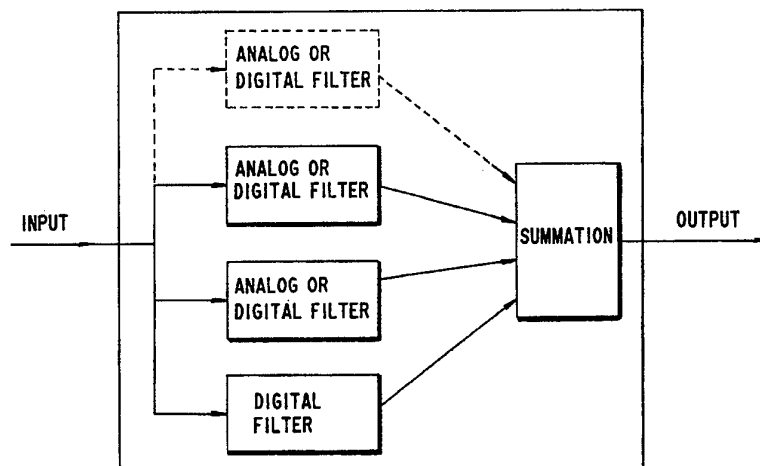




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(54) Title: SAMPLED-DATA FILTER WITH LOW DELAY



(57) Abstract

A filter system with low throughput delay having at least two parallel filters, either sampled-data or continuous, wherein one of the filters has a low throughput delay in comparison with the other filters.

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## SAMPLED-DATA FILTER WITH LOW DELAY

### BACKGROUND

There are many applications where filtering is required with a minimum of delay  
5 through the filter. One such application is in real-time control systems used for active  
noise cancellation.

Modern control systems often use sampled-data filters which may be analog  
devices such as charge coupled devices but are more often digital filters. There are  
inherent delays associated with a sampled-data filter. For example, in a digital filter these  
10 are due to the anti-aliasing filters (which may be digital or analog), the anti-imaging  
filters (which may be digital or analog), the sample and hold of the Digital to Analog  
Converter (DAC) and the computation time of the digital processor.

The first three of these are related to the sampling period of the digital filter.  
They can be reduced by increasing the sampling rate of the digital filter. However, this  
15 requires an increase in the computational power of the processor and results in increased  
cost and electrical power consumption.

For some applications a fixed filter is sufficient, and there have been attempts in  
the past to modify digital filters by combining them with analog components.

It is known that the delay associated with the filter can be avoided if the  
20 digital filter is combined with an analog circuit in such a way that there are a least  
two paths through the filter, one of which avoids the digital filter.

For example, in UK patent GB2142091, 'Attenuation of sound waves', Swinbanks  
describes a filter, shown in Figure 1, which comprises a fixed analog gain with digital FIR  
filter in the feedback path and in UK patent application GB2222733, 'Improved digital  
25 filter with an analog path', Harper and Ross describe a fixed analog filter with a digital  
FIR filter in a parallel path. This is shown in Figure 2.

For most practical applications however, it is necessary to adjust the overall  
response of the filter in order to maintain the best control performance in a changing  
environment. There are no previously known methods for adapting combined filters of  
30 the type described by Swinbanks or by Harper and Ross.

There is some discussion by Swinbanks of how to determine the digital filter  
coefficients when a fixed-gain analog amplifier is used, but this is only possible if the  
characteristics of the system to be controlled are fixed and can be determined in  
advance. There is no discussion of how to choose the gain of the analog amplifier.

35 While there is some discussion by Harper and Ross of how to determine the  
desired characteristic of the analog filter when the digital filter is fixed, there is no  
discussion of how to determine the characteristics jointly.

The desired response can be more closely matched by designing the two filters together. Additionally, it is often desirable to use a fully adaptive control system for practical control applications. This avoids the need to redesign the system for each new application and allows the control system to be used when the system to be controlled varies with time.

The digital filters described by Swinbanks and by Harper et al are for use with feedforward active control systems. For this type of control system an 'upstream' sensor is used to obtain an advance measurement of the noise to be canceled. In this application, the characteristic of the digital filter depends upon the acoustic response of the physical system and on the characteristics of the actuator. These may be slowly varying over time. However, feedback control systems do not use an 'upstream' sensor, instead they only use sensors in the region where noise control is required. In this case the information received from the sensor is generally too late, and the control system must be able to predict the noise. Any delay through the filter will make this prediction more difficult. The prediction is strongly dependent upon the characteristics of the noise, and so the filter characteristics must be varied as the noise varies. Hence, active feedback control requires a fully adaptive control system with a low throughput delay.

Accordingly, it is an object of this invention to provide a filter with a low throughput delay without using a processor.

Another object of this invention is to provide a filter means having multiple paths therethrough, one of them being a higher speed path than at least one of the others.

A further object of this invention is to provide a parallel path filtering means wherein the characteristics of the filters are selected to minimize the difference between overall filter response and the desired response.

A still further object of this invention is to provide a method of avoiding filter delays in an active noise cancellation circuit.

These and other objects will become readily apparent when reference is had to the accompanying drawings in which

Figure 1 shows a circuit from background art,  
Figure 2 is a diagrammatic view of a background art circuit,  
Figure 3 is a diagrammatic view of a low delay filter,  
Figure 4 is a diagrammatic view of a recursive filter,  
Figure 5 is a diagrammatic view of another type of recursive filter,  
Figure 6 is a diagrammatic view of an adaptive filter,  
Figure 7 is a diagrammatic view of an active control system,  
Figure 8 is a diagrammatic view of a control system with a two-path filter,

Figure 9 is a diagrammatic view of a multi-channel control system,  
Figure 10 is a diagrammatic view of an adaptive feedforward control system,  
Figure 11 is a diagrammatic view of an adaptive feedback control system, and  
Figure 12 is a diagrammatic view of a general purpose sigma delta chip.

5

### SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

An object of this invention is to provide a filter with a low throughput delay without the need and expense of using a very powerful and expensive processor which is achieved by using a filter with multiple signal paths through it.

10 In one embodiment of the invention the filter has at least two paths through it, at least one of which is a high speed path and at least one of which is a slower speed path such as that through a sampled data filter. This is shown in Figure 3. Each high speed path can be an analog gain or analog filter or it can be a sampled-data filter with one or more coefficients. The sample rate of the sampled-data filter is set to be high so that the delay through the filter is small. One example configuration uses a high speed  
15 sampled-data filter with one or more coefficients in parallel with a slower speed sampled-data filter.

The sampled-data filters can take many forms, including Moving Average, Auto Regressive, Lattice and Artificial Neural Networks and may be implemented in  
20 digital or analog form. The low delay filters can themselves be combined, as in Figures 4 and 5 for example, to form more complicated filter structures. Many other structures will be obvious to those skilled in the art of filter design.

A further object of this invention is to provide an adaptive filter with a low throughput delay. In one embodiment of the invention this is achieved by minimizing a  
25 filtered version of the one or more error signals. This approach allows the filter coefficients to be updated using only data sampled at slow rate and so reduces the processing requirements.

