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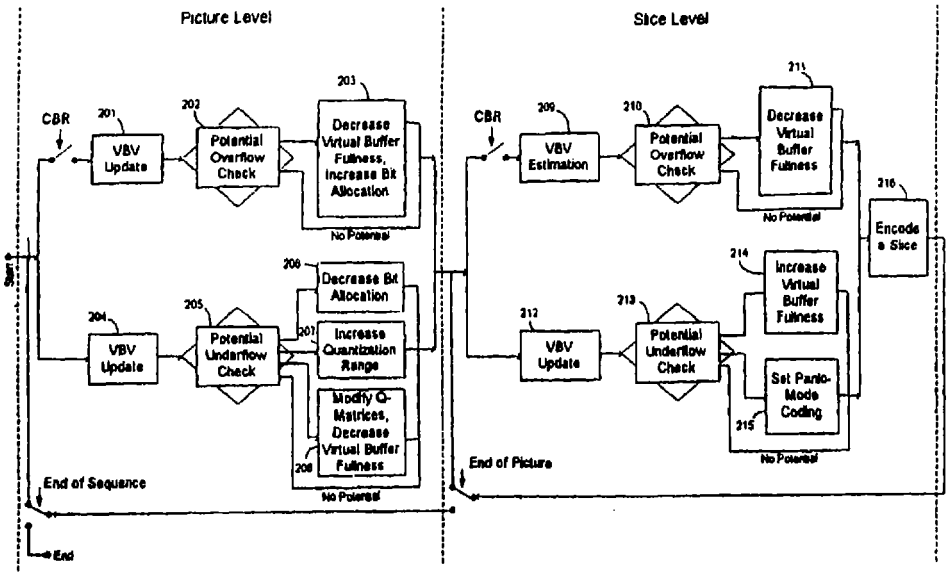
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR VIDEO BUFFER VERIFIER UNDERFLOW AND OVERFLOW CONTROL



(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus for Video Buffer Verifier (VBV) underflow and overflow control. A combination of picture and slice level control is used in the method and apparatus. Improved prevention of overflow and panic mode encoding is achieved by means of adjustment of the virtual buffer-fullness which allows the quantization-step to have an improved response to the buffer-fullness at both high and low critical levels. The use of a non-linear quantization scheme and customised quantization matrices also provide improved prevention of panic mode encoding. The slice level control also reduces the computation complexity compared to the macroblock level control.

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