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(71) Applicant: THOMSON LICENSING [FR/FR]; 1-5 rue
Jeanne d'Arc, 92130 Issy-les-Moulineaux (FR).(72) Inventors: LASSERRE, Sebastien; 6 allée du Muguet,
35235 Thorigné Fouillard (FR). LELEANNNEC, Fabrice;
4 rue des Magnolias, 35250 Mouazé (FR). OLIVIER,
Yannick; 22 allée des Bruyères, 35235 Thorigné Fouillard
(FR).

(74) Agent: RITTNER, Karsten; c/o Deutsche Thomson
OHG, European Patent Operations, Karl-Wiechert-Allee
74, 30625 Hannover (DE).

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(54) Title: METHOD AND DEVICE FOR DECODING A COLOR PICTURE

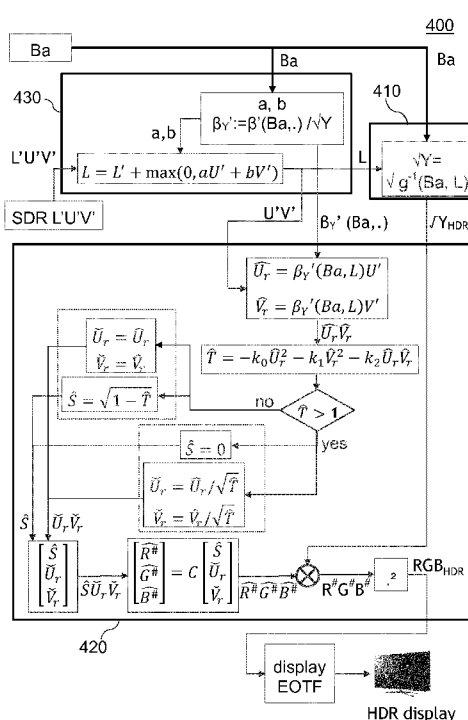


Fig. 4

(57) Abstract: The present disclosure generally relates to a device and a method of decoding a color picture from a bitstream. It comprises: —obtaining an expanded range luminance as a first component by applying a nonlinear dynamic expansion function to a luminance component obtained from the bitstream, wherein said nonlinear dynamic expansion function is determined depending on an inverse of a dynamic reduction function that has been applied to an original luminance component obtained when encoding the color picture; —obtaining a second component by calculating a square root of a difference between a value determined by the first component and another value computed as a linear combination of a multiplication product of two chrominance components and square values of the two chrominance components obtained from the bitstream; and —obtaining at least one color component of the color picture to be decoded at least from said second component and said two chrominance components by determining said at least one color component as a linear combination of the second component and the two chrominance components.



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1. Title.

Method and device for decoding a color picture.

2. Field.

The present disclosure generally relates to picture/video encoding and decoding. Particularly, but not exclusively, the technical field of the present disclosure is related to decoding of a picture whose pixels values belong to a high-dynamic range.

3. Background.

The present section is intended to introduce the reader to various aspects of art, which may be related to various aspects of the present disclosure that are described and/or claimed below. This discussion is believed to be helpful in providing the reader with background information to facilitate a better understanding of the various aspects of the present disclosure. Accordingly, it should be understood that these statements are to be read in this light, and not as admissions of prior art.

In the following, a color picture contains several arrays of samples (pixel values) in a specific picture/video format which specifies all information relative to the pixel values of a picture (or a video) and all information which may be used by a display and/or any other device to visualize and/or decode a picture (or video) for example. A color picture comprises at least one component, in the shape of a first array of samples, usually a luma (or luminance) component, and at least one another component, in the shape of at least one other array of samples. Or, equivalently, the same information may also be represented by a set of arrays of color samples (color components), such as the traditional tri-chromatic RGB representation.

A pixel value is represented by a vector of n values, where n is the number of components. Each value of a vector is represented with a number of bits which defines a maximal dynamic range of the pixel values.

Standard-Dynamic-Range pictures (SDR pictures) are color pictures
5 whose luminance values are represented with a limited dynamic usually measured in power of two or f-stops. SDR pictures have a dynamic around 10 fstops, i.e. a ratio 1000 between the brightest pixels and the darkest pixels in the linear domain, and are coded with a limited number of bits (most often 8 or 10 in HDTV (High Definition Television systems) and UHDTV (Ultra-High
10 Definition Television systems) in a non-linear domain, for instance by using the ITU-R BT.709 OEFT (Optico-Electrical-Transfer-Function) (*Rec. ITU-R BT.709-5, April 2002*) or ITU-R BT.2020 OETF (*Rec. ITU-R BT.2020-1, June 2014*) to reduce the dynamic. This limited non-linear representation does not allow correct rendering of small signal variations, in particular in dark and
15 bright luminance ranges. In High-Dynamic-Range pictures (HDR pictures), the signal dynamic is much higher (up to 20 f-stops, a ratio one million between the brightest pixels and the darkest pixels) and a new non-linear representation is needed in order to maintain a high accuracy of the signal over its entire range. In HDR pictures, raw data are usually represented in
20 floating-point format (either 32-bit or 16-bit for each component, namely float or half-float), the most popular format being openEXR half-float format (16-bit per RGB component, i.e. 48 bits per pixel) or in integers with a long representation, typically at least 16 bits.

A color gamut is a certain complete set of colors. The most common
25 usage refers to a set of colors which can be accurately represented in a given circumstance, such as within a given color space or by a certain output device. A color gamut is sometimes defined by RGB primaries defined in the CIE1931 color space chromaticity diagram and a white point.

For example, a color gamut is defined by a RGB ITU-R
30 Recommendation BT.2020 color space for UHDTV. An older standard, ITU-R Recommendation BT.709, defines a smaller color gamut for HDTV. In SDR, the dynamic range is defined officially up to 100 nits (candela per square

meter) for the color volume in which data are coded, although some display technologies may show brighter pixels.

High Dynamic Range pictures (HDR pictures) are color pictures whose luminance values are represented with a HDR dynamic that is higher than
5 the dynamic of a SDR picture.

The HDR dynamic is not yet defined by a standard but one may expect a dynamic range up to a few thousands nits. For instance, a HDR color volume is defined by a RGB BT.2020 color space and the values represented in said RGB color space belong to a dynamic range from 0 to
10 4000 nits. Another example of HDR color volume is defined by a RGB BT.2020 color space and the values represented in said RGB color space belong to a dynamic range from 0 to 1000 nits.

Color-grading a picture (or a video) is a process of altering/enhancing the colors of the picture (or the video). Usually, color-grading a picture
15 involves a change of the color volume (color space and/or dynamic range) or a change of the color gamut relative to this picture. Thus, two different color-graded versions of a same picture are versions of this picture whose values are represented in different color volumes (or color gamut) or versions of the picture whose at least one of their colors has been altered/enhanced
20 according to different color grades. This may involve user interactions.

For example, in cinematographic production, a picture and a video are captured using tri-chromatic cameras into RGB color values composed of 3 components (Red, Green and Blue). The RGB color values depend on the tri-chromatic characteristics (color primaries) of the sensor. A first color-graded
25 version of the captured picture is then obtained in order to get theatrical renders (using a specific theatrical grade). Typically, the values of the first color-graded version of the captured picture are represented according to a standardized YUV format such as BT.2020 which defines parameter values for UHDTV.

30 Then, a Colorist, usually in conjunction with a Director of Photography, performs a control on the color values of the first color-graded version of the

captured picture by fine-tuning/tweaking some color values in order to instill an artistic intent.

The problem to be solved is the distribution of a compressed HDR picture (or video) while, at the same time, distributing an associated SDR picture (or video) representative of a color-graded version of said HDR picture (or video).

A trivial solution is simulcasting both SDR and HDR picture (or video) on a distribution infrastructure but the drawback is to virtually double the needed bandwidth compared to a legacy infrastructure distributing adapted to broadcast SDR picture (or video) such as HEVC main 10 profile (*“High Efficiency Video Coding”, SERIES H: AUDIOVISUAL AND MULTIMEDIA SYSTEMS, Recommendation ITU-T H.265, Telecommunication Standardization Sector of ITU, April 2013*).

Using a legacy distribution infrastructure is a requirement to accelerate the emergence of the distribution of HDR pictures (or video). Also, the bitrate shall be minimized while ensuring good quality of both SDR and HDR version of the picture (or video).

Moreover, backward compatibility may be ensured, i.e. the SDR picture (or video) shall be viewable for users equipped with legacy decoder and display, i.e. in particular, overall perceived brightness (i.e. dark vs. bright scenes) and perceived colors (for instance, preservation of hues, etc.) should be preserved.

