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## ABSTRACT

The present invention relates to a signal processing apparatus and method that is effective in protecting the copyright of a digital signal.

More specifically, the present invention provides a signal processing apparatus for detecting whether or not a digital signal has been subjected to a compression process, the signal processing apparatus being characterized by including storage means for storing a first amount of information used as a reference for detecting whether or not a digital signal with electronic watermarking information embedded therein has been subjected to the compression process, the first amount of information being the amount of the electronic watermarking information, extraction means for extracting the electronic watermarking information contained in digital signal to be detected; and detection means for detecting a second amount of information that is the amount of the electronic watermarking information extracted and comparing the first amount of information with the second amount of information to detect whether or not the digital signal to be detected has been subjected to the compression process.

This enables detection of whether or not a digital signal with electronic watermarking information embedded therein has been compressed.