



[54] **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING A GUARANTEED MINIMUM LEVEL OF PERFORMANCE FOR CONTENT DELIVERY OVER A NETWORK**

[75] Inventors: **Darrell J. Starnes**, Tomball; **Amgad M. Elwahab**, Houston; **Jeffrey R. Gabler**, Tomball; **Steven C. Giap**; **Rupali M. Kothari**, both of Houston; **Svilen B. Pronev**, Cypress; **Christopher H. Stewart**, Tomball, all of Tex.

[73] Assignee: **Compaq Computer Corporation**, Houston, Tex.

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Related U.S. Application Data

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[51] **Int. Cl.**⁷ **G06F 13/00**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **709/217**

[58] **Field of Search** 709/201, 203, 709/212, 213, 214, 216, 217, 218, 219

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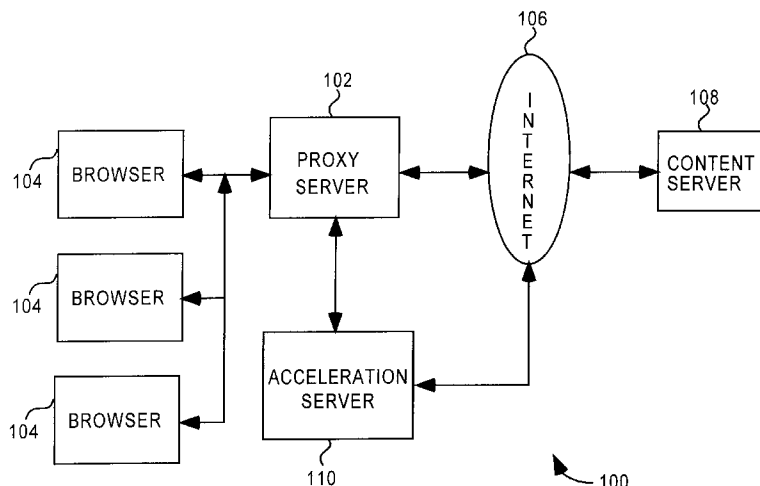
Primary Examiner—Moustafa M. Meky

Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Akin, Gump, Strauss, Hauer & Field, L.L.P.

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A proxy system that offers connection services and acceleration services is disclosed. The acceleration services provide for accelerated delivery of content to requestors (e.g., clients) while guaranteeing a minimum level of service (for content delivery) to the requestors. The acceleration services are facilitated by improved techniques for rapid and efficient delivery of objects from a network (e.g., the Internet) to users. The improved techniques can be utilized in a variety of apparatuses, including a proxy having an acceleration apparatus (e.g., an acceleration server). The acceleration apparatus manages and monitors its utilization of processing resources so that performance of the proxy system can during worst case conditions guarantee a minimum level of service (for content delivery) to the requestors. The proxy system is also well suited for being scaled to provide additional processing resources.

