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(54) **PUSHING ATTRIBUTE INFORMATION TO STORAGE DEVICES FOR NETWORK TOPOLOGY ACCESS**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**
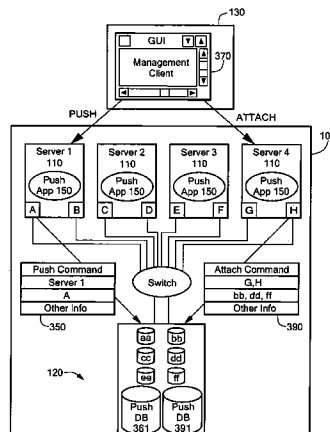*G06F 17/30* (2006.01)
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(58) **Field of Classification Search** 707/10, 707/104.1; 709/250, 213, 227
See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method apparatus and computer program product for providing access to host attribute information in a storage area network is disclosed. The storage area network is composed of a plurality of hosts coupled to at least one initiator. Each initiator is coupled to one or more targets and each initiator has an associated identifier. In each host, the identifier of the initiator is related to other host attribute information. The identifier may be, for example, a world wide name. The host attribute information including the identifier is sent from each of the plurality of hosts to the one or more targets and stored in memory of an associated storage array. Either a host or requestor remote from the storage array may request the collected host attribute information from the storage array. A topology of the storage area network may then be formed from the host attribute information of each host.
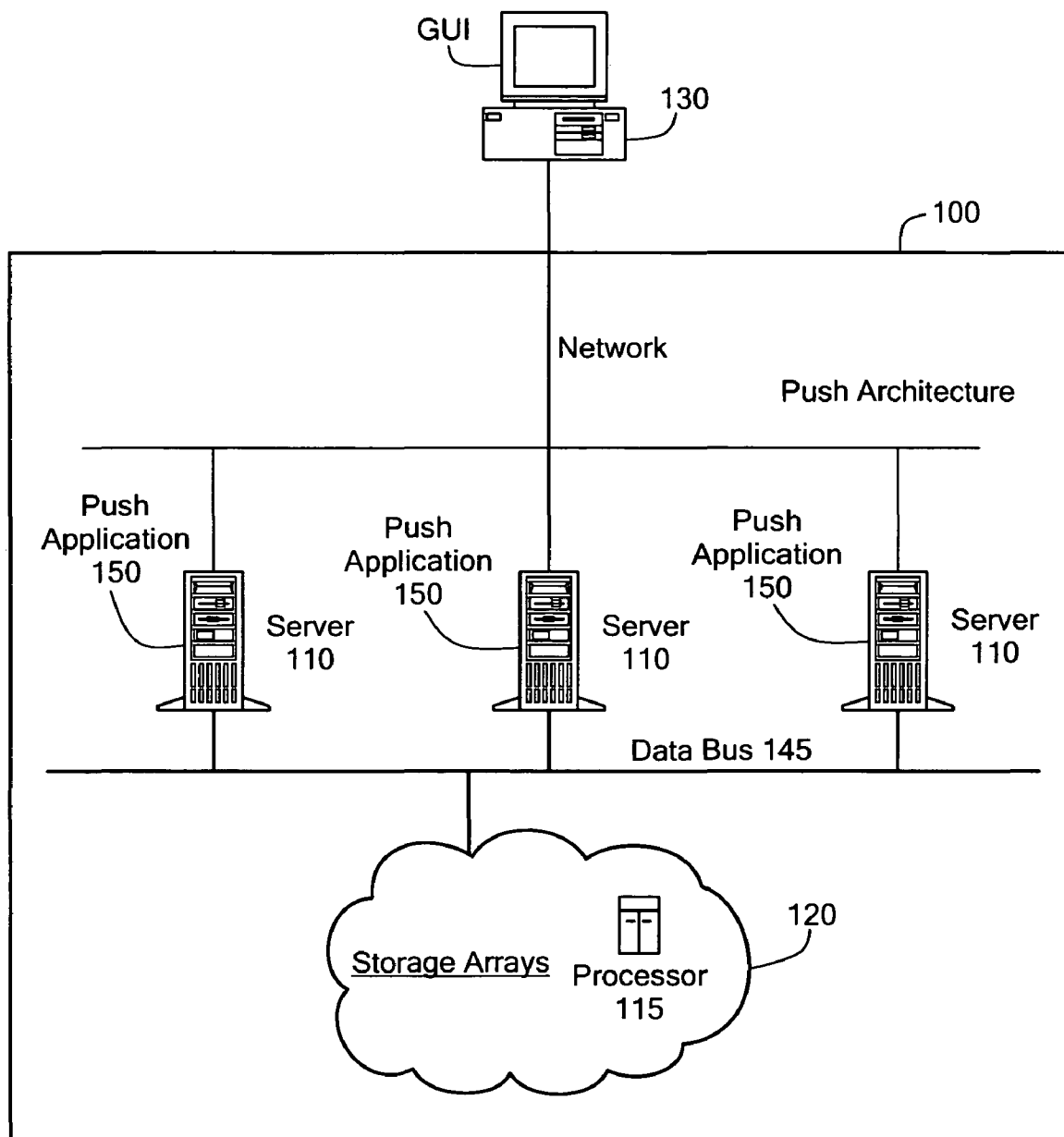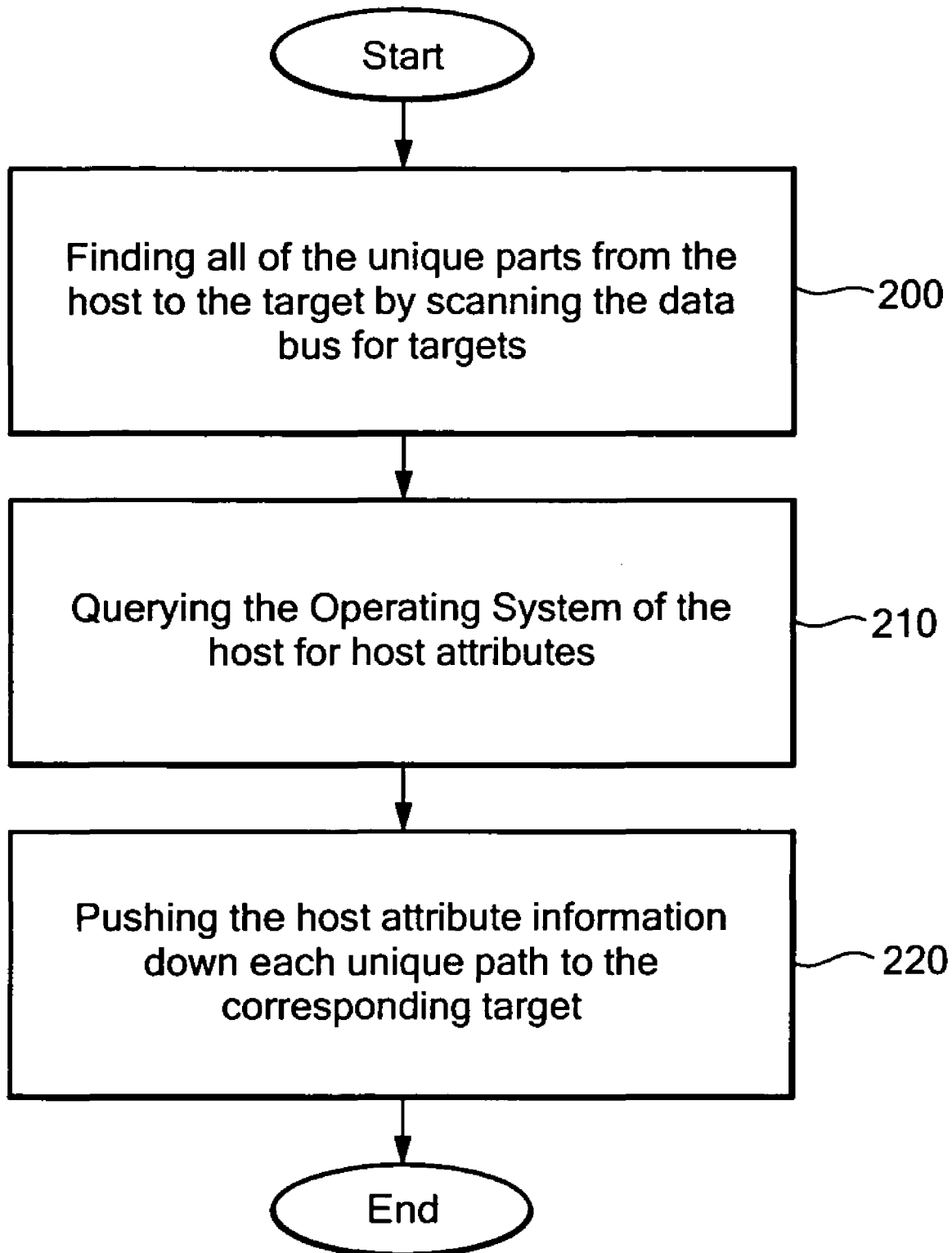
32 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets

