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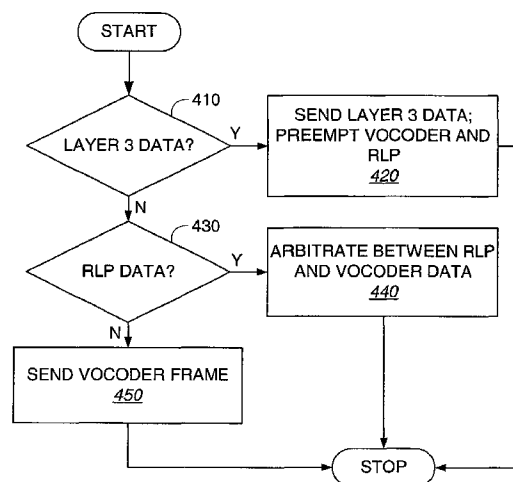
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(54) Title: MULTIPLEXING VARIABLE-RATE DATA WITH DATA SERVICES



(57) **Abstract:** Techniques for multiplexing variable-rate data with data services on a shared channel are disclosed. In one aspect, data from data services (320) is prioritized. High priority data awaiting transmission may result in a dim command being issued to reduce the rate of the variable-rate data (310) thus making room for the data services data. Lower priority data from data services may wait for the next available space, without reducing the rate of the variable-rate data. In another aspect, data services data is categorized into three or more priority levels. High priority data can preempt variable-rate data. Medium priority data may result in a dim command reducing the variable-rate data. Low priority data may wait for the next available space, without reducing the rate of the variable-rate data. Various other aspects are also presented. These aspects have the benefit of allowing variable-rate and data services data to be multiplexed on a shared channel, while balancing the quality of the variable-rate data signal and maintaining data services when the variable-rate data is at a high rate.

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