20 Claims, 7 Drawing Sheets



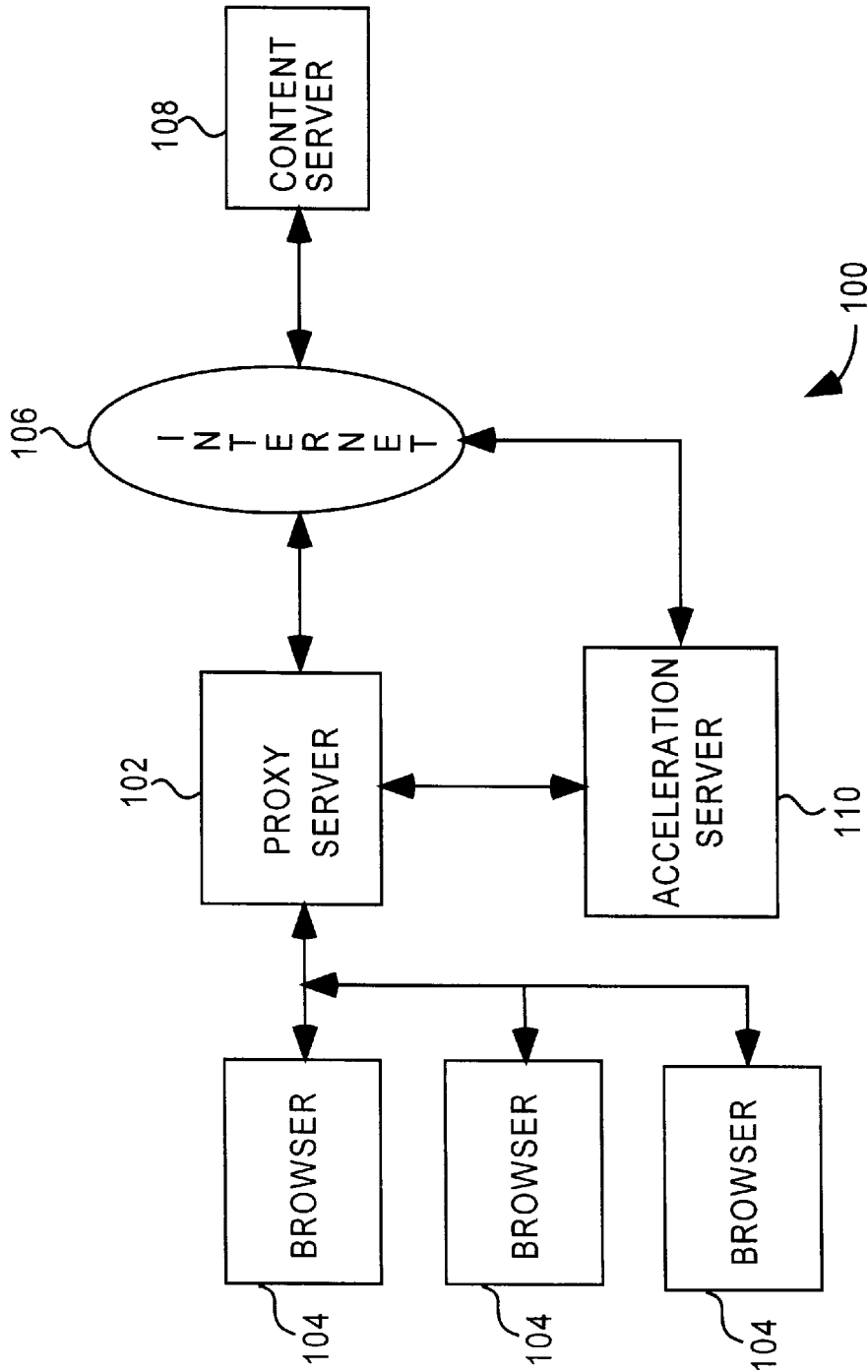


FIG. 1

