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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
11/977,603	10/25/2007	Ki-Uk Song	5000-1-1083	2770
33942	7590	01/10/2011	EXAMINER	
Cha & Reiter, LLC 17 Arcadian Avenue Suite 208 Paramus, NJ 07652			ZHANG, XIANG	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2617	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			01/10/2011	PAPER

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. Claims 1, 2, 6, and 7, and 13-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over by Rajesh (WO 02/085061) in view of Larsson (US PGPub 205/0014464 A1) and further in view of Rappaport (US Pat 7676194 B2).

Regarding claim 1, Rajesh discloses a scheduling method of a Base Station (BS) in a cellular system using a wired Relay Station (RS), comprising: collecting Channel Quality Information (CQIs) of all Mobile Stations (MSs) within a cell ([1091]); calculating a transmittable data amount for each of the MSs according to the CQIs ([1092], [1093]) wherein the DRC value with quality indication is used to calculate the throughput/transmittable data amount for each user in a total of N users in the cell); and selecting an MS having a highest PF metric and allocating resources to the selected MS, the PF metric being defined as: $PF \text{ metric for } i\text{th MS} = R_i(t) / R_i(t)_{avg}$ (4) where i denotes the index of an MS, $R_i(t)$ denotes a data rate available to an i .sup.th MS in a scheduling time period t , and $R_i(t)_{avg}$ denotes the average data rate of data transmitted to the i .sup.th MS from a previous time period to the scheduling time period t ([1036], also see [1084], also see equation 9 and 10 wherein the MS user i with the highest PF metric value with the ratio of the [available/data rate value represented as the channel condition metric $A_i(t)$] and the [average data rate of the data transmitted to

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the i th MS/ $U_i(t)$: and the MS having the highest PF metric being expressed as: $i^* = \arg \max [R_i(t) R_i(t)] (5)$ where i^* denotes the selected MS in the scheduling time period t ([1085], also see equation 24).

However, Rajesh lacks the teaching of collecting by the base station Channel Quality Information (CQIs) of all Mobile Stations (MSs) within a cell of a plurality of cells and the BS receiving CQIs via at least one RS.

In the same field of endeavor, Larsson suggests collecting by the base station Channel Quality Information (CQIs) of all Mobile Stations (MSs) within a cell of a plurality of cells and the BS receiving CQIs via at least one RS ([0037], also see [0040], lines 16-23).

It would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to adapt the teaching of collecting by the base station Channel Quality Information (CQIs) of all Mobile Stations (MSs) within a cell of a plurality of cells and the BS receiving CQIs via at least one RS as suggested by Larsson in order to provision the QOS requirement uniformly throughout a scaled network.

However, the combination of Rajesh and Larsson still lacks the explicit teaching of the RS being wired

In the same field of endeavor, Rappaport teaches the RS being wired (claim 8).

It would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to adapt the teaching of the RS being wired as taught by Rappaport in order to achieve transmission reliability.

Regarding claim 2, Rajesh disclose the method further comprising: updating $R_{i,i}(t)$ when selecting MSs to be scheduled and allocating resources for the scheduling time period t as: $R_{i,i}(t) = (1 - 1 t c) R_{i,i}(t - 1) + 1 t c R_{i,i}(t - 1)$ for $i = i^*$ ([1096] wherein the

data rate $R_i(t+1)$ is a convolved version of $R_i(t)$ after time lapse $(t-1)$ when the R is low which results in the i th MS not being serviced since it is not considered the recipient of data transmissions from the base station in the recent past when and i th MS has the highest PF metric, namely, $i=i^*$; $R_i(t) = (1 - 1/t_c) R_i(t-1)$ for $i \neq i^*$ (6) where $t_{sub.c}$ is set to a maximum time period for which the i .sup.th MS is not serviced (see equation 15 wherein when the i th MS does not have the highest PF metric, namely, $i \neq i^*$, the i th user will not be selected and no data will be transmitted. Therefore, the D becomes zero and the term $D^*(1/T_c)$ drops out).

