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(12) **United States Patent**  
**Elko et al.**

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(54) **NOISE-REDUCING DIRECTIONAL MICROPHONE ARRAY**

2410/07 (2013.01); H04R 2430/20 (2013.01);  
H04R 2430/21 (2013.01); H04R 2430/23  
(2013.01)

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USPC ..... **381/94.2**; 381/94.1; 381/92  
(58) **Field of Classification Search**  
USPC ..... 381/94.1, 94.2, 92.3, 92, 56  
See application file for complete search history.

(73) Assignee: **MH Acoustics LLC**, Summit, NJ (US)

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(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 1194 days.

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Primary Examiner — Duc Nguyen

Assistant Examiner — Kile Blair

(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm — Mendelsohn, Drucker & Dunleavy, P.C.; Steve Mendelsohn

**Related U.S. Application Data**

(63) Continuation-in-part of application No. PCT/US2006/044427, filed on Nov. 15, 2006, and a continuation-in-part of application No. 10/193,825, filed on Jul. 12, 2002, now Pat. No. 7,171,008.

(Continued)

(57) **ABSTRACT**

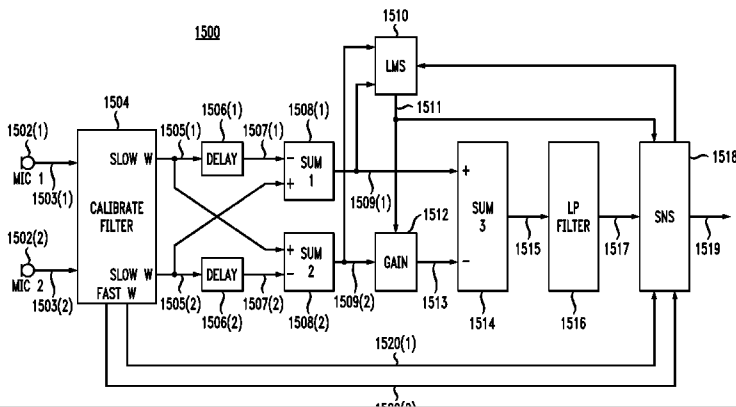
In one embodiment, a directional microphone array having (at least) two microphones generates forward and backward cardioid signals from two (e.g., omnidirectional) microphone signals. An adaptation factor is applied to the backward cardioid signal, and the resulting adjusted backward cardioid signal is subtracted from the forward cardioid signal to generate a (first-order) output audio signal corresponding to a beampattern having no nulls for negative values of the adaptation factor. After low-pass filtering, spatial noise suppression can be applied to the output audio signal. Microphone arrays having one (or more) additional microphones can be designed to generate second- (or higher-) order output audio signals.

(51) **Int. Cl.**  
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**H04R 3/00** (2006.01)

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(52) **U.S. Cl.**  
CPC ..... **H04R 3/005** (2013.01); **H04R 25/407** (2013.01); **G10L 2021/02166** (2013.01); **H04R**

**55 Claims, 15 Drawing Sheets**



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(51) **Int. Cl.**  
*H04R 25/00* (2006.01)  
*G10L 21/0216* (2013.01)

