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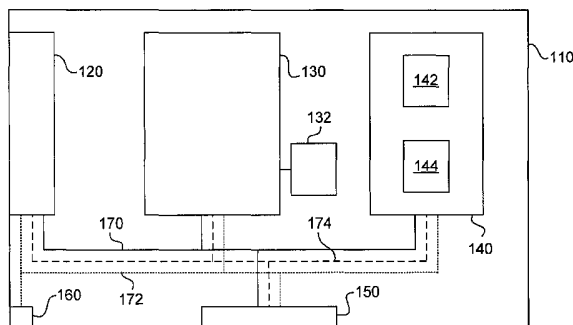
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(54) Title: SCALABLE EXTENSIBLE NETWORK TEST ARCHITECTURE



(57) Abstract: A network test architecture includes a plurality of modules (100, 200, 300, or 400) for performing a plurality of functions, each of the plurality of functions, each of the plurality of modules (100, 200, 300, or 400) having a unique identifier (132). An additional module (100, 200, 300, or 400) for performing an additional function has an additional unique identifier (132). A control bus (170) is connected among the plurality of modules (100, 200, 300, or 400); a data bus (174) is connected among the plurality of modules (100, 200, 300, or 400); and a power bus (172) is connected among the plurality of modules (100, 200, 300, or 400). A controller (300) controls operation, data transmission, and powering of the plurality of modules (100, 200, 300, or 400) and the additional module (100, 200, 300, or 400), respectively, through the control bus (170), the data bus (174), and the power bus (172), the controller (300) using the unique identifier (132) and the additional unique identifier (132) of the plurality of modules (100, 200, 300, or 400) upon simultaneous connection of the control bus (170), the data bus (174), and the power bus (172) to the additional module (100, 200, 300, or 400).



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G06F 1/26, 1/32, 13/00, 13/14

US CL : 713/300,320,340; 710/9,104; 702/118,120; 714/724,725

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)

U.S. : 713/300,320,340; 710/9,104; 702/118,120; 714/724,725

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, Japanese Abstracts, European Abstracts, and Derwent Patents database

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

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category * | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|------------|---|-----------------------|
| Y | US 5,987,614 A (MITCHELL et al) 16 November 1999, col. 19 line 35 - col. 20 line 37 | 1-10 |
| Y | US 5,550,885 A (NAM et al) 27 August 1996, col. 1 lines 12-30 | 1-10 |
| A | US 5,498,886 A (HSU et al) 12 March 1996, Abstract and col. 16 lines 1-16 | 1-10 |
| Y | US 5,428,806 A (POCRASS) 27 June 1995, col. 3 lines 32-50 and col. 4 lines 19-45 | 1-10 |
| Y | US 5,148,389 A (Hughes) 15 September 1992, col. 2 lines 20-53 | 1-10 |
| Y | GB 2,195,029 A (COMFORT et al) 23 March 1988, Pages 1, 4, 5, 16, and 17 | 1-10 |

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☐ See patent family annex.

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