Common applications of adaptive filters are shown in Figures 6 and 7. Figure 6 shows the adaption process being used to generate a filter with a desired response. This  
30 is obtained by comparing the filter output with a desired signal,  $y$ , to generate an error signal,  $e$ , which drives the adaption process. The desired signal can be generated as in the figure by passing the input signal through a system with the desired response (this may be a physical system for example).

Another application for adaptive filters is in adaptive control as shown in Figure  
35 7. Here the objective is to obtain a desired response (often zero) at a set of residual sensors. These residual sensors are responsive to the combination of an original disturbance, such as sound or vibration or an electrical signal, and a control disturbance generated by a set of control actuators. The control signal for these actuators can be

obtained by filtering a signal derived from the error signals and/or by filtering the signals from an additional set of reference sensors. The filters in the figure can have multiple interacting inputs and outputs.

## 5 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

By way of explanation we shall describe a filter comprising a slow speed Finite Impulse Response (FIR) sampled-data filter in parallel with a high speed sampled-data filter with sampling period  $T$ . This filter is shown in Figure 8. Also included in Figure 8 is physical system labeled  $A$ . For some adaptive filters this may have a unity response. The desired signal,  $-y$ , may be the signal due to an unwanted disturbance or may be generated from the filter input as in Figure 6.

In Figure 8,  $K$  is the gain of the high speed filter (sampled-data or continuous),  $F_1$  is the anti-aliasing filter,  $F_2$  is the anti-imaging filter and  $Z$  is the slower speed sampled-data filter.

15 At time  $kT$ , the output from the anti-aliasing filter, sampled at the higher sampling rate, is

$$u_1(kT) = \sum_l F_1(lT) \cdot u(kT - lT)$$

where  $F_1(t)$  is the impulse response of the anti-aliasing filter and  $u(t)$  is the common high speed input signal.

The sampling period of the slow speed filter is  $NT$ , which means that the filter uses only every  $N$ -th value of the high speed input.

We define the operator  $| \cdot |$  by

$$25 \quad |k| = N \cdot \text{integer part of } (k / N)$$

The output from the anti-imaging filter at time  $t$  during the  $k$ -th sampling period is  $x_s(t)$ , given by

$$x_s(kT) = \sum_n z_n \cdot u_{12}(|k - Nn|).$$

30 where

$$u_{12}(|k - Nn|) = \sum_m F_2(mT) \cdot u_1(|k - m - Nn|T)$$

and where  $z_n$  is the  $n$ -th filter coefficient and  $F_2(t)$  is the impulse response of the anti-imaging filter. The  $n$ -summation is over all filter coefficients.

In one embodiment of the invention the high speed path is placed in parallel with FIR filter as shown in Figure 8.

If the high speed path is an analog amplifier the output is

$$x_h(t) = K \cdot u(t),$$

where  $K$  is the amplifier gain.

Alternatively, the high speed path can be a sampled-data filter with a single coefficient running  $N$  times faster than the slow speed filter. The output from this filter is

$$x_h(kT) = K \cdot u(kT),$$

where  $K$  is the coefficient value. A sampled-data filter with more coefficients could be used.

The high and slow speed outputs are summed to give the controller output signal,  $x(t)$ . If the high speed filter is a sampled-data filter the outputs can be combined as sampled-data signals or as analog signals. Also if the high speed filter is a sampled-data filter its output must usually be passed through an anti-imaging filter.

In a control system the output signal is used to drive an actuator which produces a controlling disturbance.

In an adaptive control system, a residual sensor is often used to measure the combination of the original disturbance and the controlling disturbance. This signal is then used to adjust or adapt the coefficients of the filters in order to obtain some desired effect (usually a reduction in the level of the disturbance).

The sampled response at a residual sensor at time  $rT$  is

$$e(rT) = y(rT) + \sum_m A(rT - mT) \cdot (x_s + x_h)(mT),$$

where  $y$  is the part of the response not due to the controller, and  $A(t)$  is the response corresponding to a unit impulse at the controller output. If a sampled-data high speed path is used then  $A(t)$  includes the anti-imaging filter for the high speed filter and the anti-imaging filter on the residual sensor.

This residual signal can be written in terms of the filter coefficients and the input signals

$$e(rT) = y(rT) + v(rT)K + \sum_n w(r, n) \cdot z_n$$

where

$$v(rT) = \sum_l A(rT - lT) \cdot u(lT)$$

and

$$w(r, n) = \sum_l A(rT - lT) \cdot u_{12}(|l - Nn|T).$$

5

We can express the vector of successive samples in matrix notation as

$$\underline{e} = \underline{y} + \underline{v}K + W \underline{Z},$$

10 where

$$\begin{aligned} \underline{e} &= \{e_n, e_{n-1}, e_{n-2}, \dots, e_{n-m}\}^T, \\ \underline{y} &= \{y_n, y_{n-1}, y_{n-2}, \dots, y_{n-m}\}^T, \\ \underline{v} &= \{v_n, v_{n-1}, v_{n-2}, \dots, v_{n-m}\}^T, \\ \underline{Z} &= \{z_0, z_1, z_2, \dots, z_{m-1}\}^T, \end{aligned}$$

and  $W$  is the circular matrix

$$W = \begin{bmatrix} w_n & w_{n-1} & w_{n-2} & \dots & w_{n-m} \\ w_{n-1} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ w_{n-2} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ w_{n-m} & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & w_{n-2m} \end{bmatrix}$$

15

This can be written more compactly as

$$\underline{e} = \underline{y} + U \underline{C},$$

20

where  $U$  is the matrix  $W$  augmented with the vector  $\underline{v}$ , and  $\underline{C}$  is the vector of coefficients,  $\underline{Z}$ , augmented with the amplifier gain  $K$ . That is

$$U = [\underline{v} : W],$$

25

and

$$\underline{C} = \{K, z_0, z_1, \dots, z_m\}^T$$

The equation for  $\underline{e}$  is in a standard form for sampled-data filters, and a variety of methods may be used to determine the vector of filter coefficients,  $\underline{C}$ .

For example, for stationary signals,  $y$ , the optimal vector of coefficients can be defined to be that which minimizes the variance (mean square) of the signal at the sensor, i.e. that which minimizes

$$J = \langle \underline{e}^T \underline{e} \rangle.$$

The optimal vector of coefficients is

10

$$\underline{C} = - \langle \underline{U}^T \underline{U} \rangle^{-1} \langle \underline{U}^T \underline{y} \rangle.$$

Other optimal vectors can be found which minimize  $J$ , or other cost functions, subject to various constraints.

15

We therefore have a means for determining the coefficients of a filter with low throughput delay.

For non-stationary signals, that is those whose statistics vary with time, or for time-varying systems, various adaptive algorithms can be used. One example is to use an adaptive update. At the  $k$ -th update step this takes the form,

20

$$\underline{C}^{k+1} = (1 - \mu \underline{L}) \underline{C}^k - \mu \underline{B} \underline{e}^k,$$

where  $\mu$  is the convergence step-size,  $\underline{B}$  is a matrix which is dependent on the controller input signal and the system response ( $A$ ), and  $\underline{L}$  is a matrix (often a diagonal matrix) which can depend upon both the system response and the controller output signal.

