

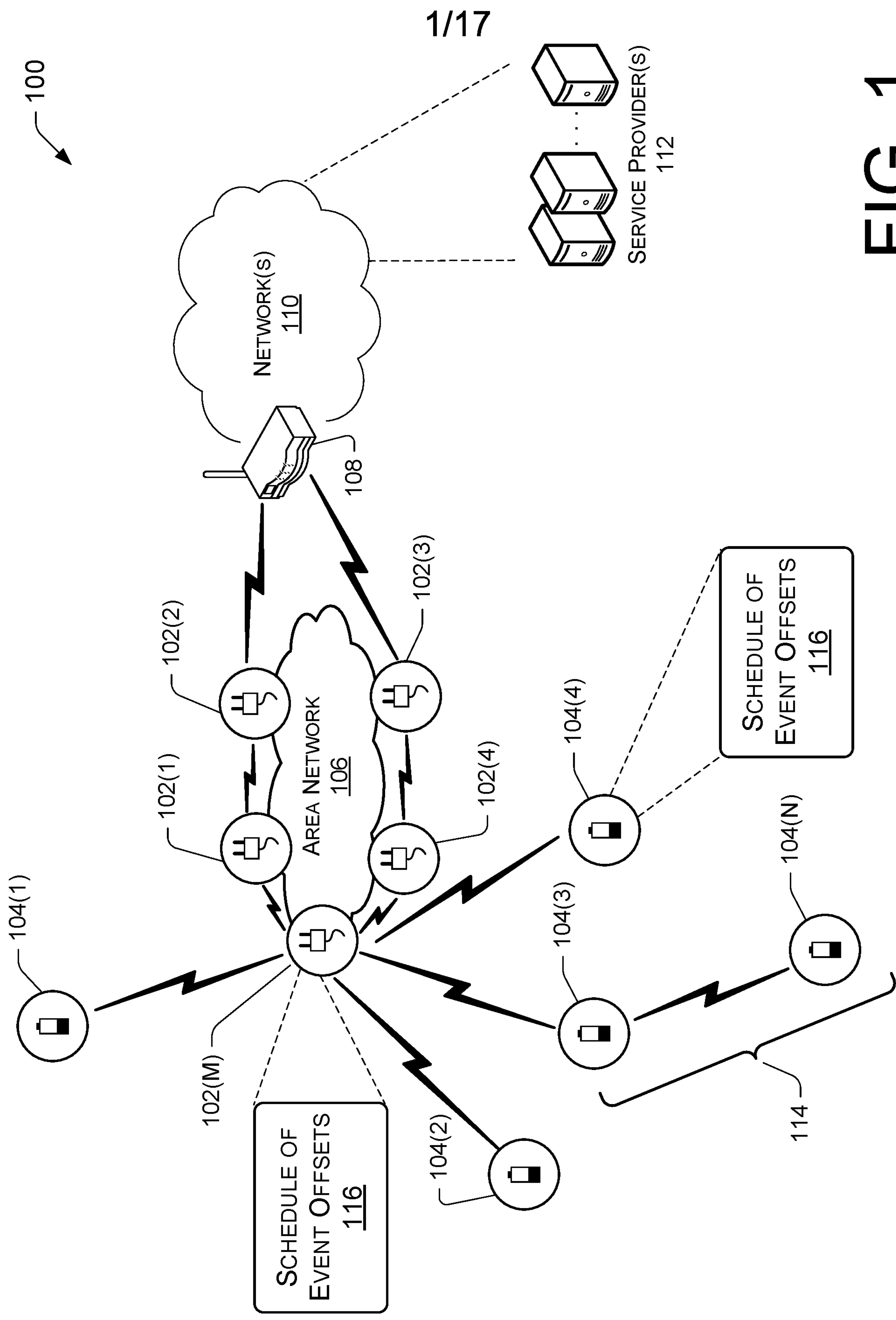


FIG. 1

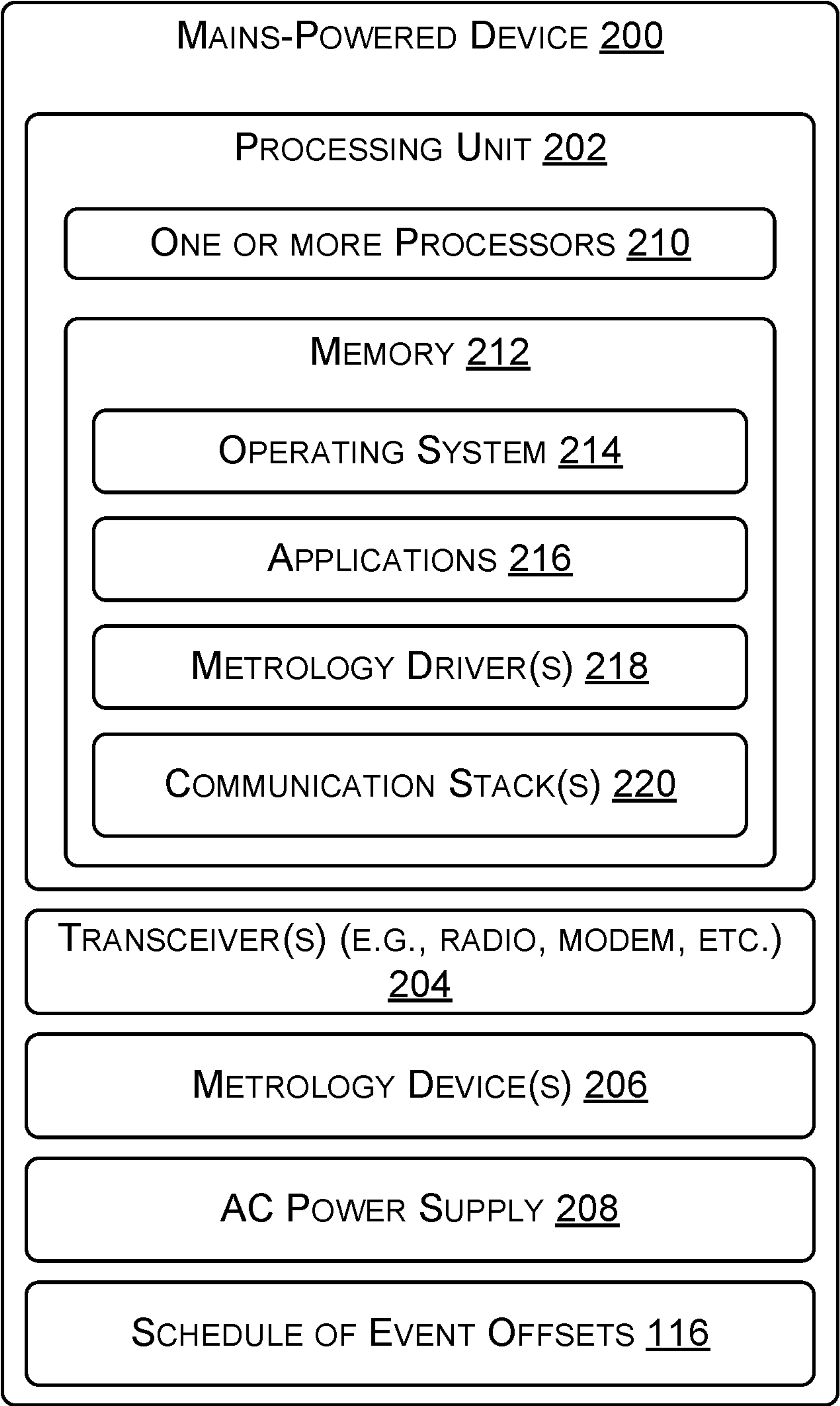


FIG. 2

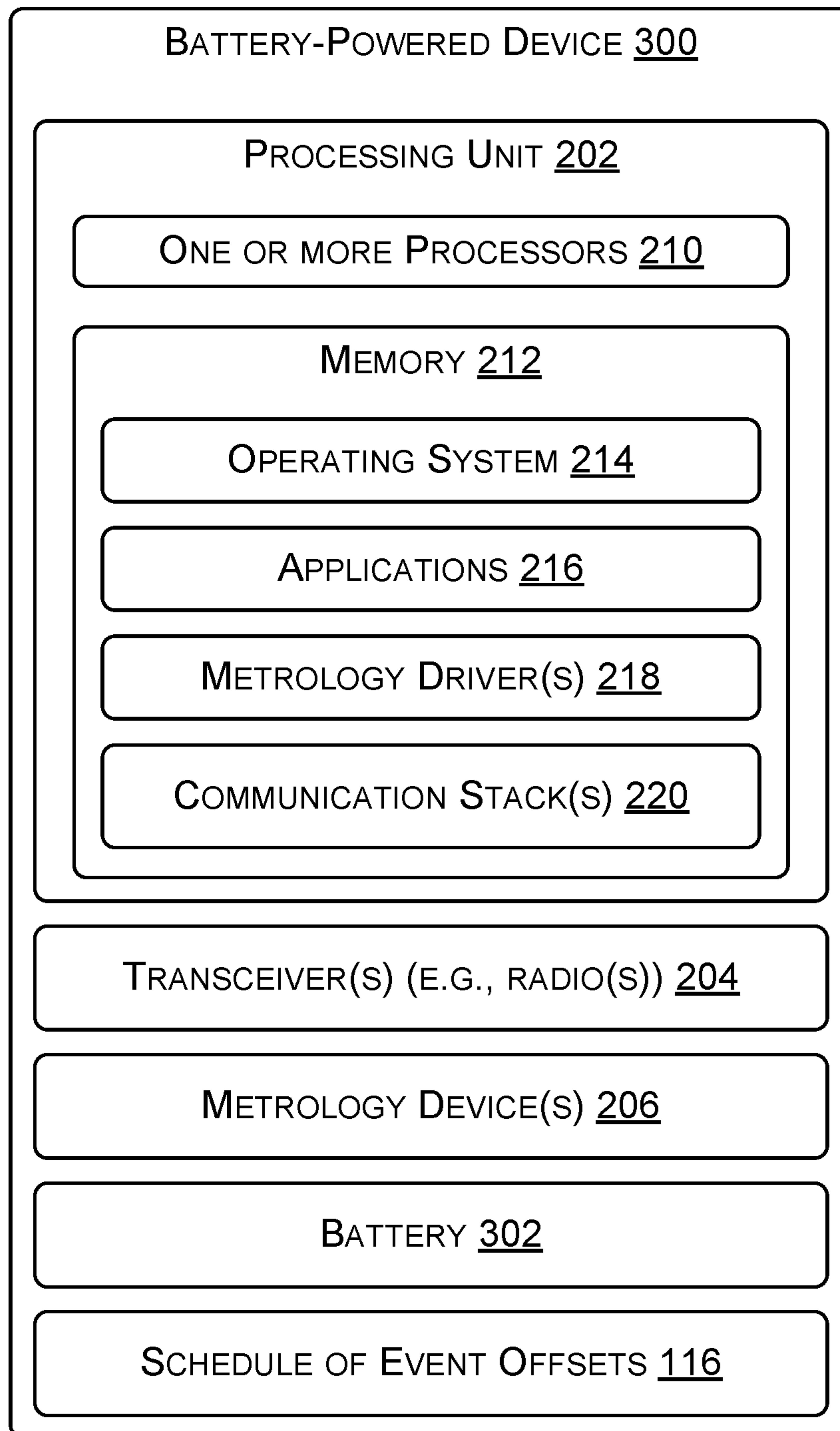


FIG. 3

400

Period of Time <u>402</u>						
Event Offset <u>404</u>	Event Offset <u>406</u>	Event Offset <u>408</u>	...	Event Offset <u>410</u>	Event Offset <u>412</u>	Event Offset <u>414</u>

FIG. 4

500

Period of Time <u>502</u>										
Event Offset <u>504</u>	Event Offset <u>506</u>	Event Offset <u>508</u>	Event Offset <u>510</u>	Event Offset <u>512</u>	...	Event Offset <u>514</u>	Event Offset <u>516</u>	Event Offset <u>518</u>	Event Offset <u>520</u>	Event Offset <u>522</u>

