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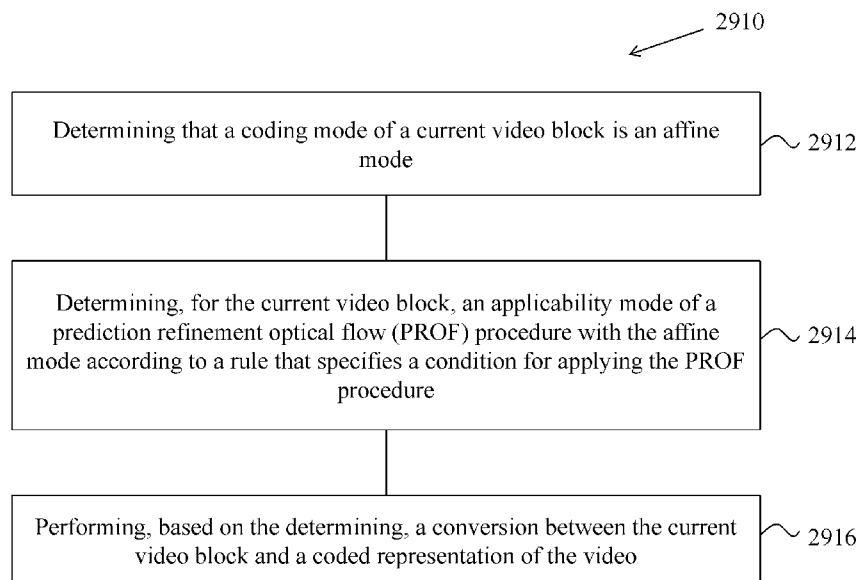


FIG. 29A

(57) Abstract: A video processing method is disclosed to include: determining that a coding mode of a current video block is an affine mode; determining, for the current video block, an applicability mode of a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure with the affine mode according to a rule that specifies a condition for applying the PROF procedure; and performing, based on the determining, a conversion between the current video block and a coded representation of the video; wherein, during the PROF procedure, one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation.

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APPLICABILITY OF PREDICTION REFINEMENT WITH OPTICAL FLOW PROCESS

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

[0001] Under the applicable patent law and/or rules pursuant to the Paris Convention, this application is made to timely claim the priority to and benefits of International Patent Application No. PCT/CN2019/083434, filed on April 19, 2019, and International Patent Application No. PCT/CN2019/090201, filed on June 5, 2019. The entire disclosures of the aforementioned applications are incorporated by reference as part of the disclosure of this application.

TECHNICAL FIELD

[0002] This patent document relates to video processing techniques, devices and systems.

BACKGROUND

[0003] In spite of the advances in video compression, digital video still accounts for the largest bandwidth use on the internet and other digital communication networks. As the number of connected user devices capable of receiving and displaying video increases, it is expected that the bandwidth demand for digital video usage will continue to grow.

SUMMARY

[0004] Devices, systems and methods related to digital video processing, and specifically, to prediction refinement with optical flow (PROF) for video processing. The described methods may be applied to both the existing video coding standards (e.g., High Efficiency Video Coding (HEVC)) and future video coding standards or video codecs.

[0005] In one representative aspect, the disclosed technology may be used to provide a method for video processing. This method includes determining that a coding mode of a current video block is an affine mode; determining, for the current video block, an applicability mode of a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure with the affine mode according to a rule that specifies a condition for applying the PROF procedure; and performing, based on the determining, a conversion between the current video block and a coded representation of the video, wherein, during the PROF procedure, one or more initial predictions for the current video

block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation.

[0006] In another representative aspect, the disclosed technology may be used to provide a method for video processing. This method includes determining, due to a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure being enabled for a video block of a video, that a coding mode is disallowed for coding the video block into a coded representation of the video; and performing, based on the determining, a conversion between the current video block and a coded representation of the video, wherein, during the PROF procedure, one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation.

[0007] In yet another representative aspect, the disclosed technology may be used to provide a method for video processing. This method includes determining a coding mode of a current video block of a video; and performing, based on the determining, a conversion between the current video block and a coded representation of the video, wherein a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure in which one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation is disabled for the current video block due to use of the coding mode.

[0008] In yet another representative aspect, the disclosed technology may be used to provide a method for video processing. This method includes determining an applicability mode of a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure for a conversion between a current video block of a video and a coded representation of the video based on a coding characteristic of the video; and performing the conversion based on the determining, wherein, during the PROF procedure, one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation.

[0009] In yet another representative aspect, the disclosed technology may be used to provide a method for video processing. This method includes determining, based on a color component of a current video block of a video, a procedural detail related to a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure in which one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation is disabled for the current video block due to use of the coding mode; and performing a conversion between the current video block and a coded representation of the video using the parameters.

[0010] In yet another representative aspect, the above-described method is embodied in the

form of processor-executable code and stored in a computer-readable program medium.

[0011] In yet another representative aspect, a device that is configured or operable to perform the above-described method is disclosed. The device may include a processor that is programmed to implement this method.

[0012] In yet another representative aspect, a video decoder apparatus may implement a method as described herein.

[0013] The above and other aspects and features of the disclosed technology are described in greater detail in the drawings, the description and the claims.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0014] FIG. 1 shows an example of constructing a merge candidate list.

[0015] FIG. 2 shows an example of positions of spatial candidates.

[0016] FIG. 3 shows an example of candidate pairs subject to a redundancy check of spatial merge candidates.

[0017] FIGS. 4A and 4B show examples of the position of a second prediction unit (PU) based on the size and shape of the current block.

[0018] FIG. 5 shows an example of motion vector scaling for temporal merge candidates.

[0019] FIG. 6 shows an example of candidate positions for temporal merge candidates.

[0020] FIG. 7 shows an example of generating a combined bi-predictive merge candidate.

[0021] FIG. 8 shows an example of constructing motion vector prediction candidates.

[0022] FIG. 9 shows an example of motion vector scaling for spatial motion vector candidates.

[0023] FIG. 10 shows an example of motion prediction using the alternative temporal motion vector prediction (ATMVP) algorithm for a coding unit (CU).

[0024] FIG. 11 shows an example of a coding unit (CU) with sub-blocks and neighboring blocks used by the spatial-temporal motion vector prediction (STMVP) algorithm.

[0025] FIGS. 12A and 12B show example snapshots of sub-block when using the overlapped block motion compensation (OBMC) algorithm.

[0026] FIG. 13 shows an example of neighboring samples used to derive parameters for the local illumination compensation (LIC) algorithm.

[0027] FIG. 14 shows an example of a simplified affine motion model.

- [0028] FIG. 15 shows an example of an affine motion vector field (MVF) per sub-block.
- [0029] FIG. 16 shows an example of motion vector prediction (MVP) for the AF_INTER affine motion mode.
- [0030] FIGS. 17A and 17B show example candidates for the AF_MERGE affine motion mode.
- [0031] FIG. 18 shows an example of bilateral matching in pattern matched motion vector derivation (PMMVD) mode, which is a special merge mode based on the frame-rate up conversion (FRUC) algorithm.
- [0032] FIG. 19 shows an example of template matching in the FRUC algorithm.
- [0033] FIG. 20 shows an example of unilateral motion estimation in the FRUC algorithm.
- [0034] FIG. 21 shows an example of an optical flow trajectory used by the bi-directional optical flow (BIO) algorithm.
- [0035] FIGS. 22A and 22B show example snapshots of using of the bi-directional optical flow (BIO) algorithm without block extensions.
- [0036] FIG. 23 shows an example of the interpolated samples used in BIO.
- [0037] FIG. 24 shows an example of the decoder-side motion vector refinement (DMVR) algorithm based on bilateral template matching.
- [0038] FIG. 25 shows an example of a sub-block MV VSB and pixel $\Delta v(i, j)$.
- [0039] FIG. 26 shows an example of phase-variant horizontal filtering.
- [0040] FIG. 27 shows an example of applying one instance of 8-tap horizontal filtering.
- [0041] FIG. 28 shows an example of non-uniform phase vertical filtering.
- [0042] FIGS. 29A to 29E show flowcharts of an example method for video processing.
- [0043] FIGS. 30A and 30B are block diagrams of examples of a hardware platform for implementing a visual media decoding or a visual media encoding technique described in the present document.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0044] Due to the increasing demand of higher resolution video, video processing methods and techniques are ubiquitous in modern technology. Video codecs typically include an electronic circuit or software that compresses or decompresses digital video, and are continually being improved to provide higher coding efficiency. A video codec converts uncompressed

video to a compressed format or vice versa. There are complex relationships between the video quality, the amount of data used to represent the video (determined by the bit rate), the complexity of the encoding and decoding algorithms, sensitivity to data losses and errors, ease of editing, random access, and end-to-end delay (latency). The compressed format usually conforms to a standard video compression specification, e.g., the High Efficiency Video Coding (HEVC) standard (also known as H.265 or MPEG-H Part 2), the Versatile Video Coding standard to be finalized, or other current and/or future video coding standards.

[0045] Embodiments of the disclosed technology may be applied to existing video coding standards (e.g., HEVC, H.265) and future standards to improve compression performance. Section headings are used in the present document to improve readability of the description and do not in any way limit the discussion or the embodiments (and/or implementations) to the respective sections only.

1. Examples of inter-prediction in HEVC/H.265

[0046] Video coding standards have significantly improved over the years, and now provide, in part, high coding efficiency and support for higher resolutions. Recent standards such as HEVC and H.265 are based on the hybrid video coding structure wherein temporal prediction plus transform coding are utilized.

1.1 Examples of prediction modes

[0047] Each inter-predicted PU (prediction unit) has motion parameters for one or two reference picture lists. In some embodiments, motion parameters include a motion vector and a reference picture index. In other embodiments, the usage of one of the two reference picture lists may also be signaled using *inter_pred_idc*. In yet other embodiments, motion vectors may be explicitly coded as deltas relative to predictors.

[0048] When a CU is coded with skip mode, one PU is associated with the CU, and there are no significant residual coefficients, no coded motion vector delta or reference picture index. A merge mode is specified whereby the motion parameters for the current PU are obtained from neighboring PUs, including spatial and temporal candidates. The merge mode can be applied to any inter-predicted PU, not only for skip mode. The alternative to merge mode is the explicit transmission of motion parameters, where motion vector, corresponding reference picture index for each reference picture list and reference picture list usage are signaled explicitly per each PU.

[0049] When signaling indicates that one of the two reference picture lists is to be used, the

PU is produced from one block of samples. This is referred to as ‘uni-prediction’. Uni-prediction is available both for P-slices and B-slices.

[0050] When signaling indicates that both of the reference picture lists are to be used, the PU is produced from two blocks of samples. This is referred to as ‘bi-prediction’. Bi-prediction is available for B-slices only.

1.1.1 Embodiments of constructing candidates for merge mode

[0051] When a PU is predicted using merge mode, an index pointing to an entry in the *merge candidates list* is parsed from the bitstream and used to retrieve the motion information. The construction of this list can be summarized according to the following sequence of steps:

[0052] Step 1: Initial candidates derivation

[0053] Step 1.1: Spatial candidates derivation

[0054] Step 1.2: Redundancy check for spatial candidates

[0055] Step 1.3: Temporal candidates derivation

[0056] Step 2: Additional candidates insertion

[0057] Step 2.1: Creation of bi-predictive candidates

[0058] Step 2.2: Insertion of zero motion candidates

[0059] FIG. 1 shows an example of constructing a merge candidate list based on the sequence of steps summarized above. For spatial merge candidate derivation, a maximum of four merge candidates are selected among candidates that are located in five different positions. For temporal merge candidate derivation, a maximum of one merge candidate is selected among two candidates. Since constant number of candidates for each PU is assumed at decoder, additional candidates are generated when the number of candidates does not reach to maximum number of merge candidate (MaxNumMergeCand) which is signalled in slice header. Since the number of candidates is constant, index of best merge candidate is encoded using truncated unary binarization (TU). If the size of CU is equal to 8, all the PUs of the current CU share a single merge candidate list, which is identical to the merge candidate list of the $2N \times 2N$ prediction unit.

1.1.2 Constructing spatial merge candidates

[0060] In the derivation of spatial merge candidates, a maximum of four merge candidates are selected among candidates located in the positions depicted in FIG. 2. The order of derivation is A_1 , B_1 , B_0 , A_0 and B_2 . Position B_2 is considered only when any PU of position A_1 , B_1 , B_0 , A_0 is not available (e.g. because it belongs to another slice or tile) or is intra coded. After candidate at

position A_1 is added, the addition of the remaining candidates is subject to a redundancy check which ensures that candidates with same motion information are excluded from the list so that coding efficiency is improved.

[0061] To reduce computational complexity, not all possible candidate pairs are considered in the mentioned redundancy check. Instead only the pairs linked with an arrow in FIG. 3 are considered and a candidate is only added to the list if the corresponding candidate used for redundancy check has not the same motion information. Another source of duplicate motion information is the “*second PU*” associated with partitions different from $2N \times 2N$. As an example, FIG. 4A and 4B depict the second PU for the case of $N \times 2N$ and $2N \times N$, respectively. When the current PU is partitioned as $N \times 2N$, candidate at position A_1 is not considered for list construction. In some embodiments, adding this candidate may lead to two prediction units having the same motion information, which is redundant to just have one PU in a coding unit. Similarly, position B_1 is not considered when the current PU is partitioned as $2N \times N$.

1.1.3 Constructing temporal merge candidates

[0062] In this step, only one candidate is added to the list. Particularly, in the derivation of this temporal merge candidate, a scaled motion vector is derived based on co-located PU belonging to the picture which has the smallest POC difference with current picture within the given reference picture list. The reference picture list to be used for derivation of the co-located PU is explicitly signaled in the slice header.

[0063] FIG. 5 shows an example of the derivation of the scaled motion vector for a temporal merge candidate (as the dotted line), which is scaled from the motion vector of the co-located PU using the POC distances, t_b and t_d , where t_b is defined to be the POC difference between the reference picture of the current picture and the current picture and t_d is defined to be the POC difference between the reference picture of the co-located picture and the co-located picture. The reference picture index of temporal merge candidate is set equal to zero. For a B-slice, two motion vectors, one is for reference picture list 0 and the other is for reference picture list 1, are obtained and combined to make the bi-predictive merge candidate.

[0064] In the co-located PU (Y) belonging to the reference frame, the position for the temporal candidate is selected between candidates C_0 and C_1 , as depicted in FIG. 6. If PU at position C_0 is not available, is intra coded, or is outside of the current CTU, position C_1 is used. Otherwise, position C_0 is used in the derivation of the temporal merge candidate.

1.1.4 Constructing additional types of merge candidates

[0065] Besides spatio-temporal merge candidates, there are two additional types of merge candidates: combined bi-predictive merge candidate and zero merge candidate. Combined bi-predictive merge candidates are generated by utilizing spatio-temporal merge candidates. Combined bi-predictive merge candidate is used for B-Slice only. The combined bi-predictive candidates are generated by combining the first reference picture list motion parameters of an initial candidate with the second reference picture list motion parameters of another. If these two tuples provide different motion hypotheses, they will form a new bi-predictive candidate.

[0066] FIG. 7 shows an example of this process, wherein two candidates in the original list (710, on the left), which have mvL0 and refIdxL0 or mvL1 and refIdxL1, are used to create a combined bi-predictive merge candidate added to the final list (720, on the right).

[0067] Zero motion candidates are inserted to fill the remaining entries in the merge candidates list and therefore hit the MaxNumMergeCand capacity. These candidates have zero spatial displacement and a reference picture index which starts from zero and increases every time a new zero motion candidate is added to the list. The number of reference frames used by these candidates is one and two for uni- and bi-directional prediction, respectively. In some embodiments, no redundancy check is performed on these candidates.

1.1.5 Examples of motion estimation regions for parallel processing

[0068] To speed up the encoding process, motion estimation can be performed in parallel whereby the motion vectors for all prediction units inside a given region are derived simultaneously. The derivation of merge candidates from spatial neighborhood may interfere with parallel processing as one prediction unit cannot derive the motion parameters from an adjacent PU until its associated motion estimation is completed. To mitigate the trade-off between coding efficiency and processing latency, a motion estimation region (MER) may be defined. The size of the MER may be signaled in the picture parameter set (PPS) using the “log2_parallel_merge_level_minus2” syntax element. When a MER is defined, merge candidates falling in the same region are marked as unavailable and therefore not considered in the list construction.

1.2 Embodiments of advanced motion vector prediction (AMVP)

[0069] AMVP exploits spatio-temporal correlation of motion vector with neighboring PUs, which is used for explicit transmission of motion parameters. It constructs a motion vector

candidate list by firstly checking availability of left, above temporally neighboring PU positions, removing redundant candidates and adding zero vector to make the candidate list to be constant length. Then, the encoder can select the best predictor from the candidate list and transmit the corresponding index indicating the chosen candidate. Similarly with merge index signaling, the index of the best motion vector candidate is encoded using truncated unary. The maximum value to be encoded in this case is 2 (see FIG. 8). In the following sections, details about derivation process of motion vector prediction candidate are provided.

1.2.1 Examples of constructing motion vector prediction candidates

[0070] FIG. 8 summarizes derivation process for motion vector prediction candidate, and may be implemented for each reference picture list with refidx as an input.

[0071] In motion vector prediction, two types of motion vector candidates are considered: spatial motion vector candidate and temporal motion vector candidate. For spatial motion vector candidate derivation, two motion vector candidates are eventually derived based on motion vectors of each PU located in five different positions as previously shown in FIG. 2.

[0072] For temporal motion vector candidate derivation, one motion vector candidate is selected from two candidates, which are derived based on two different co-located positions. After the first list of spatio-temporal candidates is made, duplicated motion vector candidates in the list are removed. If the number of potential candidates is larger than two, motion vector candidates whose reference picture index within the associated reference picture list is larger than 1 are removed from the list. If the number of spatio-temporal motion vector candidates is smaller than two, additional zero motion vector candidates is added to the list.

1.2.2 Constructing spatial motion vector candidates

[0073] In the derivation of spatial motion vector candidates, a maximum of two candidates are considered among five potential candidates, which are derived from PUs located in positions as previously shown in FIG. 2, those positions being the same as those of motion merge. The order of derivation for the left side of the current PU is defined as A_0 , A_1 , and scaled A_0 , scaled A_1 . The order of derivation for the above side of the current PU is defined as B_0 , B_1 , B_2 , scaled B_0 , scaled B_1 , scaled B_2 . For each side there are therefore four cases that can be used as motion vector candidate, with two cases not required to use spatial scaling, and two cases where spatial scaling is used. The four different cases are summarized as follows:

[0074] -- No spatial scaling

- [0075] (1) Same reference picture list, and same reference picture index (same POC)
- [0076] (2) Different reference picture list, but same reference picture (same POC)
- [0077] -- Spatial scaling
- [0078] (3) Same reference picture list, but different reference picture (different POC)
- [0079] (4) Different reference picture list, and different reference picture (different POC)
- [0080] The no-spatial-scaling cases are checked first followed by the cases that allow spatial scaling. Spatial scaling is considered when the POC is different between the reference picture of the neighbouring PU and that of the current PU regardless of reference picture list. If all PUs of left candidates are not available or are intra coded, scaling for the above motion vector is allowed to help parallel derivation of left and above MV candidates. Otherwise, spatial scaling is not allowed for the above motion vector.

[0081] As shown in the example in FIG. 9, for the spatial scaling case, the motion vector of the neighbouring PU is scaled in a similar manner as for temporal scaling. One difference is that the reference picture list and index of current PU is given as input; the actual scaling process is the same as that of temporal scaling.

1.2.3 Constructing temporal motion vector candidates

[0082] Apart from the reference picture index derivation, all processes for the derivation of temporal merge candidates are the same as for the derivation of spatial motion vector candidates (as shown in the example in FIG. 6). In some embodiments, the reference picture index is signaled to the decoder.

2. Example of inter prediction methods in Joint Exploration Model (JEM)

[0083] In some embodiments, future video coding technologies are explored using a reference software known as the Joint Exploration Model (JEM). In JEM, sub-block based prediction is adopted in several coding tools, such as affine prediction, alternative temporal motion vector prediction (ATMVP), spatial-temporal motion vector prediction (STMVP), bi-directional optical flow (BIO), Frame-Rate Up Conversion (FRUC), Locally Adaptive Motion Vector Resolution (LAMVR), Overlapped Block Motion Compensation (OBMC), Local Illumination Compensation (LIC), and Decoder-side Motion Vector Refinement (DMVR).

2.1 Examples of sub-CU based motion vector prediction

[0084] In the JEM with quadtrees plus binary trees (QTBT), each CU can have at most one set of motion parameters for each prediction direction. In some embodiments, two sub-CU level

motion vector prediction methods are considered in the encoder by splitting a large CU into sub-CUs and deriving motion information for all the sub-CUs of the large CU. Alternative temporal motion vector prediction (ATMVP) method allows each CU to fetch multiple sets of motion information from multiple blocks smaller than the current CU in the collocated reference picture. In spatial-temporal motion vector prediction (STMVP) method motion vectors of the sub-CUs are derived recursively by using the temporal motion vector predictor and spatial neighbouring motion vector. In some embodiments, and to preserve more accurate motion field for sub-CU motion prediction, the motion compression for the reference frames may be disabled.

2.1.1 Examples of alternative temporal motion vector prediction (ATMVP)

[0085] In the ATMVP method, the temporal motion vector prediction (TMVP) method is modified by fetching multiple sets of motion information (including motion vectors and reference indices) from blocks smaller than the current CU.

[0086] FIG. 10 shows an example of ATMVP motion prediction process for a CU 1000. The ATMVP method predicts the motion vectors of the sub-CUs 1001 within a CU 1000 in two steps. The first step is to identify the corresponding block 1051 in a reference picture 1050 with a temporal vector. The reference picture 1050 is also referred to as the motion source picture. The second step is to split the current CU 1000 into sub-CUs 1001 and obtain the motion vectors as well as the reference indices of each sub-CU from the block corresponding to each sub-CU.

[0087] In the first step, a reference picture 1050 and the corresponding block is determined by the motion information of the spatial neighboring blocks of the current CU 1000. To avoid the repetitive scanning process of neighboring blocks, the first merge candidate in the merge candidate list of the current CU 1000 is used. The first available motion vector as well as its associated reference index are set to be the temporal vector and the index to the motion source picture. This way, the corresponding block may be more accurately identified, compared with TMVP, wherein the corresponding block (sometimes called collocated block) is always in a bottom-right or center position relative to the current CU.

[0088] In the second step, a corresponding block of the sub-CU 1051 is identified by the temporal vector in the motion source picture 1050, by adding to the coordinate of the current CU the temporal vector. For each sub-CU, the motion information of its corresponding block (e.g., the smallest motion grid that covers the center sample) is used to derive the motion information for the sub-CU. After the motion information of a corresponding $N \times N$ block is identified, it is

converted to the motion vectors and reference indices of the current sub-CU, in the same way as TMVP of HEVC, wherein motion scaling and other procedures apply. For example, the decoder checks whether the low-delay condition (e.g. the POCs of all reference pictures of the current picture are smaller than the POC of the current picture) is fulfilled and possibly uses motion vector MV_x (e.g., the motion vector corresponding to reference picture list X) to predict motion vector MV_y (e.g., with X being equal to 0 or 1 and Y being equal to $1-X$) for each sub-CU.

2.1.2 Examples of spatial-temporal motion vector prediction (STMVP)

[0089] In the STMVP method, the motion vectors of the sub-CUs are derived recursively, following raster scan order. FIG. 11 shows an example of one CU with four sub-blocks and neighboring blocks. Consider an 8×8 CU 1100 that includes four 4×4 sub-CUs A (1101), B (1102), C (1103), and D (1104). The neighboring 4×4 blocks in the current frame are labelled as a (1111), b (1112), c (1113), and d (1114).

[0090] The motion derivation for sub-CU A starts by identifying its two spatial neighbors. The first neighbor is the $N \times N$ block above sub-CU A 1101 (block c 1113). If this block c (1113) is not available or is intra coded the other $N \times N$ blocks above sub-CU A (1101) are checked (from left to right, starting at block c 1113). The second neighbor is a block to the left of the sub-CU A 1101 (block b 1112). If block b (1112) is not available or is intra coded other blocks to the left of sub-CU A 1101 are checked (from top to bottom, starting at block b 1112). The motion information obtained from the neighboring blocks for each list is scaled to the first reference frame for a given list. Next, temporal motion vector predictor (TMVP) of sub-block A 1101 is derived by following the same procedure of TMVP derivation as specified in HEVC. The motion information of the collocated block at block D 1104 is fetched and scaled accordingly. Finally, after retrieving and scaling the motion information, all available motion vectors are averaged separately for each reference list. The averaged motion vector is assigned as the motion vector of the current sub-CU.

2.1.3 Examples of sub-CU motion prediction mode signaling

[0091] In some embodiments, the sub-CU modes are enabled as additional merge candidates and there is no additional syntax element required to signal the modes. Two additional merge candidates are added to merge candidates list of each CU to represent the ATMVP mode and STMVP mode. In other embodiments, up to seven merge candidates may be used, if the sequence parameter set indicates that ATMVP and STMVP are enabled. The encoding logic of

the additional merge candidates is the same as for the merge candidates in the HM, which means, for each CU in P or B slice, two more RD checks may be needed for the two additional merge candidates. In some embodiments, e.g., JEM, all bins of the merge index are context coded by CABAC (Context-based Adaptive Binary Arithmetic Coding). In other embodiments, e.g., HEVC, only the first bin is context coded and the remaining bins are context by-pass coded.

2.2 Examples of adaptive motion vector difference resolution

[0092] In some embodiments, motion vector differences (MVDs) (between the motion vector and predicted motion vector of a PU) are signalled in units of quarter luma samples when `use_integer_mv_flag` is equal to 0 in the slice header. In the JEM, a locally adaptive motion vector resolution (LAMVR) is introduced. In the JEM, MVD can be coded in units of quarter luma samples, integer luma samples or four luma samples. The MVD resolution is controlled at the coding unit (CU) level, and MVD resolution flags are conditionally signalled for each CU that has at least one non-zero MVD components.

[0093] For a CU that has at least one non-zero MVD components, a first flag is signalled to indicate whether quarter luma sample MV precision is used in the CU. When the first flag (equal to 1) indicates that quarter luma sample MV precision is not used, another flag is signalled to indicate whether integer luma sample MV precision or four luma sample MV precision is used.

[0094] When the first MVD resolution flag of a CU is zero, or not coded for a CU (meaning all MVDs in the CU are zero), the quarter luma sample MV resolution is used for the CU. When a CU uses integer-luma sample MV precision or four-luma-sample MV precision, the MVPs in the AMVP candidate list for the CU are rounded to the corresponding precision.

[0095] In the encoder, CU-level RD checks are used to determine which MVD resolution is to be used for a CU. That is, the CU-level RD check is performed three times for each MVD resolution. To accelerate encoder speed, the following encoding schemes are applied in the JEM:

[0096] -- During RD check of a CU with normal quarter luma sample MVD resolution, the motion information of the current CU (integer luma sample accuracy) is stored. The stored motion information (after rounding) is used as the starting point for further small range motion vector refinement during the RD check for the same CU with integer luma sample and 4 luma sample MVD resolution so that the time-consuming motion estimation process is not duplicated three times.

[0097] -- RD check of a CU with 4 luma sample MVD resolution is conditionally

invoked. For a CU, when RD cost integer luma sample MVD resolution is much larger than that of quarter luma sample MVD resolution, the RD check of 4 luma sample MVD resolution for the CU is skipped.

2.3 Examples of higher motion vector storage accuracy

[0098] In HEVC, motion vector accuracy is one-quarter pel (one-quarter luma sample and one-eighth chroma sample for 4:2:0 video). In the JEM, the accuracy for the internal motion vector storage and the merge candidate increases to 1/16 pel. The higher motion vector accuracy (1/16 pel) is used in motion compensation inter prediction for the CU coded with skip/merge mode. For the CU coded with normal AMVP mode, either the integer-pel or quarter-pel motion is used.

[0099] SHVC upsampling interpolation filters, which have same filter length and normalization factor as HEVC motion compensation interpolation filters, are used as motion compensation interpolation filters for the additional fractional pel positions. The chroma component motion vector accuracy is 1/32 sample in the JEM, the additional interpolation filters of 1/32 pel fractional positions are derived by using the average of the filters of the two neighbouring 1/16 pel fractional positions.

2.4 Examples of overlapped block motion compensation (OBMC)

[00100] In the JEM, OBMC can be switched on and off using syntax at the CU level. When OBMC is used in the JEM, the OBMC is performed for all motion compensation (MC) block boundaries except the right and bottom boundaries of a CU. Moreover, it is applied for both the luma and chroma components. In the JEM, an MC block corresponds to a coding block. When a CU is coded with sub-CU mode (includes sub-CU merge, affine and FRUC mode), each sub-block of the CU is a MC block. To process CU boundaries in a uniform fashion, OBMC is performed at sub-block level for all MC block boundaries, where sub-block size is set equal to 4×4 , as shown in FIGS. 12A and 12B.

[00101] FIG. 12A shows sub-blocks at the CU/PU boundary, and the hatched sub-blocks are where OBMC applies. Similarly, FIG. 12B shows the sub-Pus in ATMVP mode.

[00102] When OBMC applies to the current sub-block, besides current motion vectors, motion vectors of four connected neighboring sub-blocks, if available and are not identical to the current motion vector, are also used to derive prediction block for the current sub-block. These multiple prediction blocks based on multiple motion vectors are combined to generate the final

prediction signal of the current sub-block.

[00103] Prediction block based on motion vectors of a neighboring sub-block is denoted as PN, with N indicating an index for the neighboring above, below, left and right sub-blocks and prediction block based on motion vectors of the current sub-block is denoted as PC. When PN is based on the motion information of a neighboring sub-block that contains the same motion information to the current sub-block, the OBMC is not performed from PN. Otherwise, every sample of PN is added to the same sample in PC, i.e., four rows/columns of PN are added to PC. The weighting factors $\{1/4, 1/8, 1/16, 1/32\}$ are used for PN and the weighting factors $\{3/4, 7/8, 15/16, 31/32\}$ are used for PC. The exception are small MC blocks, (i.e., when height or width of the coding block is equal to 4 or a CU is coded with sub-CU mode), for which only two rows/columns of PN are added to PC. In this case weighting factors $\{1/4, 1/8\}$ are used for PN and weighting factors $\{3/4, 7/8\}$ are used for PC. For PN generated based on motion vectors of vertically (horizontally) neighboring sub-block, samples in the same row (column) of PN are added to PC with a same weighting factor.

[00104] In the JEM, for a CU with size less than or equal to 256 luma samples, a CU level flag is signaled to indicate whether OBMC is applied or not for the current CU. For the CUs with size larger than 256 luma samples or not coded with AMVP mode, OBMC is applied by default. At the encoder, when OBMC is applied for a CU, its impact is taken into account during the motion estimation stage. The prediction signal formed by OBMC using motion information of the top neighboring block and the left neighboring block is used to compensate the top and left boundaries of the original signal of the current CU, and then the normal motion estimation process is applied.

2.5 Examples of local illumination compensation (LIC)

[00105] LIC is based on a linear model for illumination changes, using a scaling factor a and an offset b . And it is enabled or disabled adaptively for each inter-mode coded coding unit (CU).

