

**APPARATUS AND METHOD OF CONTROLLING TRANSMITTING POWER AND
TRANSMIT RATE OF A WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM.**

TECHNICAL FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates in general to telecommunications systems and more particularly to an apparatus and method of establishing and maintaining
5 communication paths in a wireless telecommunications system.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Wireless telecommunications systems require transmitters and receivers in order to send and receive information over radio frequency signals in a network configuration. These transmitters and receivers may suffer from interference with other transmitters and receivers in and out of the network configuration. Such interference may be caused by each transmitter operating at a different transmitting power level. Control of the transmitting power of the transmitters has only been performed at each transmitter and not from a centralized location. Further, the transmitting power of a transmitter within a wireless telecommunication system has proved to be difficult to control with respect to the transmitting powers of other transmitters in the system. Therefore, it is desirable to obtain improved control of the transmitting power of each transmitter within a wireless telecommunications system.

Also, wireless telecommunications systems require radio links be established between corresponding transmitters and receivers in order to provide wireless communication transmissions. Interference and delays occur in achieving acquisition and establishment of each radio link. It becomes inefficient to acquire and establish a radio link every time a call is to be initiated. Problems with interference also occur if a radio link is maintained whether or not a call is in progress due to power needed to maintain the radio link. Therefore, it is desirable to avoid establishing a radio link for each call and avoid inserting interference into the wireless telecommunications system through continuous maintenance of a radio link.

Additionally, transmitters typically transmit signals at one phase and receivers typically receive signals at a different phase. The different phases used by transmitters and receivers in the system may cause problems in recognizing information from multiple transmitter and receiver pairs. Further, a receiver having one phase

requires a greater amount of circuitry and software support to identify information from a corresponding transmitter operating at a different phase. Additionally, a phase difference between a receiver and transmitter may also be affected by changes in a path delay between the transmitter and the receiver. Therefore, it is desirable to be able to control the phase of transmitters and receivers in a wireless telecommunications system to provide improved radio frequency signal transmission.

Transmitters of the originating or destination sources may send information at one phase and the receivers of the destination or originating sources may receive information out of phase. In such a situation, the receivers will not know at what portion in the data stream the receive process has started. Information is partitioned into frames and to adequately process the information the beginning of each frame should be identified. Conventional techniques to frame align information are cumbersome, slow in frame identification, and may lose frames of information. Therefore, it is desirable to quickly and easily identify the beginning of each frame of information to achieve proper processing.

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SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

In accordance with one aspect of the present invention, a method of controlling transmitting power in a subscriber terminal of a wireless telecommunications systems is provided which substantially eliminates or reduces disadvantages and problems associated with conventional wireless systems.

According to an embodiment of the present invention, a method of controlling transmitting power in a subscriber terminal of a wireless telecommunications system that includes establishing a downlink communication path from a transmitter of a central terminal to a receiver of the subscriber terminal. A downlink signal is transmitted from the transmitter of the central terminal and received at the receiver of the subscriber terminal. The downlink signal includes a power control signal that is used to adjust a transmitting power of the transmitter in the subscriber terminal in order to establish an uplink communication path between the transmitter of the subscriber terminal and a receiver at the central terminal.

One technical advantage of this aspect of the present invention is to externally control the transmitting power of the transmitter in the subscriber terminal. Another technical advantage is to control transmitting power through an overhead channel in the downlink signal from the central terminal to the subscriber terminal. Yet another technical advantage is to provide increasing and decreasing incremental adjustments to the transmitting power of the transmitter in the subscriber terminal. Still another technical advantage is to adjust the transmitting power to match the transmitting power of other subscriber terminals serviced by the central terminal.

In accordance with another aspect of the present invention, there is provided an apparatus and method of synchronizing a transmitter in a subscriber terminal of a wireless telecommunications system that substantially



eliminates or reduces disadvantages and problems associated with conventional wireless communication techniques.

According to an embodiment of the present invention, a method of synchronizing a transmitter in a subscriber terminal of a wireless telecommunications system includes establishing a downlink communication path from a central terminal to the subscriber terminal. A downlink signal is transmitted from a transmitter in the central terminal and received at a receiver of the subscriber terminal. The receiver of the subscriber terminal extracts a code synchronization signal from the downlink signal. The code synchronization signal is used to adjust a phase of an uplink signal transmitted by a transmitter in the subscriber terminal. The receiver of the central terminal monitors the phase of the uplink signal and changes the code synchronization signal in order to obtain a match of the phase of the uplink signal to the phase at the receiver of the central terminal.

One technical advantage of this aspect of the present invention is to remotely adjust a transmitting phase of a transmitter in a subscriber terminal. Another technical advantage is to obtain a match of the transmitting phase of the transmitter in a subscriber terminal at a receiver of a central terminal. Yet another technical advantage is to embed a code synchronization signal within a downlink signal transmitted from a central terminal to incrementally adjust a transmitting phase of a transmitter in a subscriber terminal. Still another technical advantage is to continually monitor a transmitting phase of a transmitter in a subscriber terminal in order to maintain a match with the phase of a receiver in a central terminal.

In accordance with another aspect of the present invention, there is provided an apparatus and/or method of transmitting and receiving information in a wireless telecommunications system that substantially eliminates or



reduces disadvantages and problems associated with conventional wireless communication techniques.

According to an embodiment of the present invention, a method of transmitting information in a wireless telecommunications system includes transmitting a downlink signal at a first transmitting power and first transmitting rate in an acquisition mode to establish a downlink communication path. The downlink signal is transmitted at a second transmitting power and the first transmitting rate in a standby mode after establishment of the downlink communication path. The downlink signal is transmitted at the first transmitting power and a second transmitting rate upon a request for a wireless telephone call.

One technical advantage of this aspect of the present invention is to provide multiple operating modes having different transmitting powers and different transmitting rates. Another technical advantage is to provide low transmitting power at a low transmit rate during system idle periods. Yet another technical advantage is to efficiently change between different transmitting powers and different transmit rates.

In accordance with another aspect of the present invention, there is provided an apparatus and/or method of establishing a downlink communication path in a wireless telecommunications system that substantially eliminates or reduces disadvantages and problems associated with conventional wireless communication techniques.

According to an embodiment of the present invention, a method of establishing a downlink communication path in a wireless telecommunications system includes transmitting a downlink signal having a master code sequence from a transmitter in a central terminal. The downlink signal is received at a receiver in a subscriber terminal having a slave code sequence. The receiver in the subscriber terminal compares its slave code sequence to the master code sequence of the downlink signal for a code and phase



match. The receiver adjusts the phase of its slave code sequence to match the phase of the master code, determining a path delay from the transmitter in the central terminal to the receiver in the subscriber terminal.

5 One technical advantage of this aspect of the present invention is to match a receiver slave code sequence to a master code sequence of a downlink signal. Another technical advantage is to adjust a phase of a slave code sequence of a receiver to match a phase of a master code
10 sequence in a downlink signal. Yet another technical advantage is to provide fine and coarse incremental adjustments to a phase of a slave code sequence of a receiver. Still another technical advantage is to measure a combined power level of a slave code sequence and a
15 master code sequence in order to obtain a code sequence match.

 In accordance with another aspect of the present invention, there is provided an apparatus and/or a method of frame aligning information in a wireless
20 telecommunications system that substantially eliminates or reduces disadvantages and problems associated with conventional frame alignment techniques.

 According to an embodiment of the present invention, a method of frame aligning information in a wireless
25 telecommunications system includes receiving at a receiver of a subscriber terminal a downlink signal carrying the information transmitted by a transmitter in a central terminal. A beginning of frame position for a frame of information is identified from the downlink signal. To
30 ensure accurate frame alignment, a successive beginning of frame position of a successive frame of information is identified. Upon successfully identifying two successive beginning of frame positions, a downlink communication path is established from the transmitter of the central terminal
35 to the receiver of the subscriber terminal.

One technical advantage of this aspect of the present invention is to accurately identify a beginning of frame position for a frame of information. Another technical advantage is to incrementally step through the bit positions of the downlink signal to identify the beginning of frame position. Yet another technical advantage is to decode a frame alignment word representing the beginning of frame position into an overhead channel of the downlink signal. Still another technical advantage is to continuously monitor the beginning of frame position for subsequent frames of information.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

An embodiment of the invention will be described hereinafter, by way of example only, with reference to the accompanying drawings in which like reference signs are used for like features and in which:

Figure 1 is a schematic overview of an example of a wireless telecommunications system in which an example of the present invention is included;

Figure 2 is a schematic illustration of an example of a subscriber terminal of the telecommunications system of Figure 1;

Figure 3 is a schematic illustration of an example of a central terminal of the telecommunications system of Figure 1;

Figure 3A is a schematic illustration of a modem shelf of a central terminal of the telecommunications system of Figure 1;

Figure 4 is an illustration of an example of a frequency plan for the telecommunications system of Figure 1;

Figures 5A and 5B are schematic diagrams illustrating possible configurations for cells for the telecommunications system of Figure 1;

Figure 6 is a schematic diagram illustrating aspects of a code division multiplex system for the telecommunications system of Figure 1;

Figure 7 is a schematic diagram illustrating signal transmission processing stages for the telecommunications system of Figure 1;

Figure 8 is a schematic diagram illustrating signal reception processing stages for the telecommunications system of Figure 1;

Figure 9 is a schematic diagram illustrating downlink and uplink communication paths for the wireless telecommunications system;

