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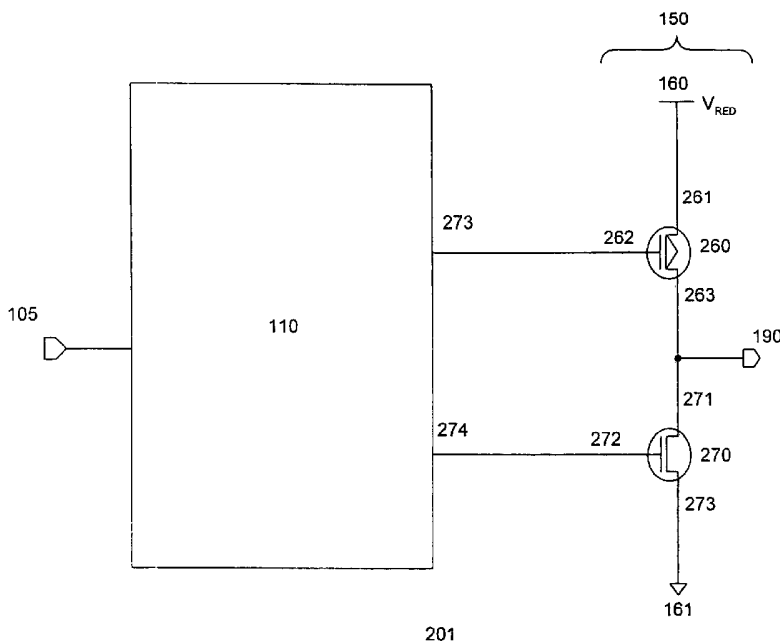
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(54) Title: BUFFERS WITH REDUCED VOLTAGE INPUT/OUTPUT SIGNALS



(57) Abstract: A buffer circuit that operates with reduced voltage input and output signals is described. The buffer circuit receives an input signal having reduced voltage range and generates an output signal with the reduced voltage range. The reduced voltage range is from 0 volts to VRED, where VRED is less than VCC, the voltage used to operate most of the logic in the integrated circuit. The use of a buffer circuit that receives and generates signals with a reduced voltage range advantageously reduces power consumption.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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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)
IPC 7 H03K

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, WPI Data, PAJ, IBM-TDB

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 5 266 848 A (NAKAGOME YOSHINOBU ET AL) 30 November 1993 (1993-11-30) column 7, line 2 -column 8, line 51; figures 3B-3E column 3, line 4 -column 5, line 45; figures 1A,1B column 5, line 46 -column 6, line 41; figure 2	1-5,9, 10,14, 15, 19-23, 25-28, 32,33
A	----- US 5 903 142 A (MANN ERIC N) 11 May 1999 (1999-05-11) the whole document ----- -/--	1-36

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex.

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International Application No

PCT/US 01/29192

C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 4 920 284 A (DENDA AKIRA) 24 April 1990 (1990-04-24) column 4, line 36 -column 6, line 12; figures 4,5 -----	1-36
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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