[00106] When LIC applies for a CU, a least square error method is employed to derive the parameters a and b by using the neighboring samples of the current CU and their corresponding reference samples. FIG. 13 shows an example of neighboring samples used to derive parameters of the IC algorithm. Specifically, and as shown in FIG. 13, the subsampled (2:1 subsampling) neighbouring samples of the CU and the corresponding samples (identified by motion information of the current CU or sub-CU) in the reference picture are used. The IC parameters

are derived and applied for each prediction direction separately.

[00107] When a CU is coded with merge mode, the LIC flag is copied from neighboring blocks, in a way similar to motion information copy in merge mode; otherwise, an LIC flag is signaled for the CU to indicate whether LIC applies or not.

[00108] When LIC is enabled for a picture, an additional CU level RD check is needed to determine whether LIC is applied or not for a CU. When LIC is enabled for a CU, the mean-removed sum of absolute difference (MR-SAD) and mean-removed sum of absolute Hadamard-transformed difference (MR-SATD) are used, instead of SAD and SATD, for integer pel motion search and fractional pel motion search, respectively.

[00109] To reduce the encoding complexity, the following encoding scheme is applied in the JEM:

[00110] -- LIC is disabled for the entire picture when there is no obvious illumination change between a current picture and its reference pictures. To identify this situation, histograms of a current picture and every reference picture of the current picture are calculated at the encoder. If the histogram difference between the current picture and every reference picture of the current picture is smaller than a given threshold, LIC is disabled for the current picture; otherwise, LIC is enabled for the current picture.

2.6 Examples of affine motion compensation prediction

[00111] In HEVC, only a translation motion model is applied for motion compensation prediction (MCP). However, the camera and objects may have many kinds of motion, e.g. zoom in/out, rotation, perspective motions, and/or other irregular motions. JEM, on the other hand, applies a simplified affine transform motion compensation prediction. FIG. 14 shows an example of an affine motion field of a block 1400 described by two control point motion vectors V_0 and V_1 . The motion vector field (MVF) of the block 1400 can be described by the following equation:

$$\begin{cases} v_x = \frac{(v_{1x} - v_{0x})}{w}x - \frac{(v_{1y} - v_{0y})}{w}y + v_{0x} \\ v_y = \frac{(v_{1y} - v_{0y})}{w}x + \frac{(v_{1x} - v_{0x})}{w}y + v_{0y} \end{cases} \quad \text{Eq. (1)}$$

[00113] As shown in FIG. 14, (v_{0x}, v_{0y}) is motion vector of the top-left corner control point, and (v_{1x}, v_{1y}) is motion vector of the top-right corner control point. To simplify the motion

compensation prediction, sub-block based affine transform prediction can be applied. The sub-block size $M \times N$ is derived as follows:

$$[00114] \quad \begin{cases} M = \text{clip3}(4, w, \frac{w \times MvPre}{\max(\text{abs}(v_{1x} - v_{0x}), \text{abs}(v_{1y} - v_{0y})))} \\ N = \text{clip3}(4, h, \frac{h \times MvPre}{\max(\text{abs}(v_{2x} - v_{0x}), \text{abs}(v_{2y} - v_{0y})))} \end{cases} \quad \text{Eq. (2)}$$

[00115] Here, $MvPre$ is the motion vector fraction accuracy (e.g., 1/16 in JEM). (v_{2x}, v_{2y}) is motion vector of the bottom-left control point, calculated according to Eq. (1). M and N can be adjusted downward if necessary to make it a divisor of w and h , respectively.

[00116] FIG. 15 shows an example of affine MVF per sub-block for a block 1500. To derive motion vector of each $M \times N$ sub-block, the motion vector of the center sample of each sub-block can be calculated according to Eq. (1), and rounded to the motion vector fraction accuracy (e.g., 1/16 in JEM). Then the motion compensation interpolation filters can be applied to generate the prediction of each sub-block with derived motion vector. After the MCP, the high accuracy motion vector of each sub-block is rounded and saved as the same accuracy as the normal motion vector.

2.6.1 Embodiments of the AF_INTER mode

[00117] In the JEM, there are two affine motion modes: AF_INTER mode and AF_MERGE mode. For CUs with both width and height larger than 8, AF_INTER mode can be applied. An affine flag in CU level is signaled in the bitstream to indicate whether AF_INTER mode is used. In the AF_INTER mode, a candidate list with motion vector pair $\{(v_0, v_1) | v_0 = \{v_A, v_B, v_C\}, v_1 = \{v_D, v_E\}\}$ is constructed using the neighboring blocks.

[00118] FIG. 16 shows an example of motion vector prediction (MVP) for a block 1600 in the AF_INTER mode. As shown in FIG. 16, v_0 is selected from the motion vectors of the sub-block A, B, or C. The motion vectors from the neighboring blocks can be scaled according to the reference list. The motion vectors can also be scaled according to the relationship among the Picture Order Count (POC) of the reference for the neighboring block, the POC of the reference for the current CU, and the POC of the current CU. The approach to select v_1 from the neighboring sub-block D and E is similar. If the number of candidate list is smaller than 2, the list is padded by the motion vector pair composed by duplicating each of the AMVP candidates. When the candidate list is larger than 2, the candidates can be firstly sorted according to the

neighboring motion vectors (e.g., based on the similarity of the two motion vectors in a pair candidate). In some implementations, the first two candidates are kept. In some embodiments, a Rate Distortion (RD) cost check is used to determine which motion vector pair candidate is selected as the control point motion vector prediction (CPMVP) of the current CU. An index indicating the position of the CPMVP in the candidate list can be signaled in the bitstream. After the CPMVP of the current affine CU is determined, affine motion estimation is applied and the control point motion vector (CPMV) is found. Then the difference of the CPMV and the CPMVP is signaled in the bitstream.

2.6.3 Embodiments of the AF_MERGE mode

[00119] When a CU is applied in AF_MERGE mode, it gets the first block coded with an affine mode from the valid neighboring reconstructed blocks. FIG. 17A shows an example of the selection order of candidate blocks for a current CU 1700. As shown in FIG. 17A, the selection order can be from left (1701), above (1702), above right (1703), left bottom (1704) to above left (1705) of the current CU 1700. FIG. 17B shows another example of candidate blocks for a current CU 1700 in the AF_MERGE mode. If the neighboring left bottom block 1801 is coded in affine mode, as shown in FIG. 17B, the motion vectors v_2 , v_3 and v_4 of the top left corner, above right corner, and left bottom corner of the CU containing the sub-block 1701 are derived. The motion vector v_0 of the top left corner on the current CU 1700 is calculated based on v_2 , v_3 and v_4 . The motion vector v_1 of the above right of the current CU can be calculated accordingly.

[00120] After the CPMV of the current CU v_0 and v_1 are computed according to the affine motion model in Eq. (1), the MVF of the current CU can be generated. In order to identify whether the current CU is coded with AF_MERGE mode, an affine flag can be signaled in the bitstream when there is at least one neighboring block is coded in affine mode.

2.7 Examples of pattern matched motion vector derivation (PMMVD)

[00121] The PMMVD mode is a special merge mode based on the Frame-Rate Up Conversion (FRUC) method. With this mode, motion information of a block is not signaled but derived at decoder side.

[00122] A FRUC flag can be signaled for a CU when its merge flag is true. When the FRUC flag is false, a merge index can be signaled and the regular merge mode is used. When the FRUC flag is true, an additional FRUC mode flag can be signaled to indicate which method (e.g., bilateral matching or template matching) is to be used to derive motion information for the block.

[00123] At the encoder side, the decision on whether using FRUC merge mode for a CU is based on RD cost selection as done for normal merge candidate. For example, multiple matching modes (e.g., bilateral matching and template matching) are checked for a CU by using RD cost selection. The one leading to the minimal cost is further compared to other CU modes. If a FRUC matching mode is the most efficient one, FRUC flag is set to true for the CU and the related matching mode is used.

[00124] Typically, motion derivation process in FRUC merge mode has two steps: a CU-level motion search is first performed, then followed by a Sub-CU level motion refinement. At CU level, an initial motion vector is derived for the whole CU based on bilateral matching or template matching. First, a list of MV candidates is generated and the candidate that leads to the minimum matching cost is selected as the starting point for further CU level refinement. Then a local search based on bilateral matching or template matching around the starting point is performed. The MV results in the minimum matching cost is taken as the MV for the whole CU. Subsequently, the motion information is further refined at sub-CU level with the derived CU motion vectors as the starting points.

[00125] For example, the following derivation process is performed for a $W \times H$ CU motion information derivation. At the first stage, MV for the whole $W \times H$ CU is derived. At the second stage, the CU is further split into $M \times M$ sub-CUs. The value of M is calculated as in Eq. (3), D is a predefined splitting depth which is set to 3 by default in the JEM. Then the MV for each sub-CU is derived.

$$[00126] \quad M = \max\{4, \min\{\frac{M}{2^D}, \frac{N}{2^D}\}\} \quad \text{Eq. (3)}$$

[00127] FIG. 18 shows an example of bilateral matching used in the Frame-Rate Up Conversion (FRUC) method. The bilateral matching is used to derive motion information of the current CU by finding the closest match between two blocks along the motion trajectory of the current CU (1800) in two different reference pictures (1810, 1811). Under the assumption of continuous motion trajectory, the motion vectors MV0 (1801) and MV1 (1802) pointing to the two reference blocks are proportional to the temporal distances, e.g., TD0 (1803) and TD1 (1804), between the current picture and the two reference pictures. In some embodiments, when the current picture 1800 is temporally between the two reference pictures (1810, 1811) and the temporal distance from the current picture to the two reference pictures is the same, the bilateral

matching becomes mirror based bi-directional MV.

[00128] FIG. 19 shows an example of template matching used in the Frame-Rate Up Conversion (FRUC) method. Template matching can be used to derive motion information of the current CU 1900 by finding the closest match between a template (e.g., top and/or left neighboring blocks of the current CU) in the current picture and a block (e.g., same size to the template) in a reference picture 1910. Except the aforementioned FRUC merge mode, the template matching can also be applied to AMVP mode. In both JEM and HEVC, AMVP has two candidates. With the template matching method, a new candidate can be derived. If the newly derived candidate by template matching is different to the first existing AMVP candidate, it is inserted at the very beginning of the AMVP candidate list and then the list size is set to two (e.g., by removing the second existing AMVP candidate). When applied to AMVP mode, only CU level search is applied.

[00129] The MV candidate set at CU level can include the following: (1) original AMVP candidates if the current CU is in AMVP mode, (2) all merge candidates, (3) several MVs in the interpolated MV field (described later), and top and left neighboring motion vectors.

[00130] When using bilateral matching, each valid MV of a merge candidate can be used as an input to generate a MV pair with the assumption of bilateral matching. For example, one valid MV of a merge candidate is (MV_a, ref_a) at reference list A. Then the reference picture ref_b of its paired bilateral MV is found in the other reference list B so that ref_a and ref_b are temporally at different sides of the current picture. If such a ref_b is not available in reference list B, ref_b is determined as a reference which is different from ref_a and its temporal distance to the current picture is the minimal one in list B. After ref_b is determined, MV_b is derived by scaling MV_a based on the temporal distance between the current picture and ref_a , ref_b .

[00131] In some implementations, four MVs from the interpolated MV field can also be added to the CU level candidate list. More specifically, the interpolated MVs at the position $(0, 0)$, $(W/2, 0)$, $(0, H/2)$ and $(W/2, H/2)$ of the current CU are added. When FRUC is applied in AMVP mode, the original AMVP candidates are also added to CU level MV candidate set. In some implementations, at the CU level, 15 MVs for AMVP CUs and 13 MVs for merge CUs can be added to the candidate list.

[00132] The MV candidate set at sub-CU level includes an MV determined from a CU-level search, (2) top, left, top-left and top-right neighboring MVs, (3) scaled versions of collocated

MVs from reference pictures, (4) one or more ATMVP candidates (e.g., up to four), and (5) one or more STMVP candidates (e.g., up to four). The scaled MVs from reference pictures are derived as follows. The reference pictures in both lists are traversed. The MVs at a collocated position of the sub-CU in a reference picture are scaled to the reference of the starting CU-level MV. ATMVP and STMVP candidates can be the four first ones. At the sub-CU level, one or more MVs (e.g., up to 17) are added to the candidate list.

[00133] Generation of an interpolated MV field. Before coding a frame, interpolated motion field is generated for the whole picture based on unilateral ME. Then the motion field may be used later as CU level or sub-CU level MV candidates.

[00134] In some embodiments, the motion field of each reference pictures in both reference lists is traversed at 4×4 block level. FIG. 20 shows an example of unilateral Motion Estimation (ME) 2000 in the FRUC method. For each 4×4 block, if the motion associated to the block passing through a 4×4 block in the current picture and the block has not been assigned any interpolated motion, the motion of the reference block is scaled to the current picture according to the temporal distance TD0 and TD1 (the same way as that of MV scaling of TMVP in HEVC) and the scaled motion is assigned to the block in the current frame. If no scaled MV is assigned to a 4×4 block, the block's motion is marked as unavailable in the interpolated motion field.

[00135] Interpolation and matching cost. When a motion vector points to a fractional sample position, motion compensated interpolation is needed. To reduce complexity, bi-linear interpolation instead of regular 8-tap HEVC interpolation can be used for both bilateral matching and template matching.

[00136] The calculation of matching cost is a bit different at different steps. When selecting the candidate from the candidate set at the CU level, the matching cost can be the absolute sum difference (SAD) of bilateral matching or template matching. After the starting MV is determined, the matching cost C of bilateral matching at sub-CU level search is calculated as follows:

$$\text{[00137]} \quad C = SAD + w \cdot (|MV_x - MV_x^s| + |MV_y - MV_y^s|) \quad \text{Eq. (4)}$$

[00138] Here, w is a weighting factor. In some embodiments, w can be empirically set to 4. MV and MV^s indicate the current MV and the starting MV, respectively. SAD may still be used as the matching cost of template matching at sub-CU level search.

[00139] In FRUC mode, MV is derived by using luma samples only. The derived motion will

be used for both luma and chroma for MC inter prediction. After MV is decided, final MC is performed using 8-taps interpolation filter for luma and 4-taps interpolation filter for chroma.

[00140] MV refinement is a pattern based MV search with the criterion of bilateral matching cost or template matching cost. In the JEM, two search patterns are supported – an unrestricted center-biased diamond search (UCBDS) and an adaptive cross search for MV refinement at the CU level and sub-CU level, respectively. For both CU and sub-CU level MV refinement, the MV is directly searched at quarter luma sample MV accuracy, and this is followed by one-eighth luma sample MV refinement. The search range of MV refinement for the CU and sub-CU step are set equal to 8 luma samples.

[00141] In the bilateral matching merge mode, bi-prediction is applied because the motion information of a CU is derived based on the closest match between two blocks along the motion trajectory of the current CU in two different reference pictures. In the template matching merge mode, the encoder can choose among uni-prediction from list0, uni-prediction from list1, or bi-prediction for a CU. The selection can be based on a template matching cost as follows:

[00142] If $\text{costBi} \leq \text{factor} * \min(\text{cost0}, \text{cost1})$

[00143] bi-prediction is used;

[00144] Otherwise, if $\text{cost0} \leq \text{cost1}$

[00145] uni-prediction from list0 is used;

[00146] Otherwise,

[00147] uni-prediction from list1 is used;

[00148] Here, cost0 is the SAD of list0 template matching, cost1 is the SAD of list1 template matching and costBi is the SAD of bi-prediction template matching. For example, when the value of factor is equal to 1.25, it means that the selection process is biased toward bi-prediction. The inter prediction direction selection can be applied to the CU-level template matching process.

2.8 Examples of generalized bi-prediction improvement (GBi)

[00149] Generalized Bi-prediction improvement (GBi) proposed in JVET-L0646 is adopted into VTM-3.0. GBi applies unequal weights to predictors from L0 and L1 in bi-prediction mode. In inter prediction mode, multiple weight pairs including the equal weight pair (1/2, 1/2) are evaluated based on rate-distortion optimization (RDO), and the GBi index of the selected weight pair is signaled to the decoder. In merge mode, the GBi index is inherited from a neighboring

CU. The predictor generation formula is shown as in Equation (5).

$$[00150] \quad P_{GBi} = (w_0 \times P_{L0} + w_1 \times P_{L1} + \text{RoundingOffset}) \gg \text{shiftNum}_{GBi} \quad \text{Eq. (5)}$$

[00151] Herein, P_{GBi} is the final predictor of GBi, w_0 and w_1 are the selected GBi weights applied to predictors (P_{L0} and P_{L1}) of list 0 (L0) and list 1 (L1), respectively. $\text{RoundingOffset}_{GBi}$ and shiftNum_{GBi} are used to normalize the final predictor in GBi. The supported w_1 weight set is $\{-1/4, 3/8, 1/2, 5/8, 5/4\}$, in which the five weights correspond to one equal weight pair and four unequal weight pairs. The blending gain, i.e., sum of w_1 and w_0 , is fixed to 1.0. Therefore, the corresponding w_0 weight set is $\{5/4, 5/8, 1/2, 3/8, -1/4\}$. The weight pair selection is at CU-level.

[00152] For non-low delay pictures, the weight set size is reduced from five to three, where the w_1 weight set is $\{3/8, 1/2, 5/8\}$ and the w_0 weight set is $\{5/8, 1/2, 3/8\}$. The weight set size reduction for non-low delay pictures is applied to the BMS2.1 GBi and all the GBi tests in this contribution.

2.8.1 GBi encoder bug fix

[00153] To reduce the GBi encoding time, in current encoder design, the encoder will store uni-prediction motion vectors estimated from GBi weight equal to 4/8, and reuse them for uni-prediction search of other GBi weights. This fast encoding method is applied to both translation motion model and affine motion model. In VTM2.0, 6-parameter affine model was adopted together with 4-parameter affine model. The BMS2.1 encoder does not differentiate 4-parameter affine model and 6-parameter affine model when it stores the uni-prediction affine MVs when GBi weight is equal to 4/8. Consequently, 4-parameter affine MVs may be overwritten by 6-parameter affine MVs after the encoding with GBi weight 4/8. The stored 6-parameter affine MVs may be used for 4-parameter affine ME for other GBi weights, or the stored 4-parameter affine MVs may be used for 6-parameter affine ME. The proposed GBi encoder bug fix is to separate the 4-parameter and 6-parameter affine MVs storage. The encoder stores those affine MVs based on affine model type when GBi weight is equal to 4/8, and reuse the corresponding affine MVs based on the affine model type for other GBi weights.

2.8.2 GBi encoder speed up

[00154] In this existing implementation, five encoder speed-up methods are proposed to reduce the encoding time when GBi is enabled.

[00155] (1) Skipping affine motion estimation for some GBi weights conditionally

[00156] In BMS2.1, affine ME including 4-parameter and 6-parameter affine ME is

performed for all GBi weights. We propose to skip affine ME for those unequal GBi weights (weights unequal to 4/8) conditionally. Specifically, affine ME will be performed for other GBi weights if and only if the affine mode is selected as the current best mode and it is not affine merge mode after evaluating the GBi weight of 4/8. If current picture is non-low-delay picture, the bi-prediction ME for translation model will be skipped for unequal GBi weights when affine ME is performed. If affine mode is not selected as the current best mode or if affine merge is selected as the current best mode, affine ME will be skipped for all other GBi weights.

[00157] (2) Reducing the number of weights for RD cost checking for low-delay pictures in the encoding for 1-pel and 4-pel MVD precision

[00158] For low-delay pictures, there are five weights for RD cost checking for all MVD precisions including 1/4-pel, 1-pel and 4-pel. The encoder will check RD cost for 1/4-pel MVD precision first. We propose to skip a portion of GBi weights for RD cost checking for 1-pel and 4-pel MVD precisions. We order those unequal weights according to their RD cost in 1/4-pel MVD precision. Only the first two weights with the smallest RD costs, together with GBi weight 4/8, will be evaluated during the encoding in 1-pel and 4-pel MVD precisions. Therefore, three weights at most will be evaluated for 1-pel and 4-pel MVD precisions for low delay pictures.

[00159] (3) Conditionally skipping bi-prediction search when the L0 and L1 reference pictures are the same

[00160] For some pictures in RA, the same picture may occur in both reference picture lists (list-0 and list-1). For example, for random access coding configuration in CTC, the reference picture structure for the first group of pictures (GOP) is listed as follows.

[00161]	POC: 16 , TL:0, [L0: <u>0</u>] [L1: <u>0</u>]
[00162]	POC: 8 , TL:1, [L0: <u>0</u> <u>16</u>] [L1: <u>16</u> <u>0</u>]
[00163]	POC: 4 , TL:2, [L0: 0 <u>8</u>] [L1: <u>8</u> 16]
[00164]	POC: 2 , TL:3, [L0: 0 <u>4</u>] [L1: <u>4</u> 8]
[00165]	POC: 1 , TL:4, [L0: 0 <u>2</u>] [L1: <u>2</u> 4]
[00166]	POC: 3 , TL:4, [L0: 2 0] [L1: 4 8]
[00167]	POC: 6 , TL:3, [L0: 4 0] [L1: 8 16]
[00168]	POC: 5 , TL:4, [L0: 4 0] [L1: 6 8]
[00169]	POC: 7 , TL:4, [L0: 6 4] [L1: 8 16]
[00170]	POC: 12 , TL:2, [L0: <u>8</u> 0] [L1: 16 <u>8</u>]

[00171] POC: 10, TL:3, [L0: 8 0] [L1: 12 16]

[00172] POC: 9, TL:4, [L0: 8 0] [L1: 10 12]

[00173] POC: 11, TL:4, [L0: 10 8] [L1: 12 16]

[00174] POC: 14, TL:3, [L0: 12 8] [L1: 12 16]

[00175] POC: 13, TL:4, [L0: 12 8] [L1: 14 16]

[00176] POC: 15, TL:4, [L0: 14 12] [L1: 16 14]

[00177] Note that pictures 16, 8, 4, 2, 1, 12, 14 and 15 have the same reference picture(s) in both lists. For bi-prediction for these pictures, it is possible that the L0 and L1 reference pictures are the same. We propose that the encoder skips bi-prediction ME for unequal GBi weights when 1) two reference pictures in bi-prediction are the same and 2) temporal layer is greater than 1 and 3) the MVD precision is 1/4-pel. For affine bi-prediction ME, this fast skipping method is only applied to 4-parameter affine ME.

[00178] (4) Skipping RD cost checking for unequal GBi weight based on temporal layer and the POC distance between reference picture and current picture

[00179] We propose to skip those RD cost evaluations for those unequal GBi weights when the temporal layer is equal to 4 (highest temporal layer in RA) or the POC distance between reference picture (either list-0 or list-1) and current picture is equal to 1 and coding QP is greater than 32.

[00180] (5) Changing floating-point calculation to fixed-point calculation for unequal GBi weight during ME

[00181] For existing bi-prediction search, the encoder will fix the MV of one list and refine MV in another list. The target is modified before ME to reduce the computation complexity. For example, if the MV of list-1 is fixed and encoder is to refine MV of list-0, the target for list-0 MV refinement is modified with Equation (6). O is original signal and P_l is the prediction signal of list-1. w is GBi weight for list-1.

$$[00182] \quad T = ((O \ll 3) - w * P_1) * (1/(8 - w)) \quad \text{Eq. (6)}$$

[00183] Herein, the term $(1/(8 - w))$ is stored in floating point precision, which increases computation complexity. We propose to change Equation (6) to fixed-point as in Equation (7).

$$[00184] \quad T = (O * a_1 - P_1 * a_2 + \text{round}) \gg N \quad \text{Eq. (7)}$$

[00185] where a_1 and a_2 are scaling factors and they are calculated as:

$$[00186] \quad \gamma = (1 \ll N)/(8 - w); a_1 = \gamma \ll 3; a_2 = \gamma * w; \text{round} = 1 \ll (N - 1)$$

2.8.3 CU size constraint for GBi

[00187] In this method, GBi is disabled for small CUs. In inter prediction mode, if bi-prediction is used and the CU area is smaller than 128 luma samples, GBi is disabled without any signaling.

2.9 Examples of bi-directional optical flow (BDOF or BIO)

2.9.1 Overview of BDOF

[00188] In BIO, motion compensation is first performed to generate the first predictions (in each prediction direction) of the current block. The first predictions are used to derive the spatial gradient, the temporal gradient and the optical flow of each sub-block or pixel within the block, which are then used to generate the second prediction, e.g., the final prediction of the sub-block or pixel. The details are described as follows.

[00189] The bi-directional optical flow (BIO) method is a sample-wise motion refinement performed on top of block-wise motion compensation for bi-prediction. In some implementations, the sample-level motion refinement does not use signaling.

[00190] Let $I^{(k)}$ be the luma value from reference k ($k=0, 1$) after block motion compensation, and denote $\partial I^{(k)}/\partial x$ and $\partial I^{(k)}/\partial y$ as the horizontal and vertical components of the $I^{(k)}$ gradient, respectively. Assuming the optical flow is valid, the motion vector field (v_x, v_y) is given by:

$$[00191] \quad \partial I^{(k)}/\partial t + v_x \partial I^{(k)}/\partial x + v_y \partial I^{(k)}/\partial y = 0. \quad \text{Eq. (8)}$$

[00192] Combining this optical flow equation with Hermite interpolation for the motion trajectory of each sample results in a unique third-order polynomial that matches both the function values $I^{(k)}$ and derivatives $\partial I^{(k)}/\partial x$ and $\partial I^{(k)}/\partial y$ at the ends. The value of this polynomial at $t=0$ is the BIO prediction:

$$[00193] \quad pred_{BIO} = 1/2 \cdot (I^{(0)} + I^{(1)} + v_x/2 \cdot (\tau_1 \partial I^{(1)}/\partial x - \tau_0 \partial I^{(0)}/\partial x) + v_y/2 \cdot (\tau_1 \partial I^{(1)}/\partial y - \tau_0 \partial I^{(0)}/\partial y)) \quad \text{Eq. (9)}$$

[00194] FIG. 24 shows an example optical flow trajectory in the Bi-directional Optical flow (BIO) method. Here, τ_0 and τ_1 denote the distances to the reference frames. Distances τ_0 and τ_1 are calculated based on POC for Ref₀ and Ref₁: $\tau_0 = \text{POC}(\text{current}) - \text{POC}(\text{Ref}_0)$, $\tau_1 = \text{POC}(\text{Ref}_1) - \text{POC}(\text{current})$. If both predictions come from the same time direction (either both from the past or both from the future) then the signs are different (e.g., $\tau_0 \cdot \tau_1 < 0$). In this case, BIO is applied if the prediction is not from the same time moment (e.g., $\tau_0 \neq \tau_1$). Both referenced regions have non-zero motion (e.g., $MV_{x_0}, MV_{y_0}, MV_{x_1}, MV_{y_1} \neq 0$) and the block motion vectors

are proportional to the time distance (e.g., $MVx_0/MVx_1 = MVy_0/MVy_1 = -\tau_0/\tau_1$).

[00195] The motion vector field (v_x, v_y) is determined by minimizing the difference Δ between values in points A and B. FIGS. 9A-9B show an example of intersection of motion trajectory and reference frame planes. Model uses only first linear term of a local Taylor expansion for Δ :

$$[00196] \quad \Delta = (I^{(0)} - I^{(1)}_0 + v_x (\tau_1 \partial I^{(1)} / \partial x + \tau_0 \partial I^{(0)} / \partial x) + v_y (\tau_1 \partial I^{(1)} / \partial y + \tau_0 \partial I^{(0)} / \partial y)) \quad \text{Eq. (10)}$$

[00197] All values in the above equation depend on the sample location, denoted as (i', j') . Assuming the motion is consistent in the local surrounding area, Δ can be minimized inside the $(2M+1) \times (2M+1)$ square window Ω centered on the currently predicted point (i, j) , where M is equal to 2:

$$[00198] \quad (v_x, v_y) = \underset{v_x, v_y}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{[i', j'] \in \Omega} \Delta^2[i', j'] \quad \text{Eq. (11)}$$

[00199] For this optimization problem, the JEM uses a simplified approach making first a minimization in the vertical direction and then in the horizontal direction. This results in the following:

$$[00200] \quad v_x = (s_1 + r) > m ? \operatorname{clip3} \left(-thBIO, thBIO, -\frac{s_3}{(s_1 + r)} \right) : 0 \quad \text{Eq. (12)}$$

$$[00201] \quad v_y = (s_5 + r) > m ? \operatorname{clip3} \left(-thBIO, thBIO, -\frac{s_6 - v_x s_2 / 2}{(s_5 + r)} \right) : 0 \quad \text{Eq. (13)}$$

[00202] where,

$$[00203] \quad \begin{aligned} s_1 &= \sum_{[i', j'] \in \Omega} (\tau_1 \partial I^{(1)} / \partial x + \tau_0 \partial I^{(0)} / \partial x)^2; s_3 = \sum_{[i', j'] \in \Omega} (I^{(1)} - I^{(0)}) (\tau_1 \partial I^{(1)} / \partial x + \tau_0 \partial I^{(0)} / \partial x), \\ s_2 &= \sum_{[i', j'] \in \Omega} (\tau_1 \partial I^{(1)} / \partial x + \tau_0 \partial I^{(0)} / \partial x) (\tau_1 \partial I^{(1)} / \partial y + \tau_0 \partial I^{(0)} / \partial y), \\ s_5 &= \sum_{[i', j'] \in \Omega} (\tau_1 \partial I^{(1)} / \partial y + \tau_0 \partial I^{(0)} / \partial y)^2; s_6 = \sum_{[i', j'] \in \Omega} (I^{(1)} - I^{(0)}) (\tau_1 \partial I^{(1)} / \partial y + \tau_0 \partial I^{(0)} / \partial y) \end{aligned} \quad \text{Eq. (14)}$$

[00204] In order to avoid division by zero or a very small value, regularization parameters r and m can be introduced in Eq. (12) and Eq. (13), where:

$$[00205] \quad r = 500 \cdot 4^{d-8} \quad \text{Eq. (15)}$$

$$[00206] \quad m = 700 \cdot 4^{d-8} \quad \text{Eq. (16)}$$

[00207] Here, d is bit depth of the video samples.

[00208] In order to keep the memory access for BIO the same as for regular bi-predictive motion compensation, all prediction and gradients values, $I^{(k)}$, $\partial I^{(k)} / \partial x$, $\partial I^{(k)} / \partial y$, are

calculated for positions inside the current block. FIG. 22A shows an example of access positions outside of a block 2200. As shown in FIG. 22A, in Eq. (12), $(2M+1) \times (2M+1)$ square window Ω centered in currently predicted point on a boundary of predicted block needs to accesses positions outside of the block. In the JEM, values of $I^{(k)}, \partial I^{(k)} / \partial x, \partial I^{(k)} / \partial y$ outside of the block are set to be equal to the nearest available value inside the block. For example, this can be implemented as a padding area 2201, as shown in FIG. 22B.

