

United States Patent [19]

Bowes et al.

[54] MEMORY BUS ARBITER FOR A COMPUTER SYSTEM HAVING A DSP CO-PROCESSOR

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- [73] Assignce: Apple Computer, Inc., Cupertino, Calif.
- [21] Appl. No.: 189,138
- [22] Filed: Jan. 28, 1994

- [58] Field of Search 395/325, 425

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[11] Patent Number: 5,546,547

[45] Date of Patent: Aug. 13, 1996

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Primary Examiner-Jack B. Harvey

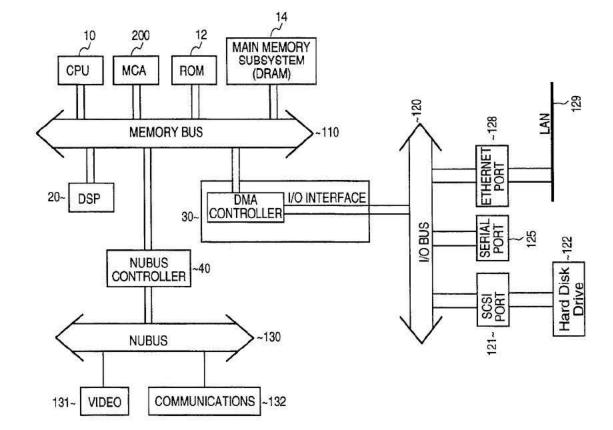
Assistant Examiner-David A. Wiley

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[57] ABSTRACT

An arbitration scheme for a computer system in which a digital signal processor resides on the computer system's memory bus without requiring a block of dedicated static random access memory. An arbitration cycle is divided into 10 slices of which 5 slices are provided in each arbitration loop to the digital signal processor. Two slices are provided each to the system's I/O interface and to the peripheral bus controller. A final slice is provided to the system's CPU. A default state when no memory bus resource is requesting the system memory bus parks the memory bus on the CPU. The arbitration scheme provides sufficient bandwidth for real-time signal processing by the digital signal process memory while also providing sufficient bandwidth for a local area network interface through the system's I/O interface.

8 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets



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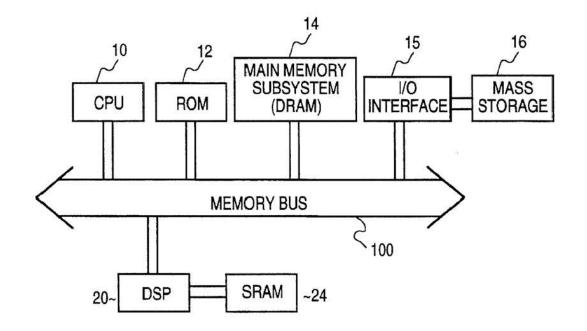


Figure 1 (Prior Art)

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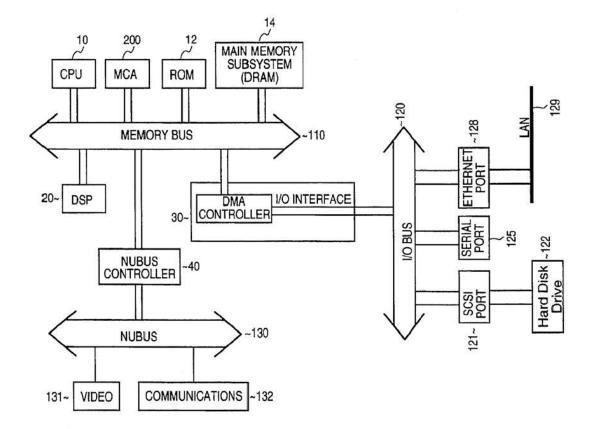
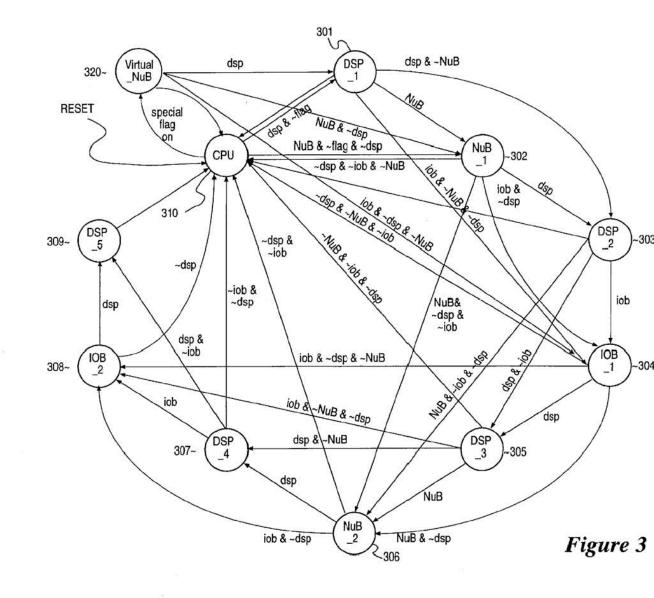


Figure 2

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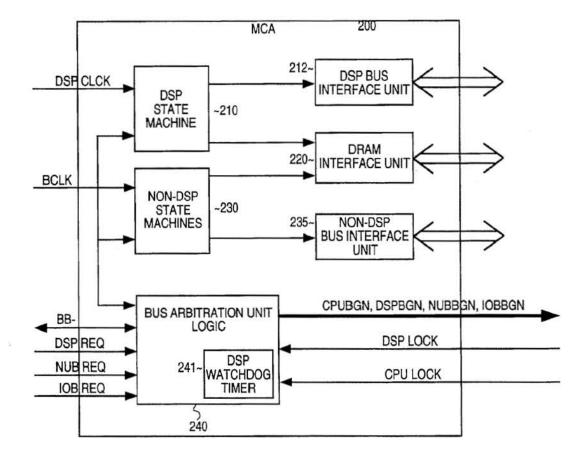


Figure 4

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