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Goodwin et al.

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(54) **CONTROLLING ACCESS TO ELECTRONIC CONTENT**

(75) Inventors: **Robert L Goodwin**, Mercer Island, WA (US); **David Zhao**, Bothell, WA (US); **Adrian Tsang Kwong Chan**, Bellevue, WA (US); **Chieh Wang**, Issaquah, WA (US); **Michael V Rykov**, Seattle, WA (US)

(73) Assignee: **Amazon Technologies, Inc.**, Reno, NV (US)

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G06F 17/30 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **707/783**; 726/3; 726/28; 726/29; 726/30; 707/913

(58) **Field of Classification Search** 707/913, 707/783
See application file for complete search history.

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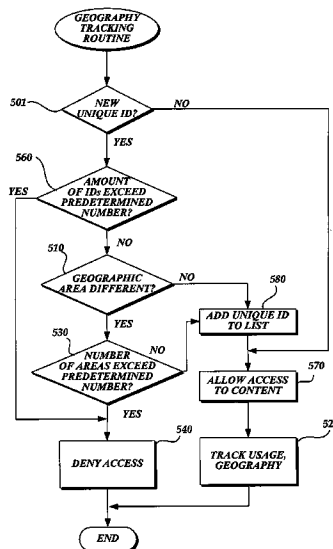* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner — John E Breene
