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61/303,643 11 February 2010 (11.02.2010) US(71) Applicants (for all designated States except US): **DOLBY LABORATORIES LICENSING CORPORATION** [US/US]; 100 Potrero Avenue, San Francisco, California 94103-4813 (US). **DOLBY INTERNATIONAL AB** [SE/NL]; Atlas Complex, Africa Building, Hoogoorddreef 9, NL-1101 BA Amsterdam (NL).

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(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR NON-DESTRUCTIVELY NORMALIZING LOUDNESS OF AUDIO SIGNALS WITHIN PORTABLE DEVICES

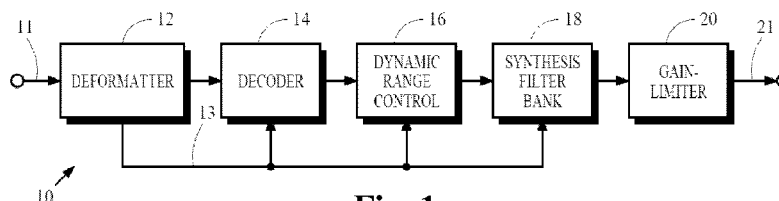


Fig. 1

(57) Abstract: Many portable playback devices cannot decode and playback encoded audio content having wide bandwidth and wide dynamic range with consistent loudness and intelligibility unless the encoded audio content has been prepared specially for these devices. This problem can be overcome by including with the encoded content some metadata that specifies a suitable dynamic range compression profile by either absolute values or differential values relative to another known compression profile. A playback device may also adaptively apply gain and limiting to the playback audio. Implementations in encoders, in transcoders and in decoders are disclosed.