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(54) Title: CHANNEL ESTIMATION METHOD FOR OVERCOMING CHANNEL DISCONTINUITY BETWEEN SUBBANDS OF AN ORTHOGONAL FREQUENCY DIVISION MULTIPLEXING (OFDM) SYSTEM

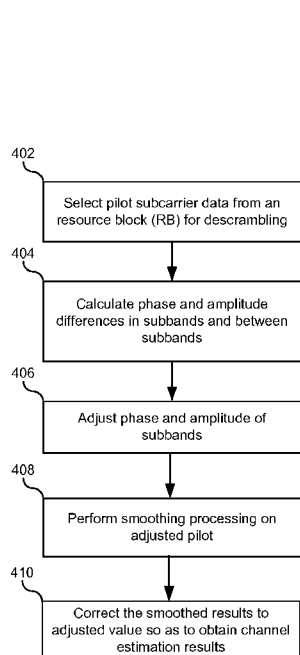


FIG. 4

(57) Abstract: A method of processing signals. The method includes receiving a communication signal in a time domain, converting the communication signal to a frequency domain, providing resource blocks based on the communication signal in the frequency domain, the resource blocks including a first resource block and a second resource block, selecting pilot signals from the first resource block and pilot signals from the second resource block, determining a first set of phase and amplitude differences among the pilot signals, determining a second set of phase and amplitude differences among the pilot signals, determining a third set of phase and amplitude differences between the pilot signals and the pilot signals, generating a first waveform using at least the first and third set of phase and amplitude differences, applying a smoothing filter against the first waveform to generate a second waveform, and converting the third waveform from the frequency domain to the time domain.



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CHANNEL ESTIMATION METHOD FOR OVERCOMING CHANNEL DISCONTINUITY BETWEEN SUBBANDS OF AN ORTHOGONAL FREQUENCY DIVISION MULTIPLEXING (OFDM) SYSTEM

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CLAIM OF PRIORITY

This application is related to Attorney Docket no. 94778-858209 (000800US), Application No. **/**,*,*, entitled ORTHOGONAL FREQUENCY DIVISION MULTIPLEXING (OFDM) CHANNEL ESTIMATION TO IMPROVE THE SMOOTHING
10 PROCESS, filed concurrently herewith and This application is related to Attorney Docket no. 94778-858210 (000900US), Application No. **/**,*,*, entitled METHOD OF CHANNEL ESTIMATION BY PHASE ROTATION IN AN ORTHOGONAL FREQUENCY DIVISION MULTIPLEXING (OFDM) SYSTEM, filed concurrently herewith, which are incorporated by reference in their entirety for any and all purposed.

15 This application claims priority to Chinese Application number 201310018251.8 entitled AN ORTHOGONAL FREQUENCY DIVISION MULTIPLEXING (OFDM) SYSTEM AND CHANNEL ESTIMATION METHOD, filed on January 17, 2013 by Spreadtrum Communications(Shanghai) Co., Ltd., which is incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND

20 In existing Long Term Evolution (LTE) systems, the base station sends data to a terminal by a beam which is formed in a transmission mode 7 or 8, and channel discontinuity frequently occurs among subbands in the frequency domain after the forming the beam. While in the general channel estimation method of the Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing (OFDM) system, channels are generally considered to be continuous, and channel estimation results are
25 obtained after the selected descrambled pilot is smoothed.

Further, in existing OFDM based systems the Weiner algorithm and/or a Fourier transformation may be used for channel estimation. However, these methods are often inadequate when communication channels are not continuous. The existing methods also include simple estimation techniques, such as linear value insertion. However, some
30 differences exist between performance of the linear interpolation algorithm and that of other methods, and the linear interpolation algorithm is seldom used in current communication systems mainly because it is quite difficult to suppress the noise properly by the linear interpolation algorithm.

In an OFDM receiver, channel smoothing is performed on the estimated channel in order
35 to reduce the effects of noise on the estimated channel, thereby improving the system packet

error performance. FIG. 1 illustrates a single stream OFDM transmitter 102 accepting an input stream s_1 104 to a baseband encoder 106 which encoded stream is provided to an inverse fast Fourier transform (IFFT) 108 to produce baseband subcarriers such as 1 through 1024 or 1 through 512, and the subcarriers are modulated to a carrier frequency for coupling to an antenna 112 as transmitted signal X. The transmitted signal X is coupled through a channel with a frequency dependent characteristic H to receive antenna 132 of receiver 130 to form received signal $Y=HX$. The receiver 130 receives signal Y, which is baseband converted using RF Front End 133 and applied to FFT 134 to channel compensator 138 and to decoder 140 which generates the received stream S_1' . Channel estimator 136 estimates the channel characteristic H during a long preamble interval, and the channel characteristic H is applied to channel compensator 138.

FIG. 2A illustrates a Multiple Input Multiple Output (MIMO) receiver 240 operative on two transmit streams s_1 and s_2 204 encoded 206 and provided to first stream IFFT 208 which generates baseband subcarriers, which are provided to RF modulator and amplifier 210 and coupled as X_1 to antenna 216. Second stream IFFT 212 and RF modulator and amplifier 214 similarly generate subcarriers which are upconverted and coupled to antenna 218 as X_2 . Receiver 240 has three antennas 242, 244, 246, which couple to receivers 248, 250, 252 and to output decoder 254 which forms decoded streams s_1' and s_2' . Each receiver 248, 250, 252 performs the receive functions as described for FIG. 1, however the channel estimation function 249, 251, 253 for each receiver uses the long preamble part of the packet to characterize the channel from each transmit antenna 216, 218 to each receive antenna 242, 244, 246. For example, receiver 248 must characterize and compensate the channel h_{11} from 216 to 242 as well as channel h_{12} from 218 to 242. Each channel characteristic h_{11} and h_{22} is a linear array containing real and imaginary components for each subcarrier, typically 1 through 1024. The channel estimator 249 therefore contains h_{11} and h_{12} , estimator 251 contains h_{21} and h_{22} , and channel estimator 253 contains h_{31} and h_{32} . The 2.times.3 MIMO case of FIG. 2 shows the case where the number of remote transmitters $N_t=2$ and the number of local antennas and receivers $N_r=3$. For a MIMO receiver where the number of remote transmitters is N_t and the number of local antennas and receivers is N_r , the N_t*N_r channels have a frequency response which may be smoothed over a range of subcarrier frequencies using a finite impulse response (FIR) filter for I and Q channels. Such a channel smoothing filter would require a total of $2*N_t*N_r$ filters. For a 13 tap FIR filter, each tap would have an associated multiplier, so such an implementation would require 13 complex multipliers for each filter, or $26*N_t*N_r$ multipliers total at each receiver station.

It is to be appreciated that communication interfaces can have other MIMO

configurations. FIG. 2B is a simplified diagram illustrating various types of MIMO configuration.

Accordingly, due to channel discontinuity, the smoothing processing will result in a significant errors in the channel estimation results. These errors affecting the performance, and signal quality. Thus, a method for obtaining more accurate channel estimation results is needed.

BRIEF SUMMARY

In one embodiment, a method of processing communication signals, is described. The method includes receiving a communication signal in a time domain, converting the communication signal to a frequency domain, providing a plurality of resource blocks based on the communication signal in the frequency domain, the plurality of resource blocks including a first resource block and a second resource block, selecting a first plurality of pilot signals from the first resource block and a second plurality of pilot signals from the second resource block, determining a first set of phase and amplitude differences among the first plurality of pilot signals, determining a second set of phase and amplitude differences among the second plurality of pilot signals, determining a third set of phase and amplitude differences between the first plurality of pilot signals and the second plurality of pilot signals, generating a first waveform using at least the first and third set of phase and amplitude differences, applying a smoothing filter against the first waveform to generate a second waveform, generating a third waveform using at least the first and third set of phase and amplitude differences, and converting the third waveform from the frequency domain to the time domain.

