



US005917821A

United States Patent [19]
Gobuyan et al.

[11] **Patent Number:** **5,917,821**
[45] **Date of Patent:** **Jun. 29, 1999**

[54] **LOOK-UP ENGINE FOR PACKET-BASED NETWORK**

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[21] Appl. No.: **08/663,263**

[22] PCT Filed: **Dec. 21, 1994**

[86] PCT No.: **PCT/CA94/00695**

§ 371 Date: **Aug. 16, 1996**

§ 102(e) Date: **Aug. 16, 1996**

[87] PCT Pub. No.: **WO95/18497**

PCT Pub. Date: **Jul. 6, 1995**

[30] **Foreign Application Priority Data**

Dec. 24, 1993 [GB] United Kingdom 9326476

[51] Int. Cl.⁶ **H04L 12/46**

[52] U.S. Cl. **370/392; 370/401**

[58] Field of Search 370/392, 395, 370/400, 401-405, 465, 466, 351, 389, 396, 397, 474; 395/200.68

[56] **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

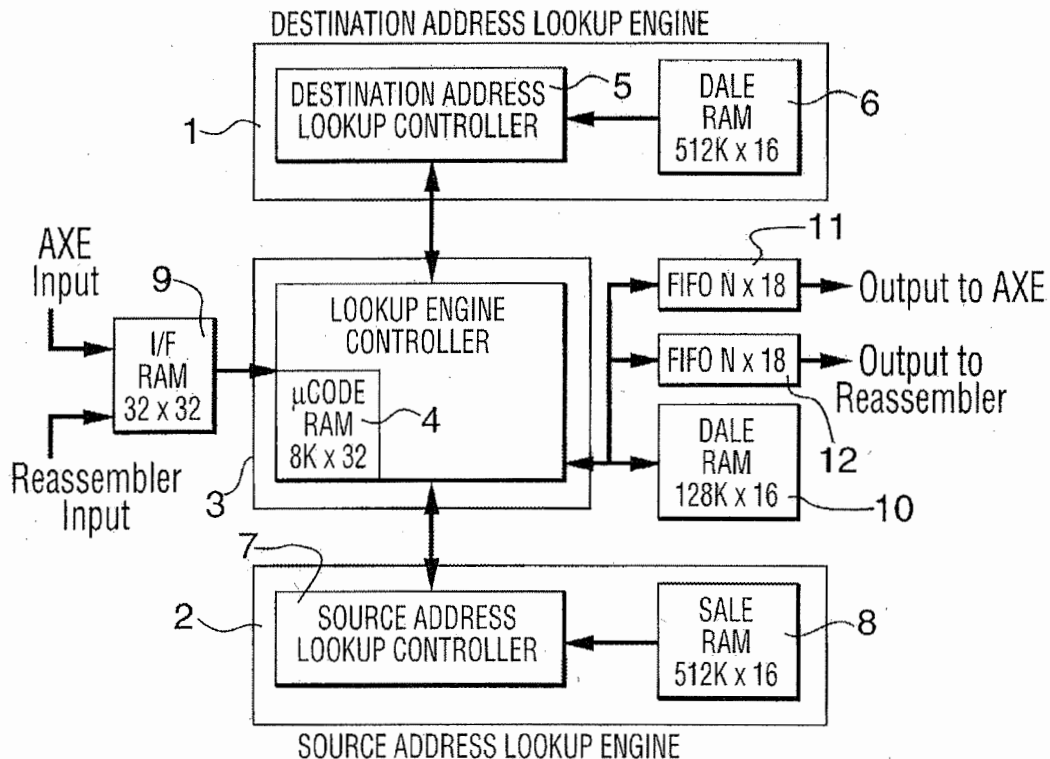
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Primary Examiner—Chau Nguyen
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Marks & Clerk

[57] **ABSTRACT**

An arrangement is disclosed for parsing packets in a packet-based data transmission network. The packets include packet headers divided into fields having values representing information pertaining to the packet. The arrangement includes an input receiving fields from the packet headers of incoming packets, a memory for storing information related to possible values of said fields, and a device for retrieving the stored information appropriate to a received field value. The retrieving device comprises a look-up engine including at least one memory organized in a hierarchical tree structure, and a controller for controlling the operation of the memory. The arrangement is capable of performing fast look-up operations at a low cost of implementation.