FIG. 5

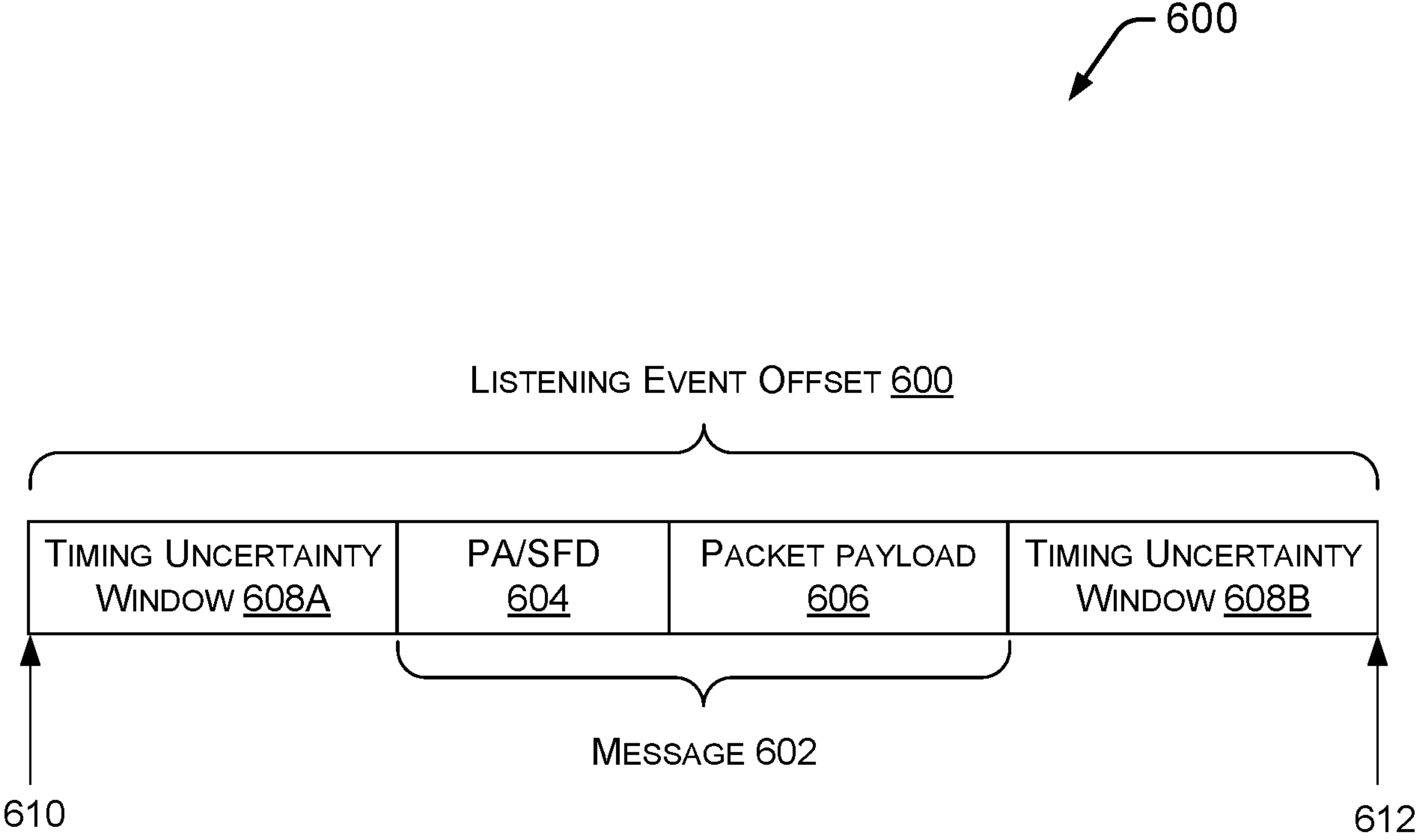


FIG. 6

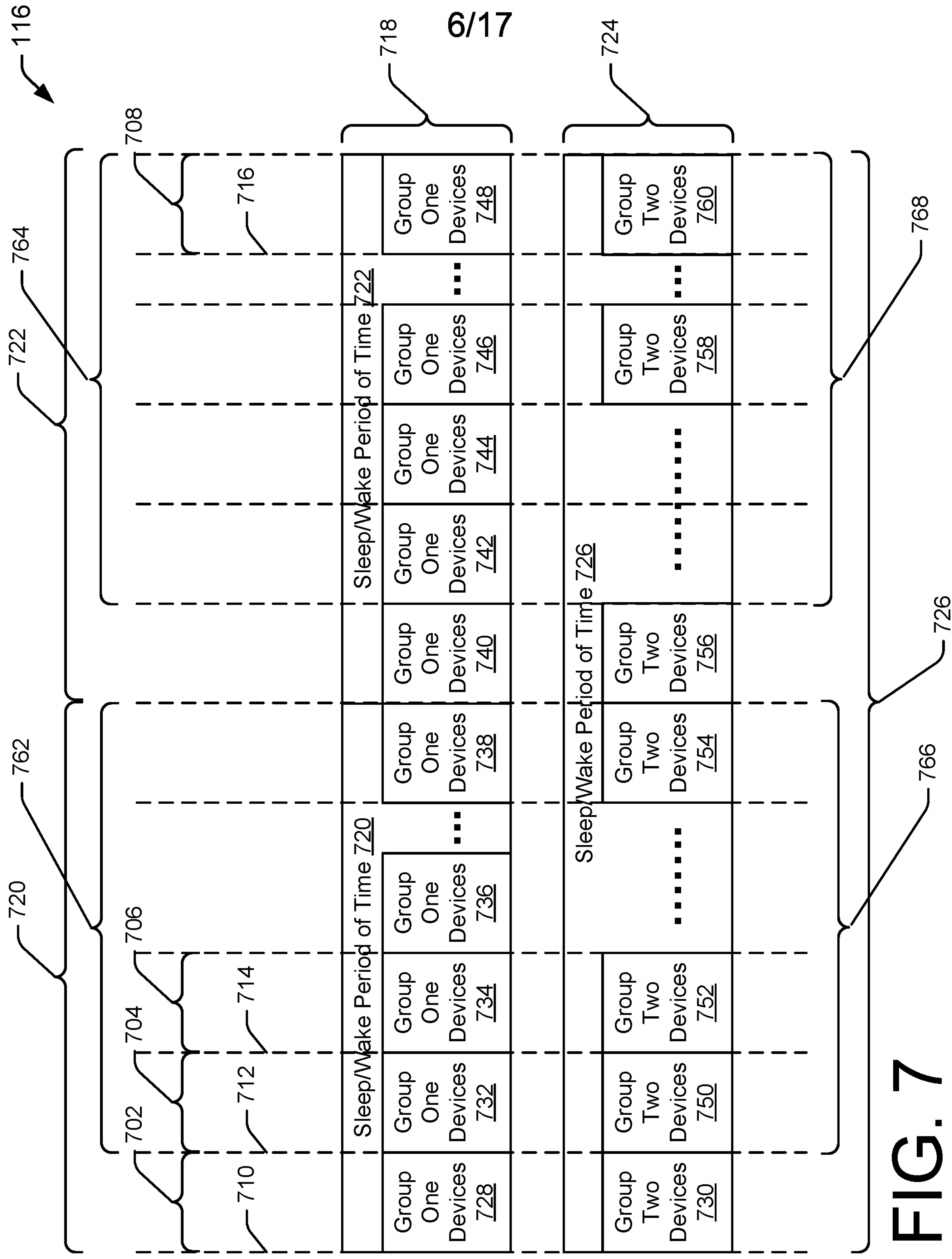


FIG. 7

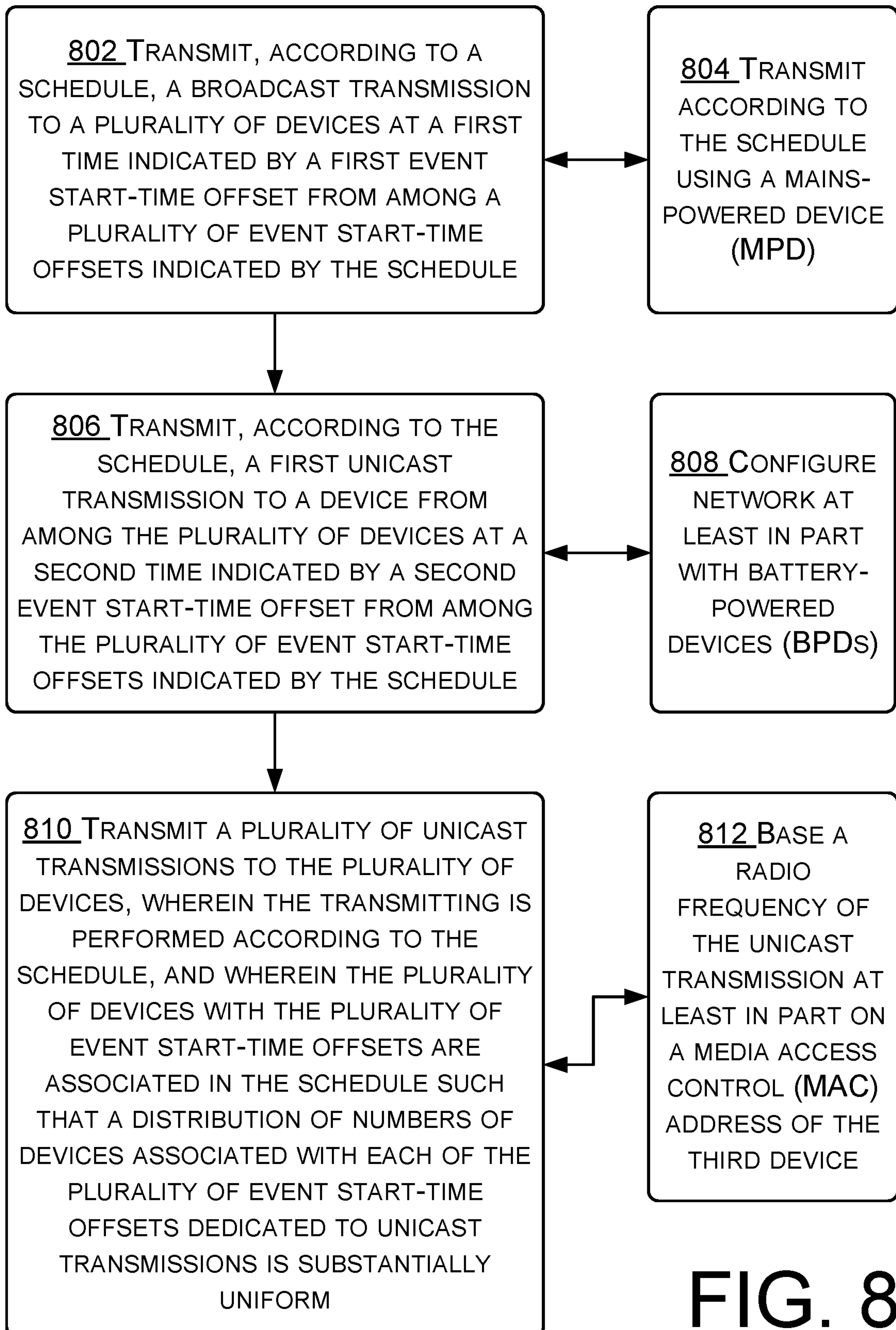


FIG. 8

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900

902 CONFIGURE A NO. OF EVENT START-TIME OFFSETS BASED ON, E.G., A NO. OF BATTERY-POWERED DEVICES EXPECTED TO COMMUNICATE WITH A MAINS-POWER DEVICE; AN EXPECTED MESSAGE LENGTH; AN EXPECTED DATA RATE

