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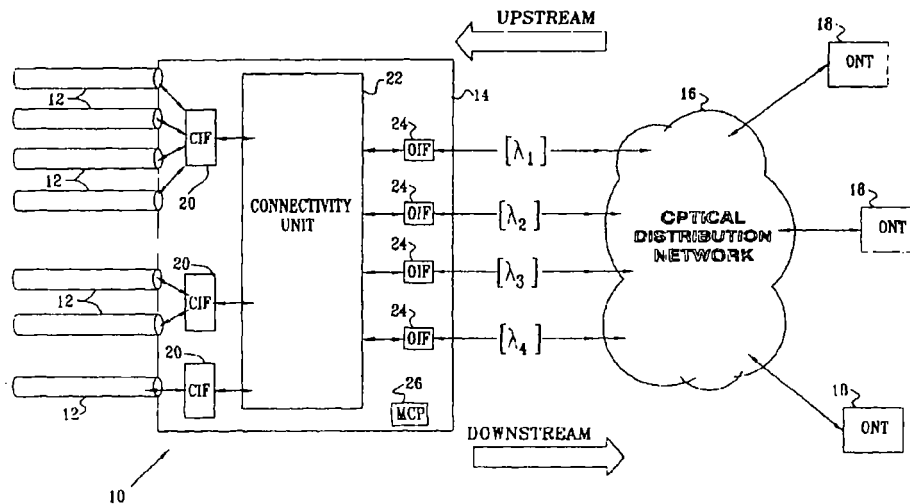
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(54) Title: DATA TRANSFER IN AN OPTICAL NETWORK COMMUNICATION SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: Abstract Communications apparatus, including client interface units (CIUs)(20)coupled to network service lines (12)for sending and receiving data carried by theservice lines in accordance with respective communication protocols. The CIUsinclude at least first and second CIUs that communicate with respective first and second channels of the data operating in accordance with different, respective first and second protocols. The apparatus includes optical interface units (OIUs)(24),coupled to a passive optical network (PON)(16)and modulating optical radiationresponsive to the data so as to convey the data over the PON.The apparatus further includes a connectivity unit (22)which conveys the data 10between the CIUs and the OIUs, while mapping the channels to the OIUs so that datafrom the first and second channels is carried in alternation by one of the OIUs to first and second users of the PON communicating respectively according to the first andsecond protocols.

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