The method further includes determining a phase difference between a first pilot signal and a second pilot signal, wherein the first plurality of pilot signals including the first pilot signal at a first position of the first resource block, and the second plurality of pilot signals including the second pilot signals at the first position of the second resource block, calculating the phase difference between the first pilot and the second pilot within the first resource block, and calculating the amplitude difference between the first pilot and the second pilot within the first resource block. The smoothing filter comprises a Weiner filter, a discrete Fourier Transform, etc.

The method further includes generating the first waveform using at least the second set of phase and amplitude differences. The communication signal comprises an Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing (OFDM) Signal, a received via Long Term Evolution (LTE) communication network, etc.

In another embodiment, a system for processing communication signals, is described. The system includes a memory device, and a computer processor in communication with the

memory device. The memory device includes sets of instructions when executed by the computer processor, cause the computer processor to: receive a communication signal in a time domain, convert the communication signal to a frequency domain, provide a plurality of resource blocks based on the communication signal in the frequency domain, the plurality of resource blocks including a first resource block and a second resource block, select a first plurality of pilot signals from the first resource block and a second plurality of pilot signals from the second resource block, determine a first set of phase and amplitude differences among the first plurality of pilot signals, determine a second set of phase and amplitude differences among the second plurality of pilot signals, determine a third set of phase and amplitude differences between the first plurality of pilot signals and the second plurality of pilot signals, generate a first waveform using at least the first and third set of phase and amplitude differences, apply a smoothing filter against the first waveform to generate a second waveform, generate a third waveform using at least the first and third set of phase and amplitude differences, and convert the third waveform from the frequency domain to the time domain.

The system further includes that the sets of instructions further cause the computer processor to determine a phase difference between a first pilot signal and a second pilot signal, wherein the first plurality of pilot signals including the first pilot signal at a first position of the first resource block, and the second plurality of pilot signals including the second pilot signals at the first position of the second resource block, calculate the phase difference between the first pilot and the second pilot within the first resource block, calculate the amplitude difference between the first pilot and the second pilot within the first resource block, and generate the first waveform using at least the second set of phase and amplitude differences.

In yet another embodiment, a computer-readable medium for processing communication signals, the computer-readable medium having sets of instruction stored thereon, is described.

The sets of instructions cause the computer to receive a communication signal in a time domain, convert the communication signal to a frequency domain, provide a plurality of resource blocks based on the communication signal in the frequency domain, the plurality of resource blocks including a first resource block and a second resource block, select a first plurality of pilot signals from the first resource block and a second plurality of pilot signals from the second resource block, determine a first set of phase and amplitude differences among the first plurality of pilot signals, determine a second set of phase and amplitude differences among the second plurality of pilot signals, determine a third set of phase and amplitude differences between the first plurality of pilot signals and the second plurality of pilot signals, generate a first waveform using at least the first and third set of phase and amplitude differences, apply a smoothing filter against the first waveform to generate a second waveform, generate a third

waveform using at least the first and third set of phase and amplitude differences, and convert the third waveform from the frequency domain to the time domain.

Further, the computer-readable medium causes the computer to calculate a phase difference between a first pilot signal and a second pilot signal, wherein the first plurality of pilot signals including the first pilot signal at a first position of the first resource block, and the second plurality of pilot signals including the second pilot signals at the first position of the second resource block, calculate the phase difference between the first pilot and the second pilot within the first resource block, calculate the amplitude difference between the first pilot and the second pilot within the first resource block, and generate the first waveform using at least the second set of phase and amplitude differences. The communication signal is received via Long Term Evolution (LTE) communication network.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

A further understanding of the nature and advantages of the present invention may be realized by reference to the remaining portions of the specification and the drawings, wherein like reference numerals are used throughout the several drawings to refer to similar components. In some instances, a sub-label is associated with a reference numeral to denote one of multiple similar components. When reference is made to a reference numeral without specification to an existing sub-label, it is intended to refer to all such multiple similar components.

FIG. 1 illustrates a single stream OFDM transmitter.

FIG. 2A illustrates a Multiple Input Multiple Output (MIMO) receiver.

FIG. 2B is a simplified diagram illustrating various types of MIMO configuration.

FIGS. 3A and 3B illustrate a flow diagram for performing processing of communication signals, according to one embodiment of the invention.

FIG. 4 illustrates a flow diagram for performing processing of communication signals, according to another embodiment of the invention.

FIG. 5 illustrates waveform diagrams, according to one embodiment of the invention.

FIG. 6 illustrates a waveform diagram, according to another embodiment of the invention.

FIG. 7 illustrates a block diagram of an exemplary computer hardware system that may be used to implement various embodiments.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

In the following description, for the purposes of explanation, numerous specific details are set forth in order to provide a thorough understanding of various embodiments of the present invention. It will be apparent, however, to one skilled in the art that embodiments of the present invention may be practiced without some of these specific details. In other

instances, well-known structures and devices are shown in block diagram form.

The ensuing description provides exemplary embodiments only, and is not intended to limit the scope, applicability, or configuration of the disclosure. Rather, the ensuing description of the exemplary embodiments will provide those skilled in the art with an enabling
5 description for implementing an exemplary embodiment. It should be understood that various changes may be made in the function and arrangement of elements without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as set forth in the appended claims.

Specific details are given in the following description to provide a thorough understanding of the embodiments. However, it will be understood by one of ordinary skill in
10 the art that the embodiments may be practiced without these specific details. For example, circuits, systems, networks, processes, and other components may be shown as components in block diagram form in order not to obscure the embodiments in unnecessary detail. In other instances, well-known circuits, processes, algorithms, structures, and techniques may be shown without unnecessary detail in order to avoid obscuring the embodiments.

Described herein, are embodiments directed to telecommunication. More specifically,
15 various embodiments of the present invention provide techniques for channel estimation in OFDM communication systems. For example, these techniques may be used in TDD, FDD LTE, WCDMA, WiMax, Wifi, and/or other types of telecommunication systems. Depending on the application, various techniques according to the embodiments of the present invention
20 can be implemented as a part of user terminals, base stations, embedded systems, hardware modules, software modules, and the like. Further, an artificially “continuous” sine wave in the frequency domain may be created to perform smoothing of the wave and then the original wave may be restored.

FIGS. 3A and 3B illustrate a method 300 for performing processing of communication
25 signals, according to one embodiment of the invention. At process block 302, a communication signal in a time domain is received. The communication signal is then converted to a frequency domain (process block 304).

At process block 306, multiple resource blocks based on the communication signal in the frequency domain are provided. In one embodiment, the multiple resource blocks include a
30 first resource block and a second resource block; however, more resource blocks may be included. A first set of pilot signals may then be selected from the first resource block. Further, a second set of pilot signals may also be selected from the second resource block (process block 308).

Then, the difference between a first set of phase and amplitude among the first set of pilot
35 signals is determined (process block 310) and the difference between a second set of phase and

amplitude among the second set of pilot signals determined (process block 312). Finally, the difference between a third set of phase and amplitude differences among the second set of pilot signals is determined (process block 314).

The method 300 continues at point A to FIG. 3B. At process block 316, a first waveform using at least the first and third set of phase and amplitude differences is generated. A smoothing filter is applied against the first waveform to generate a second waveform (process block 318). In one embodiment, the smoothing filter may include Weiner filter, a discrete Fourier transform, etc.

