



- (51) International Patent Classification:
G06F 9/44 (2006.01) *G06F 3/0481* (2013.01)
- (21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2016/033272
- (22) International Filing Date:
19 May 2016 (19.05.2016)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
14/717,898 20 May 2015 (20.05.2015) US
- (71) Applicant: **VMWARE, INC.** [US/US]; 3401 Hillview Avenue, Palo Alto, California 94304 (US).
- (72) Inventors: **GROSS, Adam Gregory**; 3401 Hillview Avenue, Palo Alto, California 94304 (US). **DUNN, Michael**; 3401 Hillview Avenue, Palo Alto, California 94304 (US). **RUDE, Christopher**; 2500 East Pine Street, Seattle, Washington 98122 (US). **KWAN, Joshua**; 2192 Frederick Douglass Boulevard, Apt. 2W, New York, New York 10026 (US).
- (74) Agents: **GERINGSON, Justas** et al.; 3401 Hillview Avenue, Palo Alto, California 94304 (US).
- (81) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IR, IS, JP, KE, KG, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SA, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, ST, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: OPTIMIZING WINDOW MOVE ACTIONS FOR REMOTED APPLICATIONS

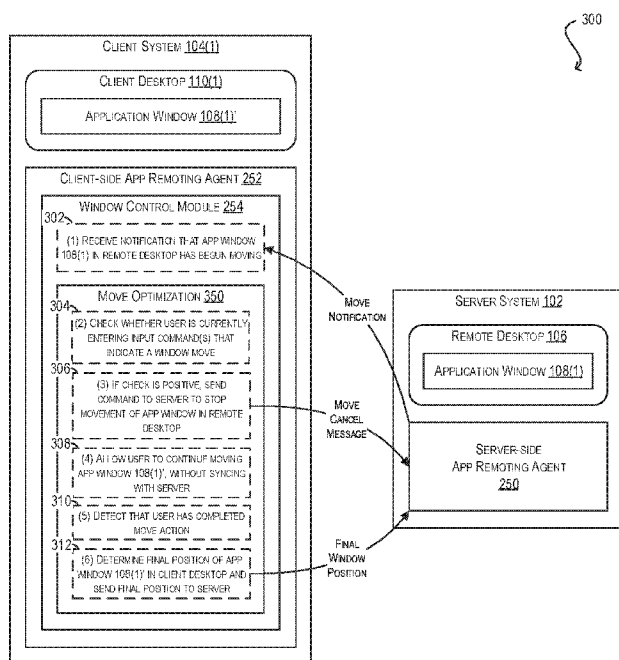


FIG. 3

(57) Abstract: Techniques for optimizing window move actions for a remoted application are provided, where the remoted application has an application window running within a remote desktop of a server system, and where the application window is made accessible to a user of a client system in the form of a client-side application window displayed in a client desktop of the client system. In one embodiment, the client system can receive from the server system a notification that the application window has begun moving in the remote desktop, and can determine that the user is currently entering one or more input commands for moving the client-side application window in the client desktop. The client system can further send a command to the server system for stopping the movement of the application window in the remote desktop, such that the application window is fixed in a stationary position. The client system can then allow the user to continue moving the client-side application window in the client desktop, while the application window remains in the stationary position in the remote desktop.



Published:

— with international search report (Art. 21(3))

— before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))

OPTIMIZING WINDOW MOVE ACTIONS FOR REMOTED APPLICATIONS

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application claims the benefit of U.S. Non-Provisional Patent Application No. 14/717,898, filed May 20, 2015, which is incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

Background

[0002] Application remoting, or “app remoting,” is a technology that enables an application running in a remote desktop on a server system to be accessed via a client desktop on a client system. Such an application is known as a remoted application. Typically, the remoted application comprises an application window that is presented within the remote desktop. As part of the app remoting process, this application window can be made accessible to a user of the client system in the form of a corresponding window that is rendered in the client desktop (referred to herein as a “client-side application window”). The client-side application window is updated on a continuous basis to mirror the application window in the remote desktop.

[0003] In some cases, there may be a large amount of network latency between the client system and the server system while app remoting is taking place. Such latency may be caused by network congestion, geographic distance between the two systems, and/or other factors. In these cases, a user of the client system may experience a noticeable delay when he/she attempts to move the client-side application window, since this move action requires, for each incremental movement of the window: (1) the user’s input command(s) to be transferred from the client system to the server system; (2) a window move to be triggered/performed with respect to the application window in the remote desktop in response to the input command(s); and (3) a window move update to be returned from the server system to the client system. High network latency can also cause the window movement to appear jittery to the user, since window move updates may return to the client system in uneven batches.

[0004] Certain app remoting implementations address this issue by detecting when the user has initiated a “left-click-and-drag” operation on the titlebar area of the client-side application window (i.e., the portion of the window that includes the window title and windowing-related buttons) and, upon detecting this specific operation, optimizing the window move process on the client side. However, a significant drawback of this approach is that some applications (particularly web browsers) allow window move actions to be initiated using left-click-and-drag on window regions other than the titlebar area. For example, Google Chrome and Internet

Explorer allow a user to move its windows using left-click-and-drag on the window region immediately to the right of the active tabs. Accordingly, for these and other similar applications, the titlebar-based optimization approach noted above is not sufficient for optimizing window move actions in all possible scenarios.

Summary

[0005] Techniques for optimizing window move actions for a remoted application are provided, where the remoted application has an application window running within a remote desktop of a server system, and where the application window is made accessible to a user of a client system in the form of a client-side application window displayed in a client desktop of the client system. In one embodiment, the client system can receive from the server system a notification that the application window has begun moving in the remote desktop, and can determine that the user is currently entering one or more input commands for moving the client-side application window in the client desktop. The client system can further send a command to the server system for stopping the movement of the application window in the remote desktop, such that the application window is fixed in a stationary position. The client system can then allow the user to continue moving the client-side application window in the client desktop, while the application window remains in the stationary position in the remote desktop.

[0006] The following detailed description and accompanying drawings provide a better understanding of the nature and advantages of particular embodiments.

Brief Description of the Drawings

[0007] FIG. 1 depicts a system environment according to an embodiment.

[0008] FIG. 2 depicts a workflow for performing app remoting according to an embodiment.

[0009] FIG. 3 depicts a workflow for optimizing window move actions for a remoted application according to an embodiment.

[0010] FIG. 4A, 4B, and 4C illustrate the positions of an application window and a client-side application window in remote and client desktops respectively before, during, and after the workflow of FIG. 3 according to an embodiment.

[0011] FIG. 5 depicts a flowchart for performing live-updating of a client-side application window during a window move action according to an embodiment.

[0012] FIGS. 6A, 6B, and 6C illustrate a background client-side application window and a foreground client-side application window before, during, and after a move of the foreground window according to an embodiment.

[0013] FIG. 7 depicts a flowchart for hiding an overlap region within the background client-side application window of FIG. 6B according to an embodiment.

[0014] FIG. 8 depicts an alternative version of FIG. 6B that shows the overlap region as being hidden according to an embodiment.

Detailed Description

[0015] In the following description, for purposes of explanation, numerous examples and details are set forth in order to provide an understanding of various embodiments. It will be evident, however, to one skilled in the art that certain embodiments can be practiced without some of these details, or can be practiced with modifications or equivalents thereof.

[0016] The present disclosure describes techniques for optimizing window move actions carried out with respect to remoted applications. In particular, these techniques can reduce the perceived latency of such window move actions on the client side, regardless of how the actions are initiated by a user.

[0017] According to one set of embodiments, a client system can receive, from a server system, a notification that an application window of a remoted application (i.e., an application window running within a remote desktop on the server system and presented, in the form of a client-side application window, in a client desktop on the client system) has started to move. For example, a user of the client system may have initiated a left-click-and-drag operation on the client-side application window in the client desktop.

[0018] Upon receiving this notification from the server system, the client system can check whether the user is currently entering any input commands that indicate a window move action is taking place with respect to the client-side application window. For instance, the client system can check whether the user currently has the left mouse button held down (indicating a left-click-and-drag operation). If so, the client system can send a command to the server system (e.g., a “left-mouse-button-up” event) that causes the movement of the application window in the remote desktop to be stopped/canceled. This can effectively fix the server-side application window in a stationary position. The client system can then allow the user to continue moving

the client-side application window in the client desktop, without synchronizing those client-side movements to the server system.

[0019] Once the user has completed the window move action (by, e.g., letting go of the left mouse button), the client system can determine the final position of the client-side application window in the client desktop, which is now different from the position of the application window in the remote desktop. Finally, the client system can send a request to the server system for moving the application window in the remote desktop to the determined final position. In this way, the client system can re-synchronize the positions of the client-side and server-side windows in the two desktops.

[0020] With the approach described above, the delay experienced by the user during the window move action can be significantly reduced, particularly in high network latency scenarios. This is because the movement of the client-side application window is handled entirely on the client system, without updating the position of the corresponding application window in the remote desktop until the action is completed. Accordingly, there is no need for the client system to wait for window move updates from the server system before visually displaying the results of those movements on the client side.

[0021] Further, since the foregoing approach can be triggered by any window movement (regardless of how that movement is initiated), this approach works well for remoted applications that allow windows to be moved via a variety of methods. This is in contrast to the titlebar-based optimization approach, which does not work well for applications that allow window move actions to be initiated using left-click-and-drag (or other operations) on window regions other than the titlebar area.

[0022] Yet further, since the movement of the application window in the remote desktop is canceled/stopped while the client-side application window is being freely moved in the client desktop, the foregoing approach can facilitate the display of window contents on the client side during the move process. For example, in certain embodiments, once the client system has transmitted the “move cancel” command to the server system, the client system can determine a fixed source rectangle for the application window within remote desktop framebuffer updates received from the server system. This fixed source rectangle represents the stationary position of the application window within the remote desktop. The client system can then copy (e.g., blit) the contents of the fixed source rectangle from the received framebuffer updates into the client-side application window, while that window is being moved by the user. This allows

the client system to display, in real time or near real time, the current contents of the application window to the user during the move action. Since the position of the source rectangle is stationary, the client system can perform this blitting without having to worry about where the application window is in the remote desktop (and thus, without having to update the position of the source rectangle on an ongoing basis during the move action).