Figure 10 is a schematic diagram illustrating the makeup of a downlink signal transmitted by the central terminal;

5 Figure 11 is a graphical depiction illustrating the phase adjustment to a slave code sequence of the subscriber terminal;

Figure 12 is a graphical depiction of a signal quality estimate performed by the receiver in the subscriber terminal;

10 Figure 13 is a graphical diagram illustrating the contents of a frame information signal within the downlink signal;

Figure 14 is a tabular depiction illustrating overhead insertion into a data stream of the downlink signal;

15 Figure 15 is a tabular depiction of a power control signal in an overhead channel of the downlink signal;

Figure 16 is a tabular depiction of a code synchronization signal in the overhead channel of the downlink signal;

20 Figure 17 is a graphical depiction of a transmitting power and a transmit rate for each mode of operation of the wireless telecommunications system; and

25 Figure 18 is a schematic diagram illustrating the operation of the receiver and transmitter in the subscriber terminal.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

Figure 1 is a schematic overview of an example of a wireless telecommunications system. The telecommunications system includes one or more service areas 12, 14 and 16, each of which is served by a respective central terminal (CT) 10 which establishes a radio link with subscriber terminals (ST) 20 within the area concerned. The area which is covered by a central terminal 10 can vary. For example, in a rural area with a low density of subscribers, a service area 12 could cover an area with a radius of 15-20Km. A service area 14 in an urban environment where there is a high density of subscriber terminals 20 might only cover an area with a radius of the order of 100m. In a suburban area with an intermediate density of subscriber terminals, a service area 16 might cover an area with a radius of the order of 1Km. It will be appreciated that the area covered by a particular central terminal 10 can be chosen to suit the local requirements of expected or actual subscriber density, local geographic considerations, etc, and is not limited to the examples illustrated in Figure 1. Moreover, the coverage need not be, and typically will not be circular in extent due to antenna design considerations, geographical factors, buildings and so on, which will affect the distribution of transmitted signals.

The central terminals 10 for respective service areas 12, 14, 16 can be connected to each other by means of links 13, 15 and 17 which interface, for example, with a public switched telephone network (PSTN) 18. The links can include conventional telecommunications technology using copper wires, optical fibers, satellites, microwaves, etc.

The wireless telecommunications system of Figure 1 is based on providing fixed microwave links between subscriber terminals 20 at fixed locations within a service area (e.g., 12, 14, 16) and the central terminal 10 for that service area. In a preferred embodiment each subscriber terminal 20 is provided with a permanent fixed access link

to its central terminal 10. However, in alternative embodiments demand-based access could be provided, so that the number of subscribers which can be serviced exceeds the number of telecommunications links which can currently be active.

Figure 2 illustrates an example of a configuration for a subscriber terminal 20 for the telecommunications system of Figure 1. Figure 2 includes a schematic representation of customer premises 22. A customer radio unit (CRU) 24 is mounted on the customer's premises. The customer radio unit 24 includes a flat panel antenna or the like 23. The customer radio unit is mounted at a location on the customer's premises, or on a mast, etc., and in an orientation such that the flat panel antenna 23 within the customer radio unit 24 faces in the direction 26 of the central terminal 10 for the service area in which the customer radio unit 24 is located.

The customer radio unit 24 is connected via a drop line 28 to a power supply unit (PSU) 30 within the customer's premises. The power supply unit 30 is connected to the local power supply for providing power to the customer radio unit 24 and a network terminal unit (NTU) 32. The customer radio unit 24 is also connected to via the power supply unit 30 to the network terminal unit 32, which in turn is connected to telecommunications equipment in the customer's premises, for example to one or more telephones 34, facsimile machines 36 and computers 38. The telecommunications equipment is represented as being within a single customer's premises. However, this need not be the case, as the subscriber terminal 20 preferably supports either a single or a dual line, so that two subscriber lines could be supported by a single subscriber terminal 20. The subscriber terminal 20 can also be arranged to support analogue and digital telecommunications, for example analogue communications at 16, 32 or 64kbits/sec or

digital communications in accordance with the ISDN BRA standard.

Figure 3 is a schematic illustration of an example of a central terminal of the telecommunications system of Figure 1. The common equipment rack 40 comprises a number of equipment shelves 42, 44, 46, including a RF Combiner and power amp shelf (RFC) 42, a Power Supply shelf (PS) 44 and a number of (in this example four) Modem Shelves (MS) 46. The RF combiner shelf 42 allows the four modem shelves 46 to operate in parallel. It combines and amplifies the power of four transmit signals, each from a respective one of the four modem shelves, and amplifies and splits received signals four way so that separate signals may be passed to the respective modem shelves. The power supply shelf 44 provides a connection to the local power supply and fusing for the various components in the common equipment rack 40. A bidirectional connection extends between the RF combiner shelf 42 and the main central terminal antenna 52, typically an omnidirectional antenna, mounted on a central terminal mast 50.

This example of a central terminal 10 is connected via a point-to-point microwave link to a location where an interface to the public switched telephone network 18, shown schematically in Figure 1, is made. As mentioned above, other types of connections (e.g., copper wires or optical fibres) can be used to link the central terminal 10 to the public switched telephone network 18. In this example the modem shelves are connected via lines 47 to a microwave terminal (MT) 48. A microwave link 49 extends from the microwave terminal 48 to a point-to-point microwave antenna 54 mounted on the mast 50 for a host connection to the public switched telephone network 18.

A personal computer, workstation or the like can be provided as a site controller (SC) 56 for supporting the central terminal 10. The site controller 56 can be connected to each modem shelf of the central terminal 10

via, for example, RS232 connections 55. The site controller 56 can then provide support functions such as the localization of faults, alarms and status and the configuring of the central terminal 10. A site controller 56 will typically support a single central terminal 10, although a plurality of site controllers 56 could be networked for supporting a plurality of central terminals 10.

As an alternative to the RS232 connections 55, which extend to a site controller 56, data connections such as an X.25 links 57 (shown with dashed lines in Figure 3) could instead be provided from a pad 228 to a switching node 60 of an element manager (EM) 58. An element manager 58 can support a number of distributed central terminals 10 connected by respective connections to the switching node 60. The element manager 58 enables a potentially large number (e.g., up to, or more than 1000) of central terminals 10 to be integrated into a management network. The element manager 58 is based around a powerful workstation 62 and can include a number of computer terminals 64 for network engineers and control personnel.

Figure 3A illustrates various parts of a modem shelf 46. A transmit/receive RF unit (RFU - for example implemented on a card in the modem shelf) 66 generates the modulated transmit RF signals at medium power levels and recovers and amplifies the baseband RF signals for the subscriber terminals. The RF unit 66 is connected to an analogue card (AN) 68 which performs A-D/D-A conversions, baseband filtering and the vector summation of 15 transmitted signals from the modem cards (MCs) 70. The analogue unit 68 is connected to a number of (typically 1-8) modem cards 70. The modem cards perform the baseband signal processing of the transmit and receive signals to/from the subscriber terminals 20. This includes 1/2 rate convolution coding and x 16 spreading with CDMA codes on the transmit signals, and synchronization recovery, de-

spreading and error correction on the receive signals. Each modem card 70 in the present example has two modems, each modem supporting one subscriber link (or two lines) to a subscriber terminal 20. Thus, with two modems per card and 8 modems per modem shelf, each modem shelf could support 16 possible subscriber links. However, in order to incorporate redundancy so that a modem may be substituted in a subscriber link when a fault occurs, only up to 15 subscriber links are preferably supported by a single modem shelf 46. The 16th modem is then used as a spare which can be switched in if a failure of one of the other 15 modems occurs. The modem cards 70 are connected to the tributary unit (TU) 74 which terminates the connection to the host public switched telephone network 18 (e.g., via one of the lines 47) and handles the signaling of telephony information to, for example, up to 15 subscriber terminals (each via a respective one of 15 of the 16 modems).

The wireless telecommunications between a central terminal 10 and the subscriber terminals 20 could operate on various frequencies. Figure 4 illustrates one possible example of the frequencies which could be used. In the present example, the wireless telecommunication system is intended to operate in the 1.5-2.5GHz Band. In particular the present example is intended to operate in the Band defined by ITU-R (CCIR) Recommendation F.701 (2025-2110MHz, 2200-2290MHz). Figure 4 illustrates the frequencies used for the uplink from the subscriber terminals 20 to the central terminal 10 and for the downlink from the central terminal 10 to the subscriber terminals 20. It will be noted that 12 uplink and 12 downlink radio channels of 3.5MHz each are provided centered about 2155MHz. The spacing between the receive and transmit channels exceeds the required minimum spacing of 70MHz.

In the present example, as mentioned above, each modem shelf will support 1 frequency channel (i.e. one uplink frequency plus the corresponding downlink frequency). Up

to 15 subscriber links may be supported on one frequency channel, as will be explained later. Thus, in the present embodiment, each central terminal 10 can support 60 links, or 120 lines.

5 Typically, the radio traffic from a particular central terminal 10 will extend into the area covered by a neighboring central terminal 10. To avoid, or at least to reduce interference problems caused by adjoining areas, only a limited number of the available frequencies will be
10 used by any given central terminal 10.

