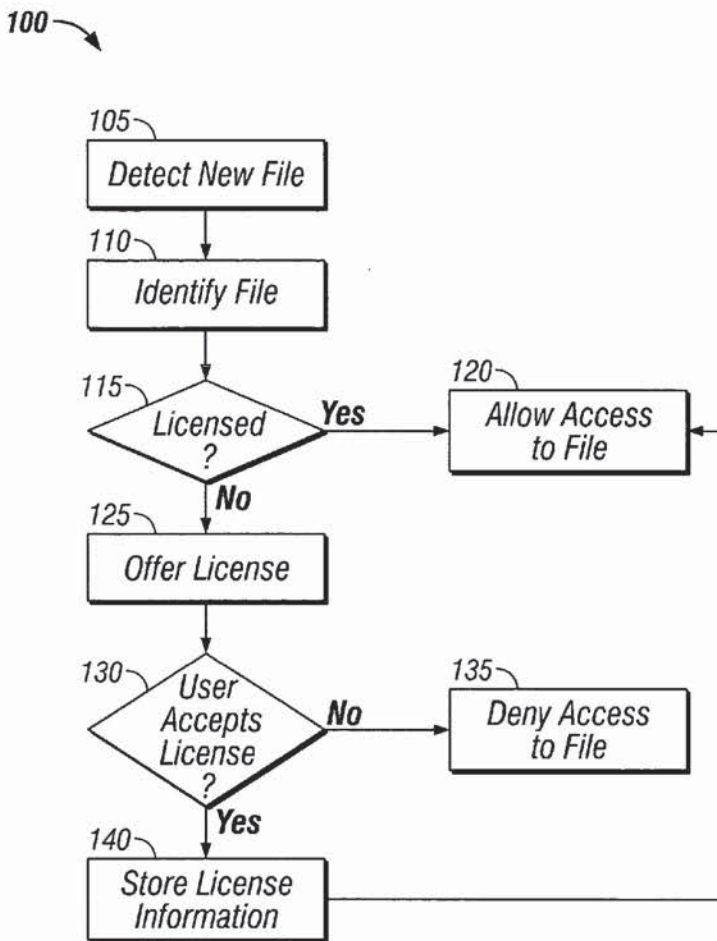
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(60) Provisional application No. 60/444,581, filed on Feb. 3, 2003.