904 ASSIGN DEVICES TO EVENT START-TIME OFFSETS

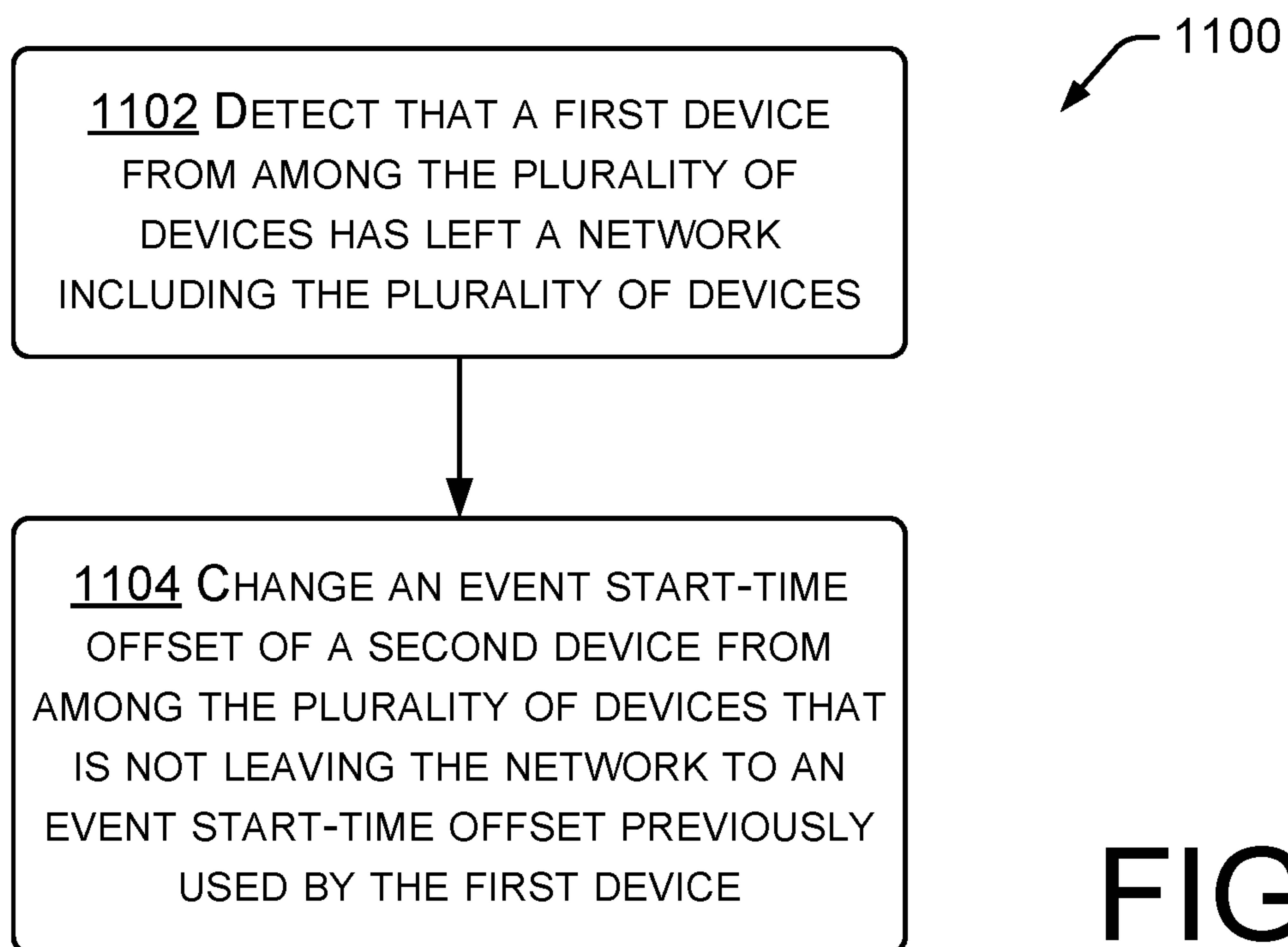
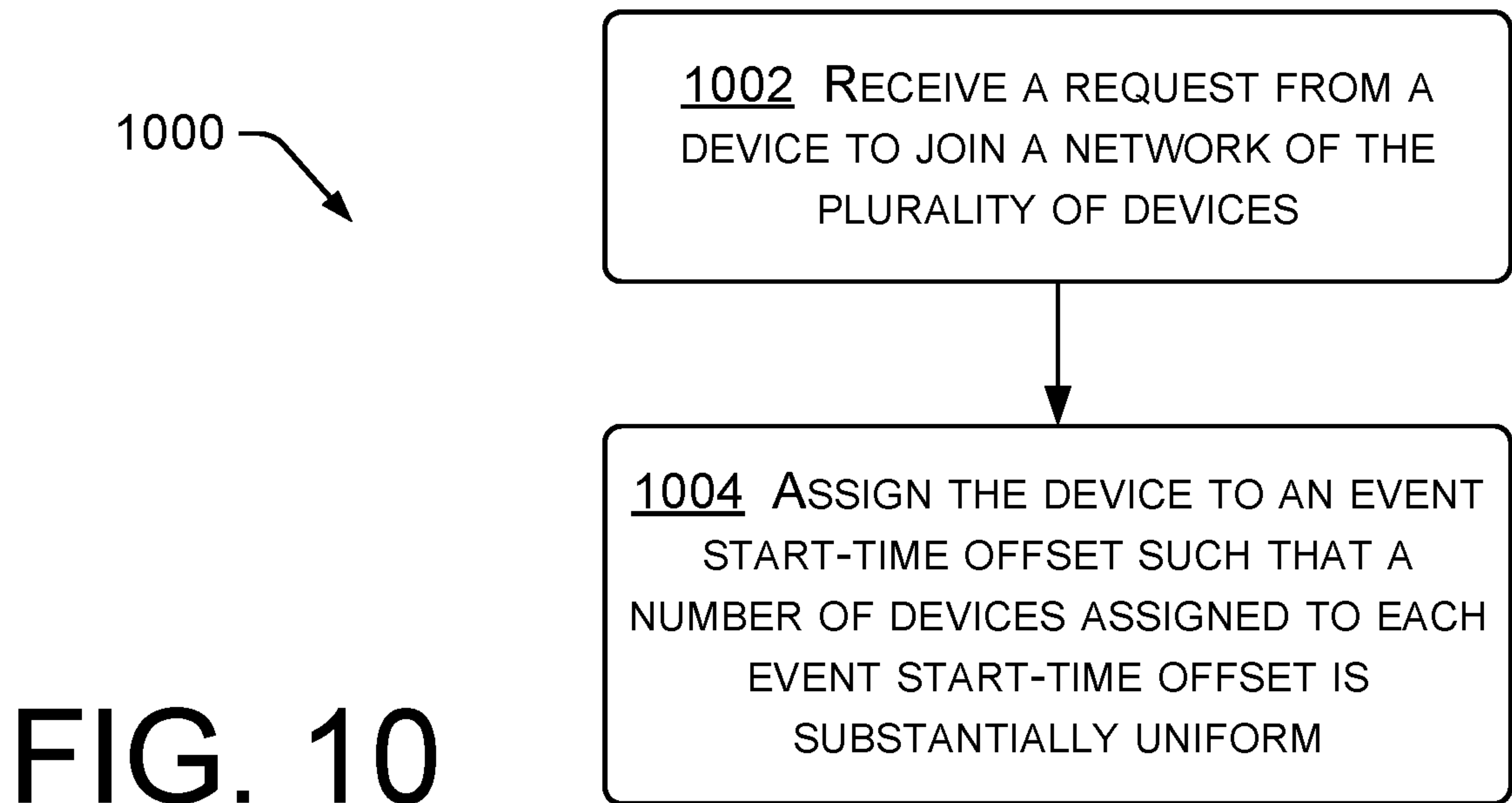
906 ASSIGN DEVICES TO EVENT START-TIME OFFSETS SUCH THAT A VARIANCE OF THE DISTRIBUTION OF NUMBERS OF DEVICES ASSOCIATED WITH EACH OF THE PLURALITY OF EVENT START-TIME OFFSETS IS UNDER A THRESHOLD VALUE

908 ASSIGN DEVICES TO EVENT START-TIME OFFSETS WITHIN THE SCHEDULE SUCH THAT A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A NUMBER OF DEVICES ASSIGNED TO A ONE EVENT START-TIME OFFSET AND A NUMBER OF DEVICES ASSIGNED TO ANOTHER EVENT START-TIME OFFSET IS WITHIN A THRESHOLD VALUE

