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Mata et al.

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(54) **AGENT REACTIVE SCHEDULING IN AN AUTOMATED MANUFACTURING ENVIRONMENT**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**⁷ **G06F 19/00**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **700/99; 700/100; 700/121; 705/8**

(58) **Field of Search** **705/8; 700/99, 700/100, 121, 101**

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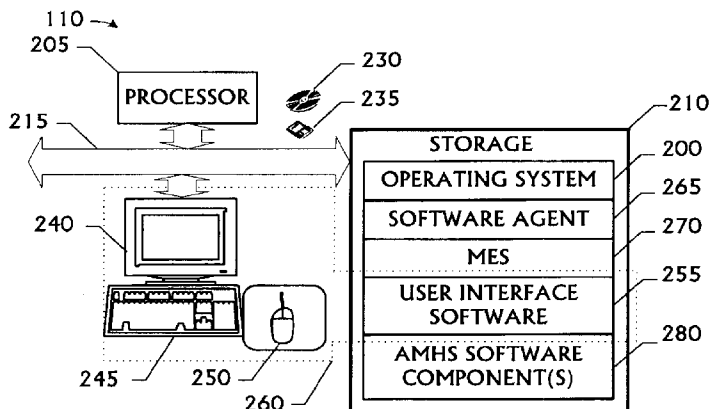
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method and apparatus for scheduling in an automated manufacturing environment, comprising are disclosed. The method includes detecting an occurrence of a predetermined event in a process flow; notifying a software scheduling agent of the occurrence; and reactively scheduling an action from the software scheduling agent responsive to the detection of the predetermined event. The apparatus is automated manufacturing environment including a process flow and a computing system. The computing system further includes a plurality of software scheduling agents residing thereon, the software scheduling agents being capable of reactively scheduling appointments for activities in the process flow responsive to a plurality of predetermined events.

53 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets



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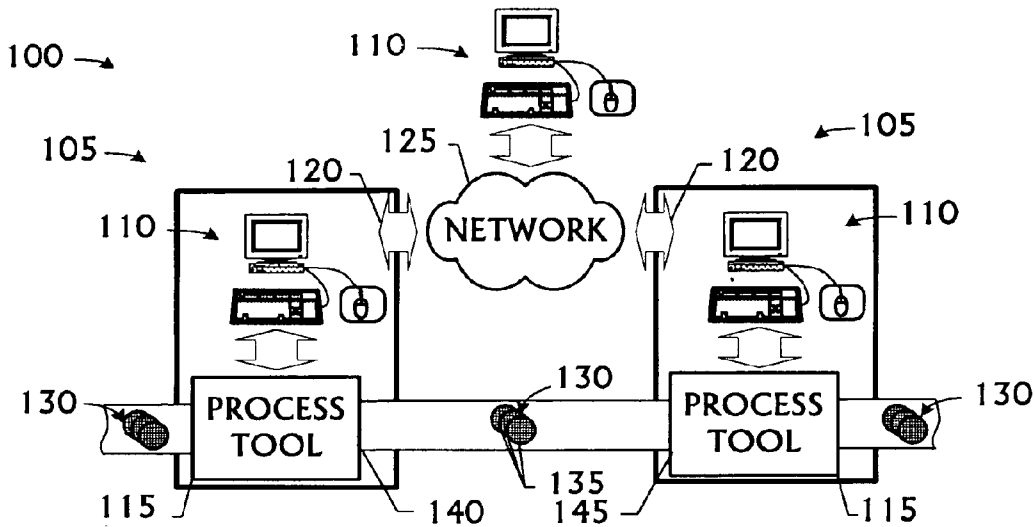