[00209] With BIO, it is possible that the motion field can be refined for each sample. To reduce the computational complexity, a block-based design of BIO is used in the JEM. The motion refinement can be calculated based on a 4×4 block. In the block-based BIO, the values of s_n in Eq. (12) of all samples in a 4×4 block can be aggregated, and then the aggregated values of s_n in are used to derived BIO motion vectors offset for the 4×4 block. More specifically, the following formula can used for block-based BIO derivation:

$$\begin{aligned}
 s_{1,b_k} &= \sum_{(x,y) \in b_k} \sum_{[i',j'] \in \Omega(x,y)} (\tau_1 \partial^{(1)} / \partial x + \tau_0 \partial^{(0)} / \partial x)^2; s_{3,b_k} = \sum_{(x,y) \in b_k} \sum_{[i',j'] \in \Omega} (I^{(1)} - I^{(0)}) (\tau_1 \partial^{(1)} / \partial x + \tau_0 \partial^{(0)} / \partial x), \\
 s_{2,b_k} &= \sum_{(x,y) \in b_k} \sum_{[i',j'] \in \Omega} (\tau_1 \partial^{(1)} / \partial x + \tau_0 \partial^{(0)} / \partial x) (\tau_1 \partial^{(1)} / \partial y + \tau_0 \partial^{(0)} / \partial y), \\
 s_{5,b_k} &= \sum_{(x,y) \in b_k} \sum_{[i',j'] \in \Omega} (\tau_1 \partial^{(1)} / \partial y + \tau_0 \partial^{(0)} / \partial y)^2; s_{6,b_k} = \sum_{(x,y) \in b_k} \sum_{[i',j'] \in \Omega} (I^{(1)} - I^{(0)}) (\tau_1 \partial^{(1)} / \partial y + \tau_0 \partial^{(0)} / \partial y)
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{Eq. (17)}$$

[00211] Here, b_k denotes the set of samples belonging to the k -th 4×4 block of the predicted block. s_n in Eq (12) and Eq (13) are replaced by $((s_{n,b_k}) \gg 4)$ to derive the associated motion vector offsets.

[00212] In some scenarios, MV regiment of BIO may be unreliable due to noise or irregular motion. Therefore, in BIO, the magnitude of MV regiment is clipped to a threshold value. The threshold value is determined based on whether the reference pictures of the current picture are all from one direction. For example, if all the reference pictures of the current picture are from one direction, the value of the threshold is set to $12 \times 2^{14-d}$; otherwise, it is set to $12 \times 2^{13-d}$.

[00213] Gradients for BIO can be calculated at the same time with motion compensation interpolation using operations consistent with HEVC motion compensation process (e.g., 2D separable Finite Impulse Response (FIR)). In some embodiments, the input for the 2D separable FIR is the same reference frame sample as for motion compensation process and fractional position $(fracX, fracY)$ according to the fractional part of block motion vector. For horizontal gradient $\partial I / \partial x$, a signal is first interpolated vertically using *BIOfilterS* corresponding to the

fractional position $fracY$ with de-scaling shift $d-8$. Gradient filter $BIOfilterG$ is then applied in horizontal direction corresponding to the fractional position $fracX$ with de-scaling shift by $18-d$. For vertical gradient $\partial I / \partial y$, a gradient filter is applied vertically using $BIOfilterG$ corresponding to the fractional position $fracY$ with de-scaling shift $d-8$. The signal displacement is then performed using $BIOfilterS$ in horizontal direction corresponding to the fractional position $fracX$ with de-scaling shift by $18-d$. The length of interpolation filter for gradients calculation $BIOfilterG$ and signal displacement $BIOfilterF$ can be shorter (e.g., 6-tap) in order to maintain reasonable complexity. Table 1 shows example filters that can be used for gradients calculation of different fractional positions of block motion vector in BIO. Table 2 shows example interpolation filters that can be used for prediction signal generation in BIO.

Table 1: Exemplary filters for gradient calculations in BIO

Fractional pel position	Interpolation filter for gradient($BIOfilterG$)
0	{ 8, -39, -3, 46, -17, 5 }
1/16	{ 8, -32, -13, 50, -18, 5 }
1/8	{ 7, -27, -20, 54, -19, 5 }
3/16	{ 6, -21, -29, 57, -18, 5 }
1/4	{ 4, -17, -36, 60, -15, 4 }
5/16	{ 3, -9, -44, 61, -15, 4 }
3/8	{ 1, -4, -48, 61, -13, 3 }
7/16	{ 0, 1, -54, 60, -9, 2 }
1/2	{ -1, 4, -57, 57, -4, 1 }

Table 2: Exemplary interpolation filters for prediction signal generation in BIO

Fractional pel position	Interpolation filter for prediction signal($BIOfilterS$)
0	{ 0, 0, 64, 0, 0, 0 }
1/16	{ 1, -3, 64, 4, -2, 0 }
1/8	{ 1, -6, 62, 9, -3, 1 }
3/16	{ 2, -8, 60, 14, -5, 1 }
1/4	{ 2, -9, 57, 19, -7, 2 }
5/16	{ 3, -10, 53, 24, -8, 2 }
3/8	{ 3, -11, 50, 29, -9, 2 }
7/16	{ 3, -11, 44, 35, -10, 3 }
1/2	{ 3, -10, 35, 44, -11, 3 }

[00214] In the JEM, BIO can be applied to all bi-predicted blocks when the two predictions are from different reference pictures. When Local Illumination Compensation (LIC) is enabled

for a CU, BIO can be disabled.

[00215] In some embodiments, OBMC is applied for a block after normal MC process. To reduce the computational complexity, BIO may not be applied during the OBMC process. This means that BIO is applied in the MC process for a block when using its own MV and is not applied in the MC process when the MV of a neighboring block is used during the OBMC process.

2.9.2 Examples of BIO in VTM-3.0 as proposed in JVET-L0256

[00216] Step 1: Judge whether BIO is applicable (W/H are width/height of current block)

[00217] BIO is not applicable if

[00218] ○ Current video block is affine coded or ATMVP coded

[00219] ○ $(iPOC - iPOC_0) \times (iPOC - iPOC_1) \geq 0$

[00220] ○ $H=4$ or ($W=4$ and $H=8$)

[00221] ○ with Weighted Prediction

[00222] ○ GBi weights are not (1,1)

[00223] BIO is not used if total SAD between the two reference blocks (denoted as R_0 and R_1) is smaller than a threshold, wherein

$$SAD = \sum_{(x,y)} |R_0(x,y) - R_1(x,y)|$$

[00224] Step 2: Data preparation

[00225] For a $W \times H$ block, $(W+2) \times (H+2)$ samples are interpolated.

[00226] The inner $W \times H$ samples are interpolated with the 8-tap interpolation filter as in normal motion compensation.

[00227] The four side outer lines of samples (black circles in FIG. 23) are interpolated with the bi-linear filter.

[00228] For each position, gradients are calculated on the two reference blocks (R_0 and R_1).

[00229] $Gx0(x,y) = (R0(x+1,y) - R0(x-1,y)) \gg 4$

[00230] $Gy0(x,y) = (R0(x,y+1) - R0(x,y-1)) \gg 4$

[00231] $Gx1(x,y) = (R1(x+1,y) - R1(x-1,y)) \gg 4$

[00232] $Gy1(x,y) = (R1(x,y+1) - R1(x,y-1)) \gg 4$

[00233] For each position, internal values are calculated as:

[00234] $T1 = (R0(x,y) \gg 6) - (R1(x,y) \gg 6)$, $T2 = (Gx0(x,y) + Gx1(x,y)) \gg 3$,

$T3=(Gy0(x,y)+Gy1(x,y))>>3$; and

[00235] $B1(x,y) = T2*T2$, $B2(x,y)=T2*T3$, $B3(x,y)=-T1*T2$, $B5(x,y)=T3*T3$, $B6(x,y)=-T1*T3$

[00236] Step 3: Calculate prediction for each block

[00237] BIO is skipped for a 4×4 block if SAD between the two 4×4 reference blocks is smaller than a threshold.

[00238] Calculate Vx and Vy .

[00239] Calculate the final prediction for each position in the 4×4 block:

[00240] $b(x,y)=(Vx(Gx^0(x,y)-Gx^1(x,y))+Vy(Gy^0(x,y)-Gy^1(x,y))+1)>>1$

[00241] $P(x,y)=(R^0(x,y)+R^1(x,y)+b(x,y)+offset) >> shift$

[00242] Herein, $b(x,y)$ is known as a correction item.

2.9.3 BIO in VTM-4.0

[00243] JVET-M0063, which proposed to round the results of calculation in BDOF depending on bit-depth was adopted into VTM-4.0.

[00244] JVET-M0487 was adopted into VTM-4.0, which removed the bi-linear filtering and fetched the nearest integer pixel of the reference block to pad the four side outer lines of samples (black circles in FIG. 23).

[00245] The working draft related to BIO in VTM-4.0 are shown as below (from JVET-M1001)

2.9.4 Fractional sample interpolation process

General

Inputs to this process are:

- a luma location (xSb, ySb) specifying the top-left sample of the current coding subblock relative to the top-left luma sample of the current picture,
- a variable $sbWidth$ specifying the width of the current coding subblock,
- a variable $sbHeight$ specifying the height of the current coding subblock,
- a motion vector offset $mvOffset$,
- a refined motion vector $refMvLX$,
- the selected reference picture sample array $refPicLX$,
- the bidirectional optical flow flag $bdofFlag$,
- a variable $cldx$ specifying the colour component index of the current block.

Outputs of this process are:

– an $(sbWidth + bdofOffset) \times (sbHeight + bdofOffset)$ array $predSamplesLX$ of prediction sample values.

The bidirectional optical flow boundary offset $bdofOffset$ is derived as follows:

$$bdofOffset = bdofFlag ? 2 : 0 \quad (8-811)$$

– If $cldx$ is equal to 0, the following applies:

– Let (x_{IntL}, y_{IntL}) be a luma location given in full-sample units and (x_{FracL}, y_{FracL}) be an offset given in 1/16-sample units. These variables are used only in this clause for specifying fractional-sample locations inside the reference sample arrays $refPicLX$.

– For each luma sample location $(x_L = 0..sbWidth - 1 + bdofOffset, y_L = 0..sbHeight - 1 + bdofOffset)$ inside the prediction luma sample array $predSamplesLX$, the corresponding prediction luma sample value $predSamplesLX[x_L][y_L]$ is derived as follows:

– The variables x_{IntL} , y_{IntL} , x_{FracL} and y_{FracL} are derived as follows:

$$x_{IntL} = x_{Sb} + (refMvLX[0] \gg 4) + x_L \quad (8-812)$$

$$y_{IntL} = y_{Sb} + (refMvLX[1] \gg 4) + y_L \quad (8-813)$$

$$x_{FracL} = refMvLX[0] \& 15 \quad (8-814)$$

$$y_{FracL} = refMvLX[1] \& 15 \quad (8-815)$$

– If $bdofFlag$ is equal to TRUE and one or more of the following conditions are true, the prediction luma sample value $predSamplesLX[x_L][y_L]$ is derived by invoking the luma integer sample fetching process as specified in clause 8.5.7.3.3 with (x_{IntL}, y_{IntL}) , (x_{FracL}, y_{FracL}) and $refPicLX$ as inputs:

- $bdofFlag$ is equal to TRUE.
- x_L is equal to 0.
- x_L is equal to $sbWidth + 1$.
- y_L is equal to 0.
- y_L is equal to $sbHeight + 1$.

– Otherwise, the following applies:

– The motion vector $mvLX$ is set equal to $(refMvLX - mvOffset)$.

The prediction luma sample value $predSamplesLX[x_L][y_L]$ is derived by invoking the luma sample 8-tap interpolation filtering process as specified in clause 8.5.7.3.2 with (x_{IntL}, y_{IntL}) , (x_{FracL}, y_{FracL}) , $refPicLX$, and $padVal$ as inputs.

...

Luma integer sample fetching process

Inputs to this process are:

- a luma location in full-sample units (x_{lnt_L} , y_{lnt_L}),
- the luma reference sample array $refPicLX_L$.

Output of this process is a predicted luma sample value $predSampleLX_L$

The variable $shift$ is set equal to $\text{Max}(2, 14 - \text{BitDepth}_Y)$.

The variable $picW$ is set equal to $pic_width_in_luma_samples$ and the variable $picH$ is set equal to $pic_height_in_luma_samples$.

The luma locations in full-sample units (x_{lnt} , y_{lnt}) are derived as follows:

$$x_{lnt} = \text{Clip3}(0, picW - 1, \text{sps_ref_wraparound_enabled_flag} ? \text{ClipH}((\text{sps_ref_wraparound_offset_minus1} + 1) * \text{MinCbSizeY}, picW, x_{lnt_L}) : x_{lnt_L}) \quad (8-838)$$

$$y_{lnt} = \text{Clip3}(0, picH - 1, y_{lnt_L}) \quad (8-839)$$

The predicted luma sample value $predSampleLX_L$ is derived as follows:

$$predSampleLX_L = refPicLX_L[x_{lnt}][y_{lnt}] \ll shift3 \quad (8-840)$$

Bidirectional optical flow prediction process

Inputs to this process are:

- two variables $nCbW$ and $nCbH$ specifying the width and the height of the current coding block,
- two $(nCbW + 2) \times (nCbH + 2)$ luma prediction sample arrays $predSamplesL0$ and $predSamplesL1$,
- the prediction list utilization flags $predFlagL0$ and $predFlagL1$,
- the reference indices $refIdxL0$ and $refIdxL1$,
- the bidirectional optical flow utilization flags $bdofUtilizationFlag[xIdx][yIdx]$ with $xIdx = 0..(nCbW \gg 2) - 1$, $yIdx = 0..(nCbH \gg 2) - 1$.

Output of this process is the $(nCbW) \times (nCbH)$ array $pbSamples$ of luma prediction sample values.

Variables $bitDepth$, $shift1$, $shift2$, $shift3$, $shift4$, $offset4$, and $mvRefineThres$ are derived as follows:

- The variable $bitDepth$ is set equal to BitDepth_Y .
- The variable $shift1$ is set to equal to $\text{Max}(2, 14 - bitDepth)$.
- The variable $shift2$ is set to equal to $\text{Max}(8, bitDepth - 4)$.
- The variable $shift3$ is set to equal to $\text{Max}(5, bitDepth - 7)$.

- The variable shift4 is set equal to $\text{Max}(3, 15 - \text{bitDepth})$ and the variable offset4 is set equal to $1 \ll (\text{shift4} - 1)$.
- The variable mvRefineThres is set equal to $\text{Max}(2, 1 \ll (13 - \text{bitDepth}))$.

For $xIdx = 0..(\text{nCbW} \gg 2) - 1$ and $yIdx = 0..(\text{nCbH} \gg 2) - 1$, the following applies:

- The variable xSb is set equal to $(xIdx \ll 2) + 1$ and ySb is set equal to $(yIdx \ll 2) + 1$.
- If $\text{bdofUtilizationFlag}[xSbIdx][yIdx]$ is equal to FALSE, for $x = xSb - 1..xSb + 2$, $y = ySb - 1..ySb + 2$, the prediction sample values of the current subblock are derived as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{pbSamples}[x][y] = & \text{Clip3}(0, (2^{\text{bitDepth}}) - 1, (\text{predSamplesL0}[x + 1][y + 1] + \text{offset2} + \\ & \text{predSamplesL1}[x + 1][y + 1]) \gg \text{shift2}) \end{aligned} \quad (8-852)$$

- Otherwise ($\text{bdofUtilizationFlag}[xSbIdx][yIdx]$ is equal to TRUE), the prediction sample values of the current subblock are derived as follows:

- For $x = xSb - 1..xSb + 4$, $y = ySb - 1..ySb + 4$, the following ordered steps apply:

1. The locations (h_x, v_y) for each of the corresponding sample locations (x, y) inside the prediction sample arrays are derived as follows:

$$h_x = \text{Clip3}(1, \text{nCbW}, x) \quad (8-853)$$

$$v_y = \text{Clip3}(1, \text{nCbH}, y) \quad (8-854)$$

2. The variables $\text{gradientHL0}[x][y]$, $\text{gradientVL0}[x][y]$, $\text{gradientHL1}[x][y]$ and $\text{gradientVL1}[x][y]$ are derived as follows:

$$\text{gradientHL0}[x][y] = (\text{predSamplesL0}[h_x + 1][v_y] - \text{predSampleL0}[h_x - 1][v_y]) \gg \text{shift1} \quad (8-855)$$

$$\text{gradientVL0}[x][y] = (\text{predSampleL0}[h_x][v_y + 1] - \text{predSampleL0}[h_x][v_y - 1]) \gg \text{shift1} \quad (8-856)$$

$$\text{gradientHL1}[x][y] = (\text{predSamplesL1}[h_x + 1][v_y] - \text{predSampleL1}[h_x - 1][v_y]) \gg \text{shift1} \quad (8-857)$$

$$\text{gradientVL1}[x][y] = (\text{predSampleL1}[h_x][v_y + 1] - \text{predSampleL1}[h_x][v_y - 1]) \gg \text{shift1} \quad (8-858)$$

3. The variables $\text{temp}[x][y]$, $\text{tempH}[x][y]$ and $\text{tempV}[x][y]$ are derived as follows:

$$\text{diff}[x][y] = (\text{predSamplesL0}[h_x][v_y] \gg \text{shift2}) - (\text{predSamplesL1}[h_x][v_y] \gg \text{shift2}) \quad (8-859)$$

$$\text{tempH}[x][y] = (\text{gradientHL0}[x][y] + \text{gradientHL1}[x][y]) \gg \text{shift3} \quad (8-860)$$

$$\text{tempV}[x][y] = (\text{gradientVL0}[x][y] + \text{gradientVL1}[x][y]) \gg \text{shift3} \quad (8-861)$$

- The variables sGx2, sGy2, sGxGy, sGxdI and sGydI are derived as follows:

$$sGx2 = \sum_i \sum_j (\text{tempH}[xSb + i][ySb + j] * \text{tempH}[xSb + i][ySb + j]) \quad \text{with } i, j = -1..4 \quad (8-862)$$

$$sGy2 = \sum_i \sum_j (\text{tempV}[xSb + i][ySb + j] * \text{tempV}[xSb + i][ySb + j]) \quad \text{with } i, j = -1..4 \quad (8-863)$$

$$sGxGy = \sum_i \sum_j (\text{tempH}[xSb + i][ySb + j] * \text{tempV}[xSb + i][ySb + j]) \quad \text{with } i, j = -1..4 \quad (8-864)$$

$$sGxdI = \sum_i \sum_j (- \text{tempH}[xSb + i][ySb + j] * \text{diff}[xSb + i][ySb + j]) \quad \text{with } i, j = -1..4 \quad (8-865)$$

$$sGydI = \sum_i \sum_j (- \text{tempV}[xSb + i][ySb + j] * \text{diff}[xSb + i][ySb + j]) \quad \text{with } i, j = -1..4 \quad (8-866)$$

- The horizontal and vertical motion offset of the current subblock are derived as:

$$v_x = sGx2 > 0 ? \text{Clip3}(-mvRefineThres, mvRefineThres, -(sGxdI << 3) >> \text{Floor}(\text{Log2}(sGx2))) : 0 \quad (8-867)$$

$$v_y = sGy2 > 0 ? \text{Clip3}(-mvRefineThres, mvRefineThres, ((sGydI << 3) - (sGxGy_m) << 12 + v_x * sGxGy_s >> 1) >> \text{Floor}(\text{Log2}(sGx2))) : 0 \quad (8-868)$$

- For $x = xSb - 1..xSb + 2$, $y = ySb - 1..ySb + 2$, the prediction sample values of the current subblock are derived as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{bdofOffset} = & \text{Round}((v_x * (\text{gradientHL1}[x + 1][y + 1] - \text{gradientHL0}[x + 1][y + 1]) >> 1) \\ & + \text{Round}((v_y * (\text{gradientVL1}[x + 1][y + 1] - \text{gradientVL0}[x + 1][y + 1]) >> 1)) \end{aligned} \quad (8-869)$$

[Ed. (JC): Round() operation is defined for float input. The Round() operation seems redundant here since the input is an integer value. To be confirmed by the proponent]

$$\text{pbSamples}[x][y] = \text{Clip3}(0, (2^{\text{bitDepth}}) - 1, (\text{predSamplesL0}[x + 1][y + 1] + \text{offset4} + \text{predSamplesL1}[x + 1][y + 1] + \text{bdofOffset}) >> \text{shift4}) \quad (8-870)$$

2.10 Examples of decoder-side motion vector refinement (DMVR)

[00246] In a bi-prediction operation, for the prediction of one block region, two prediction blocks, formed using a motion vector (MV) of list0 and a MV of list1, respectively, are combined to form a single prediction signal. In the decoder-side motion vector refinement (DMVR) method, the two motion vectors of the bi-prediction are further refined by a bilateral template matching process. The bilateral template matching applied in the decoder to perform a distortion-based search between a bilateral template and the reconstruction samples in the

reference pictures in order to obtain a refined MV without transmission of additional motion information.

[00247] In DMVR, a bilateral template is generated as the weighted combination (i.e. average) of the two prediction blocks, from the initial MV0 of list0 and MV1 of list1, respectively, as shown in FIG. 24. The template matching operation consists of calculating cost measures between the generated template and the sample region (around the initial prediction block) in the reference picture. For each of the two reference pictures, the MV that yields the minimum template cost is considered as the updated MV of that list to replace the original one. In the JEM, nine MV candidates are searched for each list. The nine MV candidates include the original MV and 8 surrounding MVs with one luma sample offset to the original MV in either the horizontal or vertical direction, or both. Finally, the two new MVs, i.e., MV0' and MV1' as shown in FIG. 24, are used for generating the final bi-prediction results. A sum of absolute differences (SAD) is used as the cost measure. Please note that when calculating the cost of a prediction block generated by one surrounding MV, the rounded MV (to integer pel) is actually used to obtain the prediction block instead of the real MV.

[00248] DMVR is applied for the merge mode of bi-prediction with one MV from a reference picture in the past and another from a reference picture in the future, without the transmission of additional syntax elements. In the JEM, when LIC, affine motion, FRUC, or sub-CU merge candidate is enabled for a CU, DMVR is not applied.

2.11 JVET-N0236

[00249] This contribution proposes a method to refine the sub-block based affine motion compensated prediction with optical flow. After the sub-block based affine motion compensation is performed, prediction sample is refined by adding a difference derived by the optical flow equation, which is referred as prediction refinement with optical flow (PROF). The proposed method can achieve inter prediction in pixel level granularity without increasing the memory access bandwidth.

[00250] To achieve a finer granularity of motion compensation, this contribution proposes a method to refine the sub-block based affine motion compensated prediction with optical flow. After the sub-block based affine motion compensation is performed, luma prediction sample is refined by adding a difference derived by the optical flow equation. The proposed PROF (prediction refinement with optical flow) is described as following four steps.

Step 1) The sub-block-based affine motion compensation is performed to generate sub-block prediction $I(i, j)$.

Step2) The spatial gradients $g_x(i, j)$ and $g_y(i, j)$ of the sub-block prediction are calculated at each sample location using a 3-tap filter $[-1, 0, 1]$.

$$g_x(i, j) = I(i + 1, j) - I(i - 1, j)$$

$$g_y(i, j) = I(i, j + 1) - I(i, j - 1)$$

The sub-block prediction is extended by one pixel on each side for the gradient calculation. To reduce the memory bandwidth and complexity, the pixels on the extended borders are copied from the nearest integer pixel position in the reference picture. Therefore, additional interpolation for padding region is avoided.

Step 3) The luma *prediction refinement* (denoted ΔI) as is calculated by the optical flow equation.

$$\Delta I(i, j) = g_x(i, j) * \Delta v_x(i, j) + g_y(i, j) * \Delta v_y(i, j)$$

where the *delta MV* (denoted as $\Delta v(i, j)$) is the difference between pixel MV computed for sample location (i, j) , denoted by $v(i, j)$, and the sub-block MV of the sub-block to which pixel (i, j) belongs, as shown in FIG. 25.

Since the affine model parameters and the pixel location relative to the sub-block center are not changed from sub-block to sub-block, $\Delta v(i, j)$ can be calculated for the first sub-block, and reused for other sub-blocks in the same CU. Let x and y be the horizontal and vertical offset from the pixel location to the center of the sub-block, $\Delta v(x, y)$ can be derived by the following equation,

$$\begin{cases} \Delta v_x(x, y) = c * x + d * y \\ \Delta v_y(x, y) = e * x + f * y \end{cases}$$

For 4-parameter affine model,

$$\begin{cases} c = f = \frac{v_{1x} - v_{0x}}{w} \\ e = -d = \frac{v_{1y} - v_{0y}}{w} \end{cases}$$

For 6-parameter affine model,

$$\begin{cases} c = \frac{v_{1x} - v_{0x}}{w} \\ d = \frac{v_{2x} - v_{0x}}{h} \\ e = \frac{v_{1y} - v_{0y}}{w} \\ f = \frac{v_{2y} - v_{0y}}{h} \end{cases}$$

where (v_{0x}, v_{0y}) , (v_{1x}, v_{1y}) , (v_{2x}, v_{2y}) are the top-left, top-right and bottom-left control point motion vectors, w and h are the width and height of the CU.

Step 4) Finally, the luma prediction refinement is added to the sub-block prediction $I(i, j)$. The final prediction I' is generated as the following equation.

$$I'(i, j) = I(i, j) + \Delta I(i, j)$$

Some details in JVET-N0236

a) How to derive the gradients for PROF

In JVET-N0263, the gradients are calculated for each sub-block (4×4 sub-block in VTM-4.0) for each reference list. For each sub-block, the nearest integer samples of the reference block are fetched to pad the four side outer lines of samples (black circles in FIG. 23).

Suppose the MV for the current sub-block is (MV_x, MV_y) . Then the fractional part is calculated as $(FracX, FracY) = (MV_x \& 15, MV_y \& 15)$. The integer part is calculated as $(IntX, IntY) = (MV_x \gg 4, MV_y \gg 4)$. The offsets $(OffsetX, OffsetY)$ are derived as:

$$OffsetX = FracX > 7 ? 1 : 0;$$

$$OffsetY = FracY > 7 ? 1 : 0;$$

Suppose the top-left coordinate of the current sub-block is (x_{Cur}, y_{Cur}) and the dimensions of the current sub-block is $W \times H$.

Then (x_{Cor0}, y_{Cor0}) , (x_{Cor1}, y_{Cor1}) , (x_{Cor2}, y_{Cor2}) and (x_{Cor3}, y_{Cor3}) are calculated as

$$(x_{Cor0}, y_{Cor0}) = (x_{Cur} + IntX + OffsetX - 1, y_{Cur} + IntY + OffsetY - 1);$$

$$(x_{Cor1}, y_{Cor1}) = (x_{Cur} + IntX + OffsetX - 1, y_{Cur} + IntY + OffsetY + H);$$

$$(x_{Cor2}, y_{Cor2}) = (x_{Cur} + IntX + OffsetX - 1, y_{Cur} + IntY + OffsetY);$$

$$(x_{Cor3}, y_{Cor3}) = (x_{Cur} + IntX + OffsetX + W, y_{Cur} + IntY + OffsetY);$$

Suppose $PredSample[x][y]$ with $x=0..W-1$, $y=0..H-1$ stores the prediction samples for the sub-block. Then the padding samples are derived as

$$PredSample[x][-1] = (Ref(x_{Cor0} + x, y_{Cor0}) \ll Shift0) - Rounding, \text{ for } x=-1..W;$$

$\text{PredSample}[x][H] = (\text{Ref}(x\text{Cor}1+x, y\text{Cor}1) \ll \text{Shift}0) - \text{Rounding}$, for $x=-1..W$;

$\text{PredSample}[-1][y] = (\text{Ref}(x\text{Cor}2, y\text{Cor}2+y) \ll \text{Shift}0) - \text{Rounding}$, for $y=0..H-1$;

$\text{PredSample}[W][y] = (\text{Ref}(x\text{Cor}3, y\text{Cor}3+y) \ll \text{Shift}0) - \text{Rounding}$, for $y=0..H-1$;

where Rec represents the reference picture. Rounding is an integer, which is equal to 2^{13} in the exemplary PROF implementation. $\text{Shift}0 = \text{Max}(2, (14 - \text{BitDepth}))$;

PROF attempts to increase the precision of the gradients, unlike BIO in VTM-4.0, where the gradients are output with the same precision as input luma samples.

The gradients in PROF are calculated as below:

$$\text{Shift}1 = \text{Shift}0 - 4.$$

$$\text{gradientH}[x][y] = (\text{predSamples}[x+1][y] - \text{predSample}[x-1][y]) \gg \text{Shift}1$$

$$\text{gradientV}[x][y] = (\text{predSample}[x][y+1] - \text{predSample}[x][y-1]) \gg \text{Shift}1$$

It should be noted that $\text{predSamples}[x][y]$ keeps the precision after interpolation.

b) How to derive Δv for PROF

The derivation of Δv (denoted as $\text{dMvH}[\text{posX}][\text{posY}]$ and $\text{dMvV}[\text{posX}][\text{posY}]$ with $\text{posX} = 0..W-1$, $\text{posY} = 0..H-1$) can be described as below

Suppose the dimensions of the current block is $\text{cbWidth} \times \text{cbHeight}$, the number of control point motion vectors is numCpMv , and the control point motion vectors are $\text{cpMvLX}[\text{cpIdx}]$, with $\text{cpIdx} = 0..\text{numCpMv} - 1$ and X being 0 or 1 representing the two reference lists.

The variables $\log2\text{CbW}$ and $\log2\text{CbH}$ are derived as follows:

$$\log2\text{CbW} = \text{Log}2(\text{cbWidth})$$

$$\log2\text{CbH} = \text{Log}2(\text{cbHeight})$$

The variables mvScaleHor , mvScaleVer , dHorX and dVerX are derived as follows:

$$\text{mvScaleHor} = \text{cpMvLX}[0][0] \ll 7$$

$$\text{mvScaleVer} = \text{cpMvLX}[0][1] \ll 7$$

$$\text{dHorX} = (\text{cpMvLX}[1][0] - \text{cpMvLX}[0][0]) \ll (7 - \log2\text{CbW})$$

$$dVerX = (cpMvLX[1][1] - cpMvLX[0][1]) \ll (7 - \log_2 CbW)$$

The variables dHorY and dVerY are derived as follows:

- If numCpMv is equal to 3, the following applies:

$$dHorY = (cpMvLX[2][0] - cpMvLX[0][0]) \ll (7 - \log_2 CbH)$$

$$dVerY = (cpMvLX[2][1] - cpMvLX[0][1]) \ll (7 - \log_2 CbH)$$

- Otherwise (numCpMv is equal to 2), the following applies:

$$dHorY = -dVerX$$

$$dVerY = dHorX$$

The variable qHorX, qVerX, qHorY and qVerY are derived as

$$qHorX = dHorX \ll 2;$$

$$qVerX = dVerX \ll 2;$$

$$qHorY = dHorY \ll 2;$$

$$qVerY = dVerY \ll 2;$$

dMvH[0][0] and dMvV[0][0] are calculated as

$$dMvH[0][0] = ((dHorX + dHorY) \ll 1) - ((qHorX + qHorY) \ll 1);$$

$$dMvV[0][0] = ((dVerX + dVerY) \ll 1) - ((qVerX + qVerY) \ll 1);$$

dMvH[xPos][0] and dMvV[xPos][0] for xPos from 1 to W-1 are derived as:

$$dMvH[xPos][0] = dMvH[xPos-1][0] + qHorX;$$

$$dMvV[xPos][0] = dMvV[xPos-1][0] + qVerX;$$

For yPos from 1 to H-1, the following applies:

$$dMvH[xPos][yPos] = dMvH[xPos][yPos-1] + qHorY \text{ with } xPos=0..W-1$$

$$dMvV[xPos][yPos] = dMvV[xPos][yPos-1] + qVerY \text{ with } xPos=0..W-1$$

Finally, dMvH[xPos][yPos] and dMvV[xPos][yPos] with posX = 0..W-1, posY=0..H-1 are right shifted as

$$dMvH[xPos][yPos] = \text{SatShift}(dMvH[xPos][yPos], 7+2-1);$$

$$dMvV[xPos][yPos] = \text{SatShift}(dMvV[xPos][yPos], 7+2-1);$$

where SatShift(x, n) and Shift(x, n) is defined as

$$\text{SatShift}(x, n) = \begin{cases} (x + \text{offset0}) \gg n & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -((-x + \text{offset1}) \gg n) & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Shift}(x, n) = (x + \text{offset0}) \gg n$$

In one example, offset0 and/or offset1 are set to $(1 \ll n) \gg 1$.

c) How to derive ΔI for PROF

For a position (posX, posY) inside a sub-block, its corresponding $\Delta v(i, j)$ is denoted as (dMvH[posX][posY], dMvV[posX][posY]). Its corresponding gradients are denoted as (gradientH[posX][posY], gradientV[posX][posY]).

