



(12) **United States Patent**
Dowling et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 8,266,296 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** ***Sep. 11, 2012**

(54) **APPLICATION-LAYER EVALUATION OF COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED BY A MOBILE DEVICE**

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(73) Assignee: **East Texas Technology Partners, LP**, Plano, TX (US)

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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 174 days.

“Defendant Dell Inc.’s Answer to Plaintiff’s Second Amended Complaint”, Civil Action No. 2-03CV-465-TJW, in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas Marshall Division, (Mar. 15, 2004), 8 pages.

This patent is subject to a terminal disclaimer.

“Defendant International Business Machines Corporation’s Answer to Plaintiff’s Second Amended Complaint,” Civil Action No. 2-03CV-465-TJW, in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Texas Marshall Division, (Mar. 15, 2004), 8 pages.

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(Continued)

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Primary Examiner — Ramy M Osman

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

Related U.S. Application Data

(60) Division of application No. 10/920,817, filed on Aug. 18, 2004, now abandoned, which is a continuation of application No. 10/335,821, filed on Jan. 2, 2003, now abandoned, which is a continuation of application No. 09/167,698, filed on Oct. 7, 1998, now Pat. No. 6,574,239.

Apparatus and associated methods are provided which allow a remote user to maintain a virtual session with a server. A virtual session allows a remote and possibly mobile user to maintain a virtual presence in an office environment without actually being present. Using the present invention, a remote user can access a central application program such as an Internet service provider, a database system, an inventory system or billing system. Likewise, the remote user can receive calls and other forms of communications as though he or she were present in an office environment. A virtual session does not require a physical connection to be continuously present in order to provide a virtual connectivity. This is especially important for mobile applications where the remote user may incur long distance and/or wireless toll charges. Also, methods are presented to allow a remote unit to rapidly reconnect in a transparent and seamless way without burdening the user with the need to connect and reconnect or to upload and download information. Related methods are provided to allow the virtual session to be established, operated and maintained.

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

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **709/227**; 709/203; 709/217; 709/223; 709/234

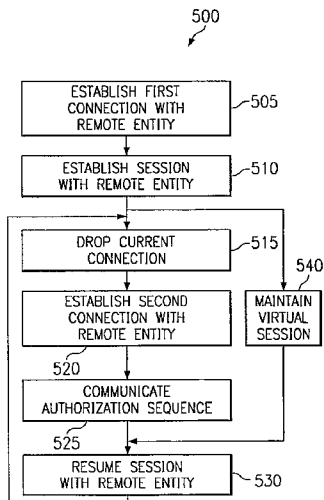
(58) **Field of Classification Search** 709/203, 709/205, 223, 217, 227, 234
See application file for complete search history.

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20 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets



