

ABSTRACT

Plural streams are synthesized into one stream, and preferable transmission and reception of the synthesized stream to and from an external device is realized.

5 Transport stream packets of plural transport streams are synthesized to create a synthesized stream, and the created synthesized stream is transmitted to an external device. In this transmission, a count information adding area provided in each of the transport stream packets is
10 brought into a state to which a particular count value is added for each of the transport stream packets of the synthesized stream. This configuration notifies the external device that a function for handling packet order switching based on count information is not provided, and receives from the
15 external device a synthesized stream containing the respective transport stream packets arranged in the same order as the order of the transport stream packets at the time of transmission.