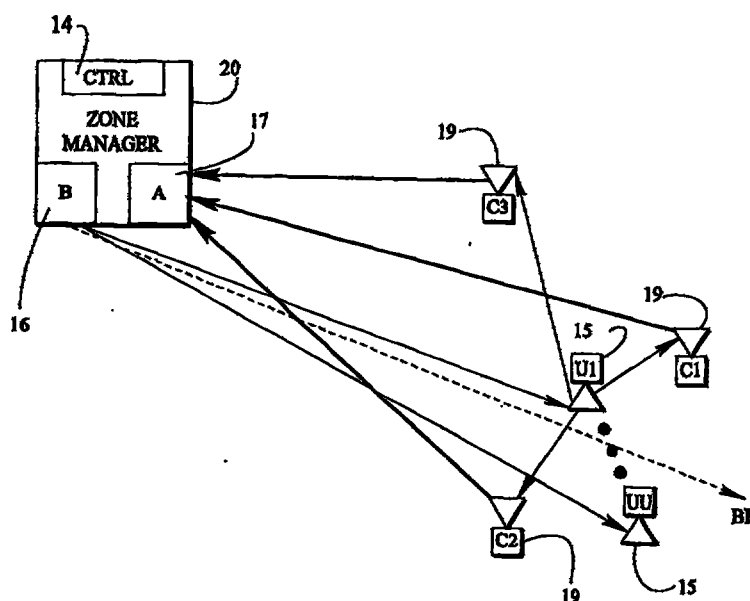




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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR WIRELESS COMMUNICATION EMPLOYING AGGREGATION FOR DIGITAL SIGNALS



(57) Abstract

A communication system having a plurality of forward channel communications and a plurality of corresponding reverse channel communications from and to a plurality of mobile users. A plurality of collectors are distributed at macro-diverse locations for receiving reverse channel signals from the users. Each of the collectors includes micro-diversity receivers for receiving the reverse channel signals from users. The collectors process and forward the reverse channel signals to aggregators. The aggregators combine the reverse channel signals to yield a combined signal with fewer bit errors than occur in the absence of combining.