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IN REPLY REFER TO:

Attorney Docket No. 82732

Date: 22 November 2002

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Serial Number	<u>10/214,548</u>
Filing Date	<u>8/8/02</u>
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ADAPTIVE CROSS CORRELATOR

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

BE IT KNOWN THAT HAROLD J. TELLER, employee of the United States Government, citizen of the United States of America, and resident of Lebanon, County of New London, State of Connecticut, has invented certain new and useful improvements entitled as set forth above of which the following is a specification.

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

1 Attorney Docket No. 82732

2
3 ADAPTIVE CROSS CORRELATOR

4
5 STATEMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT INTEREST

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

10
11 CROSS REFERENCE TO OTHER PATENT APPLICATION

12 Not applicable.

13
14 BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

15 (1) Field of the Invention

16 The present invention relates generally to systems and
17 methods for a cross-correlator and, more specifically, for an
18 adaptive cross-correlator operable for adaptively suppressing
19 high signal to noise ratio (SNR) narrowband interference before
20 the interference enters the cross-correlator process.

1 (2) Description of the Prior Art

2 A vessel's sound signature contains both a continuous,
3 broadband spectrum of sound, as well as discrete, narrowband
4 tonals at specific frequencies along that spectrum that rise
5 above the spectrum. The tonals may be caused by specific pieces
6 of rotating machinery within the vessel. For instance, narrow
7 band tonals may be produced by pumps, generators, and gears,
8 whereas the continuous broadband spectrum is caused primarily by
9 flow noise over the hull surface or by propeller cavitation.
10 However, narrowband tonals or narrowband interference may also
11 be produced by self noise related to a loud platform, such as
12 the platform to which the sonar array is attached. Other narrow
13 band tonals or narrowband interference may be produced by other
14 vessels unrelated to the target vessel.

15 A vessel's broadband signature may resemble background noise
16 in that it contains a continuous spectrum of frequencies within
17 which sound source levels at particular frequencies rise and
18 fall in random fashion around a mean over time. By contrast, the
19 narrowband component of a vessel's signature may generate sound
20 at several specific frequencies continuously. Thus, compared to
21 the background noise generated at these specific frequencies,
22 which will average out over time to x , the signal plus noise

1 received at the tonal frequency will average out over time to x
2 $+ y$, with y being the source level of the signal.

3 At close range, a simple sonar will detect a vessel's
4 broadband signal simply by pointing the main beam of its array
5 at the vessel. The sonar is measuring all the sound it receives
6 in a given direction, including both signal and background
7 noise, and as it points in the direction of the target, the
8 signal increases. As the range of the opposing submarine is
9 increased, the relative strength of this broadband signature
10 compared to the broadband background noise declines until it is
11 drowned out and the signal-to-noise ratio drops below the
12 detection threshold. Therefore, self-noise is also an important
13 issue for sonar effectiveness. This is true whether one is
14 seeking broadband or narrowband detections.

15 In some cases, two important tonals in a submarine's
16 signature may be those modulated by the propeller at the rate
17 which its blades turn, and those associated with particular
18 items of rotating machinery. Blade rate tonals are usually
19 slightly lower in frequency than machinery tonals, and both
20 tonals are usually aspect dependent and speed dependent. Taken
21 together, these tonals provide means to detect targets, classify
22 them, and to track them over time.

1 High signal to noise ratio narrowband interference creates
2 signal distortion and makes peak detection more difficult for
3 received sonar signals. Removal or suppression of narrowband
4 interference is not a new idea. The current methods for removal
5 or suppression of narrowband interference from signals received
6 by an array of sonar transducers utilize what is referred to as
7 the smooth coherence transform (SCOT). More detailed
8 information about SCOT methods can be found in references such
9 as *Coherence and Time Delay Estimation*, by G. Clifford Carter,
10 IEEE Press, Piscataway, NJ, 1992. SCOT works in the frequency
11 domain and essentially applies a filter on the output of the
12 frequency domain correlator implementation. However, SCOT tends
13 to be computationally intensive. The number of floating point
14 operations required per update are of order $M \times N$ where N is 1024
15 or greater and M is the number of beam pairs. It would be
16 desirable to provide a significant reduction in processing
17 throughput as compared to the SCOT method. It has also been
18 shown that in the presence of noise and wide band signals only,
19 SCOT will have reduced performance over a cross correlator
20 without SCOT processing (standard cross correlator). It is
21 would therefore be desirable to provide an adaptive cross
22 correlator that will perform no worse than the standard cross
23 correlator in the presence of wide band signals and noise.

1 Various inventors have attempted to solve related problems
2 as evidenced by the following patents:

3 U.S. Patent No. 5,724,485, issued March 3, 1998, to David
4 Rainton, discloses an adaptive cross correlator apparatus with a
5 first receiving section that receives a signal and outputs the
6 received signal as a first signal, and a second receiving
7 section that receives a further signal and outputs the received
8 further signal as a second signal, wherein the second receiving
9 section is provided at a position different from that of the
10 first receiving section. A first filter filters the first signal
11 with a first changeable transfer function and outputs a filtered
12 first signal, and a second filter filters the second signal with
13 a second changeable transfer function and outputs a filtered
14 second signal. Further, a cross correlator calculates a cross
15 correlation value by using a predetermined cross correlation
16 function based on the filtered first and second signals, and
17 then, an adaptive controller calculates a discriminant function
18 value representing a misclassification measure of the first and
19 second signals, based on the cross correlation value and a true
20 delay between the first and second signals, and adaptively
21 adjusts the respective first and second transfer functions of
22 the first and second filters so that the calculated discriminant
23 function value becomes a minimum.

