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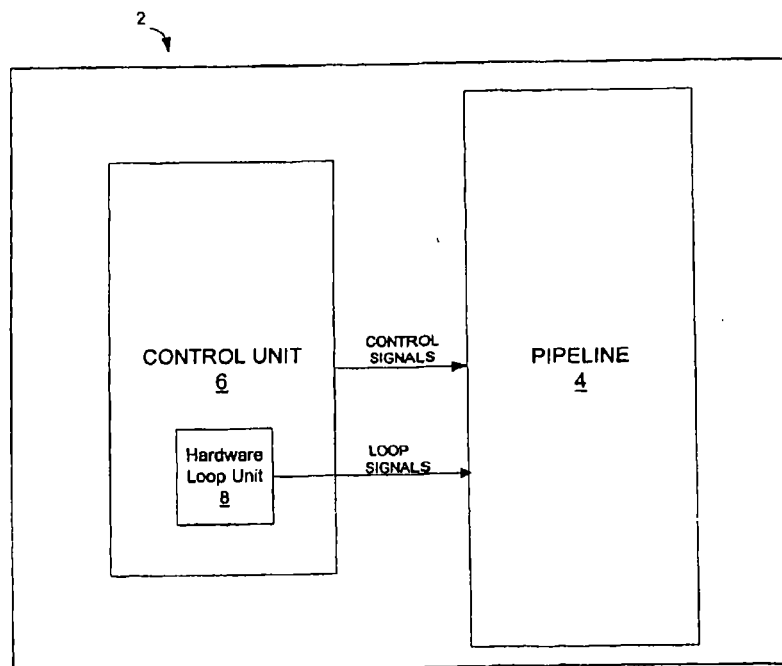
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(54) Title: **HARDWARE LOOPS**



(57) Abstract: In one embodiment, a programmable processor is arranged to include early registers to support hardware loops. In this manner, a system may increase processing speed without significantly increasing power consumption. Loop conditions of a loop may be loaded into a set of early registers. These conditions may then be detected from the early registers before the loop conditions are written to a set of architectural registers.

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