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(54) **DIGITAL SUM VARIATION COMPUTATION METHOD AND SYSTEM**

(56) **References Cited**

(75) Inventors: **Wen-Yi Wu**, Jhubei (TW); **Jyh-Shin Pan**, Hsinchu (TW)

(73) Assignee: **Mediatek Inc.**, Hsin-Chu (TW)

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G11B 20/10 (2006.01)
H03M 5/00 (2006.01)
H03M 7/00 (2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.** **375/253; 369/59.23; 341/58; 341/59**

(58) **Field of Classification Search** **375/253, 375/242, 246; 369/59.1, 59.2; 341/58, 59, 341/68**

See application file for complete search history.

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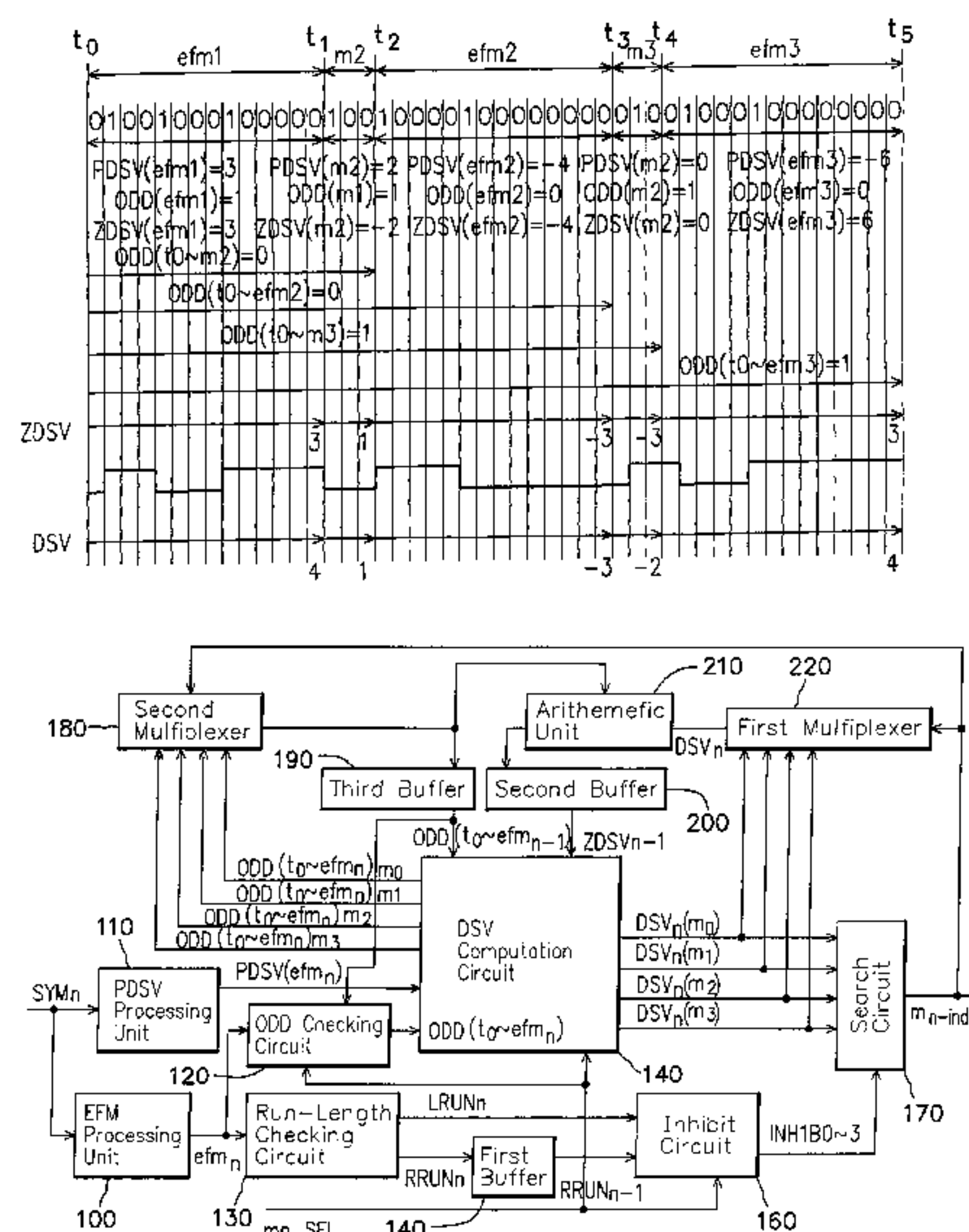
Primary Examiner — Tesfaldet Bocure

