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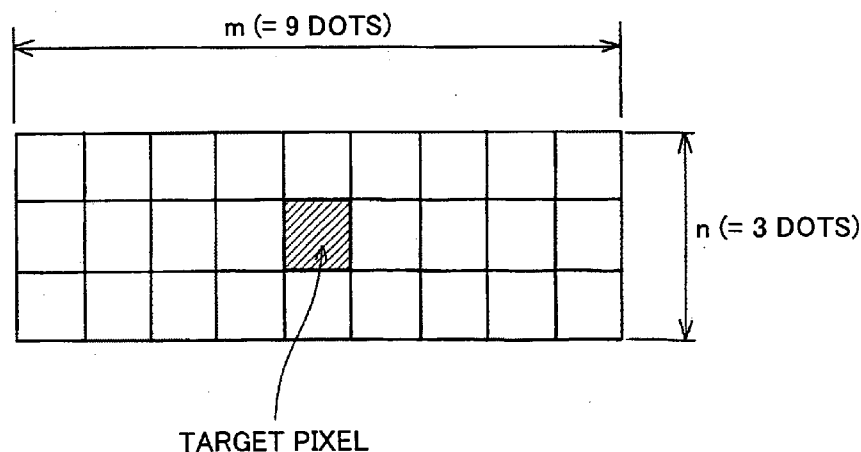
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(54) Title: IMAGE PROCESSING METHOD, PROGRAM THEREOF, AND IMAGE FORMING APPARATUS



(57) Abstract: An image processing method is disclosed. The image processing method includes the steps of detecting one or more dots near a step-shaped changing part of dots of which an outline part of a letter or graphics is composed, by using a reference pattern having a window size of 'm x n' dots in which a number of dots 'm' corresponds to resolution in the main scanning direction and a number of dots 'n' corresponds to resolution in the sub scanning direction, converting the detected one or more dots near the step-shaped changing part that is nearly parallel to the main scanning direction into a dot whose size is smaller than that of dots of the step-shaped changing part, and not converting the detected one or more dots whose part is nearly parallel to the sub scanning direction.

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