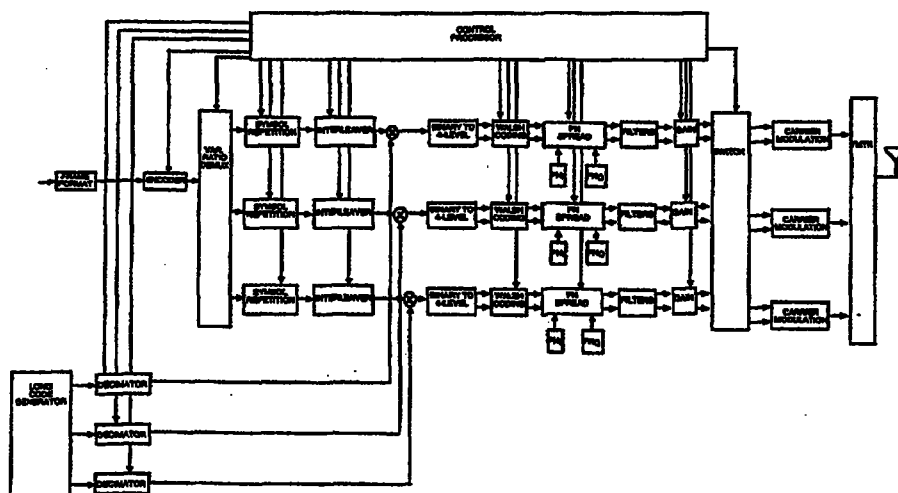




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(54) Title: A METHOD OF AND APPARATUS FOR TRANSMITTING DATA IN A MULTIPLE CARRIER SYSTEM

**(57) Abstract**

A method of an apparatus for transmitting data in a multiple carrier system comprises encoding data and dividing the resulting encoded symbols for transmission on different frequencies. The transmitter comprises a control processor (50) for determining the capacity of each of a plurality of channels and selecting a data rate for each channel depending on the determined capacity. A plurality of transmission subsystems (56 to 72) are responsive to the control processor (50). Each transmission subsystem is associated with a respective one of the plurality of channels for scrambling encoded data with codes unique to the channel for transmission in the channel. A variable demultiplexer (56) under the control of the control processor (50) demultiplexes the encoded data into the plurality of transmission subsystems at a demultiplexing rate derived from the data rates selected for the channels by the controller. In one embodiment of the transmission subsystems, the encoded symbols are provided to a symbol repetition unit (58) which keeps the symbol rate of data to be transmitted fixed. In another embodiment, no symbol repetition is provided and variable length Walsh sequences are used to handle data rate variations.