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Luhmann et al.

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(54) **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TRANSMITTING PACKETS ONTO A NETWORK**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**[7] **H04L 1/00**
(52) **U.S. Cl.** **370/230**; 370/236.1
(58) **Field of Search** 370/230, 236, 370/236.1, 329, 390, 250, 412; 710/63

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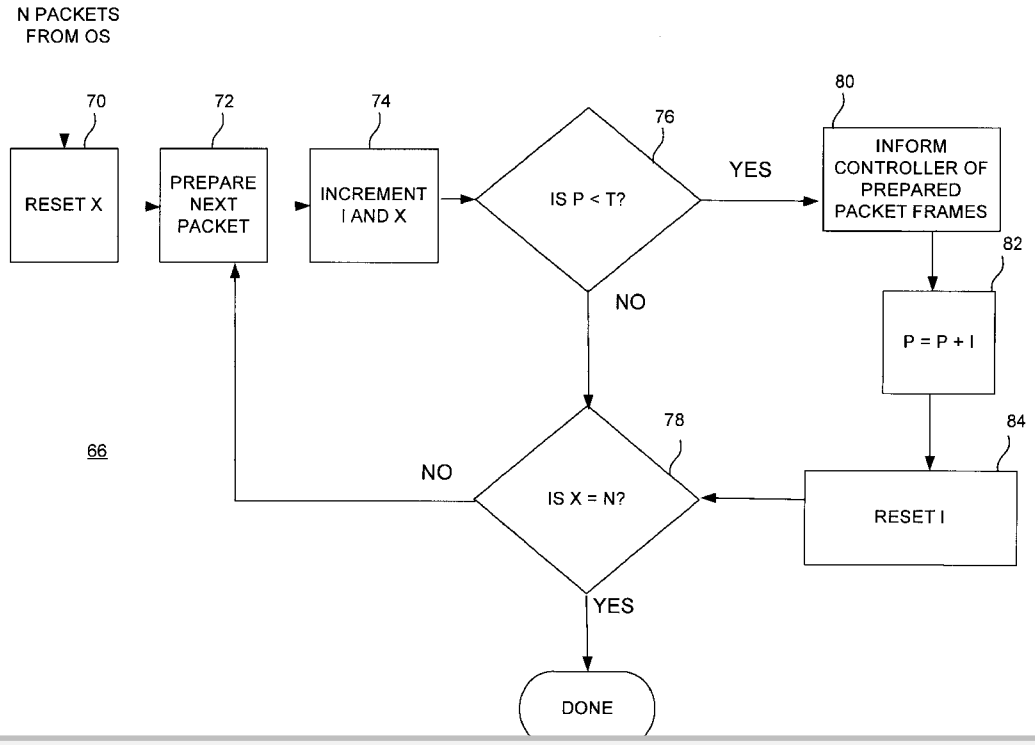
(57) **ABSTRACT**

A network driver for transmitting packets. For a particular embodiment the driver receives an indication that a packet is available for transmission and monitors a packet pending transmission status of a network controller. The driver then indicates to the network controller that the packet is available for transmission only when the pending transmission status in one particular embodiment reaches a threshold value. Thus the driver determines how many packets to provide a network controller based on the amount of packets still waiting to be transmitted by the controller.

