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- (71) Applicant: **QUALCOMM INCORPORATED** [US/US];
ATTN: International IP Administration, 5775 Morehouse
Drive, San Diego, California 92121-1714 (US).
- (72) Inventors: **WEE, Tin Tin**; 5775 Morehouse Drive,
San Diego, California 92121-1714 (US). **SAHOO,
Trilochan**; 5775 Morehouse Drive, San Diego, Califor-

nia 92121-1714 (US). **SUKUMARAPILLAI, Sunil**; 5775
Morehouse Drive, San Diego, California 92121-1714 (US).
VENKATESWAR, Arun Kumar Kodigenahalli; 5775
Morehouse Drive, San Diego, California 92121-1714 (US).

(74) Agent: **WORLEY, Eugene**; Loza & Loza, LLP, 305 North
Second Avenue #127, Upland, California 91786 (US).

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(54) Title: LAYOUT TECHNIQUE FOR MIDDLE-END-OF-LINE

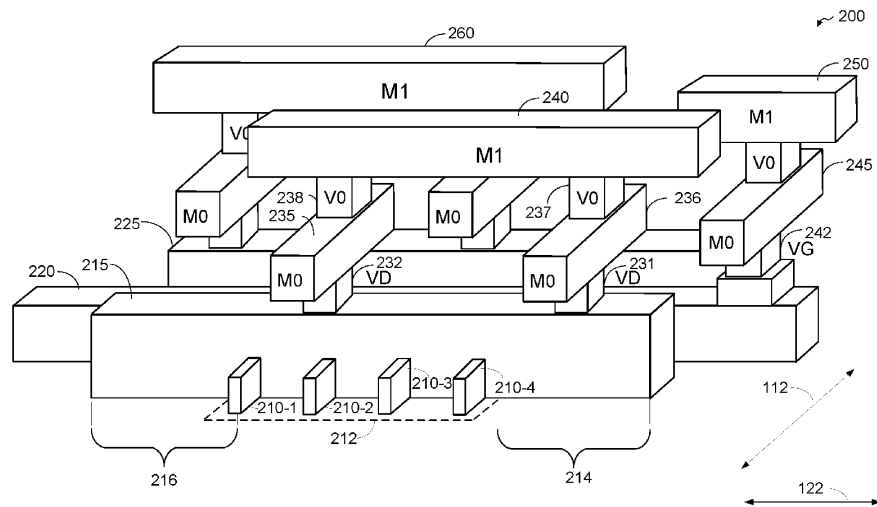


FIG. 2A

(57) Abstract: In certain aspects of the disclosure, a die includes one or more fins, a gate formed over a first portion of the one or more fins, and a first source/drain contact formed over a second portion of the one or more fins, wherein the first source/drain contact includes an extended portion that does not overlap the one or more fins. The die also includes first and second metal lines formed from a first metal layer, wherein the first and second metal lines are spaced apart. The die further includes a first via connecting the first source/drain contact to the first metal line, and a second via connecting the first source/drain contact to the second metal line, wherein the second via lies within the extended portion of the first source/drain contact.

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