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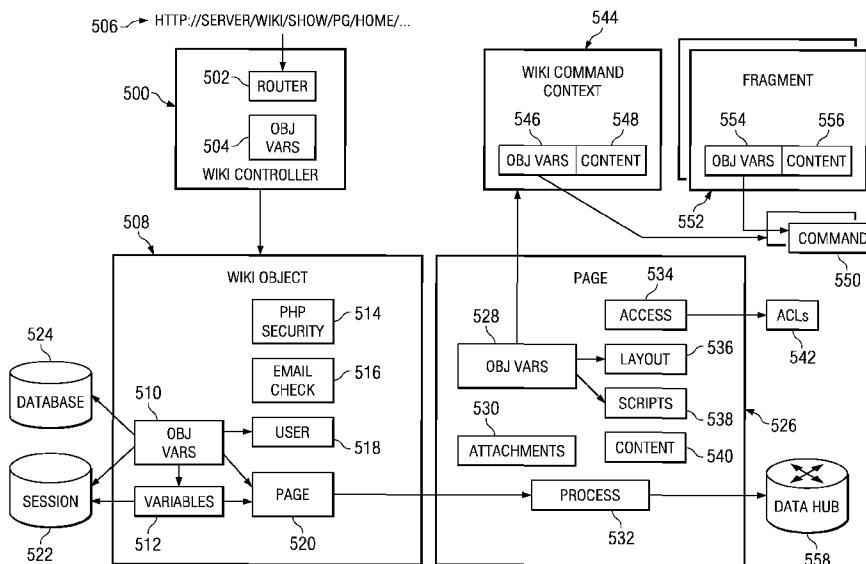
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(54) Title: METHOD FOR INHERITING A WIKI PAGE LAYOUT FOR A WIKI PAGE



(57) Abstract: A method for inheriting a page layout for a page is provided. In response to receiving a request to show a current page from a client browser, a determination is made as to whether the current page has a set of ancestor pages. The set of ancestor pages are arranged such that a closest ancestor page in the set of ancestor pages appears first in a list of ancestor pages. A layout page associated with an ancestor page of the set of ancestor pages is identified. The identified layout page is combined with the current page to form a combined page. The combined page is sent to the client browser.

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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

METHOD FOR INHERITING A WIKI PAGE LAYOUT FOR A WIKI PAGE**BACKGROUND****Technical Field**

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The present invention relates generally to an improved data processing system and in particular to a method and apparatus for a programming model. Still more particularly, the present invention relates to a computer implemented method, apparatus, and computer usable program code for manipulating content using a browser.

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Description of the Related Art

The Internet is a global network of computers and networks joined together by gateways that handle data transfer in the conversion of messages from a protocol of the sending network to a protocol of the receiving network. On the Internet, any computer may communicate with any other computer in which information travels over the Internet through a variety of languages referred to as protocols. The set of protocols most commonly used on the Internet is called transmission control protocol/Internet protocol (TCP/IP).

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The Internet has revolutionized communications and commerce as well as being a source of both information and entertainment. One type of software that has become more frequently used is Wiki software. Wiki software is a type of collaborative software that runs a Wiki environment. This software is provided in a shared environment that may be accessed through an interface by a group of users. A Wiki application is a type of website that allows users to manipulate content. Users may add, remove, or otherwise edit and change content very quickly and easily. Wiki applications are often used as an effective tool for collaborative writing. The current use of Wiki applications is directed towards collaborative content creation, such as online encyclopedias or other knowledge bases. Users typically can create content in a shared environment. In this environment, revisions of pages are saved to allow previous versions to be restored. Further, mark-up shortcuts are provided for creating inter-page links. Further, a “what you see is what you get” (WYSIWYG) editing mode/editor is often utilized.

BRIEF SUMMARY

Exemplary embodiments describe a computer implemented method, a computer program product and a data processing system for inheriting a page layout for a page. In response to receiving a request to show a current page from a client browser, a determination is made as to whether the current page has a set of ancestor pages. The set of ancestor pages are arranged such that a closest ancestor page in the set of ancestor pages appears first in a list of ancestor pages. A layout page associated with an ancestor page of the set of ancestor pages is identified. The identified layout page is combined with the current page to form a combined page. The combined page is sent to the client browser.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Preferred embodiments of the present invention will be described, by way of example only, with reference to the following drawings in which:

Figure 1 is a pictorial representation of a network of data processing systems in which illustrative embodiments of the present invention may be implemented;

Figure 2 is a block diagram of a data processing system in which illustrative embodiments of the present invention may be implemented;

Figure 3 is a diagram illustrating components for use in generating and using Wiki applications in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 4 is a diagram illustrating a Wiki architecture in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 5 is a diagram illustrating dataflow in rendering a page in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 6 is a diagram illustrating components on a client and server for a Wiki application in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 7 is an exemplary screen of display for dragging live content in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 8 is a screen of display for editing properties of a command in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

5 **Figure 9** is a page tree view in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 10 is a screen of display for a Wiki page in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

10 **Figure 11** is a block diagram of an abstract syntax tree in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 12 is a block diagram of commands in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

15 **Figure 13** is a diagram showing property editing components in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 14 is a diagram illustrating a data flow between commands on a client and server for a Wiki application in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

20 **Figure 15** is a diagram illustrating a data flow between commands on a server during an initial page render process in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 16 is a diagram illustrating a Wiki page generated in response to a page request from a user in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

25 **Figure 17** is a diagram illustrating a rendered page displayed at a client browser in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 18 is a diagram illustrating a data flow between components on a client-side data hub after a new page is loaded and displayed at a client browser in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

30 **Figures 19A and 19B** are diagrams illustrating a data flow between a client-side data hub and a server-side data hub during a page update in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 20 is a diagram illustrating a message flow between a server-side data hub and a client-side data hub during a page update in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

35 **Figure 21** is a diagram illustrating a server-side data hub object in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 22 is a diagram illustrating a client-side data hub object in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 23 is a block diagram illustrating the process of embedding Wiki page content into the body of a Wiki layout page in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 24 is a block diagram depicting checkboxes for determining visibility of content of page components in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 25 is a flowchart of a process for creating a Wiki page in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 26 is a flowchart of a process for displaying a page in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 27 is a flowchart of a process for generating a page tree view in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 28 is a flowchart of a process for dragging live content in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 29 is a flowchart of a process for combining content of Wiki pages in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 30 is a flowchart of a process for editing a command in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 31 is a flowchart of a process for rendering a Wiki command in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 32 is a flowchart of a preliminary process for property editing in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 33 is a flowchart of a process for property editing in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 34 is a flowchart of a process selecting a property editor in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 35 is a flowchart of a process for deleting a page in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 36 is a flowchart of a process for revising a page in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

5 **Figure 37** is a flowchart of a process for copying a page in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 38 is a flowchart of a process for renaming a page in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

10 **Figure 39** is a flowchart of a process for undeleting a page in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 40 is a flowchart of a process for palette construction in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

15 **Figure 41** is a flowchart of a process for configuration in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 42 is a flowchart of a process for export in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

20 **Figure 43** is a flowchart of a process for import in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

25 **Figure 44** is a flowchart of a process for retrieving and parsing a tree in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 45 is a process for processing a web page for display in a Wiki in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

30 **Figure 46** is a flowchart of processing events in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention

Figure 47 is a flowchart of an operation occurring when a server-side data hub object is instantiated in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 48 is a flowchart of an operation occurring when a client-side data hub object is instantiated in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

25 **Figure 49** is a flowchart of an operation occurring when a server-side data hub receives a request to process an event from a client-side data hub in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 50 is a flowchart of an operation occurring when a producer command processes an event in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

30 **Figure 51** is a flowchart outlining an operation occurring when a consumer command processes an event in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

5 **Figure 52** is a flowchart of an operation occurring when a client-side data hub receives an event in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

10 **Figure 53** is a flowchart of an operation occurring when a server-side data hub processes an event in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

15 **Figure 54** is a flowchart of an operation occurring when a client-side data hub determines whether to send an event to a server for processing in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

20 **Figure 55** is a flowchart of an operation occurring when a server-side data hub receives an event from a client-side data hub as a result of a processClientEvent method call in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

25 **Figure 56** is a flowchart of an operation occurring when a Wiki argument object performs a minimum sufficient argument process in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

30 **Figure 57** is a flowchart illustrating an operation occurring when a Wiki argument object determines if the minimum required arguments of a command are set in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

35 **Figure 58** is a flowchart illustrating a setCheckArguments method for detecting if an argument/available event should be fired in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

40 **Figure 59** is a flowchart illustrating the operation of defining a Wiki page layout with a Wiki page in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

45 **Figure 60** is a flowchart of the operation of rendering a Wiki page in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

50 **Figure 61** is an illustration of class definition for a server-side data hub object class in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

55 **Figure 62** is an illustration of a set of method interfaces for a class of data hub management methods in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

60 **Figure 63A** is an illustration of a set of method interfaces for a class of producer and consumer methods in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

65 **Figure 63B** is an illustration of a set of method interfaces for a class of topic methods in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

5 **Figure 64** is an illustration of a set of method interfaces for a class of event processing methods in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

10 **Figure 65** is an illustration of a set of method interfaces for a class of command management methods in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

15 **Figure 66** is an illustration of a class definition for a client-side data hub object class in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 67 is an illustration of a set of method interfaces for a class of producer and consumer methods in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

20 **Figure 68** is an illustration of a set of method interfaces for topic methods in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 69 is an illustration of a set of method interfaces for event processing methods in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

25 **Figure 70** is an illustration of a set of method interfaces for command management methods in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 71 is an illustration of a class definition and method interfaces for a class of data hub topic objects in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 72 is an illustration of a class definition and method interfaces for a class of data hub event objects in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention;

30 **Figure 73** is an illustration of a class definition for a Wiki argument object class in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention; and

Figure 74 is an illustration of pseudocode of an algorithm to detect whether to fire an argument/available event in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention.

25 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF AN ILLUSTRATIVE EMBODIMENT

With reference now to the figures and in particular with reference to **Figures 1-2**, a description of corresponding diagrams of data processing environments is provided in which illustrative embodiments of the present invention may be implemented. It should be appreciated that **Figures 1-2** are only exemplary and are not intended to assert or imply any limitation with regard to the environments in which different embodiments may be implemented. Many modifications to the depicted environments may be made.

With reference now to the figures, **Figure 1** depicts a pictorial representation of a network of data processing systems in which illustrative embodiments of the present invention may be implemented. Network data processing system **100** is a network of computers in which embodiments may be implemented. Network data processing system **100** contains network **102**, which is the medium used to provide communications links between various devices and computers connected together within network data processing system **100**. Network **102** may include connections, such as wire, wireless communication links, or fiber optic cables.

In the depicted example, server **104** and server **106** connect to network **102** along with storage unit **108**. In addition, clients **110**, **112**, and **114** connect to network **102**. These clients **110**, **112**, and **114** may be, for example, personal computers or network computers. In the depicted example, server **104** provides data, such as boot files, operating system images, and applications to clients **110**, **112**, and **114**. Clients **110**, **112**, and **114** are clients to server **104** in this example. Network data processing system **100** may include additional servers, clients, and other devices not shown.

In the depicted example, network data processing system **100** is the Internet with network **102** representing a worldwide collection of networks and gateways that use the Transmission Control Protocol/Internet Protocol (TCP/IP) suite of protocols to communicate with one another. At the heart of the Internet is a backbone of high-speed data communication lines between major nodes or host computers, consisting of thousands of commercial, governmental, educational and other computer systems that route data and messages. Of course, network data processing system **100** also may be implemented as a number of different types of networks, such as for example, an intranet, a local area network (LAN), or a wide area network (WAN). **Figure 1** is intended as an example, and not as an architectural limitation for different embodiments.

With reference now to **Figure 2**, a block diagram of a data processing system is shown in which illustrative embodiments of the present invention may be implemented. Data processing system **200** is an example of a computer, such as server **104** or client **110** in **Figure 1**, in which computer usable code or instructions implementing processes of the various illustrative embodiments of the present invention may be located.

In the depicted example, data processing system 200 employs a hub architecture including a north bridge and memory controller hub (MCH) 202 and a south bridge and input/output (I/O) controller hub (ICH) 204. Processor 206, main memory 208, and graphics processor 210 are coupled to north bridge and memory controller hub 202. Graphics processor 210 may be coupled to the MCH through an accelerated graphics port (AGP), for example.

In the depicted example, local area network (LAN) adapter 212 is coupled to south bridge and I/O controller hub 204, audio adapter 216, keyboard and mouse adapter 220, 10 modem 222, read only memory (ROM) 224, universal serial bus (USB) ports and other communications ports 232, and PCI/PCIe devices 234 are coupled to south bridge and I/O controller hub 204 through bus 238, and hard disk drive (HDD) 226 and CD-ROM drive 230 are coupled to south bridge and I/O controller hub 204 through bus 240. PCI/PCIe devices may include, for example, Ethernet adapters, add-in cards, and PC cards for notebook 15 computers. ROM 224 may be, for example, a flash binary input/output system (BIOS). Hard disk drive 226 and CD-ROM drive 230 may use, for example, an integrated drive electronics (IDE) or serial advanced technology attachment (SATA) interface. A super I/O (SIO) device 236 may also be coupled to south bridge and I/O controller hub 204 through bus 238 as shown.

20 In the illustrative embodiment of **Figure 2**, an operating system runs on processor 206 and coordinates and provides control of various components within data processing system 200. The operating system may be a commercially available operating system such as Microsoft® Windows® XP (Microsoft and Windows are trademarks of Microsoft Corporation 25 in the United States, other countries, or both). An object oriented programming system, such as the Java™ programming system, may run in conjunction with the operating system and provides calls to the operating system from Java programs or applications executing on data processing system 200 (Java and all Java-based trademarks are trademarks of Sun Microsystems, Inc. in the United States, other countries, or both).

30 Instructions for the operating system, the object-oriented programming system, and applications or programs are located on storage devices, such as hard disk drive 226, and may

be loaded into main memory **208** for execution by processor **206**. The processes of the illustrative embodiments may be performed by processor **206** using computer-executable instructions, which may be located in a memory such as, for example, main memory **208**, read only memory **224**, or in one or more peripheral devices.

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The hardware in **Figures 1-2** may vary depending on the implementation. Other internal hardware or peripheral devices, such as flash memory, equivalent non-volatile memory, or optical disk drives and the like, may be used in addition to or in place of the hardware depicted in **Figures 1-2**. Also, the processes of the illustrative embodiments may be applied to a multiprocessor data processing system.

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In some illustrative examples, data processing system **200** may be a personal digital assistant (PDA), which is generally configured with flash memory to provide non-volatile memory for storing operating system files and/or user-generated data. A bus system, such as bus **238** and **240**, may be comprised of one or more buses, such as a system bus, an I/O bus and a PCI bus. Of course the bus system may be implemented using any type of communications fabric or architecture that provides for a transfer of data between different components or devices attached to the fabric or architecture. A communications unit may include one or more devices used to transmit and receive data, such as a modem or a network adapter. A memory may be, for example, main memory **208** or a cache such as found in north bridge and memory controller hub **202**. A processing unit may include one or more processors or CPUs. The depicted examples in **Figures 1-2** and above-described examples are not meant to imply architectural limitations. For example, data processing system **200** also may be a tablet computer, laptop computer, or telephone device in addition to taking the form of a PDA.

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In the illustrative examples, server **104** may host a Wiki application. The environment at server **104** allows clients, such as clients **110**, **112**, and **114** to collaborate and develop applications in accordance with an illustrative embodiment. These applications may include, for example, weather related applications, registrations and rosters for schools, e-mail applications, and other types of business oriented applications. The different embodiments

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may include processes at the server side, client side, or both in providing a collaborative environment to develop Wiki applications in accordance with an illustrative embodiment.

5 The illustrative embodiments recognize that current Wiki applications are not suited for collaborative development of applications beyond collaboration of text and files as a knowledgebase or document.

10 Turning now to **Figure 3**, a diagram illustrating components for use in generating and using Wiki applications is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. In this example, a user may interact with client environment **300** to generate and use applications supported by Wiki environment **302**. Client environment **300** is a software application or environment executing on a client, such as client **110** in **Figure 1**. Wiki environment **302** executes on a data processing system, such as server **104** in **Figure 1**.

15 In these examples, a user at client environment **300** may send a request to Wiki environment **302** for a page. The user makes the request through a browser within client environment **300** in these examples. Wiki environment **302** returns the page to the user. In these illustrative examples, the page includes JavaScript that enables the user to manipulate and select content for a page to be generated. In the illustrative embodiments, these pages are 20 collaborative Web pages that provide user access to applications. These applications are collaborative applications that may be used and modified by users at client computers.

25 In particular, the different illustrative embodiments provide a method and apparatus for a user to generate an application with functionality beyond that of a collaborative writing tool.

30 Many of the features in these examples are provided through PHP: Hypertext Preprocessor (PHP). PHP is a programming language for creating web applications that execute on Wiki environment **302**. PHP is an open source, hypertext markup language embedded scripting language designed as a high-level tool for generating dynamic web content.

Depending on the particular implementation, the different features provided in the illustrative embodiments may be facilitated through the use of a virtual machine, such as a Java virtual machine (JVM). Also, other scripting languages other than JavaScript may be used to implement these processes, depending on the particular embodiment.

5

Turning now to **Figure 4**, a diagram illustrating a Wiki architecture is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. In these particular examples, this architecture is a quite easily done (QED) Wiki architecture. As illustrated, Wiki environment **400** contains Wiki engine **402**. This engine includes request handler **404**, command processor **406**, and page composer **408**. Request handler **404** receives requests from clients.

For example, a user may send a universal resource identifier (URI) in the form of a universal resource locator (URL) to Wiki environment **400**. This request is received by request handler **404** for processing. In these examples, one page is generated for each request handled by request handler **404**. Request handler **404** also generates “page fragments” for handling AJAX based interactions which are hypertext markup language source fragments rather than complete hypertext markup pages.

Command processor **406** processes different commands to build a page or page fragment in response to a request received by request handler **404**. Additionally, command processor **406** renders a page when processing of commands and text fragments has completed. Page composer **408** is also involved in generating the page request by the user. In these examples, page composer **408** is employed in layouts, page body content, and script collection for a page.

Wiki environment **400** also includes ancillary functions **410**. In this example, ancillary functions **410** include lists **412**, comments **414**, email **416**, and attachments **418**. With lists **412**, a user may generate lists for other users to see. Further, using comments **414**, the user may add commentary or other text to different pages. Attachments **418** allows a user to attach files to a particular page. Email **416** allows for users to be notified when pages have been updated or modified, or for a user to send an email to a page as an attachment. Email

416 also allows one or more users to receive messages regarding changes to a specified page. Users may subscribe to a rich site summary (RSS) feed of the Wiki to determine when pages of the Wiki change.

5 Additionally, Wiki environment **400** contains Wiki commands **420**. Wiki commands **420** within the illustrated embodiment contain two types of commands, built-in commands **422** and custom commands **424**. Built-in commands **422** are commands or services that are present within Wiki environment **400**. Custom commands **424** reference commands that are provided through external sources. Basically, these commands allow a user to include and
10 process data for a page.

15 In one or more embodiments, Wiki commands **420** involve the use of a service oriented architecture (SOA). Such SOA commands allow a user to include services with a page. In these examples, commands may reference services with well defined interfaces that are independent of the applications and the competing platforms in which they run.

20 In the depicted examples, services are software modules. These types of services are typically based on a standard-compliant interface, such as web service description language (WSDL). Of course, the services referenced by Wiki commands **420** may involve any type of interface. These commands may take various forms. For example, the commands may be for financial, weather, mapping, news and events, searching, government, or international information.

25 Database **426**, contains information, such as the pages requested and created by users. Further, revisions of pages, attachments, comments, and other information are stored within database **426**. Information is typically stored in the form of tables **428** within database **426** in the illustrative embodiments.

30 Turning now to **Figure 5**, a diagram illustrating dataflow in rendering a page is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. In these examples, a page is rendered on a server when processing of the page is completed and the

page is ready for transmission to a client. The different components illustrated in **Figure 5** are manipulated through a Wiki engine, such as Wiki engine **402** in **Figure 4**.

The programming architecture and model illustrated in these illustrative embodiments allow for visual assembly of Wiki content using a browser on a client. Everything requested by the client is conceptually a page. For example, a variable is referenced using a universal resource identifier model, such as a page and variable name. Further, pages are used as data structures in these examples. Variables are stored for later use. These variables include session variables, request variables, and persistent variables.

In the illustrative examples, users create structured data through lists. These lists may be queried, searched, and/or combined. In manipulating lists, the users employ a create, retrieve, update, and delete (CRUD) process.

Wiki controller **500** receives universal resource identifier **506** from a user. Wiki controller **500** contains router **502** and object variables **504**. Router **502** delegates request processing to the appropriate request handler. Object variables **504** provide interconnection between the processing components. For example, Wiki controller **500** has object variables **504** "Wiki" which is a pointer to Wiki object **508**. Each object in **Figure 5** has object variables that are references to other resources required for object interaction. Wiki controller **500** is handled by a request handler, such as request handler **404** in **Figure 4**.

In response to receiving universal resource identifier **506**, Wiki controller **500** instantiates an instance of Wiki object **508**. As illustrated, Wiki object **508** contains object variables **510**, variables **512**, PHP security **514**, email check **516**, user **518** and page **520**. Wiki object **508** is an instance that is instantiated whenever a request is received and which acts as a repository for all of the objects used to generate content for page **520**.

In these examples, object variables **510** contains the information needed to process page **520**. Variables **512** contain session information stored in session **522**. This session information is information used during user interaction with a page or during the generation of a page in these examples. More persistent data in object variables **510** are stored in database

524. Database **524** stores any information that may be used to generate the page or to store changes made by a user in the depicted examples.

5 PHP security **514** is a function used to determine whether code identified by a client may be run as well as to initiate execution of the code. PHP is an open source programming language that is mainly employed on server side applications. In these illustrative examples, PHP code may be executed by different objects within a Wiki environment. In these examples, a user may run PHP code from the client-side, as well as the server-side. Email check **516** is provided in Wiki object **508** to check for email messages that may be displayed on page **520** when page **520** is rendered and sent to a user. User **518** contains information about the user, such as user privilege levels, identifiers, and session logs.

10 Page **526** is a more detailed example of page **520** contained within Wiki object **508**. In this example, page **526** contains object variables **528**, attachments **530**, process **532**, access 15 **534**, layout **536**, scripts **538** and content **540**.

20 In these examples, object variables **528** contain an instance of variables for page data structures. For example, a section array may be present to provide for layout information. A context pointer may reference a root Wiki command. An instance ID may be present in object variables **528** to reference an internal page ID. These different variables contain information needed to render a page, such as page **526**, to be sent to a user.

25 Attachments **530** are identifications of attachments that may be presented on a page. If a user selects an attachment, the attachment can then be downloaded to the user at that time. Process **532** contains the code used to generate a page to be delivered to the user. In these illustrative examples, a process is a method, for example, to identify content for the page, identify any attachments and identify any scripts that may be included in the page to be sent to the user.

30 Access **534** is used to determine what access privileges the user has with respect to content to be placed on the page. Such access privileges are identified in one embodiment utilizing access control lists (ACLs) **542**. Content to be included may vary for page **526**

depending on the access that a particular user, requesting the page, has. This user is the user requesting page **526**. In generating content for page **526**, object variables **528** references Wiki command context **544**. This command context contains object variables **546** and content **548**. Object variables **546** represent an in-memory version of a page's contents. These variables include a list of the commands and a list of text fragments that comprise the current page. Content **548** represents the object methods used to manipulate the page content.

In executing process **532** in page **526**, a set of commands from commands **550** are identified through Wiki command context **544**. Wiki command context **544** generates a set of command instances from commands **550**. Wiki command context **544** parses content **540** and loads the commands to create a tree structure of fragments, such as fragment **552**. Fragment **552** also contains object variables **554** and content **556**. Fragment **552** is a portion of page **526** in un-rendered form. In this example, Wiki command context **544** contains fragments that represent the structure of the commands that are to be included in the page. These are commands that may be user-manipulated. When process **532** is complete, page **526** is sent down to a requesting user. Data hub **558** is saved for later use in the interaction. Also, in this example, data hub **558** is restored when a user interacts with a component within page **526** and contains processes and a data structure. The processes within data hub **558** are used to identify what commands for a page within fragment **552** are consumers of any data or commands that may be received by data hub **558**. Additionally, data hub **558** will return results to the client. These results are sent to a data hub located on the client.

Turning now to **Figure 6**, a diagram illustrating components on a client and server for a Wiki application is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. In this example, client environment **600** is a more detailed illustration of client environment **300** in **Figure 3**. Client environment **600** in these illustrative embodiments may take the form of a client web browser or some other application that has connectivity to a network, such as the Internet. Wiki environment **601** executes on a data processing system, such as server **104** in **Figure 1**.

In this example, client environment **600** receives page **602**. Page **602** includes a plurality of components, such as header **604**, footer **606**, left margin **608**, right margin **610**,

menu **612**, and body **614**. Header **604**, footer, **606**, left margin **608**, and right margin **610** are page components for laying out pages. These components include various content, such as hypertext markup language (HTML) content.

5 Menu **612** provides access to actions or functions that a user can perform on page **602** or in conjunction with page **602**. For example, menu **612** can include a menu item to send a request to the server that, when granted, would permit the user to edit page content in a WYSIWYG editor.

10 In this example, different types of content are found within body **614**. In this example, body **614** contains HTML content **616**, date information **618**, and variable **620**. Body **614** also contains commands **622**, **624**, **626**, **628**, **630**, and **632**. Commands **622**, **624**, **626**, **628**, **630**, and **632** are Wiki commands, such as Wiki commands **420** in **Figure 4**. These commands are commands for a Wiki application presented through page **602**. Commands **622**, **624**, **626**, **628**, **630**, and **632** along with data hub **634** provide for dynamic content within page **602**.

20 Data hub **634** is a data hub object in a Wiki environment, similar to data hub **558** in **Figure 5**. However, data hub **634** is a client-side data hub. Data hub **634** includes attributes and a set of methods for sending and receiving event objects between the commands in page **602** and those in Wiki environment **601**. Data hub **634** includes attributes and a set of methods for sending and receiving events and/or data between the commands in page **602** and those within Wiki environment **601**.

25 An event object is a data object that defines an event that is transmitted between commands associated with a Wiki page, such as page **602**. An event object can include, but is not required to include, event data. In these examples, an event is a message indicating that something has happened, such as an occurrence or happening of significance to a task, program, or command. For example, an event can include receiving user input, gathering a minimum required set of arguments, completion of a command operation, a given time occurring, or any other activity, receipt of input or data, occurrence, happening, or activity.

The illustration of the different types of content within page **602** is presented for purposes of depicting the manner in which a Wiki application may be presented to a user. This illustration, however, is not meant to imply limitations as to the type and scope of content that may be used in a Wiki application. For example, page **602** may include other additional content, commands, and/or components not illustrated in **Figure 6** without departing from the scope of the illustrative embodiments of the present invention.

A user may manipulate content within page **602** to use the Wiki application and/or change the manner in which the Wiki application performs. In other words, the user may add content or remove content, such as commands, from page **602** through manipulating a graphical representation of these commands to generate or modify content and/or functionality for page **602**.

In this example, Wiki environment **601** is a Wiki environment, such as Wiki environment **302** in **Figure 3** and Wiki environment **400** in **Figure 4**. Wiki environment **601** includes commands **640-650** in the form of command trees or abstract syntax trees. Commands **640-650** are updated in the Wiki environment. Commands **640-650** and commands **624-632** differ in implementation but refer to similar command. For example, command **632** is associated with a client environment and is updated in client environment **600** by a user. Corresponding command **650** is updated in Wiki environment **601** by means of asynchronous JavaScript and extensible markup language using **AJAX 636** over a network connection.

AJAX 636 is a web development technique for creating interactive web applications, such as Wiki pages. **AJAX 636** exchanges small amounts of data with an associated host server behind the scenes so that an entire page is not reloaded each time a user makes a change to a requested page. **AJAX 636** is meant to increase the interactivity, speed, responsiveness, and usability of a page, such as page **602**. Although the illustrative embodiments depict exchanging data via **AJAX** or **JSON**, any communication protocol agreed upon between a given set of components may be used to exchange data in accordance with the illustrative embodiments of the present invention.

Commands **640**, **642**, **644**, **646**, **648**, and **650** in Wiki environment **601** interact with data hub **638**. Data hub **638** is a server-side data hub, such as data hub **558** in **Figure 5**. In this illustrative example, data hub **634** of client environment **600** and data hub **638** exchange events and/or data via AJAX **640**. AJAX **636** and **640** may communicate using extensible markup language (XML) as the format for transferring data between client environment **600** and Wiki environment **601**, although any format will work, including preformatted hypertext mark-up language (HTML), plain text, and JavaScript object notation (JSON). JavaScript object notation is a lightweight computer data interchange format. JSON is a subset of the object literal notation of JavaScript but its use does not require JavaScript.

5

The illustrative embodiments provide a computer implemented method, apparatus, and computer usable program code for an application Wiki. A Wiki application is a collaborative web environment that allows single or multiple users to efficiently integrate static and interactive content. A Wiki page is a page within the Wiki application. The illustrative embodiments of the present invention allow a user to easily create and manage Wiki pages. The user may edit a Wiki page by dragging and dropping live content. Live content is dynamic content that is being updated based on changing information. For example, live content may include a weather graphic for a specified geographic location that is updated by a server linked to a weather radar station.

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Wiki pages are saved in a page tree view. The page tree view is a content hierarchy that includes pages and sub-pages. The page tree view may be referred to as a Wikispace, page space, tree, or other content hierarchy. Each page within the present description may be both a content provider and container for other sub-pages as required. The page tree view differs from other file structures because all of the pages may include content and simultaneously be viewed as containers. The pages in the page tree view are distinguished by the name assigned to each page. The pages include nodes and leaf nodes. Nodes may display content and function as folders or containers for other Wiki pages. Leaf nodes strictly provide content.

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Turning now to **Figure 7**, an exemplary screen of display for dragging live content is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. Wiki page

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700 is a page, such as page 602 in **Figure 6**. Wiki page 700 may be specifically edited in a design mode. For example, a user may check a quite easily done (QED) check box indicating that the Wiki page is being edited. In design mode, Wiki page 700 may display palette 702. Palette 702 is a toolbar or a set of tools used to collaboratively manipulate a web page. For example, the user may use palette 702 to select live content for display in body 704 of Wiki page 700. Body 704 is the portion of Wiki page 700 that may be customized and edited to display user-specified content.

5 Palette 702 may include any number of icons 706, 708, and 710. Each icon is a graphical representation of an available command. Palette 702 may be used to display content which may include commands, data, page content, Wiki utilities, data services, customized lists, and any number of other features.

10 Icon 706 may be, for example, a live link to a Google™ search tool in the form of an icon. Icon 708 may be a live link to Google™ maps (Google, Google Search, and Google Maps are trademarks of Google Corporation in the United States, other countries, or both). Icon 710 may be a rich site summary or really simple syndication (RSS) feed. Rich site summary is a protocol and application of extensible markup language (XML) that provides an open method of syndicating and aggregating web content. Using rich site summary, a user may create a data feed that supplies headlines, links, and article summaries from a web site. 15 Users may have constantly updated content from web sites delivered to Wiki page 700 via a news aggregator in body 704. A news aggregator is a piece of software specifically tailored to receive these types of feeds.

20 In one example, a user may display a Google® map in body 704 by dragging icon 708 from palette 702 onto body 704. The user may further customize the content displayed by a Wiki command using a property editor as will be described in **Figure 8**. Existing Wiki commands in the page content display eye-catchers, such as eyecatcher 712, that indicate properties of the existing Wiki command may be edited.

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30 Turning now to **Figure 8**, a screen of display for editing properties of a command is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. A modern

application Wiki needs a visual means of editing Wiki "markdown" command attributes that does not require the user to edit the page, allowing the user to modify command settings without a jarring page refresh and conceptual context switch.

5 An application Wiki reduces the burden of a user having to know or learn hypertext markup language markup. In these examples, an application Wiki introduces shorthand syntax for creating lists and tables and other hypertext markup language constructs which uses a combination of short character sequences, line position, and white space. For example, a list item is defined by a single asterisk (*) in the first column of a line, followed by a single space
10 versus the tags required in hypertext markup language. The shorthand syntax introduced by the application Wiki is called "markdown" to emphasize the difference between creating content with hypertext markup language and in a Wiki environment. Wiki command classes support the generation of a visual property editor for editing "markdown" commands.

15 Wiki page **800** is a partial view of a Wiki page, such as Wiki page **700** in **Figure 7**. Palette **802** is similar to palette **702** in **Figure 7**. Wiki page **800** contains Wiki commands which display eye-catchers **804** and **806**, named stores and list.

20 Properties of Wiki commands displaying eye-catchers **804** and **806** may be edited using property editor **808**. Properties are the attributes, data, fields and other information used by the command represented by the eye-catcher to display content on Wiki page **700** in **Figure 7**. Property editor **808** allows a user to customize the information displayed by the live content. Property editor **808** is comprised of hypertext markup language and JavaScript which is
25 downloaded, along with Wiki page content to the browser client. For example, a user may specify a specific address for displaying a Google® map. Similarly, the user may make queries and limit the information displayed in Wiki page **800**.

30 The user may use property editor **808** to enter width and height values for Wiki commands that allow their visual representation to be sized. Additionally, property editor **808** may be used to enter scaling factors, names of data sources, and maximum and minimum

values are some other examples. Property editor **808** is used to surface points of variability of a Wiki command to the user.

For example, process **532** in **Figure 5** may generate a default property editor for each command as necessary. Each Wiki command may contribute a custom property editor to surface the unique points of variability for the Wiki command. Selecting eye-catchers **804** or **806** for a command causes the property editor for the associated command to be displayed.

Turning now to **Figure 9**, a page tree view is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. Page tree view **900** is a visual storage structure for visually displaying the organization of Wiki pages to a user. Page tree view **900** shows the names or tags of Wiki pages within the Wiki application. Tags are user-assigned labels that are used to categorize content of a Wiki. Each page in these examples is a node or leaf node.

Wikispace **902** is the base page of page tree view **900** and may also be used to refer to the content of page tree view **900**. Page tree view **900** is different from other file systems and data structures because Wikispace **902** and the other base pages or nodes including test **904**, testing **906**, toplevel **908**, and Wiki **910** may both display content and function as folders or containers for other Wiki pages. A graphical indicator, such as a “+” sign, may indicate a Wiki page is a node. Wikispace **902** uses a flat hierarchy where each page represented by a node may be a container and content provider. For example, Wikispace **902** includes content but may also be used to link to Wiki sub-pages or leaf nodes including helloworld **912**, homepage **914**, and minutest **916**. The base pages in page tree view **900** may be displayed as both content providers and page containers in these examples.

The user may use page tree view **900** to navigate the Wiki pages. For example, by clicking on a Wiki page, the contents and/or sub-pages of the Wiki page are displayed. As a result, the user may easily navigate the Wiki by selecting the page name.

Turning now to **Figure 10**, a screen of display for a Wiki page is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. Wiki page **1000** is a page, such as

Wiki page **602** in **Figure 6**. A user may have used an eye-catcher in a palette, such as eye-catcher **708** and palette **702** in **Figure 7** to drag live content into Wiki page **1000**.

For example, a business traveler may have previously modified Wiki page **1000** to display list of destinations **1002** for an upcoming business trip. By clicking on each location within list of destinations **1002**, the Wiki page displays national map **1004** for the address, weather forecast **1006**, as well as local alerts **1008**. The customized information allows the user to plan for weather and other circumstances of the business trip as well as visually picture the location of each meeting. Local alerts **1008** may include links to ongoing events and new stores for the specified geographic location, informing the user of local events that may be relevant to the business meeting.

The illustrative embodiments further provide a computer implemented method, apparatus, and computer usable program code for processing a web page for display in a Wiki environment. Added components are able to interact with other components before rendering the final views. Components are enabled to discover new attributes and parameter settings from the page serve context. A validation mechanism is used for components to validate inputs and report errors before rendering final views. Targeted events are processed within the lifecycle of the page serve sequence. Multiple versions of the same component are managed on a single server.

Turning now to **Figure 11**, a block diagram of an abstract syntax tree is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. Abstract syntax tree environment **1100** includes various components used to form and process abstract syntax tree **1102**.

Wiki command context (WCC) **1104** is an object that creates abstract syntax tree **1102** from the markup language of a Wiki page, such as page **602** in **Figure 6**. Wiki command context **1104** is the parent of the abstract syntax tree of commands. Wiki command context **1104** is responsible for loading the commands for a page or source fragment. Abstract syntax tree **1102** is composed of commands, such as commands **640**, **642**, **644**, **646**, **648**, and **650** in **Figure 6** for the Wiki source. A tree is a data structure including a source or base branching

out to include leafs or nodes. The interconnecting nodes in the tree represent commands that are dependent on other interconnected nodes. Nodes, such as nodes **1106-1110**, represent different commands in abstract syntax tree **1102**.

5 For example, node **1106** is named Accordion and performs the step necessary to internalize the attributes and variables assigned by the user to the accordion and emit the hypertext markup language fragment for the accordion targeting the client browser environment. Node **1108** is named Template and is a child of node **1106**, named Accordion. Node **1106** provides the name of a tab within the Accordion to display on the client browser 10 environment. Node **1110** is named Forecast and is a command for inserting a weather forecast in the Wiki page.

