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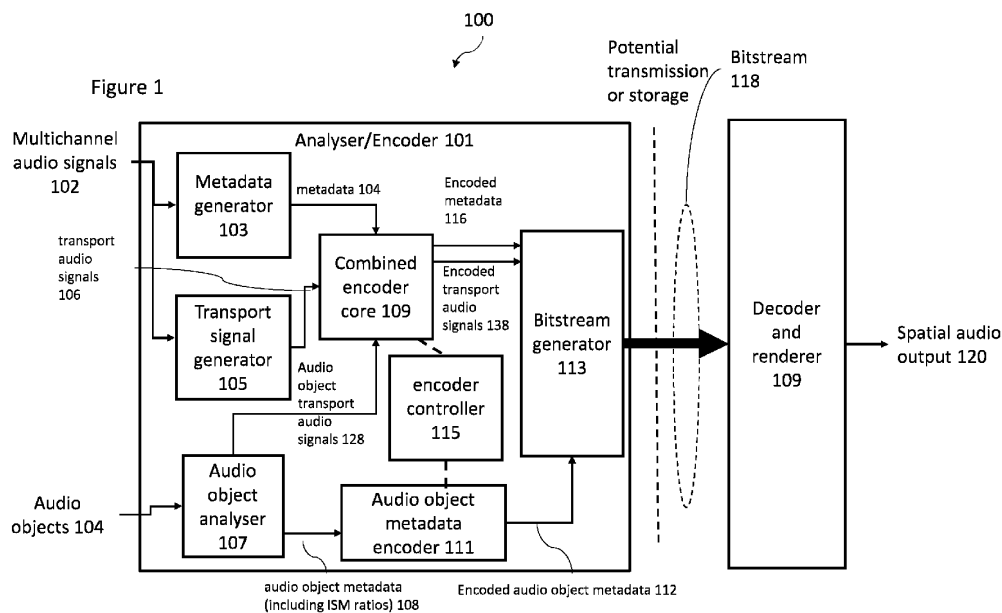
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(54) Title: COMBINED INPUT FORMAT SPATIAL AUDIO ENCODING



(57) **Abstract:** An apparatus for encoding audio object parameters, the apparatus comprising means for: identifying one of at least two audio objects within an audio environment to be encoded separately; obtaining, for time-frequency elements of a frame comprising at least one time element and at least one frequency element, ratio parameters for the at least two audio objects; grouping, for the time-frequency elements, ratio parameters associated with the at least two audio objects, quantizing the ratio parameters within the grouping, wherein the quantizing the ratio parameter is configured to generate integer representations of the ratio parameter values which sum for a specific grouping to a defined integer value; encoding the integer representations of the ratio parameter values within a first grouping as enumeration indexes; encoding subsequent groupings as difference values with respect to the first grouping.

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