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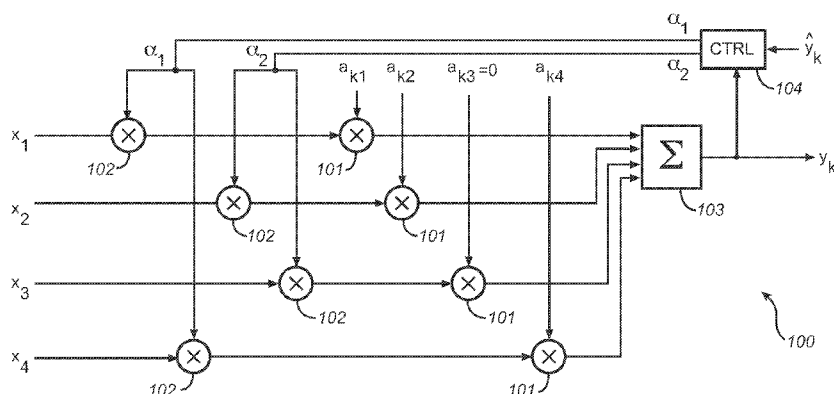
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- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))
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(54) Title: DOWNMIX LIMITING

**FIG. 1**

(57) **Abstract:** The invention relates to downmixing techniques by which output audio signals are obtained from input audio signals partitioned into subgroups. A variable common gain limiting factor is applied to all downmix coefficients that govern the contributions from the input signals in a subgroup. While preserving the proportions between signal values within a subgroup, the invention makes it possible to limit the gain of different input signal subgroups to different extents, so that relatively more perceptible signals can be limited relatively less. It then becomes possible to achieve a consistent dialogue level while transitioning in a less perceptible fashion between signal portions with and without gain limiting. Embodiments of the invention include a method, a mixing system and a computer-program product.



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