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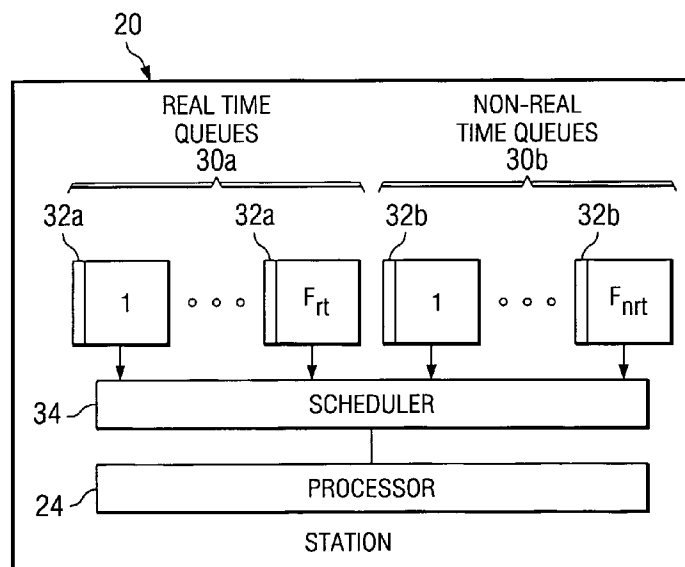
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(54) Title: ENCAPSULATING PACKETS INTO A FRAME FOR A NETWORK



(57) Abstract: Encapsulating packets into a frame includes receiving the packets at a station of a number of stations of a network. Each packet is associated with a delay requirement that reflects a deadline corresponding to at least one of the stations. The packets are directed to queues of the station. An available channel of the network is detected. It is determined that one or more packets at a queue are ready to be encapsulated into a frame in accordance with the delay requirements. The one or more packets are encapsulated into the frame for transmission using the available channel.

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**Declarations under Rule 4.17:**

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for all designations*
- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations*

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