At process block 320, a third waveform is generated using at least the first and third set of phase and amplitude differences. Furthermore, a phase difference between a first pilot signal and a second pilot signal may be determined. In one embodiment, the first set of pilot signals including the first pilot signal at a first position of the first resource block, and the second set of pilot signals including the second pilot signals at the first position of the second resource block. Further, the phase difference between the first pilot and the second pilot within the first resource block may be calculated, and the amplitude difference between the first pilot and the second pilot within the first resource block may also be calculated. At process block 322, the third waveform may be converted from the frequency domain to the time domain.

Turning now to FIG. 4 which illustrates a method 400 for performing processing of communication signals, according to a further embodiment of the invention. At process block 402, pilot subcarrier data is selected from an resource block (RB) for descrambling. Then, the phase and amplitude differences in the subbands and between subbands is calculated (process block 404). Further, the phase and amplitude of the subbands is adjusted (process block 406).

At process block 408, smoothing processing on the adjusted pilot is performed, and the smoothed results are corrected to adjusted values so as to obtain channel estimation results (process block 410).

Turning now to FIG. 5. The process is performed in a frequency domain which provides multiple RBs, which obtain pilot subcarriers from each respective RB, and then descramble the pilot subcarriers. Graph 505 illustrates the original unprocessed wave. At the X, the wave frequencies are not smoothed. At graph 510 the phase and amplitude have been shifted to provide a smooth and continuous wave.

To calculate phase differences among pilot subcarriers within each RB (e.g., RB1 has 3 pilot subcarriers, P_{1a} , P_{2a} , P_{3a} , the phase differences are determined between them, and for example, their average difference are determined). To calculate phase difference between corresponding pilot subcarriers of different RB (e.g., RB1 has , P_{1a} , P_{2a} , P_{3a} , and RB2 has, P_{1b} , P_{2b} , P_{3b}). The computational differences is: P_{1a} v. P_{1b} , P_{2a} v. P_{2b} , and P_{3a} v. P_{3b}). Hence,

the computational differences result in P_{1b}' , P_{2b}' , and P_{3b}' , which results in the smooth waveform of graph 515. Then, the waveform can be reverted back to the original waveform as in Table 520. Adjustment is to be performed to make the adjacent RB channels continuous in frequency domain (i.e., one goal is to help smooth the RB).

In one embodiment, to perform smoothing a smoothing filter (e.g., Weiner filter, Fourier transforms, etc.) may be applied on the RBs, and then the phase/amplitude may be restored.

Referring next to FIG. 6, which illustrates resources which are assigned to a terminal on a frequency domain in an OFDM symbol in an RB (subband), which needs to perform channel estimation by pilots in RBs, and channels among the RBs may be discontinuous due to beam forming, resulting in a significant error in the channel estimation results of the continuous channels in the frequency domain.

Adjusting the phase and amplitude of the RBs, for example, based on Rb_0, calculating phase and amplitude at which descrambled data is adjusted on each pilot of Rb_1, adjusting pilots in the RB_1, and then adjusting phase amplitude in Rb_2. In such a way, the channels are continuous in the whole band, and relevant information of the adjusted phase and amplitude of each RB is saved. Then, traditional channel estimation methods such as Wiener and time frequency domain transformation may be used for smoothing pilots to smooth data of all subcarriers in the band. Then, all subcarriers in the band are corrected to the originally adjusted phase and amplitude in RB.

For example, the subband Rb_0 includes a number of subcarriers. The subcarriers respectively have amplitude values a_{1a} , a_{2a} , a_{3a} , etc., and phase values p_{1a} , p_{2a} , p_{3a} , etc. Similarly, the subband Rb_1 has the same number of subcarriers as Rb_0, and the subcarriers respectively have amplitude values a_{1b} , a_{2b} , a_{3b} , etc., and phase values p_{1b} , p_{2b} , p_{3b} , etc. To determine continuity between corresponding subcarriers of Rb_0 and Rb_1, amplitude differences are determined, which are $a_{1b}-a_{1a}$, $a_{2b}-a_{2a}$, $a_{3b}-a_{3a}$, etc. The phases difference of corresponding subcarriers of Rb_0 and Rb_1 are $p_{1b}-p_{1a}$, $p_{2b}-p_{2a}$, $p_{3b}-p_{3a}$, etc. The amplitude differences among the subcarriers within a subband are $a_{1a}-a_{2a}$, $a_{2a}-a_{3a}$, etc. The phase differences among the subcarriers within a subband are $p_{1a}-p_{2a}$, $p_{2a}-p_{3a}$, etc. The average values of the amplitude and phase differences are then obtained. Based on these average values, the amount of adjustment needed to smoothen the signals (in frequency domain) is determined, and using which adjustments are performed. For example, as shown in FIG. 5, the disjoint signal 505 can be smoothened to continuous signal 510 as shown. To give an example, the average difference among subcarriers within the subband Rb_0 has a numerical value of 5, and the average difference among the subbands Rb_0, Rb_1, Rb_2, etc. has a

numerical value of 12. These values (e.g., 5 and 12) are used to adjust the of Rb_1. There can be other variations as well.

FIG. 7 illustrates a block diagram of an exemplary computer system 700 that may be used to implement various embodiments. Some embodiments may employ a computer system (such as the computer system 700) to perform methods in accordance with various embodiments of the invention. The computer system may be implemented using various circuits, microchips, and connections within a mobile device. According to a set of embodiments, some or all of the procedures of such methods are performed by the computer system 700 in response to processor 710 executing one or more sequences of one or more instructions (which might be incorporated into the operating system 740 and/or other code, such as an application program 745) contained in the working memory 735. Such instructions may be read into the working memory 735 from another computer-readable medium, such as one or more of the storage device(s) 725. Merely by way of example, execution of the sequences of instructions contained in the working memory 735 might cause the processor(s) 710 to perform one or more procedures of the methods described herein.

The terms “machine-readable medium” and “computer-readable medium,” as used herein, refer to any medium that participates in providing data that causes a machine to operate in a specific fashion. In an embodiment implemented using the computer system 700, various computer-readable media might be involved in providing instructions/code to processor(s) 710 for execution and/or might be used to store and/or carry such instructions/code. In many implementations, a computer-readable medium is a physical and/or tangible storage medium. Such a medium may take the form of a non-volatile media or volatile media. Non-volatile media include, for example, optical and/or magnetic disks, such as the storage device(s) 725. Volatile media include, without limitation, dynamic memory, such as the working memory 735.

Common forms of physical and/or tangible computer-readable media include, for example, a floppy disk, a flexible disk, hard disk, magnetic tape, or any other magnetic medium, a CD-ROM, any other optical medium, punchcards, papertape, any other physical medium with patterns of holes, a RAM, a PROM, EPROM, a FLASH-EPROM, any other memory chip or cartridge, or any other medium from which a computer can read instructions and/or code.

Various forms of computer-readable media may be involved in carrying one or more sequences of one or more instructions to the processor(s) 710 for execution. Merely by way of example, the instructions may initially be carried on a magnetic disk and/or optical disc of a remote computer. A remote computer might load the instructions into its dynamic memory and send the instructions as signals over a transmission medium to be received and/or executed by the computer system 700.

The communications subsystem 730 (and/or components thereof) generally will receive signals, and the bus 705 then might carry the signals (and/or the data, instructions, etc. carried by the signals) to the working memory 735, from which the processor(s) 710 retrieves and executes the instructions. The instructions received by the working memory 735 may optionally be stored on a non-transitory storage device 725 either before or after execution by the processor(s) 710.

