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(12) **United States Patent**
Wieder

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(45) **Date of Patent:** **Aug. 16, 2011**

(54) **DISTRIBUTING DIGITAL-WORKS AND USAGE-RIGHTS TO USER-DEVICES**

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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 1172 days.

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(21) Appl. No.: **11/161,710**

Automatic Music Selection for Changing Driving Patterns available at <http://www.priorartdatabase.net>, Jan. 22, 2008.

(22) Filed: **Aug. 12, 2005**

(Continued)

Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation-in-part of application No. 10/605,879, filed on Nov. 3, 2003, now Pat. No. 7,884,274.

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(51) **Int. Cl.**
G06F 17/30 (2006.01)

(57) **ABSTRACT**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **726/28**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** None
See application file for complete search history.

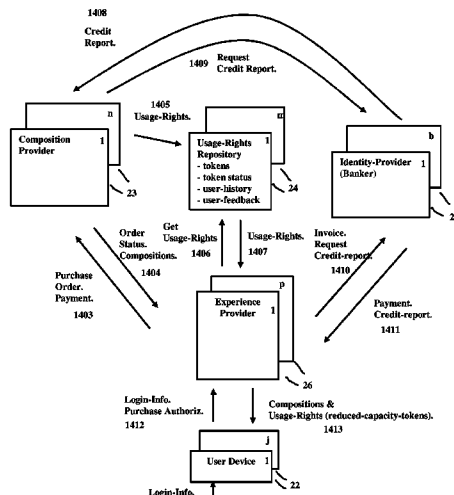
Method and apparatus for automatically distributing, as needed, a user's digital-works and usage-rights to one or more user-devices. A definition of the usage-rights for a digital-work may be stored at one or more locations on a network. A version of said digital-work suitable for a user-device may be provided by one or more locations on said network. When a user who is authorized to utilize said digital-work is active at a user-device, a version of said digital-work and authorization to utilize is automatically transferred when needed to a user-device. The digital-work and authorization may be automatically transferred as needed to any user-device where an authorized user is active. The usage-rights may only be valid for one or more specific users. The usage authorization at each user-device may be less than defined in the full usage-rights maintained on the network. Authorization to utilize said digital-work at a user-device may be extended from time to time by exchanging user-device status across the network. Digital-works are automatically provided as needed to any user-device that an authorized user is using.

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60 Claims, 16 Drawing Sheets



