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Akintunde

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(54) **PODROOM**

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(72) Inventor: **Tolulope Akintunde**, Raleigh, NC (US)

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(Continued)

(51) **Int. Cl.**

G06Q 50/00	(2024.01)
G06F 3/048	(2013.01)
G06F 3/0482	(2013.01)
G06Q 30/0203	(2023.01)
G06Q 30/0241	(2023.01)
H04L 12/18	(2006.01)
H04L 51/04	(2022.01)
H04L 51/216	(2022.01)
H04L 65/61	(2022.01)
H04L 67/02	(2022.01)
H04M 1/72442	(2021.01)
H04N 21/4788	(2011.01)
H04N 21/482	(2011.01)
H04W 4/12	(2009.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**
CPC ***G06Q 50/01*** (2013.01); ***G06F 3/048*** (2013.01); ***G06F 3/0482*** (2013.01); ***G06Q 30/0203*** (2013.01); ***G06Q 30/0277*** (2013.01); ***H04L 12/1813*** (2013.01); ***H04L 51/04*** (2013.01); ***H04L 51/216*** (2022.05); ***H04L 65/61*** (2022.05); ***H04L 67/02*** (2013.01); ***H04M 1/72442*** (2021.01); ***H04N 21/4788*** (2013.01); ***H04N 21/482*** (2013.01); ***H04W 4/12*** (2013.01); *G06F 2203/04803* (2013.01)

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CPC G06Q 50/01; G06Q 30/0203; G06Q 30/0277; H04L 12/1813; H04L 51/04; H04L 65/61; H04L 51/216; H04L 67/02; H04N 21/4788; H04N 21/482; G06F 3/048; G06F 3/0482; G06F 2203/04803; H04M 1/72442; H04W 4/12
See application file for complete search history.

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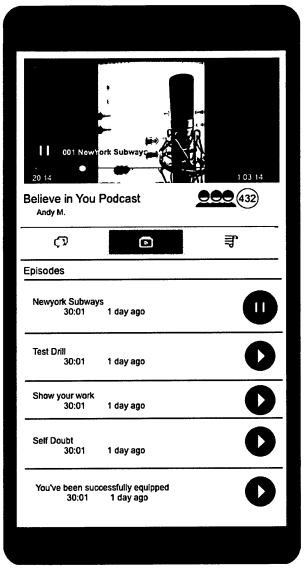
Primary Examiner — Nicholas Ulrich
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Bold IP PLLC; Christopher Mayle

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A system and method for a podcast community that creates an avenue for listeners to provide feedback to podcasters. These solutions include websites, web applications, mobile applications and algorithms that connect people listening to podcasts around the world. The mobile application creates a forum where podcast listeners can listen and comment on podcast episodes. Listeners can interact with each other, podcasters and featured guests on the applications. Users and podcasters can also attach media files to comments and podcasts respectively.

19 Claims, 15 Drawing Sheets



Related U.S. Application Data

(60) Provisional application No. 62/784,560, filed on Dec. 24, 2018.

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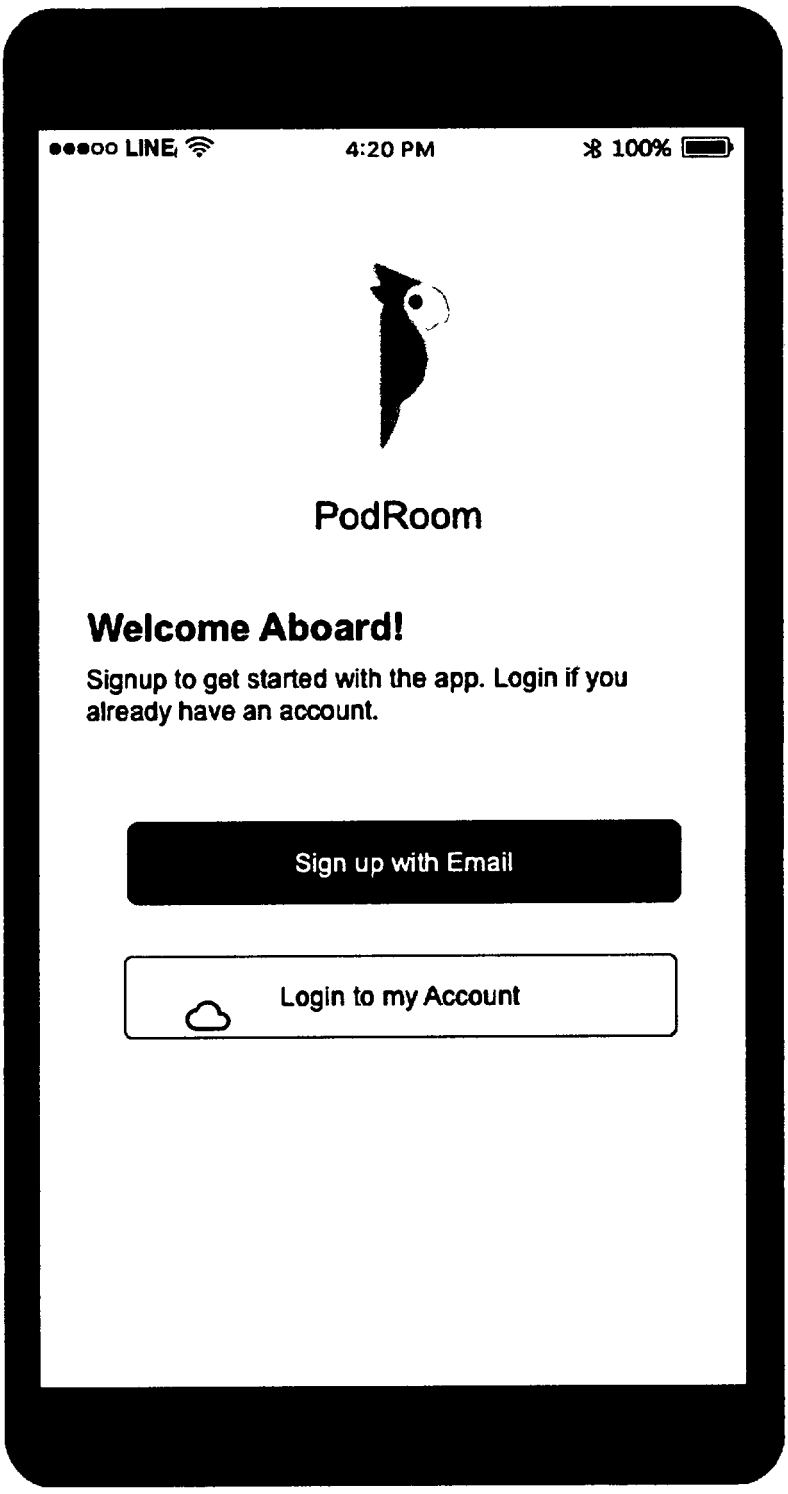
●●●oo LINE
4:20 PM
100%
PodRoom
Welcome Aboard!
Signup to get started with the app. Login if you already have an account.
Sign up with Email
Login to my Account

FIG. 1

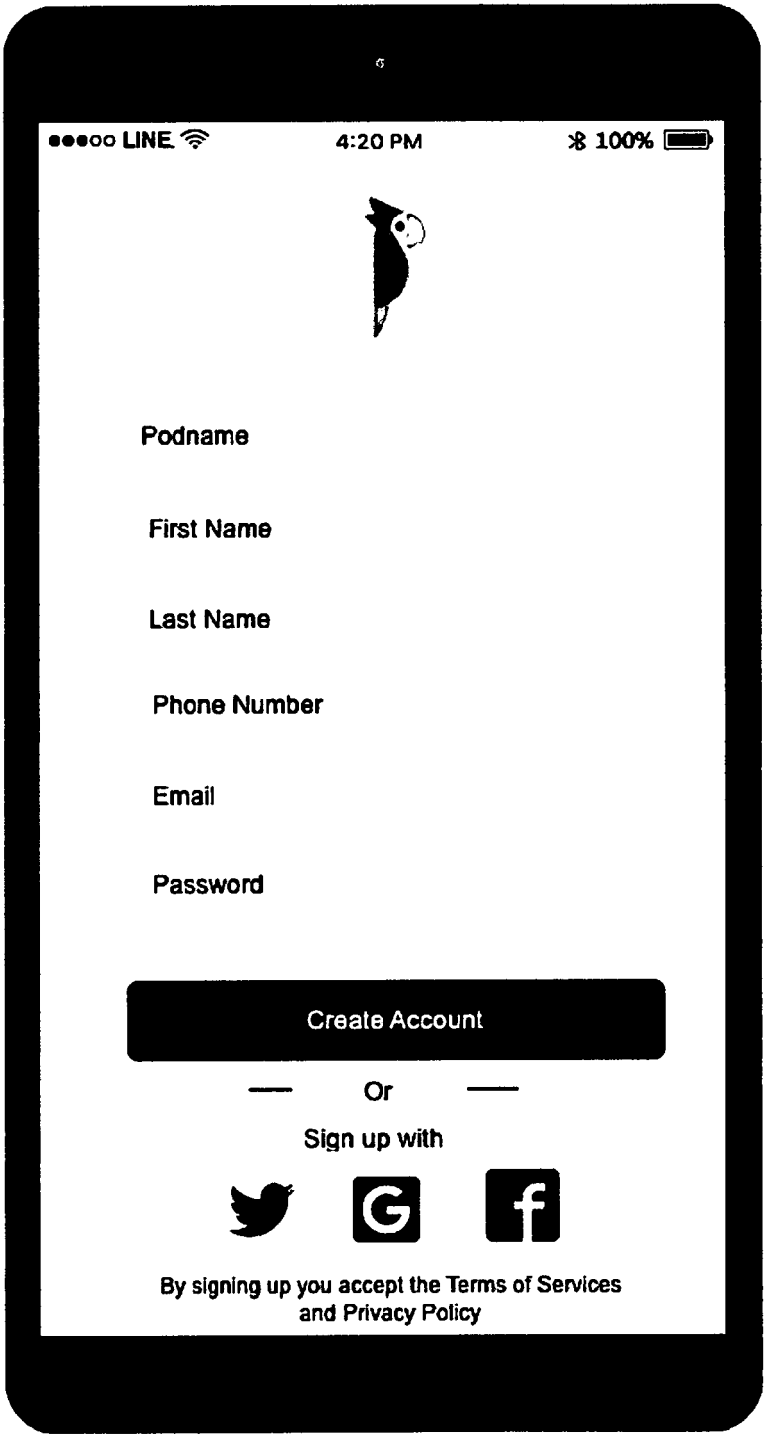
●●●oo LINE
4:20 PM
100%
Podname
First Name
Last Name
Phone Number
Email
Password
Create Account
Or
Sign up with
By signing up you accept the Terms of Services and Privacy Policy