[0023] These and other features of the present disclosure are described in further detail in the sections that follow.

[0024] FIG. 1 depicts a high-level system environment 100 that supports app remoting according to an embodiment. As shown, system environment 100 includes a server system 102 that is communicatively coupled with a number of client systems 104(1)-(N) via a network 106. Server system 102, which may be a Remote Desktop Session Host (RDSH) server, hosts a remote desktop 106 that includes a number of running applications (shown in the form of application windows 108(1)-(M)). As used herein, a “desktop” is a graphical computing environment in which a user can launch, interact with, and manage his/her applications, settings, and data.

[0025] Each client system 104(1)-(N), which may be a desktop computer, a laptop computer, a smartphone, a tablet, or the like, executes its own local (i.e., client) desktop 110(1)-(N). In various embodiments, client systems 104(1)-(N) can interoperate with server system 102 via an app remoting infrastructure (not shown). Through this interoperation, users of client systems 104(1)-(N) can remotely access one or more of the applications of remote desktop 106 via respective client desktops 110(1)-(N). For example, in the embodiment of FIG. 1, application window 108(1) of remote desktop 106 is made accessible to a user of client system 104(1) as a client-side application window 108(1)’ in client desktop 110(1). By interacting with application window 108(1)’ (which essentially contains a streamed image of server-side application window 108(1)), the user can access the application as if it were running locally on client system 104(1).

[0026] It should be appreciated that system environment 100 of FIG. 1 is illustrative and various modifications are possible. For example, although client desktop 110(1) of client system 104(1) is shown as including a single client-side application window 108(1) corresponding to a single server-side application window 108(1) running in remote desktop 106, in other embodiments client desktop 110(1) may include multiple client-side application windows corresponding to multiple server-side application windows. In these embodiments,

the multiple server-side application windows may all run in the same remote desktop 106, or in different remote desktops. Further, the various entities shown in FIG. 1 may be arranged according to other configurations and/or may include subcomponents or functions that have not been specifically described. One of ordinary skill in the art will recognize many variations, modifications, and alternatives.

[0027] FIG. 2 depicts a more detailed view of client system 104(1) and server system 102, as well as a workflow 200 that enables the remoting of application window 108(1) according to an embodiment. Starting with step (1) of workflow 200 (reference numeral 202), a server-side app remoting agent 250 of server system 102 can periodically capture an image (e.g., framebuffer) of remote desktop 106 and can send, via a remoting protocol, the framebuffer (or an updated portion thereof) to a client-side app remoting agent 252 on client system 104(1). This can occur, e.g., once every 30 seconds, 60 seconds, or at a variable time interval depending on the quality of the connection between server system 102 and client system 104(1).

[0028] Upon receiving the remote desktop framebuffer, a window control module 254 of client-side agent 252 can instruct a window drawing module 256 to copy, or “blit,” a portion of the framebuffer corresponding to application window 108(1) (referred to as the “source rectangle”) into application window 108(1)’ of client desktop 110(1) (step (2), reference numeral 204). Window drawing module 256 can then perform this blitting as instructed, thereby enabling the user to see a real-time (or near real-time) representation of application window 108(1) through application window 108(1)’ (step (3), reference numeral 206).

[0029] Simultaneously with steps (1)-(3), window control module 252 can receive user input commands directed to application window 108(1)’ and can forward the input commands, via the remoting protocol, to server-side agent 250 (step (4), reference numeral 208). At step (5) (reference numeral 210), server-side agent 250 can pass the input commands to the operating system (OS) layer of remote desktop 106 (and/or to the application owning window 108(1)). The OS/application can then process the input commands and update the visual state of application window 108(1) as needed (not shown). If the visual state of window 108(1) has changed, these changes will be propagated back to client-side agent 252 via the periodic framebuffer updates sent at step (1). This, in turn, will cause application window 108(1)’ in client desktop 110(1) to be updated appropriately.

[0030] As mentioned previously, in high network latency environments, the act of moving a remoted application window can be a laggy experience due to the manner in which information

is passed from client to server and vice versa. For instance, in the context of FIG. 2, assume the user of client system 104(1) initiates a move action with respect to application window 108(1)' of client desktop 110(1). In this case, (1) the input command(s) corresponding to the move action would need to be communicated to server-side agent 250, (2) the move action would need to be triggered/performed on application window 108(1) in remote desktop 106, and (3) a window move update would need to be sent back to client-side agent 252, all before application window 108(1)' can be updated in client desktop 110(1) to reflect the move. Further, this client-server roundtrip would need to be repeated for each increment of the move action until the window has reached its final location.

[0031] There are existing techniques that work around this problem by detecting a left-click-and-drag operation on the window titlebar area and optimizing the window move process in this specific scenario. However, these existing techniques still result in a poor/laggy user experience if the remoted application allows window move actions to be initiated via non-titlebar regions (as is the case with many web browsers).

[0032] To address the foregoing and other similar issues, FIG. 3 depicts a workflow 300 that can be performed by client system 104(1) for optimizing user-initiated moves of client-side application window 108(1)' according to an embodiment. This workflow is enabled by a novel move optimization component 350 added to window control module 254 of client-side agent 252. With workflow 300, the user of client system 104(1) can move client-side application window 108(1)' as desired with minimal delay/lag, regardless of how the move is initiated by the user.

[0033] Starting with step (1) of workflow 300 (reference numeral 302), window control module 254 can receive, from server-side agent 250, a notification that application window 108(1) in remote desktop 106 has started moving (indicating that the user may have initiated a window move action from the client side). There are different ways in which server-side agent 250 can detect this movement. For example, in embodiments where the OS-level option "show window contents while moving" is enabled in remote desktop 106, server-side agent 250 can monitor the position of application window 108(1) every X milliseconds and look for any change in position. This technique is possible because window 108(1)'s position (as well as the positions of all other windows in remote desktop 106) will be updated on the fly by the OS when the "show window contents while moving" option is turned on.

[0034] Alternatively, server-side agent 250 can set an OS-level hook/API with respect to the application window 108(1), thereby enabling agent 250 to receive OS messages regarding state/status changes of the window. If server-side agent 250 receives a window move message from the OS via this hook/API, agent 250 can conclude that the window has started moving. It should be noted that this technique works even if the “show window contents while moving” option is disabled in remote desktop 106.

[0035] At step (2) (reference numeral 304), move optimization component 350 can check whether the user is currently entering any input commands that indicate a window move action is taking place. For instance, move optimization component 350 can check whether the user currently has the left mouse button held down (indicating a left-click-and-drag operation). Move optimization component 350 can also check for other types of input commands, such as whether the user is depressing an arrow key on his/her keyboard.

[0036] If the check at step (2) indicates that the user is not currently entering a window move command, workflow 300 can end (not shown). However, if the check indicates that the user is currently entering such a command, component 350 can initiate a move optimization process as shown in the remaining steps of workflow 300. In particular, at step (3) (reference numeral 306), move optimization component 350 can send a command to server-side agent 250 that cancels the movement of application window 108(1) within remote desktop 106. For example, this “move cancel” command can be a “left-mouse-button-up” event, or any other event/command that forces application window 108(1) to stop moving on the server side.

[0037] Move optimization component 350 can then allow the user to continue moving application window 108(1)’ within client desktop 110(1), without synchronizing those movements to server system 102 (step (4), reference numeral 308). This reduces the latency experienced by the user during the move process, since there is no need for client system 104(1) to wait for window move updates from server system 102 before visually displaying the results of those movements on the client side.

[0038] At step (5) (reference numeral 310), move optimization component 350 can detect that the user has completed the window move action (by, e.g., letting go of the left mouse button or otherwise ceasing to provide the input command(s) that initiated the move). Finally at step (6) (reference numeral 312), move optimization component 350 can determine the final position of application window 108(1)’ in client desktop 110(1) and can send a request to server-side agent 250 to move application window 108(1) in remote desktop 106 to the

determined final position. This can cause server system 102 to fulfill the move request (not shown), thereby synchronizing the position of window 108(1) in remote desktop 106 with the position of window 108(1)' in client desktop 110(1).

[0039] To further clarify the processing of workflow 300, FIGS. 4A, 4B, and 4C depict a series of diagrams 400, 402, and 404 that show the relative positions of application window 108(1)' in client desktop 110(1) and application window 108(1) in remote desktop 106 before, during, and after a user-initiated move action.

[0040] Starting with diagram 400 of FIG. 4A, application window 108(1)' and application window 108(1) are shown as being located at the same position in their respective desktops. This is because the windows are in-sync, and a move action has not yet occurred to disrupt this synchronization.

[0041] In diagram 402 of FIG. 4B, application window 108(1)' is in the process of moving to a new position in client desktop 110(1). In contrast, application window 108(1) has not moved (or has only moved a small amount) in remote desktop 106. This is because the movement of window 108(1)' has been effectively decoupled from window 108(1) per steps (3) and (4) of workflow 300.

[0042] Finally, in diagram 404 of FIG. 4C, windows 108(1)' and 108(1) are once again synchronized and located at the same position in their respective desktops. This new position is different from the original position in FIG. 4A, and reflects the final position of window 108(1)' at the conclusion of the move action.

[0043] In certain embodiments, due to the way in which the movement of application window 108(1) is stopped on the server side per step (3) of workflow 300, client-side agent 252 can efficiently "live-update" application window 108(1)' on the client side during the move process. In other words, client-side agent 252 can take advantage of the fixed position of application window 108(1) in remote desktop 106 to dynamically and continuously display the most current contents of this window within application window 108(1)' of client desktop 110(1), while window 108(1)' is being actively moved. FIG. 5 depicts a flowchart 500 of this process according to an embodiment. It is assumed that flowchart 500 is performed by client-side agent 252 during step (4) of workflow 300 (i.e., while the user of client system 104(1) is moving application window 108(1)' in client desktop 110(1)).

