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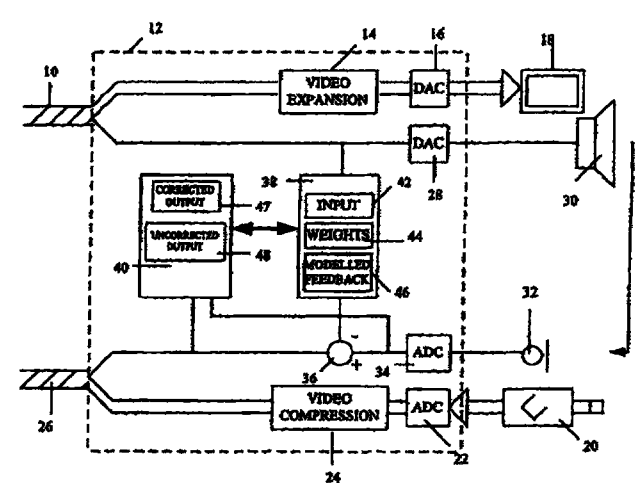
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(54) Title: ACOUSTIC FEEDBACK CORRECTION



(57) Abstract

In a video conference facility, an echo cancelling device is provided which comprises an adaptive finite impulse response filter (38) operable to sample the input signal to a loudspeaker (30) and to model, on the basis of that signal, the signal fed back to a microphone (32). The echo cancelling device further comprises a combiner (36) for subtracting the model feedback signal from the microphone output signal to provide a corrected microphone output signal, and a microprocessor (40) programmed to read the corrected and uncorrected microphone output signal and to compute updates to the weights of the filter (38), the computation including a multiplication by a variable scaling factor which varies in accordance with the ratio of a first value indicative of the long-term average power of the sound being fed back to a second value indicative of the short-term average power of the sound being fed back. In this way, undesirable fluctuations in the modelled output signal which cause unnatural sounding echoes at the other video conference site are reduced.