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## (12) United States Patent

#### Walton et al.

#### (54) TRANSMISSION MODE SELECTION FOR DATA TRANSMISSION IN A MULTI-CHANNEL COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

- (75) Inventors: Jay Rod Walton, Carlisle, MA (US); Irina Medvedev, Somerville, MA (US)
- (73) Assignee: Qualcomm Incorporated, San Diego, CA (US)
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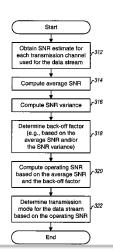
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Primary Examiner—Rafael Pérez-Gutiérrez Assistant Examiner—Allahyar Kasraian (74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Turocy & Watson, LLP

#### (57) ABSTRACT

Techniques to select a suitable transmission mode for a data transmission in a multi-channel communication system with multiple transmission channels having varying SNRs. In one method, an SNR estimate is initially obtained for each of multiple transmission channels used to transmit a data stream. An average SNR and an unbiased variance are then computed for the SNR estimates for the multiple transmission channels. A back-off factor is determined, for example, based on the SNR variance and a scaling factor. An operating SNR for the transmission channels is next computed based on the average SNR and the back-off factor. The transmission mode is then selected for the data stream based on the operating SNR. The selected transmission mode is associated with a highest required SNR that is less than or equal to the operating SNR. The method may be used for any system with multiple transmission channels having varying SNRs.

#### 20 Claims, 11 Drawing Sheets



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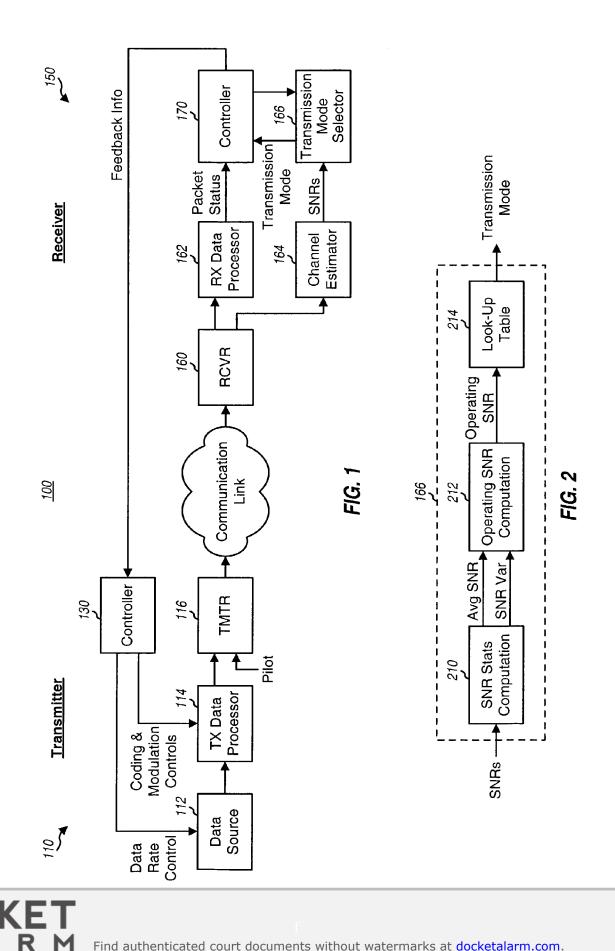
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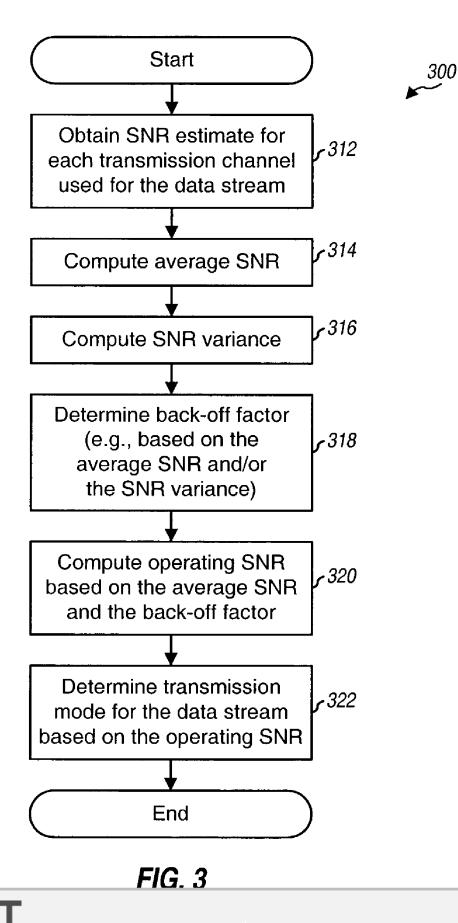
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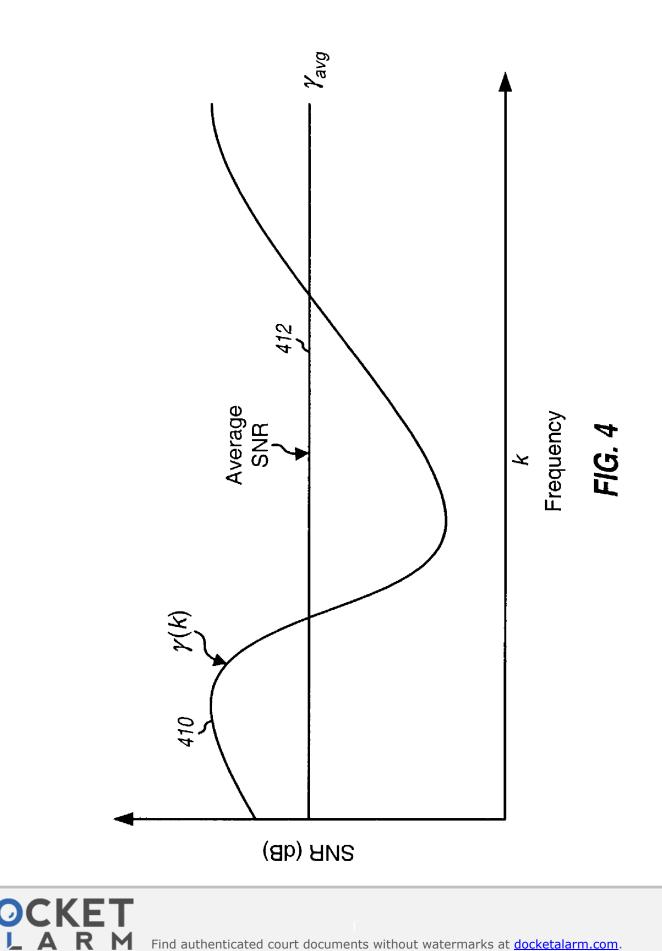


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