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# United States Patent [19]

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Khan

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- [54] SYSTOLIC ARRAY FOR MULTIDIMENSIONAL MATRIX COMPUTATIONS
- [75] Inventor: Emdadur R. Khan, San Jose, Calif.
- [73] Assignee: National Semiconductor Corporation, Santa Clara, Calif.
- [21] Appl. No.: 592,954
- [22] Filed: Oct. 4, 1990
- [51] Int. Cl.<sup>5</sup> ..... G06F 15/347
- [52] U.S. Cl. .... 395/800; 364/271.2; 364/258; 364/258.2; 364/276.8; 364/DIG. 1; 364/754
- [58] Field of Search ..... 364/754, 845, 728.05, 364/841; 395/800

Primary Examiner—Eric Coleman  
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Limbach & Limbach

### [57] ABSTRACT

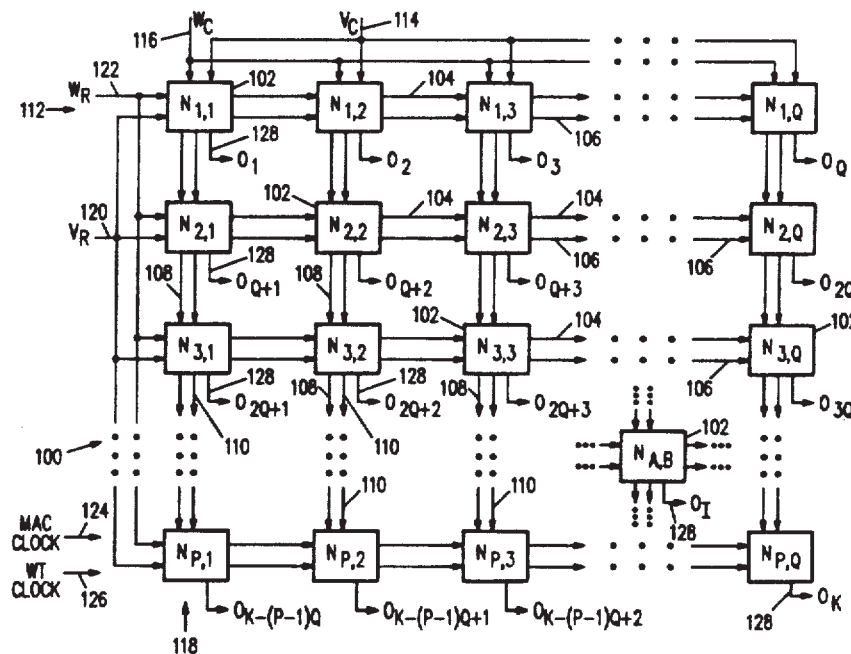
A multidimensional systolic array processor uses a multidimensional array of systolically coupled processing elements to perform matrix-vector multiplication of matrix and vector signal sets. A two-dimensional array uses a  $P \times Q$  matrix (P rows and Q columns) of processing elements which are coupled to systolically process the signals, e.g. via multiplication and accumulation. The processing elements are coupled both row-to-row and column-to-column for pipeline processing within each row and each column, i.e. multidimensional pipelining, thereby increasing processing parallelism and speed. Interconnectivity of the processing elements is minimized by forming separate column and row signal subsets of the vector signal set which are coupled simultaneously to each processing element in the first row and first column, respectively. Size of the processing elements is minimized by reducing local storage of matrix signal subsets within each processing element. Separate column and row signal subsets of the matrix signal set are formed and coupled into each processing element of the first row and first column, respectively. As the matrix column and row signal subsets are systolically processed and transferred row-to-row and column-to-column, respectively, each signal subset is reduced in size by one signal, thereby requiring the transfer and temporary local storage of successively smaller matrix signal subsets. A three-dimensional processor uses a  $P \times Q \times T$  array (T planes of P rows and Q columns) of processing elements which are coupled plane-to-plane-to-plane.

