

[ABSTRACT]

An image coding method includes performing: context arithmetic coding (S711) to consecutively code (i) first information indicating whether or not to perform SAO processing for a first region and (ii) second information indicating whether or not to use, in the SAO processing for the first region, information on SAO processing for a region except the first region; and bypass arithmetic coding (S712) to code other information after the first and second information are coded. The other information includes third information indicating whether the SAO processing is edge or band offset processing. In the performing of context arithmetic coding (S711), an initial bit value in a bit string of a parameter indicating a type of the SAO processing is coded as the first information. In the performing of bypass arithmetic coding (S712), a value of a next bit following the initial bit in the bit string of the parameter is coded as the third information.