

United States Patent [19]

Shah et al.

[11] Patent Number: 4,589,063

[45] Date of Patent: May 13, 1986

[54] DATA PROCESSING SYSTEM HAVING
AUTOMATIC CONFIGURATION

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[21] Appl. No.: 520,354

[22] Filed: Aug. 4, 1983

[51] Int. Cl.⁴ 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

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

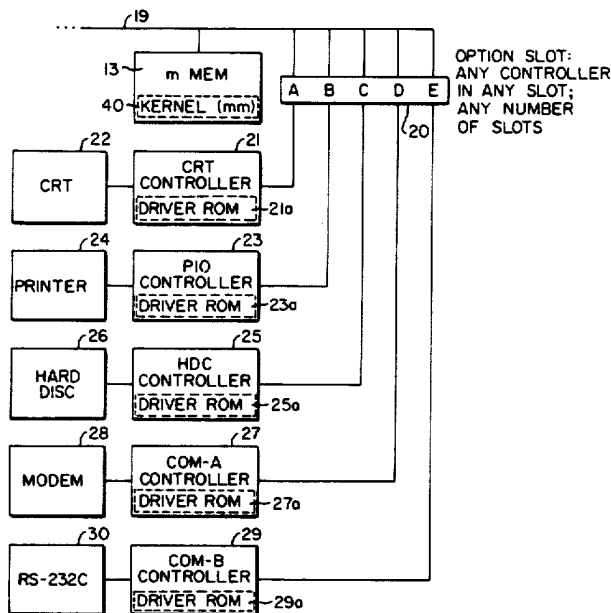
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Primary Examiner—Raulfe B. Zache
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Townsend & Townsend

[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



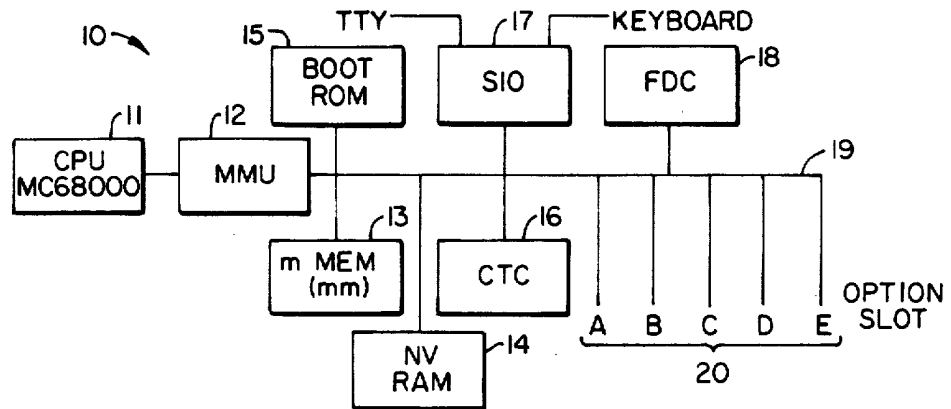


FIG. 1.