25

Examples are,

$$\underline{B} = \underline{U}^T,$$

30

$$\underline{L} = \lambda \underline{I},$$

which gives an LMS or gradient type algorithm, and

$$\underline{B} = \langle \underline{U}^T \underline{U} + \lambda \underline{I} \rangle^{-1} \underline{U}^T,$$

35

$$\underline{L} = \underline{I} - \underline{B} \underline{U}.$$

which gives Newton or steepest descent type algorithm. In the above  $\lambda$  is a non-negative number and  $I$  is the identity matrix. Many variations are possible.

The same approach can be used for multi-channel systems, even when there is significant interaction between the channels. An example of a multi-channel filter with 3 inputs and 2 outputs is shown in Figure 9. It utilizes 6 single channel filters, whose outputs are combined as shown in the figure.

Note however, that in the above derivation the error signal and the filtered input signal were sampled at the sampling rate of the high rate sampled-data filter. This means that the information for the adaptive update must be collected at this rate. Furthermore, the impulse response,  $A(t)$ , does not include the anti-imaging filter for the slow sampled-data filter, so it is not easy to measure, and the filtered input signal,  $v(t)$ , is difficult to calculate since it involves a convolution with high sampling rate data. For applications where the filter characteristic can be determined off-line this may not be a problem, but one of the purposes of the current invention is to minimize the computational requirements. This is achieved by using a design or adaption approach which only uses the data sampled at the slower sampling rate.

One way of modifying the above approach, which constitutes one aspect of this invention, will now be described. This approach seeks to use only slow-rate data to adjust the filter coefficients. This further reduces the computational requirements for the signal processor.

Rather than use the cost function  $J$  described above, a different cost function is used. This cost function corresponds to minimizing the filtered error signal

$$(F_1 * F_2 * e)(rT) = (F_1 * F_2 * y)(rT) + v_s(rT)K + \sum_n w_s(rT, n).z_n$$

where

$$v_s(rT) = \sum_l A_s(rT - lT).u_1(lT),$$

$$\begin{aligned} w_s(rT, n) &= \sum_l (F_1 * A_s)(rT - lT).u_2(|l - Nn|T) \\ &= \sum_l (F_1 * F_2 * A_s)(rT - lT)u_1(|l - Nn|T) \end{aligned}$$

and  $A_s = F_2 * A$ . The star denotes the convolution operator.

This error can sub-sampled at the slower sampling rate, without introducing aliasing, to give

$$(F_1 * F_2 * e)(rNT) = (F_1 * F_2 * y)(rNT) + v_s(rNT)K + \sum_n w_s((r - l)NT).z_n$$

where

$$w_s(rNT) = \sum_l (F_1 * F_2 * A_s)((r-l)NT).u_1(lNT)$$

This form of the equation is preferred since the impulse response  $A_s$  can be measured directly at the slow sampling rate, and the signal  $u_1 = F_1 * u$  is available at the slow sampling rate as the input to the slow sampled-data filter.

The new cost function is given by

$$J = \langle \underline{e}^T \mathbf{H}^T \mathbf{H} \underline{e} \rangle,$$

10

where  $\mathbf{H}$  is the circular matrix corresponding to a filter with response  $F_1 * F_2$ .

In matrix notation

$$\mathbf{H} \underline{e} = \mathbf{H} \underline{y} + \mathbf{U}_s \underline{c},$$

15 where the matrix of signals  $\mathbf{U}_s$  is defined analogously to  $\mathbf{U}$ , except that instead of  $v(t)$  and  $w(t)$  it uses the filtered signals  $v_s(t)$  and  $w_s(t)$ .

The update equations are defined analogously to those using the higher sampling rate data (with  $\mathbf{U}$  replaced by  $\mathbf{U}_s$ ).

20 The process of minimizing the filtered error signal rather than the error signal itself allows the filter coefficients to be updated using only data sampled at the slow rate. This results in a significant reduction in the amount of computation required.

25 One of the requirements of the filter described above is for data at two different sampling rates. This can be achieved by using separate analog-to-digital converters for each sampling rate, each preceded by the appropriate analog anti-aliasing filter. Similarly, separate digital-to-analog converters can be used for each filter output. The analog outputs would each pass through the appropriate anti-imaging filter before being summed to produce the combined output.

30 An alternative approach is to use a single high rate analog-to-digital converter preceded by the appropriate analog anti-aliasing filter. The slower rate data can then be obtained by digital filtering and decimation (sub-sampling). Similarly, the low rate digital output can be interpolated and filtered to produce a digital signal at the higher rate. This signal can then be digitally combined with the high rate output signal before being passed to a common digital-to-analog converter and anti-aliasing filter.

35 This type of decimation, interpolation and filtering is currently found in one-bit converters (often known as sigma-delta converters or codecs). Many efficient techniques have been developed. One of the advantages of these converters is that

the filtering and conversion for several inputs and outputs can easily be achieved by a single integrated circuit chip. This results in a low-cost device. The initial sampling rates can be very high (often above 1 megaHertz) and the data is then decimated in several stages before the final digital output is obtained. These devices can easily be  
5 modified to provide several outputs at different rates and so they are ideally suited for use with the filters of this invention.

The adaption process requires knowledge of the system response  $A_s$ . Since this is only required at the slow sampling rate it can be measured by usual techniques such as an initial calibration (using a test signal) and/or using on-line system  
10 identification (as described, for example, by Eriksson, US patent 4,667,676.

For some control applications the input (reference) signal is not isolated from the actuator. This is always the case for feedback control since the reference signal and the error signal are obtained from the same sensor. This situation results in a  
15 feedback loop from the controller output to its input which complicates the adaption process. However, there are well known techniques for dealing with this (see Eriksson, US patent 4,667,676 for example). One approach is to compensate for the feedback by modeling the feedback path with an additional fixed or adaptive filter and subtracting an estimate of the feedback component from the input signal (see  
20 Chaplin, US Patent No. 4122303). It may be necessary to use an additional low delay filter to model this feedback accurately. This filter can be adapted in the same way as the control filter by considering the error between the actual response to a test signal and the predicted response (as in Figure 6). Similarly, a filtered version of this error signal can be used to reduce the amount of processing required.

An example of a single channel adaptive feedforward (AFF) controller is  
25 shown in Figure 10. This utilizes a sigma delta converter chip with two inputs and one output, and a general purpose Digital Signal Processing chip (DSP). In another embodiment the DSP is replaced by custom signal processing hardware such as an adaptive filter chip. In Figure 10  $F1$  denotes a digital low pass filter and decimator (sub-sampler) and  $F2$  denotes a digital interpolator.  $G1$  denotes the analog anti-aliasing filter, 1-bit analog to digital converter and first stage decimator and  $G2$   
30 denotes the 1-bit digital to analog converter and analog anti-imaging filter. The controller includes compensation for the actuator feedback to the reference sensors (using both a high rate gain,  $L$ , and a slower rate digital filter,  $W$ ). In this embodiment the anti-aliasing and interpolation filtering is all done on the Sigma-  
35 Delta chip, as is the filtering of the error signal. This means that the DSP is only using the slow speed digital data.

An example of a single channel adaptive feedback (AFB) controller is shown in Figure 11. This is very similar to the AFF controller but utilizes a sigma delta converter chip with a single input and one output.

