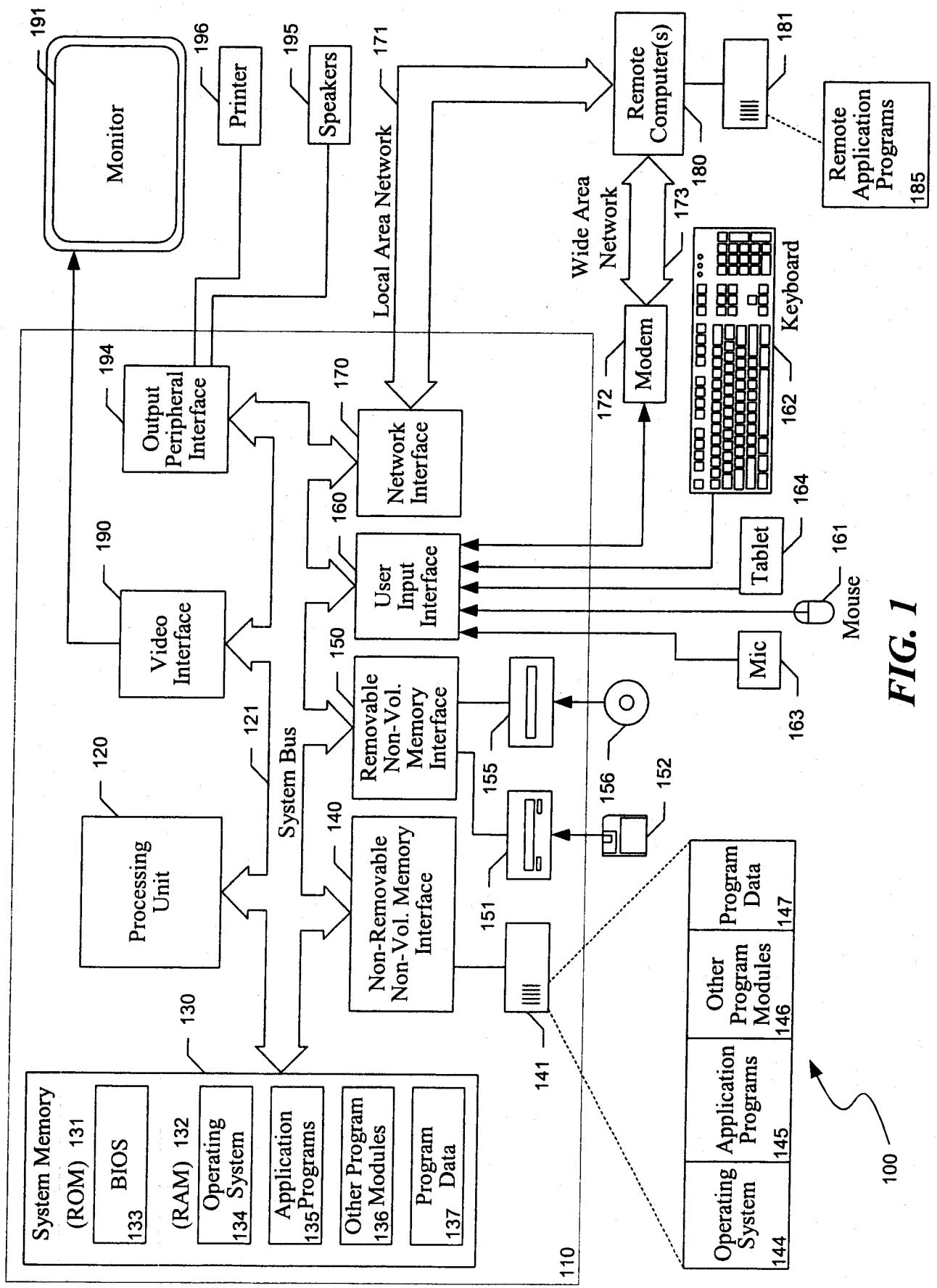

Monitor
191
Printer
196
Speakers
195
Local Area Network
171
Remote Computer(s)
180
181
Remote Application Programs
185
Wide Area Network
173
Keyboard
162
Modem
172
Output Peripheral Interface
194
Network Interface
170
160
User Input Interface
Tablet
164
161
Mouse
Mic
163
190
Video Interface
150
Removable Non-Vol. Memory Interface
155
156
152
120
Processing Unit
121
System Bus
140
Non-Removable Non-Vol. Memory Interface
151
141
130
System Memory
(ROM) 131
BIOS
133
(RAM) 132
Operating System
134
Application Programs
135
Other Program Modules
136
Program Data
137
110
Operating System
144
Application Programs
145
Other Program Modules
146
Program Data
147
100