Then $\Delta I(\text{posX}, \text{posY})$ is derived as follows.

(dMvH[posX][posY], dMvV[posX][posY]) are clipped as

$$\text{dMvH}[\text{posX}][\text{posY}] = \text{Clip3}(-32768, 32767, \text{dMvH}[\text{posX}][\text{posY}]);$$

$$\text{dMvV}[\text{posX}][\text{posY}] = \text{Clip3}(-32768, 32767, \text{dMvV}[\text{posX}][\text{posY}]);$$

$$\Delta I(\text{posX}, \text{posY}) = \text{dMvH}[\text{posX}][\text{posY}] \times \text{gradientH}[\text{posX}][\text{posY}] + \text{dMvV}[\text{posX}][\text{posY}] \times \text{gradientV}[\text{posX}][\text{posY}];$$

$$\Delta I(\text{posX}, \text{posY}) = \text{Shift}(\Delta I(\text{posX}, \text{posY}), 1+1+4);$$

$$\Delta I(\text{posX}, \text{posY}) = \text{Clip3}(-(2^{13}-1), 2^{13}-1, \Delta I(\text{posX}, \text{posY}));$$

d) How to derive I' for PROF

If the current block is not coded as bi-prediction or weighted-prediction,

$$I'(\text{posX}, \text{posY}) = \text{Shift}((I(\text{posX}, \text{posY}) + \Delta I(\text{posX}, \text{posY})), \text{Shift0}),$$

$$I'(\text{posX}, \text{posY}) = \text{ClipSample}(I'(\text{posX}, \text{posY})),$$

where ClipSample clips a sample value to a valid output sample value.

Then $I'(\text{posX}, \text{posY})$ is output as the inter-prediction value.

Otherwise (the current block is coded as bi-prediction or weighted-prediction)

$I'(\text{posX}, \text{posY})$ will be stored and used to generate the inter-prediction value according to other prediction values and/or weighting values.

2.12 JVET-N0510

[00251] In JVET-N0510, phase-variant affine subblock motion compensation (MC) is proposed. The conventional two stage horizontal-vertical interpolation is applied. However, unlike the phase-invariant block-based MC that uses the same horizontal filter for all sample rows and the same vertical filter for all sample columns, different phases of filters can be applied to different sample rows and different sample columns in the affine subblock.

[00252] To better approximate the affine motion model in an affine subblock, phase-variant MC is applied to the subblock. In the proposed method, the affine coded block is also divided into 4×4 subblocks, and a subblock MV is derived for each subblock as done in VTM4.0. The MC of each subblock is divided into two stages. The first stage is to filter an $(4+L-1) \times (4+L-1)$

reference block window with $(4+L-1)$ rows of horizontal filtering, where the L is the filter tap length of the interpolation filter. However, different from the translational MC, in the proposed phase-variant affine subblock MC, the filter phase of each sample row is different. For each sample row, MV_x is derived as follows.

[00253]
$$MV_x = (\text{subblock}MV_x \ll 7 + dMvVerX \times (\text{rowIdx} - L/2 - 2)) \gg 7$$

[00254] The filter phase of each sample row is derived from the MV_x . The $\text{subblock}MV_x$ is the x component of the MV of the derived subblock MV as done in VTM4.0. The rowIdx is the sample row index. The $dMvVerX$ is $(\text{cuBottomLeftCPMV}_x - \text{cuTopLeftCPMV}_x) \ll (7 - \log_2 \text{LumaCbHeight})$, where $\text{cuBottomLeftCPMV}_x$ is the x component of the CU bottom left control point MV, cuTopLeftCPMV_x is the x component of the CU top left control point MV, and LumaCbHeight is the $\log_2$ of the height of the luma coding block (CB).

[00255] After the horizontal filtering, a $4 \times (4+L-1)$ horizontally filtered samples are generated. FIG. 26 shows the concept of the proposed horizontal filtering. The gray points are the samples of the reference block window, and the orange points denote the horizontally filtered samples. A blue tube of 8×1 samples denotes applying one time of 8-tap horizontal filtering, as shown in FIG. 26 and FIG. 27, respectively. Each sample row needs four times of horizontal filtering. The filter phases on a sample row are the same. However, the filter phases on different rows are different. Skewed 4×1 samples are generated.

[00256] In the second stage, the $4 \times (4+L-1)$ horizontally filtered samples (orange samples in FIG. 26) are further vertically filtered. For each sample column, MV_y is derived as follows.

[00257]
$$MV_y = (\text{subblock}MV_y \ll 7 + dMvHorY \times (\text{columnIdx} - 2)) \gg 7 \quad (\text{Equation 2})$$

[00258] The filter phase of each sample column is derived from the MV_y . The $\text{subblock}MV_y$ is the y component of the MV of the derived subblock MV as done in VTM4.0. The columnIdx is the sample column index. The $dMvHorY$ is $(\text{cuTopRightCPMV}_y - \text{cuTopLeftCPMV}_y) \ll (7 - \log_2 \text{LumaCbWidth})$, where cuTopRightCPMV_y is the y component of the CU top right control point MV, cuTopLeftCPMV_y is the y component of the CU top left control point MV, and $\log_2 \text{LumaCbWidth}$ is the $\log_2$ of the width of the luma CB.

[00259] After the vertical filtering, 4×4 affine subblock prediction samples are generated. FIG. 28 shows the concept of the proposed vertical filtering. The light orange points are the horizontally filtered samples from first stage. The red points are the vertically filtered samples as the final prediction samples.

[00260] In this proposal, the used interpolation filter sets are the same as those in VTM4.0. The only difference is that the horizontal filter phases on one sample row are different and the vertical filter phases on one sample column are different. As for the number of filtering operations for each affine subblock in the proposed method, it is the same as that in VTM4.0.

3. Drawbacks of existing implementations

[00261] Some existing implementations suffer from the following drawbacks:

[00262] (1) The gradients calculation methods are not identical in BDOF and PROF.

[00263] (a) In BDOF, the gradients are calculated for the whole block and padding is done once. In PROF, the gradients are calculated for each sub-block and padding is done N times (suppose there are N sub-blocks).

[00264] (b) PROF requires a higher precision for gradients than BDOF.

[00265] (2) The interaction between PROF and other tools is unclear.

[00266] (3) It is unclear how to apply PROF on chroma components.

[00267] (4) The derivation process of Δv may be incorrect.

[00268] (5) PROF may be done conditionally for higher coding performance.

[00269] (6) It is unclear how to combine the methods in JVET-N0236 and JVET-N0510.

[00270] (7) The bit-width of dMvH and dMvV may be too large.

4. Example methods for prediction refinement with optical flow (PROF)

[00271] Embodiments of the presently disclosed technology overcome the drawbacks of existing implementations, thereby providing video coding with higher coding efficiencies. The methods for prediction refinement with optical flow, based on the disclosed technology, may enhance both existing and future video coding standards, is elucidated in the following examples described for various implementations. The examples of the disclosed technology provided below explain general concepts, and are not meant to be interpreted as limiting. In an example, unless explicitly indicated to the contrary, the various features described in these examples may be combined.

[00272] Denote reference picture of current picture from list 0 and list 1 by Ref0 and Ref1 respectively, denote $\tau_0 = \text{POC}(\text{current}) - \text{POC}(\text{Ref0})$, $\tau_1 = \text{POC}(\text{Ref1}) - \text{POC}(\text{current})$, and denote reference block of the current block from Ref0 and Ref1 by refblk0 and refblk1 respectively. For a subblock in current block, MV of its corresponding subblock in refblk0 pointing to refblk1 is denoted by (v_x, v_y) . MVs of the subblock in Ref0 and Ref1 are denoted by $(\text{mvL0}_x, \text{mvL0}_y)$ and

(mvL1_x, mvL1_y) respectively.

[00273] Shift(*x*, *s*) is defined as $Shift(x, s) = (x + off) \gg s$

[00274] SignShift(*x*, *s*) is defined as

$$SatShift(x, n) = \begin{cases} (x + offset0) \gg n & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -((-x + offset1) \gg n) & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

[00275] In an example, *offset0* and/or *offset1* are set to $(1 \ll n) \gg 1$ or $(1 \ll (n-1))$. In another example, *offset0* and/or *offset1* are set to 0. In yet another example, *offset0* = *offset1* = $((1 \ll n) \gg 1) - 1$ or $((1 \ll (n-1))) - 1$.

[00276] Clip3(*x*, *min*, *max*) is defined as

$$Clip3(Min, Max, x) = \begin{cases} Min & \text{if } x < Min \\ Max & \text{if } x > Max \\ x & \text{Otherwise} \end{cases}$$

[00277] Herein, Max(*a*, *b*) = *a* ≥ *b* ? *a* : *b*.

[00278] In the following discussion, an operation between two motion vectors means the operation will be applied to both the two components of the motion vector. For example, MV3=MV1+MV2 is equivalent to MV3_x=MV1_x+MV2_x and MV3_y=MV1_y+MV2_y. alternatively, the operation may be only applied to the horizontal or vertical component of the two motion vectors. The term “absolute value” of a MV (MV_x, MV_y) may refer to abs(MV_x), or abs(MV_y), or max(abs(MV_x), abs(MV_y)) or abs(MV_x) + abs(MV_y), wherein function abs(*x*) returns absolute value of *x*, and function max(*x*, *y*) returns the larger one of *x* and *y*.

[00279] In the following discussion, the left neighboring block, left-bottom neighboring block, above neighboring block, right-above neighboring block and left-above neighboring block are denoted as block A₁, A₀, B₁, B₀ and B₂ as shown in FIG. 2.

1. It is proposed that the gradient calculation in PROF may be done in a M×N region-level which is different from the sub-block size used for motion compensation in affine mode.
 - a. In one example, the gradient calculation in PROF may be done for a M×N region which is larger than a sub-block.
 - b. In one example, M and N may be some predefined number, e.g. M=N=8 or M=N=16.

- c. In one example, M and N may be some number defined depending on the width/height for sub-block size, e.g. $M=N=2*W_{mc}$ wherein W_{mc} is the width/height for sub-block size used in motion compensation.
2. The gradient calculation in PROF/BIO may be done in a $M \times N$ region-level and M/N may be adaptively changed.
 - a. In one example, M and N may depend on the dimensions $W \times H$ of the current block.
 - i. For example, the region may be the whole current block, i.e. $M=W$ and $N=H$.
 - ii. For example, $M=W/T1$ and $N=H/T2$, where $T1$ and $T2$ are integers, e.g. $T1=T2=2$.
3. For above methods, the followings may further apply:
 - a. In one example, M is at least equal to M_{min} and N is at least equal to N_{min} , e.g. $M_{min}=N_{min}=8$.
 - b. In one example, the padding process is done once for each $M \times N$ region to get a padded $(M+dM) \times (N+dN)$ region, e.g. $dM=dN=2$.
 - i. In one example, the samples inside the region (such as the white circles in FIG. 23) may be derived from motion compensation with interpolation filtering.
 - (i) In one example, the samples inside the region may be derived from motion compensation for several sub-blocks in the region.
 - ii. In one example, four side outer lines of samples (such as the black circles in FIG. 23) may be padded.
 - (i) In one example, a sample to be padded may copy the intensity of the nearest integer sample in the reference block.
 - (ii) In one example, a sample to be padded may copy the intensity of the nearest sample in the region that is not padded.
4. For each region that the gradient calculation in PROF/BIO is applied, instead of calculating the gradient values for each sample, it is proposed to calculate gradients based on partial of samples.

- a. In one example, gradients associated with samples at given coordinates may be used in PROF/BIO, e.g., at (2x, y) or (x, 2y) or (2x+1, 2y+1) or (2x, 2y) wherein (m, n) is the coordinate relative to the top-left sample in the current block.
 - b. In one example, samples may be firstly modified (e.g., downsampled) and modified samples may be used to derive gradients.
5. It is proposed that the precision of gradient values calculated in BDOF and PROF may be the same.

- a. In one example, the sample difference may be shifted with the same value.

- i. In one example, the horizontal and/or vertical gradients (denoted by gradientH, gradientV, respectively) may be calculated in the following way:

$$\text{gradientH} [x][y] = (\text{predSamples} [x+1][y] - \text{predSample} [x-1][y]) \gg \text{Shift0}$$

$$\text{gradientV} [x][y] = (\text{predSample} [x][y+1] - \text{predSample} [x][y-1]) \gg \text{Shift1}$$

Alternatively,

$$\text{gradientH} [x][y] = \text{Shift}((\text{predSamples} [x+1][y] - \text{predSample} [x-1][y]), \text{Shift0})$$

$$\text{gradientV} [x][y] = \text{Shift}((\text{predSample} [x][y+1] - \text{predSample} [x][y-1]), \text{Shift1})$$

Alternatively,

$$\text{gradientH} [x][y] = \text{SatShift}((\text{predSamples} [x+1][y] - \text{predSample} [x-1][y]), \text{Shift0})$$

$$\text{gradientV} [x][y] = \text{SatShift}((\text{predSample} [x][y+1] - \text{predSample} [x][y-1]), \text{Shift1})$$

- ii. In one example, the horizontal and/or vertical gradients (denoted by gradientH, gradientV, respectively) may be calculated in the following way:

$$\text{gradientH} [x][y] = (\text{predSamples} [x][y] * 2 - \text{predSamples} [x+1][y] - \text{predSample} [x-1][y]) \gg \text{Shift0}$$

$$\text{gradientV} [x][y] = (\text{predSamples} [x][y] * 2 - \text{predSample} [x][y+1] - \text{predSample} [x][y-1]) \gg \text{Shift1}$$

Alternatively,

$$\text{gradientH} [x][y] = \text{Shift}((\text{predSamples} [x][y] * 2 - \text{predSamples} [x+1][y] - \text{predSample} [x-1][y]), \text{Shift0})$$

$$\text{gradientV} [x][y] = \text{Shift}((\text{predSamples} [x][y] * 2 - \text{predSample} [x][y+1] - \text{predSample} [x][y-1]), \text{Shift1})$$

Alternatively,

$$\text{gradientH}[x][y] = \text{SatShift}(\text{predSamples}[x][y] * 2 - \text{predSamples}[x+1][y] - \text{predSample}[x-1][y]), \text{Shift0})$$

$$\text{gradientV}[x][y] = \text{SatShift}(\text{predSamples}[x][y] * 2 - \text{predSample}[x][y+1] - \text{predSample}[x][y-1]), \text{Shift1})$$

iii. In one example, Shift0 and/or Shift1 may be set to $\text{Max}(2, (14 - \text{BitDepth}))$ wherein BitDepth is the bit depth of reconstructed sample/input sample.

6. The following methods to pad the outer lines of samples (denoted as padding samples, such as the black circles in FIG. 23) may be applied to PROF, or to BIO, or to both PROF and BIO.

a. The padding samples may be padded with the same method for PROF and/or BIO. The “same method” may be any padding method disclosed below.

b. In one example, the padding samples may be derived (e.g. copied) from integer samples in the reference picture for PROF and/or BIO.

i. In one example, the integer sample used to derive a padding sample may be located by the position of the padding sample, adding an MV, which may be rounded to an integer MV in the addition operation.

(i) In one example, the MV (MvX, MvY) may be rounded to the flooring integer MV (IntX, IntY). For example, $\text{IntX} = \text{MvX} \gg P$, $\text{IntY} = \text{MvY} \gg P$, where P is the MV precision.

(ii) In one example, the MV (MvX, MvY) may be rounded to the nearest integer MV (IntX, IntY). For example, set $\text{FracX} = \text{MvX} \& ((1 \ll (P-1)) - 1)$, $\text{FracY} = \text{MvY} \& ((1 \ll (P-1)) - 1)$, $\text{OffX} = (\text{FracX} \geq (1 \ll (P-1))) ? 1 : 0$, $\text{OffY} = (\text{FracY} \geq (1 \ll (P-1))) ? 1 : 0$, where P is the MV precision, then $\text{IntX} = (\text{MvX} \gg P) + \text{OffX}$, $\text{IntY} = (\text{MvY} \gg P) + \text{OffY}$. HalfFrac may be equal to $1 \ll (P-1)$, in other examples, it may be equal to $(1 \ll (P-1)) - 1$ or $(1 \ll (P-1)) + 1$.

(iii) In one example, the MV (MvX, MvY) may be rounded to the integer MV (IntX, IntY) as $\text{IntX} = \text{SatShift}(\text{MvX}, P)$, $\text{IntY} = \text{SatShift}(\text{MvY}, P)$ where P is the MV precision.

(iv) In the above bullets, the MV precision P may depend on the color format and/or color components.

- a. For example, the MV precision for Cb/Cr components may be equal to the MV precision for the luma component plus K with the 4:2:0 color format. E.g. K may be equal to 1.
7. It is proposed that when PROF is applied, the coding tool X cannot be applied.
- a. Alternatively, when coding tool X is applied, the PROF cannot be applied.
 - b. In one example, if coding tool X cannot be applied, the syntax element(s) to indicate coding tool X may not be signaled.
 - c. In one example, coding tool X may be Generalized Bi prediction (GBI).
 - i. For example, when GbiIdx is not equal to 0, PROF is not applied.
 - ii. Alternatively, when PROF is applied, GbiIdx must be 0.
 - iii. Alternatively, when PROF is applied, GbiIdx is not signaled and inferred to be 0.
 - iv. Alternatively, when PROF is applied, GBI is not applied no matter GbiIdx is equal to 0 or not.
 - d. In one example, coding tool X may be local illumination compensation.
 - e. In one example, coding tool X may be Multiple Transform Set (MTS).
 - i. For example, when PROF is applied, only a default transform can be applied.
 - (i) For example, when PROF is applied, syntax elements related MTS is not applied.
 - f. In one example, coding tool X may be weighted prediction.
 - i. For example, when unequal weights and/or unequal offsets due to weighted prediction are applied to one block, PROF is not applied.
8. It is proposed that how to apply PROF may depend on the color format and/or usage of separate plane coding.
- a. In one example, PROF cannot be applied on chroma components if the color format is 4:0:0.
 - b. In one example, PROF may be applied on chroma components if the color format is 4:4:4.
 - c. In one example, PROF may be applied on chroma components if the color format is unequal to 4:0:0.

- d. In one example, how to derive delta MV (e.g., Δv in Section 2.11) may depend on the color format.
9. It is proposed that how to apply PROF may depend on the color component.
- a. In one example, gradients may be calculated independently for each color component.
 - i. Alternatively, gradients calculated for a first color component may be used by a second color component.
 - ii. Alternatively, gradients may be calculated twice, one for the luma/main color component, and the other for two chroma/dependent color components.
 - b. In one example, delta MV (e.g., Δv in Section 2.11) may be calculated independently for each color component.
 - i. Alternatively, delta MV calculated for a first color component may be used by a second color component.
 - c. In one example, prediction refinement (e.g., ΔI in Section 2.11) may be calculated independently for each color component.
 - i. Alternatively, prediction refinement (e.g., ΔI in Section 2.11) calculated for a first color component may be used by a second color component.
 - d. In one example, the precision of gradients in PROF may depend on the color component.
 - e. In one example, the precision of delta MV (e.g., Δv in Section 2.11) in PROF may depend on the color component.
 - f. In one example, whether and how to conduct the clipping operations in PROF may depend on the color component.
 - g. In one example, whether and how to conduct the shifting operations in PROF may depend on the color component.
 - h. In one example, PROF may be applied to luma component only.
 - i. In one example, PROF may be applied to different color components at different sub-block size.
 - i. Alternatively, PROF may be applied to different color components at same sub-block size.

- j. In one example, PROF may be applied to chroma components at M*N sub-block size.
 - i. For example, M and N are set equal to 4.
 - k. The above methods (bullet h-j) may further depend on the color format (e.g., 4:2:0 or 4:4:4).
10. It is proposed that the derivation of delta MV (e.g., Δv in Section 2.11) may depend on the width and/or height of the sub-block.
- a. In one example $dMvH[0][0]$ and $dMvV[0][0]$ are calculated as

$$qHorX = dHorX * P0;$$

$$qVerX = dVerX * P0;$$

$$qHorY = dHorY * P0;$$

$$qVerY = dVerY * P0;$$

$$dMvH[0][0] = ((iDMvHorX + iDMvVerX) * P1) - (quadHorX * (blockWidth >> 1) + quadVerX * (blockHeight * P1));$$

$$dMvV[0][0] = ((iDMvHorY + iDMvVerY) * P1) - (quadHorY * (blockWidth >> 1) + quadVerY * (blockHeight * P1));$$
 where $blockWidth$ and $blockHeight$ represent the width and height of sub-block, respectively. $P0$ and $P1$ are two numbers controlling the precision.
 - i. For example, $P0=4$ and $P1=2$ then $dMvH[0][0]$ and $dMvV[0][0]$ are calculated as:

$$qHorX = dHorX << 2;$$

$$qVerX = dVerX << 2;$$

$$qHorY = dHorY << 2;$$

$$qVerY = dVerY << 2;$$

$$dMvH[0][0] = ((iDMvHorX + iDMvVerX) << 1) - (quadHorX * (blockWidth >> 1) + quadVerX * (blockHeight >> 1));$$

$$dMvV[0][0] = ((iDMvHorY + iDMvVerY) << 1) - (quadHorY * (blockWidth >> 1) + quadVerY * (blockHeight >> 1));$$
11. It is proposed that for affine coded blocks, PROF may be done conditionally instead of always being applied.

- a. In one example, whether and how to conduct PROF may depend on the dimensions $W \times H$ of the current block.
- i. For example, PROF may not be applied if $W \leq T1$ and/or $H \leq T2$, e.g. $T1=T2=16$;
 - ii. For example, PROF may not be applied if $W < T1$ and/or $H < T2$, e.g. $T1=T2=16$;
 - iii. For example, PROF may not be applied if $W \geq T1$ and/or $H \geq T2$, e.g. $T1=T2=64$;
 - iv. For example, PROF may not be applied if $W > T1$ and/or $H > T2$, e.g. $T1=T2=64$;
 - v. For example, PROF may not be applied if $W * H > T1$ e.g. $T1 = 64 * 64$;
 - vi. For example, PROF may not be applied if $W * H \geq T1$ e.g. $T1 = 64 * 64$;
 - vii. For example, PROF may not be applied if $W * H < T1$ e.g. $T1 = 16 * 16$;
 - viii. For example, PROF may not be applied if $W * H \leq T1$ e.g. $T1 = 16 * 16$;
 - ix. For example, PROF may not be applied if $\min(W, H) \geq T1$ e.g. $T1 = 64$;
 - x. For example, PROF may not be applied if $\min(W, H) > T1$ e.g. $T1 = 64$;
 - xi. For example, PROF may not be applied if $\max(W, H) \leq T1$ e.g. $T1 = 16$;
 - xii. For example, PROF may not be applied if $\max(W, H) < T1$ e.g. $T1 = 16$;
- b. In one example, whether and/or how to conduct PROF may depend on control point motion vectors.
- c. In one example, whether and/or how to conduct PROF may depend on the affine parameters and/or the number of affine parameters.
- i. For the 4-parameter affine model, where

$$\begin{cases} mv^h(x, y) = ax - by + mv_0^h, \\ mv^v(x, y) = bx + ay + mv_0^v, \end{cases}$$
 whether and how to conduct PROF may depend on parameters a and b .
 - ii. For the 4-parameter affine model, where

$$\begin{cases} mv^h(x, y) = ax + by + mv_0^h, \\ mv^v(x, y) = cx + dy + mv_0^v, \end{cases}$$
 whether and how to conduct PROF may depend on parameters a, b, c and d .

- iii. In one example, PROF may not be applied if the maximum affine parameter is smaller (or not larger) than a threshold.
 - (i) Alternatively, PROF may not be applied if all (such as four or six) affine parameters are smaller (or not larger) than a threshold.
 - (ii) Alternatively, PROF may not be applied if at least one affine parameter is smaller (or not larger) than a threshold.
- iv. In one example, PROF may not be applied if the maximum value of the absolute values of affine parameter is smaller (or not larger) than a threshold.
 - (i) Alternatively, PROF may not be applied if the absolute values of all the affine parameters are smaller (or not larger) than a threshold.
 - (ii) Alternatively, PROF can only be applied if at least one of the absolute values of all the affine parameters is larger (or not smaller) than a threshold.
- v. In one example, PROF may not be applied if the minimum affine parameter is larger (or not smaller) than a threshold.
 - (i) Alternatively, PROF may not be applied if all (such as four or six) affine parameters are larger (or not smaller) than a threshold.
 - (ii) Alternatively, PROF may not be applied if at least one affine parameter is larger (or not smaller) than a threshold.
- vi. In one example, PROF may not be applied if the minimum value of the absolute values of affine parameter is larger (or not smaller) than a threshold.
 - (i) Alternatively, PROF may not be applied if the absolute values of all affine parameters are larger (or not smaller) than a threshold.
 - (ii) Alternatively, PROF can only be applied if at least one of the absolute values of the affine parameters is smaller (or not larger) than a threshold.
- vii. In one example, PROF may not be applied if the maximum value of the “absolute value” of the delta MV as disclosed in JVET-N0236 is smaller (or not larger) than a threshold.

- (i) Alternatively, PROF may not be applied if the “absolute value” of all the delta MVs are smaller (or not larger) than a threshold.
 - (ii) Alternatively, PROF can only be applied if at least one of the “absolute value” of delta MV is larger (or not smaller) than a threshold.
- viii. In one example, PROF may not be applied if the minimum value of the “absolute value” of the delta MV is larger (or not smaller) than a threshold.
 - (i) Alternatively, PROF may not be applied if the “absolute value” of all the delta MVs are larger (or not smaller) than a threshold.
 - (ii) Alternatively, PROF can only be applied if at least one of the “absolute value” of delta MV is larger (or not smaller) than a threshold.
- ix. In one example, PROF may be applied to certain positions.
 - (i) For example, PROF may be applied to a position if “absolute value” of its corresponding delta MV is smaller (or not larger) than a threshold.
 - (ii) For example, PROF may be applied to a position if “absolute value” of its corresponding delta MV is larger (or not smaller) than a threshold.
- x. In one example, the affine parameters may be represented as integers dHorX, dVerX, dHorY and dVerY with specific precisions as described in JVET-M1001.
- xi. In one example, the threshold may depend on the bit-depth.
 - (i) In one example, the threshold may be derived as $1 \ll \text{BitDepth}$.
 - (ii) Alternatively, furthermore, the threshold may depend on whether bi-prediction or uni-prediction is applied.
 - a. For example, the threshold may be derived as $(1 \ll \text{BitDepth}) + (\text{Bi-prediction? } 1 : 0)$.
- xii. In one example, whether and/or how to apply the disclosed methods in bullet 11 may depend on the reference picture structure.

- (i) For example, if all reference pictures of the current picture are preceding the current picture in the display order, i.e. POCs of all the reference pictures are smaller than the POC of the current picture, one or multiple of the disclosed methods may not be applied.
 - (ii) Alternatively, whether and/or how to apply the disclosed methods in bullet 11 may depend on slice/picture type (such as I-slice or B-slice).
 - (iii) Alternatively, whether and/or how to apply the disclosed methods in bullet 11 may depend on the temporal layer.
- xiii. In bullet 11, the coding method “PROF” may be replaced by other coding methods to enhance affine prediction coding, such as interweaved prediction as disclosed in JVET-N0216 or phase-variant affine subblock motion compensation.
12. It is proposed that the phase-variant affine subblock motion compensation, such as proposed in JVET-N0510, may be firstly applied to get the prediction value, followed by PROF.
13. It is proposed that the bit width of any variables used to derive $dMvH[x][y]$ and/or $dMvV[x][y]$ for any valid x and y cannot exceed a specific number, such as 32.
- a. In one example, $dMvH[x][y]$ and/or $dMvV[x][y]$ are clipped before being used to derive other $dMvH[t][z]$ and/or $dMvV[t][z]$, where (t, z) is not equal to (x, y) .
 - b. In one example, $dMvH[x][y]$ and/or $dMvV[x][y]$ are right shifted before being used to derive other $dMvH[t][z]$ and/or $dMvV[t][z]$, where (t, z) is not equal to (x, y) .
14. It is proposed that $dMvH$ and/or $dMvV$ may have the same precision as stored motion vectors.
- a. For example,
- $$dMvH[xPos][yPos] = \text{SatShift}(dMvH[xPos][yPos], 7+M);$$
- $$dMvV[xPos][yPos] = \text{SatShift}(dMvV[xPos][yPos], 7+M);$$
- where M is the additional precision to derive $dMvH$ and/or $hMvV$, e.g. $M=2$.
15. It is proposed that the clipping on $dMvH$ and/or $dMvV$ before being used to derive the prediction refinement ΔI may depend on the precision of $dMvH$ and/or $dMvV$.

- a. For example

$$\text{dMvH}[\text{posX}][\text{posY}] = \text{Clip3}(-2^{K-1}, 2^{K-1}-1, \text{dMvH}[\text{posX}][\text{posY}]);$$

$$\text{dMvV}[\text{posX}][\text{posY}] = \text{Clip3}(-2^{K-1}, 2^{K-1}-1, \text{dMvV}[\text{posX}][\text{posY}]);$$
 where K depends on the precision of dMvH and/or dMvV.
 - b. Alternatively, dMvH[x][y] and/or dMvV[x][y] are not clipped before being used to derive the prediction refinement.
16. It is proposed that the right shift on the prediction refinement $\Delta I(\text{posX}, \text{posY})$ may depend on the sign of $\Delta I(\text{posX}, \text{posY})$.
- a. For example, $\Delta I(\text{posX}, \text{posY}) = \text{SatShift}(\Delta I(\text{posX}, \text{posY}), N)$, where N is an integer.
17. It is proposed that the clipping on the prediction refinement $\Delta I(\text{posX}, \text{posY})$ may depend on the sample bit-depth.
- a. For example $\Delta I(\text{posX}, \text{posY}) = \text{Clip3}(-(2^{3+\text{BitDepth}}-1), 2^{3+\text{BitDepth}}-1, \Delta I(\text{posX}, \text{posY}));$
18. Whether and/or how to conduct deblocking is performed on subblock boundaries within an affine mode block (e.g., inner subblock boundaries) may depend on whether interweaved prediction as disclosed in JVET-N0216 or/and PROF or/and phase-variant affine subblock motion compensation is applied to the block or not.
- a. In one example, deblocking may be disabled when interweaved prediction or/and PROF or/and phase-variant affine subblock motion compensation is applied to the block.
 - i. Alternatively, deblocking filter may be weaker on sub-block boundaries where interweaved prediction or/and PROF or/and phase-variant affine subblock motion compensation is applied to the block. For example, boundary strength may be set smaller on such boundaries.
 - b. In one example, deblocking may be enabled when interweaved prediction or/and PROF or/and phase-variant affine subblock motion compensation is not applied to the block.

