UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



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# NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

23696 7590 05/29/2015 QUALCOMM INCORPORATED 5775 MOREHOUSE DR. SAN DIEGO, CA 92121 EXAMINER TRAN, KHANH C

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

DATE MAILED: 05/29/2015

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
13/590,423	08/21/2012	Aleksandar Modrag Tasic	121973	9482

TITLE OF INVENTION: LOW NOISE AMPLIFIERS FOR CARRIER AGGREGATION

APPLN. TYPE	ENTITY STATUS	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	UNDISCOUNTED	\$960	\$0	\$O	\$960	08/31/2015

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. <u>PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED</u>. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN <u>THREE MONTHS</u> FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. <u>THIS</u> <u>STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED</u>. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

#### HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the ENTITY STATUS shown above. If the ENTITY STATUS is shown as SMALL or MICRO, verify whether entitlement to that entity status still applies.

If the ENTITY STATUS is the same as shown above, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

If the ENTITY STATUS is changed from that shown above, on PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, complete section number 5 titled "Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)".

For purposes of this notice, small entity fees are 1/2 the amount of undiscounted fees, and micro entity fees are 1/2 the amount of small entity fees.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

#### PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

## Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail Mail Stop ISSUE FEE **Commissioner for Patents** P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

or <u>Fax</u> (571)-273-2885

INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

05/29/2015 23696 7590 QUALCOMM INCORPORATED 5775 MOREHOUSE DR. SAN DIEGO, CA 92121

Note: A certificate of mailing can only be used for domestic mailings of the Fee(s) Transmittal. This certificate cannot be used for any other accompanying papers. Each additional paper, such as an assignment or formal drawing, must have its own certificate of mailing or transmission.

**Certificate of Mailing or Transmission** I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE		FIRST NAMED INVENTOR		ATTOR	NEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
13/590,423	08/21/2012		Aleksandar Modrag Tasic		-	121973	9482
TITLE OF INVENTION	I: LOW NOISE AMPLIE	FIERS FOR CARRIER A	GGREGATION				
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nonprovisional	UNDISCOUNTED	\$960	\$0	\$0		\$960	08/31/2015
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TRAN, K	HANH C	2631	375-340000				
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	ondence address (or Cha B/122) attached.	ange of Correspondence	(1) The names of up to or agents OR, alternation	o 3 registered paten vely,	nt attorne	eys I	
			(2) The name of a sing	le firm (having as a	a membe	ra 2	
PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-0 Number is required.	ication (or "Fee Address 2 or more recent) attach	<sup>3"</sup> Indication form red. Use of a Customer	(2) The name of a sing registered attorney or a 2 registered patent atto listed, no name will be	rneys or agents. If printed.	no name	e is 3	
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(A) NAME OF ASSI		pletion of this form is NO	T a substitute for filing an (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY				
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Please check the appropr	iate assignee category of	r categories (will not be pr	rinted on the patent):	Individual 🔲 Co	orporatio	on or other private gro	oup entity 🔲 Government
4a. The following fee(s)	are submitted:	41	o. Payment of Fee(s): (Plea	nse first reapply ar	ny previ	ously paid issue fee	shown above)
Issue Fee			A check is enclosed.				
Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)			Payment by credit car				<b>C</b> 1.
Advance Order - # of Copies			overpayment, to Depo	sit Account Number	ge the re	quired fee(s), any de (enclose a	ficiency, or credits any n extra copy of this form).
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5. Change in Entity Sta	N		NOTE: Absent a valid ce	rtification of Micro	Entity 9	Status (see forms PT)	O/SB/15A and 15B) issue
** *	Applicant certifying micro entity status. See 37 CFR 1.29 NOTE: Absent a valid certification of Micro Entity Status (see forms PTO/SB/15A and 15B), if ee payment in the micro entity amount will not be accepted at the risk of application abandom						
Applicant assertin	g small entity status. See	e 37 CFR 1.27	<u>NOTE:</u> If the application was previously under micro entity status, checking this box will be taken to be a notification of loss of entitlement to micro entity status.				
Applicant changing	g to regular undiscounte	unted fee status. <u>NOTE:</u> Checking this box will be taken to be a notification of loss of entitlement to small or micro entity status, as applicable.				tlement to small or micro	
NOTE: This form must t	be signed in accordance	with 37 CFR 1.31 and 1.33	3. See 37 CFR 1.4 for sign	ature requirements	and cert	ifications.	
Authorized Signature				Date			
Typed or printed nam	e						
				Registration			
			Page 2 of 3				

PTOL-85 Part B (10-13) Approved for use through 10/31/2013.