FIG. 1

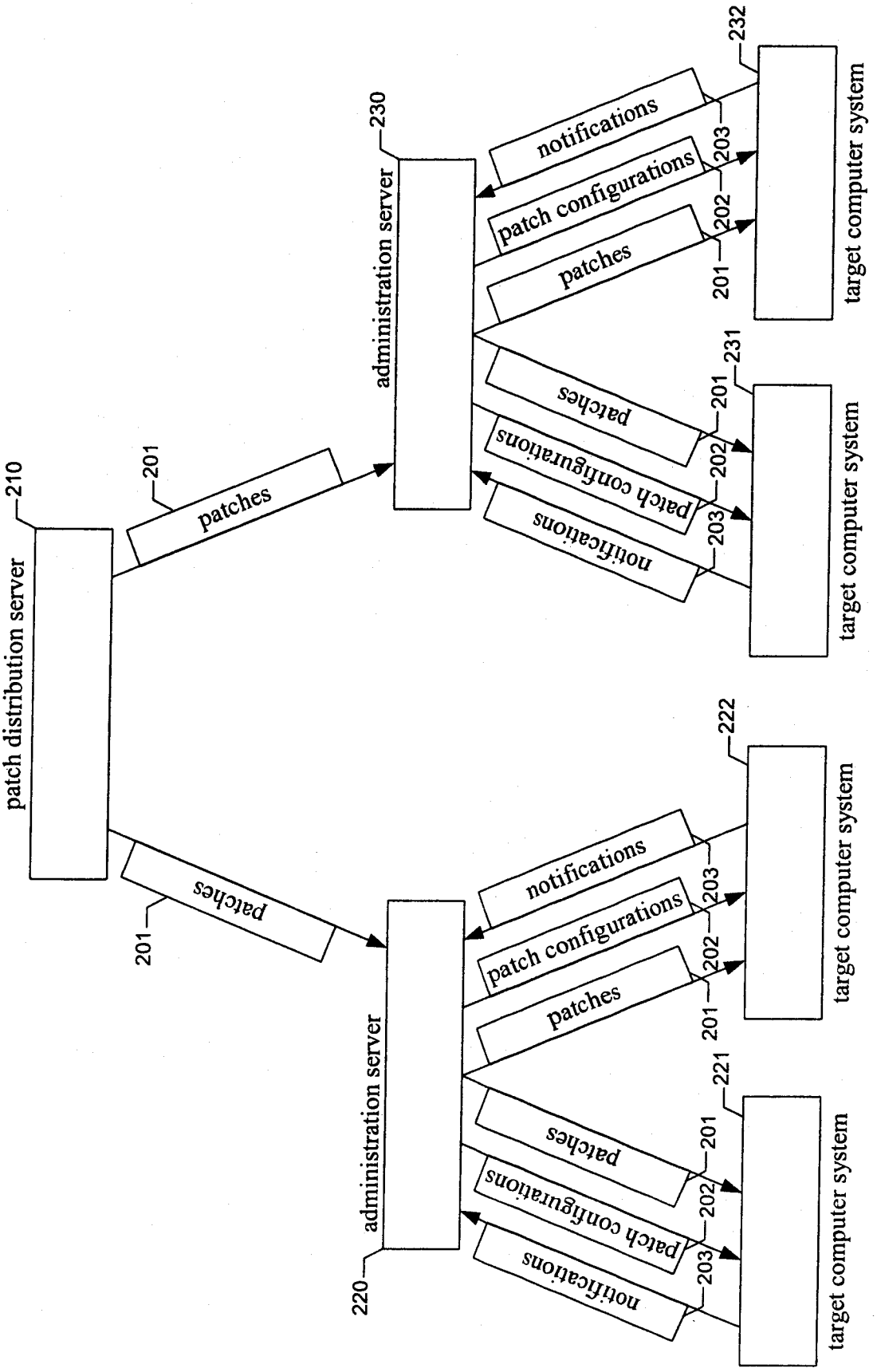

patch distribution server
210
patches
201
patches
201
administration server
230
notifications
patch configurations
patches
203
202
201
232
target computer system
patches
201
patch configurations
notifications
231
target computer system
administration server
220
notifications
patch configurations
patches
203
202
201
222
target computer system
patches
201
patch configurations
notifications
221
target computer system

