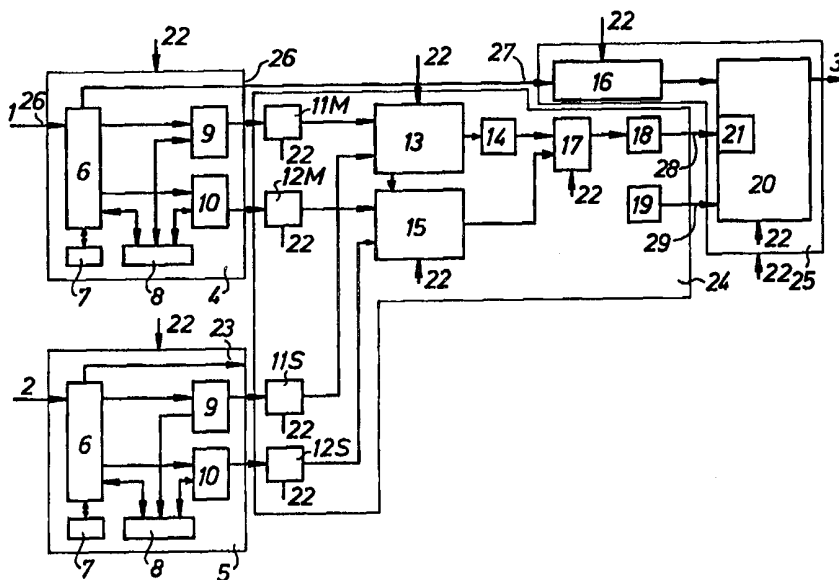


(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR SPLICING



A method and apparatus for splicing programs in the MPEG domain, wherein program data is carried in MPEG transport streams (TS) of data packets. The data packets carry application data, e.g. video and audio data, and a header provided with control data. According to the invention control data objects are established for each data packet for storing time references and data packet status information. The control data objects are queued in different queues dependent on the data packet status or on the status of a group of data packets. Control data objects associated to data packets to be output in an output stream of data packets are selected from the queues, whereupon selected control objects are assembled to a program of associated data packets of different kinds of data. Finally, data packets associated to said selected and assembled control data objects are assembled to an output stream of data packets.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/SE 99/01177

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC7: H04N 7/24, H04N 7/58

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)

IPC7: H04N

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

SE,DK,FI,NO classes as above

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

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	EP 0837609 A2 (NEXTLEVEL SYSTEMS, INC.), 22 April 1998 (22.04.98), page 2, line 43 - page 3, line 26, figure 4 --	1-23
A	WO 9745965 A1 (SARNOFF CORPORATION), 4 December 1997 (04.12.97), see the whole document --	1-23
P,A	WO 9905810 A1 (SARNOFF CORPORATION), 4 February 1999 (04.02.99), abstract -- -----	1-23

☐ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☒ See patent family annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search

16 December 1999

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

02/12/99

International application No.

PCT/SE 99/01177

Patent document cited in search report	Publication date	Patent family member(s)	Publication date
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WO 9905810 A1	04/02/99	NONE	