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Holt et al.

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(54) **BROADCASTING NETWORK**

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(52) **U.S. Cl.** **709/204**; 709/205; 709/203; 709/243; 709/201; 709/238; 709/319; 709/225; 370/236
(58) **Field of Search** 709/106, 201, 709/238, 319

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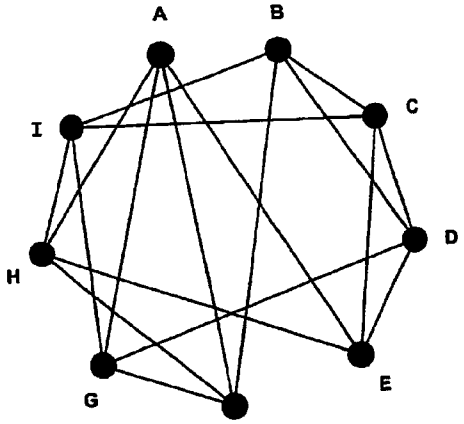
(57) **ABSTRACT**

A technique for broadcasting data across a network is provided. An originating participant sends data to another participant, which in turn sends the data that it receives from a neighbor participant to its other neighbor participants. Communication in the broadcast network is controlled by a contact module that locates the neighbor participants to which the seeking participant can be connected and by a join module that establishes the connection between the neighbor participants and the seeking participant. Data is numbered sequentially so that data that is received out of order can be queued and rearranged.

24 Claims, 39 Drawing Sheets



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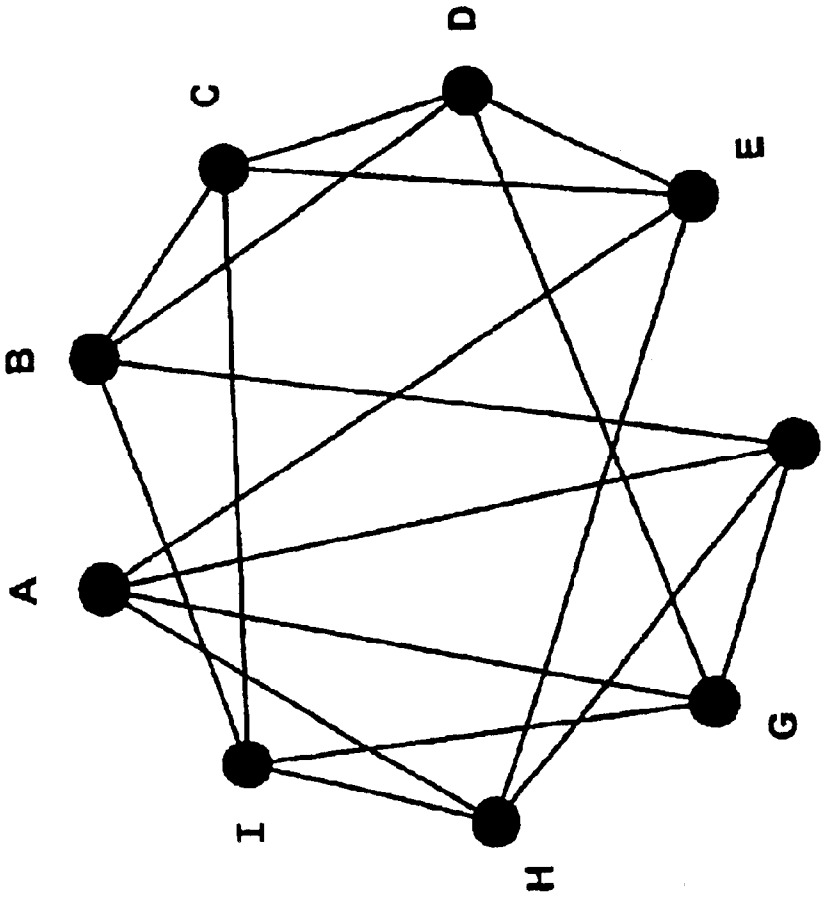

