Claims

1. An image decoding device comprising:

a variable length decoding means for performing a variable length decoding process on a coded bitstream to obtain a predicted signal generating parameter and a compressed difference image;

a filtering means for performing a filtering process on a decoded image obtained by adding a predicted image generated using said predicted signal generating parameter to a decoded difference image obtained by decompressing said compressed difference image;

wherein said variable length decoding means performs a variable length decoding process on information associated with plurality of blocks which comprise said decoded image, said information being identification information which specifies for each of said blocks whether said filtering process is to be performed or not;

wherein said filtering means determines a class for each pixel comprising said decoded image according to a plurality of thresholds to perform a filtering process on said decoded image based on a filter which is derived according to a determined class and does not perform a filtering process on a block of which the identification information specifies said filtering process should not be performed,

wherein an unit for determining said class is different from said block corresponding to information that specifies said filtering process should not be performed or not.

2. An image decoding method comprising:

a variable length decoding process step for performing a variable length decoding process on an coded bitstream to obtain a predicted signal generating parameter and a compressed difference image;

a filtering process step for performing a filtering process on a decoded image obtained by adding a predicted image generated using said predicted signal generating parameter to a decoded difference image obtained by decompressing said compressed difference image;

wherein said variable length decoding process step performs a variable length decoding process on information associated with plurality of blocks which comprise said decoded

image, said information being identification information which specifies for each of said blocks whether said filtering process is to be performed or not;

wherein said filtering process determines a class for each pixel comprising said decoded image according to a plurality of thresholds to perform a filtering process on said decoded image based on a filter which is derived according to a determined class and does not perform a filtering process on a block of which the identification information specifies said filtering process should not be performed,

wherein a unit for determining said class is different from said block corresponding to information that specifies said filtering process should not be performed or not.

3. An image encoding device comprising:

a prediction means for performing a prediction process on each of blocks of inputted image to obtain a plurality of prediction image and a predicted signal generating parameter;

a compression means for performing a compressing process on a difference image between said prediction image and said inputted image to obtain an compressed difference image;

a filtering means for performing a filtering process on a decoded image, said decoded image being obtained by adding a prediction image which is generated using said predicted signal generating parameter to a decompressed difference image which is generated by performing a decompression process on a compressed difference image;

a variable length encoding means for performing a variable length encoding process on said predicted signal generating parameter and said compressed difference image;

wherein said filtering means determines a class for each pixel comprising said decoded image according to a plurality of thresholds and performs said filtering process using a filter corresponding to a determined class;

wherein said variable length encoding means performs said variable length encoding process on information which specifies whether said filtering process is to be performed or not on each of blocks which comprise said decoded image;

wherein a unit for determining said class is different from said block corresponding to information that specifies said filtering process should not be performed or not.

4. An image encoding method comprising:

a prediction process step for performing a prediction process on each of blocks of inputted image to obtain a plurality of prediction image and a predicted signal generating parameter;

a compression process step for performing a compressing process on a difference image between said prediction image and said inputted image to obtain an compressed difference image;

a filtering process step for performing a filtering process on a decoded image, said decoded image being obtained by adding a prediction image which is generated using said predicted signal generating parameter to a decompressed difference image which is generated by performing a decompression process on a compressed difference image;

an variable length encoding process step for performing a variable length encoding process on said predicted signal generating parameter and said compressed difference image;

wherein said filtering process determines a class for each pixel comprising said decoded image according to a plurality of thresholds and performs said filtering process using a filter corresponding to a determined class;

wherein said variable length encoding process step performs said variable length encoding process on information which specifies whether said filtering process is to be performed or not on each of blocks which comprise said decoded image;

wherein a unit for determining said class is different from said block corresponding to information that specifies said filtering process should not be performed or not.