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**Calhoun et al.**

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(54) **LIGHT-WEIGHT ACCESS POINT PROTOCOL**

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**H04L 12/56** (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **370/338; 370/349**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** ..... 455/450, 455/671, 446, 447, 448, 524, 560, 418; 370/431, 370/468, 338, 349, 329, 85.13; 709/220, 709/222

See application file for complete search history.

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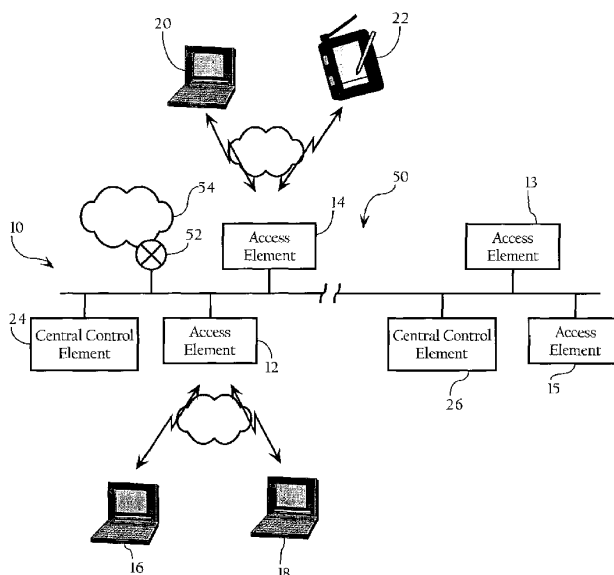
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Methods, apparatuses and systems facilitating deployment and configuration of managed access points in wireless network systems. An embodiment of the present invention is a light-weight management protocol that reduces the management footprint of a plurality of managed access points in a wireless network system. An embodiment of the invention facilitates deployment and configuration of conventional, substantially autonomous access points operating in connection with a central management node, such as a server or appliance. In another embodiment, the present invention facilitates deployment and configuration of access points in a wireless network system including hierarchical processing of protocol information.

