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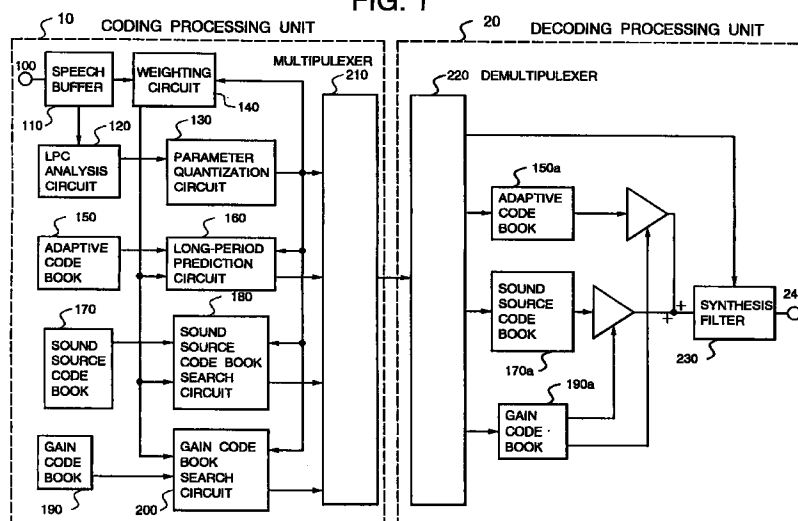
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(54) Speech coder

(57) A long-period prediction circuit (160), which is provided in this speech coder and outputs an optimum delay code of delay codes indicative of a pitch correlation of a speech signal, extracts delay codes by selecting a predetermined section of delay codes and/or while evenly or unevenly thinning out the delay codes, con-

ducts preliminary selection of delay codes through closed-loop search of the extracted delay codes and determines an optimum delay code by executing closed-loop search with respect to the preliminarily selected delay codes.

FIG. 1



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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
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			G10L
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 13 August 1997	Examiner Greiser, N
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document		T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document	

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