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- Published:**
- with international search report
 - before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments
- (88) Date of publication of the international search report:
10 November 2005
- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SUPPORTING TRANSACTIONS

(57) Abstract: A method, apparatus, and computer instructions for monitoring transactions for a set of known nodes in a network data processing system. Cache data is received from a router in the data processing system. The cache data includes an identification of the set of known nodes sending data packets for transactions onto the network data processing system. The transactions are tracked for the set of nodes using the cache data from the router. In this manner, the loading of work for different nodes in a set of nodes can be identified.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/EP2005/050031

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 H04L12/26 H04L29/12 H04L12/24 H04L29/06

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 7 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)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC, COMPENDEX, IBM-TDB

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2003/005092 A1 (NELSON DEAN S ET AL) 2 January 2003 (2003-01-02)	1-3,5,8, 10-13, 15,18-20
A	abstract	9
Y	paragraph '0008! - paragraph '0010!	4,14
Y	paragraph '0019! - paragraph '0021!	7,17
Y	paragraph '0049! - paragraph '0051! -----	6,16
Y	EP 0 918 412 A (HEWLETT-PACKARD COMPANY) 26 May 1999 (1999-05-26) abstract paragraph '0006! - paragraph '0010! ----- -/--	4,14

Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents:

- *A* document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- *E* earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- *L* document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- *O* document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- *P* document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- *T* later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- *Y* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- *Z* document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

30 August 2005

Date of mailing of the international search report

15. 09. 2005

Name and mailing address of the ISA

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/EP2005/050031

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	<p>WO 00/05594 A (CONDUCT LTD; FRIEDMAN, MARK, M; AZULAI, SHARON; LEVY, RAN; COHEN, YAAK) 3 February 2000 (2000-02-03) abstract page 5, line 1 - page 6, line 15 page 19, line 16 - page 20, line 9</p>	7,17
X	<p>US 5 835 720 A (NELSON ET AL) 10 November 1998 (1998-11-10) abstract column 1, line 58 - column 2, line 32 column 3, line 9 - column 9, line 4</p>	1-3, 10-13, 18-20
Y	<p>US 2002/040400 A1 (MASTERS RICHARD R) 4 April 2002 (2002-04-04) abstract paragraph '0002! - paragraph '0003! paragraph '0007! - paragraph '0015! paragraph '0051! paragraphs '0055! - '0060!</p>	6,16

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/EP2005/050031

Box II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This International Search Report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the International Application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful International Search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

see additional sheet

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, this Authority did not invite payment of any additional fee.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this International Search Report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:
4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this International Search Report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

FURTHER INFORMATION CONTINUED FROM PCT/ISA/ 210

This International Searching Authority found multiple (groups of) inventions in this international application, as follows:

1. claims: 1-5,7-15,17-20

A method, a data processing system and a computer program product involving the receiving of data on a periodic basis.

2. claims: 6 (dependent on claims 5 and 1), 16 (dependent on claims 15 and 11)

A method and a data processing system involving load balancing.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International Application No

PCT/EP2005/050031

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
US 2003005092	A1	02-01-2003	NONE	
EP 0918412	A	26-05-1999	EP 0918412 A2 JP 11316724 A	26-05-1999 16-11-1999
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