[0044] At block 502 of flowchart 500, window control module 254 of client-side agent 252 can receive a remote desktop framebuffer from server-side agent 250. Upon receiving this framebuffer, window control module 254 can determine a fixed source rectangle in the framebuffer that corresponds to the stationary location of application window 108(1)' (block 504).

[0045] At block 506, window control module 254 can communicate the fixed source rectangle and the framebuffer (or a pointer to the framebuffer) to window drawing module 256. Window drawing module 256 can then blit the contents of the fixed source rectangle to application window 108(1)' in client desktop 110(1), thereby updating window 108(1)' with the most current content of window 108(1) (block 508). Finally, flowchart 500 can return to block 502 so that further framebuffer updates from server-side agent 250 can be processed in the same manner.

[0046] As indicated above, since application window 108(1) has been forced to stop moving per step (3) of workflow 300, the position of the source rectangle will be the same for each loop iteration of flowchart 500 (for the duration of a single move action). Accordingly, there is no need for window control module 254 to continuously keep track of and update the rectangle position as the move is taking place.

[0047] One side effect of the optimized move techniques described above is that, in scenarios where there are multiple client-side application windows in client desktop 110(1) corresponding to multiple application windows in remote desktop 106, one or more of the client-side application windows may incorrectly display an overlapping portion of a foreground application window while that foreground window is being moved per the optimized move process of workflow 300.

[0048] This issue is illustrated in FIGS. 6A, 6B, and 6C. FIG. 6A depicts an instance of client desktop 110(1) with two client-side application windows 108(1)' and 108(2)', before a window move action has been initiated. Although remote desktop 106 is not shown, it is assumed that client-side application windows 108(1)' and 108(2)' correspond to two application windows 108(1) and 108(2) respectively in remote desktop 106. Further, it is assumed that application window 108(1) overlaps application window 108(2) in remote desktop 106, in a manner similar to how client-side application window 108(1)' overlaps client-side application window 108(2)' in client desktop 110(1). Thus, windows 108(1)/108(1)' can

be considered foreground windows and windows 108(2)/108(2)' can be considered background windows in their respective desktops.

[0049] In FIG. 6B, a user of client desktop 110(1) initiates a non-titlebar based move action with respect to client-side application window 108(1)', which causes the optimized move workflow of FIG. 3 to stop the movement of window 108(1) on the server side while allowing the user to freely move window 108(1)' on the client side. However, since application window 108(1) is frozen in a position where it overlaps application 108(2) in remote desktop 106, client-side application window 108(2)' continues to show an overlapping region 600 of window 108(1) within its window borders, even though the user is in the process of moving client-side application window 108(1)' to a completely different, non-overlapping area of client desktop 110(1). This is because the content of client side application window 108(2)' is updated on a continuous basis based on the current state of remote desktop 106 (per workflow 200 of FIG. 2), rather than client desktop 110(1).

[0050] Finally, in FIG. 6C, the move of client-side application window 108(1)' ends, which causes the position of application window 108(1) in remote desktop 106 to be synchronized with the new position of window 108(1)' in client desktop 110(1). This, in turn, causes overlapping region 600 shown in FIG. 6B to disappear from client-side application window 108(2)', since window 108(1) no longer overlaps window 108(2) on the server side.

[0051] To hide the appearance of overlapping region 600 in the scenario of FIGS 6A-6C (and other similar scenarios), FIG. 7 depicts a flowchart 700 that can be performed by client-side agent 252 while the user is actively moving client-side application window 108(1)' within client desktop 110(1) (i.e., during step (4) of workflow 300). Flowchart 700 may be implemented using any component or combination of components of client-side agent 252, such as window control module 254, window drawing module 256, and/or move optimization component 350.

[0052] At block 702, client-side agent 252 can identify the background client-side application windows in client desktop 110(1) that (1) originate from the same remote desktop as the foreground client-side application window being moved (i.e., window 108(1)'); and (2) whose server-side application windows are overlapped by the server-side application window of that moving client-side window. For example, in the scenario of FIGS. 6A-6C, client-side agent 252 would identify client-side application window 108(2)', since its server-side application window 108(2) is overlapped by window 108(1) in remote desktop 106.

[0053] At block 704, client-side agent 252 can determine, for each background client-side application window identified at block 702, the region of its server-side application window that is overlapped by the server-side application window of the moving client-side window. Client-side agent 252 can determine this overlapped region as, e.g., a series of coordinates that specify an “overlap rectangle.”

[0054] Then, at block 706, client-side agent 252 can cause, for each background client-side application window, the overlap rectangle to be filled in with an overlay color or pattern (e.g., a black or gray color) each time the contents of that window are updated. This prevents the background client-side application window from displaying the overlapping portion of the foreground window within its window borders, since the foreground window is in the process of being moved (and thus will likely be in a different position on the client-side).

[0055] By way of example, FIG. 8 depicts an alternative version of FIG. 6B (i.e., the state of client desktop 110(1) during the move of client-side application window 108(1)') in a scenario where flowchart 700 is utilized. As shown in FIG. 8, region 600 of client-side application window 108(2)' is now filled into with a flat gray overlay, rather than the overlapping portion of window 108(1) as depicted in FIG. 6B. Client-side application window 108(2)' will continue to show this gray overlay in region 600 until the move action is finished, at which point region 600 will disappear per FIG. 6C.

[0056] It should be noted that the solution of FIG. 7 is not limited to being used with the specific move optimization workflow described with respect to FIG. 3. Instead, this solution may be used to hide overlap regions in any move optimization process where the server-side instance of the moving client-side window is not in sync with the moving client-side window itself. For instance, this solution may be used in conjunction with the titlebar-based move optimization mentioned in the Background section.

[0057] Certain embodiments described herein can employ various computer-implemented operations involving data stored in computer systems. For example, these operations can require physical manipulation of physical quantities—usually, though not necessarily, these quantities take the form of electrical or magnetic signals, where they (or representations of them) are capable of being stored, transferred, combined, compared, or otherwise manipulated. Such manipulations are often referred to in terms such as producing, identifying, determining, comparing, etc. Any operations described herein that form part of one or more embodiments can be useful machine operations.

[0058] Further, one or more embodiments can relate to a device or an apparatus for performing the foregoing operations. The apparatus can be specially constructed for specific required purposes, or it can be a general purpose computer system selectively activated or configured by program code stored in the computer system. In particular, various general purpose machines may be used with computer programs written in accordance with the teachings herein, or it may be more convenient to construct a more specialized apparatus to perform the required operations. The various embodiments described herein can be practiced with other computer system configurations including handheld devices, microprocessor systems, microprocessor-based or programmable consumer electronics, minicomputers, mainframe computers, and the like.

[0059] Yet further, one or more embodiments can be implemented as one or more computer programs or as one or more computer program modules embodied in one or more non-transitory computer readable storage media. The term non-transitory computer readable storage medium refers to any data storage device that can store data which can thereafter be input to a computer system. The non-transitory computer readable media may be based on any existing or subsequently developed technology for embodying computer programs in a manner that enables them to be read by a computer system. Examples of non-transitory computer readable media include a hard drive, network attached storage (NAS), read-only memory, random-access memory, flash-based nonvolatile memory (e.g., a flash memory card or a solid state disk), a CD (Compact Disc) (e.g., CD-ROM, CD-R, CD-RW, etc.), a DVD (Digital Versatile Disc), a magnetic tape, and other optical and non-optical data storage devices. The non-transitory computer readable media can also be distributed over a network coupled computer system so that the computer readable code is stored and executed in a distributed fashion.

[0060] Finally, boundaries between various components, operations, and data stores are somewhat arbitrary, and particular operations are illustrated in the context of specific illustrative configurations. Other allocations of functionality are envisioned and may fall within the scope of the invention(s). In general, structures and functionality presented as separate components in exemplary configurations can be implemented as a combined structure or component. Similarly, structures and functionality presented as a single component can be implemented as separate components.

[0061] As used in the description herein and throughout the claims that follow, “a,” “an,” and “the” includes plural references unless the context clearly dictates otherwise. Also, as used in the description herein and throughout the claims that follow, the meaning of “in” includes “in” and “on” unless the context clearly dictates otherwise.

[0062] The above description illustrates various embodiments along with examples of how aspects of particular embodiments may be implemented. These examples and embodiments should not be deemed to be the only embodiments, and are presented to illustrate the flexibility and advantages of particular embodiments as defined by the following claims. Other arrangements, embodiments, implementations and equivalents can be employed without departing from the scope hereof as defined by the claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A method for optimizing window move actions for a remoted application, wherein the remoted application has an application window running within a remote desktop of a server system, and wherein the application window is made accessible to a user of a client system in the form of a client-side application window displayed in a client desktop of the client system, the method comprising:

receiving, by the client system from the server system, a notification that the application window has begun moving in the remote desktop;

determining, by the client system, that the user is currently entering one or more input commands for moving the client-side application window in the client desktop;

sending, by the client system to the server system, a command for stopping the moving of the application window in the remote desktop, such that the application window is fixed in a stationary position; and

allowing, by the client system, the user to continue moving the client-side application window in the client desktop, while the application window remains in the stationary position in the remote desktop.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein determining that the user is currently entering one or more input commands for moving the client-side application window in the client desktop comprises determining that the user is performing a left-click-and-drag operation on the client-side application window.

3. The method of claim 2 wherein the user performs the left-click-and-drag operation on a non-titlebar area of the client-side application window.

4. The method claim 1 wherein the command for stopping the moving of the application window in the remote desktop window comprises a left-mouse-button-up event.

5. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
determining that the user has finished moving the client-side application window;
determining a final position of the client-side application window in the client desktop;
and
sending a request to the server system for moving the application window in the remote desktop to the final position.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein determining that the user has finished moving the client-side application window comprises determining that the user has released a left mouse button.

7. The method of claim 1 further comprising, while the user is allowed to continue moving the client-side window in the client desktop:

receiving a remote desktop framebuffer from the server system;

determining a fixed source rectangle in the remote desktop framebuffer, the fixed source rectangle corresponding to the stationary position of the application window in the remote desktop; and

copying contents of the fixed source rectangle in the remote desktop framebuffer to the client-side application window in the client desktop.