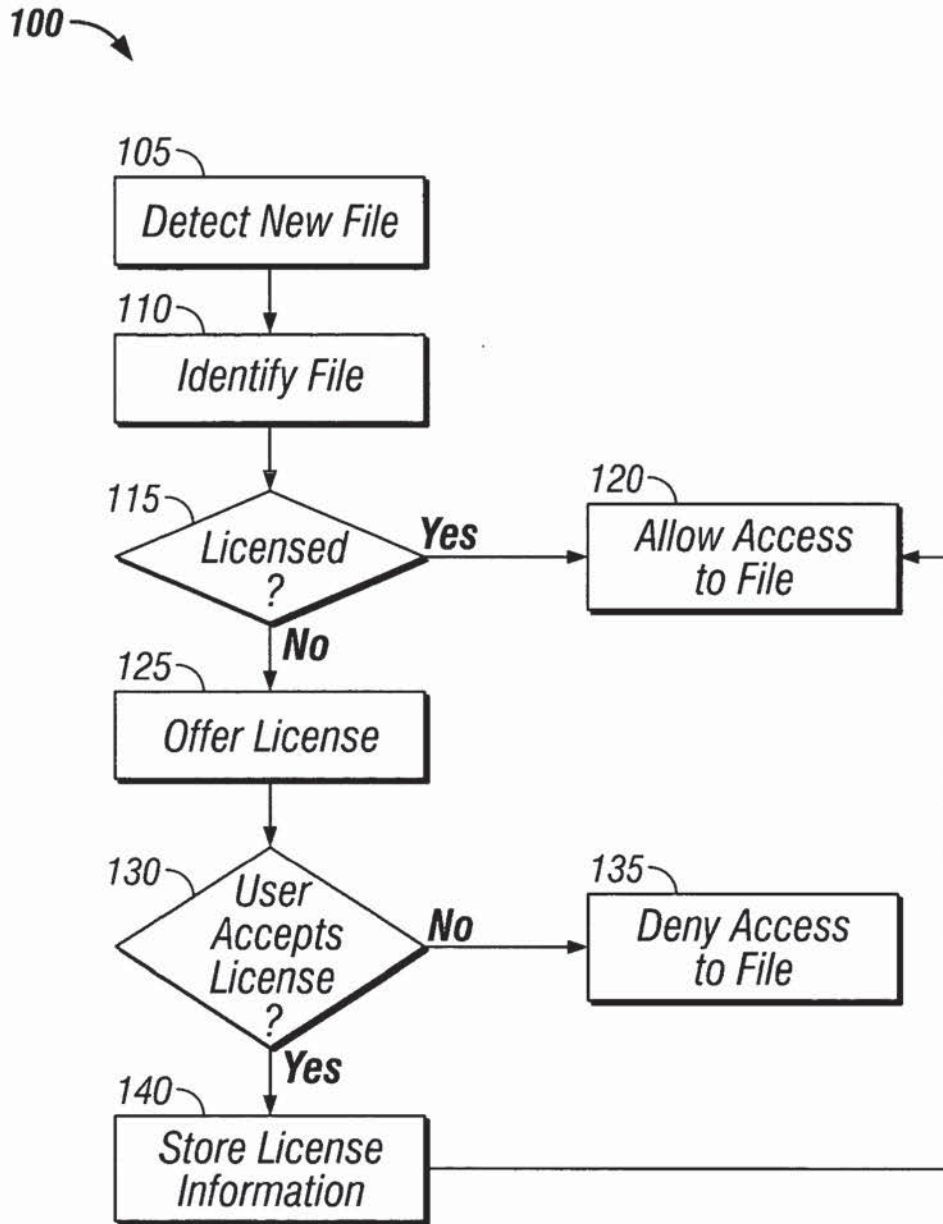


FIG. 1

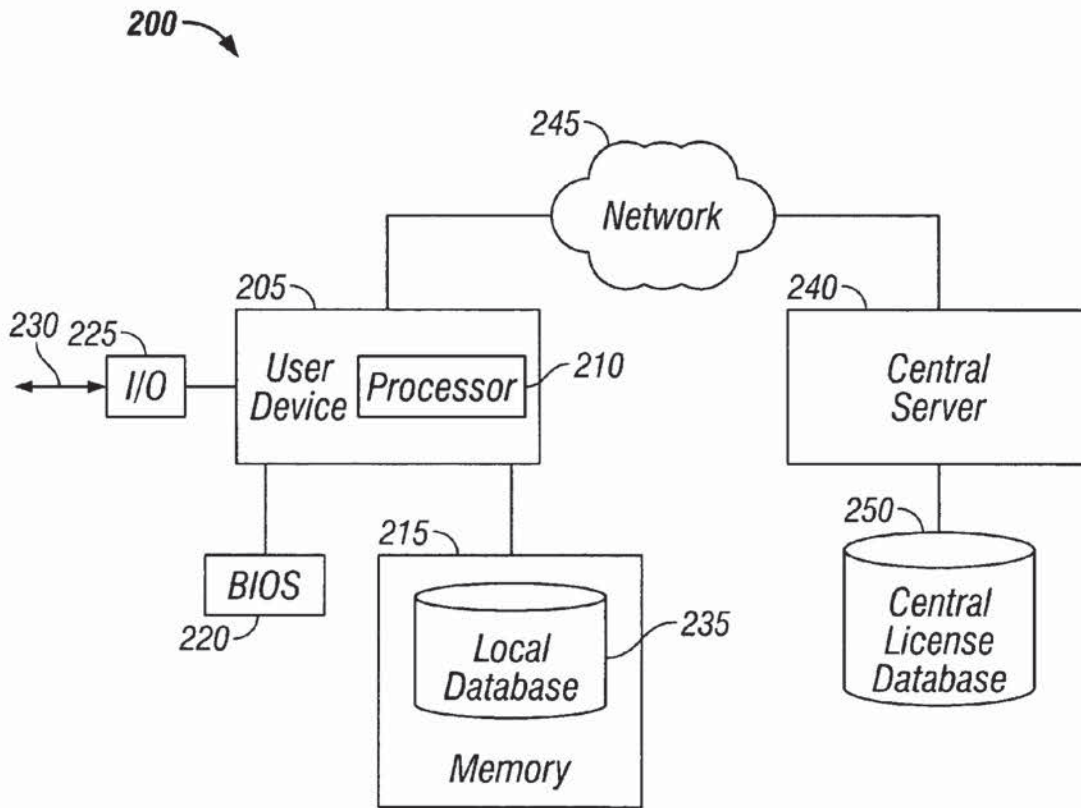