15 Data hub **1112** is a data hub, such as data hub **638** in **Figure 6**. Data hub **1112** processes abstract syntax tree **1102** by walking abstract syntax tree **1102** in a pre-order traversal and invoking the particular function at each node. For example, node **1114** has a function for providing a latitude and longitude. Node **1114** may be a Google® map command that provides the latitude and longitude for a specified address.

20 Depending upon the complexity of the page, abstract syntax tree **1102** represented by Wiki command context (WCC) **1104** may contain two types of child nodes: first, those previously described and second, other abstract syntax trees whose root is another Wiki command context. Another Wiki command context is used when processing uniform resource indicator requests that generate other Wiki source fragments that also need to be processed.

25 The illustrative embodiments of the present invention further provide a computer implemented method, apparatus, and computer usable program code for extending the capabilities of a Wiki environment. A Wiki is a collaborative web page that allows single or multiple users to efficiently integrate static and interactive content. An object-oriented framework is used to define how objects are extended for easily creating collaborative environments. Wiki environments need to support a fundamental mechanism to extend the 30 core environment without requiring changes to the core runtime components.

The illustrative embodiments include client and server side elements that process the Wiki commands to manage a deployed environment including any number of Wiki commands. An abstract set of base classes and a core processing engine within the Wiki environment is used for processing concrete implementations of the Wiki command classes as further described. The core processing engine supports the processing and lifecycle management of the core runtime components for extending the capabilities of the Wiki environment. The core processing engine is an engine, such as Wiki engine 402 in **Figure 4**.

Turning now to **Figure 12**, a block diagram of commands is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. Wiki commands are commands used to implement the functions and processes of the Wiki, such as Wiki environment 302 in **Figure 3**. **Figure 12** describes a Wiki command metadata interface and associated commands 1200. Commands 1200 are commands, such as command 550 in **Figure 5**.

[0002] Commands 1200 include various command categories which may include catalog 1202, lifecycle 1204, property edit 1206, and page processing 1208. Only a few examples are shown in commands 1200. For example, commands include Get/setCategory 1210, getName 1212, and getDescription 1214. Get/setCategory 1210 describes the category the Wiki command belongs to. getName 1212 is the simplified name of the component. getDescription 1214 is the textual description of the Wiki command intended to help the user understand the command.

Catalog 1202 may also include other commands such as:

getHelp is help text presented when the user hovers over the Wiki command in the page or palette,

getSample returns a sample Wiki command source used to insert the command,

getIcon returns the icons to be displayed for the Wiki command in the palette,

getDragContent returns the Wiki source fragment used during the initial drag off the palette for the Wiki command, and

getDropContent returns the Wiki source fragment inserted when the Wiki command is dropped on the initial placement.

5 LifeCycle **1204** may include commands, such as wasSaved **1216**, wasDeleted **1218**, and wasCopied **1220**. wasSaved **1216** is called after the command was saved in the server environment. In these examples, wasDeleted **1218** is called when the command has been removed from the server page environment. wasDeleted **1218** provides a means for Wiki commands to clean up persistent resources associated with the Wiki command on the given page. wasCopied **1220** is called when a page containing a given Wiki command has been copied to another name. wasCopied **1220** provides a means for Wiki commands to apply any persistent changes necessary on the newly copied page.

10 Lifecycle **1204** may also include other commands such as:
getVersion returns the version of the Wiki command,
getParameters returns the list of parameters associated with the Wiki command,
aboutToSave is called when the command is about to be saved to the server environment, providing the command an opportunity to carry out any activities necessary to
15 persist the command,
configure is called when the command needs to be configured,
get/setPluginData saves/gets data associated with the Wiki command during the configure command,
wasUndelete is called when the command has been placed back on a given page after
20 previously being deleted from the page,
wasRenamed is called when the page containing the Wiki command has been renamed,
aboutToExport is called just before the Wiki command is exported to the saved format
of the Wiki, and
25 wasImported is called just after the Wiki command is imported from the Wiki save format.

30 Property edit **1206** may include commands, such as generatePropertyEditor **1222** and allowEdit **1224**. In the illustrative embodiment, generatePropertyEditor **1222** is called by the core engine to permit the command to generate a client side editing visual. If generatePropertyEditor **1222** is not implemented, a default property editor is generated for editing the Wiki command's parameters. A property editor is an interface that allows a user to

enter parameters, values, text, variables, and other data for the Wiki command. `allowEdit 1224` determines if the Wiki command is permitted to be edited.

5 Page processing `1208` may include commands, such as `render 1226`, `drawEyeCatcher 1228`, `refreshOnUpdate 1230`, and `getTargetDIV 1232`. `render 1226` is called when the Wiki command needs to display itself in the output stream for hypertext markup language. `drawEyeCatcher 1228` is called when the command is drawn on the page to provide the content which can be clicked to manipulate the Wiki command on the client, usually invoking the property editor on the selected command. The eye catchers are used to track a singleton 10 editing capability. `refreshOnUpdate 1230` is called to determine if the whole page should be refreshed after the command's arguments have been updated using the property editor. `getTargetDIV 1232` returns the name of the hypertext markup language DIV to be updated. DIV represents a division/section in a hypertext markup language file. Each command is displayed within a DIV on the client browser. A DIV has an associated identification which 15 the Wiki engine will generate automatically or the command may provide one by implementing the `getTargetDIV` protocol.

Page processing `1208` may also include other commands such as:

20 `getDestinationDiv` returns the name identification of the hypertext markup language/DIV to be updated when the command is re-rendered on the page. Rendering a command is reproducing or displaying encoded data in a specified manner. For example, the eye-catcher is rendered by generating the hypertext markup language rendered in the Wiki page to display the eye-catcher.

25 `getArguments` returns the list of actual arguments passed to the command for processing. Arguments contain the 'real' values of the parameters returned by the `getParameters` call, which returns the formal argument list of the command.

`refreshOnInsert` is called to determine if the whole page should be refreshed after the command has been placed on the Wiki page.

30 `areArgumentsSet` returns a value specifying whether all the input arguments for the Wiki command have been satisfied so that the command may 'fire' its `invoke` method to performs model actions.

`init` is called to initialize the internal Wiki command.

The methods and commands described above are used to provide the processes in **Figures 31-43**.

5 Turning now to **Figure 13**, a diagram showing property editing components is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. Property editing system **1300** includes eye-catcher **1302**, property editor **1304**, and selector editor **1306**.

10 Eye-catcher **1302** is a graphical representation of a selected command. For example, eye-catcher **1302** may represent a Google™ Map command for displaying a map of a specified address. Eye-catcher **1302** may be clicked on in an icon form to invoke property editor **1304** allowing a user to edit a selected command.

15 Property editor **1304** is used to establish attributes of the command. For example, the attributes may specify the type of information, properties, parameters, binding information for the attribute, and default and allowable values. For example, property editor **1304** may allow a user to specify an address for the Google™ Map to generate the requested map. Selector editor **1306** is a specialized property editor that allows a user to establish specific attribute metadata. For example, a user may be able to specify an editing address using selector editor **1306**. While establishing attributes in property editor **1304** a specific attribute may 20 automatically open selector editor **1306** to enter more specific information for an attribute or field in property editor **1304**.

25 The illustrative embodiments of the present invention further provide a computer implemented method, apparatus, and computer usable program code for processing a request for a Wiki page received from a client-side data hub on a remote data processing system at a server-side data hub. A server-side data hub is a data hub object instance on the server that is instantiated when the page request is received by the server. The server-side data hub is 30 associated with a particular page instance. Thus, each time the server receives a request from the client associated with the page, such as to modify or update the page, the instance of the server-side data hub associated with the particular page can be retrieved and loaded to process the request.

5 The server-side data hub includes attributes and a set of methods. This set of methods is one or more methods on the data hub, which are used to send events from a producer command on the server to a set of consumer commands associated with the instance of the collaborative application. The set of consumer commands may be located either on the server-side, on the client-side, or both in these examples.

10 A consumer command is a command that needs to receive or wants to receive an event and/or data for processing and/or performing a function of the command. A consumer command registers with the data hub to receive event objects associated with a given topic.

15 For example, a search component needs or wants to receive search input terms to perform the search-function of the search component. Therefore, the search component is a consumer of search input terms. The search command is therefore a consumer of events related to search terms and available topics.

20 A consumer command can also be referred to as a listener command because the consumer command is listening or waiting for events related to one or more specific topics. In the above example, the search component is listening for topics related to available search terms.

25 In these examples, a set of consumers includes a single consumer as well as two or more consumers.

30 The client-side data hub is created at the client when the requested page is received at the client. This client-side data hub is associated with an instance of a collaborative application, such as a Wiki application.

35 The utilization of server-side data hub and a corresponding client-side data hub enable the Wiki commands associated with the requested page to interact with greater ease during processing of the page request by routing events transmitted between commands through the server-side data hub and/or the client-side data hub.

In accordance with the illustrative embodiments of the present invention, a server-side data hub and/or a client-side data hub can be utilized to route events between commands in any application using an eventing mechanism. An eventing mechanism is a mechanism that permits modules in an application, such as Wiki commands, to communicate with other modules in the application. For example, a web browser uses an eventing mechanism. In addition, web applications, such as email components and newsreaders, also utilize an eventing mechanism.

Turning now to **Figure 14**, a diagram illustrating a data flow between commands on a client and server for a Wiki application is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. Server **1400** is a server, such as server **104** and **106** in **Figure 1**. Server **1400** is part of a Wiki environment, such as Wiki environment **302** in **Figure 3**, Wiki environment **400** in **Figure 4**, and Wiki environment **601** in **Figure 6**.

Data hub **1402** is a server-side data hub, such as data hub **558** in **Figure 5** and data hub **638** in **Figure 6**. Data hub **1402** is created on server **1400** when a request for a page is received from client **1408**. Thus, server-side data hub **1402** is instantiated upon receiving a request from a client-side data hub. Server-side data hub **1402** is an instance of a data hub object having attributes and methods to propagate or route events between commands in the Wiki environment. The set of methods on server-side data hub **1402** are used to process events and commands associated with the page request received from the user on client **1408**.

Wiki command **1404** is a Wiki command object present within the Wiki system, such as commands **422** in **Figure 4**, command **550** in **Figure 5**, and commands **640-650** in **Figure 6**. Wiki command **1404** allows a user to include data in a page and/or process data for a page, or any other functionality associated with the requested Wiki page. In this example, Wiki command **1404** is processed by a page process loop of a Wiki page object, such as Wiki page object **526** in **Figure 5**.

Data hub **1402** determines if all the required data and/or input values required by the argument parameters of Wiki command **1404** are present. If all the required data and/or input values are present, data hub **1402** triggers an invoke method on Wiki command **1404**. The

invoke method triggers Wiki command **1404** to fire event **1406** to server-side data hub **1402**. Event **1406** is an event object defining an event.

5 In this illustrative example, event **1406** is fired by Wiki command **1404** on server **1400**. However, in accordance with the illustrative embodiments of the present invention, event **1406** can also include an event received by server-side data hub **1402** from client-side data hub **1410**. In such a case, event **1406** would be an event fired by a command on the client, such as event **1407**, which is an event object fired by client-side Wiki command **1412**. In accordance with another illustrative example, event **1407** can include an event generated by client-side Wiki command **1412** and sent to client-side data hub **1410** for processing on the client or 10 routing to server-side data hub for processing on server **1400**.

15 Upon receiving event **1406** from Wiki command **1404**, data hub **1402** sends event **1406** to an event queue for processing. An event queue is a buffer or data structure for storing event objects until the event object is processed.

20 During a process events phase, server-side data hub **1402** processes event **1406**. During the processing of event **1406**, server-side data hub **1402** determines if any commands, such as Wiki command **1404**, are registered as consumer commands of event **1406**. A consumer command is a command that requires an event associated with a given event topic. An event topic is a subject matter or theme associated with an event object. For example, an event object fired as a result of a user entering a search term would have a “search” or “search available” event topic.

25 The consumer command registers with a data hub as a consumer command for the given topic. Thus, when an event object for the given topic is received by the data hub, the data hub is able to send the event to the set of registered consumer commands for the given event topic.

30 A registered consumer command is a command that has registered as a consumer of events of a given topic. For example, a display command aggregates sets of data for a topic such as accident. This command reports to display on a map display, will register with the

data hub as a consumer command for the topic accidents. When the data hub receives an event for accidents, the accidents event object will be sent to all consumer commands registered for the topic accidents, including the display command. Once the display command receives the accidents topic event, the display command will consume or use the data to generate a map display showing the accident data or update a previously displayed map to show the new accident data.

5 Data hub **1410** sends event **1406** to Wiki command **1412** for processing. Data hub **1410** determines if all of the required data and/or input values for a given argument/parameter required by Wiki command **1412** to fire are present in Wiki command **1412**. If all of the required data and/or input values are present, data hub **1410** triggers an invoke method on Wiki command **1412**. In response to data hub **1410** calling the invoke method on Wiki command **1412**, Wiki command **1412** sends or fires event **1407** to data hub **1410** for processing. When event **1407** is completely processed, data hub **1410** will send event **1406** to a browser or client for display. An event is completely processed when the event is in a proper format for display at a browser, such as hypertext markup language code.

10 Thus, the illustrative embodiments provide a computer implemented method, apparatus, and computer usable program code to process a request for a page. A server-side data hub receives the request for the page from a client-side data hub on a remote data processing system. The client-side data hub is associated with an instance of a collaborative application. The server-side data hub processes the request during the initial page render process using a set of methods. The set of methods is used to send events from a producer command on a server to a set of consumer commands associated with the collaborative application.

15 Turning now to **Figure 15**, a diagram illustrating a data flow between commands on a server during an initial page render process is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. Data hub **1500** is a server-side data hub, such as data hub **558** in **Figure 5** and data hub **638** in **Figure 6**. In this illustrative example, data hub **1500** is implemented in PHP: Hypertext Preprocessor (PHP). Wiki command producer **1502** is a command associated with the server. A producer is a Wiki command component that

provides data that can be used or consumed by another Wiki component. In this illustrative example, Wiki command producer **1502** registers as a producer of an event for the topic “cars”. To register Wiki command producer **1502** as a producer of topic “cars,” data hub **1500** adds an identifier for Wiki command producer **1502** to an object variable for producer identifiers associated with the topic “cars.”

Wiki command consumer **1506** is a command associated with the server. Wiki command consumer **1506** registers as a consumer for topic “cars” **1508** with data hub **1500**. To register Wiki command consumer **1506** as a consumer of topic “cars,” data hub **1500** adds an identifier for Wiki command consumer **1506** to an array of consumer command identifiers in a consumer object variable on data hub **1500**.

Wiki page **1510** is an object having a process loop associated with a given requested page being loaded in the Wiki environment. During the init phase, the server calls an init method to initialize all commands associated with the given requested page, such as Wiki command producer **1502**. Upon initialization, the commands register with the data hub as producer commands, such as Wiki command producer **1504**, or consumer commands, such as Wiki command consumer **1506**.

Wiki command producer **1502** retrieves data and fires an event with the topic “cars/available” when WikiCommand producer **1502** has data and/or an event ready to fire. When Wiki command producer **1502** fires the event topic “cars/available” event **1512**, the event is sent to data hub **1500**. Data hub **1500** adds the topic “cars/available” event to an event queue **1514** in data hub **1500**. After processing the topic “cars/available” event from the event queue, the topic “cars/available” event is sent to all consumers that registered for the event topic “cars.”

The Wiki page process loop of the Wiki page object calls the first processEvents method. During this process events phase, the data hub processes events in the event queue on server-side data hub, including the “cars/available” event object fired by Wiki command producer **1502**. Data hub **1500** retrieves event “cars/available” from the event queue. Data hub **1500** calls a callback method on each command registered as a consumer for the event

topic “cars” **1518**, including Wiki command consumer **1506**. The event is passed to Wiki command consumer **1506** as an argument/parameter to the callback method. The consumer callback method processes the event object by executing code inside the callback method.

5 If additional processing is present to be performed after initializing all components, but before rendering the requested page, each command has an opportunity to execute code by calling a discover method. The second processEvents phase **1520** is called to process any events that may have fired during the discover phase.

10 Finally, Wiki page object **1510** calls the render phase on all commands. During the render phase, all commands should have all of their data available so that the hypertext markup language code can be generated and sent to the client for rendering as the requested page at a client browser. If WikiConsumer **1506** is a table display of “cars” data generated by producer, the render phase could generate a table of cars as shown in **Figure 16**.

15 Referring now to **Figure 16**, a diagram illustrating Wiki page **1600** generated in response to a page request from a user is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. As discussed above, all commands associated with a page can register as producers and consumers with a data hub. As events are produced by the producers, the events are used by the consumers to render hypertext markup language or JavaScript for rendering an entire page or page fragments. The hypertext markup language or JavaScript is sent to the client browser for display.

25 Thus, all interactions ripple through the data hub during a Wiki page process loop. As a result of these interactions, all events are handled at render time. Therefore, the initial rendered page, such as page **1600**, fully depicts the correct view of the Wiki page. In other words, the client does not have to fire events to modify the initial rendered page to make the page view correct because all events associated with loading a new page from the server are processed through the server-side data hub.

30 When an initial request for a page is processed at a server, the server generates hypertext markup language code and/or JavaScript for the requested page. When the

hypertext markup language code and/or JavaScript is received at the client, the new page is loaded at the client for display in the client browser.

During the page load process, the hypertext markup language code and/or JavaScript code for the page creates a client-side data hub object. The client-side data hub object registers all commands on the client with the client-side data hub as producer commands and consumer commands, just as the commands on the server registered with the server-side data hub during the initial page process loop at the server.

If a command interaction occurring at the client after the initial page is loaded can be completely contained and processed on the client, the command interaction is not sent to the server in these examples. In other words, Wiki commands interact on the client to modify the displayed page to reflect additional input or events triggered by user actions or other occurrences at the client. If a component interaction can be completely processed on the client, the client generated event is not sent to the server. This event may be capable of processing entirely at the client. If this is the case, then the server does not have to be involved in the processing of the event in any way. In the depicted embodiments, the term modify includes updating a page or otherwise altering a page to reflect new data and/or new page content.

Thus, the illustrative embodiments of the present invention provide a computer implemented method, apparatus, and computer usable program code for a client-side data hub for processing events. The client-side data hub receives an event for a given topic. The event is generated by a producer command associated with the client. The client-side data hub processes the event to identify a set of consumer commands for the given topic. The client-side data hub sends the event to a set of consumers for the given topic. The client-side data hub receives new page content from one or more consumers in the set of consumers, wherein the displayed page is updated with the new page content to form an updated page.

Turning now to **Figure 17**, a diagram illustrating a rendered page displayed at a client browser is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. On rendered page **1700**, search input from component **1702** has registered as a producer of

the event topic “search/available” with the client-side data hub. An echo consumer component **1704** has registered as a consumer of the topic event “search/available” with the client-side data hub. Consumer component **1704** functions to echo what a user types into search component **1702** when the search component fires a “search/available” event.

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Figure 18 is a diagram illustrating a data flow between components on a client-side data hub after a new page is loaded and displayed at a client browser in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. Data hub **1800** is a client-side data hub, such as data hub **634** in **Figure 6**, and data hub **1410** in **Figure 14**. Data hub **1800** is created on the client during a page load. In this illustrative example, client-side data hub **1800** is implemented in JavaScript and hypertext markup language.

10 Wiki command producer **1802** is a command on the client that provides data that can be consumed by another Wiki command or wants to notify another component that a particular event has occurred. Wiki command producer **1802** registers **1804** with data hub **1800** as a producer for the topic “search/available.” In this example, Wiki command producer **1802** is search component **1702** in **Figure 17**.

15 Wiki command consumer **1806** is a command on the client that consumes an event object, consumes data, or wants to be notified of an event. Wiki command consumer **1806** registers as a consumer for the event topic “search/available” **1808** with client-side data hub **1800**. In this example, Wiki command consumer **1806** is echo consumer component **1704** in **Figure 17**. Wiki command consumer **1806** is a client version of a corresponding Wiki command object on the server. Wiki command consumer **1806** on the client includes all the data of the Wiki command object on the server, but it does not contain all of the methods found in the corresponding Wiki command on the server.

20 Wiki command producer **1802** fires the “search/available” event when a user presses the “go” button after entering a search term, such as “Wiki” search term shown in **Figure 17**. Wiki command producer **1802** creates an event object, attaches data to the event object, then fires the event object by calling a fireEvent method **1810** on data hub **1800** to send the event to data hub **1800**. Unlike the server-side data hub which queues events at the data hub and

processes the events during a processEvents phase, client-side data hub **1800** does not send the event to an event queue. Instead, client-side data hub **1800** immediately processes the event and sends the event to a set of consumers registered for the event.

5 In this illustrative example, the echo component callback **1812** is called by data hub **1800**. Wiki command consumer **1806** modifies the rendered page, such as page **1700** in Figure 17, using JavaScript to insert the text “Search term: Wiki” into the displayed page. An exemplary illustration of JavaScript used to dynamically update the content of the rendered page by Wiki command consumer **1806** includes as follows:

10 var divId = document.getElementById('echoDivId');
divId.innerHTML = "Search term:
"+event.getValue();

15 However, in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention, the rendered page can be modified by Wiki command consumer **1806** using any known or available method for modifying a page, including, but not limited to, document object model (DOM) manipulation.

20 However, if the interaction requires the server to be involved in the processing of the event, the event is sent to the server. It is likely that an event fired on the client will require the event to be sent to the server data hub, because the data either lives on the server or is retrieved by the server.

25 In other words, after a page is displayed at the client, a new event or new data is received from a user. This event may require processing in whole or in part at the server. If this is the case, then the client sends the event to the server prior to updating the displayed page.

30 Data hub objects on the client and server enable Wiki components and commands to interact on the client, interact on the server, and use topic based eventing mechanisms to effectively wire/connect the components. When the result of a user interaction requires the

server to be accessed to perform some operation or process not possible on the client, the client-side data hub sends the event to the server-side data hub.

For example, if the server owns or has access to data required for a given user interaction, such as a database table, that the client does not own or have access to, the event is sent to the server. In addition, if the server is needed to retrieve data needed for a user interaction, such as a data feed, the event is sent to the server. In these cases, the event is sent to the server for handling/processing. Once handling/processing of the event on the server is complete, the server sends updated page content to the client for modifying the displayed page at the client.

For example, a search component is a component that accepts input from a user. Based upon the text entered by the user, the search text is sent to the server. The server performs the search. The server renders the results of the search using a table component. The rendered table generated by the table component on the server is returned to the client for display.

The illustrative embodiment of the present invention also provide a computer implemented method, apparatus, and computer usable program code for data hub processing of events. A client-side data hub receives an event for a given topic associated with a currently displayed page. The client-side data hub sends the event data to a server-side data hub for processing of the event on the server.

The server-side data hub adds an event for the given topic to an event queue on the server-side data hub in response to receiving an event associated with a page. The server-side data hub processes the event in the event queue. A set of consumer commands for a given topic associated with the event are identified. A consumer command is a command that receives events for a given topic. The server-side data hub sends the event to the set of consumer commands for the given topic. One or more consumers in the set of consumer commands process the event to render page content for the page. The server-side data hub then sends the results of processing the event back to the client-side data hub.

The client-side data hub receives the results of event processing from the server-side data hub. The result of processing the event includes new page content. The currently displayed page is updated with the new page content at the client browser to form an updated page.

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With reference next to **Figures 19A** and **19B**, diagrams illustrating a data flow between a client-side data hub and a server-side data hub during a page update are shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. When the Wiki page is first loaded, the server-side commands are processed to generate the initial page render that is sent to the client for display to the user, as shown in **Figures 8-9**. In this illustrative example, server-side data hub **1900** is created when the page is first loaded. Wiki command producer **1902** is a search component.

During the init phase, Wiki command producer **1902** initializes and registers **1904** with data hub **1900** as a producer of event topic “search/available” and “search/clicked.” Wiki command producer **1902** search component also registers as a consumer for “search/clicked” event topic, which is generated by the client. In this manner, client representation of the Wiki component can communicate with the server-side component or call a method on the server-side component.

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Wiki command consumer **1906** is a list component. Wiki command consumer **1906** initializes and registers **1908** with data hub **1900** as a consumer of the “search/available” event topic. The processEvents method is called on the server-side data hub during the first processEvents phase. Data hub **1900** calls the invoke method on Wiki command producer **1902**. In response, Wiki command producer **1902** performs a search and generates data which is included in a “search/available” event object. Wiki command producer **1902** fires the event object “search/available” to indicate that the search data is ready.

Data hub **1900** calls a callback method on Wiki command consumer **1906** list component to send the “search/available” event object to Wiki command consumer **1906**. The discover and secondary processEvents phase are then performed. Finally, during the render phase, data hub **1900** calls render on all commands associated with the requested page. Wiki

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command producer **1902** renders the hypertext markup language and JavaScript to display the search form. Wiki command consumer **1906** list component, which is now a producer component, renders the hypertext markup language and JavaScript to display the table. The results of the rendered components are combined with the rest of the hypertext markup language page and sent to the client for display. While the page is being loaded by the browser, the JavaScript code creates client-side data hub **1910** and registers all producers **1912** and all consumers **1914** with client-side data hub **1910**. This is the initial page render.

Once the page has been initially displayed, a user interaction may cause changes to the rendering of one or more components. For example, when a user enters a search term and presses “go”, a user interaction changing data occurs. The client-side search component Wiki command producer **1916** fires an event with topic “search/clicked” **1918**. The search phrase is attached to the event object as data. Client-side data hub **1910** receives the event object and sends it to any listeners on the client registered as consumers for the event topic “search.” Unlike in the server-side data hub, the client-side data hub does not queue events in an event queue.

Client-side data hub **1910** determines if the event should be sent to a consumer command on the server associated with the server-side data hub. If the event should be sent to a consumer command on the server, client-side data hub sends the event to the server by calling processClientEvent method **1920** via AJAX, JSON, or any other known or available remote method invocation methodology.

Server-side data hub **1900** adds the received event to an event queue **1922**. Server-side data hub **1900** processes events in the event queue, one of which is the “search/clicked” event received from the client. Server-side data hub **1900** sends the “search/clicked” event to Wiki command producer **1902** search component which is registered as a consumer for the event topic “search/clicked” **1924**. Wiki command producer **1902** search component performs the search and generates/producer search data. Wiki command producer **1902** creates an event object with topic “search/available” and attaches the generated search data to the event object.

5 Server-side data hub **1900** adds the “search/available” event object to the event queue. Because server-side data hub **1900** is still processing events in a processEvents phase, the “search/available” event object is immediately removed from the event queue and processed by server-side data hub **1900**. Server-side data hub **1900** then sends the “search/available” event object to Wiki command consumer **1906** because Wiki command consumer **1906** is registered as a consumer for the “search/available” topic **1926**.

10 Wiki command consumer **1906** saves off the new data from the “search/available” event object. Server-side data hub **1900** calls render method **1928** on all components that were involved in the processing of the original event “search/clicked” received from client-side data hub **1910**. Wiki command consumer **1906** list component render method builds a new list using hypertext markup language and JavaScript. Wiki command consumer **1906** returns the new list content to server-side data hub **1900**. Server-side data hub **1900** collects the new renderings from all components/commands involved, including Wiki command consumer **1906**, and bundles the new renderings for return to client-side data hub **1910**. Client-side data hub receives the results of processClientEvent method **1930** and updates command rendering 15 on the client with new page content **1932**.

20 Next, **Figure 20** is a diagram illustrating a message flow between a server-side data hub and a client-side data hub during a page update in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The message flow begins when a client-side producer component fires an event with topic “clicked” concatenated with the name of the event at (message **1**). At message **2.1** the client side Data hub receives the event and sends it to any listeners on the client.

25 The client-side Data hub determines if the event should be sent to a listener on the server (message **2.2**). In these illustrative examples, a listener is a command or component registered as a consumer for a given event topic. If the event should be sent to a listener on the server, the client-side data hub sends the event to the server by calling processClientEvent 30 or by another remote method invocation methodology (message **2.3**). The server-side data hub adds the received event to the event queue (message **3**).

At message 4.1 the server-side data hub processes the events in the queue, one of which is the event from the client. The server-side data hub sends the “clicked” event to the corresponding consumers that are registered as listeners (message 4.2).

5 The component performs the action desired by the event (message 5.1). All events are treated the same by the server-side data hub, regardless of whether the event is received from the client or from the server. The component creates a new “available” event indicating that its results are available (message 5.2). The server data hub adds the “available” event to the queue (message 6).

10 The server-side data hub processes the “available” event and sends the event to a set of consumers on the server (message 7). The consumer component uses the data from the “available” event object. The server-side data hub calls a render method on all components (message 8.1). All components return new renderings in hypertext markup language and 15 JavaScript to the server-side data hub (message 8.2). The server-side data hub returns the collected renderings from all involved components to client data hub (message 9). The client-side data hub receives the result of the server processing of the event. The client sends the results to listeners on the client (message 10) for rendering page updates on the client browser.

20 In an alternative embodiment, processing page requests and enabling interaction between commands can also be enabled in a system in which a server-side data hub operates in accordance with the illustrative embodiments of the present invention without ever receiving events from a client-side data hub. In other examples, processing page request may be 25 implemented, in a system in which the client is a PDA, cell phone, GPS navigator, or any other client device that does not support JavaScript.

30 **Figure 21** is a diagram illustrating a server-side data hub object in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. In the depicted example, data hub 2100 is a data hub object, such as data hub 558 in **Figure 5**, data hub 638 in **Figure 6**, and data hub 702 in **Figure 7**. In this illustrative example, data hub 2100 is a data hub object implemented in PHP.

A data hub, such as data hub **2100**, is created for each instance of a Wiki page requested by a user. A page instance is used to reference a particular page view and the page's associated data hub instance. When a request or event on the client associated with a given page is sent to the server, the server loads the specified data hub instance associated with the given page.

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In other words, an instance of a data hub is created on the server for each instance of a Wiki page requested by the client. After the page instance is loaded and displayed on the client, the data hub instance for that page on the client is no longer needed. The data hub instance is saved in a memory storage device, such as storage **108** in **Figure 1**. When a user enters new input or requests an action with respect to the page, the Wiki environment for the particular page view is recreated on the server by reloading the previously serialized instance of the data hub associated with the particular page view. The saved and reloaded instance of the data hub reflects the current state of the particular page on the client browser. Data hub **2100** includes attributes/object variables and a set of methods.

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The set of methods includes five categories or classifications of methods. The categories of methods are as follows; data hub management **2102**, producers and consumers **2104**, topics **2106**, event processing **2108**, and command management **2110**. In these illustrative examples, a method is a procedure, function, or routine for performing an action or process associated with one or more objects, such as data hub **2100**.

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The set of methods for data hub **2100** include method interfaces for methods to perform various functions, such as, saving the data hub instance, retrieving/reloading the data hub instance, adding commands, adding producers, removing producers, etc. For example, data hub management **2102** set of method interfaces includes a method interface “public static function init (page instance)” for a method to retrieve a stored instance of a data hub from data storage, such as storage **108** in **Figure 1**.

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Data hub **2100** also calls methods on data hub topic object **2112** and data hub event object **2114** in order to enable transfer of events between commands in the Wiki environment and client environment. Data hub topic object **2112** is primarily a data object that defines a

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topic that a consumer command can subscribe to. In these illustrative examples, a consumer is a command, component, or object that requires and/or requests data, an event, or input from a user, another command, another component, and/or another object in order to carry out a particular function of the command/component. In these illustrative examples, a producer is a command, component, or object that provides data, an event, or output from a user, another command, another component, and/or another object.

5 Data hub event object **2114** is a data object that defines a data hub event that is created by a producer and sent to a consumer for the given event topic associated with the event
10 object.

15 **Figure 22** is a diagram illustrating a client-side data hub object depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. Data hub **2200** is a data hub object, such as data hub **634** in **Figure 6** and data hub **1410** in **Figure 14**. In this illustrative example, data hub **2200** is a client-side data hub object implemented in JavaScript.

20 Data hub **2200** is a client data hub that enables Wiki components to interact with other Wiki components on the server and other Wiki components on the client. Data hub **2200** also enables Wiki components to send events generated on the client to the server for processing.

25 Data hub **2200** includes attributes and a set of methods. In this illustrative example, the set of methods includes four categories of methods. The categories of methods are as follows; producers and consumers **2202**, topics **2204**, event processing **2206**, and command management **2208**.

30 Client-side data hub **2200** also calls methods on client-side data hub topic object **2210** and client-side data hub event object **2212** in order to enable transfer of events between commands in the Wiki environment and client environment. Data hub topic object **2210** is a data hub topic object, such as data hub topic object **2112** in **Figure 21**. Data hub event object **2212** is a data hub event object, such as data hub event object **2114** in **Figure 21**.

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Wiki page layouts are often static in one or more embodiments of the present invention. Furthermore, the static nature of Wiki page layouts and the requirement to have to individually alter the layout of each page of a set of pages makes it very time consuming to edit the layouts of a Wiki page or a set of Wiki sub-pages in order that they all share the same specific layout. A Wiki page layout is a page that shows the assembly of page components used to compose a complete Wiki page with all components in place. With reference back to **Figure 6**, page **600** shows examples of page components, such as header **604**, footer **606**, left margin **608**, right margin **610**, menu **612**, and body **614**. A Wiki page is a page within a Wiki application. Therefore, it would be desirable to have the Wiki page layouts be dynamically configurable and defined in a Wiki page such that users can create new Wiki page layouts as simply as creating new Wiki pages. It would also be desirable to have collections of related Wiki pages share the same Wiki layout page.

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Illustrative embodiments of the present invention provide for embedding Wiki page content into the body of a Wiki layout page. A Wiki layout page is a Wiki page that defines the page layout for a Wiki page. Additionally, a specific layout may be associated with a Wiki page. A user may create a new Wiki layout page by simply creating a new Wiki page and editing the content of the newly created Wiki page. The default content of each page component of the newly created Wiki page is provided by Wiki commands that are named after the page component for which the commands provide content. A Wiki command is a command used to implement a function and/or process of a Wiki application. For example, in an illustrative embodiment of the present invention, the Wiki commands are named header, footer, menu, left margin and right margin.

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Users may include the content from these Wiki commands in any position on the Wiki page that a user wants by using HTML page flow. HTML page flow is how the browser positions the contents of a Web page in reaction to HTML tags that comprise the page source. For example, an HTML <TABLE> tag in the source of a Web page causes the browser to render a tabular display divided into rows and columns which flow vertically from top to bottom. Thus, users can employ the same approach to editing Wiki layout pages as is used for any other Wiki page. A user may include other static HTML content and other dynamic Wiki commands within the newly created Wiki page as the user sees fit. Thus, illustrative

embodiments of the present invention allow users to create pages that share a common look and layout, such as what content appears in the header, for example, a company logo or image, and where the menu appears. Additionally, illustrative embodiments of the present invention allow users to create this common look in a simple way consistent with what the user is familiar with doing, namely creating and editing Wiki pages.

Whenever a user requests a Wiki page, by typing a universal resource locator, Wiki page tables are checked to determine whether a layout page name associated with the page, or set of sub-pages is present. If a layout page is associated with the requested Wiki page, the Wiki page is rendered with the layout information being added and wrapped around the requested Wiki page, forming a combined page.

In an illustrative embodiment of the present invention, a special template variable is included in the Wiki layout page. The special template variable is replaced by the content of the target Wiki page when the new Wiki layout page is used. In these examples, the template variable is a string variable. When naming this special template variable, the user wants to avoid as much collision with the other text on the newly requested page as possible.

Therefore, the name of the special template variable is typically a pattern that is unlikely to occur naturally. In an illustrative embodiment of the present invention, the special template variable is called %__BODY__%. The special template variable is located in the body field of the Wiki layout page. A body field is an object variable of the Wiki layout page object, such as object variable 528 in **Figure 5**. The body field contains the raw, un-rendered content of a Wiki page.

Illustrative embodiments of the present invention provide for a Wiki page to inherit the layout of the Wiki page from ancestor Wiki pages. Each Wiki page has a list of Wiki pages associated with the Wiki page that are ancestor Wiki pages for the Wiki page. Ancestor Wiki pages are those Wiki pages that occur at a higher level in the page naming hierarchy. For example, if a Wiki page is named “LevelOne/LevelTwo” and a Wiki page named “LevelOne” exists, the Wiki page named “LevelOne” is considered an ancestor of the Wiki page “LevelOne/LevelTwo”. The list of the set of ancestor Wiki pages is stored in a field in a Wiki page object. A set of ancestor Wiki pages may comprise one or more ancestor Wiki pages. In

an illustrative embodiment of the present invention, the field is called a path field. A query is used which finds the first Wiki page in a reverse hierarchical order in the list of ancestor Wiki pages that contains a Wiki page layout specifier. In an illustrative embodiment of the present invention, the list of ancestor pages is checked against a Wiki_pages table in a database, such as database 524 in **Figure 5**. The Wiki_pages table contains a list of entries. Each entry comprises a Wiki page and any Wiki layout page associated with that specific Wiki page. Each Wiki page in the list of ancestor Wiki pages is compared to the entries in the Wiki_pages table. Once an entry matching a Wiki page in the list of ancestor Wiki pages is found that has an associated Wiki layout page, the specified layout page is then selected for the target Wiki page to inherit.

