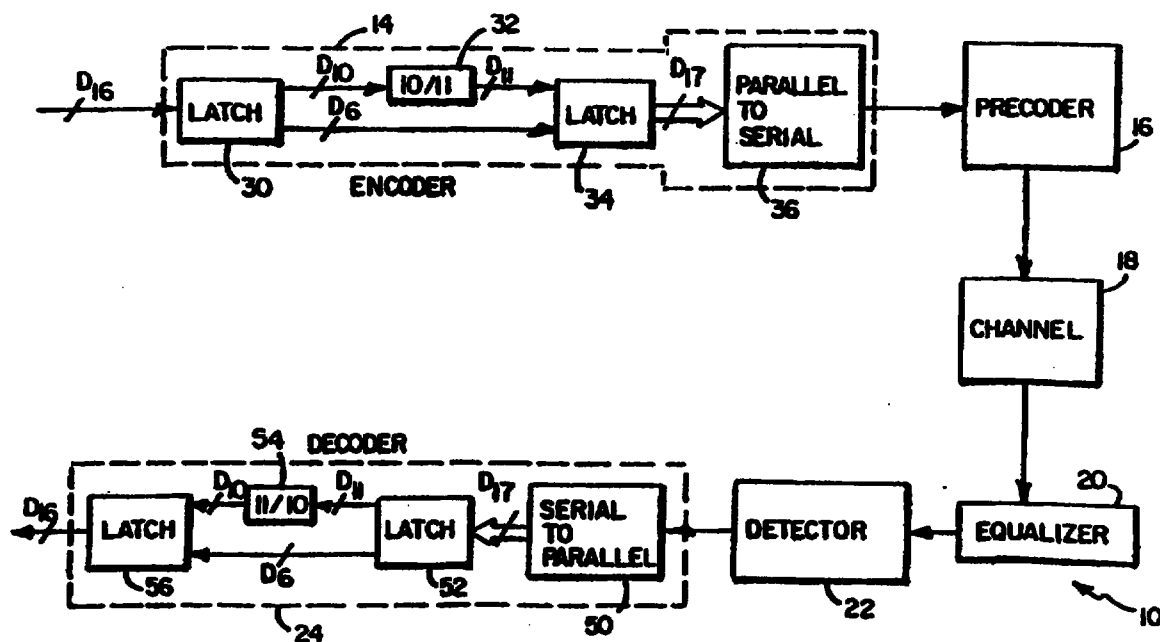




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(54) Title: SYSTEM FOR IMPLEMENTING RUN LENGTH LIMITED CODES



(57) Abstract

An apparatus encodes data blocks into code blocks, each code block containing more symbols than its respective data block. The apparatus includes a data block latch (30) for receiving individual data blocks and for dividing each data block into two sub-blocks. An encoder (32) receives one of the data sub-blocks and encodes the first data sub-block as a code sub-block. An interleaver (34, 36), coupled to the encoder (32) and the data block latch (30), combines the code sub-block with the second data sub-block to produce a code block, such that when the code blocks are concatenated with each other to produce a string of code symbols no more than five consecutive occurrences of a particular code symbol are present in the string of code symbols.