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(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: **INTERDIGITAL PATENT HOLDINGS, INC.** [US/US]; 3411 Silverside Road, Hagley Building, Suite 105, Wilmington, DE 19810 (US).

(72) Inventors; and
(75) Inventors/Applicants *(for US only)*: **SHIN, Sung-Hyuk** [US/US]; 104 Eidner Way, Northvale, NJ 07647 (US). **BELURI, Mihaela, C.** [CA/US]; 239 West Neck Road, Huntington, NY 11743 (US). **RUDOLF, Marian** [CA/CA]; 525 Lucien L'allier, Apt. #204, Montreal, QC H3C 4L3 (CA). **PASAD, Kalpendu, R.** [IN/US]; 69 E. Nicholai Street, Hicksville, NY 11801 (US). **HAIM, John, W.** [US/US]; 1848 Longfellow Street, Baldwin, NY 11510 (US). **ADJAKPLE, Pascal, M.** [CA/US]; 67 Red Brook Road, Great Neck, NY 11024 (US).

(74) Agents: **ROCCIA, Vincent, J.** et al.; Woodcock Washburn LLP, 2929 Arch Street, Cira Centre, 12th Floor, Philadelphia, PA 19104 (US).

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(54) Title: DL BACKHAUL CONTROL CHANNEL DESIGN FOR RELAYS

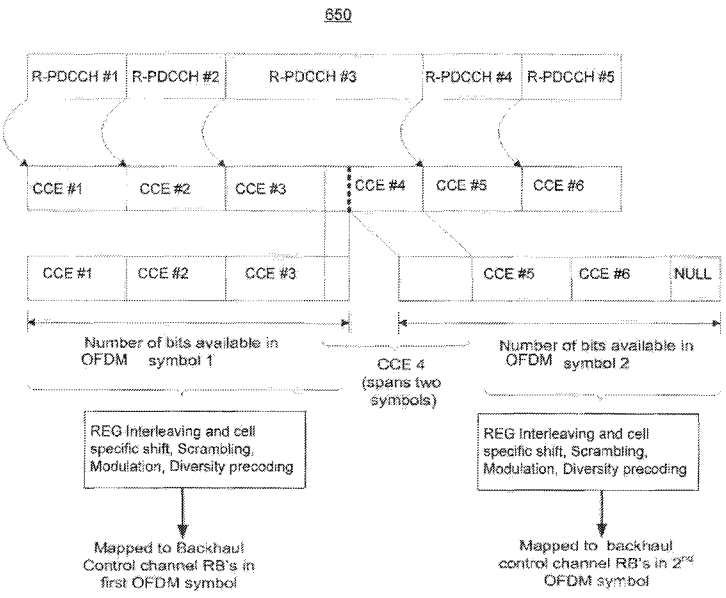

FIG. 6B

(57) Abstract: Methods and apparatus are described for providing compatible mapping for baekhaul control channels, frequency first mapping of control channel elements (CCEs) to avoid relay- physical control format indicator channel (R-PCFICH) and a tree based relay resource allocation to minimize the resource allocation map bits. Methods and apparatus (e.g., relay node (RN devolved Node-B (eNB)) for mapping of the Un downlink (DL) control signals, Un DL positive acknowledgement (ACK)/negative acknowledgement (NACK), and/or relay-physical downlink control channel (R-PDCCH) (or similar) in the eNB to RN (Un interface) DL direction are described. This includes time/frequency mapping of above-mentioned control signals into resource blocks (RBs) of multimedia broadcast multicast services (MFJMS) single frequency network (MBSFN)-reserved sub-frames in the RN cell and encoding procedures for these. Also described are methods and apparatus for optimizing signaling overheads by avoiding R-PCFICH and minimizing bits needs for resource allocation.

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DL BACKHAUL CONTROL CHANNEL DESIGN FOR RELAYS

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 61/256,159, filed October 29, 2009, and U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 61/234,124, filed August 14, 2009, the contents of both of which are incorporated by reference herein in its entirety.

BACKGROUND

[0002] Relaying is used as a technology to enhance coverage and capacity, (*e.g.*, long term evolution advances (LTE-A) system information (SI)), and offers more flexible deployment options. Relaying may be used with other technologies as well. For example, a type I relay may be included as one of the technology components for LTE-A. A type I relay creates new cells, distinguishable and separate from the cells of a donor eNodeB (eNB). To any legacy release 8 (R8) wireless transmit/receive unit (WTRU), a type I relay may appear as an eNB, (*i.e.*, the presence of a type I relay in its communication path to the donor eNB is transparent to the WTRU). A type I relay node (RN) may be described as an eNB that has a wireless in-band backhaul link back to the donor eNB by using an LTE or LTE-A air interface within the international mobile telecommunications (IMT) spectrum allocation.

SUMMARY

[0003] Methods and apparatus are described for providing compatible mapping for backhaul control channels, frequency first mapping of control channel elements (CCEs) and tree based relay resource allocation. Methods and apparatus for mapping of control signals, such as Un downlink (DL) control signals, between a base station (*e.g.*, eNB) and a relay node (*e.g.*, type I relay node) are described. This includes time-frequency mapping of the control signals into RBs of MBSFN-reserved sub-frames in the RN cell and encoding procedures.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0004] A more detailed understanding may be had from the following description, given by way of example in conjunction with the accompanying drawings wherein:

[0005] FIG. 1A is a system diagram of an example communications system in which one or more disclosed embodiments may be implemented;

[0006] FIG. 1B is a system diagram of an example wireless transmit/receive unit (WTRU) that may be used within the communications system illustrated in FIG. 1A;

[0007] FIG. 1C is a system diagram of an example radio access network and an example core network that may be used within the communications system illustrated in FIG. 1A;

[0008] FIG. 2 shows duplexing diagram for a relay for which the methods herein can be implemented;

[0009] FIG. 3 shows an example of backhaul control channel mapping;

[0010] FIG. 4 illustrates a non-limiting, exemplary mapping of an R-PHICH and R-PDCCH over an OFDM symbol when R-PCFICH is not used;

[0011] FIG. 5 illustrates a non-limiting, exemplary mapping of an R-PHICH and R-PDCCH over an OFDM symbol when R-PCFICH is used;

[0012] FIG. 6A illustrates a non-limiting, exemplary method of implementing mapping of an R-PDCCH by a eNB;

[0013] FIG. 6B illustrates a non-limiting, exemplary mapping of R-PDCCH into OFDM symbols;

[0014] FIG. 6C illustrates a non-limiting, exemplary method of implementing decoding of R-PDCCH by a relay;

[0015] FIG. 7A illustrates a non-limiting, exemplary method of implementing mapping of an R-PDCCH by a eNB;

[0016] FIG. 7B illustrates a non-limiting, exemplary mapping of R-PDCCH into OFDM symbols;

[0017] FIG. 7C illustrates a non-limiting, exemplary method of implementing decoding of R-PDCCH by a relay;

[0018] FIG. 8 shows a reduced bit map for resource allocation.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF ILLUSTRATIVE EMBODIMENTS

[0019] FIG. 1A is a diagram of an example communications system 100 in which one or more disclosed embodiments may be implemented. The communications system 100 may be a multiple access system that provides content, such as voice, data, video, messaging, broadcast, etc., to multiple wireless users. The communications system 100 may enable multiple wireless users to access such content through the sharing of system resources, including wireless bandwidth. For example, the communications systems 100 may employ one or more channel access methods, such as code division multiple access (CDMA), time division multiple access

(TDMA), frequency division multiple access (FDMA), orthogonal FDMA (OFDMA), single-carrier FDMA (SC-FDMA), and the like.

[0020] As shown in FIG. 1A, the communications system 100 may include wireless transmit/receive units (WTRUs) 102a, 102b, 102c, 102d, a radio access network (RAN) 104, a core network 106, a public switched telephone network (PSTN) 108, the Internet 110, and other networks 112, though it will be appreciated that the disclosed embodiments contemplate any number of WTRUs, base stations, networks, and/or network elements. Each of the WTRUs 102a, 102b, 102c, 102d may be any type of device configured to operate and/or communicate in a wireless environment. By way of example, the WTRUs 102a, 102b, 102c, 102d may be configured to transmit and/or receive wireless signals and may include user equipment (UE), a mobile station, a fixed or mobile subscriber unit, a pager, a cellular telephone, a personal digital assistant (PDA), a smartphone, a laptop, a netbook, a personal computer, a wireless sensor, consumer electronics, and the like.

[0021] The communications systems 100 may also include a base station 114a and a base station 114b. Each of the base stations 114a, 114b may be any type of device configured to wirelessly interface with at least one of the WTRUs 102a, 102b, 102c, 102d to facilitate access to one or more communication networks, such as the core network 106, the Internet 110, and/or the networks 112. By way of example, the base stations 114a, 114b may be a base transceiver station (BTS), a Node-B, an eNode B, a Home Node B, a Home eNode B, a site controller, an access point (AP), a wireless router, and the like. While the base stations 114a, 114b are each depicted as a single element, it will be appreciated that the base stations 114a, 114b may include any number of interconnected base stations and/or network elements.

[0022] The base station 114a may be part of the RAN 104, which may also include other base stations and/or network elements (not shown), such as a base station controller (BSC), a radio network controller (RNC), relay nodes, etc. The base station 114a and/or the base station 114b may be configured to transmit and/or receive wireless signals within a particular geographic region, which may be referred to as a cell (not shown). The cell may further be divided into cell sectors. For example, the cell associated with the base station 114a may be divided into three sectors. Thus, in one embodiment, the base station 114a may include three transceivers, i.e., one for each sector of the cell. In another embodiment, the base station 114a may employ multiple-input multiple output (MIMO) technology and, therefore, may utilize multiple transceivers for each sector of the cell.

[0023] The base stations 114a, 114b may communicate with one or more of the WTRUs 102a, 102b, 102c, 102d over an air interface 116, which may be any suitable wireless

communication link (e.g., radio frequency (RF), microwave, infrared (IR), ultraviolet (UV), visible light, etc.). The air interface 116 may be established using any suitable radio access technology (RAT).

[0024] More specifically, as noted above, the communications system 100 may be a multiple access system and may employ one or more channel access schemes, such as CDMA, TDMA, FDMA, OFDMA, SC-FDMA, and the like. For example, the base station 114a in the RAN 104 and the WTRUs 102a, 102b, 102c may implement a radio technology such as Universal Mobile Telecommunications System (UMTS) Terrestrial Radio Access (UTRA), which may establish the air interface 116 using wideband CDMA (WCDMA). WCDMA may include communication protocols such as High-Speed Packet Access (HSPA) and/or Evolved HSPA (HSPA+). HSPA may include High-Speed Downlink Packet Access (HSDPA) and/or High-Speed Uplink Packet Access (HSUPA).

[0025] In another embodiment, the base station 114a and the WTRUs 102a, 102b, 102c may implement a radio technology such as Evolved UMTS Terrestrial Radio Access (E-UTRA), which may establish the air interface 116 using Long Term Evolution (LTE) and/or LTE-Advanced (LTE-A).

[0026] In other embodiments, the base station 114a and the WTRUs 102a, 102b, 102c may implement radio technologies such as IEEE 802.16 (i.e., Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access (WiMAX)), CDMA2000, CDMA2000 1X, CDMA2000 EV-DO, Interim Standard 2000 (IS-2000), Interim Standard 95 (IS-95), Interim Standard 856 (IS-856), Global System for Mobile communications (GSM), Enhanced Data rates for GSM Evolution (EDGE), GSM EDGE (GERAN), and the like.

[0027] The base station 114b in FIG. 1A may be a wireless router, Home Node B, Home eNode B, or access point, for example, and may utilize any suitable RAT for facilitating wireless connectivity in a localized area, such as a place of business, a home, a vehicle, a campus, and the like. In one embodiment, the base station 114b and the WTRUs 102c, 102d may implement a radio technology such as IEEE 802.11 to establish a wireless local area network (WLAN). In another embodiment, the base station 114b and the WTRUs 102c, 102d may implement a radio technology such as IEEE 802.15 to establish a wireless personal area network (WPAN). In yet another embodiment, the base station 114b and the WTRUs 102c, 102d may utilize a cellular-based RAT (e.g., WCDMA, CDMA2000, GSM, LTE, LTE-A, etc.) to establish a picocell or femtocell. As shown in FIG. 1A, the base station 114b may have a direct connection to the Internet 110. Thus, the base station 114b may not be required to access the Internet 110 via the core network 106.

[0028] The RAN 104 may be in communication with the core network 106, which may be any type of network configured to provide voice, data, applications, and/or voice over internet protocol (VoIP) services to one or more of the WTRUs 102a, 102b, 102c, 102d. For example, the core network 106 may provide call control, billing services, mobile location-based services, pre-paid calling, Internet connectivity, video distribution, etc., and/or perform high-level security functions, such as user authentication. Although not shown in FIG. 1A, it will be appreciated that the RAN 104 and/or the core network 106 may be in direct or indirect communication with other RANs that employ the same RAT as the RAN 104 or a different RAT. For example, in addition to being connected to the RAN 104, which may be utilizing an E-UTRA radio technology, the core network 106 may also be in communication with another RAN (not shown) employing a GSM radio technology.

[0029] The core network 106 may also serve as a gateway for the WTRUs 102a, 102b, 102c, 102d to access the PSTN 108, the Internet 110, and/or other networks 112. The PSTN 108 may include circuit-switched telephone networks that provide plain old telephone service (POTS). The Internet 110 may include a global system of interconnected computer networks and devices that use common communication protocols, such as the transmission control protocol (TCP), user datagram protocol (UDP) and the internet protocol (IP) in the TCP/IP internet protocol suite. The networks 112 may include wired or wireless communications networks owned and/or operated by other service providers. For example, the networks 112 may include another core network connected to one or more RANs, which may employ the same RAT as the RAN 104 or a different RAT.

[0030] Some or all of the WTRUs 102a, 102b, 102c, 102d in the communications system 100 may include multi-mode capabilities, i.e., the WTRUs 102a, 102b, 102c, 102d may include multiple transceivers for communicating with different wireless networks over different wireless links. For example, the WTRU 102c shown in FIG. 1A may be configured to communicate with the base station 114a, which may employ a cellular-based radio technology, and with the base station 114b, which may employ an IEEE 802 radio technology.

[0031] FIG. 1B is a system diagram of an example WTRU 102. As shown in FIG. 1B, the WTRU 102 may include a processor 118, a transceiver 120, a transmit/receive element 122, a speaker/microphone 124, a keypad 126, a display/touchpad 128, non-removable memory 106, removable memory 132, a power source 134, a global positioning system (GPS) chipset 136, and other peripherals 138. It will be appreciated that the WTRU 102 may include any sub-combination of the foregoing elements while remaining consistent with an embodiment.

