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DIGITAL SIGNAL DEMODULATOR CALIBRATION SYSTEM  
AND METHOD FOR OPTICAL HYDROPHONES

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

BE IT KNOWN THAT (1) MICHAEL AMARAL, (2) GREGORY H. AMES, (3) ANTONIO L. DEUS, III, (4) CHRIS M. HANSEN, AND (5) DAVID J. MORETTI, employees of the United States Government, citizens of the United States of America, and residents of (1) Westport, County of Bristol, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, (2) Wakefield, County of Washington, State of Rhode Island, (3) Saunderstown, County of Washington, State of Rhode Island, (4) Hope Valley, County of Washington, State of Rhode Island, and (5) Wakefield, County of Rhode Island, have invented certain new and useful improvements entitled as set forth above of which the following is a specification.

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3 DIGITAL SIGNAL DEMODULATOR CALIBRATION SYSTEM

4 AND METHOD FOR OPTICAL HYDROPHONES

5

6 STATEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT INTEREST

7 The invention described herein may be manufactured and used  
8 by or for the Government of the United States of America for  
9 Governmental purposes without the payment of any royalties  
10 thereon or therefore.

11

12 CROSS REFERENCE TO OTHER PATENT APPLICATIONS

13 Not applicable.

14

15 BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

16 (1) Field of the Invention

17 The invention described herein relates generally to  
18 hydrophone signal processing and, more particularly, to systems  
19 and methods for calibrating optical hydrophone detector systems.

20 (2) Description of the Prior Art

21 A typical optical hydrophone has a reference leg and a  
22 sensing leg. The sensing leg is formed by wrapping a fiber optic  
23 cable around a compliant mandrel. The reference leg is formed by

1 wrapping a length of fiber optic cable around a noncompliant  
2 mandrel. During operation, light is pulsed down both fiber legs  
3 and reflected by mirrors imbedded in the ends of the fibers. The  
4 output of both legs, the reference and sensing legs, are summed  
5 at a node forming an interferometer. This summation produces a  
6 phase modulating signal of the form

$$7 \quad O = A+B\cos\theta(t) \quad (1)$$

8  
9 where

10 A & B = Constants proportional to the input power, and  
11  $\theta(t)$  = Phase difference between the interferometer sensor and  
12 reference leg.

13 Typically, a sinusoidal modulating frequency is injected  
14 through a piezoelectric element on the reference leg of the  
15 interferometer. The output signal is given by

$$16 \quad O = A+B\cos(C\cos\omega_o(t)+x(t)) \quad (2)$$

17  
18 where

19  $x(t)$  = Signal of interest,  
20 C = Modulating signal amplitude, and  
21  $\omega_o$  = Modulating signal frequency.

22 Analog demodulators are used to process the output signal. These

1 demodulators are complex custom-built hardware, requiring both  
2 expensive and time-consuming calibration. What is needed is an  
3 improved system for using programmable digital signal processor  
4 for demodulation and for calibration.

5 Patents that show attempts to solve the above and other  
6 related problems are as follows:

7 U.S. Patent Application No. 4,977,546, issued December 11,  
8 1990, to Flatley et al., discloses a system for signal  
9 stabilizing in-phase modulated optical hydrophone arrays  
10 employing interferometry with homodyne detection. Phase  
11 stabilization is accomplished by modulating the input laser  
12 signal in proportion to variations in the output of an optical  
13 transducer to balance the output phase so that the fringes are  
14 kept at optimum position. Additionally, fluctuations in light  
15 intensity are compensated for so that a photodetector responds  
16 only to phase shift variations. The technique used is to split  
17 the input beam into signal and reference beams using a beam  
18 divider, exposing the signal beam to the acoustic pressure of  
19 interest, recombining the signal beam with the reference beam,  
20 detecting the combined beams and filtering the resulting signal  
21 to separate out the acoustic information of interest from the  
22 phase shift and light intensity portions used to stabilize the  
23 input beam. The acoustic information is processed and the phase

1 shift and light intensity information provides a feedback signal  
2 for use in input beam stabilization.

3 U.S. Patent No. 5,313,266, issued May 17, 1994, to Keolian  
4 et al., discloses a highly sensitive optical fiber  
5 interferometer sensor comprising a laser light source, a [2 x 2]  
6 optical fiber coupler to split the beam in two, a differential  
7 transducer which converts a signal of interest into optical  
8 phase shift in the laser light transmitted through the two  
9 optical fibers in the interferometer and a [3 x 3] optical fiber  
10 complex which recombines the two beams, producing interference  
11 which can be electronically detected. The use of the [3 x 3]  
12 coupler permits Passive Homodyne demodulation of the phase-  
13 modulated signals provided by the interferometer without  
14 feedback control or modulation of the laser itself and without  
15 requiring the use of electronics within the interferometer.

16 U.S. Patent No. 5,345,172, issued September 6, 1994, to  
17 Taguchi et al., discloses a means to accomplish double-slice  
18 imaging by a nuclear magnetic resonance (NMR) imaging apparatus  
19 having an ordinary radio frequency magnetic field generator, two  
20 radio frequency magnetic field waveforms are used and slices are  
21 separated by subsequent calculation. More definitely, two slice  
22 portions are excited in a REAL direction by a COS waveform and  
23 are excited in an IMAG direction by a SIN waveform. When one of

1 the slices is  $S_1$  with the other being  $S_2$ , the signal  $SC$  when the  
2 COS waveform is used is  $S_1+S_2$  while the signal  $SS$  when the SIN  
3 waveform is used is  $i.S_1-i.S_2$ . Therefore, the calculation for  
4 separating the slices proves  $SC+i.SS$  and  $SC-i.SS$ .