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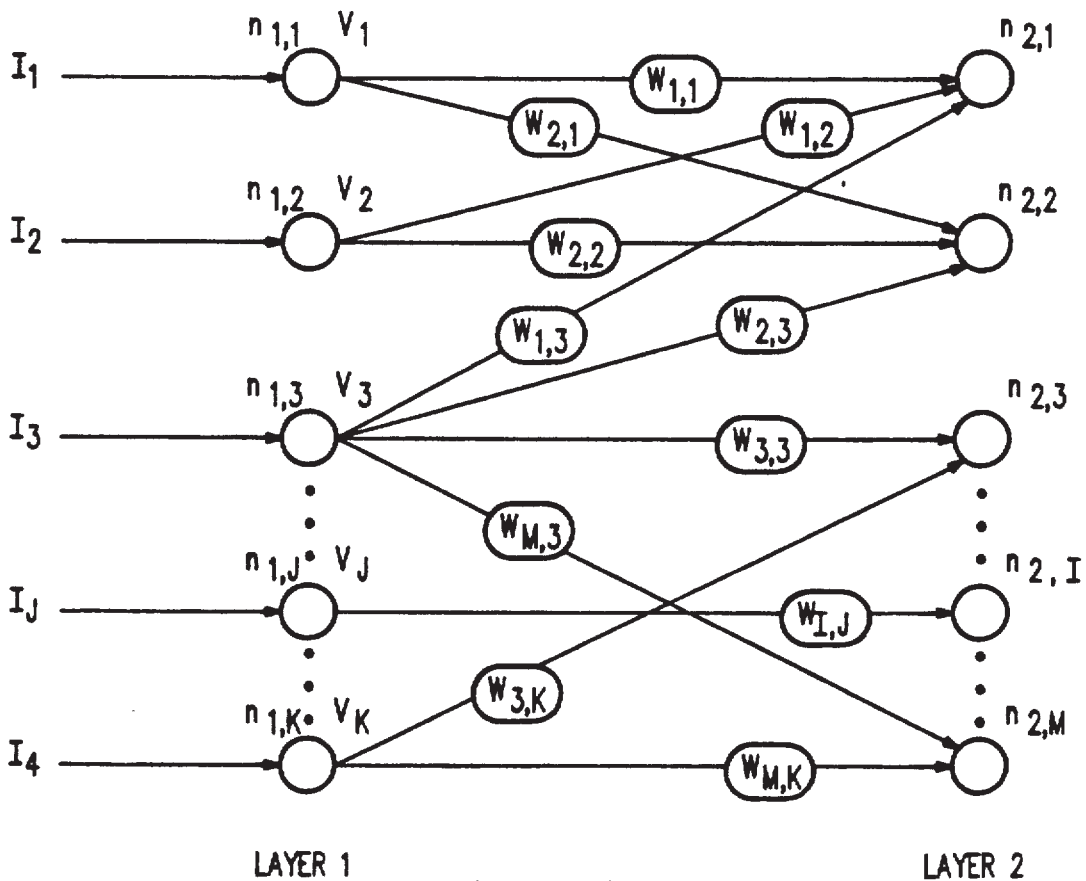
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45 Claims, 18 Drawing Sheets

