



US 20080140861A1

(19) **United States**

(12) **Patent Application Publication**
Kothari et al.

(10) **Pub. No.: US 2008/0140861 A1**

(43) **Pub. Date: Jun. 12, 2008**

(54) **WEB SERVICES MULTI-PROTOCOL SUPPORT**

Publication Classification

(51) **Int. Cl.**
G06F 15/16 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** 709/246

(57) **ABSTRACT**

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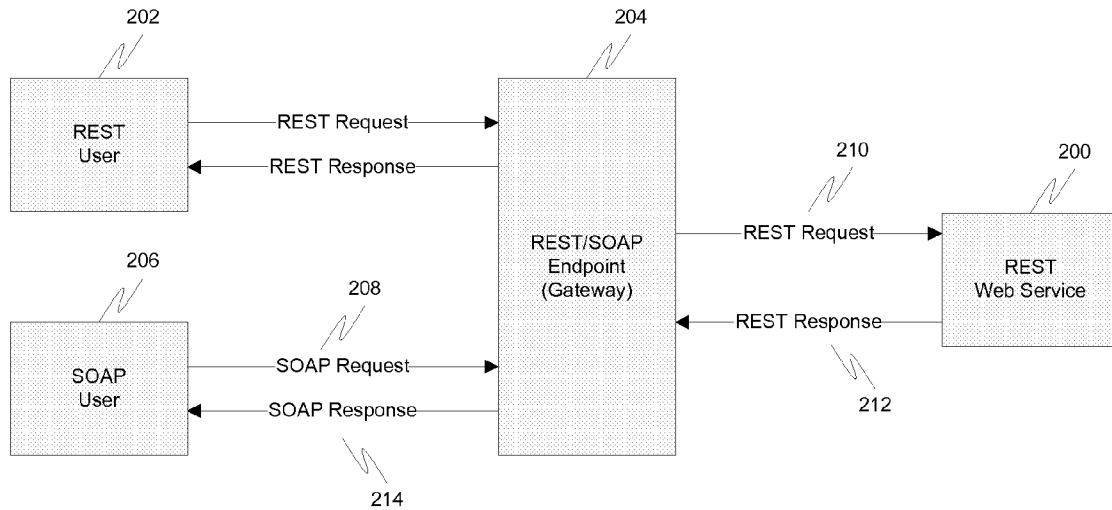
A solution is provided wherein a single service implementation may be exposed to users as two or more different web service protocols. The service then appears to the user to be utilizing a desired protocol even though the service itself is potentially operating under a different protocol. A gateway may be utilized that maintains mappings between the supported protocols. When a user sends a request to a particular service, the gateway may determine whether the request is in the format of the protocol utilized by the underlying web service. If not, the gateway may convert the format to match the correct protocol. An embodiment is also possible where a single endpoint is utilized for multiple services having multiple protocols. This may be coupled with an ability to detect a protocol automatically from request contents, thus seamlessly integrating multiple protocols into a user's experience.

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(21) **Appl. No.:** **11/567,375**