FIG. 2

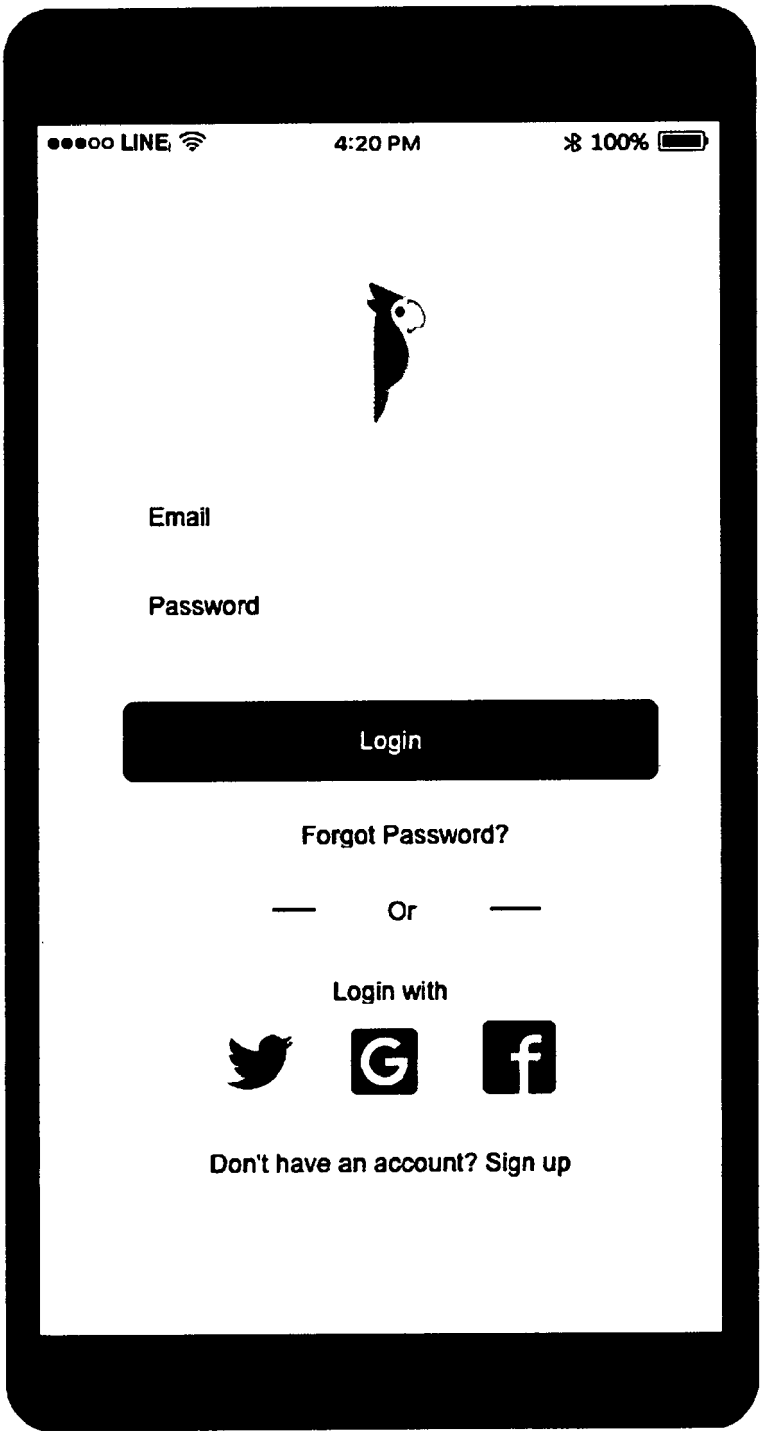
●●●oo LINE
4:20 PM
100%
Email
Password
Login
Forgot Password?
Or
Login with
Don't have an account? Sign up

FIG. 3

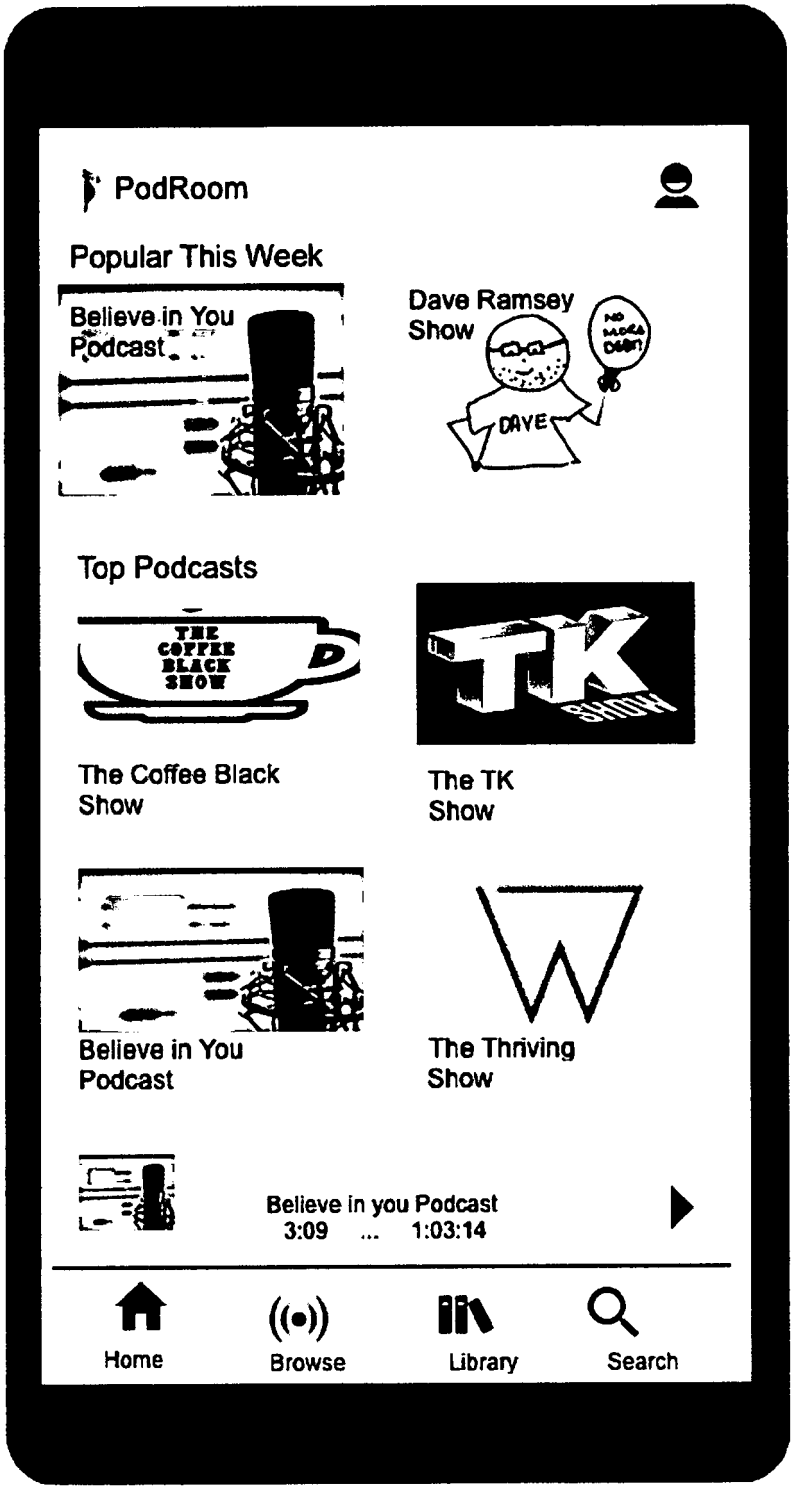
PodRoom
Popular This Week
Believe in You Podcast
Dave Ramsey Show
DAVE
Top Podcasts
THE COFFEE BLACK SHOW
The Coffee Black Show
TK SHOW
The TK Show
Believe in You Podcast
The Thriving Show
Believe in you Podcast
3:09 ... 1:03:14
Home
Browse
Library
Search

FIG. 4

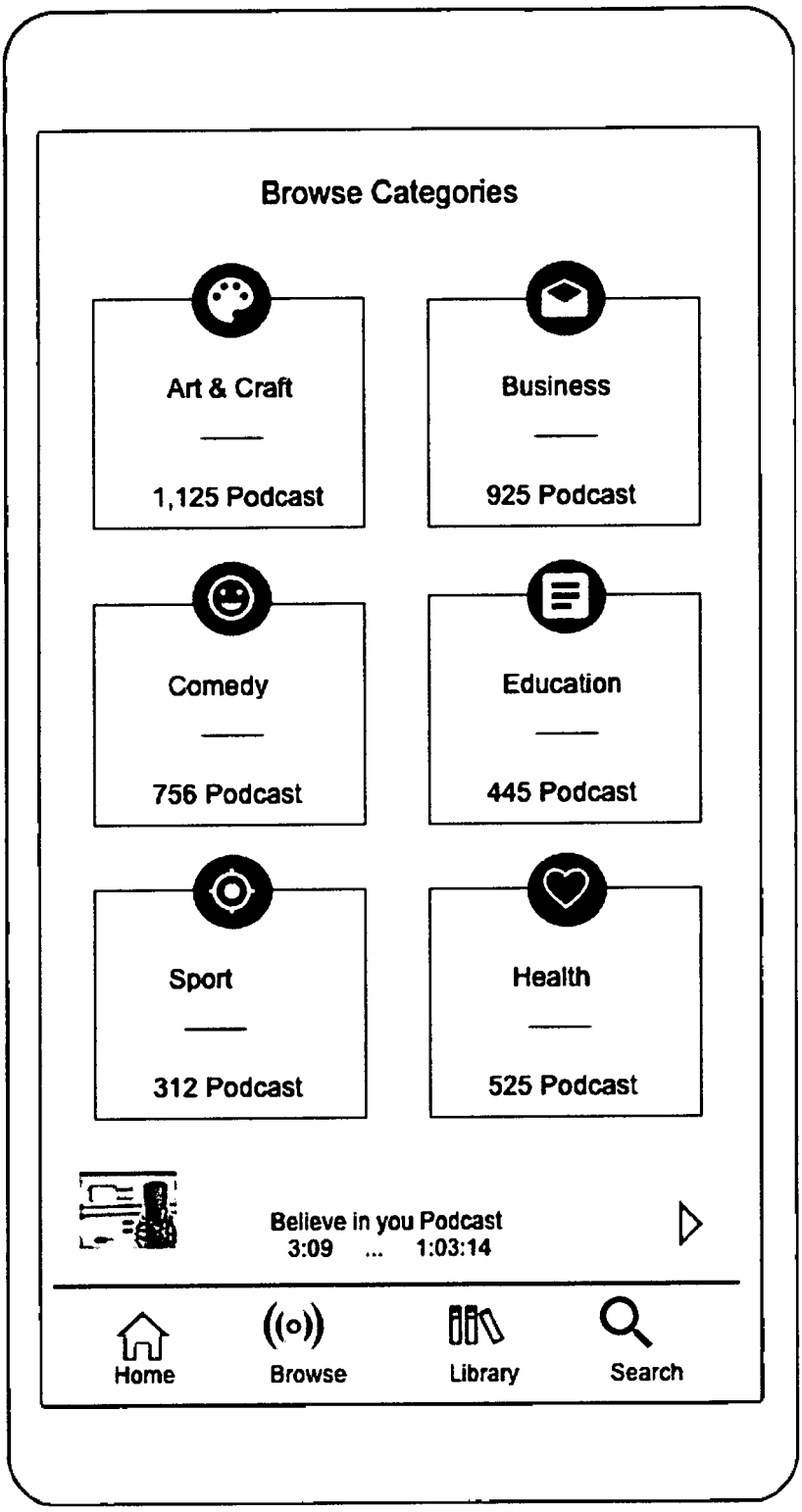
Browse Categories
Art & Craft
1,125 Podcast
Business
925 Podcast
Comedy
756 Podcast
Education
445 Podcast
Sport
312 Podcast
Health
525 Podcast
Believe in you Podcast
3:09 ... 1:03:14
Home
Browse
Library
Search