5 U.S. Patent No. 5,809,087, issued September 15, 1998, to  
6 Ashe et al., discloses an architecture for remote calibration of  
7 coherent systems using coherent reference and calibration  
8 signals that contain the relative amplitude and phase  
9 information desired in the calibration process. Circuitry  
10 extracts the relevant amplitude and phase information needed for  
11 the calibration while compensating for non-synchronized clocks  
12 and the effects of Doppler shifts due to relative motion of the  
13 transmitting and receiver platforms. The coherent detection  
14 architectures can be used effectively with any scheme designed  
15 to determine the relative amplitudes and phases of the signals  
16 emitted from the different elements of the phased array. These  
17 architectures are particularly applicable to coherent encoding  
18 calibration procedures that enhance the effective SNR by using  
19 coherent transmission of orthogonal transform encoded signals  
20 from  $N$  elements of the phased array. In an example calibration  
21 architecture, coherent elemental signals are encoded using  
22 controlled switching of the delay phase control circuits  
23 themselves to effectively generate a perfect orthogonal

1 transform encoding of the signal vectors, even though the  
2 control circuits may be imperfect; no additional encoding  
3 hardware is required. The switching is dictated by matrix  
4 elements of an  $N \times N$  invertible binary matrix, with the most  
5 preferred embodiment being an orthogonal binary matrix, i.e., a  
6 Hadamard matrix. The coherent signals are decoded with the  
7 inverse of the same binary matrix used in the control circuit  
8 encoding.

9 U.S. Patent No. 5,894,280, issued April 13, 1999, to  
10 Ginetti et al., discloses a digital to analog converter (DAC)  
11 offset autocalibration system in a digital synthesizer  
12 integrated circuit. The present invention includes a DAC coupled  
13 to a filter. The input of the DAC accepts digital values for  
14 conversion to an analog signal. The output of the DAC is coupled  
15 to the input of the filter. The filter smoothes the analog  
16 signal received from the DAC. A switch is coupled to the filter  
17 output to receive the analog signal. A comparator is coupled to  
18 the switch. The input of the comparator receives the analog  
19 signal from the filter output via the switch. An autocalibration  
20 control circuit is coupled to the output of the comparator, to  
21 the switch, and to the DAC. The autocalibration control circuit  
22 is adapted to input a value to the DAC in order to determine an

1 offset correction from the output of the comparator and adjust  
2 the analog signal using the offset correction.

3 U.S. Patent No. 5,903,350, issued May 11, 1999, to Bush et  
4 al., discloses an apparatus and method providing wide dynamic  
5 range measurements of the input phase to an interferometer using  
6 a phase generated carrier. This invention is useful when  
7 utilizing time multiplexing to demodulate a series of  
8 interferometers. A modulation drive output is provided by the  
9 invention and maintained under operation at the optimum  
10 amplitude by an internal feedback loop. The resulting highly  
11 stable system can be fabricated from an analog to digital  
12 converter, a digital signal processor, and a digital to analog  
13 converter making low cost open loop demodulators a reality.

14 U.S. Patent No. H1619, issued December 3, 1996, to McCord  
15 et al., discloses a frequency modulated monitor hydrophone  
16 system which is used to monitor low frequency sound signals  
17 where cross-talk coupling is a problem. The invention consists  
18 of a hydrophone, preamplifier and receiver which includes a  
19 control group. The hydrophone comprises an acoustic sensor and  
20 low-noise preamplifier utilizing dynamic range compression to  
21 condition the electrical acoustic sensor signal before it is  
22 frequency modulated (FM) and applied to a coaxial cable. At the  
23 remotely located receiver, the FM signal from the hydrophone

1 preamplifier is filtered to remove undesirable signals, such as  
2 audio spectrum crosstalk and out of band signals. The partially  
3 recovered audio signal is decompressed utilizing dynamic range  
4 decompression, amplified, and output for utilization or  
5 recordation by an operator. A calibration circuit provides a  
6 continuity or partial calibration check for the hydrophone by  
7 applying a signal of predetermined frequency and voltage to the  
8 hydrophone preamplifier and sensor. A microprocessor in the  
9 control group periodically reads the input signal and controls  
10 the various receiver and hydrophone preamplifier circuits.  
11 Selected controls on the panel of the control group allow the  
12 operator to set gains, perform the calibration procedures, and  
13 monitor system performance.

14       The above-cited prior art does not show a highly reliable  
15 means for accurately calibrating a digital optical hydrophone  
16 demodulator. Consequently, those skilled in the art will  
17 appreciate the present invention that addresses the above and  
18 other problems.

19

#### 20                   SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

21       It is an object of the present invention to provide an  
22 improved calibration module for a demodulator which may be  
23 utilized with an optical hydrophone system.

1        It is another object of the present invention to provide a  
2 calibration module as aforesaid which is highly reliable for  
3 determining an accurate phase alignment between a carrier and a  
4 received signal.

5        It is a further object of the present invention to provide  
6 a calibration module as aforesaid which is completely automatic  
7 and may be utilized within a multisensor system comprising large  
8 numbers of hydrophones.