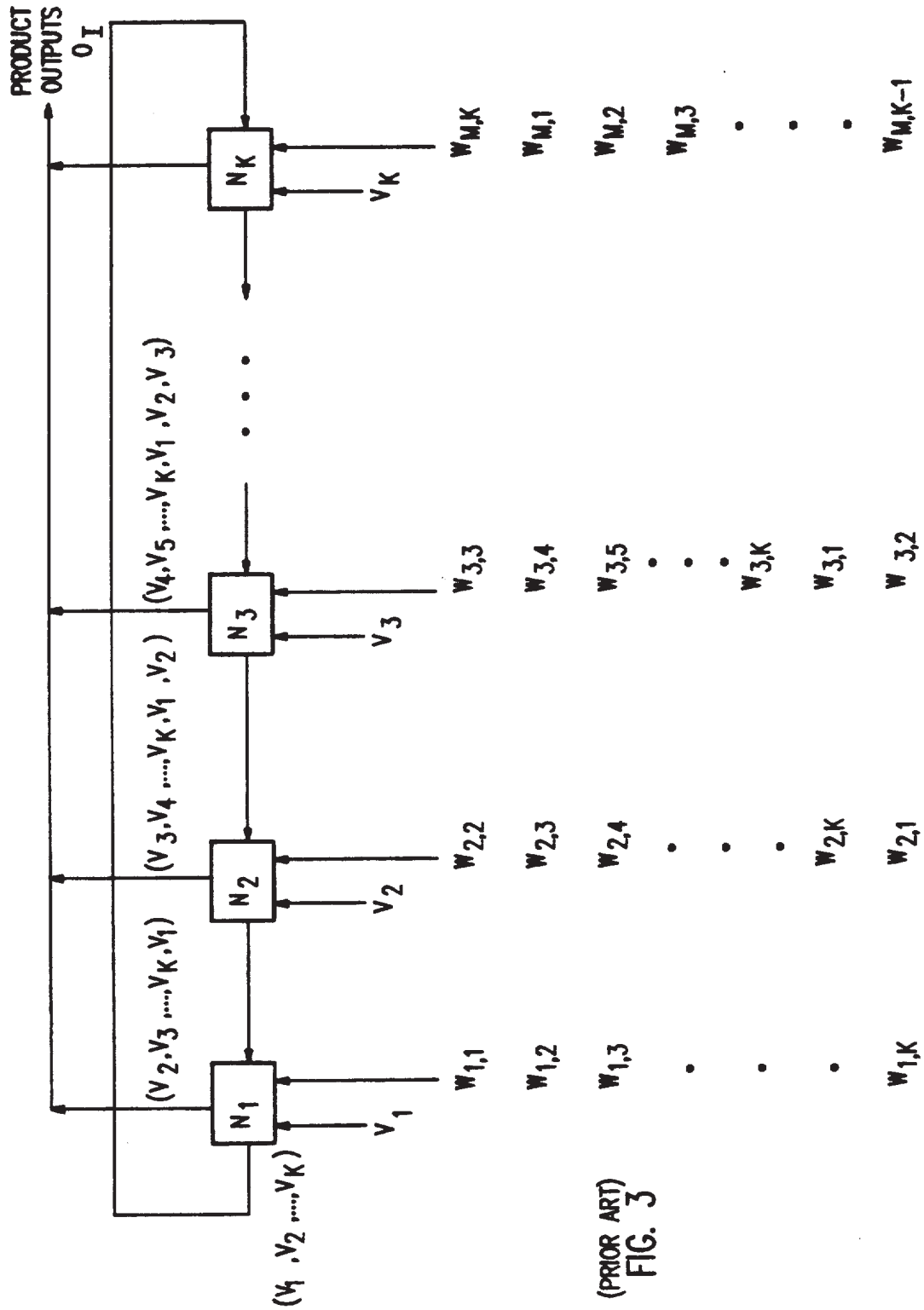


$$\begin{bmatrix}
 W_{1,1} & W_{1,2} & W_{1,3} & \cdots & W_{1,K} \\
 W_{2,1} & W_{2,2} & & & W_{2,K} \\
 W_{3,1} & & \ddots & & W_{3,K} \\
 \vdots & & & W_{I,J} & \vdots \\
 \vdots & & & & \vdots \\
 W_{M,1} & W_{M,2} & W_{M,3} & \cdots & W_{M,K}
 \end{bmatrix}
 \begin{bmatrix}
 V_1 \\
 V_2 \\
 V_3 \\
 \vdots \\
 V_J \\
 \vdots \\
 V_K
 \end{bmatrix}
 =
 \begin{bmatrix}
 O_1 \\
 O_2 \\
 O_3 \\
 \vdots \\
 O_I \\
 \vdots \\
 O_M
 \end{bmatrix}$$

