



(11) EP 1 455 471 A3

(12)

## EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(88) Date of publication A3:  
04.05.2011 Bulletin 2011/18

(51) Int Cl.:  
H04H 7/00 (0000.00)

(43) Date of publication A2:  
08.09.2004 Bulletin 2004/37

(21) Application number: 03300203.1

(22) Date of filing: 07.11.2003

(84) Designated Contracting States:  
**AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR  
HU IE IT LI LU MC NL PT RO SE SI SK TR**  
Designated Extension States:  
**AL LT LV MK**

(30) Priority: 12.02.2003 EP 03090038

(71) Applicant: Thomson Licensing  
92130 Issy-les-Moulineaux (FR)

(72) Inventors:  
• Schrieber, Ulrich  
30827 Garbsen (DE)

- Schneider, Markus  
30159 Hannover (DE)
- Gries, Ulrich  
30419 Hannover (DE)

(74) Representative: Hartnack, Wolfgang et al  
Deutsche Thomson OHG  
European Patent Operations  
Karl-Wiechert-Allee 74  
30625 Hannover (DE)

### (54) Method and apparatus for preprocessing in a common-format, input signals of, or output signals for, interfaces of different type

(57) In audio processing technology there are interfaces of different type, the different interface types being associated with differing sample clock frequencies and/or differing data frame or data word formats. In some applications it is desired to process audio signals that stem from such interfaces of different type. According to the invention the input signals of the interfaces of different type are preprocessed for a subsequent common-format central processing, using a synchronisation to the common system clock, channel decoding according to the differing channel protocols related to the different-type interfaces, and processing the resulting PCM bitstream format signals so as to form therefrom sample words that are stored in an intermediate store from which the sample words are fed to the central processing.

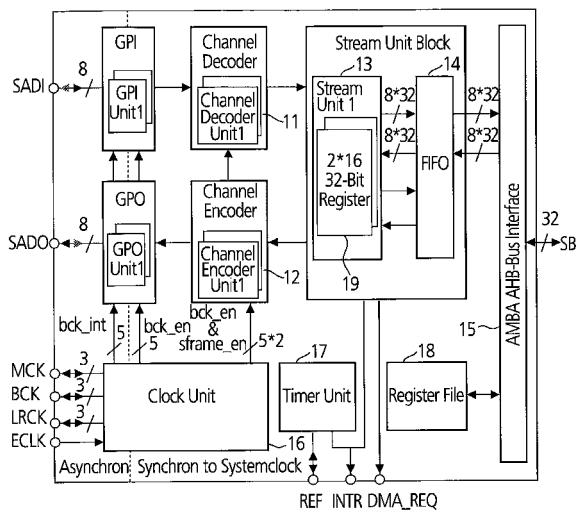


Fig.1



## EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number  
EP 03 30 0203

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
X	US 6 029 221 A (WIESNER CHRISTIAN ET AL) 22 February 2000 (2000-02-22) * column 1, lines 61-65 * * column 3, lines 9-35 * * column 3, lines 48-51 * * column 3, lines 55-63 * * column 5, lines 15-54; figures 1,4 * -----	1-9	INV. G06F3/16 H04H7/00
A	US 6 128 681 A (SHEPHARD KENT L) 3 October 2000 (2000-10-03) * column 16, line 46 - column 17, line 46 * -----	1-4	
1			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			G06F H04H
1			
1			The present search report has been drawn up for all claims
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
The Hague		25 March 2011	Pantelakis, P
<b>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</b> <p>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</p> <p>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  .....  &amp; : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			
EPO FORM 1503 03/82 (P04C01)			

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT  
ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

EP 03 30 0203

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on. The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

25-03-2011

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
US 6029221	A	22-02-2000	NONE			
US 6128681	A	03-10-2000	AU WO	8771798 A 9908387 A2	01-03-1999 18-02-1999	