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(54) **SYSTEMS, PROCESSES AND INTEGRATED CIRCUITS FOR RATE AND/OR DIVERSITY ADAPTATION FOR PACKET COMMUNICATIONS**

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A process (111,101) of sending packets of real-time information at a sender (311) includes initially generating packets of real-time information with a source rate (s11) greater than zero kilobits per second, and a time or path or combined time/path diversity rate (d11) initially being at least zero kilobits per second. Sending the packets results in a quality of service QoS, optionally measured at the sender (311). Rate/diversity adaptation decision may be performed at receiver (361') instead. When the QoS is on an unacceptable side of a threshold of acceptability (Th1), the sender increases the diversity rate (d11 to d22) and sends not only additional ones of the packets of real-time information but also sends diversity packets at the increased diversity rate (d22). Increasing the diversity rate (d11 to d22) while either reducing or maintaining the overall transmission rate (sj+ dij) is an important new improvement.

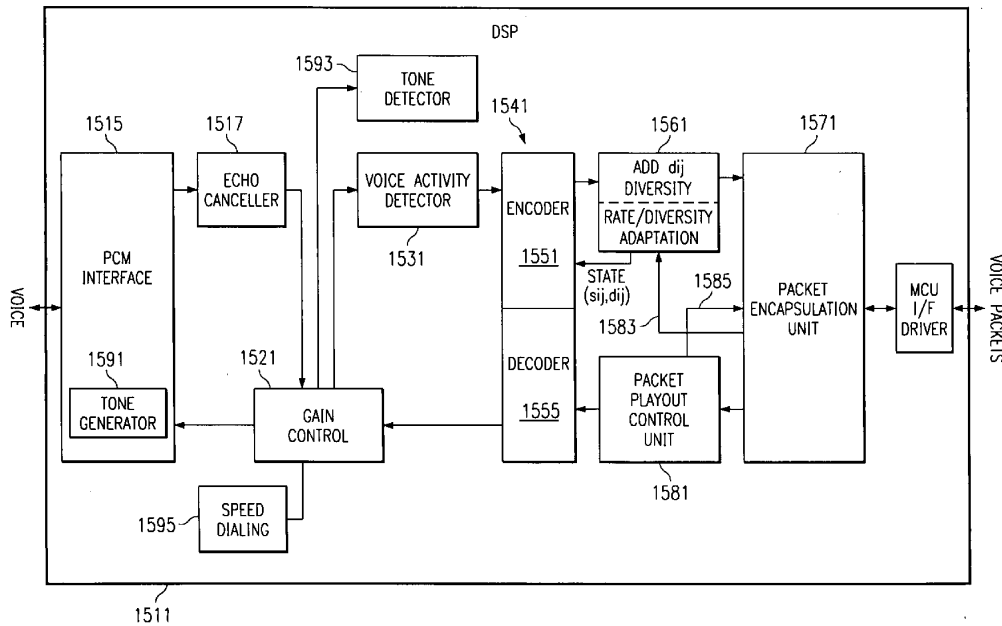
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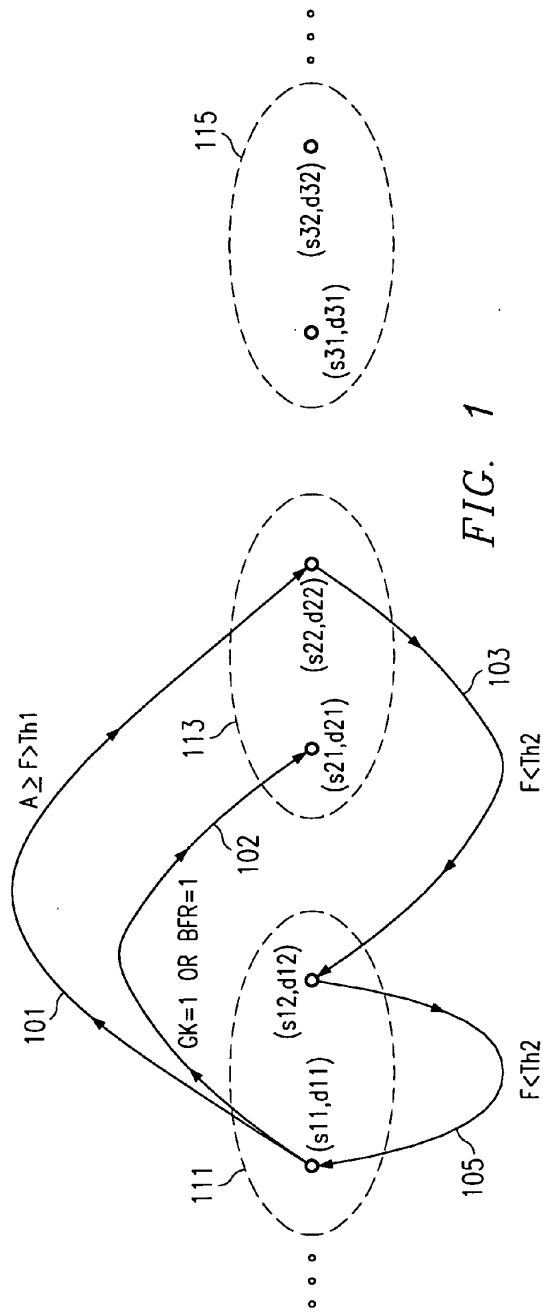