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Fig. 1

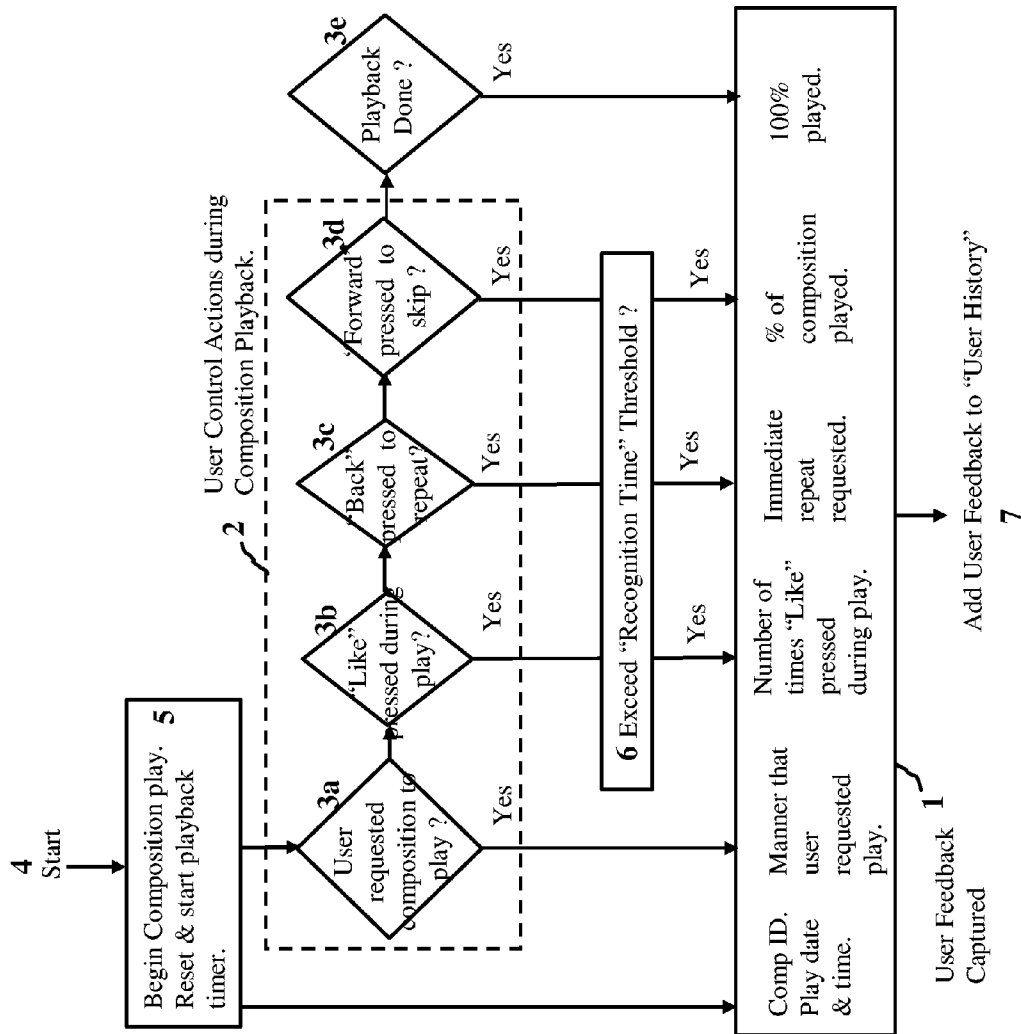


Fig. 2