36 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets



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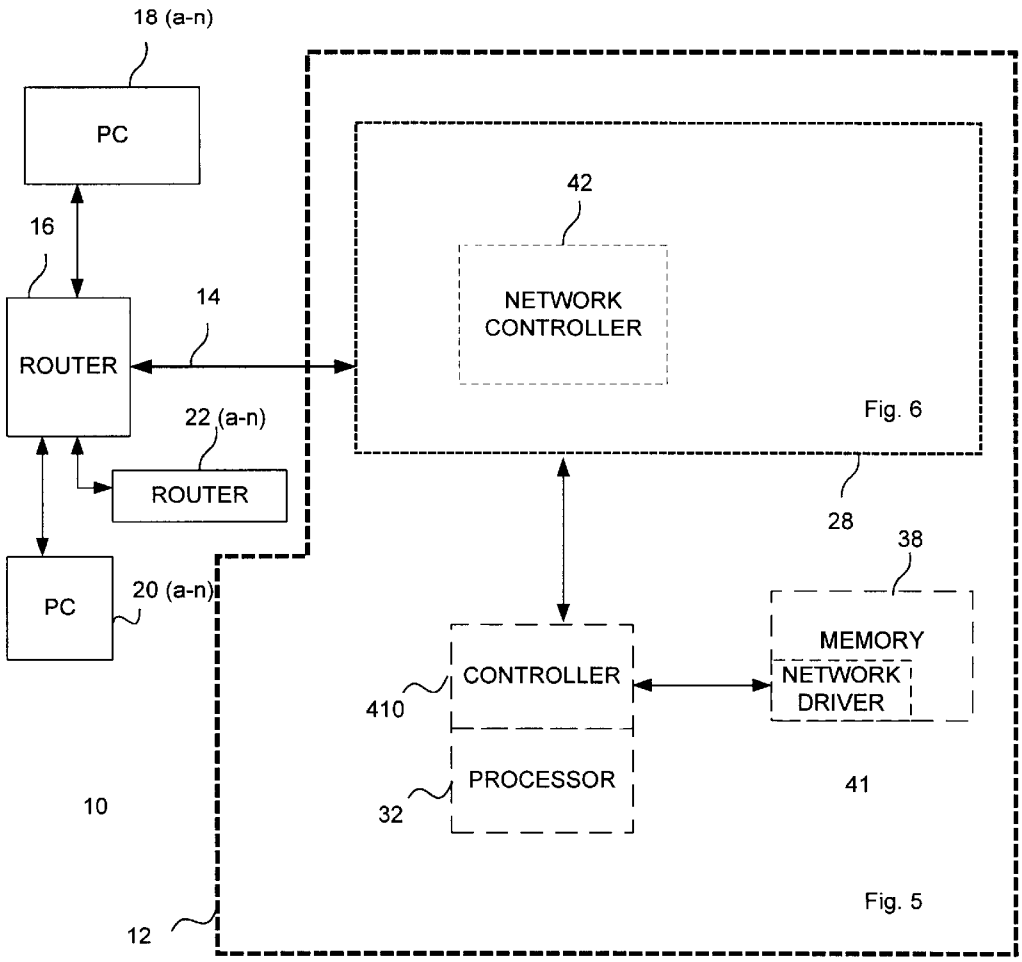

Fig. 1

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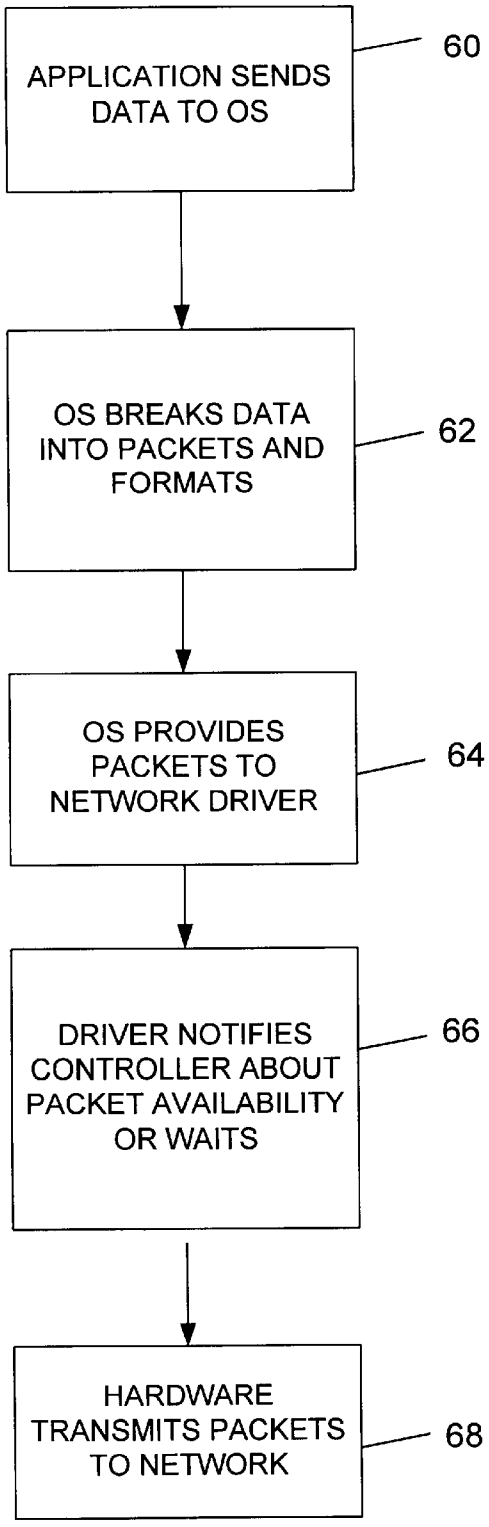