[0032] The processor 118 may be a general purpose processor, a special purpose processor, a conventional processor, a digital signal processor (DSP), a plurality of microprocessors, one or more microprocessors in association with a DSP core, a controller, a microcontroller, Application Specific Integrated Circuits (ASICs), Field Programmable Gate Array (FPGAs) circuits, any other type of integrated circuit (IC), a state machine, and the like. The processor 118 may perform signal coding, data processing, power control, input/output processing, and/or any other functionality that enables the WTRU 102 to operate in a wireless environment. The processor 118 may be coupled to the transceiver 120, which may be coupled to the transmit/receive element 122. While FIG. 1B depicts the processor 118 and the transceiver 120 as separate components, it will be appreciated that the processor 118 and the transceiver 120 may be integrated together in an electronic package or chip.

[0033] The transmit/receive element 122 may be configured to transmit signals to, or receive signals from, a base station (e.g., the base station 114a) over the air interface 116. For example, in one embodiment, the transmit/receive element 122 may be an antenna configured to transmit and/or receive RF signals. In another embodiment, the transmit/receive element 122 may be an emitter/detector configured to transmit and/or receive IR, UV, or visible light signals, for example. In yet another embodiment, the transmit/receive element 122 may be configured to transmit and receive both RF and light signals. It will be appreciated that the transmit/receive element 122 may be configured to transmit and/or receive any combination of wireless signals.

[0034] In addition, although the transmit/receive element 122 is depicted in FIG. 1B as a single element, the WTRU 102 may include any number of transmit/receive elements 122. More specifically, the WTRU 102 may employ MIMO technology. Thus, in one embodiment, the WTRU 102 may include two or more transmit/receive elements 122 (e.g., multiple antennas) for transmitting and receiving wireless signals over the air interface 116.

[0035] The transceiver 120 may be configured to modulate the signals that are to be transmitted by the transmit/receive element 122 and to demodulate the signals that are received by the transmit/receive element 122. As noted above, the WTRU 102 may have multi-mode capabilities. Thus, the transceiver 120 may include multiple transceivers for enabling the WTRU 102 to communicate via multiple RATs, such as UTRA and IEEE 802.11, for example.

[0036] The processor 118 of the WTRU 102 may be coupled to, and may receive user input data from, the speaker/microphone 124, the keypad 126, and/or the display/touchpad 128 (e.g., a liquid crystal display (LCD) display unit or organic light-emitting diode (OLED) display unit). The processor 118 may also output user data to the speaker/microphone 124, the keypad 126, and/or the display/touchpad 128. In addition, the processor 118 may access information

from, and store data in, any type of suitable memory, such as the non-removable memory 106 and/or the removable memory 132. The non-removable memory 106 may include random-access memory (RAM), read-only memory (ROM), a hard disk, or any other type of memory storage device. The removable memory 132 may include a subscriber identity module (SIM) card, a memory stick, a secure digital (SD) memory card, and the like. In other embodiments, the processor 118 may access information from, and store data in, memory that is not physically located on the WTRU 102, such as on a server or a home computer (not shown).

[0037] The processor 118 may receive power from the power source 134, and may be configured to distribute and/or control the power to the other components in the WTRU 102. The power source 134 may be any suitable device for powering the WTRU 102. For example, the power source 134 may include one or more dry cell batteries (e.g., nickel-cadmium (NiCd), nickel-zinc (NiZn), nickel metal hydride (NiMH), lithium-ion (Li-ion), etc.), solar cells, fuel cells, and the like.

[0038] The processor 118 may also be coupled to the GPS chipset 136, which may be configured to provide location information (e.g., longitude and latitude) regarding the current location of the WTRU 102. In addition to, or in lieu of, the information from the GPS chipset 136, the WTRU 102 may receive location information over the air interface 116 from a base station (e.g., base stations 114a, 114b) and/or determine its location based on the timing of the signals being received from two or more nearby base stations. It will be appreciated that the WTRU 102 may acquire location information by way of any suitable location-determination method while remaining consistent with an embodiment.

[0039] The processor 118 may further be coupled to other peripherals 138, which may include one or more software and/or hardware modules that provide additional features, functionality and/or wired or wireless connectivity. For example, the peripherals 138 may include an accelerometer, an e-compass, a satellite transceiver, a digital camera (for photographs or video), a universal serial bus (USB) port, a vibration device, a television transceiver, a hands free headset, a Bluetooth® module, a frequency modulated (FM) radio unit, a digital music player, a media player, a video game player module, an Internet browser, and the like.

[0040] FIG. 1C is a system diagram of the RAN 104 and the core network 106 according to an embodiment. As noted above, the RAN 104 may employ an E-UTRA radio technology to communicate with the WTRUs 102a, 102b, 102c over the air interface 116. The RAN 104 may also be in communication with the core network 106.

[0041] The RAN 104 may include eNode-Bs 140a, 140b, 140c, though it will be appreciated that the RAN 104 may include any number of eNode-Bs while remaining consistent

with an embodiment. The eNode-Bs 140a, 140b, 140c may each include one or more transceivers for communicating with the WTRUs 102a, 102b, 102c over the air interface 116. In one embodiment, the eNode-Bs 140a, 140b, 140c may implement MIMO technology. Thus, the eNode-B 140a, for example, may use multiple antennas to transmit wireless signals to, and receive wireless signals from, the WTRU 102a.

[0042] Each of the eNode-Bs 140a, 140b, 140c may be associated with a particular cell (not shown) and may be configured to handle radio resource management decisions, handover decisions, scheduling of users in the uplink and/or downlink, and the like. As shown in FIG. 1C, the eNode-Bs 140a, 140b, 140c may communicate with one another over an X2 interface.

[0043] The core network 106 shown in FIG. 1C may include a mobility management gateway (MME) 142, a serving gateway 144, and a packet data network (PDN) gateway 146. While each of the foregoing elements are depicted as part of the core network 106, it will be appreciated that any one of these elements may be owned and/or operated by an entity other than the core network operator.

[0044] The MME 142 may be connected to each of the eNode-Bs 142a, 142b, 142c in the RAN 104 via an S1 interface and may serve as a control node. For example, the MME 142 may be responsible for authenticating users of the WTRUs 102a, 102b, 102c, bearer activation/deactivation, selecting a particular serving gateway during an initial attach of the WTRUs 102a, 102b, 102c, and the like. The MME 142 may also provide a control plane function for switching between the RAN 104 and other RANs (not shown) that employ other radio technologies, such as GSM or WCDMA.

[0045] The serving gateway 144 may be connected to each of the eNode Bs 140a, 140b, 140c in the RAN 104 via the S1 interface. The serving gateway 144 may generally route and forward user data packets to/from the WTRUs 102a, 102b, 102c. The serving gateway 144 may also perform other functions, such as anchoring user planes during inter-eNode B handovers, triggering paging when downlink data is available for the WTRUs 102a, 102b, 102c, managing and storing contexts of the WTRUs 102a, 102b, 102c, and the like.

[0046] The serving gateway 144 may also be connected to the PDN gateway 146, which may provide the WTRUs 102a, 102b, 102c with access to packet-switched networks, such as the Internet 110, to facilitate communications between the WTRUs 102a, 102b, 102c and IP-enabled devices.

[0047] The core network 106 may facilitate communications with other networks. For example, the core network 106 may provide the WTRUs 102a, 102b, 102c with access to circuit-switched networks, such as the PSTN 108, to facilitate communications between the WTRUs

102a, 102b, 102c and traditional land-line communications devices. For example, the core network 106 may include, or may communicate with, an IP gateway (e.g., an IP multimedia subsystem (IMS) server) that serves as an interface between the core network 106 and the PSTN 108. In addition, the core network 106 may provide the WTRUs 102a, 102b, 102c with access to the networks 112, which may include other wired or wireless networks that are owned and/or operated by other service providers.

[0048] It is one fundamental design principle of frequency division duplex (FDD)-based in-band relaying that a type I RN cannot simultaneously transmit to a WTRU on the access link while receiving from the donor eNB on the backhaul link in the downlink (DL) shared access and backhaul frequency channel, or receive from a WTRU on the access link while transmitting to the donor eNB on the uplink (UL) shared access and backhaul frequency channel.

[0049] During radio access network (RAN) 1#56, it has been agreed that multimedia broadcast multicast services (MBMS) single frequency network (MBSFN) sub-frames may be used as a means to allow backward compatible implementation of relaying and to allow for donor eNB to RN transmissions on the DL frequency channel respecting the legacy R8 frame structure.

[0050] MBSFN sub-frame allocation is limited to six (6) sub-frames per frame, (for LTE FDD mode), and no MBSFN sub-frame may be configured in sub-frames #0, # 4, #5 and #9 in the case of frame structure type 1.

[0051] During RAN1#57, the principles of DL access link and DL backhaul link sub-frame boundary alignment and semi-static assignment of time-domain resources for the DL backhaul link have been accepted. In addition, the introduction of relay physical downlink shared channel (R-PDSCH), relay-physical uplink shared channel (R-PUSCH) and relay-physical downlink control channel (R-PDCCH) has been agreed.

[0052] A RN deployment is shown in Figure 2. For Type 1 (inband) relays, the RN 230 to eNB 225 link 210 must operate on the UL carrier, and the eNB 225 to RN 230 link 245 must operate using the DL carrier. The eNB 225 to RN 230 link 245 and the RN 230 to UE2 235 link 240 share the same DL carrier frequency, and similarly the RN 230 to eNB 225 link 210 and the UE2 235 to RN 230 link 205 share the same UL carrier.

[0053] From the macro eNB 225 perspective, the RN 230 may appear as a regular or as a special WTRU, while simultaneously, the RN 230 may appear as a regular eNB to UE2 that is being served by the RN 230, (*i.e.*, the UE2 camps on and gets service from the RN 230 in a way that is the same as from a regular eNB). For illustration purposes in Figure 2, it is assumed that

UE1 is a WTRU that is served by the macro eNB 225, and UE2is a WTRU that is served by the RN 230.

[0054] Since the RN 230 cannot simultaneously transmit (Tx) and receive (Rx) in the same DL frequency band (F1), the eNB 225 to RN 230 and RN 230 to UE2 235 links (*i.e.*, links 245 and 250) are time multiplexed as they share the same carrier. Similarly, the RN 230 to eNB 225 and UE2 235 to RN 230 links (*i.e.*, links 210 and 215) are also time multiplexed in the UL frequency band F2.

[0055] In other words, the RN 230 operates as a FDD-eNB from UE2 235 perspective, but the RN 230 itself has to support TDD operation (Tx and Rx switching) in both DL and UL carriers. Note that there is no impact on the eNB 225 as it operates in the usual fashion (DL Tx on F1, and UL Rx on F2).

[0056] The time-multiplexing of the eNB 225 to RN 230 and RN 230 to UE2 235 links (*i.e.*, links 245 and 250) can be efficiently supported via the flexible MBSFN signaling provided by LTE R8 specifications. The RN configures some (up to a maximum of 6) sub-frames in the RN cell as MBSFN-reserved sub-frames. Therefore, relay WTRUs will only expect and attempt to decode the control region in these, but not expect any DL assignments or PDSCH transmission. Note that the MBSFN-reserved sub-frames in the Relay cell might not necessarily appear to the WTRU served by the donor eNB cell as MBSFN sub-frames. Moreover, these reserved sub-frames in the Relay cell might not appear to the Relay on the backhaul link as an MBSFN sub-frames in the sense of providing MBMS services. In a MBSFN reserved sub-frame, the RN first transmits in the DL access link in the control region, followed by some Tx to Rx switching time (for example, 1 symbol), and receiving itself transmissions from the eNB on the DL backhaul link.

[0057] In the DL, the donor eNB can in principle transmit DL assignments (and PDSCH), DL positive acknowledgements (ACKs)/negative acknowledgements (NACKs) on physical hybrid automatic repeat request (HARQ) indicator channel (PHICH) and UL grants (for PUSCH) to its served macro WTRUs in any DL sub-frame however in order to avoid self-interference between the Relay transmitter and receiver, the donor eNB should make DL transmission in sub-frames broadcasted by the RN in its cell as MBSFN sub-frames. Similarly, the RN may transmit DL ACKs/NACKs and UL grants to its served relay WTRUs in any DL sub-frame. However, in order to avoid self-interference between the Relay transmitter and receiver, the RN may transmit PDSCH to its relay WTRUs only in sub-frames not configured as MBSFN sub-frames.

[0058] The following operating principles for RN and donor eNB operation have been agreed. At the RN, the access link DL sub-frame boundary is aligned with the backhaul link DL sub-frame boundary (except for possible adjustment to allow for RN Tx/Rx switching). The set of DL backhaul sub-frames, during which DL backhaul transmission may occur, is time-domain resources (set of sub-frames) that may be used for the DL backhaul link, and are semi-statically assigned. It has not been determined whether the time-domain resources for the UL backhaul link are to be also semistatically assigned. The set of UL backhaul subframes, during which UL backhaul transmission may occur, can be semi-statically assigned, or implicitly derived from the DL backhaul subframes using the HARQ timing relationship.

[0059] A new physical control channel which may be called the relay physical downlink control channel (R-PDCCH), may be used to dynamically or "semi-persistently" assign resources, within the semi-statically assigned sub-frames, for the DL backhaul data, the relay physical downlink shared channel (R-PDSCH). The R-PDCCH is also used to dynamically or "semi-persistently" assign resources for the UL backhaul data, the relay physical uplink shared channel (R-PUSCH).

[0060] The R-PDCCH may be transmitted on a subset of the physical resource blocks (PRBs) of the subframes assigned for the DL backhaul link. A predefined number of resource blocks (RBs) may be reserved for a backhaul control channel. The reserved RBs may be fixed by the specifications, semi-statically signaled to relay node, or signaled via any other channel, *e.g.*, relay-physical control format indicator channel (R-PCFICH). When R-PCFICH or a similar channel is used to signal the reserved RBs, in order to minimize the overhead, the selection can be made from a set of predefined patterns. The R-PCFICH itself may be located in a standard specified RB, (*e.g.*, center of bandwidth). The R-PDCCH may be transmitted on a subset of the orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) symbols of the subframes assigned for the DL backhaul link. This subset of OFDM symbols may include the full set of OFDM symbols available for the backhaul link. The R-PDCCH may be transmitted starting from an OFDM symbol within the subframe that is late enough so that the RN can receive it. The R-PDCCH may be used to assign DL resources in the same subframe and/or in one or more later subframes. The R-PDCCH may be used to assign UL resources in one or more later subframes. The R-PDSCH and the R-PDCCH may be transmitted within the same PRBs or within separated PRBs. The backhaul control channel RBs may carry R-PDCCH, relay- physical hybrid automatic repeat request (HARQ) indicator channel (R-PHICH) and if needed, R-PCFICH.

