This Sheet Has Been Replaced



BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to an apparatus for reproducing video data and audio data, and more particularly to an apparatus for reproducing data and the apparatus for recording data which are arranged to reproduce and/or record data from/onto a recording medium based on copy management information.

A DVD-ROM has about seven times as large a volume as a CD-ROM. The DVD-ROM may contain program codes for PCs as well as motion picture software created by compressing video data and audio data. The DVD also includes a DVD-RAM, a DVD-R, and a DVD-RW as its recording medium. These recording medium may record a large amount of data, which brings about a possibility of illegally copying software such as a motion picture. This sort of illegal copy has to be prevented. Hence, a technique of preventing illegal copy becomes important. This technique is described in the magazine "Nikkei Electronics" issued on August 18, 1997, pages 110 to 119, published by Nikkei BP publishing.

For example, the motion picture recorded on the DVD-Video disk is typically coded according to the CSS (content scrambling system). Hence, the copied data cannot be reproduced unless it is descrambled.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Indeed, the above-mentioned magazine describes the reproduction of the medium where data is pre-recorded such as a DVD-video disk. However, it does not describe the reproduction of a recording medium where a user can arbitrarily record data.

In the case of reproducing data scrambled according to the corresponding system to each recordable medium, it is necessary to take the step of discriminating the corresponding recording medium to a coming reproduction signal before descrambling the reproduction signal. Further, it is also necessary to discriminate a type of data, concretely, if the data copy is allowed or prohibited, before the control is executed.

In carrying out the foregoing object, according to an aspect of the invention, an apparatus for recording and reproducing data includes a plurality of authenticating means so as to allow authentication between apparatuses by switching among the plurality of authenticating means in correspondence to a type of data involved for carrying out authentication corresponding to the kind of the data.

An apparatus for recording data includes a plurality of authenticating means so as to allow authentication between apparatuses by switching among the plurality of authenticating means in correspondence to a type of data involved for carrying out authentication corresponding to the type of the data.

An apparatus for reproducing data includes a plurality of authenticating means so as to allow authentication between apparatuses by switching among the plurality of authenticating means in correspondence to a type of data involved for carrying out authentication corresponding to the type of the data.

A data reproducing method according to another aspect of the invention carries out authentication between apparatuses by switching among a plurality of authenticating methods in correspondence to a type of data involved for carrying out authentication corresponding to the type of the data.

A data recording method according to another aspect of the invention carries out authentication between apparatuses by switching among a plurality of authenticating methods in correspondence to a type of data involved for carrying out authentication corresponding to the type of the data.

A data coding method according to another aspect of the invention carries out authentication between apparatuses by switching among a plurality of authenticating methods in correspondence to a type of data involved for carrying out authentication corresponding to the type of the data.

An authenticating method according to another aspect of the invention carries out authentication between apparatuses by switching among a plurality of authenticating methods in correspondence to a type of data

involved for carrying out authentication corresponding to the type of the data.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

Fig. 1 is a block diagram showing an apparatus for reproducing data containing copy control information according to an embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 2 is a block diagram showing an embodiment in which the apparatus for reproducing data according to the invention is applied to a DVD drive;

Fig. 3 is a view showing a composition of DVD sector data as an example of data containing codes on which a type of a recording medium and a scrambling structure of data are recorded;

Fig. 4 is a view showing a composition of identification (ID) data of a DVD;

Fig. 5 is a block diagram showing an apparatus for recording data containing copy control information according to an embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 6 is a block diagram showing another apparatus for reproducing data containing copy control information according to an embodiment of the present invention;

Fig. 7 is a block diagram showing an arrangement in which an apparatus for reproducing data according to the invention is applied to a DVD drive so that the output signal is connected to a recordable device such as a harddisk;

Fig. 8 is a block diagram showing an arrangement in which an apparatus for outputting data is applied to a monitor; and

Fig. 9 is a block diagram showing a system provided with each device according to the present invention, such as a personal computer.

Fig. 10 is a block diagram showing a data reproducing apparatus for reproducing data including copy controlling information according to another embodiment of the present invention.

DESCRIPTION OF THE EMBODIMENTS

Hereafter, the present invention will be described along the embodiments with reference to the appended drawings.

Fig. 1 shows an apparatus for reproducing data containing copy control information according to an embodiment of the invention. In this embodiment, a recordable and reproducible medium such as a DVD will be described. It goes without saying that it is not limited to an optical disk but may be applied to any kind of medium that stores data.