**16 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets**



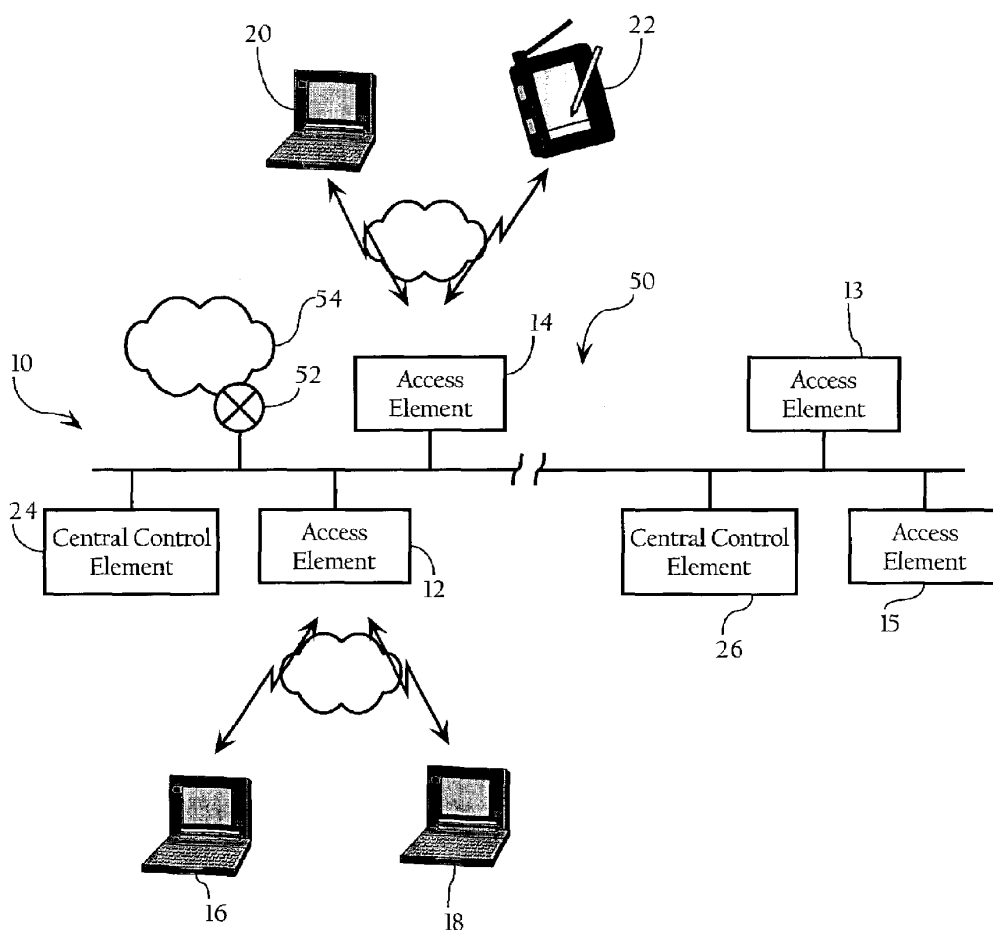


Fig. 1