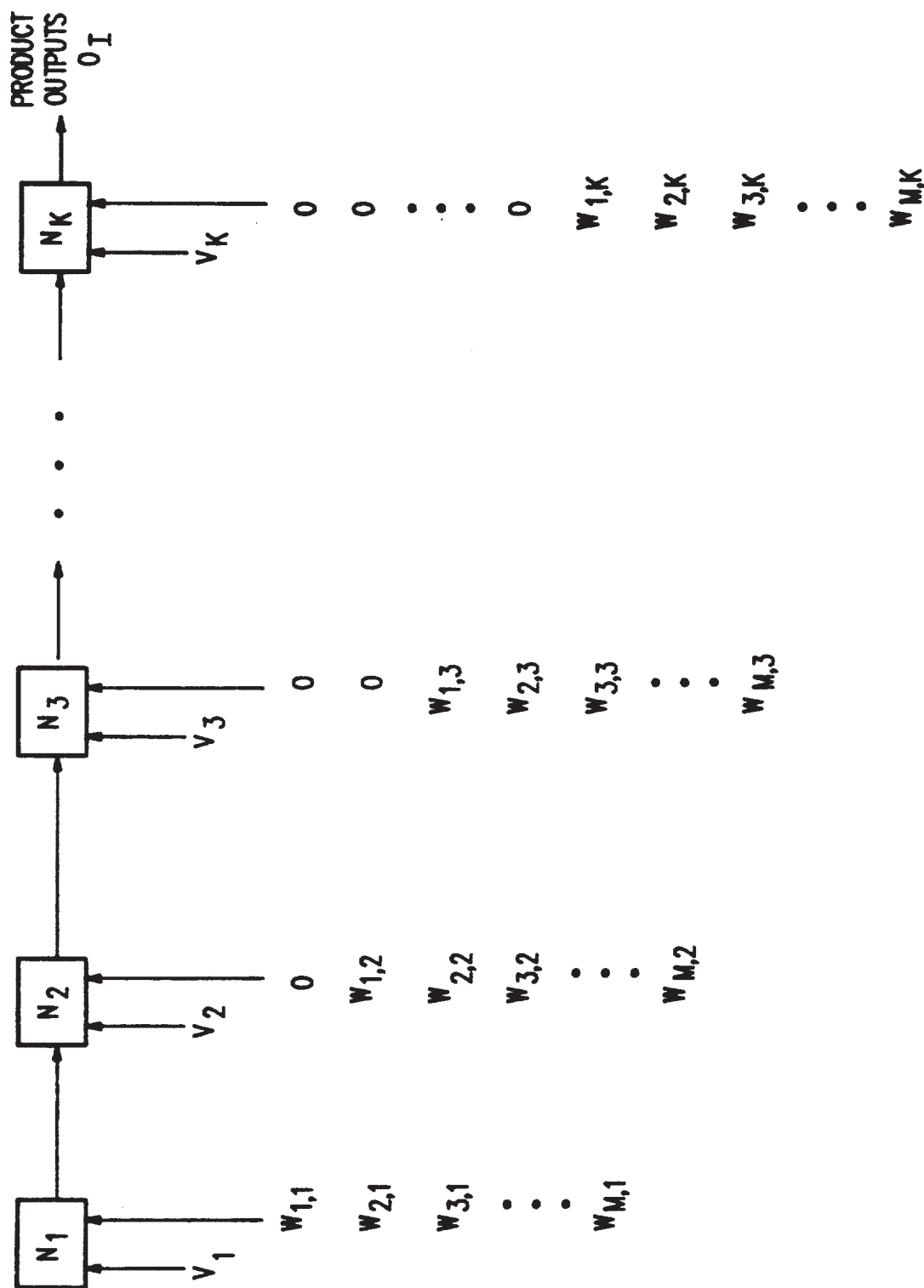
(PRIOR ART)  
FIG. 1



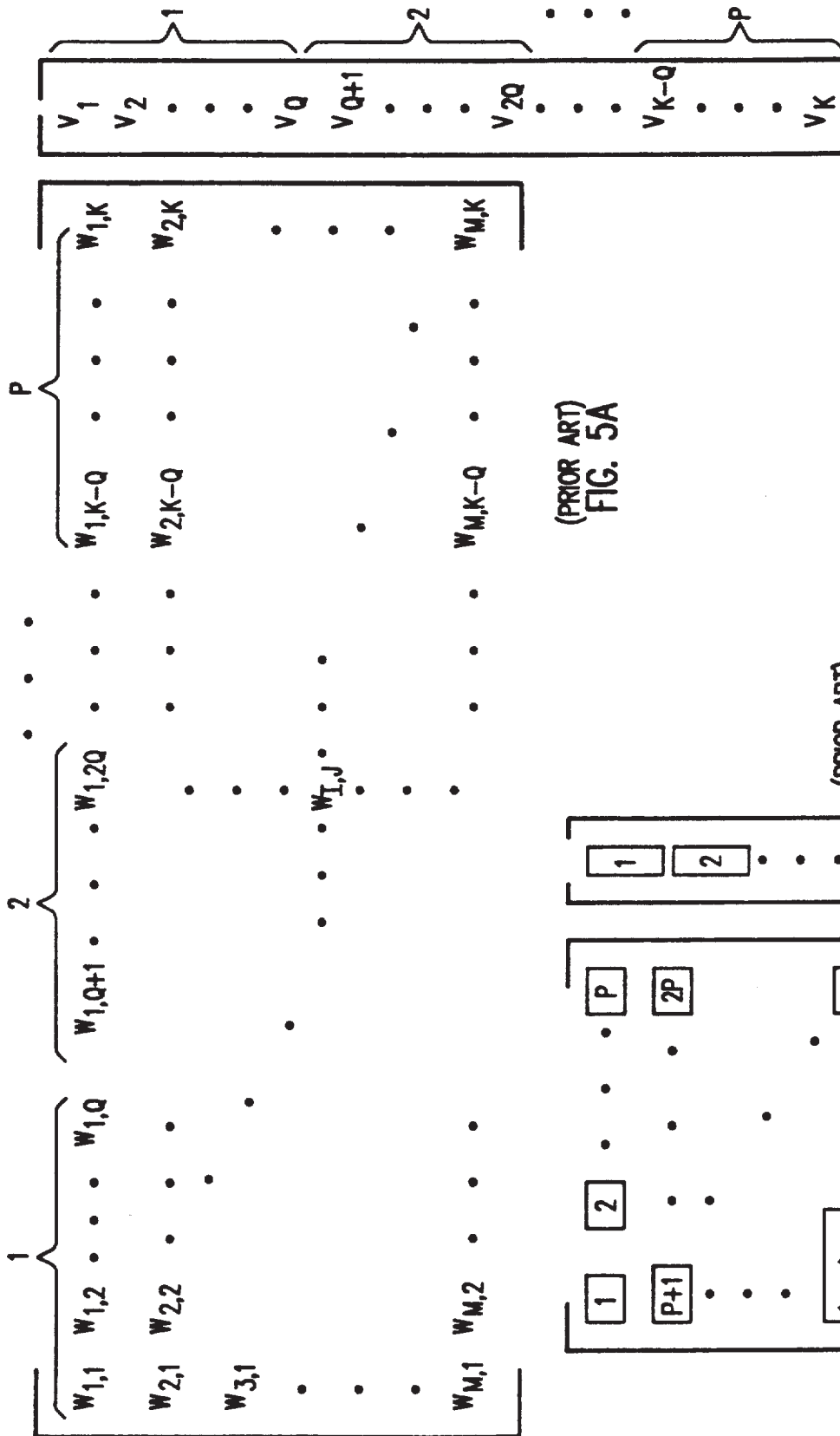
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FIG. 2



