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Generating and Providing Geo-Bounded Spaces for a Virtual Community

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ABSTRACT

This disclosure relates to generating and providing geo-bounded spaces for a virtual community of users. The disclosure describes techniques to generate a geo-bounded space; analyze user information to associate a user with the geo-bounded space; enable the user to receive and publish a content item; and implement a security feature for communications associated with a geo-bounded space and/or its associated users. The techniques can determine a personal characteristic of the user; identify a user representative for the geo-bounded space; and provide a centralized content location associated with the geo-bounded space.

KEYWORDS

- Social media
- Virtual community
- Neighborhood connection
- Neighborhood groups
- Community social networking
- Location-based social networking

BACKGROUND

The prevalence and proliferation of online social platforms has increased rapidly in recent years. These social platforms may, in some cases, enable users located on opposite ends of the world to connect with each other. Accordingly, social platforms have appeared that may be directed to any number of activities, such as friends & family, video sharing, and homestay tourism.

However, while these online social platforms may effectively connect large numbers of users across great distances, they may not always effectively connect users living within proximity to each other. After all, users from a shared locale may often be more likely to share common interests and face similar issues, and therefore may be more likely to utilize online social platforms to effect positive changes in their communities. Unfortunately, however, since existing online social platforms may not always be directed to generating and fostering social connections that benefit users from a shared locale, such beneficial and cooperative interactions may be lost.

DESCRIPTION

Advances in content management and media distribution are causing users to consume content from a variety of content platforms via user devices. One example of such a content platform may be a social platform. A social platform may typically be provided by a service provider, and content on the social platform may typically be shared by a user to one or more other users of the social platform. As used herein, a "user" may include any user of a computing device or digital content delivery mechanism who receives or interacts with delivered content items, which may be visual, non-visual, or a combination thereof. As used herein, a "user device" may include any device capable of publishing content for a user. Examples may include a mobile phone, a tablet, or a personal computer. Also, as used herein, "publish" may include any manner of making content available for consumption by a user, including but not limited to, "displaying", "playing", "broadcasting", "streaming" or "stream-casting".

As used herein, "digital content", "digital content item" and "content item" may refer to any digital data (e.g., a data file). Examples of digital content items include, but are not limited to, digital images, digital video files, digital audio files, and/or streaming content. Additionally, the terms "digital content item," "content item," and "digital item" may refer interchangeably to the digital content items themselves or portions thereof. Examples of types of content that may be shared over various content platforms may include audio (e.g., podcasts, music), video (e.g., music videos, variety shows, etc.), and text (e.g., micro-blogs, blogs, etc.).

With the proliferation of different types of social platforms, users may connect with other users across the world and engage each other with respect to a variety of activities and interests. Accordingly, social platforms have appeared that may be directed to any number of purposes and/or activities, such as connecting with friends & family, video sharing, eateries, and homestay tourism. However, while these social platforms may each be organized around their own purposes and/or activities, a social platform to effectively and safely connect users living in a community within a proximity of each other may be lacking.

Specifically, existing social platforms may not effectively connect users in a manner that enables users to connect with their neighbors over issues and interests and to cooperatively participate in beneficial interactions for the community. This may be unfortunate, as users living within a close proximity may be more likely to face the same issues (e.g., politics) or concerns (e.g., crime), and may be more likely to send their children to the same schools, frequent the same restaurants and visit the same landmarks.

Social platforms may have the capacity to connect users in a manner that facilitate positive interactions between individual users within a proximity of each other, and to help users to support each other. To accomplish this, social platforms may connect users through their similarities and mutual interests and strengthen community ties and foster a shared sense of interconnectedness amongst individual users. Moreover, social platforms may encourage

participation in community-related activities and encourage a community “culture” of kindness, respect and mutual support.

Neighborhood-based social interaction, enabled by the techniques of this disclosure, can foster local cohesion, which is the state of the local community in which people feel connected to and invested in the well-being of the people and places around them. The techniques can facilitate frequent, positive interactions with the people, places, and events in the user’s local community. The techniques can enable users to build vibrant local neighborhood communities by encouraging interactions between neighbors; to stay up to date on one's neighborhood; to participate in neighborhood conversations; to ask for and share advice and recommendations; to ask and offer for help; to generally participate in communities rather than passively consuming neighborhood information; etc.

Techniques described herein relate to generating and providing geo-bounded spaces for a virtual community of users. In some examples, the techniques include generating a geo-bounded space associated with a geographic location, verifying an association between a user and the geo-bounded space, and providing a content item associated with the geo-bounded space to the user. In these examples, to generate and provide the geo-bounded space to the user, the techniques may utilize computer vision, machine learning (ML), and/or artificial intelligence (AI).

The described techniques can be implemented via a computing device having a processor that executes instructions stored in a memory. The instructions (e.g., as described with reference to FIG. 1B), cause the processor to generate a geo-bounded space; analyze user information to associate a user with the geo-bounded space; enable the user to receive and publish a content item; and implement a security feature for communications associated with a geo-bounded space and/or its associated users.

To associate the user with the geo-bounded space, the instructions further cause the processor to determine a personal characteristic of the user. In some examples, the instructions further cause the processor to identify a user representative for the geo-bounded space. In some examples, the instructions further cause the processor to enable a user to access a profile associated with the user. In some examples, the instructions further cause the processor to provide a centralized content location associated with the geo-bounded space.

In some examples, the techniques, with user permission, solicit and verify location information from a user to associate a geo-bounded space; provide an interface with which to connect with other users associated with the geo-bounded space; and provide forms of interactive engagement for users associated with the geo-bounded space that may encourage community-related interactions and strengthen interpersonal ties between the users associated with the community. In some examples, the techniques provide a neighborhood directory to enable users to acquaint themselves with other users associated with the geo-bounded space, generate and deliver content items relating to the geo-bounded space and facilitate various interactive communications between users associated with the geo-bounded space.

In some examples, the techniques as described may encourage and foster civil, personal and productive conversations between users associated with a geo-bounded space. In addition, the techniques may enable interpersonal communications between the users based on user interests and notify users of local information (e.g., news, weather) and issues (e.g., crime, vandalism). The techniques may also connect users to local businesses and organizations, provide recommendations (e.g., for doctors, restaurants, etc.) based on local information, and enable users to receive help from other users that may be nearby.

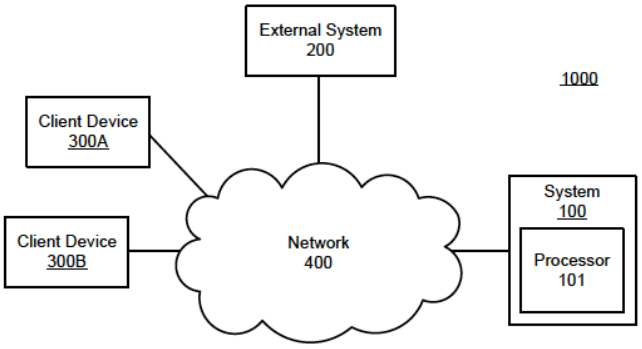

FIG. 1A

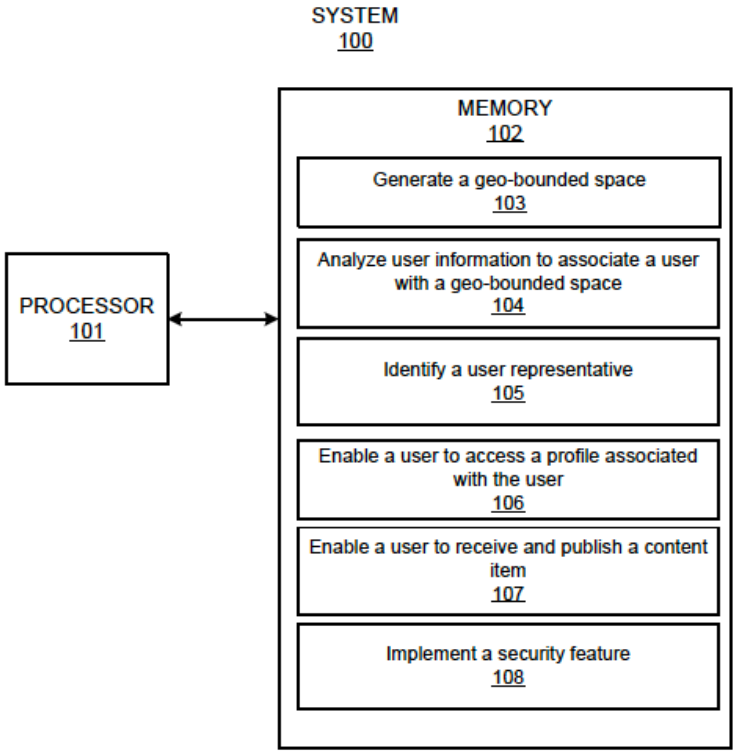

FIG. 1B

Figure 1A illustrates a block diagram of a system environment, including a system, that may be implemented to generate and provide geo-bounded spaces for a virtual community of users, according to an example. Figure 1B illustrates a block diagram of the system that may be implemented to generate and provide geo-bounded spaces for a virtual community of users, according to an example.

