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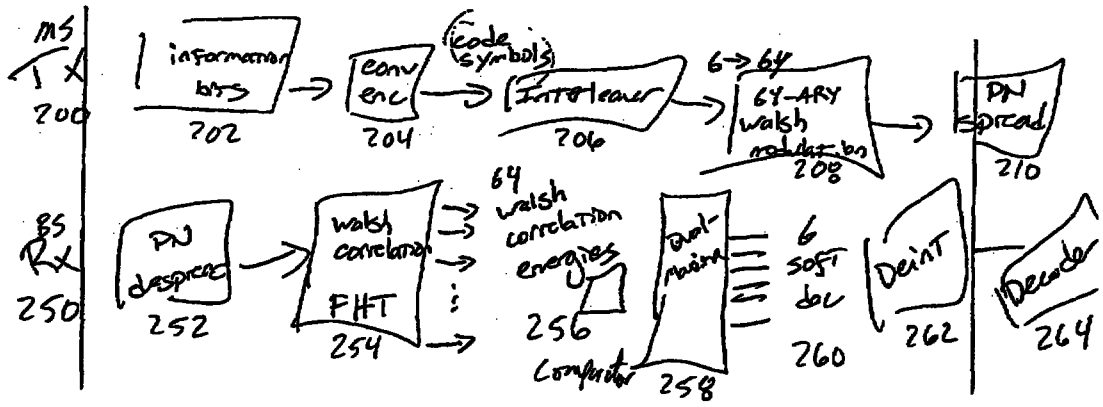
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR USING FRAME ENERGY METRICS TO IMPROVE RATE DETERMINATION



(57) Abstract: A Wireless Code Division Multiple Access method and apparatus for determining the transmitted rate of a voice/data signal from a mobile station to a Base Station. Variable rate vocoders transmit voice at one of several predetermined frame rates. The receiver determines the transmitted rate based on one of several frame parameters. One of the parameters is received frame energy. The received frame energy is measured over the length of the relevant portion of the frame. Energy is measured over the half of the frame that can only contain energy if a full rate frame is sent. If the energy measured exceeds a threshold, then full rate is indicated. Else, energy is measured over the fourth of a frame that can only contain energy if a half rate frame is sent. If the energy exceeds a threshold, then half rate is indicated. The procedure is repeated for quarter and eighth rates.

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