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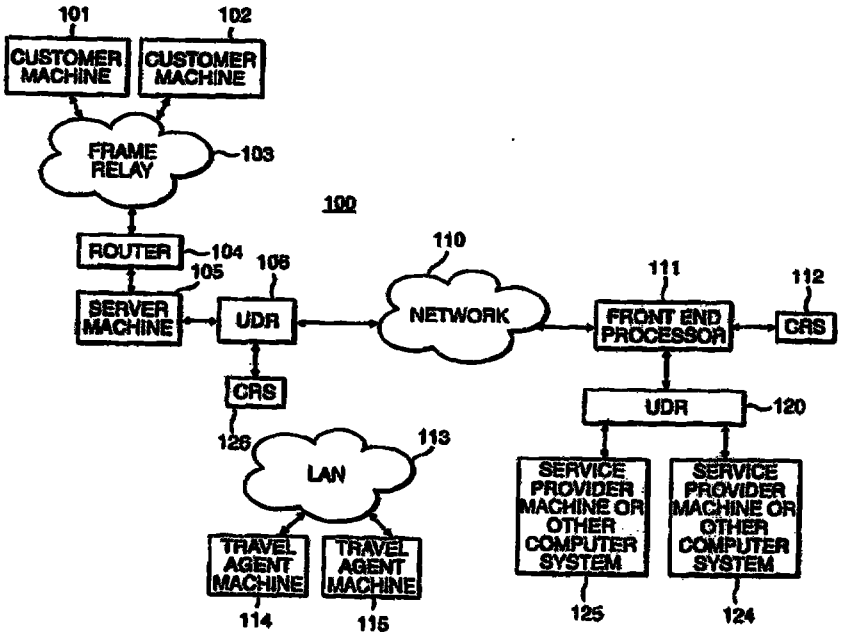
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(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR DATA CONVERSION AND LOAD BALANCING IN A COMPUTER NETWORK



(57) Abstract

Conversion of a data in a variable field message to a fixed format message. The variable field message has a varying length and fields of varying types of data. The corresponding fixed format message has fields of a fixed data type and length, which facilitates parsing and processing data from the variable field message. Customers for the data conversion or other processing are load balanced among multiple servers sharing load level information.