

(51) International Patent Classification:
H04B 7/005 (2006.01)(21) International Application Number:
PCT/US2013/047520(22) International Filing Date:
25 June 2013 (25.06.2013)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
61/719,267 26 October 2012 (26.10.2012) US
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM,

AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, 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, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, KM, 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(ii))
- as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))

Published:

- with international search report (Art. 21(3))

(54) Title: METHODS AND ARRANGEMENTS TO MITIGATE COLLISIONS IN WIRELESS NETWORKS BY ENABLING COEXISTENCE OF DISPARATE BANDWIDTHS

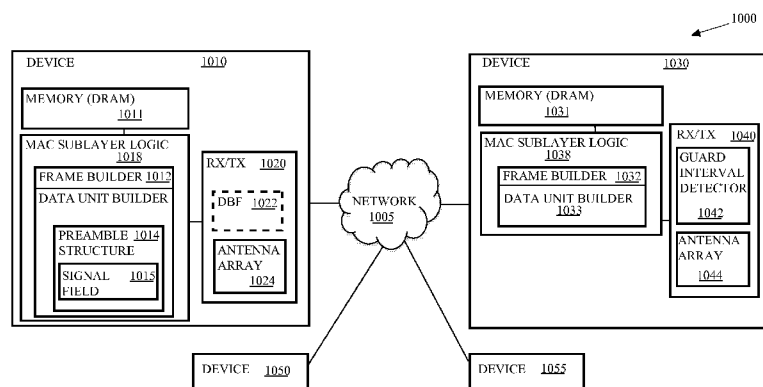


FIG. 1

(57) **Abstract:** Systems, devices, and methods for mitigating collisions between wireless transmissions operating at different bandwidths are disclosed. As such, a wireless device operating at a predefined bandwidth includes a transceiver that receives a signal across a wireless channel, a filter that generates a band-limited filtered signal at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device, a correlating mechanism that correlates the band-limited filtered signal with a delayed, conjugated version of the band-limited filtered signal, logic that performs a moving average of the correlated filtered signals to determine correlation peaks, and logic configured to compare the correlation peaks with a predetermined threshold. With this configuration, if the correlation peaks are greater than the predetermined threshold, the received signal is determined to operate at a wider bandwidth than the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device, and the wireless device defers accessing the wireless channel to transmit until a predetermined time interval.

METHODS AND ARRANGEMENTS TO MITIGATE COLLISIONS IN WIRELESS NETWORKS BY ENABLING COEXISTENCE OF DISPARATE BANDWIDTHS

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] The present Patent Application is based on, and claims priority to, U.S. NON-Provisional Patent Application No. 13/796,389 filed on March 12, 2013 which is based from Provisional Patent Application No. 61/719,267 filed on October 26, 2012, the entire contents of which are hereby incorporated by reference.

TECHNICAL FIELD

[0002] This disclosure relates generally to the field of wireless communications.

BACKGROUND ART

[0003] Recently, standards such as, for example, IEEE 802.11ah, have been proposed that provide a framework for low power, lower bandwidth, broad coverage wireless communication systems. Such systems have a wide variety of applications and services such as, for example, sensing and tracking of the usage of electricity, water, gas, and/or other utilities, monitoring healthcare-related issues and events, etc. These applications and services generally require much lower data rates and much lower power consumption than conventional wireless communication systems, such as, for example, wireless systems operating in accordance with traditional IEEE 802.11-based standards.

[0004] However, in an effort to accommodate diverse wireless systems directed to similar low power, lower bandwidth operations, the recently proposed standards have adopted disparate frequency bandwidths.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0005] FIG. 1 depicts a wireless communication system, in accordance with various aspects and principles of the present disclosure.

[0006] FIG. 2 depicts an embodiment of a detection mechanism that enables coexistence of disparate bandwidth signals, in accordance with various aspects and principles of the present disclosure.

[0007] FIGs. 3-4 depict results of simulations of a detection mechanism, in accordance with various aspects and principles of the instant disclosure.

[0008] FIG. 5 depicts a flowchart of a detection scheme that enables coexistence of disparate bandwidth signals, in accordance with various aspects and principles of the instant disclosure.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0009] In the description that follows, like components have been given the same reference numerals, regardless of whether they are shown in different embodiments. To illustrate an embodiment(s) of the present disclosure in a clear and concise manner, the drawings may not necessarily be to scale and certain features may be shown in somewhat schematic form. Features that are described and/or illustrated with respect to one embodiment may be used in the same way or in a similar way in one or more other embodiments and/or in combination with or instead of the features of the other embodiments.

[0010] In accordance with various embodiments of this disclosure, what is proposed is a wireless system that mitigates collisions between wireless transmissions operating at different bandwidths. The system includes a wireless device configured to operate at a predefined bandwidth, which includes a transceiver configured to receive a signal across a wireless channel; a filter configured to filter the receive signal and generate a band-limited filtered signal at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device; a correlating mechanism configured to correlate the band-limited filtered signal with a delayed, conjugated version of the band-limited filtered signal; logic configured to perform a moving average of the correlated filtered signals to determine correlation peaks; and logic configured to compare the correlation peaks with a predetermined threshold. Moreover, if the correlation peaks are greater than the predetermined threshold, the received signal is determined to operate

at a wider bandwidth than the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device. And, upon determining that the received wireless signal operates at the wider bandwidth, the wireless device defers accessing the wireless channel to transmit until a predetermined time interval.

[0011] In another embodiment, a detection scheme is presented that mitigates collisions between wireless transmissions operating at different bandwidths. The detection scheme includes receiving a signal across a wireless channel by a wireless device operating at a predefined bandwidth; filtering the received signal to generate a band-limited filtered signal at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device; correlating the band-limited filtered signal with a delayed, conjugated version of the band-limited filtered signal; performing a moving average of the correlated filtered signals to determine correlation peaks; comparing the correlation peaks with a predetermined threshold; and determining that the received signal operates at a wider bandwidth than the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device, if the correlation peaks are greater than the predetermined threshold. Moreover, upon determining that the received wireless signal operates at the wider bandwidth, the wireless device defers accessing the wireless channel to transmit until a predetermined time interval.

[0012] These and other features and characteristics, as well as the methods of operation and functions of the related elements of structure and the combination of parts and economies of manufacture, will become more apparent upon consideration of the following description and the appended claims with reference to the accompanying drawings, all of which form a part of this specification, wherein like reference numerals designate corresponding parts in the various figures. It is to be expressly understood, however, that the drawings are for the purpose of illustration and description only and are not intended as a definition of the limits of claims. As used in the specification and in the claims, the singular form of “a”, “an”, and “the” include plural referents unless the context clearly dictates otherwise.

[0013] The inventors have observed that the proposed framework accommodating systems operating with disparate bandwidths run the risk of transmission collisions, as larger bandwidth operations may overlap smaller bandwidth channels. Thus, what is

proposed in this disclosure is a detection scheme that makes use of Guard Interval (GI) of an Orthogonal Frequency-Division Multiplexing (OFDM) symbol to detect the GI of a larger bandwidth signal within the smaller signal bandwidth. Upon detection of the larger bandwidth signal, communication devices operating on the smaller signal bandwidth are capable of recognizing the ongoing transmission of the larger bandwidth signals and would defer their transmissions. Such a technique enables the coexistence of larger operating bandwidths with smaller operating bandwidths by effectively avoiding collisions.

[0014] With this said, FIG. 1 depicts a non-limiting example of wireless communication system 100, in accordance with various aspects and principles of the present disclosure. Wireless system 100 represents a coexistent architecture having the capability of servicing disparate operating bandwidths, for example, a smaller bandwidth channel (e.g., 1 MHz) and a larger bandwidth channel (e.g., 2 MHz) while avoiding transmission collisions. As described in greater detail below, wireless system 100 is capable of accommodating communications between communication devices 102, 104, 106, and 108 and remote entity 120, via network 110, in which communication channels may operate under disparate bandwidths.

[0015] As used herein, the term “network” refers to a wireless communication network that may be utilized in example implementations as discussed below. The network may be configured to operate under a variety of wireless communication protocols and standards, such as, for example, Wi-Fi, WiMax, WWAN, WLAN, WPAN, Bluetooth, GSM, CDMA, GPRS, 3G or 4G, LTE, Wireless USB, IEEE 802.11-based standards, or any other implementation of a suitable wireless standard. As such, wireless communications is not limited to any specific standard and the examples discussed may be implemented separately or in combination with each other. Moreover, network 110 may represent an interconnection of a number of networks. For instance, the network 110 may couple with a wide area network such as the Internet or an intranet and may interconnect local devices wired or wirelessly interconnected via one or more hubs, routers, or switches. In the present embodiment, network 110 communicatively couples communication devices 102, 104, 106, and 108, and entity 120.