FIG. 1

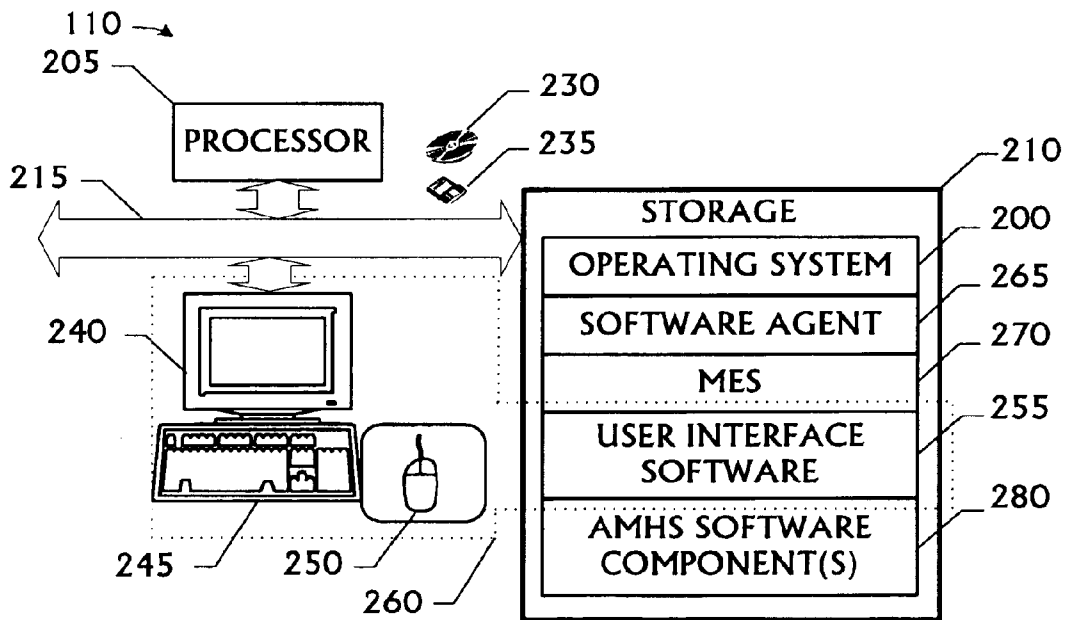


FIG. 2

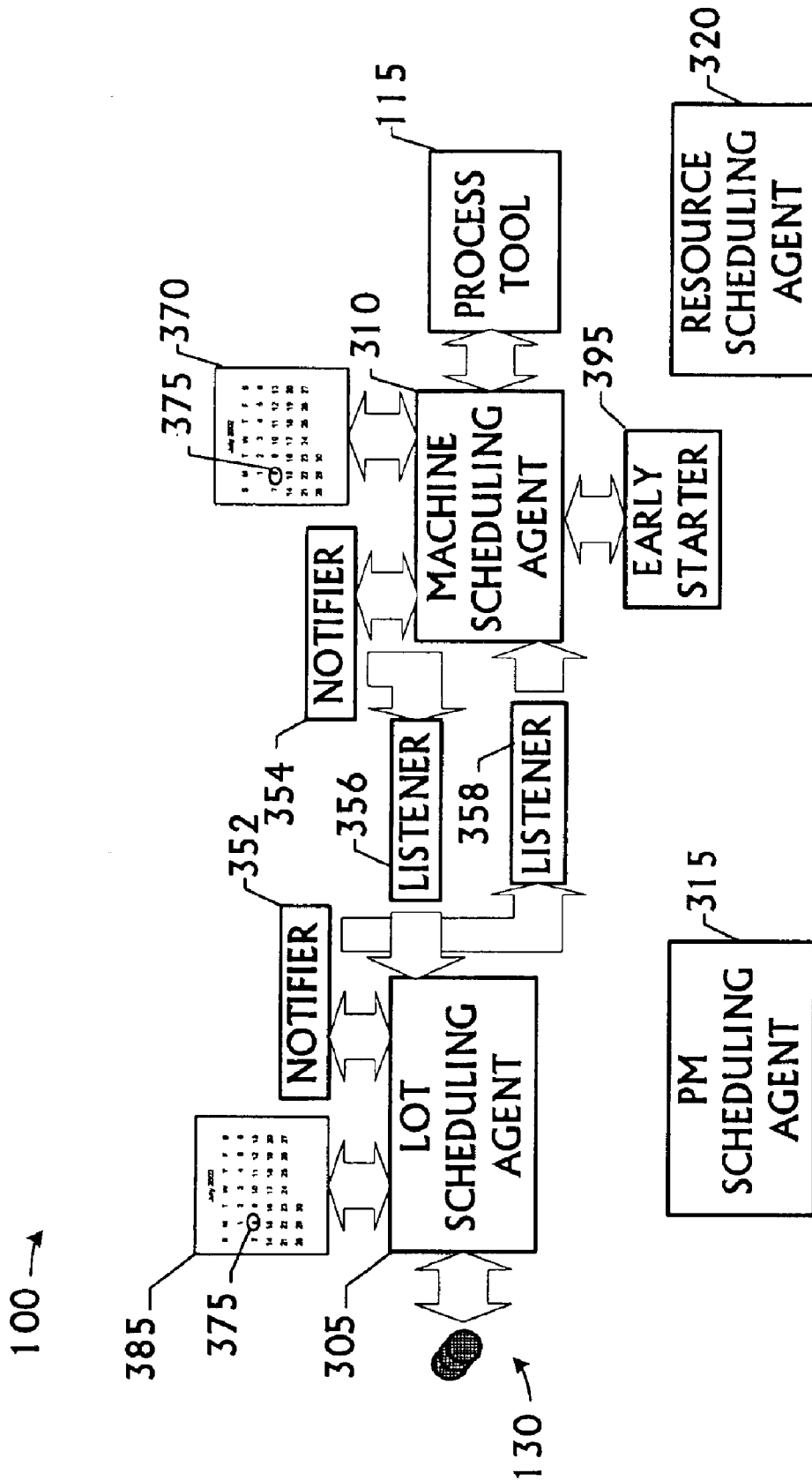


FIG. 3