1 U.S. Patent No. 5,899,864, issued May 4, 1999, to Arenson
2 et al., discloses the energy, power or amplitude of Doppler or
3 time shift information signals that is compared to a threshold
4 in order to select a large or small weighting factor for
5 temporal persistence. In the event of a "flash" signal or strong
6 arterial flow signal, a small weighting factor is chosen to
7 reduce the extent of temporal persistence via feedback of the
8 averaged value for the prior frames so that the effect of the
9 "flash" or strong flow signal would quickly dissipate in the
10 imaging of subsequent frames and good temporal resolution
11 preserved for the current frames, while low energy flow signals
12 would cause a large weighting factor to be selected to improve
13 the signal-to-noise ratio of low energy signals. Similar effects
14 can be achieved by clipping the signals to not exceed a certain
15 threshold.

16 U.S. Patent No. 6,130,643, issued October 10, 2000, to
17 Trippett et al., discloses an antenna nulling system for nulling
18 a jamming signal having a multibeam antenna, a correlator, and
19 antenna pattern calculator, a sequential updater and a
20 beamformer. The multibeam antenna includes a plurality of
21 antenna elements and is operable to receive the plurality of
22 signals. The correlator is operable to receive at least one
23 sample signal from one of the antenna elements and a composite

1 signal from the plurality of antenna elements. The correlator
2 determines a cross-correlation of the sample signal and the
3 composite signal. The antenna pattern calculator calculates a
4 difference in pattern magnitude of an adapted antenna pattern
5 and a quiescent antenna pattern of the multibeam antenna. The
6 sequential updater sequentially calculates a new weight for each
7 of the antenna elements based upon an existing weight of each
8 antenna element, the cross-correlation and the difference in
9 pattern magnitude. The beamformer is in communication with the
10 multibeam antenna and the sequential updater to combine a new
11 weight for each of the antenna elements with the plurality of
12 signals received from the multibeam antenna to null the jamming
13 signal.

14 U.S. Patent No. 5,978,473, issued November 2, 1999, to Jim
15 Agne Jerker Rasmusson, discloses a measure of a degree of
16 convergence in an adaptive filter arrangement that is derived
17 from the comparison of an amount of adaptation occurring in the
18 adaptive filter arrangement, over a predetermined period of
19 time, with a normalizing value accumulated for the same period.
20 Supplemental signal processing may be invoked, modified or
21 withdrawn based upon the degree of convergence indicated.

22 U.S. Patent No. 5,901,343, issued May 4, 1999, to Julius
23 Lange, discloses an intermediate frequency adaptive cross

1 polarization interference canceller for processing an
2 interfering cross polarization signal distorted by dispersion.
3 The canceller has right and left inputs for respectively
4 receiving right and left polarized IF input signals. A plurality
5 of serially coupled complex multiplier and control stages
6 respectively process the right and left polarized signals to
7 provide controlled amounts of coupling between them to cancel
8 cross polarization interference therebetween. A plurality of
9 delay lines add predetermined time shifts to the right and left
10 polarized signals between stages, and which forms a transversal
11 filter having a predetermined number of taps. The canceller
12 outputs right polarized IF output signal and a left polarized IF
13 output signal having substantially no cross polarization
14 interference therebetween. A preferred embodiment of the
15 adaptive cross polarization interference canceller uses a
16 compensating five-tap transversal filter disposed in the
17 cancellation path. A simplified single tap adaptive cross
18 polarization interference canceller may be used if there is no
19 dispersion.

20 U.S. Patent No. 5,852,567, issued December 22, 1998, to Xia
21 et al., discloses an iterative time frequency algorithm which
22 filters noisy wide band/nonstationary signals by projecting the
23 noisy signal into the TF domain, masking the TF response,

1 computing the inverse TF transform to extract a filtered signal,
2 and repeating these steps until the projection lies within the
3 mask. As a result, the TF domain properties of the extracted
4 signal are substantially equal to the desired TF domain
5 properties. Furthermore, the iterative approach is
6 computationally simple because it avoids inverting matrices. The
7 TF transform and its inverse must be selected such that the
8 iterative algorithm is guaranteed to converge. Candidate
9 transform pairs can be tested on known data, and if the TF
10 transforms converge to the desired TF properties, the candidate
11 pair can be selected. Alternately, the candidate pairs can be
12 tested against a sufficient convergence condition, and if they
13 satisfy the condition within an acceptable tolerance, they can
14 be selected with confidence. Furthermore, the sufficient
15 convergence condition can be solved directly to provide the TF
16 transform and its inverse.

