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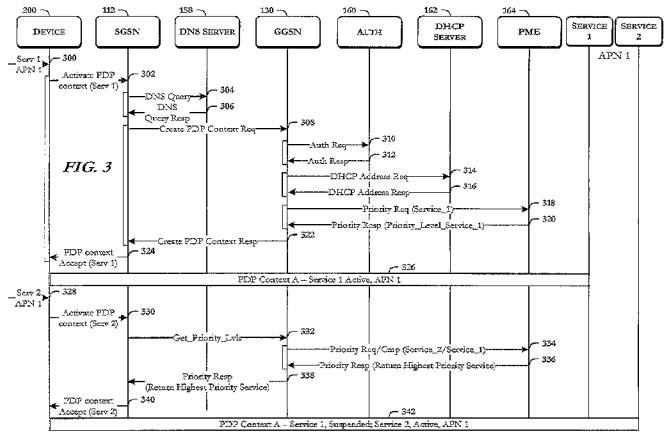

FIG. 3

(57) Abstract: Systems and method are for managing packet data protocol (PDP) contexts in a wireless data communications network (100). A plurality of real-time applications are prioritized within a single, shared PDP context or allocated a second PDP context based upon priority levels logically assigned to the plurality of applications such that high priority applications are delivered before lower priority applications. Lower priority applications are suspended and interrupted by higher priority applications and are set to resume after the higher priority applications are completed. Priority levels are established by a priority management engine (PME) (164) that may reside in one or more network elements, such as a General Packet Radio Service (GPRS) Support Node (130) or a network (100) probe system. The priority management engine (164) establishes the priority levels based upon one or more factors including, for example, PDP utilization characteristics at a given time and/or given network (100) location, and/or user preference.

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