(22) **Filed:** **Dec. 6, 2006**



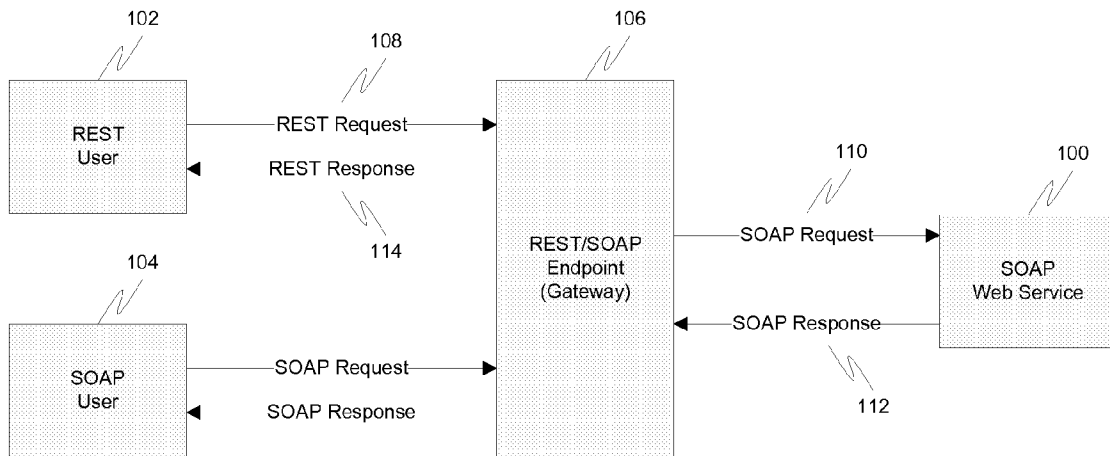


FIG. 1

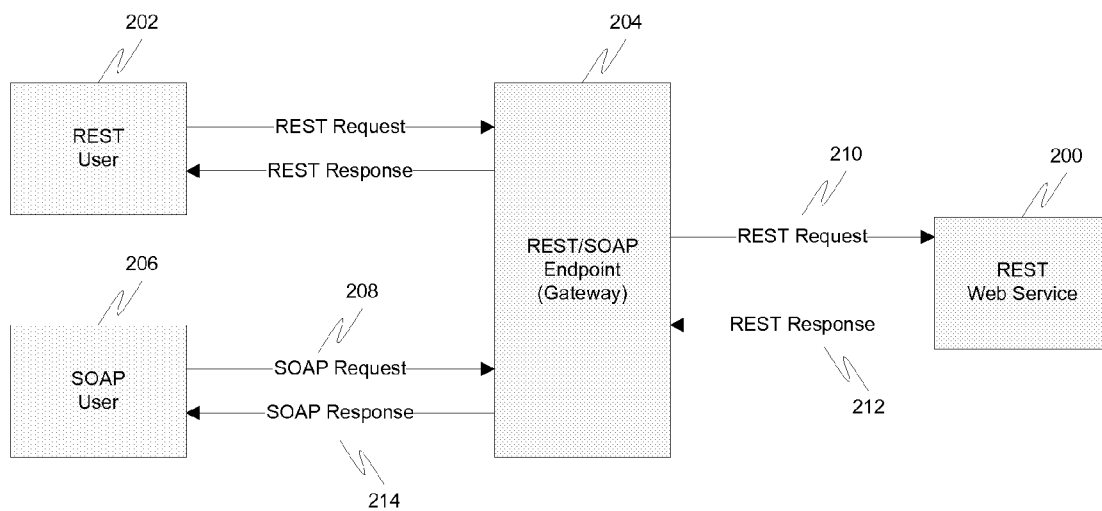


FIG.2