17 U.S. Patent No. 5,526,347, issued June 11, 1996, to Chen et
18 al., discloses a sign-based decorrelation detection and adaptive
19 control arrangement which includes structure for detecting
20 cross-correlation between a far-end signal and an echo residual
21 following a balance filter. During the adaptive process, if the
22 detected correlation value is below a certain threshold,
23 indicating that the two signals are decorrelated, the adaptation

1 of the balancing filter is stopped. At such a point, proper echo
2 cancellation has been achieved. Conversely, when the detected
3 correlation value exceeds a threshold, the adaptation is
4 continued until the correlation value falls below the threshold
5 again. In any event, such decorrelation controllers are able to
6 detect signal decorrelation and to control adaptation even in
7 the presence of a double-talker condition.

8 U.S. Patent No. 5,416,532, issued May 16, 1995, to Jung W.
9 Ko, discloses horizontal and vertical peaking signals that are
10 separated from a video signal by combining variously delayed
11 responses to the video signal. A cross-fader combines the
12 separated horizontal and vertical peaking signals in proportions
13 determined by a cross-fader control signal. A correlator
14 responds to ones of the variously delayed responses to the video
15 signal for generating an output signal representative of the
16 relative degrees of vertical and horizontal correlation in the
17 video signal. The correlator output signal addresses a read-only
18 memory that supplies the cross-fader control signal. The
19 adaptively generated peaking signal is suitable for adjustably
20 peaking a luminance component extracted from the video signal,
21 where that video signal is a composite signal also including a
22 chrominance component. The extraction of the luminance component
23 is preferably done on an adaptive basis, generating horizontal

1 and vertical comb filter responses by suitably combining the
2 variously delayed responses to the video signal and, with a
3 further cross-fader, combining the horizontal and vertical comb
4 filter responses in proportions determined by the cross-fader
5 control signal.

6 U.S. Patent No. 5,016,261, issued May 14, 1991, to Amoroso
7 et al., discloses a method and apparatus for improving the anti-
8 jam performance of a processing circuit to increase conversion
9 gain and reduce small signal suppression resulting from
10 processing a phase modulated input signal accompanied by jamming
11 interference. Input signals are each segregated into signal
12 chips by a matched filter, and by an adaptive threshold circuit
13 in accordance with a predetermined relative threshold. The
14 threshold is set to repeatedly distinguish a predetermined
15 number of signal chips having greater signal amplitude. The
16 absolute amplitude threshold level may, therefore, vary in
17 accordance with the particular signal chips forming each input
18 signal segment. A phase quantizer operates to extract phase
19 information from the signal chips. A phase correlator operates
20 to apply a first weighting gain factor to signal chips equal to
21 or exceeding the threshold, and a second weighting gain factor
22 to the remaining chips, the first weighting gain factor being
23 greater than the second weighting gain factor.

1 U.S. Patent No. 4,270,179, issued May 26, 1981, to Sifford
2 et al., discloses a complex ternary correlator and method for
3 adaptive gradient computation in an adaptive equalizer which
4 includes four ternary operation circuits, four ternary
5 multiplier circuits for obtaining the cross products of the
6 ternary operation outputs, a subtractor circuit for developing a
7 signal commensurate with the difference between two of the
8 ternary multiplier outputs, an adder circuit for developing a
9 signal commensurate with the sum of the remaining two ternary
10 multiplier outputs and two identical integrating circuits for
11 obtaining the real and imaginary adaptive tap coefficient update
12 increments in an adaptive equalizer.

13 U.S. Patent No. 3,882,498, issued May 6, 1975, to August L.
14 McGuffin, discloses an AMTI adaptive array in which each array
15 antenna element is connected to an element circuit which
16 multiplies the contribution of each antenna element to the total
17 return m by a weight. The element circuits and further signal
18 processing circuitry comprise the array processor. The element
19 circuits include well-known cross correlator control loops. A
20 signal whose pulse repetition interval to pulse repetition
21 interval Doppler phase shift is 180° out of phase with clutter
22 returns is supplied to a control loop. Thus even with clutter
23 at or near the look angle, main lobe gain is maintained.

1 Consequently, a "two pulse" MTI circuit utilizing a single delay
2 line in each element circuit may be utilized rather than a two
3 delay line element circuit which would normally be required to
4 provide a signal to noise ratio value indicative of main lobe
5 gain which would be required for compatibility with further MTI
6 processing circuitry.

7 The above patents do not provide an adaptive cross-
8 correlator that requires no feedback from the correlator output
9 or any prior knowledge of the expected process output.

10 Consequently, there remains a long felt but unsolved need for an
11 adaptive filter to suppress high signal to noise ratio
12 narrowband interference while preserving the broadband energy
13 before the signal enters the cross-correlation process. Those
14 skilled in the art will appreciate the present invention that
15 addresses the above and other problems.

17 SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

18 Accordingly, it is an objective of the present invention to
19 provide an improved sonar signal processing system and method.

20 Another objective is to provide a system and method as
21 aforesaid which is operable to estimate narrowband interference
22 in each of a plurality of beam signals and then subtract the
23 estimated narrowband interference from each respective beam

1 signal to thereby provide a plurality of filtered beam signals
2 containing suppressed narrowband interference for application to
3 a cross correlation processor.

