

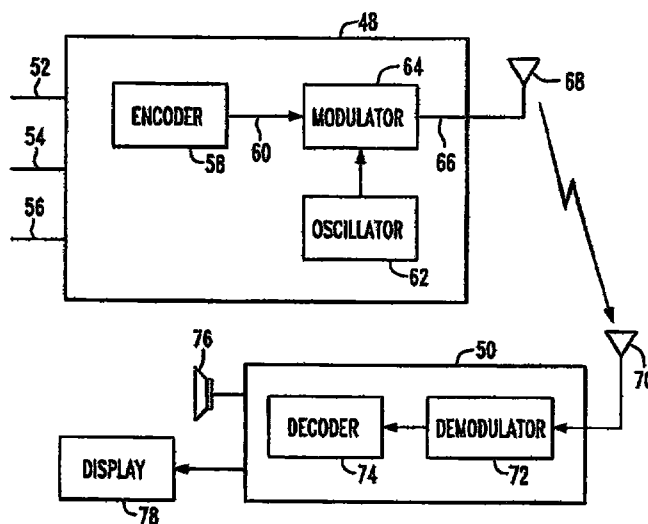
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(54) Title: DIGITAL AUDIO BROADCASTING METHOD USING PUNCTURABLE CONVOLUTIONAL CODE



(57) Abstract

A broadcasting method encodes program material using convolutional codes having non-puncturable bits and puncturable bits and modulates orthogonal frequency division multiplexed carrier signals with the convolutional codes. The non-puncturable bits are carried by a first group of the carriers and the puncturable bits are carried by a second group of the carriers, where the first group of carrier signals is less susceptible to interference than the second group of carrier signals. The carrier signals are then broadcast to receivers which determining if the carriers in the second group have been corrupted and erase puncturable bits carried by any of the carriers which have been determined to be corrupted. This produces punctured codes which are subsequently decodes to recover the program material.