Fig. 1

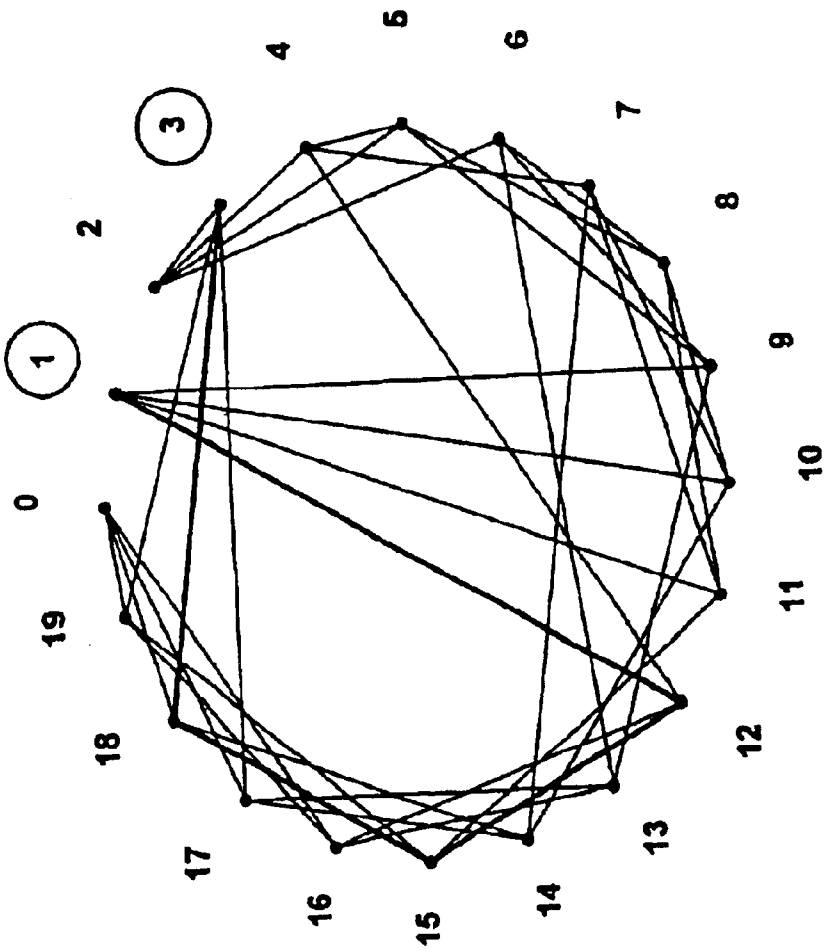

Fig. 2

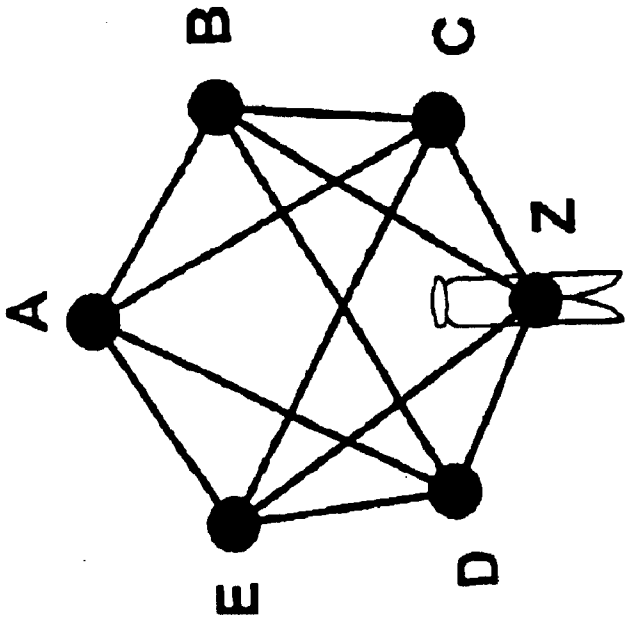

Fig. 3B

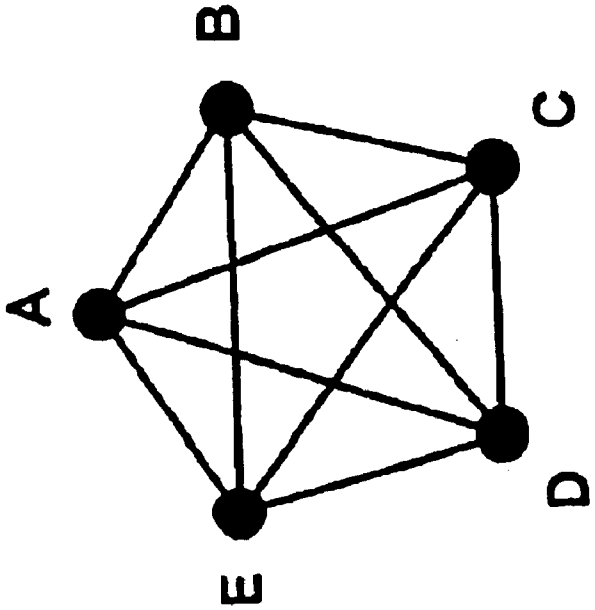

Fig. 3A

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