[00280] The examples described above may be incorporated in the context of the methods described below, e.g., methods 2910 to 2950, which may be implemented at a video decoder or a video encoder.

[00281] FIG. 29A shows a flowchart of an exemplary method for video processing. The method 2910 includes, at step 2912, determining that a coding mode of a current video block is

an affine mode. The determining that the coding mode of the current video block is the affine mode may determine whether the coding mode is applied for encoding the current video block or decoding the current video block. The method 2910 includes, at 2914, determining, for the current video block, an applicability mode of a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure with the affine mode according to a rule that specifies a condition for applying the PROF procedure. The method 2910 includes, at 2916, performing, based on the determining, a conversion between the current video block and a coded representation of the video. In some implementations, during the PROF procedure, one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation.

[00282] FIG. 29B shows a flowchart of an exemplary method for video processing. The method 2920 includes, at step 2922, determining, due to a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure being enabled for a video block of a video, that a coding mode is disallowed for coding the video block into a coded representation of the video. The method 2920 includes, at step 2924, performing, based on the determining, a conversion between the current video block and a coded representation of the video. In some implementations, during the PROF procedure, one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation.

[00283] FIG. 29C shows a flowchart of an exemplary method for video processing. The method 2930 includes, at step 2932, determining a coding mode of a current video block of a video. The method 2930 includes, at step 2934, performing, based on the determining, a conversion between the current video block and a coded representation of the video. In some implementations, a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure in which one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation is disabled for the current video block due to use of the coding mode.

[00284] FIG. 29D shows a flowchart of an exemplary method for video processing. The method 2940 includes, at step 2942, determining an applicability mode of a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure for a conversion between a current video block of a video and a coded representation of the video based on a coding characteristic of the video. The method 2940 includes, at step 2944, performing the conversion based on the determining. In some implementations, during the PROF procedure, one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow

calculation.

[00285] FIG. 29E shows a flowchart of an exemplary method for video processing. The method 2950 includes, at step 2952, determining, based on a color component of a current video block of a video, a procedural detail related to a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure in which one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation is disabled for the current video block due to use of the coding mode. The method 2950 includes, at step 2954, performing a conversion between the current video block and a coded representation of the video using the parameters.

5. Example implementations of the disclosed technology

[00286] FIG. 30A is a block diagram of a video processing apparatus 3000. The apparatus 3000 may be used to implement one or more of the methods described herein. The apparatus 3000 may be embodied in a smartphone, tablet, computer, Internet of Things (IoT) receiver, and so on. The apparatus 3000 may include one or more processors 3002, one or more memories 3004 and video processing hardware 3006. The processor(s) 3002 may be configured to implement one or more methods (including, but not limited to, method 2900) described in the present document. The memory (memories) 3004 may be used for storing data and code used for implementing the methods and techniques described herein. The video processing hardware 3006 may be used to implement, in hardware circuitry, some techniques described in the present document.

[00287] FIG. 30B is another example of a block diagram of a video processing system in which disclosed techniques may be implemented. FIG. 30B is a block diagram showing an example video processing system 4100 in which various techniques disclosed herein may be implemented. Various implementations may include some or all of the components of the system 4100. The system 4100 may include input 4102 for receiving video content. The video content may be received in a raw or uncompressed format, e.g., 8 or 10 bit multi-component pixel values, or may be in a compressed or encoded format. The input 4102 may represent a network interface, a peripheral bus interface, or a storage interface. Examples of network interface include wired interfaces such as Ethernet, passive optical network (PON), etc. and wireless interfaces such as Wi-Fi or cellular interfaces.

[00288] The system 4100 may include a coding component 4104 that may implement the

various coding or encoding methods described in the present document. The coding component 4104 may reduce the average bitrate of video from the input 4102 to the output of the coding component 4104 to produce a coded representation of the video. The coding techniques are therefore sometimes called video compression or video transcoding techniques. The output of the coding component 4104 may be either stored, or transmitted via a communication connected, as represented by the component 4106. The stored or communicated bitstream (or coded) representation of the video received at the input 4102 may be used by the component 4108 for generating pixel values or displayable video that is sent to a display interface 4110. The process of generating user-viewable video from the bitstream representation is sometimes called video decompression. Furthermore, while certain video processing operations are referred to as “coding” operations or tools, it will be appreciated that the coding tools or operations are used at an encoder and corresponding decoding tools or operations that reverse the results of the coding will be performed by a decoder.

[00289] Examples of a peripheral bus interface or a display interface may include universal serial bus (USB) or high definition multimedia interface (HDMI) or Displayport, and so on. Examples of storage interfaces include SATA (serial advanced technology attachment), PCI, IDE interface, and the like. The techniques described in the present document may be embodied in various electronic devices such as mobile phones, laptops, smartphones or other devices that are capable of performing digital data processing and/or video display.

[00290] Some embodiments of the disclosed technology include making a decision or determination to enable a video processing tool or mode. In an example, when the video processing tool or mode is enabled, the encoder will use or implement the tool or mode in the processing of a block of video, but may not necessarily modify the resulting bitstream based on the usage of the tool or mode. That is, a conversion from the block of video to the bitstream representation of the video will use the video processing tool or mode when it is enabled based on the decision or determination. In another example, when the video processing tool or mode is enabled, the decoder will process the bitstream with the knowledge that the bitstream has been modified based on the video processing tool or mode. That is, a conversion from the bitstream representation of the video to the block of video will be performed using the video processing tool or mode that was enabled based on the decision or determination.

[00291] Some embodiments of the disclosed technology include making a decision or

determination to disable a video processing tool or mode. In an example, when the video processing tool or mode is disabled, the encoder will not use the tool or mode in the conversion of the block of video to the bitstream representation of the video. In another example, when the video processing tool or mode is disabled, the decoder will process the bitstream with the knowledge that the bitstream has not been modified using the video processing tool or mode that was disabled based on the decision or determination.

[00292] In the present document, the term “video processing” may refer to video encoding, video decoding, video compression or video decompression. For example, video compression algorithms may be applied during conversion from pixel representation of a video to a corresponding bitstream representation or vice versa. The bitstream representation of a current video block may, for example, correspond to bits that are either co-located or spread in different places within the bitstream, as is defined by the syntax. For example, a macroblock may be encoded in terms of transformed and coded error residual values and also using bits in headers and other fields in the bitstream.

[00293] It will be appreciated that the disclosed methods and techniques will benefit video encoder and/or decoder embodiments incorporated within video processing devices such as smartphones, laptops, desktops, and similar devices by allowing the use of the techniques disclosed in the present document.

[00294] Various techniques and embodiments may be described using the following clause-based format.

[00295] The first set of clauses describe certain features and aspects of the disclosed techniques in the previous section.

[00296] 1. A method for video processing, comprising: performing a gradient calculation in a first region of a current video block, wherein a size of the first region ($M \times N$) is different from a size of a sub-block of the current video block that is used for motion compensation in an affine mode, and wherein M and N are positive integers; and performing, based on the gradient calculation, a conversion between the current video block and a bitstream representation of a video comprising the current video block.

[00297] 2. The method of clause 1, wherein the size of the first region is larger than the size of the sub-block.

[00298] 3. The method of clause 1 or 2, wherein M and N are predefined positive integers.

- [00299] 4. The method of clause 1 or 2, wherein the size of the first region is based on the size of the sub-block.
- [00300] 5. The method of clause 1, wherein M/N is adaptively changed.
- [00301] 6. The method of clause 1, wherein M and N are based on dimensions of the current video block.
- [00302] 7. The method of any of clauses 1 to 6, wherein M has a minimum value $M_{\min}$, and wherein N has a minimum value $N_{\min}$.
- [00303] 8. The method of clause 7, wherein $M_{\min} = N_{\min} = 8$.
- [00304] 9. The method of any of clauses 1 to 6, wherein the first region is padded to generate a first padded region of size $(M+dM) \times (N+dN)$.
- [00305] 10. The method of clause 9, wherein samples in the first region or the first padded region are derived based on motion compensation with interpolation filtering.
- [00306] 11. The method of clause 1, wherein at least one sample in the first region is omitted when performing the gradient calculation.
- [00307] 12. The method of clause 1, wherein the gradient calculation is performed with a first precision in bi-directional optical flow (BDOF) and with a second precision in prediction refinement with optical flow (PROF), and wherein the first and second precisions are equal.
- [00308] 13. A method for video processing, comprising: making a decision, based on a selective application of a prediction refinement with optical flow (PROF) to a current video block, regarding a selective application of a coding tool to the current video block, wherein the coding tool is different from the PROF; and performing, based on the decision, a conversion between the current video block and a bitstream representation of a video comprising the current video block.
- [00309] 14. The method of clause 13, wherein the PROF is not applied and the coding tool is applied.
- [00310] 15. The method of clause 13, wherein the coding tool comprises generalized bi-prediction.
- [00311] 16. The method of clause 15, wherein the PROF is not applied, and wherein an index associated with the generalized bi-prediction is not zero.
- [00312] 17. The method of clause 13, wherein the coding tool is local illumination compensation.
- [00313] 18. The method of clause 13, wherein the coding tool is a multiple transform set (MTS).

- [00314] 19. The method of clause 18, wherein the PROF is applied, and only a default transform from the MTS is applied to the current video block.
- [00315] 20. The method of clause 13, wherein the coding tool is weighted prediction.
- [00316] 21. A method for video processing, comprising: making a decision, during a conversion between a current video block and a bitstream representation of a video comprising the current video block, regarding a selective application of a prediction refinement with optical flow (PROF) operation, wherein the decision is based on a color information of a current video block.
- [00317] 22. The method of clause 21, wherein the PROF operation is not applied to one or more chroma components of the current video block, and wherein the color information comprises a 4:0:0 color format.
- [00318] 23. The method of clause 21, wherein the PROF operation is applied to one or more chroma components of the current video block, and wherein the color information comprises a 4:4:4 color format.
- [00319] 24. The method of clause 21, wherein the PROF operation is applied to one or more chroma components of the current video block, and wherein the color information comprises a 4:0:0 color format.
- [00320] 25. The method of clause 21, wherein the PROF operation is applied, and wherein the color information comprises a plurality of color components
- [00321] 26. The method of clause 25, wherein one or more gradients of the PROF operation are calculated independently for each of the plurality of color components.
- [00322] 27. The method of clause 25, wherein one or more gradients of the PROF operation are calculated for a first color component of the plurality of color components and re-used for a second color component of the plurality of color components.
- [00323] 28. The method of clause 26 or 27, wherein a precision of the gradients is based on at least one of the plurality of color components.
- [00324] 29. A method for video processing, comprising: making a decision, based on a height (H) or a width (W) of a current video block, regarding a selective application of a prediction refinement with optical flow (PROF) operation; and performing, based on the decision, a conversion between the current video block and a bitstream representation of a video comprising the current video block.
- [00325] 30. The method of clause 29, wherein the PROF operation is applied to a luma

component of the current video block.

[00326] 31. The method of clause 29, wherein the current video block is coded using an affine mode.

[00327] 32. The method of clause 31, wherein the PROF operation is not applied, wherein $W \leq T1$ and/or $H \leq T2$, and wherein $T1 = T2 = 16$.

[00328] 33. The method of clause 31, wherein the PROF operation is not applied, wherein $W \geq T1$ and/or $H \geq T2$, and wherein $T1 = T2 = 64$.

[00329] 34. The method of clause 31, wherein the PROF operation is not applied, wherein $W \times H \leq T$ or $\max(W, H) \leq T$, and wherein $T = 16$.

[00330] 35. The method of clause 31, wherein the PROF operation is not applied, wherein $W \times H \geq T$ or $\min(W, H) \geq T$, and wherein $T = 64$.

[00331] 36. The method of clause 1 or 2, wherein a size of the current video block is $W \times H$, wherein $M = \min(K, W)$, and wherein K is an integer.

[00332] 37. The method of clause 1 or 2, wherein a size of the current video block is $W \times H$, wherein $N = \min(K, H)$, and wherein K is an integer.

[00333] 38. The method of clause 36 or 37, wherein $K = 16$.

[00334] 39. The method of clause 1 or 2, further comprising: performing, prior to performing the gradient calculation, a padding process in the first region of the current video block.

[00335] 40. The method of clause 39, wherein performing the padding process comprises deriving one or more motion vectors.

[00336] 41. The method of clause 40, wherein the one or more motion vectors comprises a motion vector derived from an affine model toward a specific position of the first region.

[00337] 42. The method of clause 40, wherein the one or more motion vectors comprises a motion vector derived from at least one motion vector of at least one sub-block of the first region.

[00338] 43. The method of clause 39, wherein performing the padding process is based on a height or a width of the current video block.

[00339] 44. The method of clause 39, wherein performing the padding process is based on signaling in a video parameter set (VPS), a decoder parameter set (DPS), a sequence parameter set (SPS), a picture parameter set (PPS), an adaptation parameter set (APS), a slice header, a tile, a tile group header, a coding tree unit (CTU) or a coding unit (CU).

[00340] 45. The method of clause 5 or 6, wherein M and N are signaled in a video parameter

set (VPS), a decoder parameter set (DPS), a sequence parameter set (SPS), a picture parameter set (PPS), an adaptation parameter set (APS), a slice header, a tile, a tile group header, a coding tree unit (CTU) or a coding unit (CU).

[00341] 46. The method of clause 5 or 6, wherein M and N are specified in a profile, a level or a tier of a video coding standard.

[00342] 47. An apparatus in a video system comprising a processor and a non-transitory memory with instructions thereon, wherein the instructions upon execution by the processor, cause the processor to implement the method in any one of clauses 1 to 46.

[00343] 48. A computer program product stored on a non-transitory computer readable media, the computer program product including program code for carrying out the method in any one of clauses 1 to 46.

[00344] The second set of clauses describe certain features and aspects of the disclosed techniques in the previous section, including for example, Example Implementations 7-9 and 11.

[00345] 1. A video processing method, comprising: determining that a coding mode of a current video block is an affine mode; determining, for the current video block, an applicability mode of a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure with the affine mode according to a rule that specifies a condition for applying the PROF procedure; and performing, based on the determining, a conversion between the current video block and a coded representation of the video; wherein, during the PROF procedure, one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation. The determining that the coding mode of the current video block is the affine mode may determine whether the coding mode is applied for encoding the current video block or decoding the current video block.

[00346] 2. The method of clause 1, wherein the applicability mode of the PROF procedure is determined based on a width (W) and/or a height (H) of the current video block.

[00347] 3. The method of clause 2, wherein the applicability mode of the PROF procedure is determined as not applicable according to the rule that specifies at least one of following conditions for not applying PROF procedure: i) $W \leq T1$ and/or $H \leq T2$, ii) $W < T1$ and/or $H < T2$, iii) $W \geq T1$ and/or $H \geq T2$, iv) $W > T1$ and/or $H > T2$, v) $W * H >$, vi) $W * H \geq T1$, vii) $W * H < T1$, viii) $W * H \leq T1$, ix) $\min(W, H) \geq T1$, x) $\min(W, H) > T1$, xi) $\max(W, H) \leq T1$, or xii) $\max(W, H) < T1$, whereby T1 and T2 are positive integers.

[00348] 4. The method of clause 1, wherein the rule specifies the applicability mode of the

PROF procedure based on control point motion vectors that correspond motion vectors at control points and derived for the current video block.

[00349] 5. The method of clause 1, wherein the rule specifies the applicability mode of the PROF procedure based on affine parameters and/or a number of affine parameters that are used in an affine motion compensation prediction for the current video block.

[00350] 6. The method of clause 5, wherein the rule specifies the applicability mode depending on a comparison of a threshold with one of i) a maximum affine parameter, ii) a minimum affine parameter, iii) all affine parameters, or iv) at least one affine parameter.

[00351] 7. The method of clause 5, wherein the affine parameters are represented as integers with specific precisions.

[00352] 8. The method of clause 5, wherein the rule specifies the applicability mode depending on a comparison of a threshold with one of i) a minimum value of an absolute value of an affine parameter, ii) a maximum value of an absolute value of an affine parameter, iii) all affine parameters, or iv) at least one affine parameter.

[00353] 9. The method of clause 1, wherein delta motion vectors are used to calculate motion vectors for the current video block, and wherein the rule specifies the applicability mode depending on a comparison of a threshold with one of i) a maximum value of an absolute value of a delta motion vector, ii) a minimum value of the absolute value of the delta motion vector, iii) all delta motion vectors, iv) at least one of the delta motion vectors.

[00354] 10. The method of clause 1, wherein the rule specifies that the PROF procedure is applied to a position of a sample based on a comparison between an absolute value of a corresponding delta motion vector and a threshold.

[00355] 11. The method of any of clauses 6 and 8-10, wherein the threshold depends on a bit-depth generated for the current video block.

[00356] 12. The method of clause 1, wherein the rule specifies the condition based on at least one of a reference picture structure, a type of a slice or a picture including the current video block, or a temporal layer.

[00357] 13. The method of any of clauses 1 to 12, wherein the performing of the conversion includes generating the coded representation from the current video block.

[00358] 14. The method of any of clauses 1 to 12, wherein the performing of the conversion includes generating the current video block from the coded representation.

[00359] 15. A video processing method, comprising: determining, due to a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure being enabled for a video block of a video, that a coding mode is disallowed for coding the video block into a coded representation of the video; and performing, based on the determining, a conversion between the current video block and a coded representation of the video, wherein, during the PROF procedure, one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation.

[00360] 16. The method of clause 15, wherein a syntax element to indicate the coding mode is not signaled.

[00361] 17. The method of clause 15, wherein the coding mode is a generalized Bi-prediction (GBi) mode in which different weights are applied to reference pictures of the current video block.

[00362] 18. The method of clause 17, wherein in case that an index for the GBi mode is not equal to 0, the PROF procedure is applied,

[00363] 19. The method of clause 17, wherein in case that the PROF procedure is applied, an index for the GBi mode is 0 or not signaled and inferred to be 0.

[00364] 20. The method of clause 17, wherein in case that the PROF procedure is applied, the GBi mode is not applied regardless of an index for the GBi mode.

[00365] 21. The method of clause 15, wherein the coding mode is a local illumination compensation that uses a linear model of illumination changes in the current block during the conversion.

[00366] 22. The method of clause 15, wherein the coding mode is a multiple transform set (MTS) that includes multiple transform types for a selection.

[00367] 23. The method of clause 22, wherein in case that the PROF is applied, only a default transform from the MTS is applied to the current video block.

[00368] 24. The method of clause 15, wherein the coding mode is weighted prediction in which a combination of predictions using different prediction modes are applied during the conversion.

[00369] 25. The method of any of clauses 15 to 24, wherein the performing of the conversion includes generating the coded representation from the current video block.

[00370] 26. The method of any of clauses 15 to 24, wherein the performing of the conversion includes generating the current video block from the coded representation.

[00371] 27. A video processing method, comprising: determining a coding mode of a current

video block of a video; and performing, based on the determining, a conversion between the current video block and a coded representation of the video, wherein a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure in which one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation is disabled for the current video block due to use of the coding mode.

[00372] 28. The method of any one of clause 27, wherein the coding mode is a generalized Bi-prediction (GBi) mode in which different weights are applied to reference pictures of the current video block.

[00373] 29. The method of clause 28, wherein in case that an index for the GBi mode is not equal to 0, the PROF procedure is applied.

[00374] 30. The method of clause 28, wherein in case that the PROF procedure is applied, an index for the GBi mode is 0 or not signaled and inferred to be 0.

[00375] 31. The method of clause 28, wherein in case that the PROF procedure is applied, the GBi mode is not applied regardless of an index for the GBi mode.

[00376] 32. The method of clause 27, wherein the coding mode is a local illumination compensation that uses a linear model of illumination changes in the current block during the conversion.

[00377] 33. The method of clause 27, wherein the coding mode is a multiple transform set (MTS) that includes multiple transform types for a selection.

[00378] 34. The method of clause 33, wherein in case that the PROF is applied, only a default transform from the MTS is applied to the current video block.

[00379] 35. The method of clause 27, wherein the coding mode is weighted prediction in which a combination of predictions using different prediction modes are applied during the conversion.

[00380] 36. The method of any of clauses 27 to 35, wherein the performing of the conversion includes generating the coded representation from the current video block.

[00381] 37. The method of any of clauses 27 to 35, wherein the performing of the conversion includes generating the current video block from the coded representation.

[00382] 38. A video processing method, comprising: determining an applicability mode of a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure for a conversion between a current video block of a video and a coded representation of the video based on a coding characteristic of the video; and performing the conversion based on the determining, wherein, during the PROF

procedure, one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation.

[00383] 39. The method of clause 38, wherein the applicability mode specifies to disable the PROF procedure for the coding characteristic that the video is in a 4:0:0 chroma format.

[00384] 40. The method of clause 38, wherein the applicability mode specifies to enable the PROF procedure due to the coding characteristic of the video being a 4:4:4 chroma format.

[00385] 41. The method of clause 38, wherein the applicability mode specifies to enable the PROF procedure due to the coding characteristic of the video being not equal to a 4:4:4 chroma format.

[00386] 42. The method of clause 38, wherein the applicability mode specifies information to derive motion vector differences based on a color format of the current video block, the motion vector differences representing motion vector differences between samples in an initial prediction block and a refined prediction block.

[00387] 43. The method of any of clauses 38 to 42, wherein the performing of the conversion includes generating the coded representation from the current video block.

[00388] 44. The method of any of clauses 38 to 42, wherein the performing of the conversion includes generating the current video block from the coded representation.

[00389] 45. A video processing method, comprising: determining, based on a color component of a current video block of a video, a procedural detail related to a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure in which one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation is disabled for the current video block due to use of the coding mode; and performing a conversion between the current video block and a coded representation of the video using the parameters.

[00390] 46. The method of clause 45, wherein the procedural detail is determined such that gradients are calculated independent for each color component during the PROF procedure.

[00391] 47. The method of clause 45, wherein the procedural detail is determined such that gradients are calculated for a first color component and calculated gradients are used by a second color component during the PROF procedure.

[00392] 48. The method of clause 45, wherein the procedural detail is determined such that a first gradient calculation is performed for a luma component for a main color and a second gradient calculation is performed for two chroma components for one or more dependent colors during the

PROF procedure.

[00393] 49. The method of clause 45, wherein the procedural detail is determined such that motion vector differences are calculated independently for each color component, the motion vector differences representing motion vector differences between samples in an initial prediction block and a refined prediction block.

[00394] 50. The method of clause 45, wherein the procedural detail is determined such that a prediction refinement refining the one or more initial predictions is calculated independently for each color component.

[00395] 51. The method of clause 45, wherein the procedural detail is determined such that a precision of gradients in the PROF procedure depends on a color component of the current video block.

[00396] 52. The method of clause 45, wherein the procedural detail is determined such that a precision of motion vector differences depends on a color component of the current video block, the motion vector differences representing motion vector differences between samples in an initial prediction block and a refined prediction block.

[00397] 53. The method of clause 45, wherein the PROF procedure includes a clipping operation that depends on color component of the current video block.

[00398] 54. The method of clause 45, wherein the PROF procedure includes a shifting operation that depends on color component of the current video block.

[00399] 55. The method of clause 45, wherein the procedural detail is determined such that the PROF procedure is applied to a luma component only.

[00400] 56. The method of clause 45, wherein the procedural detail is determined such that the PROF is applied to different color components.

[00401] 57. The method of clause 45, wherein the procedural detail is determined such that the PROF is applied to chroma components at a (MxN) sub-block size.

[00402] 58. The method of any of clauses 55 to 57, wherein the procedural detail depends on a color format of the current video block.

[00403] 59. The method of any of clauses 45 to 58, wherein the performing of the conversion includes generating the coded representation from the current video block.

[00404] 60. The method of any of clauses 45 to 58, wherein the performing of the conversion includes generating the current video block from the coded representation.

[00405] 61. The method of any of clauses 45 to 60, wherein the performing of the conversion includes generating the coded representation from the current video block.

[00406] 62. The method any of clauses 45 to 60, wherein the performing of the conversion includes generating the current video block from the coded representation.

[00407] 63. A video encoding method, comprising: deciding to encode a current video block of a video into a coded representation of the video in an affine mode; determining, for the current video block, an applicability mode of a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure with the affine mode according to a rule that specifies a condition for applying the PROF procedure; and generating a coded representation of the current video block based on the determining, wherein, during the PROF procedure, one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation.

[00408] 64. A video decoding method comprising: parsing a coded representation of a video to determine that a current video block of the video is coded using an affine mode; determining, for the current video block, an applicability mode of a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure with the affine mode according to a rule that specifies a condition for applying the PROF procedure; and generating a decoded representation of the current video block from the coded representation according to the applicability mode, wherein, during the PROF procedure, one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation.

[00409] 65. A video encoding method, comprising: determining, due to a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure being enabled for a video block of a video, that a coding mode is disallowed for coding the video block into a coded representation of the video; and generating the coded representation of the video block based on the determining, wherein, during the PROF procedure, one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation.

[00410] 66. A video decoding method, comprising: determining, due to a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) being enabled for a video block of a video, that use of a coding mode for representing the video block in a coded representation of the video is disallowed; and generating a decoded video block by parsing the coded representation based on the determining, wherein, during the PROF procedure, one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation.

[00411] 67. A video encoding method, comprising: deciding a coding mode used for representing a current video block of a video in a coded representation of the video; and coding the current video block into the coded representation according to the coding mode, wherein a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure in which one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation is disabled for the current video block due to use of the coding mode.

[00412] 68. A video decoding method, comprising: parsing a coded representation of a video to determine that a current video block of the video is coded using a coding mode; and generating a decoded representation of the current video block from the coded representation according to the coding mode, wherein a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure in which one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation is disabled for the current video block due to use of the coding mode.

[00413] From the foregoing, it will be appreciated that specific embodiments of the presently disclosed technology have been described herein for purposes of illustration, but that various modifications may be made without deviating from the scope of the invention. Accordingly, the presently disclosed technology is not limited except as by the appended claims.

[00414] Implementations of the subject matter and the functional operations described in this patent document can be implemented in various systems, digital electronic circuitry, or in computer software, firmware, or hardware, including the structures disclosed in this specification and their structural equivalents, or in combinations of one or more of them. Implementations of the subject matter described in this specification can be implemented as one or more computer program products, i.e., one or more modules of computer program instructions encoded on a tangible and non-transitory computer readable medium for execution by, or to control the operation of, data processing apparatus. The computer readable medium can be a machine-readable storage device, a machine-readable storage substrate, a memory device, a composition of matter effecting a machine-readable propagated signal, or a combination of one or more of them. The term “data processing unit” or “data processing apparatus” encompasses all apparatus, devices, and machines for processing data, including by way of example a programmable processor, a computer, or multiple processors or computers. The apparatus can include, in addition to hardware, code that creates an execution environment for the computer

program in question, e.g., code that constitutes processor firmware, a protocol stack, a database management system, an operating system, or a combination of one or more of them.

[00415] A computer program (also known as a program, software, software application, script, or code) can be written in any form of programming language, including compiled or interpreted languages, and it can be deployed in any form, including as a stand-alone program or as a module, component, subroutine, or other unit suitable for use in a computing environment. A computer program does not necessarily correspond to a file in a file system. A program can be stored in a portion of a file that holds other programs or data (e.g., one or more scripts stored in a markup language document), in a single file dedicated to the program in question, or in multiple coordinated files (e.g., files that store one or more modules, sub programs, or portions of code). A computer program can be deployed to be executed on one computer or on multiple computers that are located at one site or distributed across multiple sites and interconnected by a communication network.

[00416] The processes and logic flows described in this specification can be performed by one or more programmable processors executing one or more computer programs to perform functions by operating on input data and generating output. The processes and logic flows can also be performed by, and apparatus can also be implemented as, special purpose logic circuitry, e.g., an FPGA (field programmable gate array) or an ASIC (application specific integrated circuit).

[00417] Processors suitable for the execution of a computer program include, by way of example, both general and special purpose microprocessors, and any one or more processors of any kind of digital computer. Generally, a processor will receive instructions and data from a read only memory or a random access memory or both. The essential elements of a computer are a processor for performing instructions and one or more memory devices for storing instructions and data. Generally, a computer will also include, or be operatively coupled to receive data from or transfer data to, or both, one or more mass storage devices for storing data, e.g., magnetic, magneto optical disks, or optical disks. However, a computer need not have such devices. Computer readable media suitable for storing computer program instructions and data include all forms of nonvolatile memory, media and memory devices, including by way of example semiconductor memory devices, e.g., EPROM, EEPROM, and flash memory devices. The processor and the memory can be supplemented by, or incorporated in, special purpose logic

circuitry.

[00418] It is intended that the specification, together with the drawings, be considered exemplary only, where exemplary means an example. As used herein, the use of “or” is intended to include “and/or”, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

[00419] While this patent document contains many specifics, these should not be construed as limitations on the scope of any invention or of what may be claimed, but rather as descriptions of features that may be specific to particular embodiments of particular inventions. Certain features that are described in this patent document in the context of separate embodiments can also be implemented in combination in a single embodiment. Conversely, various features that are described in the context of a single embodiment can also be implemented in multiple embodiments separately or in any suitable subcombination. Moreover, although features may be described above as acting in certain combinations and even initially claimed as such, one or more features from a claimed combination can in some cases be excised from the combination, and the claimed combination may be directed to a subcombination or variation of a subcombination.

[00420] Similarly, while operations are depicted in the drawings in a particular order, this should not be understood as requiring that such operations be performed in the particular order shown or in sequential order, or that all illustrated operations be performed, to achieve desirable results. Moreover, the separation of various system components in the embodiments described in this patent document should not be understood as requiring such separation in all embodiments.

[00421] Only a few implementations and examples are described and other implementations, enhancements and variations can be made based on what is described and illustrated in this patent document.

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A video processing method, comprising:
 - determining that a coding mode of a current video block is an affine mode;
 - determining, for the current video block, an applicability mode of a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure with the affine mode according to a rule that specifies a condition for applying the PROF procedure; and
 - performing, based on the determining, a conversion between the current video block and a coded representation of the video;
 wherein, during the PROF procedure, one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the applicability mode of the PROF procedure is determined based on a width (W) and/or a height (H) of the current video block.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the applicability mode of the PROF procedure is determined as not applicable according to the rule that specifies at least one of following conditions for not applying PROF procedure: i) $W \leq T1$ and/or $H \leq T2$, ii) $W < T1$ and/or $H < T2$, iii) $W \geq T1$ and/or $H \geq T2$, iv) $W > T1$ and/or $H > T2$, v) $W * H >$, vi) $W * H \geq T1$, vii) $W * H < T1$, viii) $W * H \leq T1$, ix) $\min(W, H) \geq T1$, x) $\min(W, H) > T1$, xi) $\max(W, H) \leq T1$, or xii) $\max(W, H) < T1$, whereby T1 and T2 are positive integers.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein the rule specifies the applicability mode of the PROF procedure based on control point motion vectors that correspond motion vectors at control points and derived for the current video block.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein the rule specifies the applicability mode of the PROF procedure based on affine parameters and/or a number of affine parameters that are used in an affine motion compensation prediction for the current video block.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein the rule specifies the applicability mode depending on a comparison of a threshold with one of i) a maximum affine parameter, ii) a minimum affine parameter, iii) all affine parameters, or iv) at least one affine parameter.
7. The method of claim 5, wherein the affine parameters are represented as integers with specific precisions.
8. The method of claim 5, wherein the rule specifies the applicability mode depending on a comparison of a threshold with one of i) a minimum value of an absolute value of an affine parameter, ii) a maximum value of an absolute value of an affine parameter, iii) all affine parameters, or iv) at least one affine parameter.
9. The method of claim 1, wherein delta motion vectors are used to calculate motion vectors for the current video block, and wherein the rule specifies the applicability mode depending on a comparison of a threshold with one of i) a maximum value of an absolute value of a delta motion vector, ii) a minimum value of the absolute value of the delta motion vector, iii) all delta motion vectors, iv) at least one of the delta motion vectors.
10. The method of claim 1, wherein the rule specifies that the PROF procedure is applied to a position of a sample based on a comparison between an absolute value of a corresponding delta motion vector and a threshold.
11. The method of any of claims 6 and 8-10, wherein the threshold depends on a bit-depth generated for the current video block.
12. The method of claim 1, wherein the rule specifies the condition based on at least one of a reference picture structure, a type of a slice or a picture including the current video block, or a temporal layer.

