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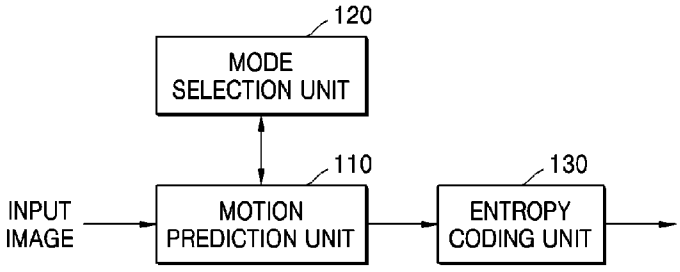
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR LOSSLESS ENCODING AND DECODING



(57) Abstract: A lossless moving picture encoding and decoding method and apparatus are provided by which when intra prediction of a block with a predetermined size is performed, the compression ratio is increased by using a pixel in a block to be predicted. The lossless moving picture encoding method includes: predicting each of pixel values in an M x N block to be predicted by using a pixel in the M x N block closest to the object pixel value in a prediction direction determined by an encoding mode; and entropy coding a difference between the predicted pixel value and the pixel value to be predicted. According to this method, the compression ratio becomes much higher than that of a conventional lossless encoding method.

WO 2005/122592 A1