[0061] Frequency division multiplexing (FDM), time division multiplexing (TDM) and a hybrid multiplexing scheme (TDM+ FDM, or equivalently FDM + TDM) are possible

candidates for resource multiplexing between relay resources, (R-PDCCH and R-PDSCH), or between relay resources, (R-PDCCH, R-PDSCH), and non-relays resources ,(PDCCH, PDSCH).

[0062] Backhaul control channels design may require details of control channel mapping in frequency and time domains at the eNodeB, and decoding at the relay (or any other receiver of R-PDCCH such as a WTRU), of the control channels without the use of R-PCFICH. The methods, systems and apparatuses herein support ACK/NACK, reduction of R-PDSCH decoding delay, reduction of blind search processing time and related power consumption, minimization of the amount of overhead signaling for control channels, and minimization of the bandwidth requirement for control channels.

[0063] Relay operation is described herein for the case of in-band, (*i.e.*, RN-eNB link share the same carrier with RN to WTRU access link), in FDD networks. However, methods and procedures described are equally applicable to TDD networks. Furthermore, relay design on the Un interface between a RN and an eNB is described. Specifically, several methods and procedures are described of how one or more control signal(s), *i.e.*, eNB to RN DL ACK/NACK and R-PDCCH to carry Un DL assignments or Un UL grants, are encoded and transmitted from the eNB to the RN. While the ideas presented herein are primarily described using relay type I terminology, they are applicable to other types of relays as well, notably non-transparent or non-self-backhauling type of relays amongst others.

[0064] A method is described for control channel mapping with multiplexing and interleaving of R-PDCCHs from multiple relays. If interleaving is applied, it may be performed on an OFDM symbol basis. R-PCFICH may not be used.

[0065] Methods are described of mapping of the R-PDCCH in the time-frequency grid, where the R-PDCCH is first mapped along the frequency domain across the OFDM symbols of the control channel (which also may be referred to as OFDM control symbols)followed by the time domain. One advantage of the frequency first mapping is to eliminate the use of R-PCFICH or similar channels.

[0066] A tree based assignment of RBs may be used to minimize the resource allocation overhead. A method is described to configuring the relay specific configuration parameters. Dedicated R-PDCCH (and downlink control information (DCI) format) in support of ACK/NACK are described, whereby R-PHICH/PHICH channel performance requirements are typically more stringent than a typical R-PDCCH/PDCCH. Signaling of ACK/NACK over R-PDCCH may be employed when R-PHICH is not used.

[0067] FIG. 3 shows an example of backhaul control channel mapping. Assignments in the frequency domain may be in units of RBs or resource block groups (RBGs) or any other unit

thereof. Herein the units may be considered to be RBs with the understanding that the design scales according to the units.

[0068] In order to maximize the frequency diversity, the relay control channels may be mapped uniformly across the entire spectrum. RBs for backhaul control channel may be selected according to the following equation:

$$R_l(i) = \left\lfloor i.N_{l,RB}^{DL} / N_{l,MAX_REL_RB} \right\rfloor + k \,, \qquad \text{Equation (1)}$$

where, $R_l(i)$ = RB index for 1th OFDM Control symbol;

i=0,1,2...N_{l,MAX_REL_RB}-1;

N_{l,MAX_REL_RB} = the number of RB's reserved for backhaul control channel of the 1th OFDM control symbol;

$N_{l,RB}^{DL}$ = Maximum number of RB's in the 1th OFDM control symbol; and

k = an integer derived from donor eNb cell ID in a manner similar to release 8.

The additions are modulo $N_{l,RB}^{DL}$.

As an example, if $N_{l,RB}^{DL} = 20$ and $N_{l,MAX_REL_RB} = 5$, then

$$R_l(i) = ([0\ 4\ 8\ 12\ 16] + k) mod\ 20 R_l(i) = ([0, 4, 8, 12, 16] + k) mod\ 20,$$

If $k\ mod\ 20 = 0, 1, 2, 3$, then $R_l(i)$ is in the range of 0 to 19 for all $i = 0..N_{l,MAX_REL_RB} - 1$ and no wrap around occurs for OFDM symbol "l". If $k\ mod\ 20 \geq 4$, then wrap-around occurs. For example, if $k\ mod\ 20 = 15$, then

$$R_l(i) = ([0\ 4\ 8\ 12\ 16] + 15) mod\ 20 = [15\ 19\ 3\ 7\ 11]$$
$$R_l(i) = ([0, 4, 8, 12, 16] + 15) mod\ 20 = [15, 19, 3, 7, 11],$$

The RBs with indices 15 and 19 correspond to OFDM symbol "1", while the RB with indices 3, 7 and 11 (which are the RB where the wrap-around occurs), may be mapped according to this invention to either OFDM symbol "1", or OFDM symbol "1+1".

[0069] One of the following methods may be used to accommodate the modulo operation: 1) use the next OFDM symbol allocated for the backhaul control and continue the mapping; 2) wrap around in the same OFDM symbol and populate all available RBs. Once all RBs are utilized, continue mapping over the next OFDM symbol from either a) the next RB location given by Equation (1) above , or b) a RB location given by setting i=0 in Equation (1). N_{l,MAX_REL_RB} may be standardized for each bandwidth option, or derived from the bandwidth as a fraction of the total number of RBs, (*e.g.*, $N_{l,MAX_REL_RB} = \alpha . N_{l,RB}^{DL}$, where α is a fraction that can

take values like α ={1,1/2,1/3,1/4..}). Alternatively, spacing between the adjacent RBs dedicated to backhaul control channels can be specified, and

$$N_{I,MAX_REL_RB} = N_{I,RB}^{DL} / \delta_{RB} \ , \qquad \text{Equation (2)}$$

where δ_{RB} is the spacing in units of RB and δ_{RB} can be from a predefined set of integers specified in the standards or a function of system bandwidth.

[0070] To provide flexibility and optimize resource allocations, the donor eNB might not utilize N_{I,MAX_REL_RB} RBs. It is not necessary to signal the actual number of RBs used. The relay node may perform blind decoding over a varying number of RBs until it finds the required number of grants or reaches N_{I,MAX_REL_RB}. To reduce the blind decoding complexity, the donor eNB may be restricted to use only a pre-determined number of RBs, (e.g., from the set {1,2,4,8, N_{I,MAX_REL_RB}}).

[0071] To permit maximum flexibility in scheduling R8 WTRUs, backhaul control channel RB allocations may be made conformant to resource allocation types 0, 1 or 2. When a type 2 allocation is used with distributed virtual resource blocks, control channel can be split between the two time slots in a manner similar to PDSCH.

[0072] Resources can be dedicated to relays in various ways as described above. To introduce greater flexibility and scalability, mapping modes can be defined and signaled via higher layers. Higher layer signaling could be achieved through system information broadcast (with additional Information Element such as control channel RB configuration mode or RB allocation bit map in SIB2 for example), RRC (Radio Resource Control) signaling or NAS signaling. As an example, with 3 bits, 8 modes can be defined as shown in Table 1 below.

Table 1

Mode	Mapping
000	N_{I,MAX_REL_RB} in center of band
001	N_{I,MAX_REL_RB} uniformly distributed across entire bandwidth
010	Resource allocation type 0 with pre configured allocation
011	Resource allocation type 1 with pre configured allocation
100	Resource allocation type 2 with pre configured allocation
101	Other configurations

110	Other configurations
111	Other configurations

[0073] Preconfigured allocation may imply that the parameters that determine the exact RBs in each allocation type are standardized. For allocation 0 and 1, the value of RBG size, P, and the allocation bit map may be known. For type 2 allocation, the starting resource block, RB_{start}, L_{CRBs}, and the step size, N_{RB}^{step} are standard specified. Alternatively all the parameters may be signaled along with the operational mode.

[0074] The RN might be required to support all backhaul control channel mapping options or alternatively a subset of the available backhaul control channel mapping options. Alternatively, a default backhaul control channel mapping option is specified. The network can signal the backhaul control channel mapping options supported by the network in a system information broadcast message (SIB2 for example) or in RRC signaling or a combination of both. For instance, when the RN is not connected to the network, the RN can acquire the backhaul control channel mapping information through system information broadcast messages. On the other hand, when the RN is in connected mode already, update to backhaul control channel mapping method can be acquired via RRC signaling.

[0075] In order to provide full flexibility in scheduling release 8 WTRUs, the RPDSCH may be mapped using one of the resource allocation types used for PDSCH. The R-PDCCH, which may be mapped to RBs, contains the resource allocation for R-PDSCH.

[0076] If the RBs assigned to R-PDSCH also carry the backhaul control channel, then the RB may be time multiplexed with backhaul control channels.

[0077] If the R-PDCCH spans multiple time slots, (*e.g.*, when resource allocation type 2 is used for control channel mapping), then R-PDSCH may be punctured to accommodate R-PDCCH.

[0078] To maximize the frequency interleaving, R-PCFICH (when used) and R-PHICH may be mapped uniformly across all available backhaul control channel RBs. To maximize the spread, R-PCFICH (when used) and R-PHICH may be mapped in only part (*e.g.*, one third) of the RB.

[0079] FIG. 4 shows an example of mapping the R-PHICH and R-PDCCH over an OFDM symbol when R-PCFICH is not used. FIG. 5 shows an example of mapping the R-PHICH and R-PDCCH over an OFDM symbol when R-PCFICH is used.

[0080] The R-PCFICH (when used) may be mapped beginning from a RB whose index is obtained from the donor eNB cell identity (ID). The R-PHICH may be mapped according to an

R8 procedure. In an embodiment ,if R-PCFICH 525 is mapped to a part of an RB, the other part of the RB may be used by R-PHICH 525 and/or R-PDCCH 520. The remaining RBs may be occupied by R-PDCCH.

[0081] The encoded PDCCH for R8 WTRUs are divided into control channel elements (CCEs) and interleaved before being mapped to the time-frequency grid. Mapping is in time-first order. Hence, the number of OFDM control symbols must be known before the decoding process can begin.

[0082] Time first mapping does not provide any significant advantage in a relay environment due to limited or no mobility. The R-PDCCH may be mapped in frequency first order, so that decoding can begin as soon as every OFDM symbol is processed and made available to control channel processing unit. This avoids the need to signal the number of OFDM control symbols. Example methods display below. .

[0083] In one embodiment, as shown in FIG. 6A, at block 605 the donor eNB multiplexes the R-PDCCH of all of the relay nodes in a manner similar to R8. At block 610, the donor eNB may map the multiplexed bit streams to CCEs by simple partitioning of the multiplexed R-PDCCH into units of CCEs or similar. At block 615, the donor eNB may partition the CCE space into n vectors, where n is the number of backhaul OFDM control symbols. At block 620, the donor eNB transmits data. The method in Figure 6A allows a CCE to be mapped across two consecutive OFDM symbols. Also, once the R-PDCCHs for multiple RNs are multiplexed together, the order in which the CCEs are mapped to (RBs) is the same as the order of R-PDCCHs in the multiplexed vector. FIG. 6B shows an example of the embodiment where the mapping is performed over two OFDM symbols and a CCE may be mapped across two OFDM symbols. In other words, for example, the first OFDM symbol may comprise one or more whole control channel elements (*e.g.*, CCE #1, #2, and #3) and one partial control channel element (*e.g.*, CCE #4 which spans over OFDM symbol #1 and #2).

[0084] The size of the i^{th} vector, where $i = 1...n$ (and "n" is the number of backhaul OFDM control symbols). Note "*i" hereinafter is **not** equivalent to "i"* given in Equation (1). R8 techniques are reused for modulation, interleaving and pre-coding. The i^{th} vector is mapped over the i^{th} OFDM symbol reserved for the backhaul OFDM control symbol along increasing (or decreasing) order of RBs. The CCEs may be mapped to frequency and time domains. Note that the mapping may be performed in the frequency first order unlike R8, where the mapping is performed in time first order. FIG. 6C displays what may occur at the receiver, for each OFDM control symbol. In general a processor may receive from an eNodeB, for example, consecutive first and second OFDM symbols that represent a plurality of relay physical downlink control

channels (R-PDCCH) that comprises a first R-PDCCH and a second R-PDCCH. Then the processor may decode the first R-PDCCH from the first OFDM symbol which is received before the second OFDM symbol. In FIG. 6C at block 682, the RN performs demodulation and at block 684 constructs n vectors of demodulated bits where the length of i^{th} (i=1…n) vector is equal to the number of bits in the ith OFDM control symbol. At block 686, the RN demarcates the ith vector at CCE boundaries where bits beyond the integer number of CCEs are considered as a part of the following OFDM control symbol. At block 688, the RN may perform blind decoding over the CCEs on a per OFDM control symbol basis. This is possible since interleaving may be performed over the span of a single OFDM symbol.

[0085] If no R-PDCCH addressed to the relay node is found (*i.e.*, No at block 690), the RN continues to decode following vector of demodulated bits. There is a "CCE wrap around" that the RN has to account for. If there are more OFDM control symbols (*i.e.*, Yes at block 694) the bits not used for blind decoding in the previous OFDM control symbol are appended to the vector of bits from the current OFDM symbol. The RN may start again at block 686 and process the reconstructed vector of demodulated bits.

[0086] If a R-PDCCH addressed to the relay node is found (*i.e.*, Yes at block 690), then the RN checks at block 691 if all monitored R-PDCCH (*i.e.* all monitored RNTIs) have been detected. The RN may continue decoding until the required number of R-PDCCH are found (*i.e.*, Yes at block 691) or the maximum number of OFDM control symbols are reached (*i.e.*, No at block 694). The maximum number of OFDM control symbols can be standardized, or tied to other system parameters like bandwidth, or signaled by higher layers.

[0087] In an embodiment, as shown in Figures 7A thru 7C, randomization of the mapping the R-PDCCH over the CCE space may be allowed.

[0088] At block 705, the donor eNB may multiplex the R-PDCCH of all the relay nodes in a manner similar to R8. At block 710, the donor eNB may compute the number of CCEs that can be mapped over each available OFDM symbol, such that every CCE is mapped within a single OFDM symbol (that is, no CCE spans two OFDM symbols). At block 715, the donor eNB may determine what OFDM control symbols to place the given R-PDCCH in. At block 720, the donor eNB, for each symbol, may determine the beginning CCE index of every candidate R-PDCCH using a hashing function.

