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**United States Patent**

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*Michelle K. Lee*

*Director of the United States Patent and Trademark Office*



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(12) **United States Patent  
Sulc**

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(54) **SYSTEM FOR MESSAGE  
ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND DATA  
COLLECTION IN WIRELESS MESH  
NETWORKS**

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(\* ) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 115 days.

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**H04L 12/721** (2013.01)  
**H04L 12/733** (2013.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC ..... **H04W 40/20** (2013.01); **H04L 45/122** (2013.01); **H04L 45/32** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

CPC ..... H04W 40/20; H04L 45/122; H04L 45/32  
USPC ..... 370/256, 315, 400  
See application file for complete search history.

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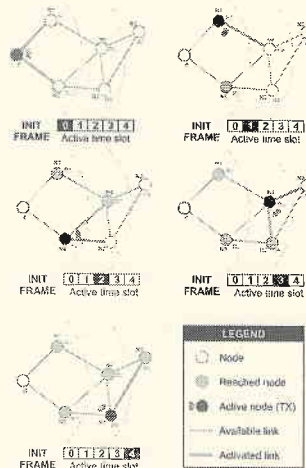
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A slave communication device includes a memory and a processor for operation within a wireless mesh network of communication devices including a control communication device. The memory stores a virtual routing identifier assigned to the slave communication device in response to increasing range from the control communication device. The processor, in response to receiving an initiation message from a control communication device, initiates data collection from said slave communication device synchronized relative to the start of the initiation message frame by, cumulatively setting bits in a first acknowledgement message in response to content of a second acknowledgement message received from another slave communication device. The first acknowledgement message being synchronized with start of the initiation message frame and the processor initiates communication of the first acknowledgement message to a destination in a time slot selected in response to the assigned virtual routing identifier.

**20 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets**



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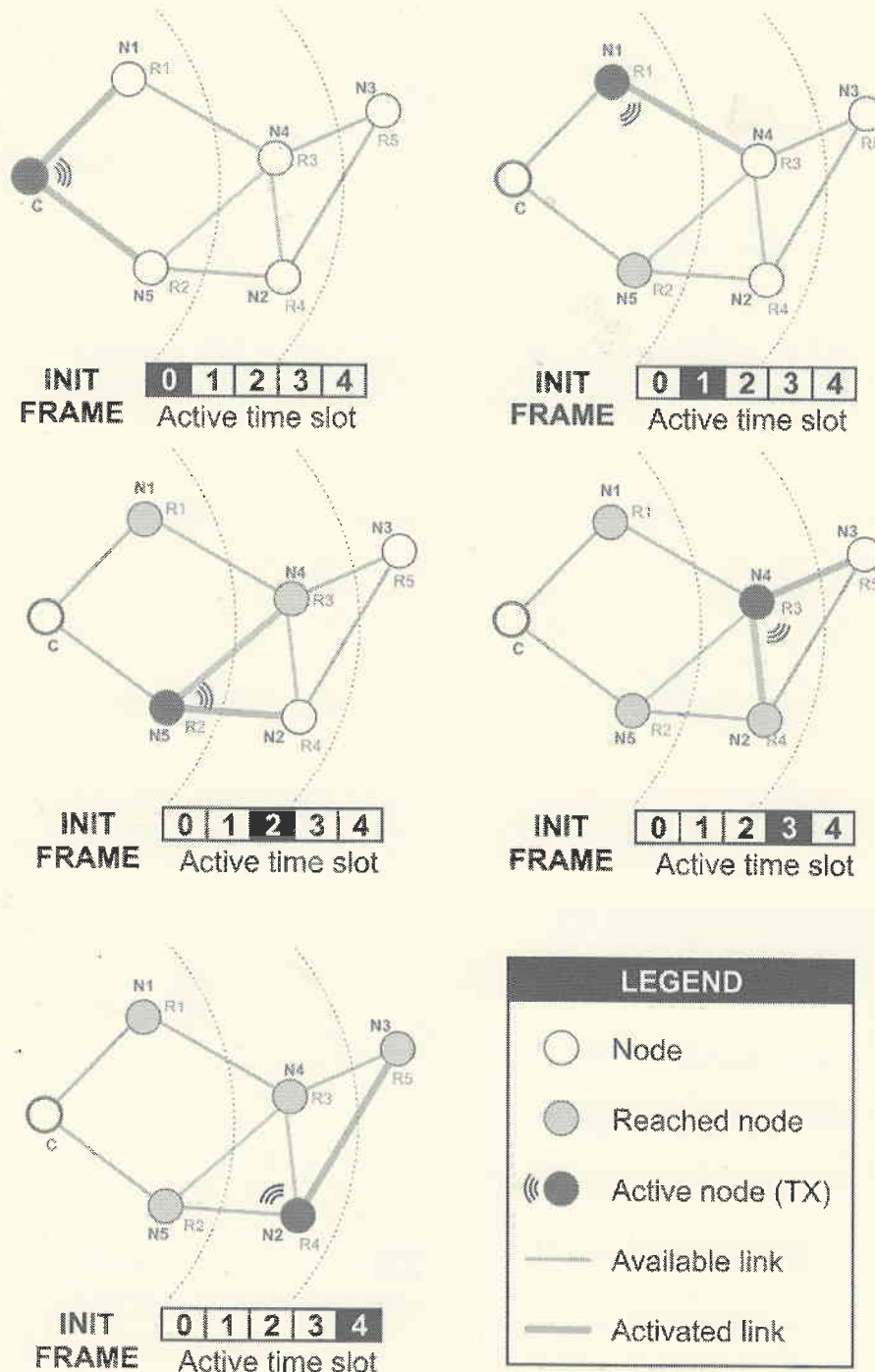


