

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
3 May 2007 (03.05.2007)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2007/050824 A1

(51) International Patent Classification:

H04L 12/56 (2006.01) **H04L 12/28** (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2006/041903

(22) International Filing Date: 27 October 2006 (27.10.2006)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

60/731,126 27 October 2005 (27.10.2005) US

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **QUAL-COMM Incorporated** [US/US]; 5775 Morehouse Drive, San Diego, California 92121 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **PRAKASH, Rajat** [IN/US]; 8730 Costa Verde Blvd., Apt. 2439, San Diego, California 92122 (US). **ULUPINAR, Fatih** [US/US]; 17387 Grandee Place, San Diego, California 92128 (US). **TEAGUE, Edward, Harrison** [US/US]; 4614 Bryson

Terrace, San Diego, California 92130 (US). **SUTIVONG, Arak** [TH/TH]; 12 Soi Prasatsuk, Yen-a-kat Road, Bangkok, 10120 (TH). **KHANDEKAR, Aamod** [IN/US]; 8465 Regents Road, #339, San Diego, California 92122 (US). **GOROKHOV, Alexei** [FR/US]; 12543 El Camino Real, San Diego, California 92130 (US).

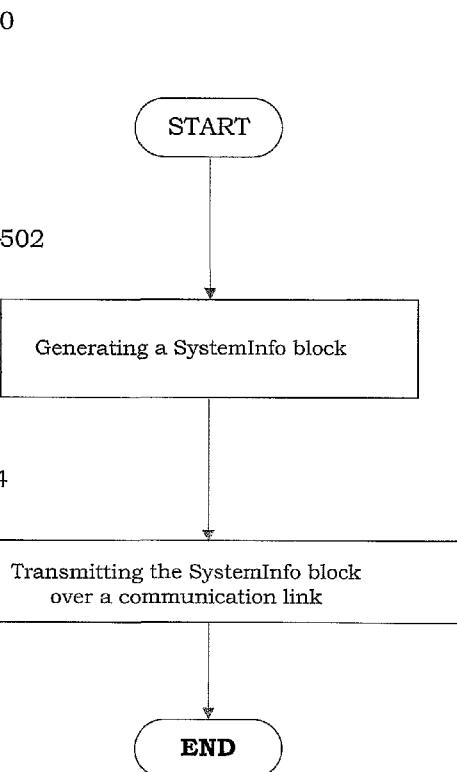
(74) Agents: **WADSWORTH, Philip, R.** et al.; 5775 Morehouse Drive, San Diego, California 92121 (US).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KM, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, LY, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RS, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, SV, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW

(84) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available): ARIPO (BW, GH,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TRANSMITTING INFORMATION IN WIRELESS COMMUNICATION SYSTEM



(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus for transmitting a SystemInfo block in a wireless communication system is provided, comprising generating a SystemInfo block which comprises a 4 bit MaximumRevision field, a 4 bit MinimumRevision field, a 2 bit CarrierID field, a 2 bit NumCarriers field, a 12 bit SystemTimeLSB field, a 2 bit CPLength field, a 3 bit NumGuardSubcarriers field, a 1 bit BlockHoppingEnabled field, a 2 bit N_FLBurst field, a 2 bit N_RLBurst field, a 4 bit FLReservedInterlaces field and a 4 bit NumFLReservedSubbands field and transmitting the block over a communication link. A method and apparatus is further provided for receiving and processing the block.



GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, NA, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(U))*

- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(Ui))*

Published:

- *with international search report*
- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments*

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TRANSMITTING INFORMATION IN WIRELESS COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

CLAIM OF PRIORITY UNDER 35 U.S.C. §119

[0001] The present Application for Patent claims priority to Provisional Application Ser. No. 60/731,126, entitled "METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING MOBILE BROADBAND WIRELESS LOWER MAC", filed October 27, 2005, assigned to the assignee hereof, and expressly incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND

Field

[0002] The disclosure relates generally to wireless communications, and more particularly to methods and apparatus for transmitting and receiving system information blocks and processing the received block in a wireless communication system.

Background

[0003] Wireless communication systems have become a prevalent means by which a majority of people worldwide have come to communicate. Wireless communication devices have become smaller and more powerful in order to meet consumer needs and to improve portability and convenience. The increase in processing power in mobile devices such as cellular telephones has lead to an increase in demands on wireless network transmission systems. Such systems typically are not as easily updated as the cellular devices that communicate there over. As mobile device capabilities expand, it can be difficult to maintain an older wireless network system in a manner that facilitates fully exploiting new and improved wireless device capabilities.

[0004] Wireless communication systems generally utilize different approaches to generate transmission resources in the form of channels. These systems may be code division multiplexing (CDM) systems, frequency division multiplexing (FDM) systems, and time division multiplexing (TDM) systems. One commonly utilized variant of FDM is orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) that effectively partitions the overall system bandwidth into multiple orthogonal subcarriers. These subcarriers may also be referred to as tones, bins, and frequency channels. Each subcarrier can be

modulated with data. With time division based techniques, a each subcarrier can comprise a portion of sequential time slices or time slots. Each user may be provided with a one or more time slot and subcarrier combinations for transmitting and receiving information in a defined burst period or frame. The hopping schemes may generally be a symbol rate hopping scheme or a block hopping scheme.

[0005] Code division based techniques typically transmit data over a number of frequencies available at any time in a range. In general, data is digitized and spread over available bandwidth, wherein multiple users can be overlaid on the channel and respective users can be assigned a unique sequence code. Users can transmit in the same wide-band chunk of spectrum, wherein each user's signal is spread over the entire bandwidth by its respective unique spreading code. This technique can provide for sharing, wherein one or more users can concurrently transmit and receive. Such sharing can be achieved through spread spectrum digital modulation, wherein a user's stream of bits is encoded and spread across a very wide channel in a pseudo-random fashion. The receiver is designed to recognize the associated unique sequence code and undo the randomization in order to collect the bits for a particular user in a coherent manner.

[0006] A typical wireless communication network (*e.g.*, employing frequency, time, and/or code division techniques) includes one or more base stations that provide a coverage area and one or more mobile (*e.g.*, wireless) terminals that can transmit and receive data within the coverage area. A typical base station can simultaneously transmit multiple data streams for broadcast, multicast, and/or unicast services, wherein a data stream is a stream of data that can be of independent reception interest to a mobile terminal. A mobile terminal within the coverage area of that base station can be interested in receiving one, more than one or all the data streams transmitted from the base station. Likewise, a mobile terminal can transmit data to the base station or another mobile terminal. In these systems the bandwidth and other system resources are assigned utilizing a scheduler.

[0007] The signals, signal formats, signal exchanges, methods, processes, and techniques disclosed herein provide several advantages over known approaches. These include, for example, reduced signaling overhead, improved system throughput, increased signaling flexibility, reduced information processing, reduced transmission bandwidth, reduced bit processing, increased robustness, improved efficiency, and reduced transmission power.

SUMMARY

[0008] The following presents a simplified summary of one or more aspects in order to provide a basic understanding of such aspects. This summary is not an extensive overview of all contemplated aspects, and is intended to neither identify key or critical elements of all aspects nor delineate the scope of any or all aspects. Its sole purpose is to present some concepts of one or more aspects in a simplified form as a prelude to the more detailed description that is presented later.

[0009] According to an embodiment, a method is provided for generating and transmitting a SystemInfo message block by an access network comprising a 4 bit MaximumRevision field to indicate a maximum revision number that a sector can support, a 4 bit MinimumRevision field to indicate a minimum revision number that the sector can support, a 2 bit CarrierID field to indicate a CarrierID of a carrier on which the block is transmitted, a 2 bit NumCarriers field to indicate number of carriers available at the sector, a 12 bit SystemTimeLSB field to indicate twelve lower bits of a superframe number at a time the SystemInfo block starts transmission, a 2 bit CPLength field to indicate a cyclic prefix length in units of chips, a 3 bit NumGuardSubcarriers field, a 1 bit BlockHoppingEnabled field to indicate status of block hopping, a 2 bit N_FLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a forward link burst in TDD mode, a 2 bit NJRLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a reverse link burst in TDD mode, a 4 bit FLReservedInterlaces field to indicate interlaces that contain reserved bandwidth on a forward link and a 4 bit NumFLReservedSubbands field. The method concludes with transmitting the message block over a communication link.

[0010] According to another embodiment, a computer-readable medium is described having a first set of instructions for generating a SystemInfo block message comprising a 4 bit MaximumRevision field to indicate a maximum revision number that a sector can support, a 4 bit MinimumRevision field to indicate a minimum revision number that the sector can support, a 2 bit CarrierID field to indicate a CarrierID of a carrier on which the block is transmitted, a 2 bit NumCarriers field to indicate number of carriers available at the sector, a 12 bit SystemTimeLSB field to indicate twelve lower bits of a superframe number at a time the SystemInfo block starts transmission, a 2 bit CPLength field to indicate a cyclic prefix length in units of chips, a 3 bit NumGuardSubcarriers field, a 1 bit BlockHoppingEnabled field to indicate status of block hopping, a 2 bit

N_FLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a forward link burst in TDD mode, a 2 bit NJRLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a reverse link burst in TDD mode, a 4 bit FLReservedInterlaces field to indicate interlaces that contain reserved bandwidth on a forward link and a 4 bit NumFLReservedSubbands field. The computer-readable medium further comprises a second set of instructions for transmitting the SystemInfo block message over a communication link.

