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| <p>(51) International Patent Classification:
 H04L 12/56 (2006.01) H04L 12/46 (2006.01)</p> <p>(21) International Application Number:
 PCT/IB2010/051810</p> <p>(22) International Filing Date:
 23 April 2010 (23.04.2010)</p> <p>(25) Filing Language: English</p> <p>(26) Publication Language: English</p> <p>(30) Priority Data:
 12/463,365 8 May 2009 (08.05.2009) US</p> <p>(71) Applicant <i>(for all designated States except US):</i> TELEFONAKTIEBOLAGET L M ERICSSON (PUBL) [SE/SE]; S-164 83 Stockholm (SE).</p> <p>(72) Inventors; and</p> <p>(75) Inventors/Applicants <i>(for US only):</i> KINI, Sriganesh [IN/US]; 45855 Cheyenne Place, Fremont, CA 94539 (US). TAKÁCS, Attila [HU/HU]; Zrínyi u.11, HU-1195 Budapest (HU).</p> <p>(74) Agents: BURLEIGH, Roger, S. et al.; Ericsson Inc., Patent Unit USA, 6300 Legacy, MS EVR 1-C-11, Plano, TX 75024 (US).</p> | <p>(81) Designated States <i>(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available):</i> AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.</p> <p>(84) Designated States <i>(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available):</i> ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).</p> <p>Published:
 — <i>with international search report (Art. 21(3))</i></p> |
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Published:

— with international search report (Art. 21(3))

- (54) Title:** LIMITING THE SIZE OF THE MAC ADDRESS TABLE IN A HYBRID NODE

- (57) Abstract:** A method and apparatus to limit the number of MAC addresses stored in the MAC address table of a hybrid bridging node operating two bridging protocols is described. The operation of the two bridging protocols in the hybrid node allows for an incremental transition of a provider bridging network from operating a legacy bridging protocol that shares MAC addresses to a bridging network that operates VPLS and/or PBB bridging protocols. The hybrid bridging node selectively broadcasts unicast packets with unknown MAC addresses from the nodes operating VTLS and/or PBB to nodes operating a legacy bridging protocol.

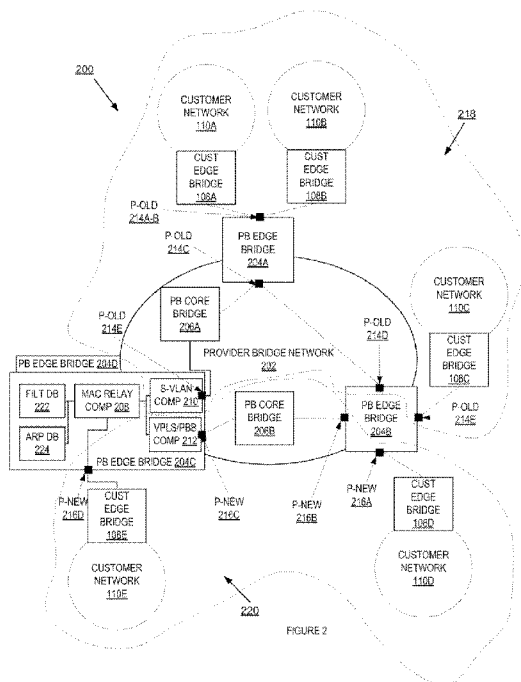


FIGURE 2