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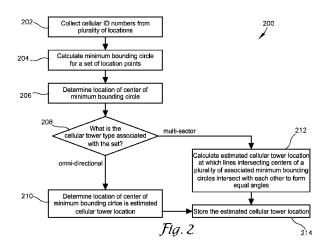
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#### (54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ESTIMATING CELLULAR TOWER LOCATION



(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus for collecting and analyzing cellular identification (ID) numbers at various geographic locations to estimate cellular tower locations. The method may include collecting cellular ID numbers obtained by collection mobile devices at a plurality of geographic locations then calculating minimum bounding circles encompassing a set of geographic location points with the same cellular identification numbers. If the cellular ID number of a set of location points indicates that the cellular tower is omni-directional, a center of the minimum bounding circle is an estimated cellular tower location. If the cellular ID number indicates that the cellular tower is multi-sector, the apparatus may calculate the estimated cellular tower location as the location at which lines that extend from the centers of a plurality of related minimum bounding circles intersect with each other to form equal angles.



International application No. **PCT/US2011/025837** 

#### A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

#### G01S 5/02(2010.01)i, H04W 64/00(2009.01)i

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) G01S 5/02; G01S 5/14; H04Q 7/38; H04W 24/00; H04Q 7/22; G01S 11/10

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Korean utility models and applications for utility models

Japanese utility models and applications for utility models

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) & Keywords: "cellular, tower, location, estimat\*, omni\*, multi\*"

#### C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 0865223 A2 (NTT MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS NETWORK INC.) 16 September 1998 See the Abstract, Fig. 1,4	1-14
A	US 2009-0312036 A1 (ALIZADEH-SHABDIZ FARSHID) 17 December 2009 See the Abstract, Fig. 1,8, Claim 1	1-14
A	WO 2004-017660 A1 (SIEMENS AKTIENGESELLSCHAFT et al.) 26 February 2004 See the Abstract, Fig. 1,2,4	1-14
A	WO 98-24251 A2 (TELEFONAKTIEBOLAGET LM ERICSSON (PUBL)) 04 June 1998 See the Abstract, Fig. 1, Claim 1	1-14

*	Special categories of cited documents:	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority
"A"	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered		date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand
	to be of particular relevance		the principle or theory underlying the invention
"E"	earlier application or patent but published on or after the international	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be
	filing date		considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive
"L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is		step when the document is taken alone
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	special reason (as specified)		considered to involve an inventive step when the document is
"O"	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other		combined with one or more other such documents, such combination
	means		being obvious to a person skilled in the art

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See patent family annex.

Date of the actual completion of the international search

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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

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