

# United States Patent [19]

Shah et al.

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[54] DATA PROCESSING SYSTEM HAVING  
AUTOMATIC CONFIGURATION

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[51] Int. Cl.<sup>4</sup> ..... G06F 3/00

[52] U.S. Cl. .... 364/200

[58] Field of Search ... 364/200 MS File, 900 MS File,  
364/300

## [56] References Cited

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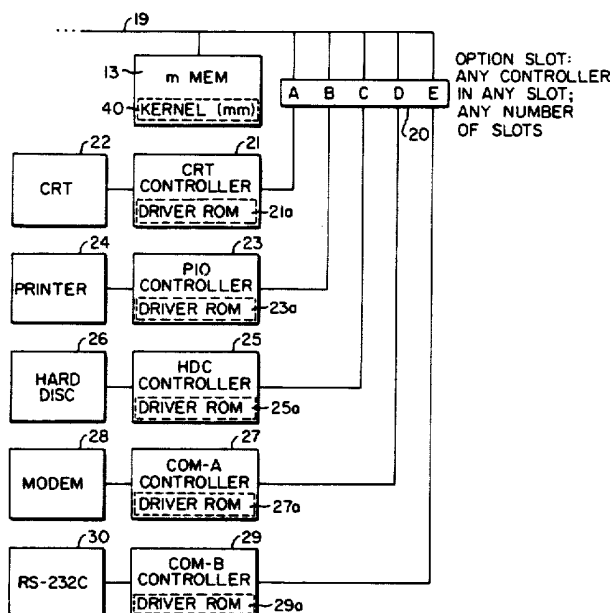
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Primary Examiner—Raulfe B. Zache  
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Townsend & Townsend

## [57] ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for automatic configuration of a computer system is provided wherein one or more system peripheral or I/O devices can be interfaced to the computer system through I/O boards that plug into a system motherboard. Each of the I/O devices includes a controlling device driver module that operates under a program code stored in a read only memory resident on the I/O board and by which the device driver module allows the computer system to communicate with its associated peripheral and I/O devices. Accordingly, a system user is not required to change the computer operating system kernel to support each new I/O device or system configuration change.

13 Claims, 8 Drawing Figures



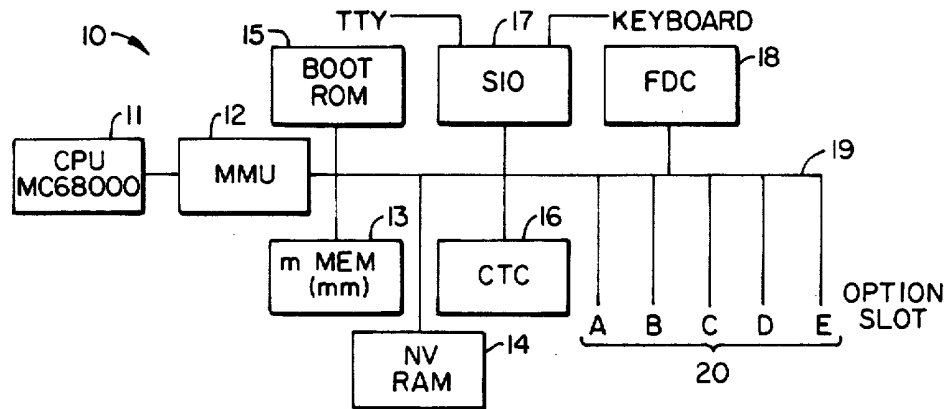


FIG. 1.