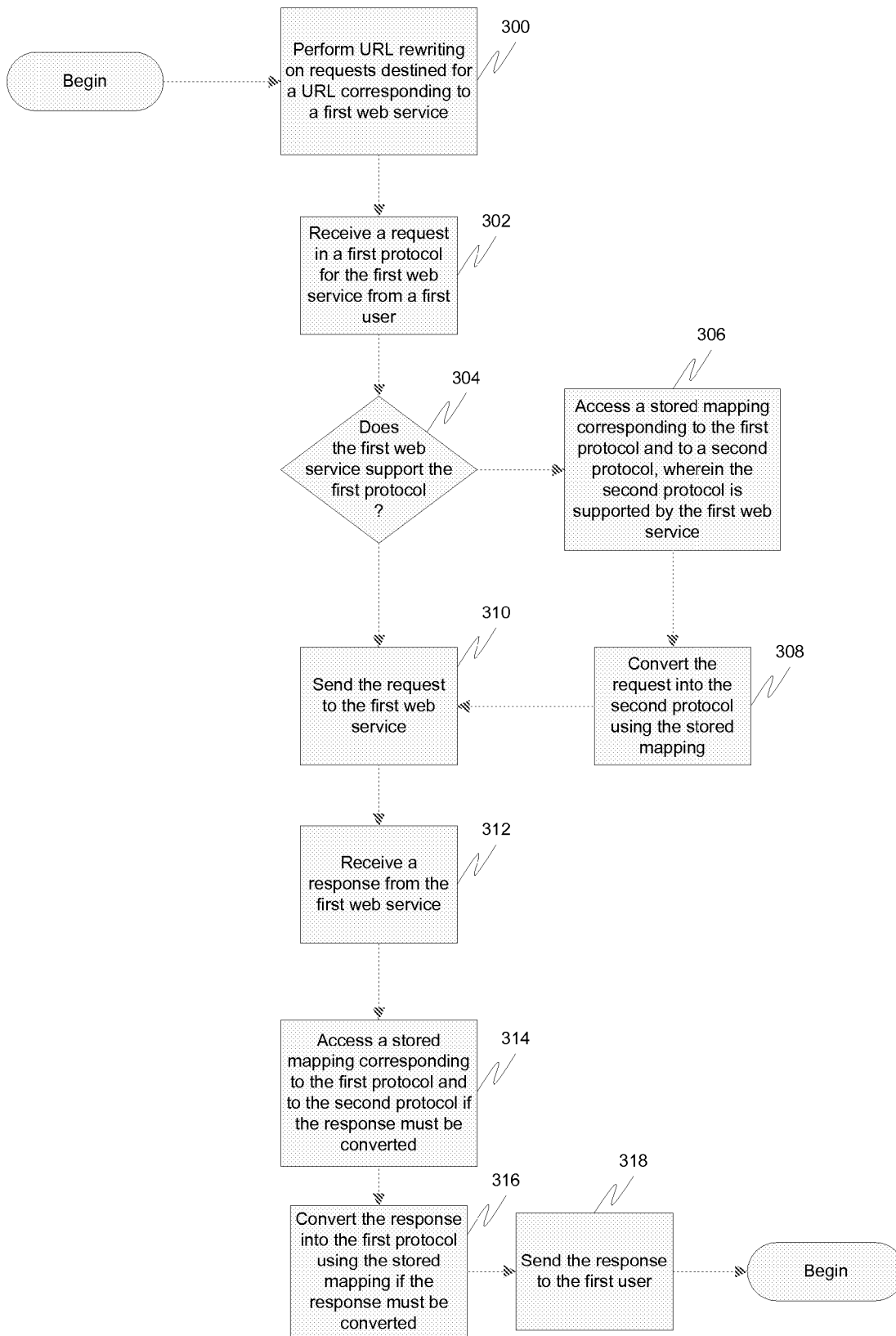


FIG. 3

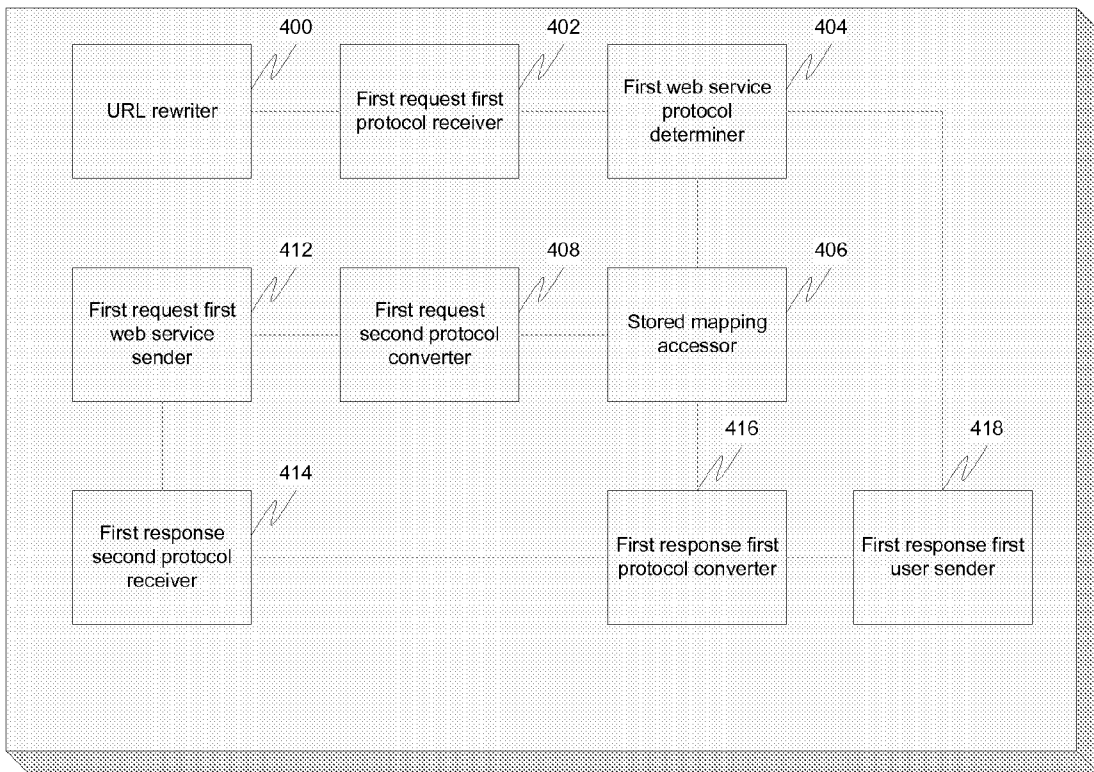


FIG. 4

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