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**Morein et al.**

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(54) **GRAPHICS PROCESSING ARCHITECTURE EMPLOYING A UNIFIED SHADER**

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**Related U.S. Application Data**

(63) Continuation of application No. 12/791,597, filed on Jun. 1, 2010, now abandoned, which is a continuation of application No. 11/842,256, filed on Aug. 21, 2007, now abandoned, which is a continuation of application No. 11/117,863, filed on Apr. 29, 2005, now Pat. No. 7,327,369, which is a continuation of application No. 10/718,318, filed on Nov. 20, 2003, now Pat. No. 6,897,871.

(51) **Int. Cl.**  
**G06F 15/00** (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**  
USPC ..... **345/501**

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

CPC ..... G06T 15/005; G06T 15/80; G06T 1/20; G06T 1/60; G09G 5/363; G06F 3/14  
USPC ..... 345/501  
See application file for complete search history.

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*Primary Examiner* — Kee M Tung

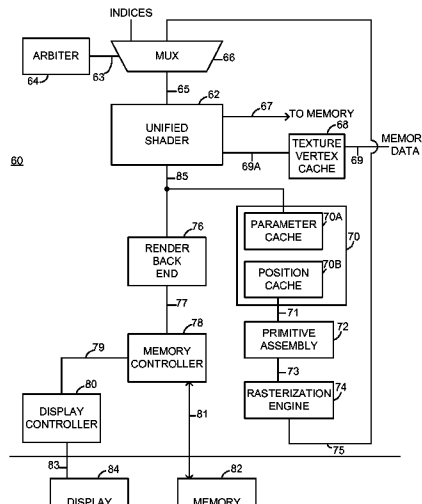
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A graphics processing architecture in one example performs vertex manipulation operations and pixel manipulation operations by transmitting vertex data to a general purpose register block, and performing vertex operations on the vertex data by a processor unless the general purpose register block does not have enough available space therein to store incoming vertex data; and continues pixel calculation operations that are to be or are currently being performed the processor based on instructions maintained in an instruction store until enough registers within the general purpose register block become available.

