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(INVITED)

MAGNETIC BUBBLES - STATUS & PROJECTIONS

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Magnetic bubble memories have the potential of bridging the capacity-data retrieval time gap. They are solid state, thus offering improved reliability and performance over competing electromechanical memories and, in addition, should offer significant cost advantage over semiconductor memories. First generation products are being designed for applications in the  $10^6$  -  $10^8$  bit capacity range with retrieval times of .0009 - 0.5 sec. In general these products will use chips of 65K bits - 100K bits. However, development of chips with capacities up to 250K bits is well along at several companies.

Bubble memory systems of  $10^6$  bits and  $10^8$  bits will be described and data to support cost projections for first generation bubble memories will be presented. In addition, the potential larger capacities and reduced per bit costs for second generation bubble memories will be discussed.