One or more of system 100, external system 200, client devices 300A-B and system environment 1000 shown in Figures 1A-B may be operated by a service provider to, among other things, generate a geo-bounded space associated with a geographic location, verify an association between a user and the geo-bounded space, and provide a content item associated with the geo-bounded space to the user. The system 100, the external system 200, the client devices 300A-B and the system environment 1000 depicted in Figures 1A-B are provided as examples. Thus, one or more of the system 100, the external system 200 the client devices 300A-B and the system environment 1000 may or may not include additional features and some of the features described herein may be removed and/or modified without departing from the scopes of the system 100, the external system 200, the client devices 300A-B and the system environment 1000 outlined herein. Moreover, in some examples, the system 100, the external system 200, and/or the client devices 300A-B may be or associated with a social networking system, a content sharing network, an advertisement system, an online system, and/or any other system that facilitates any variety of digital content in personal, social, commercial, financial, and/or enterprise environments.

In some examples, the external system 200 may include any number of servers, hosts, systems, and/or databases that store data to be accessed by the system 100, the client devices 300A-B, and/or other network elements (not shown) in the system environment 1000. In addition, in some examples, the servers, hosts, systems, and/or databases of the external system 200 may include one or more storage mediums storing any data. In some examples, the external system 200 may store information (e.g., user information) that may relate to generating and providing geo-bounded spaces for a virtual community of users.

In some examples, the client devices 300A-B may be utilized to, among other things, generate a geo-bounded space associated with a geographic location, verify an association between a user and the geo-bounded space, and provide a content item associated with the geo-bounded space for the user. In one example, the client device 300A may be utilized by a first user to access content items relating to an associated geo-bounded space on a content platform. Also, in this example, the client device 300B may be utilized by a user moderator to view and moderate the content items relating to the associated geo-bounded space.

In some examples, the client devices 300A-B may be electronic or computing devices configured to transmit and/or receive data. In this regard, each of the client devices 300A-B may be any device having computer functionality, such as a television, a radio, a smartphone, a tablet, a laptop, a watch, a desktop, a server, or other computing or entertainment device or appliance. In some examples, the client devices 300A-B may be mobile devices that are communicatively

coupled to the network 400 and enabled to interact with various network elements over the network 400. In some examples, the client devices 300A-B may execute an application allowing a user of the client devices 300A-B to interact with various network elements on the network 400. Additionally, the client devices 300A-B may execute a browser or application to enable interaction between the client devices 300A-B and the system 100 via the network 400.

The system environment 1000 may also include the network 400. In operation, one or more of the system 100, the external system 200 and the client devices 300A-B may communicate with one or more of the other devices via the network 400. The network 400 may be a local area network (LAN), a wide area network (WAN), the Internet, a cellular network, a cable network, a satellite network, or other network that facilitates communication between, the system 100, the external system 200, the client devices 300A-B and/or any other system, component, or device connected to the network 400. The network 400 may further include one, or any number, of the exemplary types of networks mentioned above operating as a stand-alone network or in cooperation with each other. For example, the network 400 may utilize one or more protocols of one or more clients or servers to which they are communicatively coupled. The network 400 may facilitate transmission of data according to a transmission protocol of any of the devices and/or systems in the network 400. Although the network 400 is depicted as a single network in the system environment 1000 of Figure 1A, it should be appreciated that, in some examples, the network 400 may include a plurality of interconnected networks as well.

In some examples, the system 100 may, among other things, generate a geo-bounded space associated with a geographic location, verify an association between a user and the geo-bounded space and provide a content item associated with the geo-bounded space for the user. In some examples, the system 100 may be operated by a service provider as part of a content platform (e.g., a social media platform). Details of the system 100 and its operation within the system environment 1000 will be described in more detail below.

As shown in Figures 1A-B, the system 100 may include processor 101 and the memory 102. In some examples, the processor 101 may execute the machine-readable instructions stored in the memory 102. It should be appreciated that the processor 101 may be a semiconductor-based microprocessor, a central processing unit (CPU), an application specific integrated circuit (ASIC), a field-programmable gate array (FPGA), and/or other suitable hardware device.

In some examples, the memory 102 may have stored thereon machine-readable instructions (which may also be termed computer-readable instructions) that the processor 101 may execute. The memory 102 may be an electronic, magnetic, optical, or other physical storage device that contains or stores executable instructions. The memory 102 may be, for example, Random Access memory (RAM), an Electrically Erasable Programmable Read-Only Memory (EEPROM), a storage device, an optical disc, or the like. The memory 102, which may also be referred to as a computer-readable storage medium, may be a non-transitory machine-readable storage medium, where the term “non-transitory” does not encompass transitory propagating signals. The memory 102 depicted in Figure 1B is provided as an example. Thus, the memory

102 may or may not include additional features, and some of the features described herein may be removed and/or modified without departing from the scope of the memory 102 outlined herein.

The processing performed via the instructions on the memory 102 may or may not be performed, in part or in total, with the aid of other information and data, such as information and data provided by the external system 200 and/or the client devices 300A-B. Moreover, the processing performed via the instructions on the memory 102 may or may not be performed, in part or in total, with the aid of or in addition to processing provided by other devices, including for example, the external system 200 and/or the client devices 300A-B.

In some examples, the memory 102 may store instructions, which when executed by the processor 101, may cause the processor to: generate 103 a geo-bounded space; analyze 104 user information to associate a user with a geo-bounded space; and identify 105 a user representative for a geo-bounded space. In addition, the instructions, when executed by the processor 101, may further cause the processor to enable 106 a user to access a profile associated with the user; enable 107 a user to receive and publish content items; and implement 108 a security feature for communications associated with a geo-bounded space and/or its associated users.

In some examples, the instructions 103-108 on the memory 102 may be executed alone or in combination by the processor 101 to generate and provide a geo-bounded space associated with one or more users of a content platform. In some examples, the instructions 103-108 may be implemented in association with a content platform configured to provide content for users.

Additionally, although not depicted, to generate and provide the geo-bounded space associated with the user, instructions 103-108 may be configured to utilize various artificial intelligence (AI) based machine learning (ML) tools. For instance, these AI-based machine learning (ML) tools may be used to generate models that may include a neural network, a generative adversarial network (GAN), a tree-based model, a Bayesian network, a support vector, clustering, a kernel method, a spline, a knowledge graph, or an ensemble of one or more of these and other techniques. It should also be appreciated that the system 100 may provide other types of machine learning (ML) approaches, such as reinforcement learning, feature learning, anomaly detection, etc.

In some examples, the instructions 103 generate a geo-bounded space. In some examples, the geo-bounded space may be a virtual entity associated with a geographic location that may facilitate communication between users of a content platform associated with the geographic location. Specifically, in some examples, the geo-bounded space generated via the instructions 103 may be configured to facilitate communication, participation and exchange between the users associated with the geographic location. Examples of such geographic locations may include neighborhoods, towns, or cities.

In some examples, to generate a geo-bounded space, the instructions 103 may gather various locational information, with appropriate user permissions. As used herein, “locational

information" may include any information that may be associated with determining a geo-bounded space as described. In some examples, locational information may include geographic information, such as latitude/longitude or global positioning system (GPS) coordinates. In other examples, locational information may include administrative and incorporation information of geographic entities associated with the geo-bounded space. Examples of such geographic entities may include neighborhoods, counties, cities, etc.

In more examples, locational information may include landmark information. Examples of such landmarks may include structures and buildings, districts, objects, and sites and locations. Other examples of locational information may include governmental (e.g., political, civic, etc.) information, demographic (e.g., age, gender, income, etc.) information, and transportation (e.g., roadways, traffic, etc.) information of individuals associated with the geo-bounded space. Furthermore, in some examples, the instructions 103 may access and verify pre-existing location information gathered from a third-party service. In one example, the instructions may access such locational information from an external storage device, such as the external system 200.

In some examples, the instructions 103 may analyze gathered location information to generate a geo-bounded space. In particular, in some examples, the instructions 103 may gather and analyze disparate pieces of location information in order to determine and generate the geo-bounded space. In one example, the instructions may utilize, among other things, global positioning system (GPS) coordinate information, governmental information and transportation information associated with a housing subdivision to generate the geo-bounded space for an associated neighborhood. In another example, the instructions 103 may utilize, among other things, global positioning system (GPS) coordinates, governmental information and landmark information associated with a townhome complex to generate the geo-bounded space for the townhome complex. To analyze the disparate pieces of location information, the instructions 103 may incorporate various mathematical and modeling techniques, including one or more of machine learning, artificial intelligence and heuristics techniques.

In some examples, in generating a geo-bounded space, the instructions 103 may associate an identifier with a geo-bounded space. The instructions 103 may generate and associate one or more identifiers for the geo-bounded space for one or more purposes. In one example, the identifier may take the form of a name. In this example, the instructions 103 may analyze various administrative (i.e., housing) and geographic (i.e., coordinate) information to determine a geo-bounded space for a townhome complex and may associate the name "Towne Acres" for the geo-bounded space. In another example, the identifier may take the form of an identification (ID) number associated with the geo-bounded neighborhood, wherein the ID number may be utilized to identify information (i.e., data) associated with the geo-bounded space in a database storage.

In some examples, the instructions 104 may analyze user information (with specific user permission) to associate a user with a geo-bounded space. That is, in some examples, the instructions 104 may associate the user with the geo-bounded spaces in order to generate a

virtual communities of users resembling a (generally) corresponding geographic community of individuals.

