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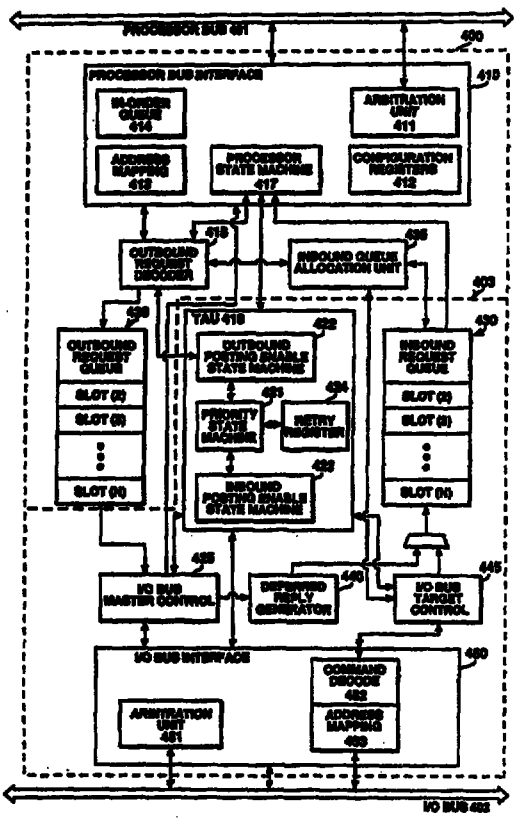
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RTMP

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR MAINTAINING TRANSACTION ORDERING AND ARBITRATING IN A BUS BRIDGE

(57) Abstract

A bus bridge (400) between two buses includes two request queues: outbound (420) and inbound (430). Requests originating on the first bus (401) which target a destination on the second bus (402) are placed into the outbound queue (420). Requests originating on the second bus (402) which target a destination on the first bus (401) are placed into the inbound queue (430). A transaction arbitration unit, or TAU (418), within the bridge (400) maintains transaction ordering and avoids deadlocks. The TAU (418) also determines whether requests can be placed in the inboud queue (430), whether requests originating on the first bus (401) can be responded to immediately or must wait for a reply, whether requests in teh outbound queue (420) can be executed on the second bus (402), whether posting to the inbound queue (430) is enabled, whether posted transactions exist in the inbound queue (430), and whether ownership of the second bus (402) is available.



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