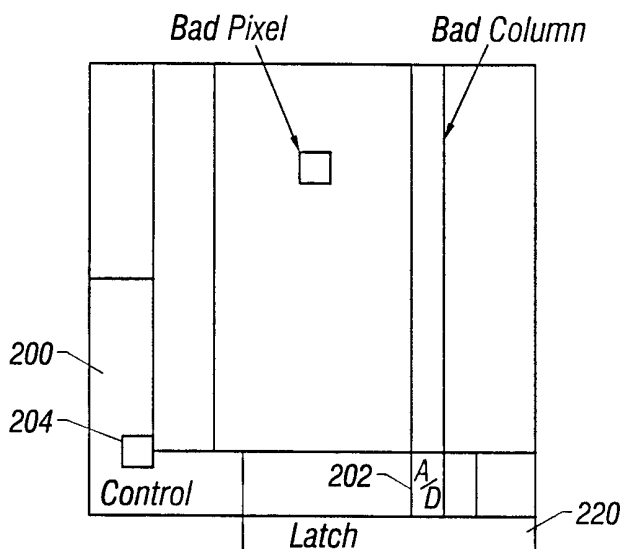




INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

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<p>(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/04036 (22) International Filing Date: 24 February 1999 (24.02.99) (30) Priority Data: 09/031,145 26 February 1998 (26.02.98) US (71) Applicant: PHOTOBIT CORPORATION [US/US]; 7th floor, 135 North Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena, CA 91101 (US). (72) Inventors: FOSSUM, Eric, R.; 5556 Pinecone Road, La Crescenta, CA 91214 (US). DOUDOUMPOULOS, Nick; 3016 Stanford Avenue, Marina Del Rey, CA 90292 (US). PANICACCI, Roger; 789 Portola Terrace, Los Angeles, CA 90042 (US). (74) Agent: HARRIS, Scott, C.; Fish &amp; Richardson P.C., Suite 1400, 4225 Executive Square, La Jolla, CA 92037 (US).</p>		<p>(81) Designated States: AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CU, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, UA, UG, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).</p> <p><b>Published</b> <i>With international search report.</i></p> <p>(88) Date of publication of the international search report: 13 April 2000 (13.04.00)</p>

(54) Title: DEAD PIXEL CORRECTION BY ROW/COLUMN SUBSTITUTION



(57) Abstract

Bad pixels (200, 202, 204) in an optical device are investigated and corrected. An upper limit of bad areas is defined. Each bad area can be one, or more than one pixel.

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**INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT**

International application No.

PCT/US99/04036

**A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER**

IPC(7) : H04N 9/64  
 US CL : 348/246, 247

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 practicable, search terms used)  
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**C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT**

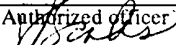
Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 4,567,525 A (ENDO et al) 28 January 1986 (28.01.1986), column 10, line 18 - column 11, line 51.	1-4
Y	US 4,805,023 A (YOUNSE et al) 14 February 1989 (14.02.1989), Figure 2, column 1, line 45 - column 2, line 27; column 3, lines 32-66).	1-4
Y	US 5,354,977 A (ROUSTAEI) 11 October 1994 (11.10.1994), Figure 16, column 9, lines 33-51).	1-4

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