

[ABSTRACT]

An image coding method including: binarizing (S401) last position information to generate (i) a binary signal which includes a first signal having a length smaller than or equal to a predetermined maximum length and does not
5 include a second signal or (ii) a binary signal which includes the first signal having the predetermined maximum length and the second signal; first coding (S402) for arithmetically coding each of binary symbols included in the first signal using a context switched among a plurality of contexts according to a bit position of the binary symbol; and second coding (S404) for arithmetically
10 coding the second signal using a fixed probability when the binary signal includes the second signal, wherein in the first coding, a binary symbol at a last bit position of the first signal is arithmetically coded using a context exclusive to the last bit position, when the first signal has the predetermined maximum length.