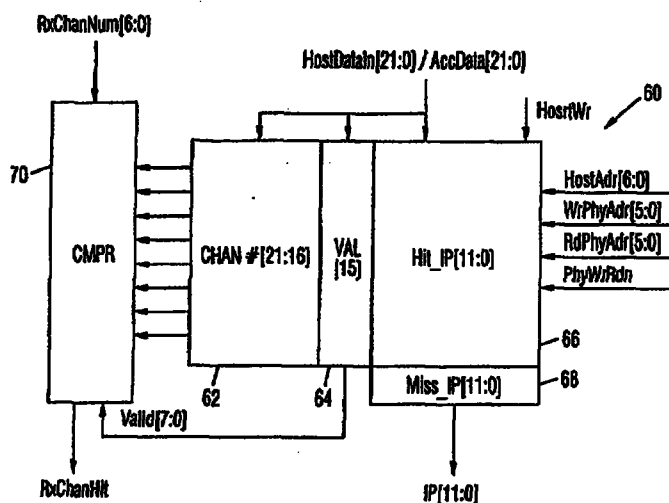




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(54) Title: METHOD OF AND APPARATUS FOR DISPATCHING A PROCESSING ELEMENT TO A PROGRAM LOCATION



(57) Abstract

An apparatus for dispatching a processing element to a program location based on a channel number of received data includes a channel pointer register (60) having a number of storage locations each with a channel number field (62), a valid bit field (64) and a corresponding instruction pointer field (66). When an isochronous channel is allocated for use for reception, the host device programs the channel number and a corresponding instruction pointer value into a storage location. When a storage location is programmed, a valid bit within that storage location is also preferably set. The corresponding instruction pointer value points to a series of instructions which are to be used to process data received on that isochronous channel. When isochronous data is then received, the channel number on which the data is received is compared (70) to the channel numbers within the valid storage locations in the channel pointer register (60).