 Figure 5A illustrates one cellular type arrangement of the frequencies to mitigate interference problems between adjacent central terminals 10. In the arrangement illustrated in Figure 5A, the hatch lines for the cells 76
15 illustrate a frequency set (FS) for the cells. By selecting three frequency sets (e.g., where: FS1 = F1, F4, F7, F10; FS2 = F2, F5, F8, F11; FS3 = F3, F6, F9, F12), and arranging that immediately adjacent cells do not use the same frequency set (see, for example, the arrangement
20 shown in Figure 5A), it is possible to provide an array of fixed assignment omnidirectional cells where interference between nearby cells can be avoided. The transmitter power of each central terminal 10 is set such that transmissions do not extend as far as the nearest cell which is using the same frequency set. Thus each central terminal 10 can use
25 the four frequency pairs (for the uplink and downlink, respectively) within its cell, each modem shelf in the central terminal 10 being associated with a respective RF channel (channel frequency pair).

30 With each modem shelf supporting one channel frequency (with 15 subscriber links per channel frequency) and four modem shelves, each central terminal 10 will support 60 subscriber links (i.e., 120 lines). The 10 cell arrangement in Figure 5A can therefore support up to 600
35 ISDN links or 1200 analogue lines, for example. Figure 5B illustrates a cellular type arrangement employing sectorized

cells to mitigate problems between adjacent central terminals 10. As with Figure 5A, the different type of hatch lines in Figure 5B illustrate different frequency sets. As in Figure 5A, Figure 5B represents three frequency sets (e.g., where: FS1 = F1, F4, F7, F10; FS2 = F2, F5, F8, F11; FS3 = F3, F6, F9, F12). However, in Figure 5B the cells are sectorized by using a sectorized central terminal (SCT) 13 which includes three central terminals 10, one for each sector S1, S2 and S3, with the transmissions for each of the three central terminals 10 being directed to the appropriate sector among S1, S2 and S3. This enables the number of subscribers per cell to be increased three fold, while still providing permanent fixed access for each subscriber terminal 20.

A seven cell repeat pattern is used such that for a cell operating on a given frequency, all six adjacent cells operating on the same frequency are allowed unique PN codes. This prevents adjacent cells from inadvertently decoding data.

As mentioned above, each channel frequency can support 15 subscriber links. In this example, this is achieved using by multiplexing signals using a Code Division Multiplexed Access (CDMA) technique. Figure 6 gives a schematic overview of CDMA encoding and decoding.

In order to encode a CDMA signal, base band signals, for example the user signals for each respective subscriber link, are encoded at 80-80N into a 160ksymbols/sec baseband signal where each symbol represents 2 data bits (see, for example the signal represented at 81). This signal is then spread by a factor of 16 using a respective Walsh pseudo random noise (PN) code spreading function 82-82N to generate signals at an effective chip rate of 2.56Msymbols/sec in 3.5MHz. The signals for respective subscriber links are then combined and converted to radio frequency (RF) to give multiple user channel signals (e.g., 85) for transmission from the transmitting antenna 86.

During transmission, a transmitted signal will be subjected to interference sources 88, including external interference 89 and interference from other channels 90. Accordingly, by the time the CDMA signal is received at the receiving antenna 91, the multiple user channel signals may
5 be distorted as is represented at 93.

In order to decode the signals for a given subscriber link from the received multiple user channel, a Walsh correlator 94-94N uses the same pseudo random noise (PN)
10 code that was used for the encoding for each subscriber link to extract a signal (e.g, as represented at 95) for the respective received baseband signal 96-96N. It will be noted that the received signal will include some residual noise. However, unwanted noise can be removed using a low
15 pass filter and signal processing.

The key to CDMA is the application of orthogonal codes that allow the multiple user signals to be transmitted and received on the same frequency at the same time. Once the bit stream is orthogonally isolated using the Walsh codes,
20 the signals for respective subscriber links do not interfere with each other.

Walsh codes are a mathematical set of sequences that have the function of "orthonormality". In other words, if any Walsh code is multiplied by any other Walsh code, the
25 results are zero.

Figure 7 is a schematic diagram illustrating signal transmission processing stages as configured in a subscriber terminal 20 in the telecommunications system of Figure 1. The central terminal is also configured to perform equivalent signal transmission processing. In
30 Figure 7, an analogue signal from one of a pair of telephones is passed via a two-wire interface 102 to a hybrid audio processing circuit 104 and then via a codec 106 to produce a digital signal into which an overhead channel including control information is inserted at 108.
35 The resulting signal is processed by a convolutional

encoder 110 before being passed to a spreader 116 to which the Rademacher-Walsh and PN codes are applied by a RW code generator 112 and PN Code generator 114, respectively. The resulting signals are passed via a digital to analogue converter 118. The digital to analogue converter 118 shapes the digital samples into an analogue waveform and provides a stage of baseband power control. The signals are then passed to a low pass filter 120 to be modulated in a modulator 122. The modulated signal from the modulator 122 is mixed with a signal generated by a voltage controlled oscillator 126 which is responsive to a synthesizer 160. The output of the mixer 128 is then amplified in a low noise amplifier 130 before being passed via a band pass filter 132. The output of the band pass filter 132 is further amplified in a further low noise amplifier 134, before being passed to power control circuitry 136. The output of the power control circuitry is further amplified in a further low noise amplifier 138 before being passed via a further band pass filter 140 and transmitted from the transmission antenna 142.

Figure 8 is a schematic diagram illustrating the equivalent signal reception processing stages as configured in a subscriber terminal 20 in the telecommunications system of Figure 1. The central terminal is also configured to perform equivalent signal reception processing. In Figure 8, signals received at a receiving antenna 150 are passed via a band pass filter 152 before being amplified in a low noise amplifier 154. The output of the amplifier 154 is then passed via a further band pass filter 156 before being further amplified by a further low noise amplifier 158. The output of the amplifier 158 is then passed to a mixer 164 where it is mixed with a signal generated by a voltage controlled oscillator 162 which is responsive to a synthesizer 160. The output of the mixer 164 is then passed via the de-modulator 166 and a low pass filter 168 before being passed to an analogue to digital

converter 170. The digital output of the A/D converter 170 is then passed to a correlator 178, to which the same Rademacher-Walsh and PN codes used during transmission are applied by a RW code generator 172 (corresponding to the RW code generator 112) and a PN code generator 174 (corresponding to PN code generator 114), respectively. The output of the correlator is applied to a Viterbi decoder 180. The output of the Viterbi decoder 180 is then passed to an overhead extractor 182 for extracting the overhead channel information. The output of the overhead extractor 182 is then passed via a codec 184 and a hybrid circuit 188 to a two wire interface 190 where the resulting analogue signals are passed to a selected telephone 192.

At the subscriber terminal 20, a stage of automatic gain control is incorporated at the IF stage. The control signal is derived from the digital portion of the CDMA receiver using the output of a signal quality estimator to be described later.

Figure 9 is a block diagram of downlink and uplink communication paths between central terminal 10 and subscriber terminal 20. A downlink communication path is established from transmitter 200 in central terminal 10 to receiver 202 in subscriber terminal 20. An uplink communication path is established from transmitter 204 in subscriber terminal 20 to receiver 206 in central terminal 10. Once the downlink and the uplink communication paths have been established in wireless telecommunication system 1, telephone communication may occur between a first user 208 or a second user 210 of subscriber terminal 20 and a user serviced through central terminal 10 over a downlink signal 212 and an uplink signal 214. Downlink signal 212 is transmitted by transmitter 200 of central terminal 10 and received by receiver 202 of subscriber terminal 20. Uplink signal 214 is transmitted by transmitter 204 of subscriber terminal 20 and received by receiver 206 of

central terminal 10. Downlink signal 212 and uplink signal 214 are transmitted as CDMA spread spectrum signals.

5 Receiver 206 and transmitter 200 within central terminal 10 are synchronized to each other with respect to time and phase, and aligned as to information boundaries. In order to establish the downlink communication path, receiver 202 in subscriber terminal 20 should be synchronized to transmitter 200 in central terminal 10. Synchronization occurs by performing an acquisition mode
10 function and a tracking mode function on downlink signal 212. Initially, transmitter 200 of central terminal 10 transmits downlink signal 212. Figure 10 shows the contents of downlink signal 212. Downlink signal 212 includes a code sequence signal 216 for central terminal 10 combined with a frame information signal 218. Code
15 sequence signal 216 is derived from a combination of a pseudo-random noise code signal 220 and a Rademacher-Walsh code signal 222. Although Figure 10 relates specifically to the makeup of the downlink signal, the uplink has the same makeup.
20

Each receiver 202 of every subscriber terminal 20 serviced by a single central terminal 10 operate off of the same pseudo-random noise code signal as central terminal 10. Each modem shelf 46 in central terminal 10 supports
25 one radio frequency channel and fifteen subscriber terminals 20, each subscriber terminal having a first user 208 and a second user 210. Each modem shelf 46 selects one of sixteen Rademacher-Walsh code signals 222, each Rademacher-Walsh code signal 222 corresponding to a unique
30 subscriber terminal 20. Thus, a specific subscriber terminal 20 will have an identical code sequence signal 218 as downlink signal 212 transmitted by central terminal 10 and destined for the specific subscriber terminal 20.