In Fig. 1, a numeral 1 denotes a first data reproducing apparatus. A numeral 2 denotes a first reproducing unit. A numeral 3 denotes a first switch. A numeral 4 denotes a first authenticating unit a. A numeral 5 denotes a second authenticating unit a. A numeral 6 denotes a third authenticating unit a. A numeral 7 denotes

a second data reproducing apparatus. A numeral 8 denotes a first authenticating unit b. A numeral 9 denotes a second authenticating unit b. A numeral 10 denotes a third authenticating unit b. A numeral 11 denotes a first descrambling unit. A numeral 12 denotes a second descrambling unit. A numeral 13 denote a second switch. A numeral 14 denotes a WM detecting unit. A numeral 15 denotes an MPEG reproducing unit. A numeral 16 denotes data input. A numeral 17 denotes data output. A numeral 18 denotes a first data bus. A numeral 19 denotes a first authenticating bus. A numeral 20 denotes a second data bus. A numeral 21 denotes a second authenticating bus. A numeral 22 denotes a third data bus. A numeral 23 denotes a third authenticating bus. A numeral 24 denotes a CSS authenticating unit a. A numeral 25 denotes a CSS data bus. A numeral 26 denotes a CSS authenticating bus. A numeral 27 denotes a CSS authenticating unit b. A numeral 28 denotes a CSS descrambling unit. A numeral 29 denotes a first authenticating block. A numeral 30 denotes a second authenticating block.

The operation of the present system will be described with reference to Figs. 1 and 2.

The data input 16, read from a disk by means of the first data reproducing apparatus such as a DVD drive, is descrambled according to the recorded format by the first reproducing unit 2. In this descrambling operation, the first reproducing unit 2 operates to read a type of data including a code for indicating a type of the

recording medium contained in the data (for example, a code for indicating if the recording medium is dedicated to reproduction or recordable), a code for indicating whether or not the data structure is scrambled, and a code for indicating if the data is video or audio or copy limitation (for example, a code for indicating copy permission, one-generation copy permission, or copy prohibition). Further, for an optical disk, the type of the recording medium may be discriminated on a tracking signal of the disk. Based on the pieces of information read by the first reproducing unit 2, the first switch 3 is switched so as to select the corresponding authenticating unit to the read data. The authentication is done for making sure of a person with whom the data is communicated, and key information is sent/received for descrambling purpose. Received data has been scrambled by the key and the data is descrambled using the key so as to protect the data.

The first authenticating unit a operates to authenticate a reproduction-dedicated recording medium. The second authenticating unit a operates to authenticate a recordable recording medium with its copy limited by copy limitation information. The third authenticating unit a operates to authenticate a recordable recording medium with no copy limitation by copy limitation information. The CSS authenticating unit a 24 is an authenticating means for the DVD drive to the existing CSS (Content Scrambling System). In this embodiment, the CSS authenticating unit a 24 is described as an independent unit. It may be combined with

new authenticating units, that is, the first, the second, and the third authenticating units a as a first authenticating block 29.

The data reproducing unit 2 is assumed to be an MPEG board for decoding the MPEG data. The first authenticating unit b is positioned in correspondence to the first authenticating unit a. The authentication is done by the first authenticating bus 19. If the data is not proper, the descrambling information is not passed as well as the data is disallowed to be outputted from the first data bus 18. Likewise, the second and the third authenticating units b have the same correspondence with the second and the third authenticating units a. If the data is not proper, no authentication is done and the data output is stopped. Herein, for simplifying the description, the authenticating buses and the data buses are respective to the three authenticating units. In actual, the combination of one authenticating bus and one data bus may be switched to each authenticating unit. The CSS authenticating unit b 27 operates to authenticate the MPEG board corresponding to the existing CSS. In this embodiment, the CSS authenticating unit b 27 is described as an independent unit. It may be combined with the new authenticating units, that is, the first, the second and the third authenticating units b as an authenticating block b 30.