[0089] The hashing function may be an eNB specific scheduling algorithm that optimizes scheduling or any other parameter. For example, if the R-PDCCH carries a downlink assignment, to reduce the latency in decoding the data, the hashing function in the donor eNB may map it to a CCE allocated on the first OFDM control symbol. Similarly, if the R-PDCCH

carries an UL grant, the donor eNB may map it to a CCE allocated to the second or third OFDM control symbol (this is because the UL transmission needs to be performed 4 ms later, so the latency in decoding the control channel is not a main concern). The hashing function may be a randomizing function with input parameters selected from the following set: sub-frame number, aggregation level, time slot index, or a relay specific identifier like relay radio network temporary identity (RNTI). For example, CCEs with aggregation level 2 may be mapped to the first OFDM control symbol in even sub-frames, and to the second OFDM control symbol in odd sub-frames. The hashing function may also include multiplexing of candidate R-PDCCHs followed by simple partitioning into units of CCE or similar. Additionally, a modulo rotational shift may be applied where the shift is determined based on some or all of the parameters specified herein.

[0090] At block 725, the CCEs for i^{th} OFDM control symbol are multiplexed together and NULL bits are added such that after modulation and pre-coding, the ith vector fits completely into the i^{th} symbol, where i= 1...n. At block 730, the modulated and pre-coded symbols are mapped, in frequency first order over the RBs allocated for backhaul. FIG. 7B shows an example of the embodiment where the mapping is performed over two OFDM symbols and the CCEs may not be mapped across two OFDM symbols. In other words, for example, the first OFDM symbol may comprise one or more whole control channel elements (*e.g.*, CCE #1 and #2) and padding (*e.g.*, N which may be padding) if the insertion of a CCE would go beyond the number of bits available in a OFDM symbol.

[0091] FIG. 7C displays what may occur at the receiver, for each OFDM control symbol. At block 782 the RN performs demodulation and at block 784 constructs n vectors of demodulated bits where the length of i^{th} (i=1 ... n) vector is equal to the number of bits in the ith OFDM control symbol. At block 786 the RN demarcates the i^{th} vector at CCE boundaries and discards NULL bits beyond the integer number of CCEs. At block 788, the RN may perform blind decoding over the CCEs on a per OFDM symbol basis. This is possible since interleaving and CCE randomization may be performed over the span of a single OFDM control symbol. Using a hashing function identical to the eNB, for each aggregation level, the relay may determine the candidate CCEs over which to perform the decoding. If no R-PDCCH addressed to the relay node is found (*i.e.*, No at block 790) and there are more OFDM control symbols (*i.e.*, Yes at block 794), the RN continues to decode over the following vector of demodulated bits. If a R-PDCCH addressed to the relay node is detected (*i.e.*, Yes at block 790), then at block 791 the RN checks if all monitored R-PDCCH (*i.e.*, all monitored RNTIs) were detected. The RN may continue decoding until the required number of R-PDCCH are found (*i.e.*, Yes at block 791) or

the maximum number of OFDM control symbols are reached (*i.e.*, No at block 794). The maximum number of OFDM control symbols may be standardized, or tied to other system parameters like bandwidth, or signaled by higher layers.

[0092] Dedicated RBs may be distributed amongst the RNs in a semi-static function. If there are *K* RBs allocated for relays in an area, then with *b* bits, $K/2^b$ RBs may be assigned to 2^b relays or $K/2^{b-1}$ RBs to 2^{b-1} relays and so on. Both *K* and *b* may be known to the relay nodes via higher layer signaling or relay system information. Depending on *b*, the DCI format lengths may change, and the relay nodes may perform blind decoding accordingly as shown in FIG. 8, which shows reduced bit map for resource allocation.

[0093] With one bit, 805, resources may be signaled to two relay nodes. As shown in FIG. 8, RN 1at 806 may be assigned the first half of total of *K* RBs and RN 2 at 807 may be assigned the next half. With two bits, 810, resources may be signaled to 4 relay nodes. For example RN1, 812, may be assigned the first *K*/4 RBs. Similarly, with three bits, equal resources may be assigned to eight relays. As shown in FIG. 8, RN 1 may be assigned the first *K*/8 RBs by sending '000' as the resource allocation in its grant. RN 6, 817, may be assigned the sixth set of *K*/8 RBs by sending '101' as the resource allocation in its grant. Alternately, for the example of three bits, if DL backhaul data for less than 8 RN is transmitted in a sub-frame, Relay "X" may be assigned the "Y" sub-set by sending the appropriate 3-bit header. More specifically, if only relays 3,4,5,6,7,8 are assigned DL resources, RN 3 may be assigned sub-set #0 by signaling '000' in the header, RN 4 may be assigned sub-set #1 by signaling '001' in the header and so on. The remaining sub-sets (#6 and #7) may be reused by the donor eNB to schedule DL data for the macro WTRUs. This method may be applied when the RBs dedicated to the R-PDSCH (DL backhaul data) for the relays may be split equally between all the RN connected to the eNB. Although this method has less scheduling granularity in the frequency domain, it has the advantage of low overhead, since it does not require the transmission of the resource allocation bitmap that is employed in resource allocation Type 0 or Type 1. Alternately, if the start of each sub-set is also signaled, then the restriction for equal resource allocation for the RNs may be lifted.

[0094] With backhaul a delay may be included between R-PDCCH and R-PDSCH (DL resource) and between R-PDCCH and R-PUSCH (UL grant) where the delay may be equal to or greater than 0 in a unit of subframes. This may allow for R-PDCCH to provide DL assignment or UL grants in later sub-frames(*i.e.*, R-PDCCH to R-PDSCH is δ_D sub-frames (δ_D>1), and R-PDCCH to -PUSCH is δ_D>4). If the R-PDCCH grants uplink resources on the backhaul link in one or more later sub-frames, the RN knows in advance the sub-frames that will be used for UL

data backhaul. If the R-PDCCH assigns downlink resources on the backhaul link in one or more later sub-frames, the RN knows in advance what subframes will be needed for UL transmission of the ACK/NACK feedback on the backhaul. The RN may then schedule the R-WTRUs such that collisions between the UL access link and the UL backhaul are avoided (or minimized). Note that the R-WTRUs are the UEs in the RN cell that may be served by the RN.

[0095] In order to make UL/DL scheduling in either the backhaul link or access link more flexible, the eNB may configure the delay (δ_D or δ_U) for each RN (or a group of RNs) semi-statically or dynamically. In case of semi-static configuration, a value of the delay is signaled to the RN(s) through higher layers. When it is configured dynamically, the value may be included in R-PDCCH by introducing a new DCI format where the value of the delay may be represented by a few bits (*e.g.*, 2 or 3 bits). Alternatively, a delay indicator may be introduced/used in the backhaul control region to indicate a value of δ_D or δ_U. For instance, when a binary delay indicator for DL resources (*e.g.*, R-PDSCH) is used, "0" represents zero delay (*e.g.*, meaning R-PDSCH in the same subframe as R-PDCCH), while "1" means the presence of DL resources (*e.g.*, RPDSCH) in one (or more) later subframe(s) associated with the current subframe.

[0096] The delay δ_D or δ_U may be applied, whereby 1) δ_D or δ_U corresponds to a delay applied immediately after the sub-frame in which the grant is received or 2) the delay, to reduce the number of bits and allow more flexibility, can be relative to a known baseline sub-frame in the future. For example, in respect with baseline sub-frame, in case of uplink, the delay may be with respect to sub-frame $n+4$, where n is the sub-frame in which the grant is received. Furthermore, δ_D or δ_U may also take negative values which would imply an advancement from the baseline sub-frame.

[0097] In the methods described herein, the parameters to configure the relay node may be signaled semi-statically or may be preconfigured. When the relay starts up, it may behave as a regular UE. Any relay specific configuration parameters may be exchanged via radio resource control (RRC) messages. The relay may use this configuration information to transition from its UE identity to the relay identity.

[0098] In R8, the A/N for UL transmission is signaled on the DL PHICH channel. For the relay operation, this may not be optimal or even possible. The A/N for relay UL backhaul can be sent via a R-PDCCH. The DCI format carried by the R-PDCCH may be an extension of the relay specific DCI formats to include A/N information. Alternatively, a special DCI format may be created that carries the A/Ns for one or several Relay nodes. This DCI format may be transmitted using an R-PDCCH with a special RNTI that signifies that the DCI format is

intended for A/N. Furthermore, in order to serve the higher quality requirements for A/N specific R-PDCCH, such an R-PDCCH may be encoded with a low coding rate by using a higher aggregation level than the R-PDCCHs used for UL and DL grants. Additionally, in order to reduce the blind decoding complexity, the aggregation level of such a R-PDCCH may be specified in the standards.

[0099] Although features and elements are described above in particular combinations, one of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that each feature or element can be used alone or in any combination with the other features and elements. In addition, the methods described herein may be implemented in a computer program, software, or firmware incorporated in a computer-readable medium for execution by a computer or processor. Examples of computer-readable media include electronic signals (transmitted over wired or wireless connections) and computer-readable storage media. Examples of computer-readable storage media include, but are not limited to, a read only memory (ROM), a random access memory (RAM), a register, cache memory, semiconductor memory devices, magnetic media such as internal hard disks and removable disks, magneto-optical media, and optical media such as CD-ROM disks, and digital versatile disks (DVDs). A processor in association with software may be used to implement a radio frequency transceiver for use in a WTRU, UE, terminal, base station, RNC, or any host computer.

What is Claimed:

1. A method for determining relay node (RN) control channel data comprising:

receiving an orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) symbol comprising relay physical downlink control channel (R-PDCCH) data modulated in a time-frequency grid, wherein the R-PDCCH data is first modulated along the frequency domain across the OFDM control symbol;

demodulating the OFDM symbol; and

transmitting R-PDCCH data to a control channel processing unit.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein demodulating the OFDM symbol comprises:

demodulating the OFDM symbol into demodulated bits.

3. The method of claim 2, further comprising:

constructing *n* vectors of the demodulated bits, wherein *n* is the number of OFDM symbols;

demarcating an *i*th vector at a control channel element (CCE) boundary where bits beyond the integer number of the control channel element are considered a part of the following OFDM symbol, wherein the *i*th vector is equal to the number of bits in the *i*th OFDM symbol, wherein *i* is greater than or equal to 1 and less than or equal to *n*.

4. The method of claim 3, further comprising:

blind decoding over the CCE on a per OFDM symbol basis.

5. The method of claim 2, further comprising:

constructing *n* vectors of the demodulated bits, wherein *n* is the number of OFDM symbols;

demarcating an *i*th vector at a control channel element (CCE) boundary where null bits beyond the integer number of CCEs are discarded, wherein the *i*th vector is equal to the number of bits in the *i*th OFDM symbol, wherein *i* is greater than or equal to 1 and less than or equal to *n*.

6. The method of claim 5, further comprising:
blind decoding over the CCE on a per OFDM symbol basis.

7. The method of claim 6, further comprising:
performing interleaving and CCE randomization over the span of the OFDM symbol

8. The method of claim 6, wherein blind decoding further comprises:
using a hashing function identical to a device algorithm, for each aggregation level; and
the relay determining a candidate CCE over which to perform the decoding.

9. The method of claim 6, further comprising:
determining that in the *i*th OFDM symbol a R-PDCCH is not addressed to the RN and continuing to decode over a symbol $i + 1$.

10. A device comprising:
a processor configured to:
receive, from an eNodeB, consecutive first and second OFDM symbols that represent a plurality of relay physical downlink control channels (R-PDCCH) that comprises a first R-PDCCH and a second R-PDCCH; and
decode the first R-PDCCH from the first OFDM symbol which is received before the second OFDM symbol.

11. The device of claim 10, wherein the first and second OFDM symbols encode control channel elements that encode the plurality of R-PDCCHs.

12. The device of claim 10, wherein the processor is further configured to ignore the second OFDM symbol if all the monitored R-PDCCHs intended for the device are detected in the first OFDM symbol.

13. The device of claim 10, wherein the first OFDM symbol comprises one or more whole control channel elements and padding.

14. The device of claim 10, wherein the first OFDM symbol comprises one or more whole control channel elements and one partial control channel element.

15. A method comprising:

selecting at least one backhaul control channel, each backhaul control channel having associated a relay node specific control information over a plurality of resource blocks (RBs), each RB comprising a known number of sub-carriers in frequency domain, and a known number of Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing (OFDM) symbols in time domain; and

mapping, uniformly, of RBs across the frequency domain.

16. The method of claim 15, further comprising:

selecting the RBs for the backhaul control channel according to:

$$R_l(i) = \left\lfloor i.N_{l,RB}^{DL} / N_{l,MAX_REL_RB} \right\rfloor + k \text{ , where}$$

$R_l(i)$ = RB index for l^{th} Control OFDM symbol ,

$i=0,1,2...N_{l,MAX_REL_RB}-1$

N_{l,MAX_REL_RB} is the number of RBs reserved for backhaul control channel in the l^{th} OFDM symbol

$N_{l,RB}^{DL}$ = Maximum number of RBs in the l^{th} OFDM control symbol

k = integer derived from donor evolved Node-B (eNB) cell identity (ID)

where additions are modulo $N_{l,RB}^{DL}$.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein mapping is performed according to:

using a subsequent OFDM symbol allocated for the backhaul control and continue the mapping;

wrapping around in the same OFDM symbol and populate all available RBs and once all RBs are utilized, continue mapping over the next OFDM symbol from the next RB location given by the $R_l(i)$.

18. The method of claim 16, wherein mapping is performed according to:

using a subsequent OFDM symbol allocated for the backhaul control and continue the mapping;

wrapping around in the same symbol and populate all available RBs and once all RBs are utilized, continue mapping over the next OFDM symbol from RB location given by setting $i=0$ in the $R_l(i)$.

19. The method of claim 15, further comprising:

determining a backhaul control channel mapping option supported by the network in at least one of a system information broadcast message and radio resource control signaling.

20. The method of claim 15, wherein uniform mapping comprises:

relay-physical control format indicator channel (R-PCFICH) and relay-physical hybrid automatic repeat request (HARQ) indicator channel (R-PHICH) are mapped in only part of the RB.

