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(54) SLOWING REQUESTS FROM MALICIOUS NETWORK CLIENTS USING A TARPITTING **TECHNIQUE**

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(57)**ABSTRACT**

A method of monitoring a network during a DDoS attack is provided. The method includes receiving packets included in the attack, determining whether the packets are designated for tarpitting, for each packet from a source determined to be designated for tarpitting, assigning the packet to an existing or newly established flow, applying at least one tarpitting technique, and applying a randomization function for adjusting the at least one tarpitting technique or for selecting the at least one tarpitting technique to be applied from a plurality of candidate tarpitting techniques.

