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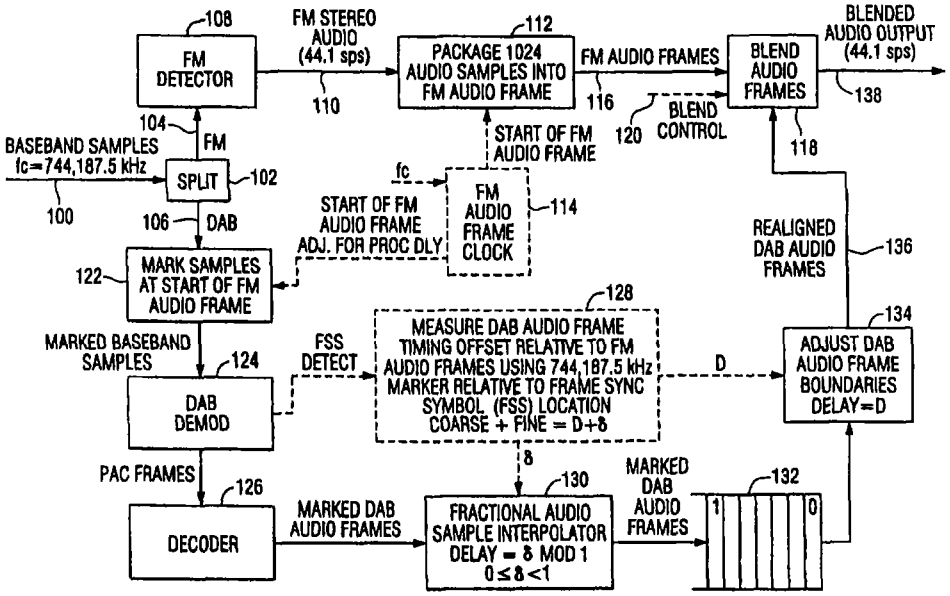
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(54) Title: AUDIO BLEND METHOD, TRANSMITTER AND RECEIVER FOR AM AND FM IN BAND ON CHANNEL DIGITAL AUDIO BROADCASTING

(57) Abstract

A method is provided for processing a composite digital audio broadcast signal to mitigate intermittent interruptions in the reception of said digital audio broadcast signal. The method includes the steps of separating an analog modulated portion of the digital audio broadcast signal from a digitally modulated portion of the digital audio broadcast signal, producing a first plurality of audio frames having symbols representative of the analog modulated portion of the digital audio broadcast signal, and producing a second plurality of audio frames having symbols representative of the digitally modulated portion of the digital audio broadcast signal. The first plurality of audio frames is then combined with the second plurality of audio frames to produce a blended audio output. A method is also provided for transmitting a composite digital audio broadcast signal having an analog portion and a digital portion to mitigate intermittent interruptions in the reception of said digital audio broadcast signal. The method comprises the steps of arranging symbols representative of the digital portion of the digital audio broadcast signal into a plurality of audio frames, producing a plurality of modem frames, each of the modem frames including a predetermined number of the audio frames, and adding a frame synchronization signal to each of the modem frames. The modem frames are then transmitted along with the analog portion of the digital audio broadcast signal, with the analog portion being delayed by a time delay corresponding to an integral number of the modem frames. The invention also encompasses radio receivers and transmitters which process signals according to the above method.



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