[0016] While the wireless communications is not limited to any specific standard and the examples discussed may be implemented separately or in combination with each other, for the sake of tractability and clarity, it will be appreciated that the embodiments described heretofore will be directed to lower data rate, low power, IEEE 802.11ah-based wireless systems. For example, embodiments directed to IEEE 802.11ah-based wireless systems may comprise indoor/outdoor “smart” grid and sensor services that facilitate the exchange/transfer of utility usage data (e.g., electricity, water, gas, etc.) with a provider, such as, for example, entity 110. Other embodiments may include sensor data for home healthcare, clinics, or hospitals that monitor healthcare-related events and vital signs such as, for example, fall detection, medication monitoring, weight monitoring, sleeping disorders, blood sugar levels, heart rhythms, etc.

[0017] Moreover, wireless communication devices 102, 104, 106, and 108 may take a number of forms, such as, for example, sensors, integrated utility/home monitors, stations, access points, hubs, switches, routers, laptops, mobile devices, cellular/smartphones, gaming devices tablet computers, wireless-enabled patient monitoring devices, personal communication system (PCS) devices, personal digital assistants (PDAs), personal audio devices (PADs), portable navigational devices, and/or any other electronic wireless-enabled device configured to receive a wireless signal. However, again for the sake of tractability and clarity, the embodiments described heretofore will be directed to relatively low data rate, low power sensors/stations, consistent with the lower data rate, low power, IEEE 802.11ah-based wireless systems.

[0018] Returning to FIG. 1, wireless communication devices 102, 104, 106, and 108 of system 100 may include sensor, antenna, transceiver, and guard interval detection capabilities. For example, in the depicted embodiment, wireless communication device 102 comprises antenna portion 102d, sensor mechanism 102a, transceiver portion 102b, and Guard Interval Detection (GID) mechanism 102c.

[0019] Sensor mechanism 102a may be any device configured to track or otherwise determine the use or consumption of utility-provided resources, such as, for example, electricity, water, gas, sewage, etc. Sensor mechanism 102a may comprise a sensing

element and may include analog interface circuitry, analog-to-digital converters (ADCs), digital processing and storage, and a bus interface.

[0020] Sensor mechanism 102a may further be configured to provide such utility-based information to transceiver portion 102b for communications processing and, ultimately, transmission. Transceiver portion 102b may be configured to perform RF transmission and/or reception operations. As such, transceiver portion 102b may comprise modulators/demodulators, encoders/decoders, dynamic random access memory (DRAM), oscillators, filtering circuitry, synchronization circuitry, multiple frequency conversion stages, multiple amplification stages, etc. In addition, transceiver portion 102b may be communicatively coupled to antenna portion 102d which is configured radiate an RF information-bearing signal bearing as well as intercept such a signal. As is well known, antenna portion 102d may take a variety of forms, such as, for example, of microstrips, striplines, slotlines, patches, etc.

[0021] Transceiver portion 102b may also include multiplexers/demultiplexers to achieve multiplexing operations. In some embodiments, consistent with IEEE 802.11ah-based wireless standards, transceiver portion 102b is configured to implement orthogonal frequency-division multiplexing (OFDM), in which digital data is encoded on multiple orthogonal subcarrier frequencies. Each OFDM symbol includes Guard Intervals (GIs) or Cyclic Prefixes (CPs) which are provided by repeating a portion of their signals. In particular, an OFDM symbol may be 32 μ sec long, so that either 1/4th or 1/8th of the signal may be copied and inserted in front of the transmission as a CP and referred to as Long GI (LGI) or Short GI (SGI), respectively.

[0022] Transceiver portion 102b may further include GID mechanism 102c which, as discussed below, is configured to exploit the use of Guard Intervals (GIs) or cyclic prefixes (CPs) in OFDM symbols in order to enable narrower bandwidth receivers to effectively detect wider bandwidth transmissions.

[0023] By way of illustration, and in no way limiting, an overview of system 100 in accordance with various embodiments, will be described in view of the elements and

functionality noted thus far. Generally speaking, sensors of communication wireless communication devices 102, 104, and 106 (e.g., sensor mechanism 102a of device 102), may determine utility consumption data and forward the data to their respective transceivers (e.g., transceiver portion 102b). In turn, the transceivers of wireless communication devices 102, 104, and 106 may report such data to communication device 108 via a wireless channel operating on a prescribed RF band (e.g., 1 MHz). In so doing, wireless communication devices 102, 104, and 106 may periodically initiate a low power, lower data rate communication session with communication device 108 under the prescribed band.

[0024] In the illustrated embodiment, communication device 108 may be configured to operate as a collection station for aggregating the data received from devices 102, 104, and 106 and for subsequently forwarding the aggregated data to provider entity 120 via a wider RF band channel (e.g., 2 MHz). It is to be noted that communication device 108 may also operate to determine utility consumption data and forward its own data to provider entity 120.

[0025] Alternately or in addition to, wireless communication devices 102, 104, 106 and station 108 may individually forward consumption data to provider entity 120 and may equally communicate with each other. For example, wireless communication devices 102, 104, 106, and 108 may periodically initiate communications with each other and/or provider entity 120 to conduct system-based administrative functions, such as, for example, firmware updates, data offloading, system synchronization, testing, failover processing, etc.

[0026] Given the above illustrative example, it will be appreciated that, because communication devices 102, 104, 106, and 108 of system 100 may communicate with each other as well as provider entity 120, they may do so via wireless channels operating under different bandwidths. As such, the risk of transmission collisions exist, as larger bandwidth transmissions may overlap and/or interfere with smaller bandwidth transmissions.

[0027] To this end, transceiver portion 102b further includes GID mechanism 102c which, as discussed below, is configured to exploit the use of Guard Intervals (GIs) or Cyclic Prefixes (CPs) of OFDM symbols in order to enable narrower bandwidth receivers to

effectively detect wider bandwidth transmissions. That is, as noted in the non-limiting examples presented above, system 100 comprises a coexistent architecture having the capability of servicing disparate operating bandwidths, for example, a smaller bandwidth channel (e.g., 1 MHz) and a larger bandwidth channel (e.g., 2 MHz). For example, wireless communication device 108 of system 100 may be configured to operate with 2 MHz bandwidth signal (i.e., 2 MHz-enabled device) while wireless communication devices 102, 104, 106 may operate with 1 MHz bandwidth signal (i.e., 1 MHz-enabled devices).

[0028] With such a coexistent bandwidth architecture, certain transmission rules for the 1 MHz bandwidth signal may be employed, given the proposed lower data rate and low power attributes of IEEE 802.11ah-based standards. For example, for 2 MHz basic service set (BSS), the 1MHz bandwidth signal may only be allowed at the lower 1MHz band of the 2 MHz bandwidth. For a 4/8/16MHz BSS, when the primary 2MHz is at lowermost portion of the overall band, the 1MHz bandwidth signal may only be allowed at the upper side of the 2MHz primary channel, while when the primary 2MHz is at an uppermost portion of the overall band, the 1MHz bandwidth signal may only be allowed at the lower side of the 2MHz primary channel.

[0029] In view of the coexistent architecture of system 100 as well as with the transmission rules for the 1 MHz bandwidth signal, it will be appreciated that a 2 MHz-enabled device may be capable of receiving 1MHz signals by filtering either of its sub-channels. It should also be appreciated that a 2 MHz-enabled device may be capable of detecting 1 MHz transmissions by performing Clear Channel Assessment (CCA) procedures on the specified lower/upper part of its bandwidth to detect if the channel is busy and/or detect energy in the channel, prior to starting its transmission, in order to avoid collisions.

[0030] In contrast, however, 1MHz-enabled devices typically employ a 1MHz band RF front-end and, therefore, may not be able to receive and examine a full 2MHz bandwidth signal. This may be particularly problematic, as the 2MHz signal may not be a duplication of two 1MHz signals. To combat such issues, GID mechanism 102c of transceiver portion 102b exploits the GI or CP properties of OFDM symbols to enable narrower bandwidth receivers, such as 1MHz-enabled devices, to effectively detect ongoing transmissions of wider

bandwidth signals on a wireless channel and take appropriate action to avoid transmission collisions.

[0031] FIG. 2 illustrates a functional block diagram of GI detection mechanism 200 that may be incorporated into a narrower bandwidth communication device, such as, for example, 1 MHz-enabled communication device 102, in accordance with various aspects and principles of the present disclosure. As noted above, OFDM symbols repeat a portion of their signals (i.e., GI) such that, if OFDM symbols are 32 μ sec long, either 1/4th or 1/8th of the signal is copied and inserted in front of the transmission to provide a Long GI (LGI) or Short GI (SGI). Upon detection of such repetition, the 1MHz-enabled devices equipped with GI detection mechanism 200 is capable of recognizing ongoing OFDM 2 MHz transmissions and defers its transmission to avoid collisions with the 2MHz transmission.