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FIG. 1

100

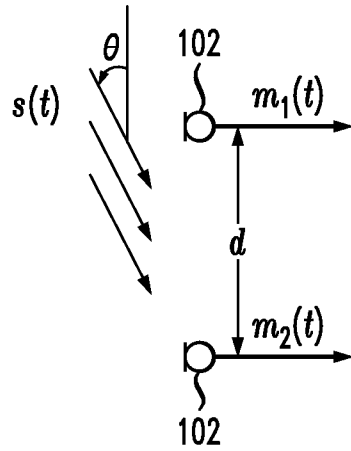


FIG. 2

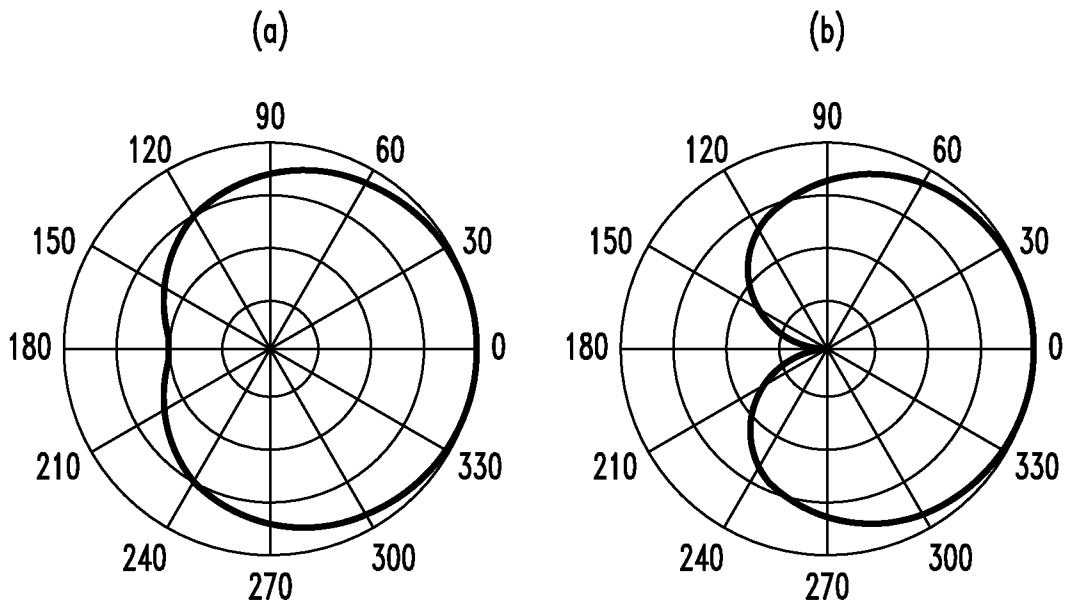


FIG. 3

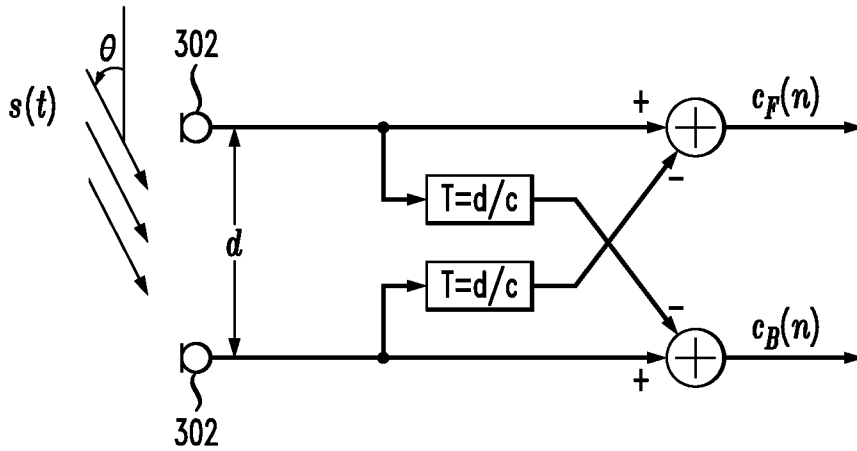


