

APPARATUS, METHOD AND COMPUTER PROGRAM PRODUCT FOR
PROTECTING COPYRIGHT DATA WITHIN A COMPUTER SYSTEM

ABSTRACT

Apparatus, method and computer program product are provided for digitally processing an encrypted data stream scrambled, for example, according to content scrambling system (CSS) technology. This digital processing insures against communication of clear data within the computer system from a central processing unit (11) (CPU) to any accessible structure, such as memory (25) or a system bus (26). Descrambling of the (CSS) scrambled data stream occurs within a module executing on the CPU (11), which is followed by re-encryption of the data prior to transfer from the CPU (11). By so processing the data, integrity of copyrighted material is maintained, while allowing for software descrambling of the CSS encrypted data stream. Various techniques for establishing the encryption/decryption algorithm pair employed are described. Decryption of the re-encrypted data can occur at a receiving software module (20) and/or a receiving hardware device, such as a decoder (30).

Fig. 1