9        These and other objects, features, and advantages of the  
10 present invention will become apparent from the drawings, the  
11 descriptions given herein, and the appended claims. It will be  
12 understood that above listed objects and advantages of the  
13 invention are intended only as an aid in understanding aspects  
14 of the invention, are not intended to limit the invention in any  
15 way, and do not form a comprehensive list of objects, features,  
16 and advantages.

17        In accordance with the present invention, a process is  
18 provided for calibrating an optical hydrophone demodulator by  
19 determining a phase for phase alignment between a carrier and a  
20 received signal. The optical hydrophone demodulator produces a  
21 first output and a second output such that the first output is  
22 in phase quadrature with respect to the second output. The  
23 process may comprise one or more steps such as, for instance,

1 comparing the first output with respect to the second output by  
2 varying the phase until a plot of the first output with respect  
3 to the second output is a straight line, storing a value of the  
4 phase when the plot of the first output with respect to the  
5 second output is a straight line, and adjusting the value of the  
6 phase by a predetermined amount to produce an adjusted phase  
7 such that the received signal is in phase with the carrier.

8 Other steps may include providing the adjusted phase to a  
9 first mixer utilized for producing the first output and  
10 providing the adjusted phase to a second mixer utilized for  
11 producing the second output. In a preferred embodiment, the  
12 first mixer comprises a first mixer table and the second mixer  
13 comprises a second mixer table.

14 Additional steps of the invention may includes determining  
15 a ratio of a maximum of the first output with respect to the  
16 second output, adjusting the phase to reduce the ratio below a  
17 predetermined value, maintaining a count related to a number of  
18 adjustments to the phase, comparing the ratio before and after a  
19 step of adjusting the phase, utilizing the count and the step of  
20 comparing to determine when to make a series of fine adjustments  
21 to the phase.

1       The process also provides for utilizing the adjusted phase  
2   for determining a scaling factor for the first output and the  
3   second output.

4       In other words, a programmed process is provided for  
5   calibrating an optical hydrophone demodulator comprising one or  
6   more steps such as, for instance, determining a ratio of a  
7   maximum value of the first output with respect to a maximum  
8   value of the second output, reducing the ratio by making  
9   adjustments to the phase in steps until a minimum value of the  
10   ratio is determined, storing a value of the phase when the  
11   minimum value of the ratio is determined, and adjusting the  
12   value of the phase by a predetermined amount to produce an  
13   adjusted phase such that the received signal is in phase with  
14   the carrier.

15       Additional steps may include determining a scalar attribute  
16   by measuring the ratio with the adjusted phase, and utilizing  
17   the scalar attribute for adjusting an amplitude of the first  
18   output and the second output.

19       The method may also comprise providing the adjusted phase  
20   to a first mixer utilized for producing the first output, and  
21   providing the adjusted phase to a second mixer utilized for  
22   producing the second output.

1       The present invention provides a calibration processor  
2 operable for automatically calibrating the optical hydrophone  
3 demodulator by determining a phase for phase alignment between a  
4 carrier and a received signal wherein the processor comprises  
5 one or more elements such as, for instance, at least one offset  
6 adjustment for varying a phase offset, a counter for counting  
7 the number of times the at least one offset adjustment varies  
8 the phase offset, and an initializer for setting the counter at  
9 an initial value.

10       Other elements may preferably comprise a plurality of  
11 decision modules for making decisions regarding a ratio related  
12 to the first output and the second output. In a preferred  
13 embodiment, the counter and the offset adjustment are operative  
14 in response to at least one of the plurality of decision  
15 modules. The plurality of decision modules may comprise a first  
16 decision module for determining whether the ratio is less than a  
17 predetermined number, a second decision module for determining  
18 whether the ratio increases or decreases after an offset  
19 adjustment is made, and a third decision module for determining  
20 whether the counter has a count greater than a predetermined  
21 value.

22       Other elements may include a first offset adjustment for  
23 making a course phase offset adjustment, and a second offset

1 adjustment for making a fine phase offset adjustment wherein the  
2 course phase offset adjustment changes the phase offset by a  
3 greater amount than the fine phase offset adjustment. A third  
4 phase-offset adjustment may be provided for making a  
5 predetermined offset adjustment in response to at least one of  
6 the plurality of decision modules to thereby determine a value  
7 for the phase.

8 A scalar determination module may be provided for  
9 determining a scalar value related to the first output and the  
10 second output wherein the scalar determination module utilizes  
11 the phase for determining the scalar value.

12

#### 13 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

14 A more complete understanding of the invention and many of  
15 the attendant advantages thereto will be readily appreciated as  
16 the same becomes better understood by reference to the following  
17 detailed description when considered in conjunction with the  
18 accompanying drawings wherein corresponding reference characters  
19 indicate corresponding parts and wherein:

20 FIG. 1 is a block diagram showing the major components of  
21 the digital demodulation system;

22 FIG. 2 is a schematic showing the process of the  
23 demodulation;

1        FIG. 3 is a schematic showing an earlier developed  
2        calibration process for the demodulator which is not as reliable  
3        as the presently preferred calibration system of the present  
4        invention;

5        FIG. 4 is a diagram which conveniently illustrates signal  
6        patterns related to phase changes in accord with the present  
7        invention; and

8        FIG. 5 is a flow chart diagram for a presently preferred  
9        software calibration routine in accord with the present  
10       invention.