Regarding claim 6, Rajesh discloses an apparatus for scheduling of a Base Station (BS) in a cellular system using a wired Relay Station (RS), comprising: a processor in communication with a memory, the memory storing software instruction which when accessed by the processor causes the processor to execute ([1146], lines 21-29): collecting Channel Quality Information (CQIs) of all Mobile Stations (MSs) within a cell ([1091]); calculating a transmittable data amount for each of the MSs according to the CQIs ([1092], [1093] wherein the DRC value with quality indication is used to calculate the throughput/transmittable data amount for each user in a total of N users in the cell); and selecting an MS having a highest PF metric and allocating resources to the selected MS, the PF metric being defined as: PF metric for i th MS = $R_i(t) / R_i(t)_{avg}$ (4) where i denotes the index of an MS, $R_{sub.i}(t)$ denotes a data rate available to an i .sup.th MS in a scheduling time period t , and $R_{sub.i}(t)$ denotes the average data rate of data transmitted to the i .sup.th MS from a previous time period to the scheduling time period t ([1036], also see [1084], also see equation 9 and 10 wherein the MS user i with the highest PF metric value with the ratio of the [available/data rate value represented as the channel condition metric $A_i(t)$] and the [average data rate of the data transmitted

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to the i th MS/ $U_i(t)$: and the MS having the highest PF metric being expressed as: $i^* = \arg \max [R_i(t) R_i(t)_-] (5)$ where i^* denotes the selected MS in the scheduling time period t ([1085], also see equation 24).

Regarding claim 7, Rajesh disclose the apparatus wherein the software instruction further causing the process to execute ([1146], lines 3-5): updating $R_{sub.i}(t)$ when selecting MSs to be scheduled and allocating resources for the scheduling time period t as: $R_i(t)_- = (1 - 1/tc) R_i(t-1) + 1/tc R_i(t-1)$ for $i = i^*$ ([1096] wherein the

_____ data rate $R_i(t+1)$ is a convolved version of $R_i(t)$ after time lapse $t-1$ when the R is low which results in the i th MS not being serviced since it is not considered the recipient of data transmissions from the base station in the recent past when and i th MS has the highest PF metric, namely, $i=i^*$; $R_i(t)_- = (1 - 1/tc) R_i(t-1)$ for $i \neq i^*$ (6) where $t_{sub.c}$ is set to a maximum time period for which the i_{sup} th MS is not serviced (see equation 15 wherein when the i th MS does not have the highest PF metric, namely, $i \neq i^*$, the i th user will not be selected and no data will be transmitted. Therefore, the D becomes zero and the term $D^*(1/Tc)$ drops out).

Regarding claim 11, Rajesh further discloses the teaching wherein said mobile stations transmit CQI information in a designated time slot ([1097], and [1126]).

Regarding claims 13, Rajesh further teaches the apparatus wherein said mobile stations transmit CQI information in a designated time slot ([1100], lines 10-13, and [1101], lines 10-11 wherein the weight value is being transmitted to reflect the CQI channel quality grade of service in the slots).

Regarding claims 14-16, Rajesh discloses the method, product and apparatus discussed in claim 1. However, Rajesh lacks the teaching of wherein R.sub.i(t) is calculated based on the Channel Quality Information (CQI) of a previous frame, said CQI represented as average Carrier-to-Interference and Noise Ratio (CINR).

In the same field of endeavor, Kim discloses the teachings of wherein R.sub.i(t) is calculated based on the Channel Quality Information (CQI) of every frame, said CQI represented as average Carrier-to-Interference and Noise Ratio (CINR) ([0031]).

One of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have recognized to modify the teaching of wherein R.sub.i(t) is calculated based on the Channel Quality Information (CQI) of a previous frame, said CQI represented as average Carrier-to-Interference and Noise Ratio (CINR) as taught by Kim in order to reflect the transmittable data quantity and channel quality through the interference level.

3. Claims 3-5, 8-10, and 12 are ejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over by Rajesh (WO 02/085061) in view of Larsson (US PGPub 205/0014464 A1) and further in view of Rappaport (US Pat 7676194 B2) and further in view of Kim (US PGPub 2007/0081491 A1).

Regarding claim 3, Rajesh in view of Larsson and further in view of Rappaport discloses the method discussed in claim 1. However, the combination of Rajesh, Larsson and Rappaport lacks the teaching further comprising: dynamically dividing a frame by counting the number of resources allocated to a frame of each node being the BS or an RS.

In the same field of endeavor, Kim discloses the teaching further comprising: dynamically dividing a frame by counting the number of resources allocated to a frame of each node being the BS or an RS ([0029], [0030]).

It would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to adapt the teaching further comprising: dynamically dividing a frame by counting the number of resources allocated to a frame of each node being the BS or an RS as taught by Kim in order to effectively multiplex the packets while assigning the number of channel resources utilizing the sector reuse scheme.

Regarding claim 4, Rajesh in view of Larsson and further in view of Rappaport and further in view of Kim teaches the method discussed in claim 3. Rajesh further teaches the method of determining boundaries among frame segments according to the sizes of the allocated resources if the sum is equal to the total number of resources per transmission frame ([1101] wherein the reference threshold for comparing the queue weight dictates the boundaries among the predetermining sized frame segments fitting into the time slots for the selected user if the sum/selected queue is equal to the total number of resources per transmission frame/current queue weight).

