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— *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*

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[Continued on next page]

(54) **Title**: DYNAMIC COVERAGE ADJUSTMENT IN A MULTI-CARRIER COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

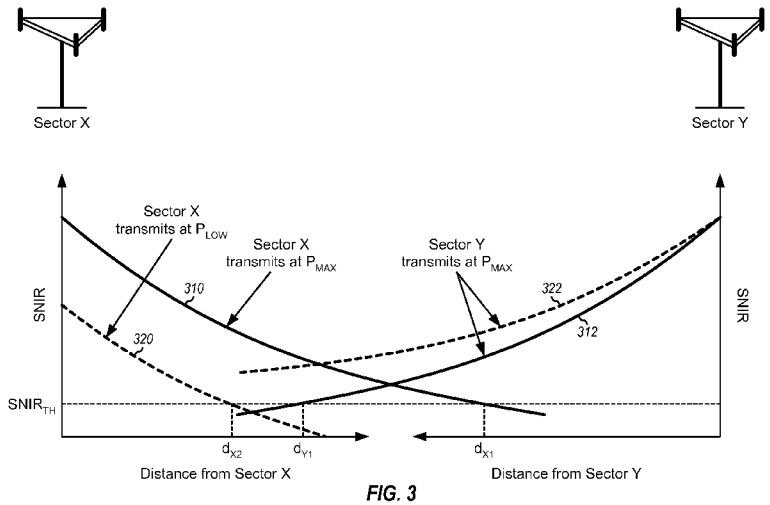


FIG. 3

(57) **Abstract**: Techniques for dynamically varying coverage in a multi-carrier communication system are described. A sector may operate on multiple carriers. The sector may vary coverage on a given carrier k based on its load, so that less interference may be caused to other sectors when the sector load is light. In one design, the sector may communicate on a first carrier at a first transmit power level and on a second carrier at a second transmit power level equal to or lower than the first transmit power level. The sector may vary the second transmit power level based on its load to vary the coverage of the second carrier. The sector may reduce the second transmit power level to zero or a low level if the sector load is light. The sector may also vary the second transmit power level based on a function of sector load or a switching pattern.

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