INTEGRATION OF HIGH FREQUENCY AUDIO RECONSTRUCTION TECHNIQUES

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims priority of European patent application EP18169156.9, filed 25 April 2018, which is hereby incorporated by reference.

TECHNICAL FIELD

Embodiments pertain to audio signal processing, and more specifically, to encoding, decoding, or transcoding of audio bitstreams with control data specifying that either a base form of high frequency reconstruction ("HFR") or an enhanced form of HFR is to be performed on the audio data.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

A typical audio bitstream includes both audio data (e.g., encoded audio data) indicative of one or more channels of audio content, and metadata indicative of at least one characteristic of the audio data or audio content. One well known format for generating an encoded audio bitstream is the MPEG-4 Advanced Audio Coding (AAC) format, described in the MPEG standard ISO/IEC 14496-3:2009. In the MPEG-4 standard, AAC denotes "advanced audio coding" and HE-AAC denotes "high-efficiency advanced audio coding."

The MPEG-4 AAC standard defines several audio profiles, which determine which objects and coding tools are present in a complaint encoder or decoder. Three of these audio profiles are (1) the AAC profile, (2) the HE-AAC profile, and (3) the HE-AAC v2 profile. The AAC profile includes the AAC low complexity (or "AAC-LC") object type. The AAC-LC object is the counterpart to the MPEG-2 AAC low complexity profile, with some adjustments, and includes neither the spectral band replication ("SBR") object type nor the parametric stereo ("PS") object type. The HE-AAC profile is a superset of the AAC profile and additionally includes the SBR object type. The HE-AAC v2 profile is a superset of the HE-AAC profile and additionally includes the PS object type.

The SBR object type contains the spectral band replication tool, which is an important high frequency reconstruction ("HFR") coding tool that significantly improves the compression efficiency of perceptual audio codecs. SBR reconstructs the high