FIG. 1A

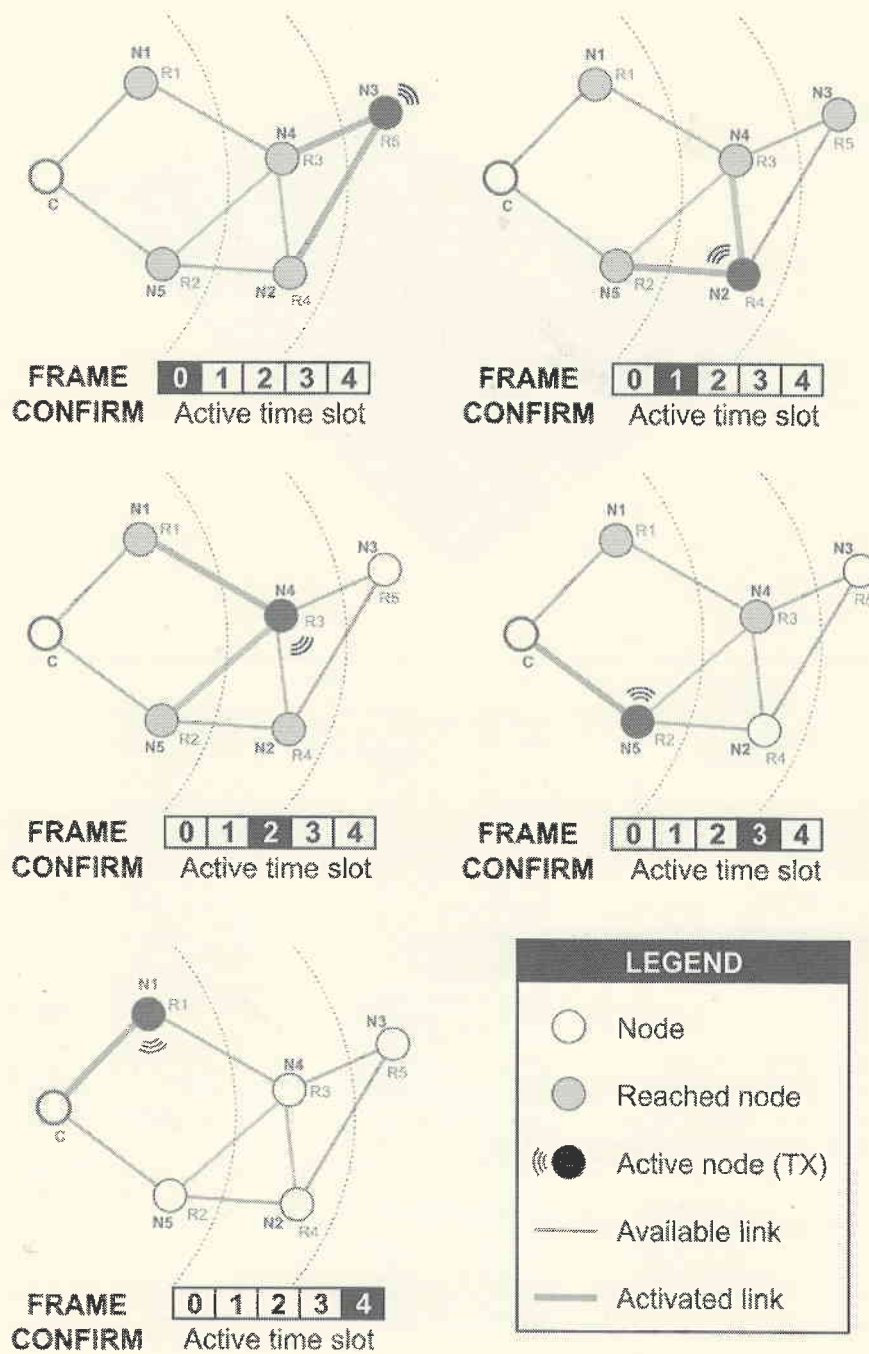


FIG. 1B

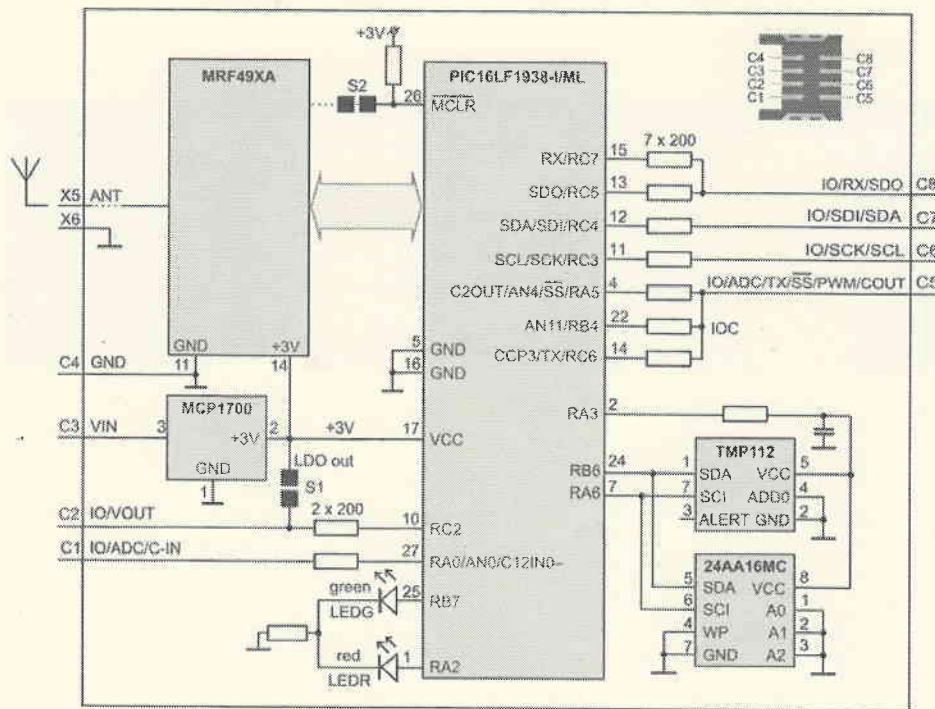
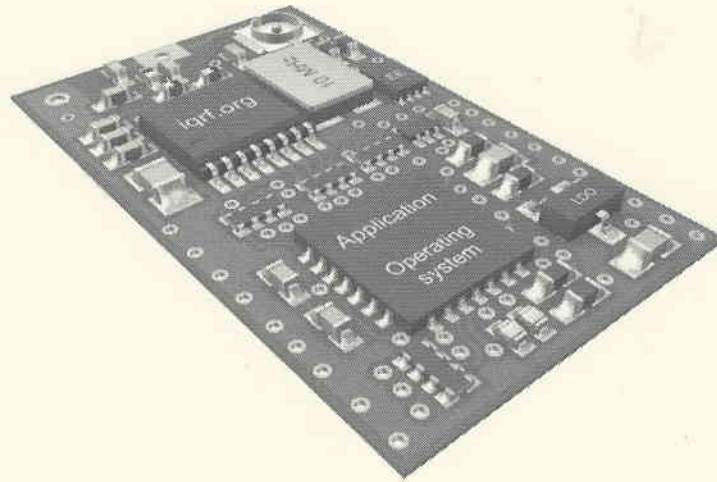


FIG. 2

Figure 3

Acknowledgement frame								
			data in the individual devices after receiving transmission of the active device					
slot	active	sent data	data in N1	data in N2	data in N3	data in N4	data in N5	data in C
0	N3	0 0 3 0 0	1 0 0 0 0	0 2 3 0 0	0 0 3 0 0	0 0 3 4 0	0 0 0 0 5	0 0 0 0 0
1	N2	0 2 3 0 0	1 0 0 0 0	0 2 3 0 0	0 0 3 0 0	0 2 3 4 0	0 2 3 0 5	0 0 0 0 0
2	N4	0 2 3 4 0	1 2 3 4 0	0 2 3 0 0	0 0 3 0 0	0 2 3 4 0	0 2 3 4 5	0 0 0 0 0
3	N5	0 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 0	0 2 3 0 0	0 0 3 0 0	0 2 3 4 0	0 2 3 4 5	0 2 3 4 5
4	N1	1 2 3 4 0	1 2 3 4 0	0 2 3 0 0	0 0 3 0 0	0 2 3 4 0	0 2 3 4 5	1 2 3 4 5