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FIG. 1

Start

Finding all of the unique parts from the host to the target by scanning the data bus for targets — 200

Querying the Operating System of the host for host attributes — 210

Pushing the host attribute information down each unique path to the corresponding target — 220

End

FIG. 2

FIG. 3

DOCKET ALARM
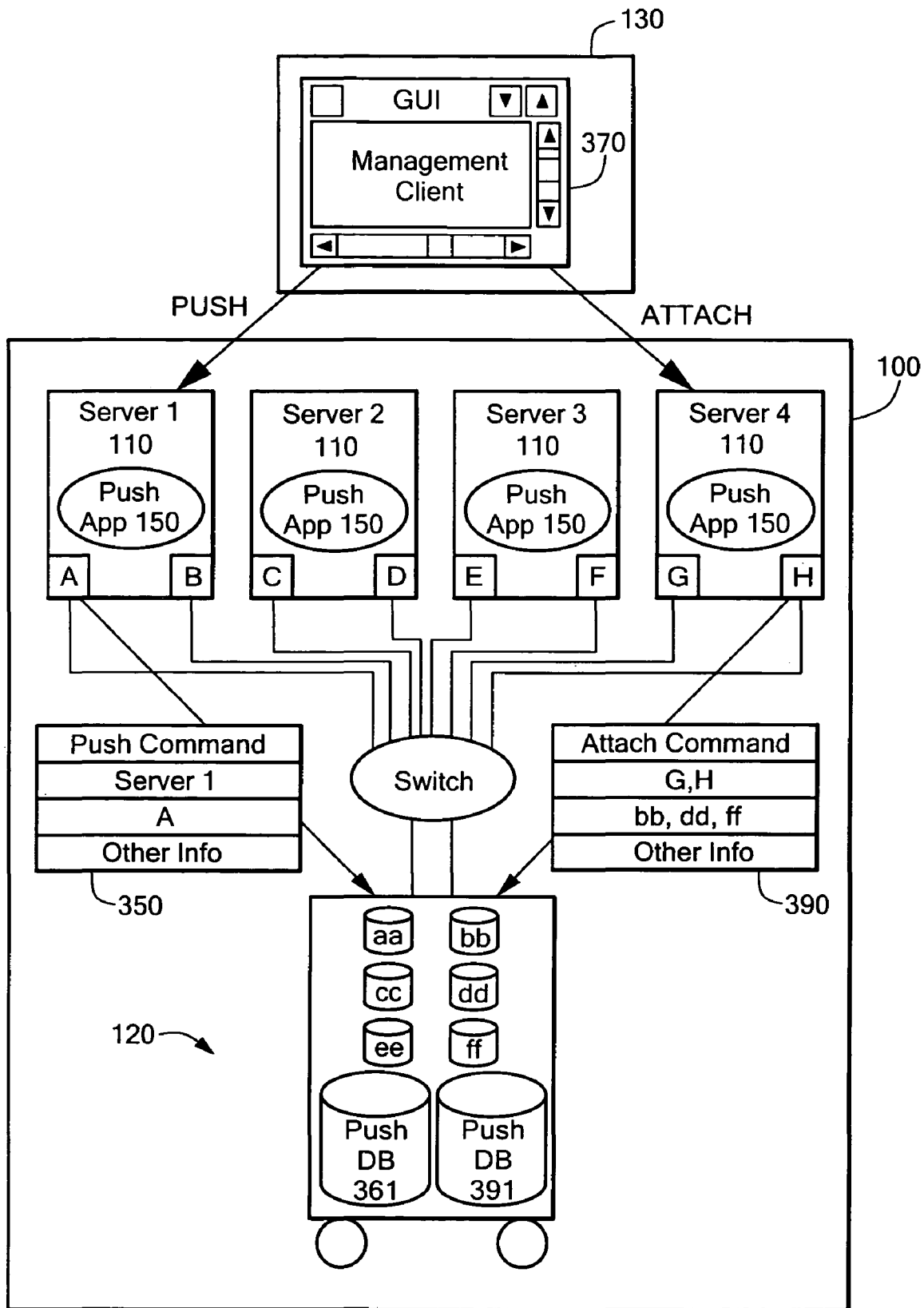
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