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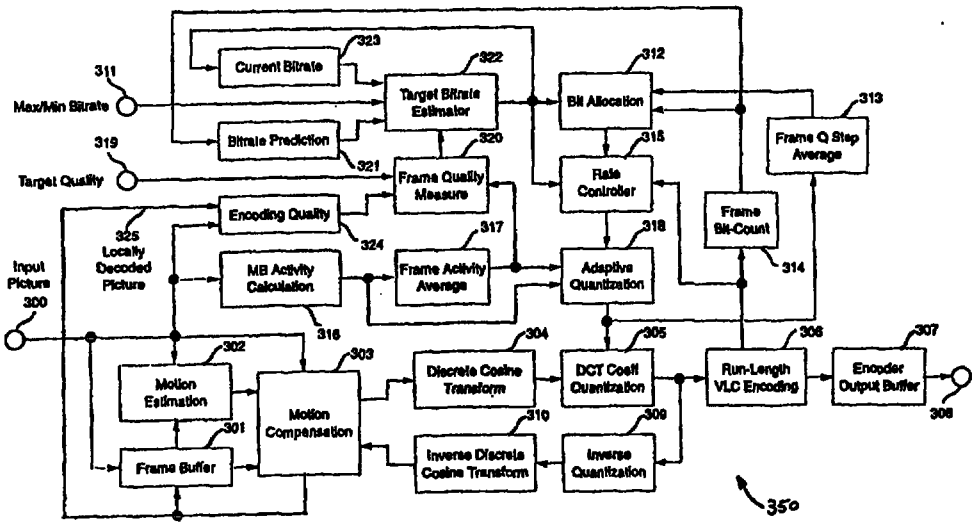
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(54) Title: ONE–PASS VARIABLE BIT RATE MOVING PICTURES ENCODING



(57) Abstract

A method and apparatus for encoding digital video utilising a single pass variable bit rate encoding procedure. An encoding quality is set and the bit rate for encoding blocks or frames in the sequence of moving pictures is determined to achieve the selected quality according to the complexity of the video sequence. The bit rate is constrained by predetermined upper and lower bit rate limits.