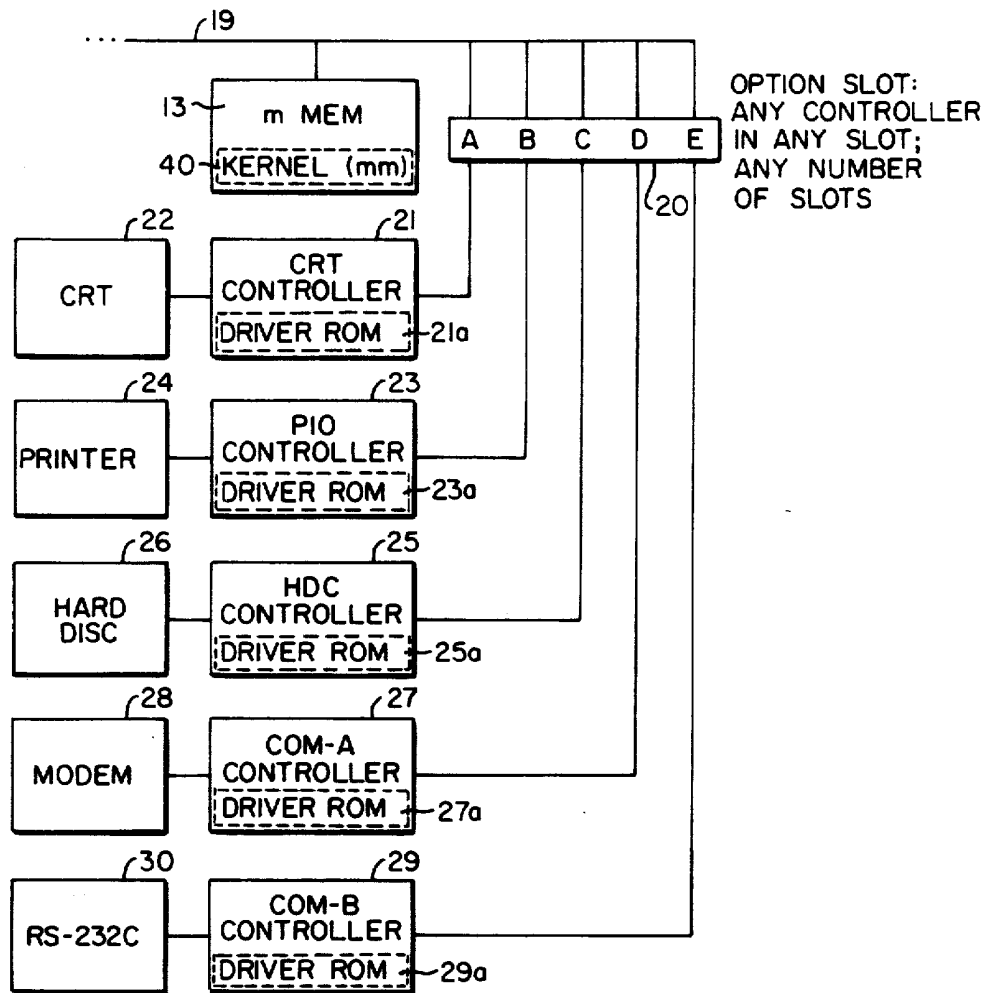


FIG. 2.

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

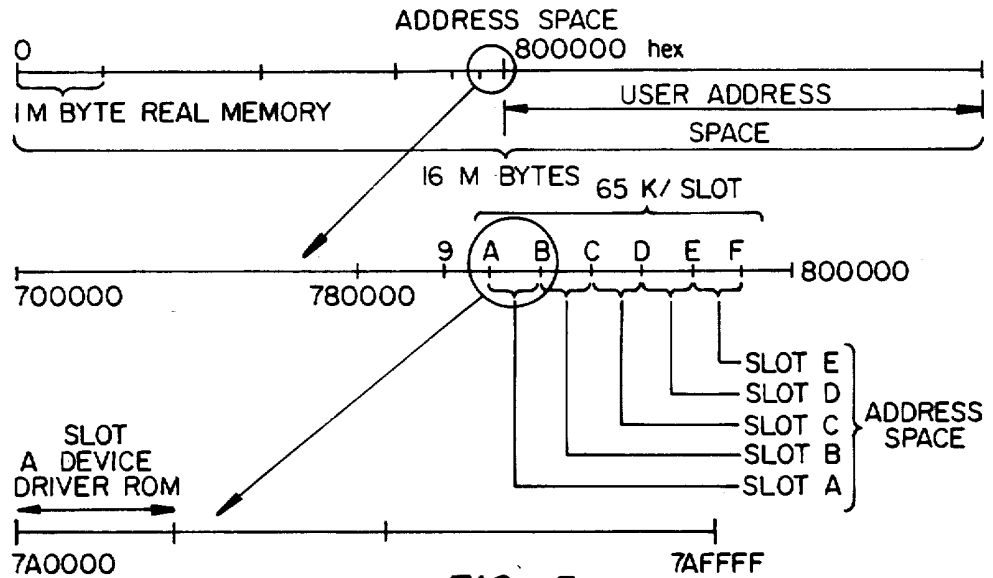


FIG. 3.