8. The method of claim 1 wherein another remoted application has another application window running within the remote desktop,

wherein the another application window is made accessible to the user in the form of another client-side application window displayed in the client desktop, and

wherein the method further comprises, while the user is allowed to continue moving the client-side window in the client desktop:

determining that the another application window is overlapped by the application window in the remote desktop;

determining an overlap rectangle for the another client-side application window that corresponds to a region of the another application window overlapped by the application window; and

causing the overlap rectangle to be filled in with an overlay color or pattern each time the another client-side application window is updated in the client desktop.

9. A non-transitory computer readable storage medium having stored thereon program code executable by client system, the program code embodying a method for optimizing window move actions for a remoted application, wherein the remoted application has an application window running within a remote desktop of a server system, and wherein the application window is made accessible to a user of the client system in the form of a client-

side application window displayed in a client desktop of the client system, the method comprising:

- receiving, from the server system, a notification that the application window has begun moving in the remote desktop;

- determining that the user is currently entering one or more input commands for moving the client-side application window in the client desktop;

- sending, to the server system, a command for stopping the moving of the application window in the remote desktop, such that the application window is fixed in a stationary position; and

- allowing the user to continue moving the client-side application window in the client desktop, while the application window remains in the stationary position in the remote desktop.

10. The non-transitory computer readable storage medium of claim 9 wherein determining that the user is currently entering one or more input commands for moving the client-side application window in the client desktop comprises determining that the user is performing a left-click-and-drag operation on the client-side application window.

11 The non-transitory computer readable storage medium of claim 10 wherein the user performs the left-click-and-drag operation on a non-titlebar area of the client-side application window.

12. The non-transitory computer readable storage medium of claim 9 wherein the command for stopping the moving of the application window in the remote desktop window comprises a left-mouse-button-up event.

13. The non-transitory computer readable storage medium of claim 9 wherein the method further comprises:

- determining that the user has finished moving the client-side application window;

- determining a final position of the client-side application window in the client desktop;

and

- sending a request to the server system for moving the application window in the remote desktop to the final position.

14. The non-transitory computer readable storage medium of claim 13 wherein determining that the user has finished moving the client-side application window comprises determining that the user has released a left mouse button.

15. The non-transitory computer readable storage medium of claim 9 wherein the method further comprises, while the user is allowed to continue moving the client-side window in the client desktop:

receiving a remote desktop framebuffer from the server system;

determining a fixed source rectangle in the remote desktop framebuffer, the fixed source rectangle corresponding to the stationary position of the application window in the remote desktop; and

copying contents of the fixed source rectangle in the remote desktop framebuffer to the client-side application window in the client desktop.

16. The non-transitory computer readable storage medium of claim 9 wherein another remoted application has another application window running within the remote desktop,

wherein the another application window is made accessible to the user in the form of another client-side application window displayed in the client desktop, and

wherein the method further comprises, while the user is allowed to continue moving the client-side window in the client desktop:

determining that the another application window is overlapped by the application window in the remote desktop;

determining an overlap rectangle for the another client-side application window that corresponds to a region of the another application window overlapped by the application window; and

causing the overlap rectangle to be filled in with an overlay color or pattern each time the another client-side application window is updated in the client desktop.

17. A client system comprising:

a processor; and

a non-transitory computer readable medium having stored thereon program code for optimizing window move actions for a remoted application, wherein the remoted application has an application window running within a remote desktop of a server system, and wherein

the application window is made accessible to a user of the client system in the form of a client-side application window displayed in a client desktop of the client system,

the program code causing the processor to:

receive, from the server system, a notification that the application window has begun moving in the remote desktop;

determine that the user is currently entering one or more input commands for moving the client-side application window in the client desktop;

send, to the server system, a command for stopping the moving of the application window in the remote desktop, such that the application window is fixed in a stationary position; and

allow the user to continue moving the client-side application window in the client desktop, while the application window remains in the stationary position in the remote desktop.

18. The client system of claim 17 wherein determining that the user is currently entering one or more input commands for moving the client-side application window in the client desktop comprises determining that the user is performing a left-click-and-drag operation on the client-side application window.

19. The client system of claim 18 wherein the user performs the left-click-and-drag operation on a non-titlebar area of the client-side application window.

20. The client system of claim 17 wherein the command for stopping the moving of the application window in the remote desktop window comprises a left-mouse-button-up event.

21. The client system of claim 17 wherein the program code further causes the processor to:

determine that the user has finished moving the client-side application window;

determine a final position of the client-side application window in the client desktop;

and

send a request to the server system for moving the application window in the remote desktop to the final position.

22. The client system of claim 21 wherein determining that the user has finished moving the client-side application window comprises determining that the user has released a left mouse button.

23. The client system of claim 17 wherein the program code further causes the processor to, while the user is allowed to continue moving the client-side window in the client desktop:

receive a remote desktop framebuffer from the server system;

determine a fixed source rectangle in the remote desktop framebuffer, the fixed source rectangle corresponding to the stationary position of the application window in the remote desktop; and

copy contents of the fixed source rectangle in the remote desktop framebuffer to the client-side application window in the client desktop.

24. The client system of claim 17 wherein another remotized application has another application window running within the remote desktop,

wherein the another application window is made accessible to the user in the form of another client-side application window displayed in the client desktop, and

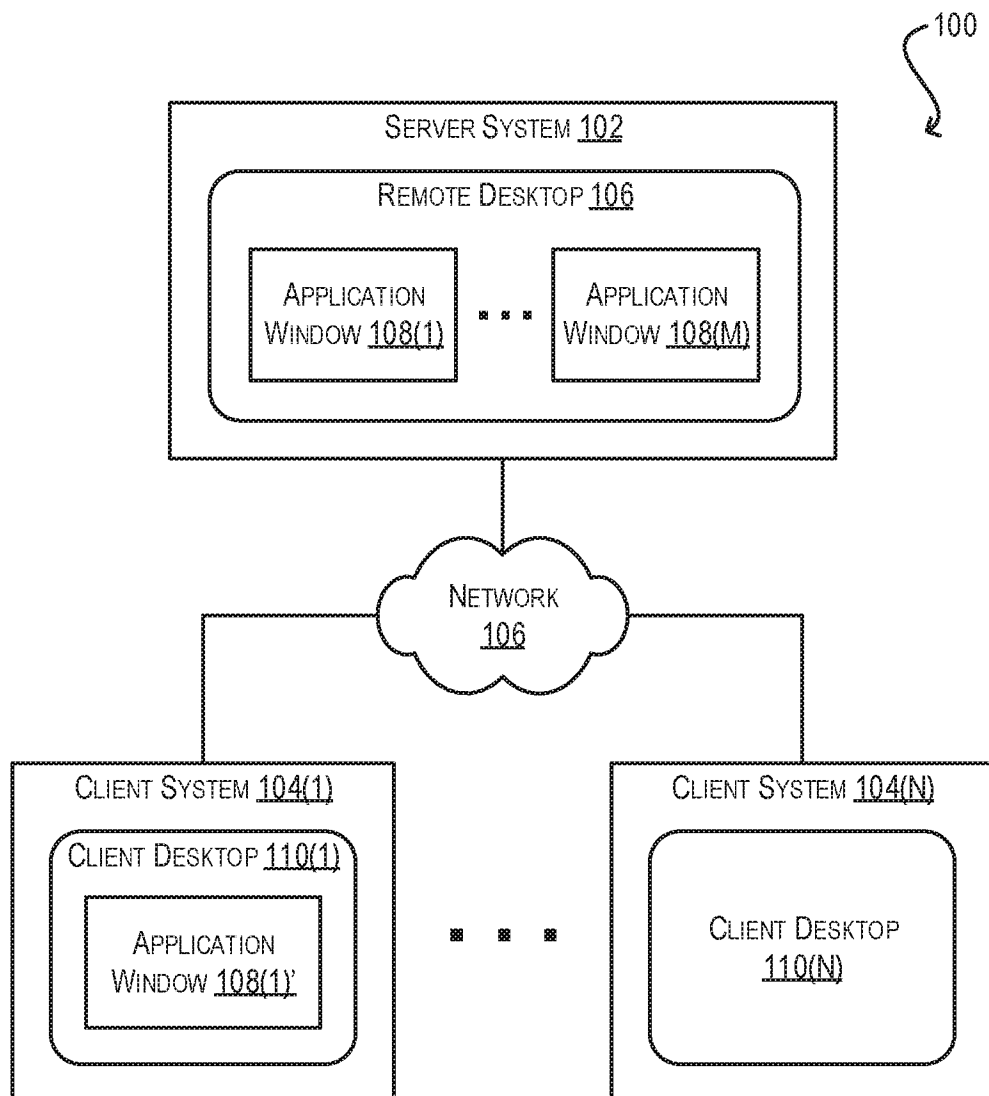
wherein the program code further causes the processor to, while the user is allowed to continue moving the client-side window in the client desktop:

determine that the another application window is overlapped by the application window in the remote desktop;

