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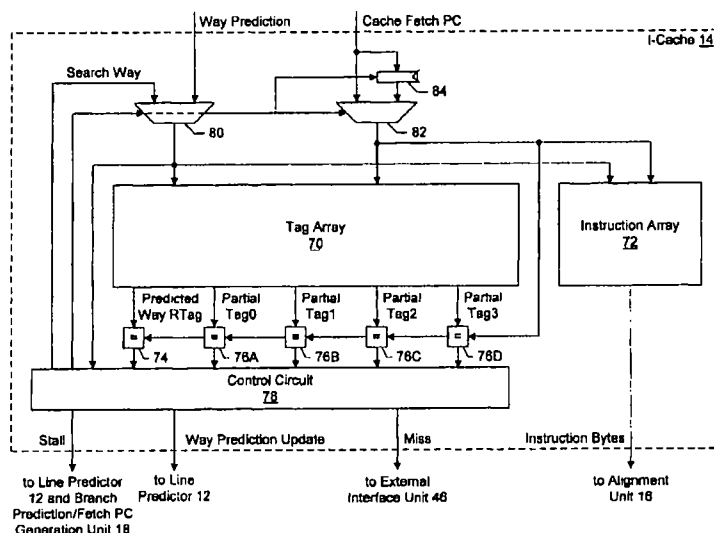
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- For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: CACHE WHICH PROVIDES PARTIAL TAGS FROM NON-PREDICTED WAYS TO DIRECT SEARCH IF WAY PREDICTION MISSES



ACTION



(57) Abstract: A cache (14) provides output bytes in response to a predicted way. Furthermore, a tag may be read from the predicted way and only partial tags are read from the non-predicted ways. The tag is compared to the tag portion of an input address, and the partial tags are compared to a corresponding partial tag portion of the input address. If a miss in the predicted way is detected, the partial tag comparisons are used. If none of the partial tags match the corresponding partial tag portion of the input address, a miss in the cache is determined. On the other hand, if one or more of the partial tags match the corresponding partial tags portion of the input address, the cache (14) searches the corresponding ways to determine whether or not the input address hits or misses in the cache (14).

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