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(71) **Applicant: INTERDIGITAL PATENT HOLDINGS, INC.** [US/US]; 200 Bellevue Parkway, Suite 300, Wilmington, Delaware 19809 (US).

(72) **Inventors: SON, Jung Je;** 1001 E. Hector Street, Conshohocken, Pennsylvania 19428 (US). **OLVERA-HERNANDEZ, Ulises;** 1000 Sherbrooke St, Montreal, Québec H3A 3G4 (CA). **WANG, Guanzhou;** 1000 Sherbrooke St, Montreal, Québec H3A 3G4 (CA). **WANG, Zhibi;** 200 Bellevue Parkway Suite 300, Wilmington, Delaware 19809 (US). **METHENNI, Achref;** 1000 Sherbrooke St, Montreal, Québec H3A 3G4 (CA).

(74) **Agent: LEONARD, Robert D.;** Volpe Koenig, 30 S. 17th Street, Suite 1800, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19103 (US).

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(54) **Title:** METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ENABLING VERTICAL FEDERATED LEARNING BASED ON NETWORK INTERACTION WITH AN APPLICATION FUNCTION

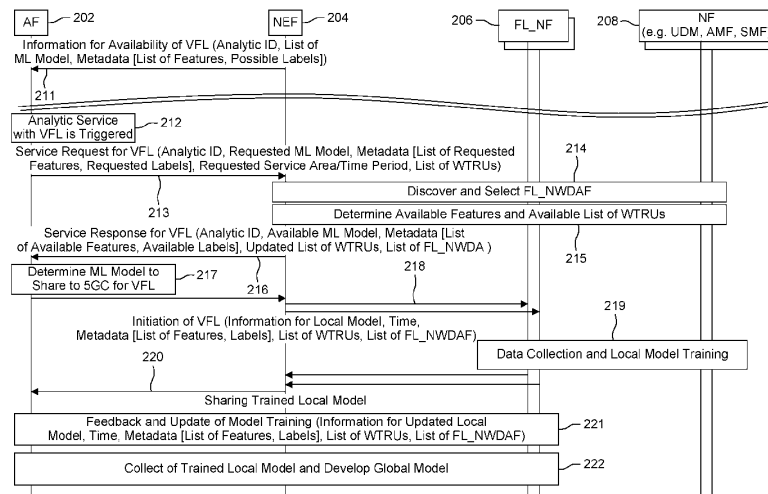


FIG. 2

(57) **Abstract:** A network exposure function (NEF) may advertise a support of vertical federated learning (VFL) to an application function (AF). The AF may transmit a request to the NEF for information about one or more machine learning (ML) models for VFL, including one or more requested analytics service, one or more candidate ML models, a list of one or more requested features, and/or a list of one or more candidate wireless transmit/receive units (WTRUs) etc. Based on the request, the NEF may discover and/or select one or more NFs that support federated learning (FL_NF). The NEF may transmit a response to the AF, including one or more supported ML models, a list of one or more supported features, and/or an updated list of one or more candidate WTRUs etc. The AF may transmit a request for VFL initiation to the NEF.

[Continued on next page]

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