#### 11        BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

12       Referring now to FIG. 1, the system for digital signal  
13       demodulation, designated generally by the reference numeral 10,  
14       is shown with its major components. The system 10 comprises an  
15       optical hydrophone 12 having a first optical leg 13 comprising an  
16       optical cable wound on a compliant mandrel; the first optical leg  
17       being the sensing leg, and a second optical leg 15 having an  
18       optical cable wound on a non-compliant mandrel, the second  
19       optical leg being the reference leg. The signals from the two  
20       legs are combined using an interferometer section 17, which is  
21       connected to an analog-to-digital (A/D) converter 14. The output  
22       of the A/D converter 14 is fed to a digital signal processor  
23

1 (DSP) 16. The DSP 16 incorporates two custom modules, the basic  
2 demodulator 18 and the automatic calibration module 20. These  
3 two modules control processing of the acoustic signal and make up  
4 a processing module which may be implemented in software or  
5 hardware and which can physically reside within the DSP 16. The  
6 operation of the basic demodulator 18 may be more fully seen in  
7 FIG. 2. An interferometer output 24 is converted to an  
8 electrical signal and sent to the A/D converter 14. The A/D  
9 converter 14 samples the converted data at a high rate storing  
10 approximately ten times the number of data points needed to  
11 process the incoming signals based on the Nyquist thereon  
12 sampling rate. Scaling factor  $F_s$ , as designated at 26, is used  
13 to determine an amplitude of the digitized signal. The stored  
14 digitized data is mixed using two mixer tables, a first mixer  
15 table 28 having a mixing frequency,  $\omega$ , where  $\omega$  is the modulating  
16 frequency injected in the reference leg of the interferometer,  
17 and a second mixer table 30 having a mixing frequency of  $2\omega$ . The  
18 signals at  $\omega$  and  $2\omega$  are in quadrature. The incoming signals from  
19 the A/D converter 14 must be coherently mixed with the mixer  
20 table frequencies,  $\omega$  and  $2\omega$ . The coherent mixing is accomplished  
21 by phase calibration 32 as more fully described in FIG. 3. After  
22 mixing the signals are filtered through low-pass filters 34  
23 (filters having similar characteristics to Martinez and Parks<sup>TM</sup>

1 filters are preferable.) and scaled by scaling factor/decimation  
2 factor 36 which is designated in FIG. 2 as  $F_s/d$ . As the sampling  
3 rate for providing a digital representation of the sine wave 38  
4 and cosine wave 40 are oversampled by a factor of ten (ten times  
5 the needed number of data points are collected), decimation  
6 allows a division of the excess data points to provide the  
7 necessary number of points. Thereafter, the signal is normalized  
8 by the normalizer 42. Each signal leg is then differentiated  
9 using a low-pass differentiator 44 and 46 and the results are  
10 cross-multiplied and combined. The output is then high pass  
11 filtered through high-pass integrator 48 yielding the signal of  
12 interest  $x(t)$  50.

13 As the system will operate only when the mixer frequencies  
14 are coherent with the incoming waveform, a calibration circuit,  
15 is used to provide coherence. A previously developed calibration  
16 circuit is shown in FIG. 3. However, a presently preferred  
17 calibration circuit is illustrated by FIG. 5 with reference to  
18 FIG. 4. The main difference between the presently preferred  
19 calibration circuit and the previously developed circuit is shown  
20 within dashed box 66 whereby in the presently preferred  
21 embodiment, the processing routine of FIG. 5 is utilized within  
22 box 66.

1       The signals 52 and 53 received from the basic demodulator  
2   are processed using the Martinez and Parks<sup>TM</sup> low-pass filters, 54  
3   and 56, respectively. Thereafter, the signal maximums are  
4   selected, represented by Max Output 58 and Max Output 60. The  
5   signals are then processed by an operational amplifier 62  
6   receiving the first and second output maximums and an iteration  
7   to provide an inverse tangent output of zero, thereby usually,  
8   but not always, causing coherent mixing of the received signals  
9   in the basic demodulator. When the output is not zero, feedback  
10   32 to the basic demodulator continues and when the output reaches  
11   zero, no further phase adjustment occurs.

12       The phase calibration circuit of FIG. 3 establishes a ratio  
13   of  $\text{Max}(\cos(2\omega)) / \text{Max}(\sin(\omega))$ . The arctangent is then found to  
14   convert this ratio into an angle. The phase calibration circuit  
15   of FIG. 3 then subtracts 45 degrees from the angle and increments  
16   the phase as necessary to bring the phase to 0 degrees. The so  
17   determined phase is then fed to the demodulator as feedback 32.  
18   While this circuit is purely automatic, sometimes an error occurs  
19   which is best illustrated by viewing FIG. 4.

20       FIG. 4 shows snapshots of the extreme cases of a plot of the  
21    $\sin(\omega)$  channel (x-axis) vs. the  $\cos(2\omega)$  (y-axis) as the phase  
22   changes. During this process and starting at the top, the plot  
23   appears as a large circle as indicated at 70, whereupon a 45

1 degrees phase difference produces a vertical line as indicated at  
2 72, whereupon a 15 degrees phase change produces a small circle  
3 as indicated at 74, whereupon a 30 degrees phase change produces  
4 a horizontal line as indicated at 76, whereupon a 30 degrees  
5 phase change produces a small circle 74 again, whereupon a 15  
6 degrees phase change produces a vertical line 72 again, whereupon  
7 a 45 degrees phase change produces a large circle as indicated at  
8 70 again, whereupon a 45 degrees phase change produces a vertical  
9 line 72 again, and so forth. The large circle is the plot  
10 produced of the desired precise phase alignment. The problem  
11 with the circuit of FIG. 3 is that sometimes instead of finding  
12 the large circle, the small circle will satisfy the calibration  
13 routine thus producing, in some cases, a 60 degree phase  
14 calibration error.