Another straightforward solution is to reduce the dynamic range of the HDR picture (or video) by a suitable non-linear function, typically into a limited number of bits (say 10 bits), and directly compressed by the HEVC main10 profile. Such non-linear function (curve) already exist like the so-called PQ EOTF proposed by Dolby at SMPTE (*SMPTE standard: High Dynamic Range Electro-Optical Transfer Function of Mastering Reference Displays, SMPTE ST 2084:2014*).

The drawback of this solution is the lack of backward compatibility, i.e. the obtained reduced version of the picture (video) has not a sufficient visual

quality to be considered as being viewable as a SDR picture (or video), and compression performance are somewhat poor.

The present disclosure has been devised with the foregoing in mind.

5 4. **Summary.**

The following presents a simplified summary of the disclosure in order to provide a basic understanding of some aspects of the disclosure. This summary is not an extensive overview of the disclosure. It is not intended to
10 identify key or critical elements of the disclosure. The following summary merely presents some aspects of the disclosure in a simplified form as a prelude to the more detailed description provided below.

In particular, an encoding side and a decoding side of a distribution scheme are described for the encoding and the decoding of a picture or a
15 sequence of pictures. It comprises, on the encoder side, mapping, for example, an HDR picture onto a SDR picture represented in a format compatible with the legacy SDR workflow. Exemplary, but not limited to, the format may be the 8-bit YUV format dedicated to High Definition TV (as defined by the standard ITU-R Rec BT.709) or the 10-bit YUV format
20 dedicated to Ultra High Definition TV (as defined by the standard ITU-R Rec BT.2020). It further comprises encoding the obtained SDR picture by using a legacy SDR image coder. For instance, but not limited to, the coder may be the standard 8-bit h264/AVC main profile or the standard 10-bit HEVC main10 profile of, e.g., HEVC (or any other codec workable by the workflow).
25 Further, the distribution scheme comprises distributing the bit-stream of the obtained encoded SDR picture.

On the decoder side, two scenarios are possible depending on the addressed user.

In a first scenario, a decoded SDR picture is obtained from the
30 distributed bit-stream and is displayed on a SDR-capable device.

In a second scenario, a decoded HDR picture is obtained from the distributed bit-stream by first obtaining a decoded SDR picture and by

second applying a mapping from the decoded SDR picture to the decoded HDR picture.

Advantageously, the mapping from a HDR picture to a SDR picture performed by the encoder is invertible such that the inverse mapping from a SDR picture to a HDR picture is applied by the decoder. By doing so, the coding error of the decoded HDR picture, relatively to the HDR picture, is minimized.

An embodiment of an invertible HDR to SDR mapping is described hereafter and is based on a three-step process in which a square-root is used as EOTF.

As shown in Fig. 1, a method 100 of encoding a color picture comprises a luminance dynamic reduction (step 110) that comprises a sub-step 111 of obtaining an original luminance Y from at least one of color components E_c ($c=1,2,3$) of the color picture and a sub-step 112 of histogram analysis in order to determine a modulation value (also called backlight value) B_a for the picture to be encoded. Different methods can be used to calculate the modulation value, for example, but not limited to, using an average, median, minimum or maximum value of the HDR luminance. These operations may be performed in the linear HDR luminance domain $Y_{\text{HDR,lin}}$ or in a non-linear domain like $\ln(Y_{\text{HDR,lin}})$ or $Y_{\text{HDR,lin}}^\gamma$ with $\gamma < 1$.

A color picture is considered as having three color components in which the pixel values of the color picture are represented. The present disclosure, although at least partly explained by way of concrete example, is not limited to any color space in which the three components are represented but extends to any color space such as RGB, CIELUV, XYZ, CIELab, etc. As an example, E_c refers to RGB_{HDR} in the Figures. In a sub-step 113, the dynamic of the original luminance Y dynamic is reduced to obtain a luminance component L from the original luminance Y and the modulation value B_a by applying a non-linear function that depends on from the original luminance Y and the modulation value B_a .

In a second step 120, two chrominance components $C1$ and $C2$ are determined from the color components E_c of the color picture. For the example given in Fig. 1, $C1$ and $C2$ refer to $U'V'$, whereas E_c refers to RGB_{HDR} . In a sub-step 121, intermediated components D_c (in the example of Fig. 1, D_c refers to $R^\#B^\#G^\#$) are obtained by taking the square root of the color components E_c . For the example shown in Fig. 1, this refers to the square root of RGB_{HDR} . In a next sub-step 122, reduced components F_c (

$\tilde{R}\tilde{G}\tilde{B}$ for the example shown in Fig. 1) are obtained by a multiplication of the intermediate components D_c by a common multiplicative factor β'' . The factor $\beta''(B_a, L)$ depends on the luminance component L and the modulation value B_a . In a next sub-step 123, chrominance components C_1 and C_2 (U' and V' in Fig. 1) are obtained by multiplying the three reduced components F_c by a matrix, i.e.

$$[C_1; C_2] = M [F_1; F_2; F_3]$$

where M is a 2×3 matrix that depends on the gamut of the color picture.

In a third step 130, a correction of the luminance component L and the chrominance components C_1, C_2 is performed to obtain the corrected luminance component L' and the corrected chrominance components C'_1 and C'_2 (which refers to $U'V'$ to $L'U''V''$ in the figures) This correction obtained by a gamut mapping such that the perceived colors of the gamut G_1 of the corrected components L', C'_1, C'_2 correspond to the perceived color of the gamut G_2 of the components E_c of the HDR color picture.

More precisely, in colorimetry and color theory, colorfulness, chroma, and saturation refer to the perceived intensity of a specific color. Colorfulness is the degree of difference between a color and gray. Chroma is the colorfulness relative to the brightness of another color that appears white under similar viewing conditions. Saturation is the colorfulness of a color relative to its own brightness.

A highly colorful stimulus is vivid and intense, while a less colorful stimulus appears more muted, closer to gray. With no colorfulness at all, a color is a "neutral" gray (a picture with no colorfulness in any of its colors is called grayscale). Any color can be described from its colorfulness (or chroma or saturation), lightness (or brightness), and hue.

The definition of the hue and saturation of the color depends on the color space used to represent said color.

For example, when a CIELUV color space is used, the saturation s_{uv} is defined as the ratio between the chroma C_{uv}^* over the luminance L^* .

$$s_{uv} = \frac{C_{uv}^*}{L^*} = \frac{\sqrt{u^{*2} + v^{*2}}}{L^*}$$

The hue is then given by

$$h_{uv} = \arctan \frac{v^*}{u^*}$$

According to another example, when a CIELAB color space is used, the saturation is defined as the ratio of the chroma over the luminance:

$$s_{ab} = \frac{C_{ab}^*}{L^*} = \frac{\sqrt{a^{*2} + b^{*2}}}{L^*}$$

5 The hue is then given by

$$h_{ab} = \arctan \frac{b^*}{a^*}$$

These equations are a reasonable predictor of saturation and hue that are in agreement with the human perception of saturation, and demonstrate that adjusting the brightness in CIELAB (or CIELUV) color space while
 10 holding the angle a^*/b^* (or u^*/v^*) fixed does affect the hue and thus the perception of a same color. In step 150, scaling the color components E_c by a same factor preserves this angle, thus the hue.

Now let us consider that the HDR color picture is represented in the CIELUV color space and a picture I2 that is formed by combining together
 15 the luminance component L, whose dynamic range is reduced compared to the dynamic range of the luminance of the color picture I (step 130), and two chrominance components U (=C1) and V (=C2) of the CIELUV color space. The colors of the picture I2 are thus differently perceived by a human being because the saturation and the hue of the colors changed. The method (step
 20 130) determines the chrominance components C'1 and C'2 of a corrected picture I3 in order that the hue of the colors of the corrected picture I3 best match the hue of the colors of the HDR color picture.

In a sub-step 131, 132, the common multiplicative factor β'' used in the second step 120 is determined. In a next sub-step 133, L' is generated from L .

The corrected components L' , $C'1$, $C'2$ are obtained from the luminance component L and the chrominance components $C1$, $C2$ by the following equations

- $C'1 = C1$,
- $C'2 = C2$,
- $L' = L - mC'1 - nC'2$

where m and n are two real coefficients and refer to a and b in the Figure. The real coefficients depend on the gamut of the HDR Rec BT.709 and Bt.2020). Typical values for m and n are $m \approx n$ in the interval $[0.1, 0.5]$.

According to a variant of the correction, the values of the corrected luminance component L' are always lower than the values of the luminance component L :

$$L' = L - \max(0, mC'_1 + nC'_2)$$

This ensures that the values of the corrected luminance component L' do not exceed the values of the luminance component L and thus ensures that no color saturation occurs. The modulation value Ba is encoded in the bit-stream F as well as the picture $L'C'1C'2$.

