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(12) **United States Patent**  
**Black et al.**

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(54) **METHOD OF POWERING UP A PLURALITY OF LOADS IN SEQUENCE**

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(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 193 days.

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(21) Appl. No.: **11/900,855**

(22) Filed: **Sep. 13, 2007**

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

**Related U.S. Application Data**

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(51) **Int. Cl.**  
**H02J 3/00** (2006.01)  
**G06F 1/00** (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **307/41; 713/330**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** ..... **307/41; 713/300**

See application file for complete search history.

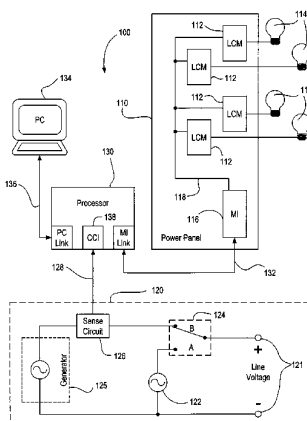
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Power distribution systems that have a limited peak power capability or a high source impedance, such as site supply generators, are often susceptible to abnormal operation in response to the current drawn at power up from the loads connected to the power distribution system. The present invention provides a lighting control system operable to power up a plurality of the lighting loads in sequence to reduce stress on the power distribution system. The lighting loads are each turned on as part of a startup sequence at predetermined times after an output voltage of the power distribution system has stabilized. The lighting control system is operable to begin the startup sequence in response to receiving a control signal representative that the power distribution system has stabilized. The lighting loads are each controlled by a lighting control module, which is operable to wait for a predetermined amount of time for the startup sequence to begin before turning on the lighting loads.