The data transmitted from the first reproducing apparatus 1 to the second reproducing apparatus 7 through

the first data bus is scrambled for the purpose of preventing copy of the data in transmission. The data on the reproduction-dedicated recording medium is scrambled in a different manner from the data on the recording medium with copy limitation given by copy limitation information. The data on the recordable recording medium with no copy limitation given by the copy limitation information is not scrambled because the copy of the data is not required to be prevented. Under these conditions, the first reproducing apparatus operates to transmit the type of the recording medium and the scrambled data through the effect of the authenticating unit. Herein, the data on the disk with no copy limitation is not required to be scrambled for preventing the copy of the data. However, if no authentication is done only for the data, it is difficult to discriminatingly detect the disk with no copy limitation and the disk illegally copied though the copy of the disk is originally limited. Hence, the authentication is done to the disk with no copy limitation.

If the authentication is done, the scrambled data is transmitted to the second data reproducing apparatus 7. The data bus through which the data is transmitted is selected according to the type of the recording medium and the scrambling structure of the data transmitted by the authenticating unit. The first descrambling unit 11 or the second descrambling unit 12 according to the medium type and the scrambling structure are operated to descramble the

data. Then, the descrambled data is sent to the MPEG reproducing unit 15 through the second switch 13. The WM (Water Mark) detecting unit 14 is used for detecting additional information buried in the data decoded by the MPEG reproducing unit 15. In this embodiment, the water mark is detected as the additional information. If the copy control information is detected, the data output is controlled according to the copy control information. In this embodiment, the MPEG reproducing unit 75 is controlled so as to control the output of the data. The control method is not limited to it. For example, the output data may be controlled to be stopped or discarded on the bus.

Herein, the first reproducing unit 2, the first switch 3, the first authenticating unit a 4, the second authenticating unit a 5, and the third authenticating unit a 6 are incorporated on the same LSI for the purpose of making it difficult to pick up the data on the transmitting way. The first authenticating unit b 8, the second authenticating unit b 9, the third authenticating unit b 10, the first scrambling unit 11, the second descrambling unit 12, the second switch 13, the WM detecting unit 14, and the MPEG reproducing unit 15 are incorporated on the same LSI for the purpose of making it difficult to pick up the data on the transmitting way.

Fig. 2 shows the arrangement in which the data reproducing apparatus according to the present invention is applied into the DVD drive. The present embodiment concerns with a recordable and reproducible recording

medium such as a DVD. It goes without saying that the recording medium is not limited to an optical disk but may be applied to any kind of recordable and reproducible recording medium.

In Fig. 2, a numeral 24 denotes a DVD disk. A numeral 25 denotes a DVD drive. A numeral 26 denotes a pick-up unit. A numeral 27 denotes a preamplifier. A numeral 28 denotes a first system control unit. A numeral 29 denotes an MPEG reproducing board. A numeral 30 denotes a second system control unit. A numeral 31 denotes a converter. A numeral 32 denotes a monitor.

A signal read from the DVD disk 24 by the pick-up unit 26 is supplied into the first data reproducing apparatus 1. The first data reproducing apparatus 1 determines the operating state under the control of the first system control unit 28. The main operation of the DVD drive 25 corresponds to the process up to this point. The signal reproduced by the first data reproducing apparatus 1 is transmitted to the second data reproducing apparatus 7. The second data reproducing apparatus 7 is operated to determine the operating state under the control of the second system control unit 30. The data reproduced by the second data reproducing apparatus 7 is converted by the converter 31 and then is outputted into the monitor 32 on which the data is displayed. The process up to this point corresponds to the main operation of the MPEG reproducing board 29.

Fig. 3 shows a composition of sector data of the DVD as an example of data containing codes having a type of the recording medium and a scrambling structure of the data recorded therein. In the DVD, the identification data simply called ID and the copyright management information called CPR_MAI are written before the main data of 2048 bytes.

The copyright management information (CPR_MAI) covers both the copyright management information and the region management information. The read-in area describes whether or not the data contains a specific data structure (corresponding to the scramble structure) of the copyright protection system and whether or not the data may be reproduced on a specified region. The data area describes whether or not the sector contains a material with a copyright, whether or not the data has a specific data structure of the copyright protection system, and whether or not the data is copy-limited (copy permission, one-generation copy permission, and copy prohibition).

Fig. 4 shows the composition of the ID data of the DVD.

The ID contains a reproduction-dedicated data called a data type or an auxiliary code for write-once data and rewritable data in the first four bytes of the sector information.

