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(54) NOISE REDUCTION THROUGH SPATIAL SELECTIVITY AND FILTERING

Markus Buck, Biberach (DE); Inventors: Tobias Wolff, Ulm (DE)

> Correspondence Address: HARMAN - BRINKS HOFER CHICAGO **Brinks Hofer Gilson & Lione** P.O. Box 10395 Chicago, IL 60610 (US)

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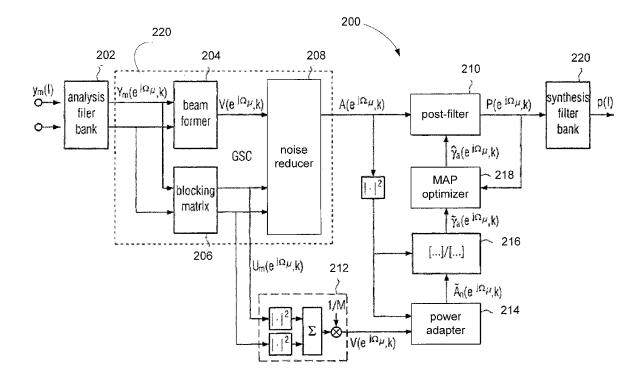
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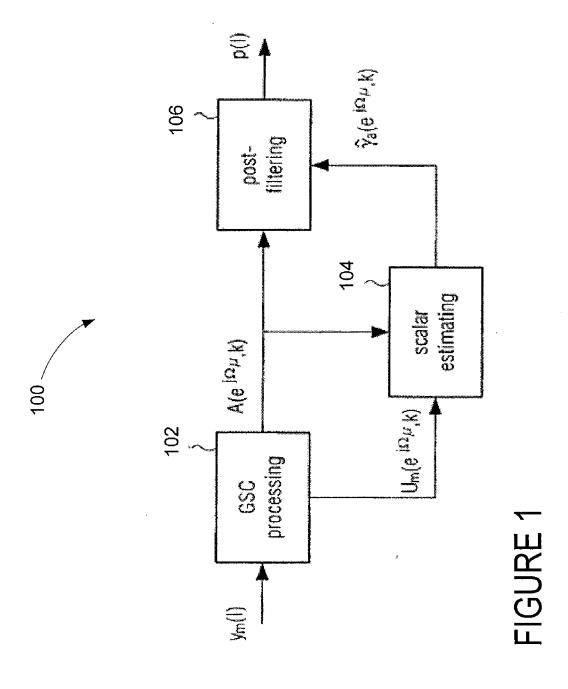
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(57)ABSTRACT

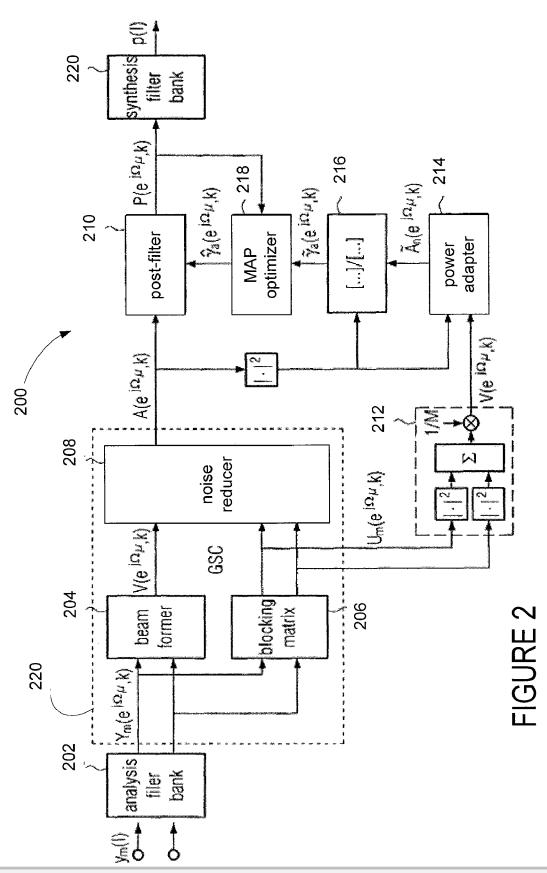
A signal processor uses input devices to detect speech or aural signals. Through a programmable set of weights and/or time delays (or phasing) the output of the input devices may be processed to yield a combined signal. The noise contributions of some or each of the outputs of the input devices may be estimated by a circuit element or a controller that processes the outputs of the respective input devices to yield power densities. A short-term measure or estimate of the noise contribution of the respective outputs of the input devices may be obtained by processing the power densities of some or each of the outputs of the respective input devices. Based on the short-term measure or estimate, the noise contribution of the combined signal may be estimated to enhance the combined signal when processed further. An enhancement device or post-filter may reduce noise more effectively and yield robust speech based on the estimated noise contribution of the combined signal.



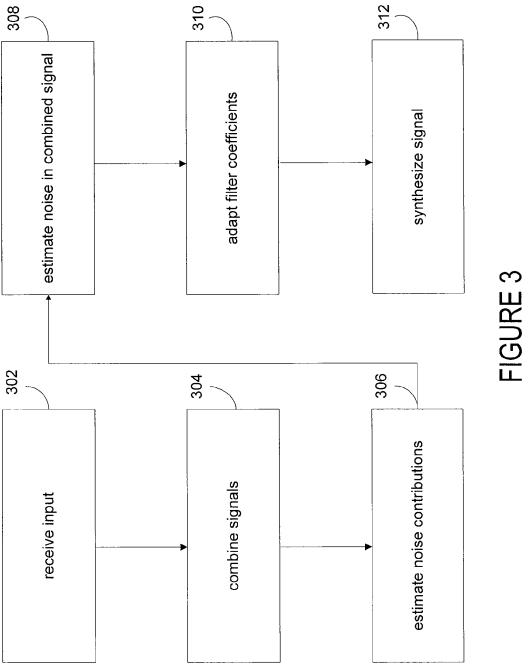




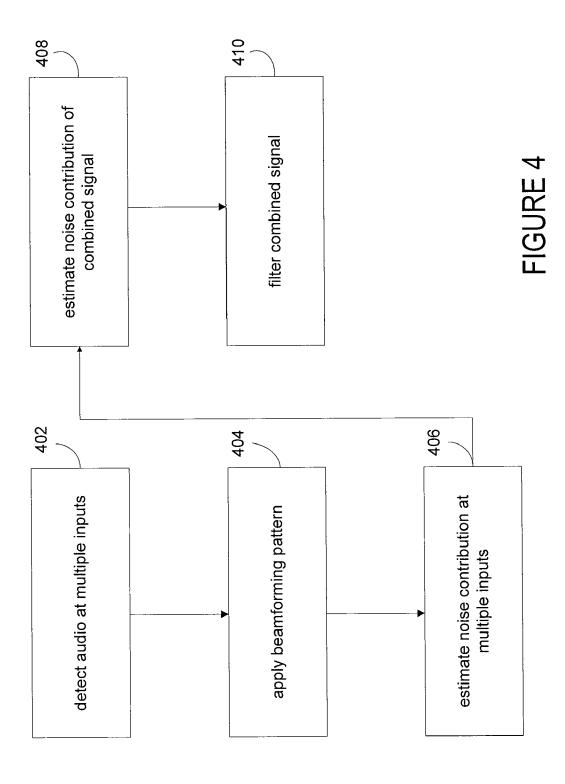














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