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE OMB 0651-0033

	ted States Pate	ENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	UNITED STATES DEPAR United States Patent and Address: COMMISSIONER F P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 223 www.uspto.gov	Trademark Office OR PATENTS	
APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
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QUALCOMM INCORPORATED 5775 MOREHOUSE DR.			TRAN, KHANH C		
SAN DIEGO, CA			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
			2631		
			DATE MAILED: 05/29/201	5	

## Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b)

(Applications filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Office has discontinued providing a Patent Term Adjustment (PTA) calculation with the Notice of Allowance.

Section 1(h)(2) of the AIA Technical Corrections Act amended 35 U.S.C. 154(b)(3)(B)(i) to eliminate the requirement that the Office provide a patent term adjustment determination with the notice of allowance. See Revisions to Patent Term Adjustment, 78 Fed. Reg. 19416, 19417 (Apr. 1, 2013). Therefore, the Office is no longer providing an initial patent term adjustment determination with the notice of allowance. The Office will continue to provide a patent term adjustment determination with the Issue Notification Letter that is mailed to applicant approximately three weeks prior to the issue date of the patent, and will include the patent term adjustment on the patent. Any request for reconsideration of the patent term adjustment determination (or reinstatement of patent term adjustment) should follow the process outlined in 37 CFR 1.705.

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

### OMB Clearance and PRA Burden Statement for PTOL-85 Part B

The Paperwork Reduction Act (PRA) of 1995 requires Federal agencies to obtain Office of Management and Budget approval before requesting most types of information from the public. When OMB approves an agency request to collect information from the public, OMB (i) provides a valid OMB Control Number and expiration date for the agency to display on the instrument that will be used to collect the information and (ii) requires the agency to inform the public about the OMB Control Number's legal significance in accordance with 5 CFR 1320.5(b).

The information collected by PTOL-85 Part B is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

#### **Privacy Act Statement**

**The Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579)** requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

- 1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information Act.
- 2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
- 3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
- 4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
- 5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
- 6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
- 7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
- 8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
- 9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

	Application No.	Applicant(s	\$)				
	13/590,423 Examiner	TASIC ET A	L. AIA (First Inventor to				
Notice of Allowability	KHANH C. TRAN	2631	File) Status				
			No				
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.							
1. X This communication is responsive to the RCE filed on 5/20/2015.							
A declaration(s)/affidavit(s) under <b>37 CFR 1.130(b)</b> was/	/were filed on <u> </u>						
2. An election was made by the applicant in response to a restrict requirement and election have been incorporated into this activity of the second s		during the interview or	n; the restriction				
3. The allowed claim(s) is/are <u>1-20</u> . As a result of the allowed claim(s), you may be eligible to benefit from the <b>Patent Prosecution</b> <b>Highway</b> program at a participating intellectual property office for the corresponding application. For more information, please see <u>http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init_events/pph/index.jsp</u> or send an inquiry to <u>PPHfeedback@uspto.gov</u> .							
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority unde	r 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (	f).					
Certified copies:							
a) All b) Some *c) None of the:	le alemi una esta se al						
<ol> <li>Certified copies of the priority documents have</li> <li>Certified copies of the priority documents have</li> </ol>		No					
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority doc			application from the				
International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).							
* Certified copies not received:							
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. <b>THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE</b> .							
5. CORRECTED DRAWINGS ( as "replacement sheets") must	be submitted.						
including changes required by the attached Examiner's Paper No./Mail Date	Amendment / Comment or	in the Office action of					
Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).							
<ol> <li>DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.</li> </ol>							
Attachment(s)							
1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	5. 🗌 Examiner's	Amendment/Commer	nt				
<ul> <li>☑ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),</li> <li>Paper No./Mail Date</li> <li>6. ☑ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance</li> </ul>							
. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit 7. Other							
of Biological Material 4.  Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date							
/KHANH C TRAN/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2631							