In some examples, to analyze user information and generate a geo-bounded space, the instructions 104 may, with user permission, access various information relating to a user (also "user information"). As used herein, the user information may include any information that may be utilized to associate a geo-bounded space with the user. Examples may include demographic information (e.g., age, gender, etc.), preference information (e.g., viewing history, purchase history, etc.), and locational information associated with the user. Other examples may be content-related, such as browsing histories, content categories and preferences, and particular content items associated with the user (e.g., video, images posted on a content platform, etc.). In one example, the information may be stored on and accessed from the external system 200. Also, in some examples, the instructions 104 may analyze user information associated with a user to generate one or more personal characteristics. As used herein, an "personal characteristic" may include any information that may describe an aspect of a user. Examples of personal characteristics may include favorites, interests, preferences, opinions and the like.

Users are provided with options to grant or deny access to specific pieces of user information and/or specific types of user information. Users are provided guidance on the use of such information by the techniques described herein. User information is accessed, stored, and utilized strictly in accordance with the permissions provided by the user. Further, access to user information is in compliance with laws and regulations as applicable in the user location. Users are provided information indicative of how their information is utilized and options that enable users to modify settings associated with user information at any time.

In some examples, the instructions 104 may analyze any information related to a user, such as the user's personal characteristics (e.g., favorites, interests, etc.), to associate a geo-bounded space with the user. In some examples, the instructions 104 may analyze, for example, the user's frequently-visited locations to determine a geo-bounded space to associate with the user. In one such example, the instructions 104 may determine that a user's interests may include golf and may analyze the user's most visited golf courses to determine a geo-bounded space to associate with the user. In another example, the instructions 104 may determine that a user may be interested in food and culinary, and may analyze the user's frequently visited restaurants to determine a geo-bounded space to associated with the user. To associate a geo-bounded space with a user, the instructions 104 may incorporate various mathematical and modeling techniques, including one or more of machine learning, artificial intelligence and heuristics techniques.

In some examples, to associate a particular geo-bounded space with a user, the instructions 104 may determine a likelihood that the user is associated with the particular geo-bounded space. In some examples, the likelihood may be indicated by a probability, while in other examples, the likelihood may be indicated by a qualitative (i.e., descriptive) indication, such as "high" or "low".

In some examples, to associate a geo-bounded space with a user, the instructions 104 may implement a threshold. In some examples, upon generating a likelihood that a user is associated with the particular geo-bounded space, the instructions 104 may compare the likelihood to a threshold, wherein if the likelihood does not exhibit a sufficient relation with the threshold (e.g., above, below the threshold), the geo-bounded location is not associated with the user.

In some examples, to select a geo-bounded space to associate with a user, the instructions 104 may generate a ranking of geo-bounded spaces. In some examples, each of the geo-bounded spaces available to be associated may be assigned a ranking value and ranked accordingly, wherein a highest (or lowest) ranked content item corresponds to the geo-bounded space most likely to be of associated with the user. To generate the ranking of enhanced content items, the instructions 104 may incorporate various mathematical and modeling techniques, including one or more of machine learning (ML), artificial intelligence (AI) and heuristics techniques.

In some examples, the instructions 105 may identify a user representative for a geo-bounded space. As used herein, a "user representative" for the geo-bounded space may include any user that may perform a "role" associated with a content platform (e.g., a social media platform). Examples of user representatives on a content platform may include, but not limited to, administrator (also "admin"), content moderator, early adopter, volunteer, or content initiator. In some examples, the user representative may be selected for the role based on the user's ability to further or benefit the content platform's operation. To enable selection of a user representative, the instructions 105 may implement various selection methods and utilize various technologies, including machine-learning (ML) techniques, heuristics (e.g., associated with levels of engagement), and artificial intelligence (AI).

Also, in some examples, the instructions 105 may prospectively select a user representative, upon which the user is given a choice to accept the role or not. In other examples, the instructions 105 may enable a user to "nominate" themselves or another user for a role, upon which the instructions 105 may enable evaluation and designation of the role to the user. Also, in some examples, one or more of these roles may be performed by one user.

In some examples, the instructions 105 may enable selection of admin for a geo-bounded space. As used herein, an admin may enable generation and curation of content associated with a geo-bounded space on behalf of one or more other users associated with the geo-bounded space. In some examples, the admin may perform the roles associated with, but not limited to, content monitoring and moderation, dispute resolution and providing of information to other users associated with the geo-bounded space.

In some examples, to select an admin, the instructions 105 may analyze information relating to a user (e.g., the information gathered via the instructions 103 and 104) and may evaluate the information according to one or more criteria. Examples of criteria that may be utilized to select an admin may include a degree of engagement or activity (e.g., with the target user's content), activity patterns, and demographic criteria (e.g., age, gender, etc.). In some examples, the criteria utilized to select an admin may also include an analysis or evaluation of

integrity. In some examples, an admin may be prospectively selected from a list of pre-existing admins. Specifically, the list of pre-existing admins may be selected from a list of admins associated with the social communities or groups on the content platform and may then be further selected based on associated criteria.

In some examples, the instructions 105 may enable selection of moderator for a geo-bounded space. As used herein, a "moderator" may enable generation and curation of content associated with a geo-bounded space on behalf of one or more other users associated with the geo-bounded space. As used herein, moderating content may include taking an action or expressing an opinion that may relate to propriety of a content item. In some examples, to select a moderator, the instructions 105 may determine a likelihood that the user may sufficiently execute a role based on associated criteria. Also, in some examples, a moderator may be prospectively selected from a list of pre-existing admins. In particular, moderators may be selected from a list of admins associated with the social communities or groups on the content platform and may then be further selected based on associated criteria.

In some examples, a moderator may be provided (user) functions that may not be available to other users. In some examples, the moderator may utilize these functions to generate and foster sustainable and/or "positive" interactions amongst users of a geo-bounded space. In some examples, the moderator may "hide" a content item from viewing by other users associated with the moderator's geo-bounded space. In other examples, the moderator may remove or recommend removal of a content item. Also, in some examples, the moderator may implement a dispute resolution system to resolve disputes that may arise between two or more users associated with the geo-bounded space.

In some examples, the instructions 105 may enable selection of an early adopter for a geo-bounded space. As used herein, an "early adopter" may be a user likely to be interested in or likely to take an action with respect to an associated geo-bounded space. So, in an example where the geo-bounded space may be a townhome complex, the early adopter may be a user that is more likely to invite other residents of the townhome complex to participate in a virtual community associated with the townhome complex. In some examples, the instructions 105 may provide an early adopter an ability to generate content associated with a geo-bounded space prior to other associated users and may also provide the early adopter receipt of content generated by other associated users in advance as well.

In some examples, an early adopter may be prospectively selected from a list of pre-existing admins. In particular, early adopters may be selected from a list of admins associated with the social communities or groups on the content platform and may be further selected based on associated criteria. Examples of such criteria may include, for example, a quality and/or quantity of content generated by the user relating to an associated geo-bounded space by the user on a content platform.

In some examples, the instructions 105 may enable selection of a volunteer for a geo-bounded space. As used herein, a "volunteer" may include any user that may indicate a

willingness to take an action in relation to an associated geo-bounded space. In some examples, to select a volunteer, the instructions 105 may determine a likelihood that the user may sufficiently execute a role of volunteer based on associated criteria. Example criteria may include, for example, a likelihood that a user may respond to content items relating to community and volunteering efforts. So, in one example, a user volunteer for a townhome complex may perform the role of volunteer pet sitter for other users in the townhome complex.

In some examples, the instructions 105 may enable selection of a content initiator for a geo-bounded space. As used herein, a "content initiator" may be any user that may be more likely to originate content that may be responded to by other users. That is, in some examples, the content initiator may be used to "start a conversation". In some examples, to select a content initiator, the instructions 105 may determine a likelihood that the user may sufficiently execute a role of content initiator based on associated criteria. Examples of such criteria may include, for example, a quality and/or quantity of activity (e.g., content generation) relating to an associated geo-bounded space initiated by the user on a content platform. So, in one example, a user "content initiator" for a townhome complex may be selected based on a volume of content that the user generates or how many other users from the townhome complex the user has a pre-existing relationship (e.g., friend) with.

In some examples, the instructions 106 may enable a user to access a profile associated with the user. As used herein, a "profile" may be a feature located on a content platform including a collection of information associated with and accessible by a user. In certain examples, the user profile may enable the user to identify themselves on the platform and communicate with other users, including those users included in the geo-bounded space associated with the user. In addition, in some examples, the instructions 106 may enable a user to utilize their profile to receive and publish content relating to an associated geo-bounded space, and thereby facilitate a cohesive community experience for users associated with the geo-bounded space.

In some examples, the user's profile may be accessed by the user via use of a tab made available by the instructions 106. In other examples, the user's profile may be accessed by the user via use of a bookmark made available by the instructions 106. In still other examples, the user's profile may be accessed by the user via use of a menu made available by the instructions 106.

