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United States Patent [19]

Dai et al.

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Sep. 19, 1995

[54] METHOD OF REMOVING GATED CLOCKS FROM THE CLOCK NETS OF A NETLIST FOR TIMING SENSITIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NETLIST IN A HARDWARE EMULATION SYSTEM

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[21] Appl. No.: 844

[22] Filed: Feb. 26, 1993

Related U.S. Application Data

[63] Continuation-in-part of Ser. No. 13,025, Jan. 29, 1993, abandoned.

52] **U.S. Cl.** **364/578**; 364/580; 371/222

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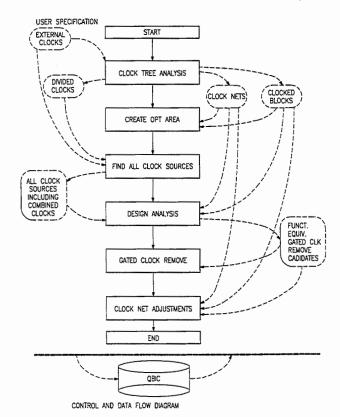
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Primary Examiner—Ellis B. Ramirez Assistant Examiner—Craig Steven Miller Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Lyon & Lyon

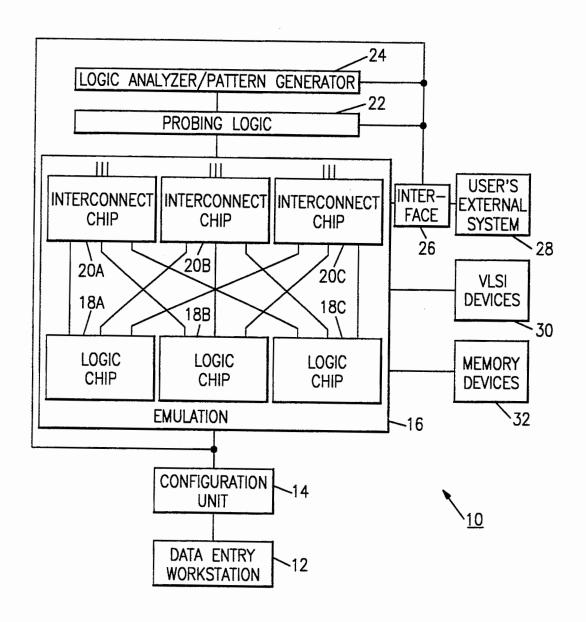
[57] ABSTRACT

An emulation system and method that reduces or eliminates the number of timing errors such as hold time violations when implementing a netlist description of an integrated circuit. The emulation system comprises a plurality of reprogrammable logic circuits and a plurality of reprogrammable interconnect circuits. The netlist description is optimized to reduce the number of timing violations by removing the occurences of gated clocks from the netlist, partitioning the netlist description by taking into account the occurence of timing violations and ensuring that retain state nets are implemented properly.

2 Claims, 78 Drawing Sheets





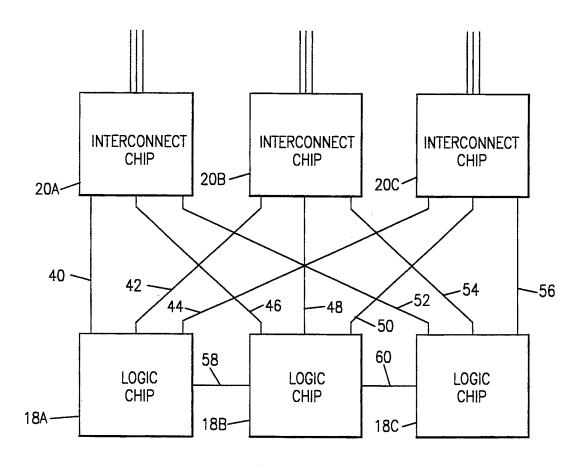


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Fig. 1



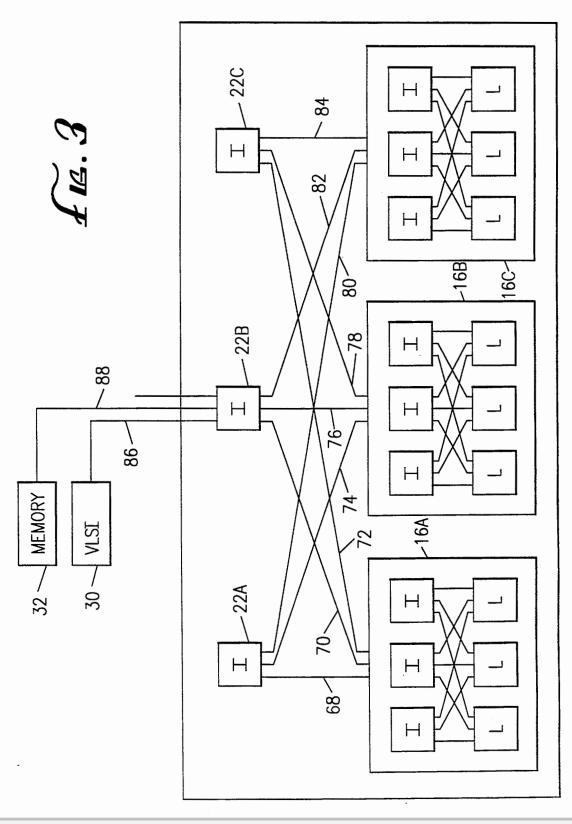
CONNECTIONS TO EXTERNAL SIGNALS



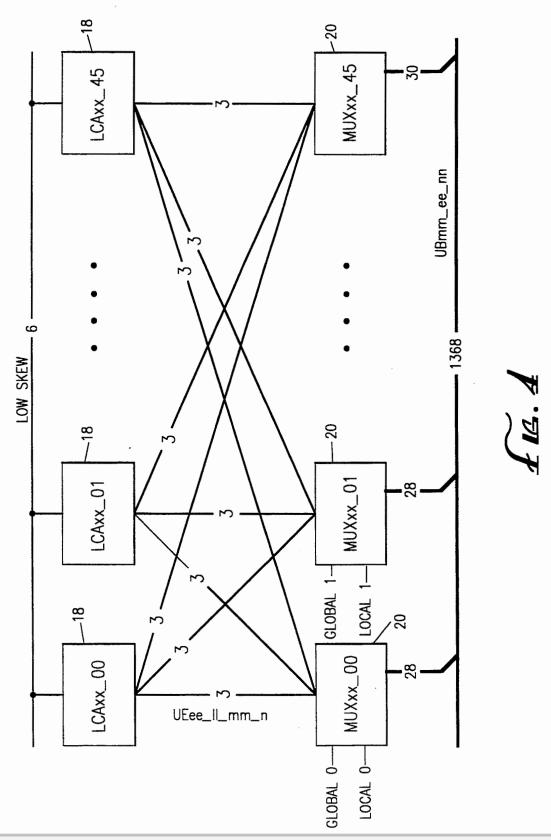
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