Fig. 2

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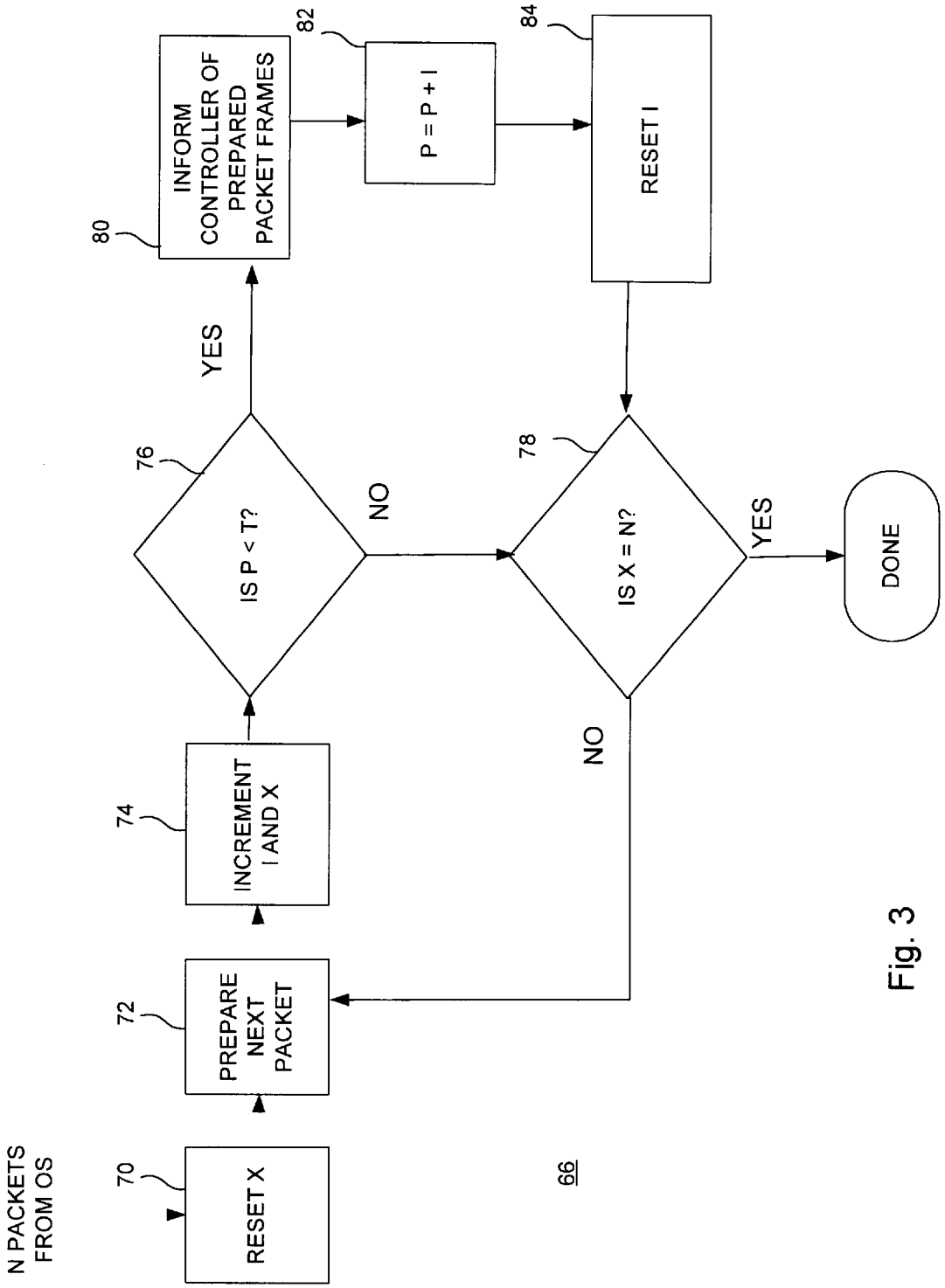