In the foregoing description, for the purposes of illustration, methods were described in a particular order. It should be appreciated that in alternate embodiments, the methods may be performed in a different order than that described. It should also be appreciated that the methods described above may be performed by hardware components or may be embodied in sequences of machine-executable instructions, which may be used to cause a machine, such as a general-purpose or special-purpose processor or logic circuits programmed with the instructions to perform the methods. These machine-executable instructions may be stored on one or more machine readable mediums, such as CD-ROMs or other type of optical disks, floppy diskettes, ROMs, RAMs, EPROMs, EEPROMs, magnetic or optical cards, flash memory, or other types of machine-readable mediums suitable for storing electronic instructions. Alternatively, the methods may be performed by a combination of hardware and software.

The methods, systems, and devices discussed above are examples. Various configurations may omit, substitute, or add various procedures or components as appropriate. For instance, in alternative configurations, the methods may be performed in an order different from that described, and/or various stages may be added, omitted, and/or combined. Also, features described with respect to certain configurations may be combined in various other configurations. Different aspects and elements of the configurations may be combined in a similar manner. Also, technology evolves and, thus, many of the elements are examples and do not limit the scope of the disclosure or claims.

Specific details are given in the description to provide a thorough understanding of example configurations (including implementations). However, configurations may be practiced without these specific details. For example, well-known circuits, processes, algorithms, structures, and techniques have been shown without unnecessary detail in order to avoid obscuring the configurations. This description provides example configurations only, and does not limit the scope, applicability, or configurations of the claims. Rather, the preceding description of the configurations will provide those skilled in the art with an enabling description for implementing described techniques. Various changes may be made in the function and arrangement of elements without departing from the spirit or scope of the disclosure.

Also, configurations may be described as a process which is depicted as a flow diagram or block diagram. Although each may describe the operations as a sequential process, many of the operations can be performed in parallel or concurrently. In addition, the order of the operations may be rearranged. A process may have additional steps not included in the figure.

5 Furthermore, examples of the methods may be implemented by hardware, software, firmware, middleware, microcode, hardware description languages, 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 non-transitory computer-readable medium such as a storage medium. Processors may perform the described tasks.

10 Having described several example configurations, various modifications, alternative constructions, and equivalents may be used without departing from the spirit of the disclosure. For example, the above elements may be components of a larger system, wherein other rules may take precedence over or otherwise modify the application of the invention. Also, a number of steps may be undertaken before, during, or after the above elements are considered.

15 Accordingly, the above description does not bound the scope of the claims.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

1. A method of processing communication signals, the method comprising:
receiving a communication signal in a time domain;
5 converting the communication signal to a frequency domain;
providing a plurality of resource blocks based on the communication signal in the frequency domain, the plurality of resource blocks including a first resource block and a second resource block;
selecting a first plurality of pilot signals from the first resource block and a second
10 plurality of pilot signals from the second resource block;
determining a first set of phase and amplitude differences among the first plurality of pilot signals;
determining a second set of phase and amplitude differences among the second plurality of pilot signals;
15 determining a third set of phase and amplitude differences between the first plurality of pilot signals and the second plurality of pilot signals;
generating a first waveform using at least the first and third set of phase and amplitude differences;
applying a smoothing filter against the first waveform to generate a second waveform;
20 generating a third waveform using at least the first and third set of phase and amplitude differences; and
converting the third waveform from the frequency domain to the time domain.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising determining a phase difference between a first pilot signal and a second pilot signal, wherein the first plurality of pilot signals including
25 the first pilot signal at a first position of the first resource block, and the second plurality of pilot signals including the second pilot signals at the first position of the second resource block.
3. The method of claim 2, further comprising calculating the phase difference between the first pilot and the second pilot within the first resource block.
4. The method of claim 2, further comprising calculating the amplitude difference
30 between the first pilot and the second pilot within the first resource block.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the smoothing filter comprises a Weiner filter.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the smoothing filter comprises a discrete Fourier Transform.
7. The method of claim 1, further comprising generating the first waveform using at least
35 the second set of phase and amplitude differences.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the communication signal comprises an Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiplexing (OFDM) Signal.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the communication signal is received via Long Term Evolution (LTE) communication network.

5 10. A system for processing communication signals, the system comprising:

a memory device; and

a computer processor in communication with the memory device, wherein the memory device includes sets of instructions when executed by the computer processor, cause the computer processor to:

10 receive a communication signal in a time domain;

convert the communication signal to a frequency domain;

provide a plurality of resource blocks based on the communication signal in the frequency domain, the plurality of resource blocks including a first resource block and a second resource block;

15 select a first plurality of pilot signals from the first resource block and a second plurality of pilot signals from the second resource block;

determine a first set of phase and amplitude differences among the first plurality of pilot signals;

20 determine a second set of phase and amplitude differences among the second plurality of pilot signals;

determine a third set of phase and amplitude differences between the first plurality of pilot signals and the second plurality of pilot signals;

generate a first waveform using at least the first and third set of phase and amplitude differences;

25 apply a smoothing filter against the first waveform to generate a second waveform;

generate a third waveform using at least the first and third set of phase and amplitude differences; and

convert the third waveform from the frequency domain to the time domain.

30 11. The system of claim 10, wherein the sets of instructions further cause the computer processor to determine a phase difference between a first pilot signal and a second pilot signal, wherein the first plurality of pilot signals including the first pilot signal at a first position of the first resource block, and the second plurality of pilot signals including the second pilot signals at the first position of the second resource block.

35 12. The system of claim 11, wherein the sets of instructions further cause the computer processor to calculate the phase difference between the first pilot and the second pilot within

the first resource block.

13. The system of claim 11, wherein the sets of instructions further cause the computer processor to calculate the amplitude difference between the first pilot and the second pilot within the first resource block.

5 14. The system of claim 10, wherein the sets of instructions further cause the computer processor to generate the first waveform using at least the second set of phase and amplitude differences.

10 15.A computer-readable medium for processing communication signals, the computer-readable medium having sets of instruction stored thereon which, when executed by a computer cause the computer to:

receive a communication signal in a time domain;

convert the communication signal to a frequency domain;

15 provide a plurality of resource blocks based on the communication signal in the frequency domain, the plurality of resource blocks including a first resource block and a second resource block;

select a first plurality of pilot signals from the first resource block and a second plurality of pilot signals from the second resource block;

determine a first set of phase and amplitude differences among the first plurality of pilot signals;

20 determine a second set of phase and amplitude differences among the second plurality of pilot signals;

determine a third set of phase and amplitude differences between the first plurality of pilot signals and the second plurality of pilot signals;

25 generate a first waveform using at least the first and third set of phase and amplitude differences;

apply a smoothing filter against the first waveform to generate a second waveform;

generate a third waveform using at least the first and third set of phase and amplitude differences; and

convert the third waveform from the frequency domain to the time domain.

30 16. The computer-readable medium of claim 15, wherein the sets of instructions further cause the computer to calculate a phase difference between a first pilot signal and a second pilot signal, wherein the first plurality of pilot signals including the first pilot signal at a first position of the first resource block, and the second plurality of pilot signals including the second pilot signals at the first position of the second resource block.

35 17. The computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the sets of instructions further

cause the computer to calculate the phase difference between the first pilot and the second pilot within the first resource block.

18. The computer-readable medium of claim 16, wherein the sets of instructions further cause the computer to calculate the amplitude difference between the first pilot and the second
5 pilot within the first resource block.

19. The computer-readable medium of claim 15, wherein the sets of instructions further cause the computer to generate the first waveform using at least the second set of phase and amplitude differences.

20. The computer-readable medium of claim 15, wherein the communication signal is
10 received via Long Term Evolution (LTE) communication network.