4 A further objective is to provide a system and method as
5 aforesaid whereby the narrowband interference is suppressed
6 without the need of feedback from the cross correlation
7 processor to which the filtered beam signals are applied.

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

16 In accordance with the present invention, a system is
17 provided for a sonar signal detection system that may comprise
18 one or more elements such as, for instance, a plurality of sonar
19 sensors, and/or a beamformer for receiving acoustic signals from
20 the plurality of sonar sensors. The beamformer preferably
21 produces a plurality of beam outputs. The beam outputs, $x(n)$,
22 have narrowband signal components $\hat{S}_{NB}(n)$ and wideband signal
23 components. A plurality of adaptive filters receive the

1 plurality of beam outputs. Each of the plurality of adaptive
 2 filters has a delay component providing a delay, D, operable for
 3 decoupling the wideband signal component from the original
 4 wideband signal component. An adaptive notch filter is utilized
 5 to allow passage of the narrowband signal component and to
 6 suppress the wideband component. The delayed, notch filtered
 7 signal is then subtracted from the original signal and provided
 8 to a cross correlation processor. The plurality of adaptive
 9 filters are preferably operable without feedback from the cross
 10 correlation processor.

11 The system may further comprise a finite impulse response
 12 (FIR) filter for receiving the delayed narrowband signal, the
 13 delayed wideband signal, and the delayed ambient noise signal.
 14 The FIR filter output of each the FIR filters may be of the
 15 form:

$$16 \quad \hat{S}_{NB}(n) = \sum_{k=0}^{P-1} h(k) * x(n-k-D), \quad (1)$$

17 wherein $h(k)$ comprises a plurality of filter coefficients.

18 In a preferred embodiment, the plurality of filter
 19 coefficients are adjusted recursively using a least mean squares
 20 (LMS) method of the form:

$$22 \quad h_n(k) = h_{n-1}(k) + \Delta * (x(n) + \hat{S}_{NB}(n)) * x(n-k-D), \quad (2)$$

1 where

$$2 \qquad 0 < \Delta < \frac{1}{(N * 10 * \sigma_x^2)} \qquad (3)$$

3 where σ_x^2 is an estimate of power in input signal $x(n)$.

4 In operation, a method for processing sonar signals may
5 comprise one or more method steps such as, for instance,
6 utilizing a beamformer to produce a plurality of beam outputs,
7 and splitting each of the plurality of beam outputs into a first
8 path and a second path. In the first path, the method
9 preferably comprises applying the plurality of beam outputs to a
10 plurality of signal combiners, and in the second path, the
11 method comprises delaying the plurality of beam outputs with
12 respect to time to produce a plurality of delayed beam outputs.
13 Other steps may comprise applying the plurality of delayed beam
14 outputs to a plurality of adaptive notch filters to produce a
15 plurality of adaptive notch filter outputs, applying the
16 plurality of adaptive notch filter outputs to the plurality of
17 signal combiners, and producing a plurality of signal combiner
18 outputs for application to a cross correlation processor.

19 In a preferred embodiment, the method may comprise
20 producing the plurality of signal combiner outputs without
21 feedback from the cross correlation processor. The method may
22 further comprise displaying an output of the cross correlation
23 processor.

1 In one embodiment, the method may comprise providing that
2 the plurality of beam outputs comprise a narrowband signal, a
3 wideband signal, and ambient noise signal. The method comprises
4 suppressing the narrowband signal while passing the wideband
5 signal and the ambient noise signal to the cross correlation
6 processor.

7 In other words, the system provides for a plurality of
8 adaptive filters for receiving the plurality of beam outputs,
9 wherein each of the plurality of adaptive filters
10 may comprise a finite impulse response filter, a plurality of
11 delay components for the plurality of adaptive filters, and a
12 plurality of signal combiners for the plurality of adaptive
13 filters.

14

15 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

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

1 FIG. 1 is a block diagram schematic showing a presently
2 preferred configuration of a sonar signal processing system in
3 accord with the present invention;

4 FIG. 2 is a block diagram schematic showing a presently
5 preferred adaptive notch filter for use in the system of FIG. 1;

6 FIG. 3 is a diagram of raw data prior to filtering with the
7 filter system of the present invention depicted by FIG. 1 and
8 FIG. 2; and

9 FIG. 4 is a diagram of filtered data after filtering.

11 BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

12 An adaptive cross-correlator in accord with the present
13 invention preferably uses an adaptive time domain notch filter
14 at the input to the cross-correlator. One significant advantage
15 of the present invention is a significant reduction in
16 computations required during operation. In the present
17 invention, the number of floating point operations required per
18 update are of order $M \times P$ where P is the number of filter
19 coefficients which is typically 15 or less and M is the number
20 of beam pairs. An adaptive cross-correlator in accord with the
21 present invention can therefore provide a significant reduction
22 in processing throughput requirements as compared to the
23 aforementioned SCOT method. Moreover, it has been shown that in

1 the presence of noise and wide band signals only, SCOT will have
2 reduced performance over a cross-correlator without SCOT
3 processing, e.g., a standard cross-correlator. It is expected
4 that an adaptive cross-correlator in accord with the present
5 invention will perform no worse than the standard cross-
6 correlator in the presence of wide band signals and noise.