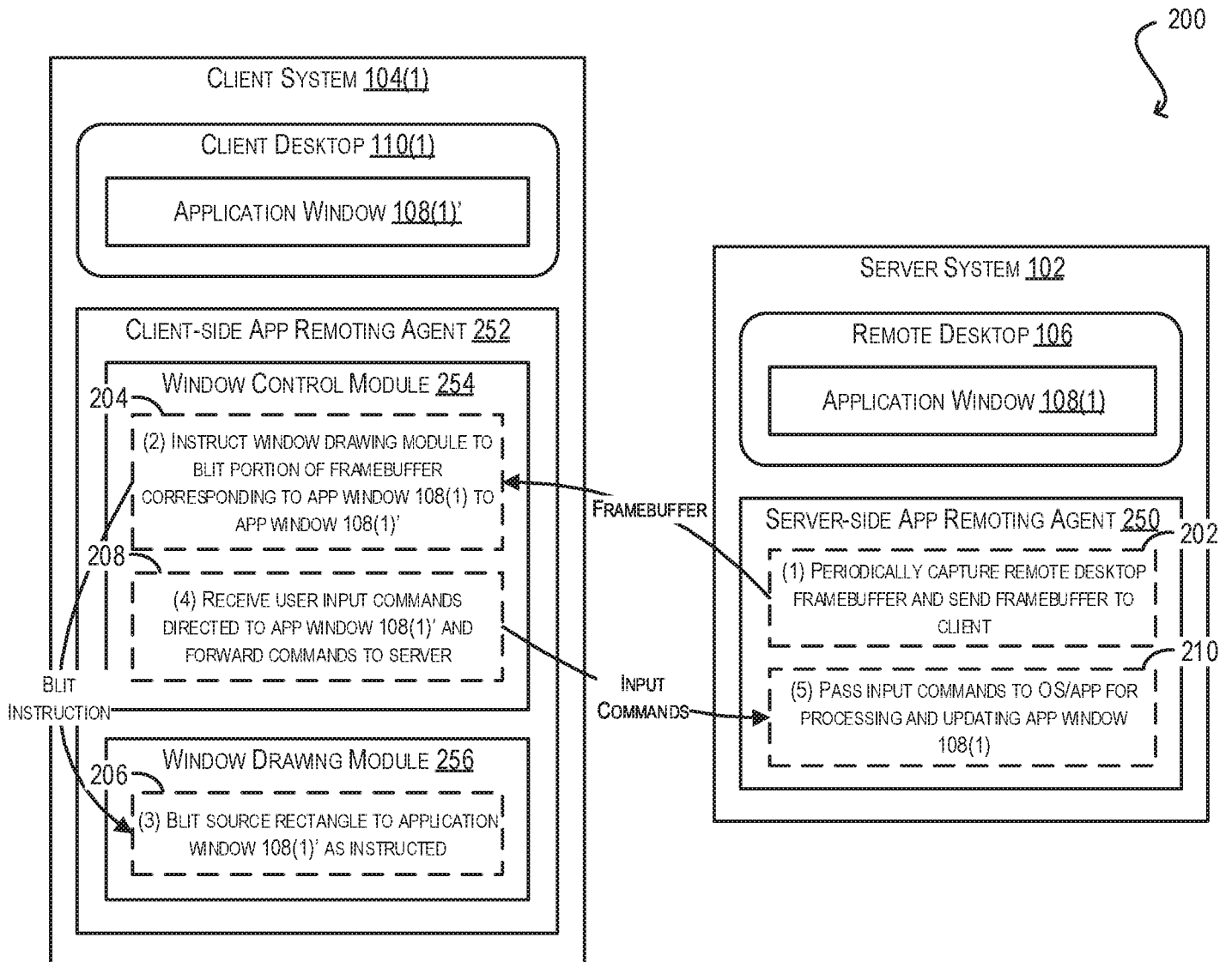
determine an overlap rectangle for the another client-side application window that corresponds to a region of the another application window overlapped by the application window; and

cause the overlap rectangle to be filled in with an overlay color or pattern each time the another client-side application window is updated in the client desktop.

