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(71) Applicant: **INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORPORATION** [US/US]; New Orchard Road, Armonk, NY 10504 (US).

(71) Applicant *(for MG only)*: **IBM UNITED KINGDOM LIMITED** [GB/GB]; PO Box 41, North Harbour, Portsmouth, Hampshire PO6 3AU (GB).

(72) Inventors: **BEUKEMA, Bruce, Leroy**; 71050 210th Avenue, Hayfield, MN 55940 (US). **GREGG, Thomas, Anthony**; 121 Bellevue Road, Highland, NY 12528 (US). **NEAL, Danny, Marvin**; 4604 Hightower Drive, Round Rock, TX 78681 (US). **RECIO, Renato, John**; 6707 Winnepeg Cove, Austin, TX 78759 (US).

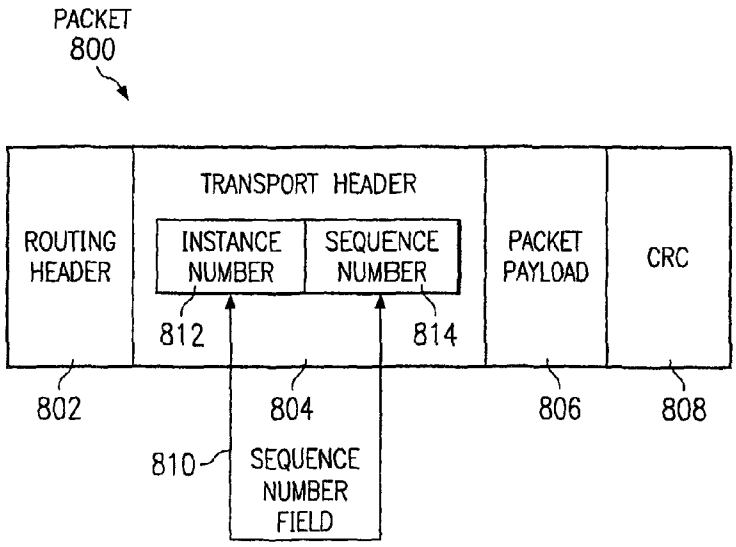
(74) Agent: **BURT, Roger, James**; IBM United Kingdom Limited, Intellectual Property Law, Hursley Park, Winchester, Hampshire SO21 2JN (GB).

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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: SYSTEM, METHOD, AND PRODUCT FOR MANAGING DATA TRANSFERS IN A NETWORK



(57) Abstract: A method, system, and product in a data processing system for managing data transmitted from a first end node to a second end node included in the data processing system. A logical connection is established between the first end node and the second end node prior to transmitting data between the end nodes. An instance number is associated with the logical connection and included in each packet transmitted between end nodes while this connection remains. The number remains constant during this connection, but is altered, such as by incrementing it, each time a logical connection between these end nodes is reestablished. Each packet is associated with a particular instance of the logical connection and when it is received, the number may be used to determine whether the packet is a stale packet transmitted during a previous logical connection between these end nodes.

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