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — McClure, Qualey & Rodack, LLP

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A digital sum variation (DSV) computation method and system is proposed, which is capable of determining the DSV value of a bit stream of channel-bit symbols to thereby find the optimal merge-bit symbol for insertion between each succeeding pair of the channel-bit symbols. This DSV computation method and system is characterized in the use of a Zero Digital Sum Variation (ZDSV) principle to determine the DSV. This DSV computation method and system can find the optimal merge-bit symbol for insertion between each succeeding pair of the channel-bit symbols in a more cost-effective manner with the need for a reduced amount of memory and utilizes a lookup table requiring a reduced amount of memory space for storage so that memory space can be reduced as compared to the prior art. This DSV computation method and system is therefore more advantageous to use than the prior art.

12 Claims, 10 Drawing Sheets



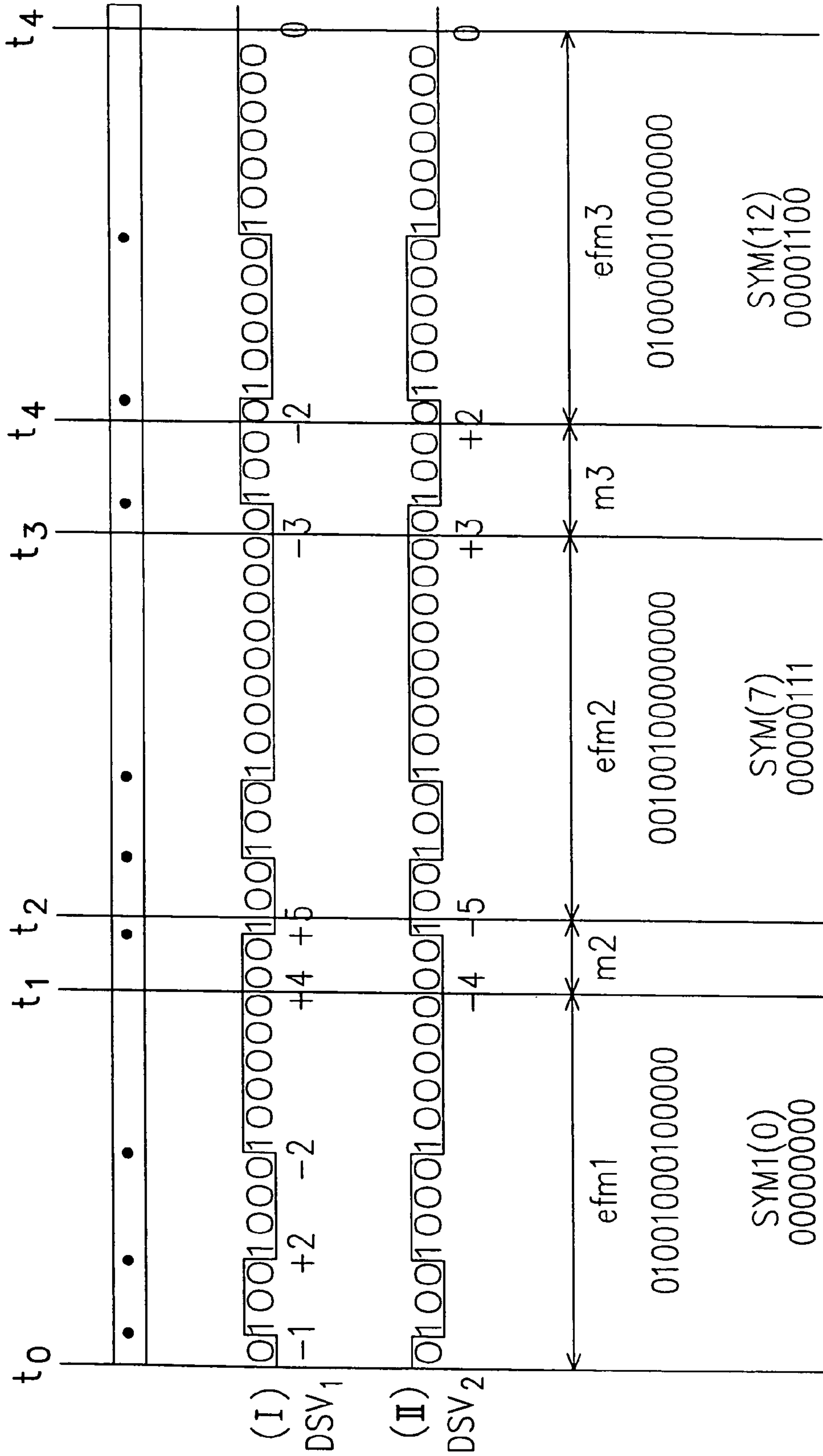


FIG. 1 (PRIOR ART)