Next, **Figure 23** is a block diagram illustrating the process of embedding Wiki page content into the body of a Wiki layout page in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. This process in **Figure 23** may be implemented by a Wiki engine, such as Wiki engine 402 in **Figure 4**. Current page object 2302 is a Wiki page object, such as Wiki page 526 in **Figure 5**. Body 2310 is the body field of the Wiki page, which is an object variable of the Wiki page object, such as object variable 528 in **Figure 5**. Layout page object 2304 includes page components header 2322, menu 2324, right margin 2326, left margin 2328, footer 2330, and body 2320. The page components in layout page object 2304 are contained in the body field of layout page object 2304, which is an object variable of the layout page object, such as object variable 528 in **Figure 5**. The content of the body field of current page object 2302, body 2310 is placed into the body component of layout page object 2304, body 2320. Then, the content of the body field of layout page object 2304, which includes page components header 2322, menu 2324, right margin 2326, left margin 2328, footer 2330, and body 2320, is placed into the body field of current page object 2302, body 2310.

Current page object 2302 is then rendered as combined page 2306. Combined page 2306 is the result of combining current page object 2302 and layout page object 2304. Combined page 2306 includes layout page components header 2322, menu 2324, right margin 2326, left margin 2328 and footer 2330, from layout page object 2304 as well as the content of the body field of current page object 2302, which is represented by body 2310.

In conventional Wiki applications, there currently exists no method to have a Wiki layout page be dynamically configurable in such a way that specific page components of the Wiki page layout can be conditionally shown or hidden. A Wiki page layout is a page that shows the assembly of page components used to compose a complete Wiki page with all components in place. A Wiki page is a page within the Wiki application.

Illustrative embodiments of the present invention provide for programmatically hiding and showing Wiki page layout components. The Wiki layout page is divided into a set of page components. The page components are called the header, menu, left, right, body, and footer components. **Figure 6** shows examples of page layout components, such as header **604**, footer **606**, left margin **608**, right margin **610**, menu **612**, and body **614**. The content of each component is generated by a Wiki command. A Wiki command is a command used to implement a function and/or process of a Wiki application. In an illustrative embodiment of the present invention, the Wiki commands have the same name as the page components for which they generate content. A Wiki page layout contains simple HTML markup with embedded Wiki command markup. When the page is rendered, the Wiki commands interrogate Wiki page settings that control whether or not the page components should display the content generated by the Wiki commands.

In an illustrative embodiment of the present invention, Wiki page settings are implemented as checkboxes that are editable by a user, when the user edits a Wiki page. By checking and un-checking the checkboxes, the user controls the visibility of the various page components, as well as, page comments, attachments and emails. The settings are saved in the Wiki_pages table, which is part of a database, such as database **524** in **Figure 5**, in the “components” column as a bit-mask against which display logic can check. An entry within the page table comprises fields of an identity (ID), account, tag, time, body, owner identity (ownerID), modified_by, isLatest, layout, isLayout, isEditing, commentOn, sections, path, attributes (attrib), and errors. A bit mask is a binary number wherein each bit represents a yes or no value (1 or 0) for a distinct variable. By using fast bitwise operations, the value of a specific variable can be determined or changed. Thus, a bit mask is a compact and efficient means of storing such variables.

Turning now to **Figure 24**, a block diagram depicting checkboxes for determining visibility of content of page components is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. Visibility settings **2402** is a display area through which a user can control the visibility of various page layout components. Visibility settings **2402** may be implemented as part of the content of a Wiki page. In an alternative illustrative embodiment of the present invention, visibility settings **2402** is implemented as a menu option on a client browser. Body **2406** includes checkboxes **2408**. Checkboxes **2408** include checkboxes for the header, menu, left, right, and footer layout page components, as well as checkboxes for comments, attachments, and e-mails. By checking or un-checking checkboxes **2408**, a user can control the visibility of the content of the named layout page components as well as the page comments, attachments and e-mails. In an illustrative embodiment of the present invention, checking the boxes causes the content of the named layout page components as well as the page comments, attachments and e-mails to be displayed in the client browser. In such an implementation, the top portion of visibility settings **2402** would include the word show or visible, or some other term of equivalent meaning. In **Figure 24**, top **2404** includes the word show, indicating that checking a checkbox would cause the content belonging to the layout page section to be shown in the client browser.

In an alternative illustrative embodiment of the present invention, checking a checkbox in visibility settings **2402** causes the content of the corresponding layout page component to be hidden in the client browser. In such an implementation, the top area, top **2404**, would contain a term indicating this implementation, such as hide, for example.

In an illustrative embodiment of the present invention, the result of the checking and un-checking of checkboxes **2408** is stored in a database as a bit mask. During the process of rendering a page for display, the display logic checks the bit mask to determine which content is to be displayed in the client browser.

Turning now to **Figure 25**, a flowchart of a process for creating a Wiki page is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The process in **Figure 25** is for creating a Wiki page, such as Wiki page **602** in **Figure 6**. The process in **Figure 25** begins by receiving user input to create a new Wiki page (process block **2502**).

The user may use a client browser to select a new page command from a menu to provide the user input in process block **2502**.

5 Next, the process prompts the user to enter a name for the new Wiki page (process block **2504**). In one example, the page name may contain alphabetic and numeric characters which follows the CamelCase rules. The page name of the Wiki may also contain '/' characters indicating divisions or levels in the hierarchy. For example, the new Wiki page may be test **904** in **Figure 9**.

10 Next, the process builds an edit request uniform resource locator (URL) and sends a corresponding hypertext transfer protocol (HTTP) request to the server (process block **2506**). The edit request may be built by a JavaScript function on the client browser and may specify the new page action and the new page name.

15 Next, the process loads the appropriate editor and serves the page to the client browser in a hypertext transfer protocol response (process block **2508**). Process block **2508** may be implemented by Wiki controller **500** in **Figure 5**.

20 Next, the process receives user changes and submits a hypertext transfer protocol form submission to the server (process block **2510**). Process block **2510** may occur in response to the user editing the Wiki page in the client browser and submitting the content to be saved.

25 Next, the process creates and saves the Wiki page with the submitted content (process block **2512**) with the process terminating thereafter. In process block **2512**, the Wiki controller handles the page hypertext transfer protocol request and may use a createPage and save method to instantiate the Wiki page object and then save the Wiki page object. The Wiki page object, such as Wiki object **508** in **Figure 5**, creates a row in the Wiki pages database table, such as database **524** in **Figure 5** to represent the new Wiki page.

30 Turning now to **Figure 26**, a flowchart of process for displaying a page is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The process begins by receiving a user specified uniform resource locator (URL) of a Wiki page and sending a

hypertext transfer protocol request to the server (process block **2602**). Process block **2602** may be received by a client browser in client environment **300** in **Figure 3**.

Next, the process handles the request, instantiates objects on the Wiki page, processes the Wiki page, and renders the content of the Wiki page to the client browser as a hypertext transfer protocol response (process block **2604**) with the process terminating thereafter. Process block **2604** may be implemented by Wiki controller **500** in **Figure 5**. The Wiki controller may call the showPage method on the Wiki object. The showPage method instantiates a Wiki page object that maintains the Wiki page contents of the specific row in the Wiki pages database table. The Wiki controller then calls the process method on the Wiki page object which processes the Wiki page and renders the content of the page to the client browser.

Turning now to **Figure 27**, a flowchart of a process for generating a page tree view is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The process in **Figure 27** may be used to create page tree view **900** in **Figure 9**. The process in **Figure 27** may be implemented by a PageTreeCommand within command **550** in **Figure 5**.

The process begins with the PageTreeCommand reading all the rows in the Wiki pages database table and extracting the page name column values (process block **2702**). The page name may also be a tag. A tag is the page name or label that is used to categorize content of a Wiki page. The database may be a database, such as database **524** in **Figure 5**.

Next, the PageTreeCommand iterates over the page name values to build the page tree view (process block **2704**). During process block **2704**, the hierarchy of pages is grouped into nodes and leaf nodes to form a visual tree structure. The nodes are both container and content providers, and the leaf nodes are solely content providers. For example, if a page name ends with a ‘/’ character, the page is treated as a container and content provider and is represented with an appropriate icon representing containment, such as test **904** in **Figure 9**. All Wiki page names begin with that name including the ‘/’ are considered descendants of that page. If the remaining portion of the Wiki page name contains ‘/’, the Wiki page is also considered a container and content provider. If the remaining portion of the Wiki page name does not

contain a ‘/’, the Wiki page is considered a leaf node and is represented with an appropriate icon such as helloworld **912** in **Figure 9**. Any number of different page indicators, such as ‘/’, may be used to specify that a page is a node or leaf node.

5 Next, the PageTreeCommand returns the hypertext markup language representation of the page tree view (process block **2706**) with the process terminating thereafter. The hypertext markup language representation of the page tree view is displayed on the client browser for the user to use in navigating the Wiki pages.

10 Turning now to **Figure 28**, a flowchart of a process for dragging live content is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The illustrative embodiments of the present invention allows dynamic content to be dragged onto a Wiki page and provides a sample of the content as the dynamic content is dragged onto the page. Using an XMLHttpRequest, the Wiki component is remotely invoked and the content returned in an XMLHttpRequest as the drag visual. A request is data sent from a browser client to a Web server. A response is the data sent from a Web server to a browser client as a reaction (in response) to the received request data. The hypertext transfer protocol is an international standard defining specific format and content for requests and responses sent to and from a Web server. An XMLHttpRequest/Response is a further specialization of a hypertext transfer protocol request/response that supports extensible markup language data content and specific response formats. The process in **Figure 28** may be implemented using Wiki page **700** in **Figure 7**.

25 The process begins by receiving user input to perform a drag and drop operation and invoking a JavaScript function that sends an XMLHttpRequest to the server requesting the sample output of the selected Wiki component (process block **2802**). The user input of process block **2802** may be generated by a user dragging an icon, such as eye-catcher **708** from palette **702** onto body **704** of Wiki page **700**, all in **Figure 7**. The process of process block **2802** may be received by a client browser in client environment **300** in **Figure 3**.

30 Next, the process handles the XMLHttpRequest, creates an instance of the Wiki command subclass for the selected Wiki component, and calls a method for retrieving the

dragged content (process block **2804**). During process block **2804**, Wiki controller **500** in **Figure 5** may handle the XMLHttpRequest and route the request to an AJAX formatter which creates an instance of the Wiki command subclass before calling a method, such as `getDragContent` on the Wiki command object instance. The AJAX formatter is a part of a request handler, such as request handler **404** in **Figure 4** and is considered an extension of Wiki controller **500** in **Figure 5**. As previously described, router **502** in **Figure 5** decodes incoming requests and routes the request to the correct request handler. The AJAX formatter is one of the request handlers.

10 Next, the process retrieves the current Wiki page instance from the Wiki object and calls a render method before returning the rendered output in the XMLHttpRequest to the client browser (process block **2806**). The process of process block **2806** may be performed by the AJAX formatter and may pass the result of the `getDragContent` call to a method, such as `renderFragment`.

15 Next, the process processes the XMLHttpRequest and extracts and displays the hypertext markup language drag content (process block **2808**) with the process terminating thereafter. The process of process block **2808** is performed by asynchronous JavaScript code on the client browser. The JavaScript code may use a cascading style sheet (CSS) style which makes the drag content appear semi-transparent. Once the response is processed, extracted, and displayed, control of the process may be handed to drag support.

20 The drag support consists of event-driven JavaScript code which responds to mouse move events. While the user has a mouse button depressed and moves the mouse, the browser JavaScript runtime fires a mouse move event. The drag support implements a mouse move event handler JavaScript function which gets invoked to handle the mouse move event. The drag support uses the JavaScript document object model (DOM) application 25 programming interface (API) functions of the browser to determine the current position of the mouse cursor. The drag support then uses the document object model application programming interface functions to set the position of the drag content, such as a semi-transparent visual returned from the AJAX request to `getDragContent`. The process is 30 then repeated as long as the user keeps the mouse button depressed and continues to move the

mouse. When the user releases the mouse button, a mouse up event is fired by the browser's JavaScript runtime. The drop support implements a mouse up event handler JavaScript function which is invoked to handle the mouse up event. The drop support uses the JavaScript document object model application programming interface functions of the browser to determine the current position of the mouse cursor. The drop support then sends an XMLHttpRequest to the server to have the content inserted into the Wiki page.

Turning now to **Figure 29**, a flowchart of a process for combining content of Wiki pages is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The application Wiki of the illustrative embodiments of the present invention needs a powerful, consistent way to composite content created on various pages. Wiki components are included in Wiki page sources via a "markdown" syntax that consists of two '{' characters, followed immediately by a Wiki component name, followed by white space, followed by optional space separated arguments in 'name="value"' syntax. For example, `{{ImportPage
page="HomePage"}}` where 'ImportPage' is the name of a Wiki component. The contents of any Wiki page may be included within another page using the same Wiki "markdown" syntax as Wiki components. To include the contents of the Wiki page named "HomePage" into the current page, the Wiki user needs to only type `{{HomePage}}` and the HomePage contents will be expanded in-line.

The process in **Figure 29** may be implemented on composite content, such as Wiki page **1000** in **Figure 10**. The process begins by parsing the Wiki page source into parse fragment objects representing static textual content and Wiki components (process block **2902**). The process of process block **2902** is implemented by a Wiki command context object, such as Wiki command context **544** in **Figure 5**. During process block **2902**, the page is parsed into parse fragments which are organized in a tree structure called an abstract syntax tree (AST), which is the internal representation in memory of the Wiki page content. Operations in future steps may now manipulate the page contents by traversing the tree and performing operations on tree nodes.

Next, the process calls a load plugin method which iterates over the list of Wiki components on the Wiki page (process block **2904**). A method, such as loadPlugins, is called

for each Wiki component to instantiate the appropriate Wiki command subclass which implements the functionality of each Wiki component. Process block **2904** is a further refinement of the creation of the in-memory representation of the page content and is a transitional process.

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Next, the process calls a load command method of the Wiki object to perform the Wiki command class loading. If the load command method fails to find the appropriate Wiki command class, the method throws an exception (process block **2906**). The load plugin method of process block **2906** may be loadPlugin. Process block **2906** completes the creation of the in-memory representation of the Wiki page by associating supporting command objects with the Wiki component parse fragments.

10 Next, the process catches the exception and calls a page exists method of the Wiki object to determine if the named Wiki component is actually a Wiki page. Valid page names are loaded into the import page component (process block **2908**). In process block **2908**, if a method, such as pageExists, returns a valid page, the Wiki command context calls the loadPlugin method to load the import page component passing in the Wiki page name. The import page component functions to embed the content of a named page.

15 20 Next, the process adds the import page component to a list of the Wiki command context components (process block **2910**). Next, the process expands the import page component to the contents of the named Wiki page during rendering (process block **2912**) with the process terminating thereafter. In process block **2912**, the process adds the importPage command instance to the list of components.

25 30 Turning now to **Figure 30**, a flowchart of a process for editing a command is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The process in **Figure 30** may be implemented on a page, such as Wiki page **800** in **Figure 8**. The process begins by displaying a palette of Wiki components in response to receiving user input to edit a Wiki page (process block **3002**). In process block **3002**, the user may provide user input by selecting a quite easily done check box. The palette is a palette, such as palette **802** in **Figure 8**. The page, such as Wiki page **800** may include any number of eye-catchers that give the user a

visual cue that the component may be selected and edited. Process block **3002** may be received by a client browser in client environment **300** in **Figure 3**.

5 Next, the process invokes a JavaScript function that sends an XMLHttpRequest to the server to retrieve the property editor for the selected Wiki component in response to the user selecting an eye-catcher (process block **3004**). The eye-catcher may be a Google® maps icon, such as eye-catcher **708** in **Figure 7**.

10 Next, the process handles the request and delegates processing to the AJAX formatter. The AJAX formatter creates a Wiki Command Context object and calls the associated load plugin method requesting that the property editor Wiki component be loaded (process block **3006**). Process block **3006** is performed by Wiki controller **500** in **Figure 5**.

15 Next, the process calls the draw method of the property editor component passing in the selected Wiki component name. The results of the draw method are returned to the client in an XMLHttpRequest (process block **3008**).

20 Next, the process processes the XMLHttpRequest which contains the hypertext markup language and JavaScript of the property editor for the selected component and makes the property editor visible (process block **3010**). The processing is done asynchronously and the property editor may be made visible using cascading style sheet (CSS). The process of process block **3010** may be implemented by the AJAX formatter in Wiki controller **500** in **Figure 5**.

25 Next, the process receives user input in the property editor and issues an XMLHttpRequest to the server to update the properties of the selected Wiki component (process block **3012**). Process block **3012** is performed by the property editor and corresponding client browser.

30 Next, the process handles the request and delegates processing to the AJAX formatter. The AJAX formatter creates a Wiki command context object and calls the associated load plugin method requesting that the update command Wiki component be loaded (process block

3014). Next, the process calls the draw method of the update command component passing in the selected Wiki component name. The update command component updates the Wiki component source “markdown” on the server and returns an XMLHttpRequest indicating success or failure (process block 3016) with the process terminating thereafter. The process of process block 3016 may be implemented by the AJAX formatter in Wiki controller 500 in **Figure 5**.

Thus, illustrative embodiments of the present invention provide a computer implemented method, apparatus, and computer usable program code for an application Wiki. The illustrative embodiments of the present invention allow a user to easily create and manage Wiki pages. The user may edit a Wiki page by dragging and dropping live content. Wiki pages may be combined as requested by the user and may be edited using a property editor. Wiki pages are saved in a page tree view including nodes and leaf nodes for navigating the Wiki.

Turning now to **Figure 31**, a flowchart of a process for rendering a Wiki command is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The process in **Figure 31** may be implemented in Wiki engine 404 in **Figure 4**. The Wiki page may include several Wiki commands. Each Wiki command may contain other Wiki commands as well. The process in **Figure 31** begins with the Wiki engine invoking the render method on a Wiki command (process block 3102). The Wiki engine may be an engine, such as Wiki engine 402 in **Figure 4**. The render method may be a page processing method, such as render 1226 in **Figure 12**.

Next, the process calls the open method (process block 3104). The open method of process block 3104 provides a mechanism for the Wiki command to begin displaying rendered content. For example, a command may generate an ‘opening’ fragment of hypertext markup language, such as ‘Forecast Command. The closing fragment of the SPAN will be generated using the close method. Next, the process makes a determination as to whether the Wiki command permits editing (process block 3106). A Wiki command overrides the setting of allowEdit to determine if the command permits editing content of the command. A value of

true indicates a command can be edited. If the Wiki command permits editing, the process generates an eye-catcher (process block **3108**).

If the Wiki command does not permit editing, the process calls renderBody (process block **3110**). renderBody provides the opportunity for the command to render or emit the corresponding hypertext markup language content. Next, renderBody displays the eye-catcher and then calls render on each of any existing children (process block **3112**). For example, in process block **3112**, the eye-catcher may be displayed using a draw method. The Wiki command may form a hierarchy, that is, Wiki commands may contain other Wiki commands. As a result, the Wiki commands form a tree of commands. Children are the first generation of contained or embedded Wiki commands. Next, the process invokes a close method (process block **3114**) with the process terminating thereafter.

Turning now to **Figure 32**, a flowchart of a preliminary process for property editing is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The process in **Figure 32** is for editing properties of Wiki commands. The process begins by rendering the command (process block **3202**). The command is rendered in a rendering process, such as the process in **Figure 31**. Next, the process generates the default property editor and hides the property editor on the generated page (process block **3204**) with the process terminating thereafter. Most of the time, the user will not interact with the property editor, so the default state of the property editor is hidden until needed by the user. A default property editor is generated in process block **3204** if the command chooses not to implement itself. A command may implement a property editor by overriding a generatePropertyEditor protocol.

Turning now to **Figure 33**, a flowchart of a process for property editing is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The process in **Figure 33** may occur after the process in **Figure 32**. First, the process receives a signal from a user to trigger the property editor to be invoked on a selected command (process block **3302**). For example, in process block **3302**, the user may click on the eye-catcher of the Wiki command which triggers the property editor.

Next, the process identifies the selected command to the client-side property editor subsystem (process block **3304**). The Wiki environment includes a JavaScript base subsystem that tracks the selected component by tracking mouse clicks on the eye-catchers generated. The action of clicking on an eye-catcher identifies the selected command. Process block **3304** 5 may be performed by an eye-catcher, such as eye-catcher **1302** in **Figure 13**.

Next, the process generates an AJAX invocation to ask the server side command representative to render the client-side property editor (process block **3306**). Process block **3306** 10 may be performed by a property editor, such as property editor **1304** in **Figure 13**. During the execution of process block **3306**, the AJAX call invokes the server uniform resource indicator of the Wiki command processor which loaded the pages into the server identified in the object variables of the request. The uniform resource indicator also contains a 15 set of new object variables that represent the new values of the input values for the Wiki command. The engine then updates the input values of the Wiki commands and asks the Wiki command to update the corresponding visual representation based upon the new values. Process block **3306** 20 may be initiated by a command, such as generatePropertyEditor **1222** in **Figure 12**.

Next, the process selects a property editor (process block **3308**). In process block **3308**, 25 the selected Wiki command may choose to provide a specialized property editor by overriding the generatePropertyEditor method or may inherit the default implementation. Alternatively, the Wiki command may provide its own property editor which consists of the hypertext markup language necessary to edit the parameters, properties, and attributes of the Wiki command. The property editor may be selected in process block **3308** based on the attributes of a selected command.

The property editor then receives user interactions and then submits an update to the 30 parameters of the Wiki command (process block **3310**). Next, the property editor generates an AJAX based request which instructs the server page processor to update the list of parameters for the selected Wiki command on a given page (process block **3312**). Next, the command processor locates the command, instantiates the command, and sets the values of the command to the new values passed from the client (process block **3314**). Next, the

command processor asks the commands if the whole page should be updated by invoking the refreshOnUpdate method (process block **3316**). Process block **3316** is implemented by command processor **406** in **Figure 4**. If the commands indicate the whole page should be updated, the whole page is redisplayed on the client (process block **3318**) with the process terminating thereafter. If the commands indicate the whole page does not need to be updated, the command renders itself and the new content is displayed in the getTargetDIV area on the client hypertext markup language document (process block **3320**) with the process terminating thereafter.

As an example of process block **3320**, the user may use the property editor to update a property value of a Forecast Wiki command which may implement the process as described in the following example. The user updates the zip code property using the property editor. The property editor generates an update command request and sends the command to the server. The server receives the requests, loads the page containing the Forecast command, places the new zip code into the page, saves the updated page, and asks the Forecast command if the command needs to refresh the page. The Forecast command answers no, so the server asks the Forecast command to render itself using the new values of the input values sent from the property editor. The hypertext markup language fragment that is generated is sent back to the client and placed in the hypertext markup language element identified by the getTargetDIV protocol. The command may render itself in a process, such as the process in **Figure 31**.

Turning now to **Figure 34**, a flowchart of a process selecting a property editor is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The process in **Figure 34** is a more detailed description of process block **3308** in **Figure 33**. The process begins with the default property editor calling the getParameters to determine the list and type of parameters associated with the selected command (process block **3402**). Next, the process generates the client-side editors for each parameter returned (process block **3404**). The parameter lists provide names, help strings, and possible values for parameters returned.

Next, the process delivers the aggregated content to the client for rendering in the client property editor (process block **3406**) with the process terminating thereafter. Aggregated content is information received from the property editor for the specific

command. For example, the aggregated content includes each piece of metadata and parameters obtained in process blocks **3402** and **3404** for the command displayed to show the property editor. The aggregated content may be rendered in the client property editor defined during a step, such as process block **3306** in **Figure 33**.

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Figures 35-36 are page lifecycle processes used during the lifecycle of a Wiki page. Turning now to **Figure 35**, a flowchart of a process for deleting a page is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The process begins with the page being marked for deletion (process block **3502**). A user may mark the page because of old content, irrelevance, or for any other reason. In process block **3502**, the page is marked as deleted. The page is not actually removed from the database. Next, each command on the page is informed that the command's owning page has been removed (process block **3504**) with the process terminating thereafter. Each command may be informed using a method, such as `wasDeleted 1218` in **Figure 12**. Process block **3504** is used to clean up persistent resources associated with the Wiki command on the given page.

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Turning now to **Figure 36**, a flowchart of a process for revising a page is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The process begins by creating a new empty page (process block **3602**). Next, the process clones the existing page into the new page (process block **3604**). Next, the process informs each command on the page that it is `aboutToSave` (process block **3606**). `aboutToSave` may be a lifecycle command, such as `lifecycle 1204` in **Figure 12**.

20

Next, the page is saved to the database (process block **3608**). Next, the process calls the `wasDeleted` method to inform the page that it has been deleted from the page by no longer being part of the page (process block **3610**). Process block **3610** is performed for each command that is no longer part of the page. Next, the process informs each command on the page that the page was `wasSaved` (process block **3612**) with the process terminating thereafter. Process block **3612** may use a method, such as `wasSaved 1216` in **Figure 12**.

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Turning now to **Figure 37**, a flowchart of a process for copying a page is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The process may begin

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by creating a new empty page (process block **3702**). Next, the process clones the existing page into the new page (process block **3704**). Next, the process calls the wasCopied method for each command on the page (process block **3706**). Process block **3706** may use a method, such as wasCopied **1220** in **Figure 12**.

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Next, the process saves the cloned page, invoking wasSaved on each command on the page (process block **3708**) with the process terminating thereafter.

10 Turning now to **Figure 38**, a flowchart of a process for renaming a page is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The process in **Figure 38** begins by loading the original page (process block **3802**). Next, the process updates the tag names of the page to reflect the new name of the page for all child pages contained by the page (process block **3804**). Next, the process calls wasRenamed to inform the Wiki command it has been renamed for each Wiki command on the page (process block **3806**) with the process terminating thereafter.

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20 Turning now to **Figure 39**, a flowchart of a process for undeleting a page is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The process in **Figure 39** begins by removing the page from the stale state to active by setting the isLatest flag to true (process block **3902**). Next, the process informs each command on the page that the page wasUndeleted (process block **3904**) with the process terminating thereafter. wasUndeleted is called when the command has been placed back on a given page after previously being deleted from the page.

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25 Turning now to **Figure 40**, a flowchart of a process for palette construction is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The Wiki environment provides a palette of available commands installed in the Wiki. The palette provides a visible mechanism for displaying the Wiki command available within the Wiki environment. The palette is defined into categories which are defined by a getCategory protocol. The palette is generated for each command in the Wiki using the process in **Figure 40**.

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First, the process determines if the command supports editing (process block **4002**). If the Wiki supports editing, the process invokes the `getDropContent` which returns the default Wiki markup to be inserted into the page associated with the given Wiki command (process block **4004**) with the process terminating thereafter. Process block **4004** may be performed in response to a Wiki command being dragged out of the palette and placed onto the page.

If the process determines the command does not support editing in process block **4002**, the process retrieves the category of the command (process block **4006**). Categories are defined by the command within the Wiki environment. Some exemplary categories include 'Data Services', and 'Page Content.' Each command in the same category is displayed in the same tab on the palette view. Next, the process retrieves the name (process block **4008**). The name may be retrieved using a method, such as `getName` **1212** in **Figure 12**. Next, the process retrieves the description (process block **4010**). The description may be retrieved using a method, such as `getDescription` **1214** in **Figure 12**. Next, the process retrieves the icon (process block **4012**). The icon may be retrieved using a method, such as `getIcon`. Next, the process retrieves the drag content and places the elements on the palette for each command (process block **4014**). The drag content may be retrieved using a method, such as `getDragContent`.

Commands may display a unique icon or eye-catcher that conveys the use of the command. The `getIcon` protocol is used to retrieve the hypertext markup language fragment which displays the icon of the command when rendered. Many times, a command may want to provide the user with a different piece of hypertext markup language content to drag off the palette that is placed into the page when the component is first dropped onto the page for inserting a new command into the page. The content that is actually dragged from the palette may be specified by overriding the `getDragContent` method.

Next, the process returns to process block **4004** and invokes the `getDropContent` which returns the default Wiki markup to be inserted into the page associated with the given Wiki command with the process terminating thereafter.

Turning now to **Figure 41**, a flowchart of a process for configuration in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. Wiki commands that reside within the Wiki environment sometimes require configuration. For example, a GoogleMap command requires a key for use with the application program interface.

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The process in **Figure 41** is used to enable commands to configure themselves and maintain a set of configuration data associated with a particular Wiki command. The process in **Figure 41** begins by displaying the general cataloging information (process block **4102**). Next, the process invokes the configure method (process block **4104**). The configure method allows commands to generate a hypertext markup language view for editing data associated with the Wiki command within the Wiki. Next, the process invokes the get/setPluginData methods (process block **4106**) with the process terminating thereafter. The get/setPluginData method is used to retrieve and store Wiki command data that affects the Wiki site. For example, command data includes initialization data needed to invoke the command, such as a registration key.

10

Turning now to **Figure 42**, a flowchart of a process for export is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The Wiki supports importing and exporting of the complete Wiki or a subset of the Wiki. The exports format contains the list of pages exported and the page contents, including commands and attachments. The Wiki engine invokes the process in **Figure 42** to assist in the export of a set of pages. A set of pages is one or more Wiki pages.

15

The process in **Figure 42** begins by exporting the general page information including the name of the page (process block **4202**). Next, the process invokes aboutToExport for each Wiki command on the page (process block **4204**). Next, the process calls getVersion method and stores that as part of the output (process block **4206**). If the aboutToExport called in process block **4204** returns a datum, the data is saved as a serialized PHP object within the output stream in process block **4206**.

20

Next, the process exports the commands associated with the page (process block **4208**) with the process terminating thereafter. Comments may be attached to each Wiki page

which represents user commentary for each page. The comments are used as a mechanism to collaborate within the Wiki. For example, a patent attorney may ask an inventor how comments are used on a Wiki page.

5 Turning now to **Figure 43**, a flowchart of a process for import is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The Wiki engine invokes the process in **Figure 43** to import each Wiki command on a page.

10 The process in **Figure 43** begins by importing the general page information including the name of the page (process block **4302**). Next, the process determines if the command saved data (process block **4304**). For example, the process determines if the command saved data in a step, such as process block **4206** in **Figure 42**. If the command saved data, the process unserializes the datum (process block **4306**). The default implementation ensures the saved version name matches that of the current installed Wiki command version. Next, the 15 process invokes wasImported with the unserialized datum (process block **4308**) with the process terminating thereafter. If the data was not saved in process block **4304**, the process returns the new page (process block **4310**) with the process terminating thereafter.

20 Thus, the illustrative embodiments of the present invention further provide a computer implemented method, apparatus, and computer usable program code for extending the capabilities of a Wiki environment. An object-oriented framework is used to define how objects are extended for easily creating collaborative environments. Wiki command classes are processed to effectively manage a deployed environment facilitating reusability, adaptability, and ease of use.

25 Turning now to **Figure 44**, a flowchart of a process for retrieving and parsing a tree is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The tree is the core process data structure used by the illustrative embodiments. The tree may be an abstract syntax tree, such as abstract syntax tree **1102** in **Figure 11**. The process in **Figure 44** is implemented by a Wiki command context, such as Wiki command context **1104** in **Figure 11**. The Wiki command context retrieves and parses a page into an abstract syntax tree

(process block **4402**) with the process terminating thereafter. A Wiki page is loaded by the Wiki. The Wiki page instantiates a Wiki command context that creates the tree.

Turning now to **Figure 45**, a process for processing a web page for display in a Wiki is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The process in **Figure 45** may be implemented by a Wiki engine and more specifically a command processor, such as Wiki Engine **402** and command processor **406** in **Figure 4**. The process in **Figure 45** begins with the process engine visiting each node in the abstract syntax tree invoking the initiation method on the commands present in the abstract syntax tree (process block **4502**). The initiation method may be named init. Init finds commands within each node of the abstract syntax tree and makes the commands available to other commands. As a result, the commands may communicate with other commands including other identical commands. During process block **4502**, the commands have the responsibility to initialize internal data structures of the commands, publish the topics provided, and subscribe to topics of interest on the data hub. Topics represent area of interest between publishers and subscribers. For example, one important topic in the publisher/subscriber environment is ‘data/available’. Other examples of topics include ‘address’ and ‘latlong.’ During process block **4502**, the commands may place events that will need to be processed after all commands have been invoked using the init method in a queue. Events communicate state changes from one state to another. The event stimulates the communication for implementing the state change.

Queuing events is performed so that events can be processed in an orderly sequential manner and are not lost in a single threaded execution environment, such as the JavaScript client. Queuing events enable the core execution environment to ensure all components are properly initialized and ready to process events before events are dispatched. The commands may perform every phase of the illustrative embodiments of the present invention and may override the default implementation.

Next, the command processor invokes processEvents on the data hub to deliver any queued events (process block **4504**). The publish and subscribe model dictates that a subscriber registers with the data hub for events of interest in order to be received from the data hub. The publisher triggers events which are queued on the data hub. During the

processEvents phase, the data hub processes each queued event and determines the interested subscriber and invokes the subscriber in order to deliver the event. The queued events are events that were placed in the queue in process block **4502**. Next, the command processor visits each node in the abstract syntax tree invoking the discover method on the commands present in the abstract syntax tree (process block **4506**).

The discover method locates command related information sources for more detailed interaction between commands. During process block **4506**, the producer, consumer, or controller commands may locate each other using the data hub and establish a direct event connection to each other instead of the data hub. Commands may choose to interact indirectly through the data hub as described above or locate other commands during the discovery phase. During the discovery phase of processing, a command may interrogate the data hub for publishers, subscribers, and topics. Commands may also communicate directly if needed, bypassing the indirect communication method established above. This capability enables a more efficient process of events and eliminates the need for the data hub as a communication interface. Additionally, commands may remove themselves from the data hub. The commands may enqueue or place in queue, events that will need to be processed after all commands have been invoked using the initiation method.

Next, the command processor invokes processEvents on the data hub to deliver any queued events (process block **4508**). The queued events are events that were enqueued in process block **4506**. Next, the command processor visits each node in the abstract syntax tree invoking the render methods on the commands present in the abstract syntax tree (process block **4510**) with the process terminating thereafter. During process block **4510**, commands render both visual and non-visual content for the page. For example, visual content may include a table display of list data. Non-visual content may include the SearchList command which searches a list of data and has no visual content. The non-command nodes, such as text fragments of the page are also rendered during process block **4510**. During any of the steps in **Figure 45**, commands may additionally process other pieces of page source fragments by invoking the process in **Figure 45** recursively on the page source fragment. Page source fragments are all non-command content. Page source fragments capture all non-command content between commands on the page.

Turning now to **Figure 46**, a flowchart of processing events is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The processing steps in **Figure 46** are performed by a data hub, such as data hub **1112** in **Figure 11**. **Figure 46** is a more detailed explanation of process block **4504** in **Figure 45**.

5

The process begins with the data hub removing the events from the queue (process block **4602**). Next, the data hub delivers the events to registered subscribers (process block **4604**). Registered subscribers are generally commands but may alternatively be stand-alone functional units. Registered subscribers are registered during initiation during which commands publish, subscribe, or register interests to all other commands. Next, the data hub places in queue any resulting events delivered to registered subscribers (process block **4606**). The events of process block **4606** are those that were delivered to registered subscribers in process block **4604**.

15

Next, the data hub triggers the invoke method on commands whose input values have been fulfilled by the data delivery mechanism of the data hub (process block **4608**) with the process terminating thereafter. Commands provide a set of input values to execute their functions. Input values may be static or dynamic. When input values are dynamic, the Wiki engine tracks when data becomes available that is used as an input to the commands. When input becomes available, it is delivered to the command and has thus become 'fulfilled.'

20

Thus, the illustrative embodiments of the present invention further provide a computer implemented method, apparatus, and computer usable program code for processing a web page for display in a Wiki environment. Newly added components are able to interact with other components in the form of an abstract syntax tree before the final views are rendered. Components are enabled to discover new attribute and parameter settings from the page serve context in the form of nodes of the abstract syntax tree. A processing and validation mechanism is used for components to validate inputs and report errors before rendering final views. Targeted events are processed within the lifecycle of the page serve sequence. 30 Multiple versions of the same component are managed on a single server.

Turning now to **Figure 47**, a flowchart of an operation occurring when a server-side data hub object is instantiated is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The process is implemented by Wiki Engine **402** in **Figure 4**.

5 The process begins by receiving a request to load a new page from the client (process block **4702**). When the request to load a new page is received by the server, the process creates an instance of a client-side data hub object (process block **4704**) associated with the requested new page in accordance with attributes and methods specified by a server-side Wiki data hub class variables and methods. The process registers all components on the server with 10 the server-side data hub object (process block **4706**) with the process terminating thereafter.

15 Turning now to **Figure 48**, a flowchart of an operation occurring when a client-side data hub object is instantiated is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The process is implemented by a processing unit on a client, such as processing unit **206** in client **200** in **Figure 2**.

20 The process begins by loading a new page received from the server (process block **4802**). When the processing unit on the client loads the hypertext markup language or the JavaScript for the page, the process creates an instance of a client-side data hub object (process block **4804**) associated with the requested new page in accordance with attributes and methods specified by a client-side Wiki data hub class variables and methods. The process registers all components on the client with the client-side data hub object (process block **4806**) with the process terminating thereafter.

25 Turning now to **Figure 49**, a flowchart of an operation occurring when a server-side data hub receives a request to process an event from a client-side data hub is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The data hub is implemented by a data hub on a server, such as data hub **558** in **Figure 5** and data hub **638** in **Figure 6**.