As shown in Fig. 2, a corresponding method 200 of decoding a color picture from a bitstream is schematically illustrated. Decoding Steps 210, 220 and 230 may be regarded as inverting the corresponding encoding steps 110, 120 and 130. In step 230, corrected luminance and chrominance components L' , $C'1$, $C'2$ (referring to $U'V'$ in Fig. 2) are obtained from the bitstream F . In a sub step, the luminance component L is obtained by inverting the correction, i.e. by the following equations

$$L = L' + mC'1 + nC'2$$

(m and n refer to a and b shown in the Figure)

According to a variant of the inverse correction, the values of the luminance component L are always higher than the values of the corrected luminance component L' :

$$L = L' + \max(0, mC'_1 + nC'_2)$$

5 This embodiment is advantageous because it ensures that the luminance component L does not exceed a potential clipping value that is usually used by the decoder to define a luminance peak.

10 In step 210, a nonlinear dynamic expansion function is applied to the luminance L in order to generate a first component (Y in Fig. 2 or sqrt(Y) in Fig. 3) which is an expanded range luminance, which is an inverse of a dynamic reduction function that has been applied to an original luminance component obtained when encoding the color picture, e.g. $Y_{\text{HDR}} = f^{-1}(L_{\text{SDR}})$.

15 In step 220, at least one color components E_c (in the shown example RGB_{HDR}) of the color picture to be decoded are recovered from the corrected chrominance components C'_1, C'_2 (In the example shown: $U'V'$) and the first component Y (or sqrt(Y)). In a sub-step 221 a multiplication of the corrected chrominance components C'_1, C'_2 by a common multiplicative factor β' is performed to obtain the intermediate chrominance components (C_1, C_2 , referring $U_r V_r$ shown in the example of Fig. 2 and $\widehat{C_1}, \widehat{C_2}$ referring to $\widehat{U_r}, \widehat{V_r}$, shown in Fig. 3), which are used in a further sub-step 222 for obtaining a second component S, i.e., and referring to the component notation used for the example shown in Fig. 2, a value S determined by $S = \sqrt{Y + k_0 U_r^2 + k_1 V_r^2 + k_2 U_r V_r}$. In a further sub-step 223, $R^\# G^\# B^\#$ are recovered from $S U_r V_r$: $[R^\#; G^\#; B^\#] = \text{Mat}_{3 \times 3} [S; U_r; V_r]$. The color components of the decoded color picture RGB_{HDR} are determined in a next sub-step 224 as the squares of $R^\# G^\# B^\#$.

30 In other words, the method allows, for example, a SDR to HDR de-mapping that recovers $R^\# G^\# B^\#$ representative of the RGB HDR components, from a SDR luma component L and two SDR chroma components UV, wherein a HDR luminance component Y is deduced from L, a value T is computed as a linear combination of U^2, V^2 and $U \cdot V$, S is computed as the square root of $Y - T$ and $R^\# G^\# B^\#$ is then determined as the product of a 3x3 matrix and SUV, applied to each pixel of an input SDR

picture. The 3x3 matrix is, for example, the inverse of the RGB->YUV matrix defined in ITU-R BT709/2020, i.e. $C=A^{-1}$.

The described decoding scheme allows the distribution of a compressed HDR picture while, at the same time, distributing an associated SDR picture representative of a color-graded version of said HDR picture. However, the decoding can be further enhanced, as compression loss may introduce inaccuracies when decoding and displaying the HDR picture, such that the numerical stability or robustness of the decoding may not always be guaranteed.

The further disclosure sets out to provide a method of decoding a color picture from a bitstream that provides an additional increase in robustness. The method comprises:

- obtaining a first component by applying a nonlinear dynamic expansion function to a luminance component obtained from the bitstream;
- obtaining a second component by taking a square root of a difference between a value determined by the first component and a linear combination of a product and square values of two chrominance components obtained from the bitstream; and
- obtaining at least one color component of the color picture to be decoded at least from said second component and said two chrominance components.

This allows to apply a nonlinear dynamic expansion function which is not necessarily the inverse of the corresponding nonlinear dynamic reduction function that has been applied during encoding, in order to apply a customizable boundary at least to the luminance component, for example to take into account restrictions implied by the processing hardware. Further, the dependency of the square root function on the first component generated by the actually selected nonlinear dynamic expansion function allows to adapt the calculation of the second component not only to the introduced boundary but also to influence the avoidance of a non-defined difference result, thereby enabling enhanced numerical stability.

According to an embodiment,

- the second component is obtained by taking the square root of the difference between the value determined by the first component and said

linear combination only if said value is equal to or greater than said linear combination, and

– said second component is set equal to zero and the two chrominance components are multiplied by a common factor otherwise. This allows handling the case of the second component being determined to be a non-real figure. Handling of this error case may otherwise depend on the applied hardware error handling functionality. This exception is resolved by setting the second component to 0. However, replacing an imaginary value by zero is equivalent to increasing the luminance. If the second component would be set to 0 without also applying the common factor to the chrominance components would practically lead to very bright pixels appearing where the second component has been set to zero.

According to one embodiment, the common factor is a ratio of said first component, i.e. the value of said component, over a square root of said linear combination.

In this embodiment, the nonlinear dynamic expansion function is, e.g., an inverse of a dynamic reduction function that has been applied to an original luminance component obtained when encoding the color picture and said value determined by said first component is equal to said original luminance component. In this case, the nonlinear dynamic expansion function provides the original luminance component as said first component and the second component is determined as a square root of the difference between the originally encoded luminance and described linear combination.

According to another embodiment, the common factor is the reciprocal of a square root of said linear combination.

In this embodiment the nonlinear dynamic expansion function is a square root of an inverse of a dynamic reduction function that has been applied to an original luminance component obtained when encoding the color picture, and the value determined by said first component is equal to 1. Further, the obtaining at least one color component of the color picture to be decoded comprises multiplying the at least one color component by the first component. This introduces normalization by the square root of the original luminance component and, thereby, sets boundaries to the chrominance components and the second component, such that hardware implementation can be simplified. Finally, the described multiplication removes the applied normalization.

In order to apply a corresponding scaling to the two chrominance components, according to an embodiment, the step of obtaining the two chrominance components comprises scaling each of the two chrominance components by a factor that depends on the first component.

5 For example, said scaling comprises dividing the two chrominance components by the first component, i.e. by the same normalization factor that is also applied to the luminance, before determining the linear combination.

In an embodiment, said factor also depends on a backlight value of the picture being decoded, obtained from the original luminance component.

10 In an embodiment, the second component is determined using a look up table for faster processing.

According to an embodiment, said obtaining at least one color component of the color picture to be decoded at least from said second component and said two chrominance components comprises determining
15 said at least one color component as a linear combination of the second component and the two chrominance components.

Any of the following embodiments may be applied to other other color spaces than RGB or YUV, even if described with example reference to those.

20 As an example embodiment, a SDR to HDR de-mapping method recovers $R^{\#}G^{\#}B^{\#}$ representative of the RGB HDR components, from a SDR luma component L and two SDR chroma components UV , wherein a HDR luminance component Y is deduced from L , a value T is computed as a linear combination of U^2, V^2 and $U \cdot V$. S is essentially computed as the square root
25 of $Y - T$

i. if $T \leq Y$ then $S = \sqrt{Y - T}$

ii. if $T > Y$ then U and V are multiplied by a common factor F and S is set to zero.

$R^{\#}G^{\#}B^{\#}$ is then computed as a product of a 3×3 matrix and SUV . The method
30 is applied to each pixel of an input SDR image. Further, the common factor F can be set to Y/\sqrt{T} .

As another example embodiment, a SDR to HDR de-mapping method recovers $R^{\#}G^{\#}B^{\#}$ representative of the RGB HDR components from a SDR luma component L and two SDR chroma components UV , wherein the
35 square root of the HDR luminance component \sqrt{Y} is deduced from L , T is

computed as a linear combination of U^2, V^2 and $U*V$, and S is essentially computed as the square root of $1-T$

i. if $T \leq 1$ then $S = \sqrt{1-T}$

ii. if $T > 1$ then U and V are multiplied by a common factor F

5 and S is set to zero

$\widehat{R^\#G^\#B^\#}$ is then computed as the product of a 3x3 matrix and SUV . $R^\#G^\#B^\#$ is the multiplication of $\widehat{R^\#G^\#B^\#}$ by \sqrt{Y} , applied to each pixel of an input SDR picture. Further, the common factor F is $1/\sqrt{T}$. In an embodiment, F can be applied at the same time as the final multiplication by $1/\sqrt{T}$, i.e. multiplication by F/\sqrt{T} instead.

The described embodiment allows a simple hardware implementation of the decoder with intermediate register sizes that do not depend on the peak luminance of the color image

According to other of its aspects, the disclosure relates to devices comprising a processor configured to implement the above methods, a computer program product comprising program code instructions to execute the steps of the above methods when this program is executed on a computer, a processor readable medium having stored therein instructions for causing a processor to perform at least the steps of the above methods, and a non-transitory storage medium carrying instructions of program code for executing steps of the above methods when said program is executed on a computing device.