[0011] According to yet another embodiment, an apparatus is described which comprises means for generating the said message having a 4 bit MaximumRevision field to indicate a maximum revision number that a sector can support, a 4 bit MinimumRevision field to indicate a minimum revision number that the sector can support, a 2 bit CarrierID field to indicate a CarrierID of a carrier on which the block is transmitted, a 2 bit NumCarriers field to indicate number of carriers available at the sector, a 12 bit SystemTimeLSB field to indicate twelve lower bits of a superframe number at a time the SystemInfo block starts transmission, a 2 bit CPLength field to indicate a cyclic prefix length in units of chips, a 3 bit NumGuardSubcarriers field, a 1 bit BlockHoppingEnabled field to indicate status of block hopping, a 2 bit N_FLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a forward link burst in TDD mode, a 2 bit NJRLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a reverse link burst in TDD mode, a 4 bit FLReservedInterlaces field to indicate interlaces that contain reserved bandwidth on a forward link and a 4 bit NumFLReservedSubbands field. A means for transmitting the generated SystemInfo block message is also provided in the said apparatus.

[0012] According to yet another embodiment, a method is provided for receiving a SystemInfo block message block comprising a 4 bit MaximumRevision field to indicate a maximum revision number that a sector can support, a 4 bit MinimumRevision field to indicate a minimum revision number that the sector can support, a 2 bit CarrierID field to indicate a CarrierID of a carrier on which the block is transmitted, a 2 bit NumCarriers field to indicate number of carriers available at the sector, a 12 bit SystemTimeLSB field to indicate twelve lower bits of a superframe number at a time the SystemInfo block starts transmission, a 2 bit CPLength field to indicate a cyclic prefix length in units of chips, a 3 bit NumGuardSubcarriers field, a 1 bit BlockHoppingEnabled field to indicate status of block hopping, a 2 bit N_FLBurst field

to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a forward link burst in TDD mode, a 2 bit N_RLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a reverse link burst in TDD mode, a 4 bit FLReservedInterlaces field to indicate interlaces that contain reserved bandwidth on a forward link and a 4 bit NumFLReservedSubbands field. The method concludes with the step of processing the message.

[0013] According to yet another embodiment, a computer-readable medium is described having a first set of instructions for receiving a SystemInfo block message comprising a 4 bit MaximumRevision field to indicate a maximum revision number that a sector can support, a 4 bit MinimumRevision field to indicate a minimum revision number that the sector can support, a 2 bit CarrierID field to indicate a CarrierID of a carrier on which the block is transmitted, a 2 bit NumCarriers field to indicate number of carriers available at the sector, a 12 bit SystemTimeLSB field to indicate twelve lower bits of a superframe number at a time the SystemInfo block starts transmission, a 2 bit CPLength field to indicate a cyclic prefix length in units of chips, a 3 bit NumGuardSubcarriers field, a 1 bit BlockHoppingEnabled field to indicate status of block hopping, a 2 bit N_FLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a forward link burst in TDD mode, a 2 bit N_RLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a reverse link burst in TDD mode, a 4 bit FLReservedInterlaces field to indicate interlaces that contain reserved bandwidth on a forward link and a 4 bit NumFLReservedSubbands field. The computer-readable medium further comprises a second set of instructions for processing the SystemInfo block message.

[0014] According to yet another embodiment, an apparatus is described which comprises means for receiving the SystemInfo message having a 4 bit MaximumRevision field to indicate a maximum revision number that a sector can support, a 4 bit MinimumRevision field to indicate a minimum revision number that the sector can support, a 2 bit CarrierID field to indicate a CarrierID of a carrier on which the block is transmitted, a 2 bit NumCarriers field to indicate number of carriers available at the sector, a 12 bit SystemTimeLSB field to indicate twelve lower bits of a superframe number at a time the SystemInfo block starts transmission, a 2 bit CPLength field to indicate a cyclic prefix length in units of chips, a 3 bit NumGuardSubcarriers field, a 1 bit BlockHoppingEnabled field to indicate status of block hopping, a 2 bit

N_FLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a forward link burst in TDD mode, a 2 bit N_RLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a reverse link burst in TDD mode, a 4 bit FLReservedInterlaces field to indicate interlaces that contain reserved bandwidth on a forward link and a 4 bit NumFLReservedSubbands field. A means for processing the generated SystemInfo block message is also provided in the said apparatus.

[0015] To the accomplishment of the foregoing and related ends, the one or more aspects comprise the features hereinafter fully described and particularly pointed out in the claims. The following description and the annexed drawings set forth in detail certain illustrative aspects of the one or more aspects. These aspects are indicative, however, of but a few of the various ways in which the principles of various aspects may be employed and the described aspects are intended to include all such aspects and their equivalents.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

- [0016] Fig. 1 illustrates aspects of a multiple access wireless communication system;
- [0017] Fig. 2 illustrates aspects of a transmitter and receiver in a multiple access wireless communication system;
- [0018] Figs. 3A and 3B illustrate aspects of superframe structures for a multiple access wireless communication system;
- [0019] Fig. 4 illustrates aspect of a communication between an access terminal and an access network;
- [0020] Fig. 5A illustrates a flow diagram of a process by access network;
- [0021] Fig. 5B illustrates one or more processors configured for generating and transmitting a SystemInfo block;
- [0022] Fig. 6A illustrates a flow diagram of a process by access terminal; and
- [0023] Fig. 6B illustrates one or more processors configured for receiving and processing a SystemInfo block.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

- [0024] Various aspects are now described with reference to the drawings, wherein like reference numerals are used to refer to like elements throughout. In the following

description, for purposes of explanation, numerous specific details are set forth in order to provide a thorough understanding of one or more aspects. It may be evident, however, that such aspect(s) may be practiced without these specific details. In other instances, well-known structures and devices are shown in block diagram form in order to facilitate describing one or more aspects.

[0025] Referring to Fig. 1, a multiple access wireless communication system according to one aspect is illustrated. A multiple access wireless communication system 100 includes multiple cells, e.g. cells 102, 104, and 106. In the aspect of Fig. 1, each cell 102, 104, and 106 may include an access point 150 that includes multiple sectors. The multiple sectors are formed by groups of antennas each responsible for communication with access terminals in a portion of the cell, in cell 102, antenna groups 112, 114, and 116 each correspond to a different sector. In cell 104, antenna groups 118, 120, and 122 each correspond to a different sector. In cell 106, antenna groups 124, 126, and 128 each correspond to a different sector.

[0026] Each cell includes several access terminals which are in communication with one or more sectors of each access point. For example, access terminals 130 and 132 are in communication base 142, access terminals 134 and 136 are in communication with access point 144, and access terminals 138 and 140 are in communication with access point 146.

[0027] Controller 130 is coupled to each of the cells 102, 104, and 106. Controller 130 may contain one or more connections to multiple networks, e.g. the Internet, other packet based networks, or circuit switched voice networks that provide information to, and from, the access terminals in communication with the cells of the multiple access wireless communication system 100. The controller 130 includes, or is coupled with, a scheduler that schedules transmission from and to access terminals. In other aspects, the scheduler may reside in each individual cell, each sector of a cell, or a combination thereof.

[0028] As used herein, an access point may be a fixed station used for communicating with the terminals and may also be referred to as, and include some or all the functionality of, a base station, a Node B, or some other terminology. An access terminal may also be referred to as, and include some or all the functionality of, a user equipment (UE), a wireless communication device, terminal, a mobile station or some other terminology.

[0029] It should be noted that while Fig. 1, depicts physical sectors, i.e. having different antenna groups for different sectors, other approaches may be utilized. For example, utilizing multiple fixed "beams" that each cover different areas of the cell in frequency space maybe utilized in lieu of, or in combination with physical sectors. Such an approach is depicted and disclosed in co-pending US Patent Application Serial No. 11/260,895, entitled "Adaptive Sectorization in Cellular System."

[0030] Referring to Fig.2, a block diagram of an aspect of a transmitter system 210 and a receiver system 250 in a MIMO system 200 is illustrated. At transmitter system 210, traffic data for a number of data streams is provided from a data source 212 to transmit (TX) data processor 214. In an aspect, each data stream is transmitted over a respective transmit antenna. TX data processor 214 formats, codes, and interleaves the traffic data for each data stream based on a particular coding scheme selected for that data stream to provide coded data.

[0031] The coded data for each data stream may be multiplexed with pilot data using OFDM, or other orthogonalization or non-orthogonalization techniques. The pilot data is typically a known data pattern that is processed in a known manner and may be used at the receiver system to estimate the channel response. The multiplexed pilot and coded data for each data stream is then modulated (i.e., symbol mapped) based on one or more particular modulation schemes (e.g., BPSK, QSPK, M-PSK, or M-QAM) selected for that data stream to provide modulation symbols. The data rate, coding, and modulation for each data stream may be determined by instructions performed on provided by processor 230.