910 ASSIGN DEVICES TO EVENT START-TIME OFFSETS WITHIN THE SCHEDULE IN A MANNER THAT RESULTS IN EACH EVENT START-TIME OFFSET BEING ASSOCIATED WITH "N" NUMBER OF DEVICES OR "N" PLUS 1 NUMBER OF DEVICES, WHEREIN "N" IS AN INTEGER THAT IS ZERO OR GREATER

FIG. 9

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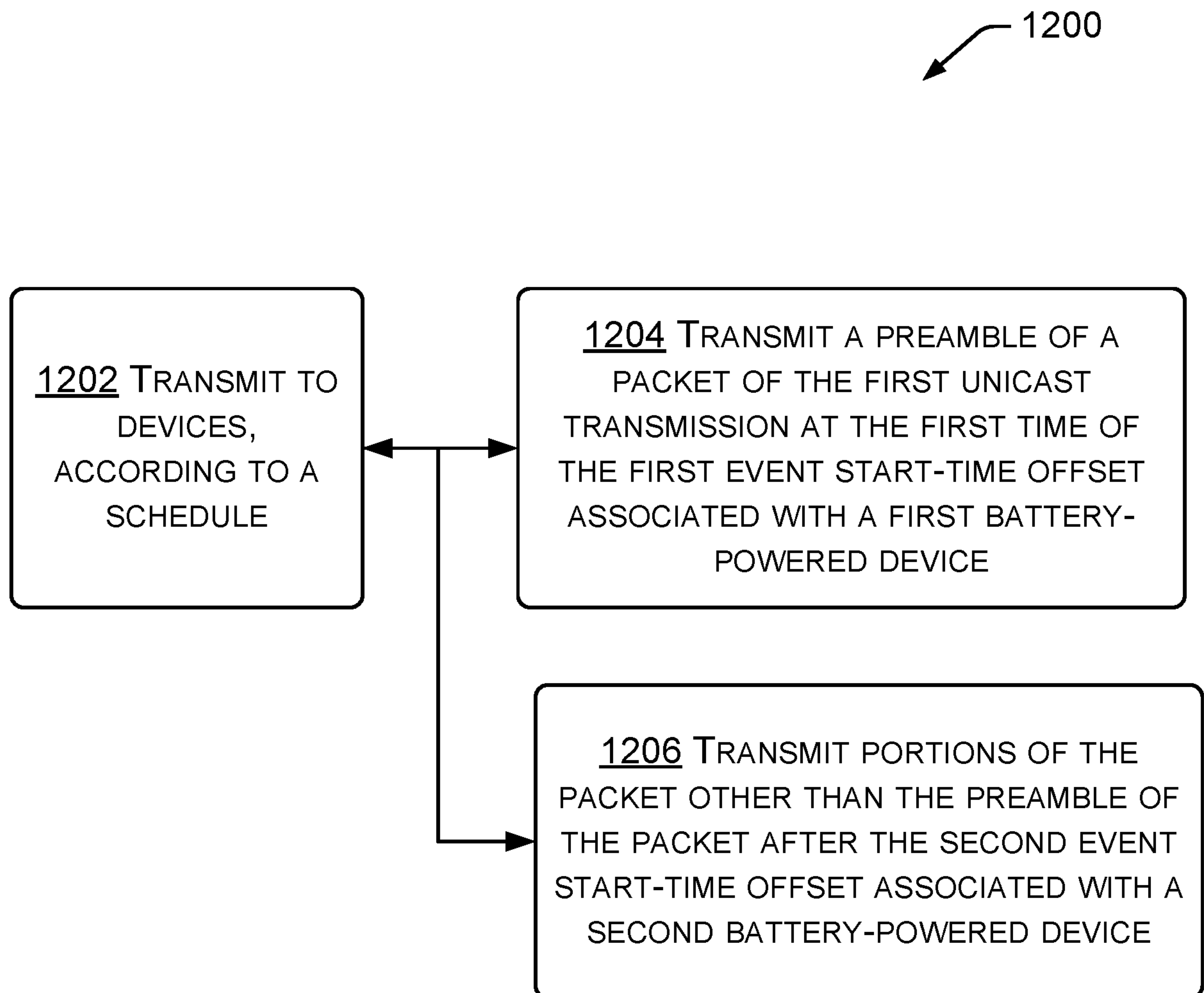


