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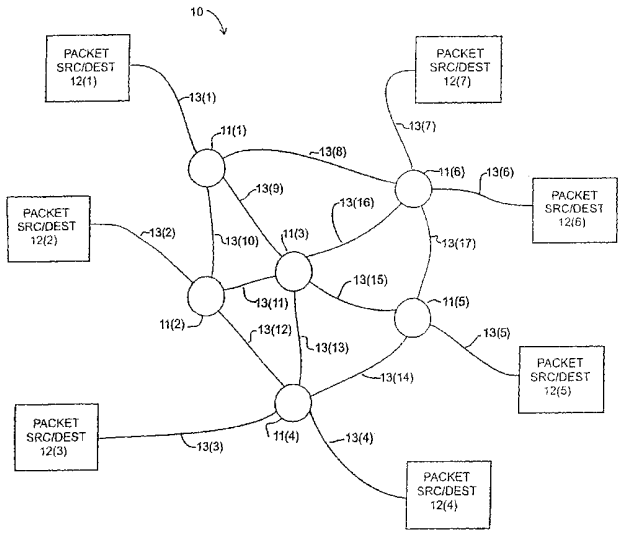
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(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR CONTROLLING QUEUING OF DATA AT A NODE ON A NETWORK



(57) Abstract: An approach to queuing data at a network switching node includes assigning a queue value such as a priority value or a weight to each of a plurality of queues which temporarily store data packets to be forwarded toward a link on the network. A bandwidth value related to a maximum amount of data to be transferred on the link is defined. A data limit value is assigned to each of the queues to limit the amount of data that can be forwarded from each queue. The data limit value is derived from the bandwidth value for the link. By placing bandwidth-related limits on the queues, low-priority queues are prevented from being dominated by high-priority queues, that is, low-priority queues are not prevented from forwarding their data by the priority structure. Also, the bandwidth-related limits allow for control of traffic flow to prevent overloading lower-capacity links on the network.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 H04L12/56 H04L29/06 H04Q11/04

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)
EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 901 301 A (NIPPON ELECTRIC CO) 10 March 1999 (1999-03-10) abstract page 3, line 33 - line 47 page 5, line 15 - line 30 page 6, line 2 -page 7, line 53 page 8, line 2 - line 31 figure 9 --- -/--	1,4-7, 10-12

[X] Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

[X] Patent family members are listed in annex.

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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information on patent family members

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