[0032] The modulation symbols for all data streams are then provided to a TX processor 220, which may further process the modulation symbols (e.g., for OFDM). TX processor 220 then provides N_T modulation symbol streams to N_T transmitters (TMTR) 222a through 222t. Each transmitter 222 receives and processes a respective symbol stream to provide one or more analog signals, and further conditions (e.g., amplifies, filters, and upconverts) the analog signals to provide a modulated signal suitable for transmission over the MIMO channel. N_T modulated signals from transmitters 222a through 222t are then transmitted from N_T antennas 224a through 224t, respectively.

[0033] At receiver system 250, the transmitted modulated signals are received by NR antennas 252a through 252r and the received signal from each antenna 252 is provided

to a respective receiver (RCVR) 254. Each receiver 254 conditions (e.g., filters, amplifies, and downconverts) a respective received signal, digitizes the conditioned signal to provide samples, and further processes the samples to provide a corresponding "received" symbol stream.

[0034] An RX data processor 260 then receives and processes the N_R received symbol streams from N_R receivers 254 based on a particular receiver processing technique to provide N_T "detected" symbol streams. The processing by RX data processor 260 is described in further detail below. Each detected symbol stream includes symbols that are estimates of the modulation symbols transmitted for the corresponding data stream. RX data processor 260 then demodulates, deinterleaves, and decodes each detected symbol stream to recover the traffic data for the data stream. The processing by RX data processor 218 is complementary to that performed by TX processor 220 and TX data processor 214 at transmitter system 210.

[0035] RX data processor 260 may be limited in the number of subcarriers that it may simultaneously demodulate, e.g. 512 subcarriers or 5 MHz, and such a receiver should be scheduled on a single carrier. This limitation may be a function of its FFT range, e.g. sample rates at which the processor 260 may operate, the memory available for FFT, or other functions available for demodulation. Further, the greater the number of subcarriers utilized, the greater the expense of the access terminal.

[0036] The channel response estimate generated by RX processor 260 may be used to perform space, space/time processing at the receiver, adjust power levels, change modulation rates or schemes, or other actions. RX processor 260 may further estimate the signal-to-noise-and-interference ratios (SNRs) of the detected symbol streams, and possibly other channel characteristics, and provides these quantities to a processor 270. RX data processor 260 or processor 270 may further derive an estimate of the "operating" SNR for the system. Processor 270 then provides channel state information (CSI), which may comprise various types of information regarding the communication link and/or the received data stream. For example, the CSI may comprise only the operating SNR. In other aspects, the CSI may comprise a channel quality indicator (CQI), which may be a numerical value indicative of one or more channel conditions. The CSI is then processed by a TX data processor 278, modulated by a modulator 280, conditioned by transmitters 254a through 254r, and transmitted back to transmitter system 210.

[0037] At transmitter system 210, the modulated signals from receiver system 250 are received by antennas 224, conditioned by receivers 222, demodulated by a demodulator 240, and processed by a RX data processor 242 to recover the CSI reported by the receiver system. The reported CSI is then provided to processor 230 and used to (1) determine the data rates and coding and modulation schemes to be used for the data streams and (2) generate various controls for TX data processor 214 and TX processor 220. Alternatively, the CSI may be utilized by processor 270 to determine modulation schemes and/or coding rates for transmission, along with other information. This may then be provided to the transmitter which uses this information, which may be quantized, to provide later transmissions to the receiver.

[0038] Processors 230 and 270 direct the operation at the transmitter and receiver systems, respectively. Memories 232 and 272 provide storage for program codes and data used by processors 230 and 270, respectively.

[0039] At the receiver, various processing techniques may be used to process the N_R received signals to detect the N_T transmitted symbol streams. These receiver processing techniques may be grouped into two primary categories (i) spatial and space-time receiver processing techniques (which are also referred to as equalization techniques); and (ii) "successive nulling/equalization and interference cancellation" receiver processing technique (which is also referred to as "successive interference cancellation" or "successive cancellation" receiver processing technique).

[0040] While Fig. 2 discusses a MIMO system, the same system may be applied to a multi-input single-output system where multiple transmit antennas, e.g. those on a base station, transmit one or more symbol streams to a single antenna device, e.g. a mobile station. Also, a single output to single input antenna system may be utilized in the same manner as described with respect to Fig. 2.

[0041] The transmission techniques described herein may be implemented by various means. For example, these techniques maybe implemented in hardware, firmware, software, or a combination thereof. For a hardware implementation, the processing units at a transmitter may be implemented within one or more application specific integrated circuits (ASICs), digital signal processors (DSPs), digital signal processing devices (DSPDs), programmable logic devices (PLDs), field programmable gate arrays (FPGAs), processors, controllers, micro-controllers, microprocessors, electronic devices, other electronic units designed to perform the functions described

herein, or a combination thereof. The processing units at a receiver may also be implemented within one or more ASICs, DSPs, processors, and so on.

[0042] For a software implementation, the transmission techniques may be implemented with modules (e.g., procedures, functions, and so on) that perform the functions described herein. The software codes may be stored in a memory (e.g., memory 230, 272x or 272y in FIG. 2) and executed by a processor (e.g., processor 232, 270x or 270y). The memory may be implemented within the processor or external to the processor.

[0043] It should be noted that the concept of channels herein refers to information or transmission types that may be transmitted by the access point or access terminal. It does not require or utilize fixed or predetermined blocks of subcarriers, time periods, or other resources dedicated to such transmissions.

[0044] Referring to Figs. 3A and 3B, aspects of superframe structures for a multiple access wireless communication system are illustrated. Fig. 3A illustrates aspects of superframe structures for a frequency division duplexed (FDD) multiple access wireless communication system, while Fig. 3B illustrates aspects of superframe structures for a time division duplexed (TDD) multiple access wireless communication system. The superframe preamble may be transmitted separately for each carrier or may span all of the carriers of the sector.

[0045] In both Figs. 3A and 3B, the forward link transmission is divided into units of superframes. A superframe may consist of a superframe preamble followed by a series of frames. In an FDD system, the reverse link and the forward link transmission may occupy different frequency bandwidths so that transmissions on the links do not, or for the most part do not, overlap on any frequency subcarriers. In a TDD system, N forward link frames and M reverse link frames define the number of sequential forward link and reverse link frames that may be continuously transmitted prior to allowing transmission of the opposite type of frame. It should be noted that the number of N and M maybe vary within a given superframe or between superframes.

[0046] In both FDD and TDD systems each superframe may comprise a superframe preamble. In certain aspects, the superframe preamble includes a pilot channel that includes pilots that may be used for channel estimation by access terminals, a broadcast channel that includes configuration information that the access terminal may utilize to demodulate the information contained in the forward link frame. Further acquisition

information such as timing and other information sufficient for an access terminal to communicate on one of the carriers and basic power control or offset information may also be included in the superframe preamble. In other cases, only some of the above and/or other information may be included in this superframe preamble.

[0047] As shown in Figs. 3A and 3B, the superframe preamble is followed by a sequence of frames. Each frame may consist of a same or a different number of OFDM symbols, which may constitute a number of subcarriers that may simultaneously utilized for transmission over some defined period. Further, each frame may operate according to a symbol rate hopping mode, where one or more non-contiguous OFDM symbols are assigned to a user on a forward link or reverse link, or a block hopping mode, where users hop within a block of OFDM symbols. The actual blocks or OFDM symbols may or may not hop between frames.

[0048] Fig.4 illustrates transmission of a SystemInfo block 410 by an access network 404 to an access terminal 402. Using a communication link 406 and based upon predetermined timing, system conditions, or other decision criteria, the access network 404 will transmit the block to the access terminal 402. The communication link may be implemented using communication protocols/standards such as World Interoperability for Microwave Access (WiMAX),⁵ infrared protocols such as Infrared Data Association (IrDA), short-range wireless protocols/technologies, Bluetooth®, technology, ZigBee® protocol, ultra wide band (UWB) protocol, home radio frequency (HomeRF), shared wireless access protocol (SWAP), wideband technology such as a wireless Ethernet compatibility alliance (WECA), wireless fidelity alliance (Wi-Fi Alliance), 802.11 network technology, public switched telephone network technology, public heterogeneous communications network technology such as the Internet, private wireless communications network, land mobile radio network, code division multiple access (CDMA), wideband code division multiple access (WCDMA), universal mobile telecommunications system (UMTS), advanced mobile phone service (AMPS), time division multiple access (TDMA), frequency division multiple access (FDMA), orthogonal frequency division multiple (OFDM), orthogonal frequency division multiple access (OFDMA), orthogonal frequency division multiple FLASH (OFDM-FLASH), global system for mobile communications (GSM), single carrier (IX) radio transmission technology (RTT), evolution data only (EV-DO) technology, general packet radio service (GPRS), enhanced data GSM environment (EDGE), high speed

downlink data packet access (HSPDA), analog and digital satellite systems, and any other technologies/protocols that may be used in at least one of a wireless communications network and a data communications network.

