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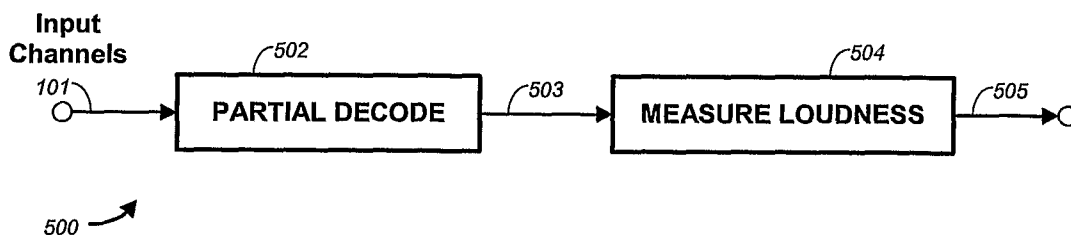
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(54) Title: ECONOMICAL LOUDNESS MEASUREMENT OF CODED AUDIO



(57) Abstract: Measuring the loudness of audio encoded in a bitstream that includes data from which an approximation of the power spectrum of the audio can be derived without fully decoding the audio is performed by deriving the approximation of the power spectrum of the audio from said bitstream without fully decoding the audio, and determining an approximate loudness of the audio in response to the approximation of the power spectrum of the audio. The data may include coarse representations of the audio and associated finer representations of the audio, the approximation of the power spectrum of the audio being derived from the coarse representations of the audio. In the case of subband encoded audio, the coarse representations of the audio may comprise scale factors and the associated finer representations of the audio may comprise sample data associated with each scale factor.

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