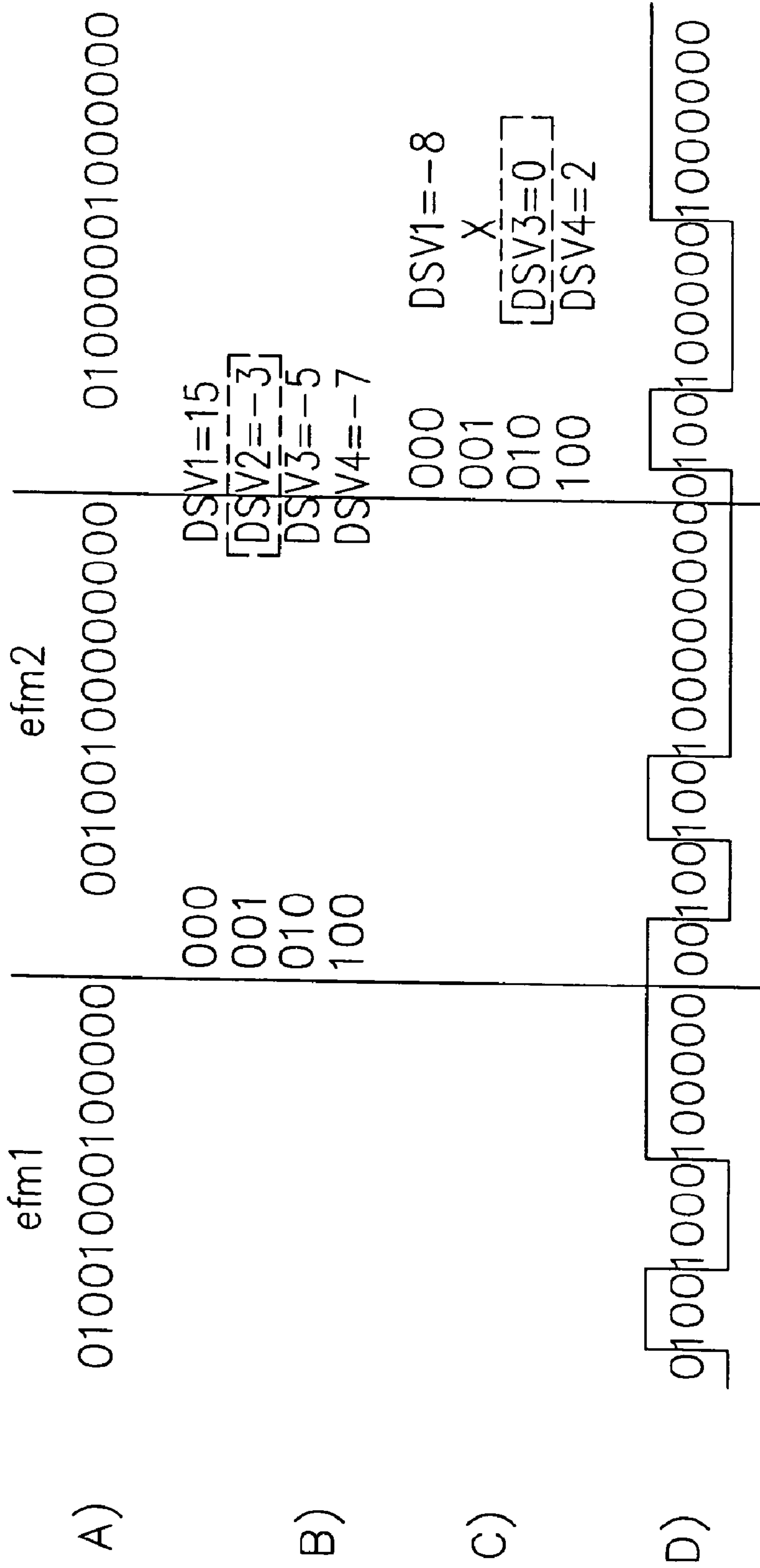


FIG. 2 (PRIOR ART)