In some examples, to enable access to a profile by a user, the instructions 106 may implement an initiation (i.e., "on-boarding") process. In some examples, the instructions 106 may prompt the user to input personal information to populate the user's profile. For example, the instructions 106 may prompt the user to provide the user's name, date of birth, and/or an image associated with the user. Alternatively, or in addition, in some examples, the instructions 106 may access personal information for the user from a pre-existing store to populate the user's profile. In one example, the user's personal information may be accessed from an external storage device, such as the external system 200. In some examples, the instructions 106 may

restrict viewing of the user's profile to those associated with (e.g., included in) the community of users associated with the geo-bounded space.

In some examples, to enable access to a profile, the instructions 106 may verify location information from a user. In particular, in some examples, the instructions 106 may verify the user's location information by enabling the user to input their location information, and then compare the inputted information to other location information associated with the user.

So, in one example, the user may input a location associated with an address with the zip code A, while other location information (e.g., as derived via the instructions 103) may be associated with the zip code B (two miles away). In this instance, the instructions 106 may analyze various information associated with the user and determine that a geo-bounded space in the zip code A may be associated with the user. To compare and verify the user's location information, the instructions 106 may be utilize various technologies, including machine-learning (ML) techniques, heuristics (e.g., associated with levels of engagement), and artificial intelligence (AI).

In some instances, a user's inputted information may not match the location information associated with the user. In these instances, the instructions 106 may not associate a particular geo-bounded space with the user and may request additional information from the user prior to providing access to a profile.

In some examples, and as discussed above, the instructions 106 may utilize a threshold to analyze location information to determine whether a user's inputted location information may be utilized. So, in one example, the instructions 106 may determine that, since an analysis of whether the user's activity may be within 50 miles of the user's provided location information sustains a 90% certainty (i.e., a threshold), the user's location information may be regarded as verified, and the user may be associated with a geo-bounded space located within the user's inputted location.

In some examples, upon verification of a user's location, the instructions 106 may associate the user with a geo-bounded space. So, in one example, upon verification of the user's location information, a user residing in a subdivision neighborhood "Twelve Oaks" may be associated with a geo-bounded space and a virtual community of users residing in "Twelve Oaks".

In some examples, the instructions 106 may enable a user to input information (e.g., content) associated with their profile. In some examples, the user may input content (e.g., an image) to personalize their profile and provide personal information for viewing and/or consumption by other users.

Furthermore, in some examples, upon association with a geo-bounded space, the instructions 106 may utilize the user's profile to provide the user with access to information associated with the geo-bounded space. The instructions may enable access to information that may relate to any aspect of the geo-bounded space. So, in one example, this may include a public

safety announcement issued by a local police department. In another example, this may relate to a birthday announcement from a fellow resident of a subdivision neighborhood. Various other types of content that accessed by the user are discussed in further detail below.

In some examples, the instructions 106 may provide a directory listing of users associated with a geo-bounded space associated with a user. In some examples, the directory may provide insight into fellow members of the geo-bounded space and may be utilized to familiarize users associated with the geo-bounded space with each other.

In some examples, a directory may be searchable, wherein the user may determine other users that may be affiliated with the geo-bounded space associated with the user. In particular, in some examples, the search results from the directory may return only users affiliated with the geo-bounded space exclusively. Also, in some examples, results of a directory search by a user may be presented to the user according to personal characteristics (e.g., interests) shared with the user. Accordingly, in some examples, users may be grouped by commonalities in personal characteristics, so that the users associated with the geo-bounded space may see commonalities amongst themselves.

In some examples, the instructions 107 may enable a user to receive and to publish content items. In some examples, the content items may be associated with the user's geo-bounded space and may be selected for delivery to the user based on a likelihood of fostering interaction, cooperation and/or participation amongst resident users in the geo-bounded space. In some examples, the content items may be generated and delivered solely via the instructions 107, while in other examples, the content prompts may be generated and delivered via the instructions 107 and the user associated with the geo-bounded space. Also, in some examples, a first example and a second example of such content items may be substantially similar in content, while in other examples, a first example and a second example of the content items may be substantially different in content. Furthermore, in some cases, the instructions 107 may deliver the content items to all users associated with the geo-bounded space, while in other examples, the instructions 107 may deliver the content items to select users associated with the geo-bounded space (e.g., based on user interests).

In some examples, delivery of one or more content items may be provided by the instructions 107 based on a relationship between the content items. So, in one example, upon delivery of a "Did you know …" content item or a "Fun fact" content item, the instructions 107 may deliver a community-based content item. Furthermore, following delivery of the community-based content item, the instructions 107 may delivery a content item including a feedback request.

In some examples, to deliver a content item to a user, the instructions 107 may utilize one or more user interface elements of an application user interface associated with a content platform. In some examples, the application user interface on which the content item may be delivered may be accessible on a client device, such as the client devices 300A-B. In some examples, the content items delivered via the instructions 107 may be accessible by the user via a

content feed. In other examples, the content items delivered via the instructions 107 may be accessible by the user via a content library or watchlist included in the user's profile.

Also, in some examples, the instructions 107 may provide a set of one or more (software) tools to enable a user to publish a content item. In some instances, the set of tools may be referred to as a composer and may include for example various editing tools to aid the user in editing images or video that the user may utilize in generating and publishing a content item. In other examples, the set of tools may enable a user to tag other users, save drafts of a content item to be published, and provide suggested hashtags for inclusion with/in the content item.

In some examples, a content item may be selected according to information associated with a user. Examples of the types of information that may be associated with the user may include the user's personal characteristics (e.g., interests), browsing history and demographic information. In some examples, the instructions 107 may analyze the information associated with the user to select the content item likely to be of interest. So, in one example, if a user has previously indicated interest in content items associated with automobiles, the instructions 107 may analyze a library of content items to deliver a content item originating from a fellow user associated with the geo-bounded space celebrating a purchase of a new vehicle.

In some examples, to select a content item for a user, the instructions 107 may generate a ranking of content items to be delivered to a user. In some examples, each of the content items available to be associated may be assigned a ranking value and ranked accordingly, wherein a highest (or lowest) ranked content item may correspond to the content item most likely to be of associated with the user. To generate the ranking of content items, the instructions 107 may incorporate various mathematical and modeling techniques, including one or more of machine learning (ML), artificial intelligence (AI) and heuristics techniques.

Content items generated and/or delivered via the instructions 107 may take various forms. So, in some examples, the instructions 107 may generate and provide a content item that may invite a user to engage (i.e., a "call-to-action"). As used herein, inviting a user to engage may include any activity from the user on the content platform, and may include selection of a like button, adding a comment, posting a video, or the like. In one such example, the instructions 107 may determine that the user has an interest in dogs and deliver a content item posted by a second user relating to a lost dog to the first user. In some examples, the content item may include a selectable button enabling the first user to indicate a willingness to help find the lost dog.

In another example, the instructions 107 may generate a content prompt for delivery to a user. As used herein, a content prompt may be any content item that may be generated inviting a user to take an action. In some examples, the content prompt may be generated and delivered via the instructions 107 for the purpose of fostering communication, cooperation, and participation among users in a geo-bounded space. Various examples of types of content prompts are discussed below.

In some examples, a first example type of content prompts generated via the instructions 107 may be a continuing prompt. As used herein, in some examples, a continuing prompt may be a content item generated and delivered at a set interval. It should also be appreciated that a continuing prompt may be selected for delivery according to one or more criteria, including the interests of one or more users associated with the geo-bounded space. So, in some examples, a continuing prompt may take the form of a "Question of the Day", wherein a user associated with a geo-bounded space may receive a content item including a question that may be answered by one or more users associated with the geo-bounded space.

In some examples, a second example type of content prompt generated via the instructions 107 may be an event prompt. An event prompt may include, for example, a content item generated based on a based on an event or occasion. So, in one example, an event prompt may be issued via the instructions 107 relating to a birthday of a user associated with a geo-bounded space, while in another example, an event prompt may be issued based on a local event (e.g., a concert) being held near a location associated with the geo-bounded space.

In some examples, a third example type of content prompt generated via the instructions 107 may be an engagement prompt. As used herein, an engagement prompt may include a content item generated in order to encourage users to engage content. So, in one example, an engagement prompt may be delivered via the instructions 107 to indicate that a personal characteristic (e.g., an interest) is commonly shared between two users, while in other example, an engagement prompt may be delivered relating to a request for help or assistance from a user associated with the geo-bounded space.

In some examples, a fourth example type of content prompt generated via the instructions 107 may include social prompts. As used herein, a social prompt may include a content item generated based on a shared community aspect. Examples of shared community aspect may include any issue, event, interest, or consideration that may impact one or more users associated with a geo-bounded space. In some examples, the instructions 107 may generate content items recognizing community-oriented activities of users associated with the geo-bounded space and may include (digital) callouts for acts of kindness or prompts inviting acts of generosity between users associated with a geo-bounded space.

In some examples, the instructions 107 may generate a suggested content item for a user including subject matter associated with the user. So, in some examples, this may include analyzing the information associated with the user, such as personal characteristic information (e.g., user interests), and determining a corresponding post. So, in one example, the instructions 107 may determine that a user's neighbor has a birthday and generate a suggested content item wishing the neighbor a happy birthday. In other examples, the instructions 107 may generate posts relating to aspects relating to the user, such as the user's birthday, anniversary, or vacations.

