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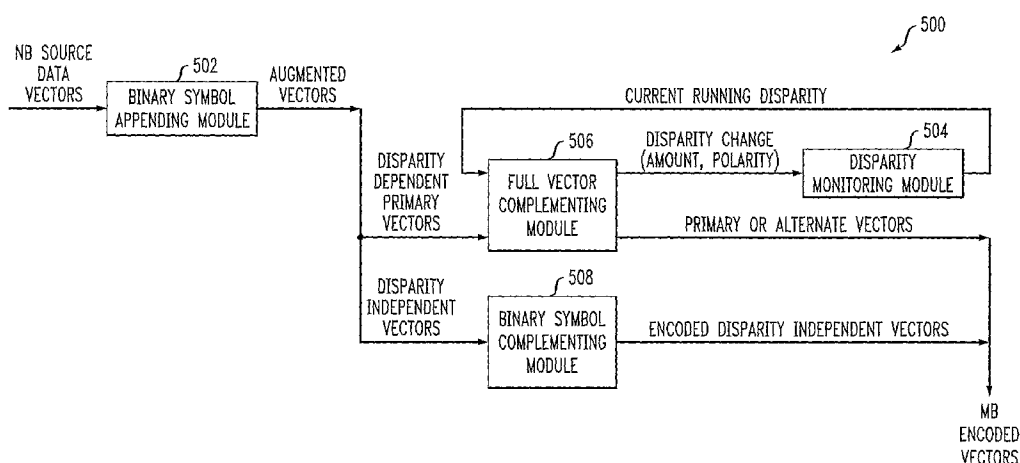
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(54) Title: NB/MB CODING APPARATUS AND METHOD USING BOTH DISPARITY INDEPENDENT AND DISPARITY DEPENDENT ENCODED VECTORS



(57) Abstract: Techniques for encoding N-binary symbol (NB) source data vectors into M- binary symbol (MB) encoded vectors, $M > N > 0$, are provided. Techniques for decoding are also provided. Exemplary coding and decoding apparatuses are presented, as is an exemplary 8B/10B encoding scheme. Encoded vectors may be disparity dependent or disparity independent. In assigning encoded vectors that have one or more individual binary symbol changes compared with their source data vectors, preference can be given to encoded vectors that are balanced and disparity independent. Whole-vector complementation and individual changes of one or more binary symbols can advantageously be performed substantially in parallel.