FIG. 5

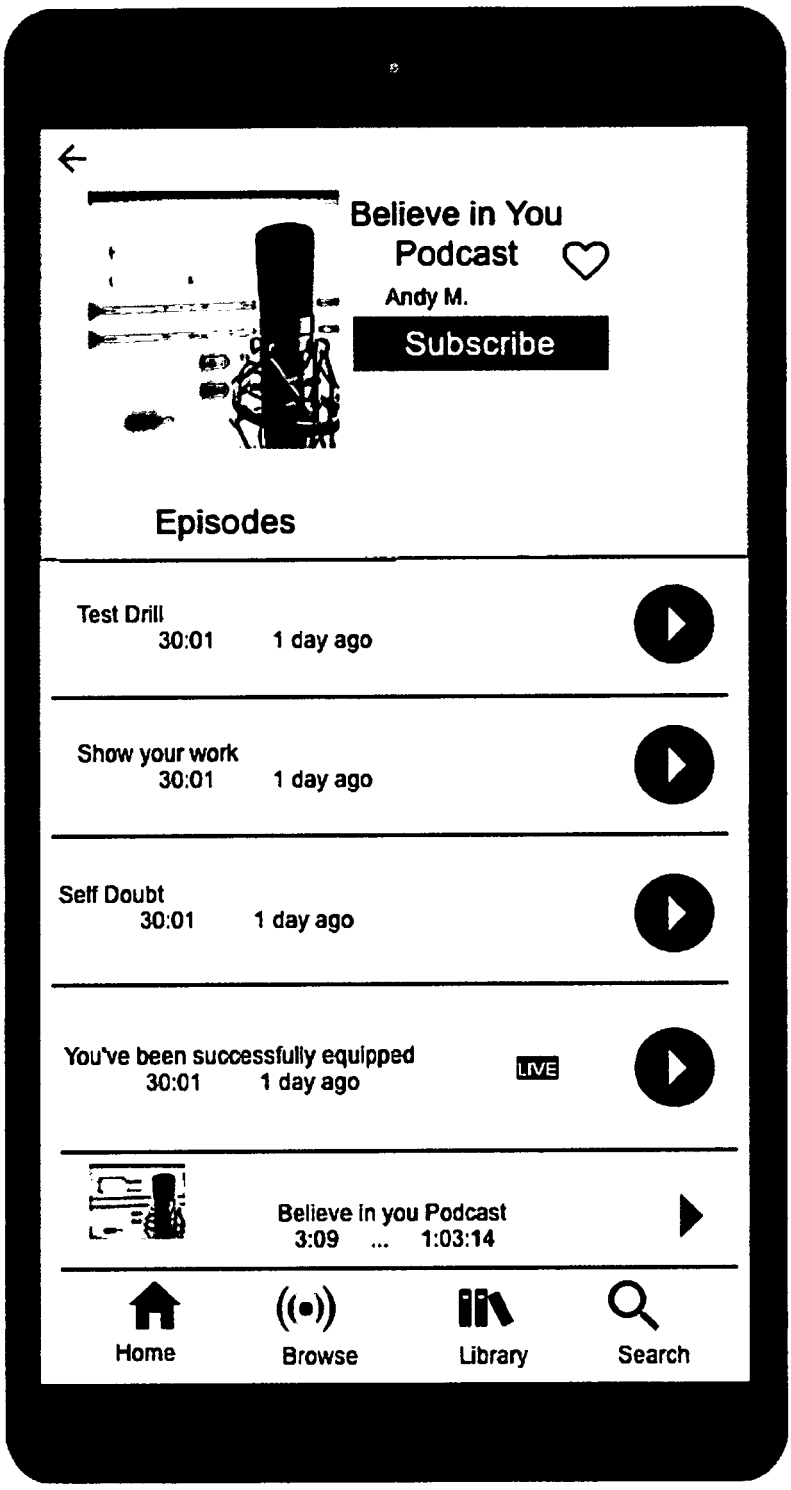
Believe in You
Podcast
Andy M.
Subscribe
Episodes
Test Drill
30:01 1 day ago
Show your work
30:01 1 day ago
Self Doubt
30:01 1 day ago
You've been successfully equipped
30:01 1 day ago
LIVE
Believe in you Podcast
3:09 ... 1:03:14
Home
Browse
Library
Search

FIG. 6

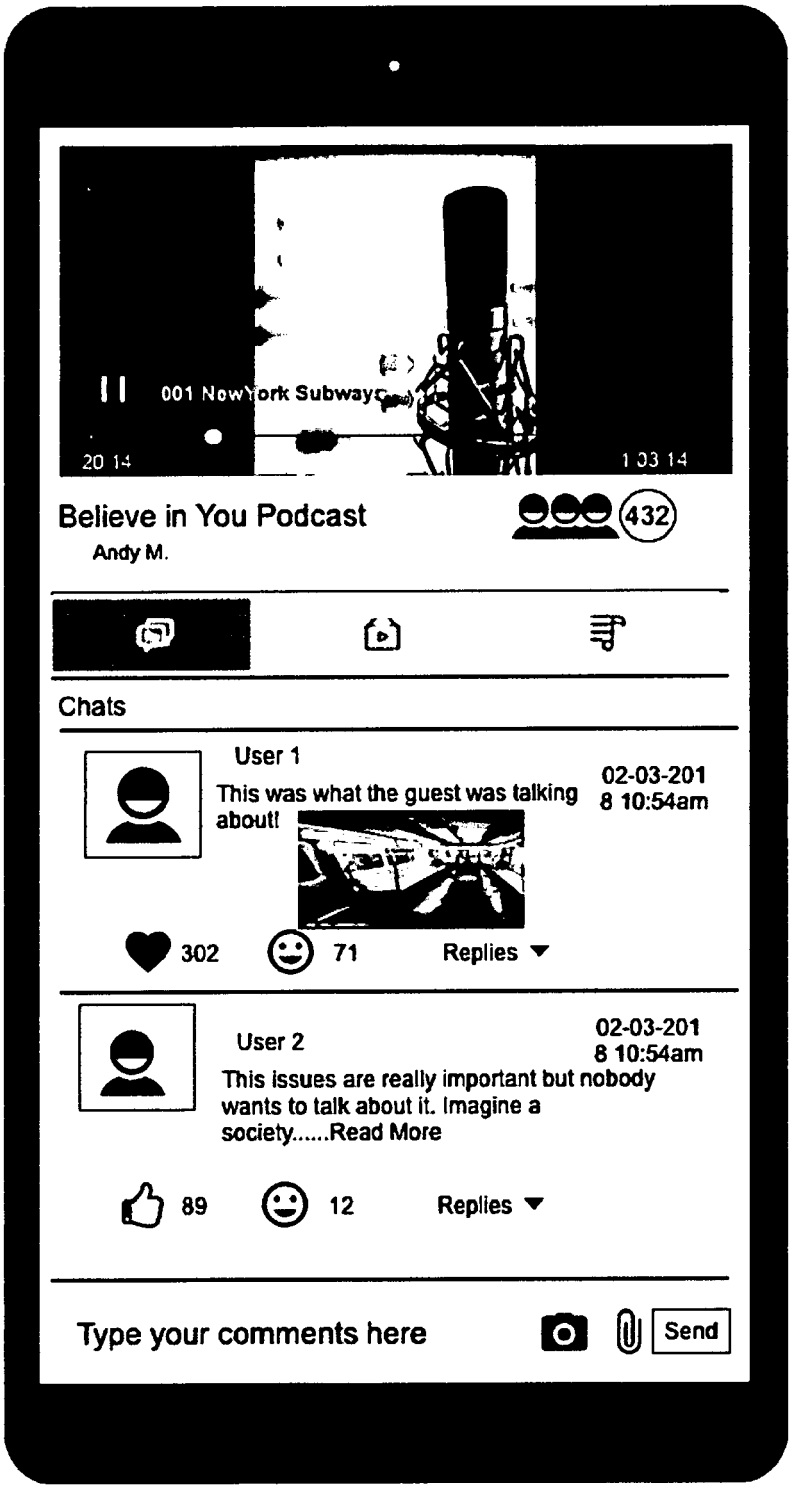
001 NewYork Subway
20 14
1 03 14
Believe in You Podcast
Andy M.
432
Chats
User 1
This was what the guest was talking about!
02-03-201
8 10:54am
302
71
Replies
User 2
02-03-201
8 10:54am
This issues are really important but nobody wants to talk about it. Imagine a society.....Read More
89
12
Replies
Type your comments here
Send

FIG. 7

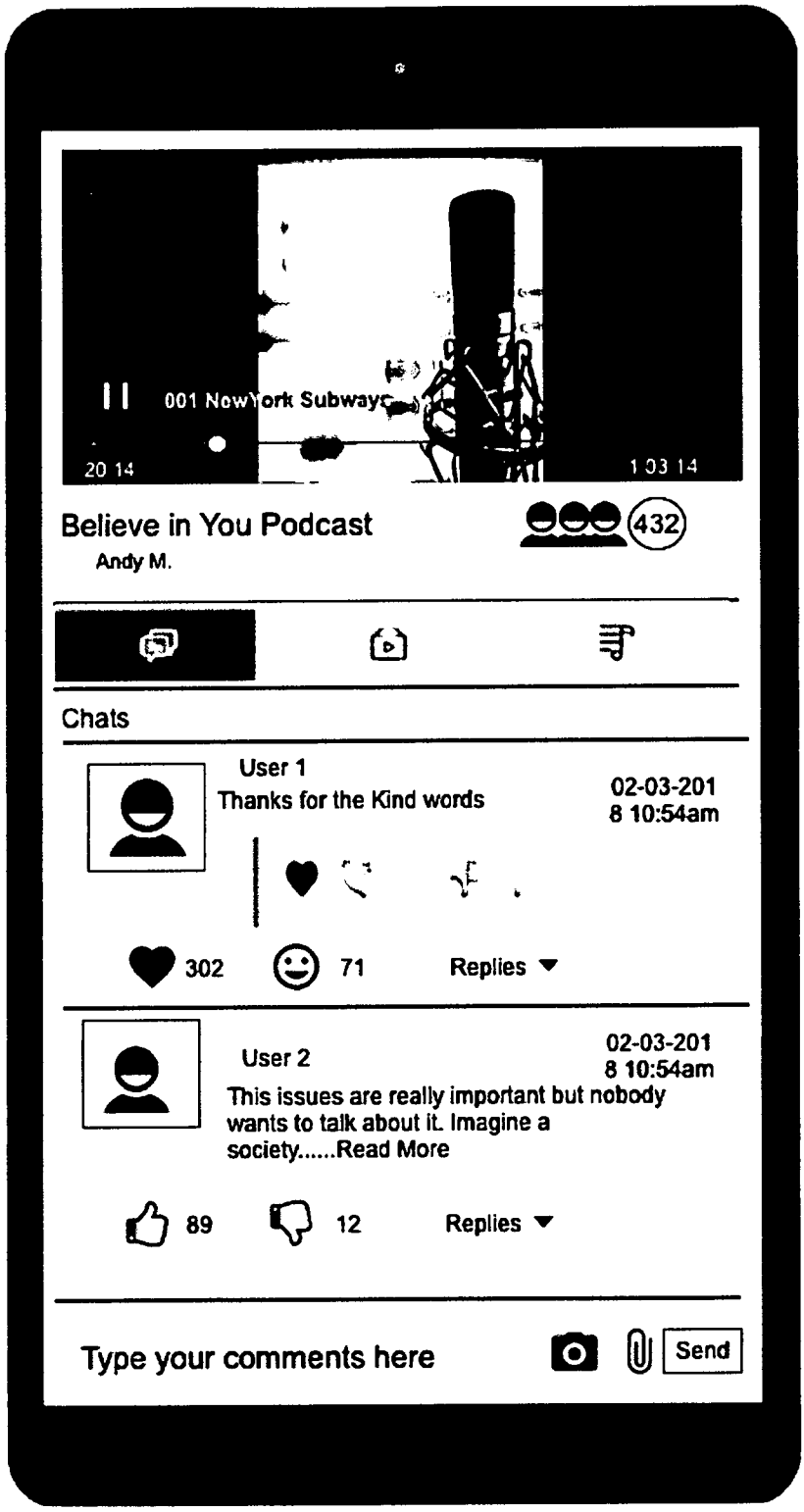
001 NewYork Subways
20 14
1 03 14
Believe in You Podcast
Andy M.
432
Chats
User 1
Thanks for the Kind words
02-03-201
8 10:54am
302
71
Replies
User 2
02-03-201
8 10:54am
This issues are really important but nobody wants to talk about it. Imagine a society.....Read More
89
12
Replies
Type your comments here
Send