30 The data hub object begins by receiving a page request and/or an event from a client-side data hub (process block **4902**). The data hub object processes the request/event

using a set of methods (process block **4904**). The request/event is generated by a producer command associated with the client. The set of methods can be a set of methods of the data hub object, a set of methods of a data hub topic object, the data hub event object, or any combination of methods associated with the data hub object, the data hub topic object, and/or the data hub event object. The data hub object sends the processed event to a set of consumer commands (process block **4906**) with the process terminating thereafter.

Turning now to **Figure 50**, a flowchart of an operation occurring when a producer command processes an event is depicted is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. In this illustrative example, the process is implemented by a command object, such as Wiki command object **1404** and **1412** in **Figure 14**.

The process begins when the command initializes as a result of a call on the init method on the command (process block **5002**). The init method to initialize the command is called by the data hub. The command registers as a producer for a given event topic, such as Topic A, with the data hub (process block **5004**). The command retrieves data (process block **5006**). In this illustrative example, retrieving data can include receiving input from a user, as well as retrieving data from a database or other data storage device. The command fires an event object for Topic A (process block **5008**) to the data hub with the process terminating thereafter.

Turning now to **Figure 51**, a flowchart outlining an operation occurring when a consumer command processes an event is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. In this illustrative example, the process is implemented by a command object, such as Wiki command object **1404** and **1412** in **Figure 14**.

The process begins with consumer command initializing in response to a data hub calling an initialize method on all commands (process block **5102**). The command registers with the data hub as a consumer command for a given event topic, such as Topic A (process block **5104**). The command receives an event for Topic A from the data hub (process block **5106**) when the data hub calls a callback method on the consumer command. The command processes the event (process block **5108**). The command renders the results of processing into hypertext markup language or JavaScript (process block **5110**) in response to the data

hub calling a render method on the command. Finally, the command sends the rendered results to the data hub (process block **5112**) with the process terminating thereafter.

Turning now to **Figure 52**, a flowchart of an operation occurring when a client-side data hub receives an event is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. In this illustrative example, the process is implemented by a client-side data hub, such as data hub **634** in **Figure 6**, data hub **1412** in **Figure 14**, and data hub **1910** in **Figure 19A**.

The process begins when the client-side data hub receives an event from a user and/or a component, such as a producer component (process block **5202**). The client-side data hub processes the event immediately (process block **5204**). In this step, the client-side data hub determines if one or more commands have registered as consumers for the given topic associated with the event object. If one or more commands have registered as consumers for the given topic, the client-side data hub calls a callback method on the set of registered consumers (process block **5212**) to send the event to the registered consumers with the process terminating thereafter.

Turning now to **Figure 53**, a flowchart of an operation occurring when a server-side data hub processes an event is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. In this illustrative example, the process is implemented by a server-side data hub, such as data hub **638** in **Figure 6**, data hub **1404** in **Figure 14**, and data hub **1500** in **Figure 15**. The process begins when server-side data hub calls an initialize “init()” method on all commands associated with the server (process block **5302**).

The server-side data hub receives registration of commands as consumers for given topic events (process block **5304**). The server-side data hub receives an event for a given event topic (process block **5306**). The event can include data. The event may be received from a user input or from another command (process block **5308**). The server-side data hub adds the event to an event queue (process block **5310**).

The server-side data hub processes events in the event queue during a processEvents method phase. The server-side data hub calls a callback method on all consumer commands

registered for the given topic. The server-side data hub calls the callback method to send the event to registered consumers for the event topic associated with the event (process block **5316**).

5 The server-side data hub makes a determination as to whether a new event is received for the given event topic being processed (process block **5318**). If a new event is received, the server-side data hub adds the event to the event queue (process block **5310**) for processing during the next processEvent phase. Returning to process block **5318**, if no new event data is received, the server-side data hub calls a render method on all commands involved in
10 processing the event (process block **5320**). The server-side data hub collects the rendered results received from all commands involved in processing the event and sends the content to the client for display (process block **5322**) with the process terminating thereafter. The content returned to the client is returned in hypertext markup language or JavaScript for display at the client browser.

15
Turning now to **Figure 54**, a flowchart of an operation occurring when a client-side data hub determines whether to send an event to a server for processing is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. In this illustrative example, the process is implemented by a client-side data hub, such as data hub **634** in **Figure 6**, data hub **1412** in
20 **Figure 14**, and data hub **1910** in **Figure 19A**.

25 The process begins when a client-side data hub receives an event fired by a producer command (process block **5402**). The client-side data hub sends the event to any command on the client registered with the data hub as a consumer of the event topic associated with the event (process block **5404**). The client-side data hub makes a determination as to whether the event should be sent to a server-side data hub (process block **5406**). If the client-side data hub determines that the event should not be sent to a server-side data hub, the client-side data hub processes the event on the client (process block **5408**). If the client-side data hub determines that the event should be sent to the server, the client-side data hub calls a processClientEvent method to send the event to the server-side data hub for processing (process block **5410**).
30 The client-side data hub receives the results of the processClientEvent from the server-side data hub (process block **5412**). The client-side data hub updates the displayed Wiki page on

the client with the new Wiki page content received in the results of the processClientEvent from the server (process block **5414**) with the process terminating thereafter.

Turning now to **Figure 55**, a flowchart of an operation occurring when a server-side data hub receives an event from a client-side data hub as a result of a processClientEvent method call is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. In this illustrative example, the process is implemented by a server-side data hub, such as data hub **638** in **Figure 6**, data hub **1404** in **Figure 14**, and data hub **1500** in **Figure 15**.

The process begins when a server-side data hub receives an event topic for a given event topic, such as Topic B, from a client-side data hub (process block **5502**). The server-side data hub sends the event for Topic B to the event queue (process block **5504**). The server-side data hub processes the event for Topic B in the event queue during the next processEvent phase (process block **5506**). The server-side data hub sends the event for Topic B to a set of consumers on the server registered as listeners/consumers for Topic B (process block **5508**). The server-side data hub receives new event data for Topic B from producers on the server (process block **5510**). The producers firing the new event data were one or more of the consumers that received the event data in process block **5508**. The server-side data hub adds the new event data to the event queue (process block **5512**).

The server-side data hub processes the new event for Topic B during the next processEvent phase (process block **5514**). The server-side data hub sends the new event to consumers on the server registered as listeners/consumers for Topic B (process block **5516**). The server-side data hub calls render method on all commands involved in processing the event for Topic B (process block **5518**). The server-side data hub receives the results of command processing of the event in the form of renderings in hypertext markup language or JavaScript (process block **5520**). The server-side data hub bundles the renderings from all the commands and sends the renderings to the client data hub (process block **5522**) with the process terminating thereafter.

The illustrative embodiments of the present invention also provide a computer implemented method, apparatus, and computer usable program code for argument detection

for event firing. Event firing refers to the process of sending an event to a data hub for processing.

5 The process aggregates argument data from a set of sources to form an aggregate data set. The process generates a list of minimum sufficient arguments for firing an event to form a set of minimum arguments. The process compares the aggregate data set to the set of minimum arguments to determine whether the set of minimum arguments are available. The process triggers the command to fire the event, in response to determining that the set of minimum arguments are available.

10 Turning now to **Figure 56**, a flowchart of an operation occurring when a Wiki argument object performs a minimum sufficient argument process is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. In this illustrative example, the process is implemented by a Wiki command object, such as Wiki command **1404** or Wiki command **1412** 15 in **Figure 14**.

20 The process begins when Wiki argument object aggregates argument data from a set of sources (process block **5602**). The Wiki argument object generates a minimum sufficient argument set based on declared parameters criteria to form an argument set (process block **5604**). The Wiki argument object compares aggregate argument data set to minimum argument set (process block **5606**). The Wiki argument object makes a determination as to whether sufficient arguments are present (process block **5608**). If the Wiki argument object 25 determines that sufficient arguments are present, the Wiki argument object fires a dataAvailable event indicating that the required data is available to fire the event (process block **5610**) with the process terminating thereafter.

30 If the Wiki argument object determines that sufficient arguments are not present, the Wiki argument object makes a determination as to whether new data has been received (process block **5612**). If new data has been received, the process returns to process block **5604** where Wiki argument generates a new aggregate argument data set to determine if sufficient arguments are now present. If no new data has been received, the process terminates thereafter.

Turning now to **Figure 57**, a flowchart of a process for an areArguments set method that occurs when a Wiki argument object determines if the minimum required arguments of a command are set is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. In this illustrative example, the process is implemented by a Wiki command object, such as Wiki command **1404** or Wiki command **1412** in **Figure 14**.

The process begins by receiving a call from an object to fire an event that requires a minimum sufficient set of argument values to be present prior to firing the argument (process block **5702**). The process generates a list of the required arguments into an argument list (process block **5704**). Next, the process makes a determination as to whether more arguments in the list of arguments are present (process block **5706**) that have not yet been checked. In other words, the process identifies the next argument to be checked or processed by determining which argument in the argument list is the next argument in the list to be checked. The process checks the next argument in the list by making a determination as to whether the argument is available and valid, iteratively until all the arguments in the list have been checked for availability and validity. If the list does not contain any additional unprocessed or unchecked arguments, the process returns the Boolean value of “true” to the caller object (process block **5710**) with the process terminating thereafter.

Returning to process block **5706**, if the list does contain a next unprocessed or unchecked argument, the process makes a determination as to whether the next argument in the argument list is set (process block **5708**). The process removes the next argument from the list of unprocessed arguments (process block **5706**). If the process determines the argument is set at process block **5708**, the process returns to process block **5706** to continue processing the list until all arguments in the list of arguments have been checked. If the process determines the argument is not set, the method returns the Boolean value of “false” to the caller (process block **5712**), with the process terminating thereafter.

Turning now to **Figure 58**, a flowchart of a process for a setCheckArguments method for detecting if the arguments/available event should be fired is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. In this illustrative example, the process is

implemented by a Wiki command object, such as Wiki command **1404** or Wiki command **1412** in **Figure 14**.

5 The process begins by making a determination as to whether an identifier argument is set (process block **5802**). The identifier argument is a default argument belonging to the data hub command. The identifier argument is used to uniquely identify an event throughout its existence within the data hub. If the process determines that the identifier argument is not set, the process terminates thereafter.

10 Returning to process block **5802**, if the identifier argument is set, the process makes a determination as to whether all arguments required to be present prior to firing an identified event are available (process block **5806**). The process makes this determination by checking a flag that determines if all arguments in a previously defined set of required arguments are available. If the process makes a determination that the previously defined arguments in the set 15 of required arguments are not available, the process calls the `areArgumentsSet` method (process block **5808**). If the process receives a return value of “false” from the `areArgumentsSet` method, the process terminates thereafter.

20 Returning now to step **5808**, if the arguments set process returns a value of true, the process creates a data available event object (process block **5810**). The data available event object indicates that the all arguments required to be present prior to firing an identified event are present. The process fires the data available event object to trigger a command associated with the identified event to fire the identified event (process block **5812**).

25 Returning to process block **5806**, if the process determines that the `areArgumentsSet` method returns “true” as shown in process block **5708** in **Figure 57**, the process creates a data available event object (process block **5810**). Next, the process calls the `fireEvent` method on the data hub object with the data available event as an argument to the method to fire the event object (process block **5812**). The `fireEvent` method relays the event to any listening 30 processes. The process terminates thereafter.

Figure 59 is a flowchart illustrating the operation of defining a Wiki page layout with a Wiki page in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The operation of inheriting a Wiki page layout for a Wiki page is particularly highlighted in process blocks 5912 through 5920. The operation in Figure 59 may be implemented by a Wiki engine, such as Wiki engine 402 in Figure 4, and more specifically by a Wiki controller, such as Wiki controller 500 in Figure 5. The operation begins when a Wiki engine receives a request to show a page (process block 5902). The request is typically an HTTP request issued by a remote client browser. A Wiki controller object handles the request. The Wiki controller object begins the process of rendering the requested page combined with a layout page (process block 5904).

In an illustrative embodiment of the present invention the process of rendering the requested page is invoked by calling a showPage method of the Wiki object, such as Wiki object 508 in Figure 5. The showPage method retrieves the requested Wiki page and renders an HTML version of the requested Wiki page, which can be displayed in a client browser. The Wiki object acts as a repository for all of the objects and fields used to generate content for the newly requested Wiki page. As part of the page rendering process, a first sub-process is invoked (process block 5906). The first sub-process performs the data manipulations necessary to create a data model of the requested page. In an illustrative embodiment of the present invention the data model of the requested Wiki page is a Wiki page object, such as Wiki page 526 in Figure 5. In an illustrative embodiment of the present invention, the first sub-process is a processPage method, which is called by the showPage method.

The first sub-process invokes a second sub-process (process block 5908). The purpose of the second sub-process is to load the Wiki layout page associated with the Wiki page that is the subject of the current request. In an illustrative embodiment of the present invention, the second sub-process is a loadLayout method.

The second sub-process makes a determination as to whether the layout field of the data model of the requested Wiki page contains a Wiki layout page name (process block 5910). In an illustrative embodiment of the present invention, the layout field is an object variable of the Wiki page object, such as object variable 528 of page 526 in Figure 5. If the

second sub-process determines that the layout field does not contain a Wiki layout page name for the currently requested Wiki page (a no output to process block **5910**), then the second sub-process makes a determination as to whether the currently requested Wiki page has ancestor Wiki pages (process block **5912**). Ancestor Wiki pages are those Wiki pages that occur at a higher level in the page naming hierarchy. For example, if a Wiki page is named “LevelOne/LevelTwo” and a Wiki page named “LevelOne” exists, the Wiki page named “LevelOne” is considered an ancestor of the Wiki page “LevelOne/LevelTwo”. In another illustrative embodiment of the present invention the second sub-process determines if the currently requested Wiki page has ancestor Wiki pages by checking the path field of the Wiki page object. The currently requested Wiki page is determined to have ancestor Wiki pages if the path field contains names of Wiki pages.

If the second sub-process determines that the currently requested Wiki page has ancestor Wiki pages (a yes output to process block **5912**), the second sub-process retrieves the path, loads the path into an array, and reverses the order of the array such that the closest ancestor appears first (process block **5914**). In a page name hierarchy, the closest ancestor page is the name segment that occurs immediately prior to the last segment. For example, if a page is named “LevelOne/LevelTwo/LevelThree”, the closest ancestor page of the page is the page named “LevelTwo”. The most remote ancestor page of the page is the page named “LevelOne”. Next, the second sub-process makes a determination as to whether a row, or entry, in the Wiki_pages table matches one of the page identities in the path array (process block **5916**). The Wiki_pages table is a table in the database that comprises the object variables of the Wiki page object. In an illustrative embodiment of the present invention, an entry, or row, in the page table comprises fields of an identity (ID), account, tag, time, body, owner identity (ownerID), modified_by, isLatest, layout, isLayout, isEditing, commentOn, path, attributes (attrib), and errors.

If a second sub-process determines that a match exists (a yes output to process block **5916**), the second sub-process loads the Wiki layout page returned as a match (process block **5918**). The ancestor page that is found to have a matching entry in the Wiki_page table is referred to as a matched ancestor page. In an illustrative embodiment of the present invention, the second sub-process loads the Wiki layout page returned as a match from the query by

invoking a third sub-process which loads the Wiki layout page returned as a match from the query. In another illustrative embodiment of the present invention, the third sub-process is a loadPage method of the Wiki object. Then the operation goes to process block **5924**.

5 If the second sub-process determines that a match does not exist (a no output to process block **5916**), the second sub-process loads a default layout page (process block **5920**). In an illustrative embodiment of the present invention a loadPage method of the Wiki object is called to load the default layout page. Then the operation goes to process block **5924**.

10 If the second sub-process determines that the currently requested Wiki page does not have ancestor Wiki pages (a no output to process block **5912**), the second sub-process loads a default layout page (process block **5920**). In an illustrative embodiment of the present invention a loadPage method of the Wiki object is called to load the default layout page. Then the operation goes to process block **5924**.

15 If the second sub-process determines that the layout field is set for the currently requested Wiki page (a yes output to process block **5910**), then the second sub-process loads the layout page named in the layout field (process block **5922**). In an illustrative embodiment of the present invention a loadPage method of the Wiki object is called to load the named layout page.

20 Next, the second sub-process returns the layout Wiki page object to the first sub-process (process block **5924**). In an illustrative embodiment of the present invention, the second sub-process returns the layout Wiki page object to the first sub-process via the third sub-process. The first sub-process places the contents of the body field of the Wiki page object of the currently requested Wiki page into the page component “body,” which is part of the body field of the Wiki layout page object (process block **5926**). The body field is an object variable of the Wiki page object, such as object variable **528** of page **526** in **Figure 5**. In an illustrative embodiment of the present invention the first sub-process places the content of the body field of the Wiki page object of the currently requested Wiki page into the body field of the Wiki layout page object by replacing a special template variable in the Wiki layout page object with the body field of the Wiki page object of the currently requested Wiki page. In an

illustrative embodiment of the present invention the special template variable is a string variable. In another illustrative embodiment of the present invention the first sub-process replaces the special template variable with the body of the currently requested Wiki page through string substitution.

5

Next, the body field of the Wiki page object of the currently requested page is replaced with the body field of the Wiki layout page object (process block **5928**). The body field of the Wiki layout page object includes page components header, menu, right margin, left margin, footer, and body. Processing to render the page in a client browser continues as normal (process block **5930**), then the operation ends. Thus, when rendered in the client browser, the currently requested Wiki page comprises the original content of the currently requested Wiki page, wrapped in the associated Wiki layout page.

Thus, illustrative embodiments of the present invention provide for embedding Wiki page content into the body of a layout page. Additionally, a specific layout may be associated with a Wiki page. A user may create a new Wiki layout page by simply creating a new Wiki page and editing the content of the newly created Wiki page. The default content of each section of the newly created Wiki page is provided by Wiki commands that are named after the section for which the commands provide content. Users may include the content from these Wiki commands in any position on the page that a user wants by using HTML page flow. The user may include other static HTML content and other dynamic Wiki commands within the newly created Wiki page as the user sees fit.

Additionally, illustrative embodiments of the present invention provide for a Wiki page to inherit the layout of the Wiki page from ancestor pages. Each Wiki page has a list of pages associated with the Wiki page that are ancestor pages for the Wiki page. The list of ancestor pages is stored in a field in a Wiki object. In an illustrative embodiment of the present invention, the field is called a path field. A query is used which finds the first Wiki page in a reverse hierarchical order in the ancestor list that contains a Wiki page layout specifier. The specified layout page is then selected for the target page to inherit.

30

Figure 60 is a flowchart of the operation of rendering a Wiki page in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The operation in **Figure 60** may be implemented by a Wiki engine, such as Wiki engine **402** in **Figure 4**, and more specifically by a Wiki controller, such as Wiki controller **500** in **Figure 5**. The operation begins when a Wiki engine receives a request to show a Wiki page (process block **6002**). The request is typically an HTTP request issued by a remote client browser. A Wiki controller object handles the request. The Wiki controller object begins the process of rendering the requested Wiki page combined with a Wiki layout page (process block **6004**).

In an illustrative embodiment of the present invention the process of rendering the requested Wiki page is invoked by calling a showPage method of the Wiki object, such as Wiki object **508** in **Figure 5**. A showPage method retrieves the requested Wiki page and renders an HTML version of the requested Wiki page, which can be displayed in a client browser. The Wiki object acts as a repository for all of the objects and fields used to generate content for the newly requested Wiki page. Next, the Wiki engine tests the bit mask settings of a bit-mask stored in a field of the requested Wiki page, such as Wiki page **526** in **Figure 5**, called the component field (process block **6006**). The component field bit-mask includes a bit corresponding to each page component in the Wiki page, such as the header, menu, footer, and so forth. If the bit, or setting, for a given page component has the value of 1, the corresponding page component Wiki command in the layout page is allowed to contribute the content generated by the Wiki command to the Wiki page. If the bit, or setting, for a given page component has the value of 0, the corresponding page component Wiki command in the layout page is not allowed to contribute the content to the Wiki page that the Wiki command would generate.

Next, the operation combines the requested Wiki page with an associated Wiki layout page (process block **6008**), forming a combined page. In an illustrative embodiment of the present invention, in order to determine the Wiki layout page associated with the requested Wiki page, a page table is checked to determine the specific Wiki layout page associated with the requested Wiki page. In an illustrative embodiment of the present invention, the page table is called a Wiki_page table. If the requested Wiki page does not have a specific Wiki layout

page associated with the Wiki page in the page table, a default Wiki layout page is associated and combined with the requested Wiki page.

Thus, illustrative embodiments of the present invention provide for programmatically hiding and displaying Wiki page layout sections. Wiki page settings are implemented as checkboxes that are editable by a user, when the user edits a Wiki page. By checking and un-checking the checkboxes, the user controls the visibility of the various page components, as well as, page comments, attachments and emails.

Turning now to **Figure 61**, an illustration of a class definition for a server-side data hub object class is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. A server-side data hub object, such as server-side data hub object **2100** in **Figure 21**, has attributes and object variables that are defined by a Wiki data hub class definition, such as the class variable in code **6102**.

This illustrative Wiki data hub class definition provides an array of Wiki command objects **6104**, an array of consumer identifiers **6106**, and an array of producer identifiers **6108**. Thus, each time a server-side data hub is instantiated for a given page instance, the data hub attributes for the server-side data hub instance are defined by a Wiki data hub class definition, such as the Wiki data hub class definition shown above.

Turning now to **Figure 62**, an illustration of a set of method interfaces for a class of data hub management methods is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The set of data hub management methods **6200** are data hub management method interfaces associated with a server-side data hub, such as data hub management **1402** in **Figure 14**. Code **6202** is an example of a method for restoring a data hub object saved in a file system or other data storage device, such as storage **108** in **Figure 1**. Code **6204** is an example of a method for saving or caching an instance of a data hub object to a file system.

Turning now to **Figure 63A**, an illustration of a set of method interfaces for a class of producer and consumer methods is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of

the present invention. The set of producer and consumer methods **6300** are data hub method interfaces associated with a server-side data hub, such as producers and consumers **2104** in **Figure 21**. The set of data hub management methods **6200** are data hub management method interfaces, such as producers and consumers **2104** in **Figure 21**.

5

Code **6302** is a method to add a command to the data hub. Code **6304** is a method to get commands that are members of the data hub. Code **6306** is a method to get a command. Code **6308** is a method that is called to add a producer command. Code **6310** is a method to add an editable producer command. An editable producer command provides data that can be edited for create, update, and delete operations.

10

Code **6312** is a method to remove a producer command, such as a regular or editable producer command. Code **6314** is a method to get a list of all producers. Code **6316** is a method to add a consumer command as a listener for a particular topic. Code **6318** is a method to remove a consumer command as a listener for a particular topic. Code **6320** is a method to get a list of consumer commands that are listening to a particular topic. Code **6322** is a method to add a client consumer command as a listener for a particular command.

15

Code **6324** is a command to add a client JavaScript handler. Code **6326** is a code to remove a consumer command as a listener for a particular topic. Code **6328** is a method to get a list of consumer commands that are listening to a particular topic. Code **6330** is a method to add a client consumer as a listener for a particular topic. Code **6332** is a method to generate JavaScript code on the client for commands that belong to the client-side data hub.

20

Turning now to **Figure 63B**, an illustration of a set of method interfaces for a class of topic methods is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The set of topic methods **6340** are method interfaces for topic methods on a server-side data hub, such as topics **2106** in **Figure 21**. For example, code **6342** is an example of a method for adding an event topic. Code **6344** is a method for removing an event topic.

25

Turning now to **Figure 64**, an illustration of a set of method interfaces for a class of event processing methods in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present

invention. The set of event processing methods **6400** are method interfaces for event processing methods on a server-side data hub, such as event processing **2108** in **Figure 21**. For example, code **6402** is a method to fire an event. Code **6404** is a method to process events on the server. Code **6406** is a method to process a client event destined for the server.

5 Multiple events can be sent to the server as a batch.

Turning now to **Figure 65**, an illustration of a set of method interfaces for a class of command management methods is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The set of command management methods **6500** are method interfaces for command management methods on the server-side data hub, such as command management **2110** in **Figure 21**. For example, code **6502** is a method to set arguments for command. This changes the arguments in the source. Code **6504** is a method to delete commands from page source.

Turning now to **Figure 66**, an illustration of a class definition for a client-side data hub object class is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The data hub attributes and object variable are defined by a Wiki data hub class definition for a client-side data hub, as shown in code **6600**. Code **6602** is an object variable for consumer identifiers. Code **6604** is an object variable for topics. Code **6606** is an object variable for events.

Turning now to **Figure 67**, an illustration of a set of method interfaces for a class of producer and consumer methods is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The set of producer and consumer methods **6700** are producer and consumer method interfaces on a client-side data hub, such as producers and consumers **2202** in **Figure 22**. For example, code **6702** is a method for adding a consumer command. Code **6704** is a method for removing a consumer command.

Turning now to **Figure 68**, an illustration of a set of method interfaces for a class of topic methods is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The set of topic methods **6800** are method interfaces for topic methods on a client-side data hub, such as topics **2204** in **Figure 22**. For example, code **6802** is a method

for adding a topic that is available for other consumer commands. Code **6804** is a method for getting a list of available topics.

Turning now to **Figure 69**, an illustration of a set of method interfaces for a class of event processing methods is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The set of event processing methods **6900** are method interfaces for event processing methods on a client-side data hub, such as event processing **2206** in **Figure 22**. For example, code **6902** is a method for firing all queued up events. Code **6904** is a method for firing an event. Code **6906** is a method for sending an event to the server for execution.

Turning now to **Figure 70**, an illustration of a set of method interfaces for a class of command management methods is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The set of command management methods **7000** are method interfaces for command management methods on a client-side data hub, such as command management **2208** in **Figure 22**. For example, code **7002** is a method for adding a Wiki command. Code **7004** is a method for deleting a command.

A data hub topic object defines a topic that a consumer can subscribe to, as well as a topic that a producer command can publish or fire. For example, a search component is a consumer that subscribes to a search topic. When a user interface receives a search term from a user, the user interface fires an event for the search topic. In other words, the user interface is a producer that publishes the topic subscribed to by the consumer search component.

Turning now to **Figure 71**, an illustration of a set of object variables and method interfaces for a class of data hub topic objects is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The object variable **7100** define the attributes of the topic object. The set of methods are method interfaces for data hub topic objects on a client-side data hub or a server-side data hub, such as data hub topic objects **2112** in **Figure 21** and data hub topic object **2210** in **Figure 22**. In this illustrative embodiment of the present invention, the data hub topic object associated with the server and the data hub topic object associated with the client have the same object variable and methods.

Turning now to **Figure 72**, an illustration of class definitions and method interfaces for a class of data hub event objects is depicted in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. The class definitions **7200** define the attributes of the event object. For example, code **7202** defines an object variable for a topic. All event objects have a topic value in the topic object variable. Code **7204** defines an object variable for a value. An event object may have data stored in the object variable value. However, not all event objects include data.

In this illustrative embodiment of the present invention, the set of methods are method interfaces for data hub event objects, such as data hub event objects **2114** in **Figure 21** and data hub event object **2212** in **Figure 22**. The data hub event object associated with the server and the data hub event object associated with the client has the same object variable and methods.

A data hub object, data hub topic object, and/or data hub event object can include additional methods not shown in the illustrative embodiments without departing from the scope of the illustrative embodiments of the present invention. In addition, one or more of the methods associated with data hub object, data hub topic object, and/or data hub event object can be absent from the set of methods for the data hub object, data hub topic object, and/or data hub event object in accordance with the illustrative embodiments of the present invention.

In an event based Wiki component model, some Wiki components require a minimum sufficient set of argument values to be present before the component can respond or fire an event object. These minimum sufficient arguments can come from multiple, disparate sources. Therefore, the aspects of the illustrative embodiments of the present invention provide a minimum sufficient argument detection scheme that aggregates argument data from potentially multiple sources and matches the argument set against declared parameter criteria such that a “data available” event is only fired if the minimum sufficient arguments to satisfy the declared/defined parameter criteria are present.

A Wiki argument object is an object associated with a Wiki command, such as Wiki command **1404** and Wiki command **1412** in **Figure 14**. The Wiki argument object has an

“avail” property that indicates whether an argument required for a command to fire has been set and is valid.

5 **Figure 73** is an illustration of a class definition for a Wiki argument object in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention. An algorithm for detecting whether to fire an argument/available event is performed by Wiki argument object on a command object, such as Wiki command objects **1404** and **1412** in **Figure 14**. Code **7302** is an object variable indicating whether the argument object is valid. Code **7304** is an argument object indicating whether the argument is set and available.

10 Turning now to **Figure 74**, an illustration of a pseudocode for an algorithm detecting whether to fire an argument/available event is shown in accordance with an illustrative embodiment of the present invention.

15 In this example, code **7400** is for an algorithm that determines whether each argument in a minimum required argument set for firing a data hub event object is available. Each argument is checked at code **7402** to determine if the available variable is null. If the algorithm indicates that each argument in the set is available, code **7406** makes a determination as to whether the argument is available and set. If the argument is available and set, code **7408** fires a new data hub event object associated with the argument set.

20 Thus, the aspects of the illustrative embodiments provide a server-side data hub object and a corresponding client-side data hub object to propagate or route event objects between commands in a Wiki environment and a client environment. The utilization of data hub objects enables commands to interact with greater ease during processing of events associated with a given Wiki page.

25 It should be noted that although the illustrative embodiments of the present invention detailed above were described in terms of a Wiki application in a Wiki environment, the above described illustrative embodiments of the present invention are not limited to a Wiki application in a Wiki environment. The use of the Wiki application in a Wiki environment as an example in the descriptions was not intended to in anyway limit the scope of the present

invention. It would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art that the above described illustrative embodiments of the present invention apply equally well to any shared environment that may be accessed through an interface by a group of users. Furthermore, while certain aspects of the illustrative embodiments described above were explained in terms of JavaScript language, the use of the JavaScript language as an example in the descriptions was not intended to in anyway limit the scope of the present invention. Those of ordinary skill in the art will realize that the illustrative embodiments described above may be implemented using any object oriented scripting language.

The flowchart and block diagrams in the figures illustrate the architecture, functionality, and operation of possible implementations of methods, apparatus, and computer program products according to various embodiments of the present invention. In this regard, each block in the flowchart or block diagrams may represent a module, segment, or portion of code, which comprise one or more executable instructions for implementing the specified logical function(s). It should also be noted that in some alternative implementations, the functions noted in the block may occur out of the order noted in the figures. For example, two blocks shown in succession may, in fact, be executed substantially concurrently, or the blocks may sometimes be executed in the reverse order, depending upon the functionality involved.

The invention can take the form of an entirely hardware embodiment, an entirely software embodiment or an embodiment containing both hardware and software elements. In a preferred embodiment, the invention is implemented in software, which includes but is not limited to firmware, resident software, microcode, etc.

Furthermore, the invention can take the form of a computer program product accessible from a computer-readable or computer-readable medium providing program code for use by or in connection with a computer or any instruction execution system. For the purposes of this description, a computer-readable or computer readable medium can be any tangible apparatus that can contain, store, communicate, propagate, or transport the program for use by or in connection with the instruction execution system, apparatus, or device.

The medium can be an electronic, magnetic, optical, electromagnetic, infrared, or semiconductor system (or apparatus or device) or a propagation medium. Examples of a computer-readable medium include a semiconductor or solid state memory, magnetic tape, a removable computer diskette, a random access memory (RAM), a read-only memory (ROM),
5 a rigid magnetic disk and an optical disk. Current examples of optical disks include compact disk – read only memory (CD-ROM), compact disk – read/write (CD-R/W) and DVD.

A data processing system suitable for storing and/or executing program code will include at least one processor coupled directly or indirectly to memory elements through a
10 system bus. The memory elements can include local memory employed during actual execution of the program code, bulk storage, and cache memories which provide temporary storage of at least some program code in order to reduce the number of times code must be retrieved from bulk storage during execution.

15 Input/output or I/O devices (including but not limited to keyboards, displays, pointing devices, etc.) can be coupled to the system either directly or through intervening I/O controllers.

20 Network adapters may also be coupled to the system to enable the data processing system to become coupled to other data processing systems or remote printers or storage devices through intervening private or public networks. Modems, cable modem and Ethernet cards are just a few of the currently available types of network adapters.

25 The description of the present invention has been presented for purposes of illustration and description, and is not intended to be exhaustive or limited to the invention in the form disclosed. Many modifications and variations will be apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art. The embodiment was chosen and described in order to best explain the principles of the invention, the practical application, and to enable others of ordinary skill in the art to understand the invention for various embodiments with various modifications as are suited to
30 the particular use contemplated.

CLAIMS

1. A computer implemented method for inheriting a page layout for a page, the computer
5 implemented method comprising:

responsive to receiving a request to show a current page from a client browser,
determining whether the current page has a set of ancestor pages;

arranging the set of ancestor pages such that a closest ancestor page in the set of
ancestor pages appears first in a list of ancestor pages;

10 identifying a layout page associated with an ancestor page of the set of ancestor pages;

combining the identified layout page with the current page to form a combined page;

and

sending the combined page to the client browser.

15 2. The computer implemented method of claim 1, wherein the page is a page in a
collaborative web environment that allows single or multiple users to efficiently integrate static
and interactive content.

20 3. The computer implemented method of claim 1, wherein the step of identifying the
layout page associated with an ancestor page of the set of ancestor pages further comprises:
querying a database to find a first row in a page table with an entry that matches an
ancestor page of the set of ancestor pages to form a matched ancestor page; and
determining the layout page associated with the matched ancestor page.

25 4. The computer implemented method of claim 3, wherein an entry in the page table
comprises a page and a layout page associated with the page.

30 5. The computer implemented method of claim 3, further comprising:
responsive to not finding a first row in a page table with an entry that matches an
ancestor page of the set of ancestor pages, associating a default layout page with an ancestor
page of the set of ancestor pages.

6. The computer implemented method of claim 1, wherein the current page includes a list of the set of ancestor pages.

7. The computer implemented method of claim 1, wherein the closest ancestor page in the set of ancestor pages is a page that corresponds to a name segment that occurs immediately prior to a last name segment, wherein the last name segment corresponds to the current page.

8. A computer program product comprising a computer usable medium including computer usable program code for inheriting a page layout for a page, the computer program product comprising:

computer usable program code, responsive to receiving a request to show a current page from a client browser, for determining whether the current page has a set of ancestor pages;

computer usable program code for arranging the set of ancestor pages such that a closest ancestor page in the set of ancestor pages appears first in a list of ancestor pages;

computer usable program code for identifying a layout page associated with an ancestor page of the set of ancestor pages;

computer usable program code for combining the identified layout page with the current page to form a combined page; and

computer usable program code for sending the combined page to the client browser.

9. The computer program product of claim 8, wherein the page is a page in a collaborative web environment that allows single or multiple users to efficiently integrate static and interactive content.

10. The computer program product of claim 8, wherein the computer usable program code for identifying the layout page associated with an ancestor page of the set of ancestor pages further comprises:

computer usable program code for querying a database to find a first row in a page table with an entry that matches an ancestor page of the set of ancestor pages to form a matched ancestor page; and

computer usable program code for determining the layout page associated with the matched ancestor page.

11. The computer program product of claim 9, wherein an entry in the page table
5 comprises a page and a layout page associated with the page.

12. The computer program product of claim 9, further comprising:

computer usable program code, responsive to not finding a first row in a page table
with an entry that matches an ancestor page of the set of ancestor pages, for associating a
10 default layout page with an ancestor page of the set of ancestor pages.

13. The computer program product of claim 8, wherein the current page includes a list of
the set of ancestor pages.

15. The computer program product of claim 8, wherein the closest ancestor page in the set
of ancestor pages is a page that corresponds to a name segment that occurs immediately prior
to a last name segment, wherein the last name segment corresponds to the current page.

15. A data processing system for inheriting a page layout for a page, the data processing
20 system comprising:

a storage device, wherein the storage device stores computer usable program code;
and

25 a processor, wherein the processor executes the computer usable program code,
responsive to receiving a request to show a current page from a client browser, to determine
whether the current page has a set of ancestor pages; arrange the set of ancestor pages such
that a closest ancestor page in the set of ancestor pages appears first in a list of ancestor
pages; identify a layout page associated with an ancestor page of the set of ancestor pages;
combine the identified layout page with the current page to form a combined page; and send
the combined page to the client browser.

16. The data processing system of claim 15, wherein the page is a page in a collaborative web environment that allows single or multiple users to efficiently integrate static and interactive content.

5 17. The data processing system of claim 15, wherein executing computer usable program code to identify the layout page associated with an ancestor page of the set of ancestor pages further comprises:

10 executing computer usable program code to query a database to find a first row in a page table with an entry that matches an ancestor page of the set of ancestor pages to form a matched ancestor page; and determine the layout page associated with the matched ancestor page.

