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

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
13 November 2008 (13.11.2008)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2008/135583 A1

(51) International Patent Classification:
H04Q 7/38 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/EP2008/055593

(22) International Filing Date: 7 May 2008 (07.05.2008)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/927,967 7 May 2007 (07.05.2007) US

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(81) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available)*: ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

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(54) Title: DETERMINING LOAD MEASURE FOR NETWORK ELEMENT USING A WEIGHTED METHOD

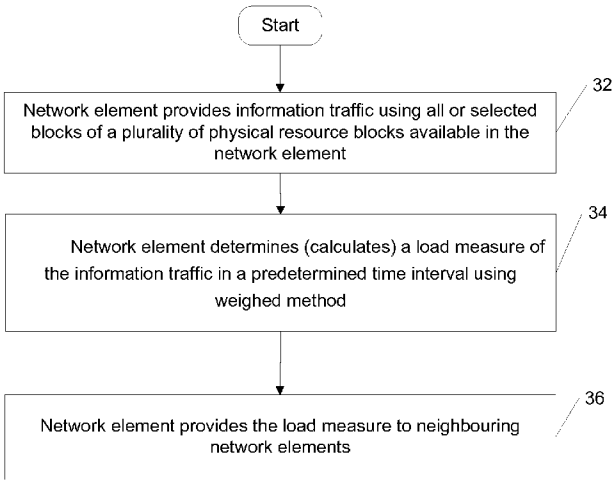


Figure 2

(57) Abstract: The specification and drawings present a new method, system, apparatus and software product for determining (e.g., calculating) a load measure by a network element (e.g., Node B or any other network element) for optimizing information traffic in communication networks (e.g., wireless communication systems). This load measure can represent the amount of available/excess traffic that a given network element can carry and is a relative measure, which would take into account the total amount of resources available in the system and the amount of resources that are free for carrying only "important" or "essential" traffic, using a weighed method described herein.

WO 2008/135583 A1

Published:

— *with international search report*

— *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*