13. The method of any of claims 1 to 12, wherein the performing of the conversion includes generating the coded representation from the current video block.
14. The method of any of claims 1 to 12, wherein the performing of the conversion includes generating the current video block from the coded representation.
15. A video processing method, comprising:
 - determining, due to a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure being enabled for a video block of a video, that a coding mode is disallowed for coding the video block into a coded representation of the video; and
 - performing, based on the determining, a conversion between the current video block and a coded representation of the video,
 - wherein, during the PROF procedure, one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation.
16. The method of claim 15, wherein a syntax element to indicate the coding mode is not signaled.
17. The method of claim 15, wherein the coding mode is a generalized Bi-prediction (GBi) mode in which different weights are applied to reference pictures of the current video block.
18. The method of claim 17, wherein in case that an index for the GBi mode is not equal to 0, the PROF procedure is applied.
19. The method of claim 17, wherein in case that the PROF procedure is applied, an index for the GBi mode is 0 or not signaled and inferred to be 0.
20. The method of claim 17, wherein in case that the PROF procedure is applied, the GBi mode is not applied regardless of an index for the GBi mode.

21. The method of claim 15, wherein the coding mode is a local illumination compensation that uses a linear model of illumination changes in the current block during the conversion.
22. The method of claim 15, wherein the coding mode is a multiple transform set (MTS) that includes multiple transform types for a selection.
23. The method of claim 22, wherein in case that the PROF is applied, only a default transform from the MTS is applied to the current video block.
24. The method of claim 15, wherein the coding mode is weighted prediction in which a combination of predictions using different prediction modes are applied during the conversion.
25. The method of any of claims 15 to 24, wherein the performing of the conversion includes generating the coded representation from the current video block.
26. The method of any of claims 15 to 24, wherein the performing of the conversion includes generating the current video block from the coded representation.
27. A video processing method, comprising:
 - determining a coding mode of a current video block of a video; and
 - performing, based on the determining, a conversion between the current video block and a coded representation of the video,wherein a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure in which one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation is disabled for the current video block due to use of the coding mode.
28. The method of any one of claim 27, wherein the coding mode is a generalized Bi-prediction (GBi) mode in which different weights are applied to reference pictures of the current video block.

29. The method of claim 28, wherein in case that an index for the GBi mode is not equal to 0, the PROF procedure is applied.
30. The method of claim 28, wherein in case that the PROF procedure is applied, an index for the GBi mode is 0 or not signaled and inferred to be 0.
31. The method of claim 28, wherein in case that the PROF procedure is applied, the GBi mode is not applied regardless of an index for the GBi mode.
32. The method of claim 27, wherein the coding mode is a local illumination compensation that uses a linear model of illumination changes in the current block during the conversion.
33. The method of claim 27, wherein the coding mode is a multiple transform set (MTS) that includes multiple transform types for a selection.
34. The method of claim 33, wherein in case that the PROF is applied, only a default transform from the MTS is applied to the current video block.
35. The method of claim 27, wherein the coding mode is weighted prediction in which a combination of predictions using different prediction modes are applied during the conversion.
36. The method of any of claims 27 to 35, wherein the performing of the conversion includes generating the coded representation from the current video block.
37. The method of any of claims 27 to 35, wherein the performing of the conversion includes generating the current video block from the coded representation.
38. A video processing method, comprising:
determining an applicability mode of a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure for a conversion between a current video block of a video and a coded representation of the video based on a coding characteristic of the video; and

performing the conversion based on the determining,
wherein, during the PROF procedure, one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation.

39. The method of claim 38, wherein the applicability mode specifies to disable the PROF procedure for the coding characteristic that the video is in a 4:0:0 chroma format.

40. The method of claim 38, wherein the applicability mode specifies to enable the PROF procedure due to the coding characteristic of the video being a 4:4:4 chroma format.

41. The method of claim 38, wherein the applicability mode specifies to enable the PROF procedure due to the coding characteristic of the video being not equal to a 4:4:4 chroma format.

42. The method of claim 38, wherein the applicability mode specifies information to derive motion vector differences based on a color format of the current video block, the motion vector differences representing motion vector differences between samples in an initial prediction block and a refined prediction block.

43. The method of any of claims 38 to 42, wherein the performing of the conversion includes generating the coded representation from the current video block.

44. The method of any of claims 38 to 42, wherein the performing of the conversion includes generating the current video block from the coded representation.

45. A video processing method, comprising:
determining, based on a color component of a current video block of a video, a procedural detail related to a prediction refinement optical flow (PROF) procedure in which one or more initial predictions for the current video block are computed at a sub-block level and refined using an optical flow calculation is disabled for the current video block due to use of the coding mode; and

performing a conversion between the current video block and a coded representation of the video using the parameters.

46. The method of claim 45, wherein the procedural detail is determined such that gradients are calculated independent for each color component during the PROF procedure.

47. The method of claim 45, wherein the procedural detail is determined such that gradients are calculated for a first color component and calculated gradients are used by a second color component during the PROF procedure.

48. The method of claim 45, wherein the procedural detail is determined such that a first gradient calculation is performed for a luma component for a main color and a second gradient calculation is performed for two chroma components for one or more dependent colors during the PROF procedure.

49. The method of claim 45, wherein the procedural detail is determined such that motion vector differences are calculated independently for each color component, the motion vector differences representing motion vector differences between samples in an initial prediction block and a refined prediction block.

50. The method of claim 45, wherein the procedural detail is determined such that a prediction refinement refining the one or more initial predictions is calculated independently for each color component.

51. The method of claim 45, wherein the procedural detail is determined such that a precision of gradients in the PROF procedure depends on a color component of the current video block.

52. The method of claim 45, wherein the procedural detail is determined such that a precision of motion vector differences depends on a color component of the current video block, the

motion vector differences representing motion vector differences between samples in an initial prediction block and a refined prediction block.

53. The method of claim 45, wherein the PROF procedure includes a clipping operation that depends on color component of the current video block.

54. The method of claim 45, wherein the PROF procedure includes a shifting operation that depends on color component of the current video block.

55. The method of claim 45, wherein the procedural detail is determined such that the PROF procedure is applied to a luma component only.

56. The method of claim 45, wherein the procedural detail is determined such that the PROF is applied to different color components.

57. The method of claim 45, wherein the procedural detail is determined such that the PROF is applied to chroma components at a (MxN) sub-block size.

58. The method of any of claims 55 to 57, wherein the procedural detail depends on a color format of the current video block.

59. The method of any of claims 45 to 58, wherein the performing of the conversion includes generating the coded representation from the current video block.

60. The method of any of claims 45 to 58, wherein the performing of the conversion includes generating the current video block from the coded representation.

61. The method of any of claims 45 to 60, wherein the performing of the conversion includes generating the coded representation from the current video block.

62. The method any of claims 45 to 60, wherein the performing of the conversion includes generating the current video block from the coded representation.