A sector format type described a CLV format type specified by the reproduction-dedicated disk and the write-once disk or a zone format type specified for a rewritable

disk. An area type records a data area, a read-in area, a read-out area, or a middle area of a reproduction-dedicated disk. The data type is spared for the reproduction-dedicated data or the write-once data (link data) and the rewritable data.

Fig. 5 shows a recording apparatus for recording data containing the copy control information according to an embodiment of the present invention. The present embodiment concerns with a recordable and reproducible recording medium such as a DVD. It goes without saying that the recording medium is not limited to an optical disk but may be applied to any kind of recordable and reproducible medium.

In Fig. 5, a numeral 51 denotes a second data recording apparatus. A numeral 52 denotes a first recording unit. A numeral 53 denotes a fourth switch. A numeral 55 denotes a second authenticating unit d. A numeral 56 denotes a third authenticating unit d. A numeral 57 denotes a first data recording apparatus. A numeral 59 denotes a second authenticating unit c. A numeral 60 denotes a third authenticating unit c. A numeral 62 denotes a second scrambling unit. A numeral 63 denotes a third switch. A numeral 64 denotes a WM detecting unit. A numeral 65 denotes an MPEG coding unit. A numeral 66 denotes a data output. A numeral 67 denotes a data input. A numeral 70 denotes a second data bus. A numeral 71 denotes a second authenticating bus. A numeral

72 denotes a third data bus. A numeral 73 denotes a third authenticating bus.

The data input 67 such as video data read from the disk by the first data reproducing apparatus such as a DVD drive and outputted on the monitor is coded according to the format for converting and recording the digital data by the first recording unit (52). At this time, the type of the data such as a code for indicating the type of the recording medium (for example, a code for indicating if the medium is reproduction-dedicated or recordable) is written according to the format. As another type of data, for example, the code for indicating if the data structure is scrambled by copy control and the code for indicating copy limitation (for example, a code for indicating copy permission, one-generation copy permission or copy prohibition) is written as well. Next, if the data needs copy control, the scrambling based on the recording medium and the state of copy control is carried out. Herein, the third switch is switched on the copy control information so as to select the authenticating unit.

The water mark detecting unit 64 operates to detect the copy control information that is additional information added to the data inputted into the MPEG coding unit 65. The control is executed according to the copy control information. For example, if the detected information indicates copy prohibition, the output of the recording data is stopped. If it indicates no copy limitation, the coding process is executed without

scrambling. In this embodiment, the MPEG coding unit 65 is served to control the output of the data. The control method is not limited to it. The method may be the stop of the output data, the breakage of the data on the bus, and so forth.

The second authenticating unit c operates to authenticate the recordable recording medium whose copy is limited by the copy limitation information. The third authenticating unit c operates to authenticate the recordable recording medium whose copy is not limited by the copy limitation information.

Further, though not illustrated in this embodiment, like the reproducing apparatus, the authenticating unit corresponding to the existing CSS may be included in this embodiment. This CSS authenticating unit may be combined with those authenticating units as an authenticating block.

The first data recording apparatus is an MPEG board for encoding the MPEG data.

The second authenticating unit d has the corresponding relation with the second authenticating unit c. The authentication is done through the use of the second authenticating bus 71. If it does not have the corresponding relation therewith, no descrambling method is passed and the output of the data from the second data bus 70 is stopped. The third authenticating unit d has the corresponding relation with the third authenticating unit c. If it does not have the corresponding relation

therewith, no authentication is done and the output of the data is stopped. Herein, for simplifying the description, the authenticating buses for two combinations of authenticating units and the data buses for transmitting the data from the authenticating units are described as independent buses. One combination of a data bus and an authenticating bus may be switched for two authenticating units.

The data transmitted from the first data recording apparatus 51 to the second data recording apparatus 57 is scrambled for the purpose of preventing the copy of the data in transmission. The data whose copy is not limited by the copy limitation information is not scrambled because it does not need copy protection.

Hence, the first data recording apparatus 1 operates to transmit the scrambled data through the use of the authenticating unit. The third switch 63 is served to select a proper one of the buses that pass the scrambling unit 2 according to the data and do not pass the scrambling unit so that the proper scrambling to the data may be executed.

When the authentication is done, the data is transmitted as being scrambled. The authenticating unit is executed to select the data bus that is allowed to transmit the data according to the type of the recording medium and the scrambling structure of the data. Then, the data is sent to the first recording unit 52 through the fourth switch 53.