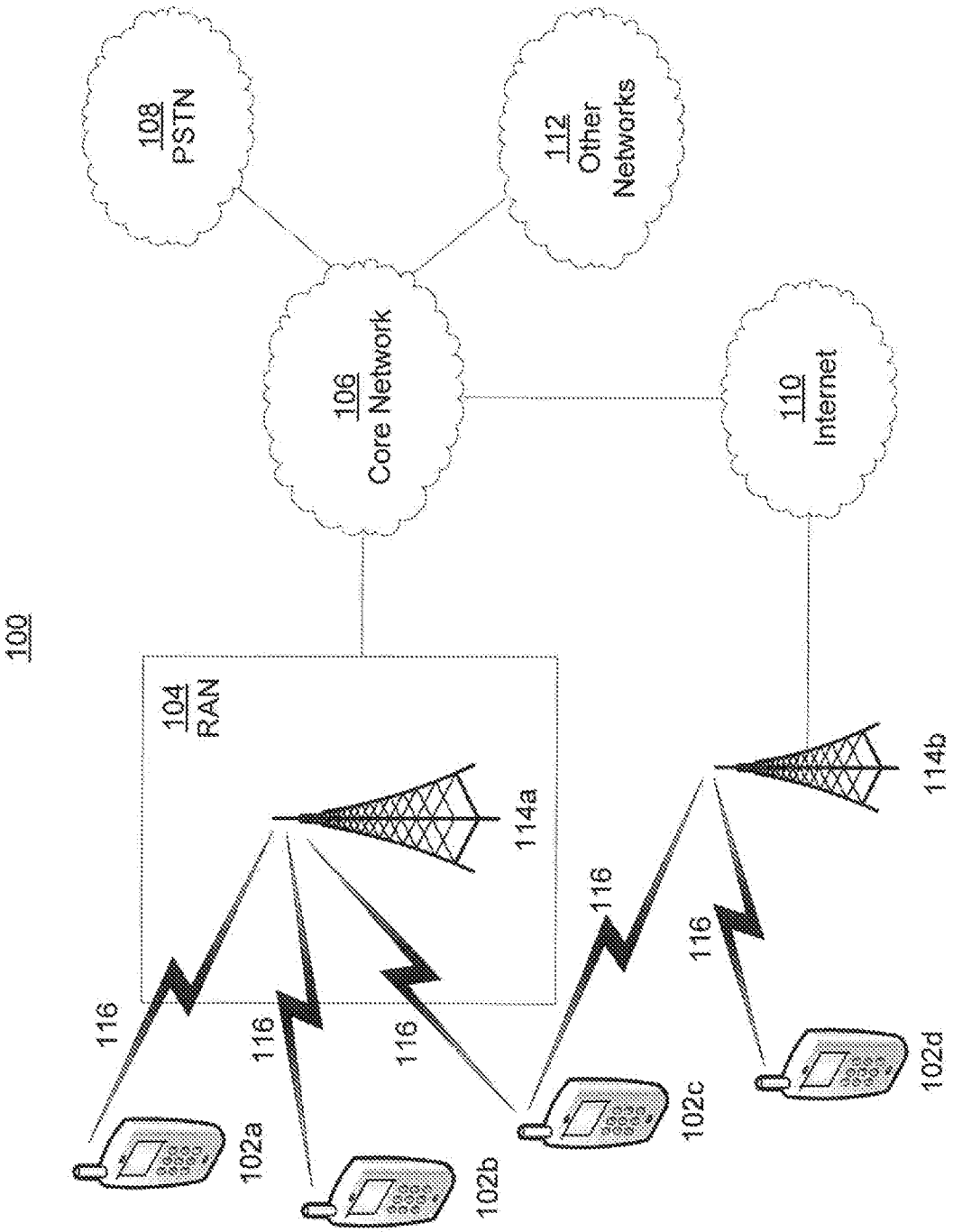
100
108
PSTN
112
Other
Networks
106
Core Network
110
Internet
104
RAN
114a
114b
116
116
116
116
116
102a
102b
102c
102d

FIG. 1A

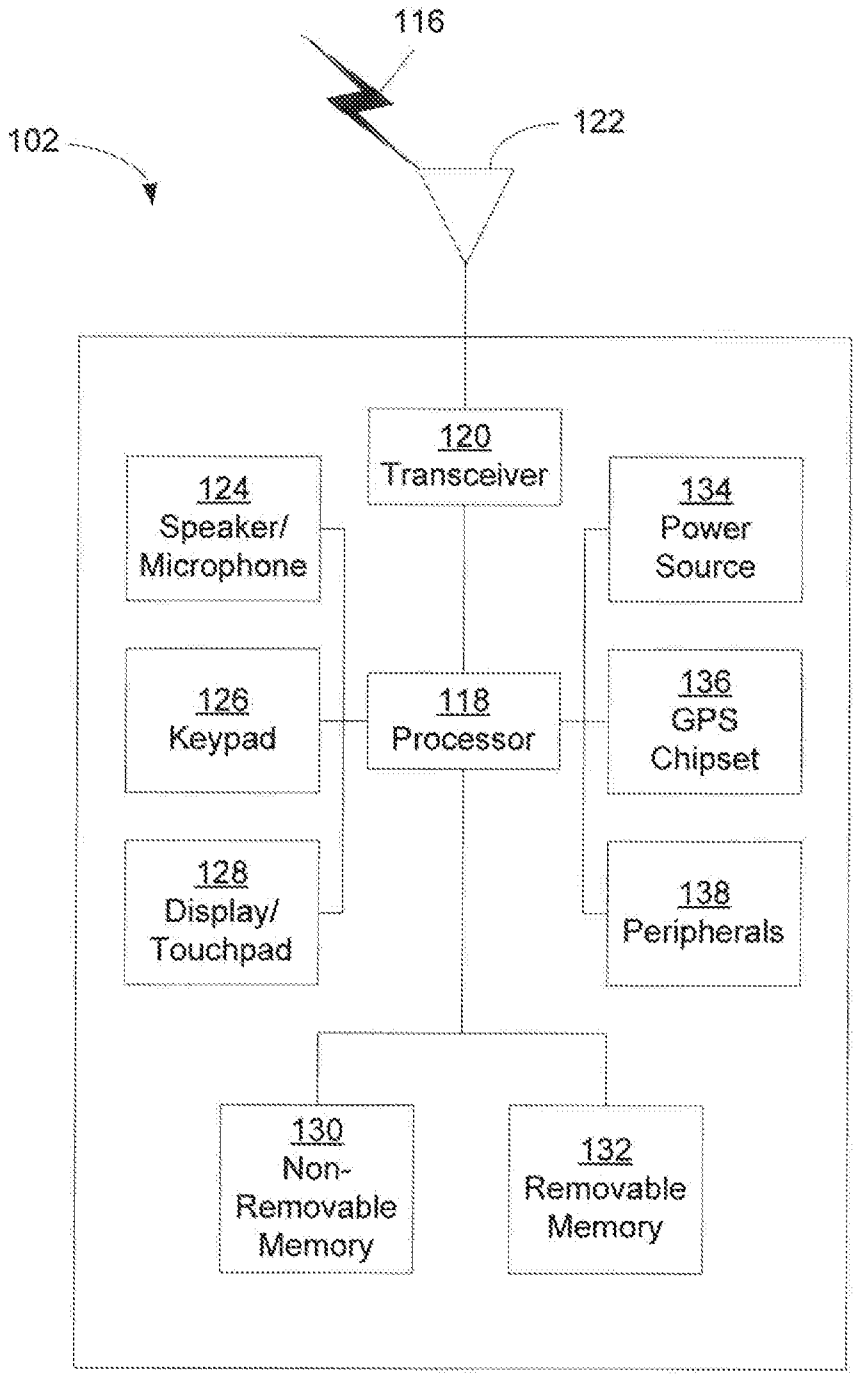
116
122
102
120
Transceiver
124
Speaker/
Microphone
134
Power
Source
126
Keypad
118
Processor
136
GPS
Chipset
128
Display/
Touchpad
138
Peripherals
130
Non-
Removable
Memory
132
Removable
Memory

FIG. 1B

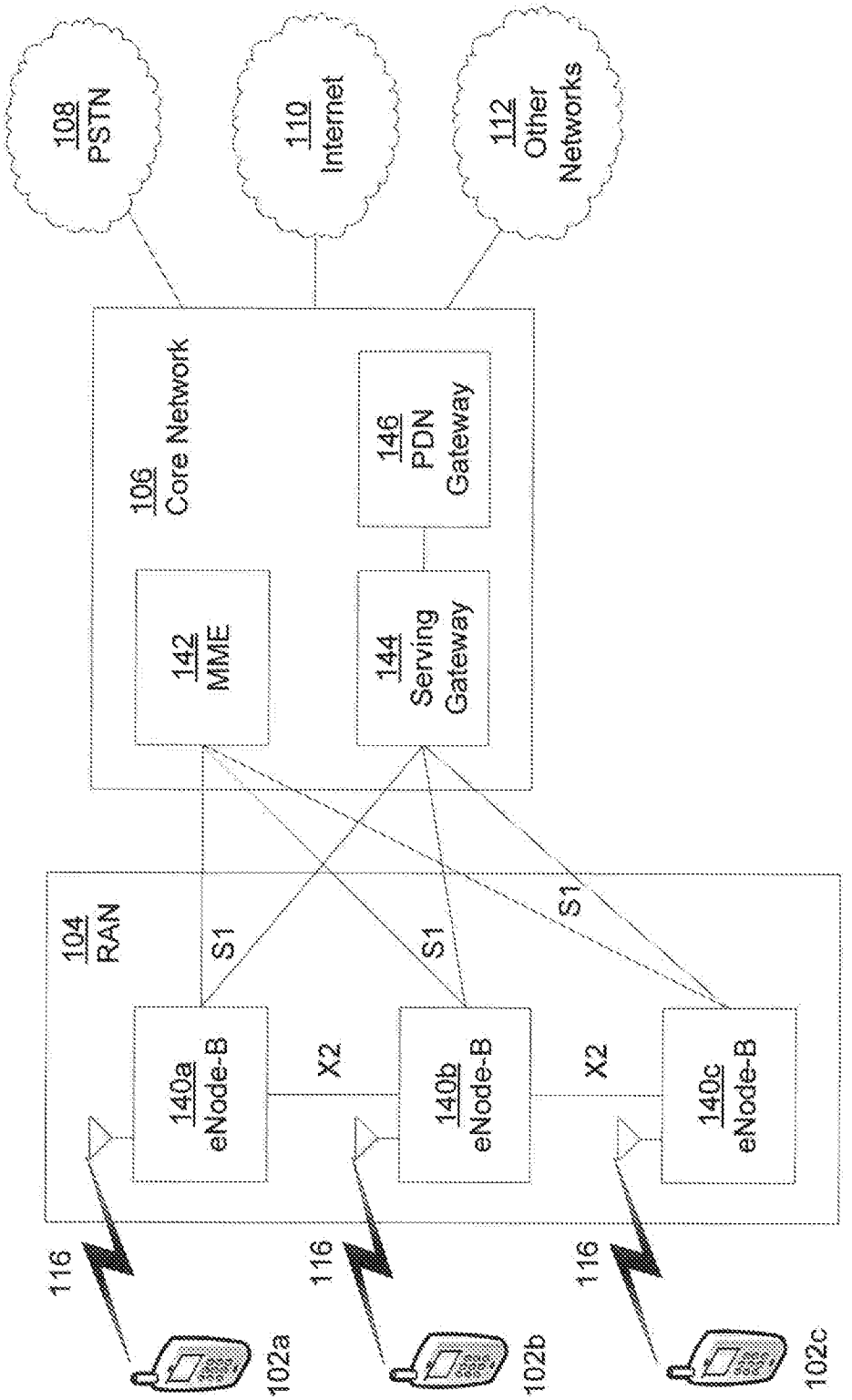
108 PSTN
110 Internet
112 Other Networks
106 Core Network
146 PDN Gateway
142 MME
144 Serving Gateway
104 RAN
S1
S1
S1
140a eNode-B
140b eNode-B
140c eNode-B
X2
X2
116
116
116
102a
102b
102c

FIG. 1C

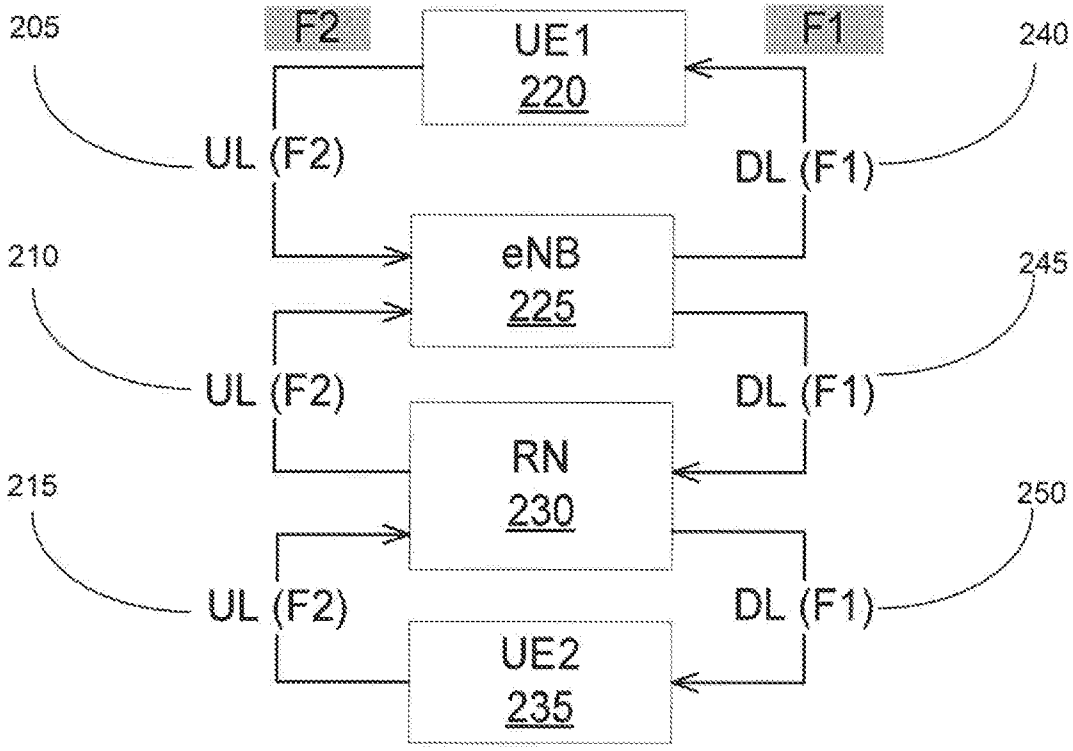
205
F2
UE1
220
F1
240
UL (F2)
DL (F1)
210
eNB
225
245
UL (F2)
DL (F1)
RN
230
215
250
UL (F2)
DL (F1)
UE2
235