FIG. 12

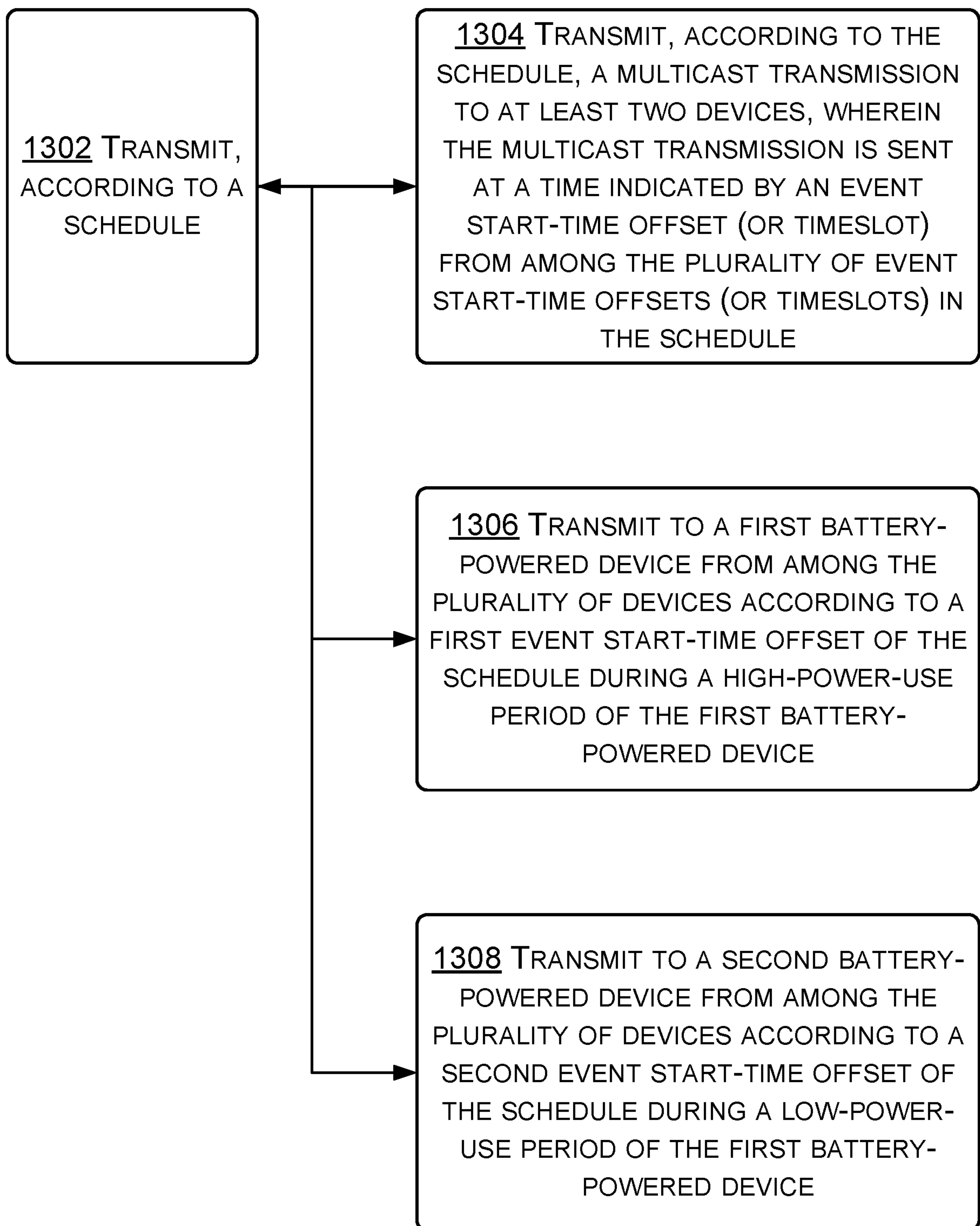


FIG. 13

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1400

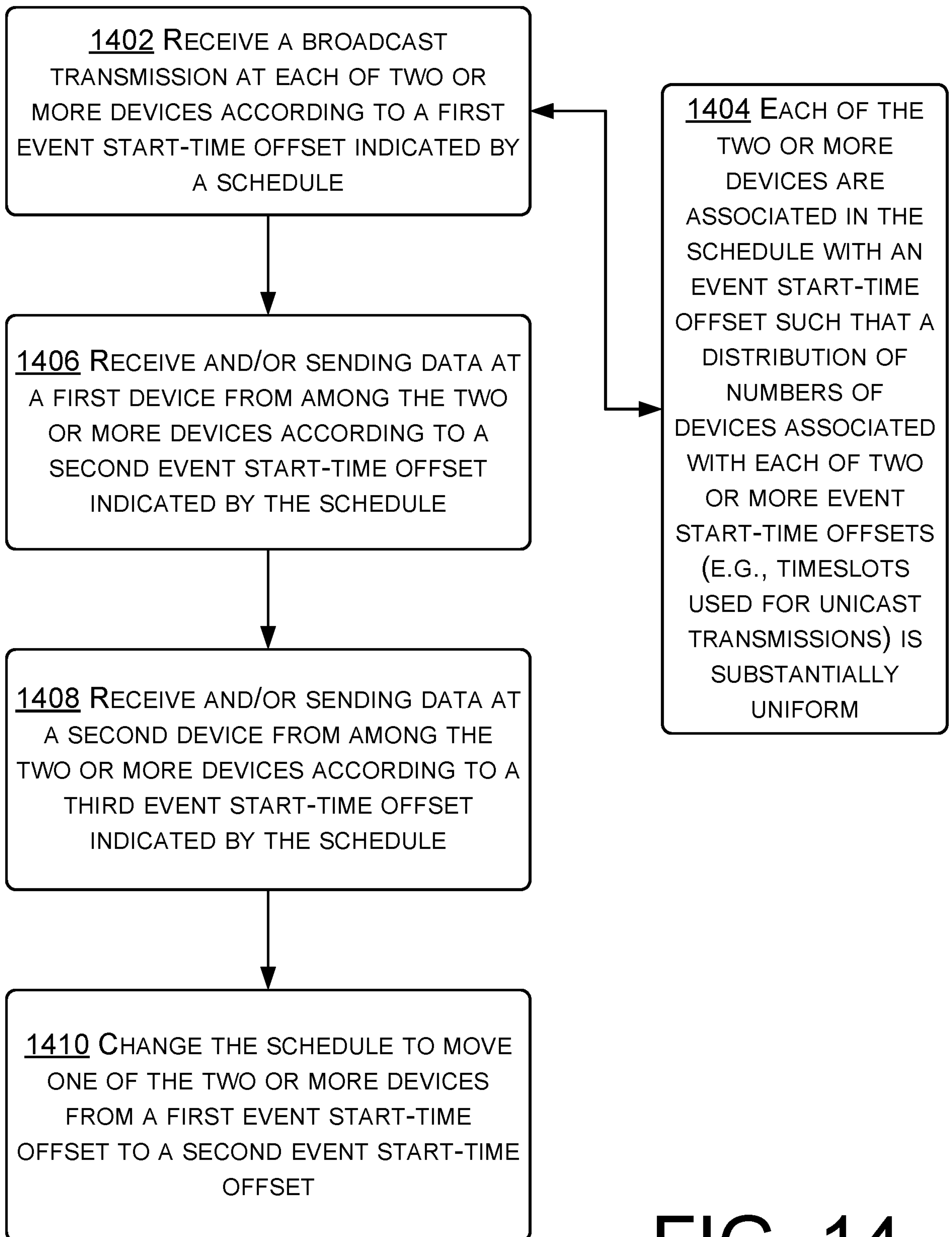
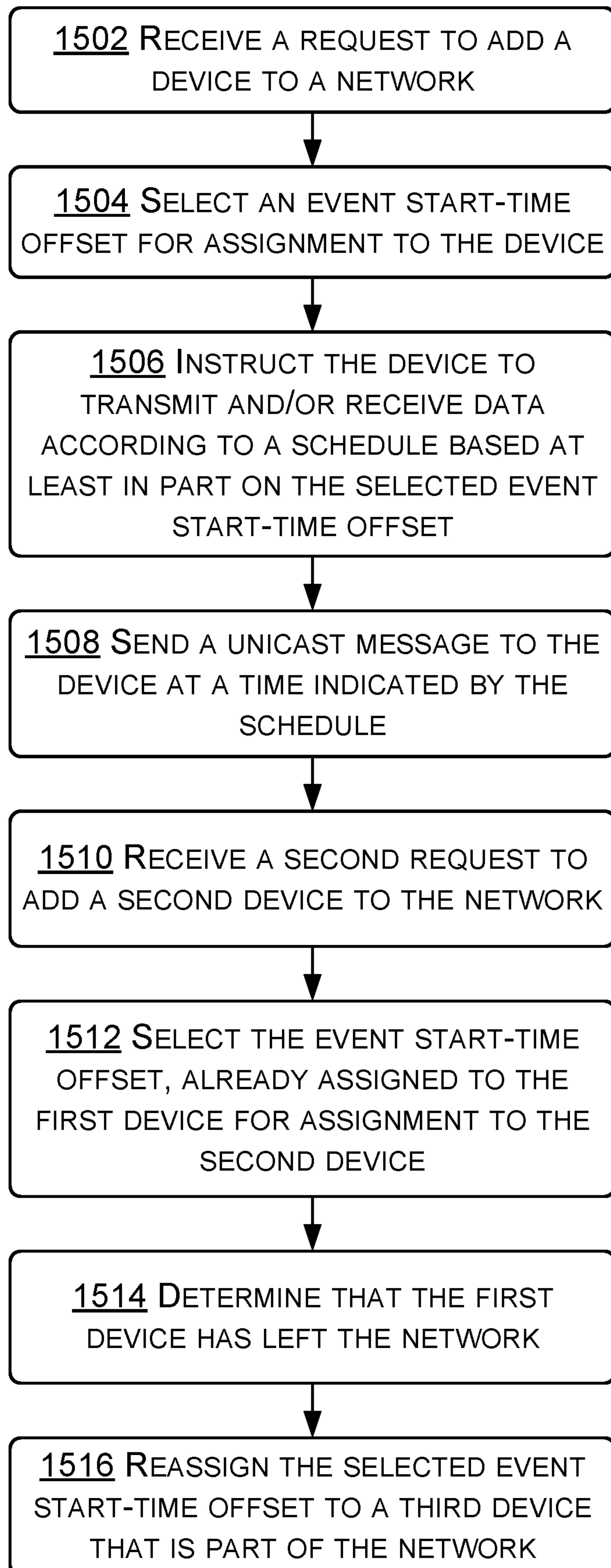