[0032] As depicted in FIG. 2, GI detection mechanism 200 incorporates an RF front end filter 202 to band-limit the received transmission to a 1 MHz filtered signal. The front end filter 202 may comprise analog and/or digital filtering circuits or mechanisms. The 1 MHz filtered signal and a delayed, conjugate version of the 1 MHz filtered signal are mixed by correlator portion 204. The delay may be configured to be 32 μ sec long, nominally the duration of an OFDM symbol prior to GI insertion.

[0033] In some embodiments, correlator portion 204 may include an upper branch configured to detect Long GI transmissions and a lower branch configured to detect Short GI transmissions. In addition, correlator portion 204 may further include a magnitude portion configured to normalized the detect statistic for the hypothesis test. This allows a threshold to be set irrespective of receiver configuration (AGC, gain stages, and the like) or the received SNR.

[0034] The correlated signals are then subjected to a moving average by modules 206, 208 to identify similarities between the correlated signals over a 4 μ sec window. The similarities may be identified by the evidence of correlation peaks.

[0035] After identifying the similarities, the averaged correlated peaks are inputted to long GI (LGI) and short GI (SGI) detectors 210, 212. For example, in concert with the

proposed IEEE 802.11ah-based standards, LGI may be configured with a duration of 40 μ sec while SGI may last 36 μ sec. In so doing, LGI detector 210 averages the symbols over a 40 μ sec interval and compares the correlation peaks with threshold value τ_L while SGI detector 312 averages the symbols over a 36 μ sec interval and compares the correlation peaks with threshold value τ_S .

[0036] If the correlation peaks of either LGI detector 210 or SGI detector 212 are greater than their respective thresholds, τ_L , τ_S , then it can be inferred that such correlation peaks are due to the repetitive nature of the CPs in the GIs of OFDM symbols. Thus, the transmission initially received by GI detection mechanism 200 may be determined to be a 2MHz transmission that is currently occupying the channel. In response thereto, communication device 102 may defer its attempt to seize the channel and transmit, until a predetermined time interval, in other words, such time as the 2 MHz transmission may be complete.

[0037] FIGs. 3, 4 depict simulation results of GI detection mechanism 200, in accordance with various aspects and principles of the instant disclosure. FIG. 3 illustrates the comparisons of the output of the normalized correlation after averaging over N=4 symbols for 1MHz and 2MHz receivers. As expected, the 2MHz receiver exhibits smoother output than the 1MHz receiver which will result in lower false alarm rates at a given signal-to-noise (SNR) and probability of detection. It will be appreciated that 1MHz receiver observes sharp peaks by which it can detect the 2MHz signal. The simulation case was for a 2MHz transmission in using the spatial channel model (SCM) UMa channel with all simulation impairments and a carrier offset of -13.675ppm.

[0038] FIG. 4 illustrates the comparison of detection performance of the 2MHz receiver to the 1MHz receiver. It shows that the 1MHz receiver can achieve greater than 10% probability of detection at SNR = 4dB with the probability of false alarm being almost equal to 1%, while 2MHz receiver achieves similar probability of detection at much lower probability of false alarm (i.e., it is zero for the presented simulation case that contained around 16000 random 2MHz transmission). These results confirm the expectation that the

GI detection in the 1MHz receiver suffers from filtering half of the 2MHz bandwidth, yet it meets acceptable probability of false alarm of about 1%.

[0039] FIG. 4 also shows that use of a threshold=0.5 provides 10% detection rate at lower SNRs for the 2MHz receiver, while 1MHz receiver fails at this threshold due to probability of false alarm of about 30%. Fortunately, the lowest operating point for 2MHz transmission for BPSK rate $\frac{1}{2}$ in SCM UMa channel is at an SNR of about 3 dB, and hence use of threshold = 0.5 is not needed.

[0040] FIG. 5 depicts a flowchart of GI detection scheme 500 that exploits the use of GIs or CPs in OFDM symbols to detect wider bandwidth transmissions by a narrower bandwidth receiver, in accordance with various aspects and principles of the instant disclosure. It will be appreciated that GI detection scheme 500 may operate in conjunction with, or independently of, GID 200.

[0041] Initially at block 502, GI detection scheme 500 initiates 1MHz-enabled communication device 120 to scan the wireless channel prior to transmission to determine if the channel is clear prior to transmission and may, in response, receive a transmission that may or may not be a 2 MHz OFDM signal. At block 504, scheme 500 filters the transmitted signal into to a 1 MHz band-limited filtered signal. At block 506, the 1 MHz filtered signal and a 32 μ sec delayed, conjugate version of the 1 MHz filtered signal are correlated. Then, at block 506, a moving average is performed over a 4 μ sec window to determine correlation peaks.

[0042] At block 508 of detection scheme 500, the averaged correlated peaks are compared to both LGI detector threshold value τ_L and SGI detector threshold value τ_S . If the averaged correlation peaks are greater than either of thresholds, τ_L , τ_S , then at block 512, detection scheme 500 determines that the correlation peaks are due to a 2MHz OFDM transmission that is currently occupying the channel. As noted above, communication device 102 will accordingly defer its attempt to seize the channel for transmission, until a predetermined time interval in which the 2 MHz transmission may be complete.

[0043] However, if the averaged correlation peaks are not greater than thresholds, τ_L , τ_S , then at block 514, communication device 102 will prepare to access the channel for transmitting by entering into a random back-off period. Generally, the random back-off period, which is a function of random number and time slot, forces a wireless device to wait for a randomized period of time after sensing that the channel is idle and available, thereby providing a random delay to the device seizing the channel and transmitting. This technique minimizes collisions with other wireless devices that have also sensed the channel is idle and are waiting to capture the channel as well.

[0044] In this manner, a detection mechanism and scheme are presented that enables a narrower-band device to effectively detect ongoing transmissions of wider bandwidth signals on a channel to avoid collisions and facilitate the coexistence of disparate operating bandwidths.

[0045] **Examples:** The following examples pertain to numerous embodiments, consistent with the various aspects and principles of the present disclosure.

[0046] Example 1 is a method of mitigating collisions between wireless transmissions operating at different bandwidths that provides receiving a signal across a wireless channel by a wireless device operating at a predefined bandwidth; filtering the received signal to generate a band-limited filtered signal at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device; correlating the band-limited filtered signal with a delayed, conjugated version of the band-limited filtered signal; performing a moving average of the correlated filtered signals to determine correlation peaks; comparing the correlation peaks with a predetermined threshold; and determining that the received signal operates at a wider bandwidth than the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device, if the correlation peaks are greater than the predetermined threshold, wherein, upon determining that the received wireless signal operates at the wider bandwidth, the wireless device defers accessing the wireless channel for transmitting until a predetermined time interval.

[0047] In Example 2, the subject matter of Example 1 may optionally provide determining that the received signal operates at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device, if the correlated peaks are not greater than the predetermined threshold. And, in

Example 3, the subject matter of Example 2 may optionally provide that the wireless device prepares to access the wireless channel for transmitting, upon determining that the received signal operates at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device.

[0048] In Example 4, the subject matter of Example 1 may optionally provide that the received signal comprises a 2 MHz bandwidth signal while in Example 5, the subject matter of Example 1 may optionally provide that the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device is 1 MHz. In addition, in Example 6, the subject matter of Example 4 may optionally provide that the filtering of the signal comprises band-limiting the 2 MHz bandwidth signal to a 1 MHz bandwidth.

[0049] In Example 7, the subject matter of Example 1 may optionally provide that the correlating comprises correlating the filtered signal against a 32 μ sec delayed conjugated version of the filtered signal and in Example 8, the moving average of the correlated filtered signal is performed over a 4 μ sec window.

[0050] In Example 9, the subject matter of Example 1 may optionally provide that the correlated peaks being greater than the predetermined threshold indicate that the received signal comprises an orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) signal having cyclic prefixes (CPs) as guard intervals (GIs) and in Example 10, the subject matter of Example 9 may in turn optionally provide that the predetermined threshold comprises a first value for a long GI and a second value for a short GI.

[0051] Example 11 is a wireless system for mitigating collisions between wireless transmissions operating at different bandwidths that comprises a wireless device configured to operate at a predefined bandwidth, the wireless device including: a transceiver configured to receive a signal across a wireless channel; a filter configured to filter the receive signal and generate a band-limited filtered signal at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device; a correlating mechanism configured to correlate the band-limited filtered signal with a delayed, conjugated version of the band-limited filtered signal; logic configured to perform a moving average of the correlated filtered signals to determine correlation peaks; and logic configured to compare the correlation peaks with a predetermined

threshold, wherein, if the correlation peaks are greater than the predetermined threshold, the received signal is determined to operate at a wider bandwidth than the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device, and wherein, upon determining that the received wireless signal operates at the wider bandwidth, the wireless device defers accessing the wireless channel for transmitting until a predetermined time interval.

