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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **TELEFONAKTIEBOLAGET L M ERICSSON (PUBL)** [SE/SE]; S-164 83 Stockholm (SE).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **SIOMINA, Iana** [SE/SE]; Mäster Simons Väg 20, D41, S-170 66 Solna (SE). **KAZMI, Muhammad** [SE/SE]; Svartviksslingan 110, 3 tr, S-167 39 Bromma (SE). **CUI, Tao** [SE/SE];

Gustav III:s Boulevard 109, S-169 74 Stockholm (SE). **VOLTOLINA, Elena** [IT/SE]; Orkanvägen 20, S-177 71 Järfälla (SE).

(74) Agent: **HASSELGREN, Joakim**; Ericsson AB, Patent Unit LTE, Torshamnsgatan 23, S-164 80 Stockholm (SE).

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(54) Title: A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR REFERENCE TIME ACQUISITION FOR POSITIONING REFERENCE SIGNALS IN A WIRELESS COMMUNICATION NETWORK

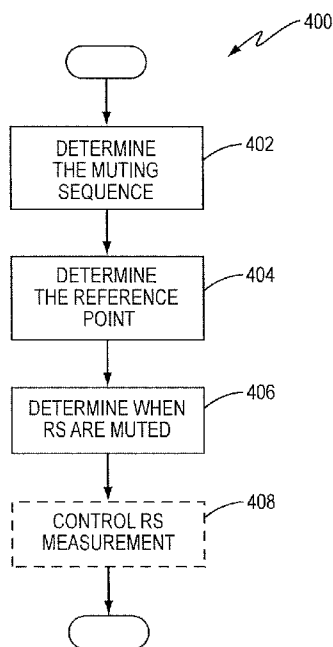


FIG. 4

(57) Abstract: The present invention provides a muting configuration for reference signal (RS) transmission as a pattern defined by at least the combination of a muting sequence and a reference point. Muting occasions for a given wireless communication network cell (20) thus are differentiated from another cell by use of a different muting sequence, a different reference point, or both. Moreover, in one or more embodiments, the present invention provides for the use of a common muting sequence or reference point across cells (20), with muting occasions being differentiated between cells (20) through use of different reference points (in the case of a common muting sequence), or through use of different muting sequences (in the case of a common reference point), or different sequences and different reference points. Such arrangements simplify the signaling needed to control or indicate the muting configuration in use in the cells of interest, provide an advantageous basis for propagating muting configurations among cells (20), eliminate the need for predefined muting configurations, and the need for blind detection of muting by wireless communication apparatuses (14), such as UEs.



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