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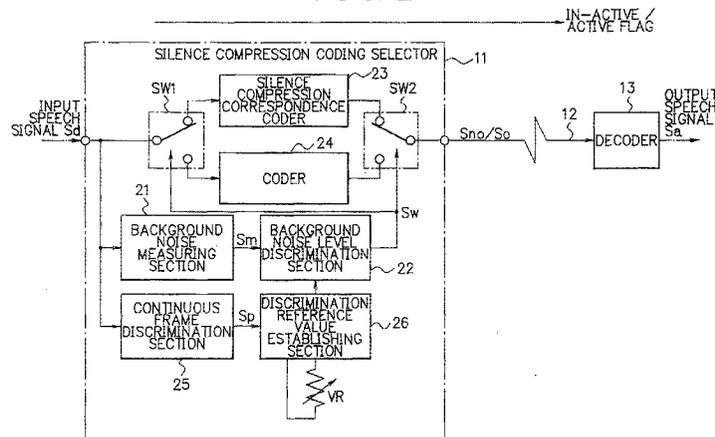
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(54) Silence compression coding/decoding method and device

(57) A silence compression coding / decoding method and device of the same enables sound quality of background noise at the time of decoding and transmission efficiency to be improved while selecting either silence compression coding processing or regular coding processing corresponding to background noise level of input speech signal in digital image / speech transmission. A background noise measuring section compares background noise component level 'Sm' in every input frame with discrimination threshold value data 'Srf' in background noise level discrimination section. When the background noise component level 'Sm' exceeds the discrimination threshold value data 'Srf', switches

SW1, SW2 select coder (regular coding processing). When the background noise component level 'Sm' does not exceed the discrimination threshold value data 'Srf', switches SW1, SW2 select silence compression correspondence coder (silence compression coding processing). Thus each result of selection is transmitted to decoder. The decoder implements either regular decoding processing or decompression decoding processing according to in-active / active flag stored in frame transmitted from a silence compression coding selector. When the background noise level is large, the device reduces sound quality deterioration of the background noise at the time of decoding while implementing regular coding processing.

FIG. 2





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.7)
			G10L
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner	
MUNICH	3 May 2002	Bourdier, R	
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS		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	
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			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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