7 Referring now to FIG. 1, there is shown a block diagram of
8 system 10 in accord with a presently preferred embodiment of the
9 invention that provides an adaptive cross-correlator as
10 indicated therein. Beamformer 12 may be a conventional
11 beamformer utilized with a plurality of sensor inputs such as
12 sonar sensor inputs 14, 16, 18, and 20 which may represent from
13 1 to L sonar sensor inputs. Electronic beamformers may be used
14 with arrays of hydrophones including omnidirectional hydrophones
15 to achieve a desired array gain.

16 In accord with a presently preferred embodiment of the
17 present invention, beamformer 12 produces multiple beam outputs
18 and preferably, provides at least two sub aperture beam sets 22
19 and 24. Beam sets 22 and 24 present a conventional grouping of
20 beams such as those from the left side sensors and the right
21 side sensors. Each sub aperture comprises a plurality of beam
22 outputs from 1 - M, such as indicated at 26, 28, 30 and 32.
23 Thus, the beam outputs of a preferably split aperture

1 conventional beamformer 12 are provided as inputs to a plurality
2 of adaptive notch filters as indicated by 36, 38, 40, and 42.
3 The outputs of the plurality of adaptive notch filters may be
4 applied to a conventional cross correlation process as indicated
5 at 45 in accord with the present invention.

6 FIG. 2 illustrates a block diagram for an adaptive notch
7 filter 44 in accord with the present invention which may be used
8 for each of the adaptive notch filters as indicated at 36, 38,
9 40, and 42. The assumed input signal 46, $x(n)$, to adaptive
10 notch filter 44, which corresponds to beam outputs 26-32, may
11 comprise one or more narrowband lines. The desired wideband
12 signal with ambient noise and may be expressed as:

$$13 \quad X(n) = S_{NB}(n) + W(n) + N(n) \quad (4)$$

14 where:

15 $S_{NB}(n) = \text{Narrowband Signal}$,

16 $W(n) = \text{Wideband Signal}$, and

17 $N(n) = \text{Ambient Noise}$.

18

19 Input signal 46 is sent directly to a signal combiner
20 element such as adder 48. A delayed version of input signal 46,
21 produced by delay circuit 50, is sent to adaptive finite impulse
22 response (FIR) filter 54. Signal 52 produced by delay circuit
23 50 may be expressed as:

$$X(n-D) = S_{NB}(n-D) + W(n-D) + N(n-D) \quad (5)$$

The delay D of delay circuit 50 is selected to de-correlate the wideband and ambient noise from the un-delayed version of the signal. In other words, D is chosen sufficiently large that the signals

$$\begin{aligned} &W(n) \text{ and } W(n-D), \text{ and} \\ &N(n) \text{ and } N(n-D), \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

are uncorrelated. By "uncorrelated," it is meant that the delay, D , avoids suppression of the signal when it is subtracted from itself.

FIR filter output 56 may be expressed as follows;

$$\hat{S}_{NB}(n) = \sum_{k=0}^{P-1} h(k) * x(n-k-D). \quad (7)$$

FIR filter output 56 is an estimation of the narrowband signal which is to be removed from the beam outputs 26-32 in accord with the present invention. FIR filter 54 preferably has P taps or filter coefficients $h(k)$. The tap weights are recursively estimated using the least mean squared (LMS) method as follows:

$$h_n(k) = h_{n-1}(k) + \Delta * (x(n) - \hat{S}_{NB}(n)) * x(n-k-D), \quad (8)$$

where

$$0 < \Delta < \frac{1}{(N * 10 * \sigma_x^2)} \quad (9)$$

where σ_x^2 is an estimate of power in input signal $x(n)$.

Thus, the above equation illustrates the adaptive FIR filter equations and the LMS technique which is preferably utilized in accord with the present invention. Filter output 56, or $\hat{S}_{NB}(n)$, provides the narrowband interference, which is then subtracted from the un-delayed version of the input signal with a signal combiner such as adder 48. Resultant output signal 58 is a narrowband free or narrowband suppressed signal, and may effectively be described as:

$$W(n) + N(n) \quad (10)$$

Thus, respective outputs 60, 62, 64, and 66 shown in FIG. 1 of the plurality of adaptive notch filters 36-42, each of which is calculated as per output signal 58 of FIG. 2, are effectively narrowband free or narrowband suppressed beam output signals that are then utilized by standard cross correlation processor 45.

FIG. 3 and FIG. 4 show the result of the above described processing. FIG. 3 provides a frequency domain graph of a beam output signal comprising a narrowband signal in ambient noise. FIG. 4 shows the filtered version of the signal. In the example

1 of FIG. 3 and FIG. 4, the filter consists of 15 taps. In
2 experimental results, the narrowband signal was suppressed by
3 13dB.

