

CLAIMS

1. A method for deriving a value for a first syntax element, Syntax_A, the method comprising:
 - determining whether Syntax_A is present in a bitstream;
 - as a result of determining that Syntax_A is not present in the bitstream, deriving the value for Syntax_A to be equal to a first value, B, if a first condition is satisfied, or deriving the value for Syntax_A to be equal to a second value, C, if a second condition is satisfied.
2. The method of claim 1, further comprising determining a third value D, wherein the first condition is satisfied if D is equal to X and the second condition is satisfied if D is not equal to X.
3. The method of claim 1, further comprising deriving a third value D, wherein the first condition is satisfied if D is equal to X and the second condition is satisfied if D is equal to Y, where Y does not equal X.
4. The method of any of claims 1-3, further comprising deriving the value B from at least a value for a second syntax element, Syntax_B.
5. The method of any of claims 1-4, further comprising deriving the value C from at least a value for a third syntax element, Syntax_C.
6. The method of any of claims 1-5, further comprising deriving the value D from at least a value for a fourth syntax element, Syntax_D.
7. The method of any of claims 1-6, where at least one of B, C and D is equal to the value for the syntax element Syntax_B, Syntax_C, and Syntax_D, respectively.
8. The method of any of claims 4-7, wherein at least one of Syntax_B, Syntax_C and Syntax_D is decoded from the bitstream.

9. The method of any of claims 1-8, further comprising deriving the value B, wherein deriving the value B comprises:

determining whether a second syntax element, Syntax_B, is present in the bitstream;
and

as a result of determining that Syntax_B is not present in the bitstream, inferring the value B, otherwise decoding the value B from Syntax_B.

10. The method of any of claims 1-9, further comprising deriving the value D, wherein deriving the value D comprises:

determining whether a fourth syntax element, Syntax_D, is present in the bitstream; and
if Syntax_D is determined present in the bitstream, setting D equal to a third value,
wherein the third value is a predetermined value or the third value is equal to the decoded value of Syntax_D.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein deriving the value D comprises setting D equal to a fourth value if Syntax_D is determined to be not present in the bitstream, where the fourth value is a predetermined value or the fourth value is equal to an inferred value of Syntax_D.

12. The method of any of claims 1-11, wherein at least one of the Syntax_A, Syntax_B, Syntax_C or Syntax_D is a deblocking parameter.

13. The method of any of claims 1-12, wherein all said existing syntax elements, Syntax_A, Syntax_B, Syntax_C and Syntax_D, are in one header or parameter set.

14. The method of any of claims 1-12, wherein all said existing syntax elements, Syntax_A, Syntax_B, Syntax_C and Syntax_D, are in several headers or parameter sets.

15. A computer program (1243) comprising instructions (1244) which when executed by processing circuitry (1202) causes the processing circuitry (1202) to perform the method of any of claims 1-14.

16. A carrier comprising the computer program of claim 15, wherein the carrier is one of an electronic signal, an optical signal, a radio signal, and a computer readable storage medium (1242).

17. An apparatus (1200), the apparatus being adapted to perform the method of any one of claims 1-14.

18. An apparatus (1200), the apparatus comprising:
processing circuitry (1202); and
a memory (1242), said memory containing instructions (1244) executable by said processing circuitry, whereby said apparatus is operative to perform the method of any of claims 1-14.