

Attorney's Docket No. 8190-43

PATENT

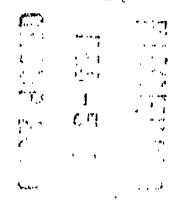
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re: Meany and Martens  
Serial No.: 08/633,896      Group Art Unit: 2616  
Filed: April 17, 1996      Examiner: B. Tadayon  
For: **ERROR RESILIENT METHOD  
AND APPARATUS FOR  
ENTROPY CODING**

January 23, 1998

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231



AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated July 24, 1997, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, line 8, between "methods" and "apparatus", please insert --and--.

Page 29, line 35, please delete "5A", and insert --5B-- therefore.

Page 30, line 6, please delete "5A", and insert --5B-- therefore.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend independent Claim 1, 7, 12, 22 and 28 as follows:

1. (Amended)      An error resilient method of encoding data comprising the steps of:
  - generating a plurality of code words representative of respective portions of the data, wherein each code word comprises a first portion and an associated second portion, and wherein said code word generating step comprises the steps of:

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generating the first portion of each code word, [the first portion] wherein said first portion generating step comprises the step of including information within the first portion that is representative of a predetermined characteristic of the associated second portion; and

generating the second portion of each code word, [the second portion] wherein said second portion generating step comprises the step of including information within the second portion that is representative of the respective portion of the data; and

providing error protection to at least one of the first portions of the plurality of code words while maintaining any error protection provided to the respective second portion associated with the at least one first portion at a lower level than the error protection provided to the respective first portion.

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7. (Amended) A data encoding apparatus comprising:

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code word generating means for generating a plurality of code words representative of respective portions of the data, wherein each code word comprises a first portion and an associated second portion, and wherein said code word generating means comprises:

first generating means for generating the first portion of each code word, [the first portion] said first generating means comprising means for including information within the first portion that is representative of a predetermined characteristic of the associated second portion; and

second generating means for generating the second portion of each code word, [the second portion] said second generating means comprising means for including information within the second portion

that is representative of the respective portion of the data; and

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error protection means for providing error protection to at least one of the first portions of the plurality of code words while maintaining any error protection provided to the respective second portion associated with the at least one first portion at a lower level than the error protection provided to the respective first portion.

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12. (Amended) An error resilient method of compressing data comprising the steps of:

Q<sup>s</sup>  
transforming the data based upon a predetermined transformation function;

quantizing the transformed data such that the quantized data has fewer unique coefficients than the transformed data; and

encoding the quantized data, said encoding step comprising the steps of:

generating a plurality of code words, representative of respective portions of the data, which have respective first and second portions, wherein [the first portion includes] said code word generating step comprises the steps of including information within the first portion that is representative of a predetermined characteristic of the associated second portion, and [wherein the second portion includes] including information within the second portion that is representative of a respective portion of the data; and

providing error protection to at least one of the first portions of the plurality of code words while maintaining any error protection provided to the respective second portion associated with the at least one first portion at a lower level than the error protection provided to the respective first portion.

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22. (Amended) An error resilient data compression apparatus comprising:

a data transformer for transforming the data based upon a predetermined transformation function;

a data quantizer for quantizing the transformed data such that the quantized data has fewer unique coefficients than the transformed data; and

a data encoder for encoding the quantized data, said data encoder comprising:

code word generating means for generating a plurality of code words, representative of respective portions of the data, which have respective first and second portions, wherein said code word generating means comprises means for including [the first portion includes] information within the first portion that is representative of a predetermined characteristic of the associated second portion, and means for including [wherein the second portion includes] information within the second portion that is representative of a respective portion of the data; and

error protection means for providing error protection to at least one of the first portions of the plurality of code words while maintaining any error protection provided to the respective second portion associated with the at least one first portion at a lower level than the error protection provided to the respective first portion.

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28. (Amended) A computer readable memory for storing error resilient encoded data, the computer readable memory comprising:

a storage medium for storing the error resilient encoded data, said storage medium being partitioned into a first error protected data block and a second data block, wherein any error protection provided

by said second data block is at a lower level than the error protection provided by said first data block; and a plurality of code words, representative of respective portions of the original data, which have respective first and second portions, wherein the first portion of each code word includes information representative of a predetermined characteristic of the associated second portion, and wherein the associated second portion of each code word includes information representative of a respective portion of the original data,

wherein at least one of the first portions of the plurality of code words is stored in the first data block of said storage medium such that the at least one first portion is error protected, and wherein the respective second portion associated with the at least one first portion is stored in the second data block of said storage medium such that any error protection provided to the respective second portion associated with the at least one first portion is at a lower level than the error protection provided to the respective first portion.

REMARKS

Applicants would like to thank the Examiner for the thorough review of the present application and for the indication that Claims 4, 15 and 30 define patentable subject matter and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Each independent claim, namely, Claims 1, 7, 12, 22 and 28, has been amended to more clearly define the invention, as explained more fully below. The specification has also been amended to correct several obvious informalities that were noted during our review of the specification in the course of preparing the present Amendment. As discussed in detail below, the

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