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United States Patent [19] King

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[54] **DATA PROCESSING SYSTEM HAVING MONITORING OF SOFTWARE ACTIVITY**

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[73] Assignee: **Optimay Corporation**

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[51] **Int. Cl.⁶** **G06F 11/00**

[52] **U.S. Cl.** **714/38**

[58] **Field of Search** 395/183.14, 183.15, 395/183.21, 184.01, 185.04, 183.22, 704, 705, 712; 371/25.1, 27.5

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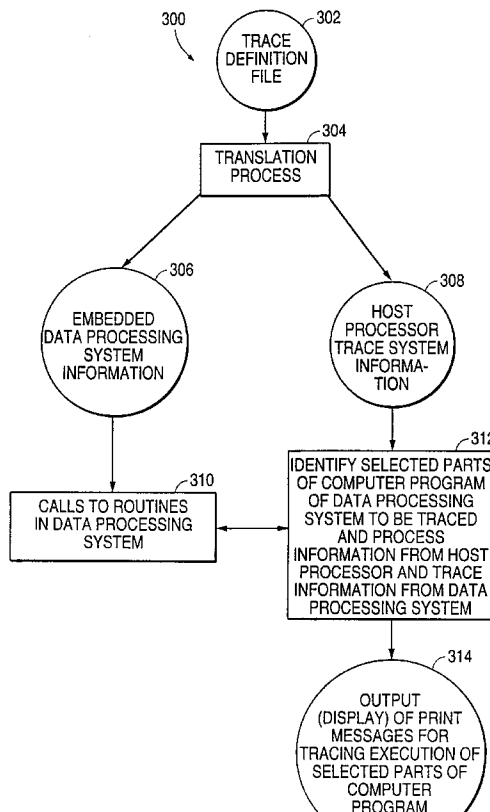
Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Dickstein Shapiro Morin & Oshinsky LLP

[57] **ABSTRACT**

A method of tracing execution of a computer program of a data processing system with print messages is disclosed. The method includes providing a trace definition file containing a plurality of trace definitions, each trace definition is an encoded identification of each print message to be used with the tracing of execution of the computer program of the data processing system and a format display specification of an output for providing a trace of the execution of the computer program; providing information from the trace definition file to the data processing system which is executed with the computer program; providing information from the trace definition file to a host processor; the host processor communicating with the data processing system to identify selected parts of the computer program to be traced; in response to execution of the computer program transmitting trace information from the data processor to the host processor associated with the selected parts of the application program being traced; and the host processor, in response to transmission of the trace information from the data processor and in response to the information provided from the trace definition file causing the output for enabling tracing of the execution of the selected parts of the computer program.

36 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets

Microfiche Appendix Included
(2 Microfiche, 196 Pages)



