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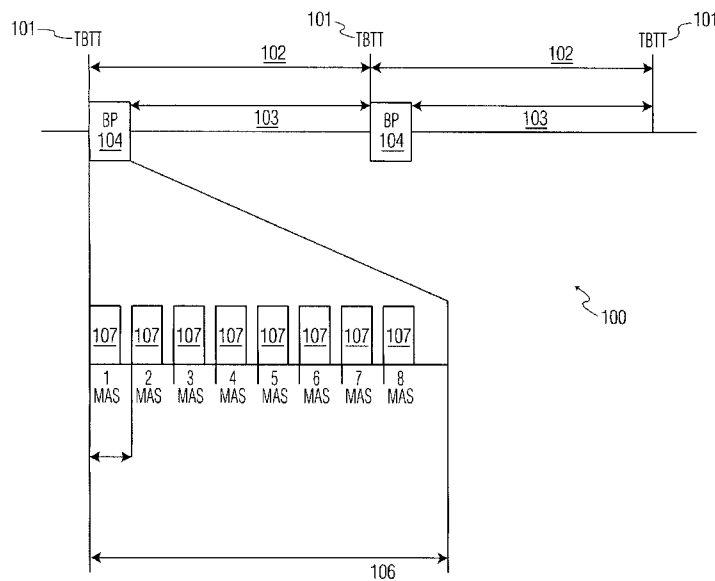
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(54) Title: BEACONING PROTOCOL FOR AD-HOC NETWORKS



(57) Abstract: A distributed MAC protocol is provided that includes a superframe (102) having a slotted Beaconing Period (104) and a data transfer period (103). The provided superframe (102) comprises a plurality of medium access slots (107) and a plurality of medium access slots (107) is assigned to the slotted Beaconing Period (104). The Beaconing Period length (106) may be fixed or variable. The provided Beaconing protocol defines initializing an ad hoc network by means of starting (101) a Beaconing Period (104), joining an existing Beaconing Period (104) of ad hoc network and resolving collisions during the Beaconing Period.

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- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii)) for all designations*
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