1/12

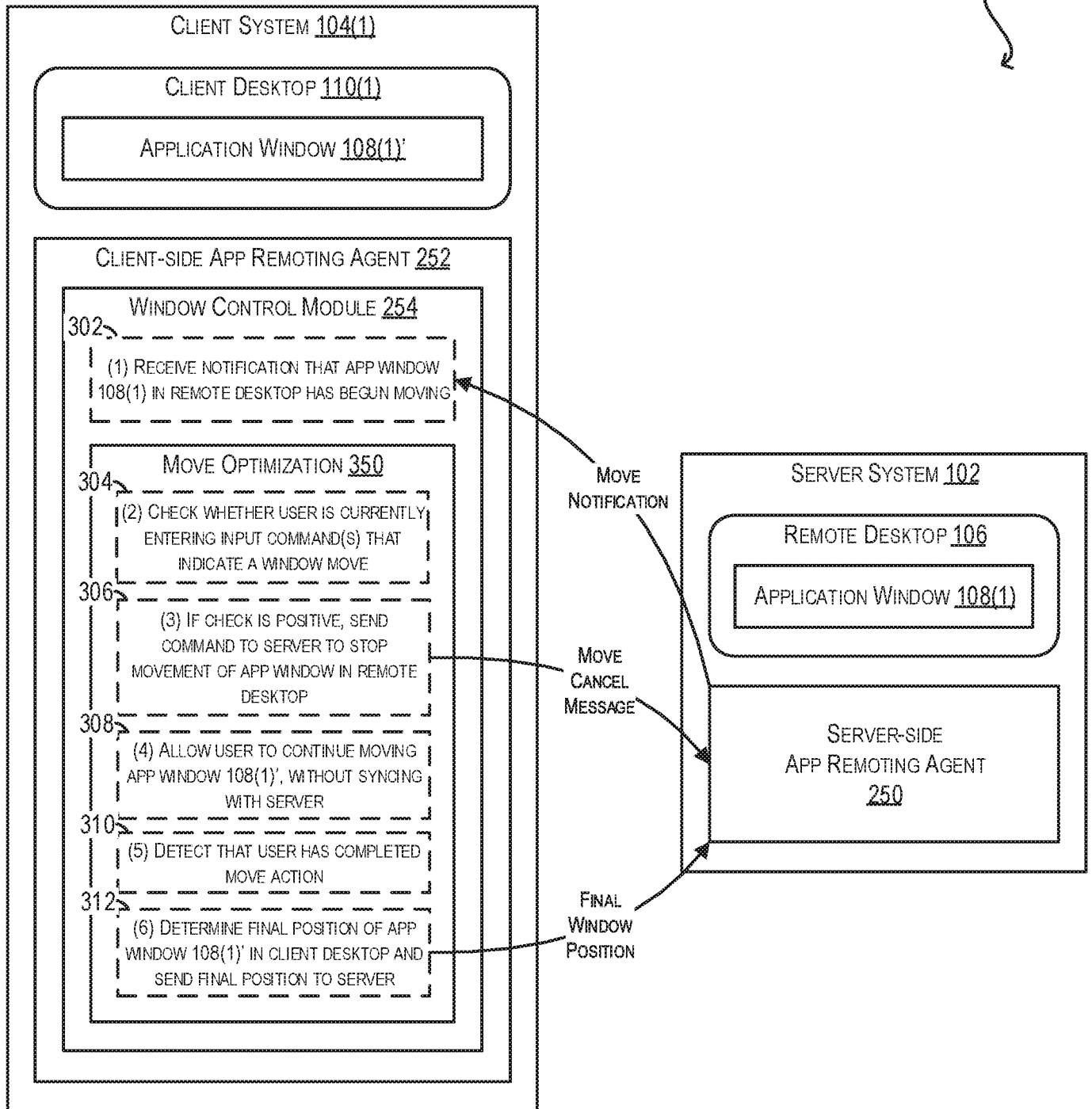
**FIG. 1**

2/12

**FIG. 2**

3/12

300

**FIG. 3**

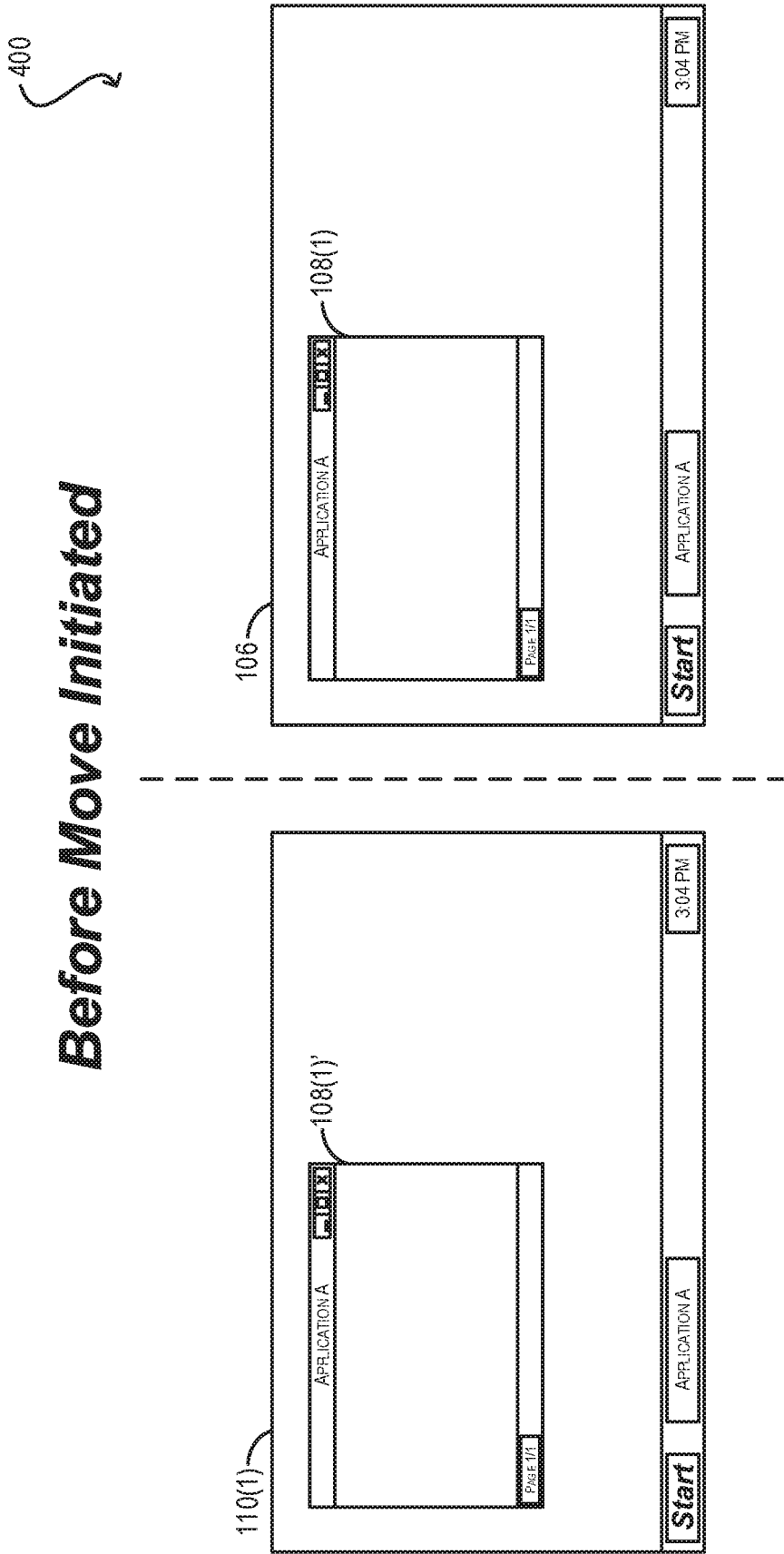


FIG. 4A

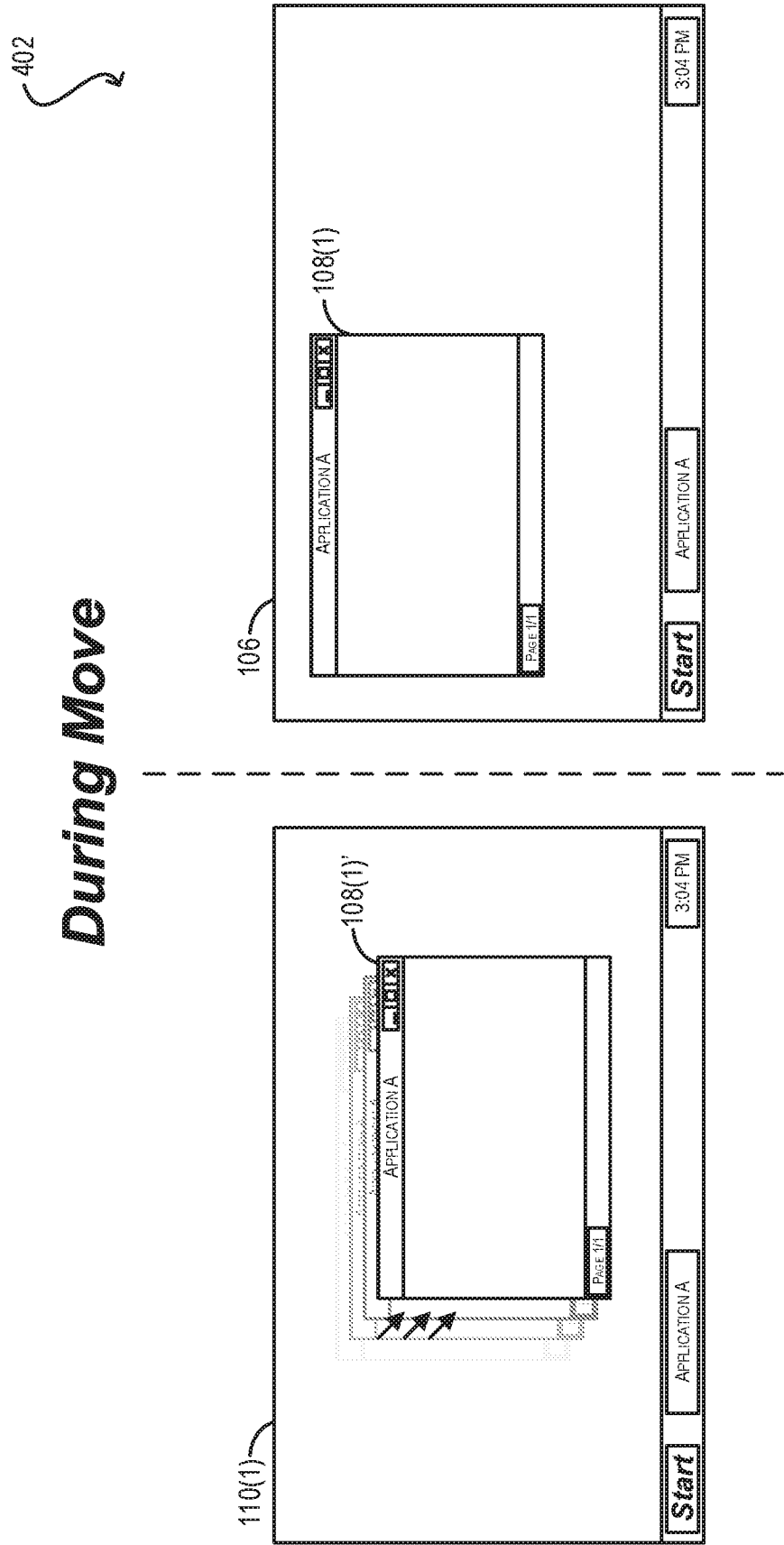


FIG. 4B

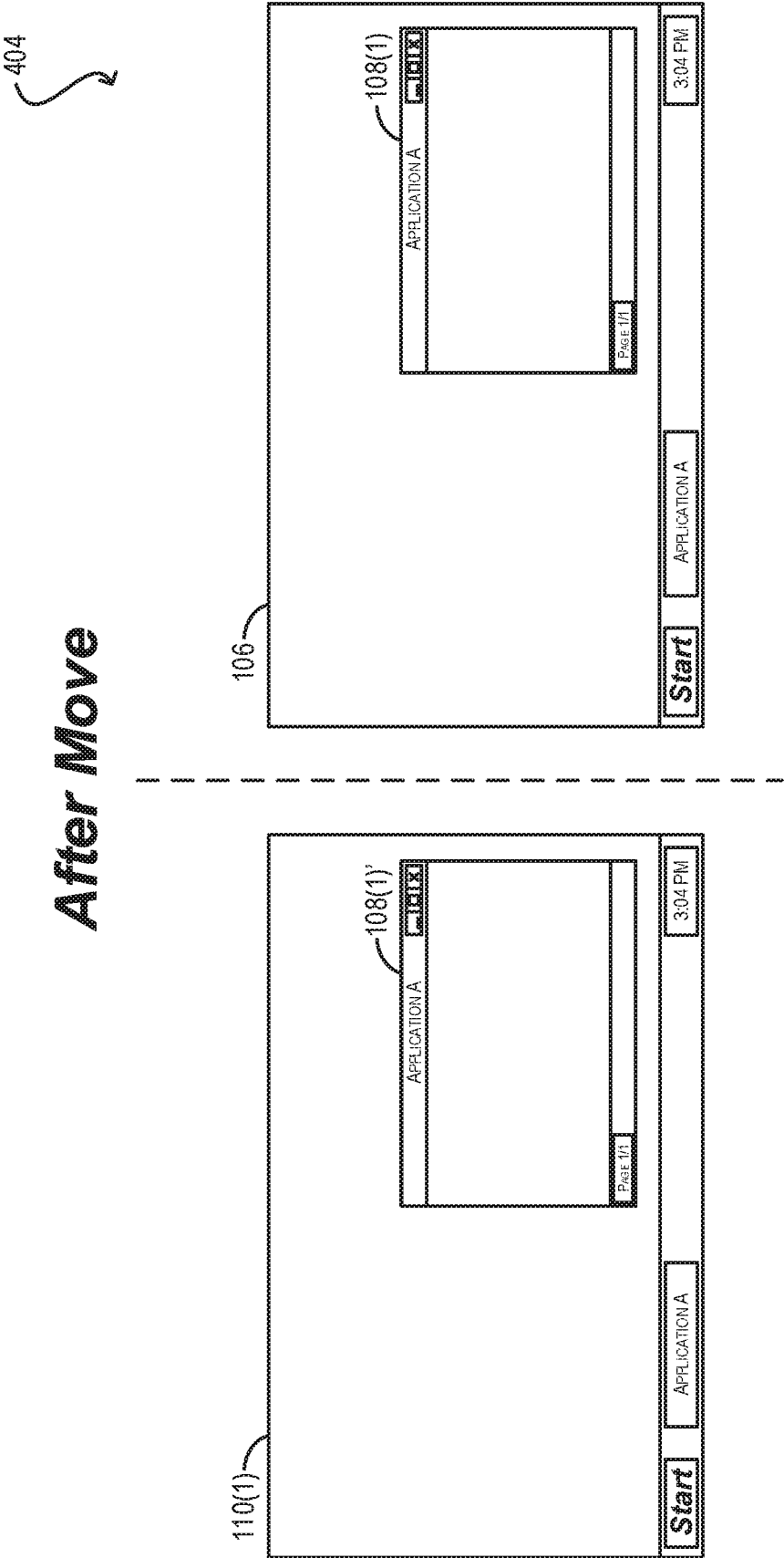
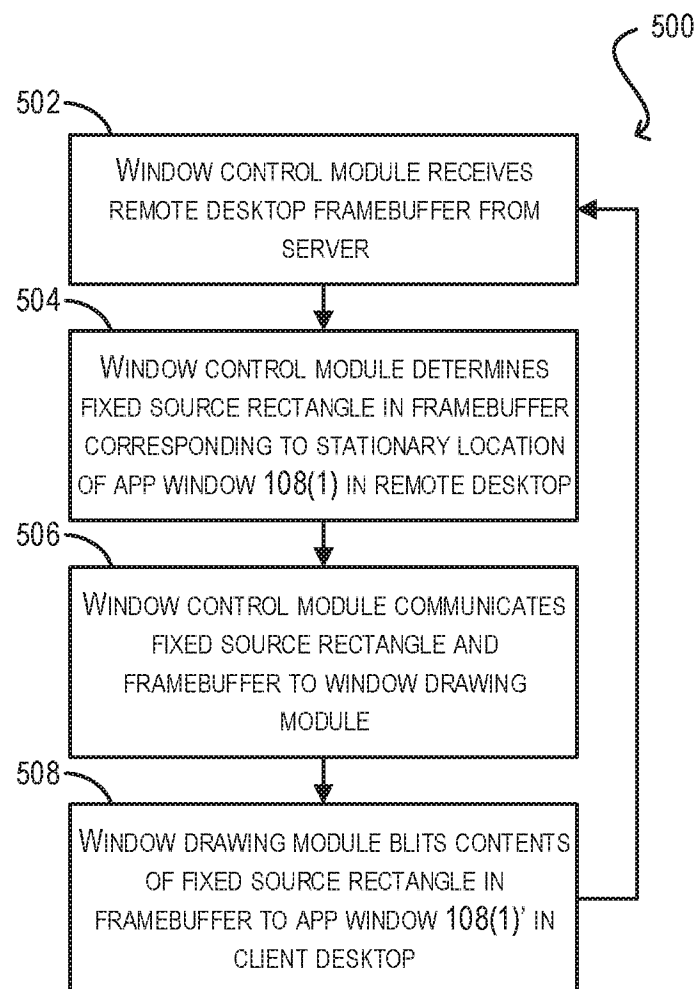