15 The presently preferred calibration technique shown in FIG.  
16 5, and suggested by the snapshots of plots versus phase shown in  
17 FIG. 4, corrects the problems of occasional error in the  
18 calibration circuit of FIG. 3. In the calibration process of  
19 FIG. 5, the correct phase is found by a technique of locating the  
20 extreme phase offset, as indicated by horizontal line 76 in FIG.  
21 4. Then, because the extreme phase offset is 90 degrees away  
22 from the aligned phase, as indicated by large circle 70 in FIG.

1 4, an exact adjustment is obtained by simply adding 90 degrees to  
2 thereby obtain a precisely aligned phase.

3 The extreme phase is found by a stepped process, as  
4 indicated in process 100 in FIG. 5, whereby the phase is adjusted  
5 in steps until the  $\text{Max}(\cos(2\omega))/\text{Max}(\sin(\omega))$  is minimized to  
6 obtain the horizontal vertical line 76. The scalar attribute or  
7 scaling factor/decimation factor 36 which is designated in FIG. 2  
8 as  $F_s/d$ , can also be found utilizing process 100, if desired.

9 In FIG. 5, initial values are utilized, which may be the  
10 same as those that are arbitrarily indicated at 102 whereby the  
11 phase offset is zero, the scalar is 1.0, the initial count is 1  
12 (as will always be the case when initializing process 100), and  
13 the initial ratio is 10.0. The maximum sin and cosine values are  
14 determined and the ratio is found as indicated in FIG. 3 at 62  
15 and also as indicated at 104 in FIG. 5 whereby the ratio =  $\text{Max}$   
16  $\sin/\text{Max cos}$ . Decision box 106 determines whether the ratio is  
17 greater than one or not. If ratio is greater than one at the NO  
18 result line 108, then the sin vs. cosine plot yields an ellipse  
19 in the vertical direction. Therefore, process 100 adds ten  
20 degrees to the phase offset as indicated at 112 and loops through  
21 the above-described process once more.

22 Eventually, the ratio will be less than one as indicated at  
23 the YES result line 114 whereupon the circle has become

1 elliptical in the horizontal direction. Test box 116 then  
2 determines whether the current ratio is less than the previous  
3 ratio. So long as the YES result line is taken as indicated at  
4 118, then the Count will be increased by one as indicated at 120,  
5 the offset will continue to increase by 10 degrees as indicated  
6 at 122, and the ratio will be recomputed as indicated at 124. If  
7 the current ratio is greater than the previous ratio, then the NO  
8 result line is taken at 126.

9 To avoid the problem of the particular case of the small  
10 circle calibration error which may occur in the circuit of FIG.  
11 3, process 100 now checks at test box 128 whether the count is  
12 greater than three. This step negates accidentally calibrating  
13 to small circle 74 which is 30 degrees phase shift from  
14 horizontal line 76. A count greater than three indicates more  
15 than 30 degrees phase shift has been added after the circle  
16 became elliptical in the vertical direction. If the count at  
17 this point is less than three as indicated at NO line 130, then  
18 the count is reset to 1 as indicated at 132, the offset increased  
19 by ten degrees as indicated at 134, and process 100 begins once  
20 again as indicated by return line 136.

21 After the third offset increment is produced at 122, and the  
22 ratio now increases from the previous ratio value to produce a NO  
23 result at 126, then the horizontal line has been passed over and

1 the result of test box 128 will be YES as indicated at 138. A  
2 fine adjustment is now made to find the horizontal line. Thus,  
3 the offset is reduced by one degree as indicated at 140 and then  
4 the ratio is determined again as indicated at 142. So long as  
5 test box 144 determines that the current ratio is less than the  
6 previous ratio as indicated by NO line 146, then the phase  
7 continues to be reduced by one degree. If the new ratio is  
8 greater than the old ratio as indicated by YES line 148, then the  
9 horizontal line extreme case has been found. Step 150 adds  
10 ninety degrees offset plus the one-degree by which step 140  
11 caused test box 144 to provide a YES answer for a total of  
12 ninety-one degrees. Thus, effectively at this point, process 100  
13 has located horizontal line 76 as shown in FIG. 4 and added  
14 ninety degrees to obtain large circle 70, which is the precise  
15 phase angle calibration desired. This value is then supplied by  
16 line 32 to the basic demodulator as indicated in FIG. 2 and FIG.  
17 3. Essentially, process 100 replaces portion 66 of the  
18 calibration circuit of FIG. 3 to thereby more reliably providing  
19 an automatic calibration of the optical hydrophone system of FIG.  
20 1.

21 At step 152, new scalar values for use at 26 and 36 in FIG.  
22 2 can be determined by calculating the maximum sin and cosine  
23 values. The new scalar can be found by the letting the scalar =

1 cos/sin. These values can be utilized in setting the gains of  
2 the low-pass filter outputs 34.