FIG. 2

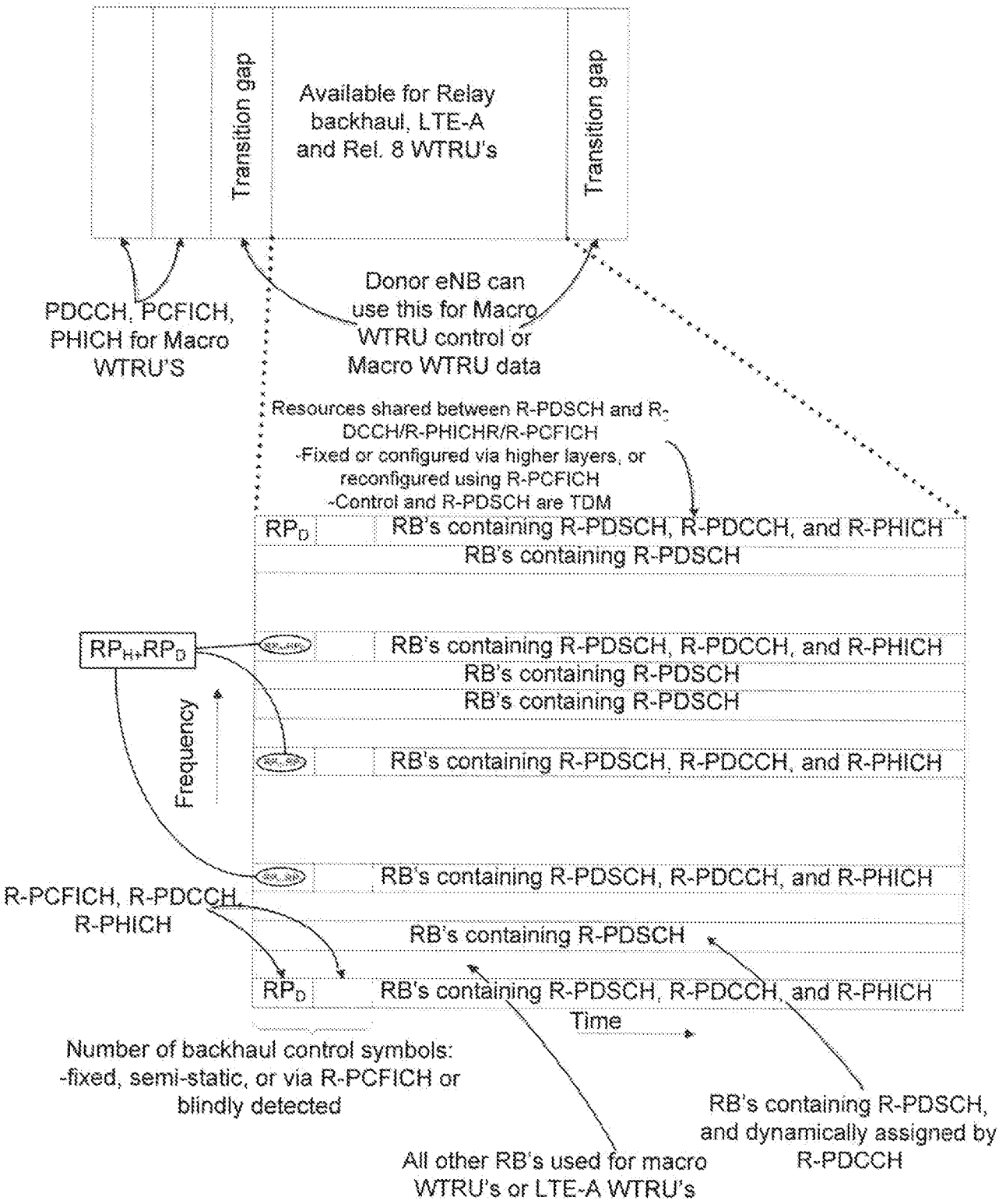
Transition gap
Available for Relay backhaul, LTE-A and Rel. 8 WTRU's
Transition gap
PDCCH, PCFICH, PHICH for Macro WTRU'S
Donor eNB can use this for Macro WTRU control or Macro WTRU data
Resources shared between R-PDSCH and R-DCCH/R-PHICHR/R-PCFICH
-Fixed or configured via higher layers, or reconfigured using R-PCFICH
-Control and R-PDSCH are TDM
RP_D
RB's containing R-PDSCH, R-PDCCH, and R-PHICH
RB's containing R-PDSCH
RP_H,RP_D
RB's containing R-PDSCH, R-PDCCH, and R-PHICH
RB's containing R-PDSCH
RB's containing R-PDSCH
RB's containing R-PDSCH, R-PDCCH, and R-PHICH
Frequency
RB's containing R-PDSCH, R-PDCCH, and R-PHICH
R-PCFICH, R-PDCCH, R-PHICH
RB's containing R-PDSCH
RP_D
RB's containing R-PDSCH, R-PDCCH, and R-PHICH
Time
Number of backhaul control symbols: -fixed, semi-static, or via R-PCFICH or blindly detected
All other RB's used for macro WTRU's or LTE-A WTRU's
RB's containing R-PDSCH, and dynamically assigned by R-PDCCH

FIG. 3

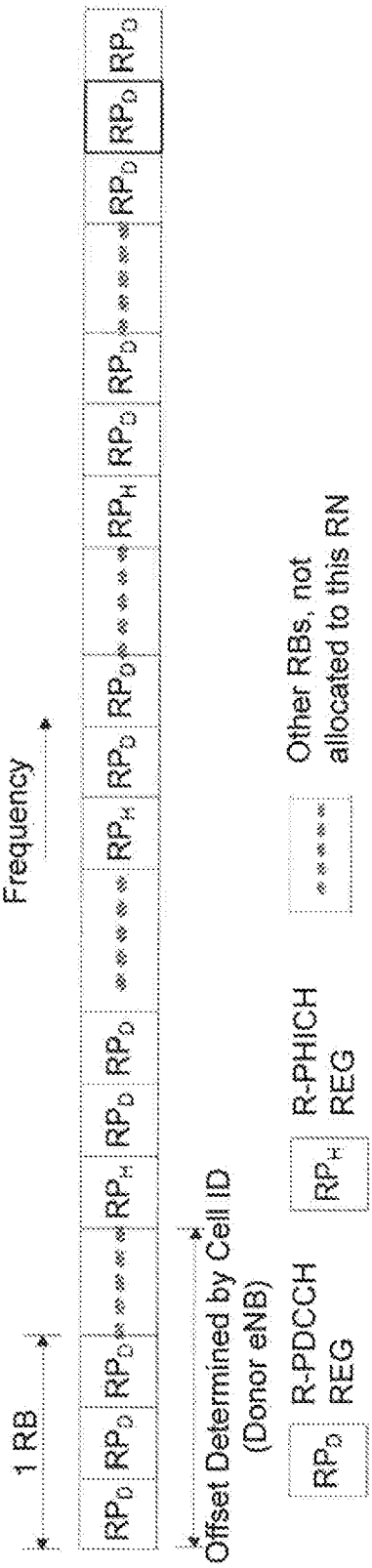
Frequency
1 RB
Offset Determined by Cell ID
(Donor eNB)
R-PDCCH
REG
R-PHICH
REG
Other RBs, not
allocated to this RN

FIG. 4

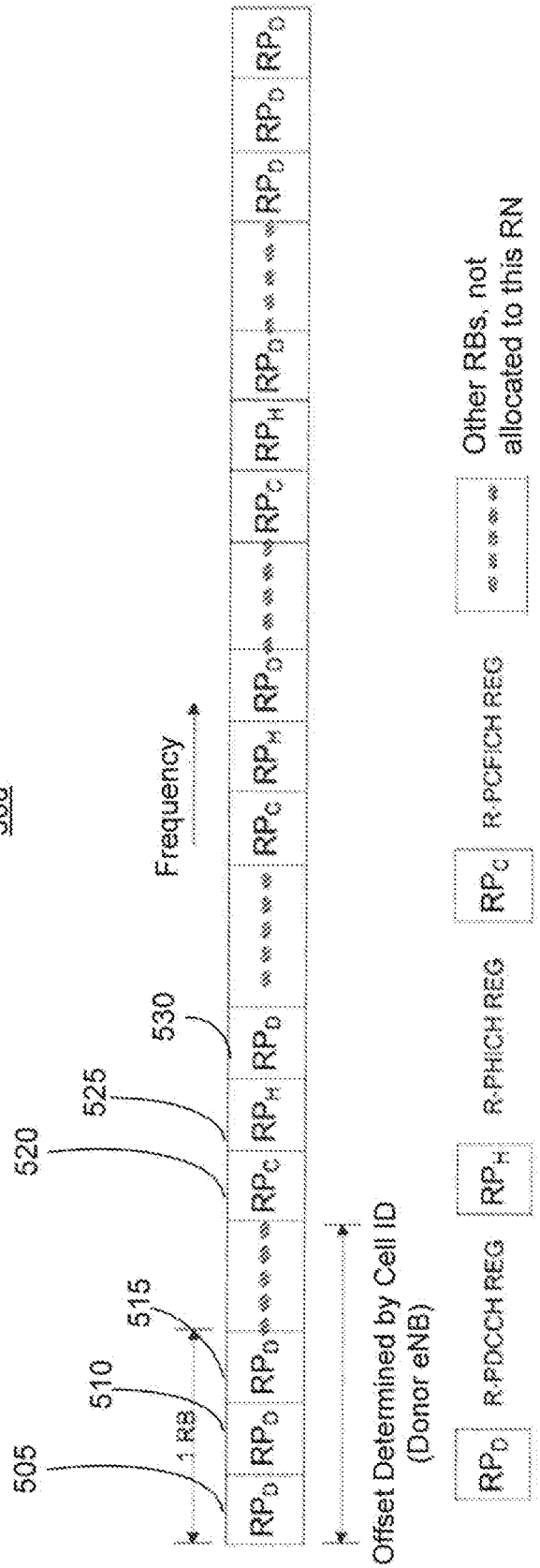
500
Frequency
505
510
515
520
525
530
1 RB
Offset Determined by Cell ID
(Donor eNB)
R-PDCCH REG
R-PHICH REG
R-PCFICH REG
Other RBs, not
allocated to this RN

FIG. 5

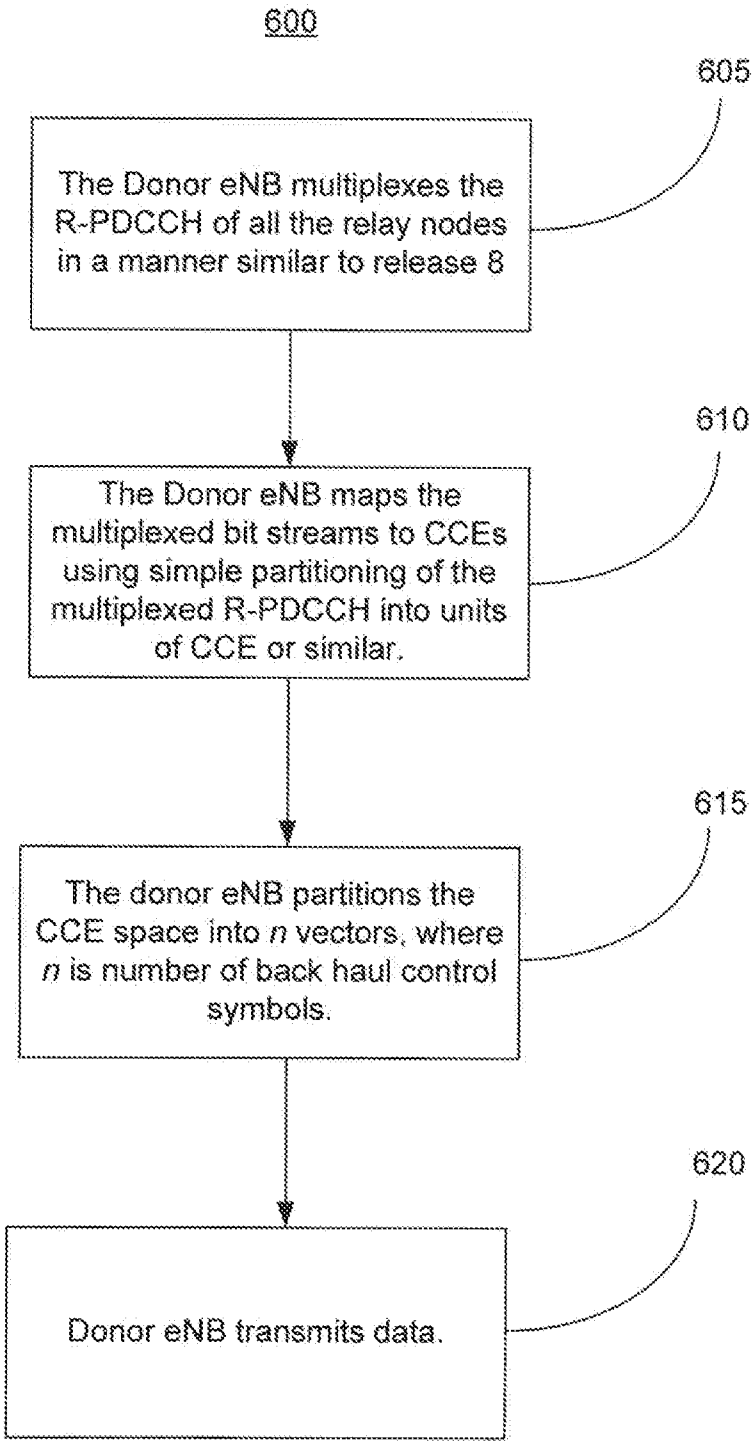
600
605
The Donor eNB multiplexes the R-PDCCH of all the relay nodes in a manner similar to release 8
610
The Donor eNB maps the multiplexed bit streams to CCEs using simple partitioning of the multiplexed R-PDCCH into units of CCE or similar.
615
The donor eNB partitions the CCE space into n vectors, where n is number of back haul control symbols.
620
Donor eNB transmits data.