Downlink signal 212 is received at receiver 202 of
35 subscriber terminal 20. Receiver 202 compares its phase and code sequence to a phase and code sequence within code

sequence signal 216 of downlink signal 212. Central terminal 10 is considered to have a master code sequence and subscriber terminal 20 is considered to have a slave code sequence. Receiver 202 incrementally adjusts the phase of its slave code sequence to recognize a match to master code sequence and place receiver 202 of subscriber terminal 20 in phase with transmitter 200 of central terminal 10. The slave code sequence of receiver 202 is not initially synchronized to the master code sequence of transmitter 200 and central terminal 10 due to the path delay between central terminal 10 and subscriber terminal 20. This path delay is caused by the geographical separation between subscriber terminal 20 and central terminal 10 and other environmental and technical factors affecting wireless transmission.

Figure 11 illustrates how receiver 202 of subscriber terminal 20 adjusts its slave code sequence to match the master code sequence of transmitter 200 in central terminal 10. Receiver 202 increments the phase of the slave code sequence throughout the entire length of the master code sequence within downlink signal 212 and determines a signal quality estimate by performing a power measurement on the combined power of the slave code sequence and the master code sequence for each incremental change in the phase of the slave code sequence. The length of the master code sequence is approximately 100 microseconds based on a chip period of 2.56 MegaHertz. The phase of the slave code sequence is adjusted by one half of a chip period for each incremental interval during the acquisition phase. Receiver 202 completes a first acquisition pass when it identifies a correlation peak where the combined power reaches a maximum value. Receiver 202 performs a second acquisition pass throughout the entire length of the code sequence to verify identification of the maximum value of the combined power at the correlation peak. The approximate path delay between subscriber terminal 20 and

central terminal 10 is determined when the correlation peak position is identified in the acquisition mode.

5 Once acquisition of downlink signal 212 is achieved at receiver 202, fine adjustments are made to the phase of the slave code sequence in order to maintain the phase matching of the slave code sequence with the master code sequence in the tracking mode. Fine adjustments are made through one
10 sixteenth of a chip period incremental changes to the phase of the slave code sequence. Fine adjustments may be performed in either forward (positive) or backward (negative) directions in response to the combined power measurements made by receiver 202. Receiver 202 continuously monitors the master code sequence to ensure that subscriber terminal 20 is synchronized to central
15 terminal 10 for the downlink communication path.

Figure 12 shows a graph of the combined power curve measured by receiver 202 during the acquisition mode and the tracking mode. The maximum value of the combined power occurs at the correlation peak 219 of the combined power
20 curve. It should be noted that the peak 219 may not be as well defined as in Figure 12, but may be flattened at the top, more in the form of a plateau. This is the point where the slave code sequence of receiver 202 is in phase with and matches the master code sequence of transmitter
25 200. Measurements resulting in combined power values that occur off of correlation peak 219 require incremental adjustments to be made to the slave code sequence. A fine adjustment window is established between an early correlator point 221 and a late correlator point 223. An
30 average power measurement is performed at early correlator point 221 and at late correlator point 223. Since early correlator point 221 and late correlator point 223 are spaced one chip period apart, an error signal is produced upon calculating the difference between the average powers
35 of early correlator point 221 and late correlator point 223

that is used to control the fine adjustments to the phase of the slave code sequence.

After acquiring and initiating tracking on the central terminal 10 master code sequence of code sequence signal 216 within downlink signal 212, receiver 202 enters a frame alignment mode in order to establish the downlink communication path. Receiver 202 analyzes frame information within frame information signal 218 of downlink signal 212 to identify a beginning of frame position for downlink signal 212. Since receiver 202 does not know at what point in the data stream of downlink signal 212 it has received information, receiver 202 must search for the beginning of frame position in order to be able to process information received from transmitter 200 of central terminal 10. Once receiver 202 has identified one further beginning of frame position, the downlink communication path has been established from transmitter 200 of central terminal 10 to receiver 202 of subscriber terminal 20.

Figure 13 shows the general contents of frame information signal 218. Frame information signal 218 includes an overhead channel 224, a first user channel 226, a second user channel 228, and a signaling channel 230 for each frame of information transported over downlink signal 212. Overhead channel 224 carries control information used to establish and maintain the downlink and uplink communication paths. First user channel 226 is used to transfer traffic information to first user 208. Second user channel 228 is used to transfer traffic information to second user 210. Signaling channel 230 provides the signaling information to supervise operation of subscriber terminal 20 telephony functions. Overhead channel 224 occupies 16 kilobits per second of a frame of information, first user channel 226 occupies 64 kilobits per second of a frame of information, second user channel 228 occupies 64 kilobits per second of a frame of information, and

signaling channel 230 occupies 16 kilobits per second of a frame of information.

Figure 14 shows how overhead channel 224 is inserted into the data stream of downlink signal 212. The data stream of downlink signal 212 is partitioned into twenty bit subframes. Each twenty bit subframe has two ten bit sections. A first ten bit section includes an overhead bit, a signaling bit, and eight first user bits. A second ten bit section includes an overhead bit, a signaling bit, and eight second user bits. This twenty bit subframe format is repeated throughout an entire four millisecond frame of information. Thus, an overhead bit occupies every tenth bit position of frame information in the data stream of downlink signal 212.

Overhead channel 224 includes eight byte fields - a frame alignment word 232, a code synchronization signal 234, a power control signal 236, an operations and maintenance channel signal 238, and four reserved byte fields 242. Frame alignment word 232 identifies the beginning of frame position for its corresponding frame of information. Code synchronization signal 234 provides information to control synchronization of transmitter 204 in subscriber terminal 20 to receiver 206 in central terminal 10. Power control signal 236 provides information to control transmitting power of transmitter 204 in subscriber terminal 20. Operations and maintenance channel signal 238 provides status information with respect to the downlink and uplink communication paths and a path from the central terminal to the subscriber terminal on which the communication protocol which operates on the modem shelf between the shelf controller and the modem cards also extends.

In order to identify two successive beginning of frame positions, receiver 202 of subscriber terminal 20 searches through the ten possible bit positions in the data stream of downlink signal 212 for overhead channel 224 and frame

alignment word 232. Receiver 202 initially extracts a first bit position of every ten bit section of frame information to determine if overhead channel 224 has been captured. If frame alignment word 232 has not been identified after a predetermined period of time from the extraction of the first bit position, receiver 202 will repeat this procedure for the second bit position of each ten bit section and subsequent bit positions until frame alignment word 232 has been identified. An example of a frame alignment word 232 which receiver 202 would search for is binary 00010111. Once the correct bit position yields frame alignment word 232, receiver 202 attempts to identify two successive beginning of frame positions. A downlink communication path is established upon the successful identification of two successive beginning of frame positions in response to recognition of successive frame alignment words 232 in the data stream of downlink signal 212.

Receiver 202 continues to monitor the appropriate bit position in order to recognize subsequent frame alignment words 232 for subsequent frames of information. If receiver 202 fails to recognize a frame alignment word 232 for three successive frames, then receiver 202 will return to the search process and cycle through each of the bit positions of the ten bit section until identifying two successive beginning of frame positions through recognition of two successive frame alignment words 232 and reestablishing frame alignment. Failure to recognize three successive frame alignment words 232 may result from a change in the path delay between central terminal 10 and subscriber terminal 20. Receiver 202 will also return to the search process upon an interruption in the downlink communication path from transmitter 200 in central terminal 10 to receiver 202 in subscriber terminal 20.

Acquisition of a downlink communication path may also be verified to ensure that a subscriber terminal 20 is

locked on to the appropriate portion of an appropriate modem card 70. Situations may arise where a modem card 70 assigned to a particular subscriber terminal 20 may be out of service for any of a number of reasons. The particular subscriber terminal 70 may continue to attempt to acquire a signal and such acquisition may occur with respect to a signal from one of the other modem cards 70 within the central terminal 10. Though the particular subscriber terminal 20 should not be able to read signals from other modem cards 70, the particular subscriber terminal 20 is still locked to another modem card 70 and will not lock to the appropriate modem card when it comes back into service. Therefore, an acquisition verification technique is used to ensure that the particular subscriber terminal 20 does not lock onto a non-associated modem card 70 in central terminal 10.

The acquisition verification technique uses the reserved byte fields 242 in overhead channel 224. A channel identifier field occupies one of reserved byte fields 242. The channel identifier field includes eight bits - an inversion bit, a three bit pseudo random noise code identifier, and a four bit Rademacher-Walsh code identifier, in the form of INV P P P R R R R. The three bit pseudo random noise code identifier corresponds to the sequence associated with central terminal 10 and its associated subscriber terminals 20. The four bit Rademacher-Walsh code identifier corresponds to the specific code associated with one of fifteen subscriber terminals 20. The channel identifier field prevents a subscriber terminal 20 from establishing communications with an incorrect central terminal 10 and also prevents a subscriber terminal 20 from establishing communications

with an incorrect modem card 70 in a correct central terminal 10.

Receiver 202 in establishing a downlink communication path through identification of two successive frame alignment words 232 also monitors the channel identifier field within overhead channel 224. Though a frame alignment may occur, the downlink communication path will not be established unless an appropriate match occurs on the channel identifier field. Since the pseudo random noise code identifier and the Raddemacher-Walsh code identifier are constant for each subscriber terminal 20, receiver 202 should avoid confusing a channel identifier field with a frame alignment word. The inversion bit changes state at each frame of information along with the first and third bits of the pseudo random noise code identifier and the first and third bits of the Raddemacher-Walsh code identifier within the channel identifier field as shown by italics above. This prevents the channel identifier field from being recognized as the frame alignment word.

