

## METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ALLOCATION OF DISK MEMORY SPACE FOR COMPRESSED DATA RECORDS

### ABSTRACT

A system 10 and method allocates memory 22 space for storage of compressed records and enables these records to be stored in sequential physical positions. The method and apparatus assures a substantial likelihood that compressed, updated records will fit in the originally allocated physical positions during subsequent processing. The method comprises: compressing a record 32; determining a compression ratio (CR) value and a maximum run length (RL) 34 of contiguous identical data segments in the uncompressed record; determining a corrected compression ratio (CCR) 36 by repeating compression of the record without the RL of contiguous identical data segments included in the record; and if the CCR value is less than a historically experienced record compression ratio, employing the CCR value to allocate memory space for the compressed record. If CCR value equals or exceeds the ECR value, the ECR value is utilized to allocate memory space for the record.

Fig. 1