FIG. 6A

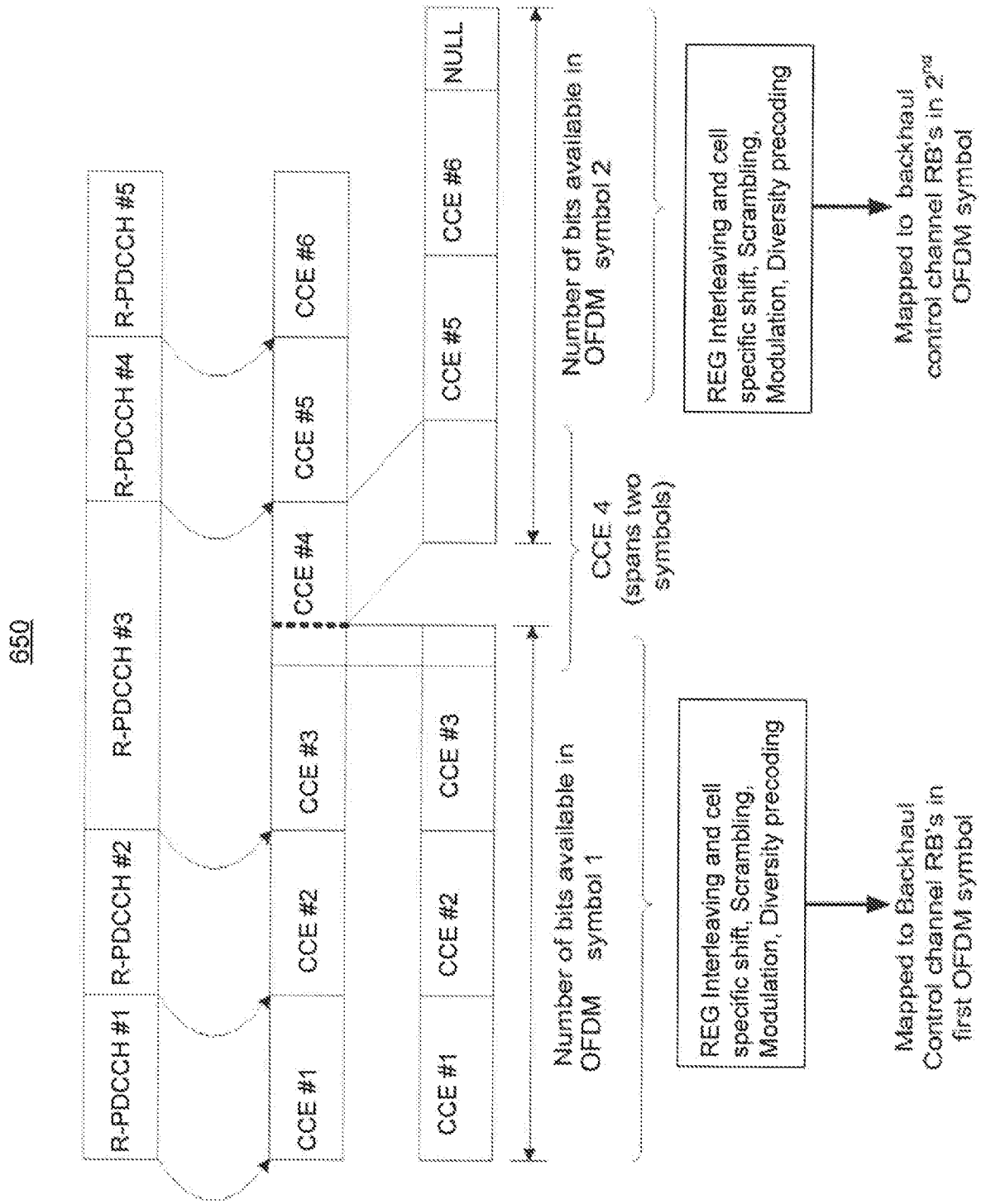
650
R-PDCCH #1
R-PDCCH #2
R-PDCCH #3
R-PDCCH #4
R-PDCCH #5
CCE #1
CCE #2
CCE #3
CCE #4
CCE #5
CCE #6
CCE #1
CCE #2
CCE #3
CCE #5
CCE #6
NULL
Number of bits available in OFDM symbol 1
Number of bits available in OFDM symbol 2
CCE 4 (spans two symbols)
REG Interleaving and cell specific shift, Scrambling, Modulation, Diversity precoding
REG Interleaving and cell specific shift, Scrambling, Modulation, Diversity precoding
Mapped to Backhaul Control channel RB's in first OFDM symbol
Mapped to backhaul control channel RB's in 2nd OFDM symbol

FIG. 6B

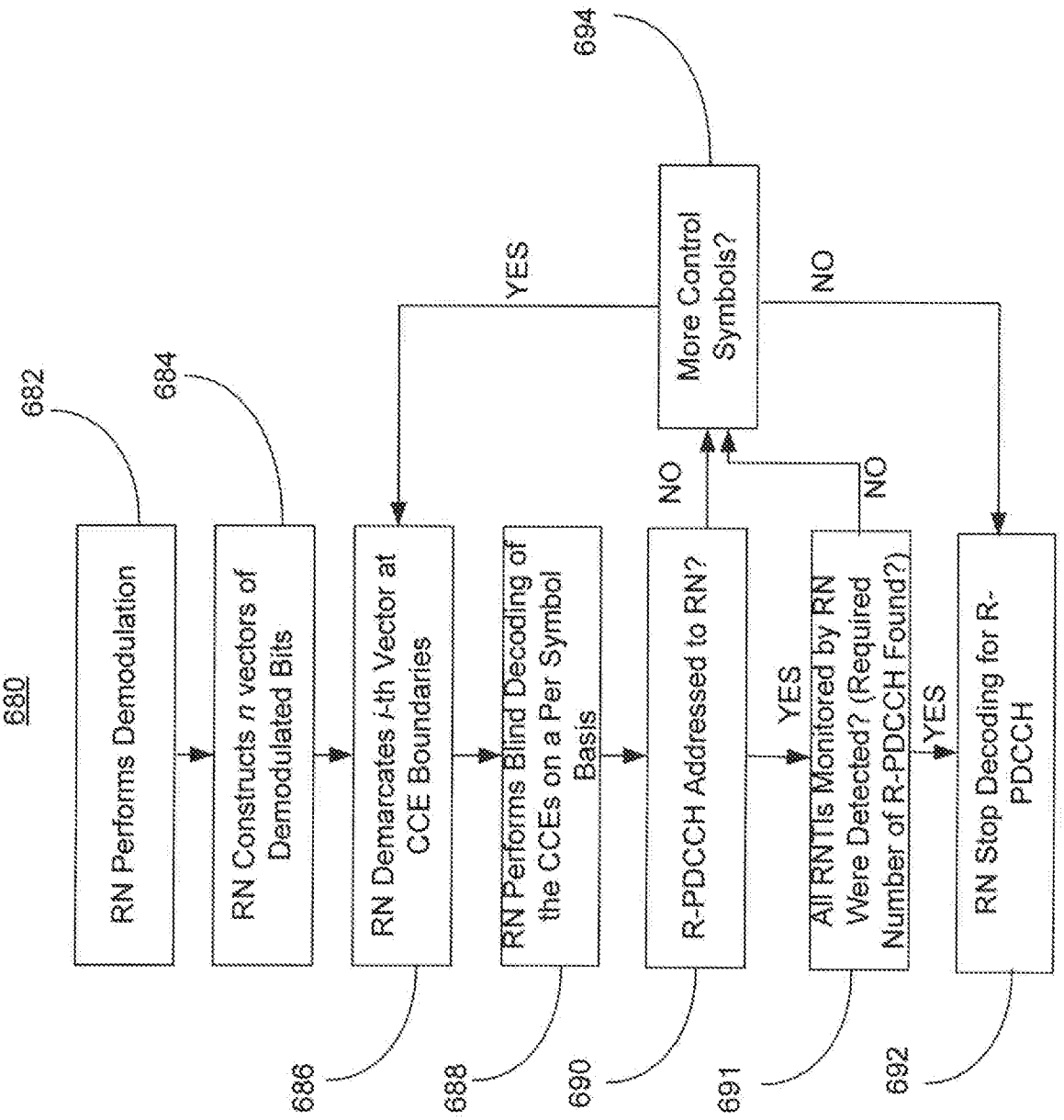
680
682
684
694
RN Performs Demodulation
RN Constructs n vectors of Demodulated Bits
RN Demarcates i-th Vector at CCE Boundaries
RN Performs Blind Decoding of the CCEs on a Per Symbol Basis
R-PDCCH Addressed to RN?
All RNTIs Monitored by RN Were Detected? (Required Number of R-PDCCH Found?)
RN Stop Decoding for R-PDCCH
More Control Symbols?
YES
NO
NO
YES
NO
YES
686
688
690
691
692

FIG. 6C

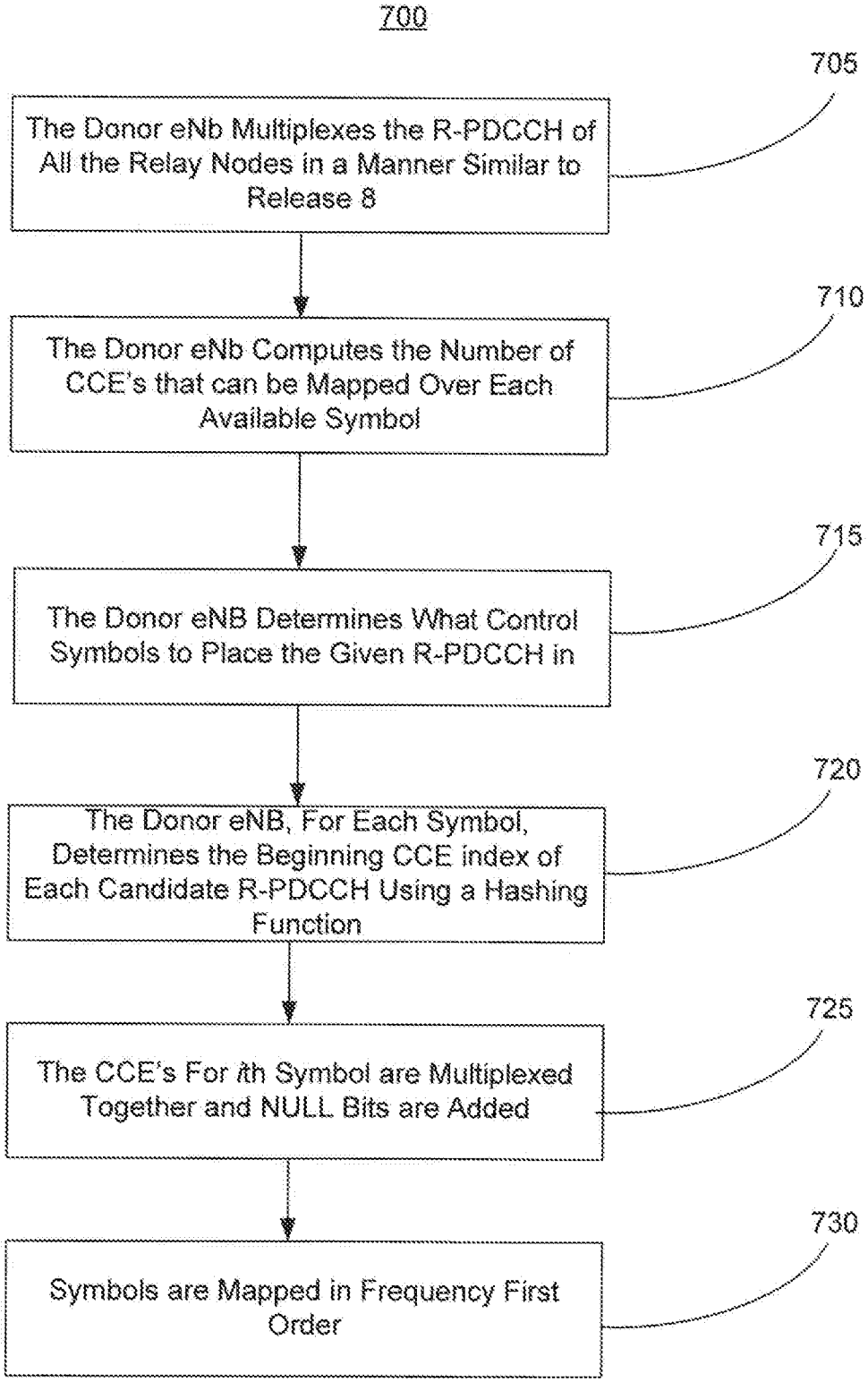
700
705
The Donor eNb Multiplexes the R-PDCCH of All the Relay Nodes in a Manner Similar to Release 8
710
The Donor eNb Computes the Number of CCE's that can be Mapped Over Each Available Symbol
715
The Donor eNB Determines What Control Symbols to Place the Given R-PDCCH in
720
The Donor eNB, For Each Symbol, Determines the Beginning CCE index of Each Candidate R-PDCCH Using a Hashing Function
725
The CCE's For ith Symbol are Multiplexed Together and NULL Bits are Added
730
Symbols are Mapped in Frequency First Order