Upon establishing the downlink communication path from central terminal 10 to subscriber terminal 20 through proper code sequence phase synchronization and frame alignment, wireless telecommunication system 1 performs procedures to establish the uplink communication path from transmitter 204 in subscriber terminal 20 to receiver 206 in central terminal 10. Initially, transmitter 204 is powered off until the downlink communication path has been established to prevent transmitter interference of central terminal communications with other subscriber terminals. After the downlink communication path is established, transmitting power of transmitter 204 is set to a minimum value on command from the central terminal CT via power

control channel 236 of overhead channel 224. Power control signal 236 controls the amount of transmitting power produced by transmitter 204 such that central terminal 10 receives approximately the same level of transmitting power from each subscriber terminal 20 serviced by central terminal 10.

Power control signal 236 is transmitted by transmitter 200 of central terminal 10 in overhead channel 224 of frame information signal 218 over downlink signal 212. Receiver 202 of subscriber terminal 20 receives downlink signal 212 and extracts power control signal 236 therefrom. Power control signal 236 is provided to transmitter 204 of subscriber terminal 20 and incrementally adjusts the transmitting power of transmitter 204. Central terminal 10 continues to incrementally adjust the transmitting power of transmitter 204 until the transmitting power falls within a desired threshold range as determined by receiver 206. Adjustments to the transmitting power initially occur in a coarse adjustment mode having one decibel increments until the transmitting power falls within the desired threshold range. Upon turning transmitter 204 on, the transmitting power is gradually ramped up in intensity through incremental adjustments in order to avoid interference of central terminal communications with other subscriber terminals.

Figure 15 shows an example decoding scheme for power control signal 236. After the transmitting power of transmitter 204 in subscriber terminal 20 reaches the desired threshold range, receiver 206 in central terminal 10 continues to monitor the amount of transmitting power from transmitter 204 for any changes resulting from power fluctuations, and variations in the path delay between central terminal 10 and subscriber terminal 20, et al. If

the transmitting power falls below or exceeds the desired threshold range, central terminal 10 will send an appropriate power control signal 236 to increase or decrease the transmitting power of transmitter 204 as
5 needed. At this point, adjustments made to return the transmitting power to the desired threshold range may occur in a fine adjustment mode having 0.1 decibel increments. Upon an interruption in the downlink or uplink communication paths, central terminal 10 may command
10 transmitter 204 to return to a previous transmitting power level through recovery of parameters stored in a memory in subscriber terminal 20 in order to facilitate
--- reestablishment of the appropriate communication path.

To fully establish the uplink communication path from
15 subscriber terminal 20 to central terminal 10, transmitter 204 in subscriber terminal 20 should be synchronized to receiver 206 in central terminal 10. Central terminal 10 controls the synchronization of transmitter 204 through code synchronization signal 234 in overhead channel 224 of
20 frame information signal 218. Code synchronization signal 234 incrementally adjusts a phase of the slave code sequence of transmitter 204 to match the phase of the master code sequence of receiver 206. Synchronization of transmitter 204 is performed in a substantially similar
25 manner as synchronization of receiver 202.

Code synchronization signal 234 is transmitted by transmitter 200 in central terminal 10 in overhead channel 224 of frame information signal 218 over downlink signal 212. Receiver 202 of subscriber terminal 20 receives
30 downlink signal 212 and extracts code synchronization signal 234 therefrom. Code synchronization signal 234 is provided to transmitter 204 for incrementally adjustment of the phase of the slave code sequence of transmitter 204.

Central terminal 10 continues to incrementally adjust the phase of the slave code sequence of transmitter 204 until receiver 206 recognizes a code and phase match between the slave code sequence of transmitter 204 and the master code sequence of central terminal 10.

Receiver 206 performs the same power measurement technique in determining a phase and code match for transmitter 204 synchronization as performed for receiver 202 synchronization. Adjustments to the phase of the slave code sequence of transmitter 204 initially occur in a coarse adjustment mode having one half of a chip rate increments until receiver 206 identifies the maximum power position of the combined power of the master code sequence and the slave code sequence of transmitter 204.

Figure 16 shows an example decoding scheme for code synchronization signal 234. After identification and verification of a phase and code match of the slave code sequence to the master code sequence, receiver 206 continues to monitor uplink signal 214 for changes in the phase of the slave code sequence of transmitter 204 resulting from variations in the path delay between central terminal 10 and subscriber terminal 20. If further adjustments are needed to the phase of the slave code sequence of transmitter 204, central terminal 10 will send appropriate code synchronization signals 234 to increase or decrease the phase of the slave code sequence of transmitter 204 as needed. At this point, adjustments made to the phase of the slave code sequence of transmitter 204 may occur in a fine adjustment mode having one sixteenth of a chip rate increments. Upon an interruption in the downlink or uplink communication paths, central terminal 10 may command transmitter 204 to return to a previous slave code sequence phase value through recovery of parameters

stored in a memory in subscriber terminal 20 in order to facilitate reestablishment of the appropriate communication path.

After synchronization of transmitter 204 is achieved, receiver 206 performs frame alignment on uplink signal 214 in a similar manner as frame alignment is performed by receiver 202 during establishment of the downlink communication path. Once receiver 206 recognizes two successive frame alignment words and obtains frame alignment, the uplink communication path has been established. Upon establishing both the downlink and the uplink communication paths, information transfer between first user 208 or second user 210 of subscriber terminal 20 and users coupled to central terminal 10 may commence.

Wireless telecommunication system 1 is capable of adjusting the transmitting power level and the transmit rate to one of two settings for each of three different system operating modes. The system operating modes are acquisition, standby and traffic. Adjustments in the transmitting power and the transmit rate make it possible to reduce and minimize interference with other subscriber terminals. Improvements in link establishment time are also achieved. The transmitting power level is decoded in power control signal 236 and the transmit rate is decoded in code synchronization signal 234.

The transmitting power for both downlink signal 212 and uplink signal 214 can be set to either a nominal 0 decibel high power level or a reduced -12 decibel low power level. The transmit rate for both downlink signal 212 and uplink signal 214 can be set to a low rate of 10 kilobits per second or a high rate of 160 kilobits per second. When switched to the high rate of 160 kilobits per second, user traffic and overhead information are spread such that one

information symbol results in the transmission of 16 chips. Correlation is performed over 16 chips, yielding a processing gain of 12 decibels. When switched to the low rate of 10 kilobits per second, only overhead information is spread such that one overhead symbol results in the transmission of 256 chips. Correlation is performed over 256 chips, yielding a processing gain of 24 decibels.

Figure 17 show the transmitting power and transmit rate for each of the three system operating modes. At power up or whenever the downlink or uplink communication paths are lost, wireless telecommunication system 1 enters the acquisition mode. During the acquisition mode, the transmitting power of the downlink and uplink transmitters are maximized as well as the correlator processing gain. This maximizes the signal to noise ratio at the correlator output, increasing the amplitude of the correlation peak for easier identification and minimal risk of false acquisition. Since only overhead information is needed in the acquisition mode, the transmit rate is at the low rate level of 10 kilobits per second.

When the downlink and the uplink communication paths are acquired, wireless telecommunication system 1 enters the standby mode. In the standby mode, the transmitting power of the downlink and uplink transmitters are reduced by 12 decibels. This reduction in transmitting power minimizes the interference to other subscriber terminals while still maintaining synchronization. The transmit rate remains at the low rate level to allow exchange of control information between central terminal 10 and subscriber terminal 20 over overhead channel 224.

When either an incoming or outgoing call is detected, a message is sent from the originating terminal to the destination terminal indicating that the downlink and

uplink communication paths are required for the transmission of user traffic information. At this point, wireless telecommunication system 1 enters into the traffic mode. During the traffic mode, the transmitting power of both the downlink and uplink communication paths is increased to the high power level and the transmit rate is increased to the high rate level of 160 kilobits per second to facilitate information transfer between originating and destination terminals. Upon detection of call termination, a message is sent from the terminating terminal to the other terminal indicating that the downlink and uplink communication paths are no longer required. At this point, wireless telecommunication system 1 reenters the standby mode. Code synchronization and frame alignment tracking is performed in both the standby mode and the traffic mode.

Figure 18 is a detailed block diagram of receiver 202 and transmitter 204 in subscriber terminal 20. Receiver 202 receives downlink signal 212 at an RF receive interface 250. RF receive interface 250 separates the spread spectrum signal into I and Q signal components. RF receive interface 250 band pass filters each of the I and Q signal components by removing portions above approximately half of receiver 202 bandwidth of 3.5 MegaHertz. RF receive interface 250 low pass filters the I and Q signal components to reject image frequencies and prevent signal aliasing. The I and Q signal components are placed into digital format by an analog to digital converter 252. The sampling frequency of analog to digital converter 252 is four times the chip period, or 10.24 MegaHertz, with an eight bit resolution.

The digital I and Q signal components are stepped to a rate of 5.12 MegaHertz by a down converter 254. A code generator and despreader 256 performs the synchronization

acquisition and tracking functions previously described to synchronize the phase of the Rademacher-Walsh and pseudo-random noise code sequence of receiver 202 to that of downlink signal 212. A digital signal processor 258
5 controls the phase of the slave code sequence through a code tracker 260 and a carrier tracker 262. An automatic gain control unit 264 produces an automatic gain control signal to control the gain of RF receive interface 250. Code generator and despreaders 256 generates the I and Q 160
10 kilobits per second of frame information for further synchronization by a node sync interface 266 under the control of a node sync logic unit 268. Node sync interface 266, through node sync logic unit 268, determines whether the I and Q channels should be swapped, as they may be
15 received in four different ways.