However, the combination of Rajesh, Larsson, and Rappaport lacks the teaching of wherein the dynamic frame division comprises: detecting one node having the most allocated resources for a current scheduling time period from each reuse group; comparing the sum of resources allocated to detected nodes with the total number of resources per transmission frame.

In the same field of endeavor, Kim discloses the teaching of wherein the dynamic frame division comprises: detecting one node having the most allocated

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resources for a current scheduling time period from each reuse group ([0014], [0030]); comparing the sum of resources allocated ([0011]) to detected nodes with the total number of resources per transmission frame ([0015], and [0029] wherein the total number of requests from the detected nodes/users coincides with the number of assigning channel resources).

It would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teachings of wherein the dynamic frame division comprises: detecting one node having the most allocated resources for a current scheduling time period from each reuse group; comparing the sum of resources allocated to detected nodes with the total number of resources per transmission frame as taught by Kim in order to proceed with the priority queuing algorithm.

Regarding claim 5, Rajesh in view of Larsson and further in view of Rappaport discloses the method discussed in claim 1. However, the combination of Rajesh, Larsson, and Rappaport lacks the teaching further comprising: dividing two-dimensional time and frequency resources of the frame.

In the same field of endeavor, Kim discloses the method further comprising: dividing two-dimensional time and frequency resources of the frame ([0007]).

It would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to utilize the teaching further comprising: dividing two-dimensional time and frequency resources of the frame as taught by Kim in order to comply with the discrete time Fourier Transformation during the signal encoding and decoding process.

Regarding claim 8, Rajesh in view of Larsson and further in view of Rappaport

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disclose the apparatus as discussed in claim 6. However, the combination of Rajesh, Larsson and Rappaport lacks the teaching of wherein the software instruction further causing the process to execute: dynamically dividing a frame by counting the number of resources allocated to a frame of each node being the BS or an RS.

In the same field of endeavor, Kim discloses the teaching further comprising: dynamically dividing a frame by counting the number of resources allocated to a frame of each node being the BS or an RS ([0029], [0030]).

It would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to adapt the teaching further comprising: dynamically dividing a frame by counting the number of resources allocated to a frame of each node being the BS or an RS as taught by Kim in order to effectively multiplex the packets while assigning the number of channel resources utilizing the sector reuse scheme.

Regarding claim 9, Rajesh in view of Larsson and further in view of Rappaport and further in view of Kim teaches the apparatus discussed in claim 8. Rajesh further teaches the apparatus wherein the dynamic frame division comprises: determining boundaries among frame segments according to the sizes of the allocated resources if the sum is equal to the total number of resources per transmission frame ([1101] wherein the reference threshold for comparing the queue weight dictates the boundaries among the predetermining sized frame segments fitting into the time slots for the selected user if the sum/selected queue is equal to the total number of resources per transmission frame/current queue weight).

However, the combination of Rajesh, Larsson, and Rappaport lacks the teaching of wherein the dynamic frame division comprises: detecting one node having the most allocated resources for a current scheduling time period from each reuse group;

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comparing the sum of resources allocated to detected nodes with the total number of resources per transmission frame.

In the same field of endeavor, Kim discloses the teaching of wherein the dynamic frame division comprises: detecting one node having the most allocated resources for a current scheduling time period from each reuse group ([0014], [0030]); comparing the sum of resources allocated ([0011]) to detected nodes with the total number of resources per transmission frame ([0015], and [0029] wherein the total number of requests from the detected nodes/users coincides with the number of assigning channel resources).

Regarding claim 10, Rajesh in view of Larsson and further in view of Rappaport discloses the apparatus discussed in claim 6. However, the combination of Rajesh, Larsson, and Rappaport lacks the teaching of the dynamic frame division comprises: dividing two-dimensional time and frequency resources of the frame.

In the same field of endeavor, Kim discloses the apparatus further comprising: dividing two-dimensional time and frequency resources of the frame ([0007]).

It would have been obvious for one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to utilize the teaching further comprising: dividing two-dimensional time and frequency resources of the frame as taught by Kim in order to comply with the discrete time Fourier Transformation during the signal encoding and decoding process.

Regarding claims 12, Rajesh further teaches the computer product wherein said mobile stations transmit CQI information in a designated time slot ([1100], lines 10-13, and [1101], lines 10-11 wherein the weight value is being transmitted to reflect the CQI

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channel quality grade of service in the slots).

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-12 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

On page 10, [0003] of the applicants' remark, the applicants argue that Rajesh and Kim does not teach dynamic division of a frame. However, this limitation is not included in claim 6.

Conclusion

4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles Appiah can be reached on (571)272-7904. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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