[0052] In Example 12, the subject matter of Example 11 may optionally include that if the correlated peaks are not greater than the predetermined threshold, determining that the received signal operates at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device. And, in Example 13, the subject matter of Example 12 may optionally include that the wireless device prepares to access the wireless channel for transmitting, upon determining that the received signal operates at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device.

[0053] In Example 14, the subject matter of Example 11 may optionally include that the received signal comprises a 2 MHz bandwidth signal while in Example 15, the subject matter of Example 11 may optionally provide that the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device is 1 MHz. In addition, in Example 16, the subject matter of Example 14 may optionally include that the filtering of the signal comprises band-limiting the 2 MHz bandwidth signal to a 1 MHz bandwidth.

[0054] In Example 17, the subject matter of Example 11 may optionally include that the correlating mechanism comprises correlating the filtered signal against a 32 μ sec delayed conjugated version of the filtered signal and in Example 18, that averaging logic of the correlated filtered signal is performed over a 4 μ sec window.

[0055] In Example 19, the subject matter of Example 11 may optionally provide that the correlated peaks being greater than the predetermined threshold indicate that the received signal comprises an orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) signal having cyclic prefixes (CPs) as guard intervals (GIs) and in Example 20, the subject matter of Example 19 may in turn optionally provide that the predetermined threshold comprises a first value for a long GI and a second value for a short GI.

[0056] Example 21 is a computer-readable medium comprising computer-readable instructions physically embodied thereon which, when executed by a processor, causes the processor to perform a method that provides receiving a signal across a wireless channel by a wireless device operating at a predefined bandwidth; filtering the received signal to generate a band-limited filtered signal at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device; correlating the band-limited filtered signal with a delayed, conjugated version of the band-limited filtered signal; performing a moving average of the correlated filtered signals to determine correlation peaks; comparing the correlation peaks with a predetermined threshold; and determining that the received signal operates at a wider bandwidth than the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device, if the correlation peaks are greater than the predetermined threshold, wherein, upon determining that the received wireless signal operates at the wider bandwidth, the wireless device defers accessing the wireless channel for transmitting until a predetermined time interval.

[0057] In Example 22, the subject matter of Example 21 may optionally provide determining that the received signal operates at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device, if the correlated peaks are not greater than the predetermined threshold. And, in Example 23, the subject matter of Example 22 may optionally provide that the wireless device prepares to access the wireless channel for transmitting, upon determining that the received signal operates at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device.

[0058] In Example 24, the subject matter of Example 21 may optionally provide that the received signal comprises a 2 MHz bandwidth signal while in Example 25, the subject matter of Example 21 may optionally provide that the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device is 1 MHz. In addition, in Example 26, the subject matter of Example 24 may optionally provide that the filtering of the signal comprises band-limiting the 2 MHz bandwidth signal to a 1 MHz bandwidth.

[0059] In Example 27, the subject matter of Example 1 may optionally provide that the correlating comprises correlating the filtered signal against a 32 μ sec delayed conjugated version of the filtered signal and in Example 28, the moving average of the correlated filtered signal is performed over a 4 μ sec window.

[0060] In Example 29, the subject matter of Example 21 may optionally provide that the correlated peaks being greater than the predetermined threshold indicate that the received signal comprises an orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) signal having cyclic prefixes (CPs) as guard intervals (GIs) and in Example 30, the subject matter of Example 29 may in turn optionally provide that the predetermined threshold comprises a first value for a long GI and a second value for a short GI.

[0061] Example 31 is a method of mitigating collisions between wireless transmissions operating at different bandwidths that provides receiving a signal across a wireless channel by a wireless device operating at a predefined bandwidth; filtering the received signal to generate a band-limited filtered signal at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device; correlating the band-limited filtered signal with a delayed, conjugated version of the band-limited filtered signal; performing a moving average of the correlated filtered signals to determine correlation peaks; comparing the correlation peaks with a predetermined threshold; and determining that the received signal operates at a wider bandwidth than the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device, if the correlation peaks are greater than the predetermined threshold, wherein, upon determining that the received wireless signal operates at the wider bandwidth, the wireless device defers accessing the wireless channel for transmitting until a predetermined time interval.

[0062] In Example 32, the subject matter of Example 31 may optionally provide determining that the received signal operates at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device, if the correlated peaks are not greater than the predetermined threshold. And, in Example 33, the subject matter of Example 32 may optionally provide that the wireless device prepares to access the wireless channel for transmitting, upon determining that the received signal operates at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device.

[0063] In Example 34, the subject matter of Example 31 may optionally provide that the received signal comprises a 2 MHz bandwidth signal while in Example 35, the subject matter of Example 31 may optionally provide that the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device is 1 MHz. In addition, in Example 36, the subject matter of Example 34 may optionally

provide that the filtering of the signal comprises band-limiting the 2 MHz bandwidth signal to a 1 MHz bandwidth.

[0064] In Example 37, the subject matter of Example 31 may optionally provide that the correlating comprises correlating the filtered signal against a 32 μ sec delayed conjugated version of the filtered signal and in Example 38, the moving average of the correlated filtered signal is performed over a 4 μ sec window.

[0065] In Example 39, the subject matter of Example 31 may optionally provide that the correlated peaks being greater than the predetermined threshold indicate that the received signal comprises an orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) signal having cyclic prefixes (CPs) as guard intervals (GIs) and in Example 40, the subject matter of Example 9 may in turn optionally provide that the predetermined threshold comprises a first value for a long GI and a second value for a short GI.

[0066] Example 41 is a wireless system for mitigating collisions between wireless transmissions operating at different bandwidths that comprises a wireless device configured to operate at a predefined bandwidth, the wireless device including: a transceiver configured to receive a signal across a wireless channel; a filter configured to filter the receive signal and generate a band-limited filtered signal at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device; a correlating mechanism configured to correlate the band-limited filtered signal with a delayed, conjugated version of the band-limited filtered signal; logic configured to perform a moving average of the correlated filtered signals to determine correlation peaks; and logic configured to compare the correlation peaks with a predetermined threshold, wherein, if the correlation peaks are greater than the predetermined threshold, the received signal is determined to operate at a wider bandwidth than the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device, and wherein, upon determining that the received wireless signal operates at the wider bandwidth, the wireless device defers accessing the wireless channel for transmitting until a predetermined time interval.

[0067] In Example 42, the subject matter of Example 41 may optionally include that if the correlated peaks are not greater than the predetermined threshold, determining that

the received signal operates at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device. And, in Example 43, the subject matter of Example 42 may optionally include that the wireless device prepares to access the wireless channel for transmitting, upon determining that the received signal operates at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device.

[0068] In Example 44, the subject matter of Example 41 may optionally include that the received signal comprises a 2 MHz bandwidth signal while in Example 45, the subject matter of Example 41 may optionally provide that the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device is 1 MHz. In addition, in Example 46, the subject matter of Example 44 may optionally include that the filtering of the signal comprises band-limiting the 2 MHz bandwidth signal to a 1 MHz bandwidth.

[0069] In Example 47, the subject matter of Example 41 may optionally include that the correlating mechanism comprises correlating the filtered signal against a 32 μ sec delayed conjugated version of the filtered signal and in Example 48, that averaging logic of the correlated filtered signal is performed over a 4 μ sec window.

[0070] In Example 49, the subject matter of Example 41 may optionally provide that the correlated peaks being greater than the predetermined threshold indicate that the received signal comprises an orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) signal having cyclic prefixes (CPs) as guard intervals (GIs) and in Example 50, the subject matter of Example 19 may in turn optionally provide that the predetermined threshold comprises a first value for a long GI and a second value for a short GI.

[0071] Example 51 is computer-readable medium comprising computer-readable instructions physically embodied thereon which, when executed by a processor, causes the processor to perform the method of any of claims 31-39.

[0072] Example 52 is an apparatus comprising means for performing the method of claims 31-39.

[0073] Example 53 is a method of mitigating collisions between wireless transmissions operating at different bandwidths that provides receiving a signal across a wireless channel

by a wireless device operating at a predefined bandwidth; filtering the received signal to generate a band-limited filtered signal at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device; correlating the band-limited filtered signal with a delayed, conjugated version of the band-limited filtered signal; performing a moving average of the correlated filtered signals to determine correlation peaks; comparing the correlation peaks with a predetermined threshold; determining that the received signal operates at a wider bandwidth than the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device, if the correlation peaks are greater than the predetermined threshold, wherein the wireless device defers accessing the wireless channel for transmitting until a predetermined time interval; determining that the received signal operates at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device, if the correlated peaks are not greater than the predetermined threshold, wherein the wireless device prepares to access the channel for transmitting.

