



[54] INTERACTIVE COMPUTER SYSTEM FOR PROVIDING AN INTERACTIVE PRESENTATION WITH PERSONALIZED VIDEO, AUDIO AND GRAPHICS RESPONSES FOR MULTIPLE VIEWERS

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[75] Inventors: Michael J. Freeman; Gregory W. Harper, both of New York, N.Y.

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[73] Assignee: ACTV, Inc., New York, N.Y.

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[*] Notice: This patent issued on a continued prosecution application filed under 37 CFR 1.53(d), and is subject to the twenty year patent term provisions of 35 U.S.C. 154(a)(2).

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[21] Appl. No.: 598,382

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[22] Filed: Feb. 8, 1996

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Related U.S. Application Data

(List continued on next page.)

[63] Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 443,607, May 18, 1995, Pat. No. 5,724,091, which is a continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 166,608, Dec. 13, 1993, abandoned, which is a continuation of Ser. No. 797,298, Nov. 25, 1991, abandoned.

Primary Examiner—Stephen S. Hong
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Dorsey & Whitney LLP

[51] Int. Cl. H04N 7/173

ABSTRACT

[52] U.S. Cl. 345/302; 348/10

[58] Field of Search 395/762, 806, 395/807, 173, 174, 327, 328; 434/307 R, 308; 364/514 A; 348/7, 8, 10; 345/302, 473, 474, 327, 328; 707/501

The present invention is an interactive computer system which may operate on a computer network. Subscribers interact with a fully interactive program through the use of input devices and a personal computer or a television. The multiple video/audio datastreams may be received from a broadcast transmission source or may be resident in local or external storage. In response to user inputs, a personalized graphics, video and/or audio presentation is provided to the user either immediately or at a later time. If not presented immediately, the interactive computer system utilizes "trigger points" to determine when to enable multiple multimedia segments during the show. The CPU uses embedded or stored authoring commands for integrating the various multimedia elements. The interactive multimedia computer enables seamless flicker-free switching from one signal to another on the same or different channels.

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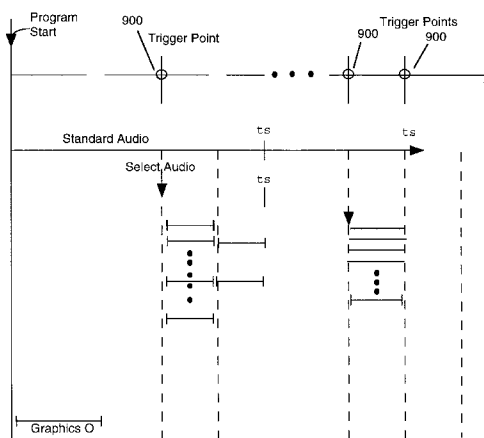
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19 Claims, 13 Drawing Sheets



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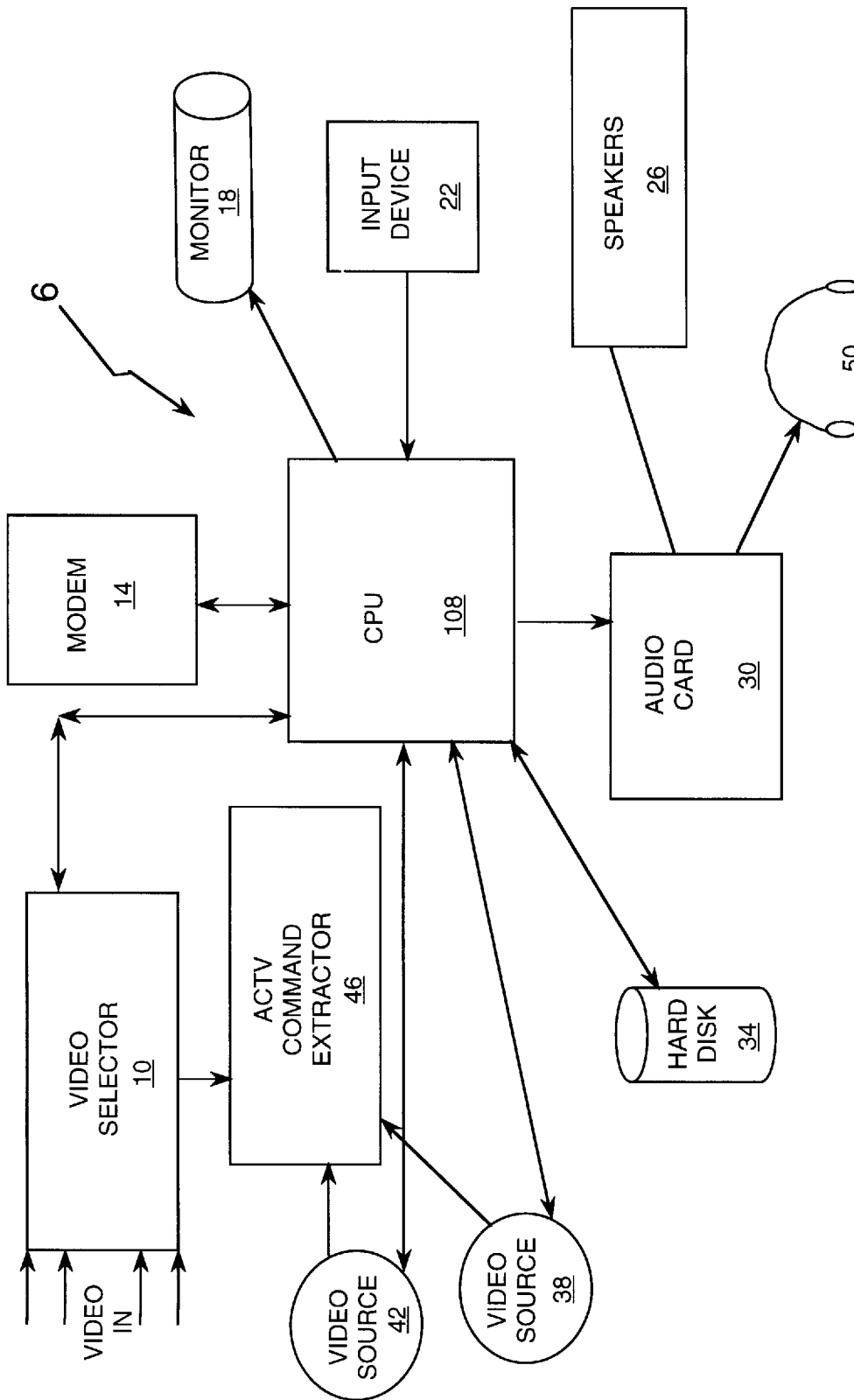