FIG. 8

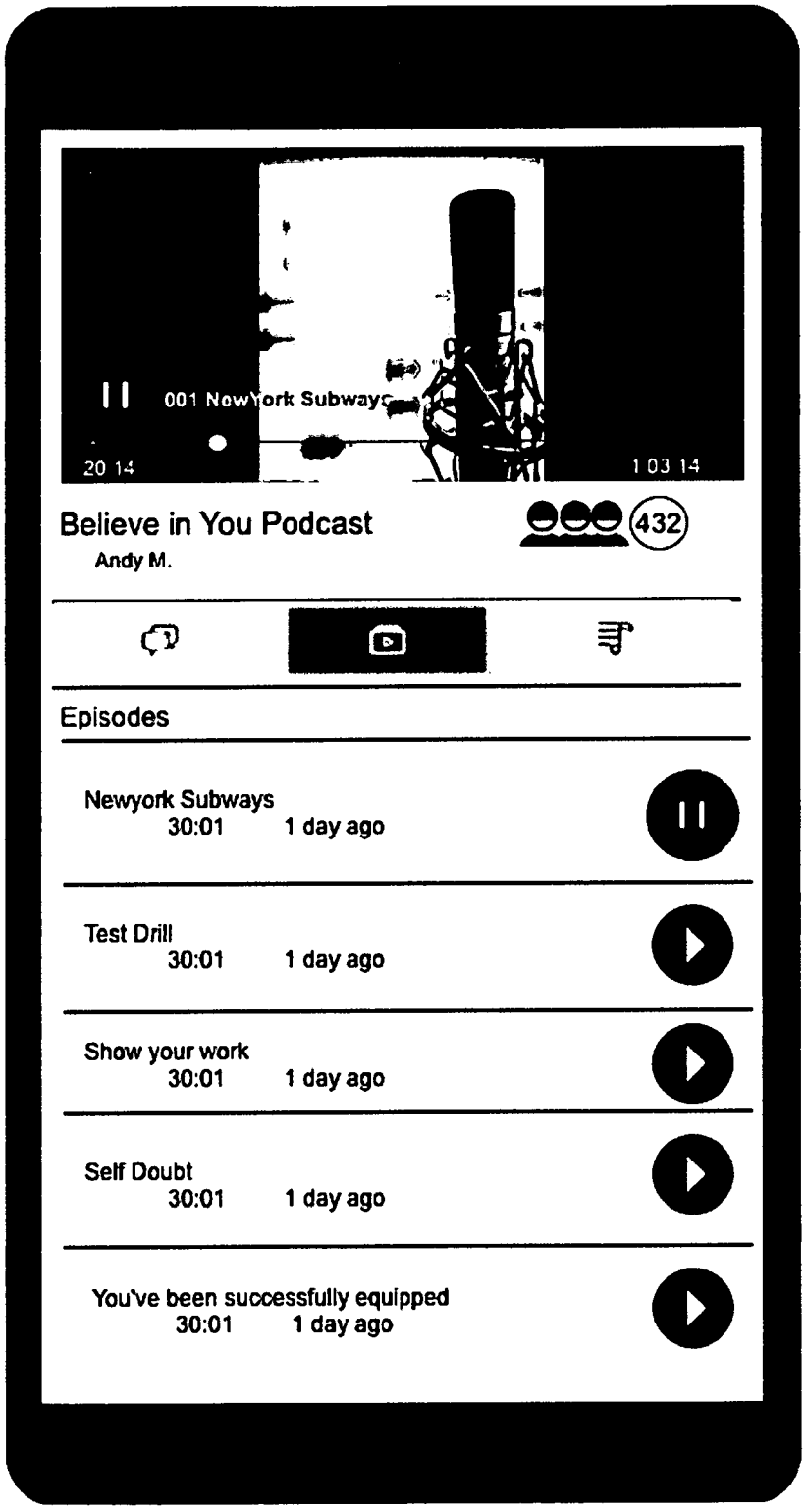
001 NewYork Subways
20 14
1 03 14
Believe in You Podcast
Andy M.
432
Episodes
Newyork Subways
30:01 1 day ago
Test Drill
30:01 1 day ago
Show your work
30:01 1 day ago
Self Doubt
30:01 1 day ago
You've been successfully equipped
30:01 1 day ago

FIG. 9

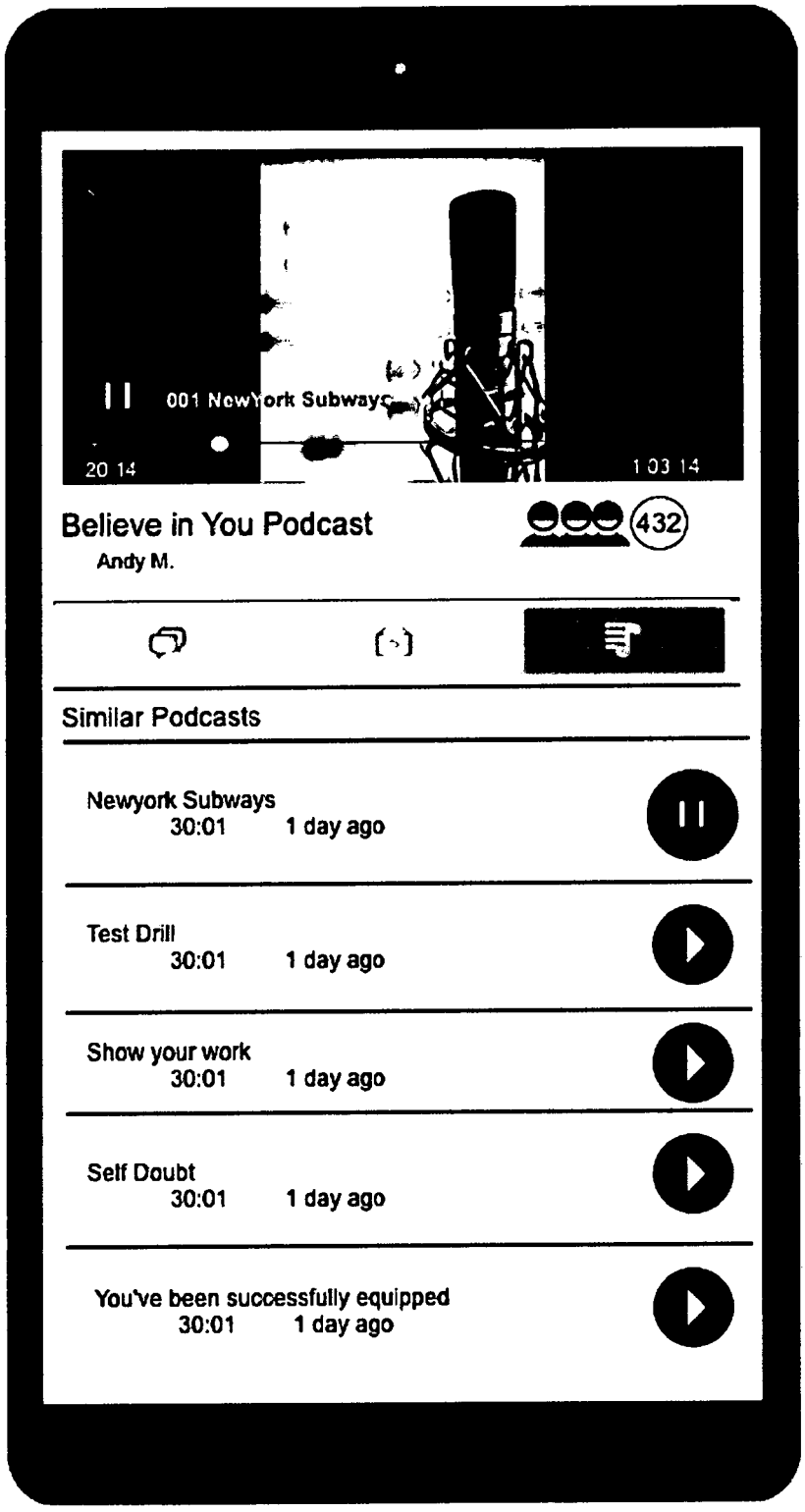
001 NewYork Subways
20 14
1 03 14
Believe in You Podcast
Andy M.
432
Similar Podcasts
Newyork Subways
30:01 1 day ago
Test Drill
30:01 1 day ago
Show your work
30:01 1 day ago
Self Doubt
30:01 1 day ago
You've been successfully equipped
30:01 1 day ago

FIG. 10

PodRoom
Recent Podcast
Believe in You Podcast
DAVE
Dave Ramsey Show
History
My Uploads
Liked Podcasts
Home
Browse
Library
Search

