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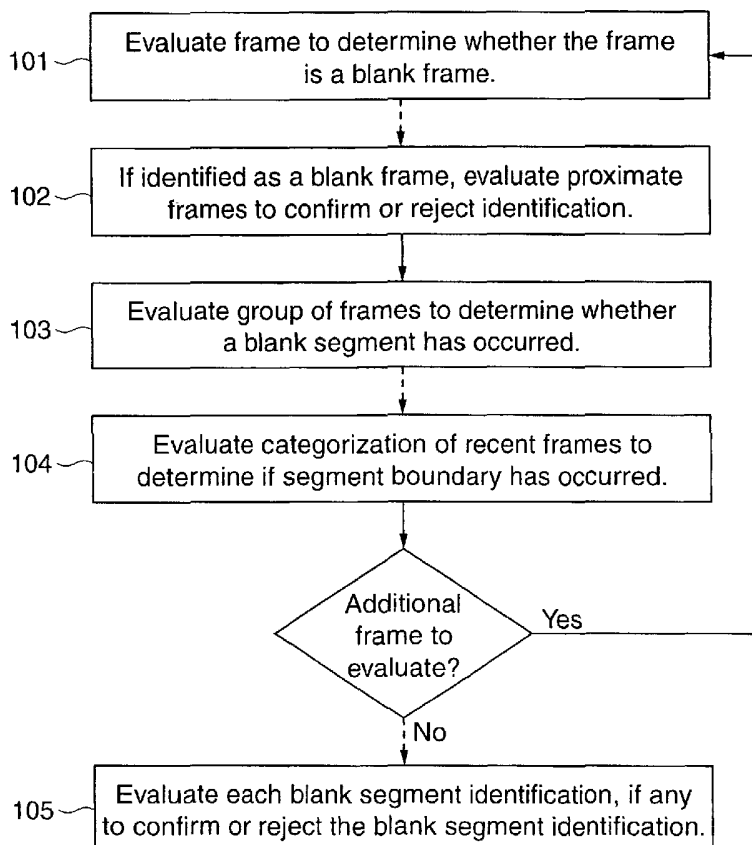
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: IDENTIFICATION OF BLANK SEGMENTS IN A SET OF VISUAL RECORDING DATA



(57) Abstract: The invention identifies a blank segment (i.e., a segment that does not correspond to recorded visual content) in a set of visual recording data. The invention identifies a blank segment using a blank frame detector that is adapted to evaluate a frame of visual recording data to determine whether the frame of visual recording data is a blank frame, and a blank segment detector that is adapted to evaluate a characteristic of a group of frames of visual recording data to determine whether the group of frames of visual recording data is a blank segment comprising a plurality of blank frames. Identification of a blank segment can be used to, for example, decide whether to terminate digitization of a set of analog visual recording data.

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GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE, TR), OAPI patent
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC 7 G11B27/28 G06F17/30 G06T7/00 H04N5/782

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)

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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 practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 6 061 471 A (COLEMAN JR E NORTH) 9 May 2000 (2000-05-09)	1,8,22, 24,26, 34,39, 45,51,52 9,17,19
A	abstract column 1, line 30 -column 2, line 58 column 3, line 64 -column 7, line 63 column 9, line 60 -column 11, line 2 figure 5 ---	
P,X	US 6 195 458 B1 (WARNICK JAMES ET AL) 27 February 2001 (2001-02-27)	1,8,22, 24,26, 34,39, 45,51,52 9,17,19
P,A	abstract column 4, line 1 -column 5, line 2 column 7, line 65 -column 8, line 47 figure 5 ---	
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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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A	US 5 151 788 A (BLUM DIETER W) 29 September 1992 (1992-09-29) abstract column 7, line 51 -column 8, line 34 column 9, line 32 -column 10, line 61 figure 3 -----	1,8,9, 17,19, 22,24, 26,34, 39,45, 51,52

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

information on patent family members

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