4 The present invention therefore provides advantages and
5 expected performance gains. For instance, the present invention
6 may be utilized to suppress narrowband interference from, for
7 instance, ownship and loud, distant shipping. The present
8 invention may be utilized to suppress electronic noise found on
9 towed arrays. The present invention may be utilized to improve
10 performance of cross correlation processor 45 against wideband
11 signals corrupted with loud narrowband interference. The
12 present invention may be utilized to improve performance over
13 SCOT methods in the presence of only wideband signals and
14 ambient noise. Moreover, the present invention is
15 computationally more efficient than SCOT methods.

16 In summary, the present invention provides a plurality of
17 adaptive notch filters 36-42 which operate on a plurality of
18 beams 26-32. Each adaptive filter 44 operates without the need
19 for feedback from cross-correlator processor 45 and without any
20 prior knowledge of the expected process output. The filter
21 weights adapt based on the acoustic output of beamformer towed
22 array beams, hull array beams or spherical array beams. The
23 purpose of adaptive notch filter 44 is to suppress high signal

1 to noise ratio narrow band interference while preserving the
2 broadband energy before the outputs, such as outputs 60-66,
3 enters the cross-correlation process. The narrowband
4 interference removal will improve the sonar operator's detection
5 capability for broadband targets.

6 It will be understood for purposes of implementation that
7 system 10 may comprise one or more microprocessors, one or more
8 programmable integrated circuits, one or more microcomputers,
9 one or more processors, and/or one or more suitably small
10 programmable computers. It will be appreciated by those skilled
11 in the art that the invention could be implemented for testing
12 and/or operation using one or more suitable programmed general
13 purpose computers and/or special purpose hardware, with program
14 routines or logical circuit sets performing as processors. Such
15 routines or logical circuit sets may also be referred to as
16 processors or the like.

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

2

3

ADAPTIVE CROSS CORRELATOR

4

5

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

6

A system and method are provided for an adaptive filter

7

that is especially useful for sonar signal processing. The beam

8

outputs of a conventional beamformer are provided as inputs to

9

adaptive notch filters in accord with the present invention.

10

The outputs of the plurality of adaptive notch filters are

11

applied to a standard cross correlation process. In each of the

12

adaptive notch filters, the beam outputs are split into two

13

paths and in one path are applied directly to a signal combiner.

14

In the second path, the beam outputs are delayed. The delayed

15

beam outputs are applied to an adaptive finite impulse response

16

filter, the output of which is an estimate of the narrowband

17

interference contained within the beam output. The narrowband

18

interference is then suppressed in the signal combiner prior to

19

application to the standard cross correlation process.