Herein, the second authenticating unit c 59, the third authenticating unit c 60, the second scrambling unit 62, the third switch 63, the WM detecting unit 64, and the MPEG coding unit 65 are incorporated on the same LSI for the purpose of making it difficult to pick up the data on the transmitting way. The first recording unit 52, the fourth switch 53, the second authenticating unit d 55, and the third authenticating unit d 56 are incorporated on the same LSI for the purpose of making it difficult to pick up the data on the transmitting way.

Fig. 6 shows an apparatus for reproducing data containing the copy control information according to another embodiment of the present invention. This embodiment selectively uses one combination of a data bus and an authenticating bus for all the authenticating units in the embodiment shown in Fig. 1, though the embodiment in Fig. 1 contains the corresponding combination of a data bus and an authenticating bus to each of the authenticating units. In the following embodiment, the same numerals as those in Fig. 1 indicate the same components.

In Fig. 6, a numeral 70 denotes a unified data bus. A numeral 71 denotes a unified authenticating bus. A numeral 72 denotes a switch for switching the authenticating units included in the first authenticating block. A numeral 73 denotes a switch for switching the authenticating units included in the second authenticating block. This arrangement results in making it possible to

serve one data bus and one authenticating bus for all the authenticating units, thereby reducing the connecting lines between the apparatuses in number.

Fig. 7 shows the arrangement in which the data reproducing apparatus according to the present invention is applied to the DVD drive and the output signal of the DVD drive is connected to a recordable device such as a harddisk. The present embodiment concerns with the recordable and reproducible recording medium such as a harddisk. It goes without saying that the recording medium is not limited to the recordable and reprpducible recording medium such as a harddisk but may be applied to any kind of device that sends and receives data though the data bus.

In Fig. 7, a numeral 80 denotes a harddisk device. A numeral 81 denotes a first recording device. A numeral 82 denotes a system control unit. A numeral 83 denotes a harddisk.

The signal read out of the DVD disk 24 by the pick-up unit 26 is supplied into the first data reproducing device 81 through the preamplifier 27. The first data reproducing device 81 determines the operating state under the control of the first system control unit 28. The process up to this point corresponds to the main operation of the DVD drive 25. The signal reproduced by the first data reproducing device 1 is transmitted into the first data recording device 81. The first data recording device 1 determines the state of the recording operation under the control of the third system control unit 82. The data

reproduced by the first data recording device 81 is recorded onto the harddisk 83. The process up to this point corresponds to the main operation of the harddisk device 80.

Herein, the device that records data is required to control the recording along the copy control information. In order to make sure that the device has a function of properly controlling the recording, the first data reproducing device 1 has to authenticate the second data recording device 81. The data passed from the first data reproducing device 1 to the first data recording device 81 is scrambled in transmission if the data has to be protected. Hence, the first data reproducing device 1 and the first data recording device 81 provides means for scrambling data, means for descrambling data, and means for passing a scrambling key. If the authentication is failed, the first data reproducing device 1 stops the data output to the second data recording device 81. If the data output is done, the data is scrambled and no key is passed, so that the data cannot be correctly reproduced. It means that if the scrambled data is directly recorded in the recording device, the data cannot be correctly reproduced.

Further, herein, the description concerns with the transfer of the data with the recording device. About the reproducing device and the output device, likewise, the DVD drive operates to autheticate if the reproducing or the output device enables to correctly control the copying operation for the purpose of protecting the data.

The provision of these means in transferring the data makes it possible to correctly control copying of copyrighted data and prevent illegal copying or reproduction.

Fig. 8 shows the arrangement in which the data output apparatus according to the present invention is applied into a monitor. The present embodiment concerns with the monitoring output, for example. It goes without saying that it is not limited to the monitor but may be applied to any kind of device that serves to receive and send the data through the data bus.

In Fig. 8, a numeral 90 denotes a monitor. A numeral 91 denotes a third data processing device. A numeral 92 denotes a converter. A numeral 93 denotes a display device.

The MPEG board 29 outputs the data onto the monitor 90. The data inputted into the monitor 90 is converted by the converter 31 and then outputted onto the monitor 32 on which the image is displayed. The process up to this point corresponds to the main operation of the monitor.