FIG. 1

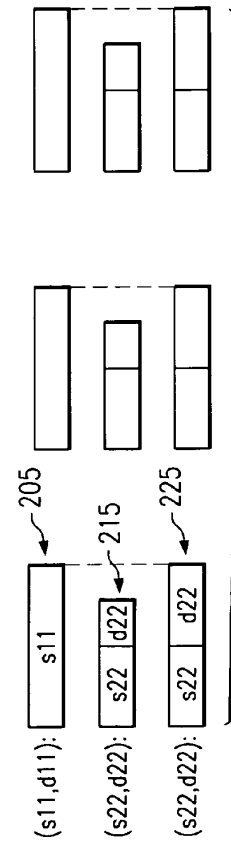


FIG. 2

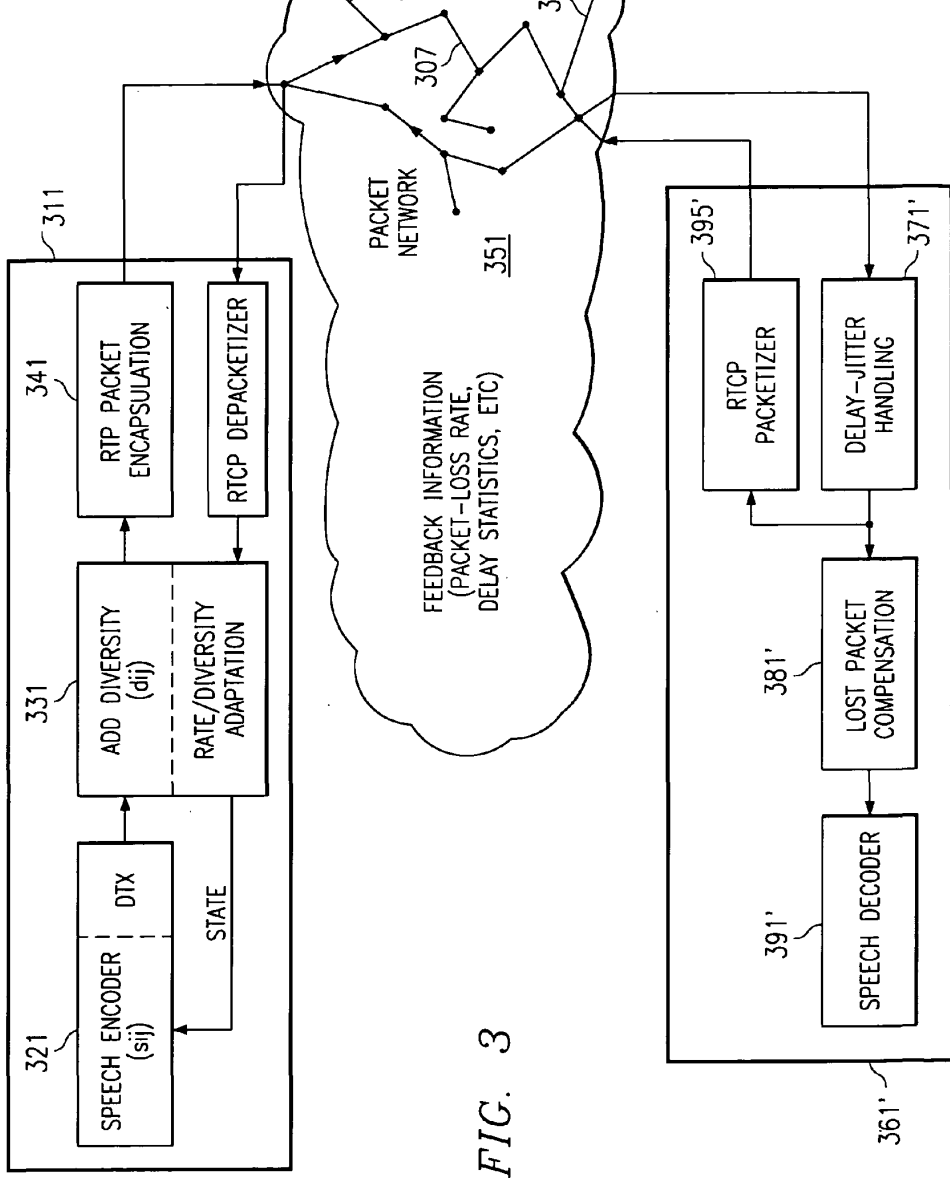