3 The features and advantages of the system are numerous. The  
4 process of the present invention can be implemented such that the  
5 calibration of the optical hydrophone is done automatically  
6 without operator intervention. Moreover, the system of the  
7 present invention avoids locking onto the wrong mixer phase as  
8 was occasionally a problem in the previous system of FIG. 3. The  
9 advantages are extremely important in a multisensor system where  
10 the manual calibration of large numbers of hydrophones is  
11 excessively time consuming. Using the demodulation system,  
12 standard commercial off-the-shelf digital signal processors can  
13 be used to demodulate the acoustic signal from an optical  
14 hydrophone. Thus, the system provides a built-in means of  
15 automatically calibrating the system, thereby maintaining the  
16 signal mixing coherence. In addition, the normalization function  
17 automatically adjusts the gain of the system as needed.

18 It will be understood that many additional changes in the  
19 details, materials, steps and arrangement of parts, which have  
20 been herein described and illustrated in order to explain the  
21 nature of the invention, may be made by those skilled in the art  
22 within the principle and scope of the invention

1 Attorney Docket No. 79870

2

3 DIGITAL SIGNAL DEMODULATOR CALIBRATION SYSTEM

4 AND METHOD FOR OPTICAL HYDROPHONES

5

6 ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

7 A system for digitally demodulating optical hydrophone  
8 signals is provided. The system includes an optical hydrophone  
9 connected to an analog-to-digital converter and further connected  
10 to a digital signal processor. Within the digital signal  
11 processor, a demodulator is calibrated by a preferred automatic  
12 calibration circuit such that mixer frequencies are coherently  
13 mixed with the incoming acoustic signals received by the  
14 hydrophone. The automatic calibration circuit preferably  
15 determines an extreme case of phase offset by following a  
16 programmable routine including a series of tests. After the  
17 extreme case is detected, the precise phase calibration is known  
18 and provided to the demodulator mixer tables. The automatic  
19 calibration circuit can be utilized for automatic calibrations of  
20 multisensor systems containing large numbers of hydrophones.