Viterbi decoder 270 provides forward error correction on the I and Q channels and generates an error corrected 160 kilobits per second data signal after a 71 symbol delay. The error corrected signal is processed by a frame
20 aligner and extractor 272 determines frame alignment and extracts power control signal 236, code synchronization 234, and operations and maintenance channel signal 238. Frame aligner and extractor 272 also extracts first user channel 226 and second user channel 228 for traffic
25 transmission towards first user 208 and second user 210, and signaling channel 230 for processing by high level data link controller 274 and a microcontroller 276. Frame aligner and extractor 272 also provides alarm and error indications upon detecting a loss in frame alignment. A
30 non-volatile random access memory 278 stores system parameter information for subsequent insertion through an arbitrator 280 in the event of link loss in order to facilitate link reestablishment. Arbitrator 280 also

provides an interface between digital signal processor 258 and microcontroller 276.

5 In the transmit direction, a frame inserter 282 receives first user traffic and second user traffic from first user 208 and second user 210, signaling channel 230 information from high level data link controller 274, and operations and maintenance channel 238 information from microcontroller 276. Frame inserter generates frame information signal 218 for uplink signal 214 for processing
10 by a convolutional encoder 284. Convolutional encoder 284 doubles the data rate of frame information signal 218 to provide forward error correction. A spreader 286 splits the 320 kilobits per second signal of convolutional encoder 284 into two 160 kilobits per second I and Q signals and
15 exclusively ORs these signals with the spreading sequence generated by a code generator 288 in response to a system clock generated by clock generator 290 as adjusted by code synchronization signal 234. Code generator 288 generates one of sixteen Rademacher-Walsh functions exclusive ORed
20 with a pseudo-random sequence having a pattern length of 256 with a chip rate of 2.56 MegaHertz. The pseudo-random sequence should match that of central terminal 10, but is adjustable under software control to provide reliable rejection of signals from other bands or other cells.

25 Spreader 286 supplies the I and Q signals to an analog transmitter 290. Analog transmitter 290 produces pulsed I and Q signals for an RF transmit interface 292. Transmit power is generated by first establishing a control voltage from a digital to analog converter in response to power
30 control signal 236 extracted from overhead channel 224. This control voltage is applied to the power control inputs of analog transmitter 290 and RF transmit interface 292. Power control of 35 decibels is obtainable in both analog

transmitter 290 and RF transmit interface 292. RF transmit interface 292 includes a step attenuator that provides 2 decibel steps of attenuation over a 30 decibel range. This attenuator is used to switch between high and low power levels. On power up, maximum attenuation is selected to minimize the transmitting power of transmitter 204.

In summary, a wireless telecommunication system provides wireless telephone type communications for users remote from the public telephone switching network. The wireless telecommunication system includes a central terminal that communicates through CDMA spread spectrum radio frequency transmissions to a plurality of users serviced by subscriber terminals.

Although a particular embodiment has been described herein, it will be appreciated that the invention is not limited thereto and that many modifications and additions thereto may be made within the scope of the invention.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A subscriber terminal located at a fixed distance from a central terminal, comprising:

5 a spreader operable to receive user traffic and control information, the spreader operable in an acquisition mode to generate a first signal representing control information, the spreader operable in a traffic mode to generate a second signal representing control information and user traffic; and

10 a converter coupled to the spreader, the converter operable to convert one of the first signal and the second signal into a transmission signal for communication to the central terminal.

15 2. The subscriber terminal of Claim 1, wherein the spreader generates the first signal at a first rate and the second signal at a second rate greater than the first rate.

20 3. The subscriber terminal of Claim 1, further comprising:

an amplifier coupled to the converter and operable to amplify the transmission signal; and

25 an antenna coupled to the amplifier and operable to transmit the transmission signal.

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5 4. The subscriber terminal of Claim 1, further comprising an amplifier coupled to the converter and operable to amplify the transmission signal at a selected one of a first power and a second power less than the first power.

10 5. The subscriber terminal of Claim 1, further comprising an amplifier coupled to the converter and operable to amplify the transmission signal at a selected one of a first power and a second power less than the first power, wherein the first power corresponds to the acquisition mode of the subscriber terminal.

15 6. The subscriber terminal of Claim 1, further comprising an amplifier coupled to the converter and operable to amplify the transmission signal at a selected one of a first power and a second power less than the first power, wherein the second power corresponds to a standby mode of the subscriber terminal.

20 7. The subscriber terminal of Claim 1, further comprising a telephone operable to generate user traffic.

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8. A method for wireless telephone communication between fixed locations, comprising:

transmitting control information at a first rate;

detecting a request for user traffic;

5 transmitting control information and user traffic at a second rate greater than the first rate in response to the request for user traffic.

10 9. The method of Claim 8, further comprising the following steps performed before transmitting control information:

receiving control information at a first rate; and

establishing a receive communication path.

15 10. The method of Claim 8, further comprising the following steps performed before transmitting control information:

receiving control information at a first rate and a first power;

20 establishing a receive communication path; and

receiving control information at a first rate and a second power upon establishing the receive communication path, the second power being less than the first power.

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11. The method of Claim 8, wherein the step of transmitting control information comprises:

transmitting control information at a first rate and a first power to establish a transmit communication path;
5 and

transmitting control information at a first rate and a second power upon establishing the transmit communication path, the second power being less than the first power.

10 12. The method of Claim 8, wherein the step of transmitting control information comprises combining control information with a code sequence.

15 13. The method of Claim 8, wherein the step of transmitting control information comprises combining control information with a code sequence, wherein the code sequence comprises a combination of a pseudo-random noise code and an orthogonal code.

20 14. The method of Claim 8, wherein the step of detecting a request comprises receiving a message from a remote device indicating a request for user traffic.

25 15. The method of Claim 8, wherein the step of transmitting control information and user traffic comprises combining control information and user traffic with a code sequence.

30 16. The method of Claim 8, wherein the step of transmitting control information and user traffic comprises combining control information and user traffic with a code sequence, wherein the code sequence comprises a combination of a pseudo-random noise code and an orthogonal code.





17. The method of Claim 8, further comprising the following steps performed after transmitting control information and user traffic:

- 5 receiving an indication of call termination; and
transmitting control information at the first rate in response to the indication of call termination.

18. The method of Claim 8, further comprising the following steps performed after transmitting control information and user traffic:

- 10 transmitting an indication of call termination; and
transmitting control information at the first rate.

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19. A central terminal, comprising:

a plurality of modem cards, each modem card operable to receive user traffic and control information associated with at least one of a plurality of subscriber terminals located at a fixed distance from the central terminal, each modem card operable in an acquisition mode to generate a first signal representing control information, each modem card operable in a traffic mode to generate a second signal representing control information and user traffic; and

an analogue card coupled to the modem cards, the analogue card operable to generate a summed signal representing one of the first signal and the second signal generated by each of the modem cards.

20. The central terminal of Claim 19, further comprising a tributary unit coupled to the modem cards, the tributary unit operable to communicate user traffic between the modem cards and a public switched telephone network.

21. The central terminal of Claim 19, wherein each modem card generates the first signal at a first rate and the second signal at a second rate greater than the first rate.

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22. The central terminal of Claim 19, further comprising:

an amplifier coupled to the analogue card and operable to amplify the summed signal; and

5 an antenna coupled to the amplifier and operable to transmit the summed signal to the subscriber terminals.

23. The central terminal of Claim 19, wherein the analogue card is operable to amplify one of the first
10 signal and second signal generated by each of the modem cards at a selected one of a first power and a second power before generating the summed signal.

24. The central terminal of Claim 19, wherein the analogue card is operable to amplify one of the first
15 signal and the second signal generated by each of the modem cards at a selected one of a first power and a second power less than the first power, wherein the first power corresponds to the acquisition mode of the subscriber
20 terminal.

25. The central terminal of Claim 19, wherein the analogue card is operable to amplify one of the first
25 signal and the second signal generated by each of the modem cards at a selected one of a first power and a second power less than the first power, wherein the second power corresponds to a standby mode of the subscriber terminal.

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26. A method for wireless telephone communication between a central terminal and a plurality of subscriber terminals located at a fixed distance from the central terminal, the method comprising the following steps
5 performed at the central terminal:

receiving a plurality of signals associated with the subscriber terminals;

spreading each signal to generate a plurality of spread signals;

10 combining the spread signals into a combined signal;
and

transmitting the combined signal to the subscriber terminals.

15 27. The method of Claim 26, wherein each signal comprises user traffic and control information.

28. The method of Claim 26, wherein the step of
20 receiving a plurality of signals comprises receiving at least a portion of the signals from a public switched telephone network.

29. The method of Claim 26, wherein the step of spreading each signal comprises:

25 spreading each signal at a first rate if the signal represents control information; and

spreading each signal at a second rate greater than the first rate if the signal represents control information and user traffic.

30

30. The method of Claim 29, wherein the first rate corresponds to an acquisition mode and the second rate corresponds to a traffic mode.

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31. The method of Claim 29, further comprising the step of amplifying each spread signal at one of a first power and a second power less than the first power.

5 32. The method of Claim 29, further comprising the step of amplifying each spread signal at one of a first power and a second power less than the first power, the first power corresponding to an acquisition mode and the second power corresponding to a standby mode.