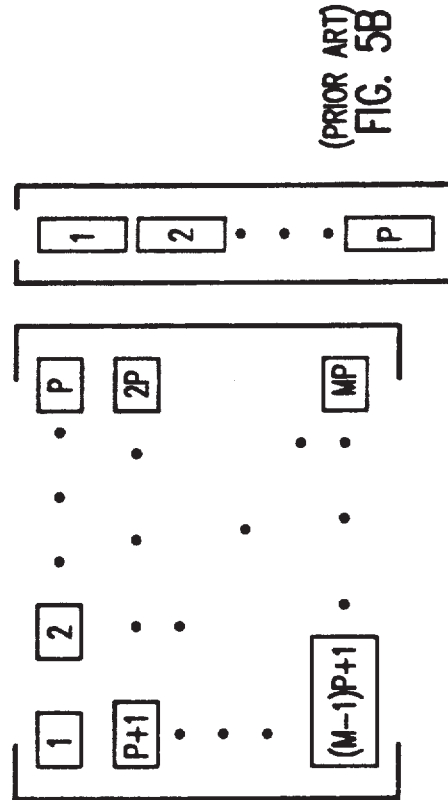
(PRIOR ART)  
FIG. 3



(PRIOR ART)  
FIG. 4



(PRIOR ART)  
FIG. 5A



(PRIOR ART)  
FIG. 5B

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