FIG. 4C

7/12

**FIG. 5**

Before Move Initiated

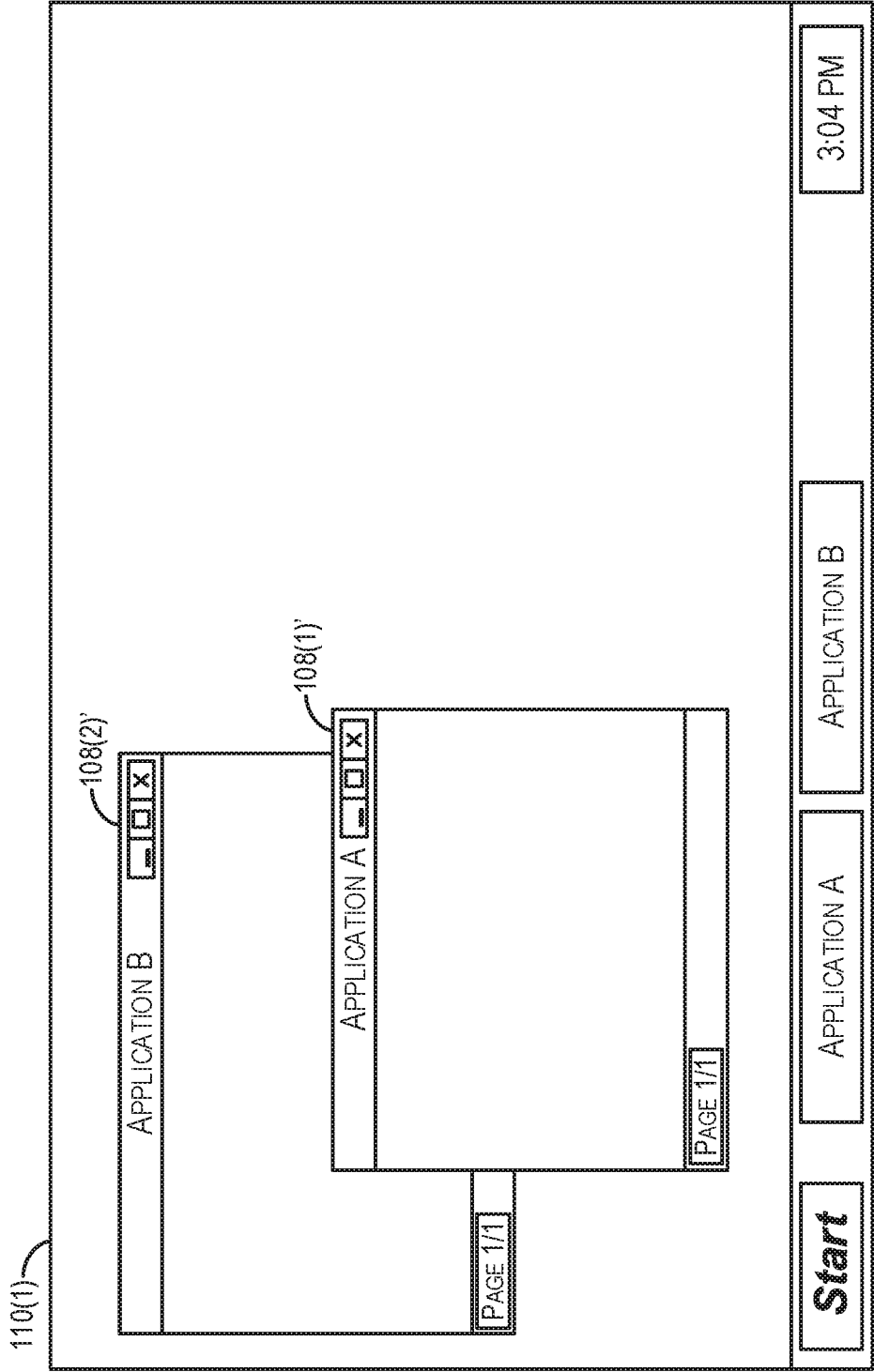


FIG. 6A

During Move

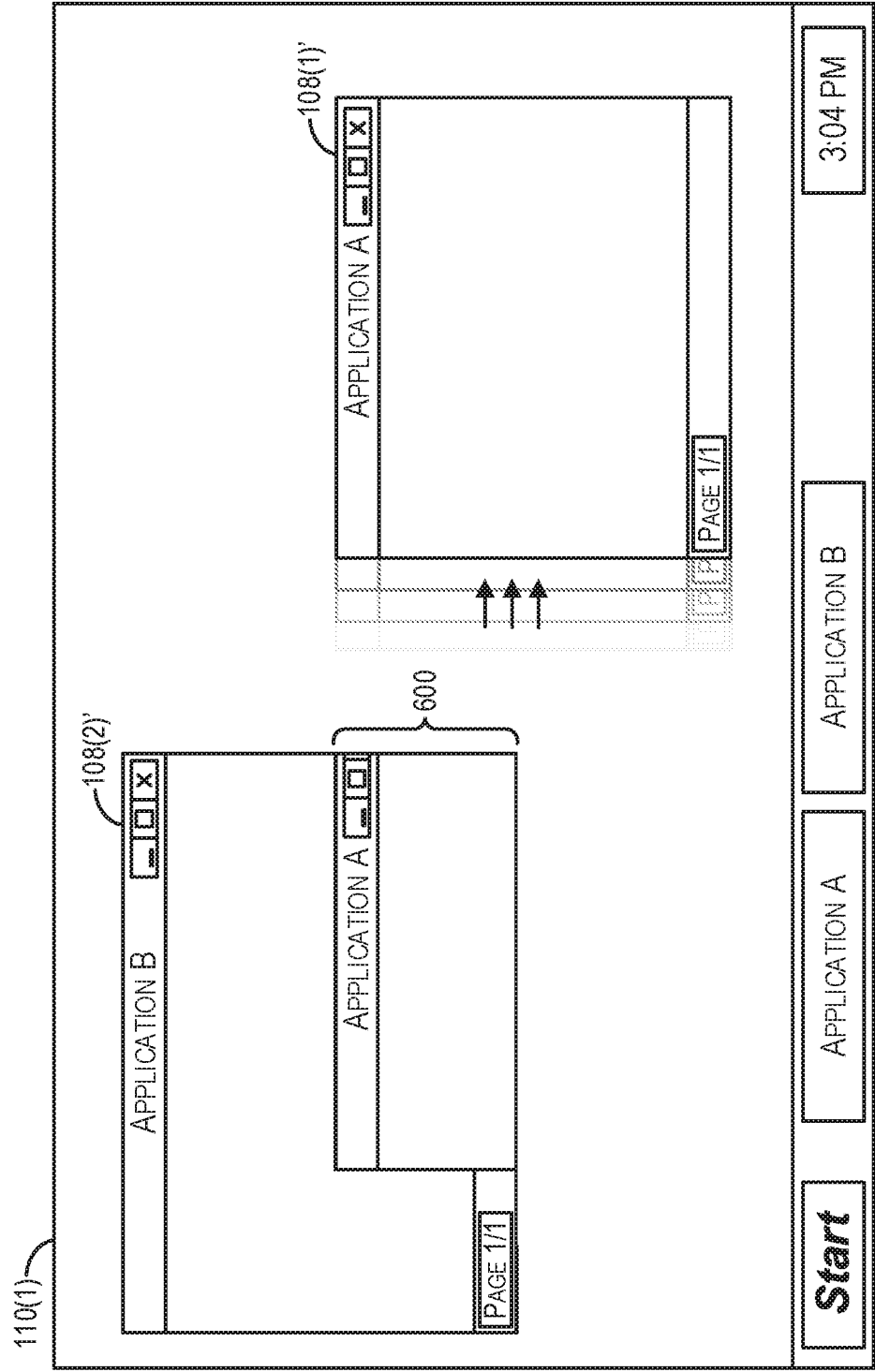


FIG. 6B

After Move

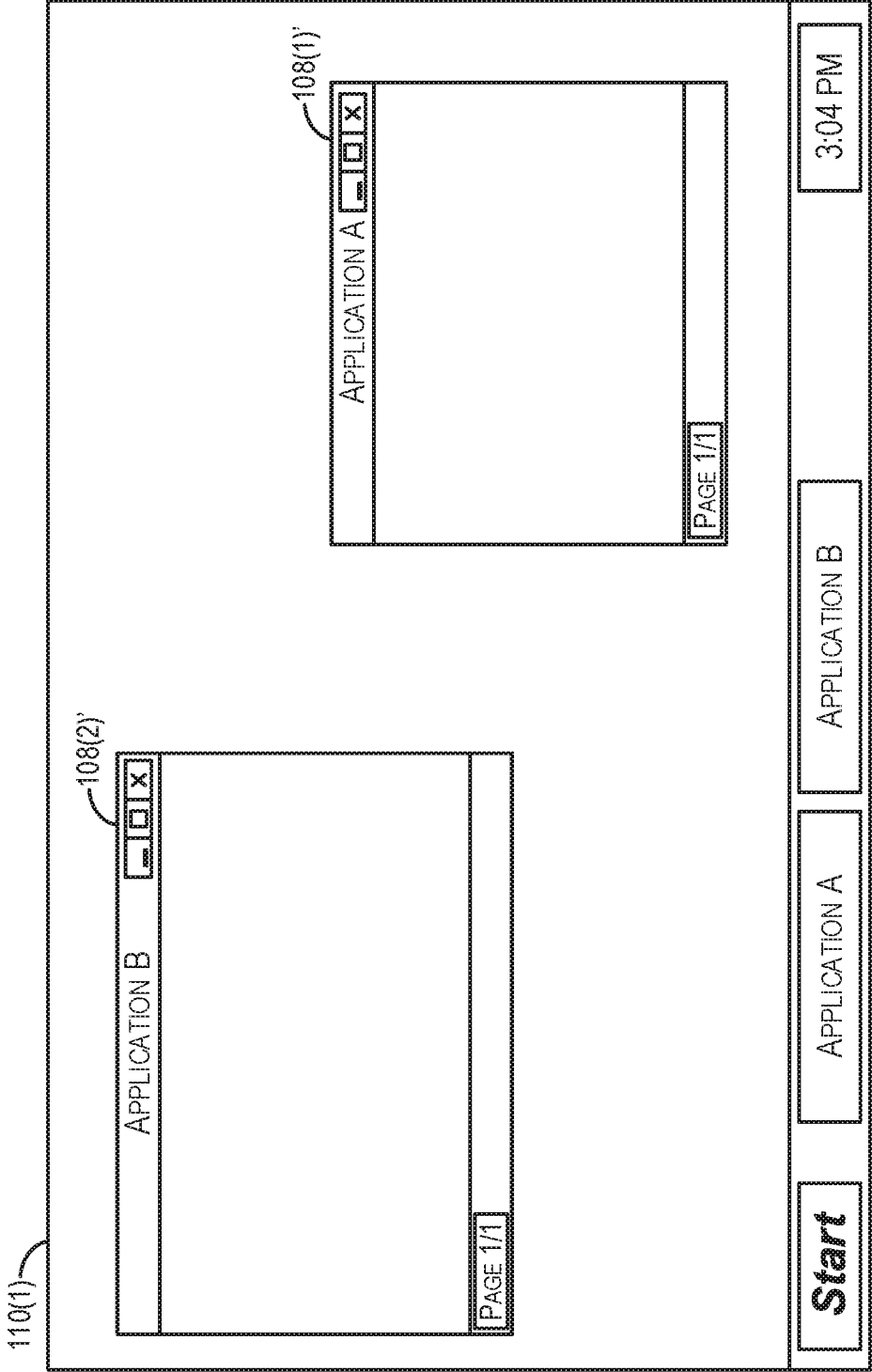
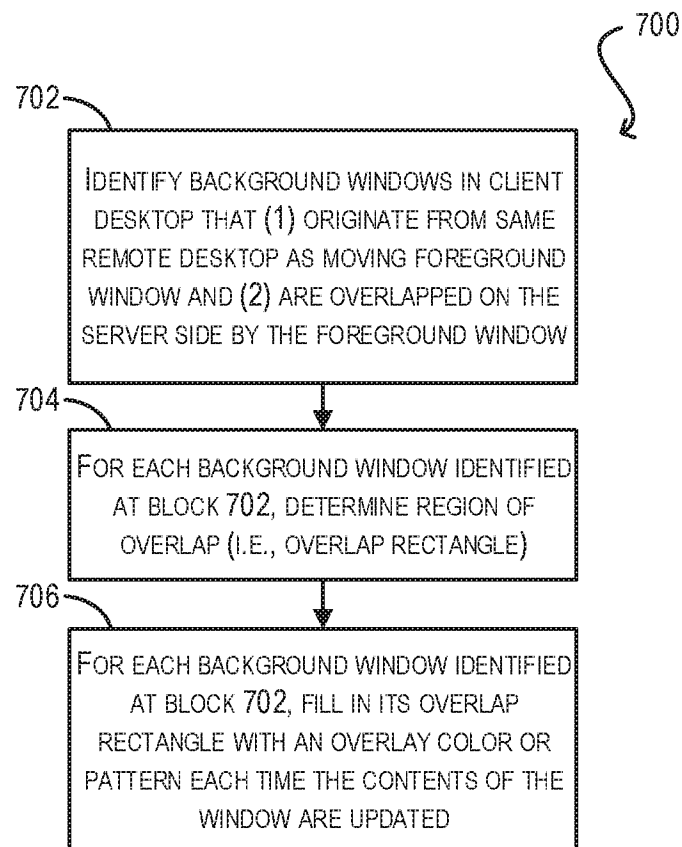


FIG. 6C

11/12

**FIG. 7**

During Move

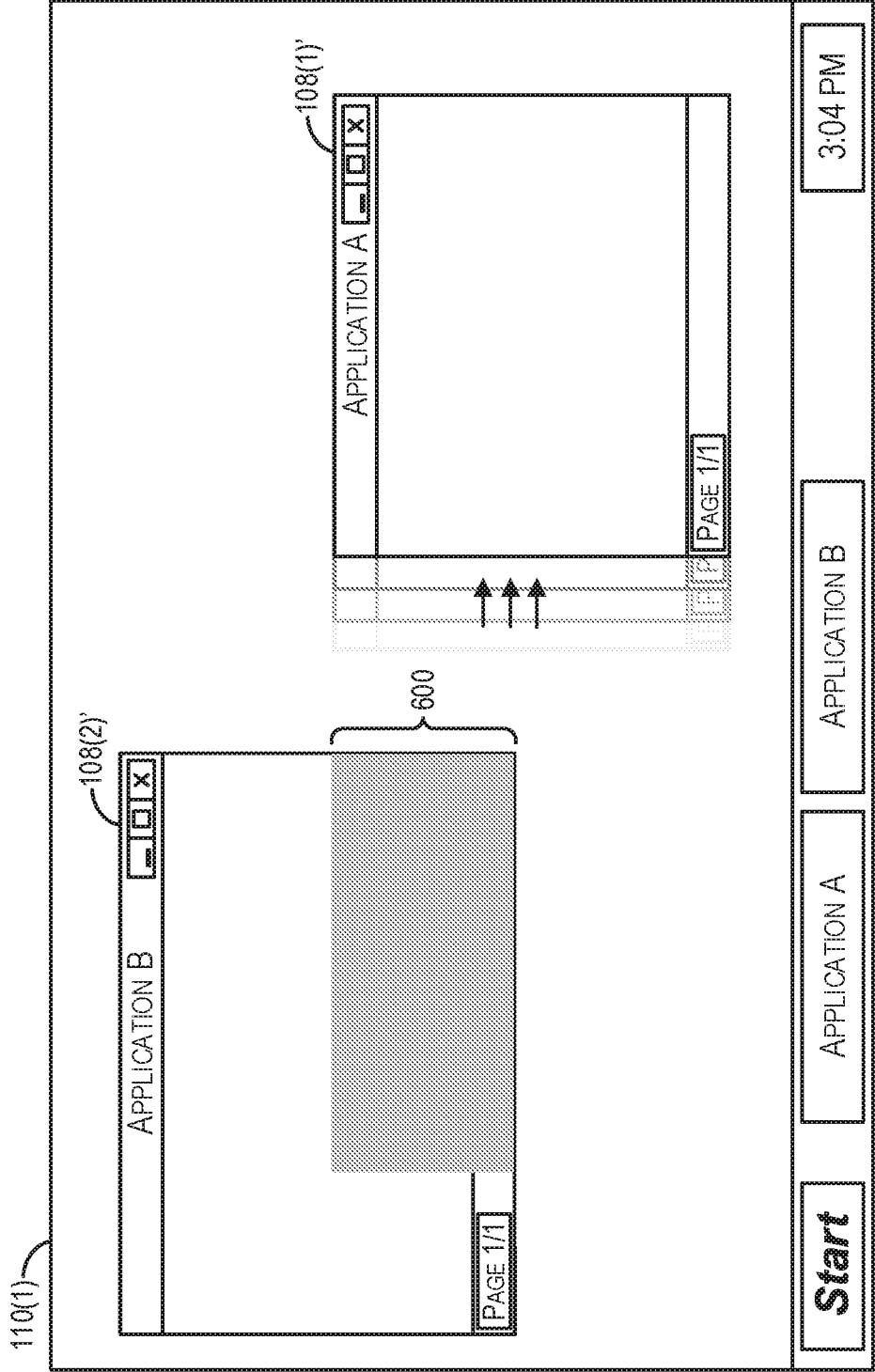


FIG. 8

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2016/033272

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. G06F9/44 G06F3/0481
ADD.

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
G06F

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2006/288306 A1 (MAHAJAN RAJNEESH [US] ET AL) 21 December 2006 (2006-12-21) paragraph [0020] - paragraph [0033]; figure 7 paragraph [0034] - paragraph [0057]; figures 8-9 -----	1-6, 9-14, 17-22



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

20 July 2016

Date of mailing of the international search report

20/09/2016

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Gafita, Cristinel

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2016/033272

Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:
2. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:
3. ☐ Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. ☐ As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. ☐ As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3. ☐ As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. ☒ No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

1-6, 9-14, 17-22

Remark on Protest

- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- ☐ The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- ☐ No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-6, 9-14, 17-22

These claims are concerned with stopping the moving of the application window in a remote desktop while moving a client-side application window in the client desktop of the remote application and synchronising the application window position in the remote desktop after the user finished moving client-side application window in the client desktop.

2. claims: 7, 15, 23

These claims regard a method for receiving a remote desktop framebuffer from a server system, determining a rectangle in the remote desktop framebuffer corresponding to the application window in the remote desktop and copying the rectangle to the client-side application window in the client desktop.

3. claims: 8, 16, 24

These claims regard a method for filling a rectangle of a background application window corresponding to an overlapped foreground application window which is being moved with an overlay color or pattern when the foreground application window is moved.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/US2016/033272

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2006288306	A1	21-12-2006	
		BR PI0609921 A2	11-05-2010
		CN 101203842 A	18-06-2008
		EP 1896975 A2	12-03-2008
		JP 5123176 B2	16-01-2013
		JP 2008544399 A	04-12-2008
		KR 20080026532 A	25-03-2008
		US 2006288306 A1	21-12-2006
		US 2009193340 A1	30-07-2009
		WO 2007001632 A2	04-01-2007
