

(12) United States Patent Linnell

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(54) SECURELY ERASING FLASH-BASED **MEMORY**

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Assignee: EMC Corporation, Hopkinton, MA

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this

patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 828 days.

(21) Appl. No.: 12/240,100

(22) Filed: Sep. 29, 2008

(51) Int. Cl.

G11C 16/04 (2006.01)

(52)**U.S. Cl.** **365/185.28**; 365/185.29; 711/159 (58)

Field of Classification Search 365/185.28, 365/185.29; 711/159

See application file for complete search history.

References Cited (56)

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

. ,,	A1*	1/2003	Hamilton et al

* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner — Hoai V Ho

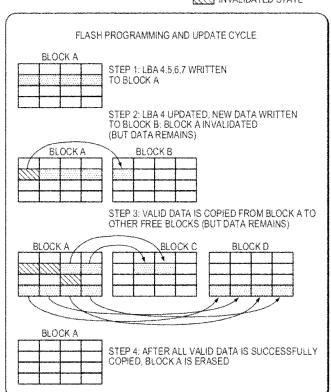
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(57)ABSTRACT

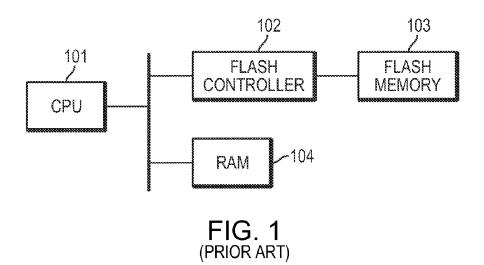
A method is used in securely erasing flash-based memory. A new version of data is received for a logical location of a flash-based memory. An old version of the data of the logical location is stored in a first physical location in the flash-based memory. The old version of the data is caused to be subject to an obscure operation. The new version of the data is caused to be stored in a second physical location in the flash-based memory.

19 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets

	ERASED STATE
	PROGRAMMED STATE
7777	INVALIDATED STATE







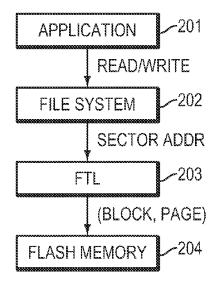


FIG. 2 (PRIOR ART)

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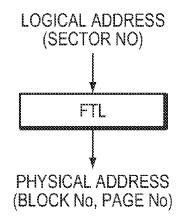


FIG. 3 (PRIOR ART)

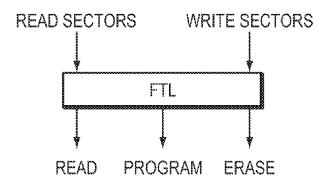
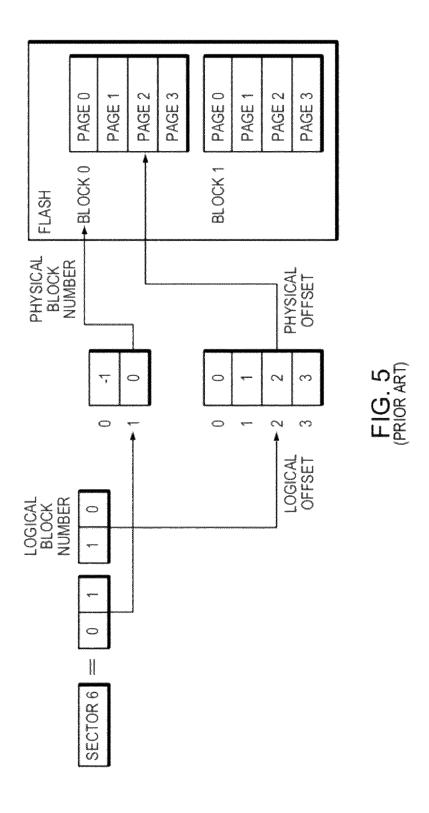


FIG. 4 (PRIOR ART)

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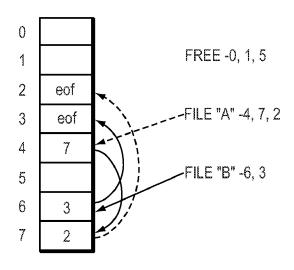


FIG. 6 (PRIOR ART)

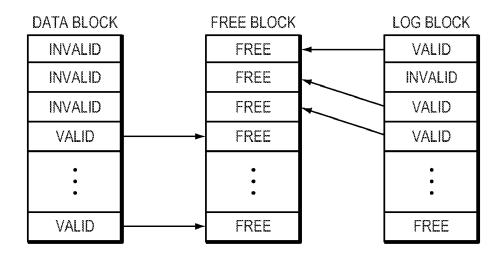


FIG. 7 (PRIOR ART)

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