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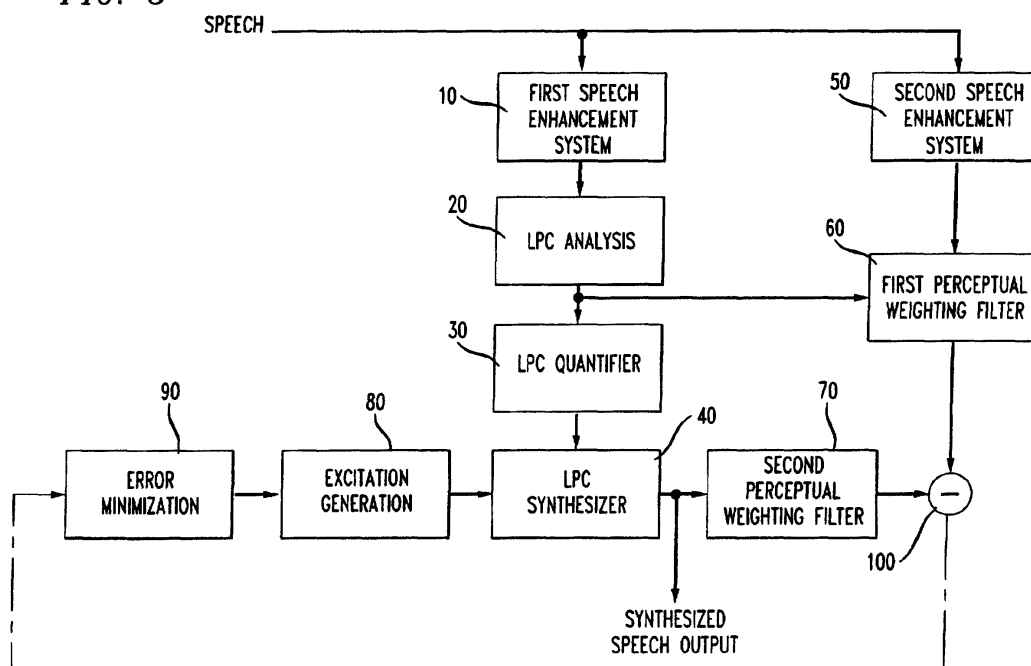
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(54) **A modular approach to speech enhancement with an application to speech coding**

(57) A speech coder separates input digitized speech into component parts on an interval by interval basis. The component parts include gain components, spectrum components and excitation signal components. A set of speech enhancement systems within the speech coder processes the component parts such that

each component part has its own individual speech enhancement process. For example, one speech enhancement process can be applied for analyzing the spectrum components and another speech enhancement process can be used for analyzing the excitation signal components.

FIG. 3





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			G10L
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search THE HAGUE		Date of completion of the search 1 November 1999	Examiner Lange, J
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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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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