29 Claims, 11 Drawing Sheets.



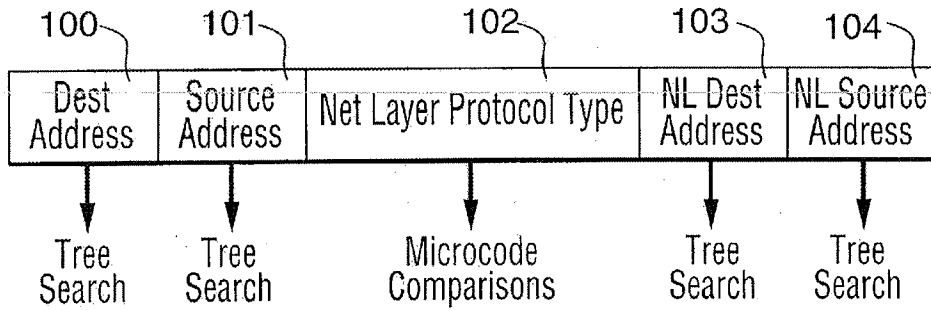


FIG. 1

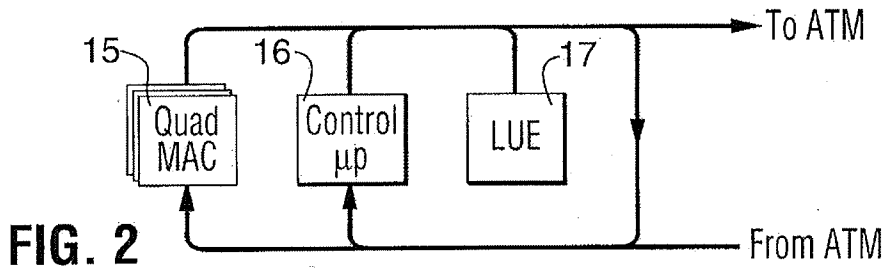


FIG. 2

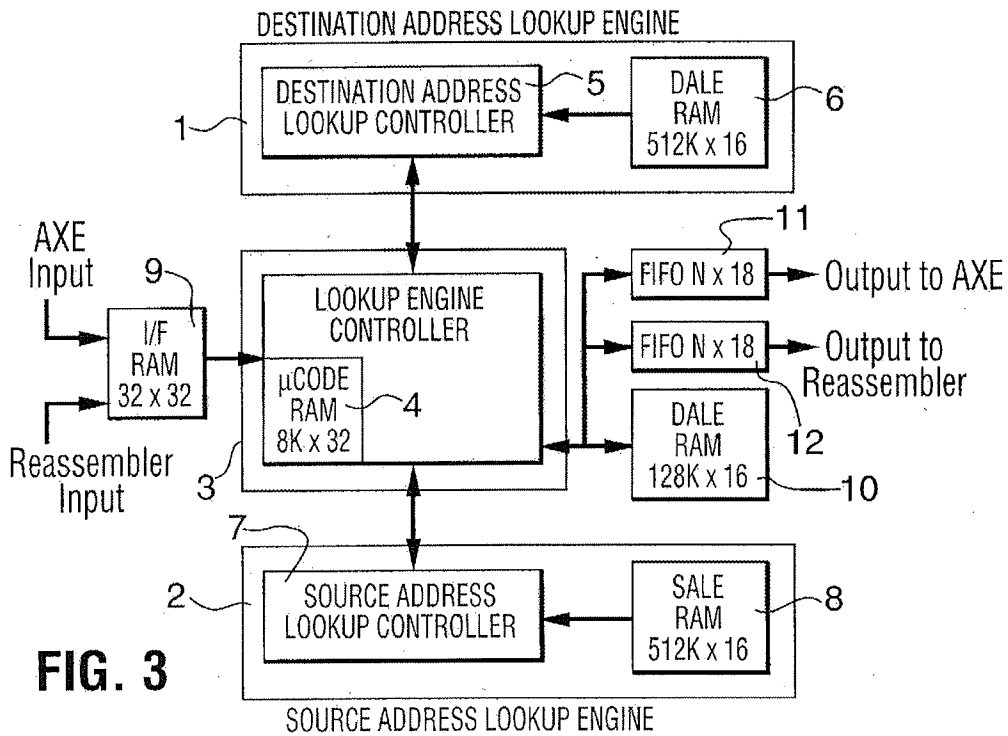


FIG. 3

