



- (51) **International Patent Classification:**
G10L 19/008 (2013.01) *G10L 19/012* (2013.01)
- (21) **International Application Number:**
PCT/US2021/036714
- (22) **International Filing Date:**
10 June 2021 (10.06.2021)
- (25) **Filing Language:** English
- (26) **Publication Language:** English
- (30) **Priority Data:**
63/037,650 11 June 2020 (11.06.2020) US
63/193,946 27 May 2021 (27.05.2021) US
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- (81) **Designated States** (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DJ, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IR, IS, IT, JO, JP, KE, KG, KH, KN, KP, KR, KW, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SA, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, WS, ZA, ZM, ZW.
- (84) **Designated States** (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, ST, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(54) **Title:** METHODS AND DEVICES FOR ENCODING AND/OR DECODING SPATIAL BACKGROUND NOISE WITHIN A MULTI-CHANNEL INPUT SIGNAL

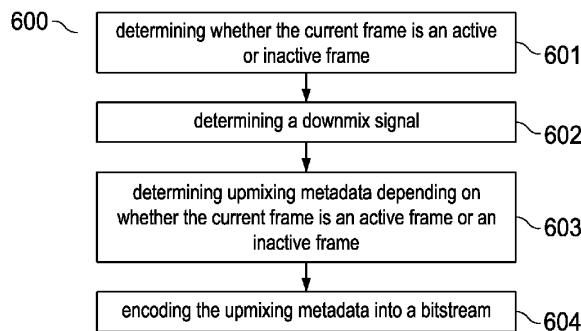


Fig. 6a

(57) **Abstract:** The present document describes a method (600) for encoding a multi-channel input signal (101) which comprises N different channels. The method (600) comprises, for a current frame of a sequence of frames, determining (601) whether the current frame is an active frame or an inactive frame using a signal and/or a voice activity detector, and determining (602) a downmix signal (103) based on the multi-channel input signal (101), wherein the downmix signal (103) comprises N channels or less. In addition, the method (600) comprises determining (603) upmixing metadata (105) comprising a set of parameters for generating, based on the downmix signal (103), a reconstructed multi-channel signal (111) comprising N channels, wherein the upmixing metadata (105) is determined in dependence of whether the current frame is an active frame or an inactive frame. The method (600) further comprises encoding (604) the upmixing metadata (105) into a bitstream.

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Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))*
- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*

Published:

- *with international search report (Art. 21(3))*
- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))*