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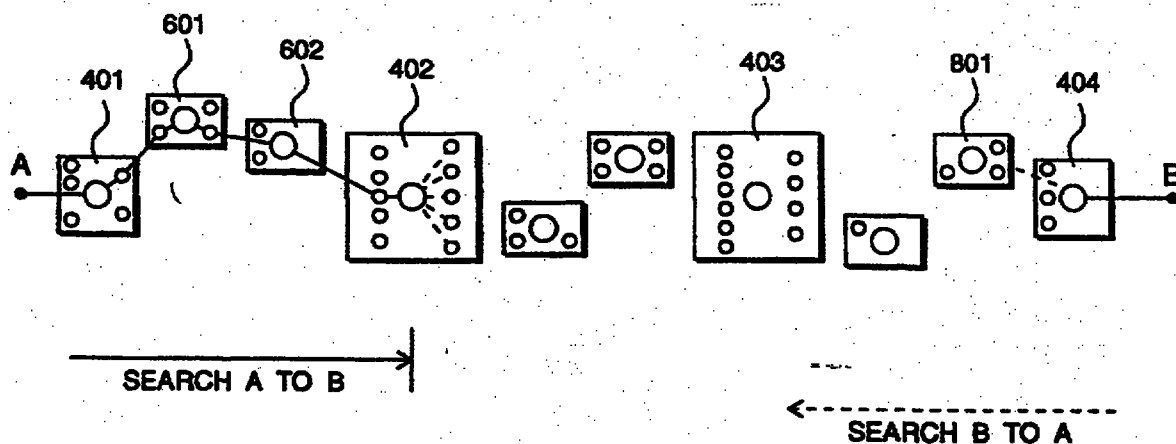
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## INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

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| <p>(21) International Application Number: <b>PCT/GB95/02803</b></p> <p>(22) International Filing Date: <b>30 November 1995 (30.11.95)</b></p> <p>(30) Priority Data:<br/><b>94308836.9</b> <b>30 November 1994 (30.11.94)</b> <b>EP</b></p> <p>(34) Countries for which the regional or international application was filed: <b>GB et al.</b></p> <p>(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): <b>BRITISH TELECOMMUNICATIONS PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY [GB/GB]; 81 Newgate Street, London EC1A 7AJ (GB).</b></p> <p>(72) Inventor; and</p> <p>(75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): <b>REEVE, Stephen, Ian [GB/GB]; Brindles the Acoms, Thurston Bury, St. Edmunds, Suffolk IP31 3QW (GB).</b></p> <p>(74) Agent: <b>DUTTON, Erica, Lindley, Graham; BT Group Legal Services, Intellectual Property Dept., Holborn Centre, 8th floor, 120 Holborn, London EC1N 2TE (GB).</b></p> | <p>(81) Designated States: <b>AL, AM, AT, AU, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GE, HU, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, TJ, TM, TT, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG), ARIPO patent (KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG).</b></p> <p><b>Published</b></p> <p><i>With international search report.</i></p> <p><i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i></p> |                                                                                                                                 |

(54) Title: ROUTING IN A COMMUNICATION NETWORK



(57) Abstract

A path between a selected first node (401) and a selected second node (404) is identified in a telecommunications network. A system cost is estimated for making a connection between the first node and the second node, a potential first intermediate node connectable from the first node is identified and a first set of systems costs are estimated from said first intermediate nodes to said second node. In addition, the second intermediate nodes connectable from the second node are identified and a second set of systems costs are estimated from the second intermediate nodes to the first node. On the basis of a comparison between the first set of systems costs and the second set of systems costs, between the first and second nodes, a starting node and a target node are selected.