



IPI Command Queuing

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Command Queuing

- **ALL devices support command queuing**
 - Devices have a finite maximum command queue depth
 - Queue depth may be limited to 1

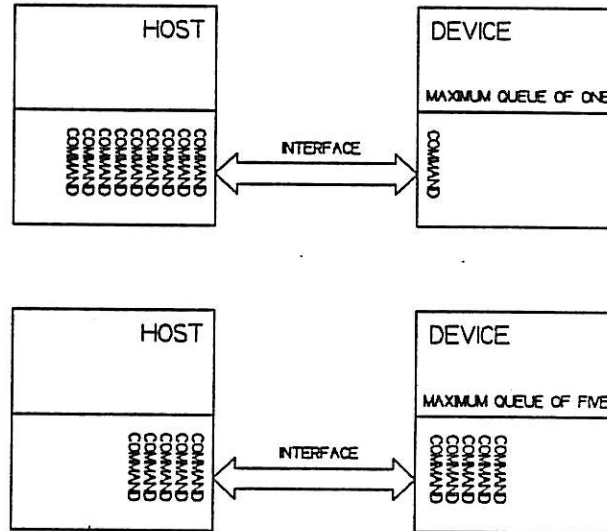
- **Devices that support a queue depth of more than one support COMMAND STACKING**
 - Queue depth is a readable attribute of the device
 - Command queue must be managed in the SYSTEM

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- Queued systems maintain command queues across multiple queue depth devices

**Both Systems
Have a 10
Command Queue
Active**



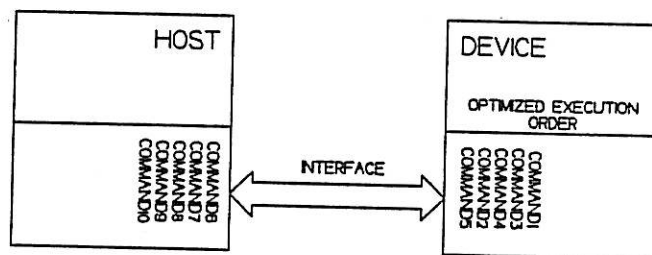
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- Commands queued in the device must be managed by the device
 - Multiple management forms exist
 - Forms differ on command execution order
- Five forms of queued commands are defined
 - Individual
 - Chained
 - Sequential
 - Ordered
 - Priority
- Different forms may be mixed in a sequence of commands

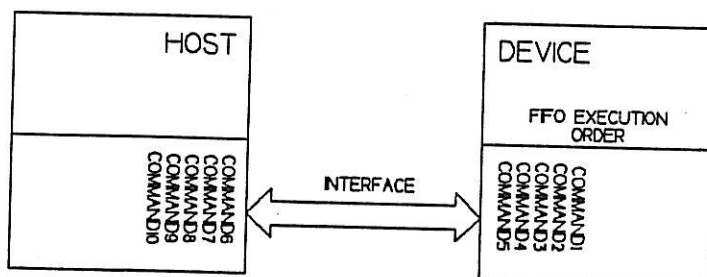
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- Individual Commands are the "Generic" form of queued commands
 - Each received command is independent of any other command
 - May be executed in any order
 - Order MAY be changed to optimize performance
 - No data dependencies exist within the command



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- Chained Commands are executed in FIFO order by the device
 - A bit in the command specifies chained operation
 - First command received without the chain bit set ends the command chain
 - Device cannot be accessed from other ports during chain
 - Implicit reserve at start of chain
 - Released at end of chain
 - An error in any command terminates the chain and any queued commands of that chain

