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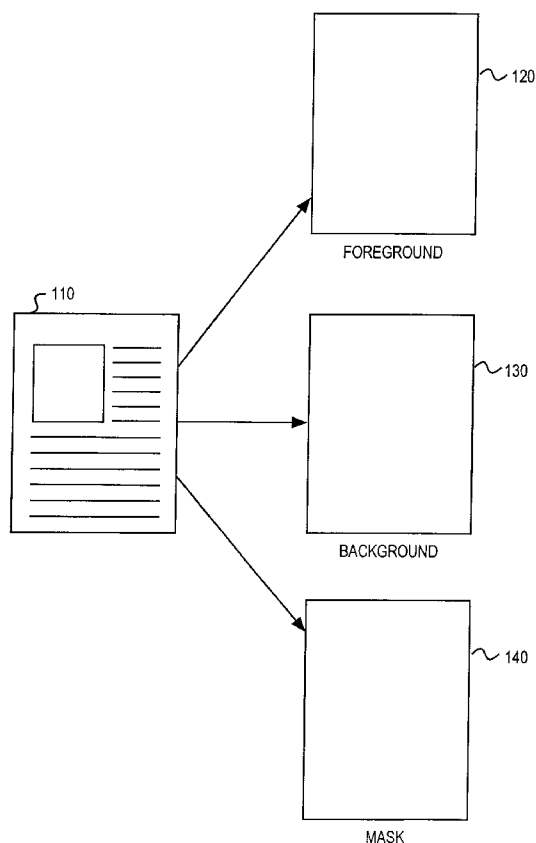
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(54) Title: CODER MATCHED LAYER SEPARATION AND INTERPOLATION FOR COMPRESSION OF COMPOUND DOCUMENTS



(57) Abstract: A method of preparing an image for efficient wavelet transform compression includes the step (450) of separating the image into foreground and background image layers, and a mask layer. A smoothing filter is applied to interpolate (460) irrelevant pixel values in the foreground and background layers for coder efficiency. The irrelevant pixel values are interpolated (1740) as a function of relevant pixels and causal irrelevant pixels within the smoothing filter window (1820).

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