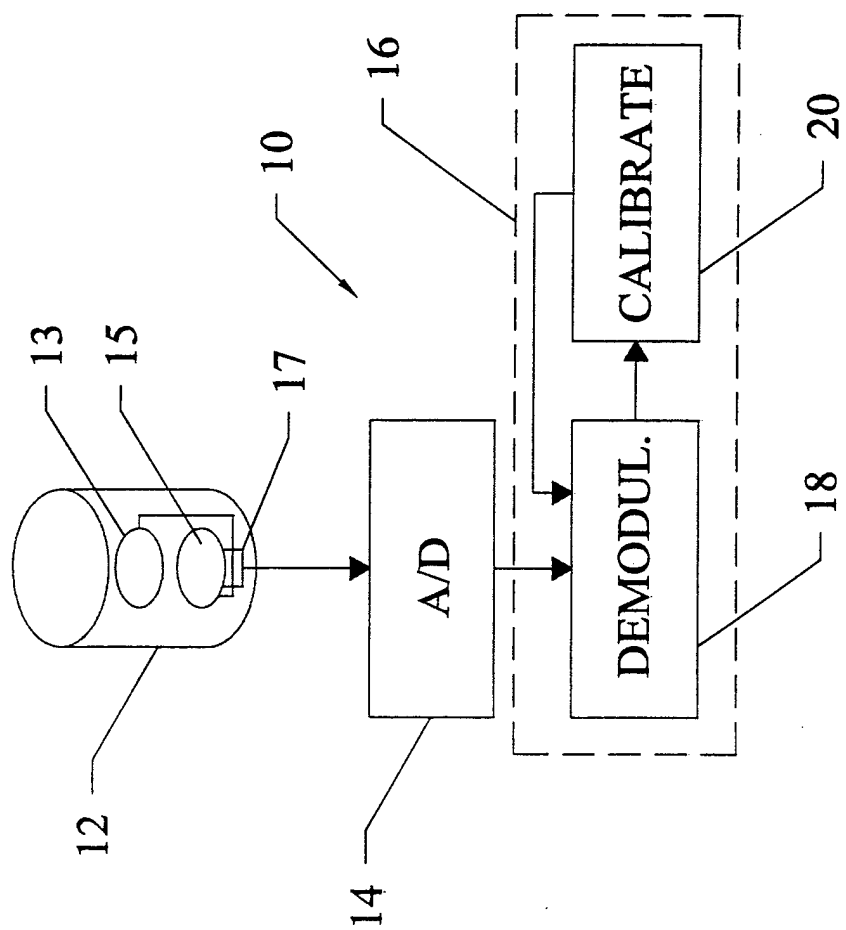


FIG. 1

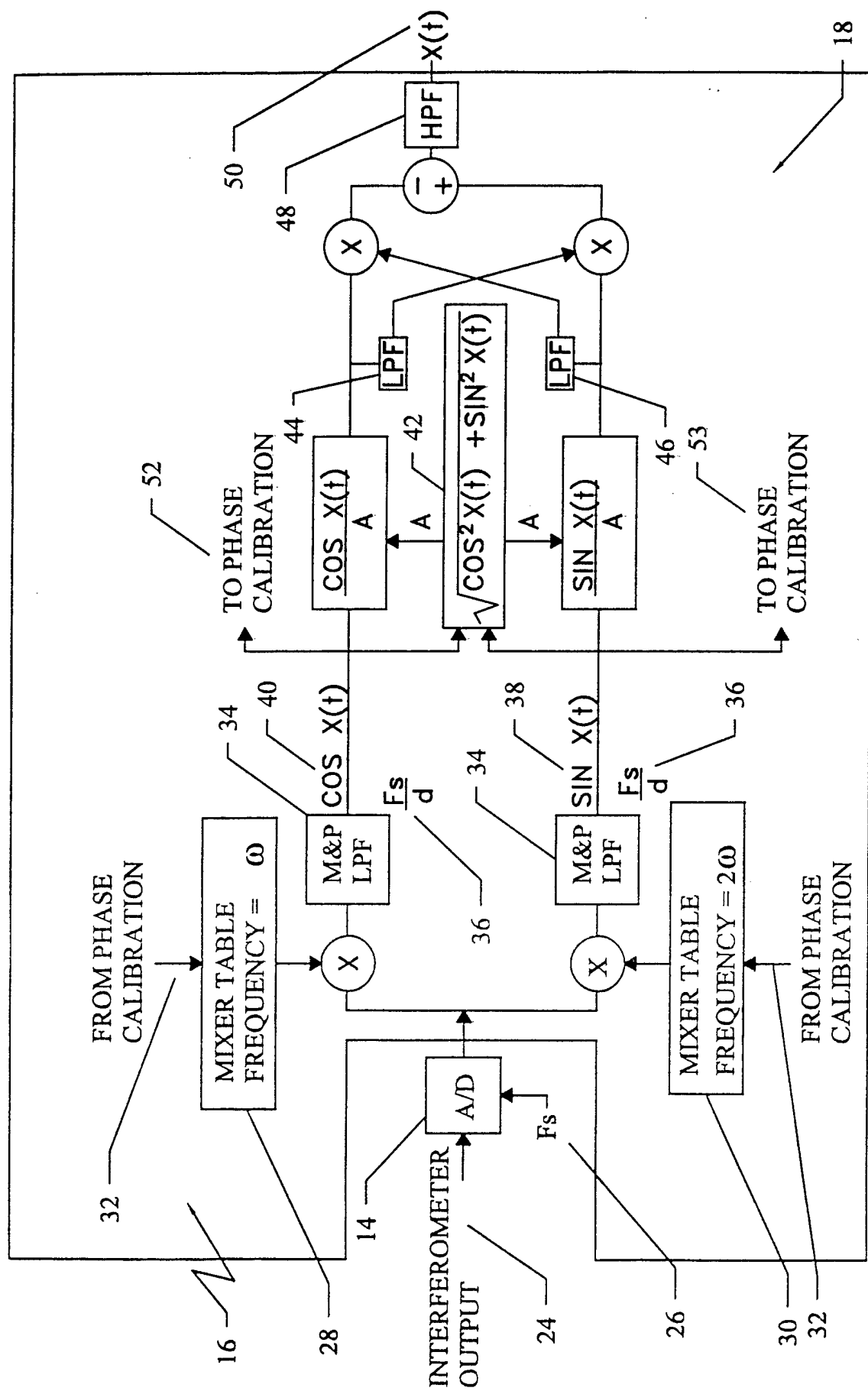


FIG. 2