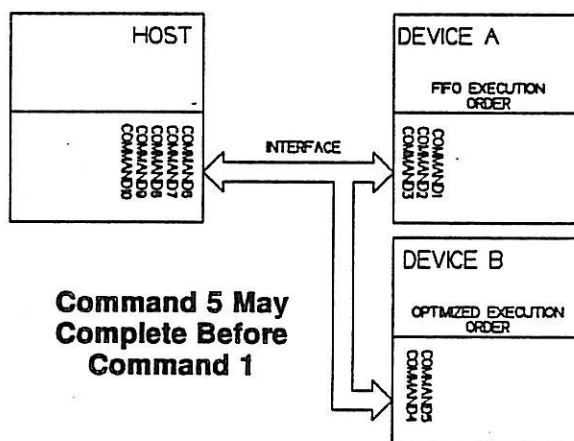


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Chained Commands

- Commands for other devices may be executed in parallel with the chained commands
- If multiple devices operate from the same controller (IPI-Slave), commands to other devices may complete before commands in the chain complete

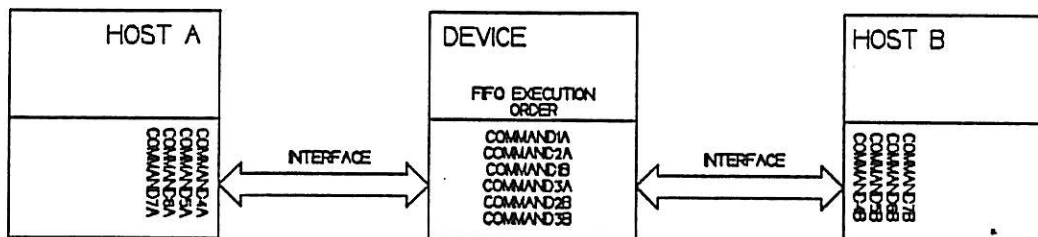


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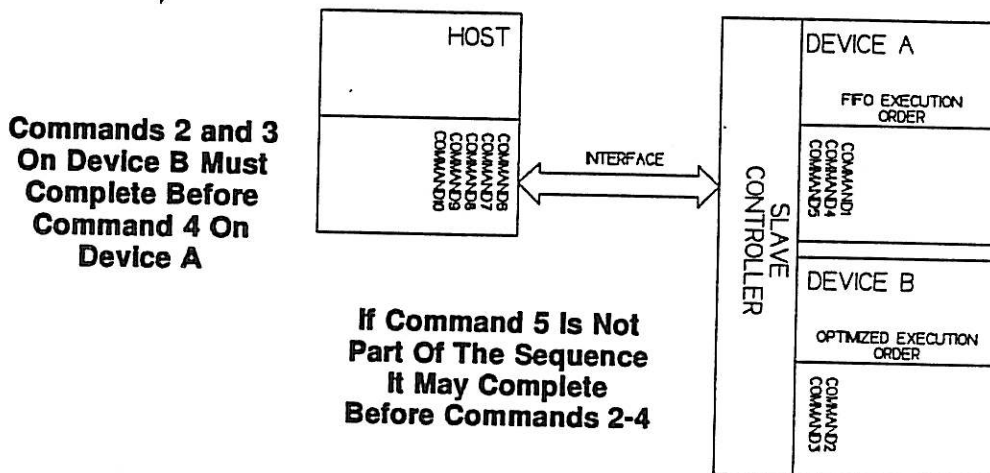
Sequential Commands

- Sequential Commands are similar to chained commands
 - Commands are executed in FIFO order
 - A bit in the command specifies sequential operation
 - First command received without the sequence bit set ends the command sequence
 - Device CAN be accessed from other ports during sequence
 - Reserved at start of each command
 - Released at end of each command
 - An error in any command terminates the sequence and any queued commands of that sequence



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- Sequential Commands are required to be executed in the order specified
 - Commands sequences may span multiple devices
 - Commands not in the sequence may execute in the middle of the sequence