FIG. 3

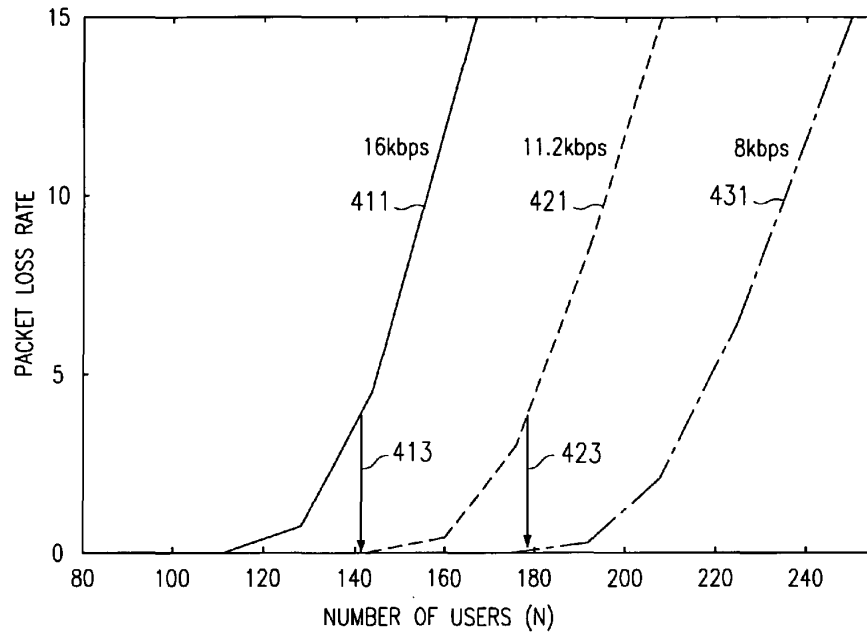


FIG. 4

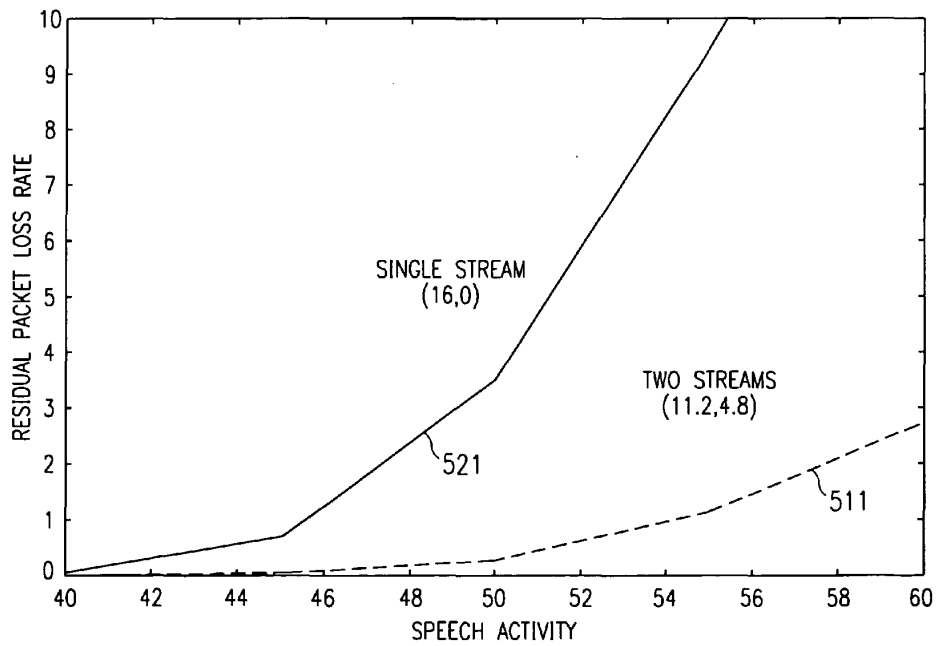


FIG. 5