FIG. 11

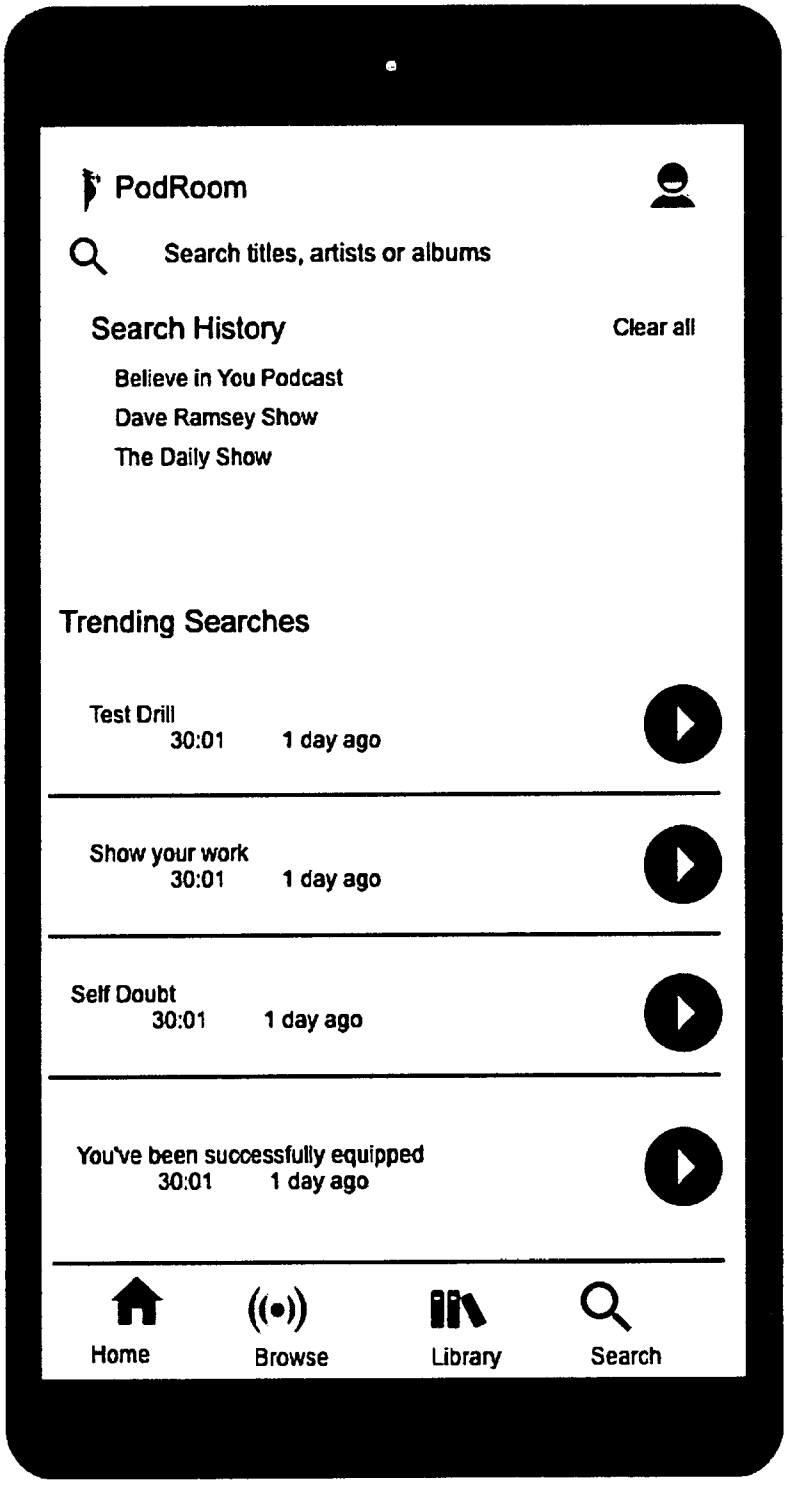
PodRoom
Search titles, artists or albums
Search History
Clear all
Believe in You Podcast
Dave Ramsey Show
The Daily Show
Trending Searches
Test Drill
30:01 1 day ago
Show your work
30:01 1 day ago
Self Doubt
30:01 1 day ago
You've been successfully equipped
30:01 1 day ago
Home
Browse
Library
Search

FIG. 12

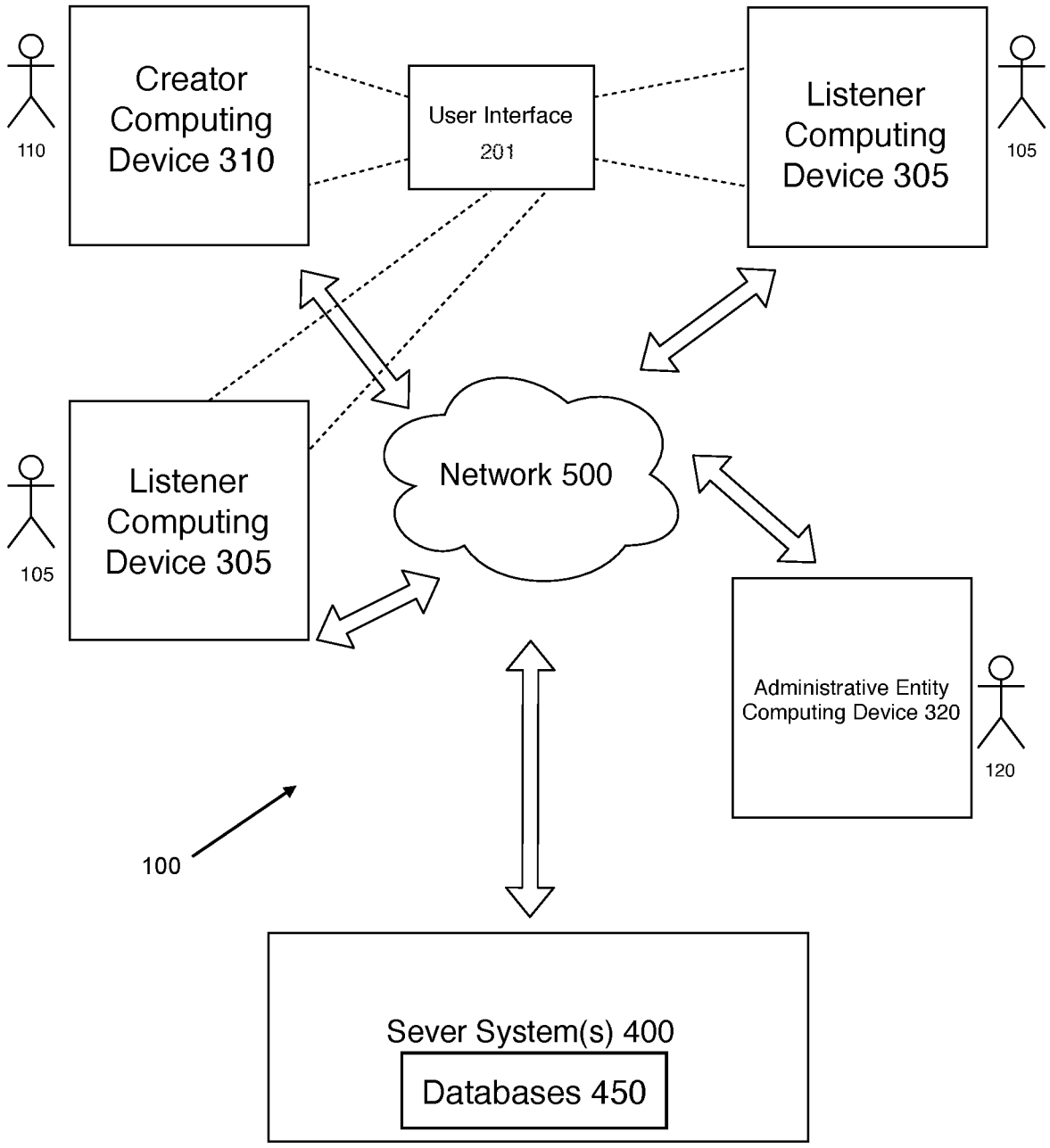
Creator Computing Device 310
110
User Interface 201
Listener Computing Device 305
105
Network 500
Listener Computing Device 305
105
Administrative Entity Computing Device 320
120
100
Sever System(s) 400
Databases 450

FIG. 13

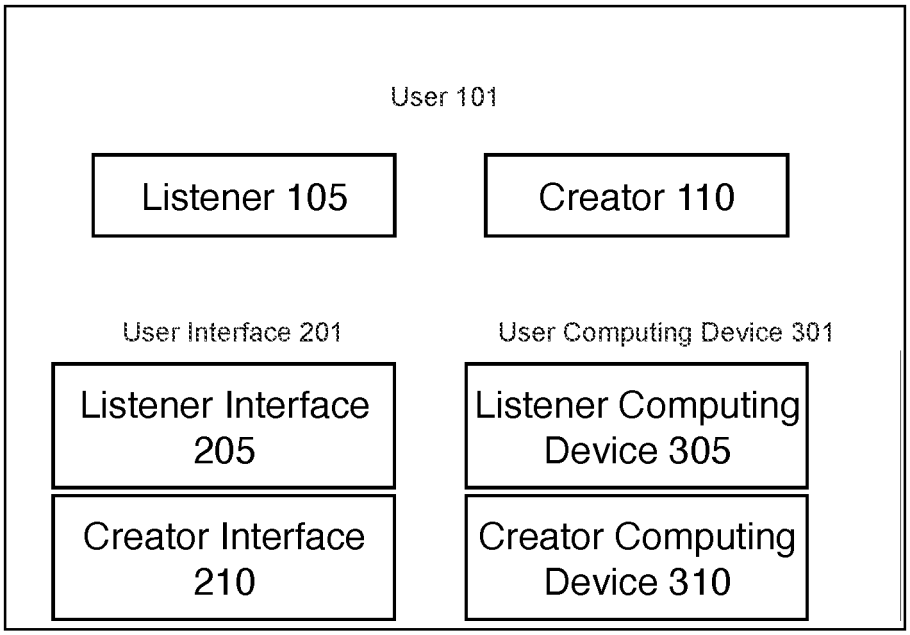
User 101
Listener 105
Creator 110
User Interface 201
User Computing Device 301
Listener Interface 205
Listener Computing Device 305
Creator Interface 210
Creator Computing Device 310

FIG. 14

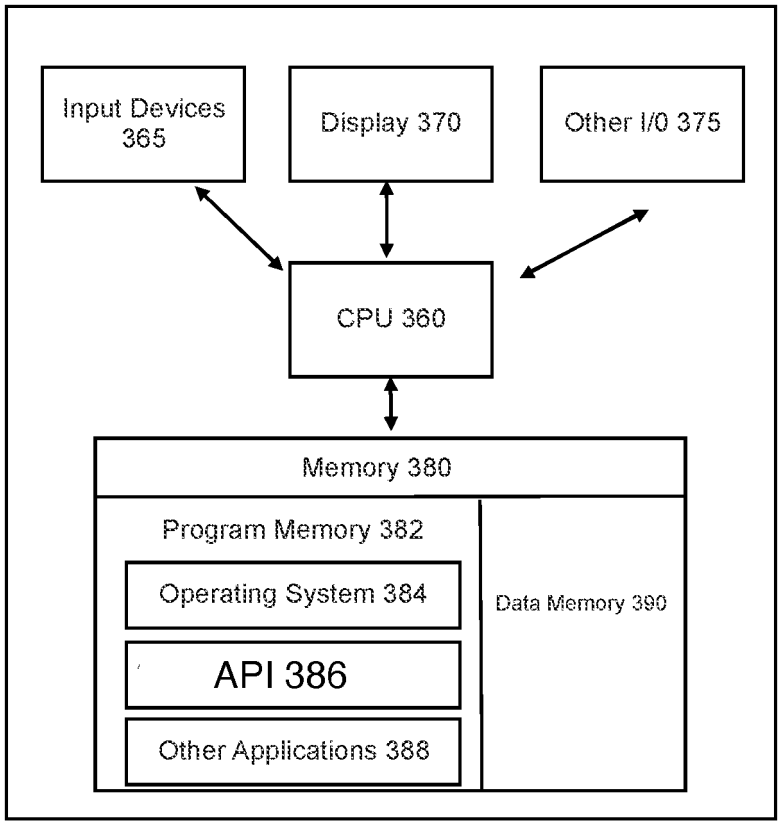
Input Devices 365
Display 370
Other I/0 375
CPU 360
Memory 380
Program Memory 382
Operating System 384
API 386
Other Applications 388
Data Memory 390

FIG. 15

PODROOM

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Non-Provisional Application Ser. No. 16/719948 filed on Dec. 18, 2019 which claims priority to U.S. Provisional Application No. 62/784,560 filed on Dec. 24, 2018. The entire disclosures of U.S. Non-Provisional application Ser. No. 16/719, 948 and U.S. Provisional Application No. 62/784,560 are included herein in their entirety at least by reference.