The specific nature of the disclosure as well as other objects, advantages, features and uses of the disclosure will become evident from the following description of embodiments taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings.

5. Brief Description of Drawings.

In the drawings, an embodiment of the present disclosure is illustrated. It shows:

- **Fig. 1** shows schematically a diagram of the steps of a method of encoding a color picture in accordance with an embodiment of the disclosure;

- **Fig. 2** shows schematically a diagram of the steps of a method of decoding a color picture from at least one bitstream in accordance with an embodiment of the disclosure;

5 - **Fig. 3** shows schematically a diagram of the steps of a method of decoding a color picture from at least one bitstream in accordance with another embodiment of the disclosure;

- **Fig. 4** shows schematically a diagram of the steps of a method of decoding a color picture from at least one bitstream in accordance with yet another embodiment of the disclosure;

10 - **Fig. 5** illustrates possible solutions for intersections of a line and an ellipsoid in the $R^{\#}G^{\#}B^{\#}$ color space; and

- **Fig. 6** shows an example of an architecture of a device in accordance with an embodiment of the disclosure.

15 6. Description of Embodiments.

The present disclosure will be described more fully hereinafter with reference to the accompanying figures, in which embodiments of the disclosure are shown. This disclosure may, however, be embodied in many
20 alternate forms and should not be construed as limited to the embodiments set forth herein. Accordingly, while the disclosure is susceptible to various modifications and alternative forms, specific embodiments thereof are shown by way of example in the drawings and will herein be described in detail. It should be understood, however, that there is no intent to limit the disclosure
25 to the particular forms disclosed, but on the contrary, the disclosure is to cover all modifications, equivalents, and alternatives falling within the spirit and scope of the disclosure as defined by the claims.

The terminology used herein is for the purpose of describing particular embodiments only and is not intended to be limiting of the disclosure. As
30 used herein, the singular forms "a", "an" and "the" are intended to include the plural forms as well, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise. It will be further understood that the terms "comprises", "comprising," "includes"

and/or "including" when used in this specification, specify the presence of stated features, integers, steps, operations, elements, and/or components but do not preclude the presence or addition of one or more other features, integers, steps, operations, elements, components, and/or groups thereof.

5 Moreover, when an element is referred to as being "responsive" or "connected" to another element, it can be directly responsive or connected to the other element, or intervening elements may be present. In contrast, when an element is referred to as being "directly responsive" or "directly connected" to other element, there are no intervening elements present. As
10 used herein the term "and/or" includes any and all combinations of one or more of the associated listed items and may be abbreviated as"/".

It will be understood that, although the terms first, second, etc. may be used herein to describe various elements, these elements should not be limited by these terms. These terms are only used to distinguish one element
15 from another. For example, a first element could be termed a second element, and, similarly, a second element could be termed a first element without departing from the teachings of the disclosure.

Although some of the diagrams include arrows on communication paths to show a primary direction of communication, it is to be understood
20 that communication may occur in the opposite direction to the depicted arrows.

Some embodiments are described with regard to block diagrams and operational flowcharts in which each block represents a circuit element, module, or portion of code which comprises one or more executable
25 instructions for implementing the specified logical function(s). It should also be noted that in other implementations, the function(s) noted in the blocks may occur out of the order noted. For example, two blocks shown in succession may, in fact, be executed substantially concurrently or the blocks may sometimes be executed in the reverse order, depending on the
30 functionality involved.

Reference herein to "one embodiment" or "an embodiment" means that a particular feature, structure, or characteristic described in connection

with the embodiment can be included in at least one implementation of the disclosure. The appearances of the phrase "in one embodiment" or "according to an embodiment" in various places in the specification are not necessarily all referring to the same embodiment, nor are separate or
5 alternative embodiments necessarily mutually exclusive of other embodiments.

Reference numerals appearing in the claims are by way of illustration only and shall have no limiting effect on the scope of the claims.

While not explicitly described, the present embodiments and variants
10 may be employed in any combination or sub-combination.

The disclosure is described for decoding a color picture but extends to the decoding of a sequence of pictures (video) because each color picture of the sequence is sequentially decoded as described below.

A color picture I is considered as having three color components in
15 which the pixel values of the color picture are represented. The present disclosure is not limited to any color space in which the three components are represented but extends to any color space such as RGB, CIELUV, XYZ, CIELab, etc.

Referring to Fig. 3, a diagram of the steps of a method 300 of
20 decoding a color picture from at least one bitstream in accordance with an embodiment of the disclosure is schematically shown. The shown embodiment is actually a modification of the decoding method illustrated in Fig. 2, now ascertaining that clear bounds are always available for the processed luminance and chrominance components, namely of Y, U_r, V_r, S .
25 Only changes between the embodiments will be explained in detail. In step 310, the nonlinear dynamic expansion function is a square root of an inverse of a dynamic reduction function that has been applied to an original luminance component obtained when encoding the color picture, which reduces the upper bound of the first component generated in step 1 to \sqrt{Y} .
30 Normalization by $1/\sqrt{Y}$ is introduced, followed by a modified chrominance reconstruction step 320 and then a renormalization by \sqrt{Y} .

The HDR luminance Y is a linear combination of the components E_c . Hereinafter, as an example of E_c , it is referred to RGB_{HDR} .

$$Y = A_1 \begin{bmatrix} R \\ G \\ B \end{bmatrix} = A_1 \begin{bmatrix} R^{\#2} \\ G^{\#2} \\ B^{\#2} \end{bmatrix}$$

where we defined $R^{\#} := \sqrt{R}$, $G^{\#} := \sqrt{G}$, $B^{\#} := \sqrt{B}$

- 5 As a consequence, up to some constants, E_c , i.e. RGB in the shown example, are bounded by Y and D_c , i.e. $R^{\#}G^{\#}B^{\#}$ in the shown example, are bounded by $\sqrt[3]{Y}$. Also, as one gets from the encoder side, U_rV_r as a linear combination of $R^{\#}G^{\#}B^{\#}$, i.e.

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_2 \\ A_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R^{\#} \\ G^{\#} \\ B^{\#} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} U_r \\ V_r \end{bmatrix},$$

- 10 The two variables are bounded by $R^{\#}G^{\#}B^{\#}$, thus by $\sqrt[3]{Y}$. It follows that, referring back to the embodiment shown in Fig. 2, in the definition of S ,

$$S = \sqrt{Y + k_0 U_r^2 + k_1 V_r^2 + k_2 U_r V_r}$$

- the term under the square root is bounded by Y , and S is bounded by $\sqrt[3]{Y}$. Hence, the input variables U_rV_r , the intermediate variable S , and the
15 output variables $R^{\#}G^{\#}B^{\#}$ of the decoding process are all bounded by $\sqrt[3]{Y}$. Therefore, the multiplicative factor β' used in the decoding method illustrated in Fig. 2 is replaced by β_Y' in the embodiment shown in Fig. 3, such that, instead of processing U_r and V_r , $U_r/\sqrt[3]{Y}$ and $V_r/\sqrt[3]{Y}$ are processed. Further a re-scaling of the output back by $\sqrt[3]{Y}$ is introduced.

- 20 In other words, the multiplicative factor $\beta'(Ba,L)$ is replaced by $\beta_Y'(Ba,L) := \beta'(Ba,L)/\sqrt[3]{Y}$ in order to get the normalized inputs

$$\widehat{U}_r = U_r/\sqrt[3]{Y} \quad \text{and} \quad \widehat{V}_r = V_r/\sqrt[3]{Y}.$$

At the output, the decoded $\widehat{R}^{\#}\widehat{G}^{\#}\widehat{B}^{\#}$ are scaled back by a multiplication by $\sqrt[3]{Y}$.

- 25 Fig. 3 illustrates a SDR to HDR inverse mapping method that recovers $R^{\#}G^{\#}B^{\#}$ representative of the RGB HDR components, from a SDR luma component L and two SDR chroma components UV , wherein the square root of the HDR luminance component $\sqrt[3]{Y}$ is deduced from L , a value \hat{T} is computed as a linear combination of U^2, V^2 and $U*V$, the second component

S is computed as the square root of the difference $1 - \hat{T}$, and wherein $\widehat{R^\#G^\#B^\#}$ is the product of a 3x3 matrix and SUV and $R^\#G^\#B^\#$ is the multiplication of $\widehat{R^\#G^\#B^\#}$ by \sqrt{Y} , applied to each pixel of an input SDR image. Furthermore, U and V are divided by \sqrt{Y} .