In some examples, the instructions 107 may content items for users that may include subject matter relating to an associated geo-bounded space. One example of such a content may

include generating a content item where a first user may answer a question (e.g., “Did you know … ?”). In another example, the instructions may deliver a content item that may relate to a common issue shared between a first user and a second user (“Your neighbor is asking …?”). In these examples, the content item including the question(s) may originate via the instructions 107 or may originate via a fellow user associated with the geo-bounded space. In such a manner, the instructions 107 may facilitate the generation of engagement loops between users associated with the geo-bounded space. Such engagement loops may be in the form of an “Answer a Question from a Neighbor” provided by the instructions.

In some examples, to foster user-to-user interaction and community participation, the instructions 107 may provide a centralized content location for each user. As used herein, a centralized content location may include a location on a content platform that is accessible by a user and includes content items associated with the geo-bounded space.

In some examples, the centralized content location may take the form of a community page that is accessible by users associated with the geo-bounded space. The content items relating to the geo-bounded space may enable users may interact with each other and/or provide support. In some examples, the community page may include content items describing community-oriented (e.g., volunteering) efforts of one or more users associated with the geo-bounded space. In some examples, the community page may be accessible exclusively by the users associated with the geo-bounded space. In one example, a user associated with a geo-bounded space may offer (i.e., volunteer) dog-sitting services for fellow users in the geo-bounded space. One example of a content item provided by the instructions 107 may include “Request Help” allowing users to request from other users associated with the geo-bounded space and “Offer help” option to offer help to other users associated with the geo-bounded space

Also, in some examples, the instructions 107 may utilize a community page to publish content items recognizing community-oriented activities of users associated with the geo-bounded space. In other examples, the instructions may utilize the community page to publish content items issuing (digital) badges and/or awards for community-oriented activities.

In some examples, the instructions 107 may generate a content item that that includes a recommendation from a user associated with the geo-bounded space. The content items including recommendations may be generated and delivered by the instructions 107 based on an analysis of user interests. So, in one example, the instructions 107 may generate a content item based on a recommendation relating to a local restaurant posted by a first user associated with a geo-bounded space and may deliver the content item to other interested users of the geo-bounded space.

In some examples, the instructions 107 may generate content items relating to groups (of users) associated with a geo-bounded space. In particular, the instructions 107 may enable two or more users to form a group and may enable the users associated with the group to engage with each other. Examples of groups of users may include political groups, interest-based groups, and social groups or clubs. In some examples, the instructions 107 may analyze a user’s interests to

associate the user with one or more groups. To associate the user with one or more groups, the instructions 107 may (among other things), retrieve candidate groups, filter the candidate groups by the user's interests, assign a score to each group and rank accordingly. One example of a sequence diagram illustrating associating one or more groups with a user is illustrated in Figure 1C.

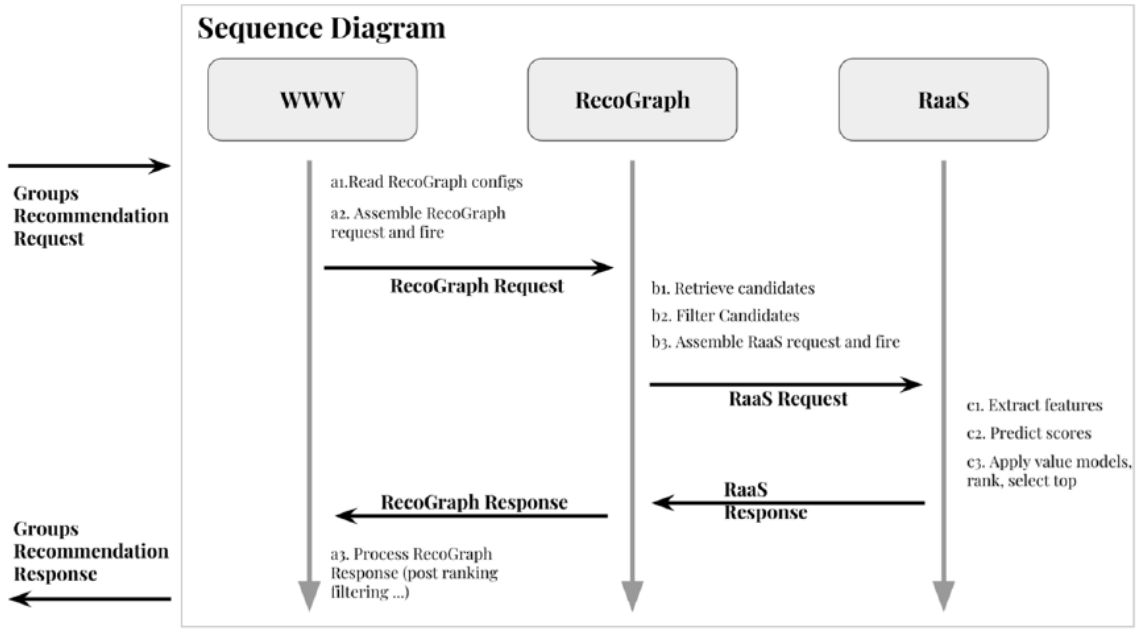

FIG. 1C

In some examples, the instructions 107 may enable the users associated with the group to interact exclusively with each other, while in some examples, the instructions 107 may enable the users to interact with outside users as well. Also, in some examples, the instructions 107 may create a digest (i.e., a plurality) of posts associated with the group so they may be viewed as a story together.

In some examples, the instructions 107 may facilitate an event-related content item relating to an event associated with a geo-bounded space. In some examples, the instructions 107 may generate the event-related content item to promote community identity and/or cohesion. Furthermore, in some examples, the instructions 107 may access information relating to the events and may automatically generate associated content items associated with the events. Examples of event-related content items may include a content item notifying users of a geo-bounded space of a local garage sale, block party and concert.

Also, in some examples, the instructions 107 may enable one or more users associated with a geo-bounded space to publish an event via live streaming. As used herein, streaming may include any continuous streaming of data, wherein the instructions 107 may enable a user to

generate a content item based on an associated event or activity. So, in one example, in one example, a yoga teacher operating a yoga studio within a particular geo-bounded space may broadcast a yoga class to other users associated with the geo-bounded space. In another example, a coffee shop may publish an open mic event for resident users associated with the geo-bounded location. In some examples, the instructions 107 may facilitate publishing via live streaming by and to only users associated with the publishing user's geo-bounded space. Also, in some examples, the instructions 107 may publish the live streamed event to a particular group of associated users based on an analysis of personal characteristics (e.g., interests) of users.

In addition to users, in some examples, the instructions 107 may facilitate generation and delivery of a content item that may relate to an entity associated with a geo-bounded space. As used herein, an entity associated with a geo-bounded space may refer to anything associated with the geo-bounded space, wherein examples may include corporations, businesses, or landmarks. Moreover, in some examples, an entity-related content item published as described may be published exclusively to all or some users in an associated geo-bounded space. For example, a content item based on an announcement from a local business as may be provided by the instructions 107 can include a local business owner indicating their presence within the geo-bounded space and offer a discount to other users associated with the geo-bounded space.

In particular, the instructions 107 may generate an entity-related content item and may publish the entity-related content item based on user personal characteristics (e.g., interests). In one example, based on a user's preference for Chinese food (e.g., taken from a list of the user's "favorites"), the instructions 107 may automatically generate and deliver a content item including information related to a new Chinese restaurant nearby. In another example, based on a post indicating that the user may be looking to buy an office chair, the instructions 107 may analyze information relating to local businesses and/or sellers to generate a content item including an office chair for sale by another user associated with the geo-bounded space. In some examples, to generate an entity-related content item including an item for sale, the instructions 107 may access information relating to items for sale that may be available on the content platform where the content item may be published.

In some examples, the instructions 107 may generate one or more rankings of similar items. As used herein, item may include anything associated with a geo-bounded space that may be ranked. In some examples, the rankings may be referred to as a leaderboard and may be accessed by users associated with the geo-bounded space via a user interface element associated with the user's content profile (e.g., a tab or button). Examples may include favorite local eateries, landmarks, or outdoor activities. In some examples, to generate a ranking of items, the instructions may utilize polls delivered to users associated with the geo-bounded space. It should be appreciated that, in some examples, the poll results may be populated exclusively by users associated with the geo-bounded space (e.g., residents). Moreover, in some examples, the instructions 107 may deliver particular polls to users based on interests. In some examples, a

plurality of rankings may be arranged to be accessible by users associated with the geo-bounded space.

In some examples, the instructions 107 may generate a location-based content item based on a location of one user to another. In particular, in some examples, the instructions 107 may generate a location-based content item to notify a first user associated with a geo-bounded space that a second user associated with the geo-bounded space may be nearby. Also, in some examples, the instructions 107 may generate the location-based content item to indicate what activity the first user may be participating in or which location the first user may be visiting. So, in one example, the instructions 107 may generate a location-based content item for a first user based on the fact that second user (e.g., a content platform "friend") may be visiting a local restaurant nearby.

In some examples, the instructions 107 may generate a content item to facilitate a real-time communication session (i.e., "chat") between a plurality of users. In some examples, the chat may relate to a geo-bounded space shared by the plurality of users. In some examples, the chat may be made available to all users associated with the geo-bounded space, while in other examples, the chat may be made available to a select group of the associated users. In some examples, the instructions 107 may analyze interests of the plurality of users make chats available to each that may be of interest.

