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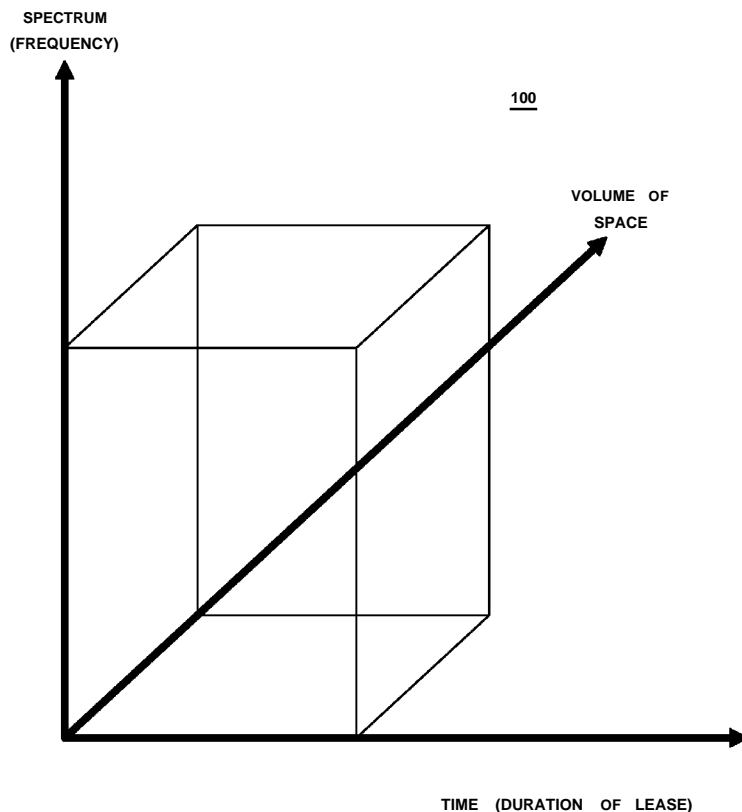
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[Continued on next page]

(54) **Title:** METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR EFFICIENT SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT IN A COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK



(57) **Abstract:** A method and apparatus for efficient management of hierarchically administered spectrum resources in a communications network is disclosed. The method may include receiving a request for a policy decision from a policy enforcement point at a current policy decision point level in a hierarchy of policy decision points and determining whether the request can be satisfied at the current policy decision point level, and if not, forwarding the request to a policy decision point at a policy decision point level that is higher in the hierarchy.

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
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Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

PUBWEST(PGPB, USPT, USOC, EPAB, JPAB), GOOGLE

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C DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No
Y	US 2004/0047324 A 1 (Diener) 11 March 2004 (11 03 2004), entire document, especially, abstract, para [0013], [0021], [0063], [0174], [0183]	1 - 10
Y	US 2002/009181 9 A 1 (Melchione et al) 11 July 2002 (11 07 2002), entire document, especially, abstract, para [0005], [0031], [0038], [0045], [0073]	1 - 10
A	US 2006/0083205 A 1 (Buddhikot et al) 20 April 2006 (20 04 2006), entire document	1 - 10
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