1. The present application is being examined under the pre-AIA first to invent provisions.

2. The RCE filed 5/20/2015 has been entered. Claims 1-20 are still pending in this Office action.

# Claims invoking 35 USC § 112, 6<sup>th</sup> paragraph

The following is a quotation of pre-AIA 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph:

An element in a claim for a combination may be expressed as a means or step for performing a specified function without the recital of structure, material, or acts in support thereof, and such claim shall be construed to cover the corresponding structure, material, or acts described in the specification and equivalents thereof.

3. Claim limitation "*means for*" has/have been interpreted under 35 U.S.C. 112(f) or pre-AIA 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph, because it uses/they use a generic placeholder "*means for*" coupled with functional language "*amplifier*" without reciting sufficient structure to achieve the function. Furthermore, the generic placeholder is not preceded by a structural modifier.

Since the claim limitation(s) invokes 35 U.S.C. 112(f) or pre-AIA 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph, claim(s) <u>19-20</u> has/have been interpreted to cover the corresponding structure described in the specification that achieves the claimed function, and equivalents thereof.

A review of the specification shows that the following appears to be the corresponding structure described in the specification for the 35 U.S.C. 112(f) or pre-AIA 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph limitation:

*first means for amplifying as recited in claim 19* corresponds to *amplifier* <u>stages 650a</u> (see paragraph [0057] and FIG. 6A).

<u>second means for amplifying</u> as recited in claim 19 corresponds to <u>amplifier</u> <u>stages 650b</u> (see paragraph [0057] and FIG. 6A).

<u>means for enabling the first and second means for amplifying in a first</u> <u>mode to obtain the first and second output RF signals</u> as recited in claim 20 corresponds to <u>the gate of cascode transistor 656a connected to the Vcasc voltage</u> <u>via switch 658a and the gate of cascode transistor 656b connected to the Vcasc</u> <u>voltage via switch 658b (see paragraph [0060] and FIG. 6B).</u>

<u>means for enabling the first means for amplifying and disabling the second</u> <u>means for amplifying in a second mode to obtain the first output RF signal but</u> <u>not the second output RF signal</u> corresponds to <u>the gate of cascode transistor</u> <u>656a connected to the Vcasc voltage via switch 658a, and the gate of cascode</u> <u>transistor 656b shorted to circuit ground via switch 658b (see paragraph [0061]</u> <u>and FIG. 6C)</u>.

If applicant wishes to provide further explanation or dispute the examiner's interpretation of the corresponding structure, applicant must identify the corresponding structure with reference to the specification by page and line number, and to the drawing, if any, by reference characters in response to this Office action.

If applicant does not intend to have the claim limitation(s) treated under 35 U.S.C. 112(f) or pre-AIA 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph, applicant may amend the claim(s) so that it/they will clearly not invoke 35 U.S.C. 112(f) or pre-AIA 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph, or present a sufficient showing that the claim recites/recite sufficient structure, material, or acts for performing the claimed function to preclude application of 35 U.S.C. 112(f) or pre-AIA 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph.

For more information, see MPEP § 2173 *et seq.* and *Supplementary Examination Guidelines for Determining Compliance With 35 U.S.C. 112 and for Treatment of Related Issues in Patent Applications*, 76 FR 7162, 7167 (Feb. 9, 2011).

## Reasons for Allowance

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

4. Claims are allowable over prior art of record because the cited references either singularly or in combination cannot teach or suggest "<u>a first amplifier stage</u> <u>configured to be independently enabled or disabled ...</u>" and "<u>a second amplifier stage</u>

configured to be independently enabled or disabled ... " as set forth in the independent claims 1, 17 and 19.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

## Conclusion

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to KHANH C. TRAN whose telephone number is (571)272-3007. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 08:00 AM - 05:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Shuwang Liu can be reached on 571-272-3036. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

KCT

/KHANH C TRAN/ Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2631