ABSTRACT

END BIT MARKERS FOR INSTRUCTION DECODE (Figure 4)

Apparatus for determining the length of an instruction being processed by a computer system when instructions vary in length and appear sequentially in an instruction stream without differentiation between instructions including apparatus for providing an end bit for each predesignated length of an instruction to indicate that the instruction ends at that point in its length, apparatus for setting the end bit at the particular predesignated length of the instruction which is the actual end of the instruction, a first channel for processing a first instruction in sequence, a second channel for processing an instruction next following the first instruction, and apparatus for looking at the end bits of an instruction being processed by the first channel to determine the end point of that instruction and the beginning of the next instruction from the stream of instructions.