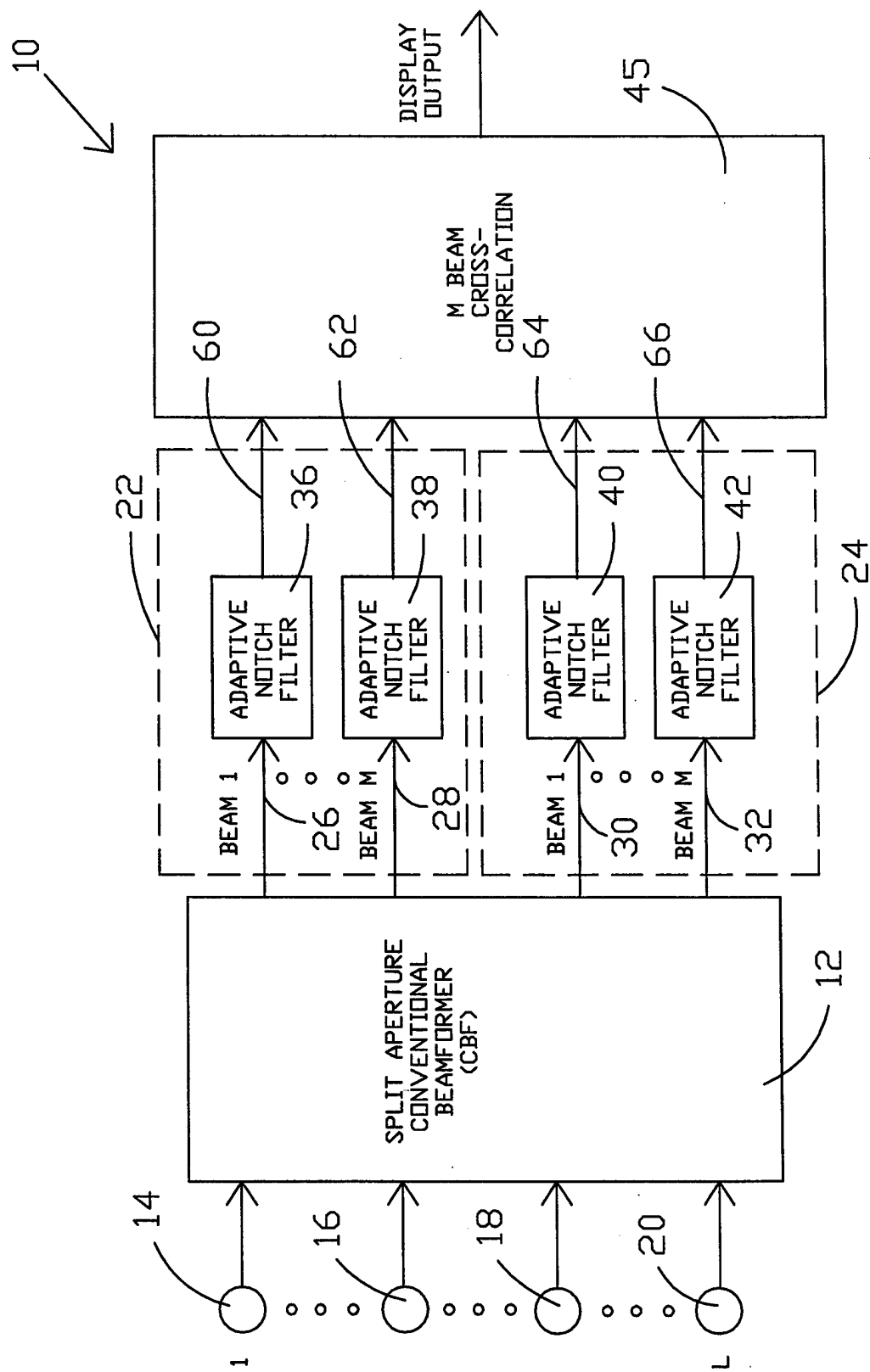


FIG. 1

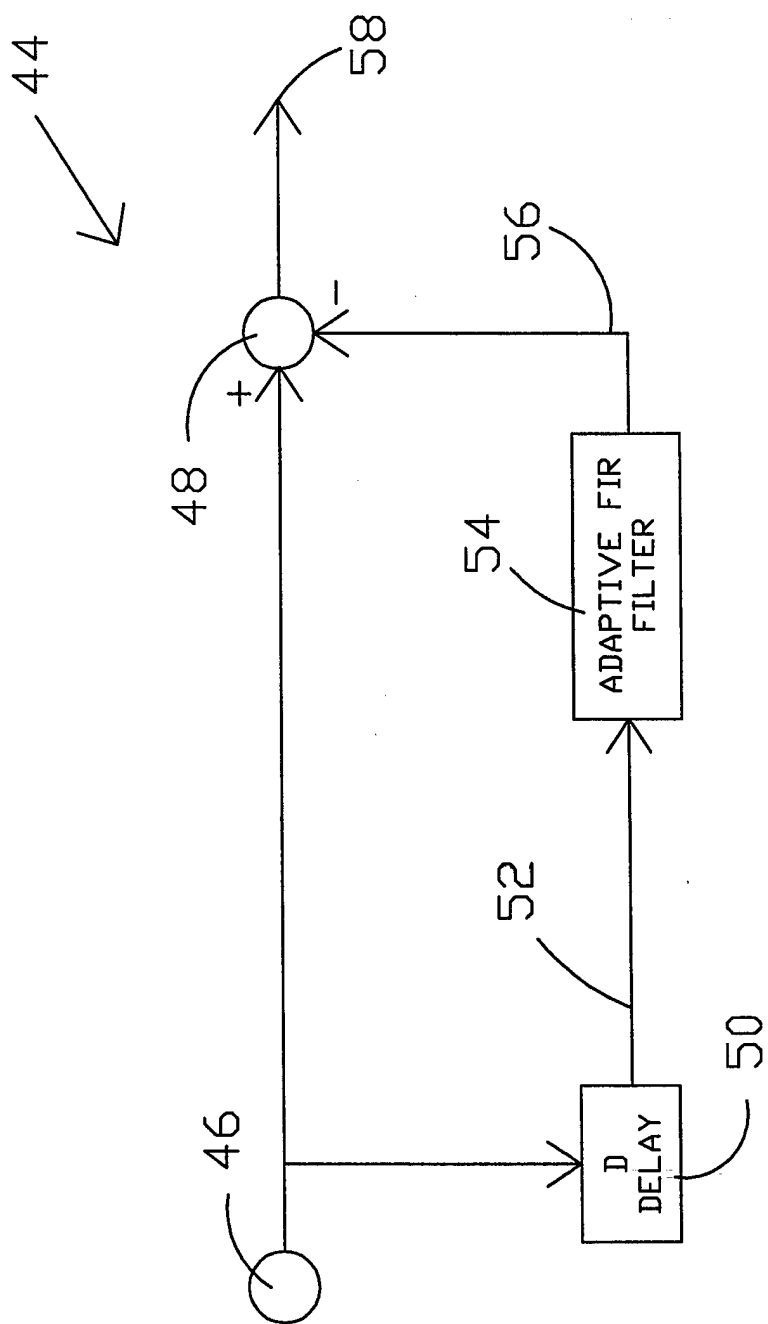


FIG. 2

