

SUMMARY

In this invention, as shown in figure 1, a stream attribute decision means 101 for deciding whether an audio data stream supplied from the outside has been compressed or not is provided, and a compression ID flag Fco having a value according to the result of this decision is attached to the audio data stream, and the flag-attached audio data stream is written in the stream storage unit 100b.

Thereby, after a compressed audio data stream from the outside is read from the stream storage unit, a watermark can be inserted into the compressed audio data stream. Therefore, the time required for writing the compressed audio data stream into the stream storage unit is reduced, and the sound quality of analog audio data obtained by reproducing the compressed audio data stream is prevented from being degraded.