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(54) Title: DATA PROCESSING APPARATUS AND A METHOD OF SYNCHRONIZING A FIRST AND A SECOND PROCESSING MEANS IN A DATA PROCESSING APPARATUS

(57) Abstract: A data processing apparatus according to the invention comprising at least a first (1.2) and a second processing means (1.3). The first processing means being capable of providing data by writing tokens in a buffer means (2.1) which are readable by the second processing means for further processing. The processing means are assigned a first and a second synchronization counter. The first synchronization counter (writec) is modifiable by the first processing means (2.1)and is readable by the second processing means (1.3). The second synchronization counter (readc) is modifiable by the second processing means (1.3), and readable by the first processing means (1.2). The first synchronization counter (writec) is indicative for a number of tokens being written by the first processing means (1.2). The second synchronization counter (readc) is indicative for a number of tokens being read by the second processing means (1.3).

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 G06F9/46 G06F5/06

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)
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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 practical, search terms used)
EPO-Internal, PAJ, IBM-TDB, COMPENDEX

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	MUKHERJEE S S ET AL: "COHERENT NETWORK INTERFACES FOR FINE-GRAIN COMMUNICATION" COMPUTER ARCHITECTURE NEWS, ASSOCIATION FOR COMPUTING MACHINERY, NEW YORK, US, vol. 24, no. 2, 1 May 1996 (1996-05-01), pages 247-258, XP000592190 ISSN: 0163-5964 * section 2.2 *	1,4-10
Y	---	2,3
Y	US 6 212 543 B1 (FUTRAL WILLIAM T) 3 April 2001 (2001-04-03) abstract column 3, line 7 - line 57 figure 2	2

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[X] Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

[X] Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
14 October 2003	05/01/2004

Name and mailing address of the ISA	Authorized officer
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication,where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	EP 0 321 089 A (IBM) 21 June 1989 (1989-06-21) column 3, line 51 -column 4, line 10 column 4, line 51 -column 5, line 31 column 7, line 13 - line 25 figure 7	3
X	US 5 951 657 A (MUKHERJEE SHUBHENDU S ET AL) 14 September 1999 (1999-09-14) abstract column 5, line 45 -column 6, line 47	1,4-10
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Inter Application No
PCT/IB 02/02417

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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