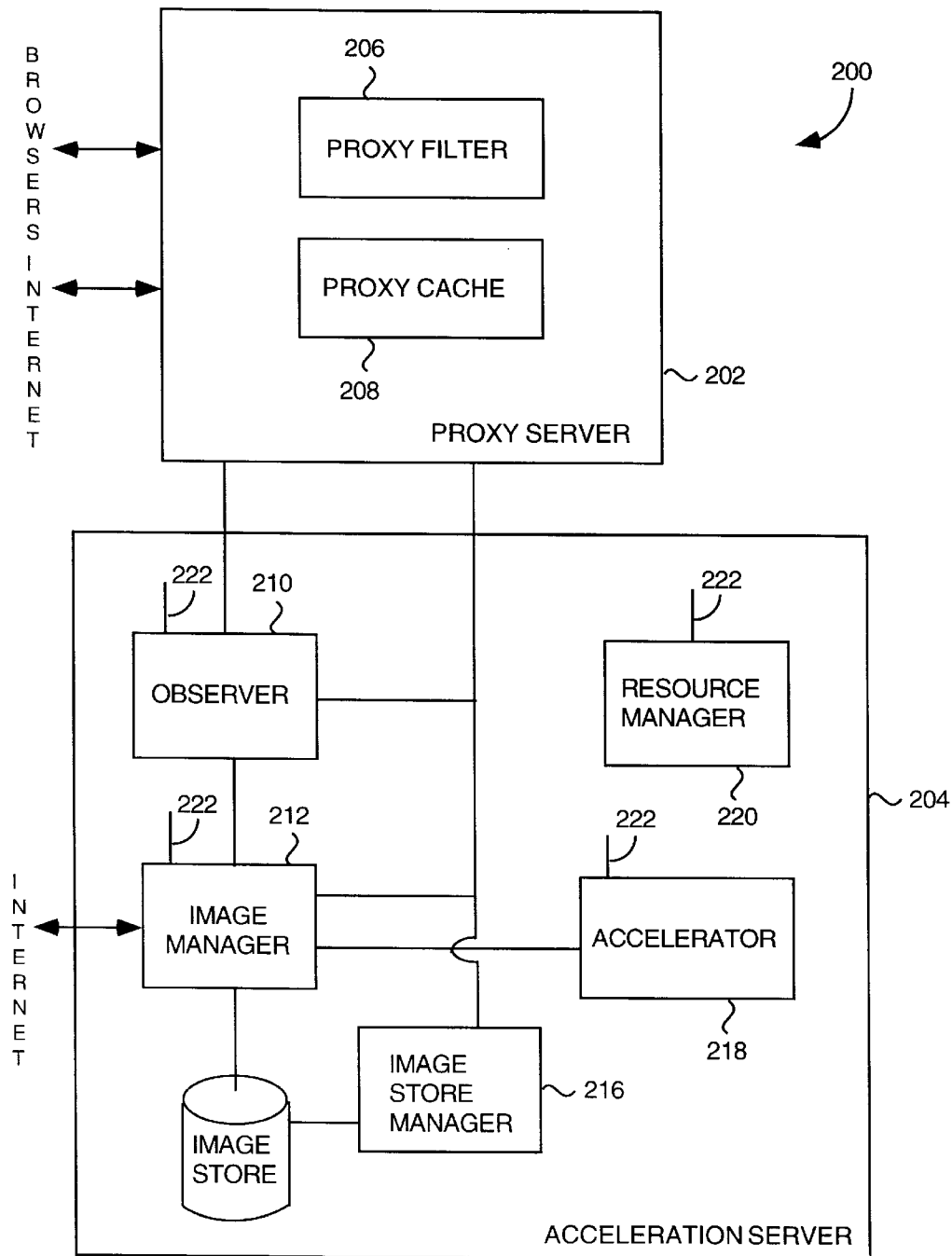


FIG. 2

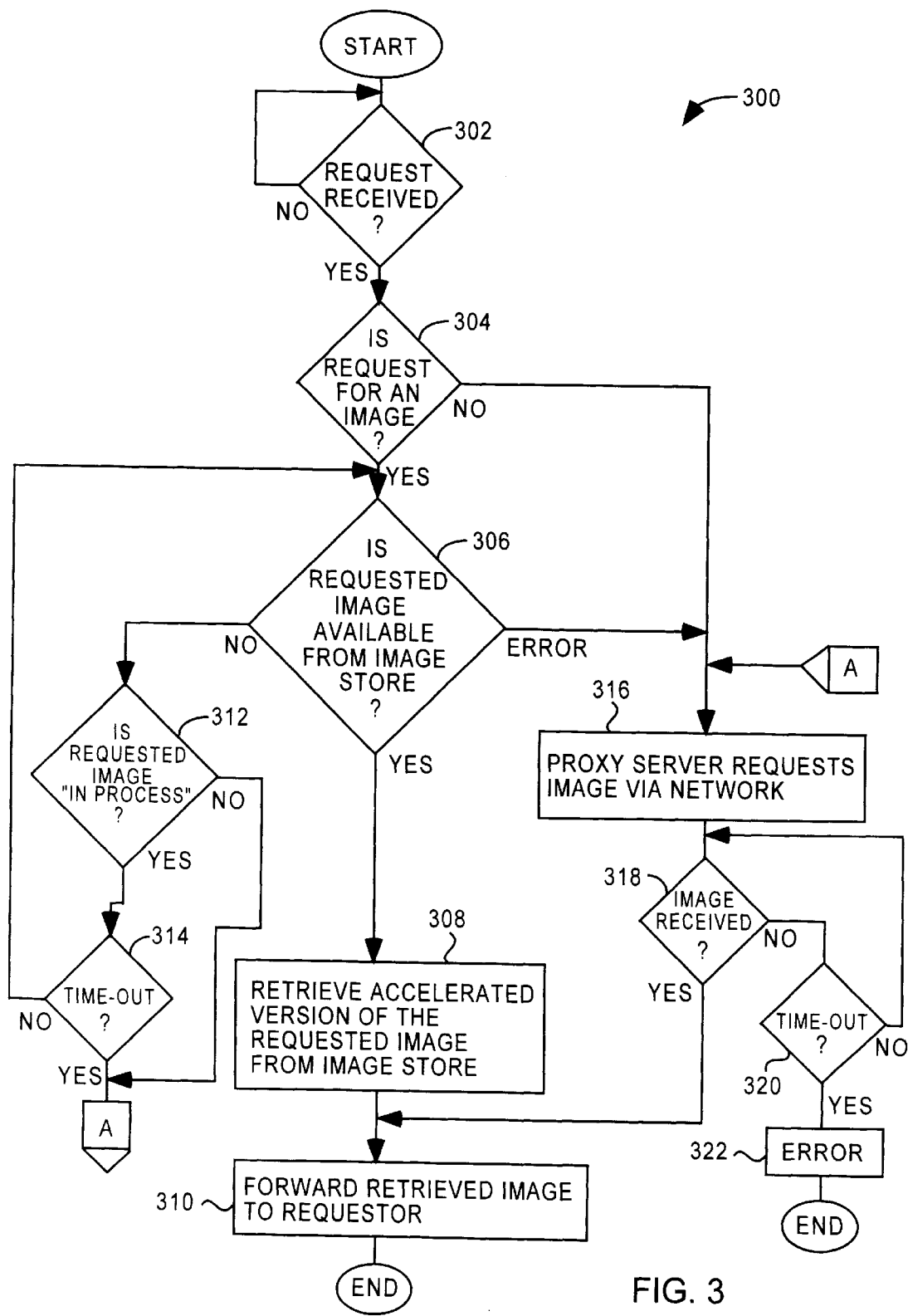


FIG. 3