Also, in some examples, the instructions 107 may generate chats of various durations to serve various interests or circumstances. That is, in some examples, the instructions 107 may generate a chat that is of finite duration, such a real-time communication session that may be generated for an event. In one example, such an event may be an upcoming home-owner's association (HOA) meeting, wherein users associated with a geo-bounded space may utilize the chat to share opinions and coordinate efforts. In other examples, the instructions 107 may generate permanent chats, such as those generated to address issues. In one example, the instructions 107 may generated a permanent chat to address neighborhood safety issues. In this manner, the chat generated by the instructions 107 may serve as a go-to source of real-time information for users associated with a geo-bounded space.

In some examples, the instructions 107 may facilitate an outreach campaign. As used herein, an outreach campaign may include delivery of one or more content items to one or more users to notify users of their respective geo-bounded spaces. In some examples, content items in the outreach campaign may inform users that their friends and neighbors are available in an associated virtual community and may encourage respective users to reach out to each user. So, in a first example, the instructions 107 may conduct an email campaign, wherein each user may be notified of their respective geo-bounded space. In a second example, the instructions 107 may generate content platform (i.e., "direct") messages, wherein the user may access the message to be informed regarding the respective geo-bounded space. An example of a content item soon as may be provided by the instructions 107 is an item that indicates that a geo-bounded space is opening soon.

In some examples, the instructions 107 may implement an outreach campaign with one or more stages (i.e., a "staggered" launch). That is, in some examples, to implement a first stage, in some examples, the instructions 107 may deliver content items that may be associated with a user's geo-bounded space, and that may be likely to be interest to the user. Following the first stage, the instructions 107 may implement a second stage of content delivery that may include content items associated with the geo-bounded space and may be selected based on user activity in response to the first stage.

In some examples, the instructions 108 may implement a security feature for communications associated with a geo-bounded space and/or its users. In some examples, as described below, the instructions 108 may implement the security features to protect the safety (including physical safety) of users associated with the geo-bounded space, while in other examples, the instructions 108 may implement the security features to help foster civil and cooperative communications between users.

In some examples, the instructions 108 enable users to share only personal information that they choose. In other examples, the instructions 108, upon verification of location information, only present other users that have been verified as being located in the geo-bounded space of a particular user. In this manner, in some examples, users associated with a geo-bounded space can know that the users made available to them via the instructions 108 are exclusively members of the geo-bounded space. In addition, to ensure safety of users, the instructions 108 may enable users to utilize help alerts and may provide location-based safety tips. An example content item as may be provided by the instructions 108 may show a user the information made available about them to other users and may enable the user to change the available information. For example, the content item may indicate that other users can see that the user is a pet owner and may enable the user to change the setting so that this information is not shown to other users.

In some examples, to help foster civil communication between users, the instructions 108 may implement measures to request/remind users to be civil prior to adding content to the platform. Also, in some examples, the instructions 108 may implement bullying and harassment policies, wherein users that may violate said policies may be temporarily or permanently be restricted in their use of the platform. In addition, the instructions 108 may implement bullying classifiers, wherein users may be able to flag questionable posts utilizing the bullying classifiers to invite review and removal. In some examples, the instructions 108 may also designate model users based on civility displayed in their communications.

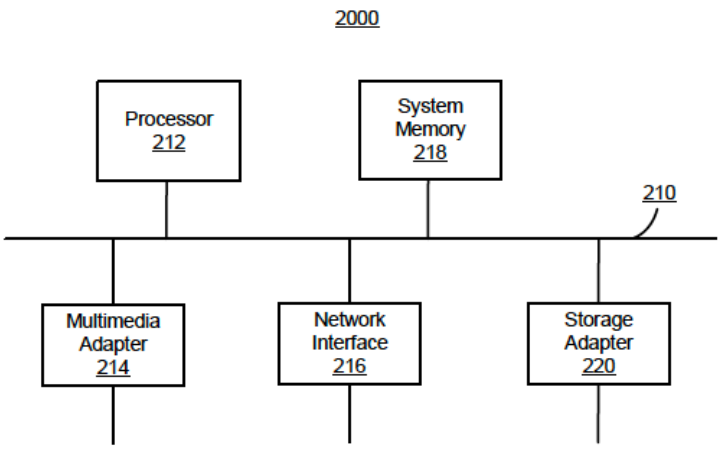

FIG. 2

Figure 2 illustrates a block diagram of a computer system to generate and provide geo-bounded spaces for a virtual community of users, according to an example. In some examples, the computer system 2000 may be associated the system 100 to perform the functions and features described herein. The computer system 2000 may include, among other things, an interconnect 210, a processor 212, a multimedia adapter 214, a network interface 216, a system memory 218, and a storage adapter 220.

The interconnect 210 may interconnect various subsystems, elements, and/or components of the computer system 2000. As shown, the interconnect 210 may be an abstraction that may represent any one or more separate physical buses, point-to-point connections, or both, connected by appropriate bridges, adapters, or controllers. In some examples, the interconnect 210 may include a system bus, a peripheral component interconnect (PCI) bus or PCI-Express bus, a HyperTransport or industry standard architecture (ISA)) bus, a small computer system interface (SCSI) bus, a universal serial bus (USB), IIC (I2C) bus, or an Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) standard 1394 bus, or "firewire," or other similar interconnection element.

In some examples, the interconnect 210 may allow data communication between the processor 212 and system memory 218, which may include read-only memory (ROM) or flash memory (neither shown), and random-access memory (RAM) (not shown). It should be appreciated that the RAM may be the main memory into which an operating system and various application programs may be loaded. The ROM or flash memory may contain, among other code, the Basic Input-Output system (BIOS) which controls basic hardware operation such as the interaction with one or more peripheral components.

The processor 212 may be the central processing unit (CPU) of the computing device and may control overall operation of the computing device. In some examples, the processor 212 may accomplish this by executing software or firmware stored in system memory 218 or other data via the storage adapter 220. The processor 212 may be, or may include, one or more

programmable general-purpose or special-purpose microprocessors, digital signal processors (DSPs), programmable controllers, application specific integrated circuits (ASICs), programmable logic device (PLDs), trust platform modules (TPMs), field-programmable gate arrays (FPGAs), other processing circuits, or a combination of these and other devices.

The multimedia adapter 214 may connect to various multimedia elements or peripherals. These may include devices associated with visual (e.g., video card or display), audio (e.g., sound card or speakers), and/or various input/output interfaces (e.g., mouse, keyboard, touchscreen).

The network interface 216 may provide the computing device with an ability to communicate with a variety of remote devices over a network (e.g., network 400 of Figure 1A) and may include, for example, an Ethernet adapter, a Fibre Channel adapter, and/or other wired- or wireless-enabled adapter. The network interface 216 may provide a direct or indirect connection from one network element to another and facilitate communication and between various network elements.

The storage adapter 220 may connect to a standard computer-readable medium for storage and/or retrieval of information, such as a fixed disk drive (internal or external).

Many other devices, components, elements, or subsystems (not shown) may be connected in a similar manner to the interconnect 210 or via a network (e.g., network 400 of Figure 1A). Conversely, all of the devices shown in Figure 2 need not be present to practice the present disclosure. The devices and subsystems can be interconnected in different ways from that shown in Figure 2. Code to implement the dynamic approaches for payment gateway selection and payment transaction processing of the present disclosure may be stored in computer-readable storage media such as one or more of system memory 218 or other storage. Code to implement the dynamic approaches for payment gateway selection and payment transaction processing of the present disclosure may also be received via one or more interfaces and stored in memory. Any suitable operating system can be provided on computer system 2000.

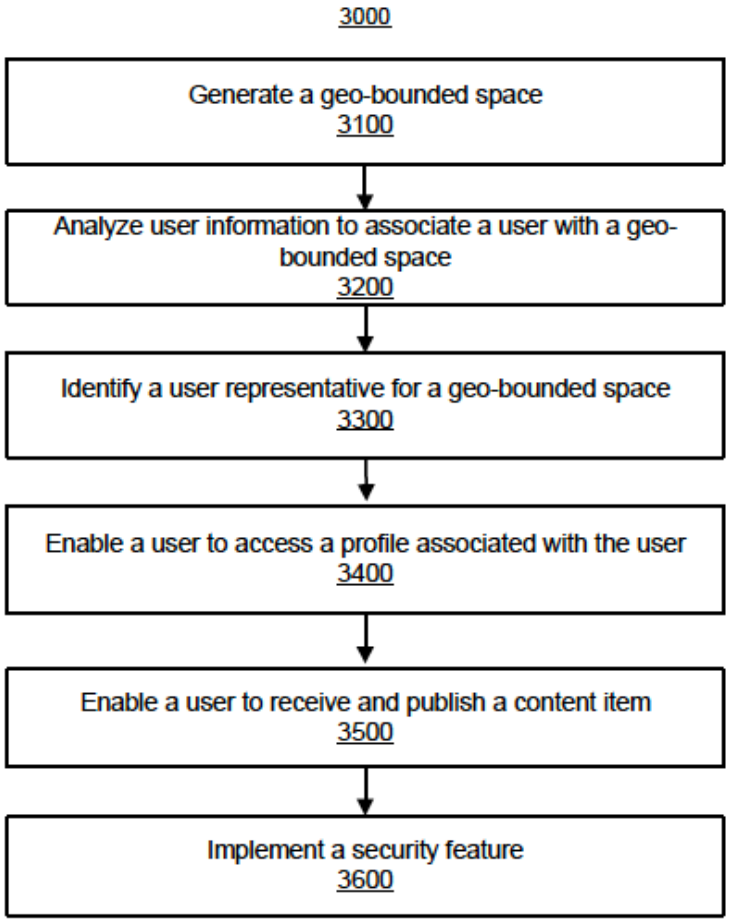

FIG. 3

Figure 3 illustrates a method 3000 for generating and providing geo-bounded spaces for a virtual community of users, according to an example. The method illustrated in Figure 3 is provided by way of example, as there may be a variety of ways to carry out the method described herein. Each block shown in Figure 3 may further represent one or more processes, methods, or subroutines, and one or more of the blocks may include machine-readable instructions stored on a non-transitory computer-readable medium and executed by a processor or other type of processing circuit to perform one or more operations described herein.