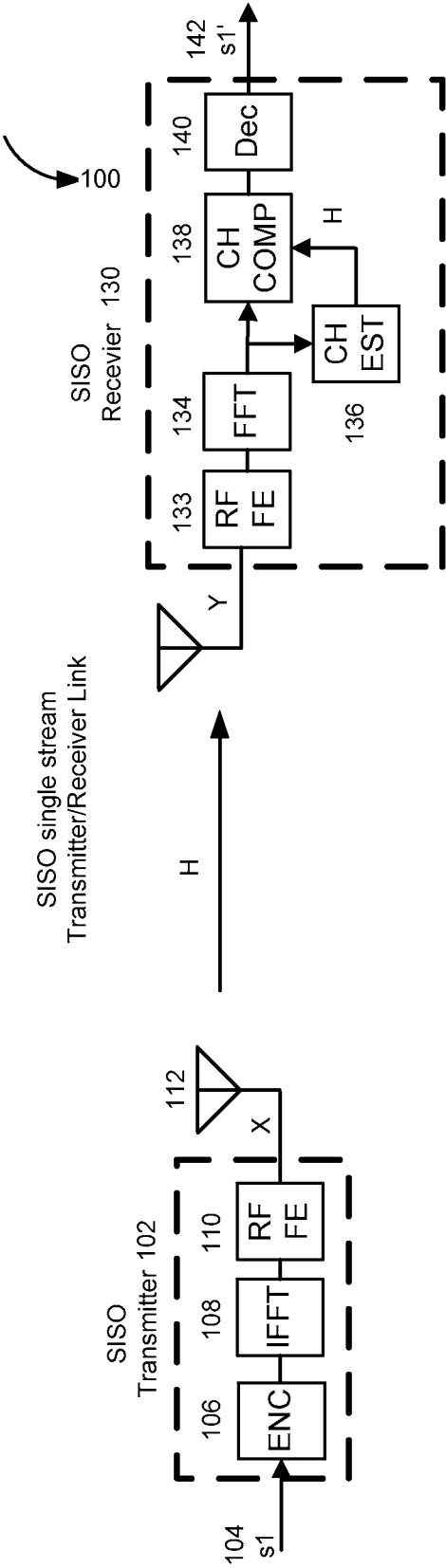


FIG. 1

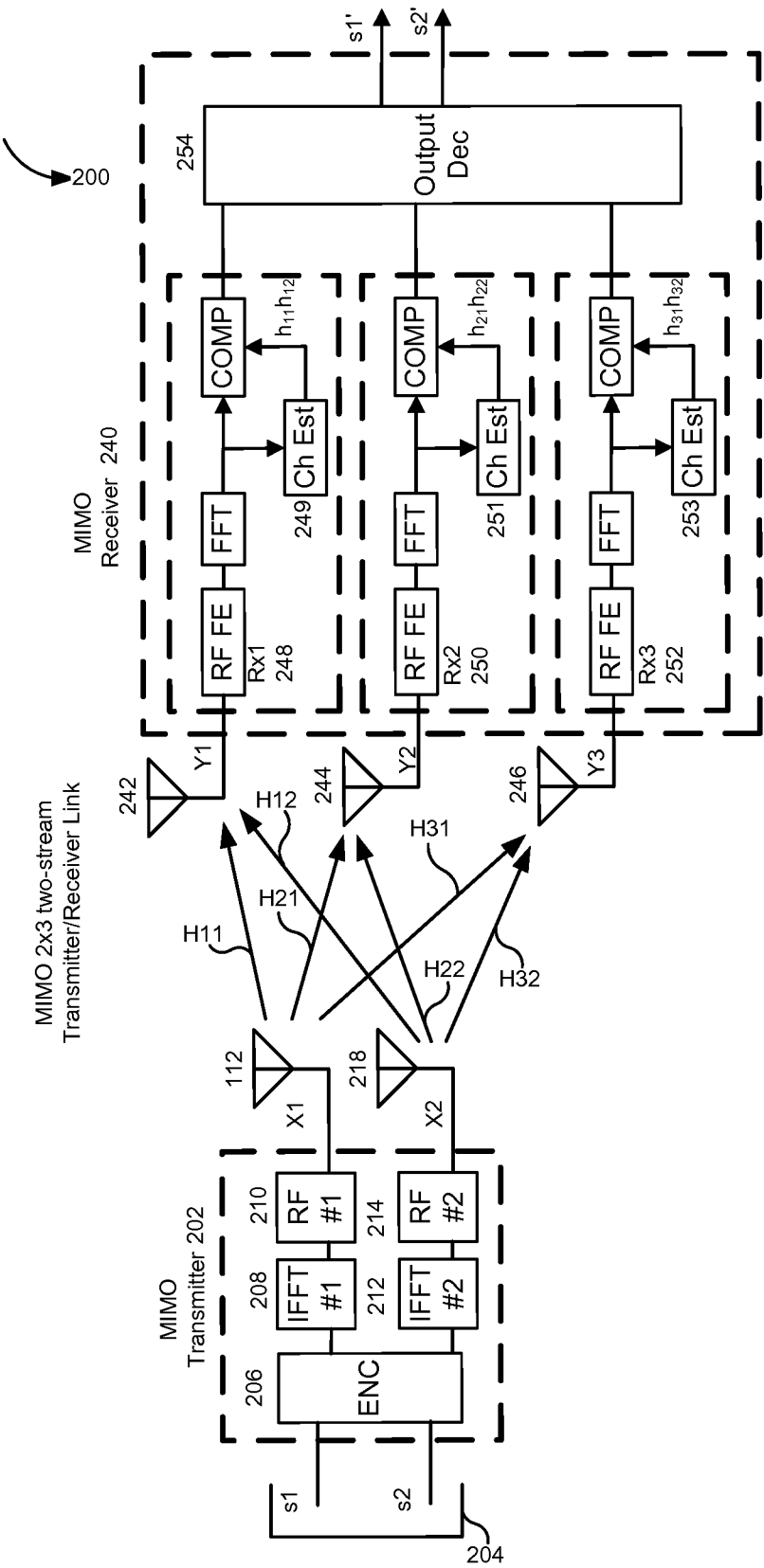
