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(54) Title: A METHOD OF AND APPARATUS FOR SELECTING BASE STATIONS TO COMMUNICATE WITH A REMOTE STATION

(57) Abstract

A mobile station (2), for use in a communication system comprising plural base stations (4) controlled by a base station controller (6), comprises a receiver (50, 52, 54) for receiving signals from plural base stations which together comprise a set of candidate base stations. The mobile station determines power in the received signals, and compares the power with a first threshold value. The mobile station (2) identifies base stations (4) whose signals have a received power greater than the first threshold value and transmits a signal to the controller (6) representing identified base stations as being suitable for inclusion in an active set. The measured pilot energy of each pilot in the candidate set is iteratively compared against a threshold generated in accordance with the sum of the energies of the pilots in the active set. If the strongest pilot in the candidate set satisfies this threshold condition, it is added to the revised active set. A second iterative process is performed to determine whether a pilot should be deleted from the revised active set. The mobile station (2) determines whether a change to the current active set is desirable by measuring the energies of the pilots in the active set and the candidate set, and dynamically adjusting the necessary thresholds based on its own estimation of the communication environment.