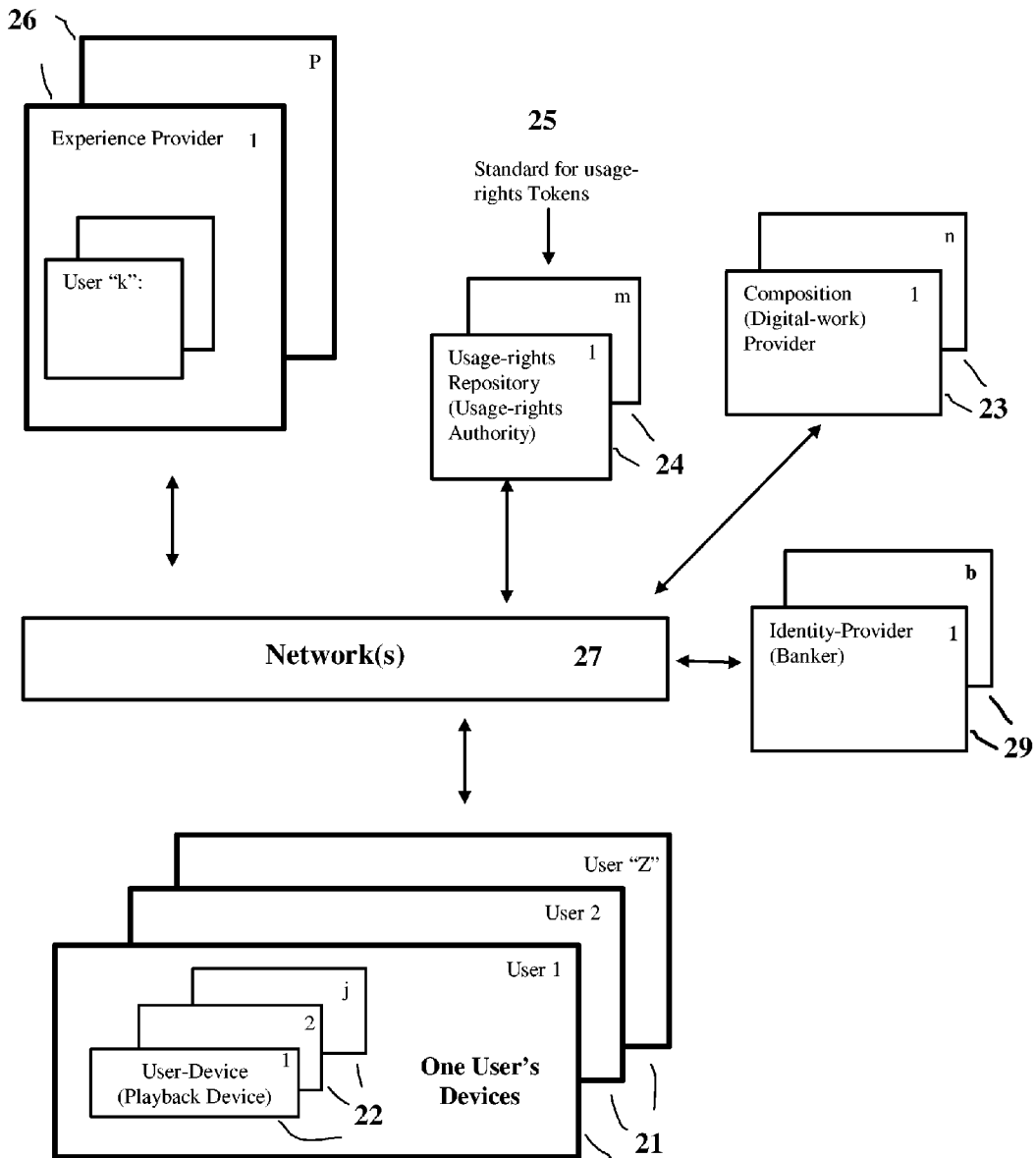
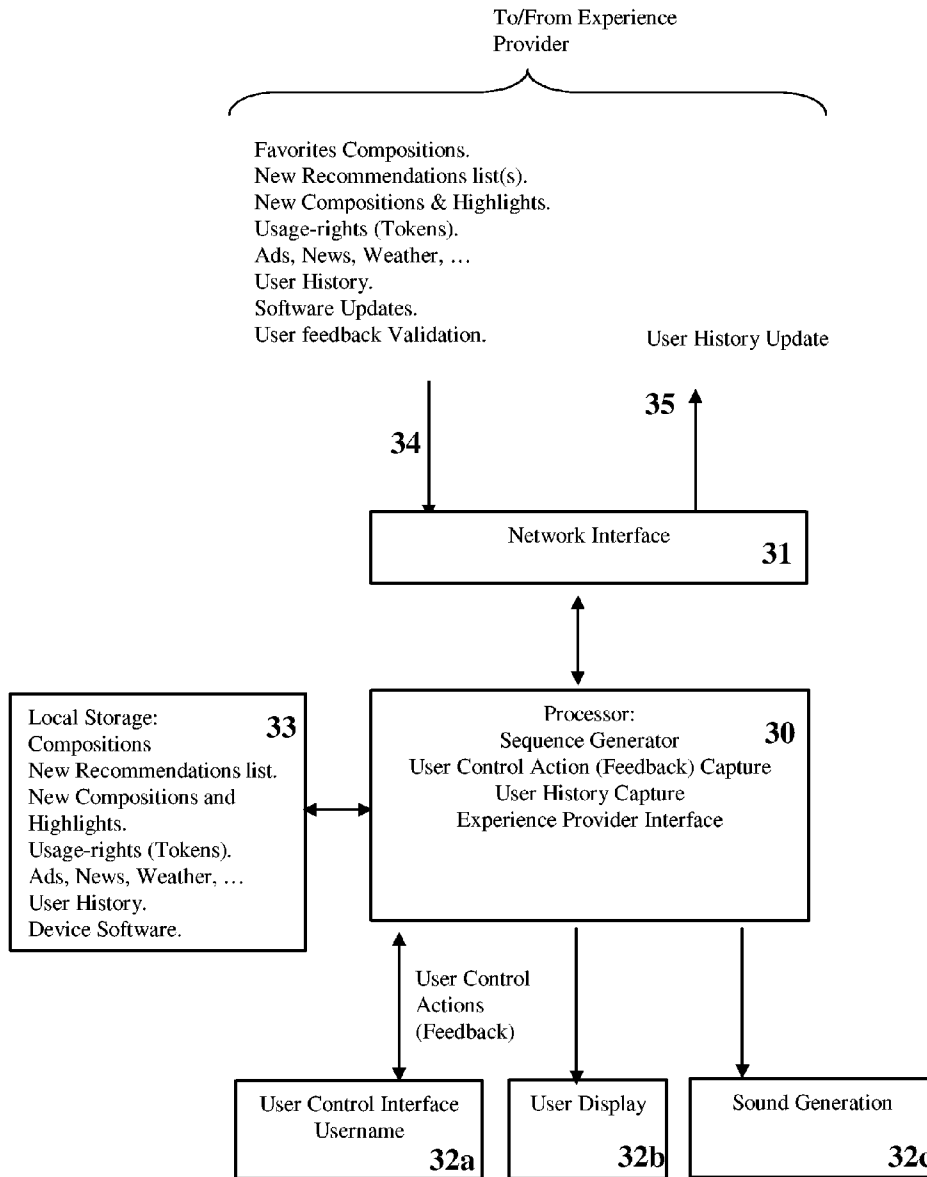


Fig. 3



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