Although the method 3000 is primarily described as being performed by system 100 as shown in Figures 1A-B, the method 3000 may be executed or otherwise performed by other systems, or a combination of systems. It should be appreciated that, in some examples, the method 3000 may be configured to incorporate artificial intelligence (AI) or deep learning techniques, as described above.

At 3100, the processor 101 may generate a geo-bounded space. In some examples, the processor 101 may gather various locational information, including geographic information, landmark information, and demographic information of individuals associated that may be

associated with the geo-bounded space to be generated. Also, in some examples, the processor 101 may analyze the gathered location information to generate the geo-bounded space and associate an identifier to identify the geo-bounded space.

At 3200, the processor 101 may analyze user information to associate a user with a geo-bounded space. In some examples, to analyze the user information, the processor 101 may access various information relating to the user, including preference information and content-related information. In some examples, the processor may also analyze the user's information to determine one or more personal characteristics. Furthermore, in some examples, to associate the geo-bounded space to the user, the processor 101 may determine a likelihood that the user may be associated with the geo-bounded space, which may include generating a ranking of geo-bounded spaces and implementation of a threshold.

At 3300, the processor 101 may identify a user representative for a geo-bounded space. In some examples, the processor may enable prospective selection of one or more user representatives to perform the roles of admin, moderator, volunteer, early adopter and content initiator. It should be appreciated that to select user representatives for each role, the processor 101 may utilize associated and respective criteria.

At 3400, the processor 101 may enable a user to access a profile associated with the user. In one example, the user may access the profile by use of a profile "tab" made available by the content platform. In some examples, the processor may implement an on-boarding process which may include verifying a location associated with the user. In addition, upon enabling access to the profile, the processor may provide a searchable directory listing of other users associated with the geo-bounded space, which may return results to indicate shared commonalities between users associated with the geo-bounded space.

At 3500, the processor 101 may enable a user to receive and publish content items associated with a geo-bounded space. In some examples, to enable a user to publish a content item, the processor 101 may provide a composer including one or more tools that enable the user to generate the content item to be published. The tools may provide, by way of example, image and video editing tools and hashtag suggestions. In other examples, the processor 101 may deliver one or more content items, including content prompts, including engagement prompts and social prompts. Furthermore, in some examples, the processor 101 may provide a community page that may be accessible exclusively by users associated with the geo-bounded space and may include content items relating to the geo-bounded space. Also, in some examples, the processor 101 may implement an outreach campaign that may include a plurality of stages.

At 3600, the processor 101 may implement a security feature for communication associated with a geo-bounded space and/or its users. In some examples, the processor 101 may implement verify user location information and enable users to share only personal information that they choose. In other examples, the processor 101 may implement bullying and harassment policies, including temporary or permanent bans of the use of an associated content platform. In

addition, the instructions 108 may implement bullying classifiers, which may include flagging of questionable posts and enabling review and removal of inappropriate content items.

By utilizing artificial intelligence (AI) based techniques and mechanisms, systems and methods described herein may generate and provide geo-bounded spaces for a virtual community of users, including generating a geo-bounded space associated with a geographic location, verifying an association between a user and the geo-bounded space, and providing a content item associated with the geo-bounded space to the user. Accordingly, the techniques described herein may enable users to connect with other users associated with the geo-bounded space and may provide forms of interactive engagement for users associated with the geo-bounded space that may encourage community-related interactions and strengthen interpersonal ties between the users associated with the community.

Although the techniques as described herein may be directed mainly to digital content, such as videos or interactive media, they may be used for other types of content or scenarios as well. Other applications or uses of the methods and systems as described herein may also include social networking, marketing, content-based recommendation engines, and/or other types of knowledge or data-driven systems.

The functionality described herein may be subject to one or more privacy policies, enforced by the system 100, the external system 200, and the client devices 300 that bar or limit the use of various types of user information.

What has been described and illustrated herein are examples of the disclosure along with some variations. The terms, descriptions, and figures used herein are set forth by way of illustration only and are not meant as limitations. Many variations are possible within the scope of the disclosure, which is intended to be defined by the following claims–and their equivalents–in which all terms are meant in their broadest reasonable sense unless otherwise indicated.

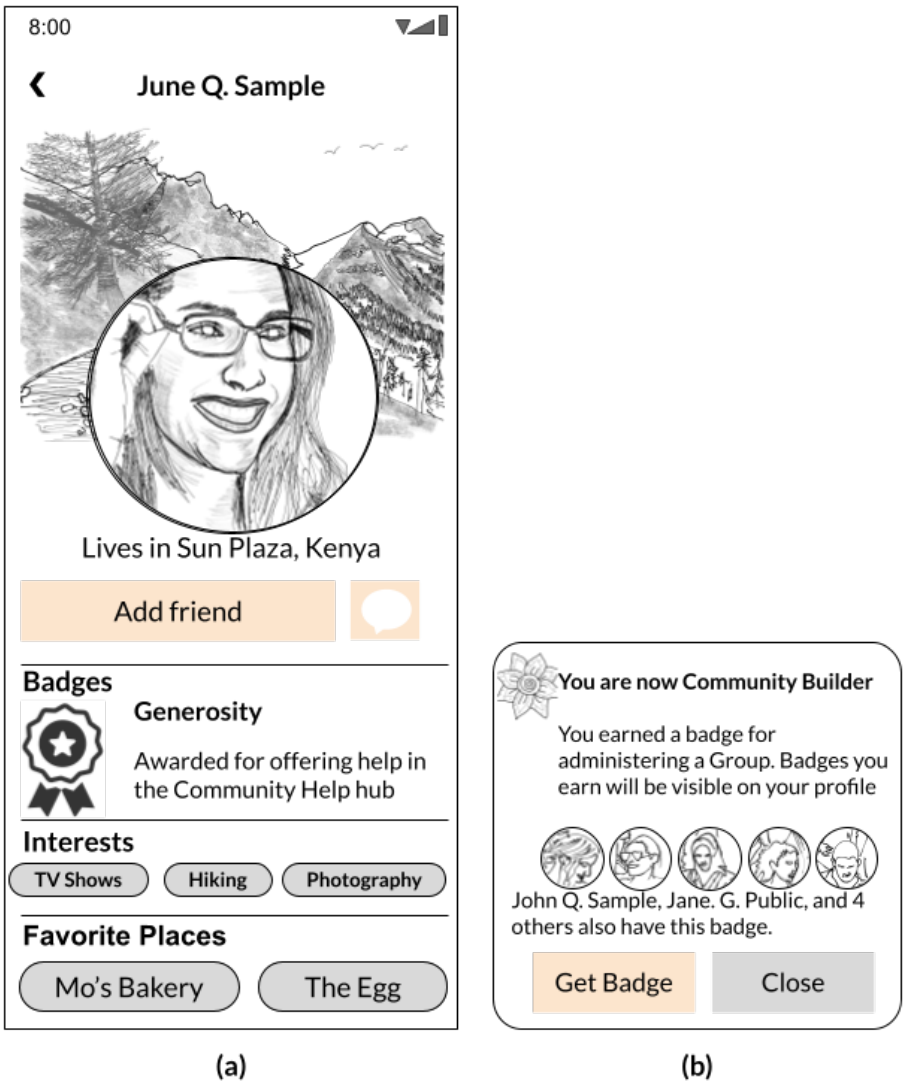

FIG. 4: (a) Profile; (b) Badging

An example user profile (or contextual profile) is illustrated in Fig. 4(a), that enables people to express themselves within the context of their local community. The contextual profile enables users to better understand their neighbors and become friends with them over shared interests. It can include, e.g., biography, biodata, interests, favorite places, pets, parenting, etc. Profile photos can be imported from the user's social media pages. Badges obtained for activities, illustrated in Fig. 4(b), can also be displayed here.