If the data is inputted into the monitor 90 through the data bus 100, the data may be scrambled for protecting the data from being illegally recorded. In this case, the third data processing device 91 operates to descramble the data and then output the resulting data into the converter 92. It means that the third data processing device 91 needs the corresponding authenticating unit to

the MPEG board 29. The authenticating unit may operate to authenticate that the output from the MPEG board 29 is outputted only to the display device such as the monitor 90, not to the recording device. If no recording device is connected, the data is not illegally copied. Hence, when the data is outputted onto the monitor 90, it is not necessary to scramble the data.

The provision of these means in passing the data results in making it possible to correctly control the copying operation of the copyrighted data, thereby preventing illegal copying and reproduction.

Fig. 9 shows the system having the devices indicated above, for example, a personal computer. The personal computer may easily change the layout of those devices. Hence, the combination of those devices is not limited to the combination described in this embodiment but may concern the combination of all the devices that pass the data.

In Fig. 9, a numeral 101 denotes an MPEG board. A numeral 102 denotes a MO drive. A numeral 103 denotes a digital camera.

The personal computer is arranged to pass the data among the devices through the data bus 100. The authentication is done to the devices connected with the data bus.

If no authentication is established, it is determined that the device does not provide a function of correctly controlling the copying operation. The data

output is stopped. At this time, if the data is permitted to be merely reproduced. The data output is made possible only if no recording device is connected to the data bus and the connected devices have only the reproducing function.

Further, if no authentication is established, the data may be passed on the data bus only if the data to be passed has no copy limitation.

These authentications are made possible by the circuit provided in each device. Instead, in such a case as the personal computer, the software for controlling each device may provide the authenticating function. Further, the authentication may be done on the operating system for systematically controlling each device. Then, according to the authenticated result, each device may be controlled.

As described above, the authentication is executed between the devices connected with the data bus according to the type of the data. According to the result, the transfer of the data may be controlled. This makes it possible to correctly control the copying operation.

Fig. 10 is a block diagram showing a data reproducing apparatus for reproducing data including copy controlling information according to another embodiment of the present invention. The apparatus of Fig. 10 is an example in which the apparatus shown in Fig. 1 is formed within one apparatus as in, for example, consumer DVD players. In such apparatuses, since it is difficult to

interchange the DVD drive with the MPEG board and vice versa, no authentication is required. Also, when the DVD signal processing and MPEG decoding are carried out as internal processing in the same LSI, no authentication is required since no connection to outside is possible to do and it is also impossible to tap the signals out of the data buses. In those cases, it is not necessary to provide a plurality of authenticating units and reproduction may be carried out by switching among a plurality of the descrambling units.

According to the present invention, in the case of reproducing the data scrambled in respective manner to the types of the recording medium and the copy control information, the corresponding authenticating unit to each scrambling manner is properly switched. This makes it possible to do the descrambling operation according to the scrambling manner. Further, if no authentication is established, the data output is stopped. It is thus possible to prevent the illegally copied data from being recorded and reproduced.

In addition, the incorporation of these functions on the same LSI makes it difficult to pick up the data on the transmitting way.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A reproducing method of receiving and reproducing data and outputting the data into an external device, said reproducing method comprising the steps of, after reproducing the data, selecting, from a plurality of authenticating methods for recognizing said external device, an authenticating method corresponding to a type of said reproduced data, authenticating said external device by means of said selected authenticating method, and outputting said data.

2. A reproducing method of receiving data outputted from an external device and reproducing the data, said reproducing method comprising the steps of authenticating said external device by an authenticating method corresponding to a type of said received data, selected from a plurality of authenticating methods for authenticating said external device, receiving the data outputted from said external device after making sure of the authentication, and reproducing said received data.

3. A data reproducing method for a plurality of devices, for sending and receiving data by authenticating the plurality of devices with each other, said data reproducing method comprises that said authentication is executed by an authenticating method corresponding to a type of said data, selected from a plurality of authenticating methods.

4. A data reproducing apparatus for receiving and reproducing data and outputting the data to an external

device, said data reproducing apparatus comprising:

reproducing means for reproducing said data;

a plurality of authenticating means for authenticating said apparatus with said external device; and

selecting means for selecting an authenticating means from said plurality of authenticating means,

wherein said selecting means selects an authenticating means corresponding to a type of the data reproduced by said reproducing means from said plurality of authenticating means and said selected authenticating means authenticates said external device and outputs said data to said external device.

