WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An image decoding method performed by an image decoding apparatus, the image decoding method comprising:

acquiring size information indicating a size of a current slice corresponding to at least a portion of a current picture from a bitstream; and

determining the size of the current slice based on the size information,

wherein the size information includes width information indicating a width of the current slice in units of tile columns and height information indicating a height of the current slice in units of tile rows, and

wherein the acquiring the size information is performed based on whether the current slice belongs to a last tile column or a last tile row of the current picture.

2. The image decoding method of claim 1, wherein the width information of the current slice is not acquired from the bitstream based on whether a top left tile of the current slice belongs to a last tile column of the current picture.

3. The image decoding method of claim 1, wherein the width information of the current slice is acquired from the

bitstream based on a top left tile of the current slice not belonging to a last tile column of the current picture.

4. The image decoding method of claim 1, wherein the width information of the current slice is not acquired from the bitstream and is determined to be a predetermined value based on a top left tile of the current slice belonging to a last tile column of the current picture.

5. The image decoding method of claim 4, wherein the predetermined value indicates one tile column.

6. The image decoding method of claim 1, wherein the height information of the current slice is not acquired from the bitstream based on whether a top left tile of the current slice belongs to a last tile row of the current picture.

7. The image decoding method of claim 1, wherein the height information of the current slice is acquired from the bitstream based on a top left tile of the current slice not belonging to a last tile row of the current picture.

8. The image decoding method of claim 1, wherein the height information of the current slice is not acquired from the bitstream and is determined to be a predetermined value

based on a top left tile of the current slice belonging to a last tile row of the current picture.

9. The image decoding method of claim 8, wherein the predetermined value indicates one tile row.

10. The image decoding method of any one of claims 5 and 9, wherein the current slice is a rectangular slice.

11. The image decoding method of claim 1,

wherein the acquiring the size information is performed based on the number of slices partitioning the current picture,

wherein the number of slices partitioning the current picture is determined by:

determining availability of partitioning of the current picture;

determining the number of tile rows and the number of tile columns, both of which partition the current picture, based on the availability of the partitioning of the current picture;

determining a width of each tile column partitioning the current picture based on the number of tile columns;

determining a height of each tile row partitioning the current picture based on the number of tile rows;

determining whether the current picture is partitioned into rectangular slices based on the number of tiles partitioning the current picture; and

acquiring the number of slices partitioning the current picture from a bitstream based on whether the current picture is partitioned into rectangular slices.

~~12. An image decoding apparatus comprising a memory and at least one processor,~~

~~wherein the at least one processor:~~

~~acquires size information indicating a size of a current slice corresponding to at least a portion of a current picture from a bitstream; and~~

~~determines the size of the current slice based on the size information,~~

~~wherein the size information includes width information indicating a width of the current slice in units of tile columns and height information indicating a height of the current slice in units of tile rows, and~~

~~wherein the size information is acquired based on whether the current slice belongs to a last tile column or a last tile row of the current picture.~~

~~13~~12. An image encoding method performed by an image encoding apparatus, the image encoding method comprising:

determining a current slice corresponding to at least one a portion of a current picture; and

generating a bitstream including size information of the current slice,

wherein the size information includes width information indicating a width of the current slice in units of tile columns and height information indicating a height of the current slice in units of tile rows, and

wherein the generating the bitstream is performed based on whether the current slice belongs to a last tile column or a last tile row of the current picture.

~~14~~13. The image encoding method of claim ~~13~~12, wherein the current slice is a rectangular slice.

~~15~~14. A method of transmitting a bitstream generated by ~~the~~ an image encoding method ~~of claim 13.~~, the image encoding method comprising:

determining a current slice corresponding to at least one a portion of a current picture; and

generating a bitstream including size information of the current slice,

wherein the size information includes width information indicating a width of the current slice in units of tile columns and height information indicating a height of the current slice

in units of tile rows, and

wherein the generating the bitstream is performed based on whether the current slice belongs to a last tile column or a last tile row of the current picture.

15. A non-transitory computer-readable medium storing a bitstream generated by an image encoding method, the image encoding method comprising:

determining a current slice corresponding to at least one a portion of a current picture; and

generating a bitstream including size information of the current slice,

wherein the size information includes width information indicating a width of the current slice in units of tile columns and height information indicating a height of the current slice in units of tile rows, and

wherein the generating the bitstream is performed based on whether the current slice belongs to a last tile column or a last tile row of the current picture.