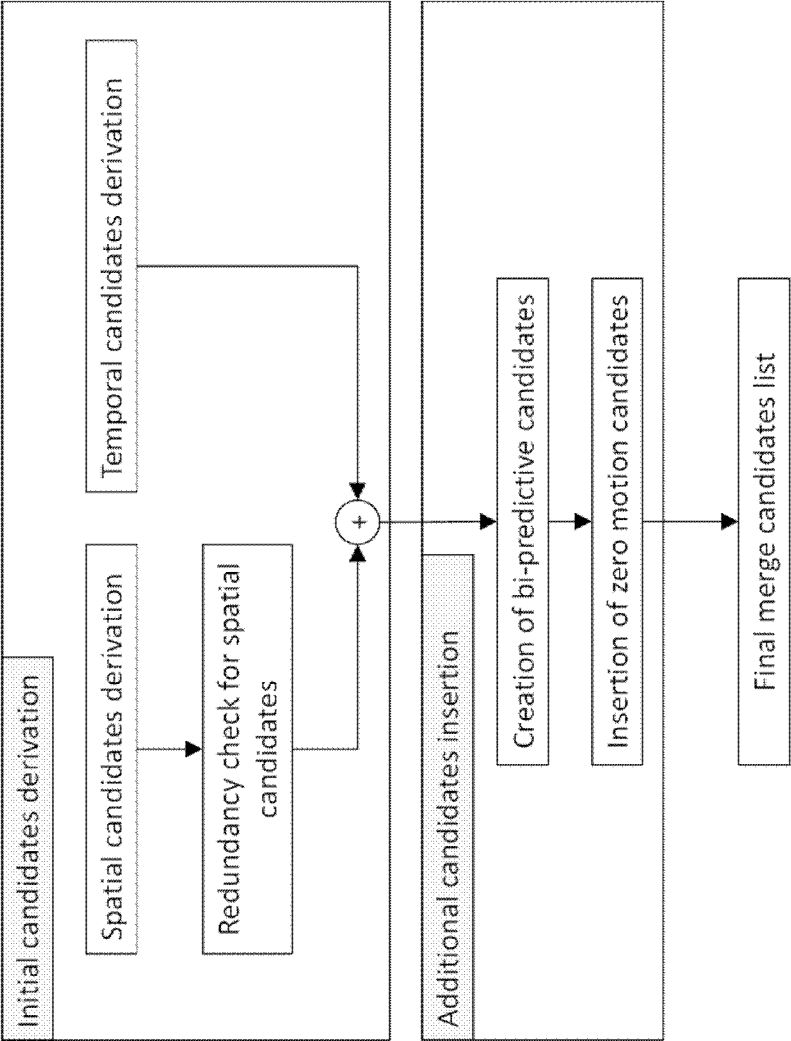


FIG. 1

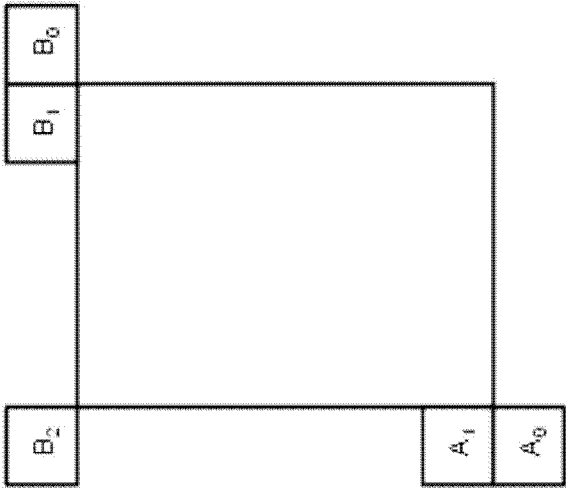


FIG. 2

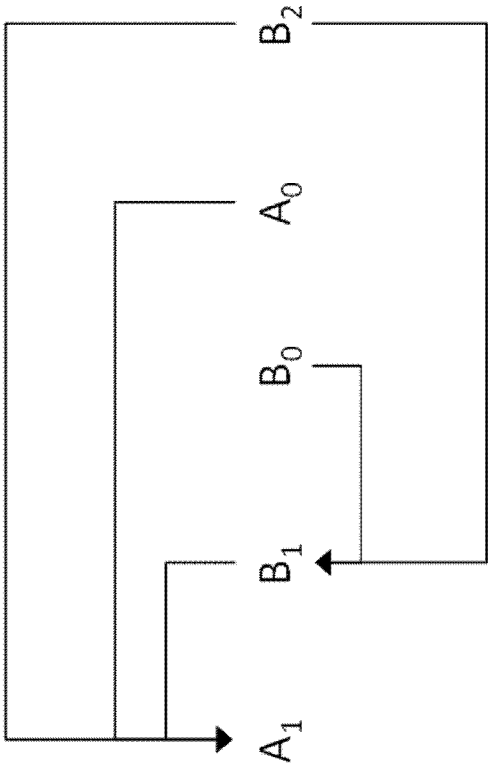


FIG. 3

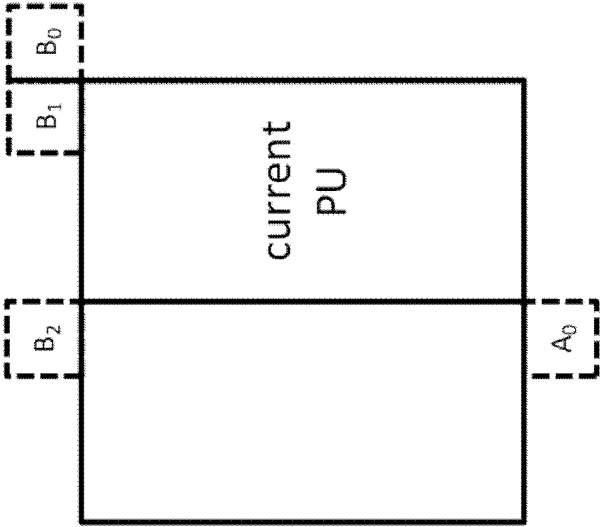


FIG. 4A

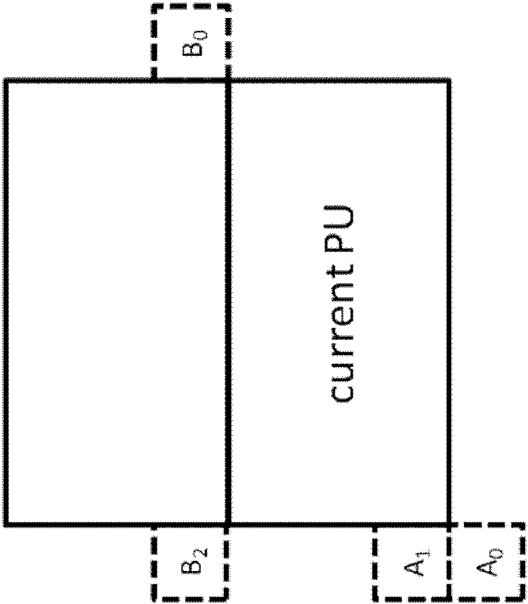


FIG. 4B

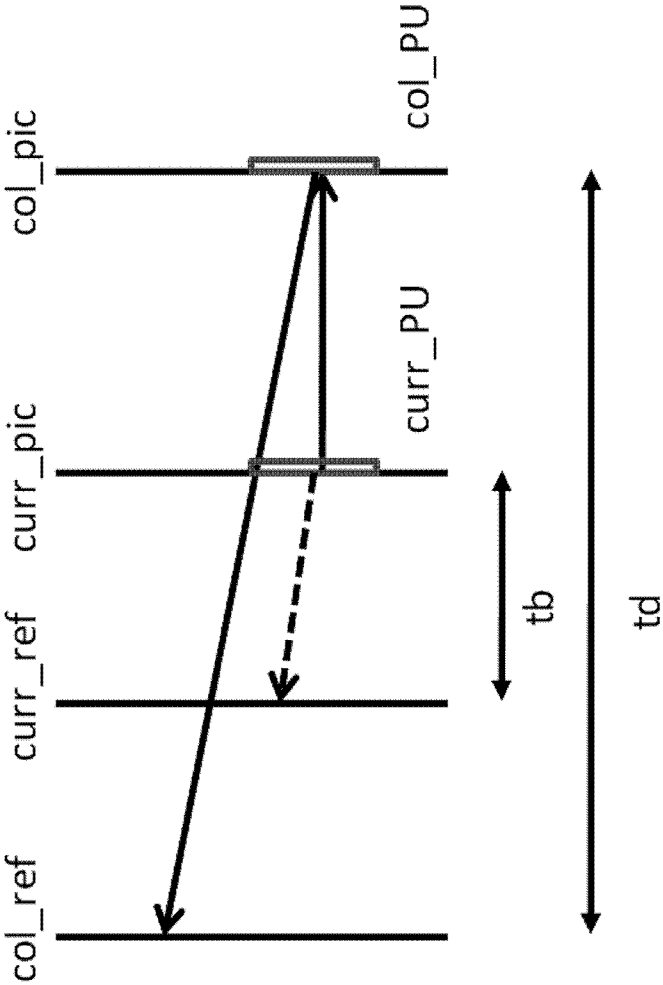


FIG. 5

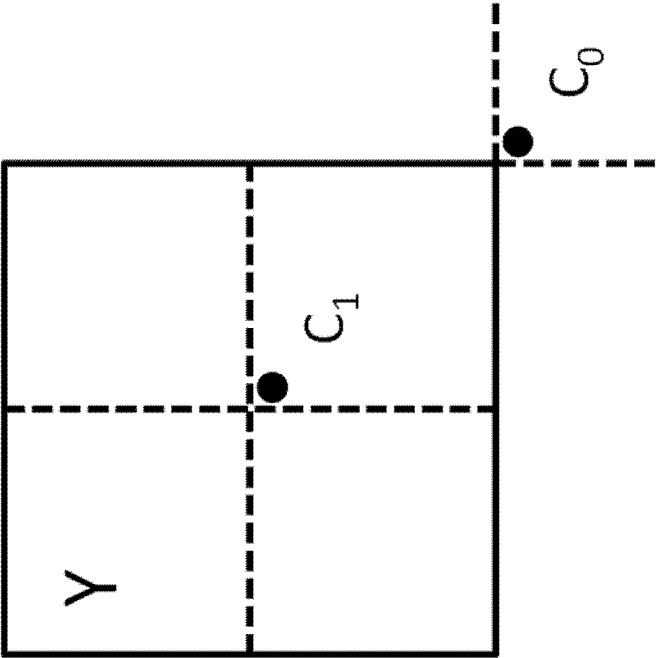


FIG. 6

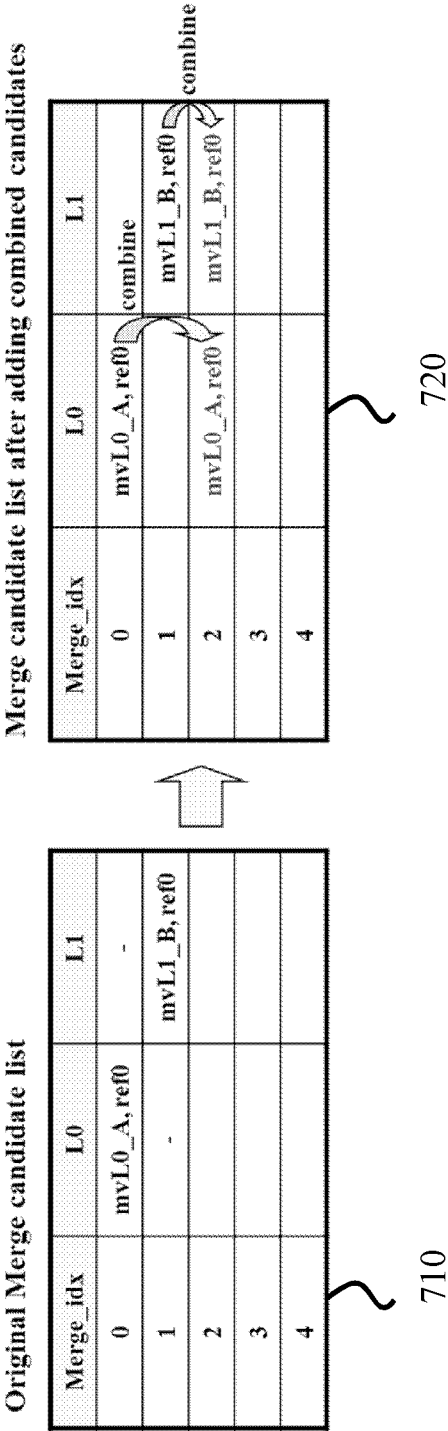


FIG. 7

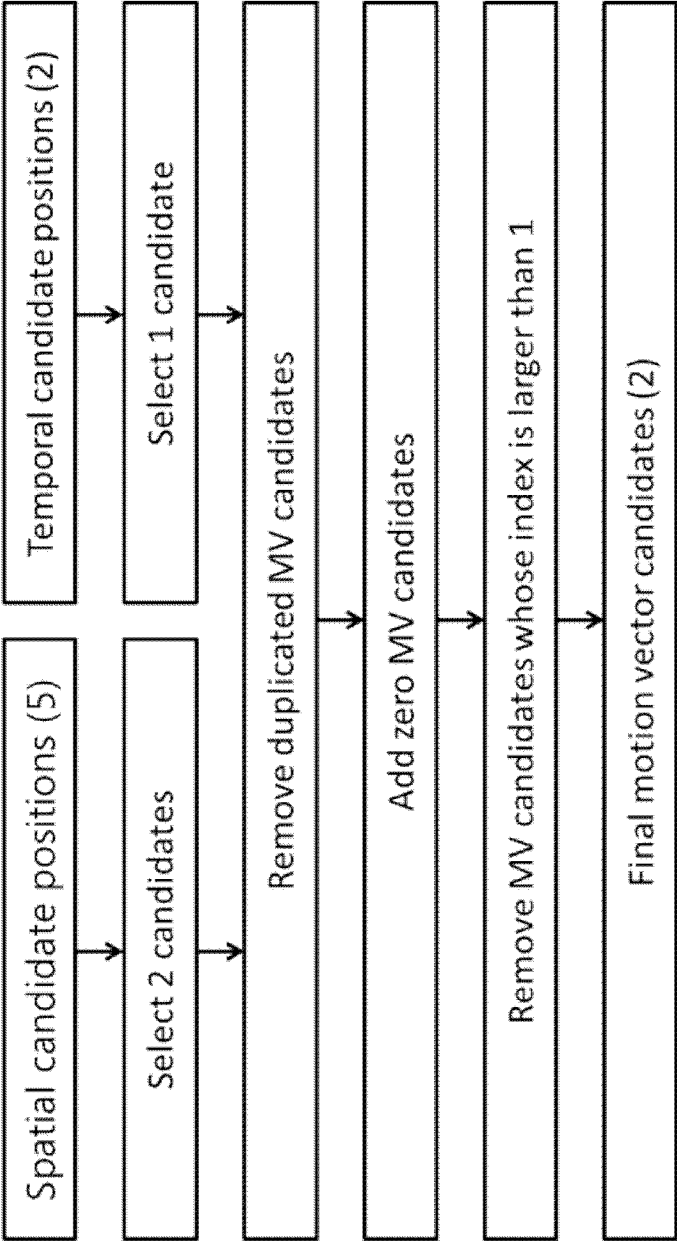


FIG. 8

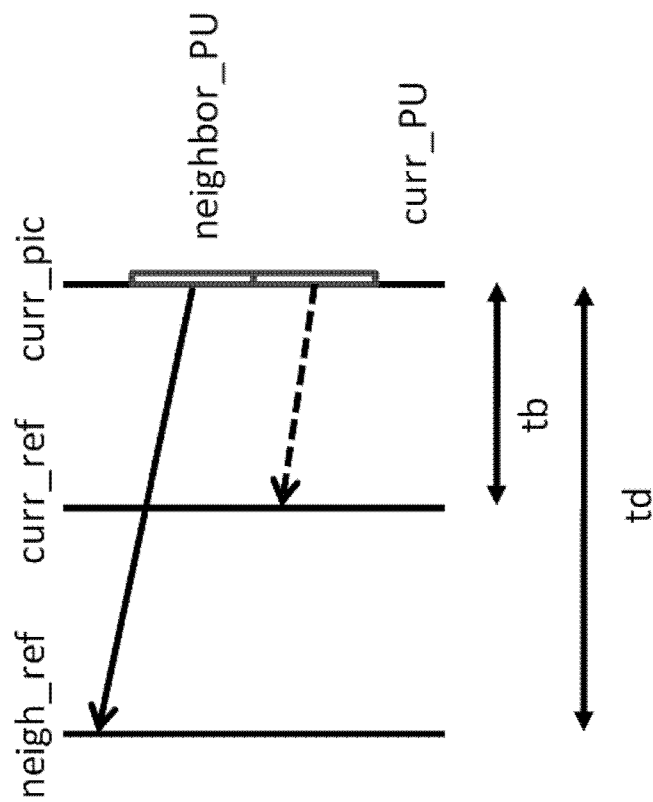


FIG. 9

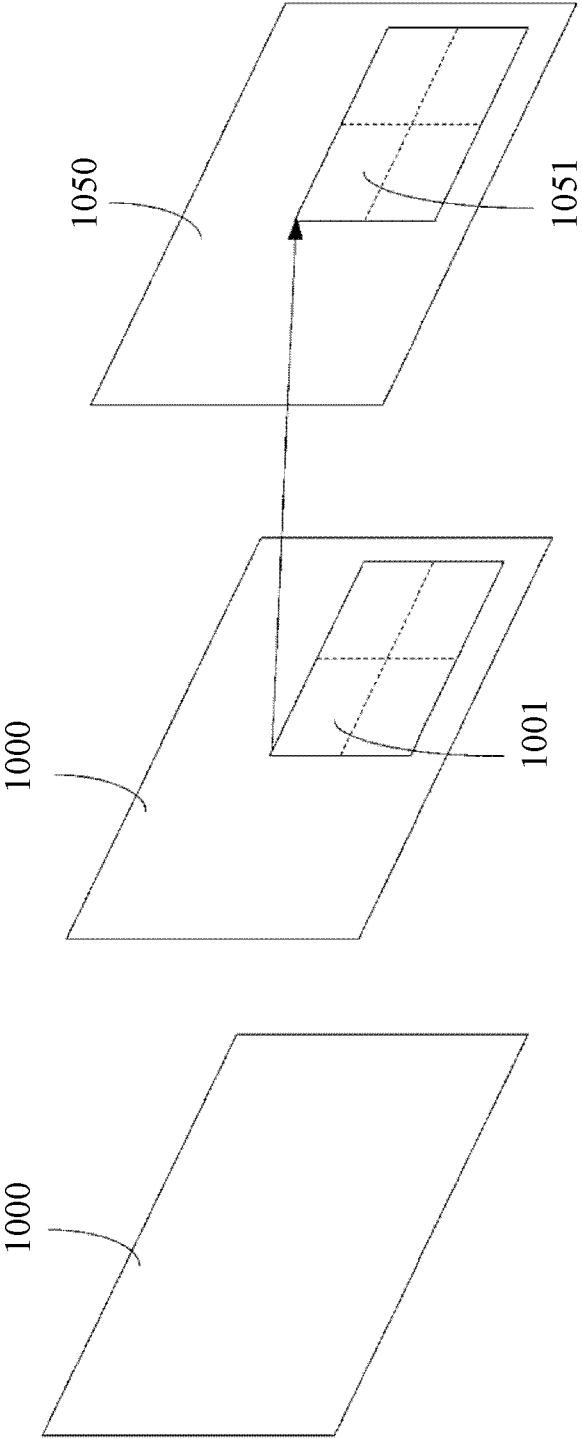


FIG. 10

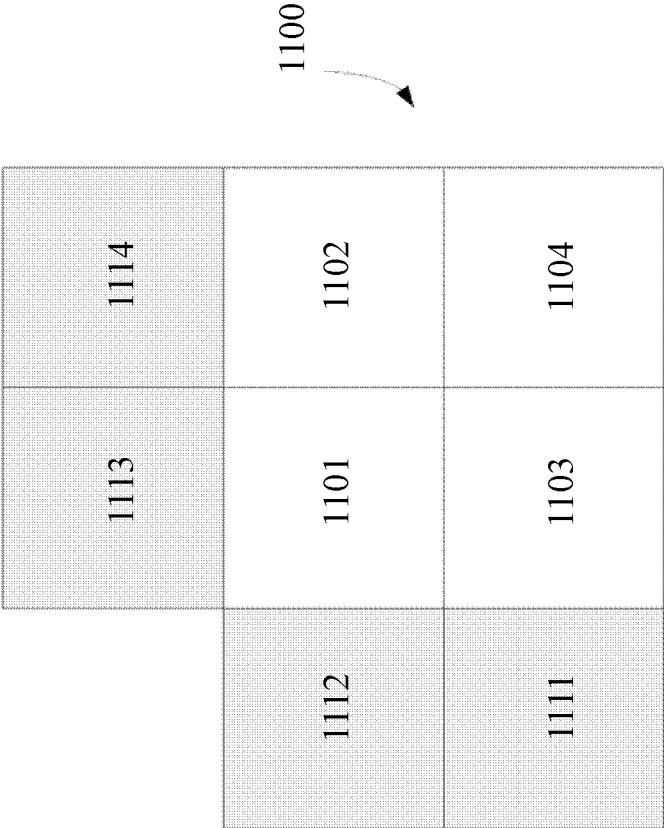


FIG. 11

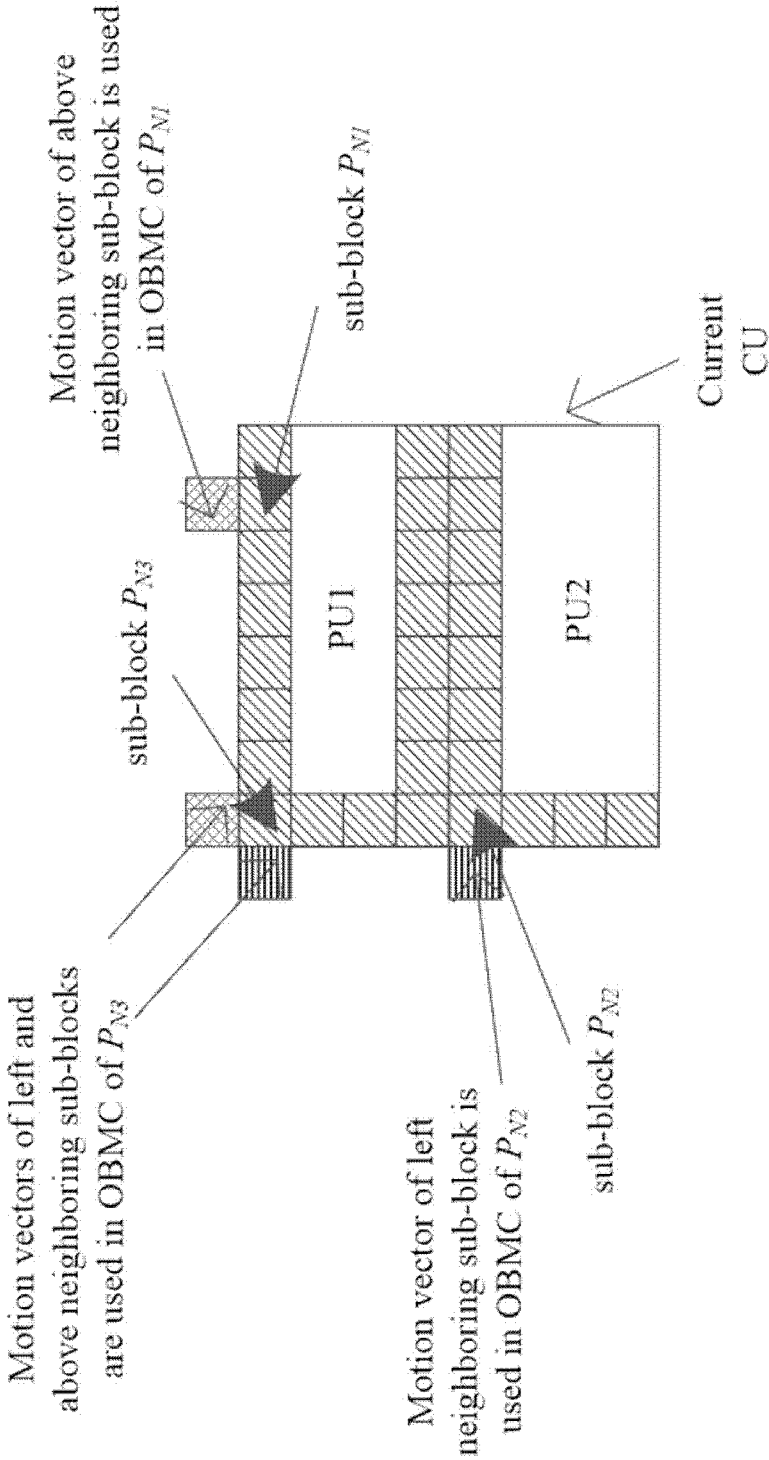


FIG. 12A

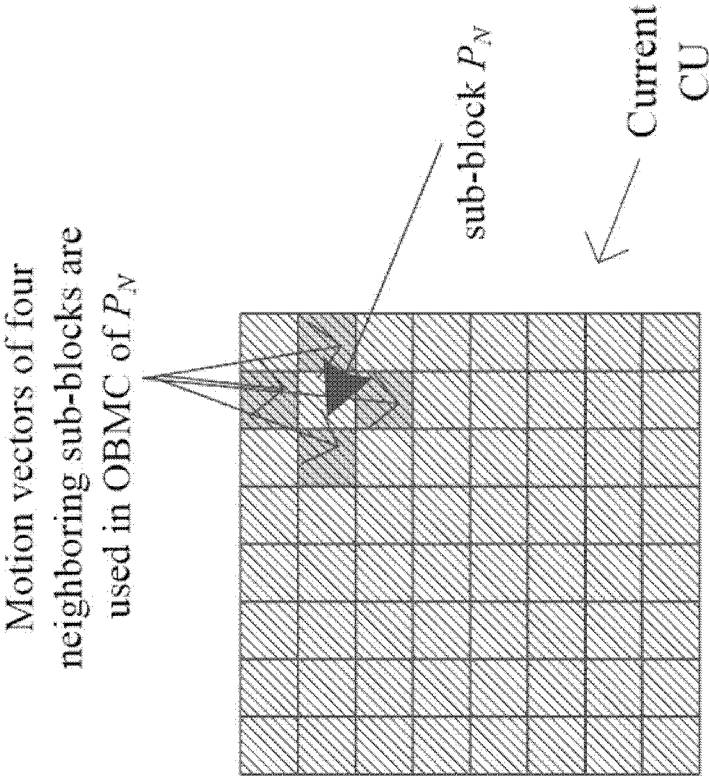


FIG. 12B

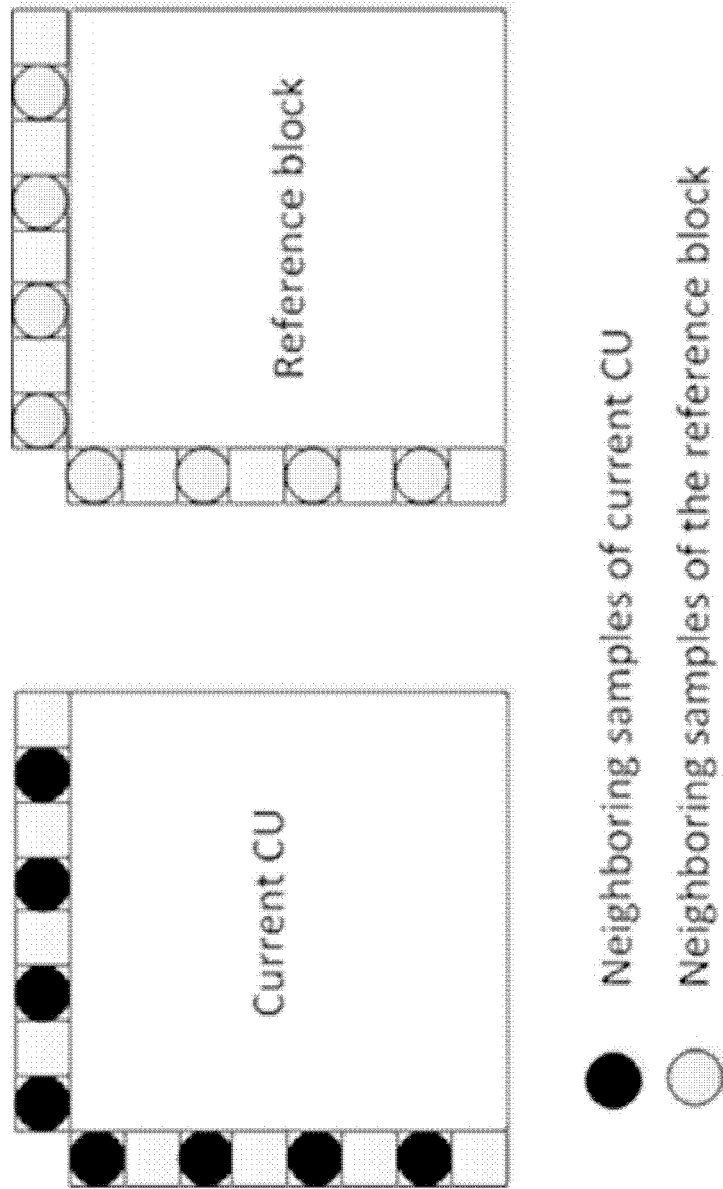


FIG. 13

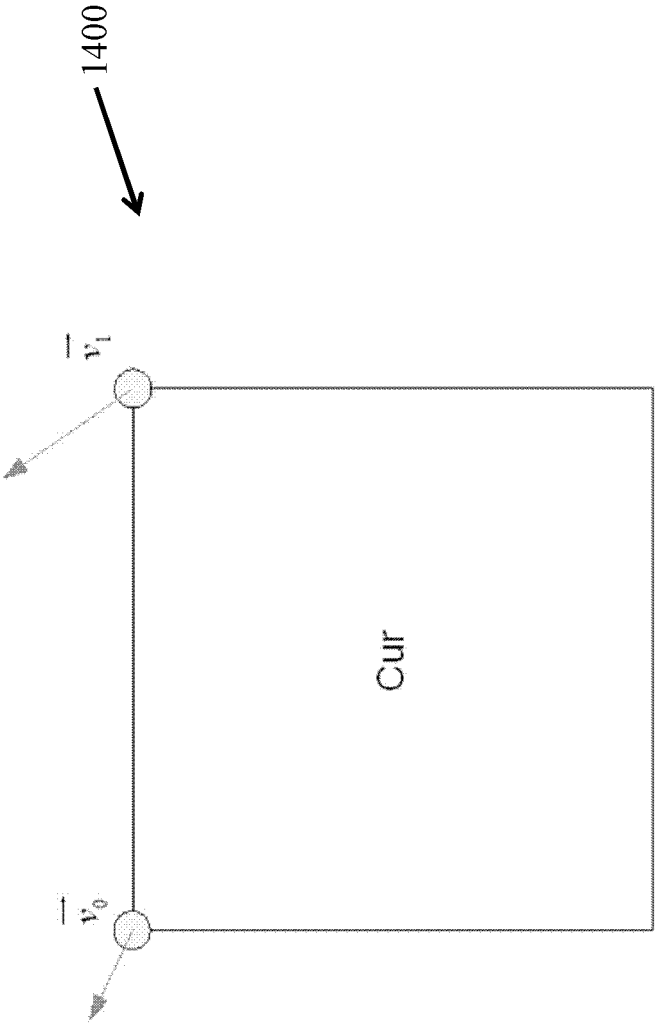


FIG. 14

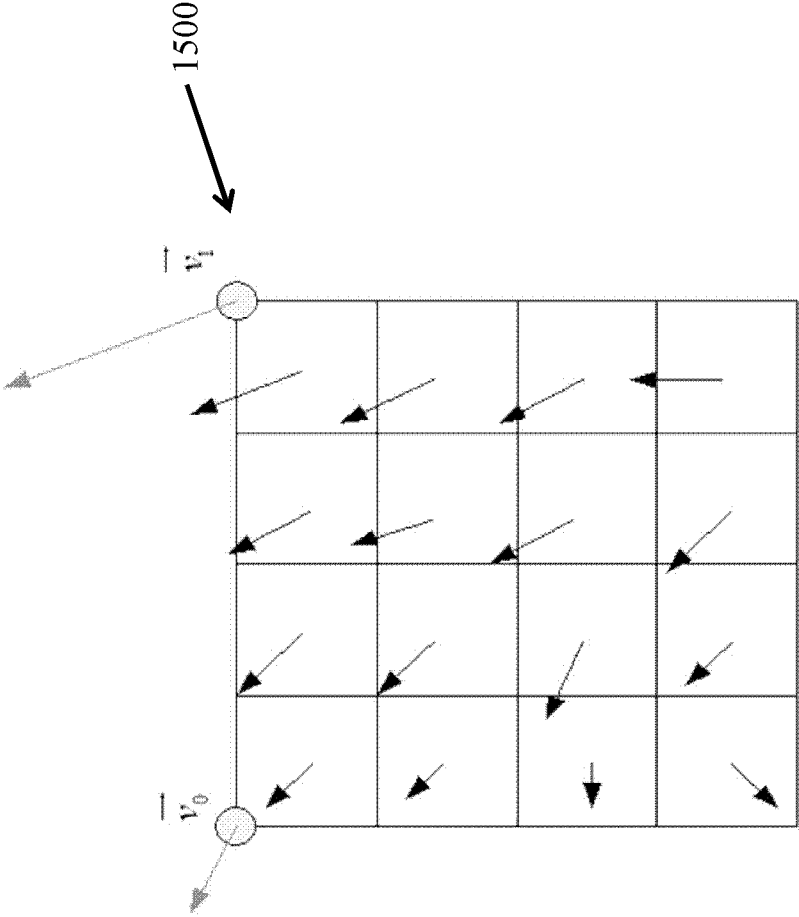


FIG. 15

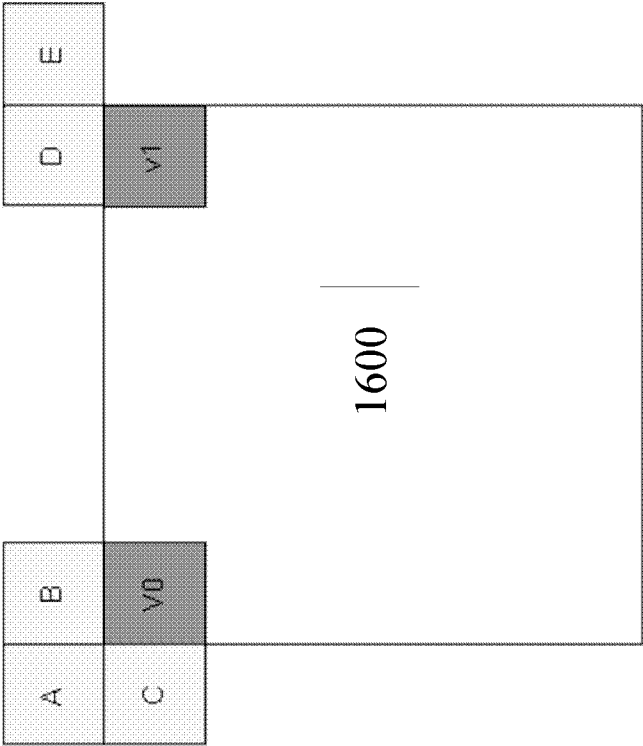


FIG. 16

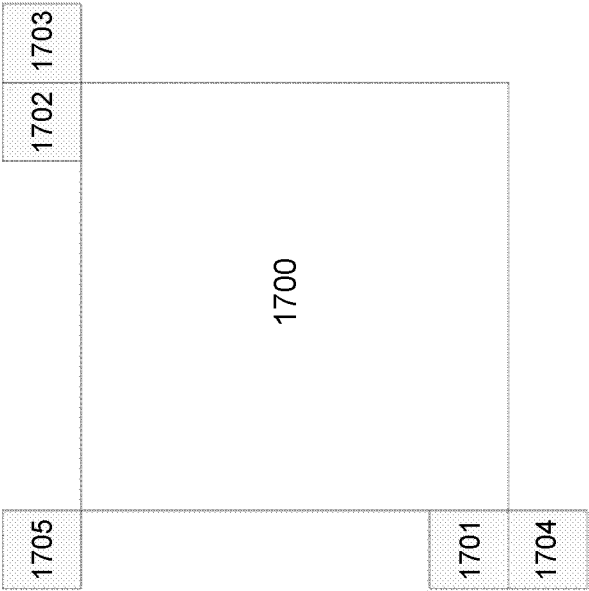


FIG. 17A

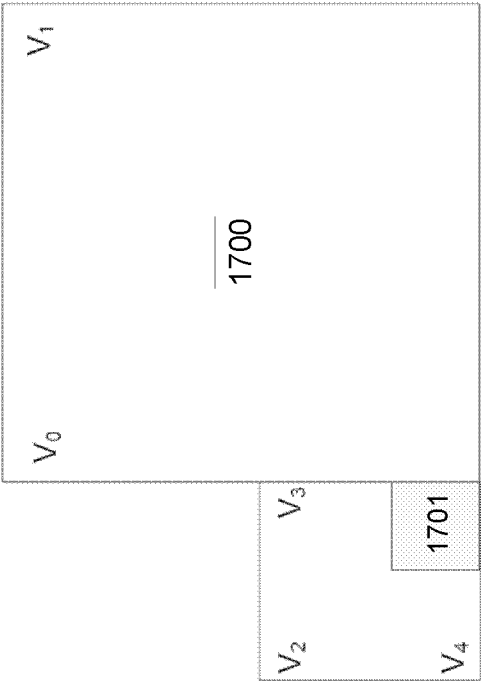


FIG. 17B

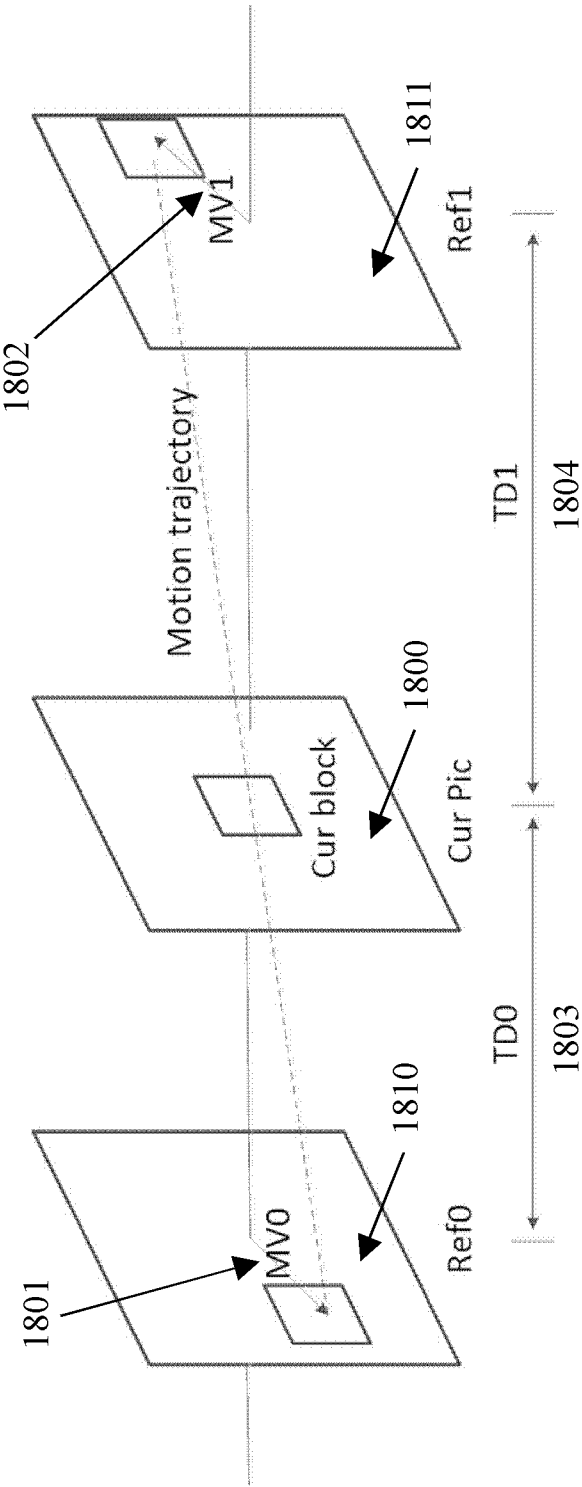


FIG. 18

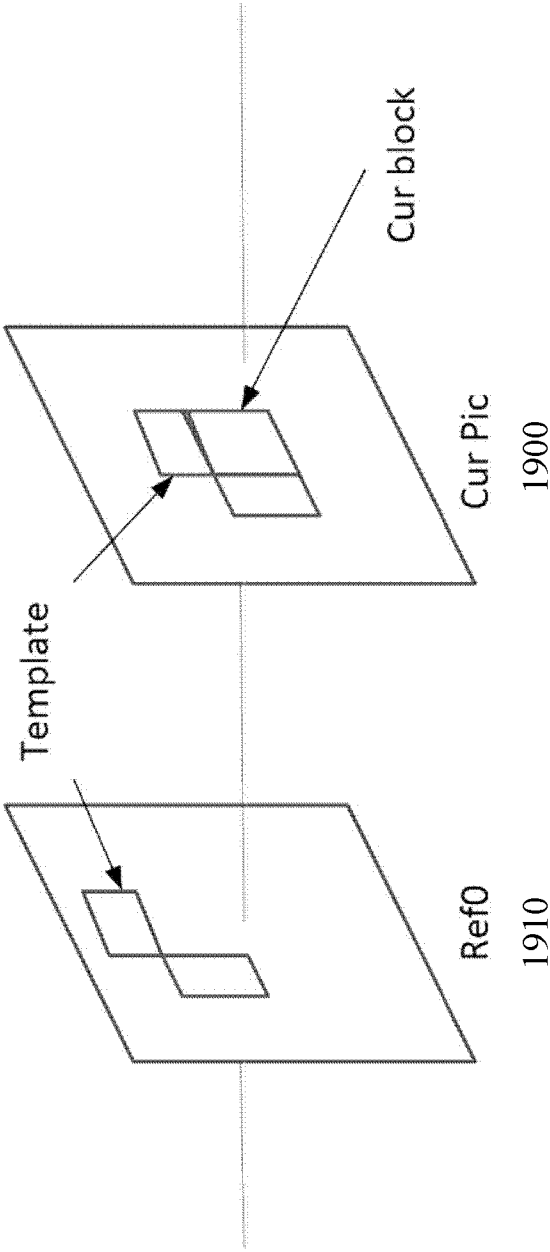


FIG. 19

2000

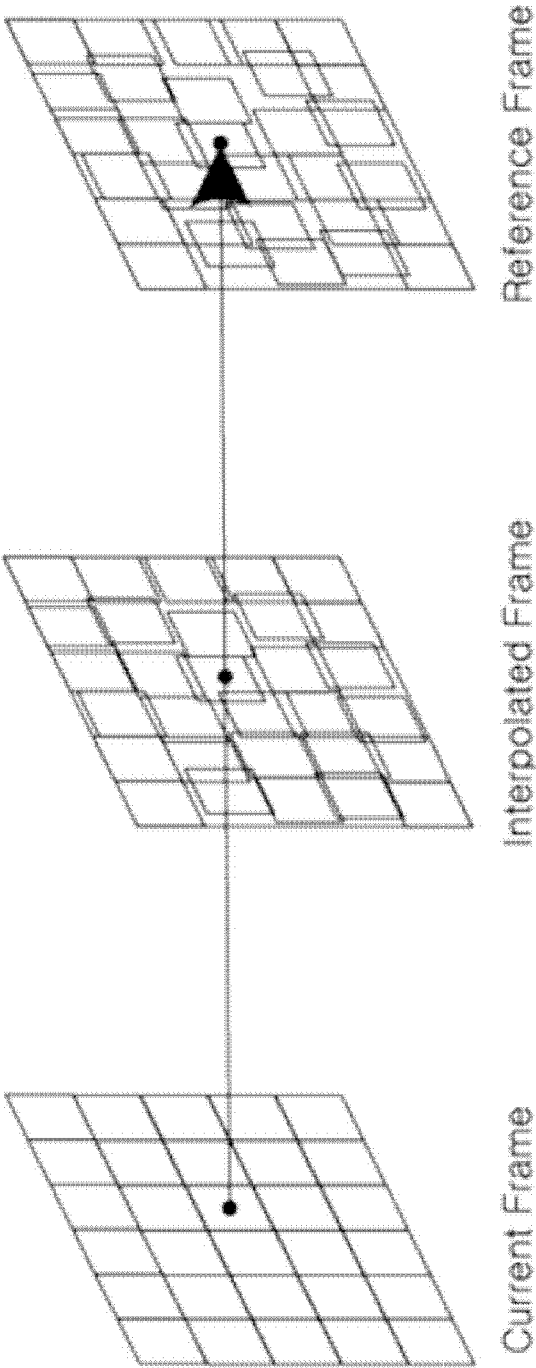


FIG. 20

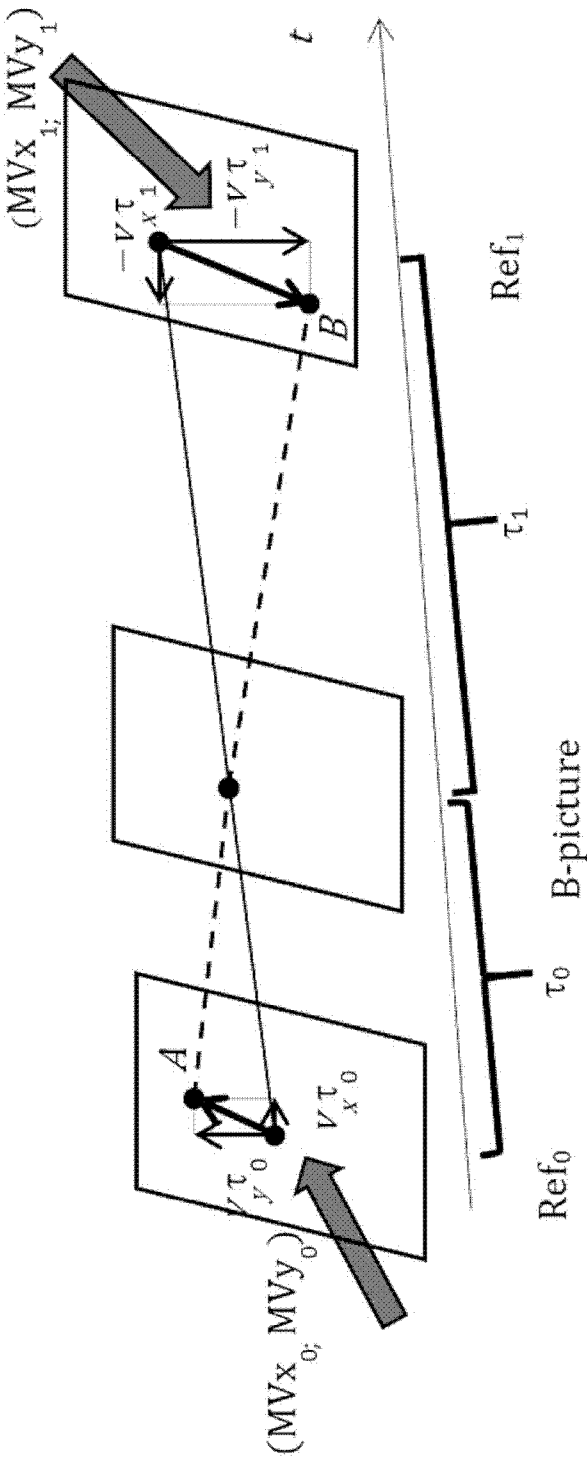


FIG. 21

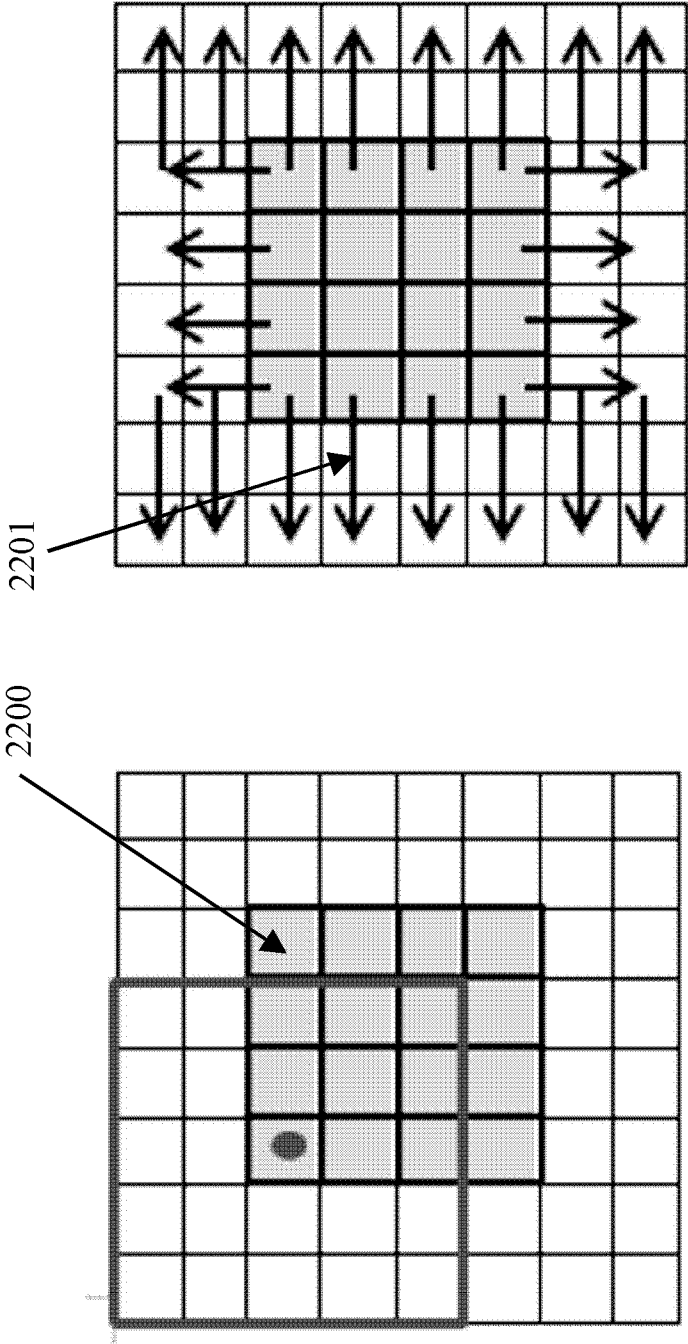


FIG. 22B

FIG. 22A

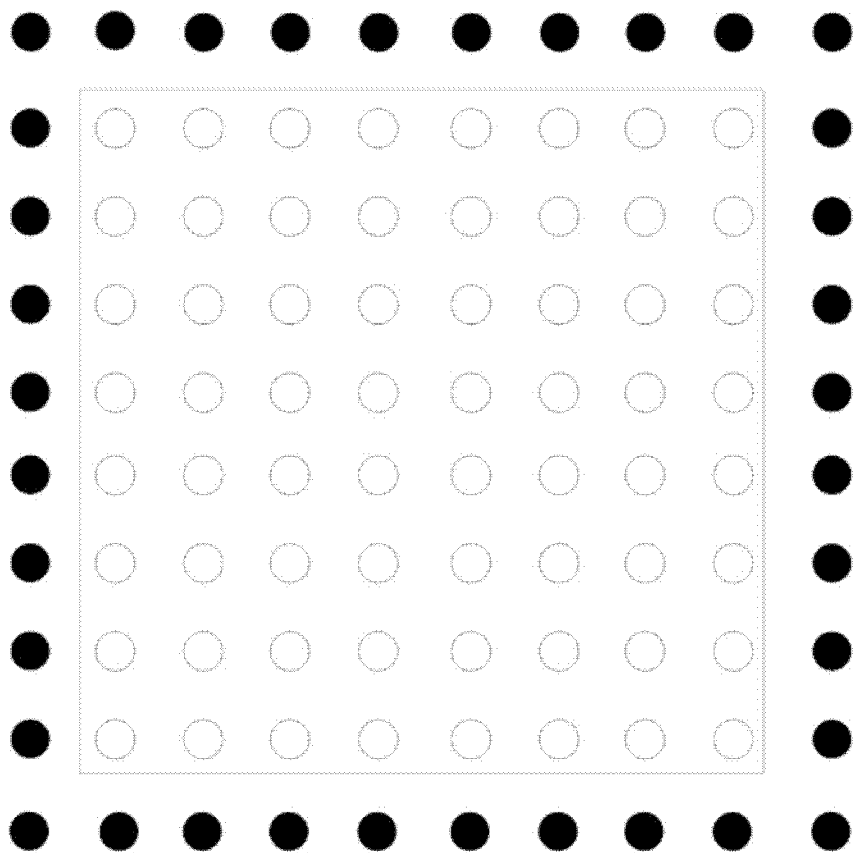


FIG. 23

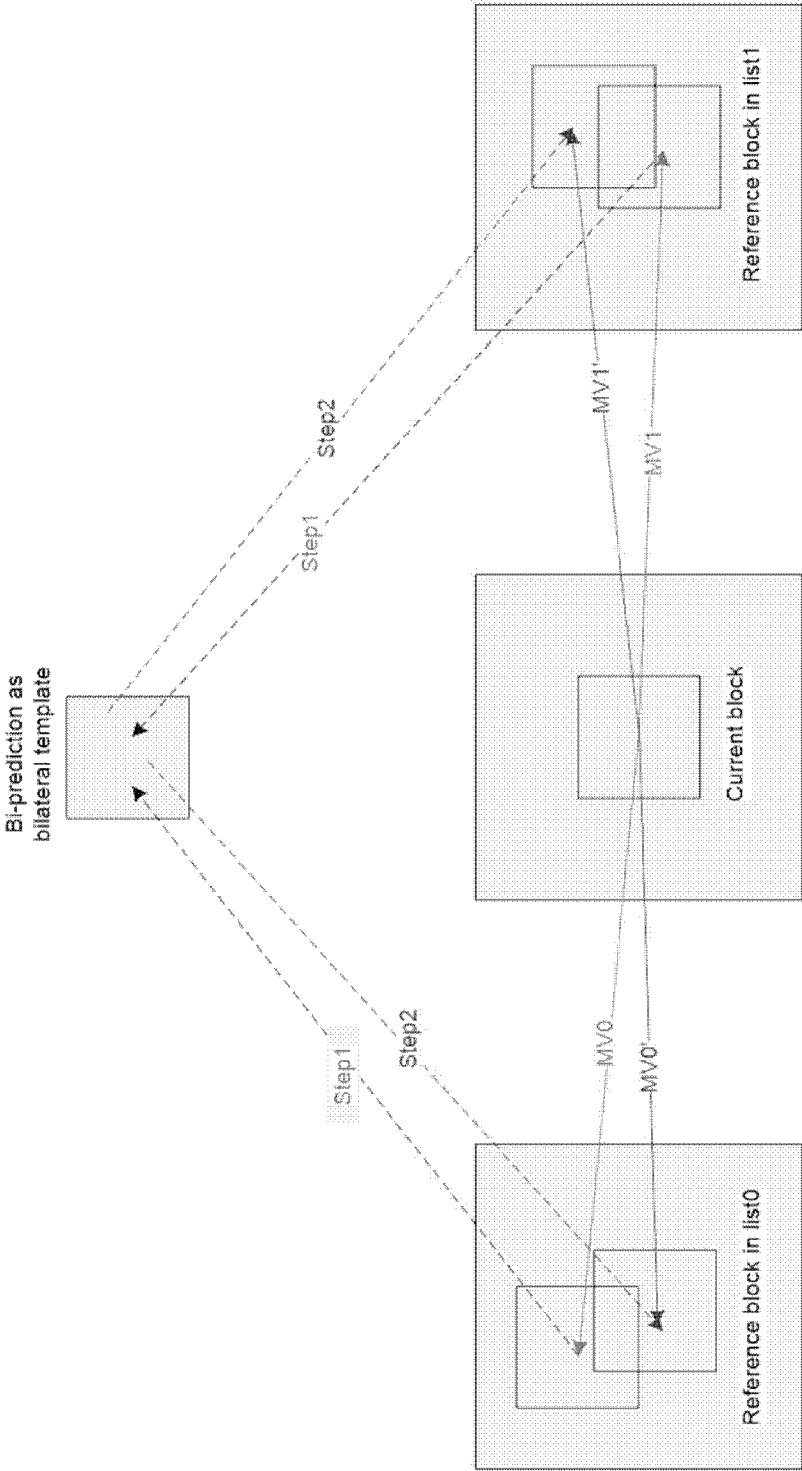


FIG. 24

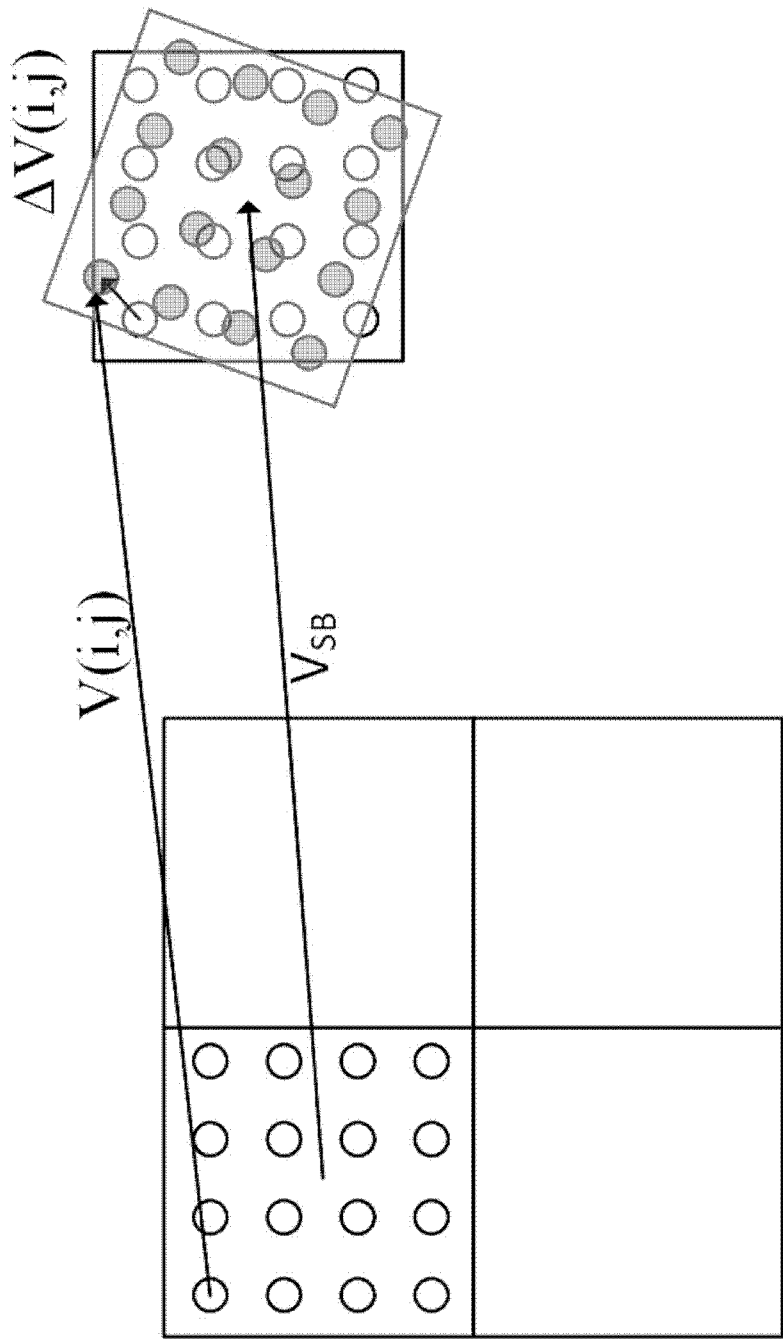


FIG. 25

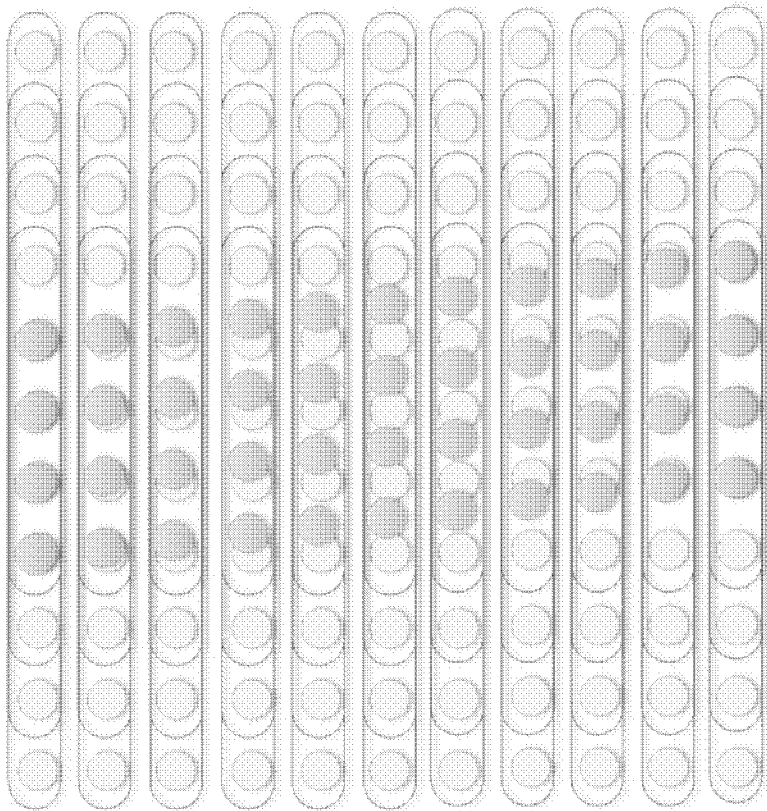


FIG. 26

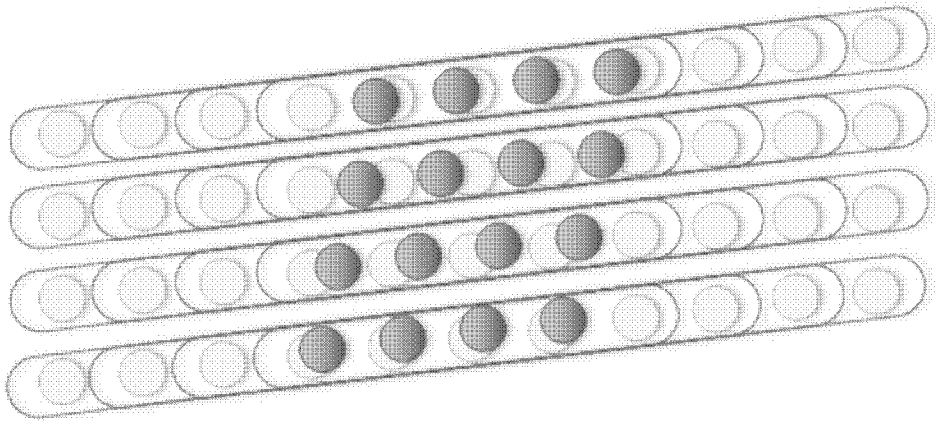


FIG. 28

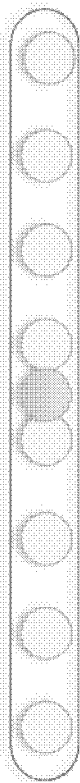


FIG. 27

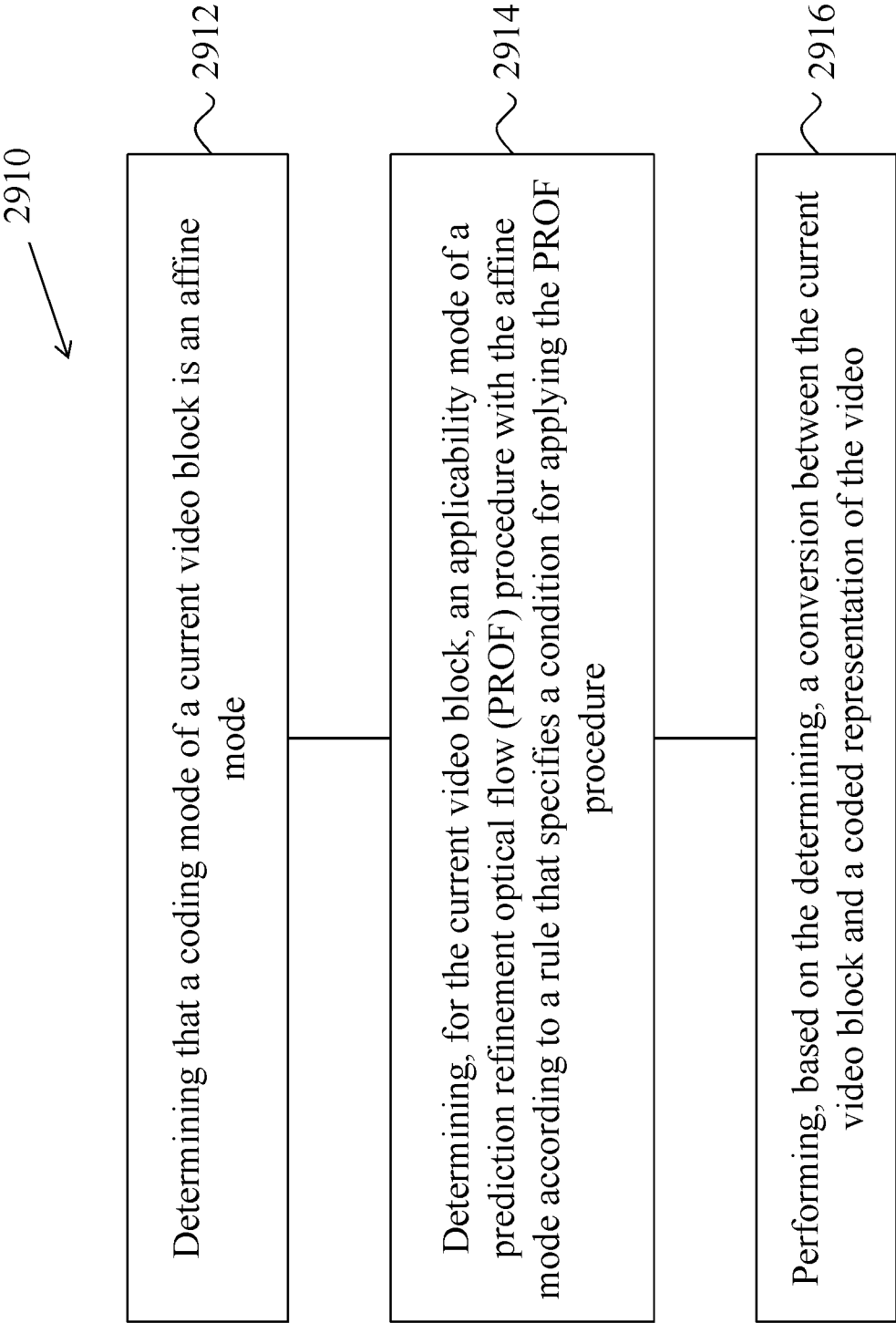


FIG. 29A

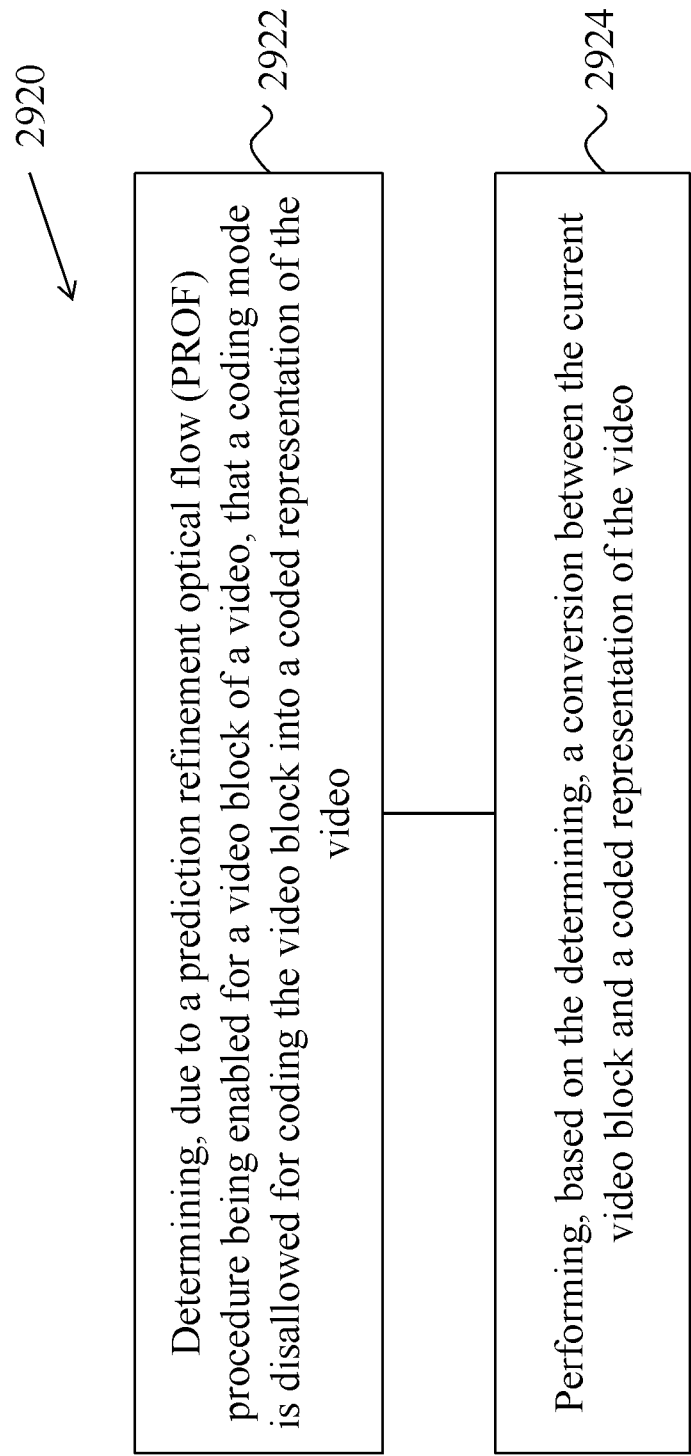


FIG. 29B

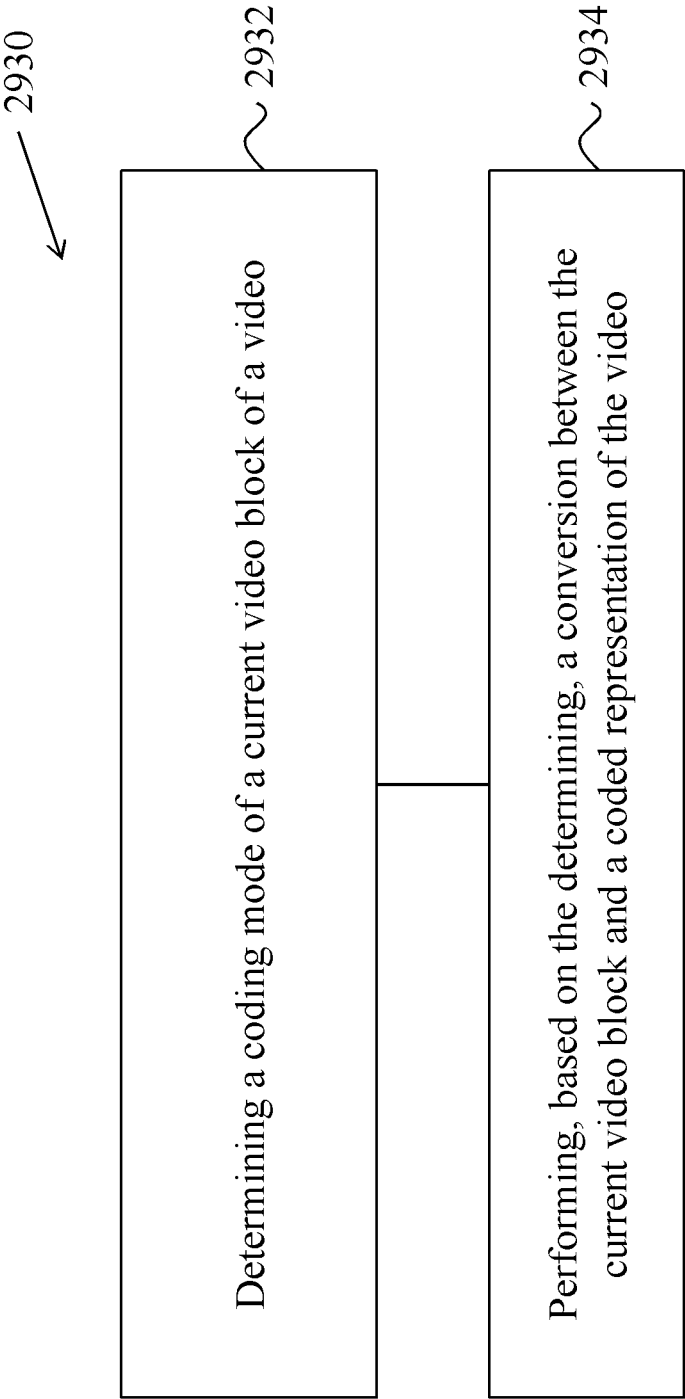


FIG. 29C

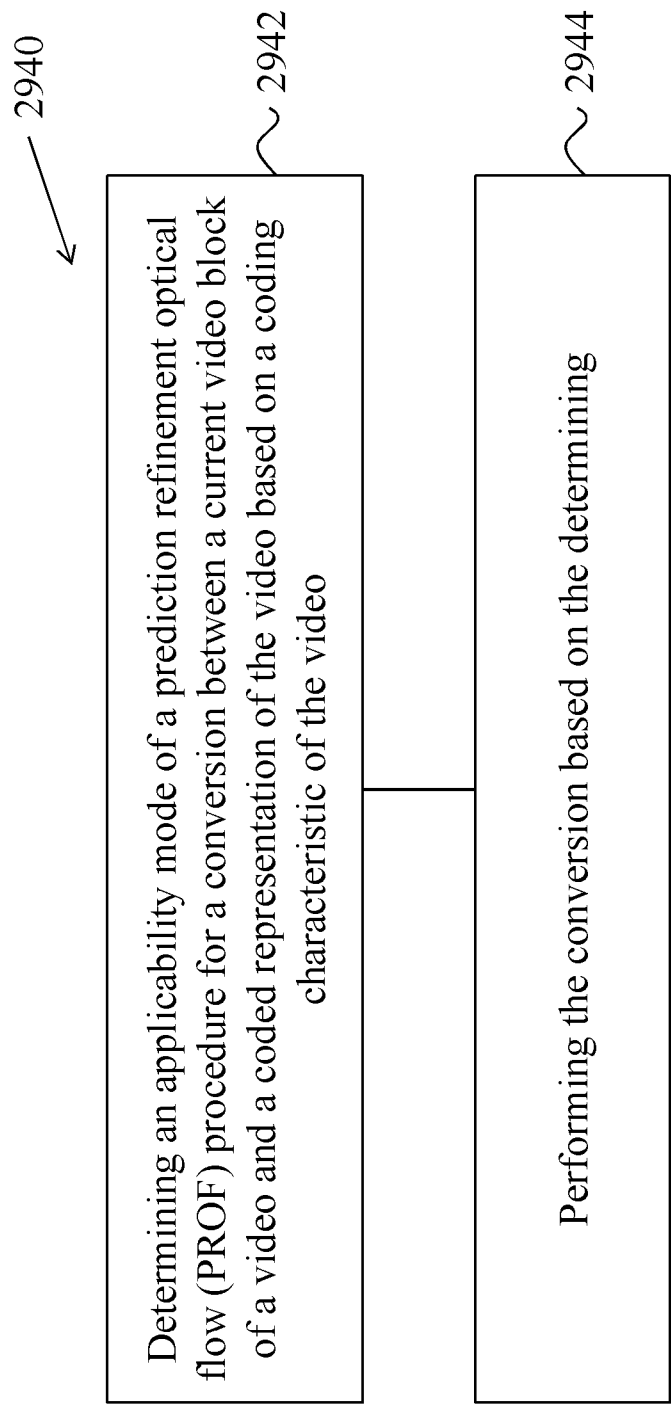


FIG. 29D

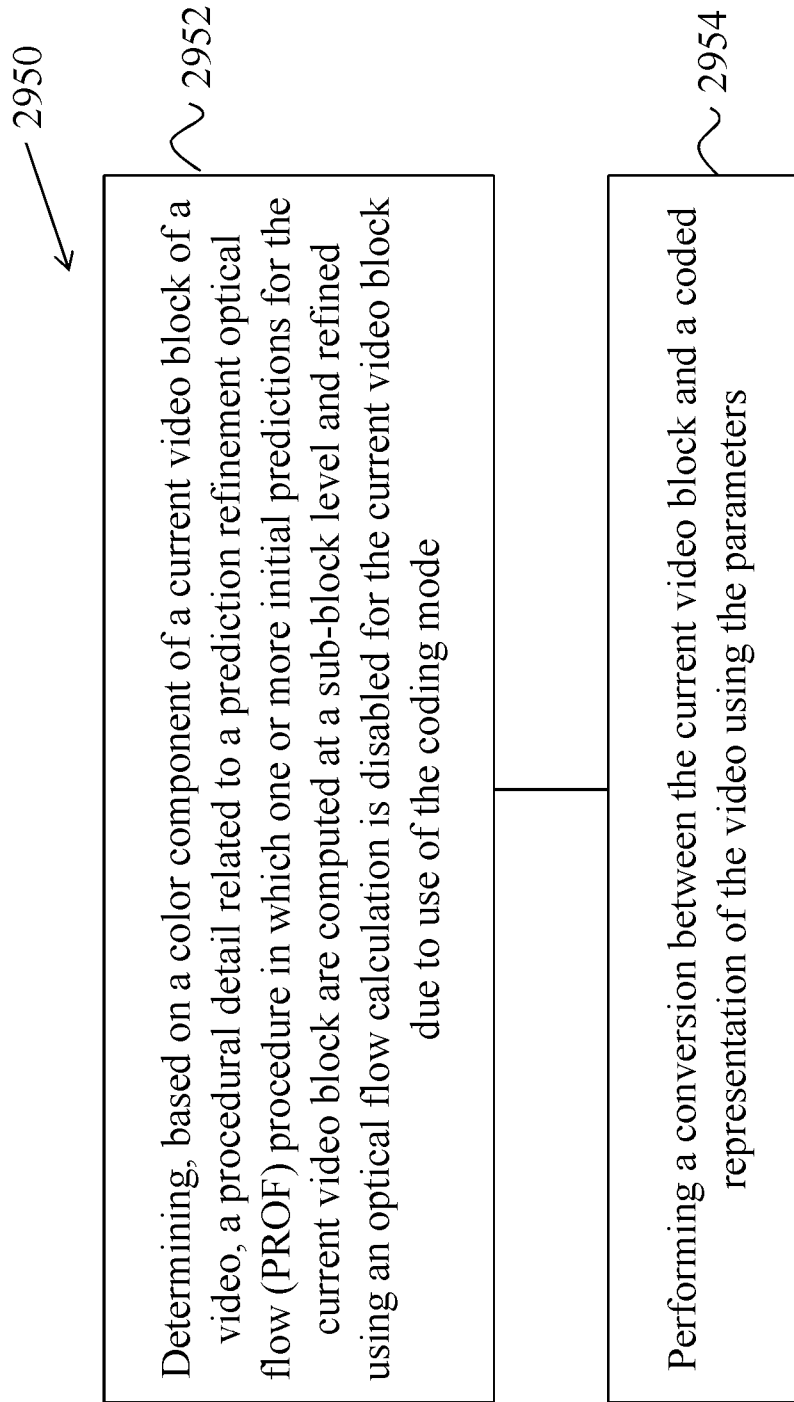


FIG. 29E

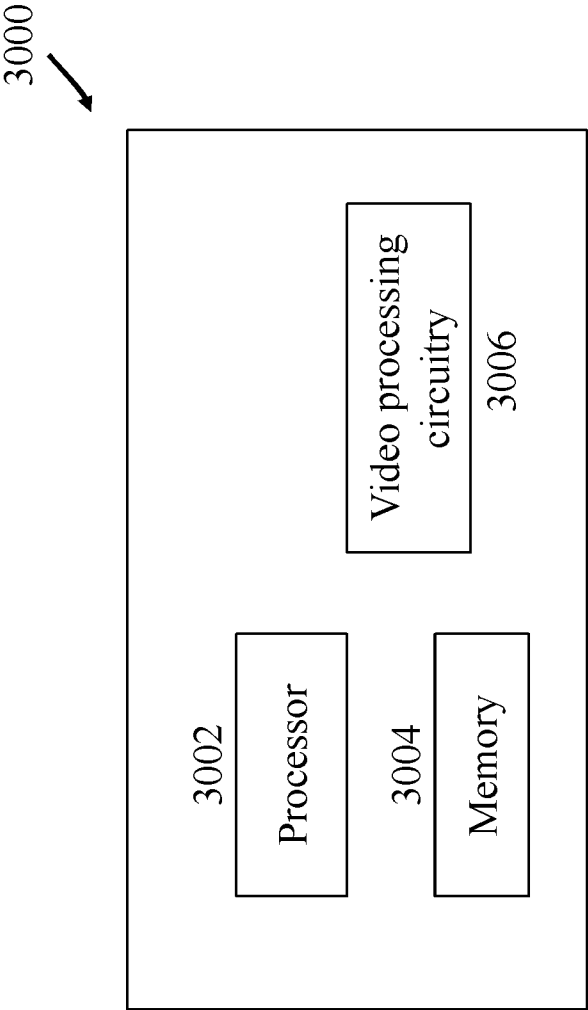


FIG. 30A

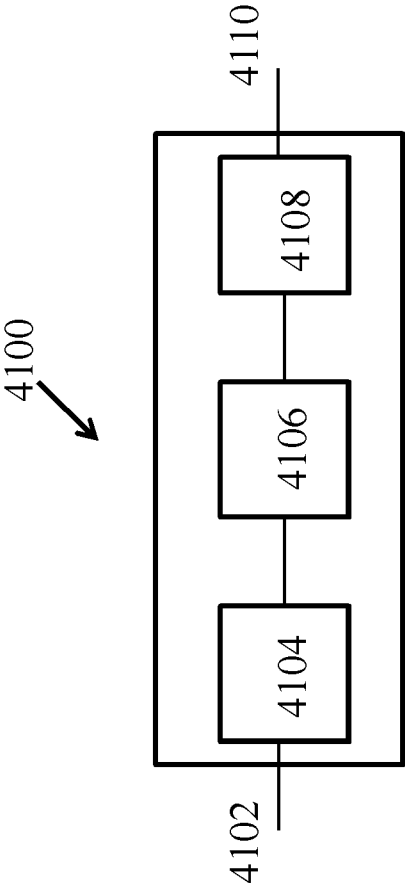


FIG. 30B

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/CN2020/085663

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

H04N 19/51(2014.01)i

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)

H04N

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

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