[0049] The access network 404 is configured to transmit information to an access terminal 402 using a SystemMo block comprising a 4 bit MaximumRevision field to indicate a maximum revision number that a sector can support, a 4 bit MinimumRevision field to indicate a minimum revision number that the sector can support, a 2 bit CarrierID field to indicate a CarrierID of a carrier on which the block is transmitted, a 2 bit NumCarriers field to indicate number of carriers available at the sector, a 12 bit SystemTimeLSB field to indicate twelve lower bits of a superframe number at a time the SystemInfo block starts transmission, a 2 bit CPLength field to indicate a cyclic prefix length in units of chips, a 3 bit NumGuardSubcarriers field, a 1 bit BlockHoppingEnabled field to indicate status of block hopping, a 2 bit NJFLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a forward link burst in TDD mode, a 2 bit N_RLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a reverse link burst in TDD mode, a 4 bit FLReservedInterlaces field to indicate interlaces that contain reserved bandwidth on a forward link and a 4 bit NumFLReservedSubbands field. The access network 404 may incorporate the SystemInfo block message 410 into a data packet 412 and the data packet 412 is transmitted on a forward link 406.

[0050] The CPLength field of the SystemInfo block is set to a value determined as $N_{FFT} * (1+n)/16$ where n takes value from 0 to 3. Further, a NumCarriers field may take the value equal to n+1. The value of NumGuardSubCarriers field is determined as $N_{GUARD, PR} - 32*n$. The value in the FLReservedInterlaces is used to interpret the interlaces having reserved FL bandwidth. For the said purpose, the FLReservedInterlaces field is set to "0000" to indicate no interlace is having reserved FL bandwidth, set to "0001" to indicate interlace 0 is having reserved FL bandwidth; set to "0010" to indicate interlaces 0,1 are having reserved FL bandwidth; set to "0011" to indicate interlaces 0,1,2 are having reserved FL bandwidth; set to "0100" to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3 are having reserved FL bandwidth; set to "0101" to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4 are having reserved FL bandwidth; set to "0110" to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4,5 are having reserved FL bandwidth; set to "0111" to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4,5,6 are having reserved FL bandwidth; set to "1000" to indicate interlaces

0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7 are having reserved FL bandwidth; set to "1001" to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8 are having reserved FL bandwidth; set to "1010" to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9 are having reserved FL bandwidth; set to "101 1" to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10 are having reserved FL bandwidth; set to "1100" to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11 are having reserved FL bandwidth; set to "1101" to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12 are having reserved FL bandwidth; set to "1110" to indicate interlaces 0,3 are having reserved FL bandwidth; and set to "1111" to indicate interlaces 0,6 are having reserved FL bandwidth.

[0051] Fig.5A illustrates a flow diagram of process 500, according at an embodiment. At 502, a SystemInfo block is generated which comprises a 4 bit MaximumRevision field to indicate a maximum revision number that a sector can support, a 4 bit MinimumRevision field to indicate a minimum revision number that the sector can support, a 2 bit CarrierID field to indicate a CarrierID of a carrier on which the block is transmitted, a 2 bit NumCarriers field to indicate number of carriers available at the sector, a 12 bit SystemTimeLSB field to indicate twelve lower bits of a superframe number at a time the SystemInfo block starts transmission, a 2 bit CPLength field to indicate a cyclic prefix length in units of chips, a 3 bit NumGuardSubcarriers field, a 1 bit BlockHoppingEnabled field to indicate status of block hopping, a 2 bit N_FLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a forward link burst in TDD mode, a 2 bit N_RLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a reverse link burst in TDD mode, a 4 bit FLReservedInterlaces field to indicate interlaces that contain reserved bandwidth on a forward link and a 4 bit NuniFLReservedSubbands field. At 504, the SystemInfo block is transmitted over a communication link.

[0052] Fig. 5B illustrates processor 550 configured to generate and transmit a SystemInfo block over a communication channel. The processor referred to may be electronic devices and may comprise one or more processors configured to generate the SystemInfo block according to the embodiment. A processor 552 is configured for generating a SystemInfo block comprising a 4 bit MaximumRevision field to indicate a maximum revision number that a sector can support, a 4 bit MinimumRevision field to indicate a minimum revision number that the sector can support, a 2 bit CarrierID field to indicate a CarrierID of a carrier on which the block is transmitted, a 2 bit NumCarriers field to indicate number of carriers available at the sector, a 12 bit

SystemTimeLSB field to indicate twelve lower bits of a superframe number at a time the SystemInfo block starts transmission, a 2 bit CPLength field to indicate a cyclic prefix length in units of chips, a 3 bit NumGuardSubcarriers field, a 1 bit BlockHoppingEnabled field to indicate status of block hopping, a 2 bit N_FLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a forward link burst in TDD mode, a 2 bit N_RLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a reverse link burst in TDD mode, a 4 bit FLReservedInterlaces field to indicate interlaces that contain reserved bandwidth on a forward link and a 4 bit NumFLReservedSubbands field. A processor 554 is configured for transmitting the SystemInfo block message over a communication link. As described herein, one or more processors may be used. The functionality of the discrete processors 552 to 554 depicted in the figure may be combined into a single processor 556. A memory 558 is also coupled to the processor 556.

[0053] In an embodiment, an apparatus comprising means for generating a SystemInfo block message block comprising a 4 bit MaximumRevision field to indicate a maximum revision number that a sector can support, a 4 bit MinimumRevision field to indicate a minimum revision number that the sector can support, a 2 bit CarrierID field to indicate a CarrierID of a carrier on which the block is transmitted, a 2 bit NumCarriers field to indicate number of carriers available at the sector, a 12 bit SystemTimeLSB field to indicate twelve lower bits of a superframe number at a time the SystemInfo block starts transmission, a 2 bit CPLength field to indicate a cyclic prefix length in units of chips, a 3 bit NumGuardSubcarriers field, a 1 bit BlockHoppingEnabled field to indicate status of block hopping, a 2 bit N_FLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a forward link burst in TDD mode, a 2 bit NJRLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a reverse link burst in TDD mode, a 4 bit FLReservedInterlaces field to indicate interlaces that contain reserved bandwidth on a forward link and a 4 bit NumFLReservedSubbands field. The apparatus further comprises a means for transmitting the SystemInfo block message over a communication link. The means described herein may comprise one or more processors.

[0054] Fig.6A illustrates a flow diagram of process 600, according to another embodiment. At 602, the SystemInfo block is received which comprises a 4 bit MaximumRevision field to indicate a maximum revision number that a sector can

support, a 4 bit MinimumRevision field to indicate a minimum revision number that the sector can support, a 2 bit CarrierID field to indicate a CarrierID of a carrier on which the block is transmitted, a 2 bit NumCarriers field to indicate number of carriers available at the sector, a 12 bit SystemTimeLSB field to indicate twelve lower bits of a superframe number at a time the SystemInfo block starts transmission, a 2 bit CPLength field to indicate a cyclic prefix length in units of chips, a 3 bit NumGuardSubcarriers field, a 1 bit BlockHoppingEnabled field to indicate status of block hopping, a 2 bit N_FLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a forward link burst in TDD mode, a 2 bit N_RLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a reverse link burst in TDD mode, a 4 bit FLReservedInterlaces field to indicate interlaces that contain reserved bandwidth on a forward link and a 4 bit NumFLReservedSubbands field. At 604, the SystemInfo block is processed.

[0055] Fig. 6B illustrates processor 650 configured to receive and process a SystemInfo block. The processor referred to may be electronic devices and may comprise one or more processors configured to receive the SystemInfo block according to the embodiment. A processor 652 is configured for receiving a SystemInfo block message block comprising a 4 bit MaximumRevision field to indicate a maximum revision number that a sector can support, a 4 bit MinimumRevision field to indicate a minimum revision number that the sector can support, a 2 bit CarrierID field to indicate a CarrierID of a carrier on which the block is transmitted, a 2 bit NumCarriers field to indicate number of carriers available at the sector, a 12 bit SystemTimeLSB field to indicate twelve lower bits of a superframe number at a time the SystemInfo block starts transmission, a 2 bit CPLength field to indicate a cyclic prefix length in units of chips, a 3 bit NumGuardSubcarriers field, a 1 bit BlockHoppingEnabled field to indicate status of block hopping, a 2 bit N_FLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a forward link burst in TDD mode, a 2 bit N_RLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a reverse link burst in TDD mode, a 4 bit FLReservedInterlaces field to indicate interlaces that contain reserved bandwidth on a forward link and a 4 bit NumFLReservedSubbands field. A processor 654 is configured for processing the SystemInfo block. The functionality of the discrete processors 652 to 654 depicted in the figure may be combined into a single processor 656. A memory 658 is also coupled to the processor 656.

[0056] In an embodiment, an apparatus comprising means for receiving a SystemInfo block message block comprising a 4 bit MaximumRevision field to indicate a maximum revision number that a sector can support, a 4 bit MinimumRevision field to indicate a minimum revision number that the sector can support, a 2 bit CarrierID field to indicate a CarrierID of a carrier on which the block is transmitted, a 2 bit NumCarriers field to indicate number of carriers available at the sector, a 12 bit SystemTimeLSB field to indicate twelve lower bits of a superframe number at a time the SystemInfo block starts transmission, a 2 bit CPLength field to indicate a cyclic prefix length in units of chips, a 3 bit NumGuardSubcarriers field, a 1 bit BlockHoppingEnabled field to indicate status of block hopping, a 2 bit N_FLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a forward link burst in TDD mode, a 2 bit NJRLBurst field to indicate number of forward link frames that comprise a reverse link burst in TDD mode, a 4 bit FLReservedInterlaces field to indicate interlaces that contain reserved bandwidth on a forward link and a 4 bit NumFLReservedSubbands field. The apparatus further comprises a means for processing the SystemInfo block message. The means described herein may comprise one or more processors.

