



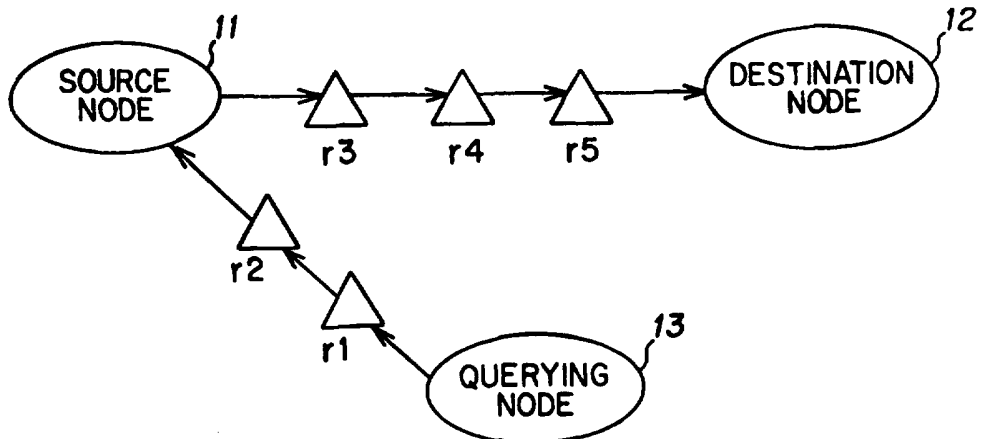
INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

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<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/IB95/01027 (22) International Filing Date: 24 October 1995 (24.10.95) (30) Priority Data: 08/328,513 25 October 1994 (25.10.94) US (71) Applicant: CABLETRON SYSTEMS, INC. [US/US]; 35 Industrial Way, Rochester, NH 03867 (US). (72) Inventors: AGGARWAL, Ajay; 601 Tri City Road, Somersworth, NH 03878 (US). SCOTT, Walter; 6 Lansing Drive, Salem, NH 03079 (US). RUSTICI, Eric; 1 Wyandot Circle, Londonderry, NH 03053 (US). BUCCIERO, David; 12 Hillside Drive, Nashua, NH 03060 (US). HASKINS, Andrew; 11 Riverside Rarm Drive, Lee, NH 03824 (US). MATTHEWS, Wallace; 12 Hall Place, Exeter, NH 03833 (US). (74) Agent: HENDRICKS, Therese, A.; Wolf, Greenfield & Sacks, P.C., 600 Atlantic Avenue, Boston, MA 02210 (US).</p>		<p>(81) Designated States: AU, JP, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). Published <i>With international search report.</i> (88) Date of publication of the international search report: 8 August 1996 (08.08.96)</p>

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR DETERMINING IP COMMUNICATIONS PATH

(57) Abstract

Method and apparatus for determining a data path between source (11) and destination (12) IP devices. A TTL mechanism is used, in combination with loose-source routing, to incrementally discover the routers on the path, wherein the querying node (13) sending the UDP probe packets need not be the source node. Once an intermediate router on the path is known which can communicate via SNMP, an SNMP query may be sent to determine the next-hop router from the IP routing table. If this fails, the method reverts to the incrementing TTL mechanism.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PC1/IB 95/01027

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 6 H04L12/56

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

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 6 H04L

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)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP,A,0 352 041 (RACAL MILGO LTD) 24 January 1990 see column 3, line 7 - column 4, line 13 see column 1, line 1 - line 54 ---	1,5,11, 13
A	IEEE COMMUNICATIONS MAGAZINE, vol. 24, no. 1, January 1986, US, pages 34-38, XP002003653 BELL ET AL.: "Review of Point-to-Point Network Routing Algorithms" see page 35, column 1, line 17 - column 2, line 29 ---	1
A	US,A,5 056 085 (VU THU V) 8 October 1991 see abstract -----	1

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Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No PCT/IB 95/01027
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Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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US-A-5056085	08-10-91	NONE	
