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(71) Applicant: **SUN MICROSYSTEMS, INC.** [US/US];
4150 Network Circle, Santa Clara, 95054 (US).

(72) Inventors: **MCWILLIAMS, Thomas, M.**; 1350 Sherman
Avenue, Menlo Park, CA 94025 (US). **COHEN, Earl, T.**;
43750 Cameron Hills Drive, Fremont, CA 94539 (US).

(74) Agents: **OSHA, Jonathan, P.** et al.; Resenthal & Osha
L.L.P., 1221 McKinney, Suite 2800, Houston, TX 77010
(US).

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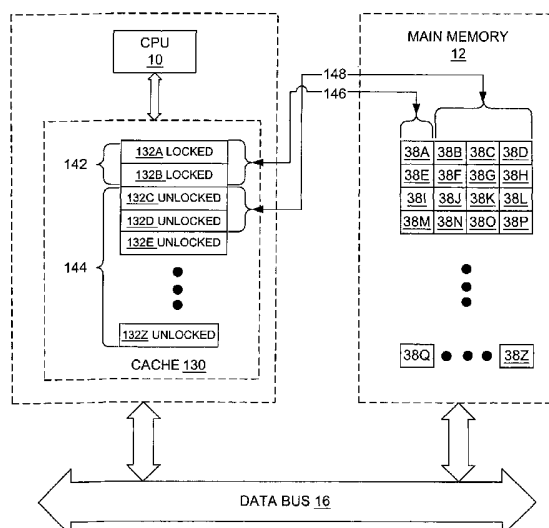
- as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii)) for all designations
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR CACHING WITH VARIABLE SIZE LOCKING REGIONS



(57) Abstract: A method of managing data in a cache memory includes mapping a member of a plurality of memory addresses in a main memory onto a first member of a plurality of cache lines, locking the first member of the plurality of cache lines creating a locked cache regions and an unlocked cache region, remapping the member of the plurality of memory addresses from the first member of the plurality of cache lines onto a second member of the plurality of cache lines within the unlocked cache region, requesting data stored in the main memory, fetching the data from the locked cache region, if available in the locked cache region, fetching the data from the unlocked cache region, if not available in the locked cache region and available in the unlocked cache region, and fetching the data from the main memory, if not available in the locked cache region and not available in the unlocked cache region.

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G06F12/12

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, COMPENDEX, INSPEC, PAJ, IBM-TDB, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 5 493 667 A (HUCK ET AL) 20 February 1996 (1996-02-20) column 4, lines 27-61; figure 2 -----	1-27
A	US 5 630 097 A (ORBITS ET AL) 13 May 1997 (1997-05-13) column 2, lines 21-53; figures 3,4 column 4, line 37 - column 6, line 32 -----	1-27
A	EP 0 822 500 A (SUN MICROSYSTEMS, INC) 4 February 1998 (1998-02-04) column 2, line 43 - column 3, line 8; figures 3,4,6 column 9, line 50 - column 10, line 3 column 12, lines 8-52; claims 1-3,8 -----	1-27

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☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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Name and mailing address of the ISA

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Dixon-Hundertpfund K

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EP 0822500	A	04-02-1998	US 6073224 A	06-06-2000
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