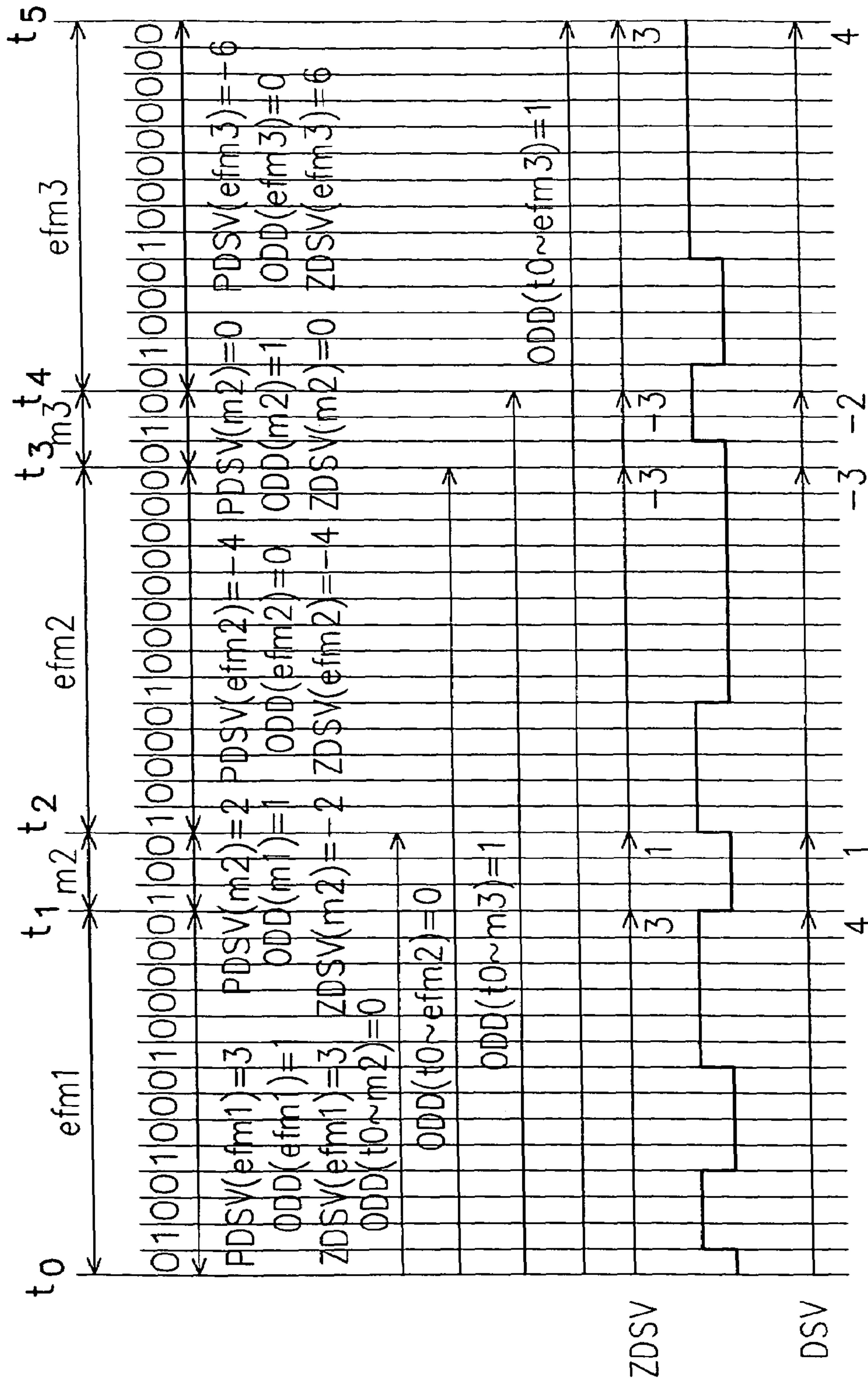


FIG. 3a