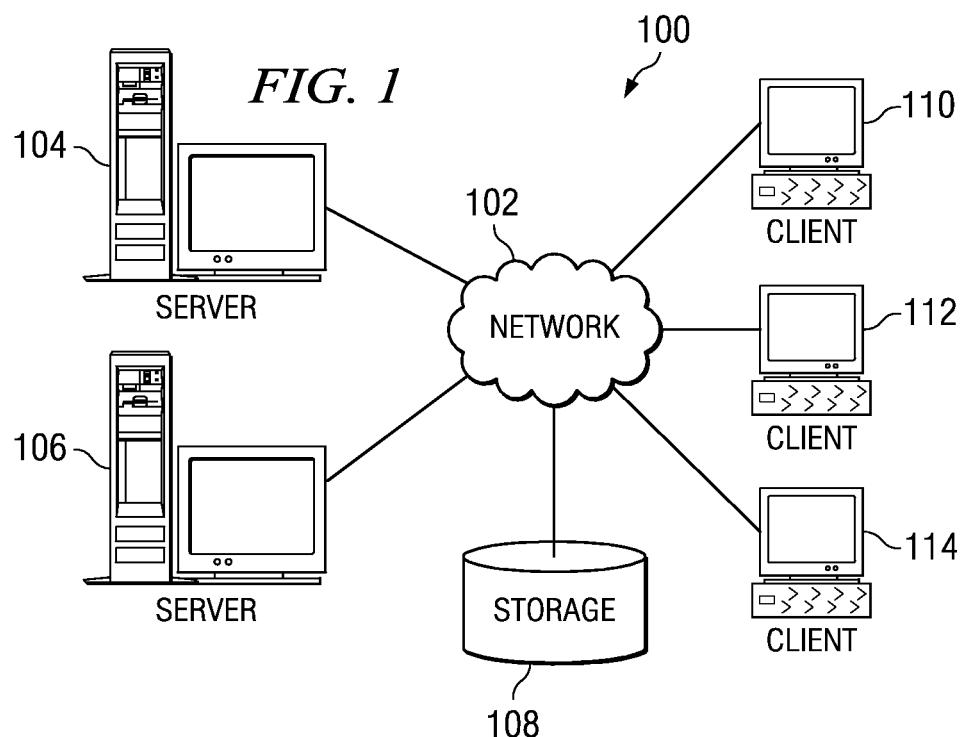
18. The data processing system of claim 17, wherein an entry in the page table comprises a page and a layout page associated with the page.

15 19. The data processing system of claim 17, further comprising:

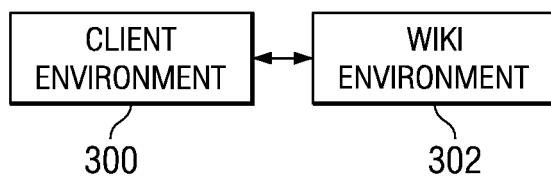
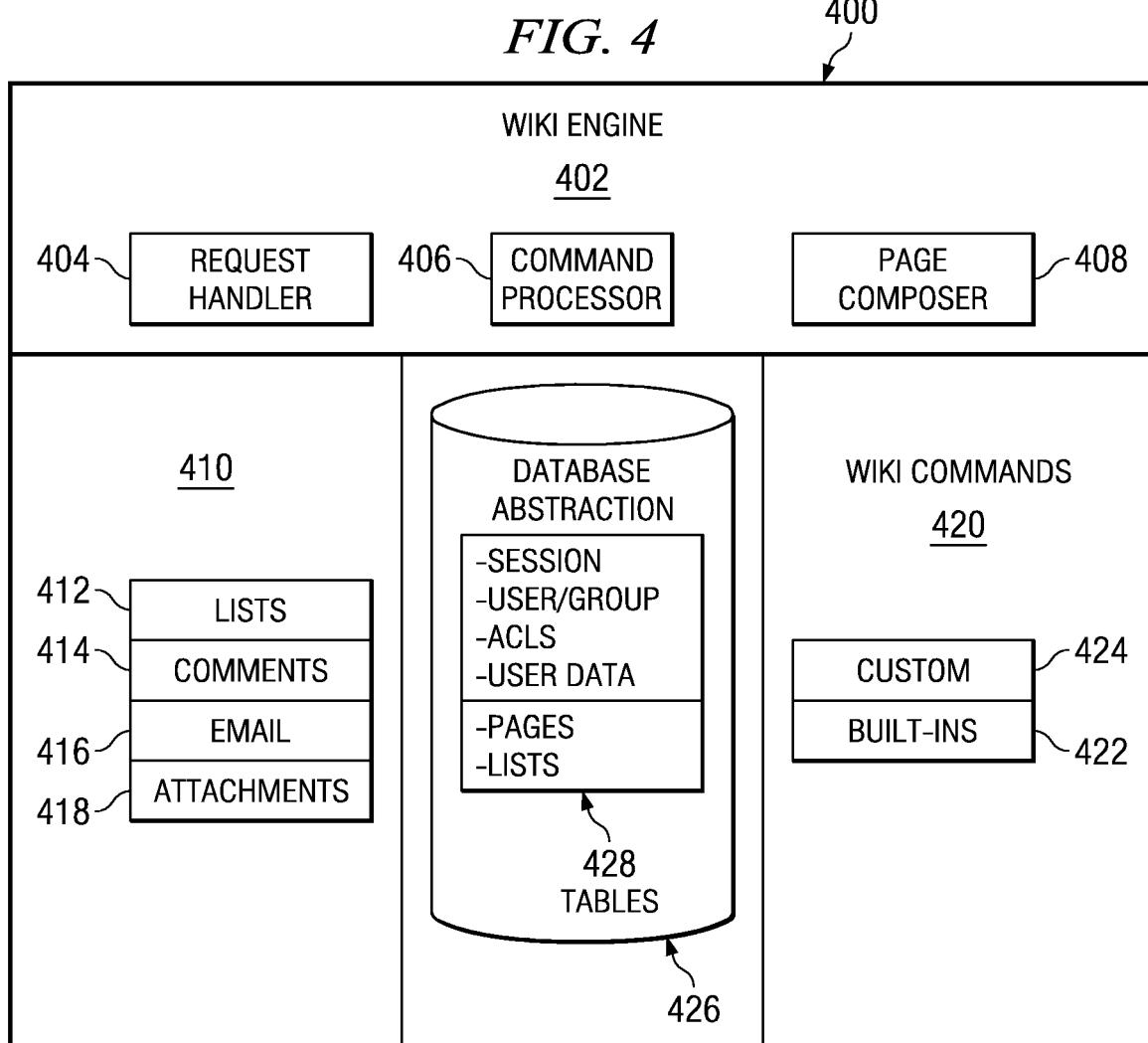
executing computer usable program code, responsive to not finding a first row in a page table with an entry that matches an ancestor page of the set of ancestor pages, to associate a default layout page with an ancestor page of the set of ancestor pages.

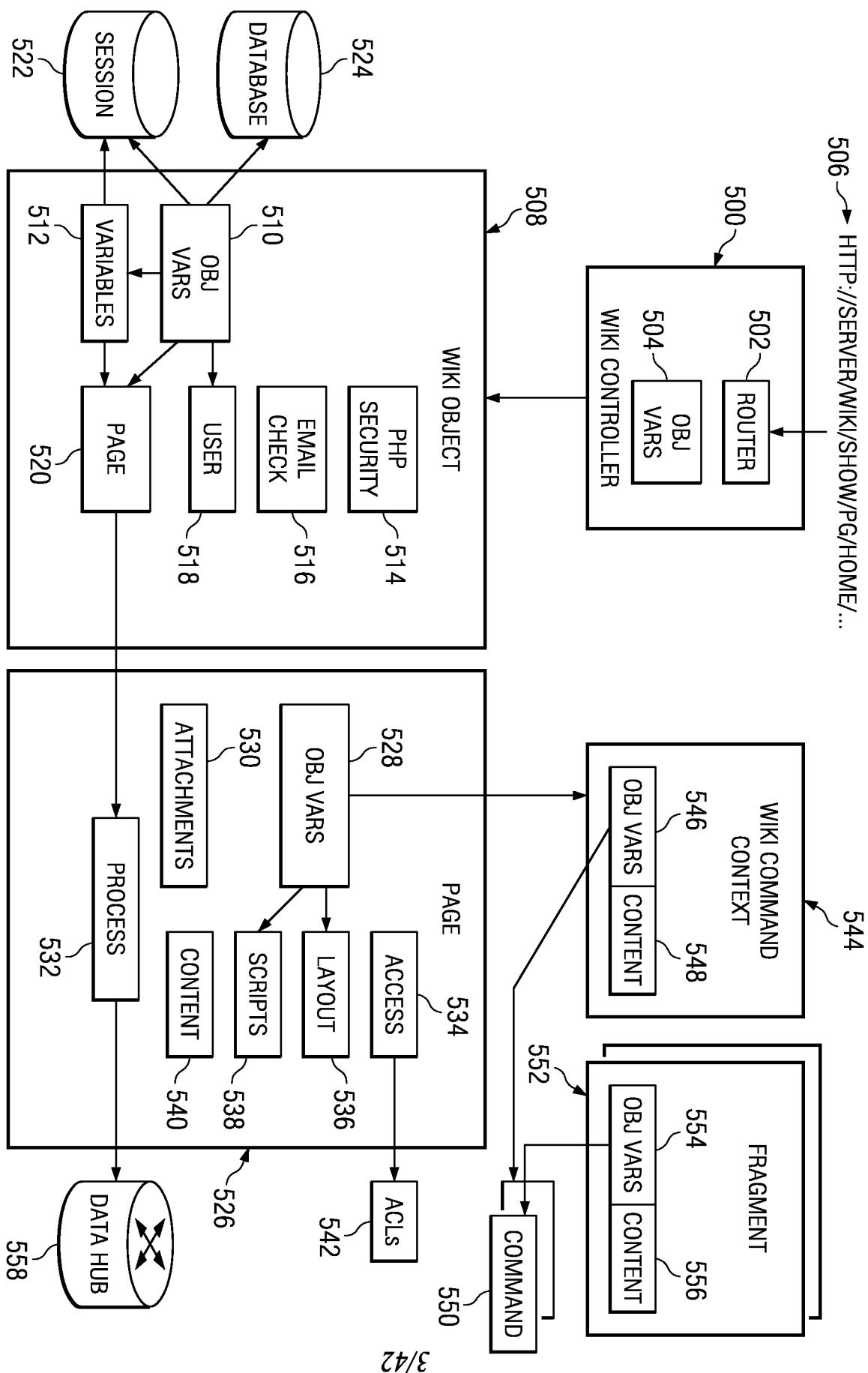
20 20. The data processing system of claim 15, wherein the current page includes a list of the set of ancestor pages.

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*FIG. 2*

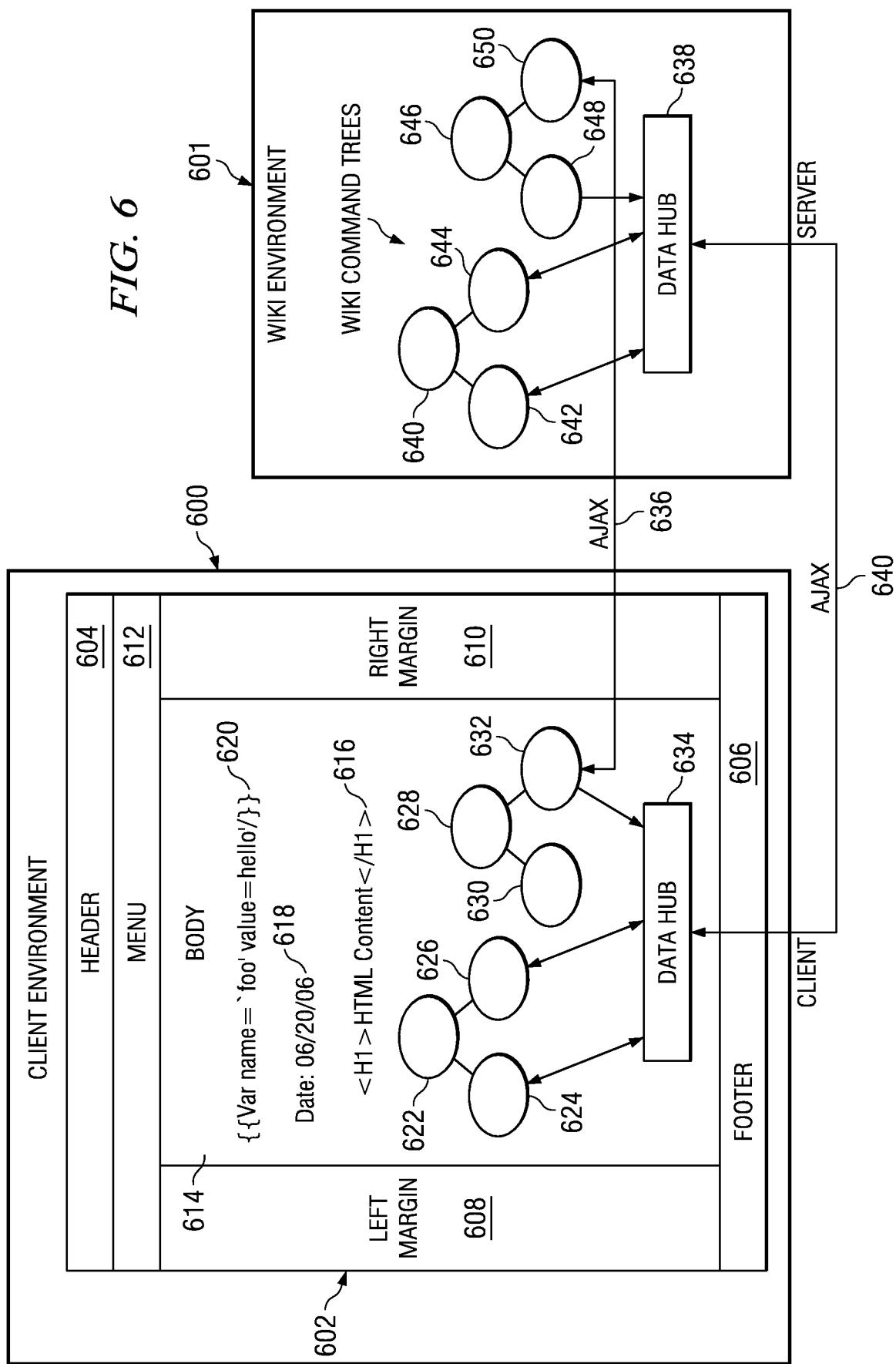
The diagram shows a detailed computer system architecture. At the top, a 'PROCESSING UNIT' (206) is connected to a 'NB/MCH' (202) and 'MAIN MEMORY' (208) via a bidirectional connection. The 'NB/MCH' (202) is also connected to a 'GRAPHICS PROCESSOR' (210) and a 'SB/ICH' (204) via bidirectional connections. The 'MAIN MEMORY' (208) is connected to the 'SB/ICH' (204) via a bidirectional connection. The 'SB/ICH' (204) is connected to a 'DISK' (226), a 'CD-ROM' (230), a 'NETWORK ADAPTER' (212), 'USB AND OTHER PORTS' (232), 'PCI/PCIe DEVICES' (234), a 'KEYBOARD AND MOUSE ADAPTER' (220), a 'MODEM' (222), and a 'ROM' (224) via a horizontal bus labeled '240 BUS'. The 'SB/ICH' (204) is also connected to an 'AUDIO ADAPTER' (216) and a 'SIO' (236) via bidirectional connections. The 'AUDIO ADAPTER' (216) and 'SIO' (236) are connected to each other via a horizontal bus labeled '238 BUS'.

FIG. 3**FIG. 4**

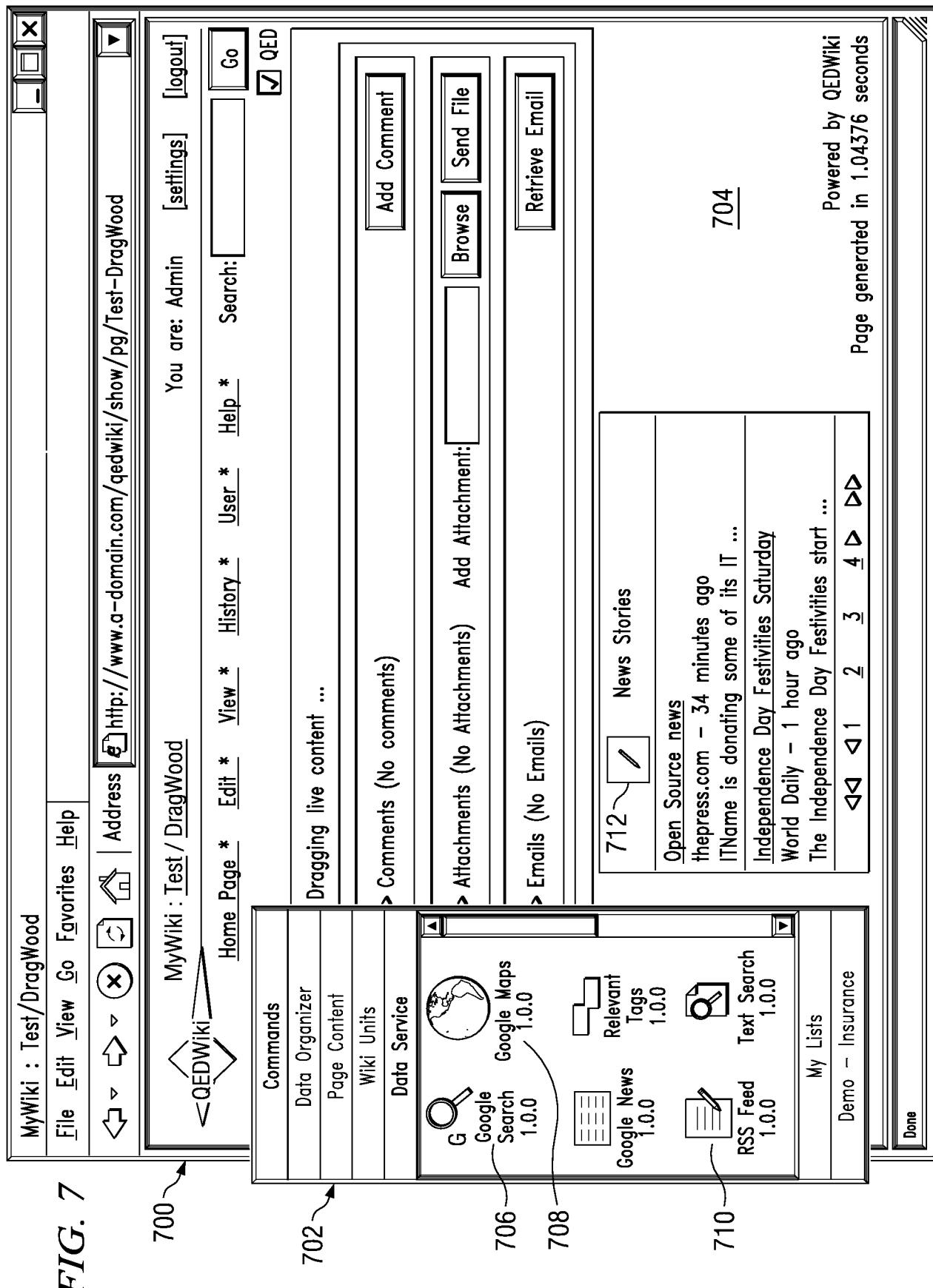


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FIG. 6



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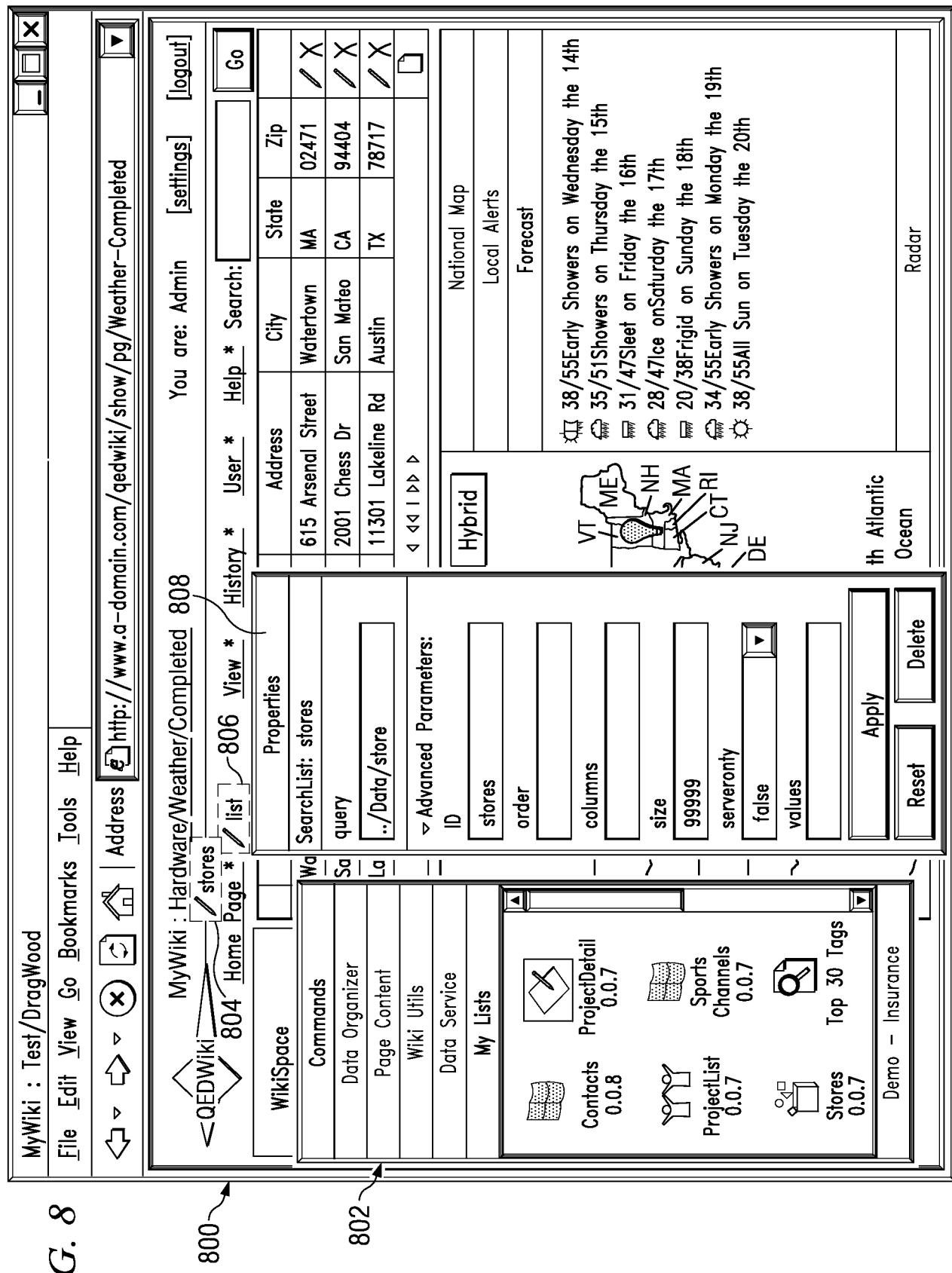


FIG. 8

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900

FIG. 9

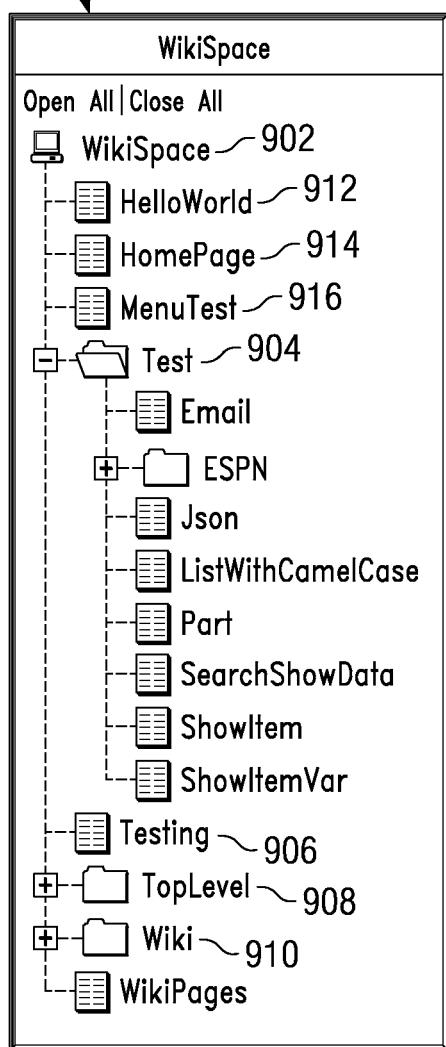


FIG. 12

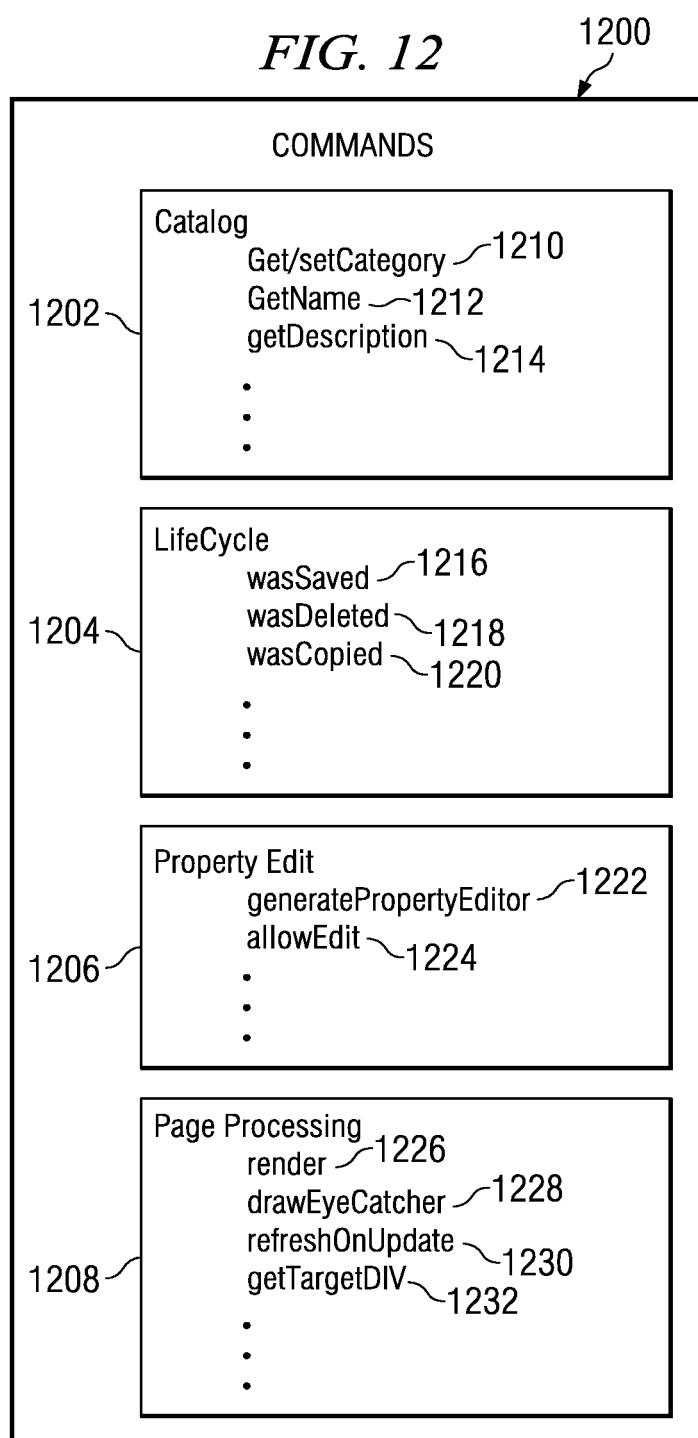


FIG. 10

MyWiki : Test/DragWood

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Tools Help

← → □ × ⌂ ⌂ | Address ▶

MyWiki : Hardware/Weather/Completed

You are: Admin [settings] [Logout] [Go]

WikiSpace

Open All | Close All

WikiSpace

Completed

Data

Movie

MyDashboard

MyStores

WaterTown

WikiTags

Apply Reset

Home Page * Edit * View * History * User * Help * Search: [Go]

Name Contact Address City State Zip

Watertown Linda@nerdshack.com 6115 Arsenal Street Watertown MA 02471 // X

San Mateo tom@nerdshack.com 2001 Chess Dr San Mateo CA 94404 // X

Lakeline nickolas@nerdshack.com 11301 Lakeline Rd Austin TX 78717 // X

◀ ◀ ◀ ▶ ▶ ▶

Map Satellite Hybrid

615 Arsenal Street Watertown, MA 02471

National Map Local Alerts Forecast

38/55Early Showers on Wednesday the 14th

35/51Showers on Thursday the 15th

31/47Sleet on Friday the 16th

28/42Ice on Saturday the 17th

20/38Frigid on Sunday the 18th

34/55Early Showers on Monday the 19th

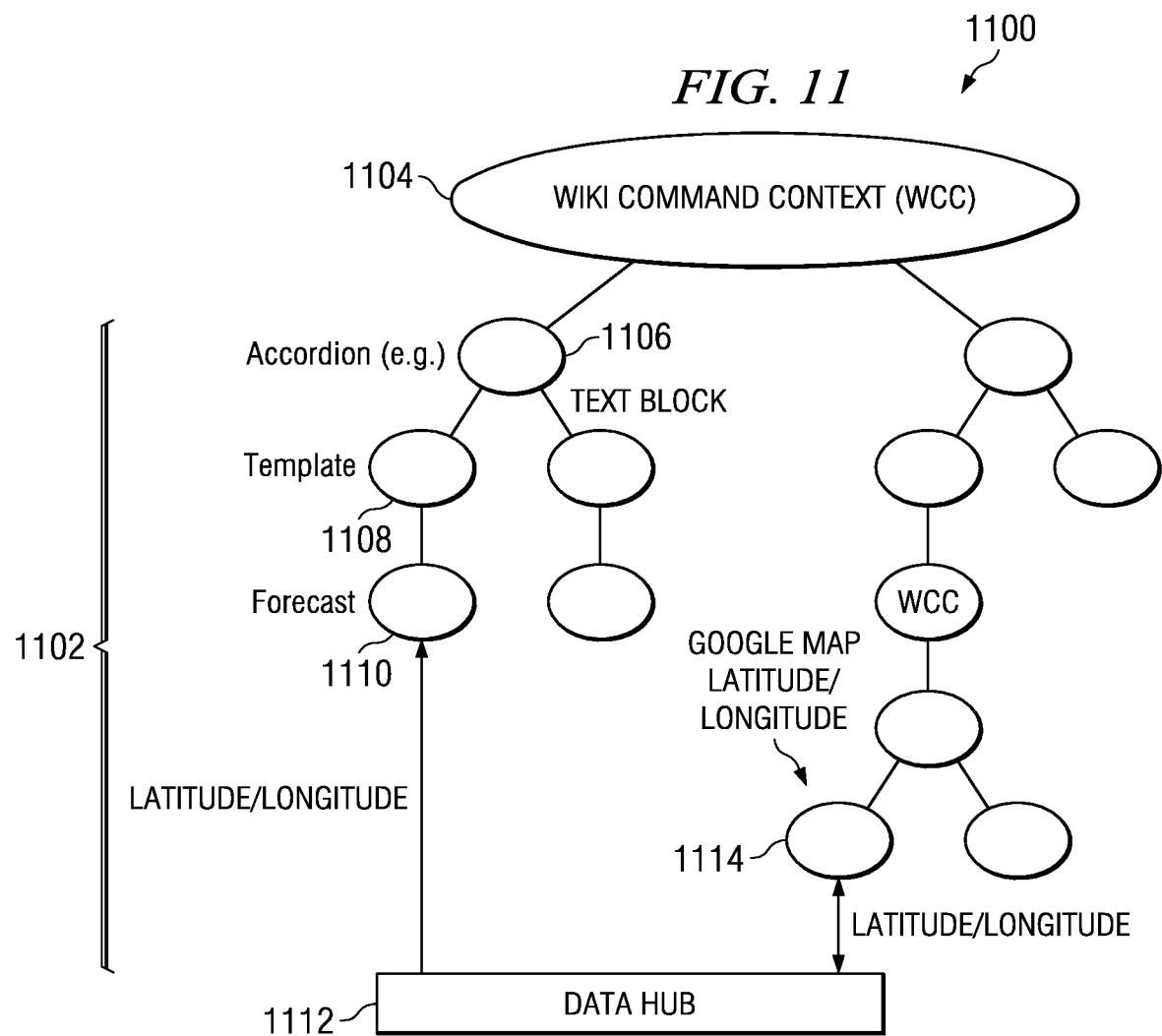
38/55All Sun on Tuesday the 20th

1004 1006 1000

North Atlantic Ocean

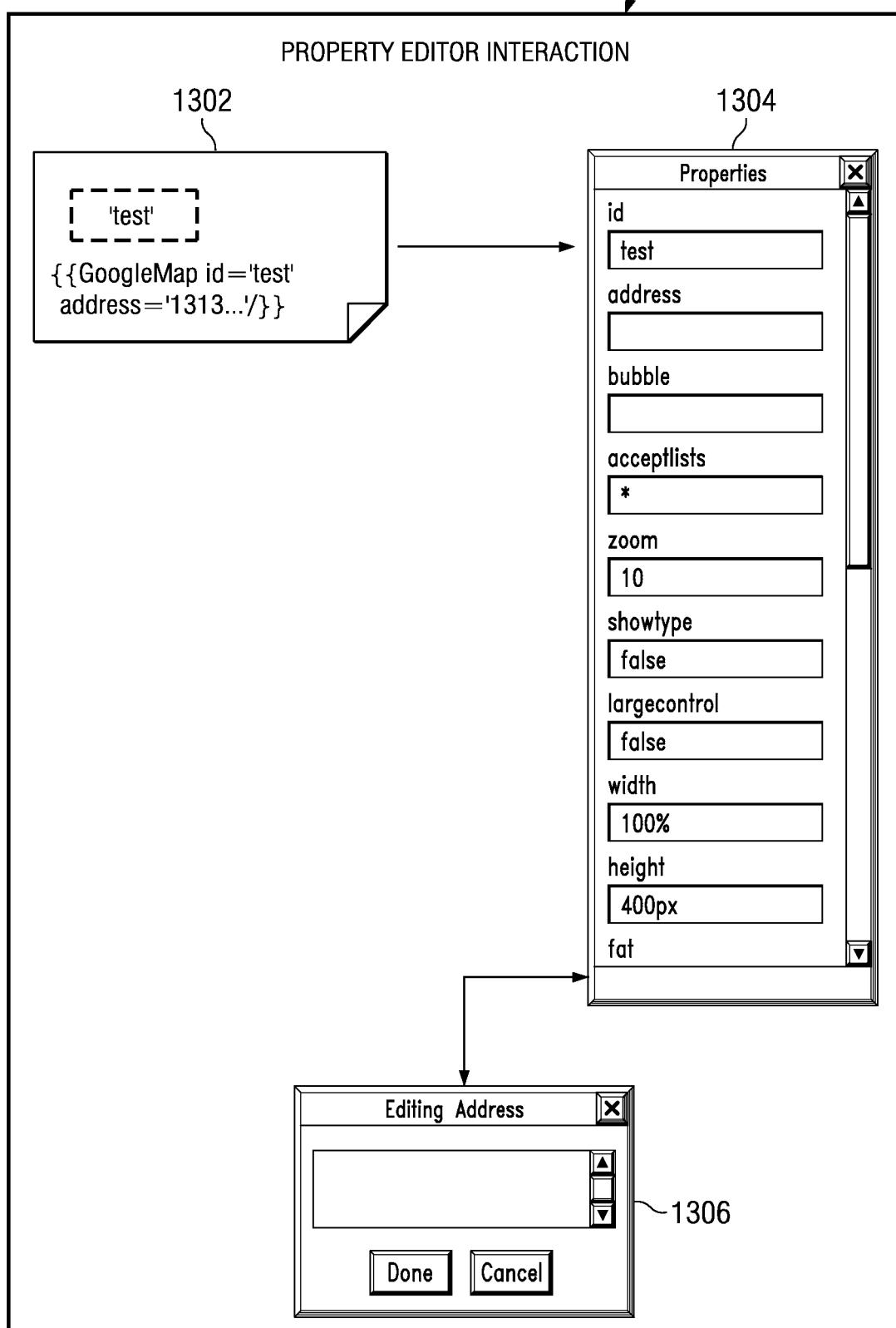
ME VT NH NJ CT RI DE MD DC VA NC SC GA AL MS LA TX OK AR KS MO IL IN OH KY TN MS LA FL