10 33. The method of Claim 29, wherein the step of spreading each signal comprises combining the signal with a code sequence.

15 34. The method of Claim 29, wherein the step of spreading each signal comprises combining the signal with a code sequence, wherein the code sequence comprises a combination of a pseudo-random noise code and an orthogonal code.

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35. A wireless receiver, comprising:

an antenna operable to receive a downlink signal from a remote device located at a fixed distance from the wireless receiver;

5 a converter coupled to the antenna and operable to convert a downlink signal into digital form; and

a despreader coupled to the converter, the despreader operable in an acquisition mode and at a first rate to despread control information in the downlink signal, the
10 despreader operable in a traffic mode and at a second rate to despread control information and user traffic in the downlink signal.

36. The wireless receiver of Claim 35, wherein the
15 downlink signal received at the despreader comprises in-phase and quadrature components.

37. The wireless receiver of Claim 35, wherein the control information comprises:

20 a code synchronization signal; and
a power control signal.

38. The wireless receiver of Claim 35, wherein the downlink signal received at the despreader comprises in-phase and quadrature components, and further comprising a
25 convolutional decoder coupled to the despreader, the convolutional decoder operable to decode the in-phase and quadrature components of the downlink signal into a single bit stream.

30

39. The wireless receiver of Claim 38, further comprising a frame extractor coupled to the convolutional decoder, the frame extractor operable to extract a power control signal and a code synchronization signal from the
35 single bit stream.

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5 40. The wireless receiver of Claim 38, further comprising a frame extractor coupled to the convolutional decoder, the frame extractor operable to extract a first user channel and a second user channel from the single bit stream.

 41. The wireless receiver of Claim 35, further comprising:
10 a digital signal processor coupled to the despreader and operable to generate system parameter information for link reestablishment; and
 a memory coupled to the digital signal processor and operable to store the system parameter information.

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42. A method for wireless communication between a central terminal and a subscriber terminal located at a fixed distance from the central terminal, the method comprising:

- 5 receiving a downlink signal at an antenna;
 converting the downlink signal into digital form;
 despreading, in an acquisition mode and at a first rate, the downlink signal to recover control information;
 and
10 despreading, in a traffic mode and at a second rate, the downlink signal to recover control information and user traffic.

43. The method of Claim 42, wherein the downlink signal comprises in-phase and quadrature components.

44. The method of Claim 42, wherein the control information comprises:
 a code synchronization signal; and
20 a power control signal.

45. The method of Claim 42, wherein the downlink signal comprises in-phase and quadrature components, and further comprising the step of decoding the in-phase and quadrature components of the downlink signal to generate a single bit stream.

46. The method of Claim 45, further comprising the step of extracting a power control signal and a code synchronization signal from the single bit stream.

47. The method of Claim 45, further comprising the step of extracting a first user channel and a second user channel from the single bit stream.

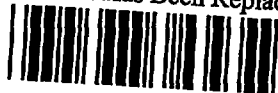
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48. The method of Claim 42, further comprising:
extracting a power control signal and a code
synchronization signal from control information in the
5 downlink signal; and
extracting a first user channel and a second user
channel from user traffic in the downlink signal.

49. The method of Claim 42, further comprising:
10 generating system parameter information for link re-
establishment; and
storing the system parameter information in a memory.

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50. A subscriber terminal for communicating with a central terminal located at a fixed distance from the subscriber terminal, the subscriber terminal comprising:

5 a spreader operable to receive an information signal, the spreader further operable to combine the information signal with a code sequence signal to generate a spread signal;

a receiver operable to receive a code synchronization signal from the central terminal using a wireless link; and

10 a code generator coupled to the spreader, the code generator operable to generate the code sequence signal in response to the code synchronization signal, the code synchronization signal specifying a phase adjustment to the code sequence signal.

15 51. The subscriber terminal of Claim 50, wherein the receiver comprises:

a despreader operable to receive a downlink signal from the central terminal; and

20 a frame extractor coupled to the despreader, the frame extractor operable to extract the code synchronization signal from the downlink signal.

25 52. The subscriber terminal of Claim 50, wherein a plurality of possible phase adjustments specified by the code synchronization signal comprise:

a coarse phase adjustment; and
a fine phase adjustment.

30 53. The subscriber terminal of Claim 50, wherein a plurality of possible phase adjustments specified by the code synchronization signal comprise:

a phase advance; and
a phase delay.





54. The subscriber terminal of Claim 50, wherein a plurality of possible phase adjustments specified by the code synchronization signal comprise:

- 5 a coarse phase advance;
 a fine phase advance;
 a coarse phase delay; and
 a fine phase delay.

10 55. The subscriber terminal of Claim 50, wherein the phase adjustment comprises a previous phase adjustment stored in a memory at the subscriber terminal.

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56. A method for wireless communication between a subscriber terminal and a central terminal located at a fixed distance from the subscriber terminal, the method comprising the following steps performed at the subscriber terminal:

- 5 receiving an information signal associated with a user channel of the subscriber terminal;
- receiving a code synchronization signal from the central terminal using a wireless link;
- 10 generating a code sequence signal in response to the code synchronization signal, the code synchronization signal specifying a phase adjustment to the code sequence signal; and
- combining the information signal with the code sequence signal to generate a spread signal.

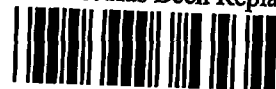
57. The method of Claim 56, wherein the step of receiving a code synchronization signal from the central terminal comprises:

- 20 receiving a downlink signal from the central terminal;
- despreading the downlink signal to generate a despread signal; and
- extracting the code synchronization signal from the despread signal.

58. The method of Claim 56, wherein a plurality of possible phase adjustments specified by the code synchronization signal comprise:

- a course phase adjustment; and
- 30 a fine phase adjustment.

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59. The method of Claim 56, wherein a plurality of possible phase adjustments specified by the code synchronization signal comprise:

- 5 a phase advance; and
 a phase delay.

60. The method of Claim 56, wherein a plurality of possible phase adjustments specified by the code synchronization signal comprise:

- 10 a coarse phase advance;
 a fine phase advance;
 a coarse phase delay; and
 a fine phase delay.

15 61. The method of Claim 56, further comprising the step of retrieving a previous phase adjustment stored in a memory at the subscriber terminal in response to the code synchronization signal.

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62. A subscriber terminal for communicating with a central terminal located at a fixed distance from the subscriber terminal, the subscriber terminal comprising:

5 a spreader operable to receive an information signal, the spreader further operable to combine the information signal with a code sequence signal to generate a spread signal;

10 a receiver operable to receive a power control signal from the central terminal using a wireless link; and

15 a transmitter coupled to the spreader and operable to receive the spread signal, the transmitter operable to amplify the spread signal in response to the power control signal, the power control signal specifying a power adjustment to the spread signal.

20

63. The subscriber terminal of Claim 62, wherein the receiver is further operable to receive a code synchronization signal from the central terminal using the wireless link, and further comprising a code generator coupled to the spreader, the code generator operable to generate the code sequence signal in response to the code synchronization signal, the code synchronization signal specifying a phase adjustment to the code sequence signal.

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64. The subscriber terminal of Claim 62, wherein the receiver comprises:

a despreader operable to receive a downlink signal from the central terminal; and

5 a frame extractor coupled to the despreader, the frame extractor operable to extract the power control signal from the downlink signal.

10 65. The subscriber terminal of Claim 62, wherein a plurality of possible power adjustments specified by the power control signal comprise:

a coarse power adjustment; and

a fine power adjustment.

15 66. The subscriber terminal of Claim 62, wherein a plurality of possible power adjustments specified by the power control signal comprise:

a power increment; and

a power decrement.

20 67. The subscriber terminal of Claim 62, wherein a plurality of possible power adjustments specified by the power control signal comprise:

a coarse power increment;

25 a fine power increment;

a coarse power decrement; and

a fine power decrement.

30 68. The subscriber terminal of Claim 62, wherein the power adjustment comprises a reset to a minimum power output.

35 69. The subscriber terminal of Claim 62, wherein the power adjustment comprises a setting to a nominal power mode.

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70. A method for wireless communication between a subscriber terminal and a central terminal located at a fixed distance from the subscriber terminal, the method comprising:

- 5 receiving an information signal associated with a user channel of the subscriber terminal;
 combining the information signal with a code sequence signal to generate a spread signal;
 receiving a power control signal from the central
10 terminal using a wireless link; and
 amplifying the spread signal in response to the power control signal, the power control signal specifying a power adjustment to the spread signal.

- 15 71. The method of Claim 70, further comprising the step of receiving a code synchronization signal from the central terminal using the wireless link, the code synchronization signal specifying a phase adjustment to the code sequence signal.

- 20 72. The method of Claim 70, further comprising:
 receiving a downlink signal from the central terminal;
 despreading the downlink signal to generate a despread signal; and
25 extracting the power control signal from the despread signal.

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73. The method of Claim 70, wherein a plurality of possible power adjustments specified by the power control signal comprise:

- 5 a coarse power adjustment; and
 a fine power adjustment.

74. The method of Claim 70, wherein a plurality of possible power adjustments specified by the power control signal comprise:

- 10 a power increment; and
 a power decrement.

75. The method of Claim 70, wherein a plurality of possible power adjustments specified by the power control signal comprise:

- 15 a coarse power increment;
 a fine power increment;
 a coarse power decrement; and
20 a fine power decrement.