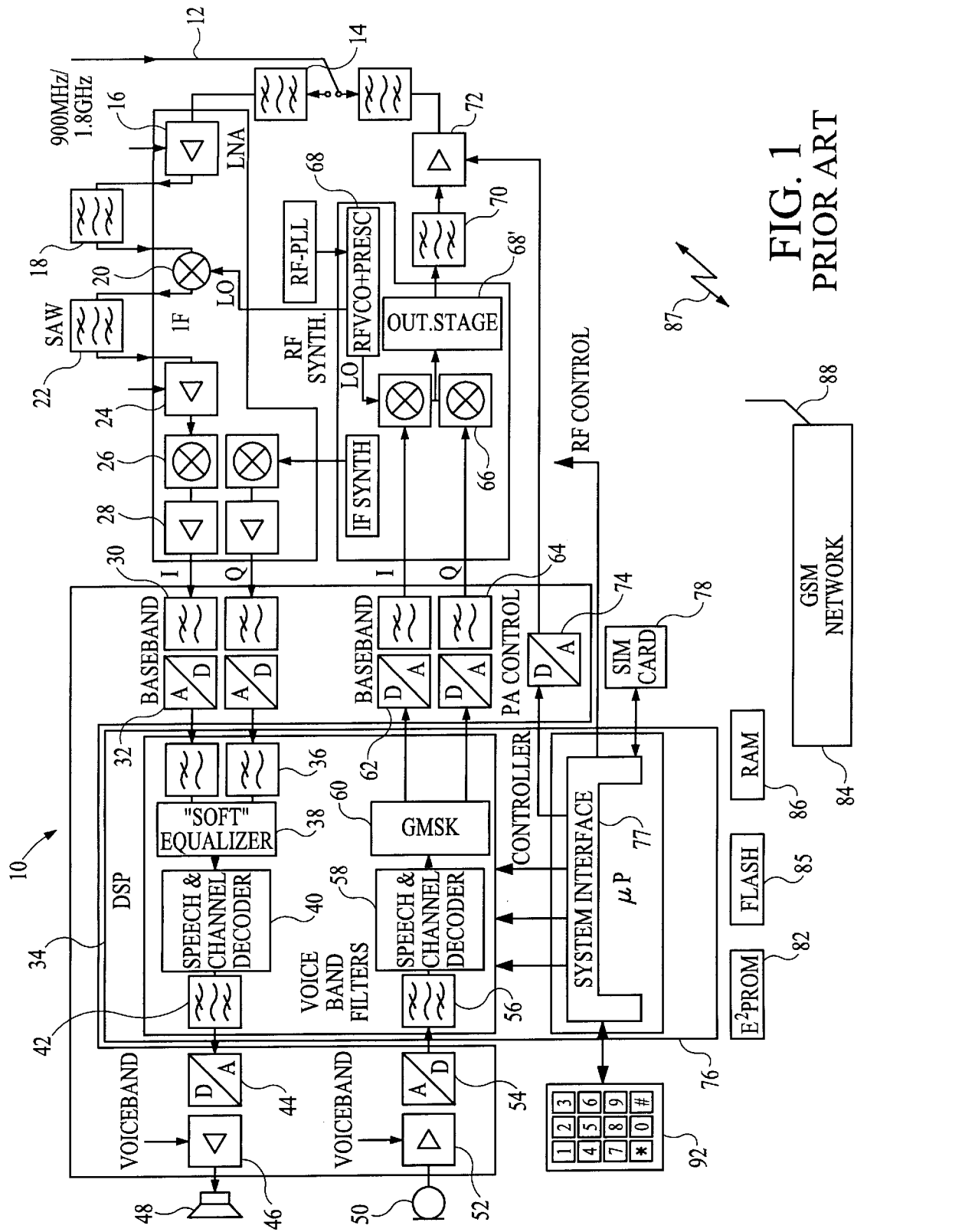


FIG. 2
(PRIOR ART)