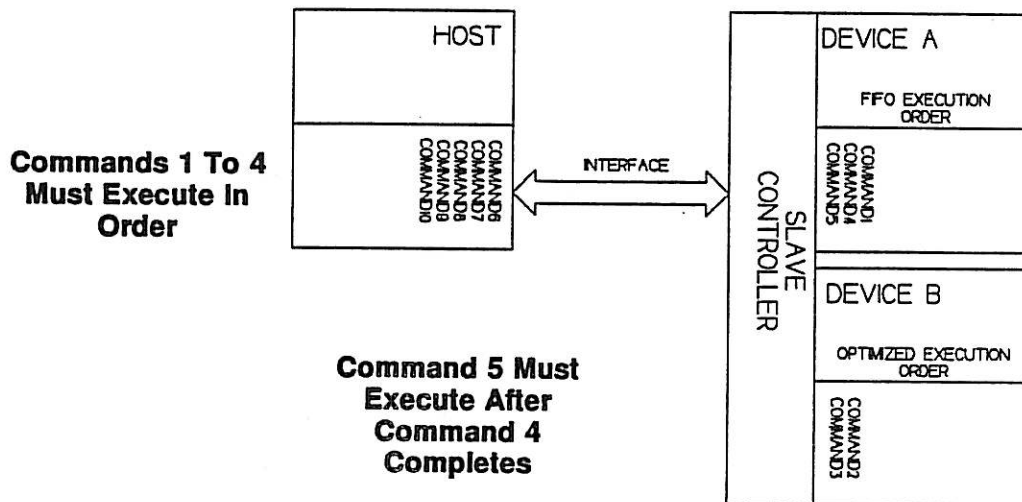


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- Ordered Commands are similar to sequence commands
 - Commands are executed in FIFO order
 - A bit in the command specifies ordered operation
 - First command received without the order bit set ends the command order
 - Commands not in the order **MAY NOT** execute in the middle of the order
 - Device **CAN** be accessed from other ports during sequence
 - Reserved at start of each command
 - Released at end of each command
 - An error in any command terminates the order and any queued commands of that order

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- Ordered Commands may span multiple devices



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- Priority Commands are interrupts into the normal command flow
 - Also affect interpretation of commands
 - Terminate any Chain, Sequence or Order currently being sent
- Priority Commands are executed in LIFO order
- May also have Priority Chains, Sequences, and Orders
 - Only first command of Priority Chain, Sequence, or Order is marked as Priority
 - Each sequence marked as Priority is executed completely before returning to any previously received commands

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- Execution order is determined by how many commands have already been completed
 - May also be design dependent
 - Example show here is for all individual commands

Commands As Sent	Execution Order
PRIORITY2 PRIORITY1 Command5 Command4 Command3 Command2 Command1	Command5 Command4 Command3 Command2 PRIORITY1 PRIORITY2 Command1

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- If a sequence is in execution, the sequence is allowed to complete first
 - Last command in sequence may be marked by the Priority Command
 - If command Chain1 had not yet started, both Priority commands would execute first

Commands As Sent	Execution Order
PRIORITY2 Chain4 Chain3 PRIORITY1 Chain2 Chain1	Chain4 Chain3 PRIORITY1 PRIORITY2 Chain2 Chain1

Interpreted as two separate Chains

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- **ABORT Command is used to**
 - Remove commands from the queue
 - Kill currently running commands
- **For ABORT to do ANYTHING it must be sent as a Priority Command**
 - Specifies commands to kill by reference number
 - Suspends the executing command to process the ABORT

Commands As Sent

Command4
ABORT1,3
Command3
Command2
Command1

Execution Order

Command4
~~Command3~~
~~Command2~~
ABORT1,3
~~Command1~~

Aborted
Commands

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- **Device software for a queued environment**
 - Must be multitasking
 - Must not allow deadlocks
 - Must support timeout capabilities
 - Must allocate resources by command
- **This requires a Real-Time kernel or executive**
 - VRTX
 - PSOS
 - Etc.
- **Maximum performance requires excellent software design as well as hardware**
 - Minimize number of context switches per command
 - Remove excess kernel tasks
 - Use small/fast kernel with short interrupt latency

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