

SOUND GENERATION METHOD USING HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE SOUND SOURCES

ABSTRACT

In a music apparatus virtually built in a computer machine, an application module is composed of an application program which is executed by the computer machine to produce an audio message. A software sound source is composed of a tone generation program which is executed by the computer machine so as to generate a musical tone according to the audio message. A hardware sound source having a tone generation circuit is physically coupled to the computer machine for generating a musical tone according to the audio message. An application program interface is interposed to connect the application module to either of the software sound source and the hardware sound source. A controller is provided for controlling the application program interface to selectively distribute the audio message from the application module to at least one of the software sound source and the hardware sound source through the application program interface. (Figure 2)