5 For multi-channel applications it is sometimes necessary to compensate for the feedback between each actuator and sensor. In this case, coupling pairs of inputs and outputs as in Figure 10 is not sufficient. In this case it may be necessary to do the high rate filtering on the DSP chip. An example of an input/output chip for this application is shown in Figure 12. Only one input and output are shown, but the structure is just repeated for additional channels.

10 The input/output hardware and the signal processing hardware and the associated electronics can be combined on a single integrated circuit chip as shown in Figure 13 for example. This results in a high performance, low cost control system which can be applied to many noise and vibration control problems.

15 Examples of applications where low cost controllers are required include noise canceling headsets, noise and vibration control for home appliances such as vacuum cleaners and range hoods, electronic mufflers for automobiles, noise filters for communication signals and vibration controllers for active panels and enclosures.

CLAIMS

1. A filter with low throughput delay comprising  
a first sampled-data filter means with first sampling rate,  
5 at least one additional filter means  
characterized in that at least one of the additional filter means has a low  
throughput delay compared to the sampled-data filter and, that there is a signal  
path through the filter which avoids the first sampled-data filter.
- 10 2. A filter according to claim 1 wherein the characteristics of the first filter means  
and the additional filter means are chosen together to minimize the difference  
between overall filter response and a desired response.
- 15 3. A filter according to claim 1 wherein said additional filter means is one or more  
second sampled-data filters with second sampling rate and one or more  
coefficients.
4. A filter according to claim 3 wherein said second sampling rate is faster than the  
first sampling rate and the number of coefficients in the second sampled-data filter  
20 is less than the number of coefficients in the first sampled-data filter.
5. A filter according to claim 4 wherein the input signals to the first and second  
sampled-data filter means are obtained from a single analog to digital converter.
- 25 6. A filter according to claim 5 wherein the single analog to digital converter is a  
one-bit (sigma delta) converter.
7. A filter according to claim 4 wherein the digital output signals from the first and  
second digital filter means are combined and passed to a single digital to analog  
30 converter.
8. A filter according to claim 7 wherein the single digital to analog converter is a  
one-bit (sigma delta) converter.
- 35 9. A filter as in claim 7 further characterized in that the analog to digital converters,  
the digital to analog converters and the appropriate anti-aliasing and anti-imaging  
filters are contained on one or more integrated circuit chips.

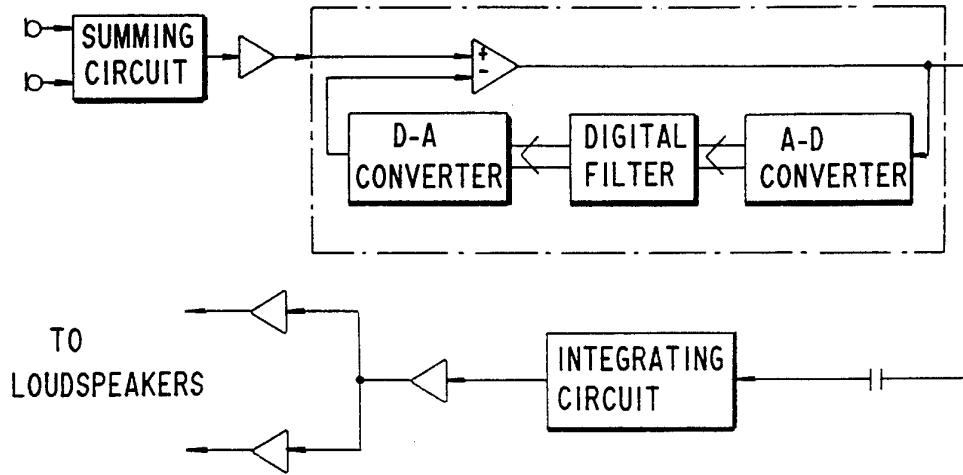
10. A filter according to claim 1 wherein the additional filter means is an analog filter or gain.
11. A filter according to claim 10 wherein the analog filter or gain is digitally controlled.
12. A filter according to claim 1 wherein the characteristics of the first filter means and/or the additional filter means are adapted in response to an error signal.
13. A filter according to claim 12 wherein the adaption process uses the input to the first sampled-data filter and an error signal sampled at the first sampling rate.
14. A filter according to claim 13 wherein the adaption process is designed at least in part to minimize the mean square of one or more filtered error signals.
15. A control system for modifying an original disturbance comprising  
one or more input sensor means providing input signals related at least in part to the original disturbance,  
one or more actuators responsive to a combination of output signals and causing a control disturbance,  
filter means with low throughput delay each filter means responsive to said inputs and said outputs to provide said output signals.
16. A control system according to claim 5 and including additional filter means with low throughput delay to compensate for any feedback between the actuators and the input sensors.
17. An adaptive control system comprising  
one or more input sensors providing input signals,  
one or more actuators responsive to a combination of output signals and causing a control disturbance,  
filter means with low throughput delay each filter means responsive to said inputs and said outputs to provide said output signals,  
residual sensors responsive to the combination of an original disturbance and said control disturbance.  
characterized in that the signal from the residual sensor is used to adapt to characteristics of the said filter means.

18. A control system as in claim 15 which is contained on one or more input/output integrated circuit chips and one or more signal processing chips.
19. A control system as in claim 15 in which the control system is contained on single  
5 integrated circuit chip.
20. A control system as in claim 17 in which the electronics of the control system is contained on single integrated circuit chip.
- 10 21. A filter with a low throughput delay, said filter comprising  
an initial sample-data filter means with a selected first sampling rate,  
other filter means having been selected so as to have a lower throughput  
delay than said initial sample filter means,  
15 summing means to sum the outputs from said initial and other filter  
means,  
said initial and other filter means adapted to operated in parallel to avoid  
unwanted delays in the system incorporating the filter.
22. A method of avoiding unwanted throughput delays in a filtered circuit comprising  
20 providing an initial sampled-data filter means having a predetermined  
sampling rate,  
providing other filter means in parallel with said initial filter, said other  
filter means having a lower throughput delay than said initial sampled-data  
means, and  
25 mixing the outputs of said initial other filter means so as to provide a  
single output with low throughput delay.
23. The method of claim 22 and including the step of  
30 selecting the characteristics of said initial filter means and other filter  
means so as to minimize the difference between overall filter response and a  
desired response.

