

**A METHOD FOR BURSTING PROCESSOR DATA
TO OR FROM AN I/O DEVICE**

ABSTRACT

An I/O bridge unit (40a, 40b) is used to allow burst transfers between a processor (10) and an I/O device (60) using normal cachable processor instructions, without modifying the processor or its interfaces. The I/O bridge unit intercepts cachable processor instructions to designated memory pages and processes "trigger" commands (418), to perform intermediate cache-emulation logic. Ultimately burst communications of appropriate byte-length are transacted between cache-emulation buffers and the processor (10) or I/O device (60).

Figure 5