[0074] In Example 54, the subject matter of Example 53 may optionally provide that the received signal comprises a 2 MHz bandwidth signal while in Example 55, the subject matter of Example 53 may optionally provide that the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device is 1 MHz. In addition, in Example 56, the subject matter of Example 44 may optionally provide that the filtering of the signal comprises band-limiting the 2 MHz bandwidth signal to a 1 MHz bandwidth.

[0075] In Example 57, the subject matter of Example 53 may optionally provide that the correlating comprises correlating the filtered signal against a 32 μ sec delayed conjugated version of the filtered signal and in Example 58, the moving average of the correlated filtered signal is performed over a 4 μ sec window.

[0076] In Example 59, the subject matter of Example 53 may optionally provide that the correlated peaks being greater than the predetermined threshold indicate that the received signal comprises an orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) signal having cyclic prefixes (CPs) as guard intervals (GIs) and in Example 60, the subject matter of Example 59 may in turn optionally provide that the predetermined threshold comprises a first value for a long GI and a second value for a short GI.

[0077] Example 61 is a wireless system for mitigating collisions between wireless transmissions operating at different bandwidths that comprises a wireless device configured to operate at a predefined bandwidth, the wireless device including: a transceiver configured to receive a signal across a wireless channel; a filter configured to filter the receive signal and generate a band-limited filtered signal at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device; a correlating mechanism configured to correlate the band-limited filtered signal with a delayed, conjugated version of the band-limited filtered signal; logic configured to perform a moving average of the correlated filtered signals to determine correlation peaks; and logic configured to compare the correlation peaks with a predetermined threshold, wherein, if the correlation peaks are greater than the predetermined threshold, the received signal is determined to operate at a wider bandwidth than the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device, and the wireless device defers accessing the wireless channel for transmitting until a predetermined time interval, and wherein, if the correlation peaks are not greater than the predetermined threshold, determining that the received signal operates at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device and the wireless device prepares to access the wireless channel for transmitting.

[0078] In Example 62, the subject matter of Example 61 may optionally include that the received signal comprises a 2 MHz bandwidth signal while in Example 63, the subject matter of Example 61 may optionally provide that the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device is 1 MHz. In addition, in Example 64, the subject matter of Example 61 may optionally include that the filtering of the signal comprises band-limiting the 2 MHz bandwidth signal to a 1 MHz bandwidth.

[0079] In Example 65, the subject matter of Example 61 may optionally include that the correlating mechanism comprises correlating the filtered signal against a 32 μ sec delayed conjugated version of the filtered signal and in Example 66, that averaging logic of the correlated filtered signal is performed over a 4 μ sec window.

[0080] In Example 67, the subject matter of Example 61 may optionally provide that the correlated peaks being greater than the predetermined threshold indicate that the received signal comprises an orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) signal having cyclic

prefixes (CPs) as guard intervals (GIs) and in Example 68, the subject matter of Example 67 may in turn optionally provide that the predetermined threshold comprises a first value for a long GI and a second value for a short GI.

[0081] Example 69 is a computer-readable medium comprising computer-readable instructions physically embodied thereon which, when executed by a processor, causes the processor to perform the method of any of claims 53-60.

[0082] Example 70 is an apparatus comprising means for performing the method of claims 53-60.

[0083] Having thus described the basic concepts, it will be rather apparent to those skilled in the art after reading this detailed disclosure that the foregoing detailed disclosure is intended to be presented by way of example only and is not limiting. Various alterations, improvements, and modifications will occur and are intended to those skilled in the art, though not expressly stated herein. These alterations, improvements, and modifications are intended to be suggested by this disclosure, and are within the spirit and scope of the exemplary embodiments of this disclosure.

[0084] Moreover, certain terminology has been used to describe embodiments of the present disclosure. For example, the terms “one embodiment,” “an embodiment,” and/or “some embodiments” mean that a particular feature, structure or characteristic described in connection with the embodiment is included in at least one embodiment of the present disclosure. Therefore, it is emphasized and should be appreciated that two or more references to “an embodiment” or “one embodiment” or “an alternative embodiment” in various portions of this specification are not necessarily all referring to the same embodiment. Furthermore, the particular features, structures or characteristics may be combined as suitable in one or more embodiments of the present disclosure. In addition, the term “logic” is representative of hardware, firmware, software (or any combination thereof) to perform one or more functions. For instance, examples of “hardware” include, but are not limited to, an integrated circuit, a finite state machine, or even combinatorial logic. The integrated circuit may take the form of a processor such as a microprocessor, an

application specific integrated circuit, a digital signal processor, a micro-controller, or the like.

[0085] Furthermore, the recited order of processing elements or sequences, or the use of numbers, letters, or other designations therefore, is not intended to limit the claimed processes and methods to any order except as can be specified in the claims. Although the above disclosure discusses through various examples what is currently considered to be a variety of useful embodiments of the disclosure, it is to be understood that such detail is solely for that purpose, and that the appended claims are not limited to the disclosed embodiments, but, on the contrary, are intended to cover modifications and equivalent arrangements that are within the spirit and scope of the disclosed embodiments.

[0086] Similarly, it should be appreciated that in the foregoing description of embodiments of the present disclosure, various features are sometimes grouped together in a single embodiment, figure, or description thereof for the purpose of streamlining the disclosure aiding in the understanding of one or more of the various inventive embodiments. This method of disclosure, however, is not to be interpreted as reflecting an intention that the claimed subject matter requires more features than are expressly recited in each claim. Rather, as the following claims reflect, inventive embodiments lie in less than all features of a single foregoing disclosed embodiment. Thus, the claims following the detailed description are hereby expressly incorporated into this detailed description.

CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of mitigating collisions between wireless transmissions operating at different bandwidths, comprising:

receiving a signal across a wireless channel by a wireless device operating at a predefined bandwidth;

filtering the received signal to generate a band-limited filtered signal at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device;

correlating the band-limited filtered signal with a delayed, conjugated version of the band-limited filtered signal;

performing a moving average of the correlated filtered signals to determine correlation peaks;

comparing the correlation peaks with a predetermined threshold; and

determining that the received signal operates at a wider bandwidth than the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device, if the correlation peaks are greater than the predetermined threshold,

wherein, upon determining that the received wireless signal operates at the wider bandwidth, the wireless device defers accessing the wireless channel for transmitting until a predetermined time interval.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising determining that the received signal operates at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device, if the correlated peaks are not greater than the predetermined threshold.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the wireless device prepares to access the wireless channel for transmitting, upon determining that the received signal operates at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the received signal comprises a 2 MHz bandwidth signal.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device is 1 MHz.

6. The method of claim 4, wherein the filtering of the signal comprises band-limiting the 2 MHz bandwidth signal to a 1 MHz bandwidth.

7. The method of claim 1, wherein the correlating comprises correlating the filtered signal against a 32 μ sec delayed conjugated version of the filtered signal.

8. The method of claim 1, wherein the moving average of the correlated filtered signal is performed over a 4 μ sec window.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein the correlated peaks being greater than the predetermined threshold indicate that the received signal comprises an orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) signal having cyclic prefixes (CPs) as guard intervals (GIs).

10. The method of claim 9, wherein the predetermined threshold comprises a first value for a long GI and a second value for a short GI.

11. A wireless system for mitigating collisions between wireless transmissions operating at different bandwidths, comprising:

a wireless device configured to operate at a predefined bandwidth, the wireless device including:

a transceiver configured to receive a signal across a wireless channel;

a filter configured to filter the receive signal and generate a band-limited filtered signal at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device;

a correlating mechanism configured to correlate the band-limited filtered signal with a delayed, conjugated version of the band-limited filtered signal;

logic configured to perform a moving average of the correlated filtered signals to determine correlation peaks; and

logic configured to compare the correlation peaks with a predetermined threshold,

wherein, if the correlation peaks are greater than the predetermined threshold, the received signal is determined to operate at a wider bandwidth than the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device, and

wherein, upon determining that the received wireless signal operates at the wider bandwidth, the wireless device defers accessing the wireless channel for transmitting until a predetermined time interval.

12. The wireless system of claim 11 wherein, if the correlated peaks are not greater than the predetermined threshold, determining that the received signal operates at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device,.

13. The wireless system of claim 12, wherein the wireless device prepares to access the wireless channel and transmits, upon determining that the received signal operates at the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device.

14. The wireless system of claim 11, wherein the received signal comprises a 2 MHz bandwidth signal.

15. The wireless system of claim 11, wherein the predefined bandwidth of the wireless device is 1 MHz.

16. The wireless system of claim 14, wherein the filter band-limits the 2 MHz bandwidth signal to a 1 MHz bandwidth.

17. The wireless system of claim 11, wherein the correlating mechanism comprises correlating the filtered signal against a 32 μ sec delayed conjugated version of the filtered signal.