FIELD OF DISCLOSURE

The general field pertains generally to technology and more particularly to podcasts and live TV technologies. The present invention enhances pre-existing concepts in the podcast streaming technology by incorporating a unique system for the development of a podcast community, centralizing conversations, and providing a real time community to listeners as well as a functioning feedback system for podcasters.

BACKGROUND

There are a variety of podcast streaming applications which are commonly used for accessing and listening to episodes of podcasts. Users of these applications can subscribe to different podcasts while using these applications. These applications notify users when a new episode which the user has subscribed to has been released. Examples of this kind of streaming applications are Apple podcast, Google podcast and Spotify. While these applications may be suitable for providing listeners with podcast episodes, they are ineffective for managing the feedback or comments users may have while or after listening to these episodes. Another problem with these existing systems is that they are unable to provide a centralized community where podcasters can consult in order to access feedback for every episode.

For instance, a user called John, who lives in Manhattan, listens to a podcast called "Why is this happening" by Chris Hayes. To make a comment or send feedback: he has to go out of these existing podcast applications to send emails to Chris Hayes' podcast team or use Twitter with the hashtag of that episode. He doesn't get responses to his feedback because either he used a wrong hashtag or the podcasters missed his email. Furthermore, John wishes to interact with other listeners of the same podcast show to share ideas and create a community but there is no forum that currently provides these services. Another feature which appears to be missing in prior podcast applications is the ability to attach media files. This feature is necessary for podcast listeners to attach links, pictures, audio files and other media files to their comments. Podcasters can also broadcast media files to listeners using this feature. Accordingly, there is a need for a centralized podcast community that connects people listening to the same shows from around the world.

DEFINITIONS

Podcast: Episodic series of digital audio or video files which a user can download and listen to. Podcasters: A person that makes and publishes podcasts Listeners: People who subscribe, download and listen to podcasts Users: People who use podcast applications Podcast streaming applications: Special client application software that accesses the web feeds, check for updates an downloads new files in a podcast series. Chat Room: Group of people providing feedback and comments about a podcast episode

SUMMARY

It is the object of the present invention to provide improved technological solutions to the lack of a centralized podcast community and effective feedback system. It is another object of the present invention to provide improved technological solutions that connect people who listen to the same shows from around the world.

It is yet another object of the present invention to provide improved technological solutions that involve mechanisms or algorithms that group people from all walks of life who are listening to a podcast episode at the same time together to chat, interact and have a live experience. It is another object of the present invention to provide improved technological solutions that involve mechanisms or algorithms that groups users listening to a particular podcast together in real time and presents the most current forum to them so that discussion rooms will be kept up to date and the chat experience will be current and lively for users.

It is another object of the present invention to provide an improved podcast streaming application that allows users to subscribe to podcasts, stream podcast episodes, connect with listeners real time, connect with podcasters, connect with podcast featured guests, have a live experience and attach media files to the forum.

It is another object of the present invention to provide an improved podcast streaming application that allows podcasters to manage their podcasts and corresponding episodes, claim podcasts, respond to listeners, open chat rooms, close chat rooms, attach media files including image, audio, and video to podcast episodes, and promote adverts.

It is another object of the present invention to provide an improved podcast streaming application that eliminates the need for users to go out of the podcast environment to make comments and feedback about their points of view. It is another object of the present invention to provide an algorithm that detects episodes having the trending or popular chat rooms and recommends these chatrooms to users.

It is another object of the present invention to provide technological solutions that provides podcasters with analytics about their podcasts, when and where episodes are being listened to, the number of people listening at any point in time, the number of people interacting on each episodes of their podcasts and the rate at which users respond to the adverts in their episodes.

Finally, it is another object of the present invention to provide improved technological solutions that serve as sources of data to discern the opinions of the public. This can be done through surveys on the platform of the present invention. These and other objects known to the inventor are achieved with the present inventions by providing technological solutions that consist of web, mobile applications and algorithms. The mobile applications, designed for all mobile operating systems including IOS and android, has the ability to stream podcasts, download podcasts, synchronized user podcast subscriptions from existing podcast streaming applications, authenticate users, as well as allow users to listen to and comment on podcast episodes. In furtherance of the objectives of the present invention, the mobile application enables podcasters to upload video podcasts or podcasts with visuals. Users can also watch these video podcasts and make comments on them. Finally, the present invention features a web application or website

where podcasters can manage their podcasts, view advert clicks and ultimately receive analytics about their podcast episodes.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

The present invention will be described by way of exemplary embodiments, but not limitations, illustrated in the accompanying drawings in which like references denote similar elements, and in which:

FIG. **1** shows the welcome page of the said mobile application. Users can sign up with their email address and password.

FIG. **2** shows the sign-up page where the user creates a profile in order to access the mobile application. Users can also create an account with Gmail, Facebook or Twitter authentication.

FIG. **3** shows the login page for users who have already created a profile.

FIG. **4** shows the landing page users see after they have successfully logged in.

FIG. **5** shows the Browse page where users can view podcasts available to them by category.

FIG. **6** shows a podcast and the first few episodes of the podcast. It also features a live icon which indicates that the chatroom for an episode is opened.

FIG. **7** shows a podcast episode being played on a chat forum by listeners. Listeners can also attach media files while responding to the podcast.

FIG. **8** shows a podcast episode being played with user comments as well as reactions.

FIG. **9** shows a podcast episode being played with few of other episodes in the podcasts shown.

FIG. **10** shows a podcast episode being played with similar podcasts or episodes shown.

FIG. **11** shows the user's library. It enables users to subscribe to podcasts and show a list of podcasts users have subscribed to. Here, users can also upload or download podcasts.

FIG. **12** shows a library search page where users can search for podcasts and subscribe.

FIG. **13** shows a block diagram of the podcast system.

FIG. **14** shows a block diagram of the users

FIG. **15** shows a block diagram of the computing device.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

In the Summary above and in this Detailed Description, and the claims below, and in the accompanying drawings, reference is made to particular features of the invention. The term "comprises" and grammatical equivalents thereof are used herein to mean that other components, ingredients, steps, etc. are optionally present. For example, an article "comprising" (or "which comprises") components A, B, and C can consist of (i.e., contain only) components A, B, and C, or can contain not only components A, B, and C but also contain one or more other components.

Where reference is made herein to a method comprising two or more defined steps, the defined steps can be carried out in any order or simultaneously (except where the context excludes that possibility), and the method can include one or more other steps which are carried out before any of the defined steps, between two of the defined steps, or after all the defined steps (except where the context excludes that possibility).

The term "at least" followed by a number is used herein to denote the start of a range including that number (which may be a range having an upper limit or no upper limit, depending on the variable being defined). For example, "at least 1" means 1 or more than 1. The term "at most" followed by a number is used herein to denote the end of a range, including that number (which may be a range having 1 or 0 as its lower limit, or a range having no lower limit, depending upon the variable being defined).

"Exemplary" is used herein to mean "serving as an example, instance, or illustration." Any aspect described in this document as "exemplary" is not necessarily to be construed as preferred or advantageous over other aspects.

Throughout the drawings, like reference characters are used to designate like elements. As used herein, the term "coupled" or "coupling" may indicate a connection. The connection may be a direct or an indirect connection between one or more items. Further, the term "set" as used herein may denote one or more of any items, so a "set of items," may indicate the presence of only one item, or may indicate more items. Thus, the term "set" may be equivalent to "one or more" as used herein.

In the following detailed description, numerous specific details are set forth in order to provide a more thorough understanding of the one or more embodiments described herein. However, it will be apparent to one of ordinary skills in the art that the invention may be practiced without these specific details. In other instances, well-known features have not been described in detail to avoid unnecessarily complicating the description.

FIG. **1**-**12** gives a brief visual representation of the said mobile application. FIG. **1** shows the welcome page. On click of sign up, users are presented with the view in FIG. **2**. Users can create a profile using the view in FIG. **2**. Users can login using the view in FIG. **3**. After users have successfully logged in, they are presented the view in FIG. **4**. FIG. **4** shows recommendations of previously recorded podcasts with popular chat rooms as well as trending podcasts. These recommendations are engendered using said algorithms. Users can choose to click on recommended podcasts and listen, chat, interact and enjoy all the features of the application. When users click on the "Browse" tab as shown in FIG. **4**, they are redirected to the view in FIG. **5**. FIG. **5** shows podcasts available to users, grouped by categories. If users decide to select a podcast, they see the view in FIG. **6**, a list of episodes in the selected podcast. On click of an episode, users can listen to the episode and comment as described in FIG. **7**. Users can also show reactions to other users' comments as shown in FIG. **8**. Users can choose to view other episodes in the podcast as shown in FIG. **9** and see similar episodes or podcasts as shown in FIG. **10**. Podcasts which users are subscribed to are found in the Library as shown in FIG. **11**. Users can upload and download podcasts using this page. Users can search for podcasts as shown in FIG. **12**.

FIG. **1** is a block diagram of podcast system **100** constructed in accordance with the principals of the current invention. Podcast system **100** may include one or more listeners **105** and one or more creators **110**. Listeners **105** and creators **110** may be located in various physical locations that are either located apart or are located in the vicinity of one other. Listeners **105** and creators **110** of podcast system **100** may access a user interface such as user interface **201** using a listener computing device **305** and a creator computing device **310**. User interface **201** may have a plurality of buttons or icons that are selectable through user interface **201** by users **105** and creators **110** to instruct podcast system **100** to perform particular processes in response to the selections.

Listener **305** and creator computing device **310**, may be in communication with one or more servers **400** such as server **400** via one or more networks such as network **500**. Server **400** may be located at a data center or any other location suitable for providing service to network **500** whereby server **400** may be in one central location or in many different locations in multiple arrangements. Server **400** may comprise a database server such as MySQL® or Maria DB® server. Server **400** may have an attached data storage system storing software applications and data. Server **400** may receive requests and coordinate fulfillment of those requests through other servers. Server **400** may comprise computing systems similar to listener computing device **305** and creator computing device **310**.

