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(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR SELECTING ONE OF A FIRST ENCODING ALGORITHM AND A SECOND ENCODING ALGORITHM USING HARMONICS REDUCTION

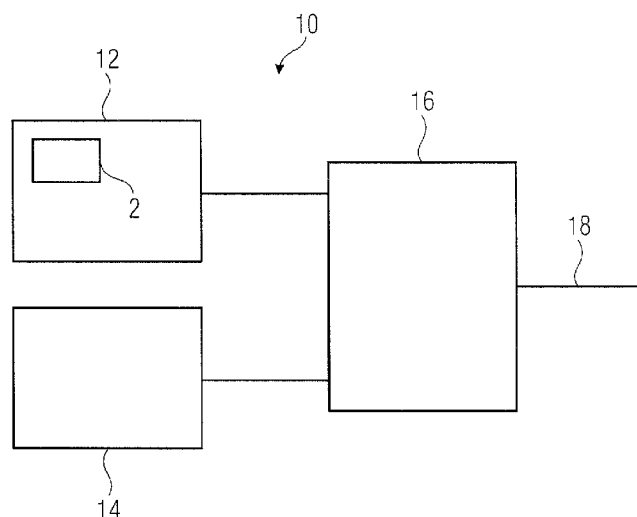


FIG 1

(57) Abstract: An apparatus for selecting one of a first encoding algorithm having a first characteristic and a second encoding algorithm having a second characteristic for encoding a portion of an audio signal to obtain an encoded version of the portion of the audio signal, comprises a filter configured to receive the audio signal, to reduce the amplitude of harmonics in the audio signal and to output a filtered version of the audio signal. A first estimator is provided for using the filtered version of the audio signal in estimating a SNR or a segmented SNR of the portion of the audio signal as a first quality measure for the portion of the audio signal, which is associated with the first encoding algorithm, without actually encoding and decoding the portion of the audio signal using the first encoding algorithm. A second estimator is provided for estimating a SNR or a segmented SNR as a second quality measure for the portion of the audio signal, which is associated with the second encoding algorithm, without actually encoding and decoding the portion of the audio signal using the second encoding algorithm. The apparatus comprises a controller for selecting the first encoding algorithm or the second encoding algorithm based on a comparison between the first quality measure and the second quality measure.