FIG. 11



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FIG. 13



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FIG. 14

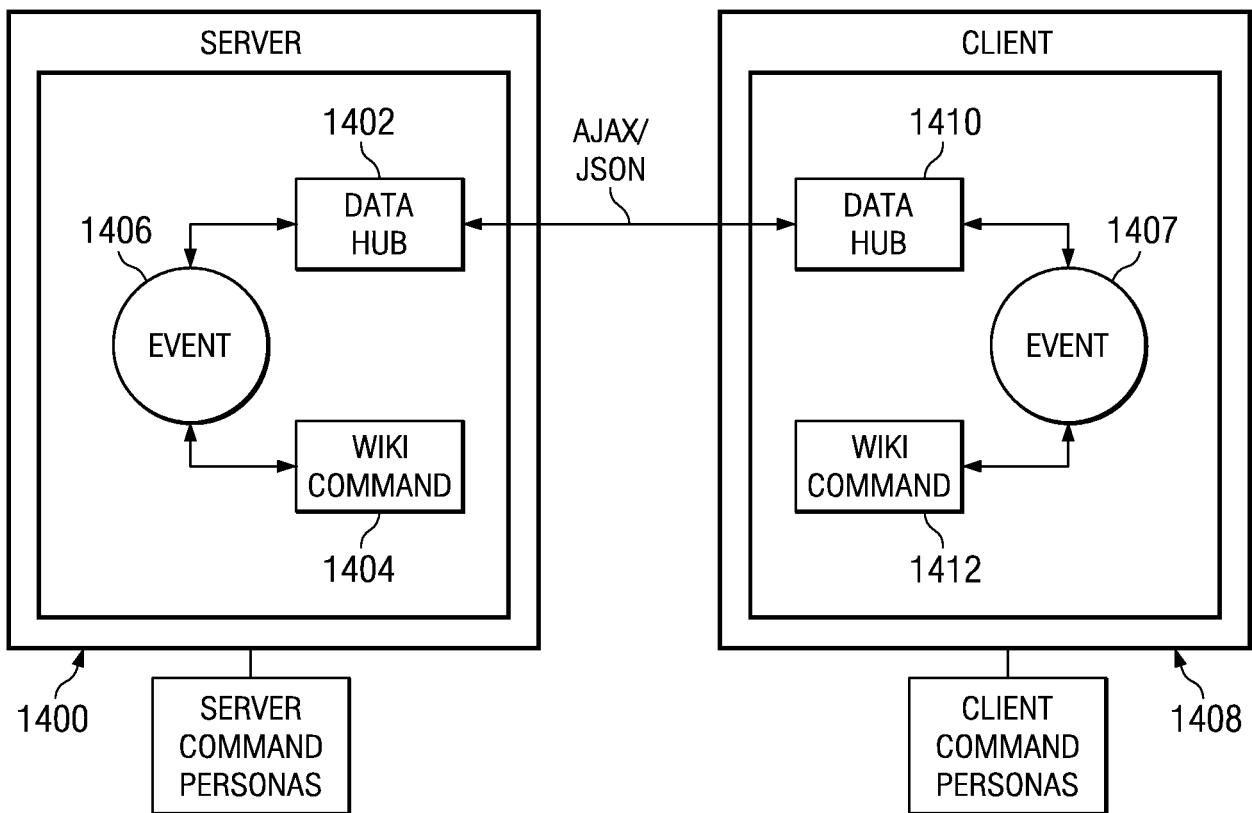


FIG. 16

1600

| | Year | Model | Make | |
|---|------|---------|-------|------|
| 1 | 2005 | | Heavy | 2 |
| 2 | 2001 | Racer | Heavy | 3 |
| 3 | 2005 | | Heavy | 4 |
| 4 | 2005 | | Heavy | 5 |
| 5 | 2005 | | Heavy | 6 |
| 6 | 2005 | Trucker | Heavy | 7 |
| 7 | 2005 | | Heavy | 8 |
| 8 | 2005 | | Heavy | 9 |
| 9 | 2005 | | Heavy | 10 |
| | << | <1 | 2 | 3 |
| | | 4 | 5 | 6 |
| | | 7 | > | >> |
| | | | | list |

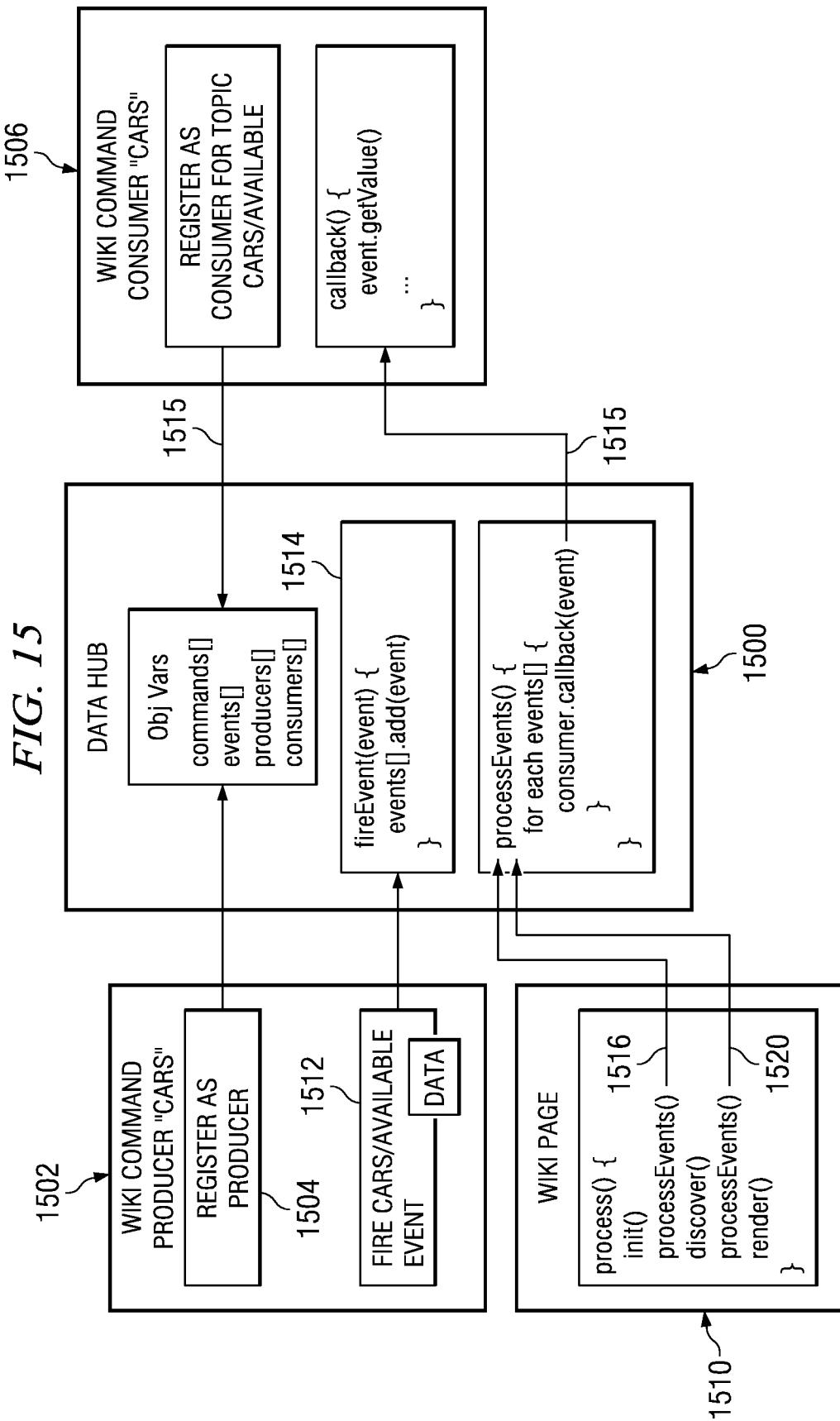
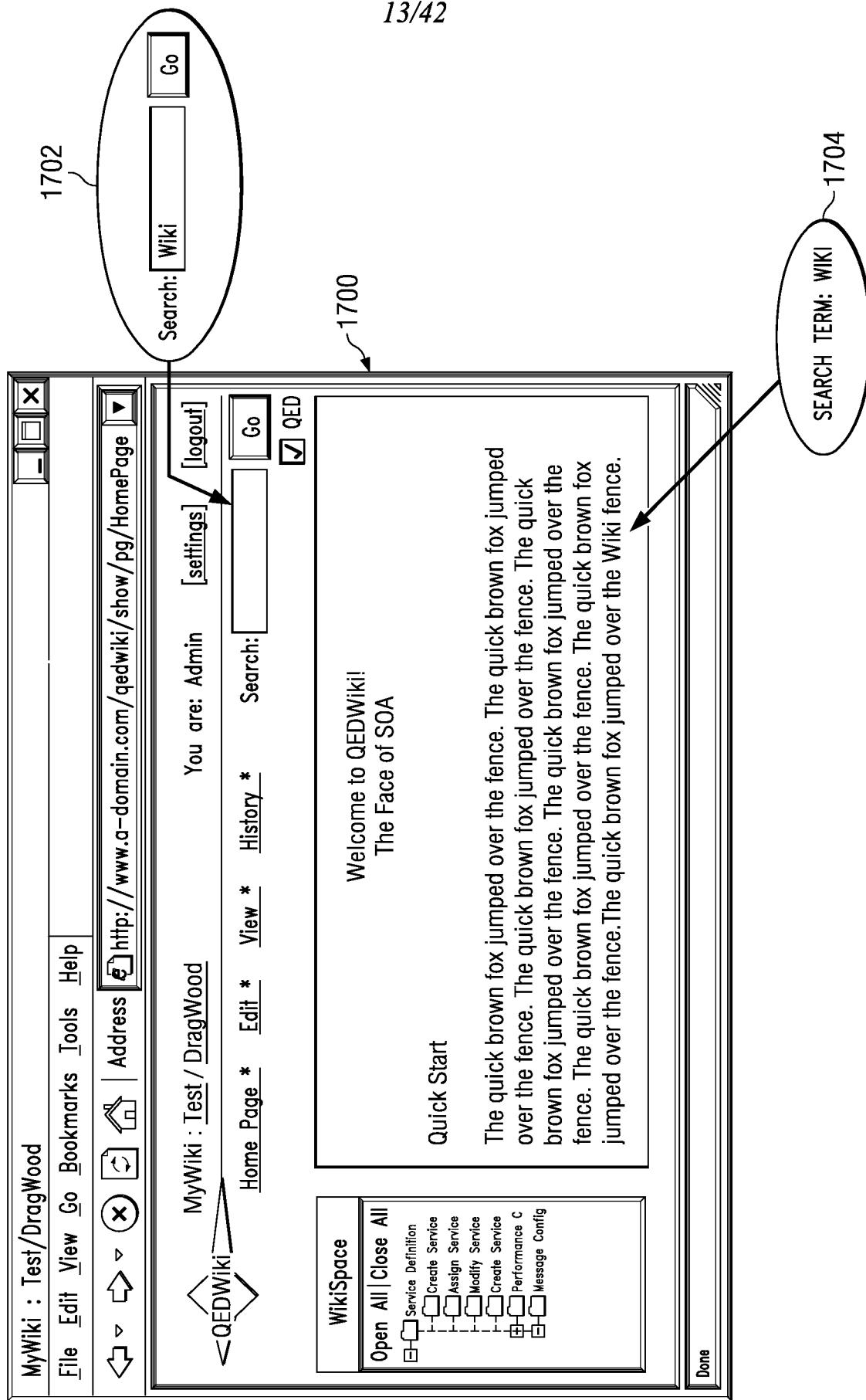


FIG. 17



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FIG. 18

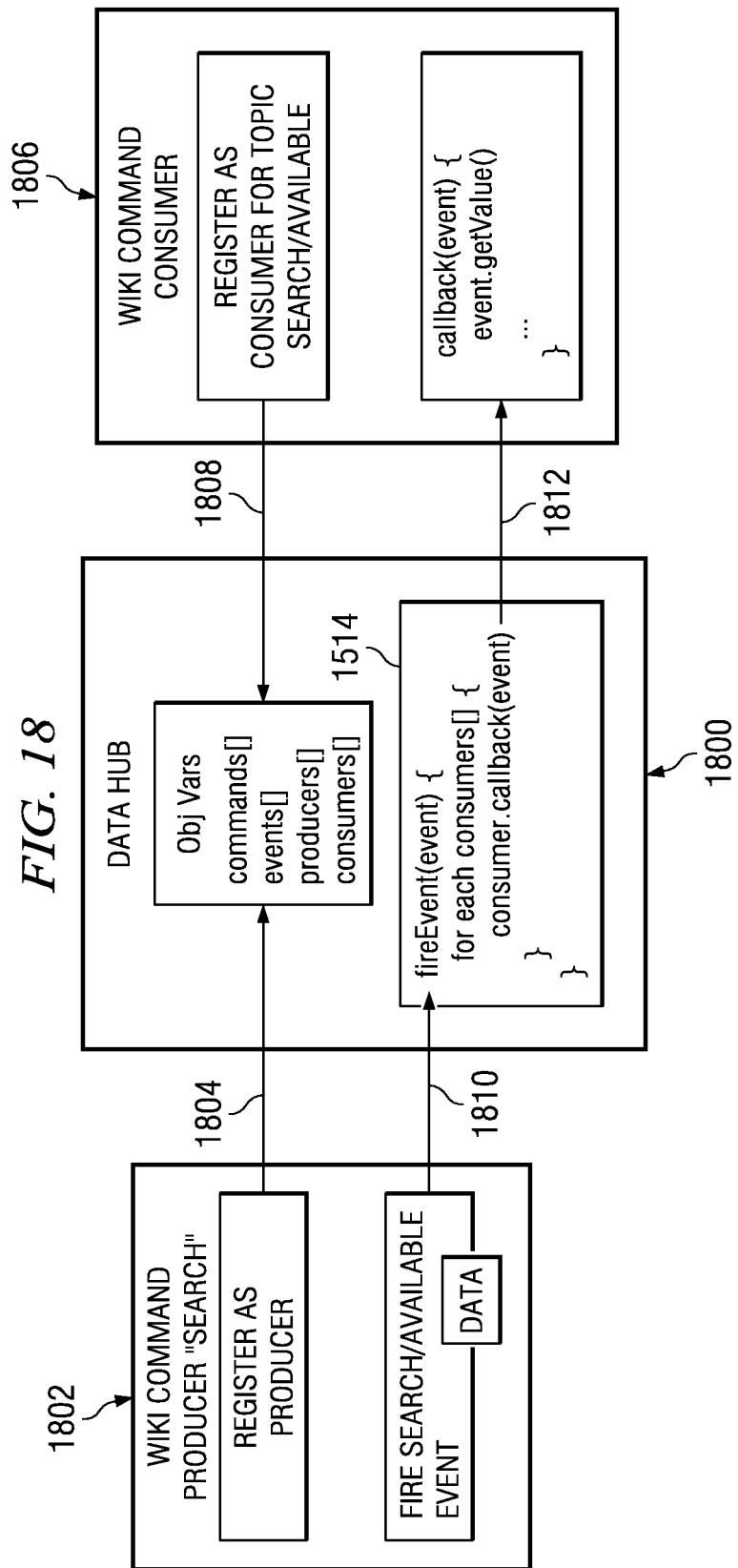


FIG. 19A

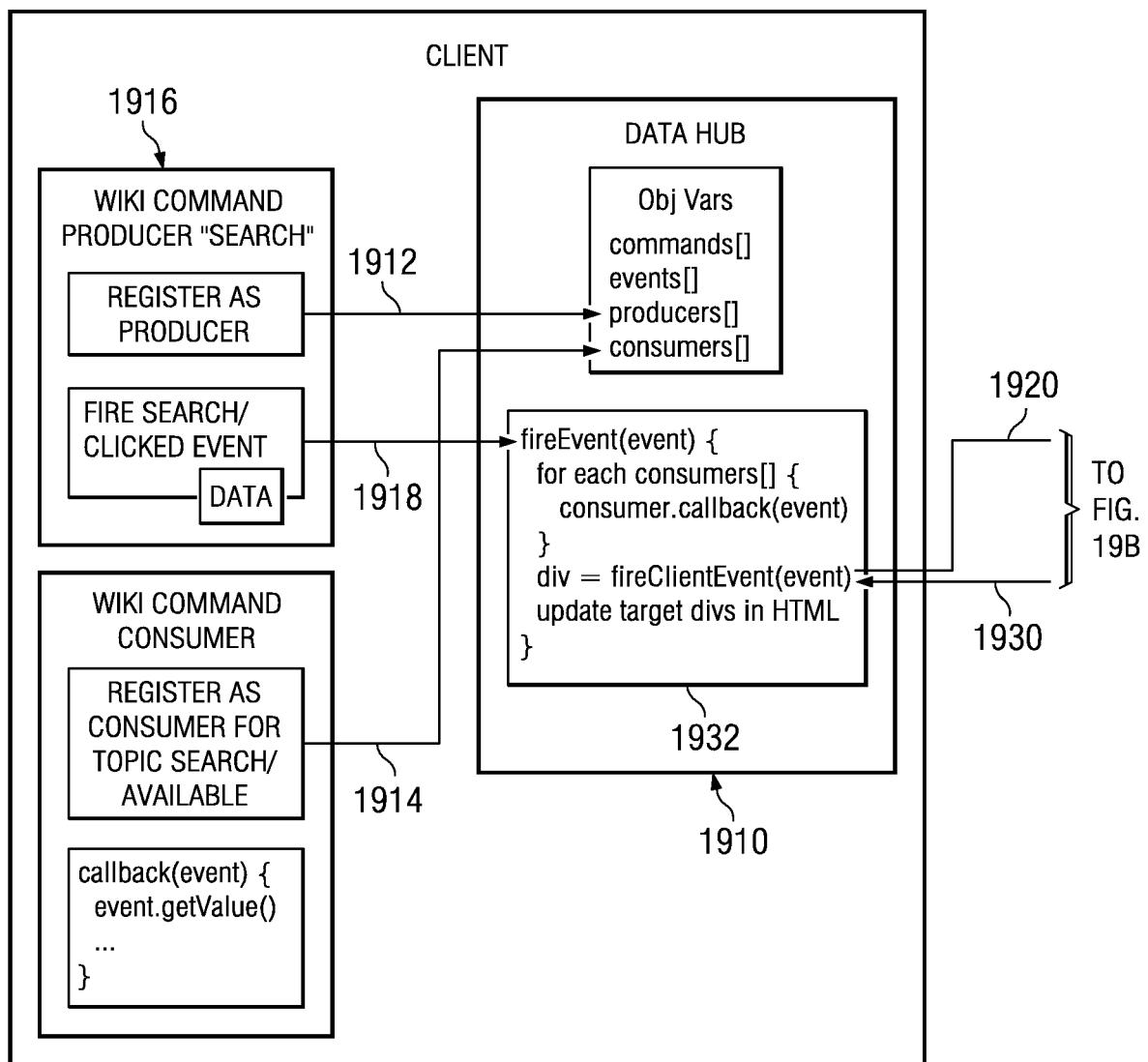
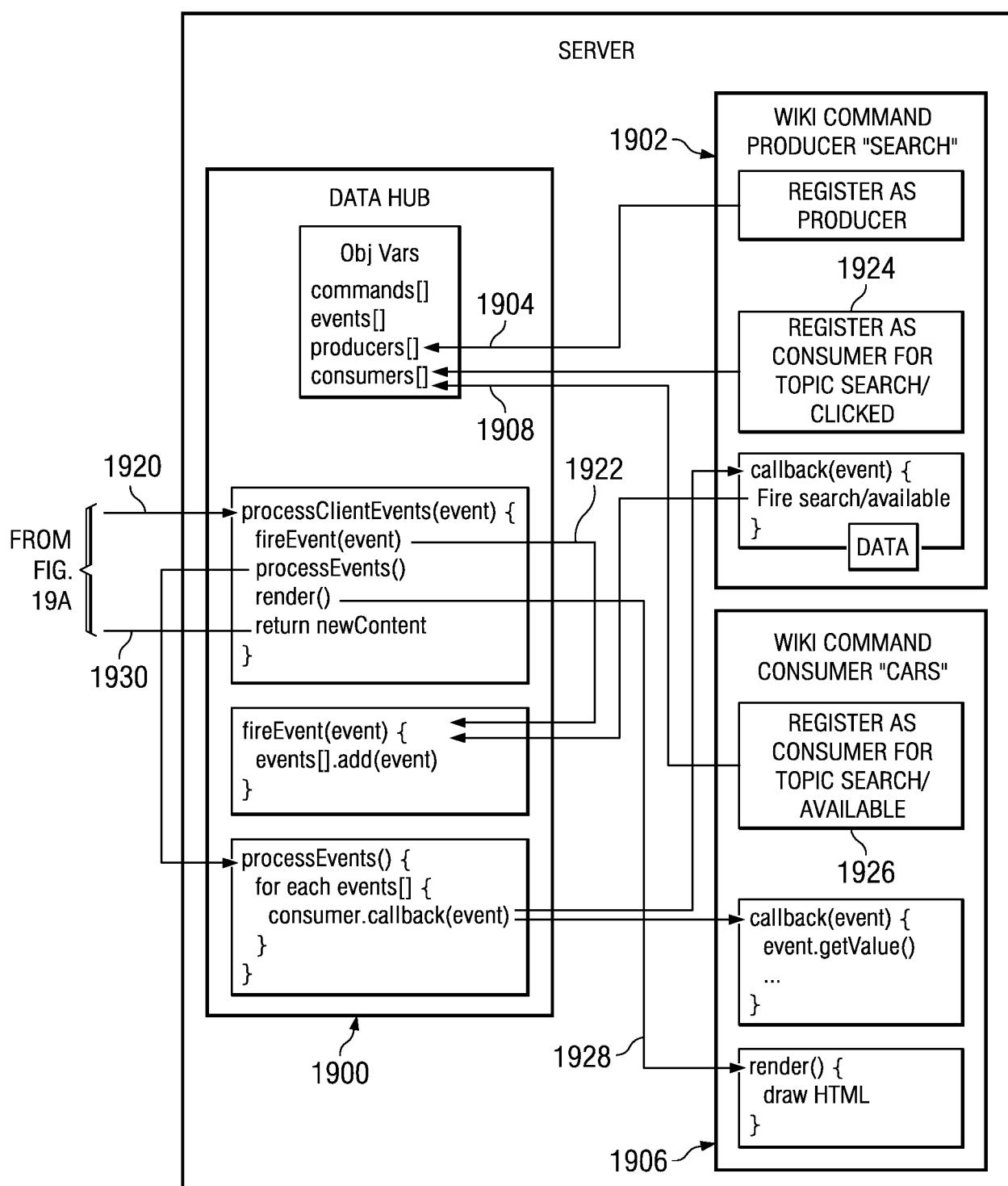
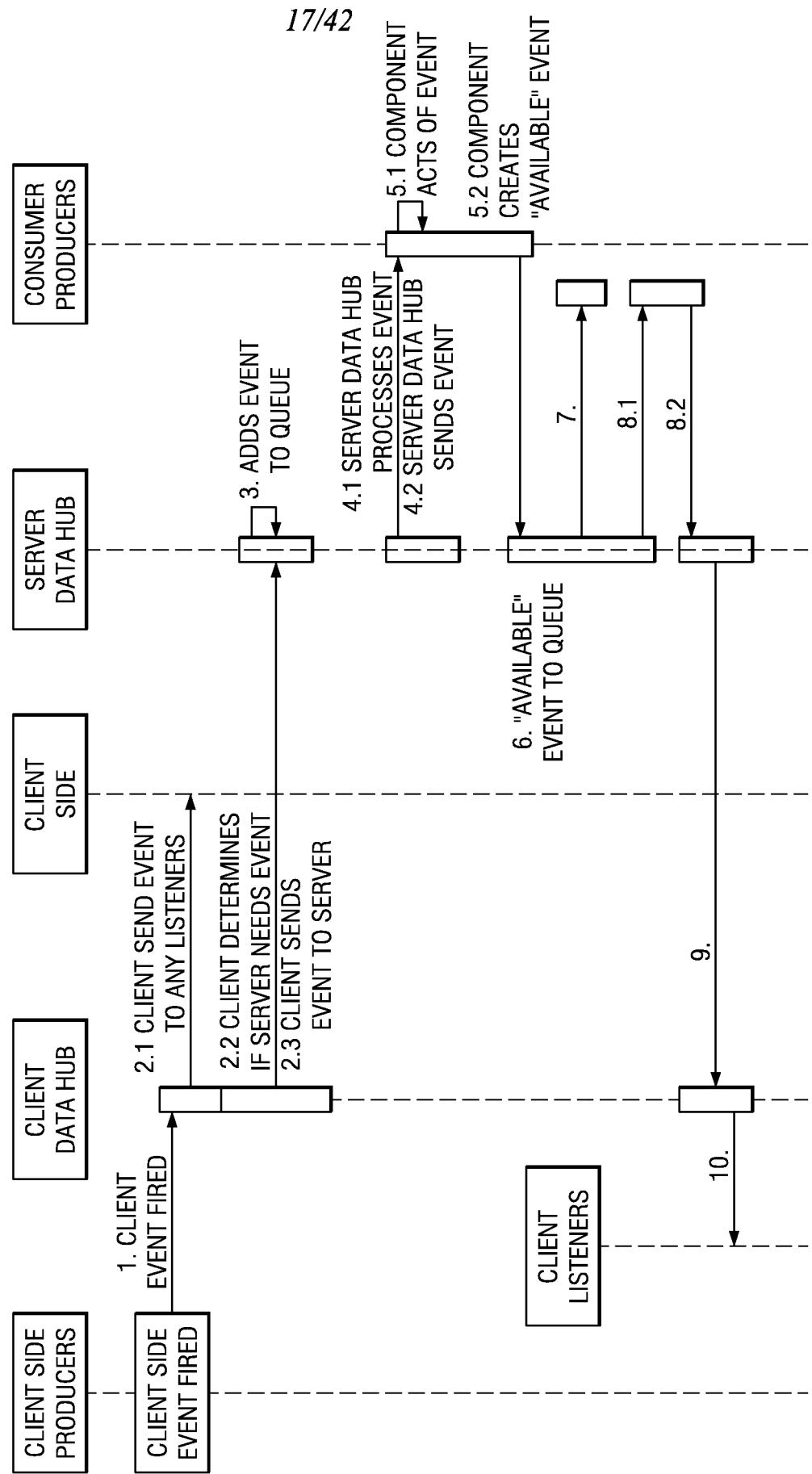


FIG. 19B



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FIG. 20



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FIG. 21

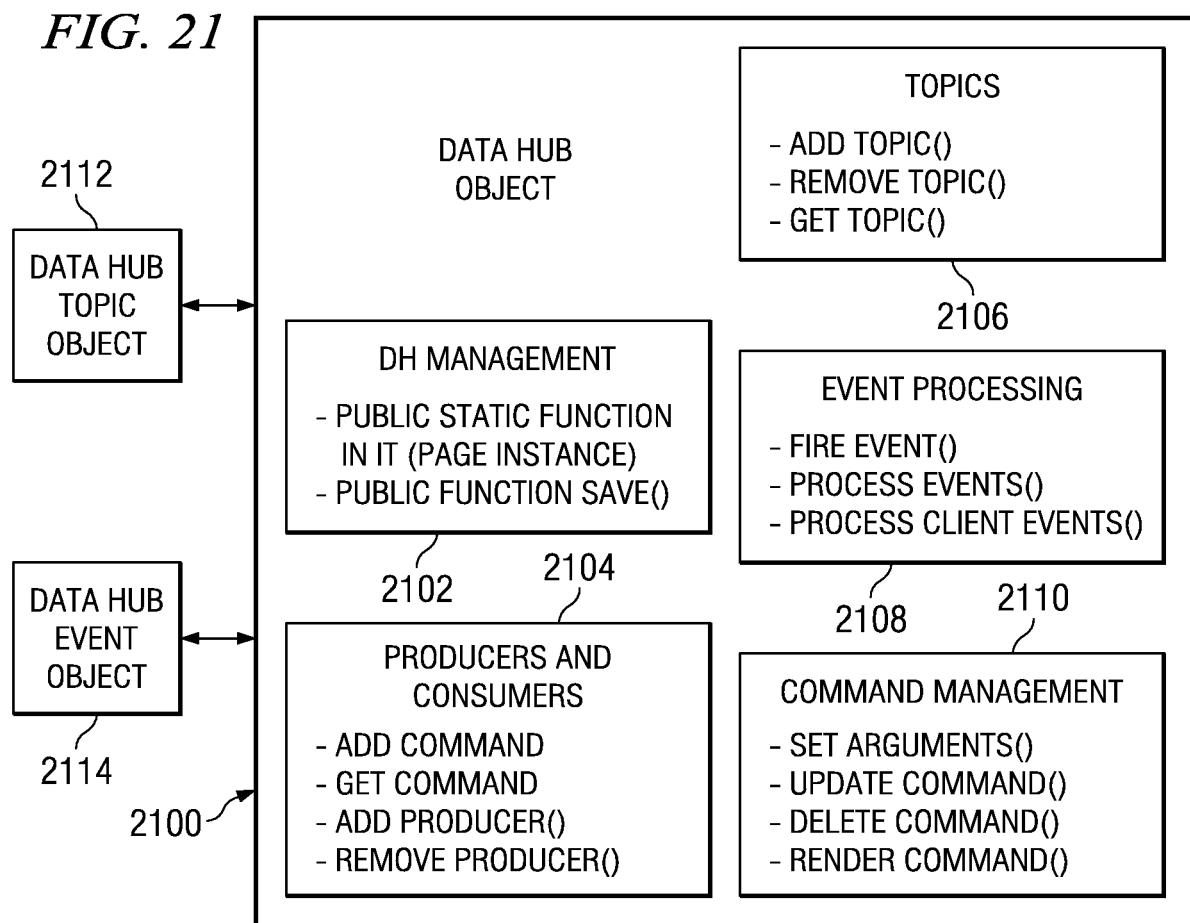


FIG. 22

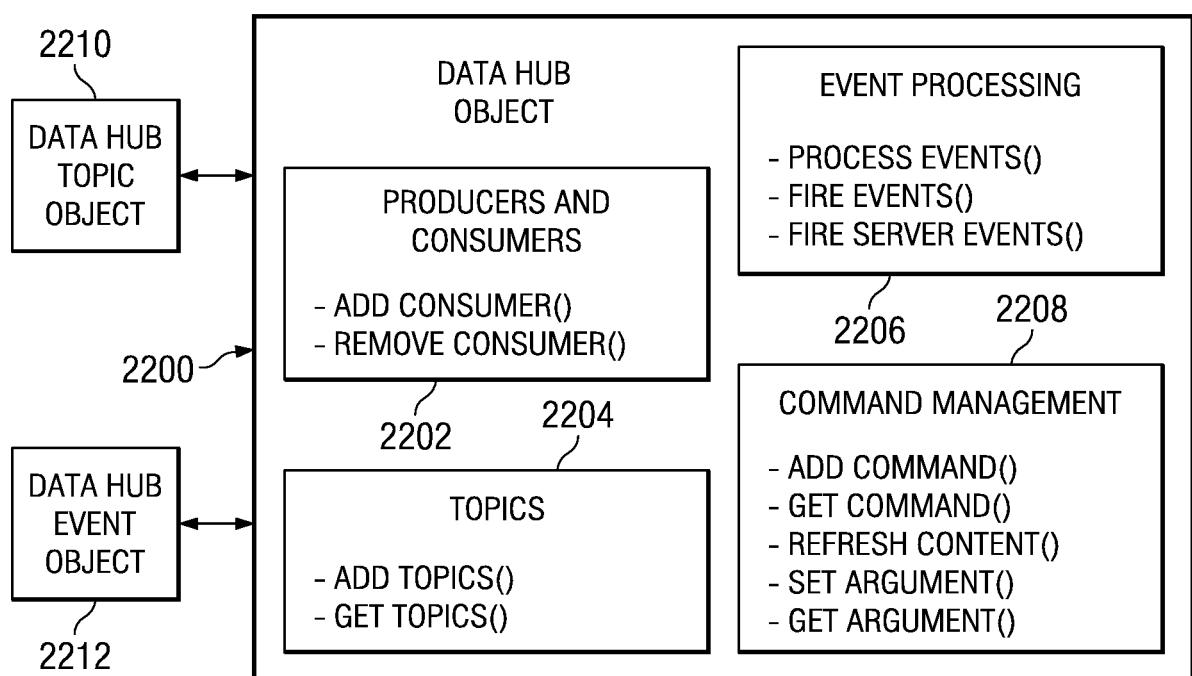
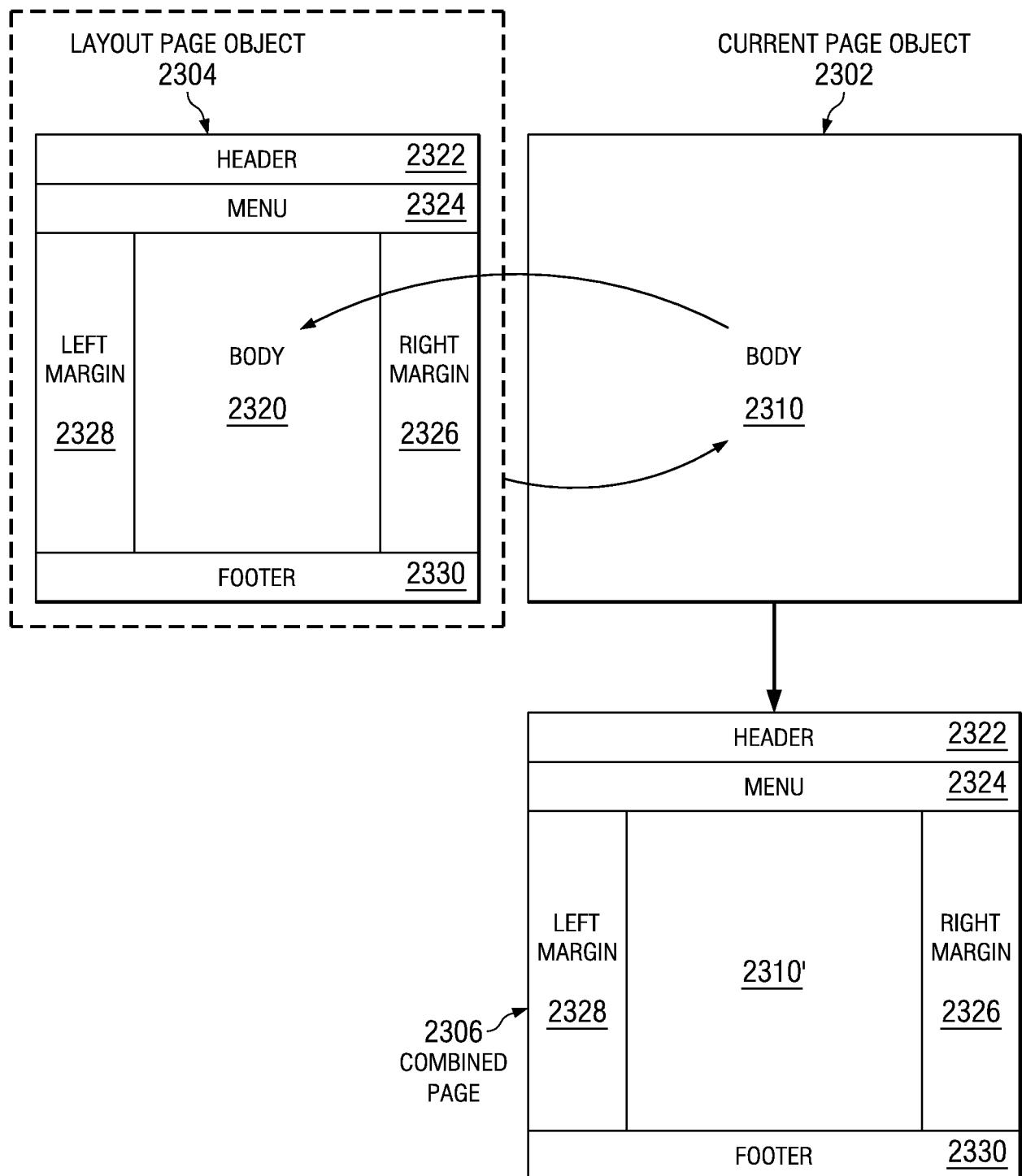