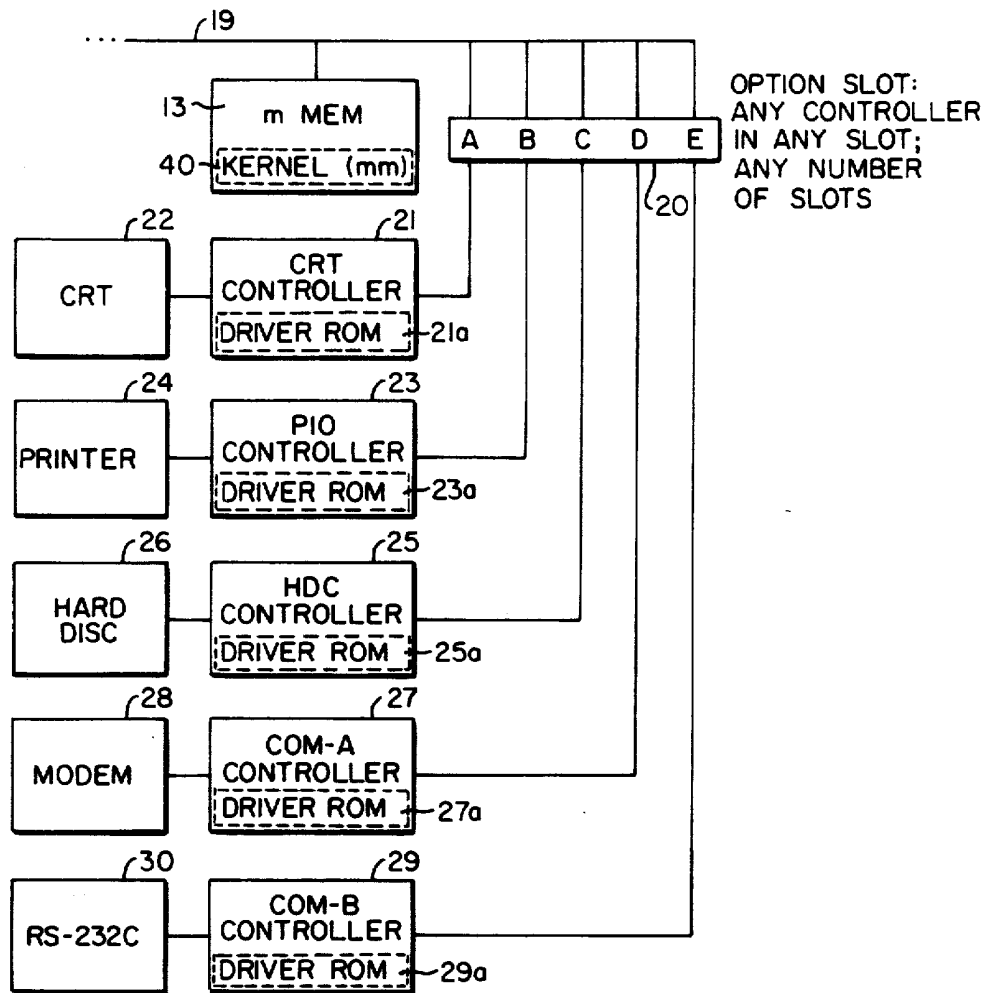


FIG. 2.