In one or more non-limiting embodiments, network **500** may include a local area network (LAN), such as a company Intranet, a metropolitan area network (MAN), or a wide area network (WAN), such as the Internet or World Wide Web. Network **500** may be a private network, a public network, or a combination thereof. Network **500** may be any type of network known in the art, including a telecommunications network, a wireless network (including Wi-Fi), and a wireline network. Network **500** may include mobile telephone networks utilizing any protocol or protocols used to communicate among mobile digital computing devices (e.g., listener computing device **305** and creator computing device **310**), such as GSM, GPRS, UMTS, AMPS, TDMA, or CDMA. In one or more non-limiting embodiments, different types of data may be transmitted via network **500** via different protocols. In further non-limiting other embodiments, listener computing device **305** and creator computing device **310** may act as standalone devices or they may operate as peer machines in a peer-to-peer (or distributed) network environment.

Network **500** may further include a system of terminals, gateways, and routers. Network **500** may employ one or more cellular access technologies including 2nd (2G), 3rd (3G), 4th (4G), 5th (5G), LTE, Global System for Mobile communication (GSM), General Packet Radio Services (GPRS), Enhanced Data GSM Environment (EDGE), and other access technologies that may provide for broader coverage between computing devices if, for instance, they are in a remote location not accessible by other networks.

Podcast system **100** may also include one or more administrative entities such as administrative entity **120**. While administrative entity **120** is depicted as a single element, communicating over network **500**, administrative entity **120** in one or more non-limiting embodiments may be distributed over network **500** in any number of physical locations. Administrative entity **120** may manipulate the software and enter commands to server **400** using any number of input devices such as keyboard and mouse. The input/output may be viewed on a display screen to administrative entity **120**.

Listeners **105** and creators **110** may be users such as users **101**, as illustrated in FIG. **14**, of podcast system **100** whereby listeners **105** may have the capacity to function as creators **110** creating podcasts. Listeners **105** may also have the capacity to function as creators **110** and in the reverse fashion.

Though listeners **105** and creators **110** may be users **101** with the same computing device, such as user computing device **301** and user interface **201**, they may also have unique user computing devices **301** specifically tailored to the processes they wish to carry out on podcast system **100**. User computing device **301** may be any type of user computing device **301** that typically operates under the control of one or more operating systems, which control tasks and access to system resources.

One or more embodiments of user computing device **301** is further detailed in FIG. **15**. User computing device **301** may comprise hardware components that allow access to edit and query podcast system **100**. User computing device **301** may include one or more input devices such as input devices **365** that provide input to a CPU (processor) such as CPU **360** notifying it of actions. The actions may be mediated by a hardware controller that interprets the signals received from input device **365** and communicates the information to CPU **360** using a communication protocol. Input devices **365** may include but are not limited to a mouse, a keyboard, a touchscreen, an infrared sensor, a touchpad, a wearable input device, a camera- or image-based input device, a microphone, or other user input devices known by those of ordinary skill in the art.

CPU **360** may be a single processing unit or multiple processing units in a device or distributed across multiple devices. CPU **360** may be coupled to other hardware devices, such as one or more memory devices with the use of a bus, such as a PCI bus or SCSI bus. CPU may communicate with a hardware controller for devices, such as for a display **370**. Display **370** may be used to display text and graphics. In some examples, display **370** provides graphical and textual visual feedback to a user. In some implementations, display **370** may include an input device **365** as part of display **370**, such as when input device **365** is a touchscreen or is equipped with an eye direction monitoring system. In some implementations, display **370** is separate from input device **365**. Examples of display **370** include but are not limited to: an LCD display screen, an LED display screen, a projected, holographic, virtual reality display, or augmented reality display (such as a heads-up display device or a head-mounted device), wearable device electronic glasses, contact lenses capable of computer-generated sensory input and displaying data, and so on. Other I/O devices such as I/O devices **375** may also be coupled to the processor, such as a network card, video card, audio card, USB, FireWire or other external device, camera, printer, speakers, CD-ROM drive, DVD drive, disk drive, or Blu-Ray device.

CPU may have access to a memory such as memory **380**. Memory **380** may include one or more of various hardware devices for volatile and non-volatile storage and may include both read-only and writable memory. For example, memory **380** may comprise random access memory (RAM), CPU registers, read-only memory (ROM), and writable non-volatile memory, such as flash memory, hard drives, floppy disks, CDs, DVDs, magnetic storage devices, tape drives, device buffers, and so forth. A memory **380** is not a propagating signal divorced from underlying hardware; a memory is thus non-transitory. Memory **380** may include program memory such as program memory **382** capable of storing programs and software, such as an operating system such as operating system **384**, podcast system API **386**, and other computerized programs or application programs such as application programs **388**. Memory **380** may also include data memory such as data memory **390** that may include database query results, configuration data, settings, user options or preferences, etc., which may be provided to program memory **382** or any element of user computing device **301**.

User computing devices **301** may in some embodiments be mobile computing devices such as an iPhone, Android-based phone, or Windows-based phone, however, this is

non-limiting and they may be any computing device such as a tablet, television, desktop computer, laptop computer, gaming system, wearable device electronic glasses, networked router, networked switch, networked, bridge, or any computing device capable of executing instructions with sufficient processor power and memory capacity to perform operations of podcast system **100** while in communication with network **500**. Client computing device **305**, business computing device **310**, and employee computing device **315**, may have location tracking capabilities such as Mobile Location Determination System (MLDS) or Global Positioning System (GPS) whereby they may include one or more satellite radios capable of determining the geographical location of computing device.

Server **400** may comprise a number of modules that provide various functions related to podcast system **100** using one or more computing devices similar to user computing device **301**. Server **400** may comprise a number of databases **450**. Modules may be configured to receive commands or requests from user computing devices **301**, server **400**, and outside connected devices over network **500**. Server **400** may comprise components, subsystems, and modules to support one or more management services for podcast system **100**. For example, server **400** may include modules operative to maintain presence information for one or more users **101** and to provide chat functionality allowing users **101** to communicate messages in a chat through podcast system **100**.

Listeners **105** and creators **110** may initially register to become a registered user **101** associated with podcast system **100** and podcast system API **386**. Podcast system **100** may be downloadable and installable on user computing devices **301** through an API. In one or more non-limiting embodiments, podcast system **100** may be preinstalled on user computing devices **301** by the manufacturer or designer. Further, podcast system **100** may be implemented using a web browser via a browser extension or plugin.

Upon initially signing up with podcast system **100** through podcast system API **386**, user **101** may be prompted to provide an email address. After entering an email address, user **101** may be presented with a text window interface whereby user **101** may enter their name, username, password, phone number and address. In one or more non-limiting embodiments, location of user **101** may be verified by server **400** using the global positioning system (GPS) capabilities of the computing devices. Server **400** then may generate a code that is transmitted to user's **101** selected email or user computing device **301** by text message whereby user **101** may verify their account by entering the generated code into a text block window.

Creators **110** and listeners **105** may opt-in for various podcast system **100** notifications to be transmitted by server **400**. Creators **110** and listeners **105** may opt-in to allow podcast system **100**, through podcast system API **386**, to notify users **101** when certain events occur, such as events related to other users **101**. In further embodiments, user **101** may establish one or more different profiles whereby the different profiles may individually have different podcasts.

In one or more non-limiting embodiments, user **101** may be required to provide credentials to the third-party service provider to allow access by podcast system **100**. User **101** may also authorize social network access whereby when a social network service is linked to podcast system **100**, access may be granted to various accounts of user **101** and importing of data from those accounts may occur such as to import one or more social network contacts. If user **101** authorizes access, server **400** collects or otherwise accesses certain address book information and stores the information in databases **450**. Server **400** may then proceed to match contacts with other users who have granted similar access to podcast system **100**. Matching may occur through the use of phone numbers, email addresses, or social network identification tags.

Upon successful authentication of creator **110**, a creator profile page may be generated whereby creator profile may be visible to creator **110** and other users **101** on podcast system **100**. Creator profile pages may be modified, deleted, written to, or otherwise administered by their respective user **101**. Administrative entity **120** may modify or delete a creator profile page, for example, as a result of inactivity or inappropriate action. Display to creator **110** through user interface **201** may comprise a number of different subpages viewable or accessible through user interface **201** by selecting one or more tabs. Tabs may include a profile, business, notifications, calendar, and search tabs which may be displayed through user interface **201** in a region that displays the tabs no matter which tabs have been selected by user **101**. User interface **201** may allow creators **110** to upload podcasts in audio or video format whereby the podcasts are stored in the one or more databases **450**. Creators **110** may also insert additional information pertaining to the podcasts such as name and information about the podcast.

Server **400** may have an audio module and a video module which receive and process audio and video data, respectively, from creator computing devices **310**. The audio module may include, among other modules or components for processing audio data, speech detection and recognition modules and codecs for processing incoming or outgoing video data. A speech detection module can be configured to detect instances of speech at a site (for example, to trigger recording or other functions of podcast system **100**), and/or determine the relative physical location of the detected speech for use in controlling the operation of individual microphones at the site. Speech recognition may be used to distinguish between individual voices for the purpose of filtering out another voice.

The video module may include image recognition modules for use in detecting speech and appropriate codecs for use in processing incoming or outgoing video data. The image recognition modules may include face tracking or pattern recognition algorithms. The audio and video modules may also include, respectively, interfaces for data communication between input units such as microphones and cameras, and output units such as speakers and display screens. The selection and implementation of appropriate speech and video modules, including codecs and speech detection/recognition modules, image recognition modules, including appropriate encoding, decoding, and compression algorithms, are those understood by those of ordinary skill in the art. Podcast system **100** may also be equipped with security modules providing end-to-end security with other systems and intermediate host systems.

When accessing podcast system **100**, listeners **105** may be presented with a homepage of feature podcasts or new podcasts whereby the podcasts displayed may be based on listener **105** previous data or selected interests. In one or more non-limiting embodiments, listeners **105** may search for podcasts of creators **110** to listen to the podcast. User interface **201** may present to listeners **105** a search window whereby a search request having a character string may be entered, where one or more podcasts or creators **110** may be identified using name, the type of podcast, or other metadata pertaining to creator **110**. Server **400** may then retrieve the

podcast or creators **110** related to the search and display the results to listener **105** or a list of podcasts or creators **110** that meet the search criteria.

After selecting a podcast from the list of podcasts, listener **105** may be presented with a podcast screen with various options including chatting, listening, searching for related podcasts, and searching for previous podcasts by creator **110** of the podcasts selected. Listener **105** may be presented with a selectable button through user interface **201** for beginning a podcast. After selecting this option, listener **105** may be presented with the audio or video from the podcast whereby the user may scroll through the podcast to listen to various time points of the podcast. Podcast pages may also have various visual indicators or features in a separate section whereby the visual features may correspond to a number of viewers including listener **105** and other users **101** that are currently viewing the podcast or on the page as well as a special indicator that creator **110** of the podcast is currently viewing the page. In some embodiments when listener **105** is searching through podcasts, podcasts that have the creator **110** currently viewing the podcast page may be highlighted or have a different indicator.

The podcast page may include a chat tab that may be selected by users **101** for displaying a chat messaging interface at the bottom of the screen, generated by server **400**. In one or more non-limiting embodiments, the chat messaging interface displayed to user **101** has controls through user interface **201** that allow creators **110** to join in the chat with a different associated color or other indicator and may establish a chat session directly with listeners **105** in a separate window. Additionally, user interface **201** may allow listeners **105** to upload associated data including any file attachments, images, or videos directly from camera on user computing device **301** or a photo library stored on user computer device **301** whereby the data will be presented in the chat window and visible to other users **101**. Chat tab may also be enlarged when listener **105** interacts with the chat tab whereby the podcast playback menu is minimized. In one or more non-limiting embodiments chat tab may automatically enlarge to most of the screen when a new message pops up or somebody replies to them or creator **110** creates a post.