FIG. 14

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1500

FIG. 15

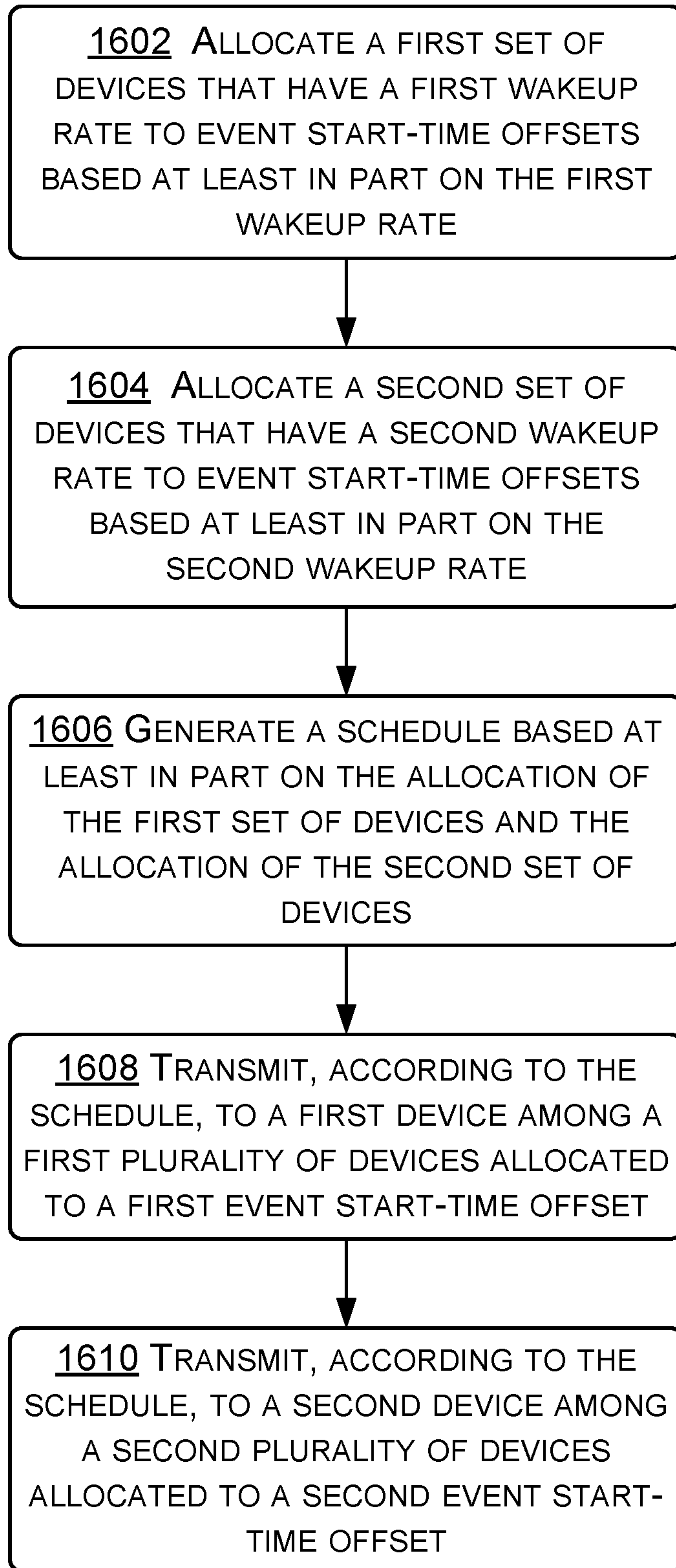


FIG. 16

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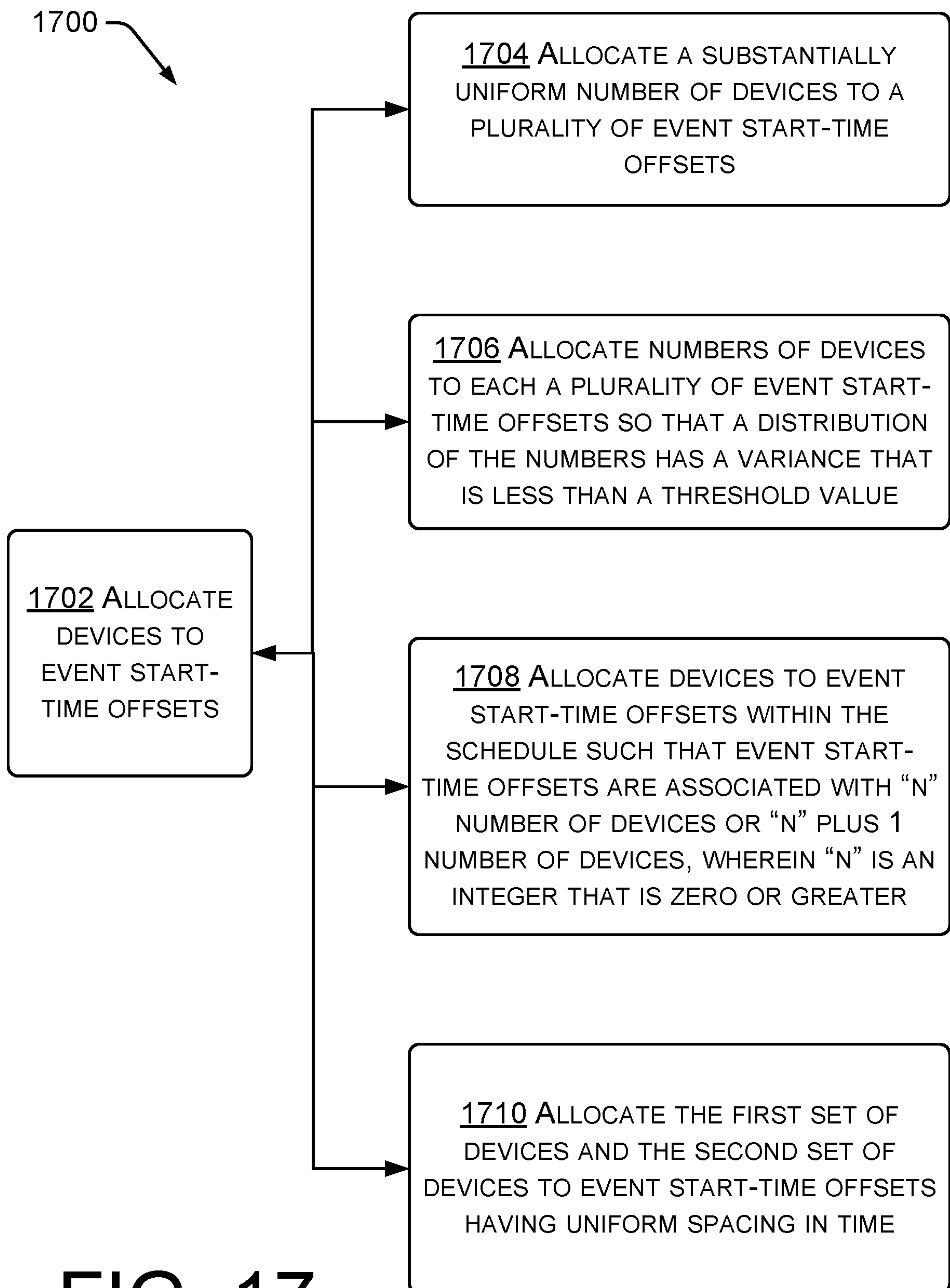
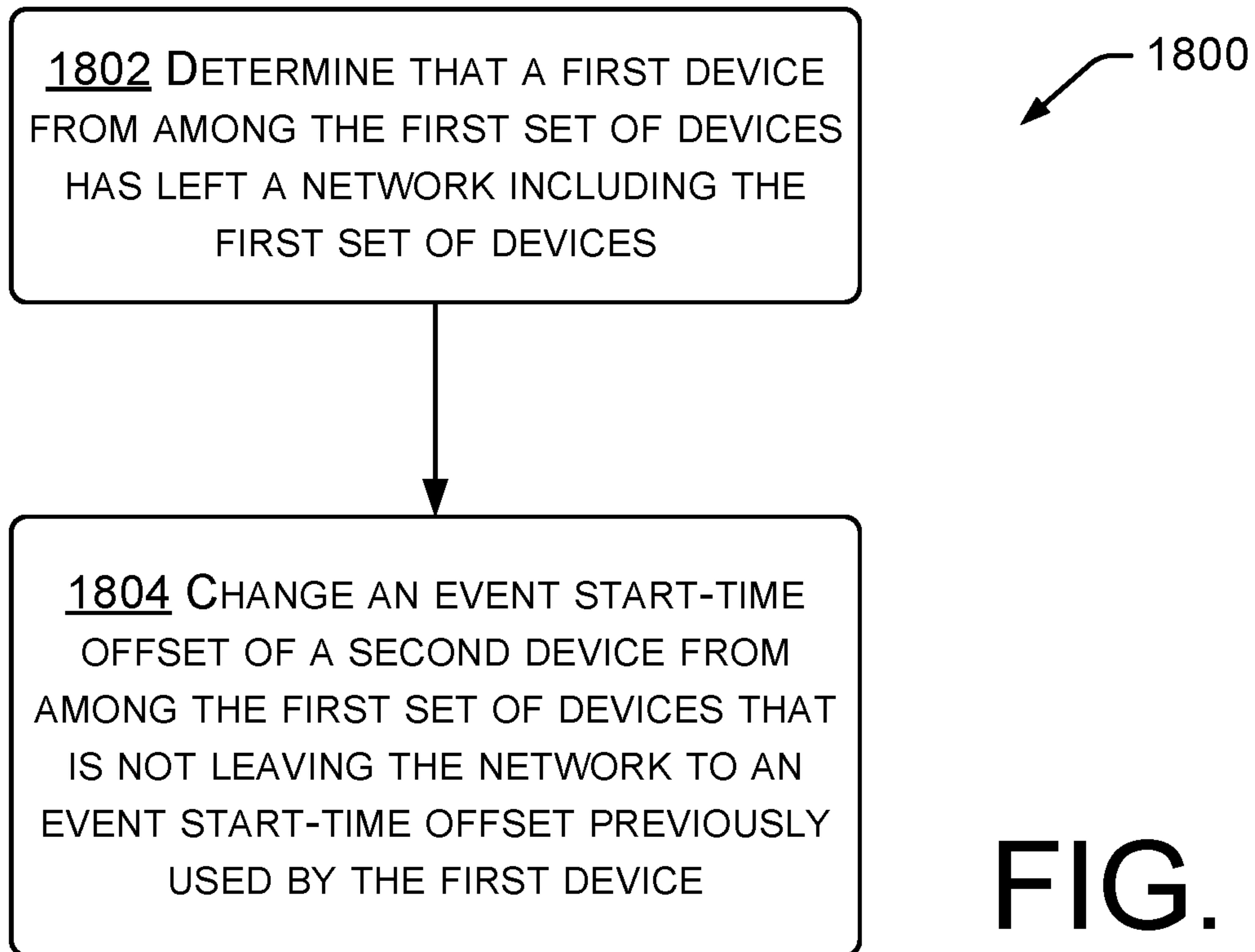


