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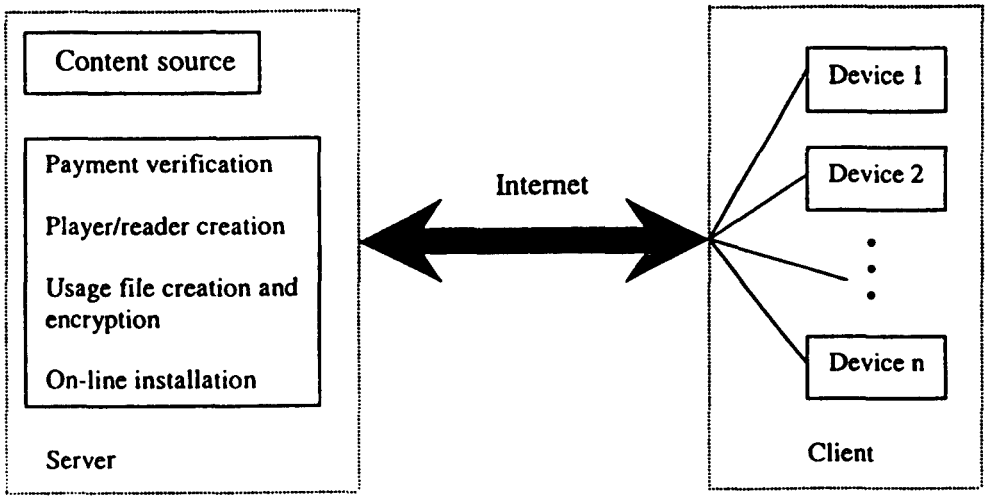
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(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR CONTROLLING USAGE AND PROTECTING AGAINST COPYING OF DIGITAL MULTIMEDIA CONTENT AND ASSOCIATED PLAYERS/READERS



(57) Abstract: The present invention presents a method and system for controlling usage and protecting against copying of digital multimedia content (such as audio, video, image, and document) and their associated players or readers. The system is arranged so that digital content and their players or readers that are installed in one computer or device cannot be used if they are copied to another computer or device. The system may also be arranged so that duplicated digital content is not usable in the same computer or device. Usage data associated with each item of digital content may restrict the running time during which the content can be used and may be updated automatically after each usage of the content. The content may not be accessible if its permitted usage has expired.

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