FIG. 7A

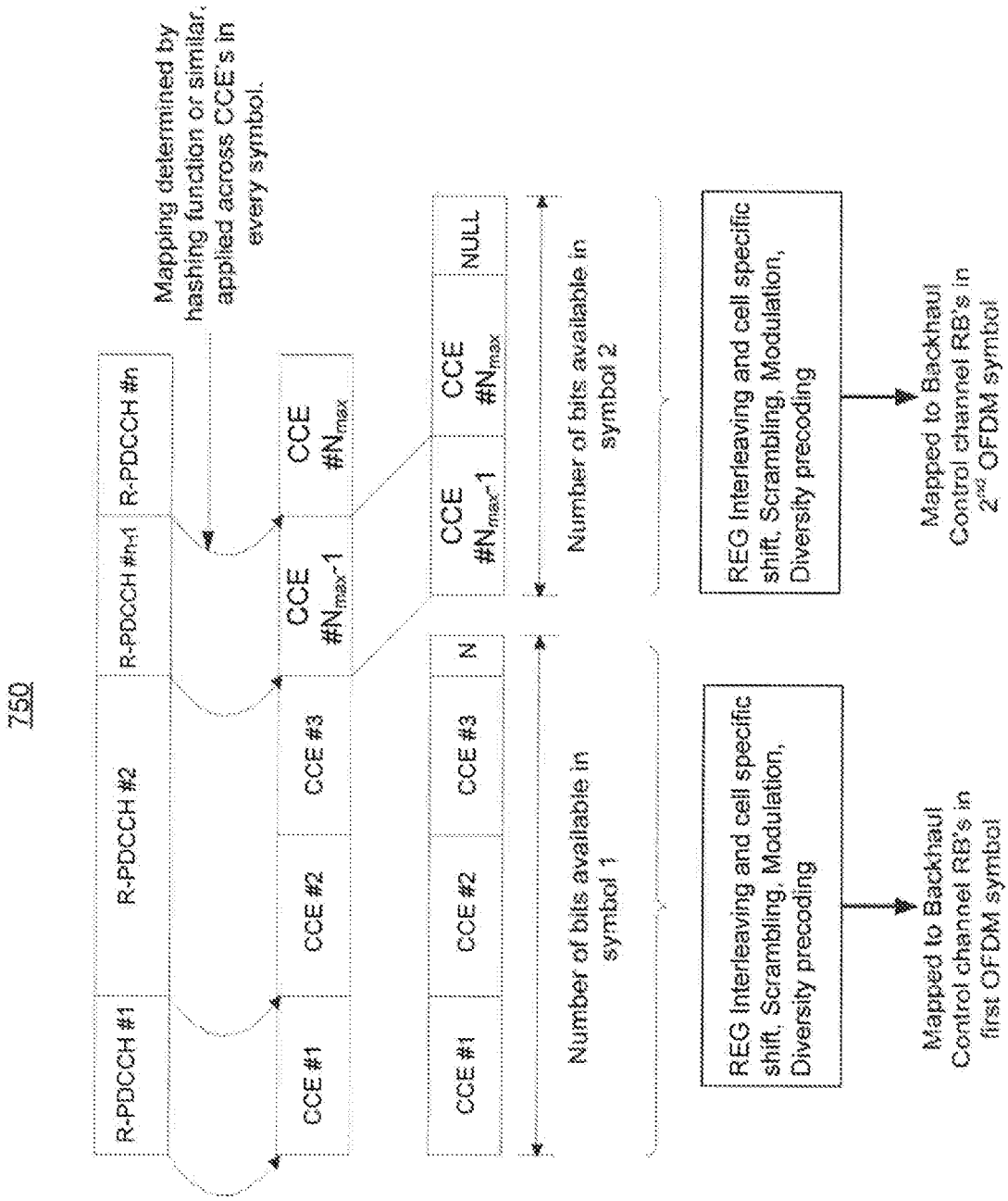
750
R-PDCCH #1
R-PDCCH #2
R-PDCCH #n-1
R-PDCCH #n
CCE #1
CCE #2
CCE #3
CCE #N_max-1
CCE #N_max
Mapping determined by hashing function or similar, applied across CCE's in every symbol.
CCE #1
CCE #2
CCE #3
N
CCE #N_max-1
CCE #N_max
NULL
Number of bits available in symbol 1
Number of bits available in symbol 2
REG Interleaving and cell specific shift, Scrambling, Modulation, Diversity precoding
Mapped to Backhaul Control channel RB's in first OFDM symbol
REG Interleaving and cell specific shift, Scrambling, Modulation, Diversity precoding
Mapped to Backhaul Control channel RB's in 2nd OFDM symbol

FIG. 7B

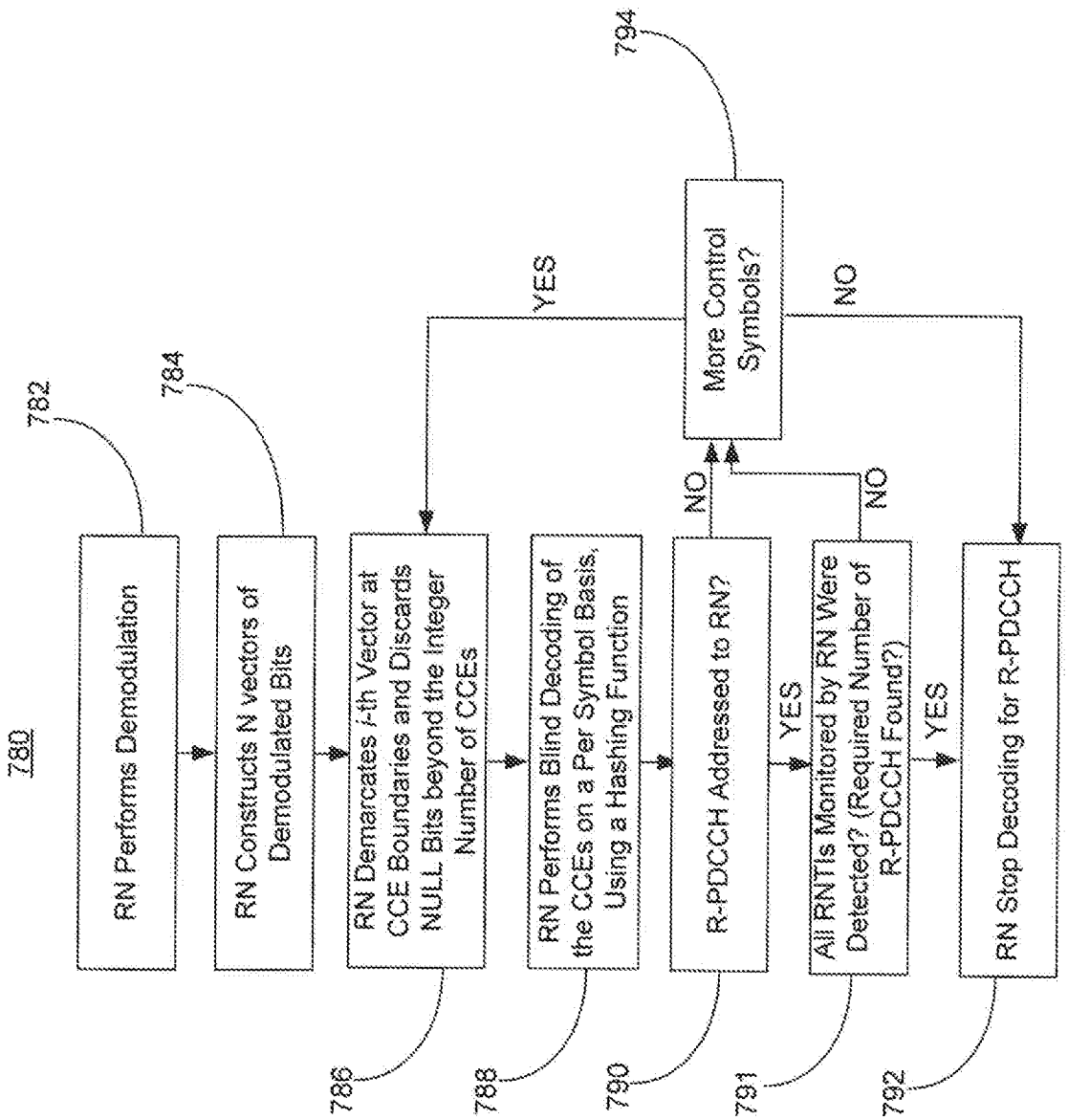
780
782
784
RN Performs Demodulation
RN Constructs N vectors of Demodulated Bits
RN Demarcates i-th Vector at CCE Boundaries and Discards NULL Bits beyond the Integer Number of CCEs
RN Performs Blind Decoding of the CCEs on a Per Symbol Basis, Using a Hashing Function
R-PDCCH Addressed to RN?
All RNTIs Monitored by RN Were Detected? (Required Number of R-PDCCH Found?)
RN Stop Decoding for R-PDCCH
More Control Symbols?
794
YES
NO
NO
YES
NO
YES
786
788
790
791
792

FIG. 7C

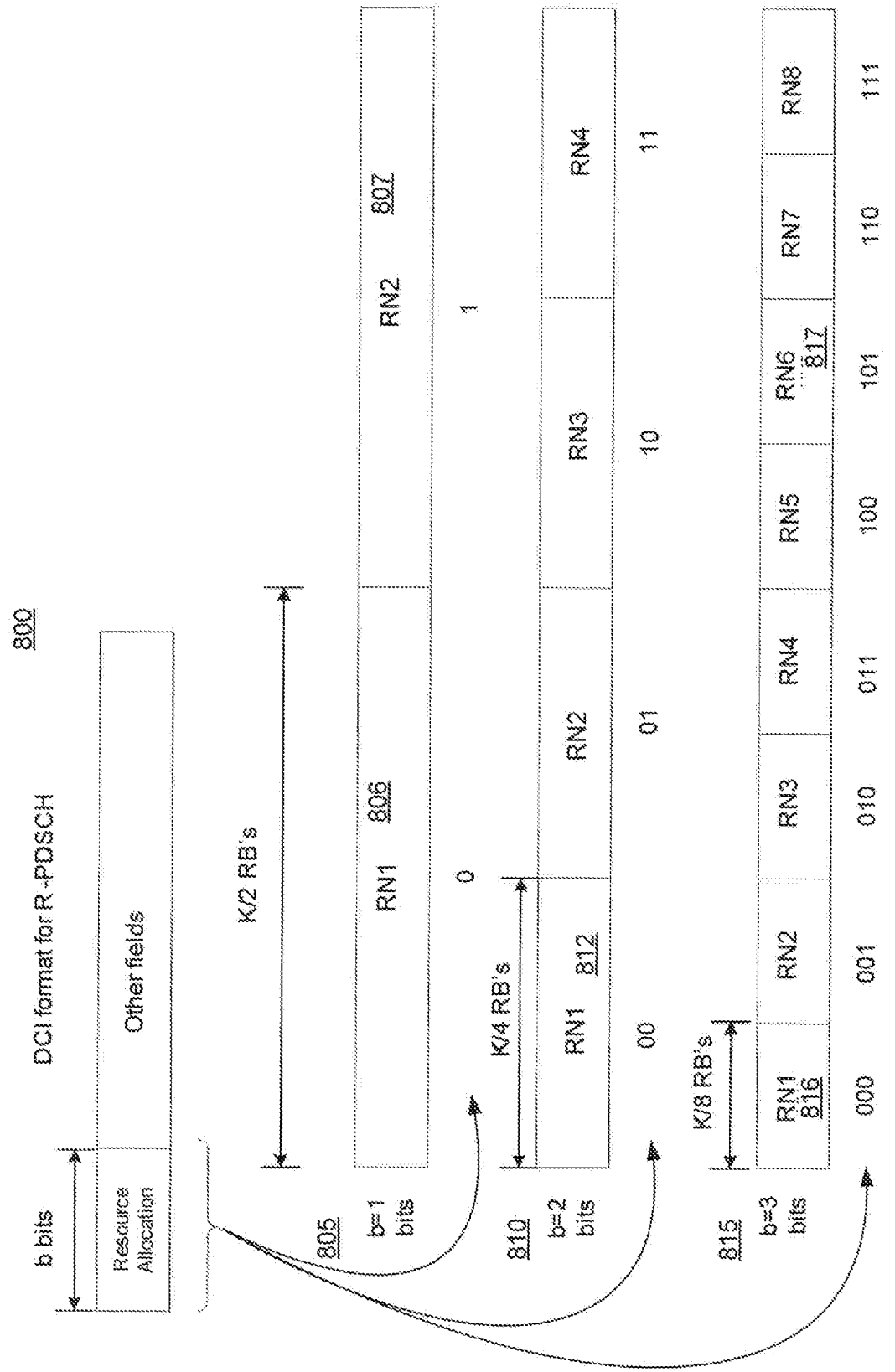
800
DCI format for R-PDSCH
b bits
Resource Allocation
Other fields
K/2 RB's
RN1 806
RN2 807
0
1
805
b=1 bits
K/4 RB's
RN1 812
RN2
RN3
RN4
00
01
10
11
810
b=2 bits
K/8 RB's
RN1 816
RN2
RN3
RN4
RN5
RN6 817
RN7
RN8
000
001
010
011
100
101
110
111
815
b=3 bits

FIG. 8

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2010/045325

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. H04W72/12 H04W72/04 H04L5/00 H04B7/155
ADD.

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
H04W H04L H04B

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)
EPO-Internal

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	NEC GROUP: "Control Structure for Relay Type 1 nodes", 3GPP DRAFT; R1-092965 CONTROL STRUCTURE FOR RELAY TYPE 1 NODES-UPDATED, 3RD GENERATION PARTNERSHIP PROJECT (3GPP), MOBILE COMPETENCE CENTRE ; 650, ROUTE DES LUCIOLES ; F-06921 SOPHIA-ANTIPOLIS CEDEX ; FRANCE, no. Los Angeles, USA; 20090707, 7 July 2009 (2009-07-07), XP050351374, [retrieved on 2009-07-07]	1,2,4, 6-12,15, 16,19,20
Y	the whole document	3,5,13, 14,17,18

-/--

[X] Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. [ ] See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents :

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
30 November 2010	07/12/2010

Name and mailing address of the ISA/	Authorized officer
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Feng, Mei

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/US2010/045325

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	ZTE: "Control Channel of Backhaul Link", 3GPP DRAFT; R1-092468_CONTROLCHANNELBACKHAUL, 3RD GENERATION PARTNERSHIP PROJECT (3GPP), MOBILE COMPETENCE CENTRE ; 650, ROUTE DES LUCIOLES ; F-06921 SOPHIA-ANTIPOLIS CEDEX ; FRANCE, no. Los Angeles, USA; 20090623, 23 June 2009 (2009-06-23), XP050350977, [retrieved on 2009-06-23] page 5, section 2.3.3	3,5,13, 14,17,18
X	MOTOROLA: "Relay Backhaul Design", 3GPP DRAFT; R1-092638 - BACKHAUL DESIGN FOR RELAYS VFINAL, 3RD GENERATION PARTNERSHIP PROJECT (3GPP), MOBILE COMPETENCE CENTRE ; 650, ROUTE DES LUCIOLES ; F-06921 SOPHIA-ANTIPOLIS CEDEX ; FRANCE, no. Los Angeles, USA; 20090624, 24 June 2009 (2009-06-24), XP050351128, [retrieved on 2009-06-24] pages 2-3, section 2	1,2,10, 11,15
A	LG ELECTRONICS: "Resource Allocation and Downlink Control Channel Structure for Relay Backhaul Link", 3GPP DRAFT; R1-092115 LGE_BACKHAUL RESOURCE ALLOCATION, 3RD GENERATION PARTNERSHIP PROJECT (3GPP), MOBILE COMPETENCE CENTRE ; 650, ROUTE DES LUCIOLES ; F-06921 SOPHIA-ANTIPOLIS CEDEX ; FRANCE, no. San Francisco, USA; 20090428, 28 April 2009 (2009-04-28), XP050339560, [retrieved on 2009-04-28] the whole document	1-20