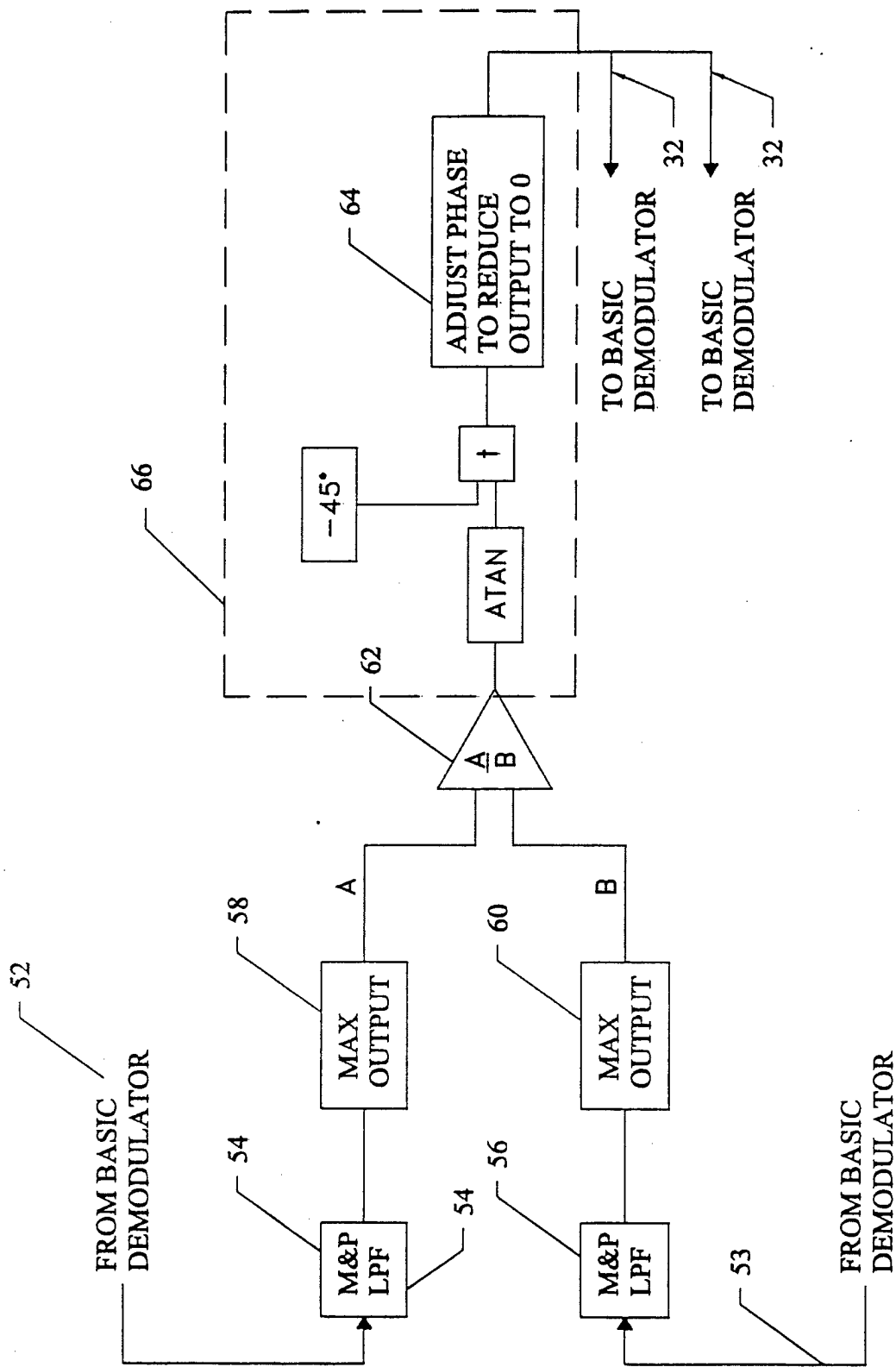


FIG. 3



FIG. 4

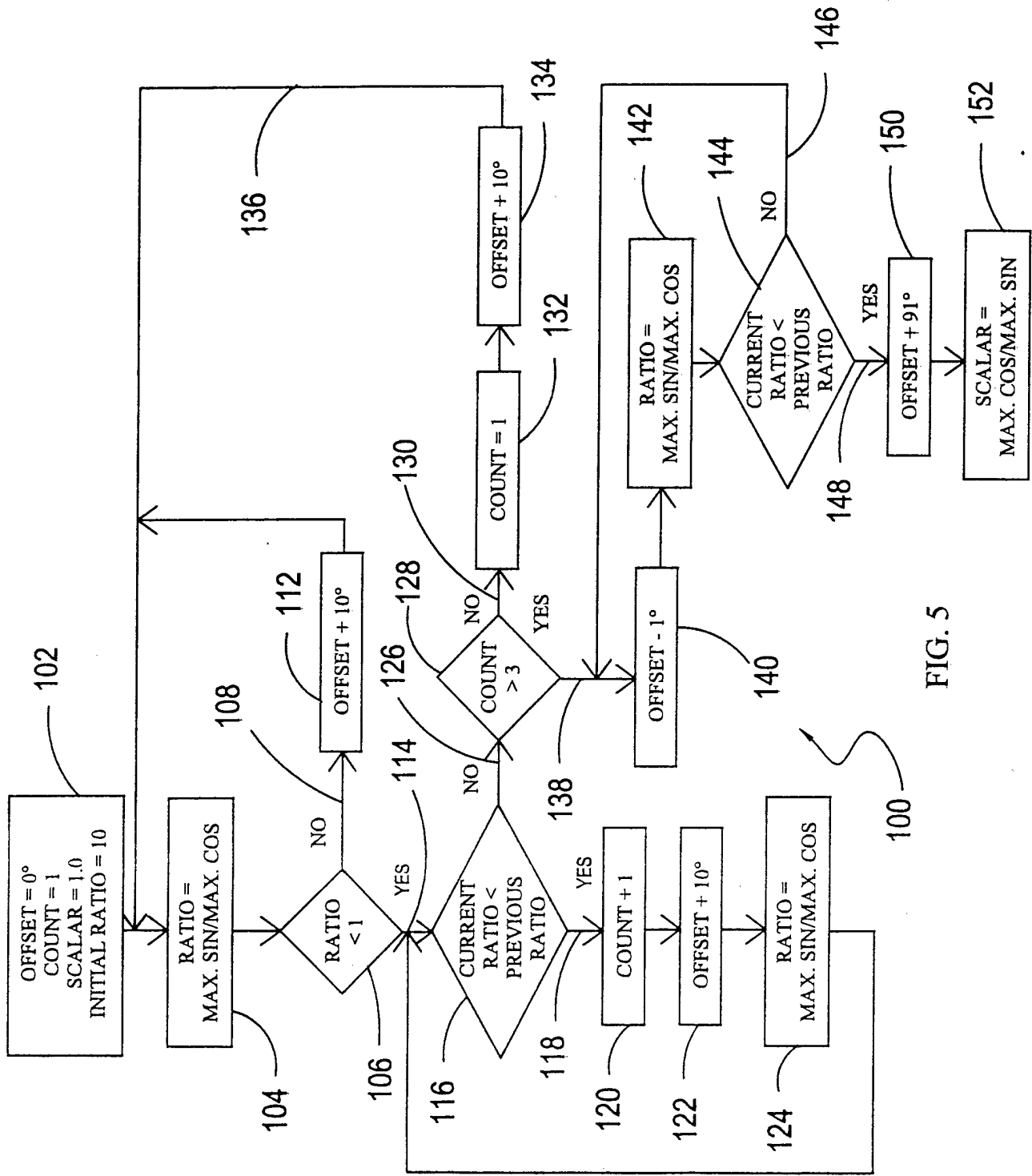


FIG. 5