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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR HANDLING AN I/O OPERATION IN A VIRTUALIZATION ENVIRONMENT

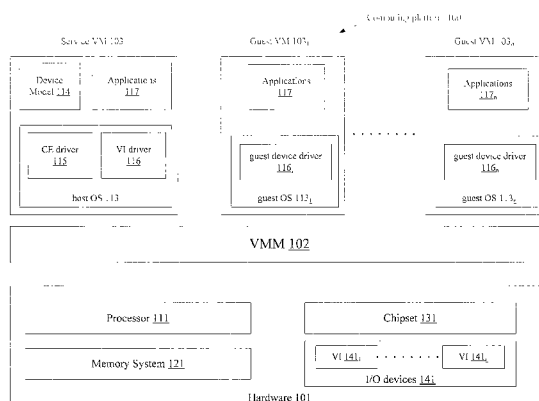


Fig. 1

(57) Abstract: Machine-readable media, methods, apparatus and system for. Method and apparatus for handling an I/O operation in a virtualization environment. In some embodiments, a system comprises a hardware machine comprising an input/output (I/O) device; and a virtual machine monitor to interface the hardware machine and a plurality of virtual machines. In some embodiments, the virtual machine comprises a guest virtual machine to write input/output (I/O) information related to an I/O operation and a service virtual machine comprising a device model and a device driver, wherein the device model invokes the device driver to control a part of the I/O device to implement the I/O operation with use of the I/O information, and wherein the device model, the device driver and the part of the I/O device are assigned to the guest virtual machine.