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(54) Title: SWITCHING BETWEEN DCT COEFFICIENT CODING MODES

(57) Abstract: A system and method is provided for improving efficiency when entropy coding a block of quantized transform coefficients in video coding. Quantized coefficients are coded in two separate coding modes, namely, a run mode to a level mode coding mode. "Rules" for switching between these two modes are provided, and various embodiments are realized by 5 allowing an entropy coder to adaptively decide when to switch between the two coding modes based on context information, the rules and/or by explicitly signaling the position of switching (e.g., whether or not it should switch coding modes).

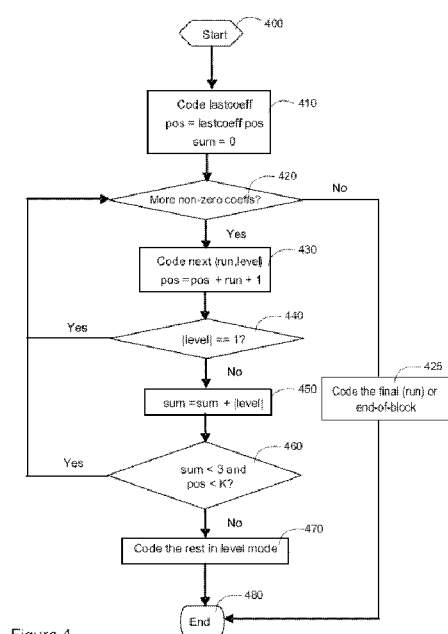


Figure 4