- 5 Referring now to Fig. 4, a diagram of the steps of a method 400 of decoding a color picture from at least one bitstream in accordance with another embodiment of the disclosure is schematically shown. The shown embodiment is actually a modification of the decoding method illustrated in Fig. 3, now additionally ascertaining that if the second component,
 10 corresponding to \hat{S} shown in Fig. 3, results in an imaginary value, the exception is handled correctly, e.g. in order to avoid visible distortions of the displayed color associated to the corresponding pixel. Only changes between the embodiments will be explained in detail.

- The mapping is supposed to provide L'U'V' that are decodable in the
 15 sense that S is not imaginary. However, because the L'U'V' is compressed and de-compressed, coding loss may lead to an input triplet (L',U'V') such that $1 - \hat{T} := 1 + k_0 \hat{U}_r^2 + k_1 \hat{V}_r^2 + k_2 \hat{U}_r \hat{V}_r$ is negative and $\hat{S} = \sqrt{1 - \hat{T}}$ is not real. One solution is to threshold \hat{T} by 1, leading to $\hat{S} = 0$. However, this destroys the luminance bound on decoded RGB. Replacing an imaginary
 20 value by $\hat{S} = 0$ is equivalent to increasing Y. For instance, if one gets $\hat{T} = 2$, doubling Y leads to $\hat{S} = \sqrt{2 - 2} = 0$. But in this case, the bound Y on RGB has also doubled. This leads to very bright pixels appearing where \hat{S} is set to zero without further handling.

- As shown in step 420, the following process is additionally performed
 25 in order to preserve the bound while finding a solution:

- The second component \hat{S} is determined in separate sub-steps. In sub-step 421, only \hat{T} , i.e. a linear combination linear combination of a product and square values of two chrominance components is determined. In a next sub-step 422, it is checked, whether or not $1 - \hat{T}$ results in a positive or negative
 30 value. If $\hat{T} \leq 1$, then \hat{S} is real and the decoding proceed with this \hat{S} (sub-step 423), which corresponds to the processing shown in Fig. 3.

If $\hat{T} > 1$, then S is imaginary and the processing continues with sub-step 424, where the variables \hat{U}_r and \hat{V}_r are re-scaled in order to get a real solution by doing the following

- set $\tilde{U}_r = \hat{U}_r / \sqrt{\hat{T}}$ and $\tilde{V}_r = \hat{V}_r / \sqrt{\hat{T}}$
- 5 ○ replace $\hat{U}_r \hat{V}_r$ by $\tilde{U}_r \tilde{V}_r$ in the remaining of the decoding
- set $\hat{S} = 0$

The described processing provides a suitable solution, which becomes evident when analyzing the problem geometrically: The equation

$$Y = A_1 \begin{bmatrix} R^{\#2} \\ G^{\#2} \\ B^{\#2} \end{bmatrix}$$

- 10 defines an ellipsoid in the $R^{\#}G^{\#}B^{\#}$ space, and

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_2 \\ A_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} R^{\#} \\ G^{\#} \\ B^{\#} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} U_r \\ V_r \end{bmatrix}$$

defines the intersection of two planes, i.e. a line, in the same space. Therefore, the solution is the intersection of the ellipsoid and the line. This intersection is either

- 15
- empty in the case S is imaginary
 - one point in the case $S=0$, the line is tangent to the ellipsoid
 - two points in the case $S>0$, and the positive value has to be taken because $R^{\#}G^{\#}B^{\#}$ are positive by definition

- In Fig. 5, the ellipsoid and the line are shown in the $R^{\#}G^{\#}B^{\#}$ space. In Fig. 20 5, the ellipsoid is represented by a sphere. In case there is no solution, the line does not intersect the sphere (left). Setting $S=0$ is equivalent to increase, which itself is equivalent to inflate the ellipsoid that has \sqrt{Y} as a radius. The chosen solution illustrated in Fig. 5 is to move the line up to a point it touches the ellipsoid (right). Then, by construction, the solution $R^{\#}G^{\#}B^{\#}$ is on the 25 ellipsoid of radius \sqrt{Y} and the bound is preserved.

In Figs. 1 to 4, the steps and sub-steps may also be considered as modules or functional units, which may or may not be in relation with distinguishable physical units. For example, these modules or some of them may be brought together in a unique component or circuit, or contribute to

functionalities of a software. *A contrario*, some modules may potentially be composed of separate physical entities. The apparatus which are compatible with the disclosure are implemented using either pure hardware, for example using dedicated hardware such ASIC or FPGA or VLSI, respectively
5 « Application Specific Integrated Circuit », « Field-Programmable Gate Array », « Very Large Scale Integration », or from several integrated electronic components embedded in a device or from a blend of hardware and software components.

Fig. 6 represents an exemplary architecture of a device 600 which
10 may be configured to implement a method described in relation with Fig. 1 to 4.

Device 600 comprises the following elements that are linked together by a data and address bus 601:

- a microprocessor 602 (or CPU), which is, for example, a DSP (or Digital
15 Signal Processor);
- a ROM (or Read Only Memory) 603;
- a RAM (or Random Access Memory) 604;
- an I/O interface 605 for transmission and/or reception of data, from an application; and
- 20 - a battery 606

According to a variant, the battery 606 is external to the device. Each of these elements of **Fig. 6** are well-known by those skilled in the art and will not be disclosed further. In each of mentioned memory, the word « register » used in the specification can correspond to area of small capacity (some bits)
25 or to very large area (e.g. a whole program or large amount of received or decoded data). ROM 603 comprises at least a program and parameters. Algorithm of the methods according to the disclosure is stored in the ROM 1303. When switched on, the CPU 602 uploads the program in the RAM and executes the corresponding instructions.

30 RAM 604 comprises, in a register, the program executed by the CPU 602 and uploaded after switch on of the device 600, input data in a register,

intermediate data in different states of the method in a register, and other variables used for the execution of the method in a register.

The implementations described herein may be implemented in, for example, a method or a process, an apparatus, a software program, a data stream, or a signal. Even if only discussed in the context of a single form of implementation (for example, discussed only as a method or a device), the implementation of features discussed may also be implemented in other forms (for example a program). An apparatus may be implemented in, for example, appropriate hardware, software, and firmware. The methods may be implemented in, for example, an apparatus such as, for example, a processor, which refers to processing devices in general, including, for example, a computer, a microprocessor, an integrated circuit, or a programmable logic device. Processors also include communication devices, such as, for example, computers, cell phones, portable/personal digital assistants ("PDAs"), and other devices that facilitate communication of information between end-users.

According to a specific embodiment of encoding or encoder, the color picture I is obtained from a source. For example, the source belongs to a set comprising:

- a local memory (603 or 604), e.g. a video memory or a RAM (or Random Access Memory), a flash memory, a ROM (or Read Only Memory), a hard disk ;
- a storage interface, e.g. an interface with a mass storage, a RAM, a flash memory, a ROM, an optical disc or a magnetic support;
- a communication interface (605), e.g. a wireline interface (for example a bus interface, a wide area network interface, a local area network interface) or a wireless interface (such as a IEEE 802.11 interface or a Bluetooth® interface); and
- a picture capturing circuit (e.g. a sensor such as, for example, a CCD (or Charge-Coupled Device) or CMOS (or Complementary Metal-Oxide-Semiconductor)).

According to different embodiments of the decoding or decoder, the decoded picture is sent to a destination; specifically, the destination belongs to a set comprising:

- 5 - a local memory (603 or 604), e.g. a video memory or a RAM (or Random Access Memory), a flash memory, a ROM (or Read Only Memory), a hard disk ;
- a storage interface, e.g. an interface with a mass storage, a RAM, a flash memory, a ROM, an optical disc or a magnetic support;
- 10 - a communication interface (605), e.g. a wireline interface (for example a bus interface, a wide area network interface, a local area network interface) or a wireless interface (such as a IEEE 802.11 interface or a Bluetooth® interface); and
- a display.

According to different embodiments of encoding or encoder, the
15 bitstream BF and/or F are sent to a destination. As an example, one of bitstream F and BF or both bitstreams F and BF are stored in a local or remote memory, e.g. a video memory (604) or a RAM (604), a hard disk (603). In a variant, one or both bitstreams are sent to a storage interface, e.g.
20 an interface with a mass storage, a flash memory, ROM, an optical disc or a magnetic support and/or transmitted over a communication interface (605), e.g. an interface to a point to point link, a communication bus, a point to multipoint link or a broadcast network.

According to different embodiments of decoding or decoder, the
25 bitstream BF and/or F is obtained from a source. Exemplarily, the bitstream is read from a local memory, e.g. a video memory (604), a RAM (604), a ROM (603), a flash memory (603) or a hard disk (603). In a variant, the bitstream is received from a storage interface, e.g. an interface with a mass storage, a RAM, a ROM, a flash memory, an optical disc or a magnetic support and/or
30 received from a communication interface (605), e.g. an interface to a point to point link, a bus, a point to multipoint link or a broadcast network.