**11 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets**



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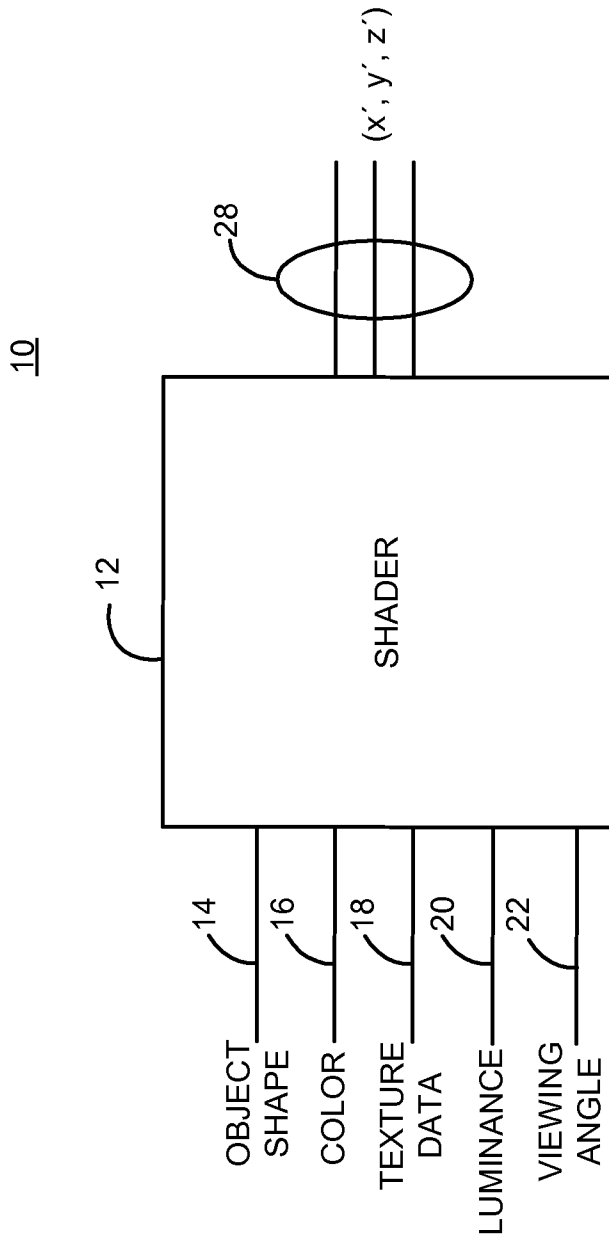
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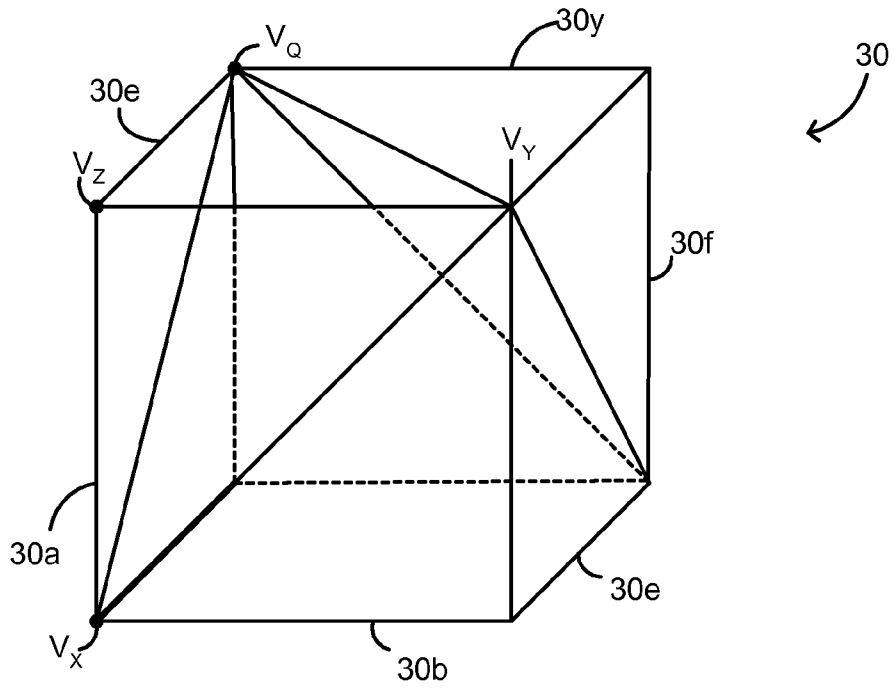
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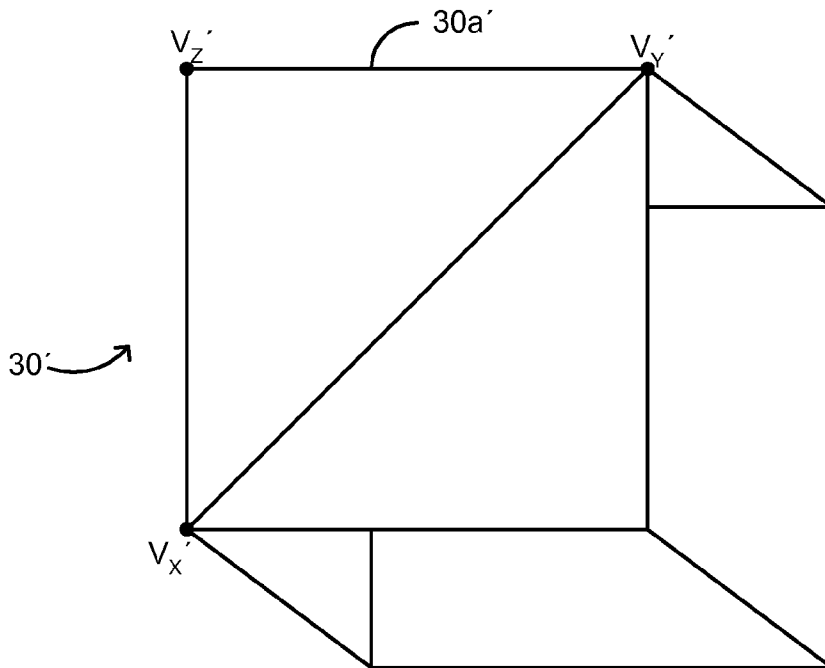
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**FIG. 1**  
**(PRIOR ART)**