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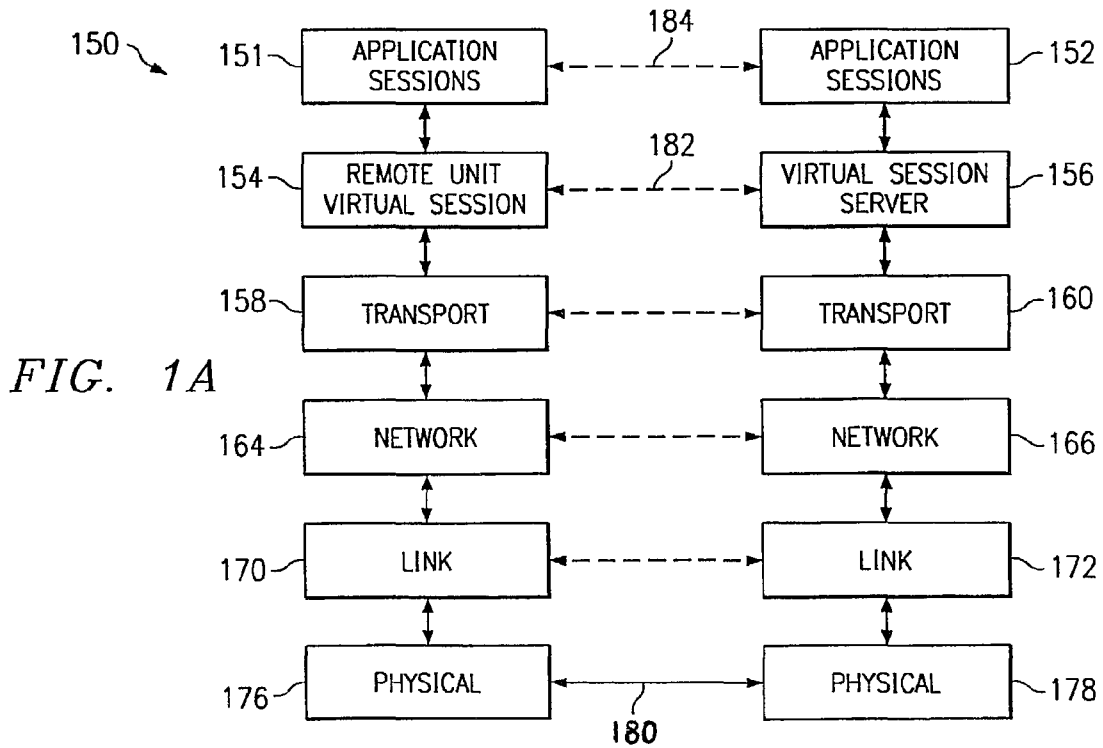
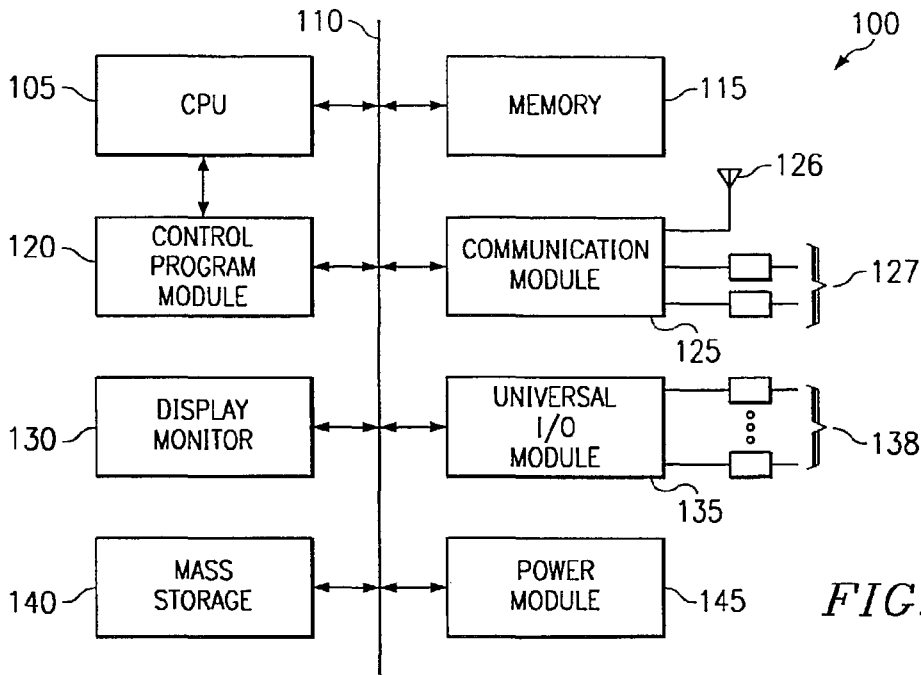
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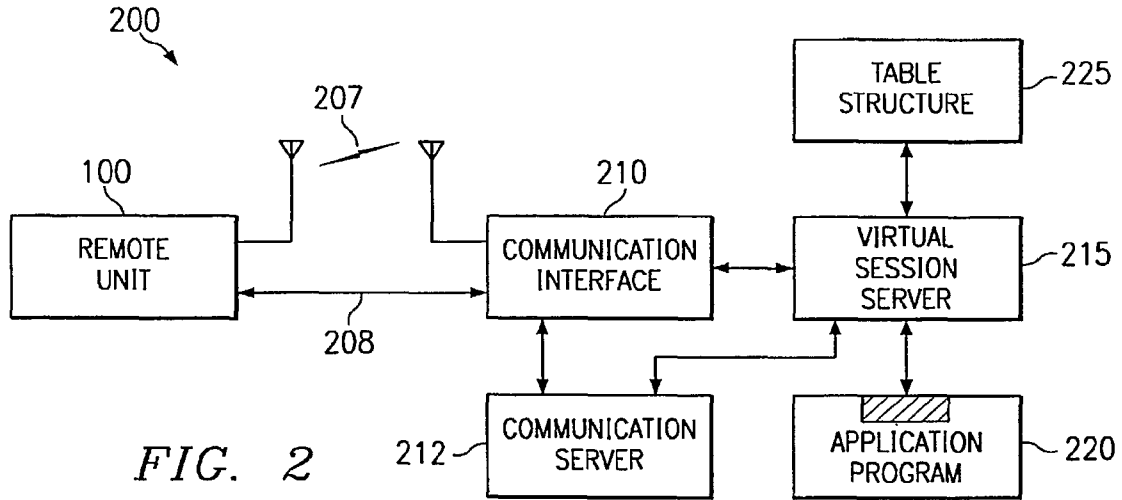


