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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TRANSMITTING CONTROL MESSAGES IN A WIRELESS COMMUNICA-
TION SYSTEM.

(57) Abstract: Techniques to reduce transmit power required for transmission of messages from an access terminal to reduce inter-
ference to transmissions from other access terminals. In one aspect, messages to be transmitted are defined and/or coded such that
they may be detected at different received signal qualities. The codewords may be defined having different distances to their nearest
codewords. In another aspect, messages to be transmitted are assigned to different points in a signal constellation, with the points
being located such that they may be received at different signal qualities. Codewords that may be received at a lower signal quality
may be assigned to messages more likely to be transmitted at higher transmit power levels (e.g., when the access terminal is located
further away) or to more frequently transmitted messages.