FIG. 4

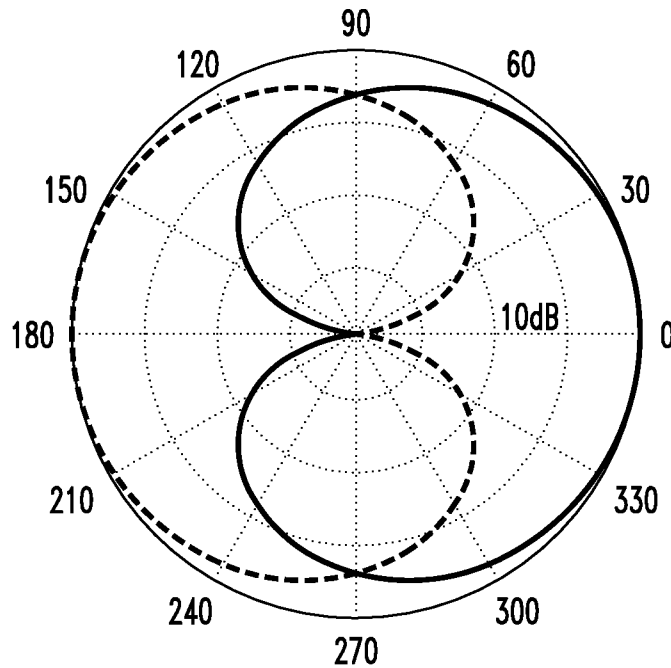


FIG. 5

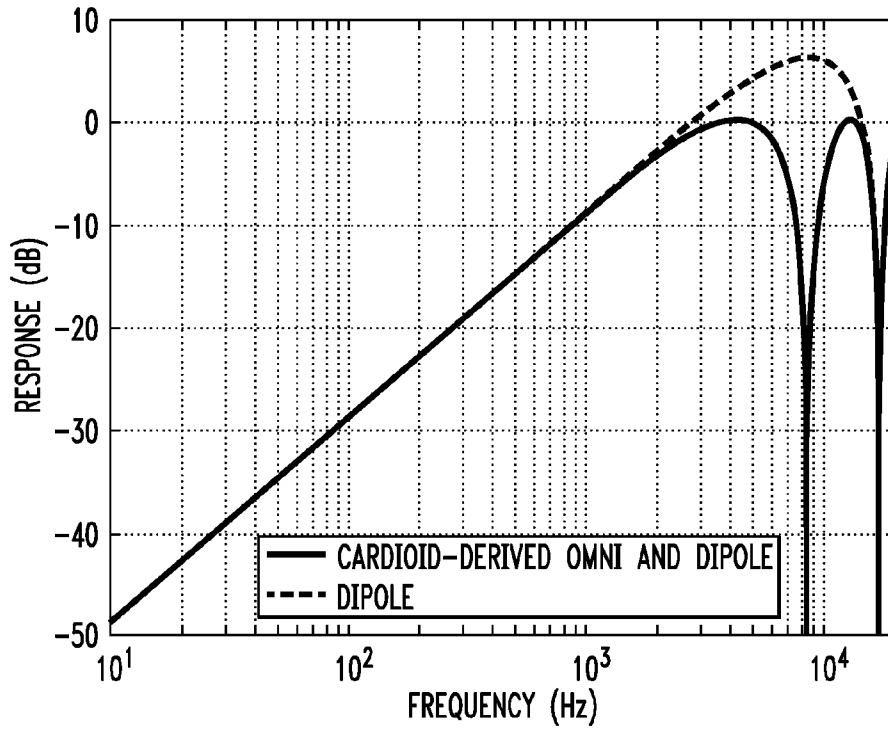
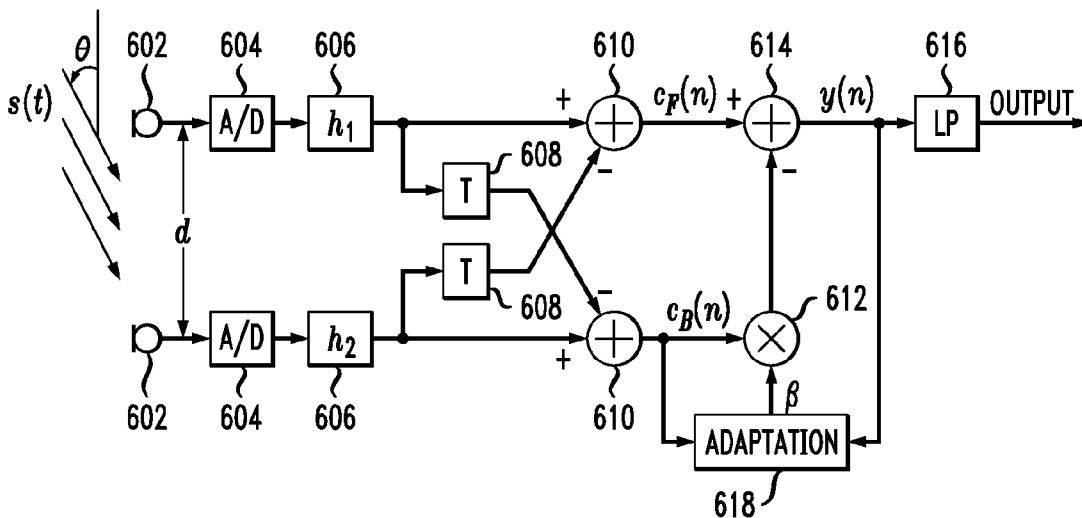


FIG. 6

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