FIG. 2

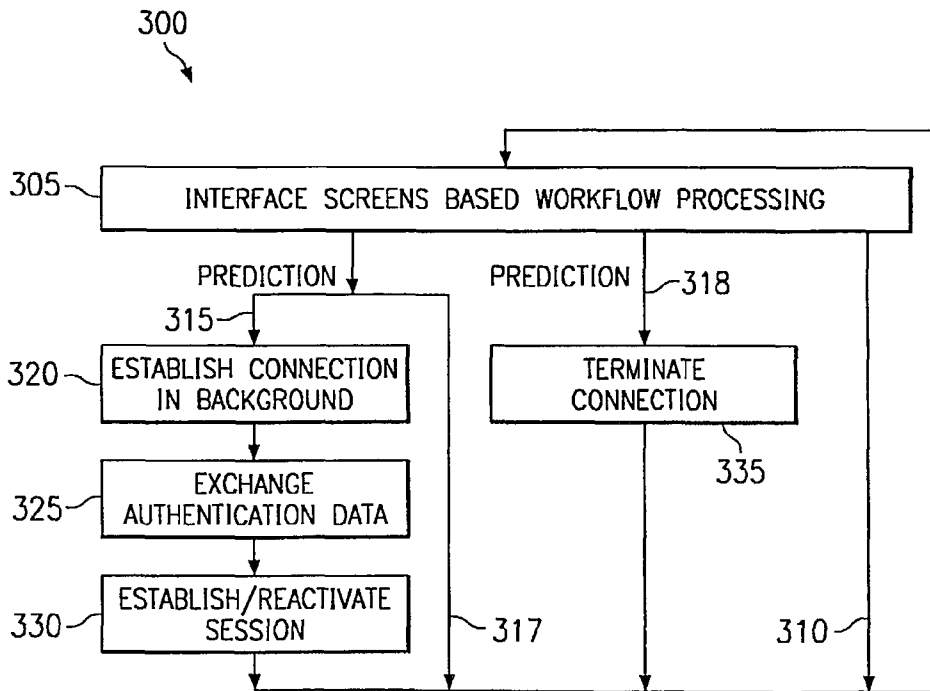


FIG. 3

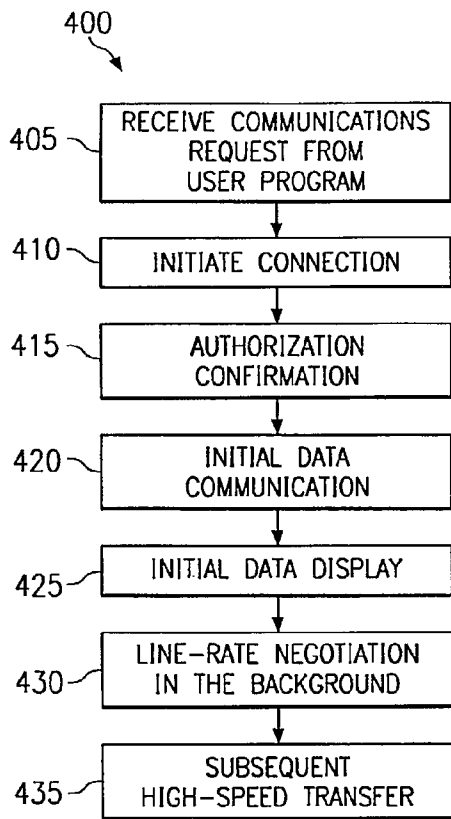


FIG. 4

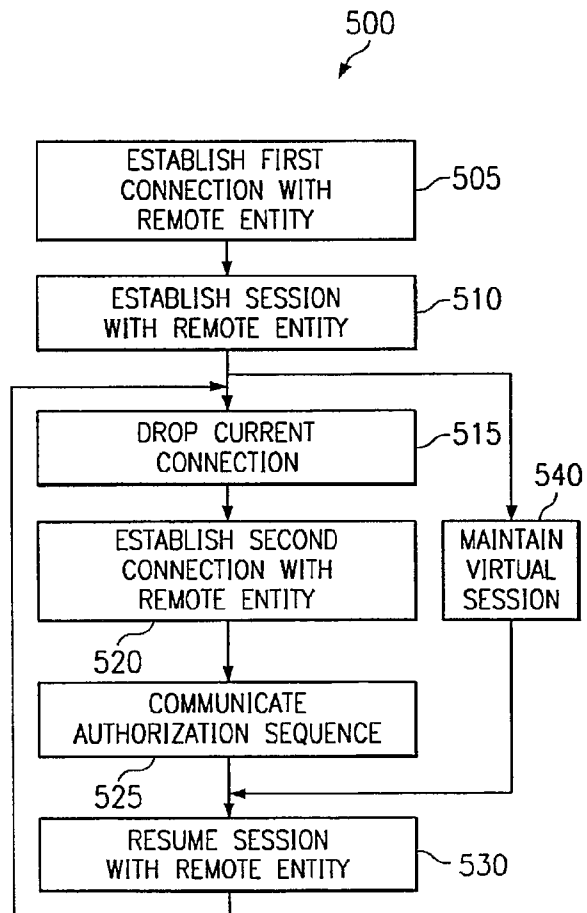


FIG. 5

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