FIG. 2

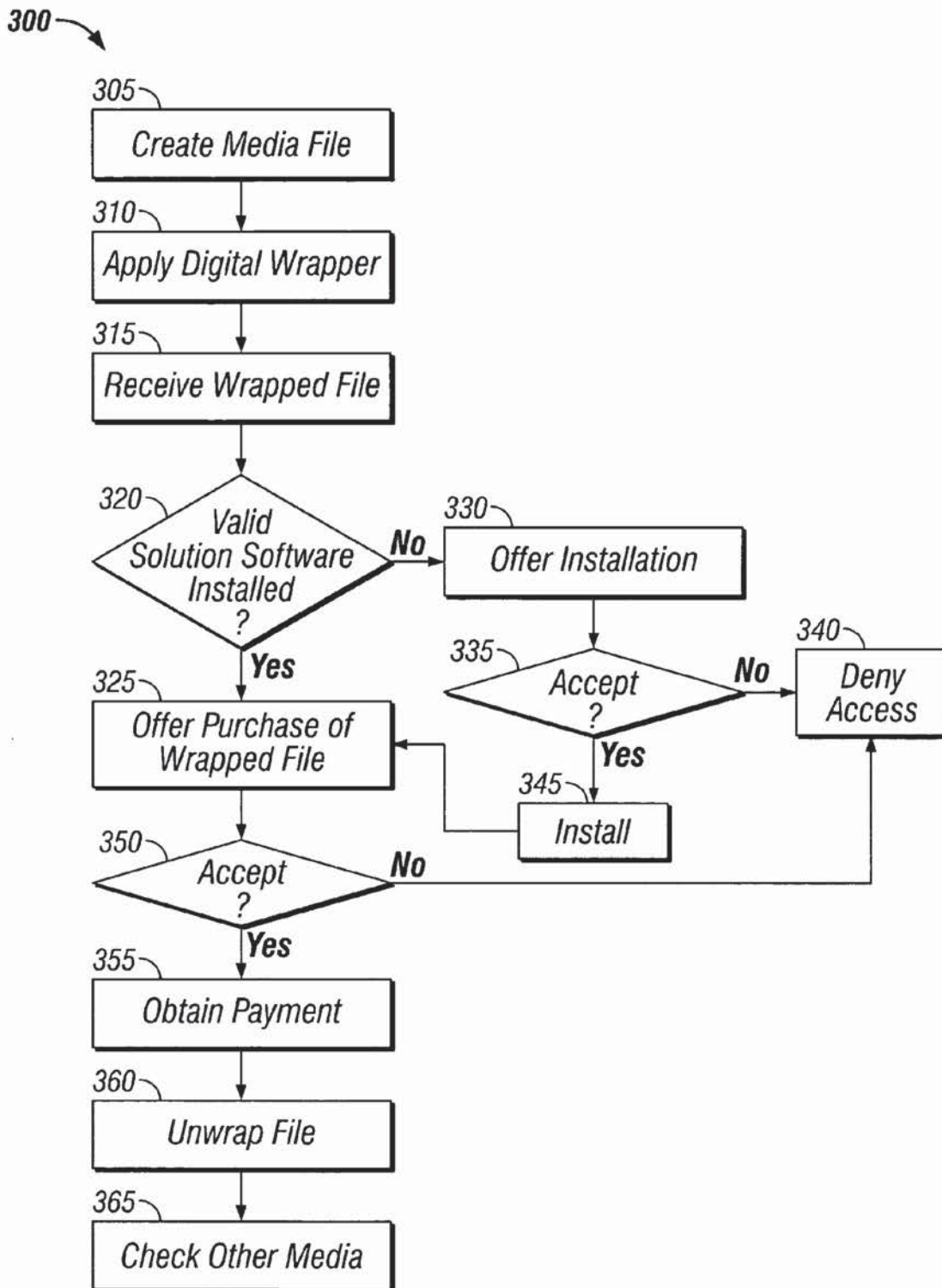


FIG. 3

400 →

