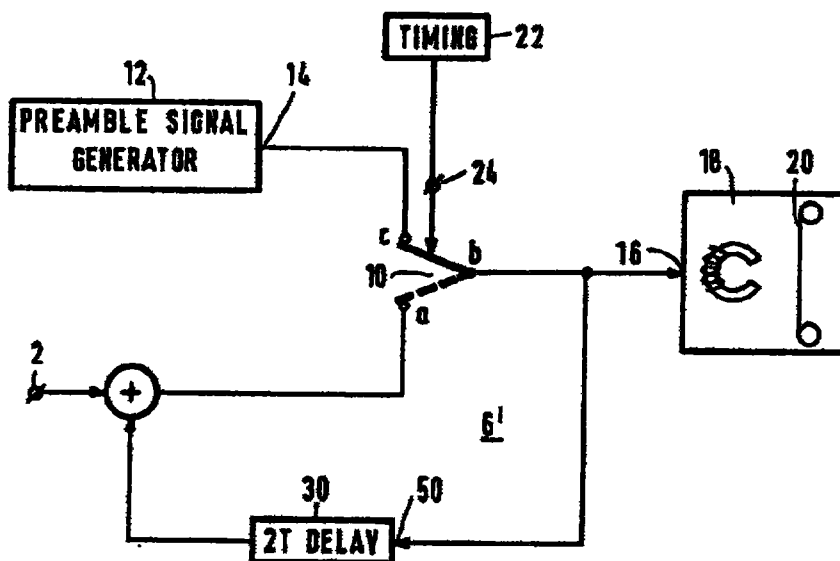


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(57) Abstract

When recording a preamble signal and nT precoded data, a switch (10) is provided for obtaining a serial datastream of the preamble signal and the precoded data, for recording in a track on a record carrier (20). Various solutions are described for improving syncword detection upon reproduction of the recorded data. In one such solution, an nT precoder (6') is provided, the nT precoder comprising signal combination means (32) and delay means (30) for realizing a signal delay of nT . Further, switching means (10) are provided having a first (c) and second input (a), an output (b) and a control signal input (24). The second input (a) of the switching means (10) is coupled to an output of the signal combination means (32), the output of the switching means is coupled to an input of the nT delay means (30).