OPTION SLOT:  
ANY CONTROLLER  
IN ANY SLOT;  
ANY NUMBER  
OF SLOTS

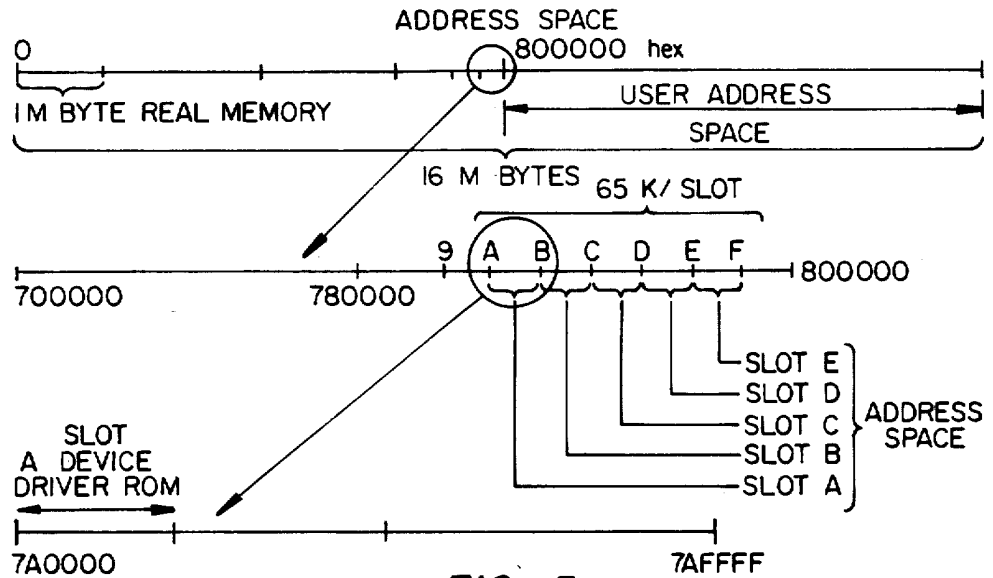


FIG. 3.

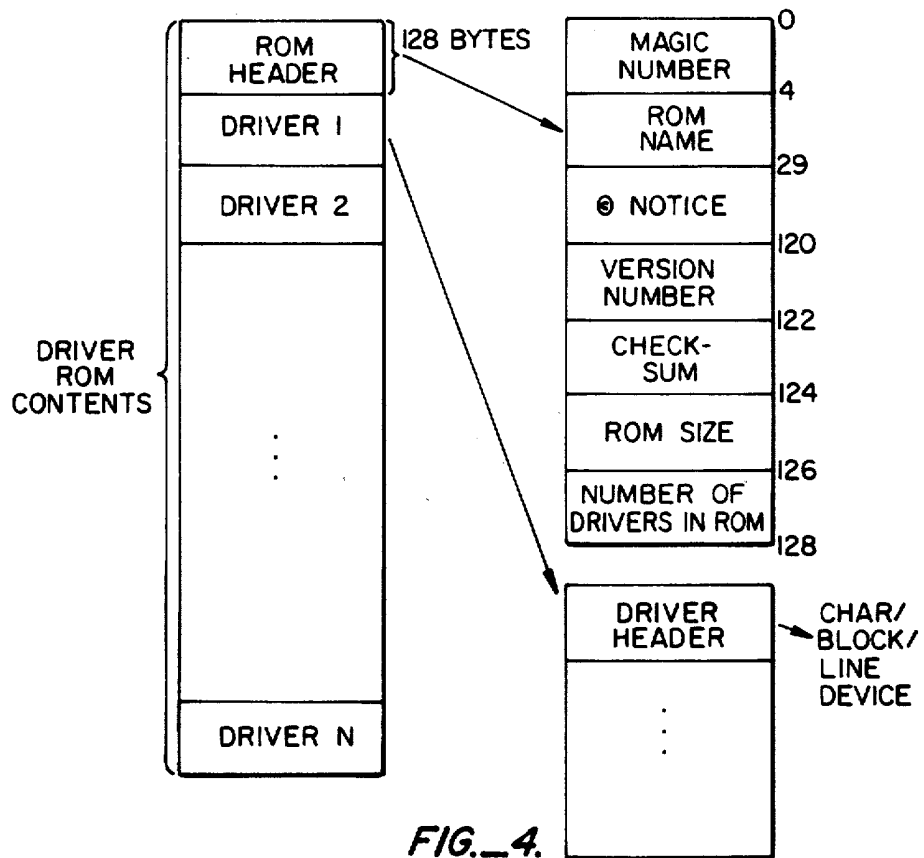


FIG. 4.