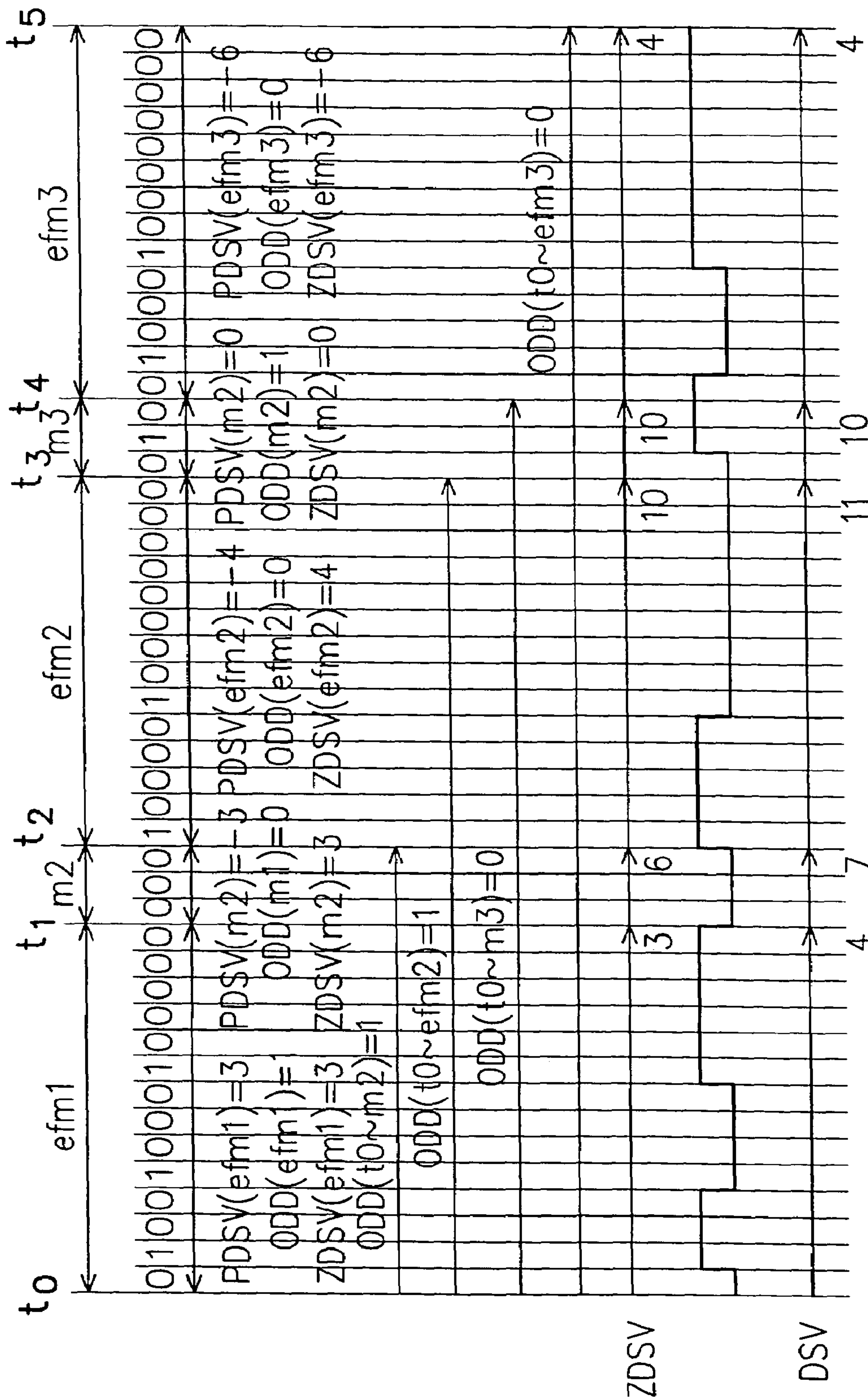


FIG. 3b

