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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): INTER-DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY CORPORATION [US/US];
300 Delaware Avenue, Suite 527, Wilmington, DE 19801 (US).
- (72) Inventor; and
- (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): ALI, Ahmed [IQ/CA];

1905-1285 Cahill Drive East, Ottawa, Ontario K1V 9A7 (CA).

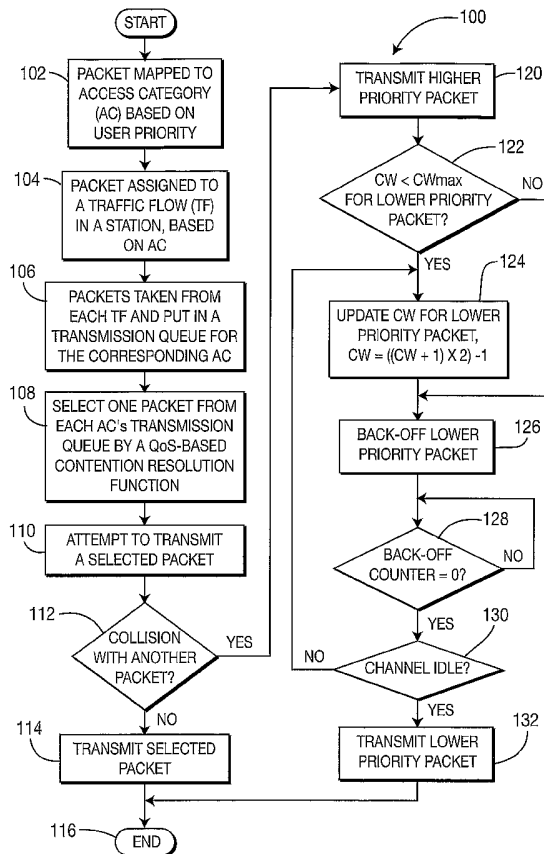
(74) Agent: BALLARINI, Robert, J.; Volpe and Koenig, P.C.,
United Plaza, Suite 1600, 30 S. 17th Street, Philadelphia, PA 19103 (US).

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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: PACKET SCHEDULING IN A WIRELESS LOCAL AREA NETWORK



(57) Abstract: A method for scheduling packets in a wireless local area network begins by mapping a packet to an access category (AC) based on a user priority of the packet (102). The packet is assigned to a traffic flow (TF) (104) in a station based on the AC of the packet. A packet from the TF is placed into a transmission queue (106) for the AC. A packet from the transmission queue is selected based on a quality of service-based contention resolution function (108), and the selected packet is transmitted (114).

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FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO,
SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN,
GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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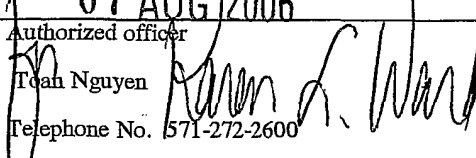
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<p>A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER</p> <p>IPC: H04L 12/56 H04L 12/28</p> <p>USPC: 370/229,230,310,395.4</p> <p>According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC</p>														
<p>B. FIELDS SEARCHED</p> <p>Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) U.S. : 370/229, 230, 310, 395.4</p> <p>Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched EAST</p> <p>Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) Please See Continuation Sheet</p>														
<p>C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Category *</th> <th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th> <th>Relevant to claim No.</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Y</td> <td>US 2002/0141393 A1 (ERIKSSON et al) 03 October 2002 (03.10.2002), see the entire document.</td> <td>1-13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Y</td> <td>US 2002/0163933 A1 (BENVENISTE) 07 November 2002 (07.11.2002), see the entire document.</td> <td>1-13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>A</td> <td>US 2003/0103525 A1 (WAHL) 05 June 2003 (05.06.2003), see the entire document.</td> <td>1-13</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.	Y	US 2002/0141393 A1 (ERIKSSON et al) 03 October 2002 (03.10.2002), see the entire document.	1-13	Y	US 2002/0163933 A1 (BENVENISTE) 07 November 2002 (07.11.2002), see the entire document.	1-13	A	US 2003/0103525 A1 (WAHL) 05 June 2003 (05.06.2003), see the entire document.	1-13
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<p><input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.</p>														
<p>* Special categories of cited documents:</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance</td> <td>"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</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date</td> <td>"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</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"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)</td> <td>"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</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means</td> <td>"&" document member of the same patent family</td> </tr> <tr> <td>"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed</td> <td></td> </tr> </table>			"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance	"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	"E" earlier application or patent published on or after the international filing date	"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	"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)	"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	"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means	"&" document member of the same patent family	"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed			
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"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed														
<p>Date of the actual completion of the international search 22 June 2006 (22.06.2006)</p>		<p>Date of mailing of the international search report 07 AUG 2006</p>												
<p>Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (571) 273-3201</p>		<p>Authorized officer Teon Nguyen Telephone No. 571-272-2600</p> 												

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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Continuation of B. FIELDS SEARCHED Item 3:

WLAN and map\$4 with priority and assign\$3 with (flow or queu\$6 or buffer\$3) and resolution with contention and quality with service