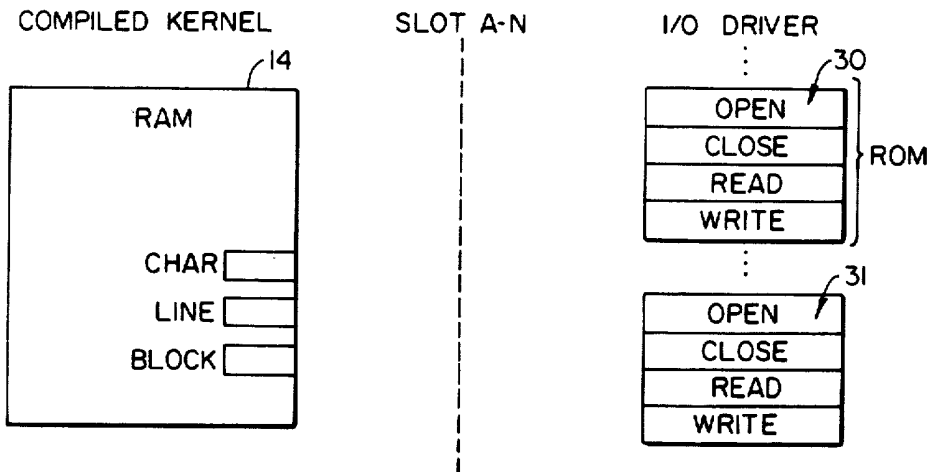


FIG. 5A.

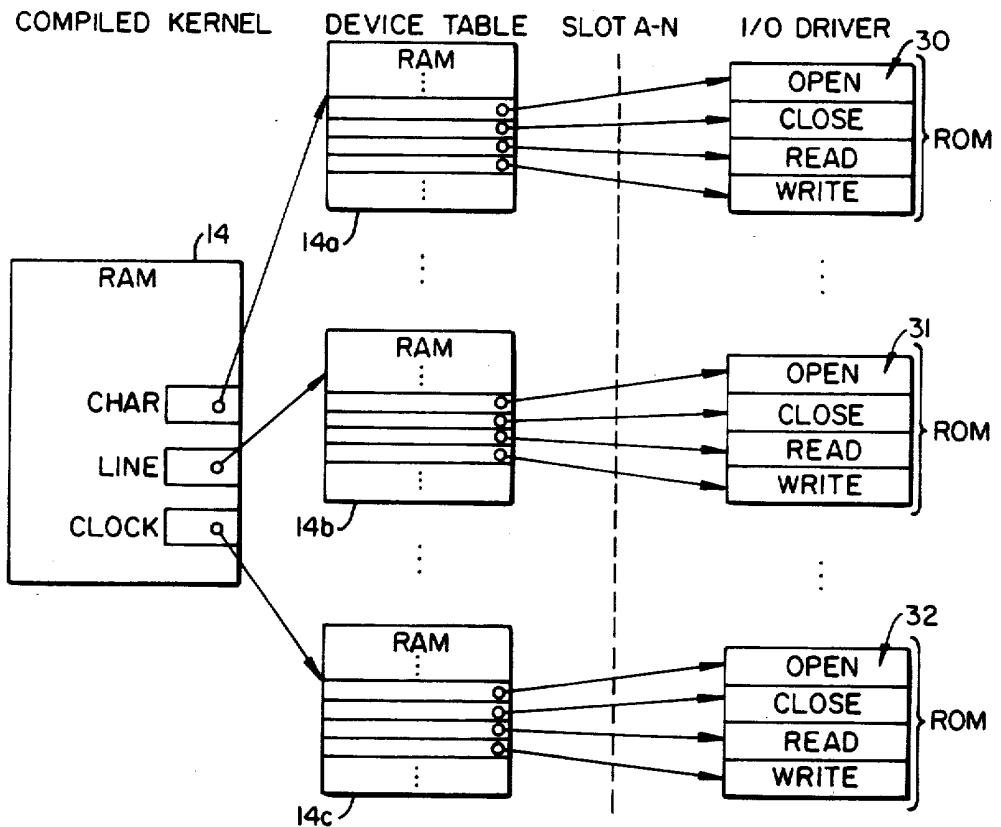


FIG. 5B.

