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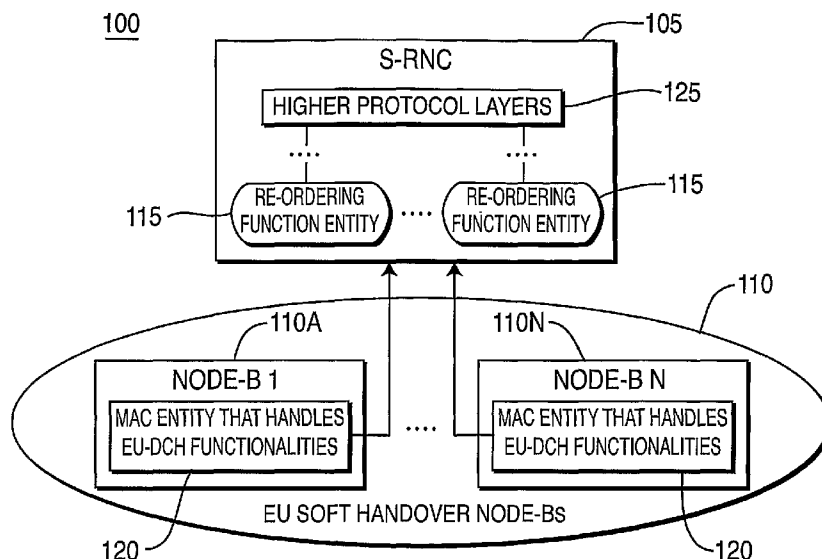
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING DATA BLOCKS DURING SOFT HANDOVER



(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus for processing data blocks during soft handover. The apparatus may be a wireless communication system including at least two enhanced uplink soft handover (EU-SHO) Node-Bs and a radio network controller (RNC). Each Node-B decodes a received data block and forwards the decoded data block to the RNC. If the RNC receives at least one copy of a successfully decoded data block, the RNC uses a re-ordering function entity to process the copy of the successfully decoded data block to support in-sequence delivery to higher protocol layers. If the RNC receives more than one copy of a successfully decoded data block, the RNC discards the extra successfully decoded data block copies. The RNC is either a serving-RNC (S-RNC) or a controlling RNC (C-RNC). Each Node-B includes a medium access control (MAC) entity that handles enhanced uplink dedicated channel (EU-DCH) functionalities.

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