United States Patent [19]

Shinosky, Jr.

[54] ELECTRO-OPTICAL AND ELECTRONIC SWITCHING SYSTEMS

- [76] Inventor: Leonard W. Shinosky, Jr., 3714
 White Pine Road, Apt. C, Baltimore, Md. 21220
- [21] Appl. No.: 760,607
- [22] Filed: Jan. 19, 1977

Related U.S. Application Data

- [63] Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 573,177, April 30, 1975, abandoned.
- [51] Int. Cl.² H04B 9/00
- [52] U.S. Cl. 179/18 GF; 179/15 A;
- 250/199; 315/372 [58] Field of Search 179/18 GF, 18 GE, 15 A, 179/15 AT, 15 AZ; 250/199; 315/367, 374, 372, 30; 340/166 R, 147 R

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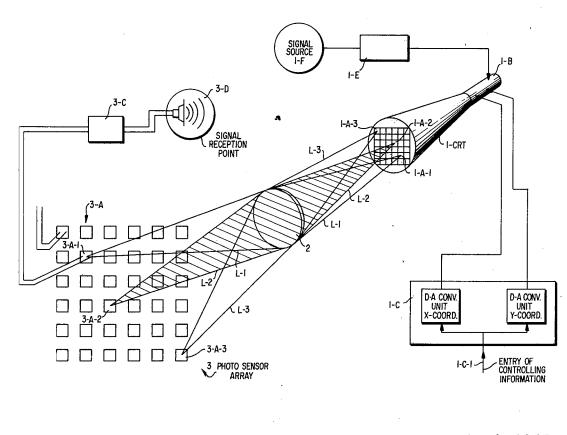
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Primary Examiner—Thomas A. Robinson Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Griffin, Branigan & Butler

[57] ABSTRACT

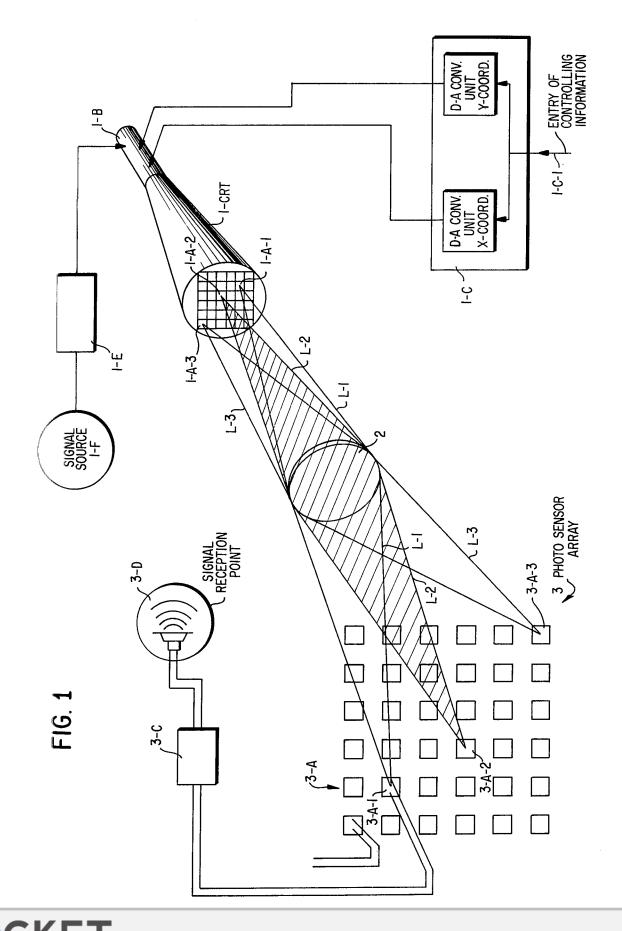
A switching system, specifically useful as a telephone central switching system, to establish a number of simultaneous but independent communication links between selected lines, comprising: (1) a CRT to transmit signals in the form of modulated light beams, (2) lenses to focus and direct the light generated, (3) an array of photosensors each connected to a different communication line, and (4) electronic controls to direct the beam as required. Also disclosed are electronic embodiments of the foregoing; time division multiplex and composite systems to expand the basic system; and also arrangements to facilitate adaptation of the system to telephone applications. The system avoids much of the hardware and circuit complications of prior switching systems.