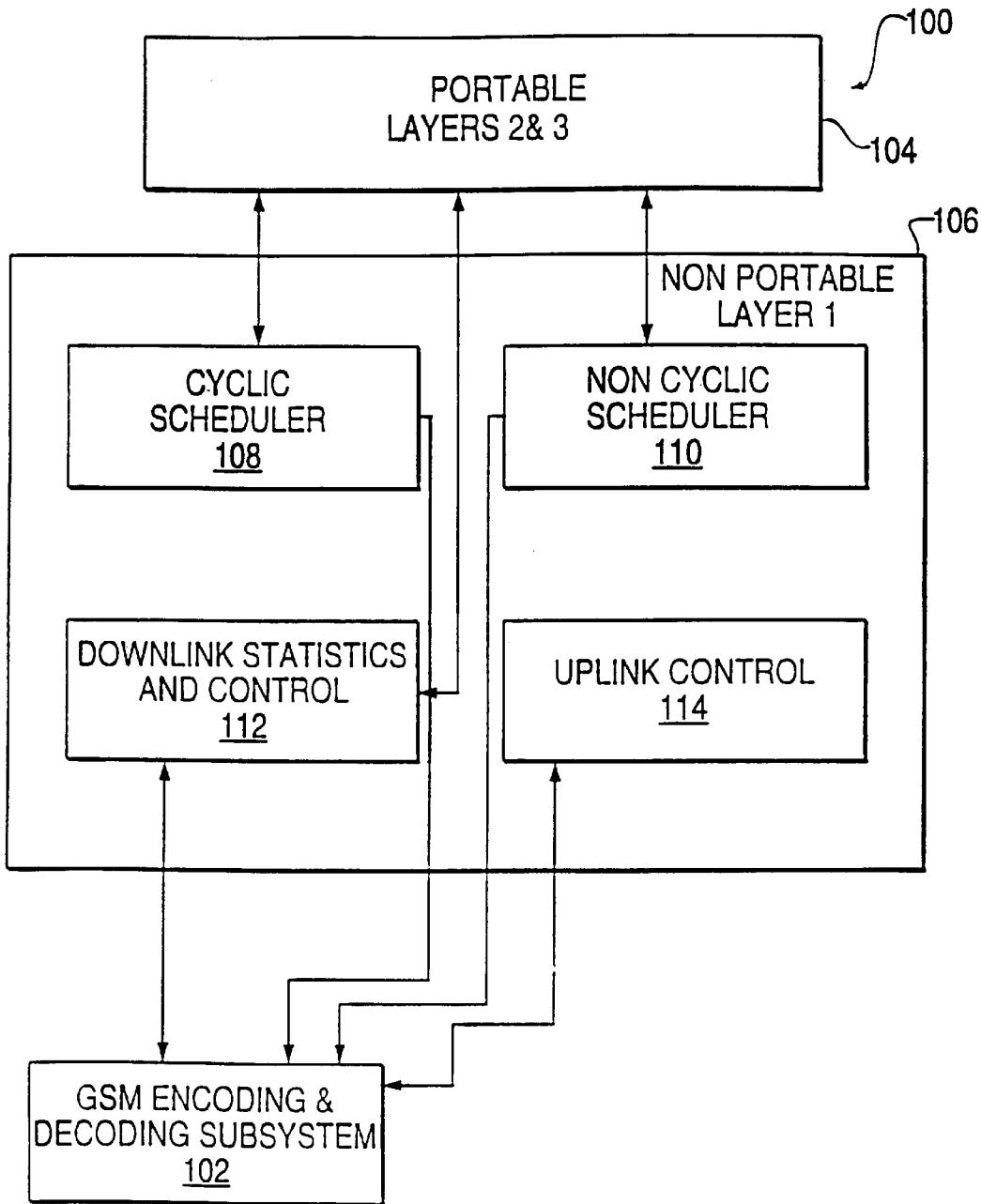


FIG. 3
PRIOR ART

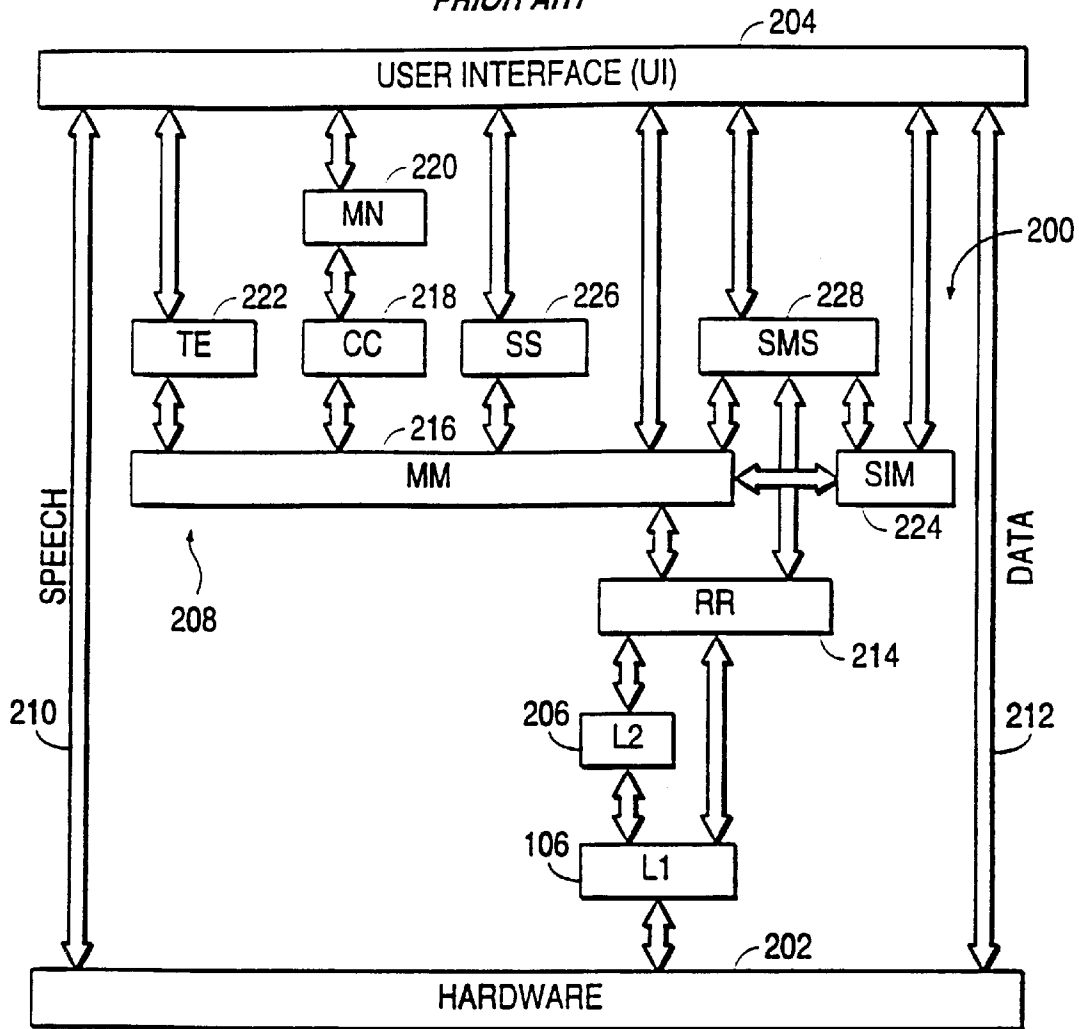
