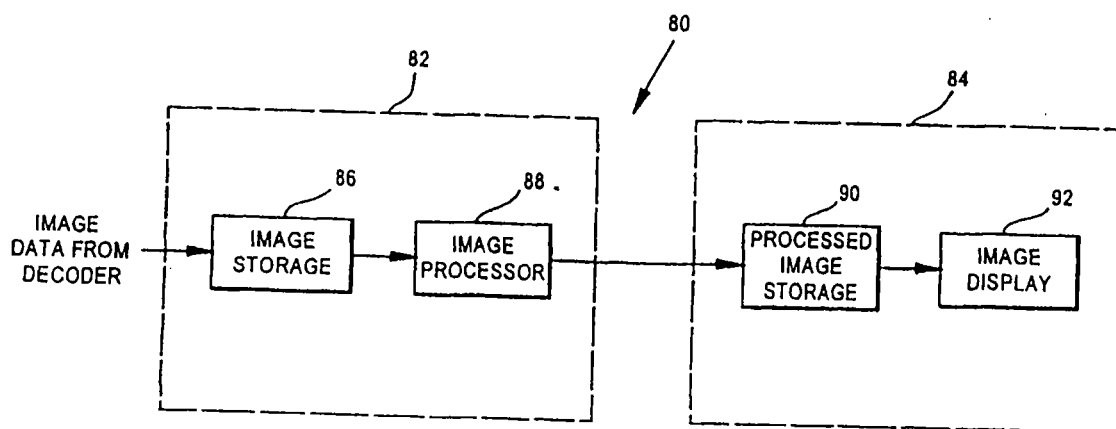




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(54) Title: IMAGE PROCESSING CIRCUIT AND METHOD FOR REDUCING A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PIXEL VALUES ACROSS AN IMAGE BOUNDARY



(57) Abstract

An image processing circuit (82) includes a processor (84) that receives at least a portion of an image including a boundary and first and second contiguous pixels disposed on opposite sides of the boundary, the first and second pixels having respective first and second pixel values. The processor generates a boundary value from the first and second pixel values, compares the boundary value to a comparison value, and reduces the difference between the first and second values if the boundary value has a specified relationship to the comparison value. For example, such a processing circuit can be used to reduce blockiness in an image that has undergone block-based digital compression.