

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
19 December 2002 (19.12.2002)

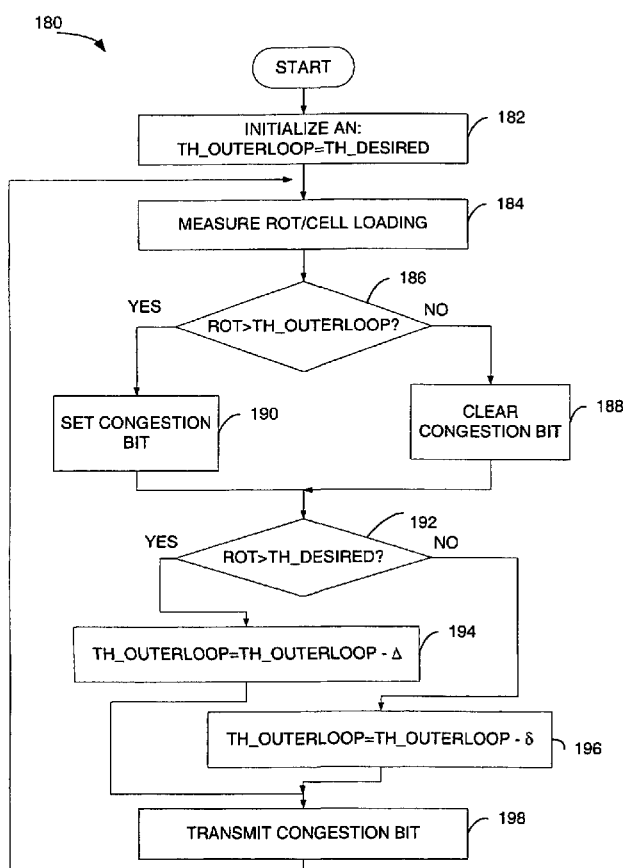
PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 02/101956 A1

- (51) International Patent Classification⁷: **H04B 7/26**, H04L 12/56
- (21) International Application Number: PCT/US02/17815
- (22) International Filing Date: 5 June 2002 (05.06.2002)
- (25) Filing Language: English
- (26) Publication Language: English
- (30) Priority Data:
09/877,917 7 June 2001 (07.06.2001) US
- (71) Applicant: **QUALCOMM INCORPORATED** [US/US];
5775 Morehouse Drive, San Diego, CA 92121-1714 (US).
- (72) Inventors: **JAIN, Avinash**; 10750 Aderman Avenue #74,
San Diego, CA 92126 (US). **HOLTZMAN, Jack, M.**;
12970 Caminito Bautizo, San Diego, CA 92130 (US).
- (74) Agents: **O'CONNELL, Robert, J.** et al.; Qualcomm Incorporated, 5775 Morehouse Drive, San Diego, CA 92121-1714 (US).
- (81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NO, NZ, OM, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CONGESTION CONTROL IN A WIRELESS COMMUNICATION SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: Method and apparatus for congestion control in a wireless communication system. In one embodiment, the status of a congestion bit indicates the type of adjustment, such as increase or decrease, to be performed at an access terminal to determine the next data rate for transmissions on the reverse link. The status of the congestion bit is determined by comparing a congestion parameter to a predetermined threshold (186). One embodiment implements an outerloop threshold having a margin with respect to the desired congestion metric threshold. The outerloop threshold is adjusted in response to comparing a measured congestion metric to the desired threshold (192, 194, 196). The outerloop threshold adjustment maintains the congestion metric to within a predetermined probability of exceeding the desired threshold.

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Published:

— with international search report

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