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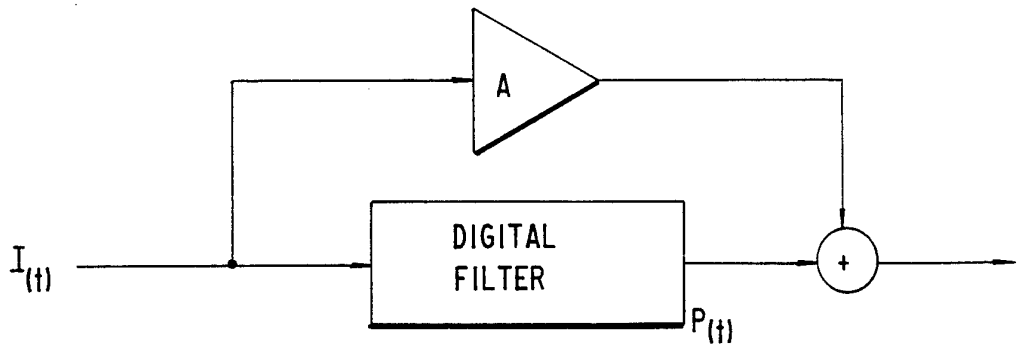
# FIG.1

PRIOR ART



# FIG.2

PRIOR ART



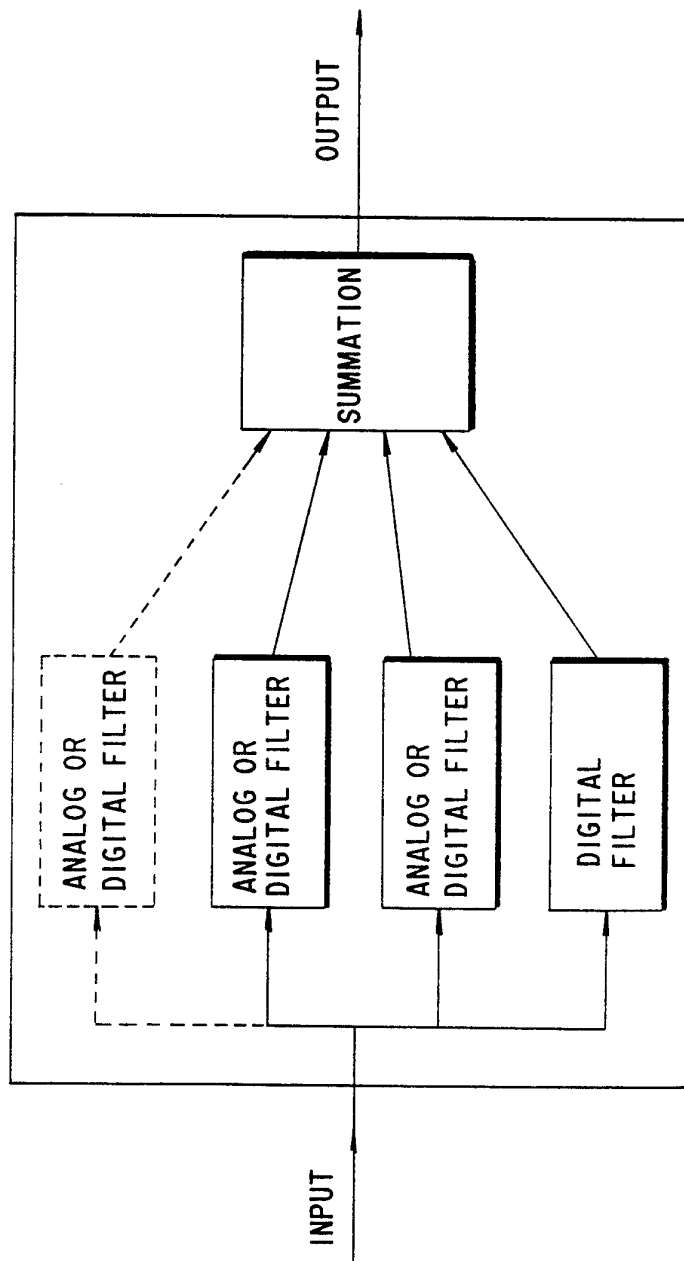


FIG.3

FIG.4

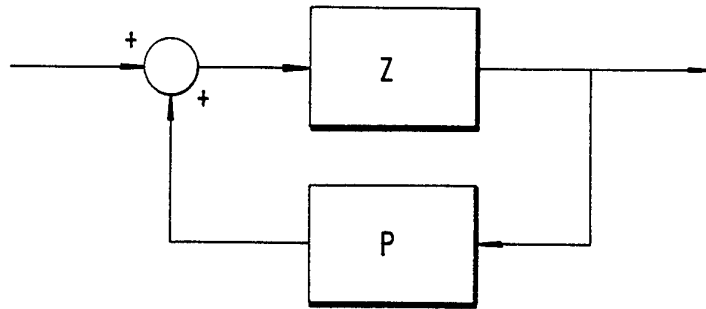


FIG.5

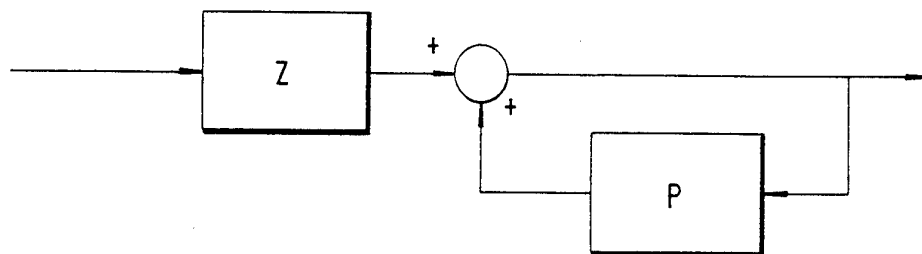
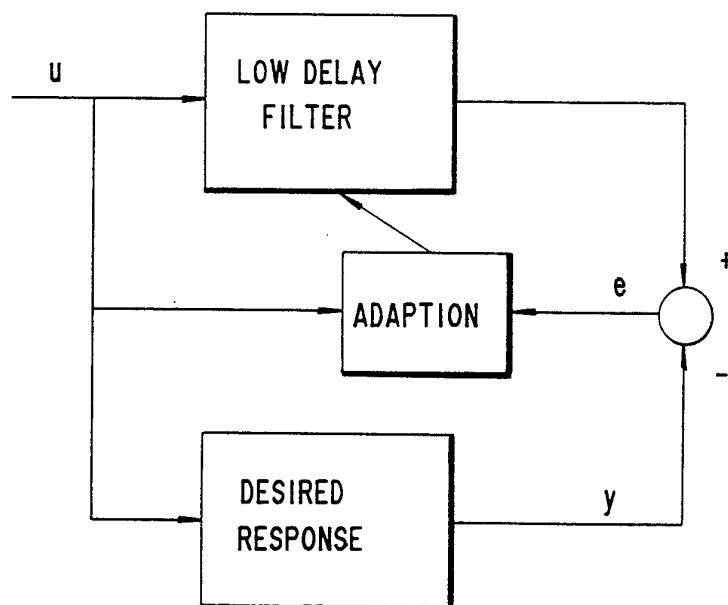