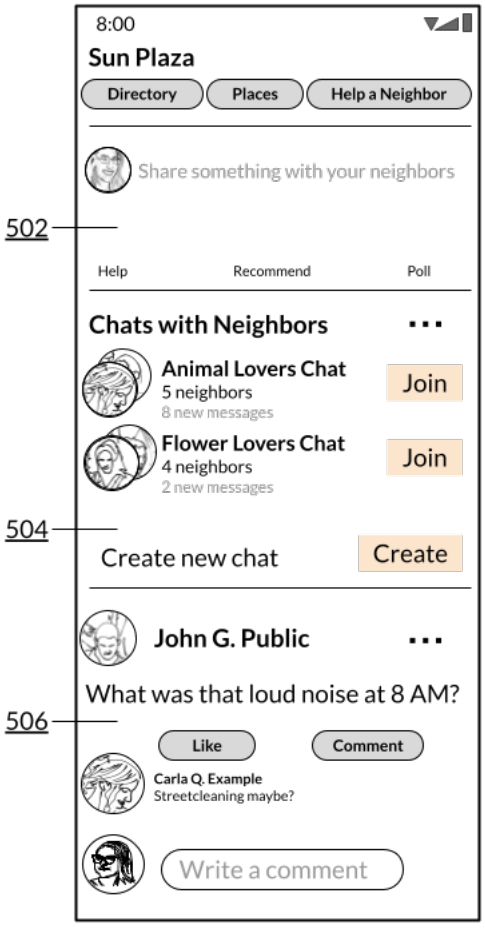

FIG. 5: Feeds, chats, and prompts

Fig. 5 shows an example user interface with feeds, chats, and prompts. The feed provides a centralized place in the platform to engage and interact with neighborhood content. An example feed 502 is illustrated in Fig. 5. A user can post on their feed, request/offer help, ask for recommendations, etc. The audience of the user's posts or of those seen by the user is based on the selection the user makes during onboarding or from user settings.

Live chats enable people to connect with their neighbors. An example live chat 504 is illustrated in Fig. 5. The feature can include pre-created chat topics. The feature is a digital parallel of the real-life organizing behavior seen in people that belong to physical neighborhoods, e.g., going to home-owner association meetings, rallying to make changes, etc. Chats can be configured as public within the neighborhood, such that anyone from the neighborhood can join.

Prompts (e.g., "Question of the day") provides a lightweight engagement loop that inspires people to contribute content. An example of prompts 506 is illustrated in Fig. 5. This feature can be used to post questions to help people easily chime in when they might not know what to share. A prompt posted daily enables people to respond in comments. By giving people clear, simple, and human prompts about their neighborhood, the barrier to engagement is

eliminated for people who want to engage in a lightweight manner but may not have anything to share. This feature helps in elevating local businesses, in building community, in providing neighbors with useful information about their neighborhood, in educating them about the techniques herein described, etc.

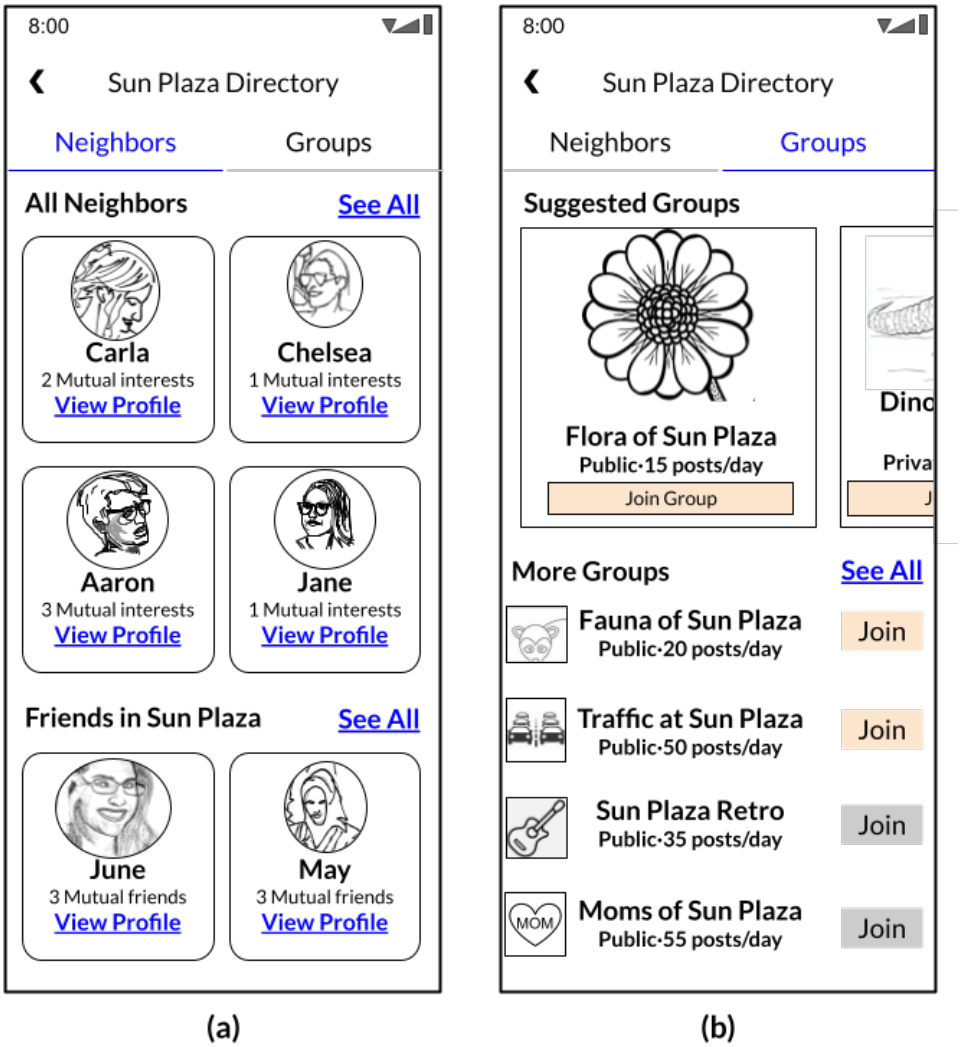

FIG. 6: Directory (a) Neighbors; (b) Groups

Fig. 6(a) illustrates a directory that enables people to find neighbors, control who is able to see their content in the space, identify those that share common interests with them, determine, how the people in their neighborhood relate to them. Fig. 6(b) illustrates groups around shared interests or concerns. Groups can be configured to issue periodic group digests.

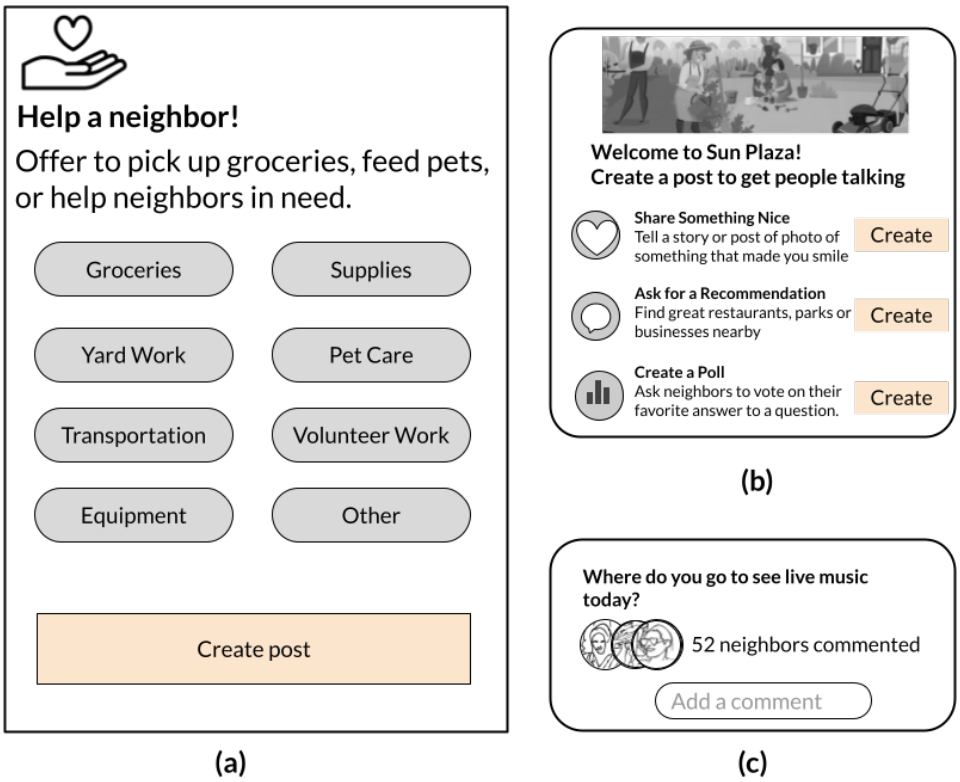

FIG. 7: (a) Neighborhood help; (b) and (c) Composer that enables sharing, polling, asking for recommendations.

Fig. 7(a) illustrates neighborhood help feature that connects those in need of help with neighbors who can help. Fig. 7(b) and (c) illustrate a composer feature that enables people to share content with their community in a format of their choice, including, e.g., polls, recommendations, photos, videos, neighborhood help, etc.

CONCLUSION

This disclosure relates to generating and providing geo-bounded spaces for a virtual community of users. The disclosure describes techniques to generate a geo-bounded space; analyze user information to associate a user with the geo-bounded space; enable the user to receive and publish a content item; and implement a security feature for communications associated with a geo-bounded space and/or its associated users. The techniques can determine a personal characteristic of the user; identify a user representative for the geo-bounded space; and provide a centralized content location associated with the geo-bounded space.