According to different embodiments, device 1300 being configured to implement a decoding method described in relation with **Figs. 1 to 4**, belongs to a set comprising:

- a mobile device ;
- 5 - a communication device ;
- a game device ;
- a set top box;
- a TV set;
- a tablet (or tablet computer) ;
- 10 - a laptop ;
- a display and
- a decoding chip.

Implementations of the various processes and features described herein may be embodied in a variety of different equipment or applications.

15 Examples of such equipment include an encoder, a decoder, a post-processor processing output from a decoder, a pre-processor providing input to an encoder, a video coder, a video decoder, a video codec, a web server, a set-top box, a laptop, a personal computer, a cell phone, a PDA, and any other device for processing a picture or a video or other communication

20 devices. As should be clear, the equipment may be mobile and even installed in a mobile vehicle.

Additionally, the methods may be implemented by instructions being performed by a processor, and such instructions (and/or data values produced by an implementation) may be stored on a computer readable

25 storage medium. A computer readable storage medium can take the form of a computer readable program product embodied in one or more computer readable medium(s) and having computer readable program code embodied thereon that is executable by a computer. A computer readable storage medium as used herein is considered a non-transitory storage medium given

30 the inherent capability to store the information therein as well as the inherent capability to provide retrieval of the information therefrom. A computer readable storage medium can be, for example, but is not limited to, an

electronic, magnetic, optical, electromagnetic, infrared, or semiconductor system, apparatus, or device, or any suitable combination of the foregoing. It is to be appreciated that the following, while providing more specific examples of computer readable storage mediums to which the present principles can be applied, is merely an illustrative and not exhaustive listing as is readily appreciated by one of ordinary skill in the art: a portable computer diskette; a hard disk; a read-only memory (ROM); an erasable programmable read-only memory (EPROM or Flash memory); a portable compact disc read-only memory (CD-ROM); an optical storage device; a magnetic storage device; or any suitable combination of the foregoing.

The instructions may form an application program tangibly embodied on a processor-readable medium.

Instructions may be, for example, in hardware, firmware, software, or a combination. Instructions may be found in, for example, an operating system, a separate application, or a combination of the two. A processor may be characterized, therefore, as, for example, both a device configured to carry out a process and a device that includes a processor-readable medium (such as a storage device) having instructions for carrying out a process. Further, a processor-readable medium may store, in addition to or in lieu of instructions, data values produced by an implementation.

As will be evident to one of skill in the art, implementations may produce a variety of signals formatted to carry information that may be, for example, stored or transmitted. The information may include, for example, instructions for performing a method, or data produced by one of the described implementations. For example, a signal may be formatted to carry as data the rules for writing or reading the syntax of a described embodiment, or to carry as data the actual syntax-values written by a described embodiment. Such a signal may be formatted, for example, as an electromagnetic wave (for example, using a radio frequency portion of spectrum) or as a baseband signal. The formatting may include, for example, encoding a data stream and modulating a carrier with the encoded data stream. The information that the signal carries may be, for example, analog

or digital information. The signal may be transmitted over a variety of different wired or wireless links, as is known. The signal may be stored on a processor-readable medium.

5 A number of implementations have been described. Nevertheless, it will be understood that various modifications may be made. For example, elements of different implementations may be combined, supplemented, modified, or removed to produce other implementations. Additionally, one of ordinary skill will understand that other structures and processes may be substituted for those disclosed and the resulting implementations will perform
10 at least substantially the same function(s), in at least substantially the same way(s), to achieve at least substantially the same result(s) as the implementations disclosed. Accordingly, these and other implementations are contemplated by this application.

CLAIMS

1. A method of decoding a color picture from a bitstream, characterized in that it comprises:
 - 5 – obtaining an expanded range luminance as a first component by applying a nonlinear dynamic expansion function to a luminance component obtained from the bitstream, wherein said nonlinear dynamic expansion function is determined depending on an inverse of a dynamic reduction function that has been applied to an original luminance component obtained when encoding
10 the color picture;
– obtaining a second component S by calculating a square root of a difference between a value determined by the first component and another value computed as a linear combination T of a multiplication product of two chrominance components and square values of the two chrominance
15 components obtained from the bitstream; and
– obtaining at least one color component of the color picture to be decoded at least from said second component S and said two chrominance components by determining said at least one color component as a linear combination of the second component and the two chrominance components.
20
2. The method of claim 1, wherein
 - said second component S is obtained by calculating the square root of the difference between the value determined by the first component and said linear combination T only if said value is equal to or greater than said linear
25 combination, and
– said second component is set equal to zero and said two chrominance components are multiplied by a common factor F otherwise.
3. The method of claim 2, wherein the common factor F is a ratio of said
30 first component over a square root of said linear combination.
4. The method of claim 2, wherein the common factor F is a reciprocal of a square root of said linear combination.

5. The method of claim 2 or claim 3, wherein said nonlinear dynamic expansion function is an inverse of a dynamic reduction function that has been applied to an original luminance component obtained when encoding the color picture and said value determined by said first component is equal to said original luminance component.
6. The method of claim 1 or claim 4, wherein
- said nonlinear dynamic expansion function is a square root of an inverse of a dynamic reduction function that has been applied to an original luminance component obtained when encoding the color picture,
 - said value determined by said first component is equal to 1, and
 - said obtaining at least one color component of the color picture to be decoded comprises multiplying said at least one color component by said first component.
7. The method of claim 6, wherein obtaining the two chrominance components comprises scaling each of the two chrominance components by a factor that depends on the first component.
8. The method of claim 7, wherein said scaling comprises dividing the two chrominance components by said first component before determining said linear combination T.
9. The method of claim 7 or claim 8, wherein said factor also depends on a backlight value obtained from the original luminance component.
10. The method of one of the claims 6 to 9, wherein the second component is determined using a look up table.
11. A device of decoding a color picture from a bitstream, characterized in that it comprises a processor configured to:

- obtain an expanded range luminance as a first component by applying a nonlinear dynamic expansion function to a luminance component obtained from the bitstream, wherein said nonlinear dynamic expansion function is determined depending on an inverse of a dynamic reduction function that has
5 been applied to an original luminance component obtained when encoding the color picture;
- obtain a second component S by calculating a square root of a difference between a value determined by the first component and another value computed as a linear combination T of a multiplication product of two
10 chrominance components and square values of two chrominance components obtained from the bitstream; and
- obtain at least one color component of the color picture to be decoded at least from said second component S and said two chrominance components by determining said at least one color component as a linear combination of
15 the second component and the two chrominance components.

12. A computer program product comprising program code instructions to execute the steps of the method according to claim 1 when this program is executed on a computer.

20

13. A processor readable medium having stored therein instructions for causing a processor to perform at least the steps of the method according to claim 1.

25 14. Non-transitory storage medium carrying instructions of program code for executing steps of the method according to one of claims 1 to 11, when said program is executed on a computing device.