5. An apparatus for inputting data outputted from an external device and reproducing the data, said reproducing apparatus comprises:

a plurality of authenticating means for authenticating said external device;

selecting means for selecting one of said plurality of authenticating means; and

reproducing means for reproducing said data,

wherein the authenticating means corresponding to a type of said data, selected from said plurality of authenticating means, authenticates said external device and outputs said data after said authentication is checked, said selecting means selects said authenticating means having authenticated said external device, and said reproducing means reproduces the data outputted by said

authenticating means having authenticated said external device.

6. A reproducing apparatus having a plurality of data reproducing apparatuses for reproducing data by sending and receiving the data to and from each other based on the authentication with each other, wherein said plurality of data reproducing apparatuses each include a plurality of authenticating means, select an authenticating means corresponding to a type of said data, and authenticate each other by said selected authenticating means.

7. The data reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 4 wherein one of said plurality of authenticating means is selected based on information indicating a type of a recording medium contained in said data.

8. The data reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein one of said plurality of authenticating means is selected based on information for indicating a data type, such as if said data is a video signal, an audio signal, a still picture signal, a program code, or any other data.

9. The data reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein one of said plurality of authenticating means is selected based on information for controlling a copying operation contained in said data.

10. The data reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 4, wherein one of said plurality of authenticating means is selected based on a combination of information for

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indicating a type of a recording medium contained in said data and information for controlling a copying operation.

11. The data reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 10, wherein said information for indicating a type of a recording medium includes information for indicating the recording medium is a reproduction-dedicated or recordable one, and said information for controlling a copying operation includes information for indicating if the data is copy-limited, copy-prohibited, or copy-permitted for one generation.

12. The data reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 11, wherein said combination of informations includes the combination of three kinds of information, that is, the information for indicating the medium is reproduction-dedicated, the information for indicating the medium is recordable and if the medium is copy-prohibited or copy-permitted for just one generation, and the information for indicating the medium is recordable and is not copy-limited.

13. The data reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 5 is a reproducing apparatus arranged to reproduce compressed video data and wherein said reproducing apparatus further includes means for detecting additional information added to the data reproduced by said reproducing means.

14. The data reproducing apparatus described in claim 13, wherein said reproducing means controls the output of said data based on said additional information if said

additional information is for controlling a copying operation.

15. A data coding method for coding inputted data and outputting said coded data to an external device, said data coding method comprising the steps of, after coding the data, selecting from a plurality of authenticating methods for authenticating said external device, an authenticating method corresponding to a type of said coded data, authenticating said external device by means of said selected authenticating method, and outputting said data.

16. A recording method for receiving data outputted from an external device and recording the data, said recording method comprising the steps of authenticating said external device by means of an authenticating method corresponding to a type of said data selected from a plurality of authenticating methods for authenticating said external device, making sure of the authentication, inputting the data outputted from said external device, and recording said inputted data.

17. A data recording method for a plurality of devices for recording data by sending and receiving the data by authenticating said devices with each other, wherein said authentication is executed by an authenticating method corresponding to a type of said data, selected from a plurality of authenticating methods.

18. A data coding apparatus for coding inputted data and outputting said coded data to an external device, said data coding apparatus comprising:



coding means for coding said inputted data;

a plurality of authenticating means for authenticating said external device; and

selecting means for selecting an authenticating means from said plurality of authenticating means,

wherein said selecting means selects an authenticating means corresponding to a type of data coded by said coding means from said plurality of authenticating means and said selected authenticating means authenticates said external device and outputs said coded data.

19. A data recording apparatus for receiving data outputted from an external device and recording said data, said data recording apparatus comprising:

a plurality of authenticating means for authenticating said external device;

selecting means for selecting an authenticating means from said plurality of authenticating means;

recording means for recording said data; and

wherein an authenticating means corresponding to a type of said external data, selected from said plurality of authenticating means, authenticates said external device and outputs said data after said authentication is made certain, said selecting means selects the authenticating means having authenticated said external device, and said recording means records the data outputted by said authenticating means having authenticated said external device.



20. A data recording apparatus comprising the data coding apparatus as claimed in claim 18 and the data recording apparatus as claimed in claim 19, wherein the authenticating means included in the data coding apparatus as claimed in claim 18 and the authenticating means included in the data coding apparatus as claimed in claim 19 operate to authenticate each other for transferring the data and recording said data.

