

ABSTRACT

A method for decoding F2F signals as well as a device for decoding F2F signals read from a magnetic data carrier is provided. The signal read from the card by a magnetic reading head 91 is amplified by an amplifier 912 with a very high gain, discriminated in a discrimination and integration station 913 to receive a binary locking signal. Out of this digitized signal in a reference time acquisition station 917 a start-up time value is set and a phase is estimated to determine the correct end of a bit cell in a phase estimating station 918. In a symbol correlation station 920 the received binary signal is correlated with all possible symbol combinations based on the estimated phase to create a correct bit stream. This bit stream might be processed further by a bit recovery station 922 providing a corrected bit stream ready for interpretation.