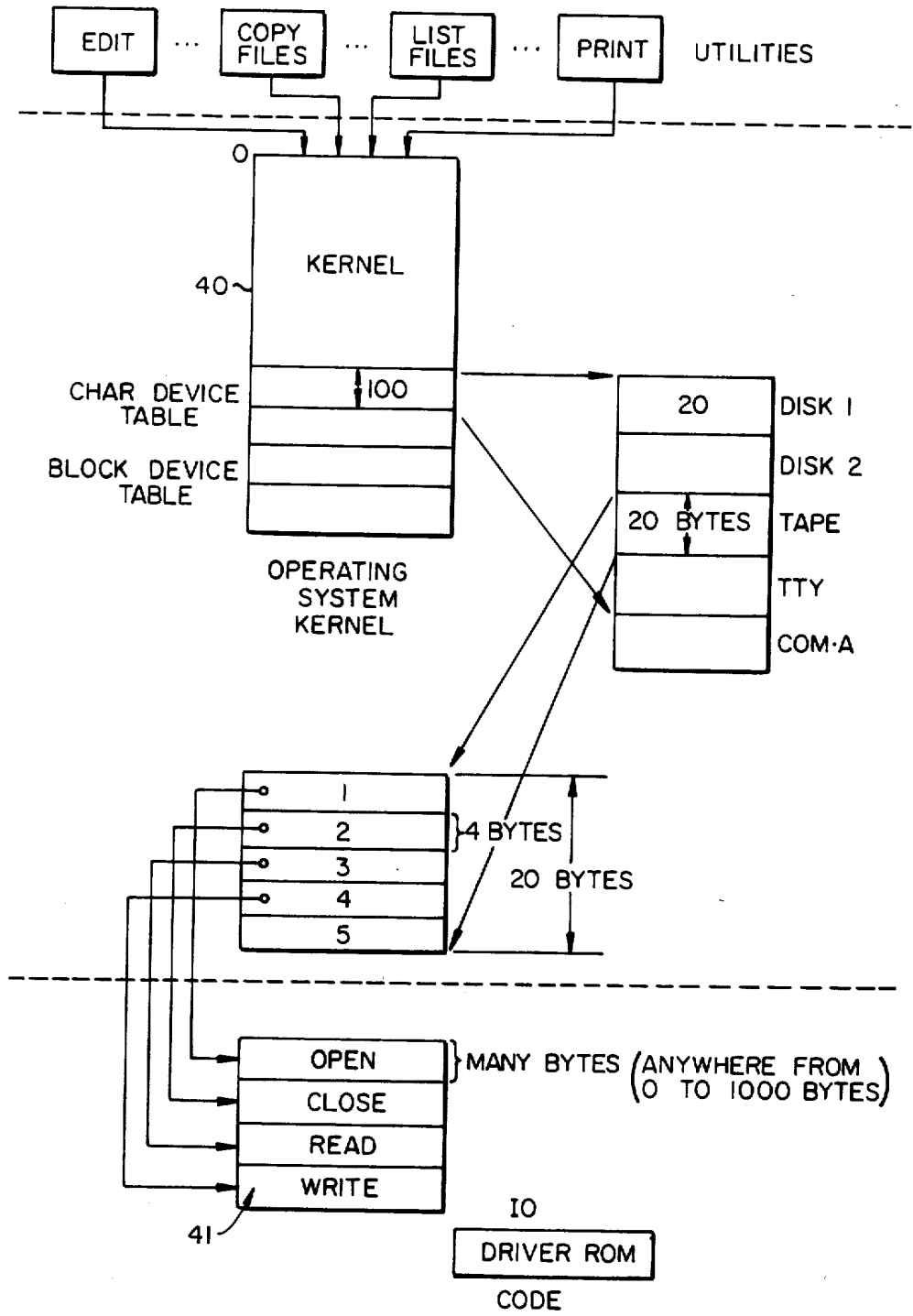


FIG. 6.

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