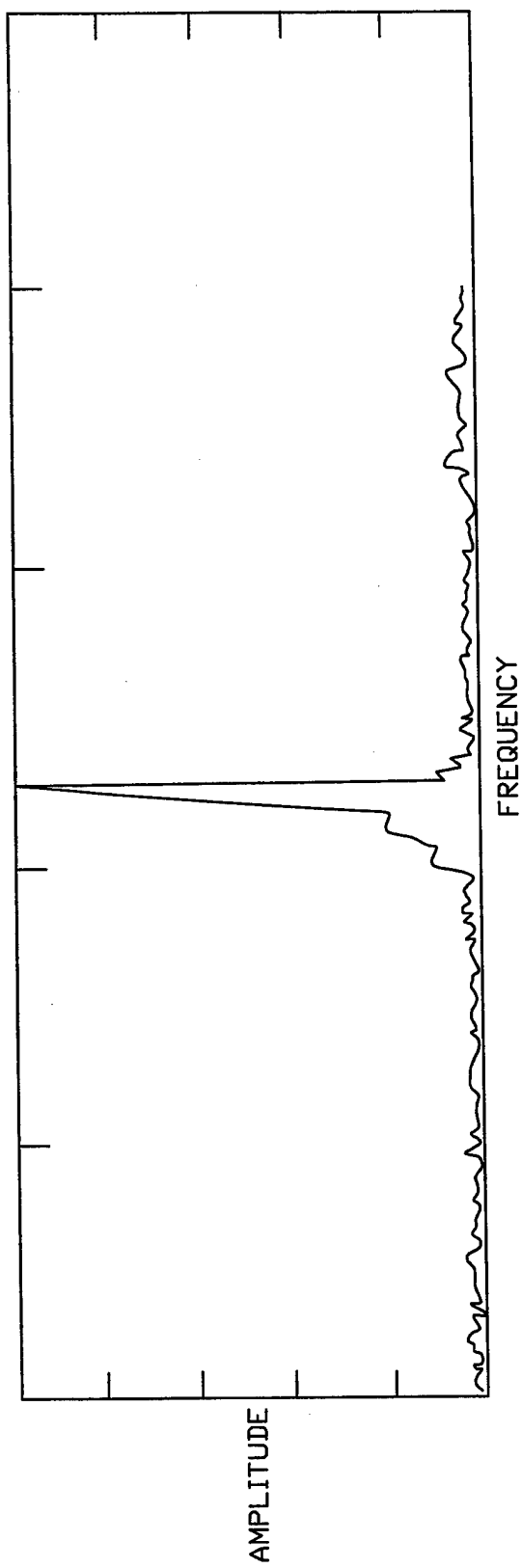


FIG. 3

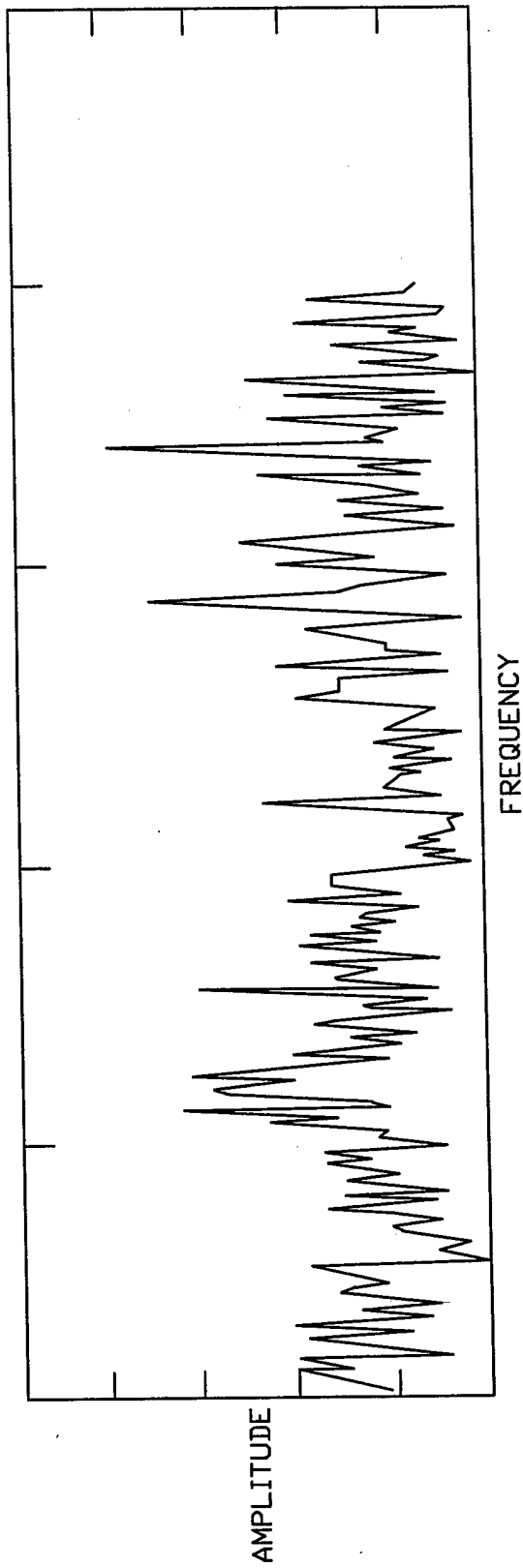


FIG. 4