CNABS, CNTXT, CNKI, VEN, USTXT, EPTXT, WOTXT, JNET: H.266, VCC, versatile video coding, affine, prediction refine, optical flow, PROF, BDOF, BIO, code, encode, decode, mode, type, tool, enable, disable, condition, conditionally, apply, applicability, allow, disallow, select, Bytedance

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	CN 108781294 A (MEDIATEK INC) 09 November 2018 (2018-11-09) the whole document	1-62
A	US 2018262773 A1 (QUALCOMM INC) 13 September 2018 (2018-09-13) the whole document	1-62
A	Luo, Jiancong et al. "CE2-related: Prediction refinement with optical flow for affine mode" <i>Joint Video Experts Team (JVET) of ITU-T SG 16 WP 3 and ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 29/WG 11 14th Meeting: Geneva, 26 March 2019 (2019-03-26),</i> the whole document	1-62
A	Xiu, Xiaoyu et al. "CE9-related: Complexity reduction and bit-width control for bi-directional optical flow (BIO)" <i>Joint Video Experts Team (JVET) of ITU-T SG 16 WP 3 and ISO/IEC JTC 1/SC 29/WG 11 12th Meeting: Macao, 29 September 2018 (2018-09-29),</i> the whole document	1-62



Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.



See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

01 July 2020

Date of mailing of the international search report

14 July 2020

Name and mailing address of the ISA/CN

National Intellectual Property Administration, PRC
6, Xitucheng Rd., Jimen Bridge, Haidian District, Beijing
100088
China

Authorized officer

ZHANG, Wei

Facsimile No. (86-10)62019451

Telephone No. 010-62411445

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Information on patent family members

International application No.

PCT/CN2020/085663

Patent document cited in search report			Publication date (day/month/year)	Patent family member(s)			Publication date (day/month/year)
CN	108781294	A	09 November 2018	EP	3398331	A1	07 November 2018
				WO	2017133661	A1	10 August 2017
				US	2019045215	A1	07 February 2019
				EP	3398331	A4	10 April 2019
US	2018262773	A1	13 September 2018	SG	11201907089U	A	27 September 2019
				US	10523964	B2	31 December 2019
				BR	112019018689	A2	07 April 2020
				AU	2018236214	A1	22 August 2019
				EP	3596921	A1	22 January 2020
				CN	110352598	A	18 October 2019
				KR	20190126133	A	08 November 2019
				WO	2018169989	A1	20 September 2018