FIG. 23



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FIG. 25

FIG. 24

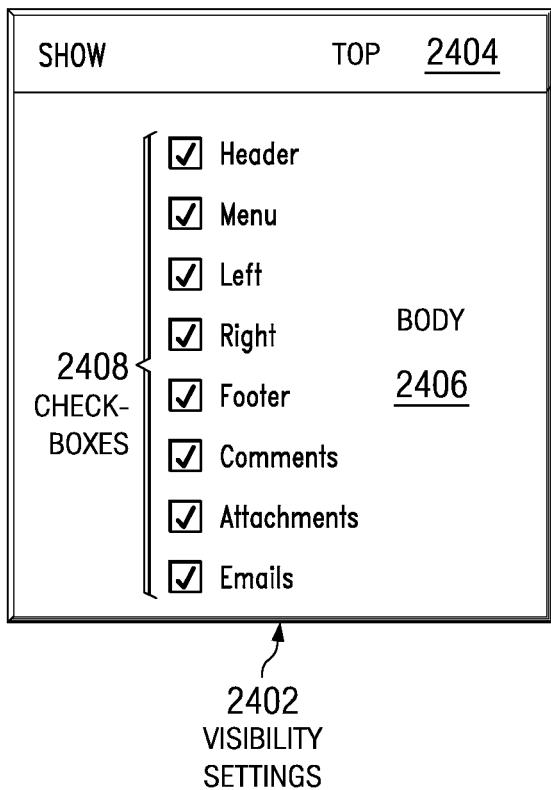


FIG. 26

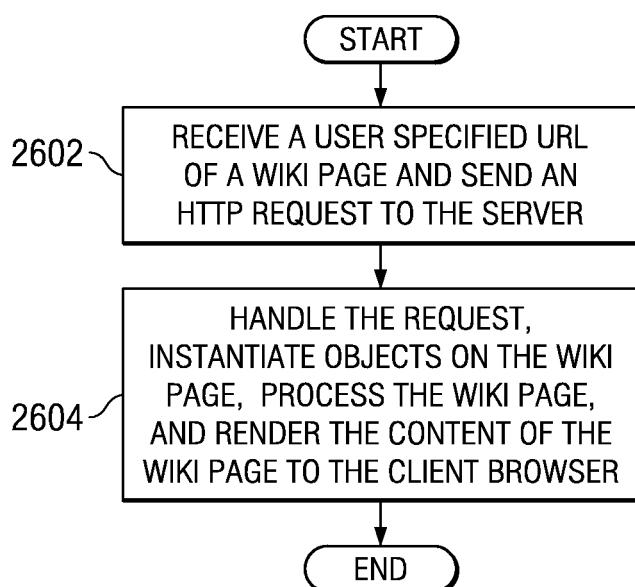


FIG. 27

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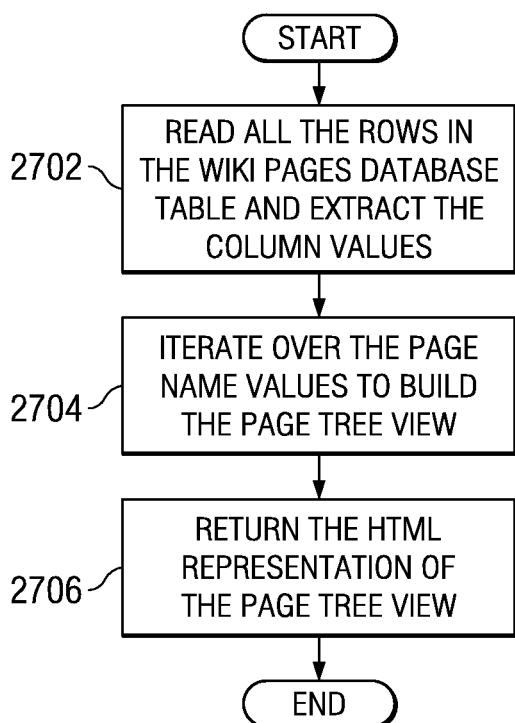
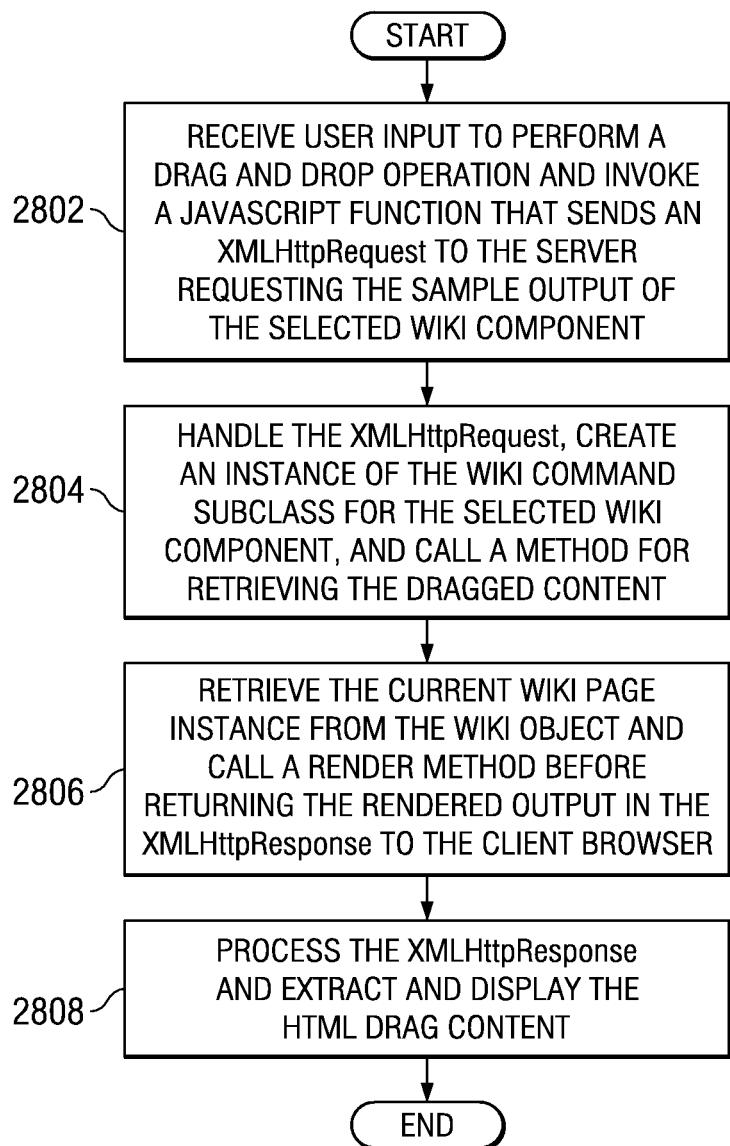
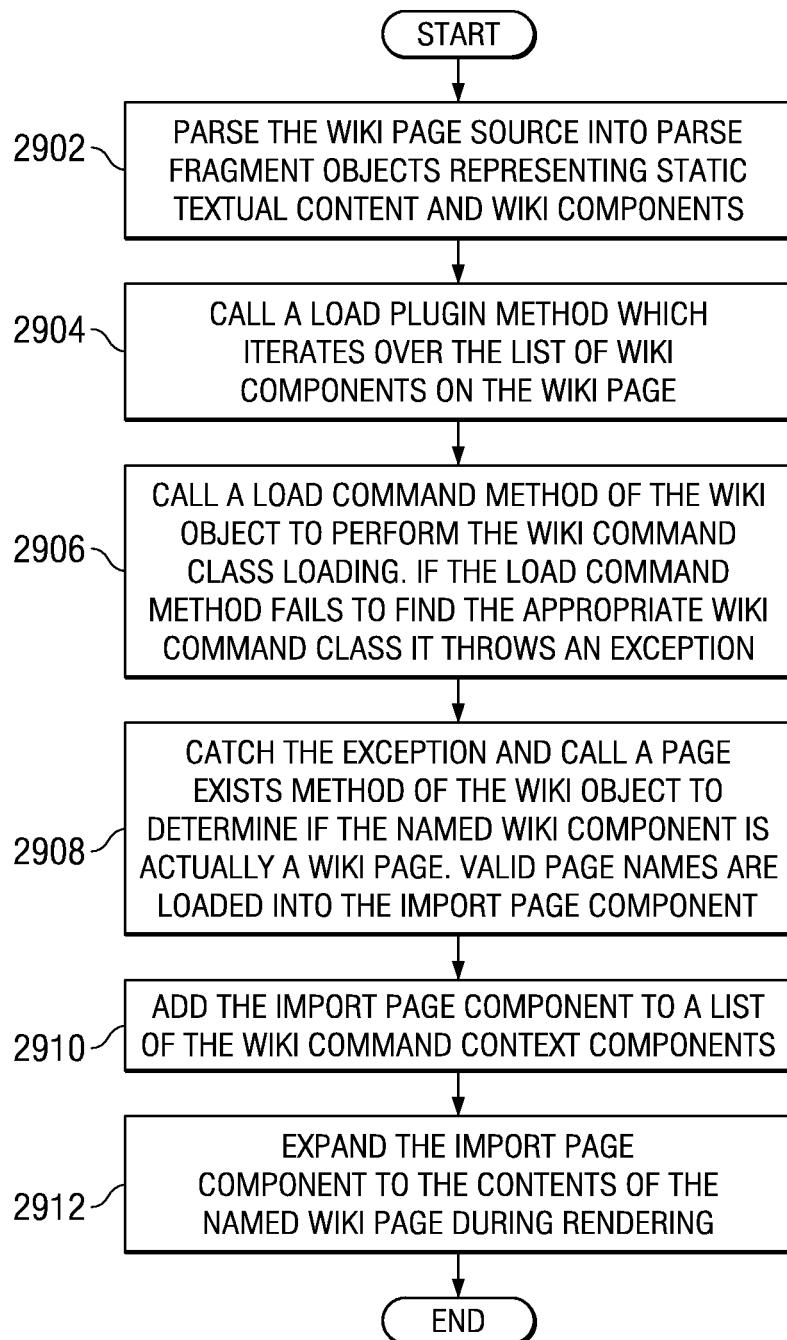
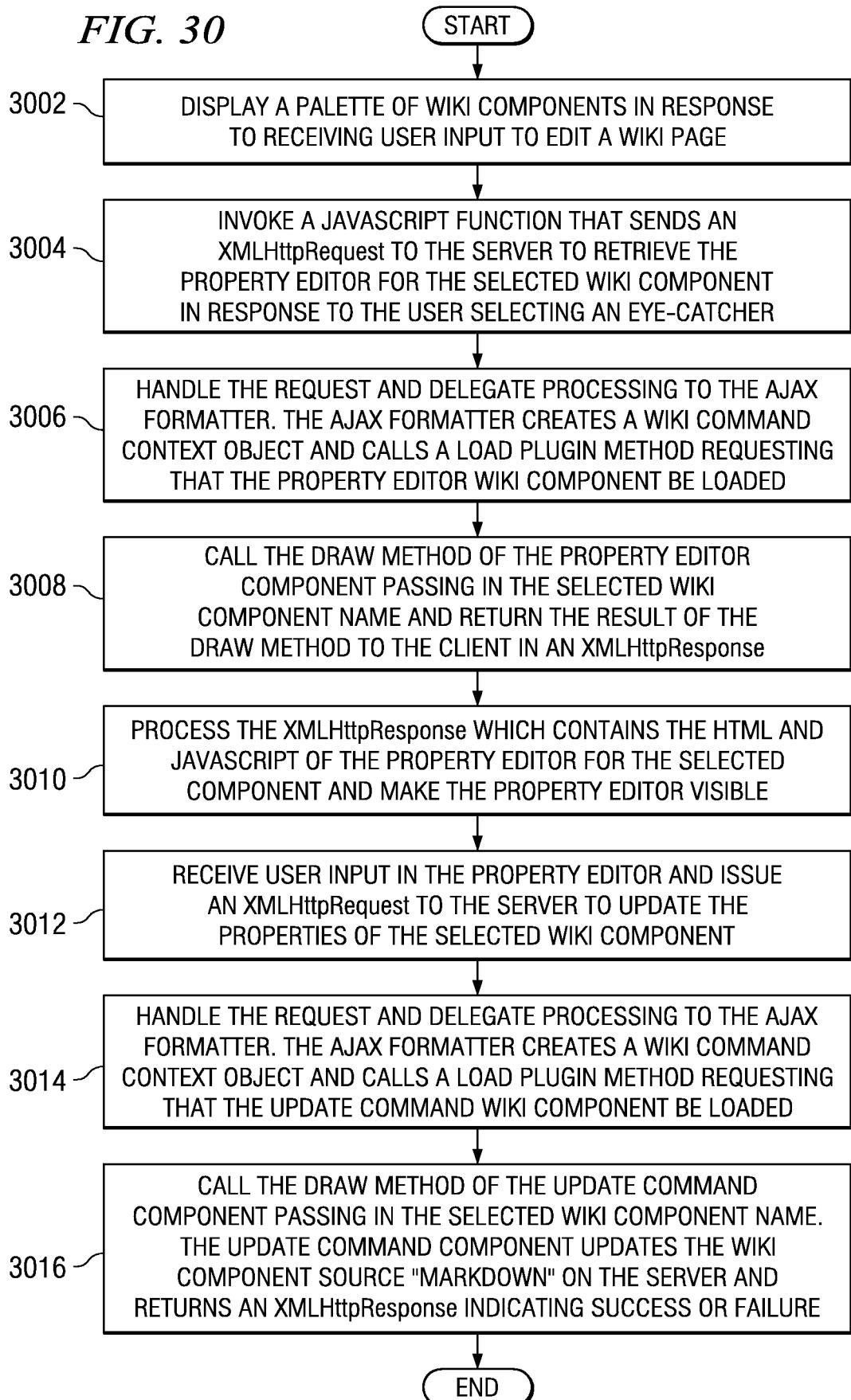
**FIG. 28**

FIG. 29



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FIG. 30



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FIG. 31

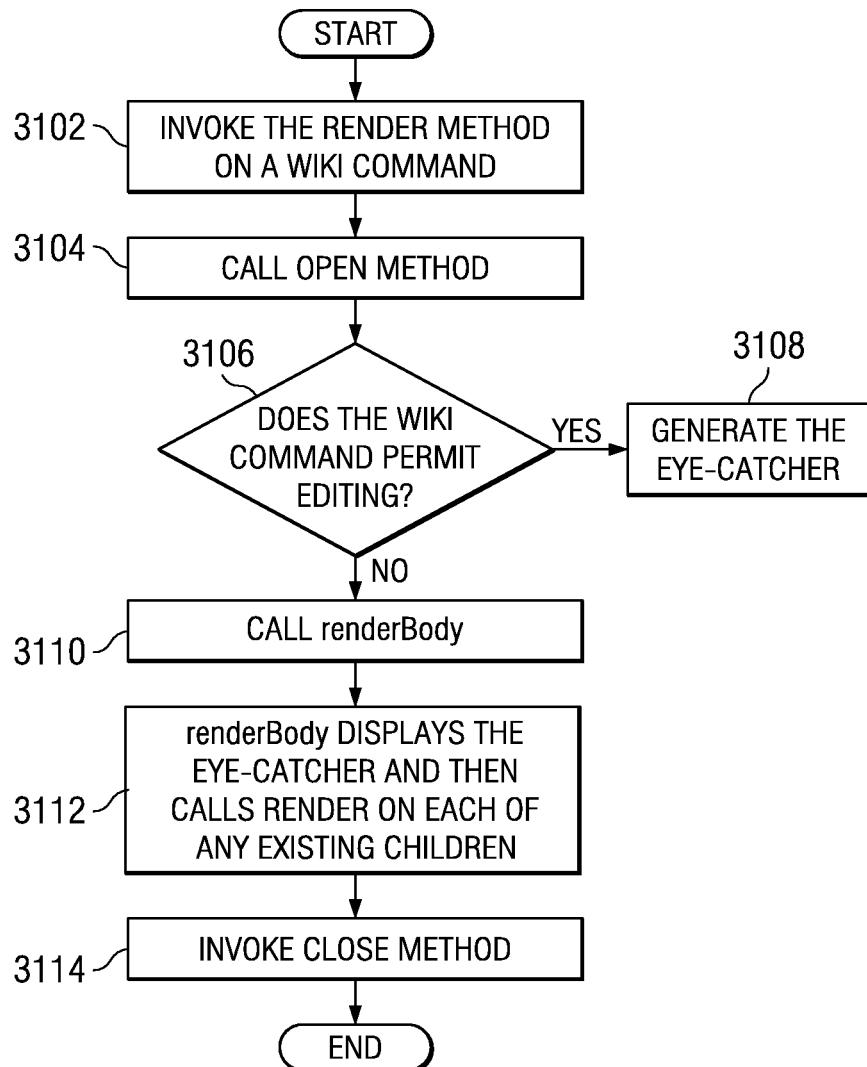
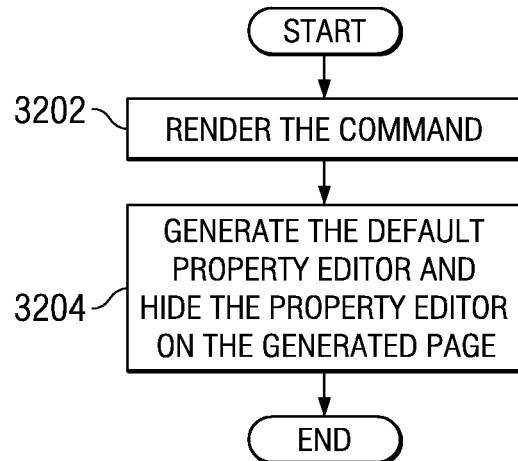
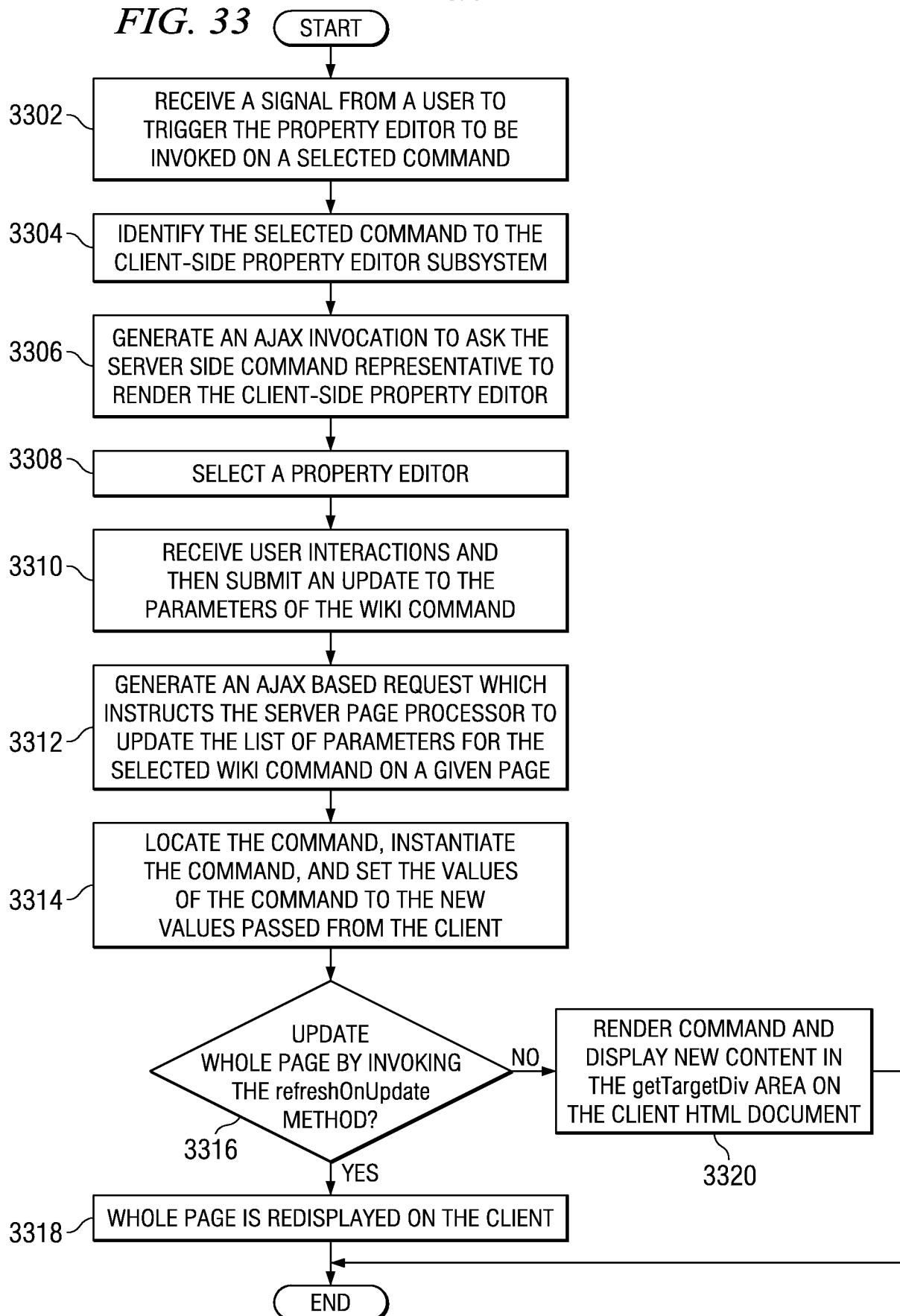


FIG. 32



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FIG. 33



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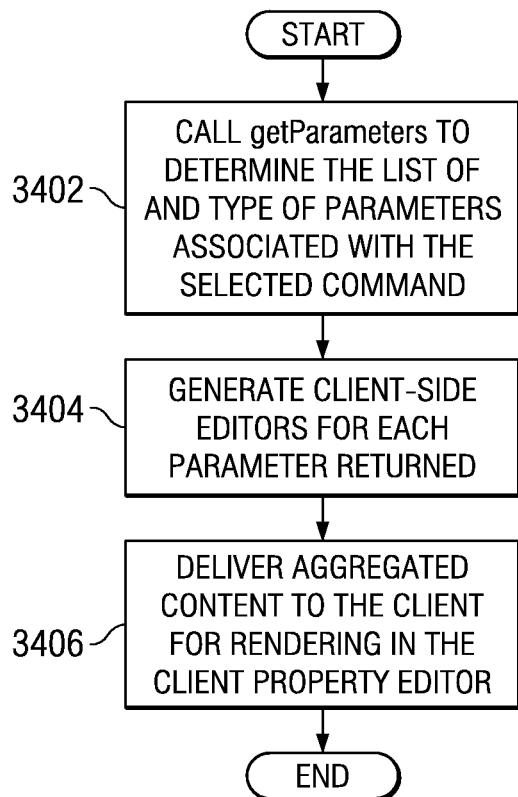
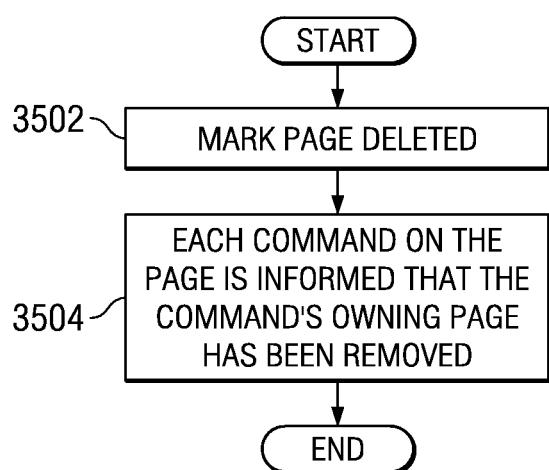
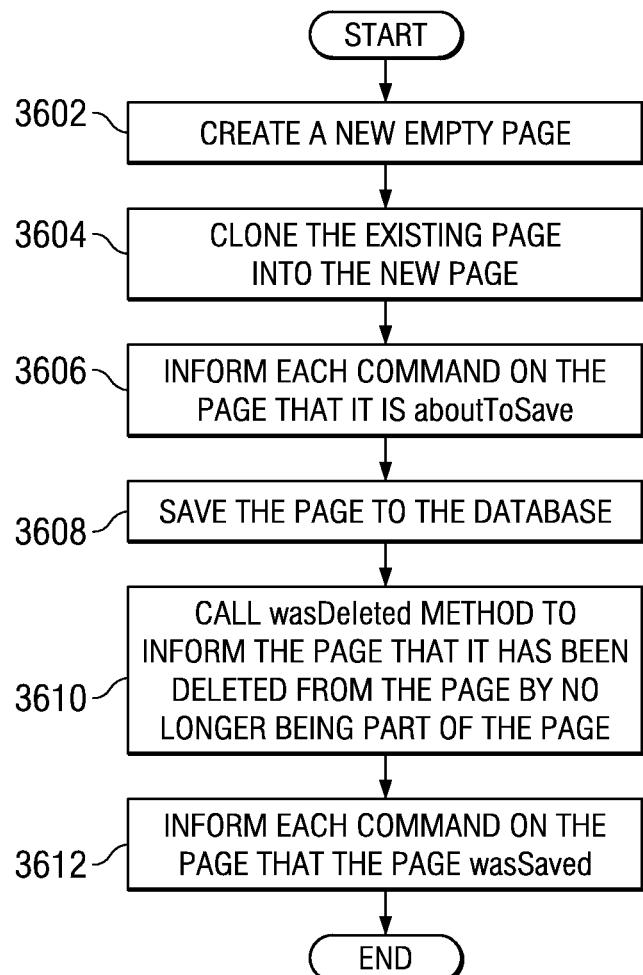
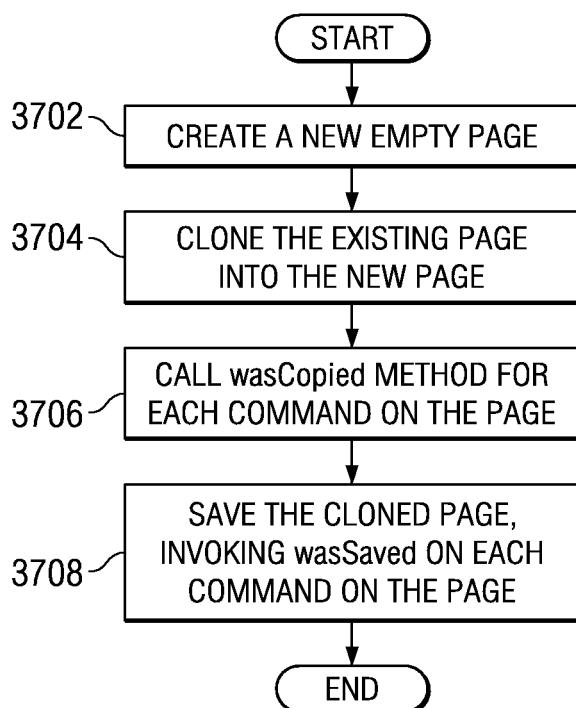
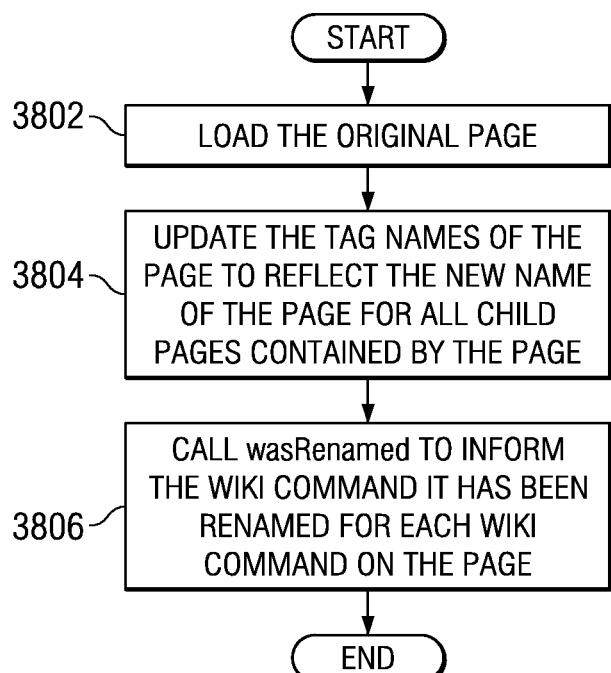
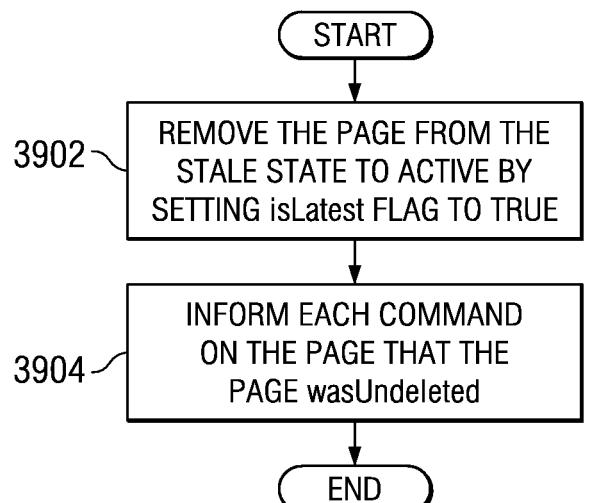
FIG. 34**FIG. 35****FIG. 36**

FIG. 37

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**FIG. 38****FIG. 39**

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FIG. 40

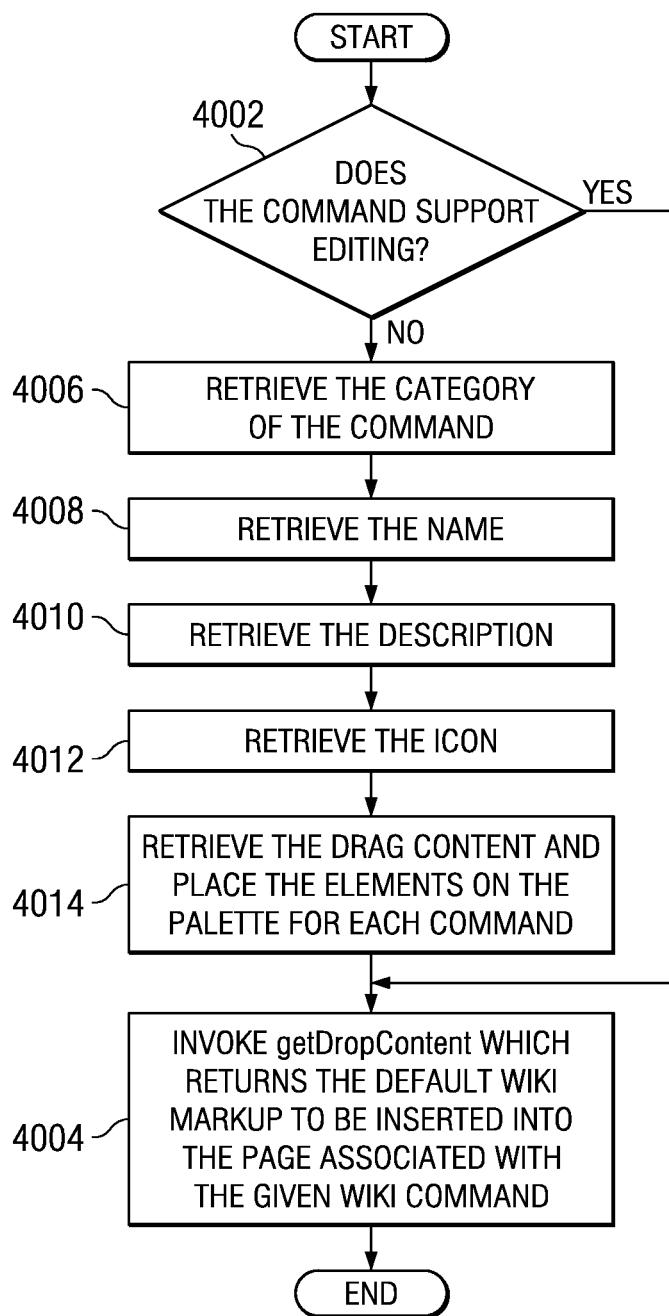
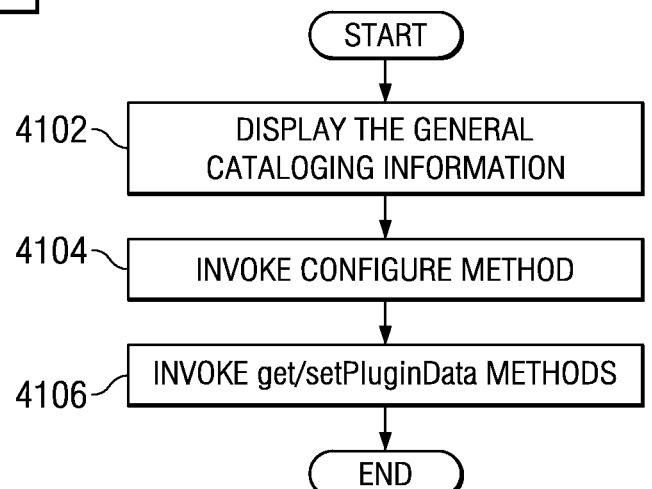


FIG. 41



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FIG. 42

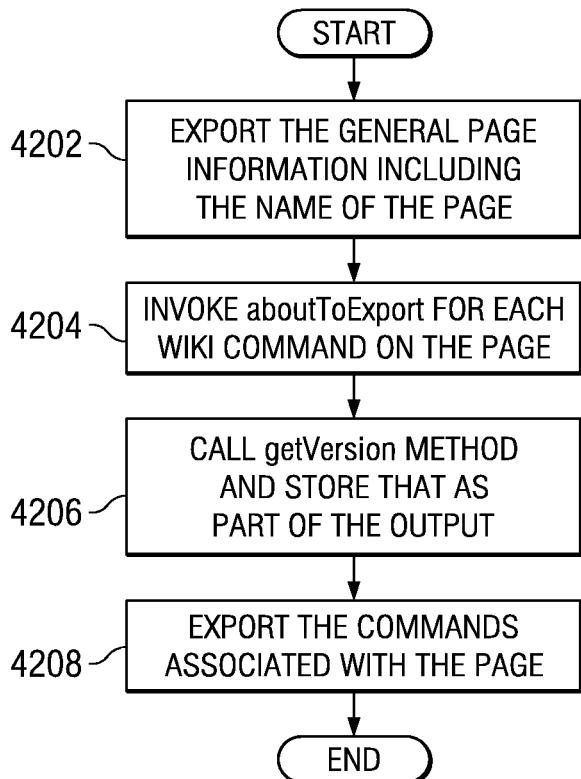


FIG. 44

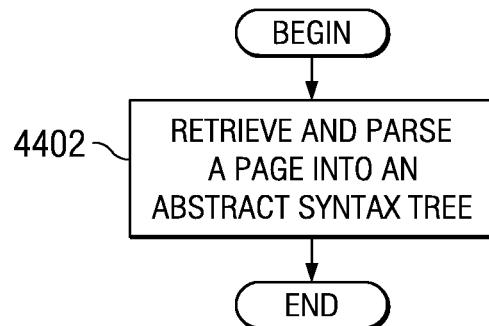
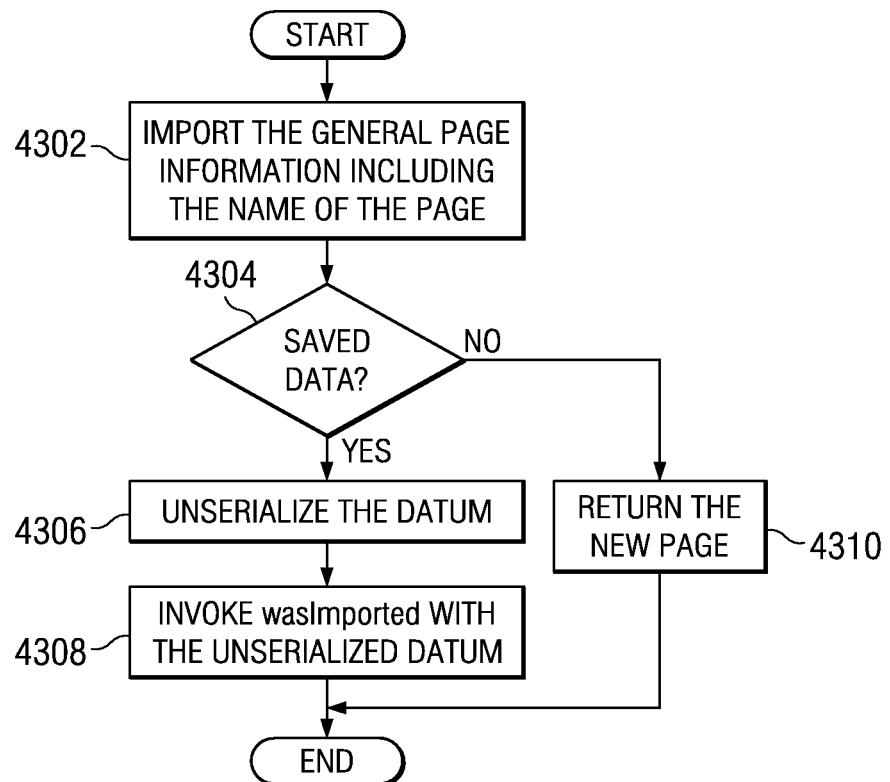
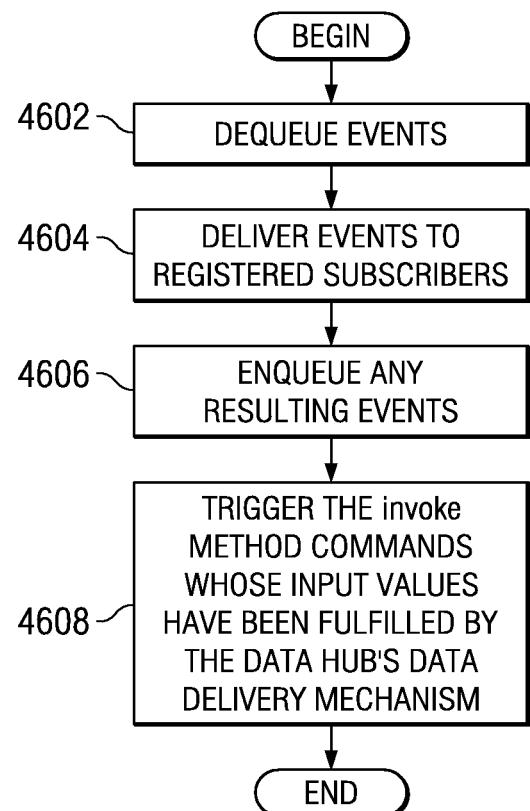
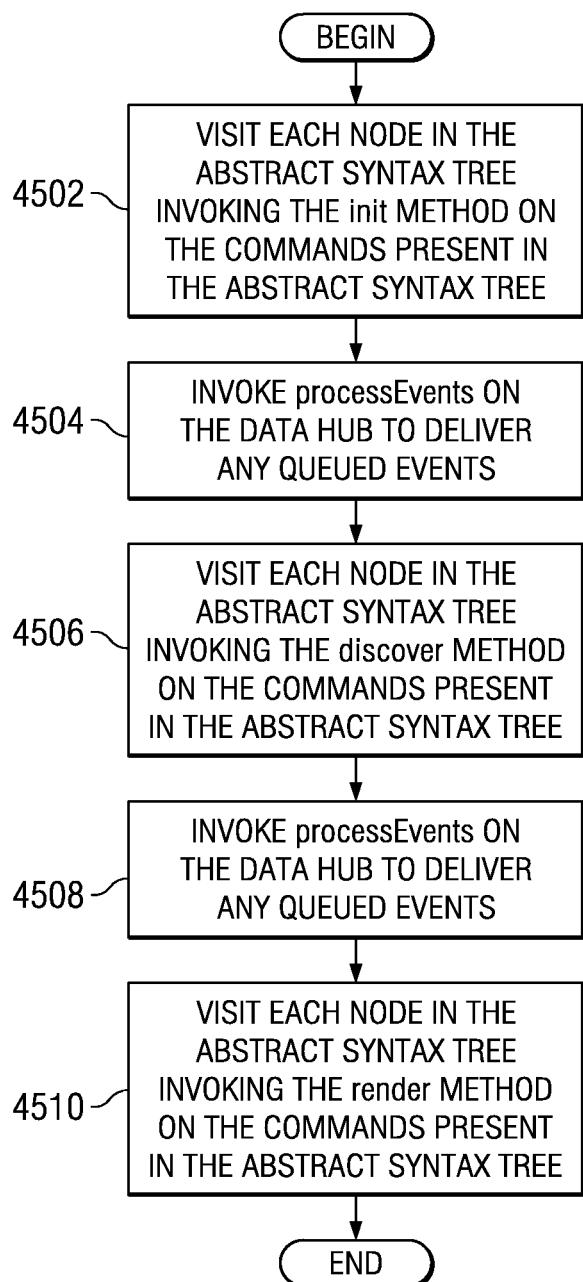
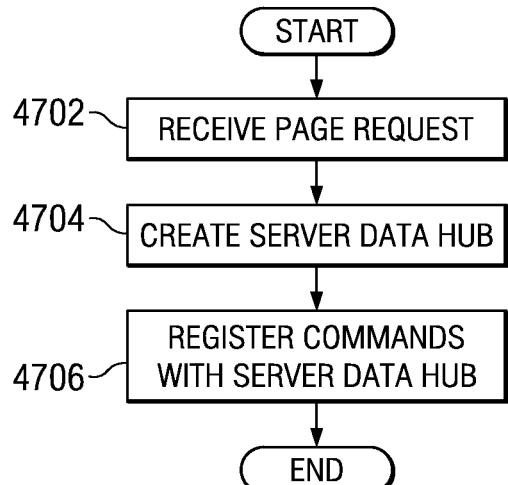