[0057] Furthermore, embodiments may be implemented by hardware, software, firmware, middleware, microcode, or any combination thereof. When implemented in software, firmware, middleware or microcode, the program code or code segments to perform the necessary tasks may be stored in a machine readable medium such as a separate storage(s) not shown. A processor may perform the necessary tasks. A code segment may represent a procedure, a function, a subprogram, a program, a routine, a subroutine, a module, a software package, a class, or any combination of instructions, data structures, or program statements. A code segment may be coupled to another code segment or a hardware circuit by passing and/or receiving information, data, arguments, parameters, or memory contents. Information, arguments, parameters, data, etc. maybe passed, forwarded, or transmitted via any suitable means including memory sharing, message passing, token passing, network transmission, etc.

[0058] Various modifications to these aspects will be readily apparent to those skilled in the art, and the generic principles defined herein may be applied to other aspects. Thus, the description is not intended to be limited to the aspects shown herein

but is to be accorded the widest scope consistent with the principles and novel features disclosed herein.

CLAIMS**We claim:**

1. A method of transmitting information in a wireless communication system, characterized in that:

generating a SystemInfo block comprising a 4 bit MaximumRevision field that indicates a value of maximum revision number that a sector can support, a 4 bit MinimumRevision field that indicates a value of minimum revision number that the sector can support, a 2 bit CarrierID field that indicates a value of CarrierID of carrier on which the block is transmitted , a 2 bit NumCarriers field that indicates a value of number of carriers available at the sector, a 12 bit SystemTimeLSB field that indicates a value of twelve lower bits of a superframe number at a time when the SystemInfo block starts transmission, a 2 bit CPLength field that indicates a value of cyclic prefix length in units of chips, the BlockHoppingEnabled field indicates status of block hopping, a 3 bit NuniGuardSubcarriers field, a 1 bit BlockHoppingEnabled field, a 2 bit NJFLBurst field that indicates a value of number of forward link frames that comprise a forward link burst in TDD mode, a 2 bit NJRLBurst field that indicates a value of number of forward link frames that comprise a reverse link burst in TDD mode, a 4 bit FLReservedInterlaces field that indicates the interlaces that contain reserved bandwidth on a forward link and a 4 bit NurnFLReservedSubbands field; and

transmitting the SystemInfo block over a communication link.

2. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the CPLength field comprises determining the value of the cyclic prefix length as a function of N_{FFT} and n, where n takes value from 0 to 3.

3. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that the NurnGuardSubcarriers field comprises determining the value of the field as a function of $N_{G^uAR_D} \cdot p_R$ and n.

4. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that setting the BlockHoppingEnabled field to 1 to indicate block hopping is enabled.

5. The method as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 0000 to indicate no interlace is having reserved FL bandwidth, setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 0001 to indicate interlace 0 is having reserved FL bandwidth; setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 0010 to indicate interlaces 0,1 are having reserved FL bandwidth; setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 0011 to indicate interlaces 0,1,2 are having reserved FL bandwidth; setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 0100 to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3 are having reserved FL bandwidth; setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 0101 to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4 are having reserved FL bandwidth; setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 0110 to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4,5 are having reserved FL bandwidth; setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 0111 to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4,5,6 are having reserved FL bandwidth; setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 1000 to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7 are having reserved FL bandwidth; setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 1001 to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8 are having reserved FL bandwidth; setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 1010 to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9 are having reserved FL bandwidth; setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 1011 to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10 are having reserved FL bandwidth; setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 1100 to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11 are having reserved FL bandwidth; setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 1101 to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12 are having reserved FL bandwidth; setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 1110 to indicate interlaces 0,3 are having reserved FL bandwidth; and setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 1111 to indicate interlaces 0,6 are having reserved FL bandwidth.

6. A computer readable medium including instruction stored thereon, characterized in that:

a first set of instructions for generating a Systemrinfo block comprising a 4 bit MaximumRevision field that indicates a value of maximum revision number that a sector can support, a 4 bit MinimumRevision field that indicates a value of minimum revision number that the sector can support, a 2 bit CarrierED field that indicates a value of CarrierID of carrier on which the block is transmitted , a 2 bit NumCarriers field that

indicates a value of number of carriers available at the sector, a 12 bit SystemTimeLSB field that indicates a value of twelve lower bits of a superframe number at a time when the SystemInfo block starts transmission, a 2 bit CPLength field that indicates a value of cyclic prefix length in units of chips, the BlockHoppingEnabled field indicates status of block hopping, a 3 bit NumGuardSubcarriers field, a 1 bit BlockHoppingEnabled field, a 2 bit N_FLBurst field that indicates a value of number of forward link frames that comprise a forward link burst in TDD mode, a 2 bit N_RLBurst field that indicates a value of number of forward link frames that comprise a reverse link burst in TDD mode, a 4 bit FLReservedInterlaces field that indicates the interlaces that contain reserved bandwidth on a forward link and a 4 bit NumFLReservedSubbands field; and

a second set of instructions for transmitting the SystemInfo block over a communication link.

7. An apparatus operable in a wireless communication system, characterized in that:

means for generating a SystemInfo block comprising a 4 bit MaximuniRevision field that indicates a value of maximum revision number that a sector can support, a 4 bit MinimumRevision field that indicates a value of minimum revision number that the sector can support, a 2 bit CarrierID field that indicates a value of CarrierID of carrier on which the block is transmitted , a 2 bit NumCarriers field that indicates a value of number of carriers available at the sector, a 12 bit SystemTimeLSB field that indicates a value of twelve lower bits of a superframe number at a time when the SystemInfo block starts transmission, a 2 bit CPLength field that indicates a value of cyclic prefix length in units of chips, the BlockHoppingEnabled field indicates status of block hopping, a 3 bit NumGuardSubcarriers field, a 1 bit BlockHoppingEnabled field, a 2 bit N_FLBurst field that indicates a value of number of forward link frames that comprise a forward link burst in TDD mode, a 2 bit N_RLBurst field that indicates a value of number of forward link frames that comprise a reverse link burst in TDD mode, a 4 bit FLReservedInterlaces field that indicates the interlaces that contain reserved bandwidth on a forward link and a 4 bit NumFLReservedSubbands field; and

means for transmitting the SystemInfo block over a communication link.

8. The apparatus as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that having means for determining the value of the cyclic prefix length in CPLength field as a function of N_{FFT} and n, where n takes value from 0 to 3.

9. The apparatus as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that having means for determining the value of the NumGuardSubcarriers field as a function of $N_{GUARD,PR}$ and n.

10. The apparatus as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that having means for setting BlockHoppingEnabled field to 1 to indicate block hopping is enabled.

11. The apparatus as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that having means for setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 0000 to indicate no interlace is having reserved FL bandwidth, setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 0001 to indicate interlace 0 is having reserved FL bandwidth, setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 0010 to indicate interlaces 0,1 are having reserved FL bandwidth, setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 0011 to indicate interlaces 0,1,2 are having reserved FL bandwidth, setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 0100 to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3 are having reserved FL bandwidth, setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 0101 to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4 are having reserved FL bandwidth, setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 0110 to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4,5 are having reserved FL bandwidth, setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 0111 to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4,5,6 are having reserved FL bandwidth, setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 1000 to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7 are having reserved FL bandwidth, setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 1001 to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8 are having reserved FL bandwidth, setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 1010 to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9 are having reserved FL bandwidth, setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 1011 to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10 are having reserved FL bandwidth, setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 1100 to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11 are having reserved FL bandwidth, setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 1101 to indicate interlaces 0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,12 are having reserved FL bandwidth, setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 1110 to indicate interlaces 0,3 are having reserved FL

bandwidth, and setting the FLReservedInterlaces field to 1111 to indicate interlaces 0,6 are having reserved FL bandwidth.

12. A method of receiving information in a wireless communication system, characterized in that:

receiving a SystemInfo block comprising a 4 bit MaximumRevision field that is interpreted as a value of maximum revision number that a sector can support, a 4 bit MinimumRevision field that is interpreted as a value of minimum revision number that the sector can support, a 2 bit CarrierID field that is interpreted as a value of CarrierID of carrier on which the block is transmitted , a 2 bit NumCarriers field that is interpreted as a value of number of carriers available at the sector, a 12 bit SystemTimeLSB field that is interpreted as a value of twelve lower bits of a superframe number at a time when the SystemInfo block starts transmission, a 2 bit CPLength field that is interpreted as a value of cyclic prefix length in units of chips, the BlockHoppingEnabled field is interpreted as status of block hopping, a 3 bit NuniGuardSubcarriers field, a 1 bit BlockHoppingEnabled field, a 2 bit NJFLBurst field that is interpreted as a value of number of forward link frames that comprise a forward link burst in TDD mode, a 2 bit N_RLBurst field that is interpreted as a value of number of forward link frames that comprise a reverse link burst in TDD mode, a 4 bit FLReservedInterlaces field that is interpreted as the interlaces that contain reserved bandwidth on a forward link and a 4 bit NumFLReservedSubbands field; and

processing the received SystemInfo block.

