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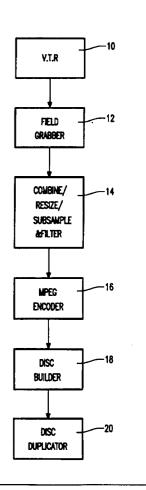
Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.

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(54) Title: VIDEO IMAGE PROCESSING

(57) Abstract

A method and apparatus are provided for video signal processing of sequences of digitised images originating from video (10) or film. A field grabber (12) receives the digitised images from the input and identifies the separate fields thereof. An image manipulation stage (14) combines fields as required and reduces the number of pixels per line and pixel lines in each image by applying horizontal and vertical compression; this stage also provides filtering and resizing of the image as required. Following encoding (16) of the compressed images, the encoded data stream may then be processed (18) into a form for recording onto, for example, an optical disc. By appropriate choice of the number of lines to which the image manipulation stage (14) reduces the image, discs playable on either PAL or NTSC standard equipment may be produced from a single image source.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IB 96/00147

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC6: H04N 5/926, H04N 7/01, H04N 7/26 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC6: HO4N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

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