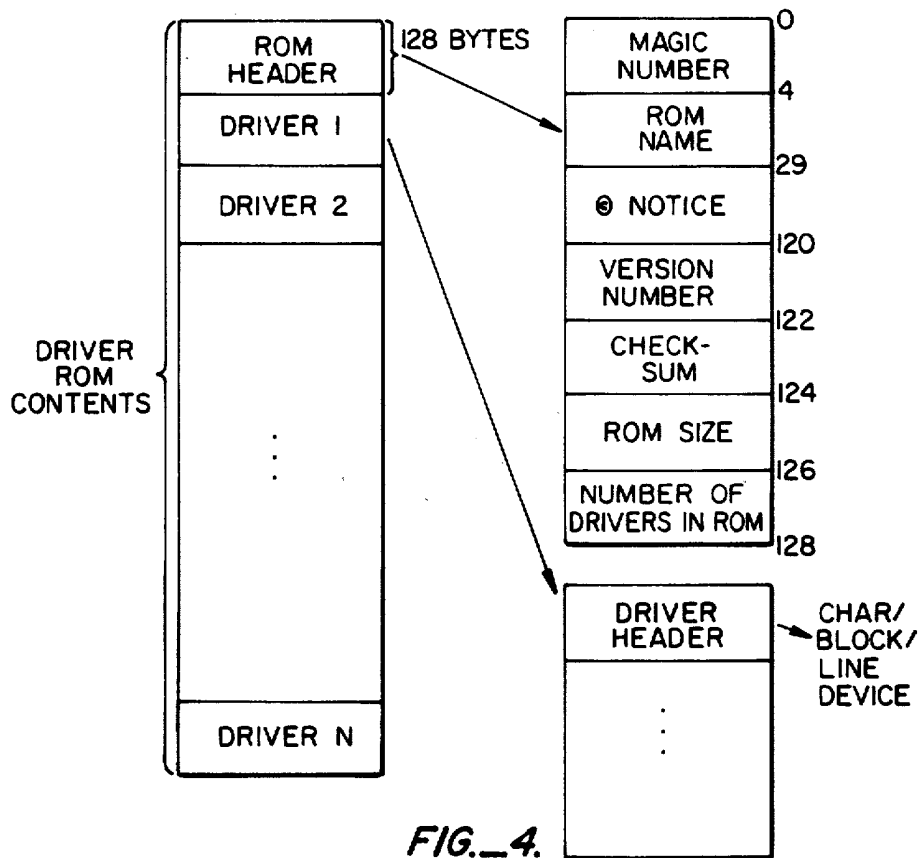


FIG. 4.

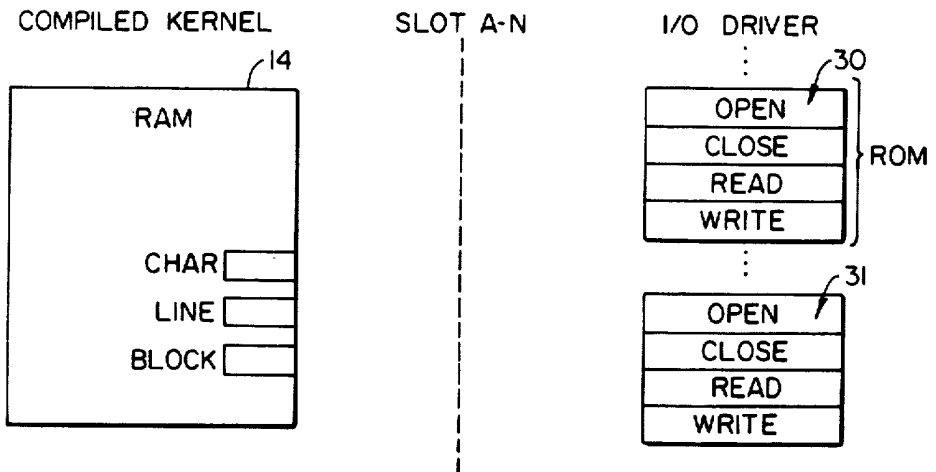


FIG. 5A.