FIG. 2

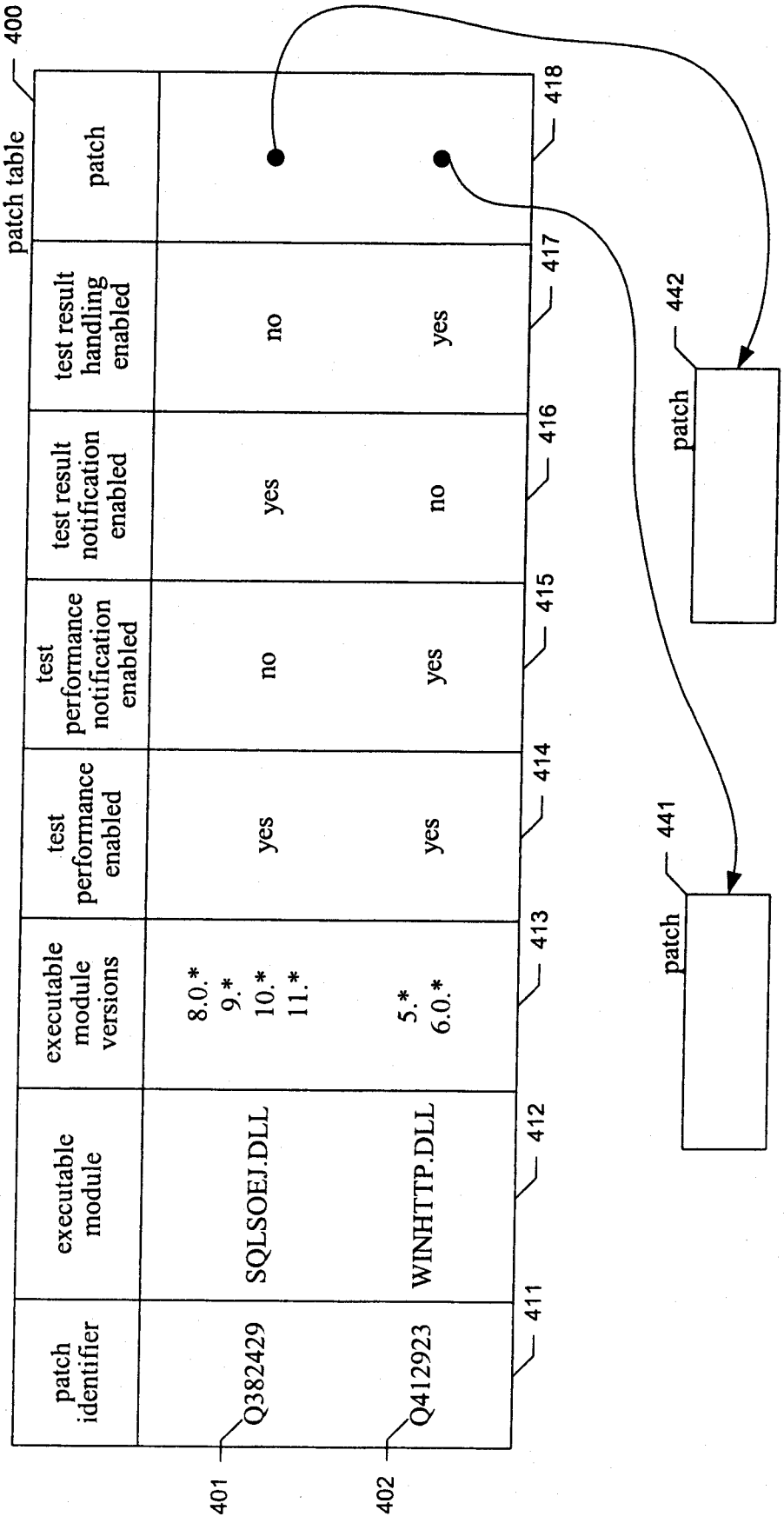

patch table
400
patch identifier
executable module
executable module versions
test performance enabled
test performance notification enabled
test result notification enabled
test result handling enabled
patch
411
412
413
414
415
416
417
418
401
402
Q382429
SQLSOEJ.DLL
8.0.*
9.*
10.*
11.*
yes
no
yes
no
yes
Q412923
WINHTTP.DLL
5.*
6.0.*
yes
yes
no
yes
no
patch
441
patch
442