100

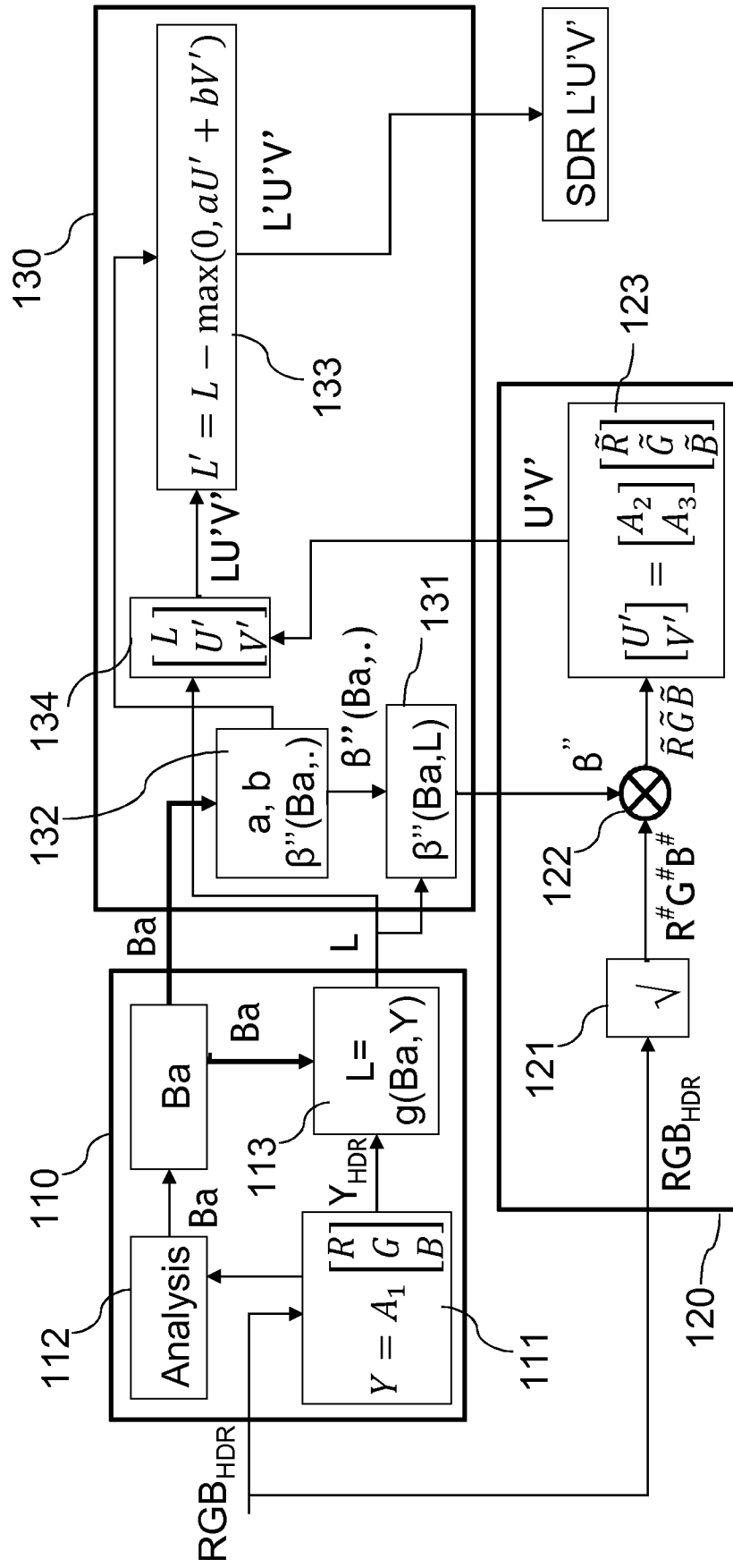
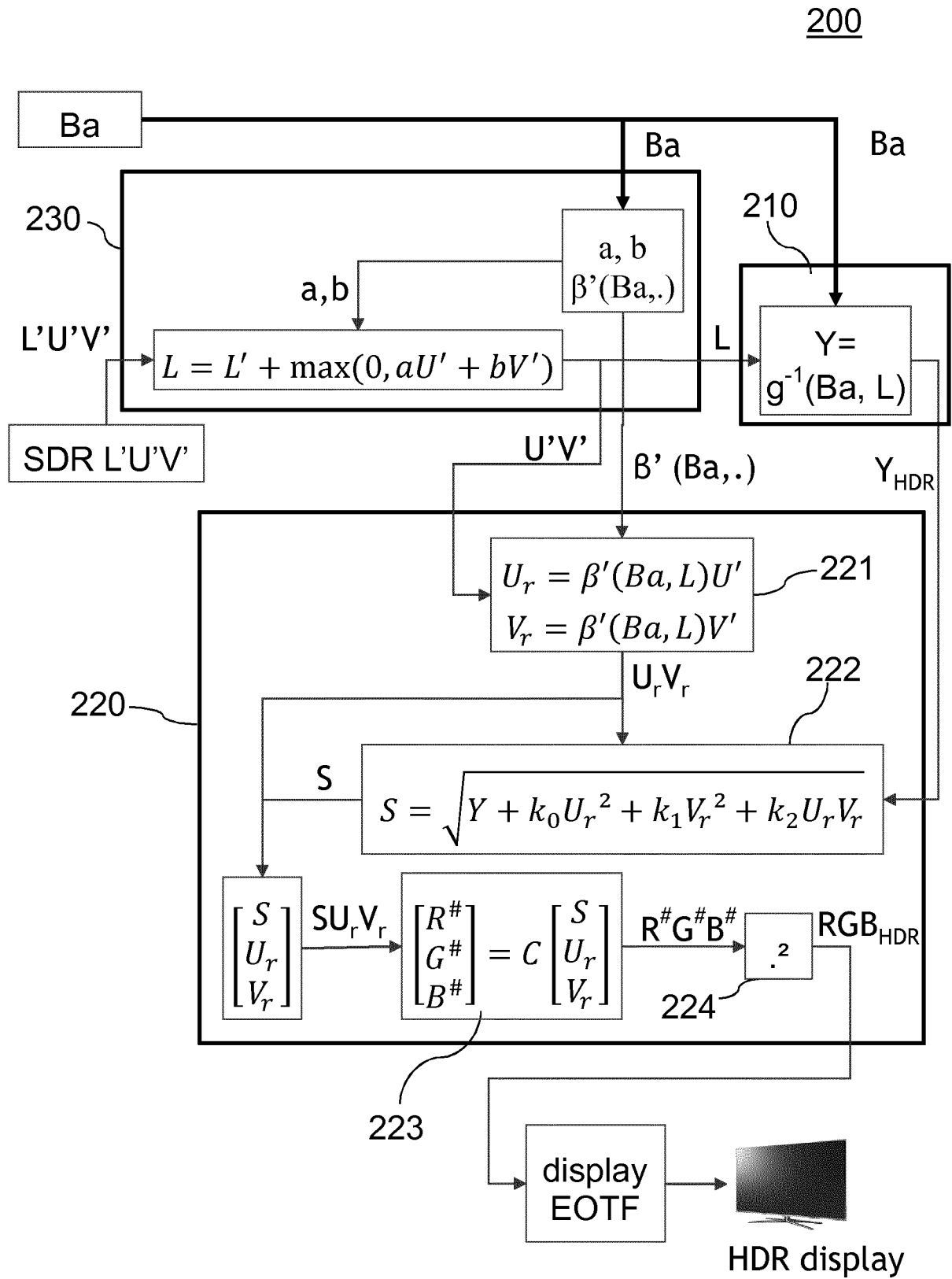
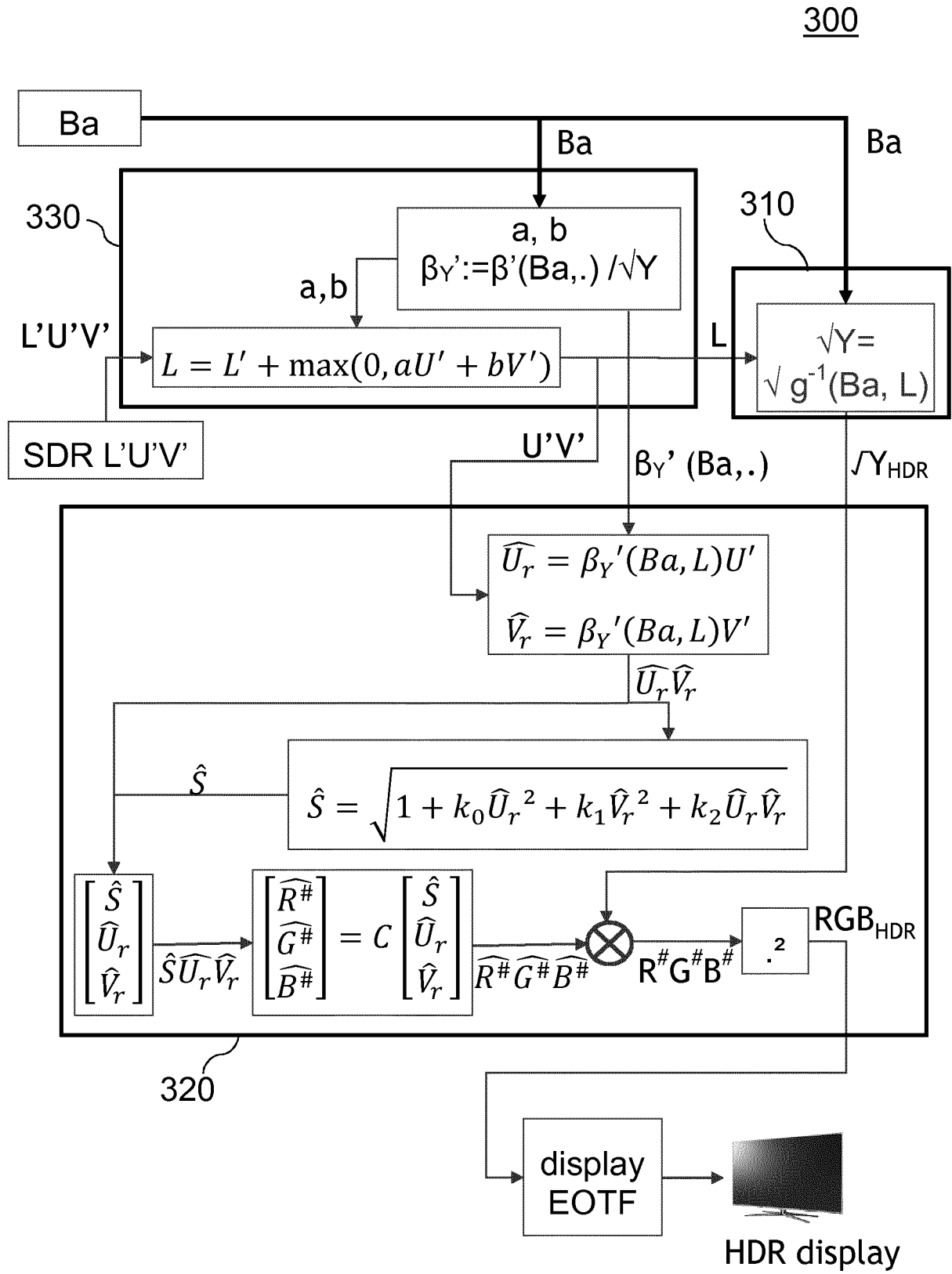