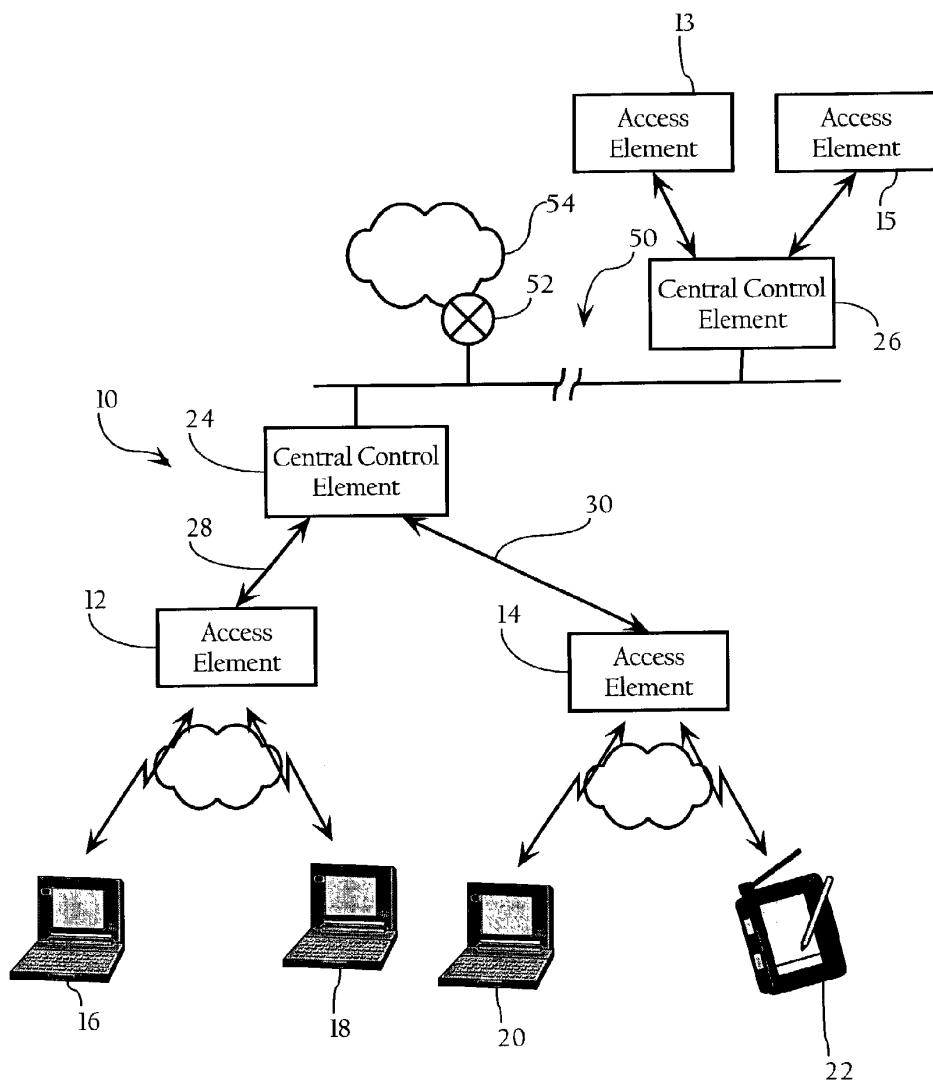


Fig. 2

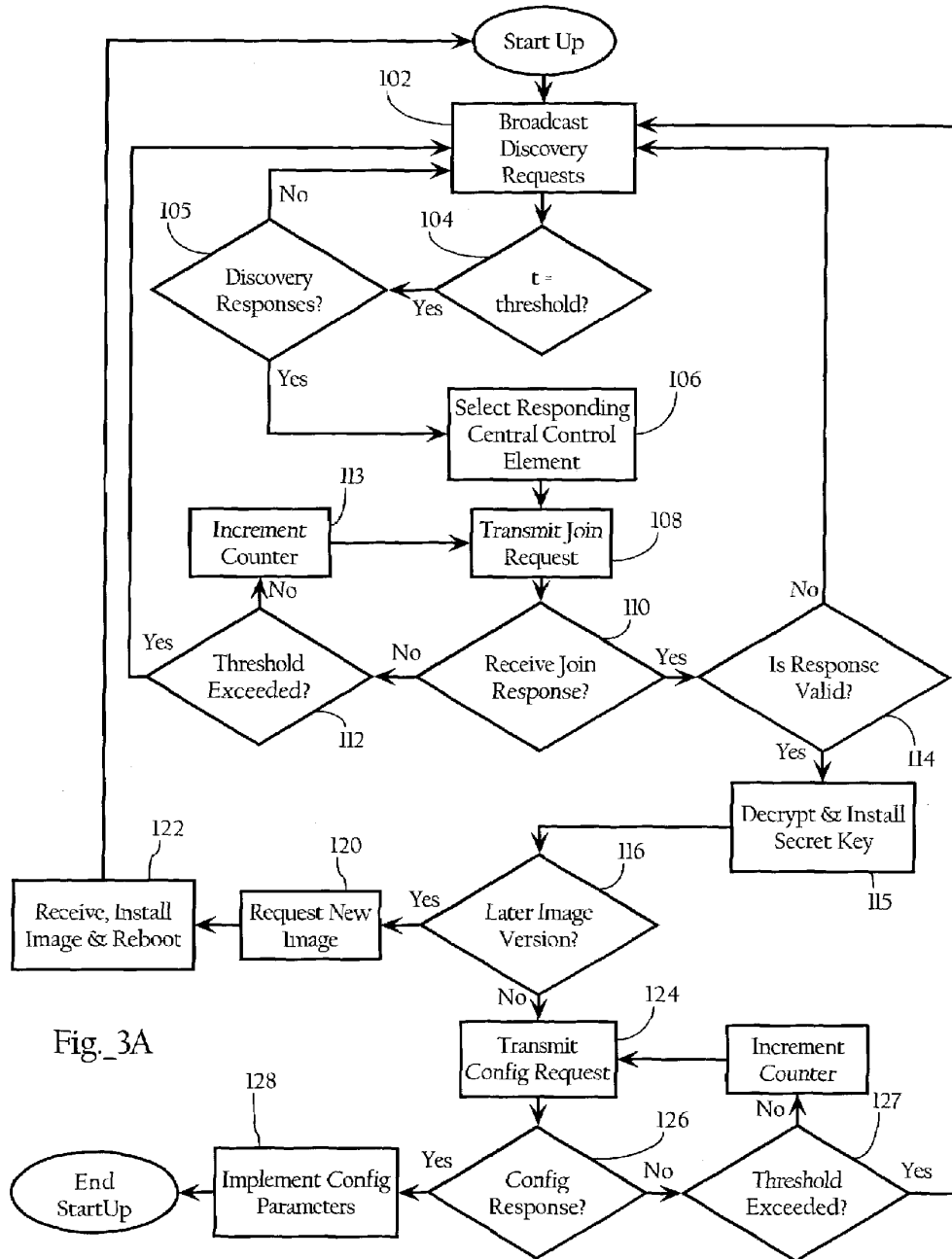


Fig. 3A

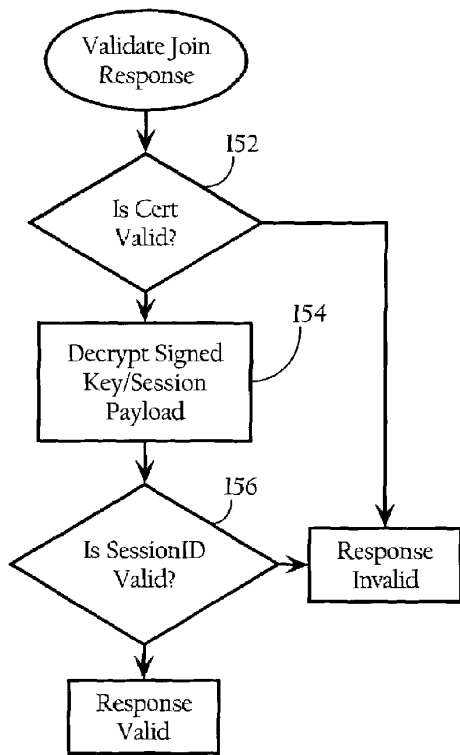