Assistant Examiner — Albert Phillips, III
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Knobbe Martens Olson & Bear LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A system and method for controlling access to electronic content stored on a content provider's server is provided. A content provider may control and restrict unauthorized access to electronic content through an identified user account by limiting a number of devices from which requests to access the content through the account have been received. A content provider may also collect usage information of interest by monitoring authorized access to electronic content.
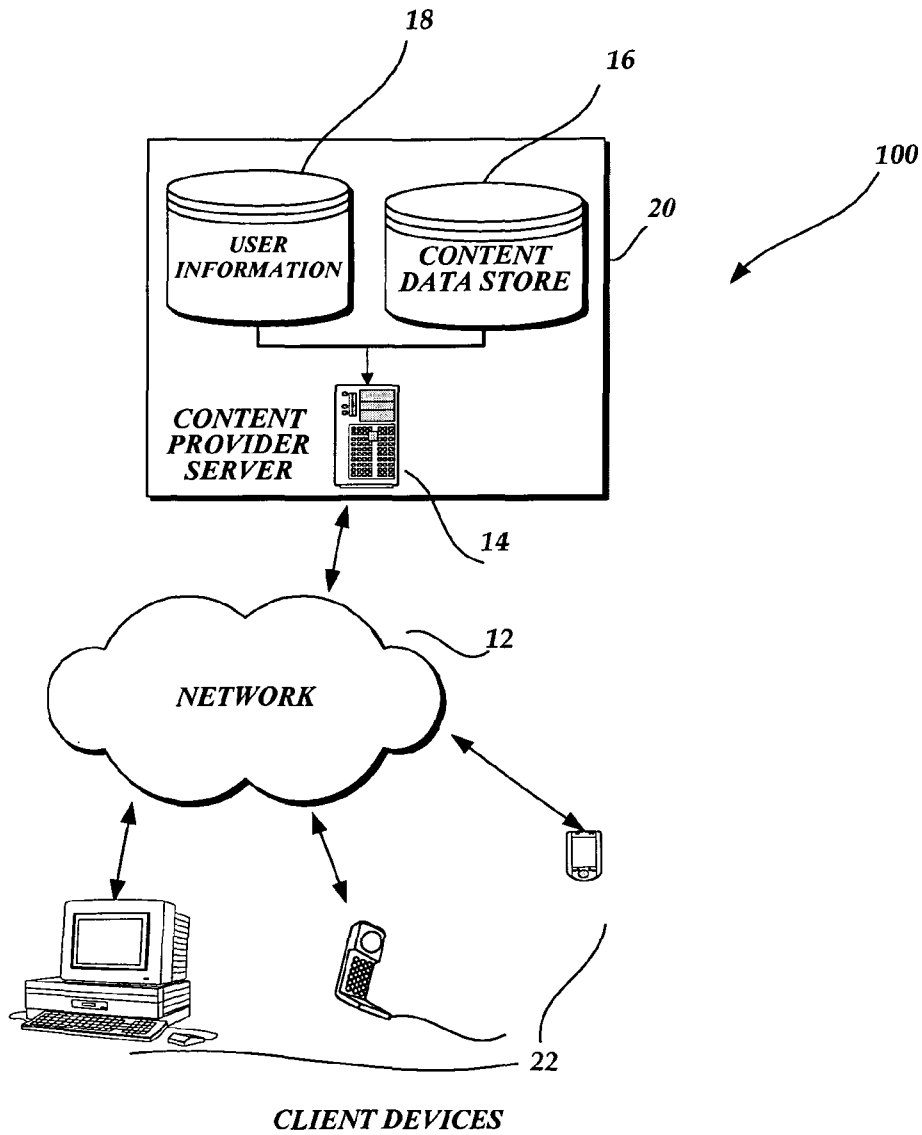
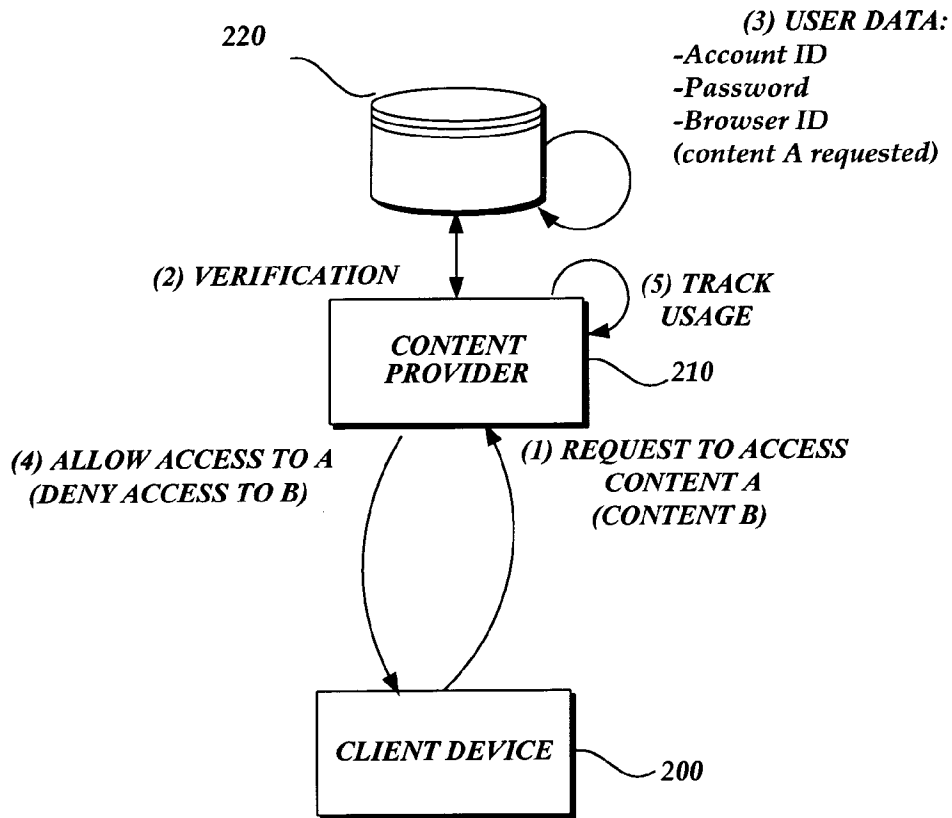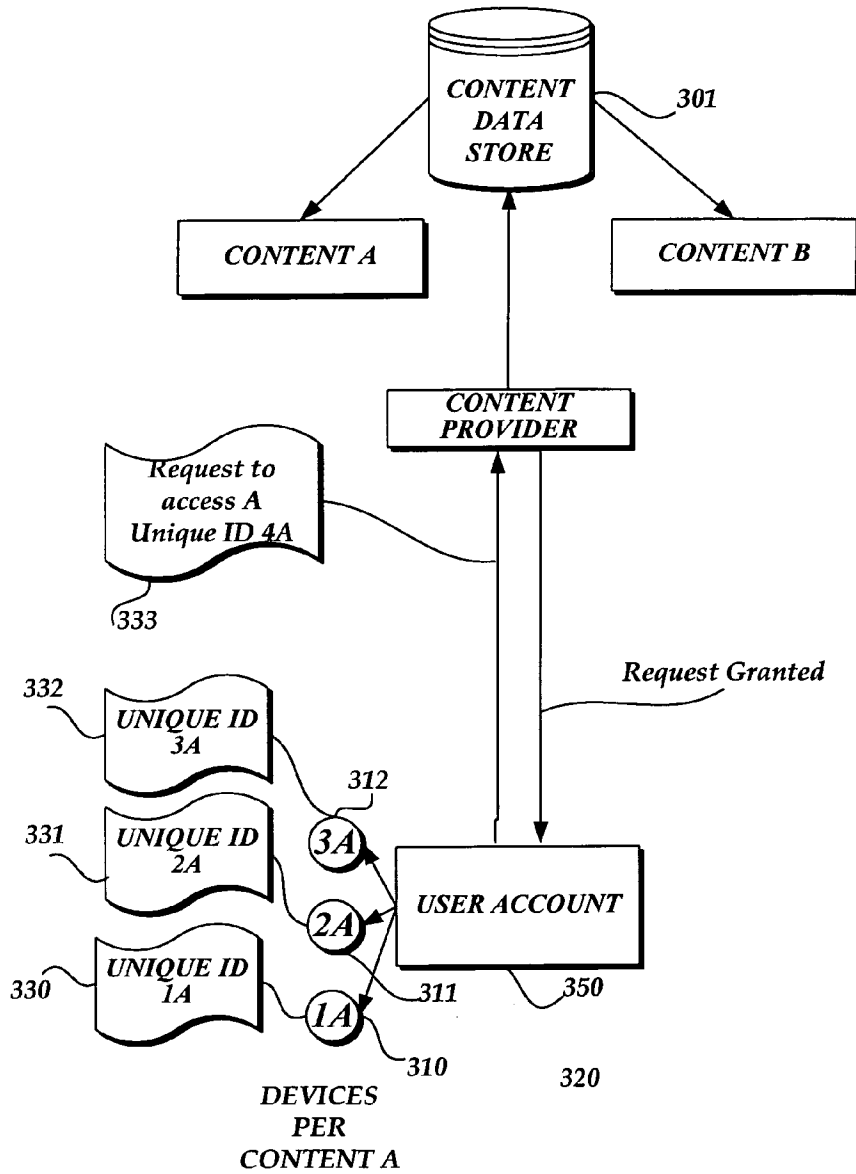**31 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets**

