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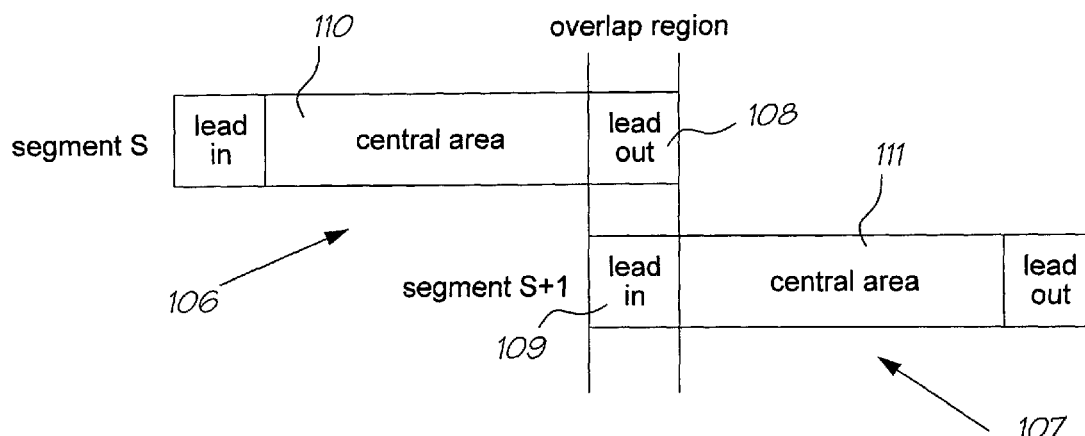
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(54) Title: PRINTING WITH A MULTI-SEGMENT PRINTHEAD



(57) Abstract: A method of preparing print data for a multi-segment printhead in which is established a set of dither matrices for a multi-segment printhead comprised of a plurality printhead chips with end portions overlapped, the set consisting of a lead-in dither matrix associated with a lead in overlap portion, a lead-out dither matrix associated with a lead out overlap portion and a common dither matrix associated with a central portion of the printhead chip. Received print data composited with dither values from the set. The lead-in dither values establish fade-in of one segment and the lead-out dither values establish fade-out of the preceding segment. In each two overlapping segments overlap is characterized in terms of a misalignment and the misalignment is used to generate an offset leading into the common dither matrix.



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