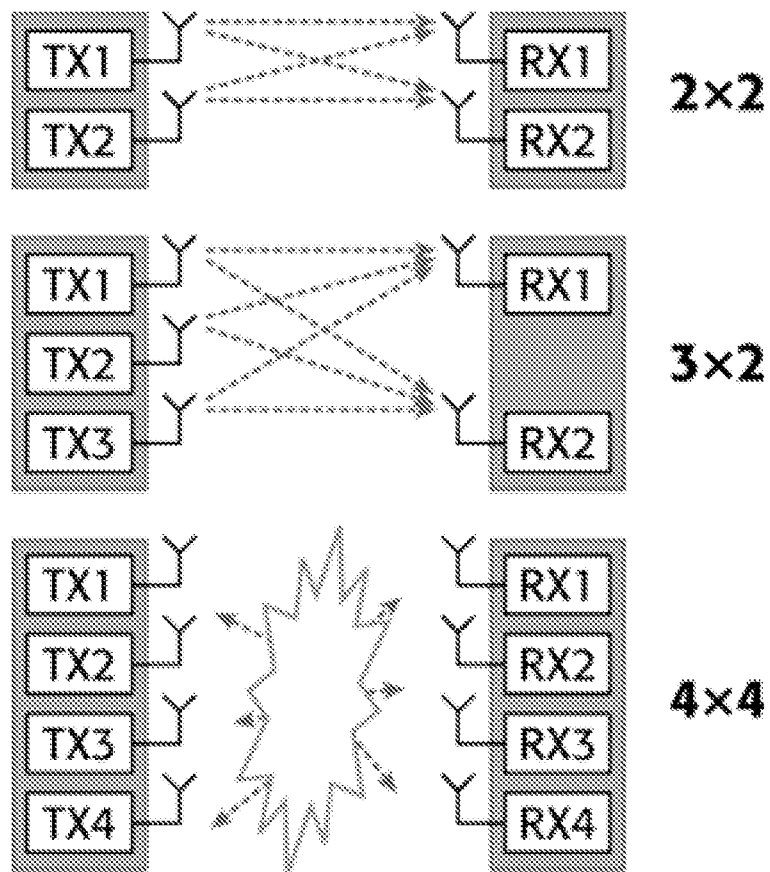
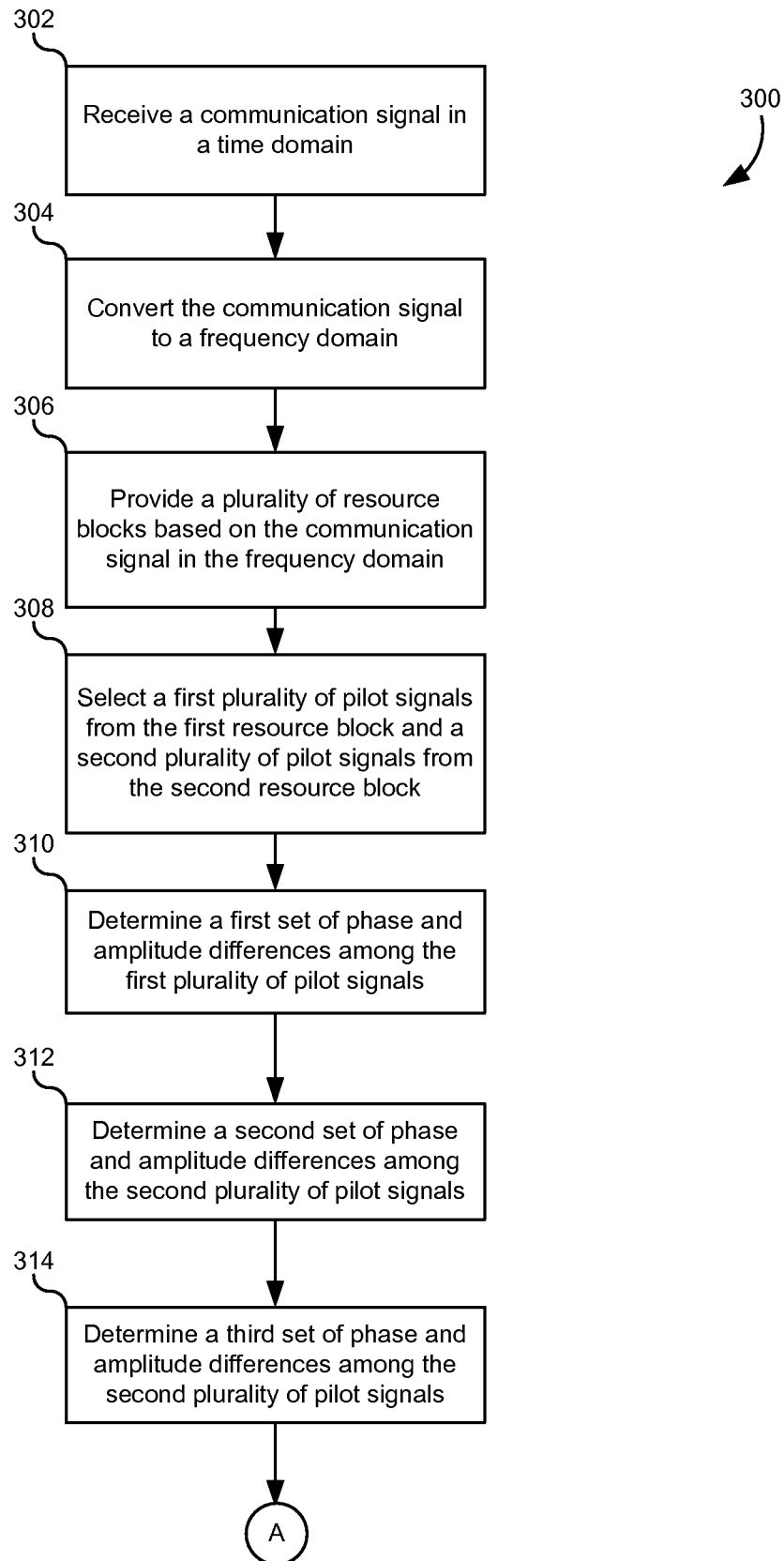
