(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
16 September 2004 (16.09.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/080084 A1

(51) International Patent Classification[7]: H04N 7/50

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/SG2004/000047

(22) International Filing Date: 3 March 2004 (03.03.2004)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/451,553 3 March 2003 (03.03.2003) US

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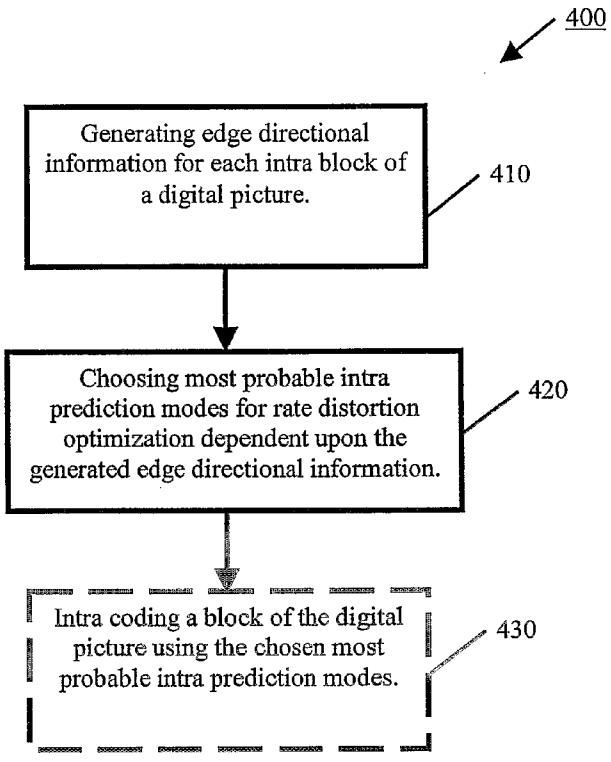
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(81) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available)*: AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: FAST MODE DECISION ALGORITHM FOR INTRA PREDICTION FOR ADVANCED VIDEO CODING



(57) Abstract: A method (400) and an apparatus for AVC intra prediction to code digital video comprising a plurality of pictures are disclosed. The method comprises the steps of: generating (410) edge directional information for each intra block of a digital picture; and choosing (420) most probable intra prediction modes for rate distortion optimisation dependent upon the generated edge directional information. The edge directional information may be generated by applying at least one edge operator to the digital picture. The edge direction histogram may sum up the amplitudes of pixels with similar 15 directions in the block. The method may further comprise the step of intra coding (430) a block of the digital picture using the chosen most probable intra prediction modes.

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CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NA, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(84) Designated States *(unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available)*: ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:
— *with international search report*

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