Fig.1.

220

(3) USER DATA:
-Account ID
-Password
-Browser ID
(content A requested)

(2) VERIFICATION

(5) TRACK
USAGE

CONTENT PROVIDER

210

(4) ALLOW ACCESS TO A
(DENY ACCESS TO B)

(1) REQUEST TO ACCESS
CONTENT A
(CONTENT B)

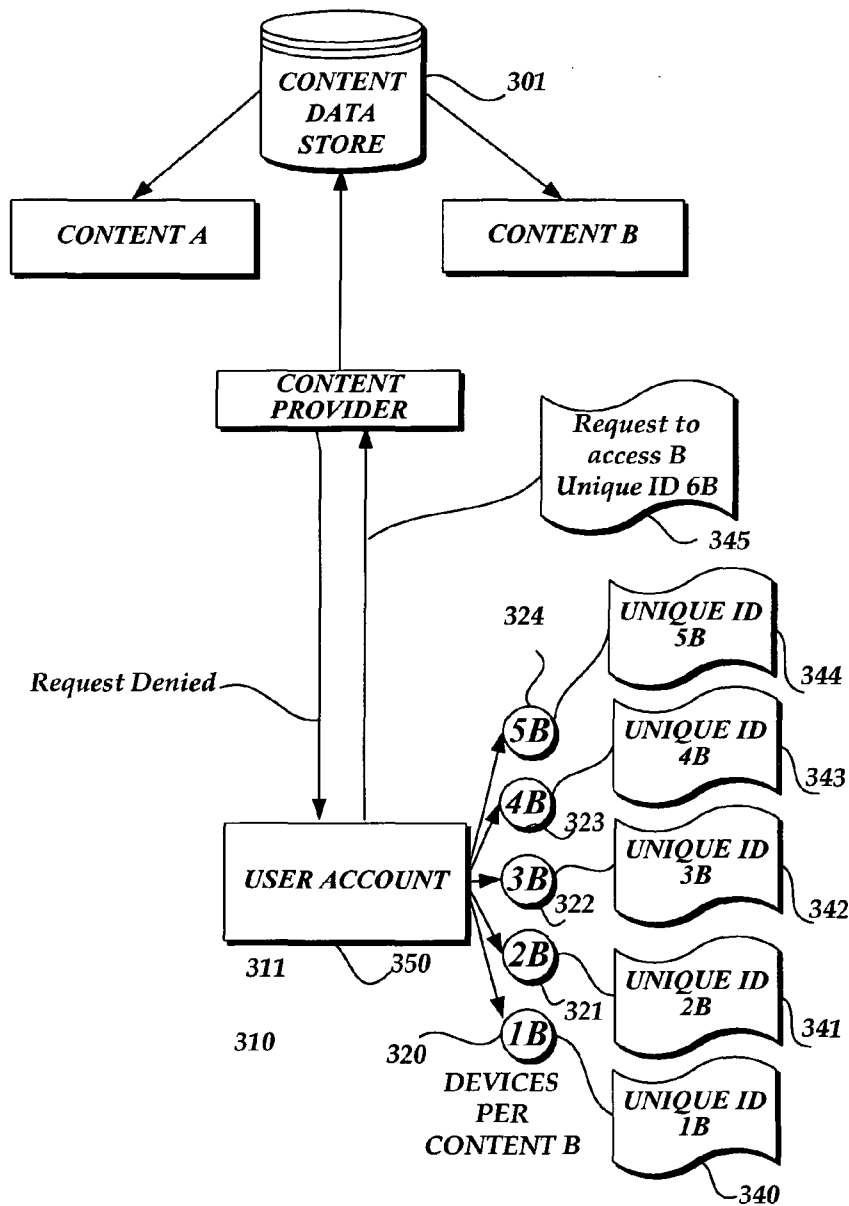**CLIENT DEVICE**

200

Fig.2.

Fig.3A.

Fig.3B.

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