CLAIMS

1. A method for encoding a plurality of video pictures, the method comprising:

determining a first display time difference between a first video picture and a nearby video picture;

determining a second display time difference between a second video picture and the nearby video picture;

encoding the first video picture by computing a motion vector for said first video picture, the computing comprising multiplying a motion vector for the second video picture with a ratio that is based on said first display time difference and said second display time difference; and

in a bitstream, storing the encoded first video picture, and storing first and second encoded values for a decoder to use to derive the first and second display time differences in order to compute a motion vector to decode the encoded first video picture.

2. The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising:

transmitting the bitstream to the decoder.

3. The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising encoding said first display time difference into a slice header associated with said first video picture.

4. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first display time difference is encoded more than once in said first video picture.

5. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first display time difference comprises a relative time value.

6. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein said first display time difference is encoded as a power of two value.

7. The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising encoding said first display time difference by using variable length coding.

8. The method as claimed in claim 1 further comprising encoding said first display time difference by using arithmetic coding.