Fig.\_3B

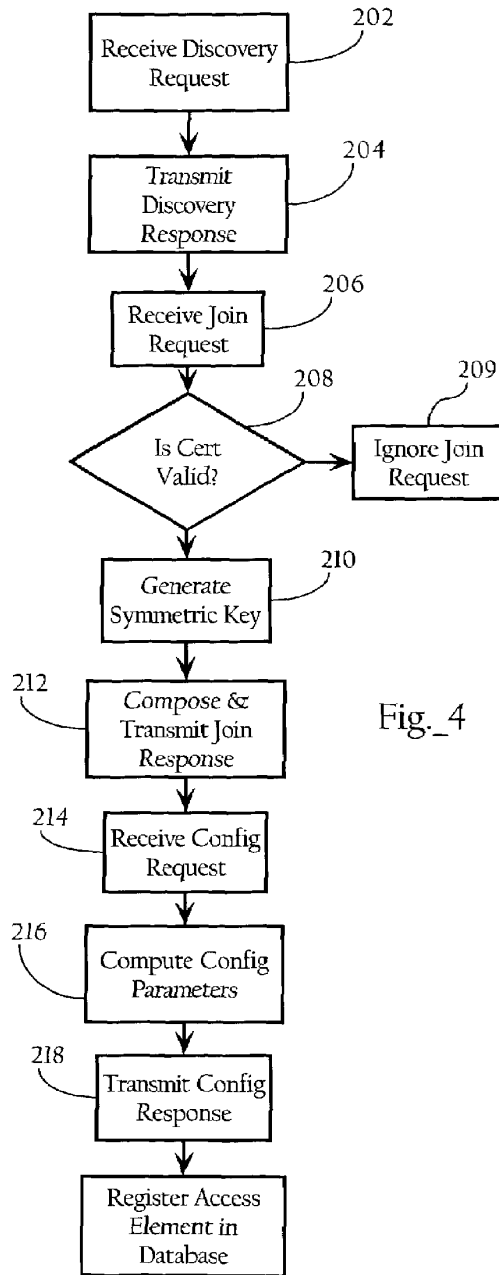


Fig.\_4

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