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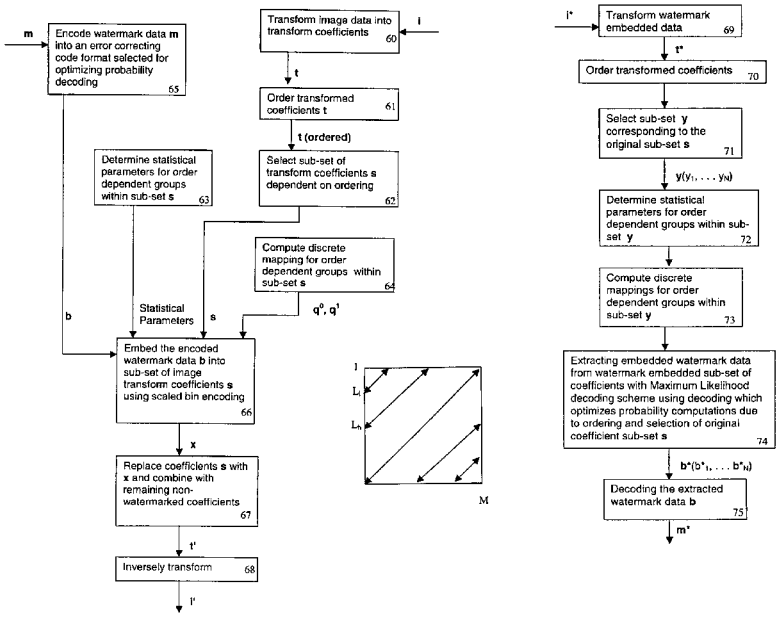
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(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM OF WATERMARKING DIGITAL DATA USING SCALED BIN ENCODING AND MAXIMUM LIKELIHOOD DECODING



(57) Abstract: A transform domain watermarking technique which is based on a new encoding scheme referred to as *scaled bin encoding* which encodes a message in a set of transform coefficients by modifying their values in a way that preserves high image quality (i.e., low distortion levels) and adapts to expected noise level. Recapturing of the watermark image is performed via a decoding method using a maximum likelihood procedure (i.e., *maximum likelihood decoding*, based on the statistics of the transform coefficients and a worst case statistical model of the noise introduced to these coefficients by image processing operations or attack noise.

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