

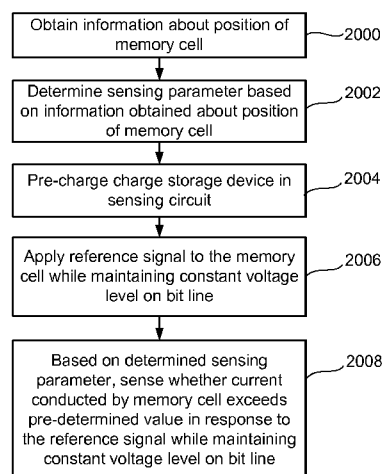


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[Continued on next page]

(54) **Title:** BIT LINE CURRENT TRIP POINT MODULATION FOR READING NONVOLATILE STORAGE ELEMENTS

Fig. 20A



(57) **Abstract:** Upon selecting non-volatile storage elements to be sensed, the system obtains information about the position of these non-volatile storage elements (2000), determines sensing parameters based at least in part on this information (2002), precharges a charge storage device (2004) and, while maintaining the voltage level of the bit lines of these memory cells at a constant value, applies a reference signal to these non-volatile storage elements for a certain duration of time (2006), afterwards determining whether, for the certain duration of time, the current conducted by these non-volatile storage elements exceeds a predetermined value (2008).



MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK,
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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ADD.

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

G11C

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 2005/169082 A1 (CERNEA RAUL-ADRIAN [US]) 4 August 2005 (2005-08-04) cited in the application paragraph [0141] - paragraph [0214]; figures 13-15	1-15
Y	US 2010/027337 A1 (PARK KI-TAE [KR]) 4 February 2010 (2010-02-04) paragraph [0086] - paragraph [0092]; figures 1,14-16	1-5,7-15
Y	US 6 434 736 B1 (SCHAECHER MARK A [US] ET AL) 13 August 2002 (2002-08-13) column 4, line 56 - column 6, line 39; figure 7	6
A		1,4,7,9, 10,12,14

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

☒ See patent family annex.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

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