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76. A subscriber terminal for communicating with a central terminal, comprising:

5 a despreader operable to receive a downlink signal from the central terminal, the despreader operable in an acquisition mode and at a first rate to despread control information in the downlink signal, the despreader operable in a traffic mode and at a second rate to despread control information and user traffic in the downlink signal;

10 a frame extractor coupled to the despreader, the frame extractor operable to extract a code synchronization signal from the despread downlink signal;

a code generator operable to generate a code sequence signal in response to a phase adjustment specified in the code synchronization signal; and

15 a spreader coupled to the code generator, the spreader operable to receive an information signal associated with a user channel of the subscriber terminal, the spreader further operable to combine the information signal with the code sequence signal to generate an uplink signal for transmission to the central terminal.

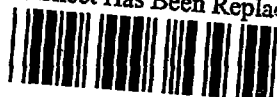
77. The subscriber terminal of Claim 76, wherein a plurality of possible phase adjustments specified by the code synchronization signal comprise:

25 a coarse phase adjustment; and
a fine phase adjustment.

78. The subscriber terminal of Claim 76, wherein a plurality of possible phase adjustments specified by the code synchronization signal comprise:

30 a phase advance; and
a phase delay.

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79. The subscriber terminal of Claim 76, wherein a plurality of possible phase adjustments specified by the code synchronization signal comprise:

- 5 a coarse phase advance;
- a fine phase advance;
- a coarse phase delay; and
- a fine phase delay.

10 80. The subscriber terminal of Claim 76, wherein the phase adjustment comprises a previous phase adjustment stored in a memory.

15 81. The subscriber terminal of Claim 76, wherein the downlink signal comprises in-phase and quadrature components, and further comprising a convolutional decoder coupled to the despreader, the convolutional decoder operable to decode the in-phase and quadrature components of the downlink signal into a single bit stream for
20 delivery to the frame extractor.

25 82. The subscriber terminal of Claim 76, wherein the frame extractor extracts a first user channel and a second user channel from the downlink signal.

30 83. The subscriber terminal of Claim 76, further comprising:

 a digital signal processor coupled to the despreader and operable to generate system parameter information for link reestablishment; and

 a memory coupled to the digital signal processor and operable to store the system parameter information.



84. A method for communicating between a subscriber terminal and a central terminal located at a fixed distance from the subscriber terminal, the method comprising the following steps performed at the subscriber terminal:

- 5 receiving a downlink signal from the central terminal;
despreading, in an acquisition mode and at a first rate, the downlink signal representing control information;
despreading, in a traffic mode and at a second rate, the downlink signal representing control information and
10 user traffic;
extracting a code synchronization signal from the despread downlink signals;
receiving an information signal from a user channel associated with the subscriber terminal;
15 generating a code sequence signal in response to a phase adjustment specified in the code synchronization signal; and
combining the information signal with a code sequence signal to generate an uplink signal for transmission to the
20 central terminal.

85. The method of Claim 84, wherein a plurality of possible phase adjustments specified by the code synchronization signal comprise:

- 25 a coarse phase adjustment; and
a fine phase adjustment.



86. The method of Claim 84, wherein a plurality of possible phase adjustments specified by the code synchronization signal comprise:

- 5 a phase advance; and
 a phase delay.

87. The method of Claim 84, wherein a plurality of possible phase adjustments specified by the code synchronization signal comprise:

- 10 a coarse phase advance;
 a fine phase advance;
 a coarse phase delay; and
 a fine phase delay.

15 88. The method of Claim 84, wherein the downlink signal comprises in-phase and quadrature components, and further comprising the step of decoding the in-phase and quadrature components of the downlink signal into a single bit stream before the step of extracting.

20 89. The method of Claim 84, further comprising the step of extracting a first user channel and a second user channel from the despread downlink signal.

25 90. The method of Claim 84, further comprising:
 generating system parameter information for link re-establishment; and
 storing the system parameter information in a memory.



91. A subscriber terminal for communicating with a central terminal, comprising:

a receive antenna operable to receive a downlink signal from the central terminal;

5 a receive converter coupled to the receive antenna and operable to convert the downlink signal into digital form;

a despreader coupled to the receive converter, the despreader operable in an acquisition mode and at a first rate to despread control information in the downlink signal, the despreader operable in a traffic mode and at a
10 second rate to despread control information and user traffic in the downlink signal;

a frame extractor coupled to the despreader, the frame extractor operable to extract a power control signal and a
15 code synchronization signal from the despread downlink signal;

a code generator operable to generate a code sequence signal in response to a phase adjustment specified in the code synchronization signal;

20 a spreader coupled to the code generator, the spreader operable to receive an information signal associated with a user channel of the subscriber terminal, the spreader further operable to combine the information signal with the code sequence signal to generate an uplink signal;

25 a transmitter coupled to the spreader, the transmitter operable to receive the uplink signal, the transmitter further operable to amplify the uplink signal in response to a power adjustment specified in the power control signal; and

30 a transmit antenna coupled to the transmitter and operable to transmit the amplified uplink signal to the central terminal.



92. The subscriber terminal of Claim 91, wherein a plurality of possible phase adjustments specified by the code synchronization signal comprise:

- 5 a coarse phase adjustment; and
 a fine phase adjustment.

93. The subscriber terminal of Claim 91, wherein a plurality of possible phase adjustments specified by the code synchronization signal comprise:

- 10 a coarse phase advance;
 a fine phase advance;
 a coarse phase delay; and
15 a fine phase delay.

94. The subscriber terminal of Claim 91, wherein a plurality of possible power adjustments specified by the power control signal comprise:

- 20 a coarse power adjustment; and
 a fine power adjustment.



95. The subscriber terminal of Claim 91, wherein a plurality of possible power adjustments specified by the power control signal comprise:

a coarse power increment;
a fine power increment;
a coarse power decrement; and
a fine power decrement.

96. The subscriber terminal of Claim 91, wherein:
a plurality of possible phase adjustments specified by
the code synchronization signal comprise a coarse phase
adjustment and a fine phase adjustment; and

a plurality of possible power adjustments specified by the power control signal comprise a coarse power adjustment and a fine power adjustment.

97. The subscriber terminal of Claim 91, wherein:
a plurality of possible phase adjustments specified by the code synchronization signal comprise a coarse phase advance, a fine phase advance, a coarse phase delay, and a fine phase delay; and

a plurality of possible power adjustments specified by the power control signal comprise a coarse power increment, a fine power increment, a coarse power decrement, and a fine power decrement.



5 98. The subscriber terminal of Claim 91, further comprising a step attenuator coupled to the transmitter, the step attenuator operable to provide a low transmit power level and a high transmit power level for the subscriber terminal.



99. A method for communicating between a subscriber terminal and a central terminal, the method comprising the following steps performed at the subscriber terminal:

receiving a downlink signal from the central terminal;

5 converting the downlink signal into digital form;

despreading, in an acquisition mode and at a first rate, control information in the downlink signal;

10 despreading, in a traffic mode and at a second rate, control information and user traffic in the downlink signal;

extracting a power control signal and a code synchronization signal from the despread downlink signal;

receiving an information signal associated with a user channel of the subscriber terminal;

15 generating a code sequence signal in response to a phase adjustment specified in the code synchronization signal;

combining the information signal with the code sequence signal to generate an uplink signal;

20 amplifying the uplink signal in response to a power adjustment specified in the power control signal; and

transmitting the amplified uplink signal to the central terminal.

25 100. The method of Claim 99, further comprising the step of attenuating the amplified uplink signal to provide a low transmit power level and a high transmit power level for the subscriber terminal.

30 101. The method of Claim 99, further comprising the step of attenuating the amplified uplink signal to provide a low transmit power level and a high transmit power level for the subscriber terminal, wherein the low transmit power level corresponds to a standby mode and the high transmit power level corresponds to the traffic mode.

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102. The method of Claim 99, wherein a plurality of possible phase adjustments specified by the code synchronization signal comprise:

- 5 a coarse phase advance;
- a fine phase advance;
- a coarse phase delay; and
- a fine phase delay.

103. The method of Claim 99, wherein a plurality of possible power adjustments specified by the power control signal comprise:

- 15 a coarse power increment;
- a fine power increment;
- a coarse power decrement; and
- a fine power decrement.



104. The subscriber terminal of Claim 99, wherein:
a plurality of possible phase adjustments specified by
the code synchronization signal comprise a coarse phase
adjustment and a fine phase adjustment; and

5 a plurality of possible power adjustments specified by
the power control signal comprise a coarse power adjustment
and a fine power adjustment.

105. The subscriber terminal of Claim 99, wherein:
10 a plurality of possible phase adjustments specified by
the code synchronization signal comprise a coarse phase
advance, a fine phase advance, a coarse phase delay, and a
fine phase delay; and

15 a plurality of possible power adjustments specified by
the power control signal comprise a coarse power increment,
a fine power increment, a coarse power decrement, and a
fine power decrement.

106. The method of Claim 99, wherein the downlink
20 signal comprises in-phase and quadrature components, and
further comprising the step of decoding the in-phase and
quadrature components of the downlink signal into a single
bit stream.

25 107. The method of Claim 99, further comprising the
step of extracting a first user channel and a second user
channel from the despread downlink signal.



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108. The method of Claim 99, further comprising;
generating system parameter information for link
reestablishment; and

5 storing the system parameter information in a memory
of the subscriber terminal.