**25 Claims, 13 Drawing Sheets**



# US 7,566,987 B2

Page 2

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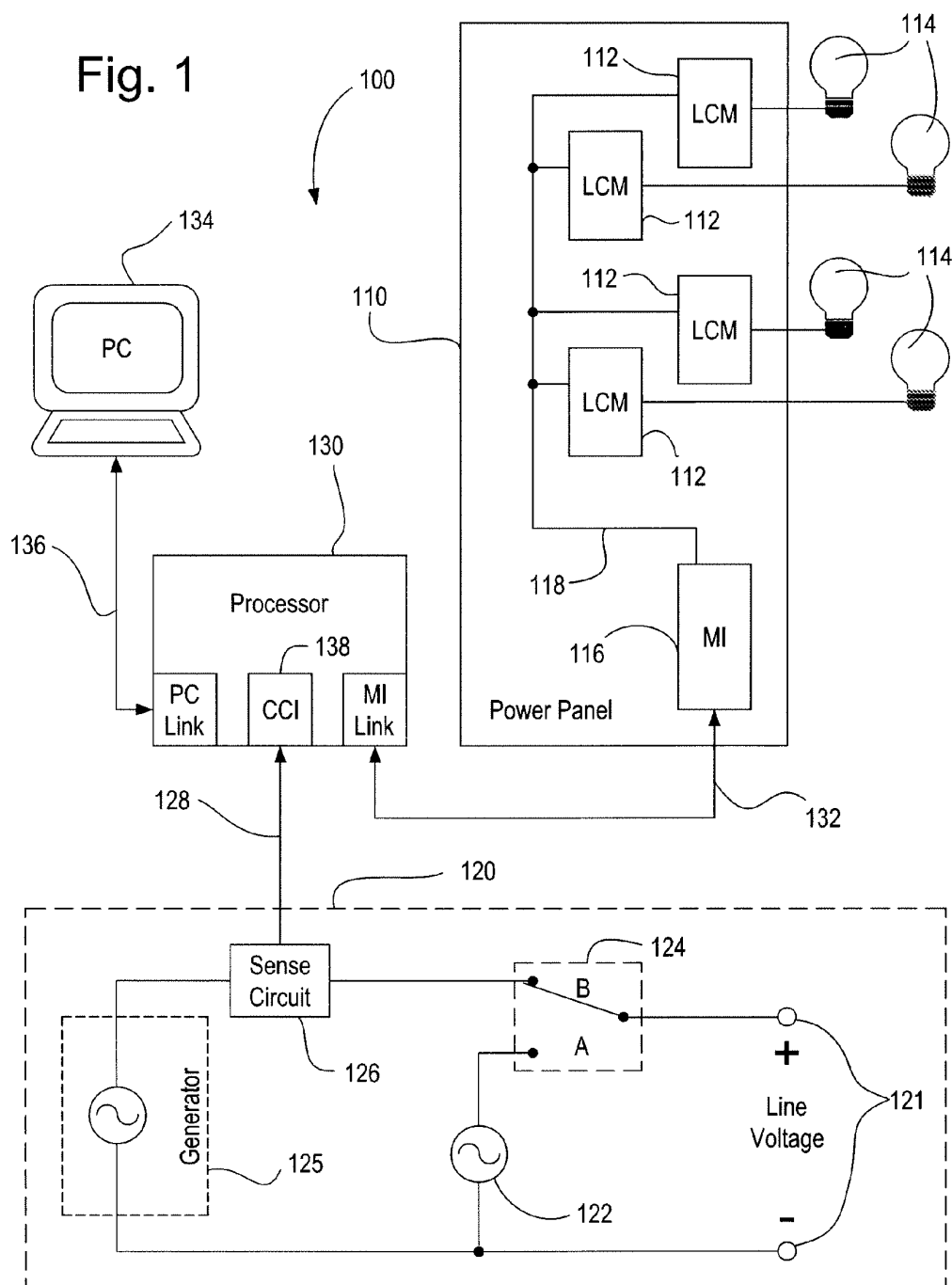
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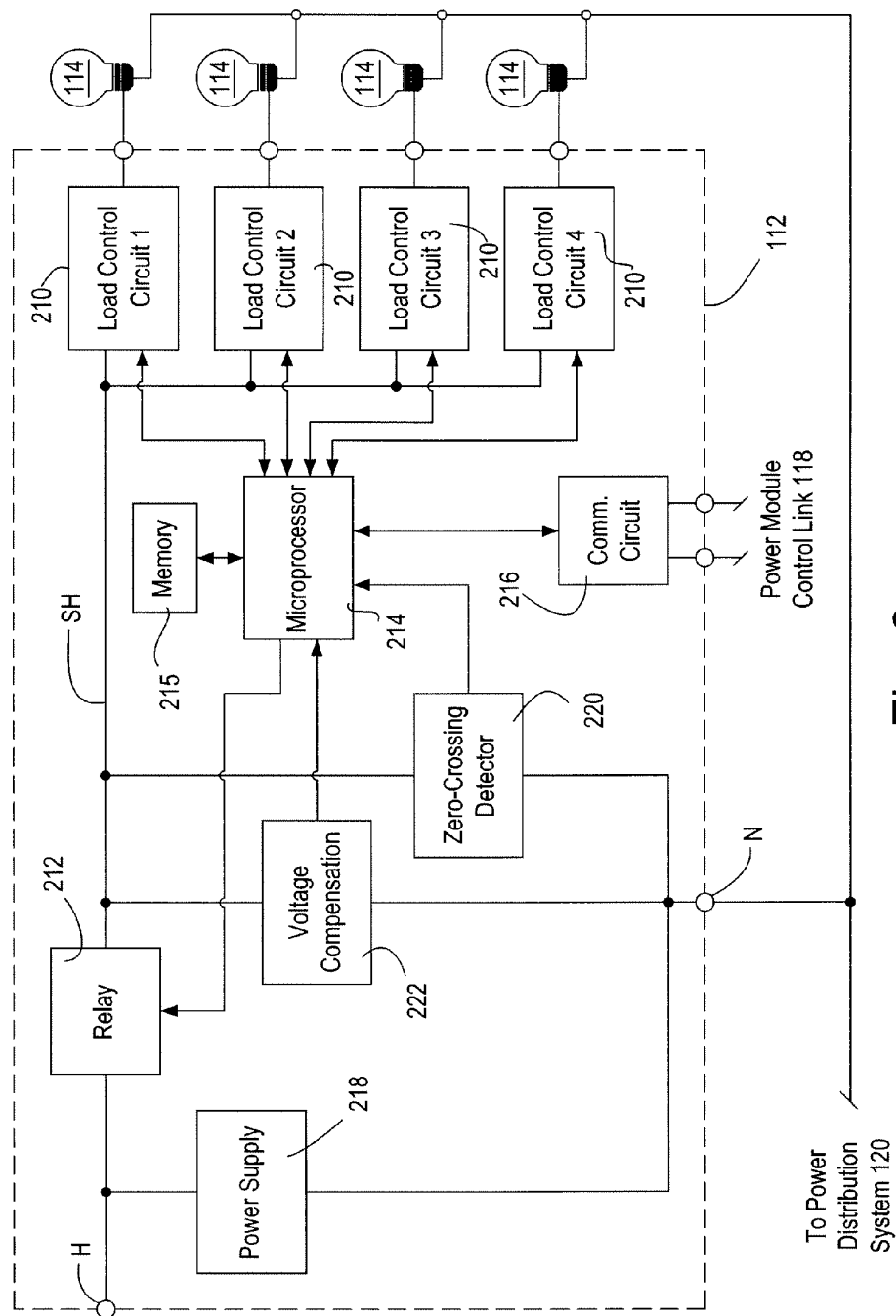


