(51) International Patent Classification:
G10L 19/02 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/KR2006/002689

(22) International Filing Date: 10 July 2006 (10.07.2006)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/697,551 11 July 2005 (11.07.2005) US


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(54) Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD OF PROCESSING AN AUDIO SIGNAL

(57) Abstract: In one embodiment, at least one audio data frame having at least one channel is generated. Each channel is divided into a plurality of blocks. A sub-block partitioning scheme is selected, and a number of sub-blocks into which the block is to be partitioned is selected. The selected number of sub-blocks is chosen from numbers of sub-blocks available for the selected sub-block partitioning scheme. The block of audio data is partitioned into sub-blocks according to the selected number of sub-blocks, and the partitioned sub-blocks are coded according to a selected entropy coding scheme.
A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC\(^5\): G10L 19/02 (2006.01)
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)
IPC\(^5\): G10L H04B H04N H04S

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 practicable, search terms used)
EPODOC WPI IEEE INSPEC

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages</th>
<th>Relevant to claim No.</th>
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Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.
See patent family annex.

Date of the actual completion of the international search: 25 November 2006 (25.11.2006)
Date of mailing of the international search report: 18 January 2007 (18.01.2007)

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Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (January 2004)
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