FIG.6



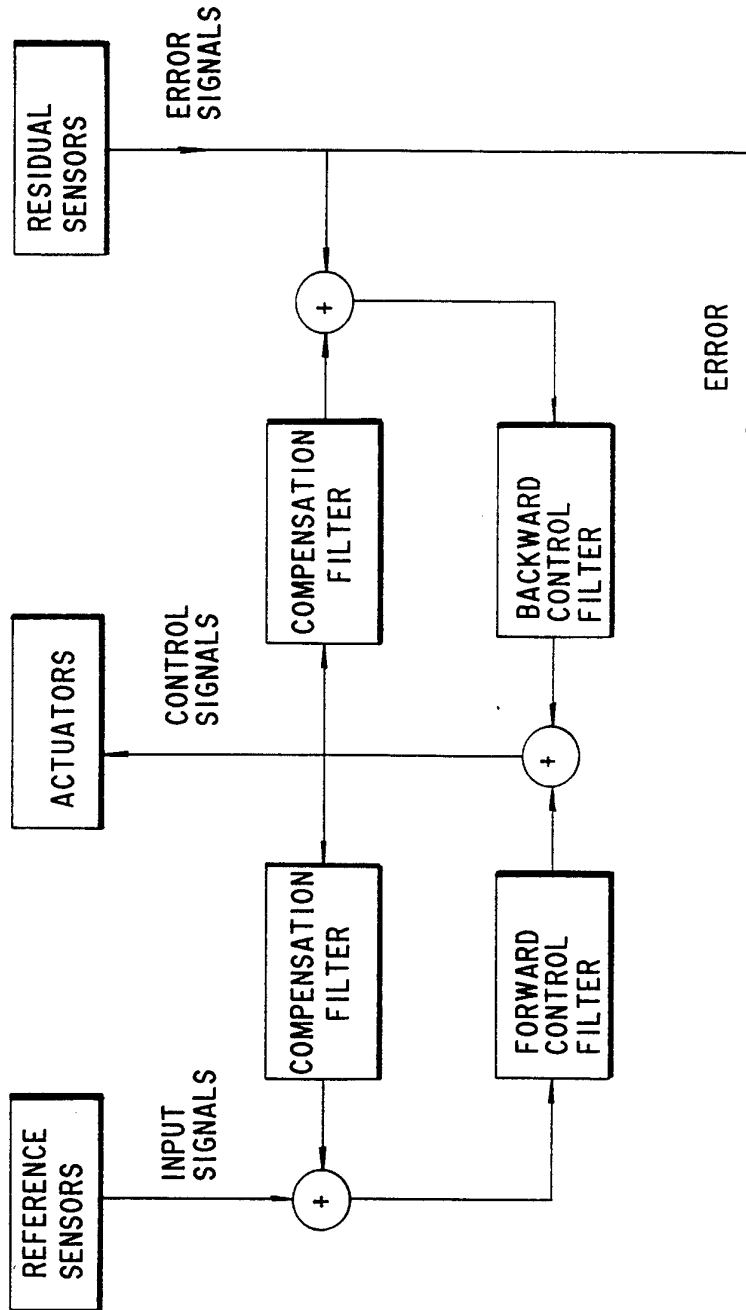


FIG. 7

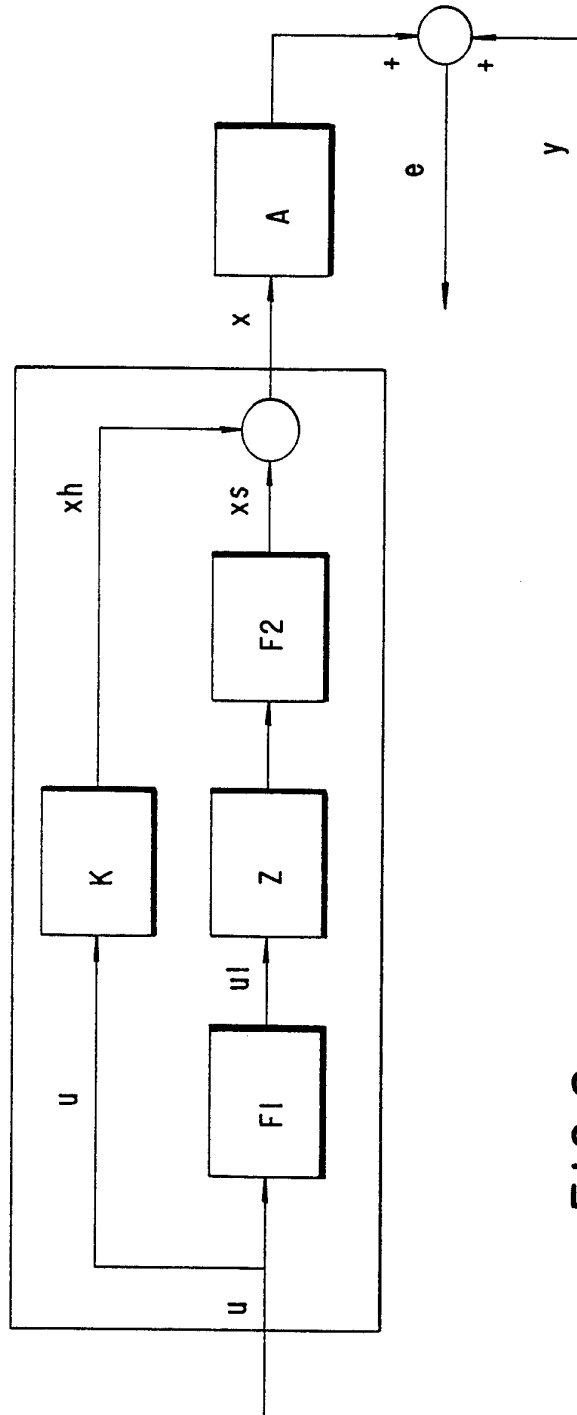
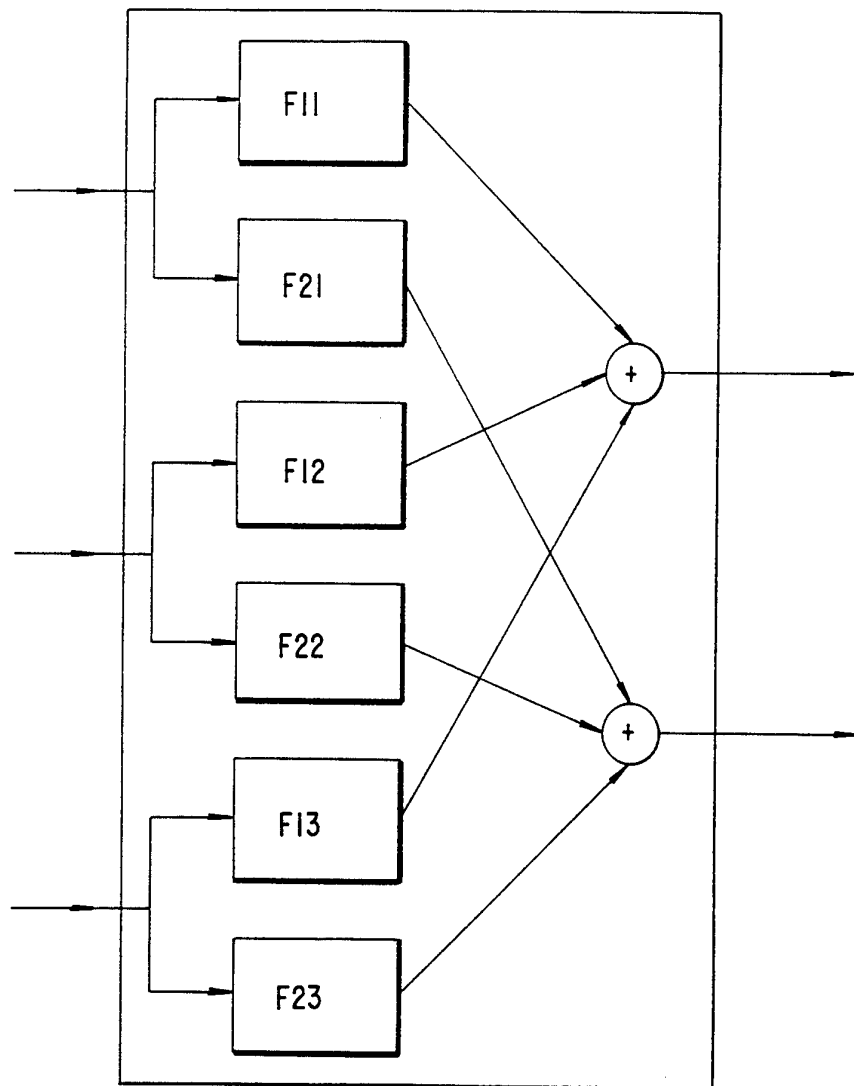