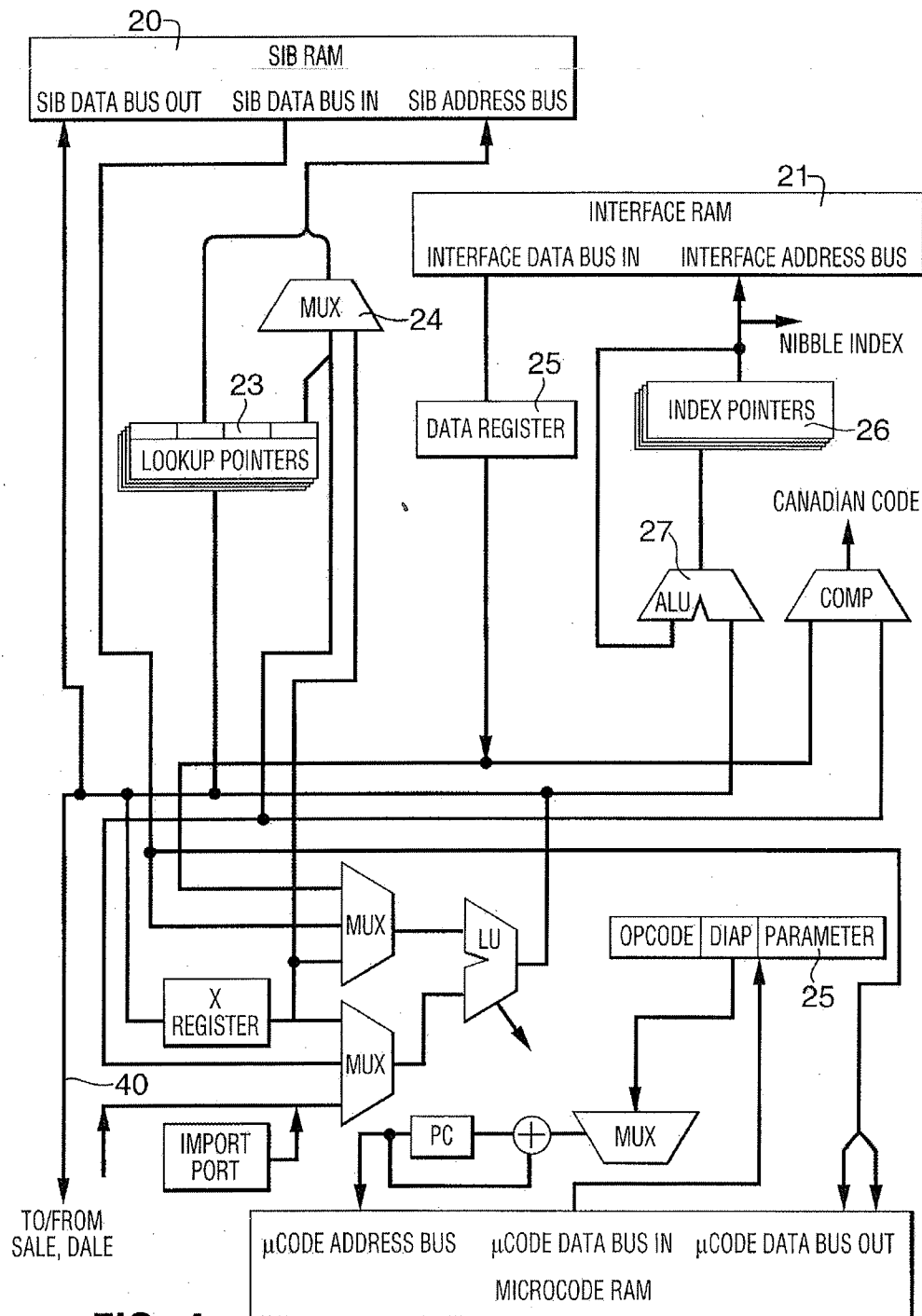


FIG. 4

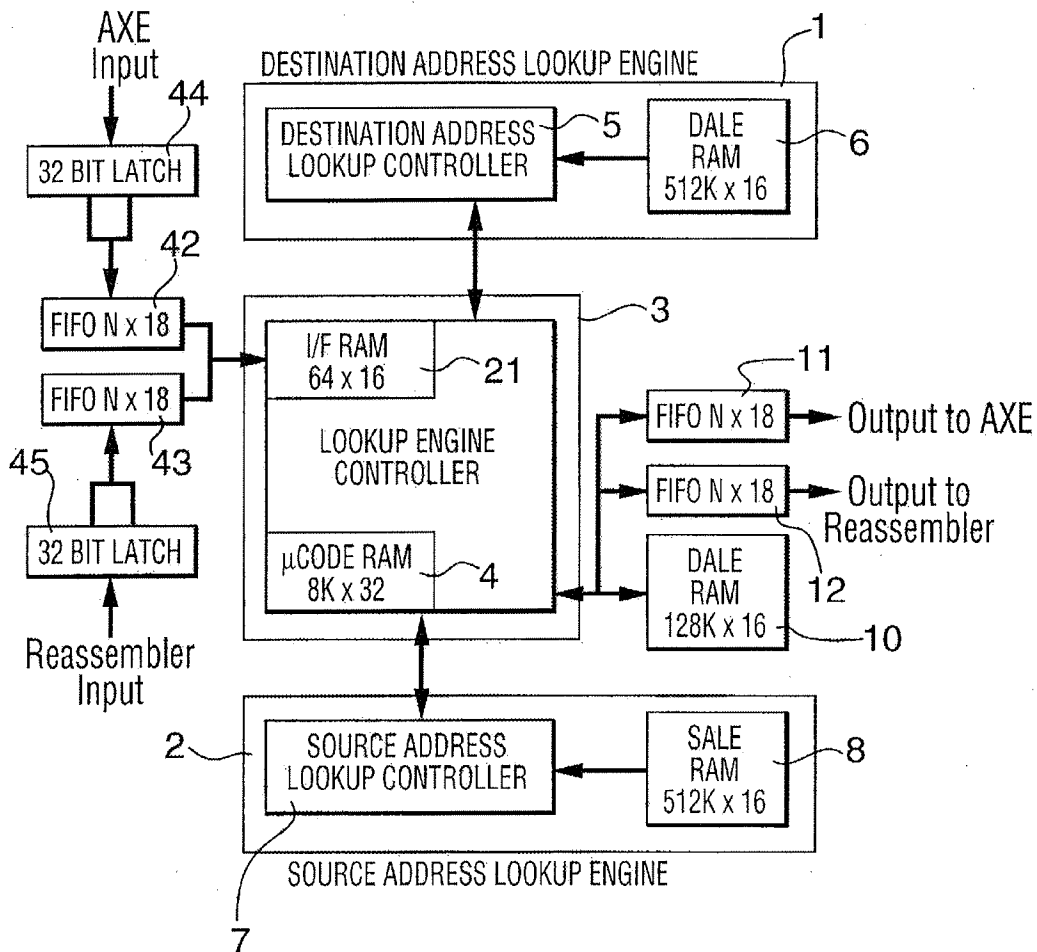


FIG. 5