18. The wireless system of claim 11, wherein the averaging logic of the correlated filtered signal is performed over a 4 μ sec window.

19. The wireless system of claim 1, wherein the correlated peaks being greater than the predetermined threshold indicate that the received signal comprises an orthogonal frequency division multiplexing (OFDM) signal having cyclic prefixes (CPs) as guard intervals (GIs).

20. The wireless system of claim 9, wherein the predetermined threshold comprises a first value for a long GI and a second value for a short GI.

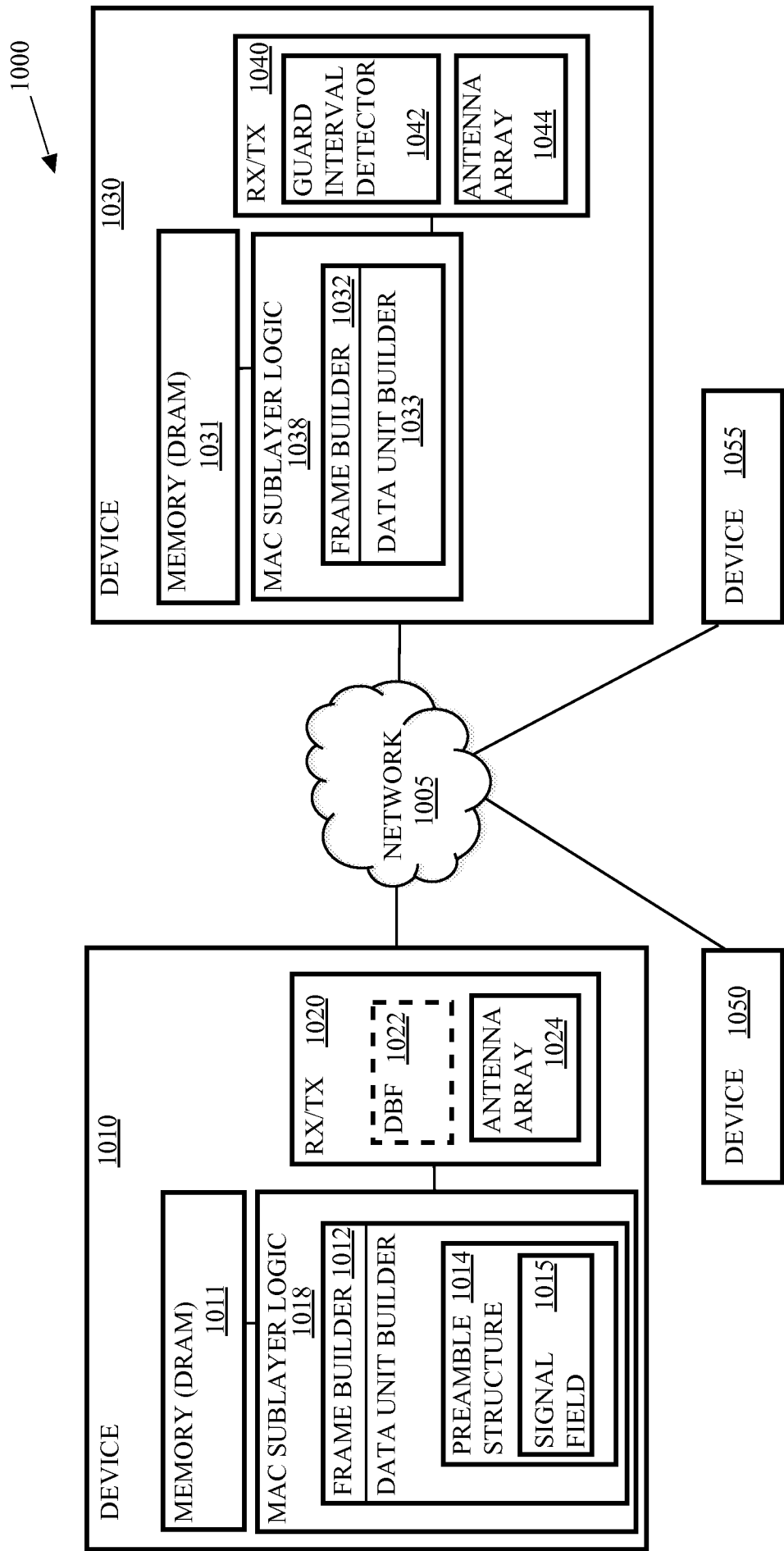


FIG. 1

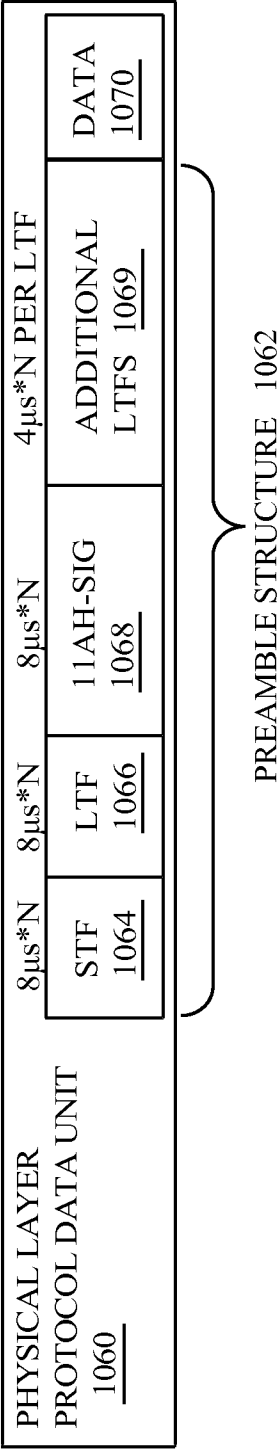


FIG. 1A

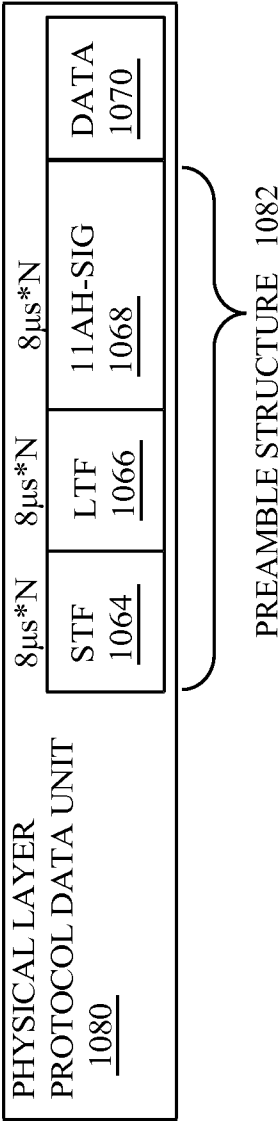


FIG. 1B

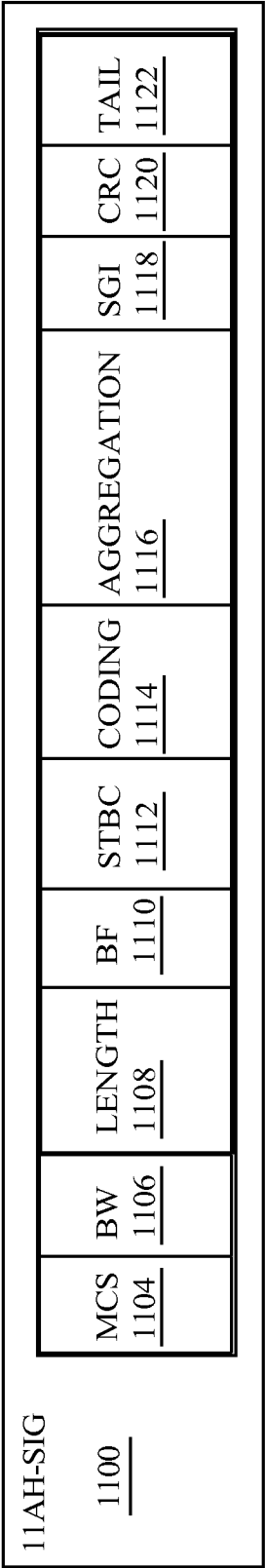


FIG. 1C

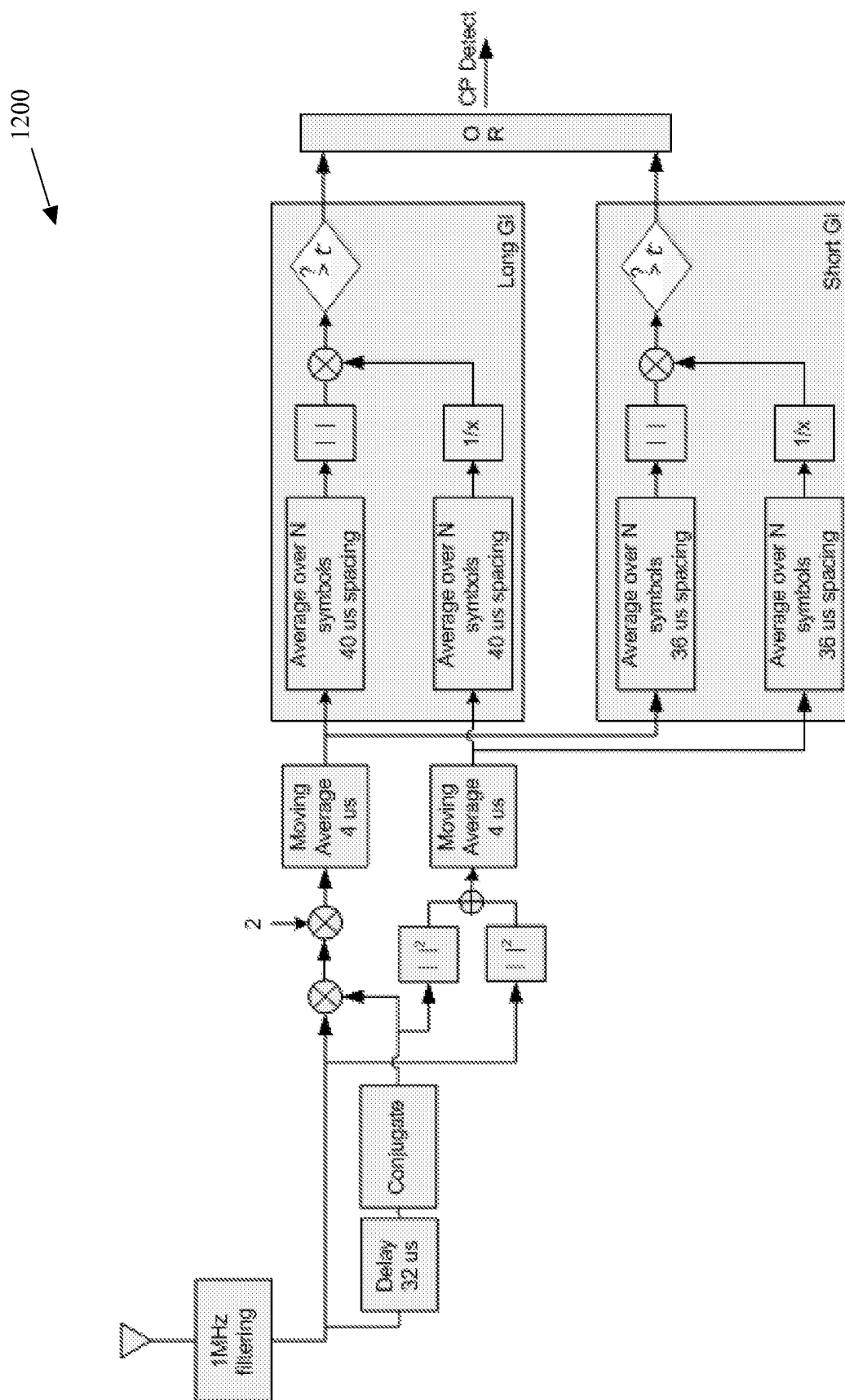


FIG. 1D

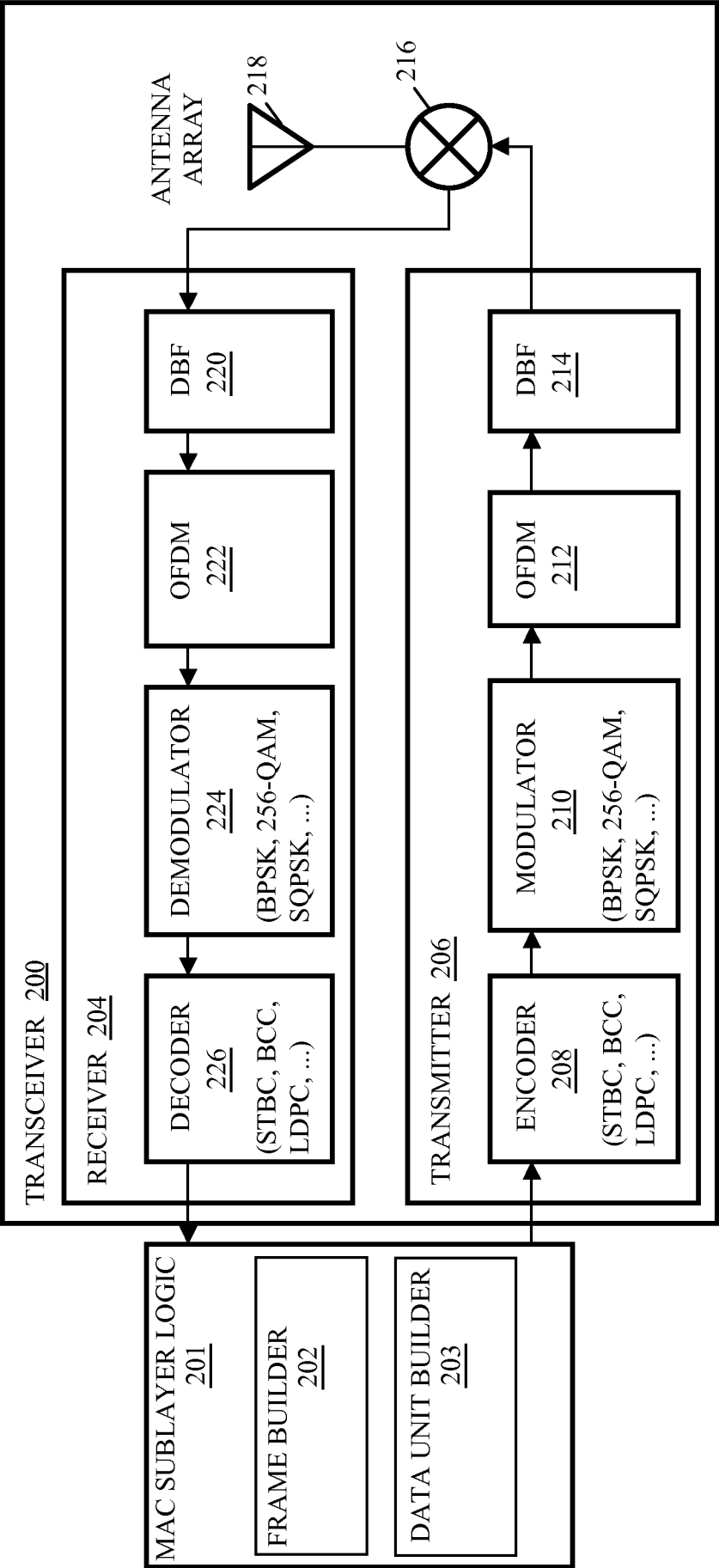


FIG. 2

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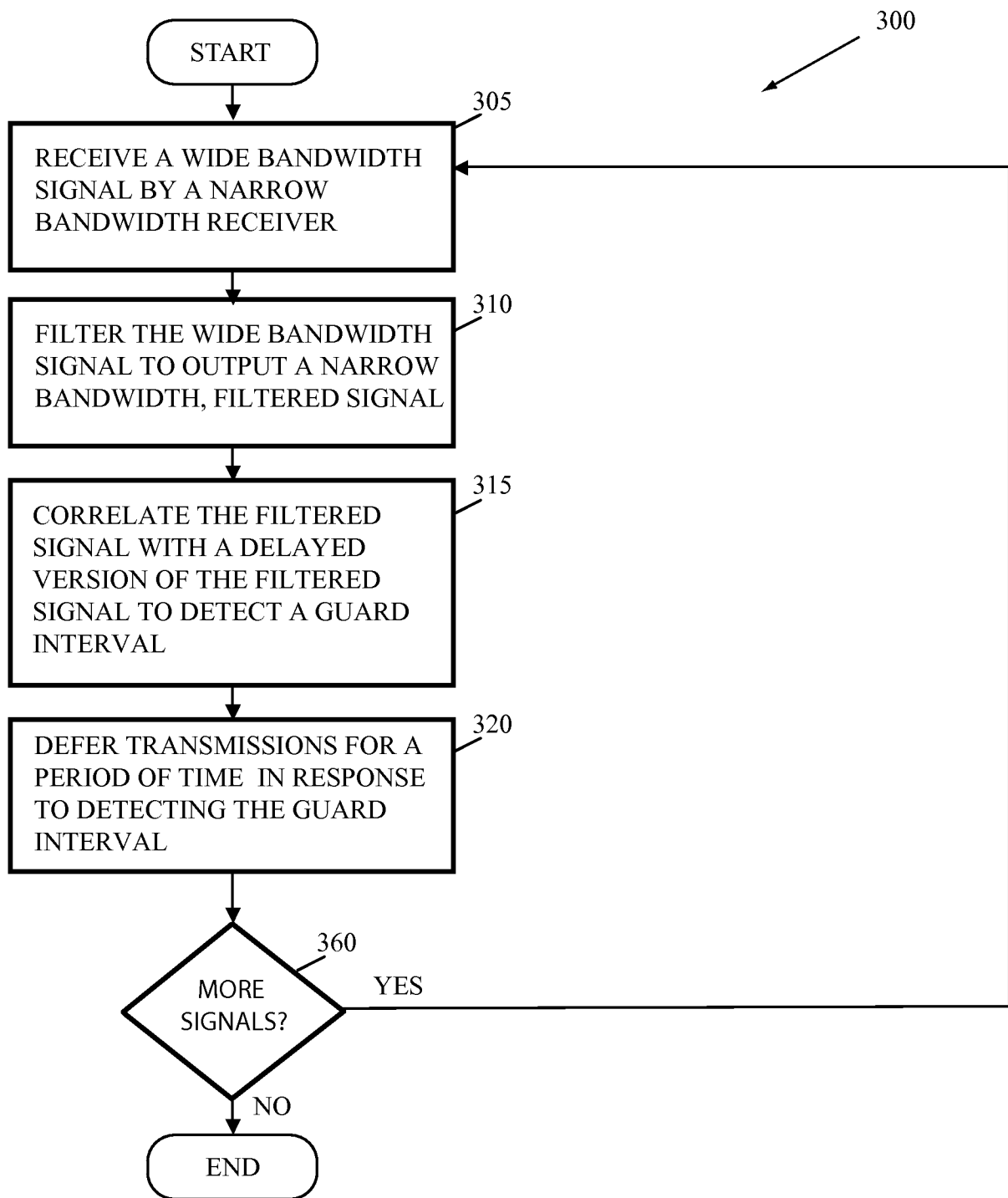


FIG. 3