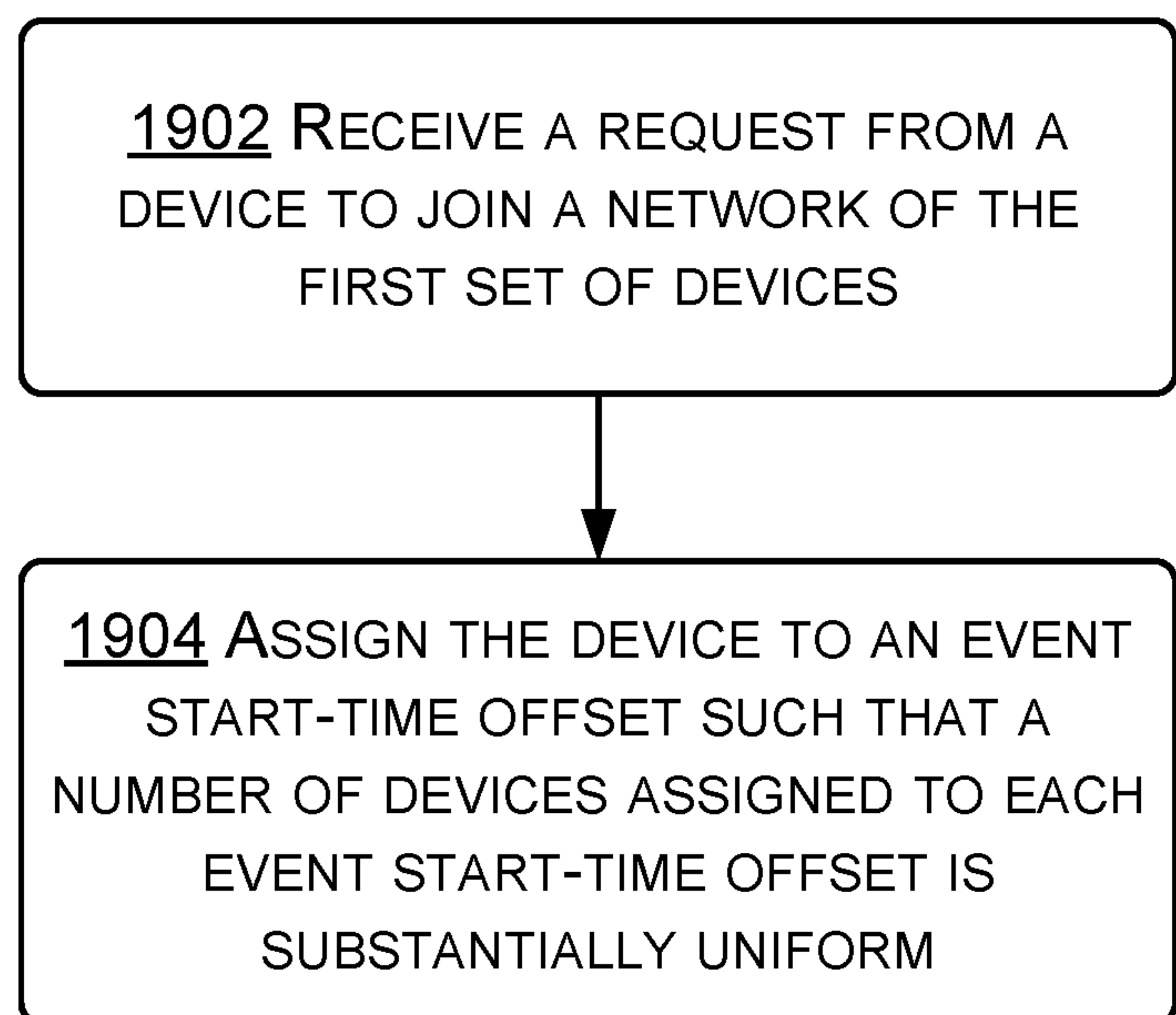
FIG. 17

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1900

FIG. 19



2002 ALLOCATE A FIRST SET OF DEVICES EACH HAVING A FIRST WAKEUP RATE TO EVENT START-TIME OFFSETS OCCURRING OVER A FIRST PERIOD OF TIME, WHEREIN THE FIRST PERIOD OF TIME IS BASED AT LEAST IN PART ON THE FIRST WAKEUP RATE, AND WHEREIN THE ALLOCATING IS PERFORMED SUCH THAT A DISTRIBUTION OF THE FIRST SET OF DEVICES OVER THE EVENT START-TIME OFFSETS OCCURRING OVER THE FIRST PERIOD OF TIME AND DEDICATED TO UNICAST TRANSMISSIONS IS SUBSTANTIALLY UNIFORM

2004 ALLOCATE A SECOND SET OF DEVICES EACH HAVING A SECOND WAKEUP RATE TO EVENT START-TIME OFFSETS OCCURRING OVER A SECOND PERIOD OF TIME, WHEREIN THE SECOND PERIOD OF TIME IS BASED AT LEAST IN PART ON THE SECOND WAKEUP RATE, AND WHEREIN THE ALLOCATING IS PERFORMED SUCH THAT A DISTRIBUTION OF THE SECOND SET OF DEVICES OVER THE EVENT START-TIME OFFSETS OCCURRING OVER THE SECOND PERIOD OF TIME AND DEDICATED TO UNICAST TRANSMISSIONS IS SUBSTANTIALLY UNIFORM

2006 GENERATE A SCHEDULE BASED AT LEAST IN PART ON THE ALLOCATION OF THE FIRST SET OF DEVICES AND THE ALLOCATION OF THE SECOND SET OF DEVICES, E.G., GENERATING THE SCHEDULE SUCH THAT A DISTRIBUTION OF THE FIRST SET OF DEVICES AND THE SECOND SET OF DEVICES OVER EVENT START-TIME OFFSETS DEDICATED TO UNICAST TRANSMISSIONS WITHIN THE SCHEDULE IS SUBSTANTIALLY UNIFORM

FIG. 20