13. A computer readable medium including instruction stored thereon, characterized in that:

a first set of instructions for receiving a SystemInfo block having a 4 bit MaximumRevision field that is interpreted as a value of maximum revision number that a sector can support, a 4 bit MinimumRevision field that is interpreted as a value of minimum revision number that the sector can support, a 2 bit CarrierID field that is interpreted as a value of CarrierID of carrier on which the block is transmitted , a 2 bit NumCarriers field that is interpreted as a value of number of carriers available at the sector, a 12 bit SystemTimeLSB field that is interpreted as a value of twelve lower bits of a superframe number at a time when the SystemInfo block starts transmission, a 2 bit

CPLength field that is interpreted as a value of cyclic prefix length in units of chips, the BlockHoppingEnabled field is interpreted as status of block hopping, a 3 bit NumGuardSubcarriers field, a 1 bit BlockHoppingEnabled field, a 2 bit N_FLBurst field that is interpreted as a value of number of forward link frames that comprise a forward link burst in TDD mode, a 2 bit N_RLBurst field that is interpreted as a value of number of forward link frames that comprise a reverse link burst in TDD mode, a 4 bit FLReservedInterlaces field that is interpreted as the interlaces that contain reserved bandwidth on a forward link and a 4 bit NuniFLReservedSubbands field; and
a second set of instructions for processing the received SystemInfo block.

14. An apparatus operable in a wireless communication system, characterized in that:

means for receiving a SystemInfo block comprising a 4 bit MaximumRevision field that is interpreted as a value of maximum revision number that a sector can support, a 4 bit MinimumRevision field that is interpreted as a value of minimum revision number that the sector can support, a 2 bit CarrierID field that is interpreted as a value of CarrierID of carrier on which the block is transmitted , a 2 bit NumCarriers field that is interpreted as a value of number of carriers available at the sector, a 12 bit SystemTimeLSB field that is interpreted as a value of twelve lower bits of a superframe number at a time when the SystemInfo block starts transmission, a 2 bit CPLength field that is interpreted as a value of cyclic prefix length in units of chips, the BlockHoppingEnabled field is interpreted as status of block hopping, a 3 bit NuniGuardSubcarriers field, a 1 bit BlockHoppingEnabled field, a 2 bit NJFLBurst field that is interpreted as a value of number of forward link frames that comprise a forward link burst in TDD mode, a 2 bit N_RLBurst field that is interpreted as a value of number of forward link frames that comprise a reverse link burst in TDD mode, a 4 bit FLReservedInterlaces field that is interpreted as the interlaces that contain reserved bandwidth on a forward link and a 4 bit NuniFLReservedSubbands field; and
means for processing the SystemInfo block