Fig. 3

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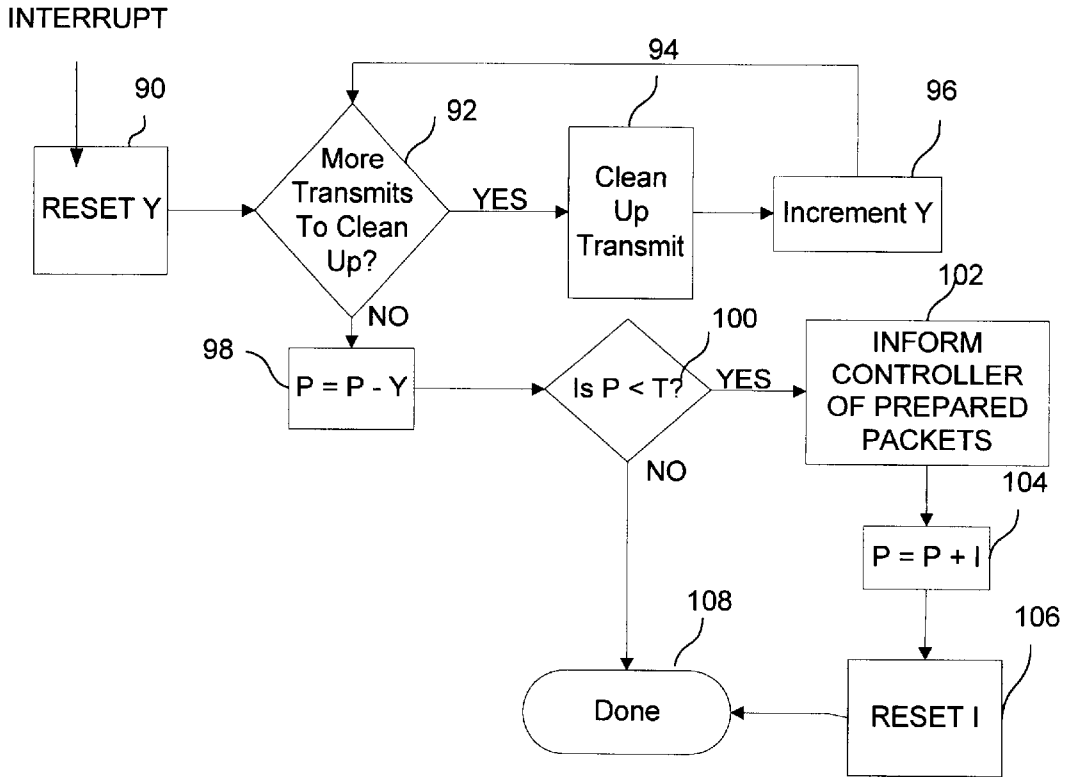

Fig. 4

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