21. The data coding apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein said plurality of authenticating means are subjected to selection based on information for indicating a type of a recording medium on which the data is to be recorded.

22. The data coding apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein said plurality of authenticating means are subjected to selection based on information for controlling a copying operation of the data to be recorded.

23. The data coding apparatus as claimed in claim 18, wherein said plurality of authenticating means are subjected to selection based on a combination of the information for indicating a type of the recording medium on which the data is to be recorded and the information for controlling a copying operation of the data to be recorded.

24. The data coding apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein each of said plurality of authenticating means includes scrambling means for executing a scrambling process corresponding to a combination of the information for indicating a type of said recording medium and the



information for controlling a copying operation of the data to be recorded.

25. The data coding apparatus as claimed in claim 23, wherein the information for indicating a type of said recording medium includes information for indicating if the medium is reproduction-dedicated or recordable and the information for controlling a copying operation of the data to be recorded contains information for indicating if the medium is not copy-limited, or is copy-prohibited, or copy-permitted for only one generation.

26. The data coding apparatus as claimed in claim 25, wherein said combination includes at least two information, that is, information for indicating if the medium is recordable and copy-prohibited or copy-permitted for only one generation and information for indicating if the medium is recordable and is not copy-limited.

27. The data coding apparatus as claimed in claim 18 is a data coding apparatus arranged to code and compress video data and further including detecting means for detecting additional information added to the data coded by said coding means and wherein said authenticating means controls the output of sad coded data along the additional information detected by said detecting means.

28. A data processing apparatus having a plurality of data processing means for sending/receiving data through a data bus, wherein said plurality of data processing means each include authenticating means and said data processing means are authenticated with each other by means of an

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authenticating means corresponding to a type of the data to be transferred.

29. The data processing apparatus as claimed in claim 28, wherein said authenticating means executes said authentication before transferring said data and, if all the authentications are not successful, stops the data output to said data bus.

30. The data processing apparatus as claimed in claim 28, wherein said authenticating means executes an authentication corresponding to a type of said data before transferring said data and, if one or more data processing means are not successfully authenticated, stops the data output to the data bus.

31. The data processing apparatus as claimed in claim 28, wherein said authenticating means executes an authentication corresponding to a type of said data before transferring said data and, if one or more data processing means are not successfully authenticated, limits the type of the data to be outputted to the data bus.

32. The data processing apparatus as claimed in claim 28, wherein said authenticating means executes an authentication corresponding to a type of said data before transferring said data and, if one or more data processing means are not successfully authenticated, limits the type of the data to be outputted to the data bus to the successfully authenticated device.

33. The data processing apparatus as claimed in claim 28, wherein said authenticating means executes an

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authentication corresponding to a type of said data before transferring said data and, if one or more data processing means are not successfully authenticated, outputs the data only if the data to be outputted to the data bus contains no copy limitation.

34. An authenticating method for a plurality of devices for transferring data among said devices, wherein an authenticating method corresponding to a type of said data is selected from a plurality of authenticating methods and said devices are authenticated with each other.

35. A semiconductor chip wherein said reproducing means, said authenticating means and said selecting means in the data reproducing apparatus as claimed in claim 4 are provided.

36. The data reproducing method according to claim 2, wherein when the received data has been descrambled, the received data is descrambled by a descrambling method corresponding to said authenticating method selected from a plurality of descrambling methods.

37. A data reproducing apparatus for receiving and reproducing scrambled data output from an external device, comprising;

a plurality of authenticating means for authenticating said external device;

a plurality of descrambling means, one for each authenticating means, for descrambling said received scrambled data; and



reproducing means for reproducing the data descrambled by the descrambling means;

wherein an authenticating means from among said plurality of the authenticating means corresponding to a type of said descrambled data authenticates said external device and after confirming authentication, outputs said data to a descrambling means corresponding to said authenticating means that authenticates said external device, and

wherein said descrambling means corresponding to said authenticating means receives the scrambled data from said authenticating means and descrambles said scrambled data and outputs the descrambled data.

38. A data reproducing apparatus for receiving and reproducing scrambled data, comprising:

a plurality of descrambling means for descrambling said scrambled data; and

reproducing means for reproducing the descrambled data descrambled by the descrambling means,

wherein, of the plurality of descrambling means, a descrambling means corresponding to a type of the scrambled data descrambles said scrambled data.