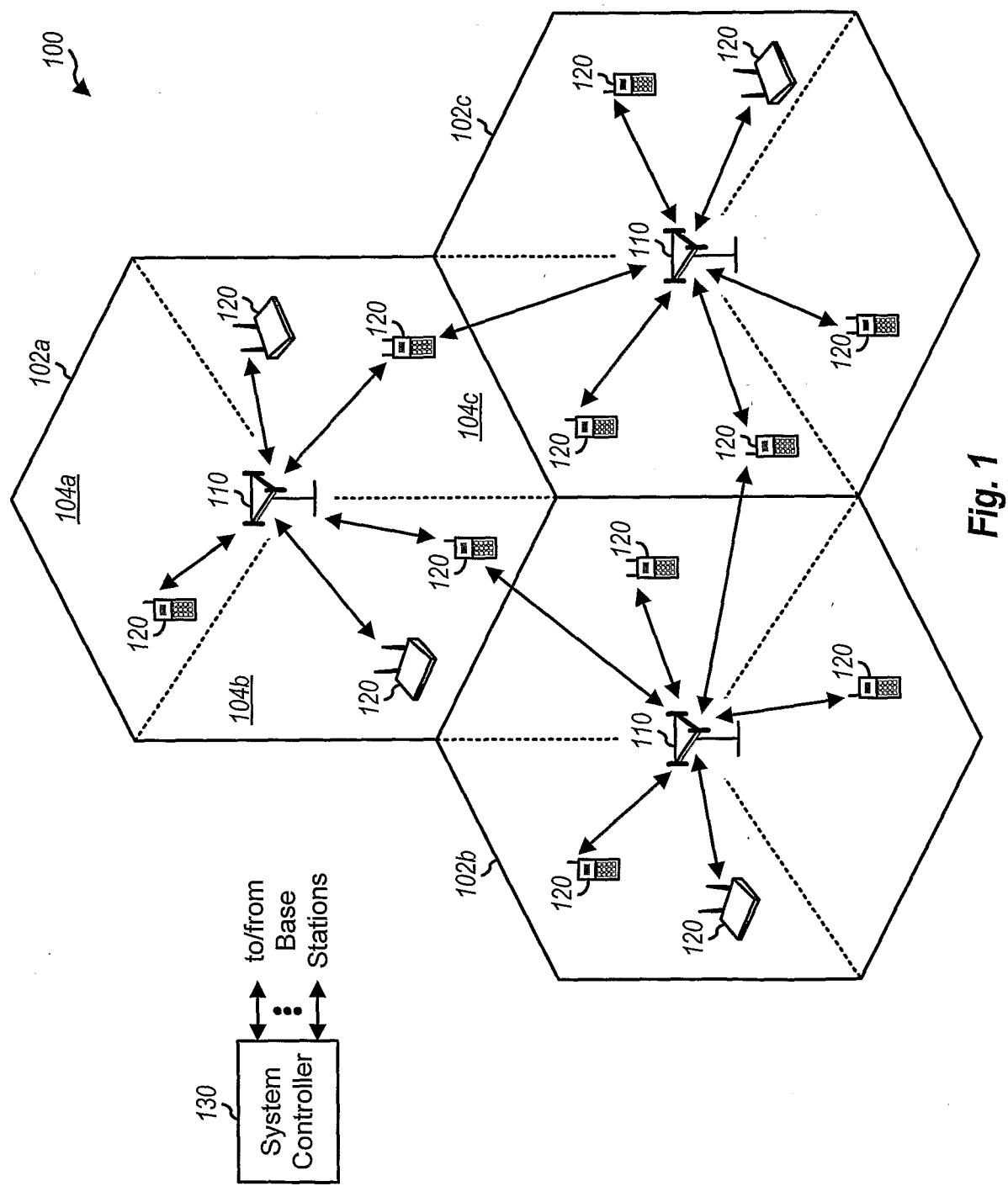


Fig. 1

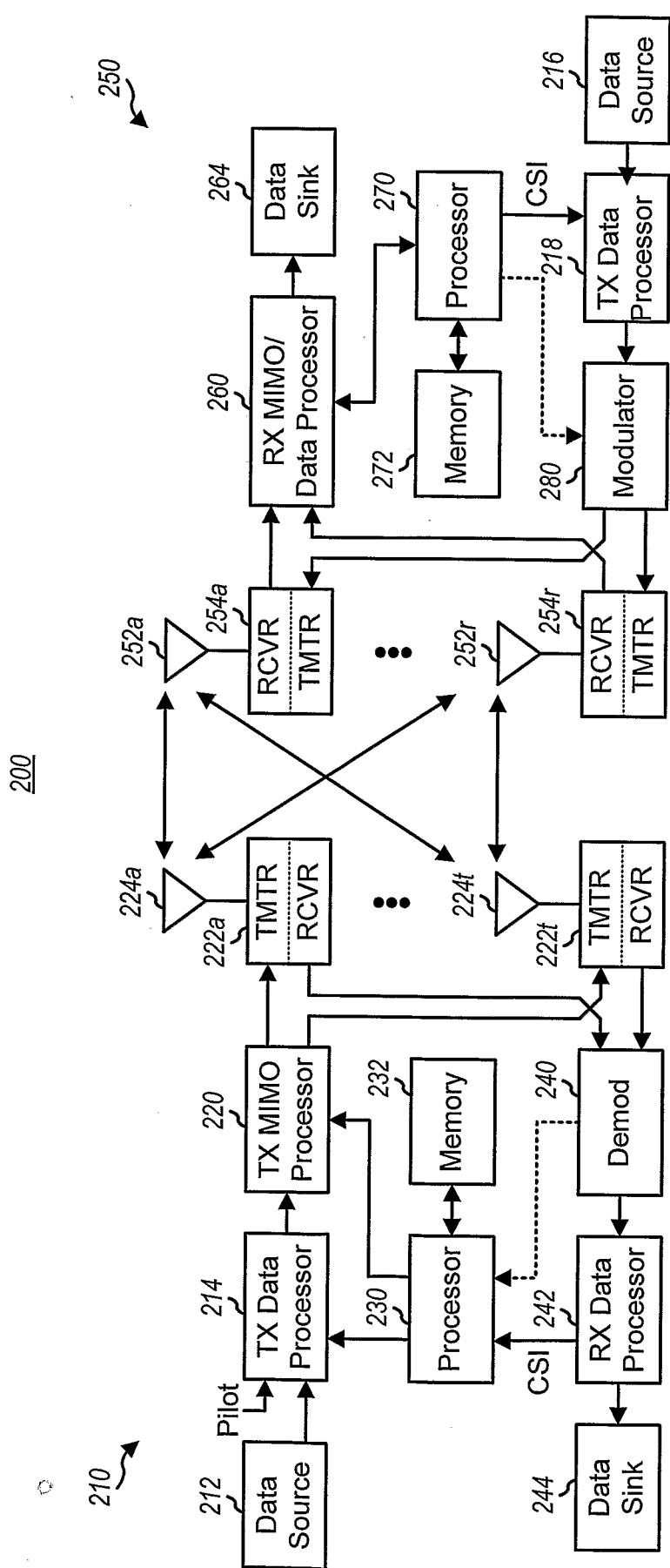
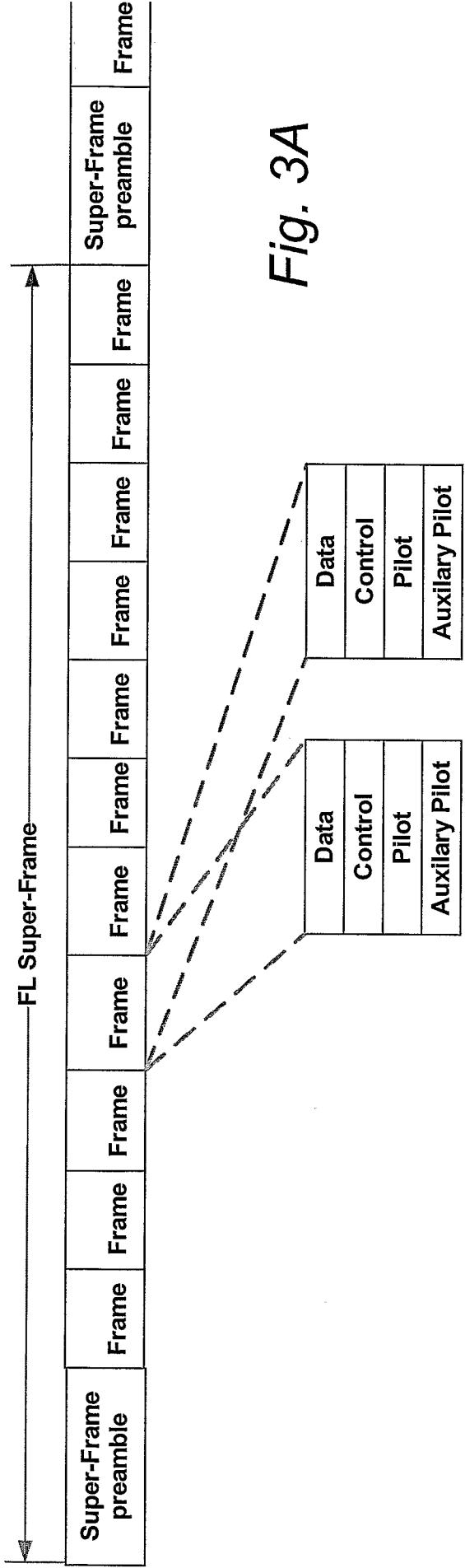


Fig 2

3/8

Fig. 3A



Symbol Rate Hopping mode

Block Hopping model

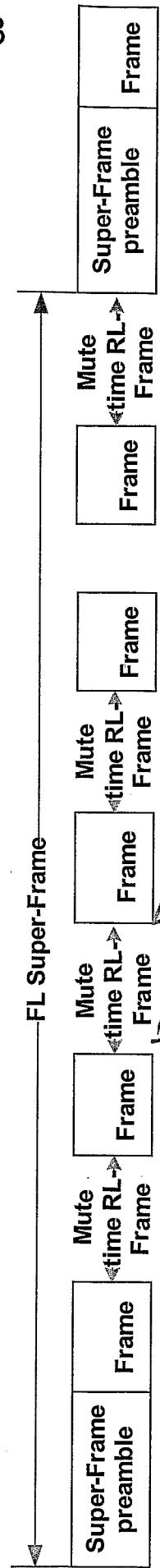
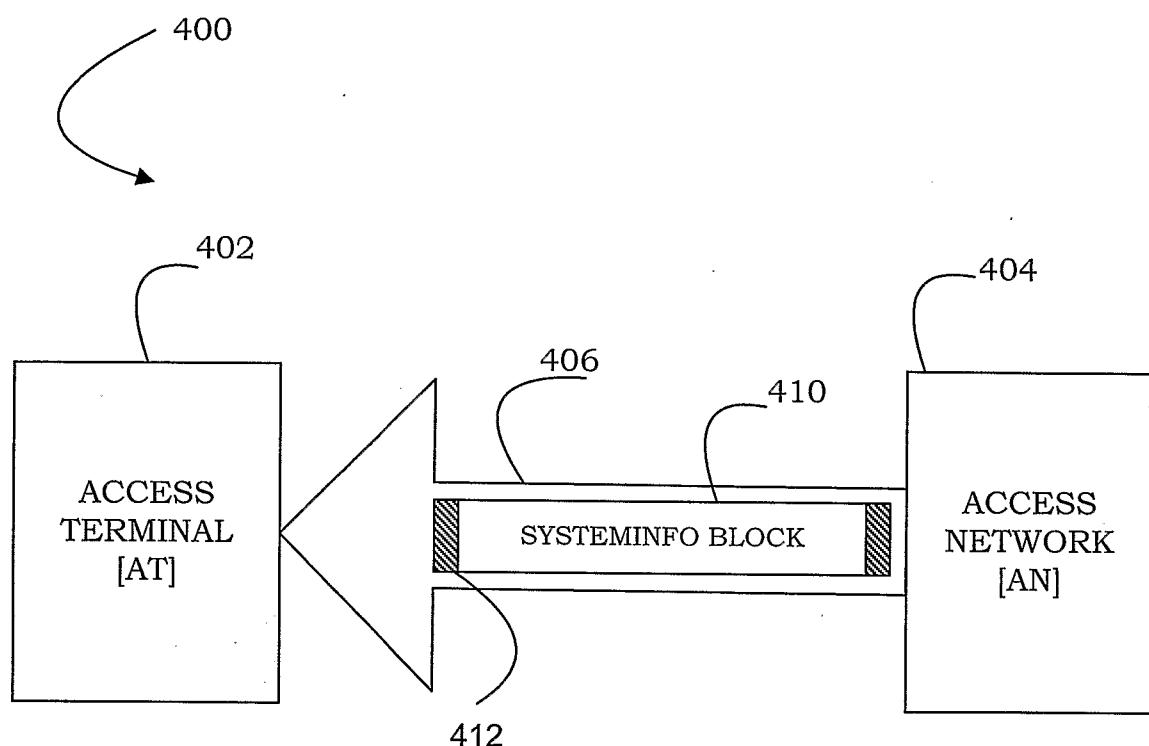


