This Sheet Has Been Replaced



ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

FRAME SAMPLING SCHEME FOR VIDEO SCANNING IN A VIDEO-ON-DEMAND SYSTEM

A system and method for performing variable speed scanning or browsing, wherein a user controls the playout speed of a movie, which does not require additional disk or network bandwidth resources. In a preferred embodiment, the method provides for scanning operations for an MPEG video stream. The method satisfies the constraints of the MPEG decoder (in the users set-top box) and require a minimum of additional system resources. The embodiments of the present invention include (a) a storage method, (b1) a segment sampling method, (b2) a segment placement method, and (c) a playout method, where (b1) and (b2) are two alternatives for segment selection. Thus, two sets of solutions are provided to support vriable speed scanning in a disk-array-based video server: One using (a), (b1) and (c), and the other using (a), (b2) and (c).

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