**FIG. 2A  
(PRIOR ART)**



**FIG. 2B  
(PRIOR ART)**

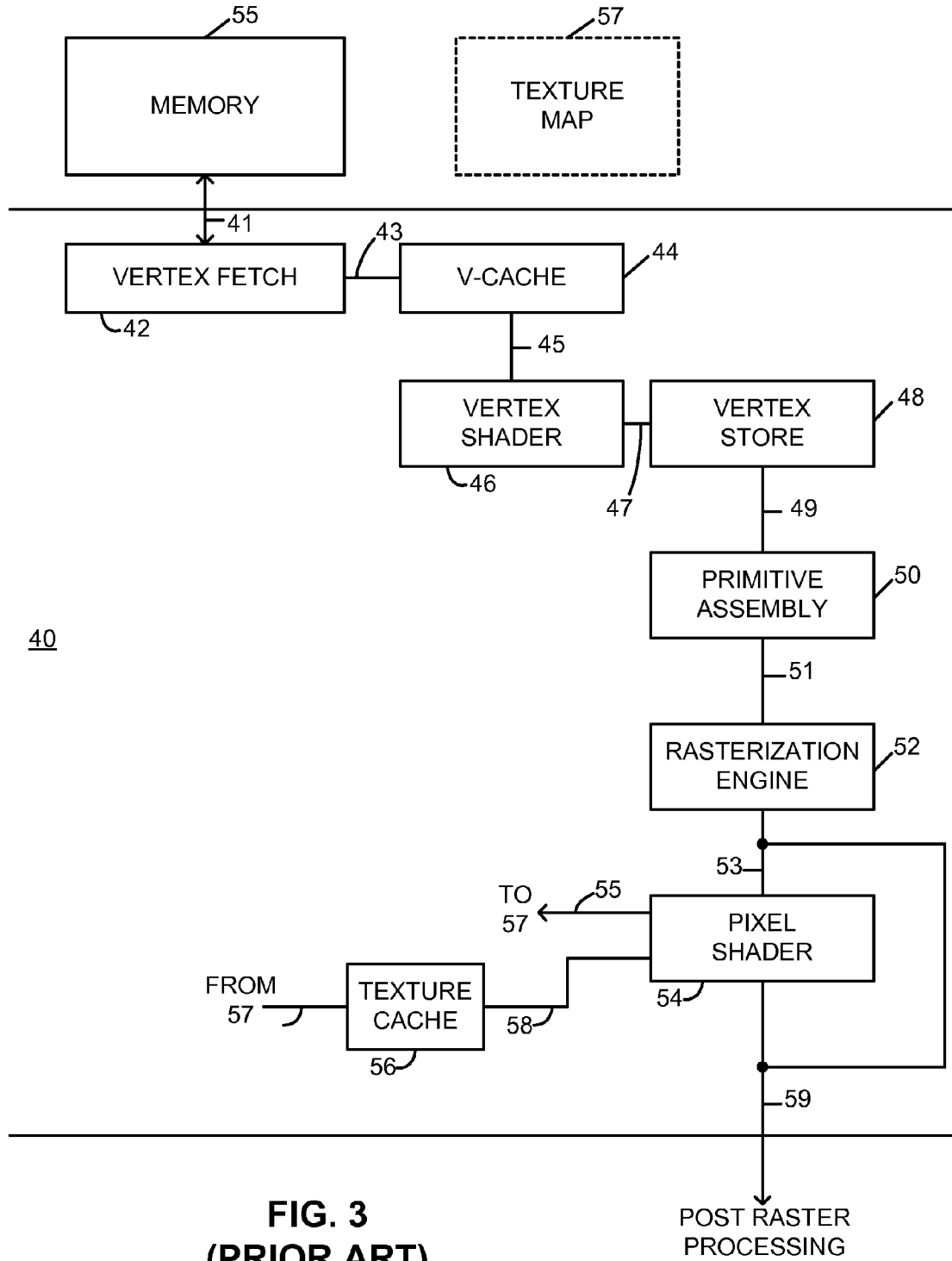


FIG. 3  
(PRIOR ART)

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