42 Claims, 9 Drawing Figures

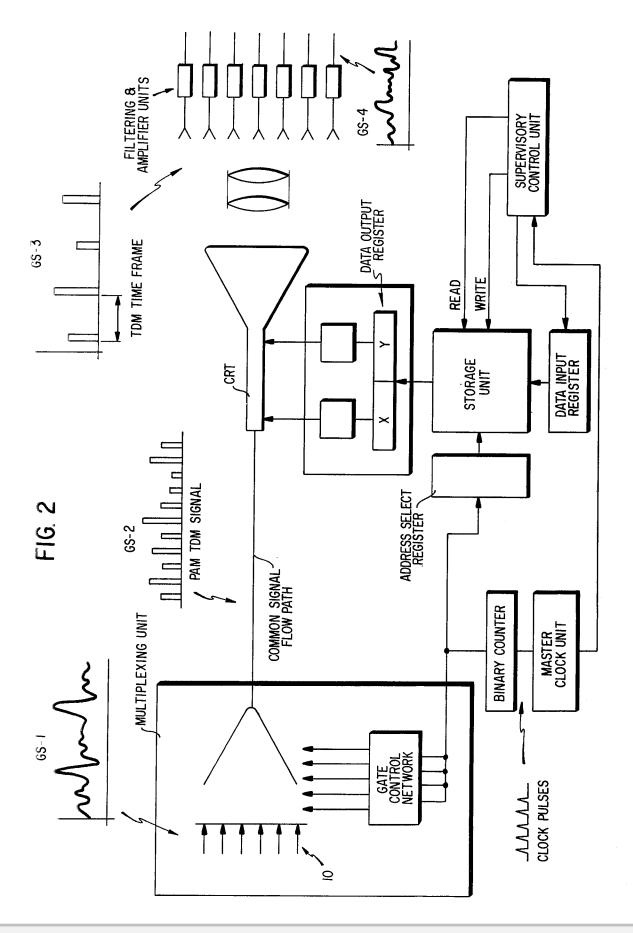


Apple 1045

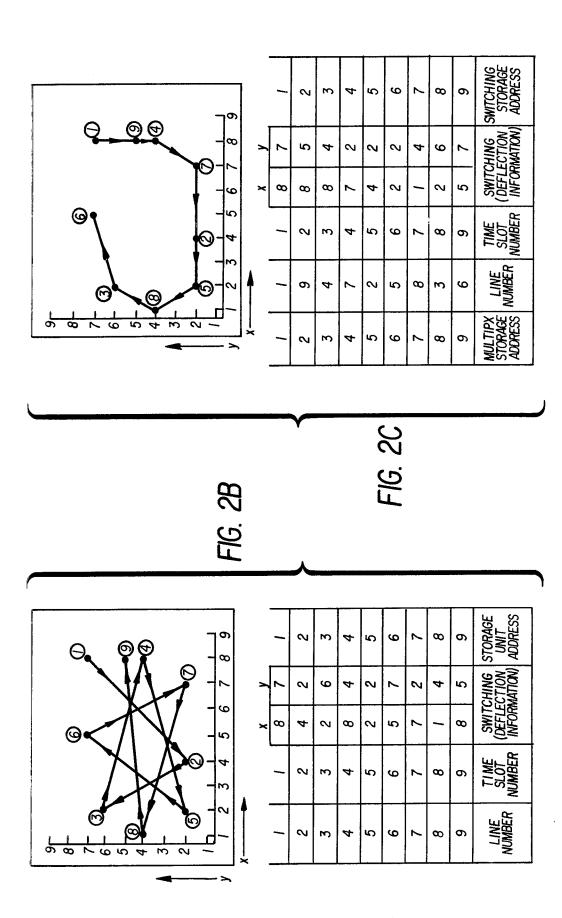
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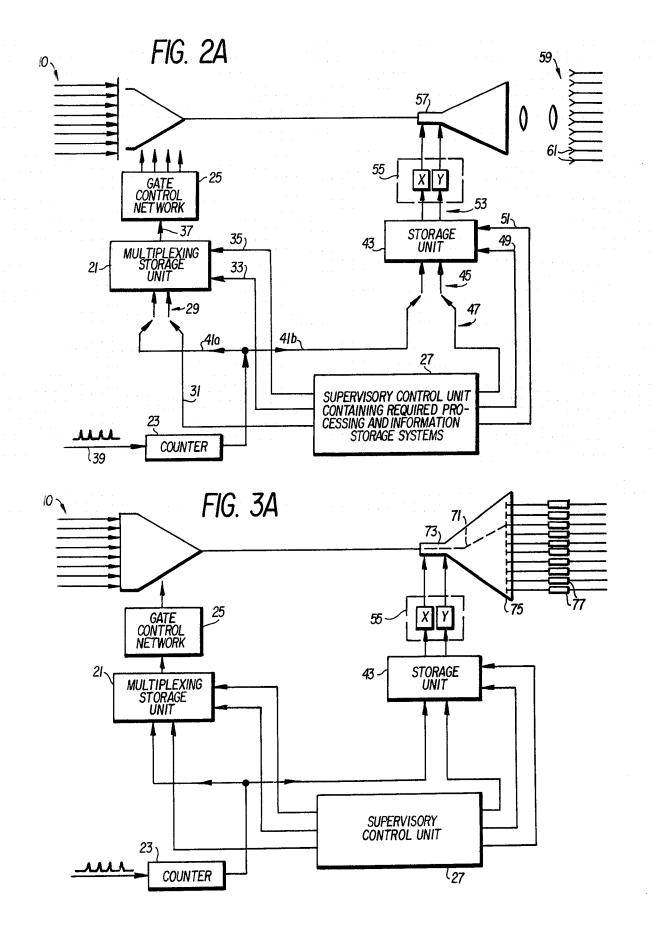
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