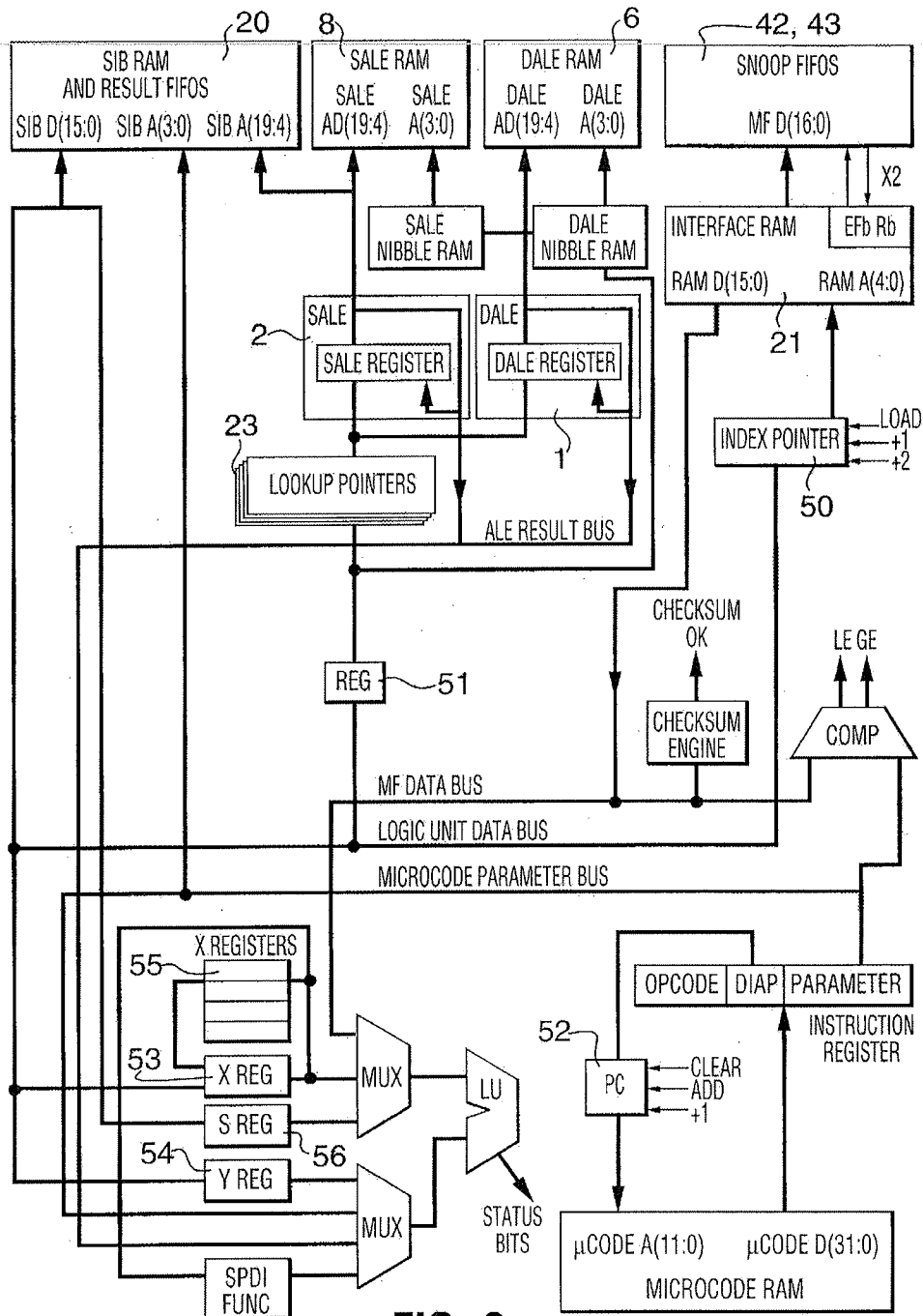


FIG. 6

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