Fig. 3B

Block Hopping mode **Symbol Rate Hopping mode**

4/8

**Fig. 4**

5/8

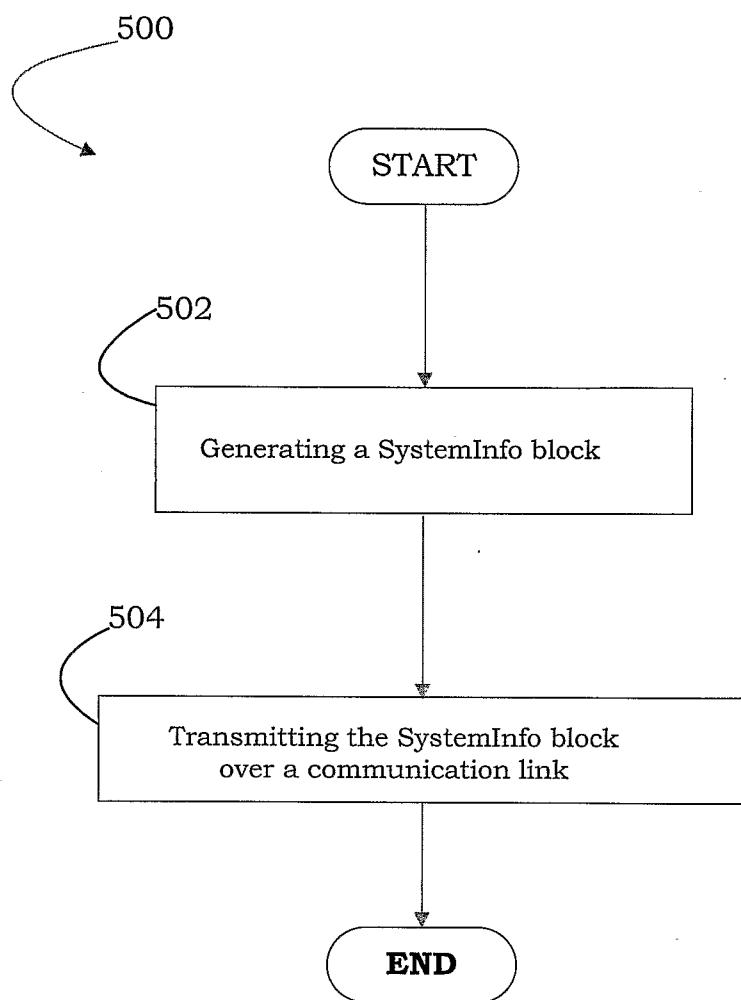


Fig. 5A

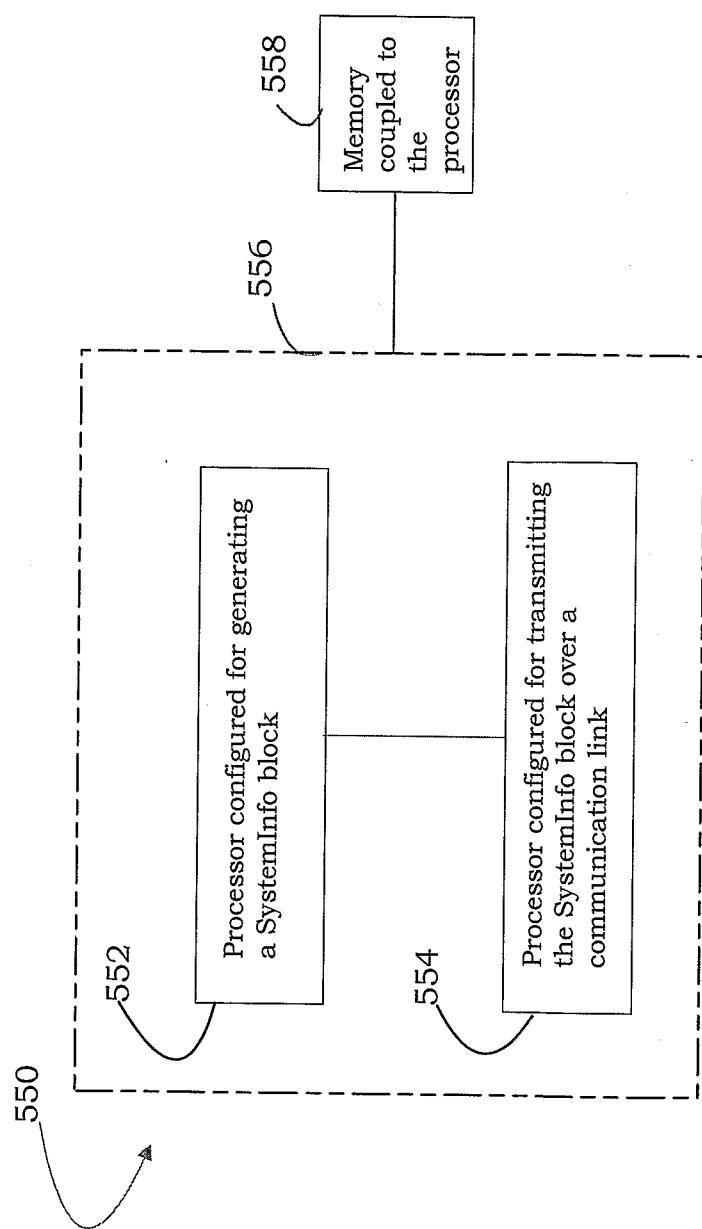


Fig. 5B

7/8

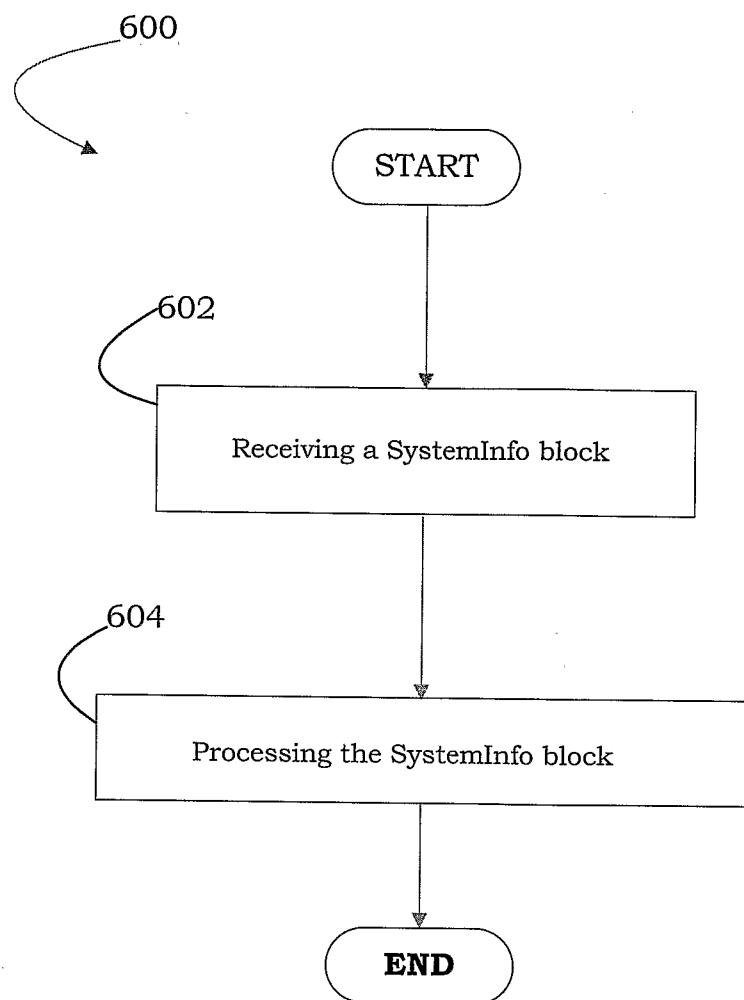


Fig. 6A

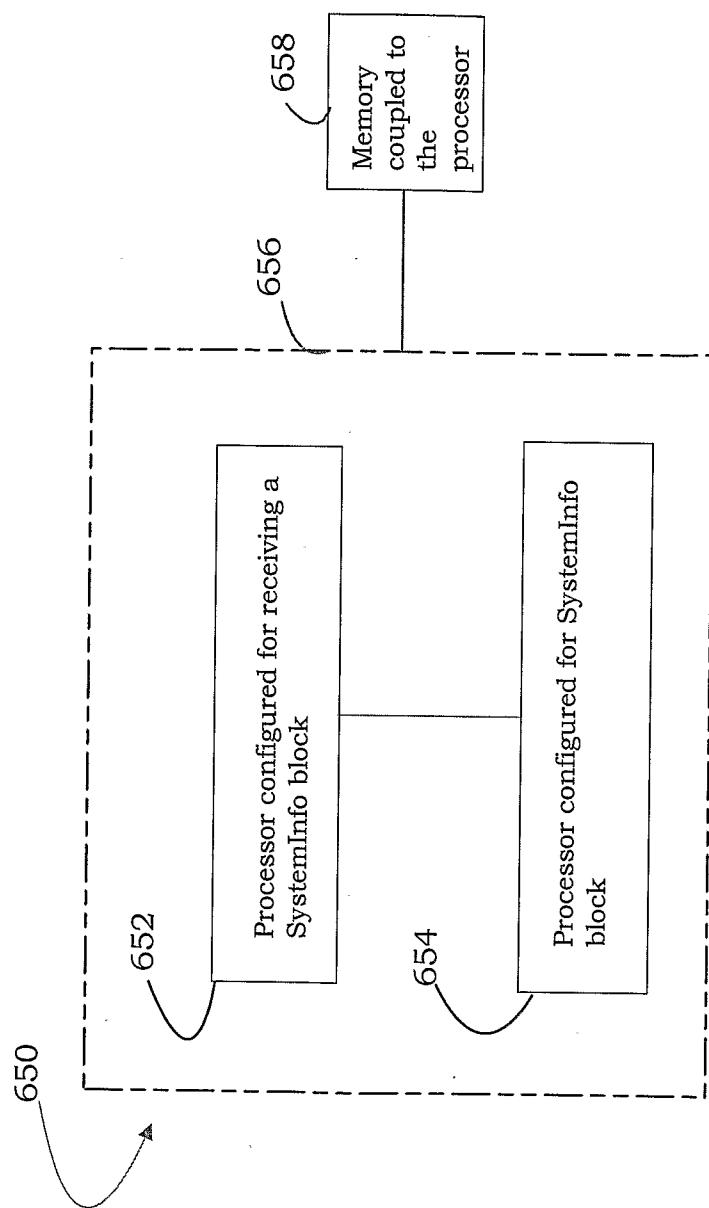


Fig. 6B

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No

PCT/US2006/041903

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV . H04L12/56 H04L12/28

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)
H04L

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 , WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No
x, P	JIM TOMCIK, RADHAKRISHNA CANCHI: "MBFDD and MBTDD: Proposed Draft Air Interface Specification" IEEE 802.20 WORKING GROUP ON MOBILE BROADBAND WIRELESS ACCESS, [Online] XP002426594 Retrieved from the Internet: URL :http://www.ieee802.org/20/Contr ibs/C80 2.20-06-04.pdf> [retrieved on 2007-03-26] pages 287-289 -----	1-14

D Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C



See patent family annex

* Special categories of cited documents

- 1A" 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
- 1L" 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)
- 1O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- 1P* 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

27 March 2007

05/04/2007

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

European Patent Office, P B 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx 31 651 epo nl,
Fax (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Mele, Marco