

## ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE

It is intended to provide a buffer control method which performs control by deciding if data should be held in buffer, thereby enabling to reuse the data stored in the buffer. This method has the following steps of: storing data in a buffer; receiving, as an input, expiration time information indicating a time to stop holding the data; comparing time clock information indicating a time clock of a decoding apparatus with the expiration time information; and controlling the holding of the data within the buffer according to the comparison.

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This Sheet Has Been Replaced

