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(71)Name of Applicant :  
**1)GURULOGIC MICROSYSTEMS OY**  
Address of Applicant :Linnankatu 34 FI 20100 Turku  
(finland) Finland

(72)Name of Inventor :  
**1)KALEVO Ossi** (Finland)  
**2)KARKKAINEN Tuomas** (Finland)

(57) Abstract :

A method of encoding data (D1 ) for generating corresponding encoded data (E2) is provided wherein the method includes: (a) analyzing the data (D1 ) to be encoded to identify one or more structural features within the data (D1 ); (b) encoding the data (D1 ) to be encoded as one or more portions depending upon the one or more structural features and selecting one or more methods which efficiently encode the one or more portions wherein the one or more methods include at least one extrapolation encoding method; and (c) generating the encoded data (E2) by combining data generated from the one or more portions wherein the encoded data (E2) includes information indicative of methods employed to encode the one or more portions with their associated parameters. A method of decoding encoded data (E2) for generating corresponding decoded data (D3) is provided the method includes: (a) processing the encoded data (E2) to extract therefrom data corresponding to one or more portions wherein the extracted encoded data (E2) includes information indicative of methods employed to encode the one or more portions with their associated parameters; (b) decoding the one or more portions wherein the decoding involves selecting one or more methods as specified by the associated parameters wherein the one or more methods include at least one extrapolation decoding method; and (c) combining data from the one or more decoded portions to generate the decoded data (D3). The methods are beneficially useable in an encoder (20) in a decoder (30) and in a codec (10).

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