FIG.8

FIG.9



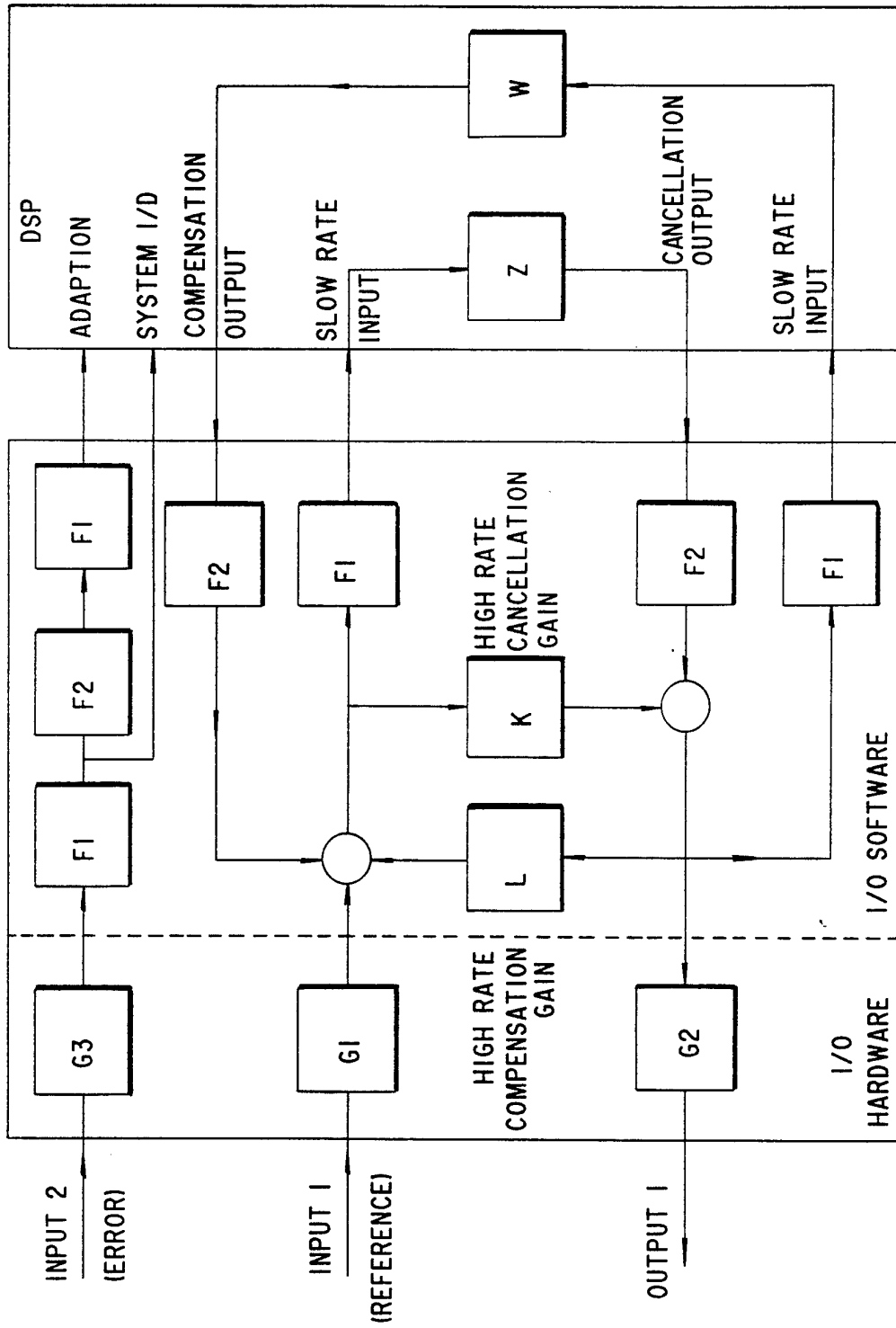


FIG.10

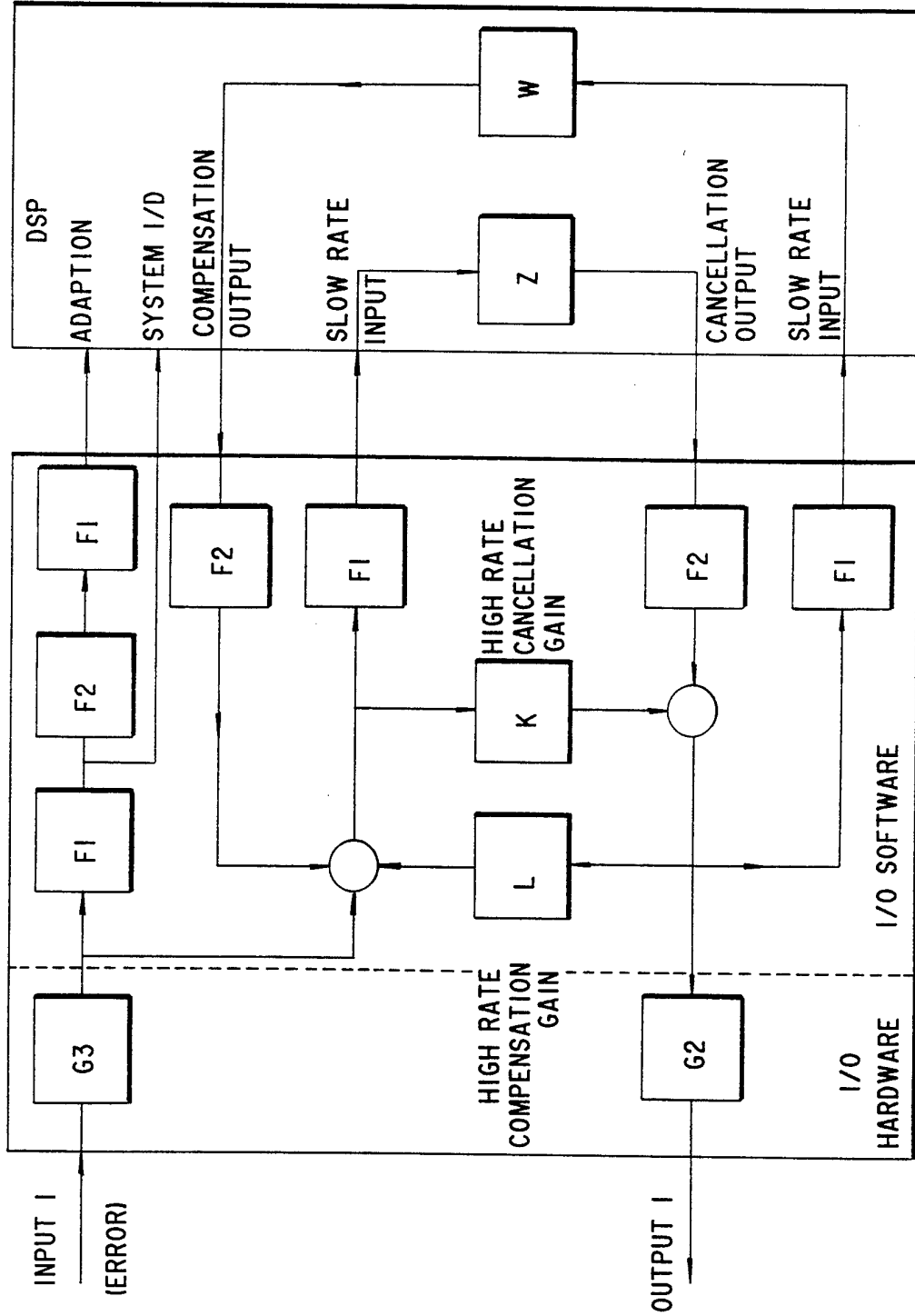


FIG.11

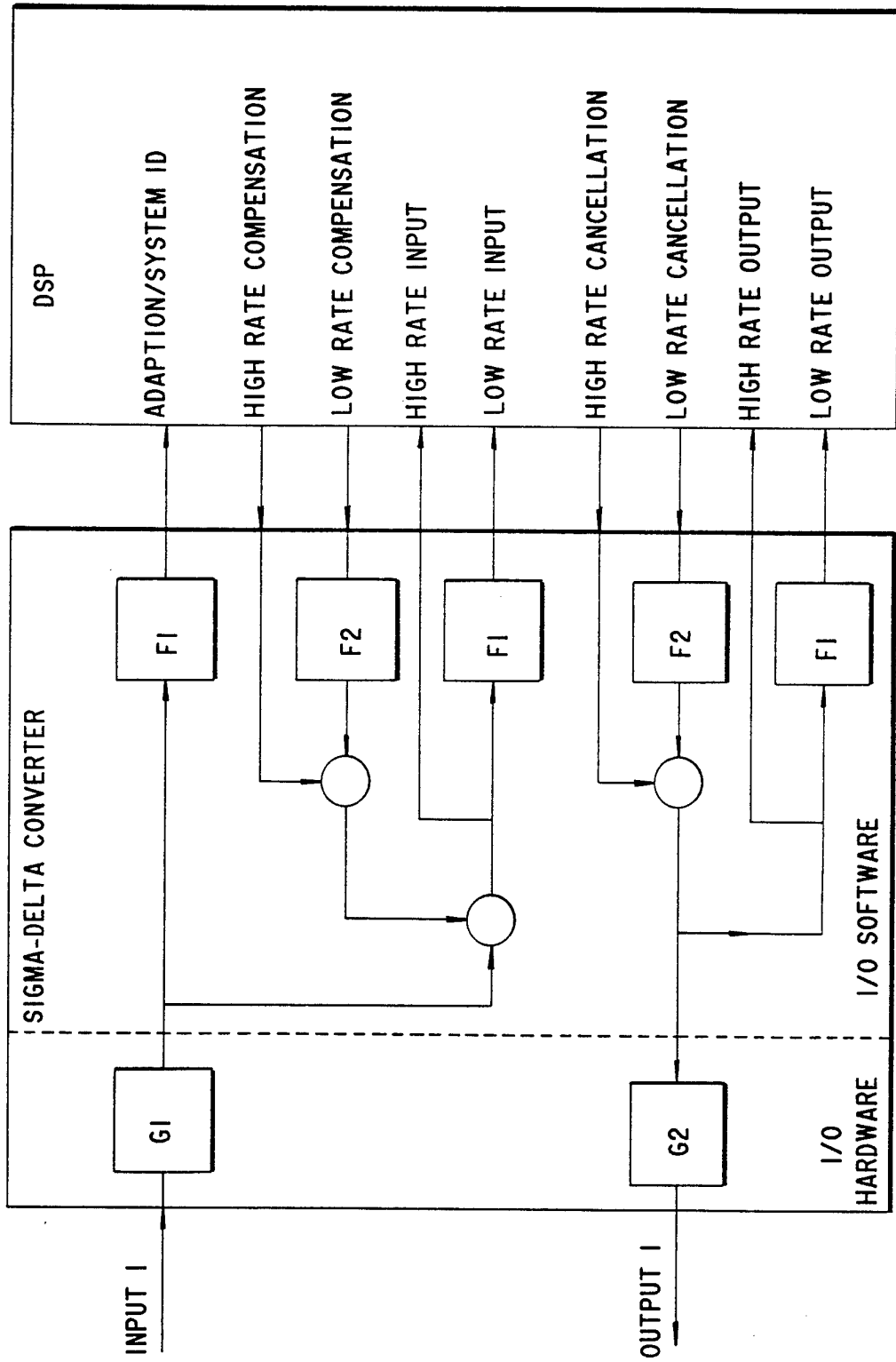


FIG.12

**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

PCT/US92/07802

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 IPC(5) :G06J 1/00  
 US CL :364/602  
 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

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**B. FIELDS SEARCHED**  
 Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)  
 U.S. : 364/602, 807, 861, 724.11, 724.15, 724.16, 724.17, 724.19, 724.20, 148, 149, 150

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

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Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US, A, 5,057,993 (KANDA) 15 October 1991. See Fig. 1.	15-20
X	US, A, 5,038,269 (GRIMBLE ET AL.) 06 August 1991. See Fig. 1.	15-20
Y	US, A, 4,872,127 (NOLAN) 03 October 1989. See Fig. 1.	1-14 and 21-23
Y	US, A, 4,825,396 (GAZSI) 25 April 1989. See Figs. 1-4.	1-14 and 21-23
A	US, A, 4,922,530 (KENNEY ET AL.) 01 May 1990. See Fig. 1.	1-14 and 21-23

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

* Special categories of cited documents:	"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
"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be part of particular relevance	"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
"E" earlier document published on or after the international filing date	"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
"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)	"&" document member of the same patent family
"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	

Date of the actual completion of the international search 05 NOVEMBER 1992	Date of mailing of the international search report <b>04 JAN 1993</b>
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks Box PCT Washington, D.C. 20231 Facsimile No. NOT APPLICABLE	Authorized officer <i>Jim Trammell for</i> JIM TRAMMELL Telephone No. (703) 308-2876
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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.  
PCT/US92/07802

## C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US, A, 4,519,084 (LANGSETH) 21 May 1985. See Fig. 1.	1-14 and 21-23