FIG. 43



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FIG. 46**FIG. 45****FIG. 47**

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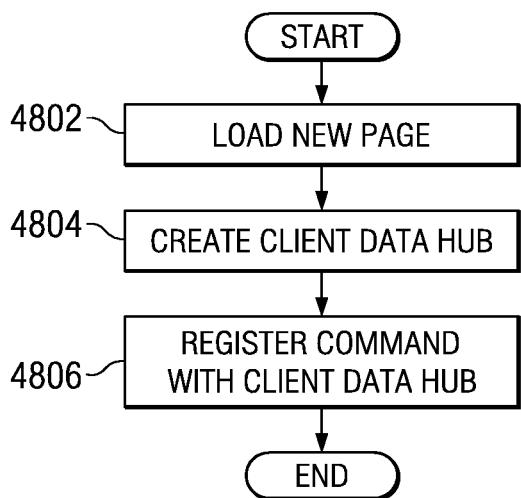
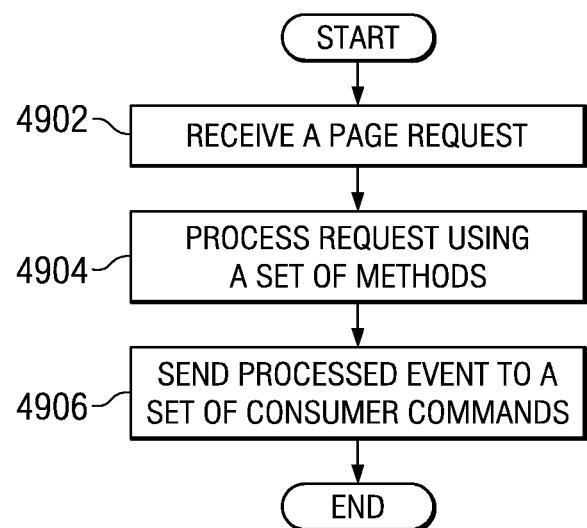
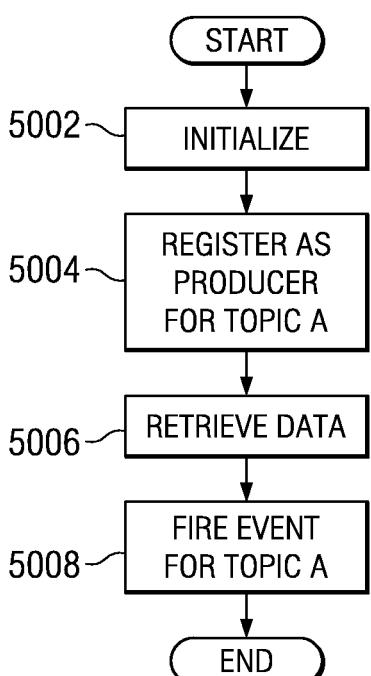
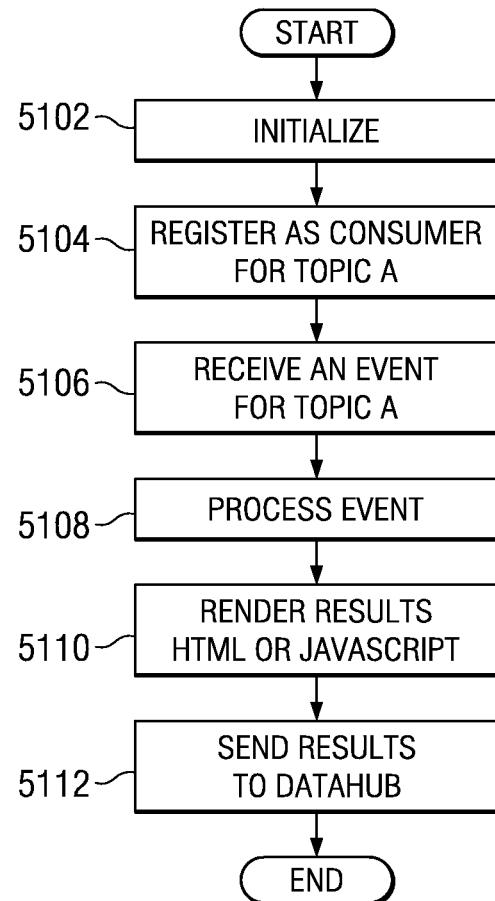
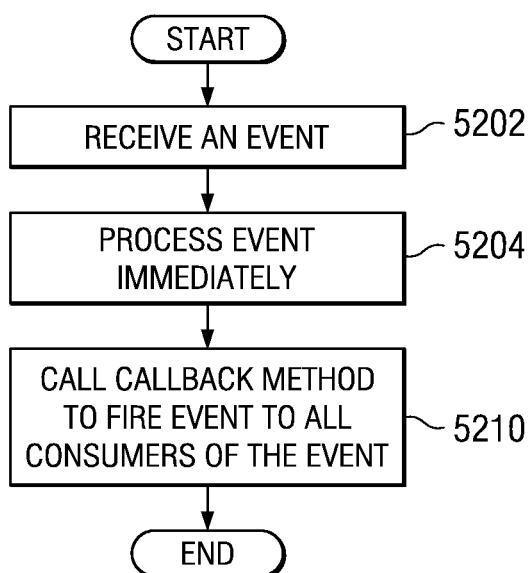
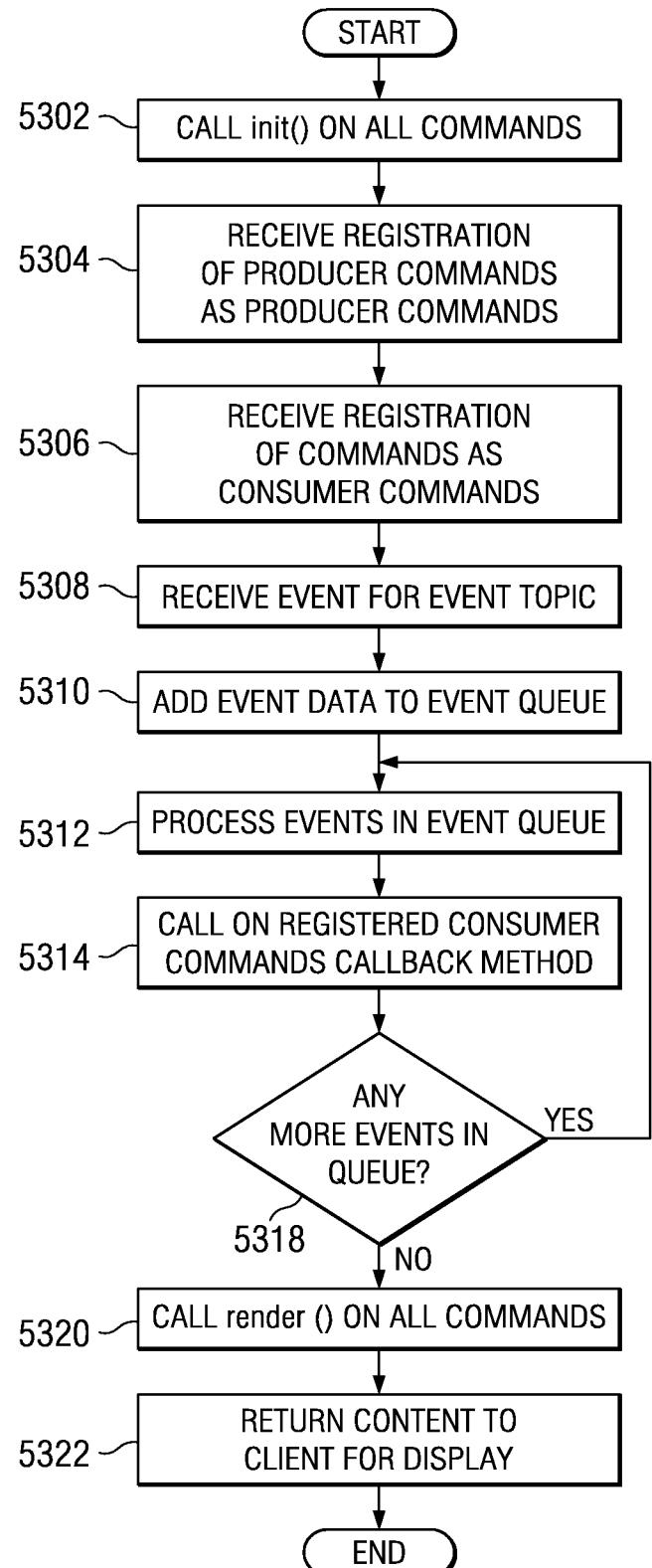
FIG. 48*FIG. 49**FIG. 50**FIG. 51*

FIG. 52**FIG. 53**

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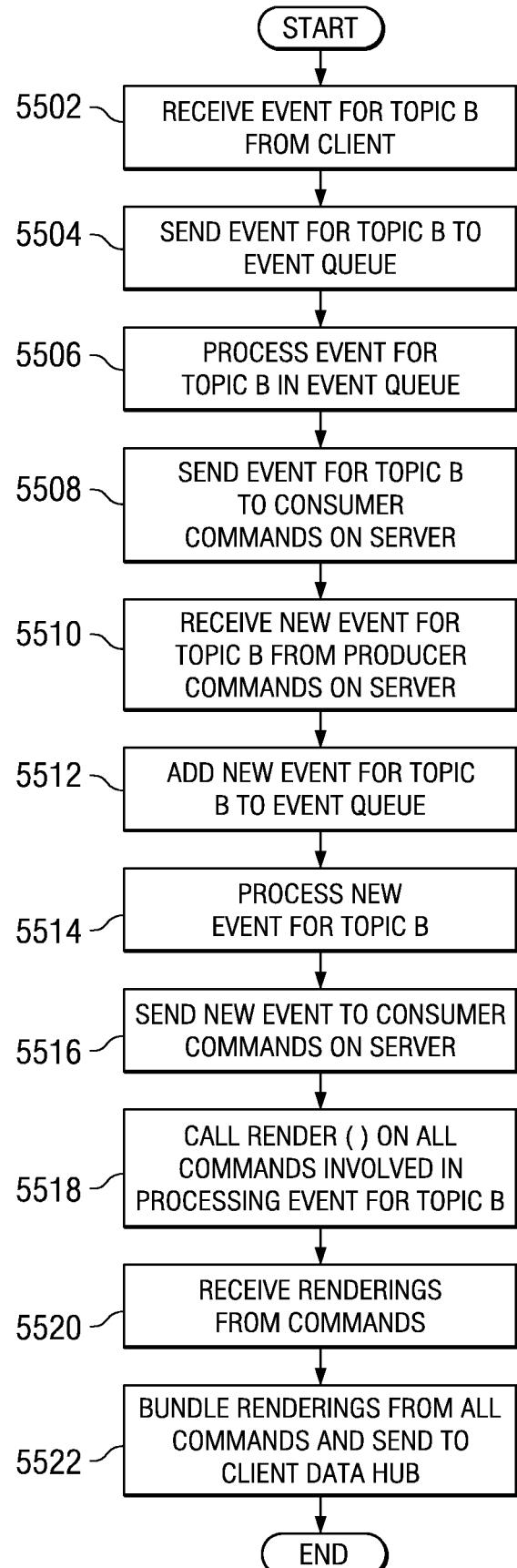
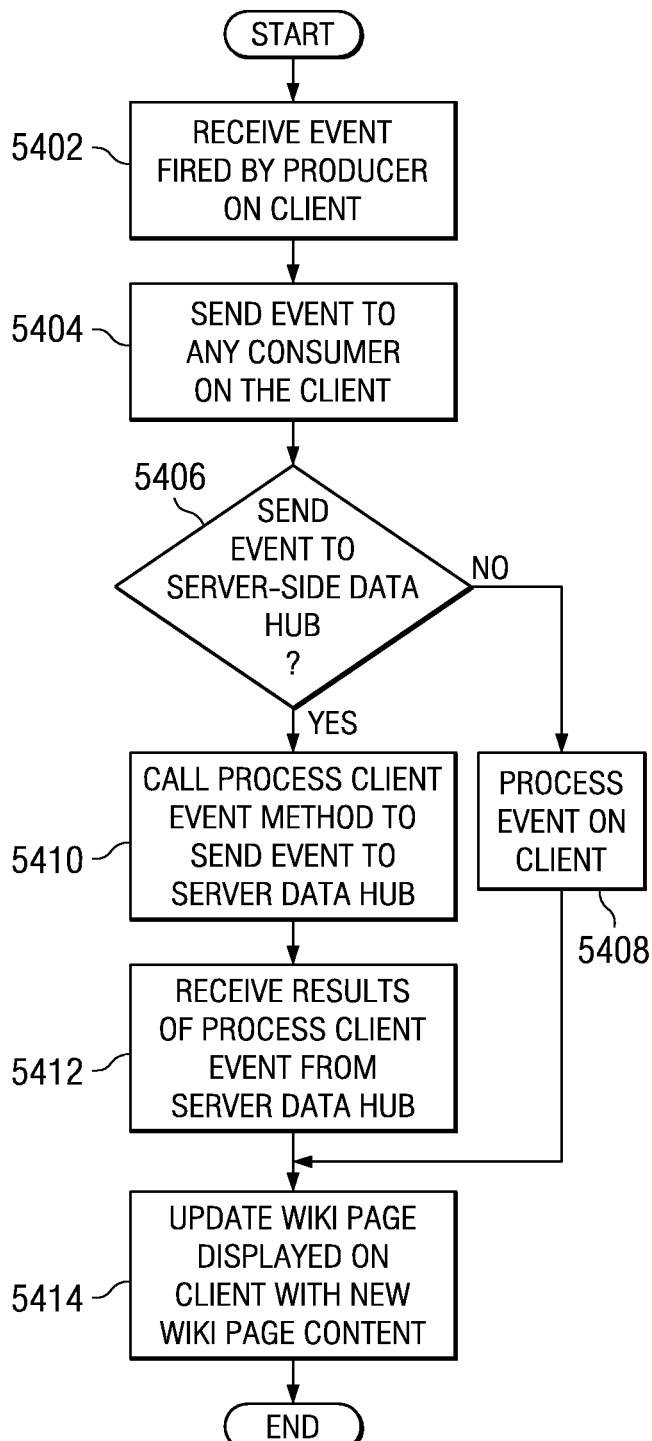
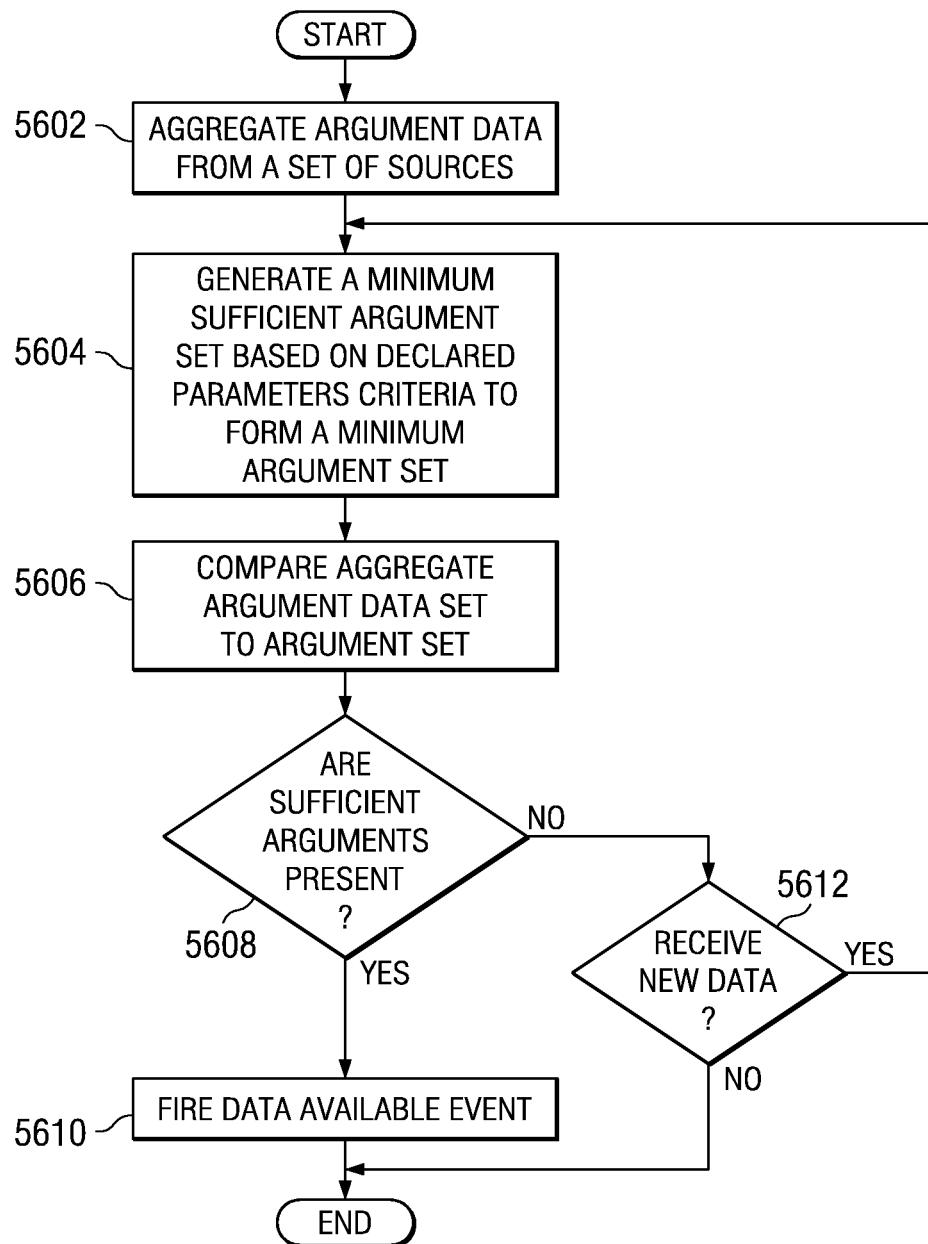
FIG. 55**FIG. 54**

FIG. 56

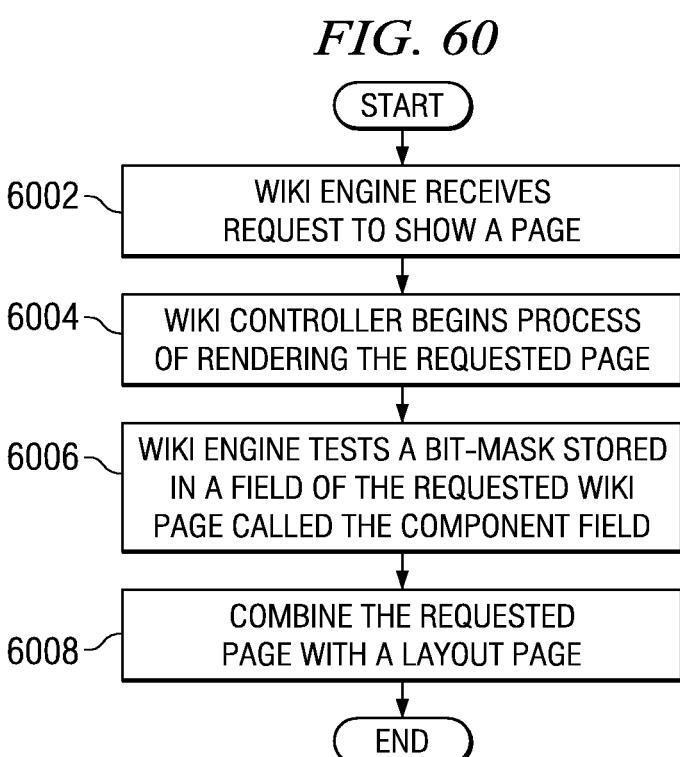
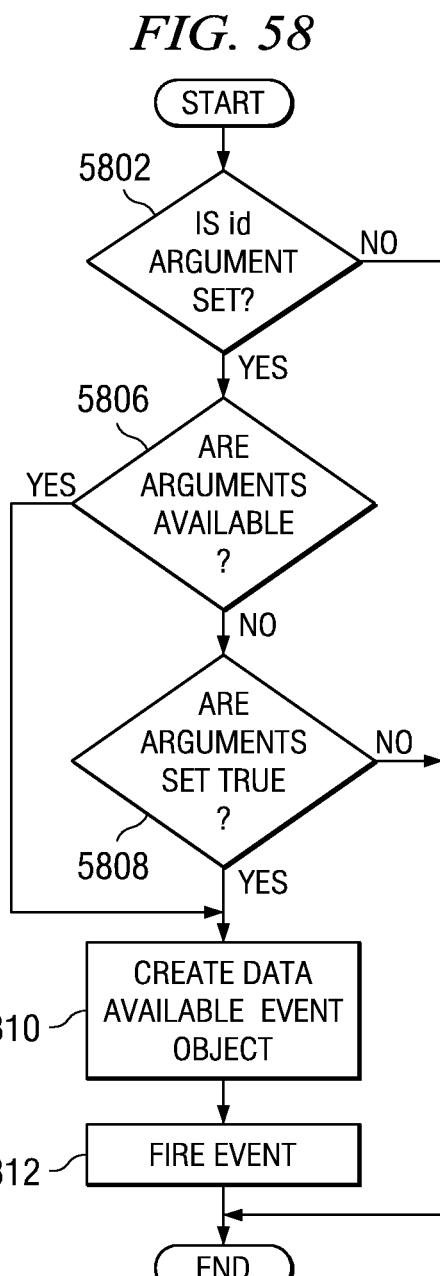
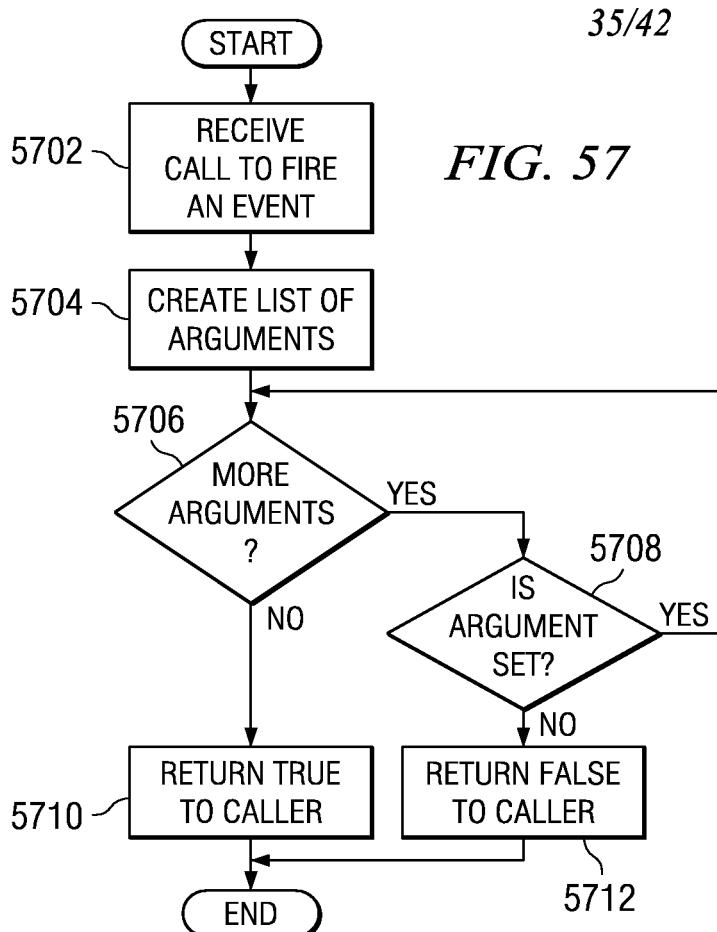


FIG. 59

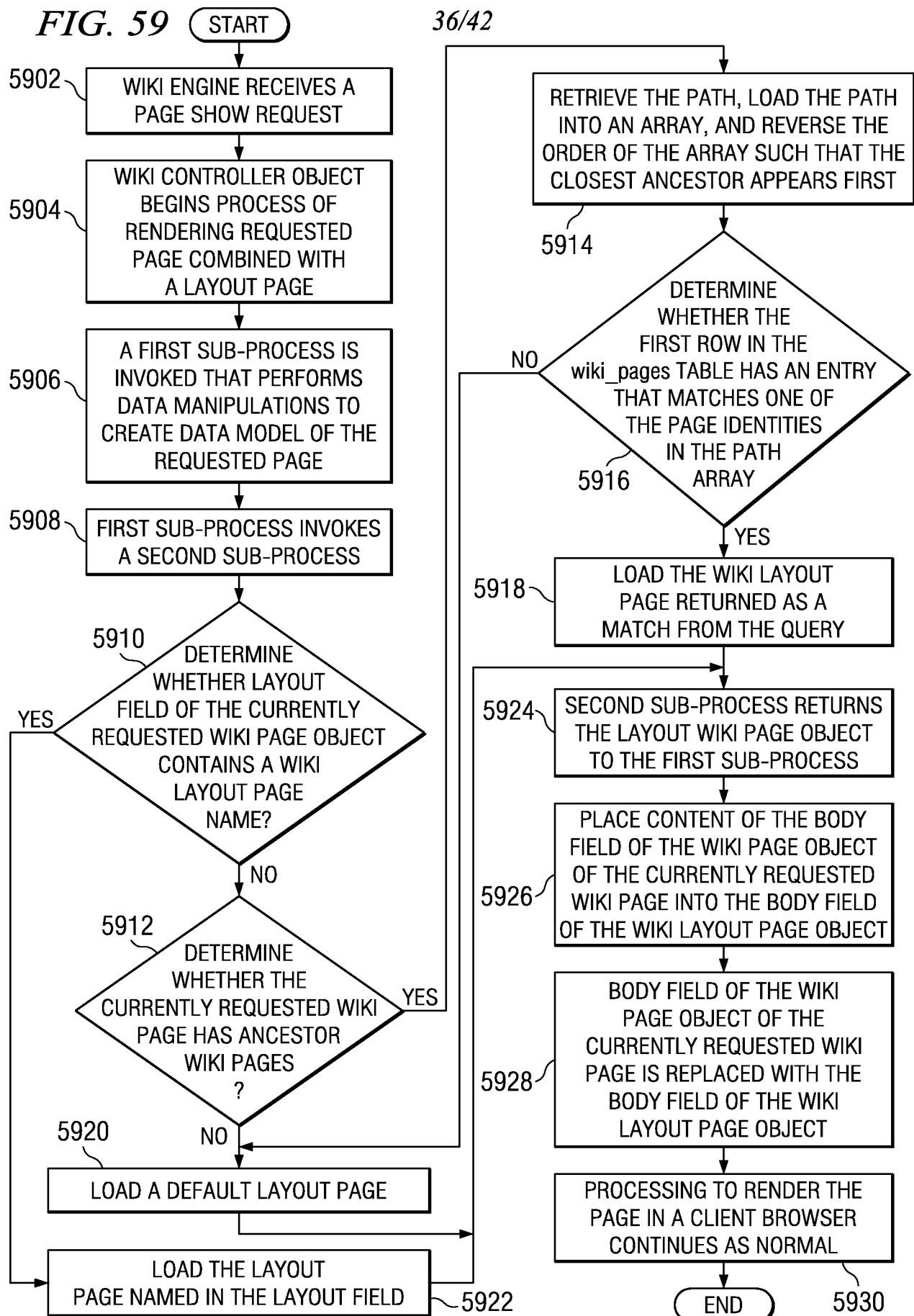


FIG. 61

```

6102 { class WikiDataHub {
  public $pageInstance = null; // Page instance
  commands = array(); // Array of wiki command objects ~6104
  consumers = array(); // Array of consumer ids ~6106
  producers = array(); // Array of producer ids
  topics = array();
  events = array(); ~6108
  clientHandlers = array();
}

```

FIG. 62

```

6200 { 6202 { public static function init($pageInstance)
           // Restore WikiDataHub object from file system.
  6204 { public function save()
           // Cache serialized WikiDataHub object to file system.
}

```

FIG. 64

```

6400 { 6402 { public function fireEvent(DataHubEvent $event)
           //Fire an event
  6404 { public function processEvents()
           //Process events on the server.
  6406 { public function processClientEvent($events)
           //Process a client events destined for the server.
           Multiple events can be sent as a batch.
}

```

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FIG. 63A

```

public function addCommand(WikiCommand $command) ↗ 6302
public function getCommands() ↗ 6304
public function getCommand($commandId) ↗ 6306
public function addProducer(WikiCommand $producer, ↗ 6308
    $type=self: :DEFAULT_PRODUCER)
public function addEditableProducer(WikiCommand $producer) ↗ 6310
public function removeProducer($producerID) ↗ 6312
public function getProducers() ↗ 6314
public function addConsumer($consumerId, $topic, ↗ 6316
    $callback, $arg=null, $client=false, $server=false)
public function removeConsumer($consumerId, $topic) ↗ 6318
public function getConsumers($topic='') ↗ 6320
public function addClientConsumer($consumerID, $topic, $callback, ↗ 6322
    $arg='', $client=true, $server=false)
public function addClientHandler($consumerId, $method, $code) ↗ 6324
public function getClientHandlers()
    //Get client handlers.
public function removeProducer($producerId)
    //Remove producer (regular or editable producer)
public function getProducers()
    //Get list of all producers
public function addConsumer($consumerId, $topic,
    $callback, $arg=null, $client=false, $server=false)
    //Add consumer as a listener for a particular topic
public function removeConsumer($consumerId, $topic) ↗ 6326
public function get Consumers($topic='') ↗ 6328
public function addClientConsumer($consumerId, $topic, $callback, ↗ 6330
    $arg='', $client=true, $server=false)
public function addClientHandler($consumerId, $method, $code)
    //Add client javascript handler.
public function getClientHandlers()
    //Get client handlers.
public function generate client() ↗ 6332

```

FIG. 63B

```

6342 { public function addTopic($topic)
        //Add event topic this command produces.
6344 { public function removeTopic($topic)
        //Remove event topic.
        public function getTopics($mask='*/*/*')
            //Get the event topics produced.

```

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FIG. 65

```

6502 { public function setArguments($cmdId, $args)
        //Set arguments for command. This changes the
        arguments in the source if $update=T.
        public function updateCommand($cmdId, $args)
        //Update arguments for command. This changes the
        arguments in the source if $update=T.
6504 { 6500 } public function deleteCommand($cmdId)
        //Delete command from page source.
        public function renderCommandSample($cmdId)
        //Render sample for command and return result.
        public function renderCodeSample($code)
        //Render sample wiki markup code and return result.
        public function addNewCommand($cmdId, $target, $position)
        //Add new command to wiki page.
        public function addNewCode($code, $target, $position)
        //Add new wiki markup to wiki page.
        public function moveCommand($cmdId, $target, $position)
        //Move command on the page.

```

FIG. 66

```

Class DataHub {
6600 { 6602 this.consumers = [ ];
        6604 this.topics = [ ];
        this.draggable = [ ];
        this.data = [ ];
        this.events = [ ];
        6606 this.commands = [ ];
        this.pageName = null;
        this.pageId = null;

```

FIG. 67

```

6700 { 6702 // Add consumer
        addConsumer: function(consumerId, topic, callback, arg, client, server)
6704 { // Remove consumer
        removeConsumer: function(consumerId, topic)

```

FIG. 68

```
6800 {  
  6802 { // Add topic that is available for other consumers  
    addTopic: function(topic)  
  }  
  6804 { // Get list of available topics  
    getTopics: function()  
  }  
}
```

FIG. 70

```
7000 {  
  // Add wiki command  
  addCommand: function(cmd) ~ 7002  
  // Get wiki command  
  getCommand: function(cmd)  
  
  // Refresh content of div  
  refreshContent: function(divToUpdate, value)  
  
  setServerArguments: function(cmd, args)  
  
  updateCommand: function(cmd, args)  
  
  deleteCommand: function(cmd) ~ 7004  
  renderCommandSample: function(cmd)  
  
  renderCodeSample: function(fragment)  
  
  addNewCommand: function(cmd, target, position)  
  
  addNewCode: function(cmd, target, position)  
  
  moveCommand: function(cmd, target, position)  
  
  // Set argument  
  setArgument: function(cmd, name, value)  
  
  // Get argument  
  getArgument: function(cmd, name)  
}
```

FIG. 69

```

6902 { // Fire all queued up events (done onLoad)
  processEvents: function()
}

6900 { // Fire an event
  6904 { fireEvent: function(event)
}

  6906 { // Send an event to the server to be executed
    fireServerEvent: function(event)
}

```

FIG. 71

```

class DataHubTopic {

  const DEFAULT_TOPIC = 'string';
  const URL = 'url';
  public $topic;
  public $name;
  public $action;
  public $item;
  public $type;

  public function isEqual(DataHubTopic $topic)
  ... getter and setter methods for each object variable
}

```

Topics are specified as

name/action/item
where

- name is the name of the topic. This is usually the name of the producer, but can be any string.
- action represents the topic action verb, such as available, clicked, updated, etc.
- item further qualifies the name of the topic and is optional. It usually identifies the column or element that the data in the event represents.

As an example, consider a table display component with id "list":

list/selected/address

indicates that the address column of the selected row was clicked on.

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FIG. 73

```

7300 { class WikiArgument { public $name;      // parameter name
    public $value;      // current value
    public $initValue;  // initial value
    public $rawValue;   // raw current value
    public $modified;   // modified
    public $valid;      // is valid ~7302
    public $avail;      // bound argument has been set and is available ~7304
    public $parameter;  // Parameter object
    ...getter/setter methods for all properties...
}

```

FIG. 72

```

7200 { class DataHubEvent {
    public $topic; ~7202
    public $producer;
    public $value; ~7204
    public $index;
    public $arg;
    ... getter and setter methods for each object variable
}

```

FIG. 74

```

7400 { 7404 { function areArgumentsSet()
    foreach argument
    7402 { if argument.avail is null
        return false
    end if
    end foreach
    return true
end function

7406 { 7408 { function setCheckArguments
    id = getArgument('id')
    if id is not null then
        if argsAvail is not null OR argumentsAreSet(arguments available)
        7408 { is true then
            event = new DataHubEvent()
            datahub.fireEvent(event)
        end if
    end if
end function

```

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/EP2007/056678

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. G06F17/30

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 practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, COMPENDEX, IBM-TDB, INSPEC

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|---|-----------------------|
| A | CHEN ET AL: "Component-based Web page management environment" INFORMATION SCIENCES, AMSTERDAM, NL, vol. 176, no. 6, 22 March 2006 (2006-03-22), pages 628-639, XP005234224 ISSN: 0020-0255 figure 1 section "2.2 Component storage (CS)" section "3. Examples" ----- | 1-20 |
| A | US 2002/103856 A1 (HEWETT DELANE ROBERT [US] ET AL) 1 August 2002 (2002-08-01) abstract ----- | 1-20 |



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

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- *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
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- *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

26 September 2007

Date of mailing of the international search report

05/10/2007

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Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Schmidt, Axel

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/EP2007/056678

| Patent document cited in search report | Publication date | Patent family member(s) | Publication date |
|--|------------------|-------------------------|------------------|
| US 2002103856 A1 | 01-08-2002 | US 2006064471 A1 | 23-03-2006 |