Figure 1

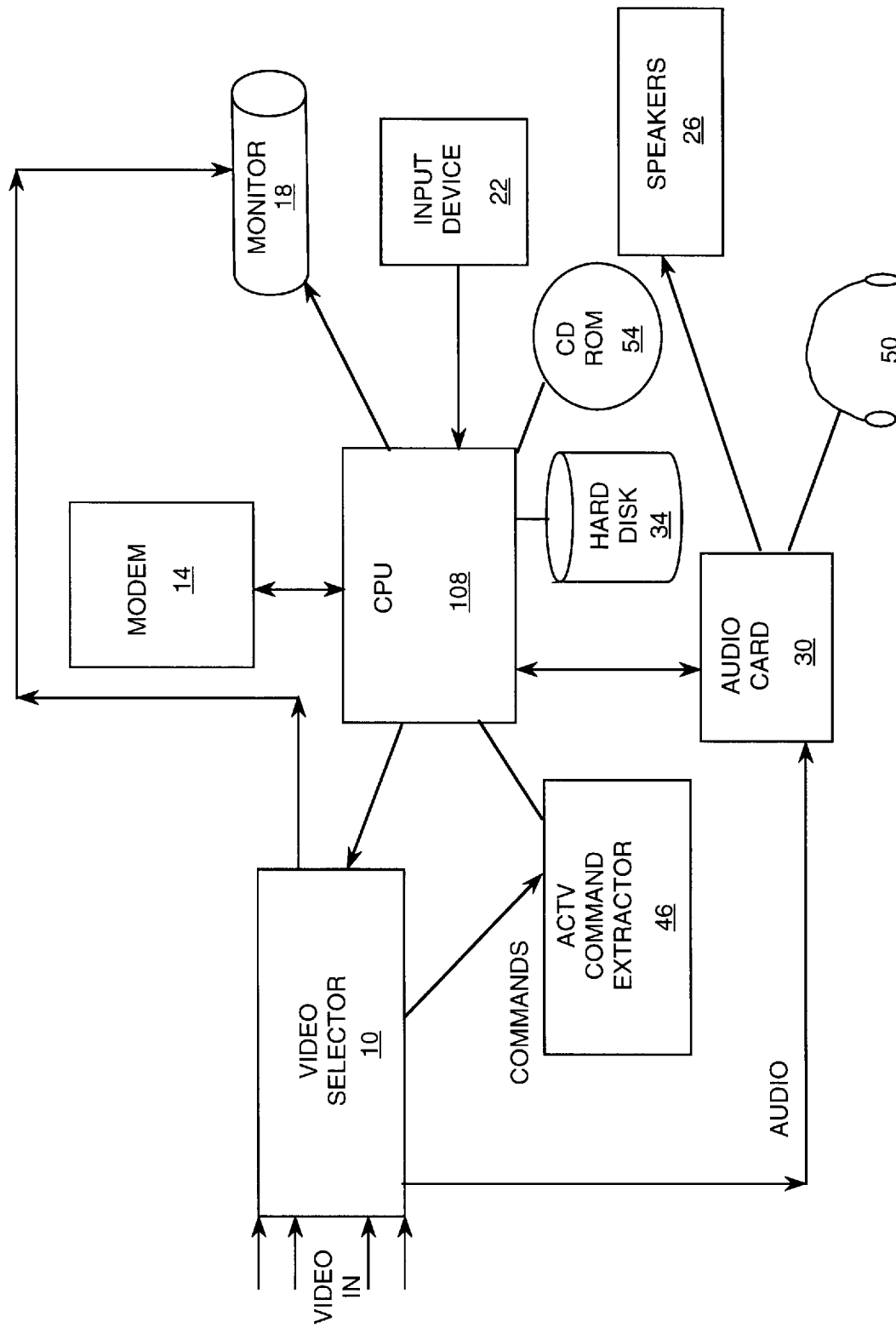


Figure 2

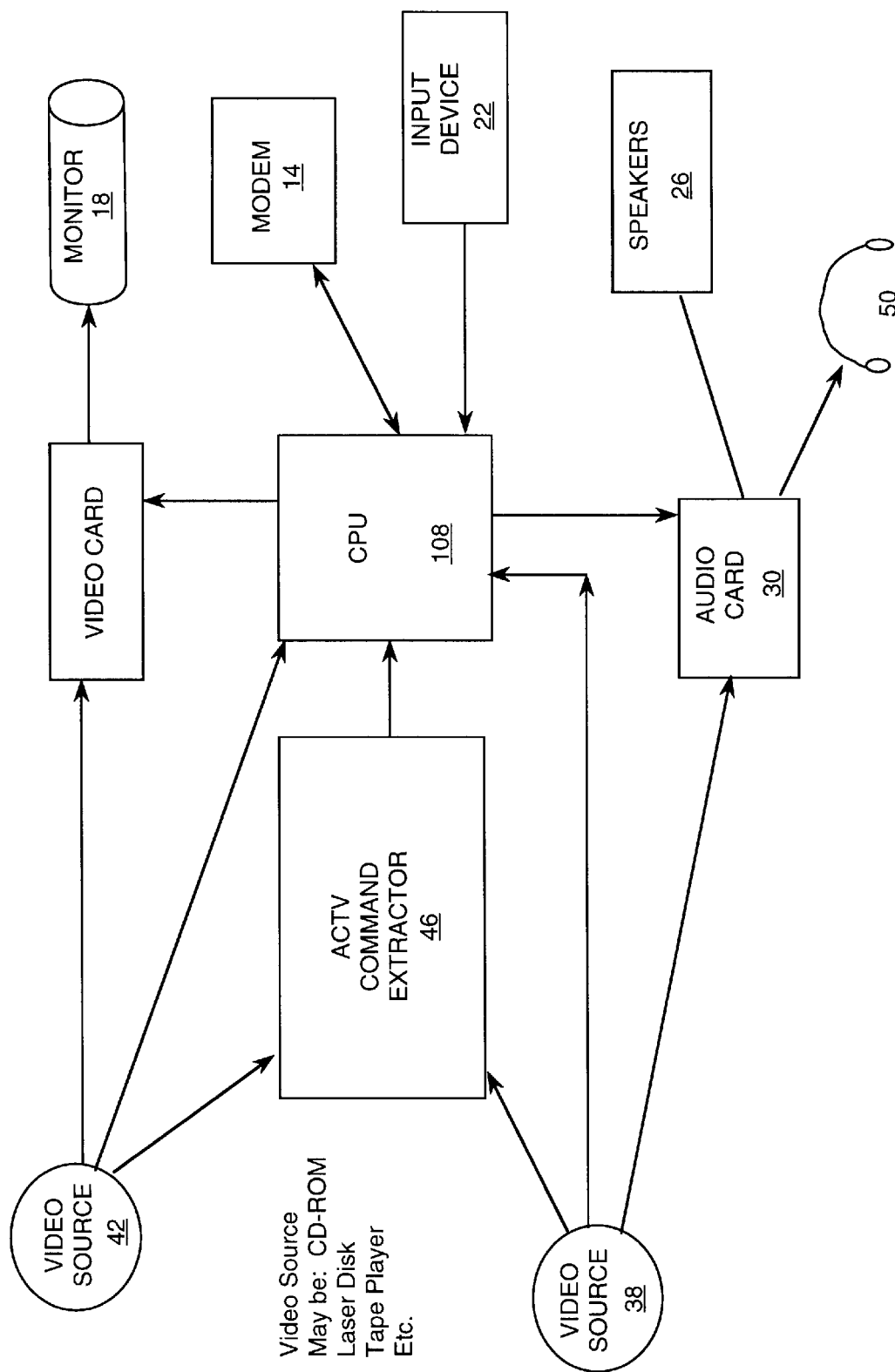


Figure 3

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