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(12) United States Patent

Price

(54) STREAMING MEDIA BUFFERING SYSTEM

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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.
 This patent is subject to a terminal dis-

claimer.

- (21) Appl. No.: 12/800,152
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Related U.S. Application Data

- (63) Continuation of application No. 10/893,814, filed on Jul. 19, 2004, now Pat. No. 7,716,358, which is a continuation-in-part of application No. 09/819,337, filed on Mar. 28, 2001, now Pat. No. 6,766,376.
- (60) Provisional application No. 60/231,997, filed on Sep. 12, 2000.
- (51) Int. Cl.
- *G06F 15/16* (2006.01)
- (58) Field of Classification Search 709/230, 709/231

See application file for complete search history.

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(45) **Date of Patent: *Feb. 21, 2012**

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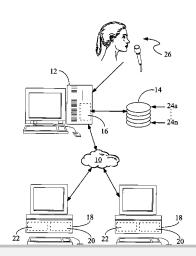
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(57) ABSTRACT

Streaming media, such as audio or video files, is sent via the Internet. The media are immediately played on a user's computer. Audio/video data is transmitted from the server more rapidly than it is played out by the user system. The audio/ video data in the user buffer accumulates; and interruptions in playback as well as temporary modem delays are avoided.

28 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets



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Fig. 1 - 26 12 14 = 24a 2'4n ∞ 16 <u>10</u> 18 18 - -22 22 2020

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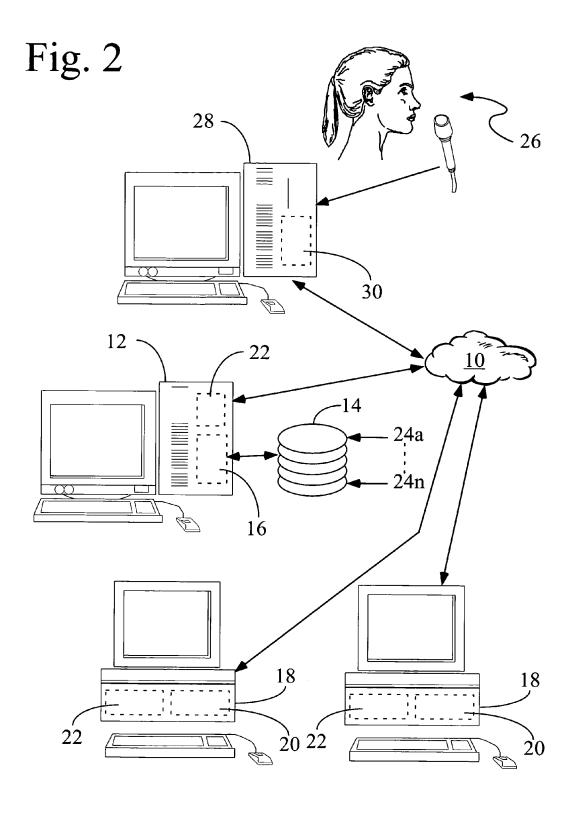
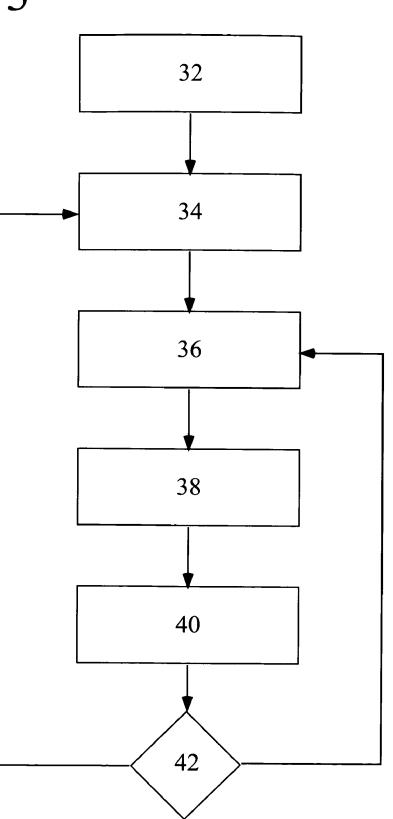


Fig. 3



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