FIG. 4

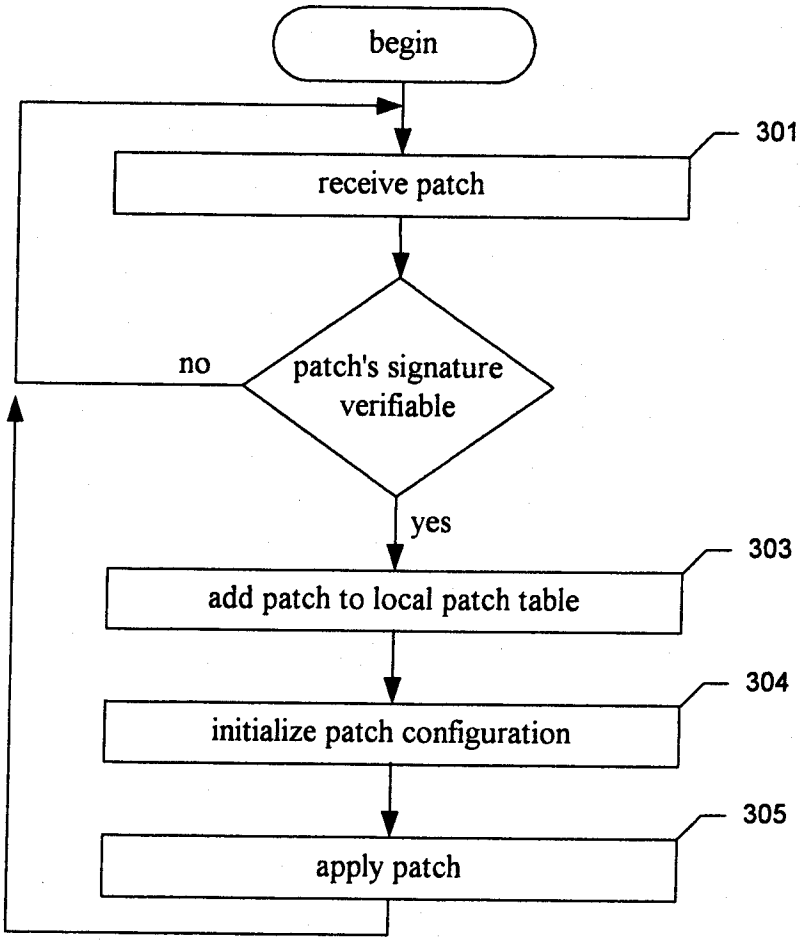

begin
301
receive patch
patch's signature verifiable
no
yes
303
add patch to local patch table
304
initialize patch configuration
305
apply patch

FIG. 3

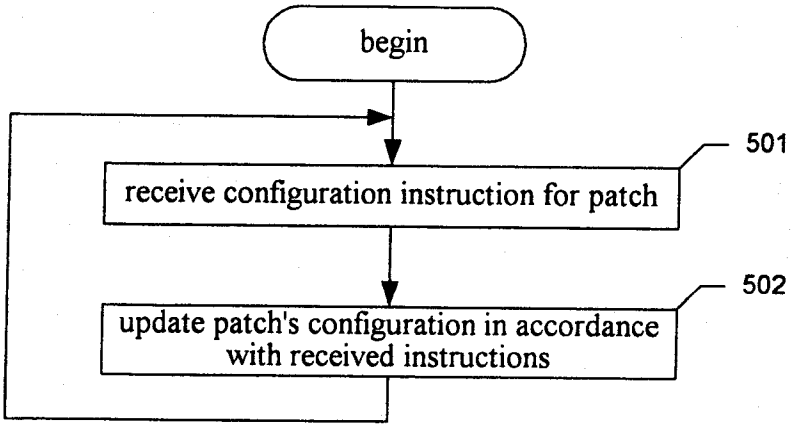

begin
501
receive configuration instruction for patch
502
update patch's configuration in accordance with received instructions

