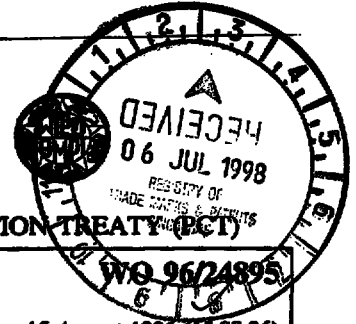


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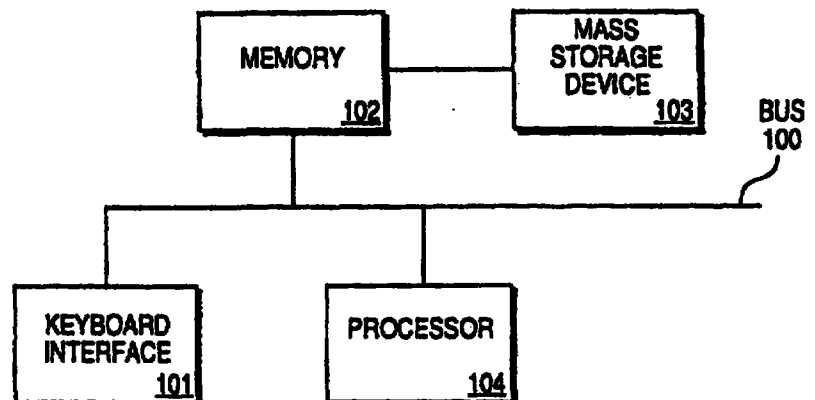


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(54) Title: **METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TRANSITIONING BETWEEN INSTRUCTION SETS IN A PROCESSOR**

(57) Abstract

A data processor (104) is described. The data processor (104) is capable of decoding and executing a first instruction (212) of a first instruction set and a second instruction (213-219) in a second instruction set wherein the first instruction (212) and the second instruction (213-219) originate from a single computer program (210, 211). Alternatively, the data processor (104) can also execute a first instruction (212) of a first instruction set in a first instruction set mode, receive a first interruption indication in the first instruction set mode, service the first interruption indication in a second instruction set mode, return to the first instruction set mode, receive a second interruption indication in the first instruction set mode, and service the second interruption indication in the first instruction set mode.



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