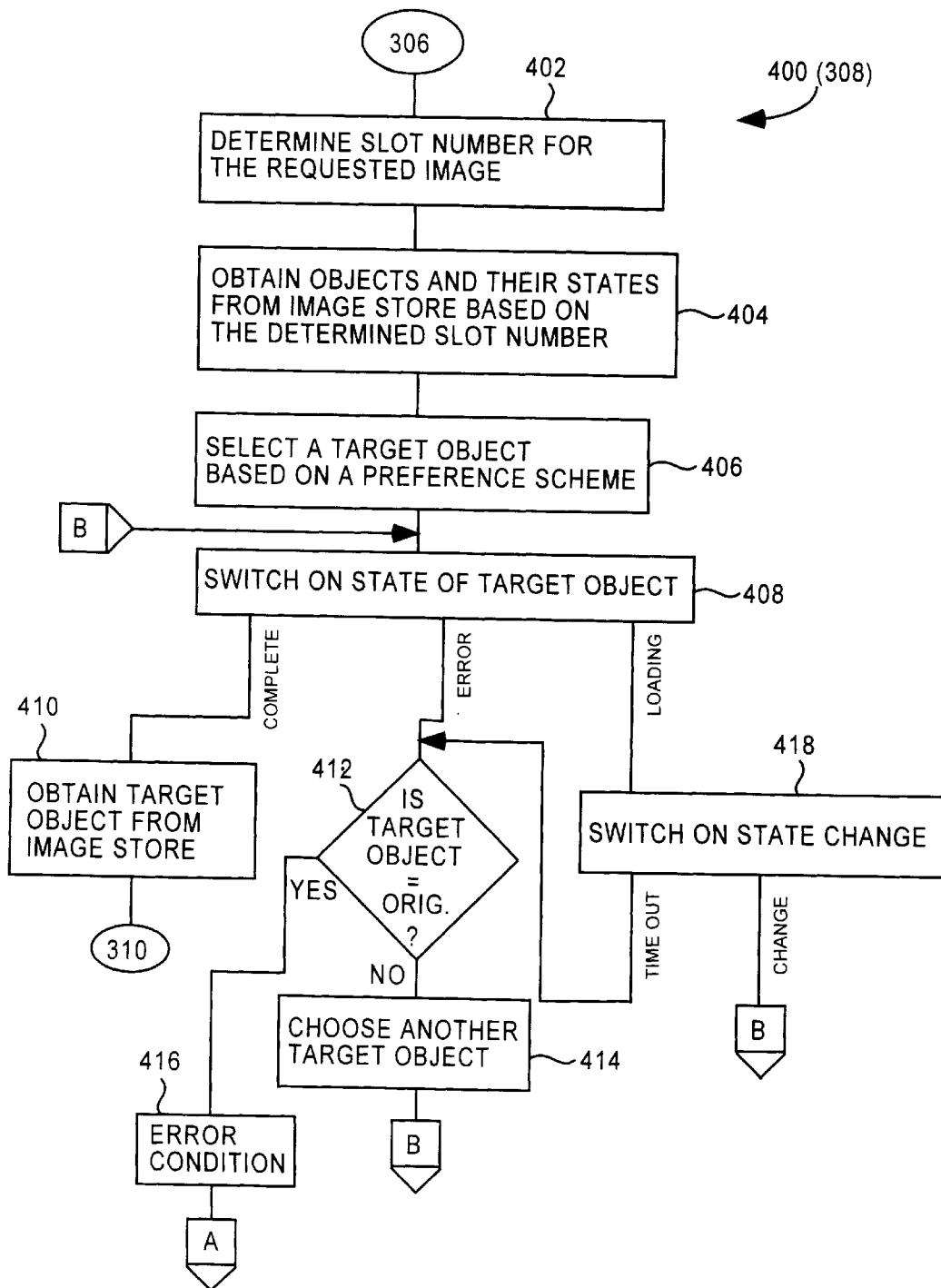


FIG. 4

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