Fig. 2

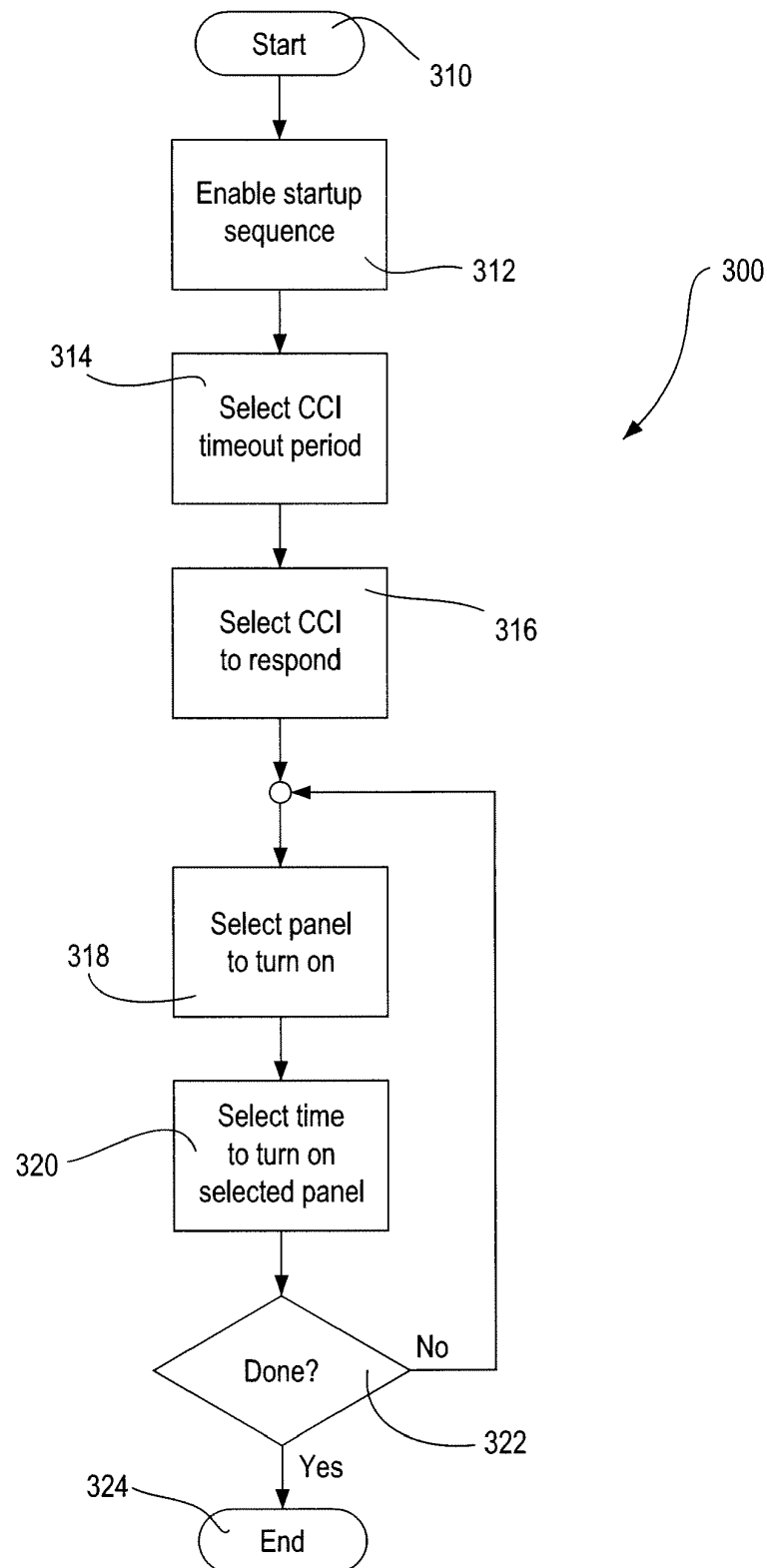


Fig. 3A

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