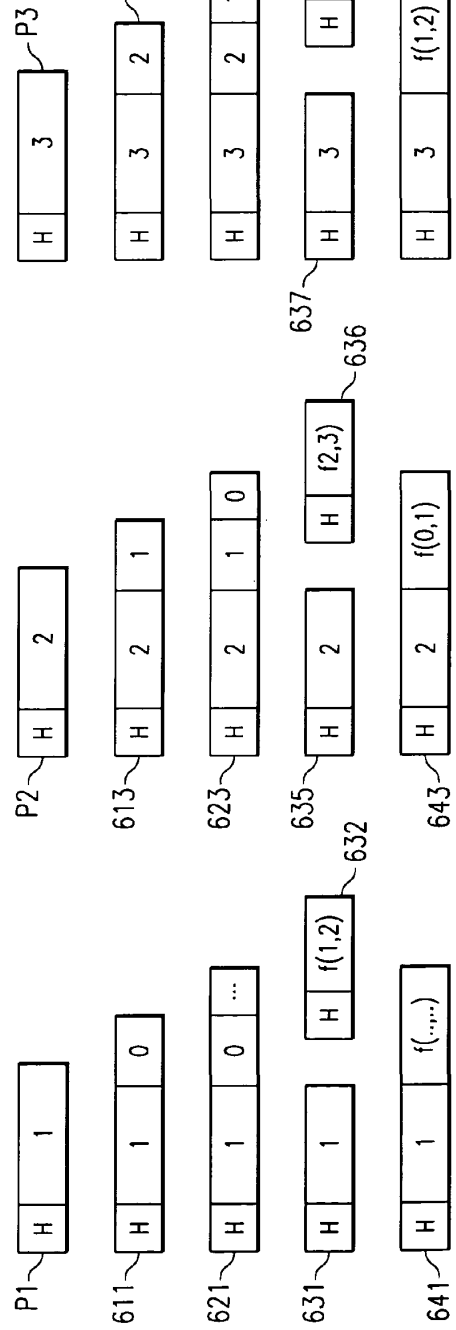


FIG. 6

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