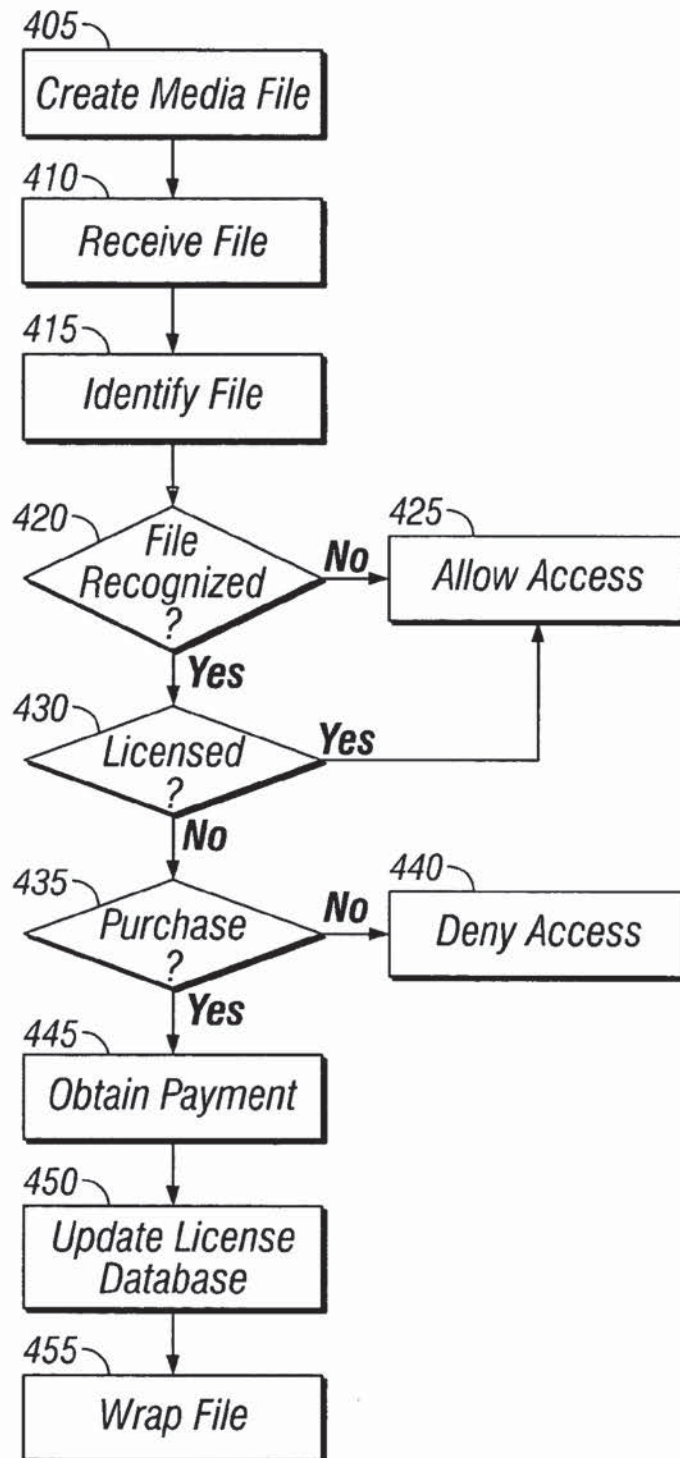


FIG. 4

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