Claims

1. Apparatus ~~(10)~~ for performing a harmonicity-dependent controlling of a harmonic filter tool of an audio codec, comprising

a pitch estimator ~~(16)~~ configured to determine a pitch ~~(18)~~ of an audio signal ~~(12)~~ to be processed by the audio codec;

a harmonicity measurer ~~(20)~~ configured to determine a measure ~~(22)~~ of harmonicity of the audio signal ~~(12)~~ using the pitch ~~(18)~~;

a temporal structure analyzer ~~(24)~~ configured to determine, depending on the pitch ~~(18)~~, at least one temporal structure measure ~~(26)~~ measuring a characteristic of a temporal structure of the audio signal ~~(12)~~;

a controller ~~(28)~~ configured to control the harmonic filter tool ~~(30)~~ depending on the temporal structure measure ~~(26)~~ and the measure ~~(22)~~ of harmonicity.

2. Apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the harmonicity measurer ~~(20)~~ is configured to determine the measure ~~(22)~~ of harmonicity by computing a normalized correlation of the audio signal ~~(12)~~ or a pre-modified version thereof at or around a pitch-lag of the pitch ~~(18)~~.

3. Apparatus according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the pitch estimator ~~(16)~~ is configured to determine the pitch ~~(18)~~ in stages comprising a first stage and a second stage.

4. Apparatus according to claim 3, wherein the pitch estimator ~~(16)~~ is configured to, within the first stage, determine a preliminary estimation of the pitch at a down-sampled domain of a first sample rate and, within the second stage, refine the

preliminary estimation of the pitch at a second sample rate, higher than the first sample rate.

5. Apparatus according to any of the previous claims, wherein the pitch estimator ~~(16)~~ is configured to determine the pitch ~~(18)~~ using autocorrelation.

6. Apparatus according to any of the previous claims, wherein the temporal structure analyzer ~~(24)~~ is configured to determine the at least one temporal structure measure ~~(26)~~ within a temporal region temporally placed depending on the pitch ~~(18)~~.

7. Apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the temporal structure analyzer ~~(24)~~ is configured to position a temporally past-heading end ~~(38)~~ of the temporal region, or of a region of higher influence onto the determination of the temporal structure measure ~~(26)~~, depending on the pitch ~~(18)~~.

8. Apparatus according to claim 6 or 7, wherein the temporal structure analyzer ~~(24)~~ is configured to position the temporal past-heading end ~~(38)~~ of the temporal region or, of the region of higher influence onto the determination of the temporal structure measure, such that the temporally past-heading end ~~(38)~~ of the temporal region or, of the region of higher influence onto the determination of the temporal structure measure, is displaced into past direction by a temporal amount monotonically increasing with a decrease of the pitch ~~(18)~~.

9. Apparatus according to claim 7 or 8, wherein the temporal structure analyzer ~~(24)~~ is configured to position a temporally future-heading end ~~(40)~~ of the temporal region ~~(36)~~ or, of the region of higher influence onto the determination of the temporal structure measure ~~(26)~~, depending on the temporal structure of the audio signal ~~(12)~~ within a temporal candidate region extending from the temporally past-heading end ~~(38)~~ of the temporal region, or of the region of higher influence onto the determination of the temporal structure measure, to a temporally future-heading end ~~(44)~~ of a current frame ~~(34a)~~.

10. Apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the temporal structure analyzer ~~(24)~~ is configured to use an amplitude or ratio between maximum and minimum energy samples within the temporal candidate region in order to position the temporally future-heading end ~~(40)~~ of the temporal region ~~(36)~~ or, of the region of higher influence onto the determination of the temporal structure measure ~~(26)~~.

11. Apparatus according to any of the previous claims, wherein the controller ~~(28)~~ comprises

a logic ~~(120)~~ configured to check whether a predetermined condition is met by the at least one temporal structure measure ~~(26)~~ and the measure ~~(22)~~ of harmonicity so as to obtain a check result; and

a switch ~~(124)~~ configured to switch between enabling and disabling the harmonic filter tool ~~(30)~~ depending on the check result.

12. Apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the at least one temporal structure measure ~~(26)~~ measures an average or maximum energy variation of the audio signal within the temporal region and the logic is configured such that the predetermined condition is met if

both the at least one temporal structure measure ~~(26)~~ is smaller than a predetermined first threshold and the measure ~~(22)~~ of harmonicity is, for a current frame and/or a previous frame, above a second threshold.

13. Apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the logic ~~(120)~~ is configured such that the predetermined condition is also met if

the measure ~~(22)~~ of harmonicity is, for a current frame, above a third threshold, and the measure of harmonicity is, for a current frame and/or a previous frame, above a fourth threshold which decreases with an increase of a pitch lag of the pitch ~~(18)~~.