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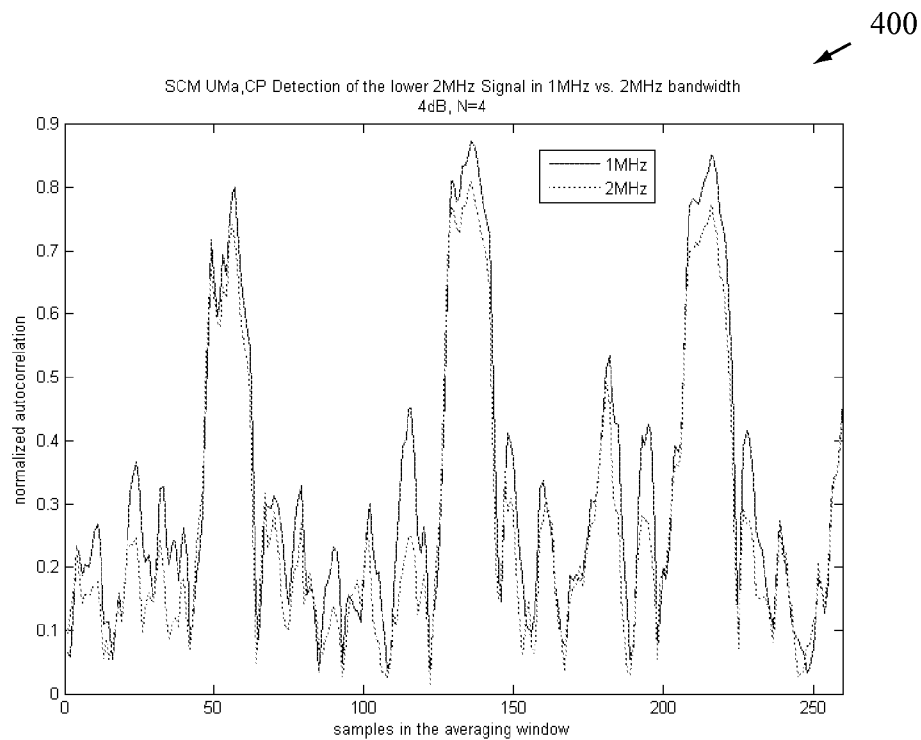


FIG. 4A

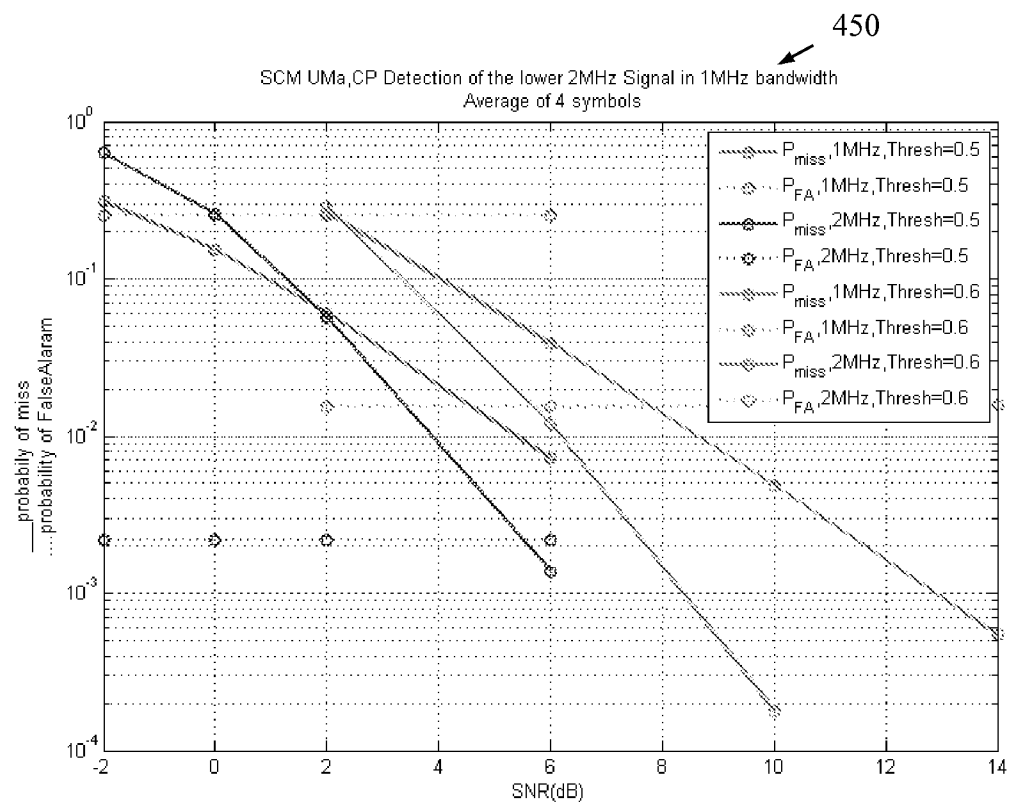


FIG. 4B

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US2013/047520**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER****H04B 7/005(2006.01)i**

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

B. FIELDS SEARCHEDMinimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
H04B 7/005; H04J 3/22; H04L 27/06; H04M 1/00; H04W 28/00Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
Korean utility models and applications for utility models
Japanese utility models and applications for utility modelsElectronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
eKOMPASS(KIPO internal) & Keywords: bandwidth, different, collision, mitigating, filter, band-limited, correlating, peak, averaging, wider, narrower, defer**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	US 2006-0146869 A1 (NING ZHANG et al.) 6 July 2006 See paragraphs 10, 37, 53-55; and figures 4A-4C.	1-20
A	US 2009-0279646 A1 (KAORU KOBAYASHI et al.) 12 November 2009 See paragraphs 34, 141; and figure 1.	1-20
A	US 2011-0317674 A1 (MINYOUNG PARK et al.) 29 December 2011 See paragraphs 27, 36; and figures 3, 4A, 4B.	1-20
A	MINYOUNG PARK, 'Proposed Specification Framework for TGah', IEEE 802.11-11/1 137r11, September 2012(https://mentor.ieee.org/802.11/documents) See page 5.	1-20
A	US 2006-0068837 A1 (LAWRENCE JARRETT MALONE) 30 March 2006 See paragraphs 32, 79, 93; and figures 2-4B.	1-20



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of citation or other special reason (as specified)

"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

"I" 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

15 October 2013 (15.10.2013)

Date of mailing of the international search report

15 October 2013 (15.10.2013)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/KR

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/US2013/047520

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