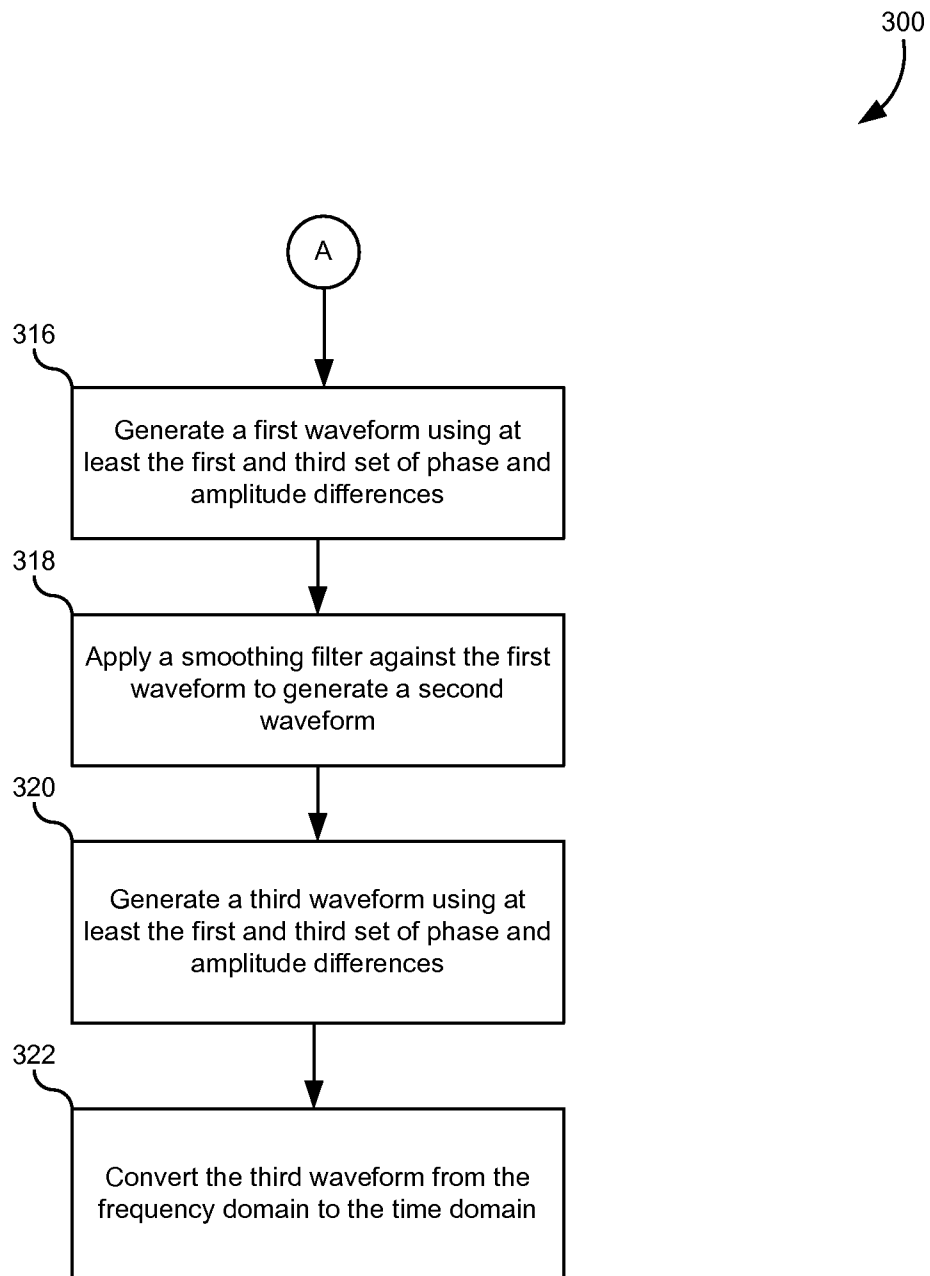
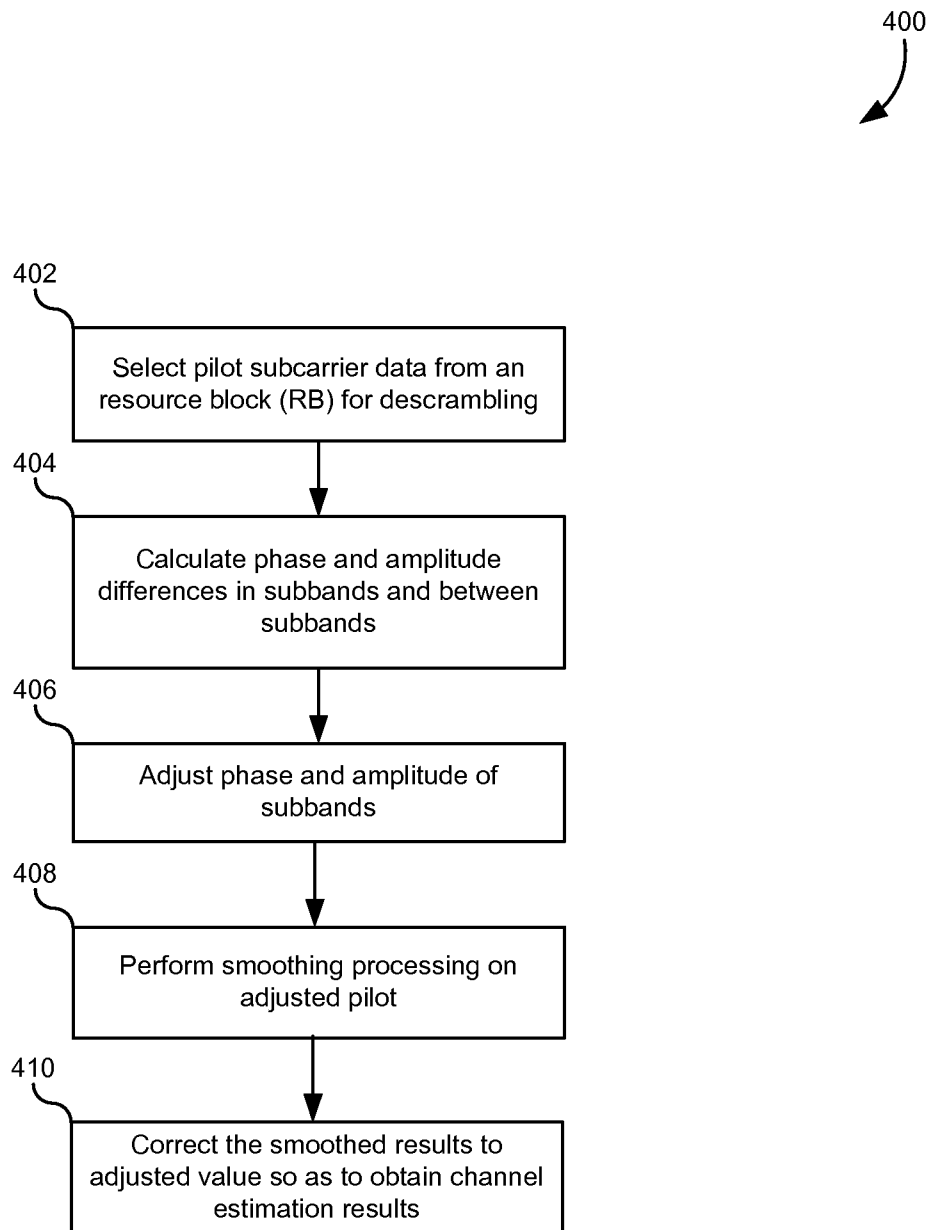