Fig. 1

**Fig. 2**

**Fig. 3**

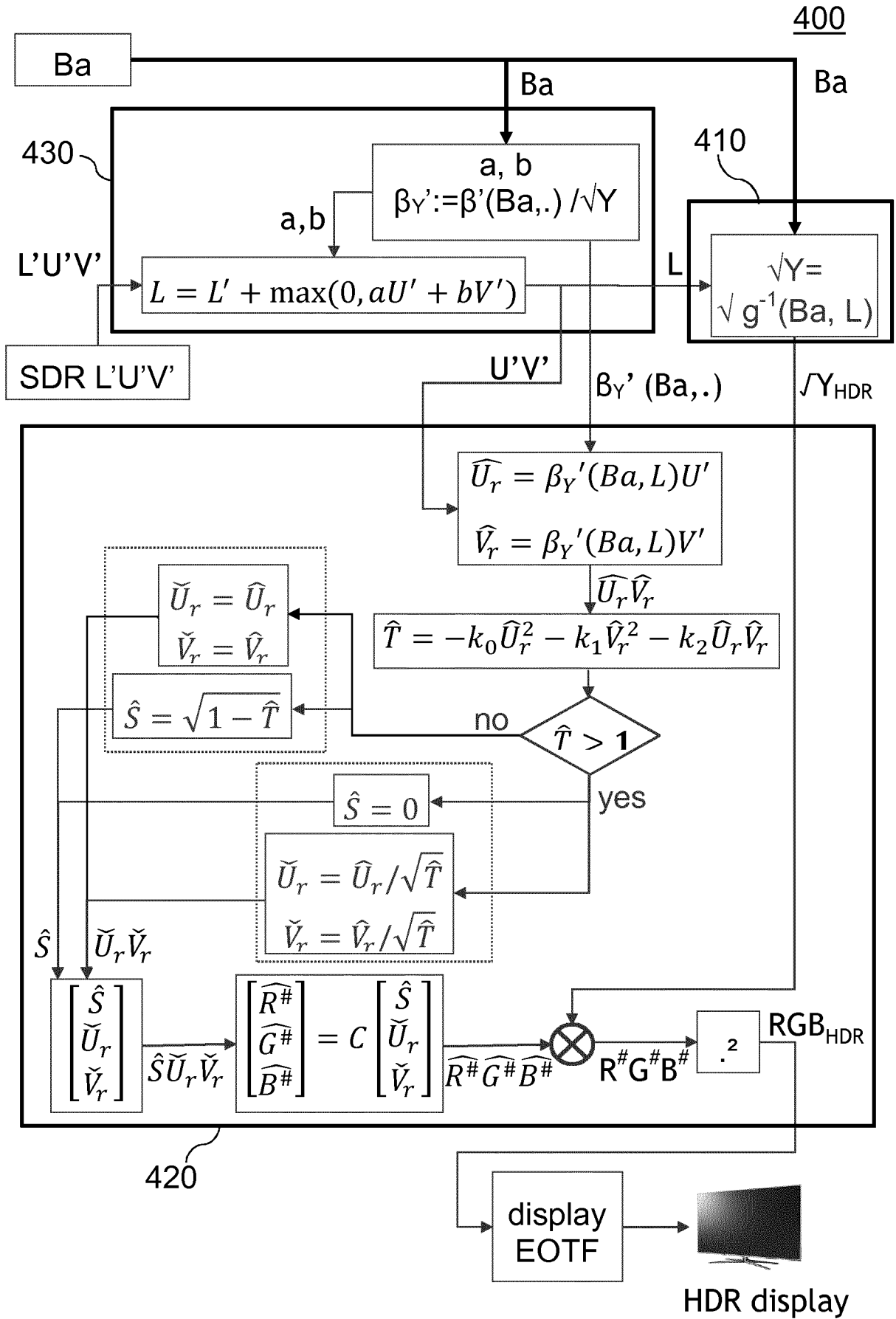


Fig. 4

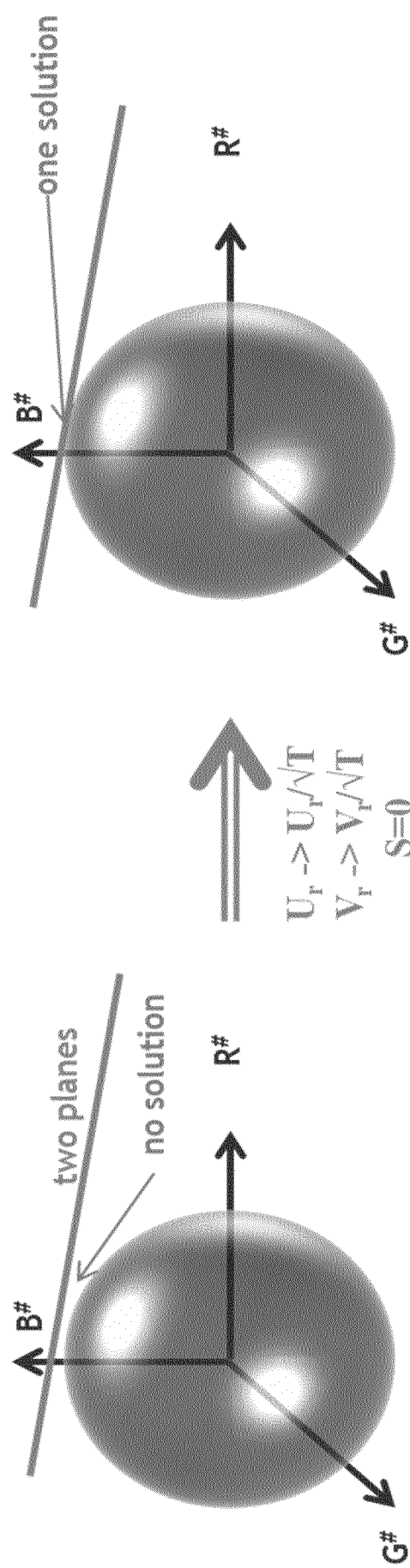
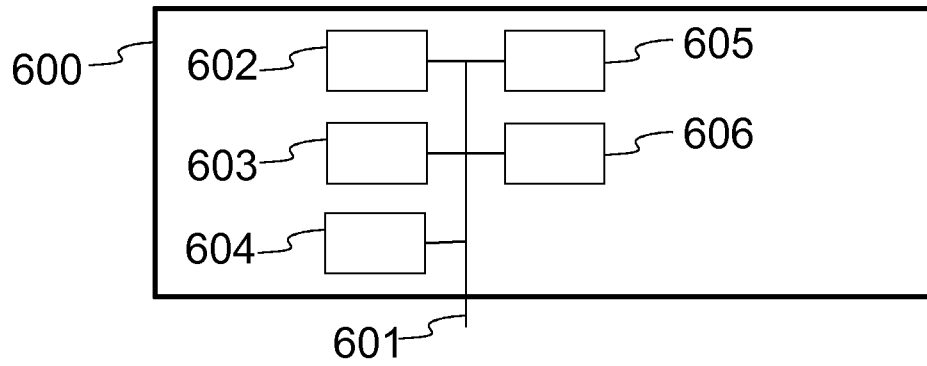


Fig. 5

**Fig. 6**

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/EP2016/051706

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. H04N19/186 H04N19/30 H04N19/136 G06T5/00
ADD.

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 G06T

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)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X,P	LASSERRE S ET AL: "Technicolor's response to CfE for HDR and WCG (category 1)", 112. MPEG MEETING; 22-6-2015 - 26-6-2015; WARSAW; (MOTION PICTURE EXPERT GROUP OR ISO/IEC JTC1/SC29/WG11),, no. m36263, 21 June 2015 (2015-06-21), XP030064631, abstract paragraphs [0002] - [0004] ----- -/-	1-14



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

26 February 2016

Date of mailing of the international search report

08/03/2016

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Cakiroglu Garton, S

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/EP2016/051706

C(Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
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