User interface **201** may provide options for listeners **105** to comment with a like or unlike option or a reaction from a set of reaction options. Creator **110** may be provided tools by server **400** where they may delete or otherwise comment by listeners **105** in the chat window such that they may moderate their page accordingly. Creator **110** may also be notified by server **400** of all comments or specific comments directed to them. Notifications may also be sent to all other users **101** whereby special indicators may be displayed if a creator **110** has commented to a listener. Server **400** may allow listeners **105** to send and receive invite requests for the podcast whereby server **400** may transmit the invite request which if accepted will direct listener **105** to the podcast page.

In some non-limiting embodiments, comments by other listeners **105** or creators **110** in the chat window may only appear based on the timestamp of listener **105**. For instance, since the podcast is prerecorded someone might comment on a part that listener **105** has not yet reached and would be spoiled by the comment. This may be determined in a plurality of ways. First, server **400** may determine a timestamp of the podcast when a user **101** has made the comment and then only apply said comment to the chat window when the time has been reached by listener **105** or within a predetermined threshold such as 1 minute before or after the timestamp. Second, server **400** may analyze the podcast using the video and audio modules for specific words or phrases or objects that are in podcast and then apply this information to the comments by users **101** such that comments having those words or phrases or concerning those objects only appear to listener **105** after the first time the audio and video modules determine their appearance in the podcast. Third, a creator **110** may insert information pertaining to spoilers of the podcast and their specific time whereby server **400** may determine if comments have this information and then only apply it after the specific time inserted by creator **110**.

The podcast page may include a creator tab that may be selected by users **101** for displaying previous podcasts by creator **110** that have been stored in database **450**. The podcast page may include a discover page tab that may be selected by users **101** for displaying recommended podcasts on podcast system **100** that have been stored in databases **45** as well as snippets or highlights of one or more newly created podcasts of the first series or other series.

In some non-limiting embodiments, podcast system **100** may include a regression-based model that accepts the prior podcasts listened to by listeners **105** as input data. Basically if enough of the one or more previous users **101** gave that podcast being listened to by listener **105** a good rating and other podcasts a good rating a cluster may be created that then may be applied to the listener **105** to recommend podcasts. The trained machine learning algorithm may be of any suitable form, and may include, for example, a neural network. A neural network may be software representing a human neural system (e.g., cognitive system). A neural network may include a series of layers termed "neurons" or "nodes." A neural network may comprise an input layer, to which data is presented; one or more internal layers; and an output layer. The number of neurons in each layer may be related to the complexity of a problem to be solved. Input neurons may receive data being presented and then transmit the data to the first internal layer through the connections' weight. A neural network may include, for example, a convolutional neural network, a deep neural network, or a recurrent neural network.

The trained machine learning algorithm may compute recommended prior podcasts listened to by other listeners as well as their ratings and other data. The one or more variables may be derived from listening and rating data. This function may be learned by training the machine learning algorithm with training sets. The machine learning algorithm may be trained by supervised, unsupervised, or semi-supervised learning using training sets comprising data of types similar to the type of data used as the model input. For example, the training set used to train the model may include any combination of the following: listening data and rating data. Additionally, the training set used to train the model may further include user data, including, but not limited to, podcast name, creator name and other data related to users **101**. The machine learning model may be trained to map input variables to a quantity or value of recommended podcasts for listener **105**. That is, the machine learning model may be trained to determine a recommended podcast as a function of various input variables.

The trained machine learning model may utilize principal component analysis (PCA). The PCA may convert a set of variables or input data into a set of values of linearly uncorrelated variables, which include a first principal component that has the largest possible variance. For example, listening data and ratings data may be converted to a set of variables representing other characteristics of the user or entity. The PCA may be used to define one or more variables

that are more important than other variables or reduce the number of variables needed to be trained and computed by a machine learning model. Overlapping qualities after a predetermined number of occurrences in past podcasts listened to by listeners **105** or given ratings above a predetermined threshold may create a cluster which then may be stored as one or more variables to speed up the process and calculate recommend podcasts for listeners **105** who are listening to one of the podcasts in the cluster at a more accurate manner whereby the cluster provides a higher weighted average in the determination of recommended podcasts and be presented to the user.

Podcast system **100** may have a payment module on server **400** that communicates with at least one third-party payment facilitator over network **500**. Payment facilitators may include credit or debit card providers and billing service providers that perform invoicing and related functions whereby listeners **105** may donate to creators **110** for the creation of podcasts. Once doing so listeners may receive special perks such as unique indicators in the chat window as well as early access to future podcasts.

The foregoing description of the invention has been presented for purposes of illustration and description and is not intended to be exhaustive or to limit the invention to the precise form disclosed. Many modifications and variations are possible in light of the above teaching. The embodiments were chosen and described to best explain the principles of the invention and its practical application to thereby enable others skilled in the art to best use the invention in various embodiments and with various modifications suited to the use contemplated.

What is claimed:

1. A method comprising:

providing, by a computing device, to a first user, a graphical user interface, the graphical user interface having a first region and a second region, wherein a podcast that has been previously recorded of a first series by a creator is presented in the first region, and wherein one or more feedback is presented in the second region that displays content in responses to one or more feedback options from the first user, one or more second users, and the creator of the podcast, wherein the one or more feedback is presented to the first user, the one or more second users, and the creator; and

causing one or more second previously podcasts of the first series to be displayed on a second tabbed section of the second region.

2. The method of claim **1**, the method further comprising:

uploading media files into the second region for viewing in response to the one or more feedback options while the podcast is being presented on the graphical user interface, the media files including image, audio, and video, the media files displayed to the first user, the one or more second users, and the creator through the graphical user interface.

3. The method of claim **1**, the method further comprising:

determining that the creator accessing the podcast has selected a feedback option in response to the podcast; and

causing at least one visual feature corresponding to the selected feedback option to be displayed in the second region while the podcast is still being presented, the visual feature having a specific color corresponding to the creator, the at least one visual feature displayed to the first user, the one or more second users, and the creator through the graphical user interface.

4. The method of claim **1**, the method further comprising:

determining that the first user accessing the podcast has selected a feedback option in response to the podcast; and

causing at least one visual feature corresponding to the selected feedback option to be displayed in the second region while the podcast is still being presented, the at least one visual feature displayed to the first user, the one or more second users, and the creator through the graphical user interface.

5. The method of claim **1**, the method further comprising:

causing one or more second series podcasts of a second series with a relation to the first series to be displayed on a third tabbed section of the second region.

6. The method of claim **5**, the method further comprising:

causing one or more related podcasts of one or more second series to be displayed on the third tabbed section of the second region.

7. The method of claim **6**, the method further comprising:

determining that the one or more second users accessing the podcast has selected a second feedback option in response to the podcast; and

causing at least one visual feature corresponding to the second feedback option to also be displayed in the second region, wherein the second feedback option is one of a like option or a reaction from a set of reaction options.

8. The method of claim **7**, the method further comprising:

providing a visual feature in a third region, the visual feature corresponding to a number of viewers including the first user and the one or more second users currently viewing the podcast.

9. The method of claim **1**, the method further comprising:

moderating the second region in response to one or more administrative sections by the creator.

10. The method of claim **1**, the method further comprising:

receiving an invite request from the first user to the one or more second users for the podcast;

transmitting the invite request to the one or more second users; and

directing the one or more second users to the podcast.

11. The method of claim **1**, the method further comprising:

notifying the first user in response to the feedback if the feedback was directed to the first user.

12. The method of claim **1**, the method further comprising:

notifying the creator in response to feedback for the podcast.

13. The method of claim **1**, the method further comprising:

directing funds from the first user to the creator in response to a donation by the first user.

14. The method of claim **1**, the method further comprising:

causing a snippet or highlight of one or more newly created podcasts of the first series to be displayed on a discover page on the graphical user interface.

15. The method of claim **1**, the method further comprising:

determining a time-stamp of the podcast when a comment was made by the one or more second users; and

showing the comment only once the time-stamp of the podcast is reached by the first user.

16. The method of claim **1**, the method further comprising:

determining podcast information at a predetermined time using audio and video modules of the podcast; and

showing a comment of the one or more second users having the podcast information only once the predetermined time is reached by the first user.

17. The method of claim **1**, the method further comprising:

receiving podcast information of a podcast event and predetermined time of the podcasts events from the creator; and

showing a comment of the one or more second users only once the predetermined time is reached by the first user.

18. A method comprising:

providing, by a computing device, to a first user, a graphical user interface, the graphical user interface having a first region and a second region, wherein a podcast that has been previously recorded of a first series by a creator is presented in the first region, and wherein one or more feedback is presented in the second region that displays content in responses to one or more feedback options from the first user, one or more second users, and the creator of the podcast, wherein the one or more feedback is presented to the first user, the one or more second users, and the creator;

training a machine learning model having a neural network with a series of layers to map at least one variable to a value of a second podcast that is recommended for the first user;

receiving a first podcast being listened to by the first user;

determining ratings by the one or more second users having the first podcast and the second podcast above a predetermined rating;

categorizing the first podcast and the second podcast into a stored digital cluster when a predetermined amount of the one or more second users have the first podcast and the second podcast overlapping; and

recommending the second podcast in response to the stored digital cluster.

19. A method comprising:

providing, by a computing device, to a first user, a graphical user interface the graphical user interface having a first region and a second region, wherein a podcast of a first series by a creator is presented in the first region, and wherein one or more feedback is presented in the second region that displays content in responses to one or more feedback options from the first user, one or more second users, and the creator of the podcast, wherein the one or more feedback is presented to the first user, the one or more second users, and the creator;

uploading media files into the second region for viewing in response to the one or more feedback options while the podcast is being presented on the graphical user interface, the media files including image, audio, and video, the media files displayed to the first user, the one or more second users, and the creator through the graphical user interface;

determining that the creator accessing the podcast has selected a feedback option in response to the podcast;

causing at least one visual feature corresponding to the selected feedback option to be displayed in the second region while the podcast is still being presented, the at least one visual feature having a specific color corresponding to the creator, the at least one visual feature displayed to the first user, the one or more second users, and the creator through the graphical user interface;

determining that the first user accessing the podcast has selected the feedback option in response to the podcast;

causing the at least one visual feature corresponding to the selected feedback option to be displayed in the second region while the podcast is still being presented, the at least one visual feature displayed to the first user, the one or more second users, and the creator live through the graphical user interface;

causing one or more second previously podcasts of the first series to be displayed on a second tabbed section of the second region;

causing one or more second series podcasts of a second series with a relation to the first series to be displayed on a third tabbed section of the second region;

causing one or more related podcast of one or more second series to be displayed on the third tabbed section of the second region;

determining that the one or more second users accessing the podcast has selected a second feedback option in response to the podcast;

causing the at least one visual feature corresponding to the second feedback option to also be displayed in the second region, wherein the second feedback option is one of a like option or a reaction from a set of reaction options; and

providing a visual feature in a third region, the visual feature corresponding to a number of viewers including the first user and the one or more second users currently viewing the podcast.

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