14. Apparatus according to any of the previous claims, wherein the controller ~~(28)~~ is configured to control the harmonic filter tool ~~(30)~~ by

explicitly signaling a control signal via an audio codec's data stream to a decoding side; or

explicitly signaling a control signal via an audio codec's data stream to a decoding side for controlling a post-filter at the decoding side and, in line with the control of the post-filter at the decoding side, controlling a pre-filter at an encoder side.

15. Apparatus according to any of the previous claims, wherein the temporal structure analyzer ~~(24)~~ is configured to determine the at least one temporal structure measure ~~(26)~~ in a spectrally discriminating manner so as to obtain one value of the at least one temporal structure measure ~~(26)~~ per spectral band of a plurality of spectral bands.

16. Apparatus according to any of the previous claims, wherein the controller ~~(28)~~ is configured to control the harmonic filter tool ~~(30)~~ at units of frames, and the temporal structure analyzer ~~(24)~~ is configured to sample an energy of the audio signal ~~(12)~~ at a sample rate higher than a frame rate of the frames so as to obtain energy samples of the audio signal and to determine the at least one temporal structure measure ~~(26)~~ on the basis of the energy samples.

17. Apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the temporal structure analyzer ~~(24)~~ is configured to determine the at least one temporal structure measure ~~(26)~~ within a temporal region temporally placed depending on the pitch ~~(18)~~ and the temporal structure analyzer ~~(24)~~ is configured to determine the at least one temporal structure measure ~~(26)~~ on the basis of the energy samples by computing a set of energy

change values measuring a change between pairs of immediately consecutive energy samples of the energy samples within the temporal region and subjecting the set of energy change values to a scalar function including a maximum operator or a sum over addends each of which depends on exactly one of the set of energy change values.

18. Apparatus according to any of claims 16 and 17, wherein the temporal spectrum analyzer ~~(24)~~ is configured to perform the sampling of the energy of the audio signal ~~(12)~~ within a high-pass filtered domain.

19. Apparatus according to any of the previous claims, wherein the pitch estimator ~~(16)~~, the harmonicity measurer ~~(20)~~ and the temporal structure analyzer ~~(24)~~ perform its determination based on different versions of the audio signal ~~(12)~~ including the original audio signal and some pre-modified version thereof.

20. Apparatus according to any of the previous claims, wherein the controller ~~(28)~~ is configured to, in controlling the harmonic filter tool ~~(30)~~, depending on the temporal structure measure ~~(26)~~ and the measure ~~(22)~~ of harmonicity

switch between enabling and disabling a pre-filter and/or a post-filter of the harmonic filter tool ~~(30)~~, or

gradually adapt a filter strength of the pre-filter and/or the post-filter of the harmonic filter tool ~~(30)~~,

wherein the harmonic filter tool ~~(30)~~ is of a pre-filter plus post-filter approach and the pre-filter of the harmonic filter tool ~~(30)~~ is configured to increase the quantization noise within a harmonic of the pitch of the audio signal and the post-filter of the harmonic filter tool ~~(30)~~ is configured to reshape a transmitted spectrum accordingly, or the harmonic filter tool ~~(30)~~ is of a post-filter only approach and the post-filter of the

harmonic filter tool ~~(30)~~ is configured to filter quantization noise occurring between the harmonics of the pitch of the audio signal.

21. Audio encoder or audio decoder, comprising a harmonic filter tool ~~(30)~~ and the apparatus for performing a harmonicity-dependent controlling of the harmonic filter tool according to any of the previous claims.

22. System comprising

an apparatus ~~(10)~~ for performing a harmonicity-dependent controlling of a harmonic filter tool according to any of claims 16 to 18, and

a transient detector configured to detect transients in an audio signal to be processed by the audio codec on the basis of the energy samples.

23. Transform-based encoder comprising the system of claim 22, configured to switch a transform block and/or overlap length depending on the detected transients.

24. Audio encoder comprising the system of claim 22, configured to support switching between a transform coded excitation mode and a code excited linear prediction mode depending on the detected transients.

25. Audio encoder according to claim 24, configured to switch a transform block and/or overlap length in the transform coded excitation mode depending on the detected transients.

26. Method ~~(10)~~ for performing a harmonicity-dependent controlling of a harmonic filter tool of an audio codec, comprising

determining a pitch ~~(18)~~ of an audio signal ~~(12)~~ to be processed by the audio codec;

determining a measure ~~(22)~~ of harmonicity of the audio signal ~~(12)~~ using the pitch ~~(18)~~;

determining, depending on the pitch ~~(18)~~, at least one temporal structure measure ~~(26)~~ measuring a characteristic of a temporal structure of the audio signal;

controlling the harmonic filter tool ~~(30)~~ depending on the temporal structure measure ~~(26)~~ and the measure ~~(22)~~ of harmonicity.

27. Computer program having a program code for performing, when running on a computer, a method according to claim 26.