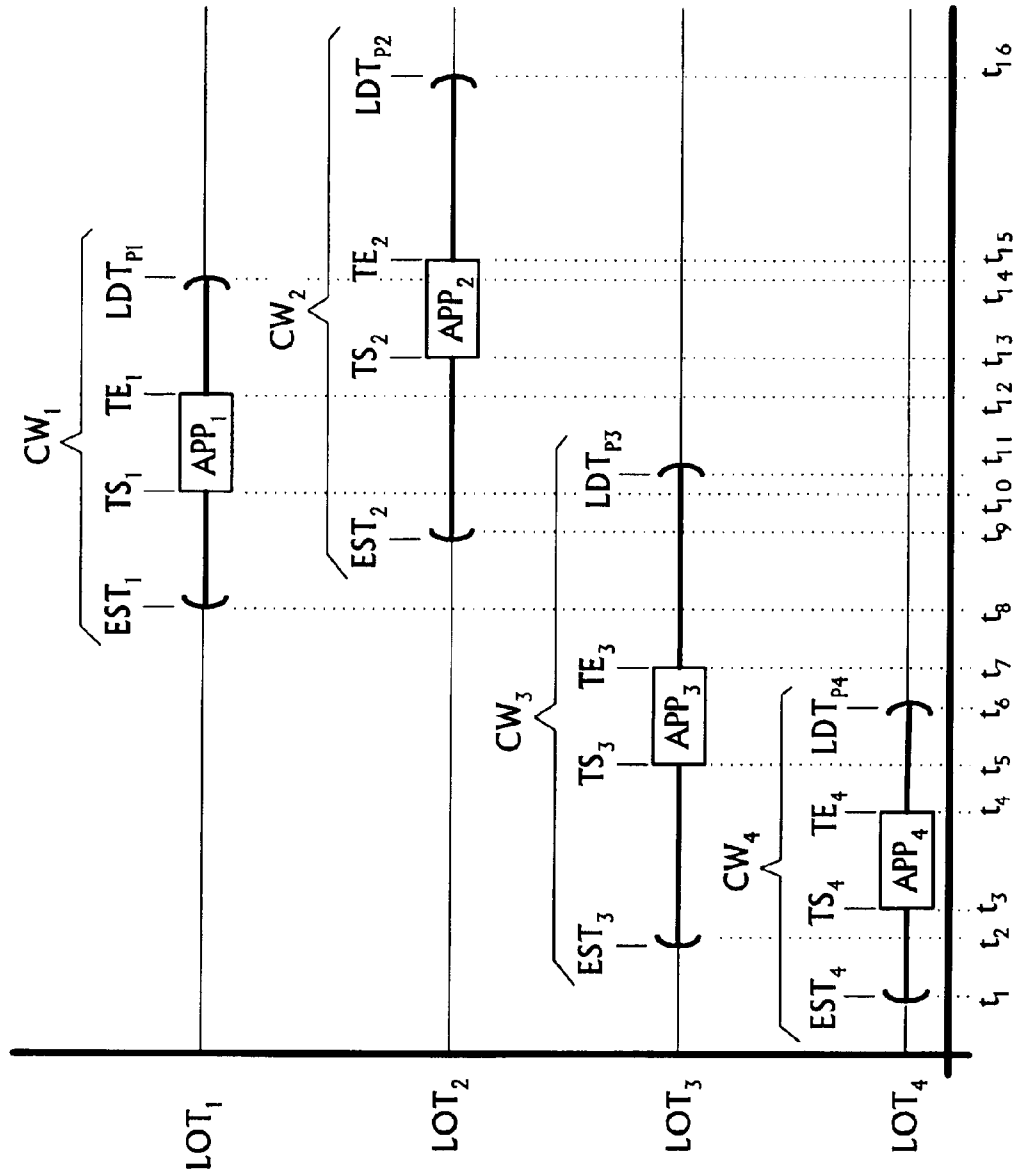


FIG. 4

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