FIG. 2A

**FIG. 2B**

**FIG. 3A**

**FIG. 3B**

**FIG. 4**

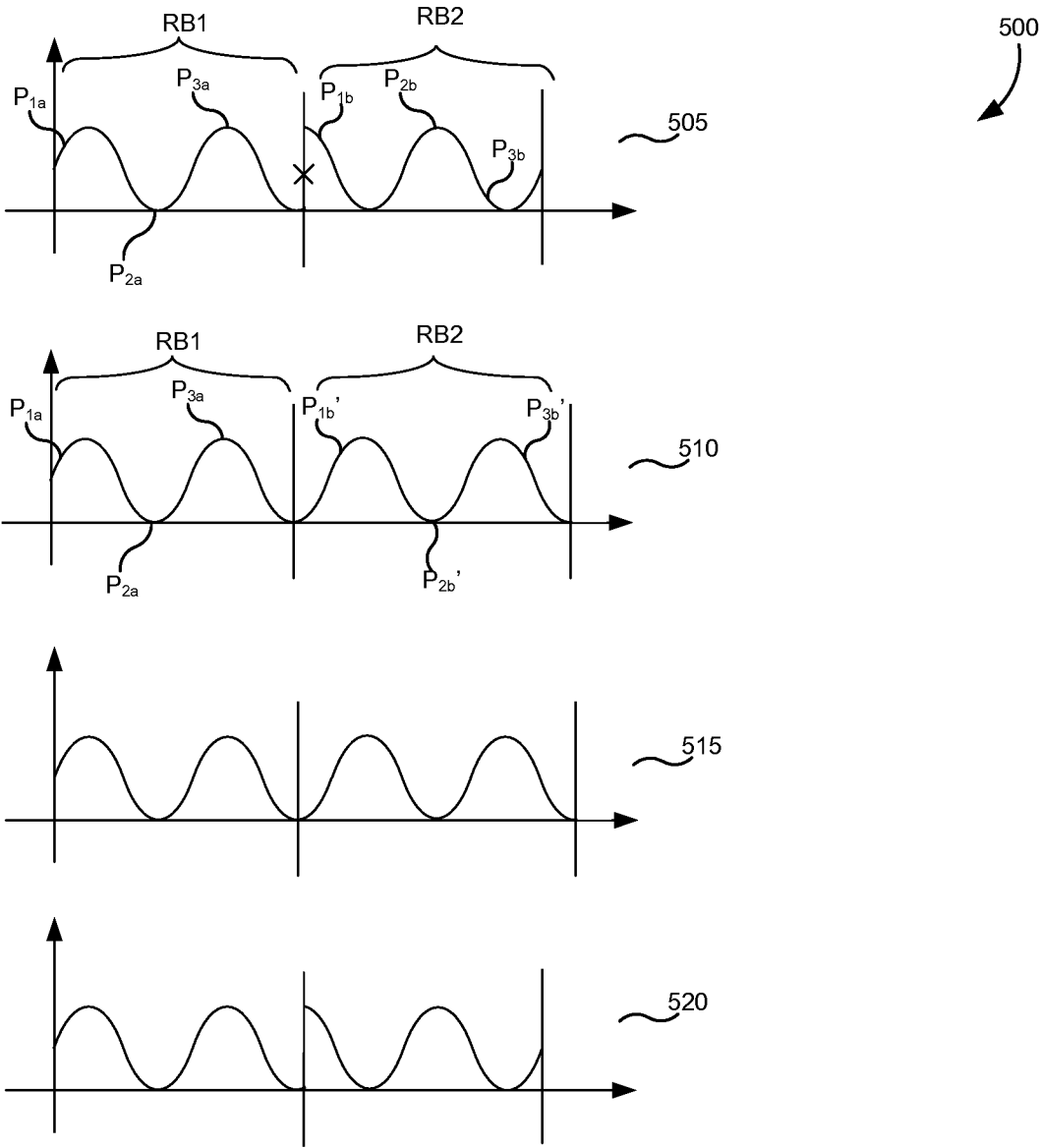


FIG. 5

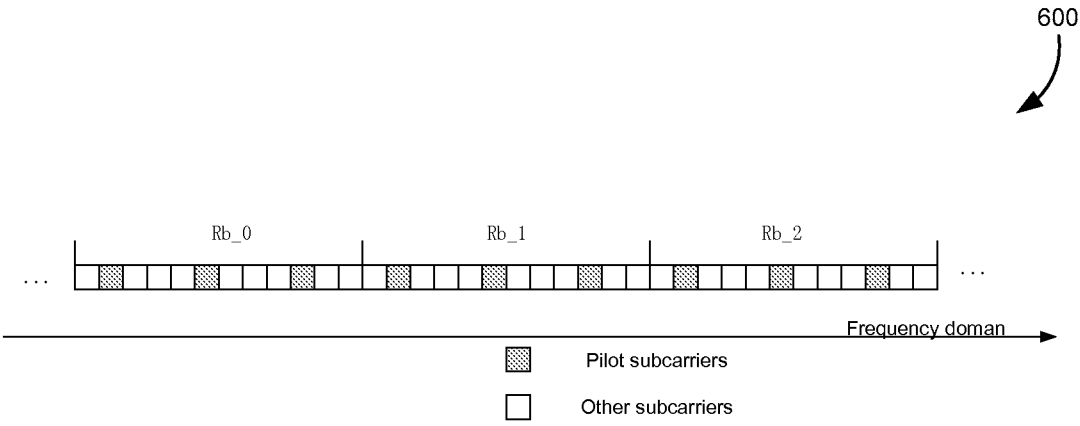
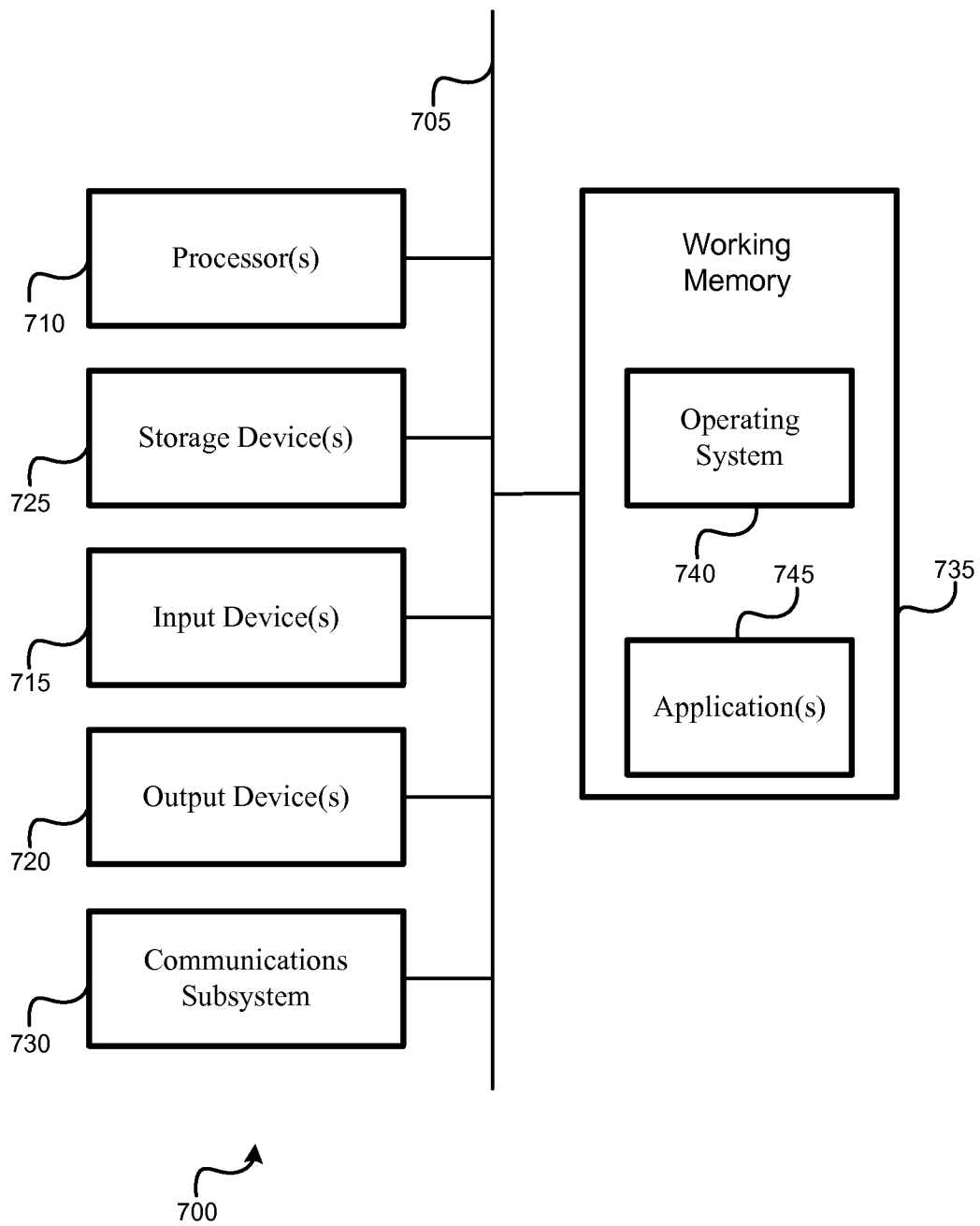


FIG. 6

**FIG. 7**

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/CN2013/073826

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

H04L 27/26 (2006.01) i

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

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC: H04L; H04Q; H04W

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)

WPI, EPODOC, CNPAT, CNKI, GOOGLE SEARCH: LTE OFDM discontinu+/al no not continu+/al subband subcarrier sub-band
sub-carrier channel estimate+/al phase amplitude difference waveform smooth+/al filter resource block time frequency domain

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	CN 101848175 A (HUAWEI TECHNOLOGIES CO., LTD.) 29 September 2010 (29.09.2010) the whole document	1-20
A	CN 102148779 A (CHINA ACADEMY OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY) 10 August 2011 (10.08.2011) the whole document	1-20
A	EP 1030488 A2 (NIPPON TELEGRAPH AND TELEPHONE CORPORATION) 23 August 2000 (23.08.2000) the whole document	1-20
A	WO 2012/055065 A1 (TELEFONAKTIEBOLAGET L M ERICSSON (PUBL)) 03 May 2012 (03.05.2012) the whole document	1-20

☐ 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 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 application or patent but 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 08 October 2013 (08.10.2013)	Date of mailing of the international search report 24 Oct. 2013 (24.10.2013)
Name and mailing address of the ISA/CN The State Intellectual Property Office, the P.R.China 6 Xitucheng Rd., Jimen Bridge, Haidian District, Beijing, China 100088 Facsimile No. 86-10-62019451	Authorized officer LIU, Xinlei Telephone No. (86-10)62413430

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Information on patent family members

International application No.
PCT/CN2013/073826

Patent Documents referred in the Report	Publication Date	Patent Family	Publication Date
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		CN 103283199 A	04.09.2013