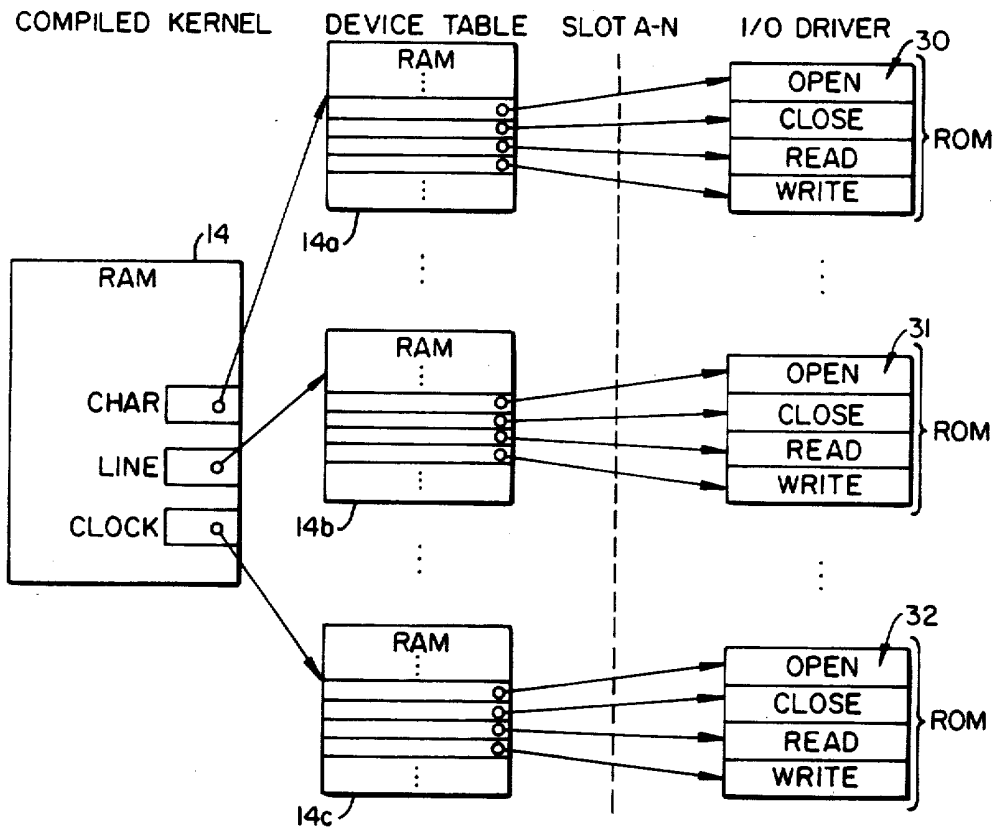


FIG. 5B.

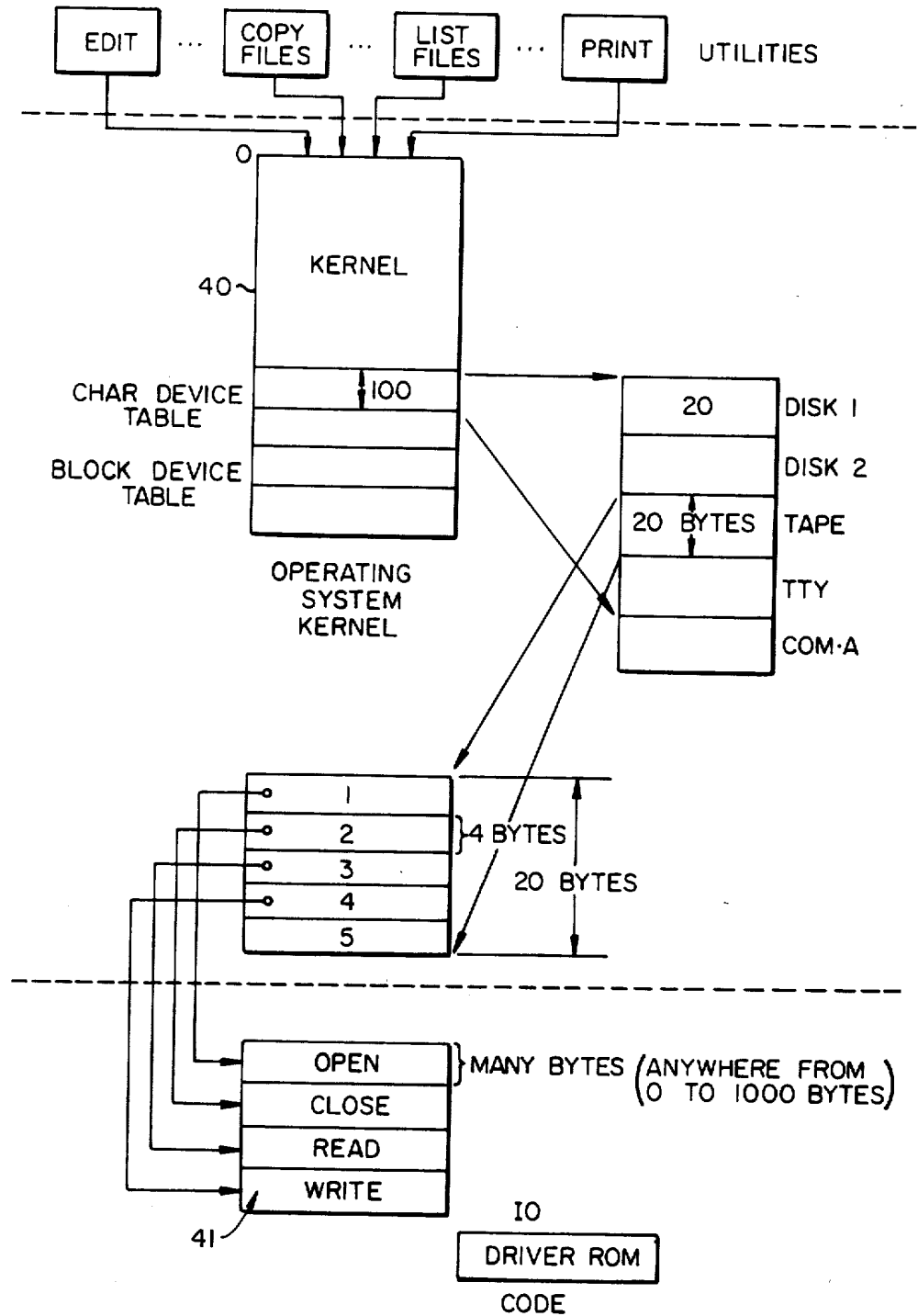


FIG. 6.

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