FIG. 5

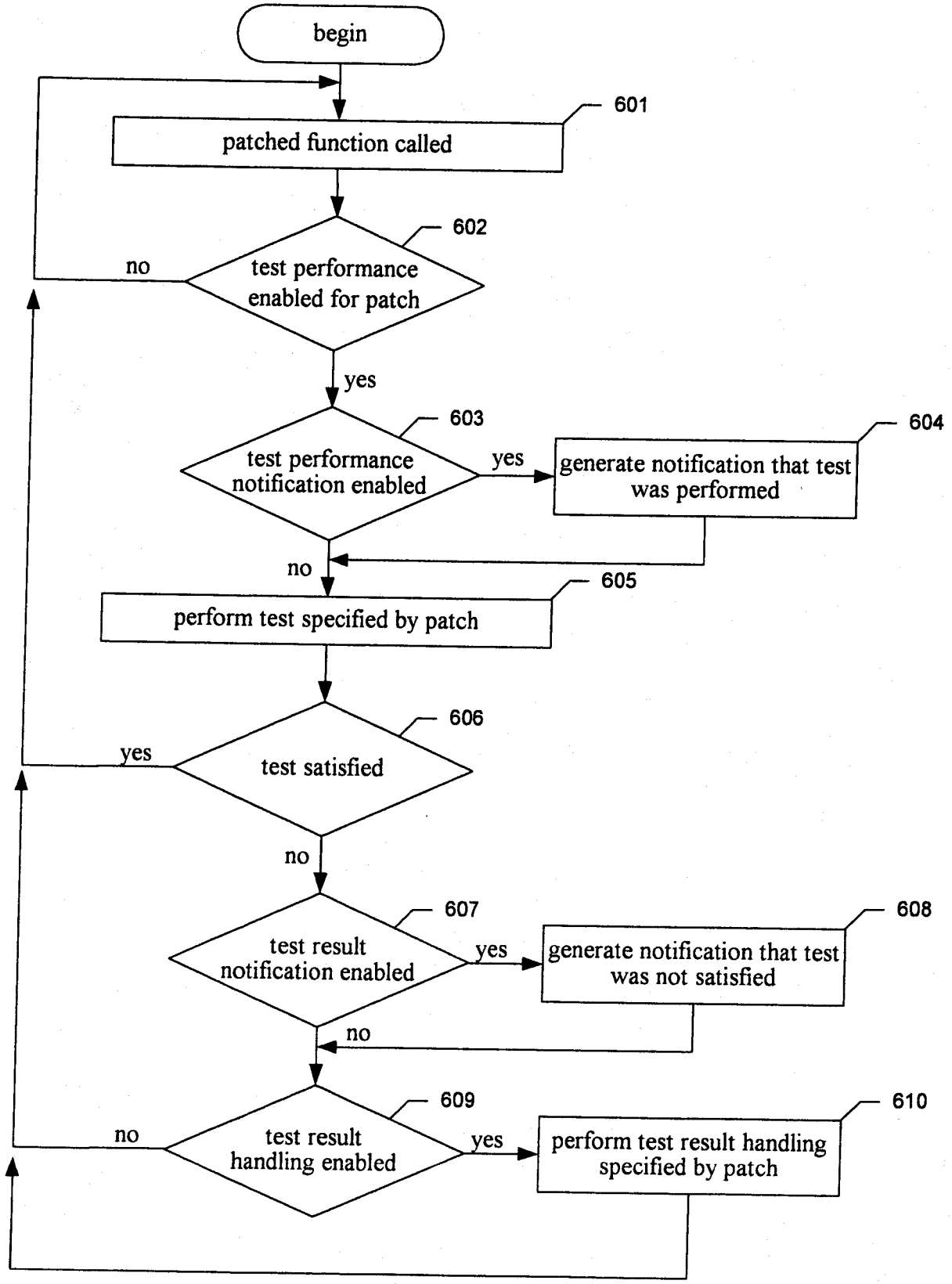

begin
601
patched function called
602
test performance enabled for patch
no
yes
603
test performance notification enabled
yes
604
generate notification that test was performed
no
605
perform test specified by patch
606
test satisfied
yes
no
607
test result notification enabled
yes
608
generate notification that test was not satisfied
no
609
test result handling enabled
no
yes
610
perform test result handling specified by patch

FIG. 6