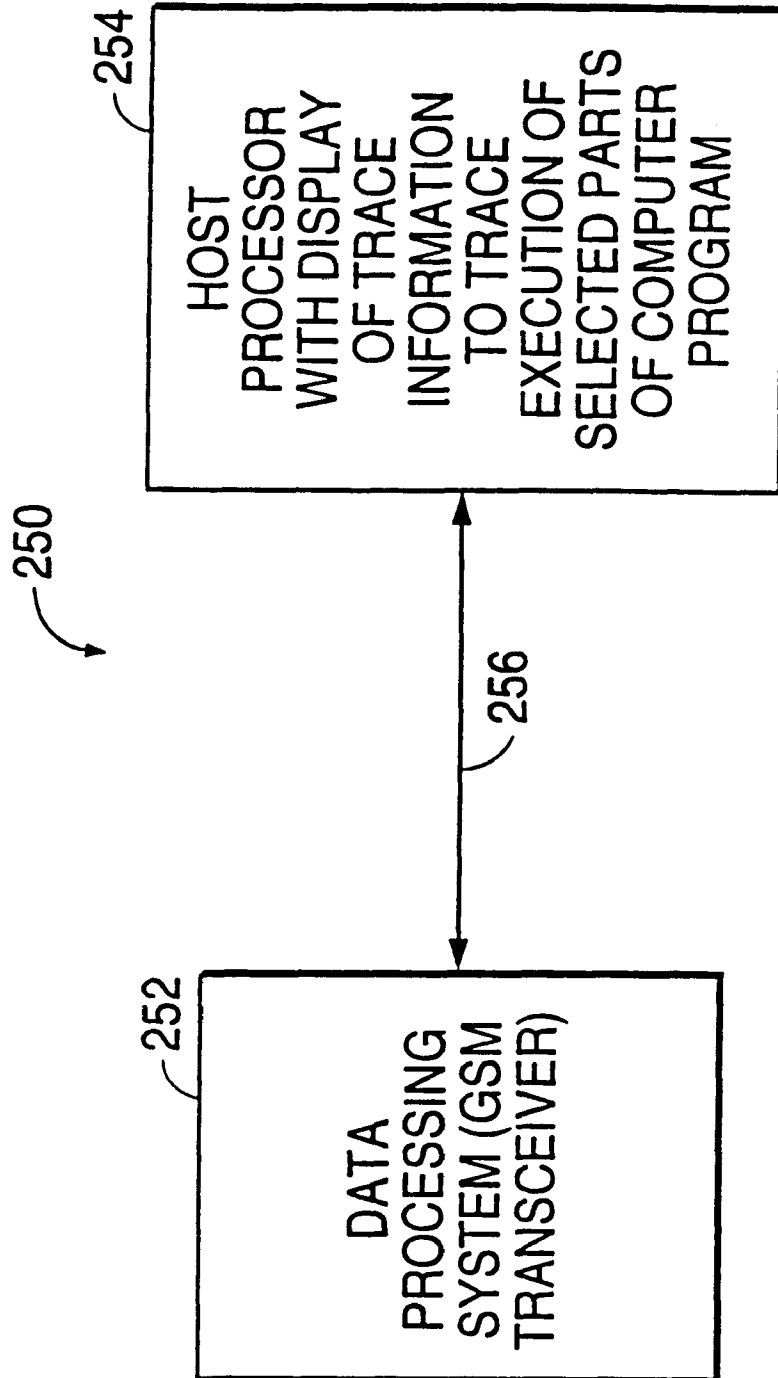


FIG. 4



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