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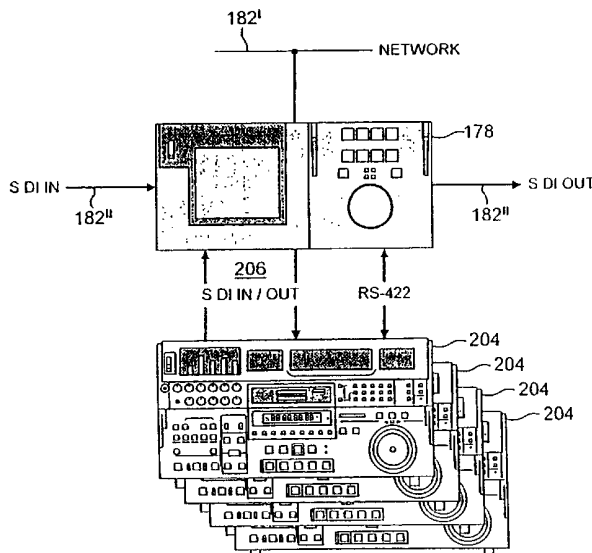
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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: AUDIO/VIDEO REPRODUCING APPARATUS AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: The apparatus is connectable to a communications network for selectively reproducing items of audio/video material from a recording medium in response to a request received via the tele communications network. It may comprise a control processor which receives data representing the request for the audio/video material item via the communications network. A reproducing processor is operable in response to signals identifying the audio/video material items from the control processor to reproduce the audio/video material items. The data identifying the audio/video material items includes meta data indicative of the audio/video material items. The meta data may be one of UMID, tape ID and time codes, and a Unique Material Identifier the material items. It comprises an activity detector and a meta data generator coupled to the activity detector which is operable to generate sample images at temporal positions within the audio/video signal.



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# INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**  
 IPC 7 G11B27/031 G11B27/28 G11B27/11 G06F17/30 H04N5/22  
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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, INSPEC

**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

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Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

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