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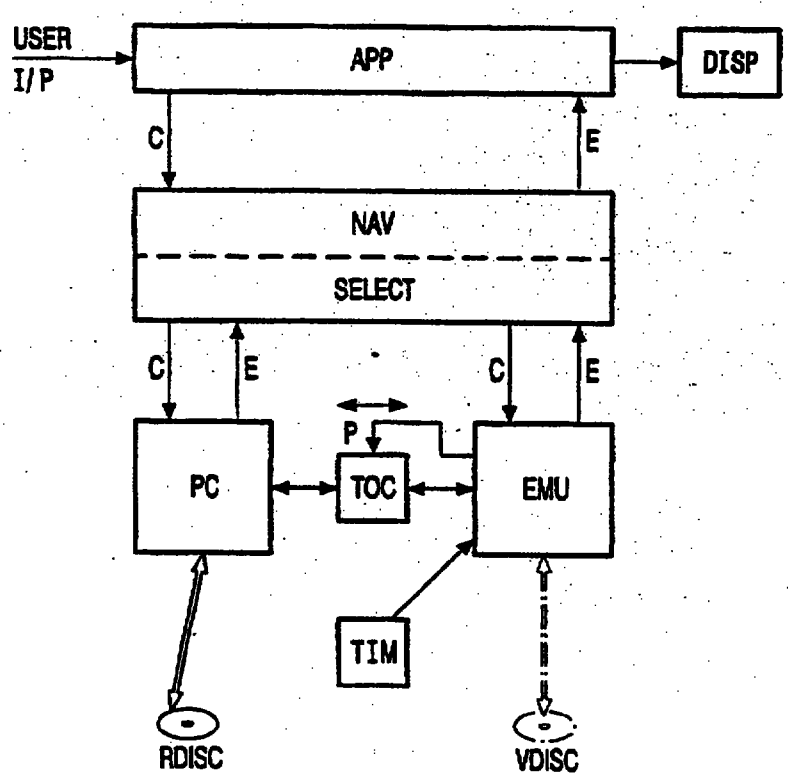
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(54) Title: DISC PLAYBACK STATUS DISPLAY



(57) Abstract: In an optical or magnetic disc audio system, during conventional play the audio is decoded and played from the disc (RDISC) under the direction of a presentation control (PC) and the subcodes indicating time on the disc, track number and so forth are generated. Depending on the system hardware, for some speeds and directions (other than normal play) it may not be possible to decode real subcodes from the disc, and an emulator module (EMU) is switched in at these times. The emulator (EMU) plays a virtual disc (VDISC) using a timer (TIM) and the table of contents (TOC) from the real disc. Whilst the audio is not replayed, the track and time listing display (DISP) is kept up to date, with a typical update for each second of real disc play time. As an extension to this feature, the emulator module (EMU) periodically generates seek commands for the read head in relation to the real disc (RDISC) such that, when normal playback is resumed, there is minimal delay in locating the chosen audio.

WO 01/13373 A1