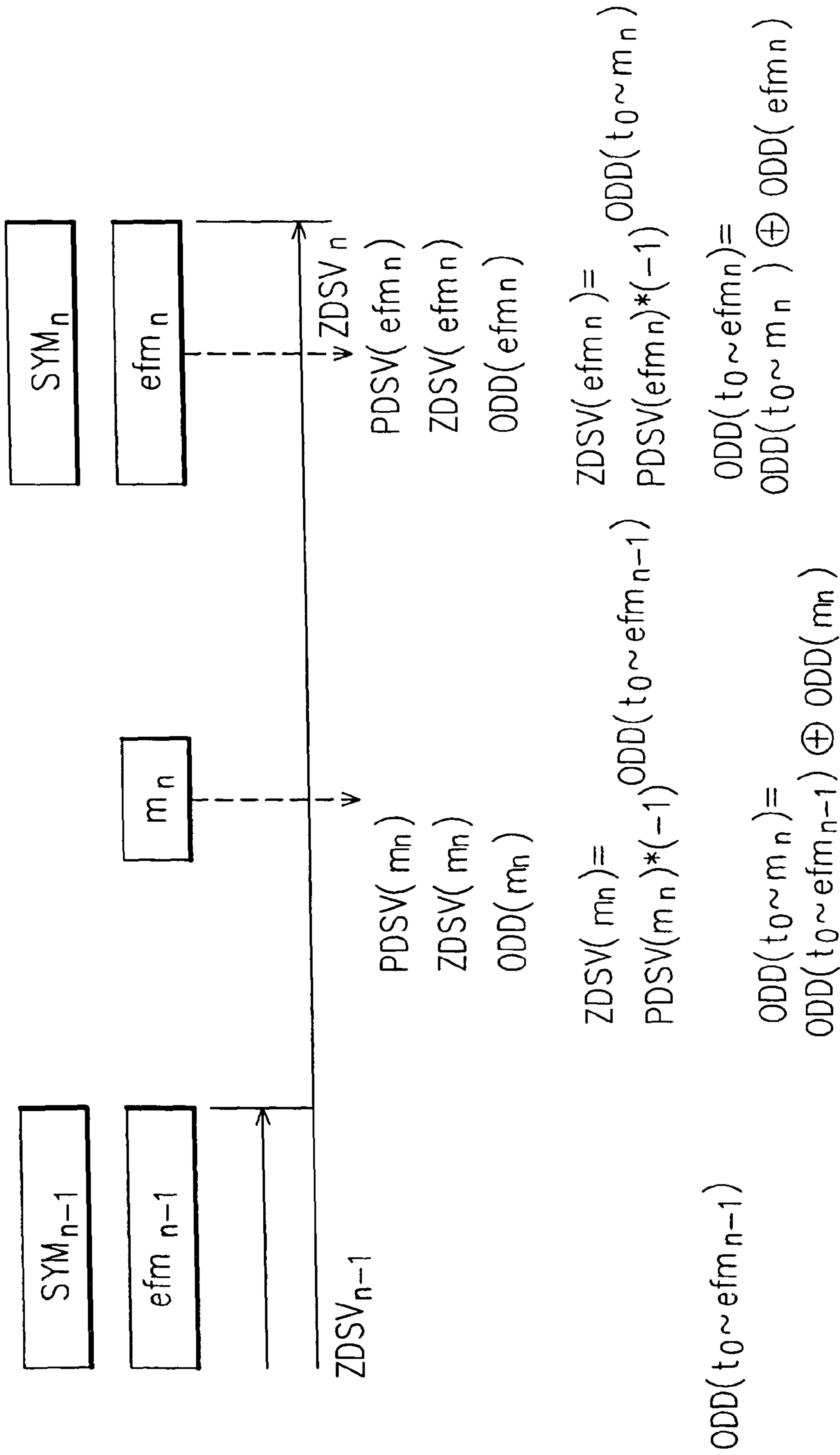


FIG. 4

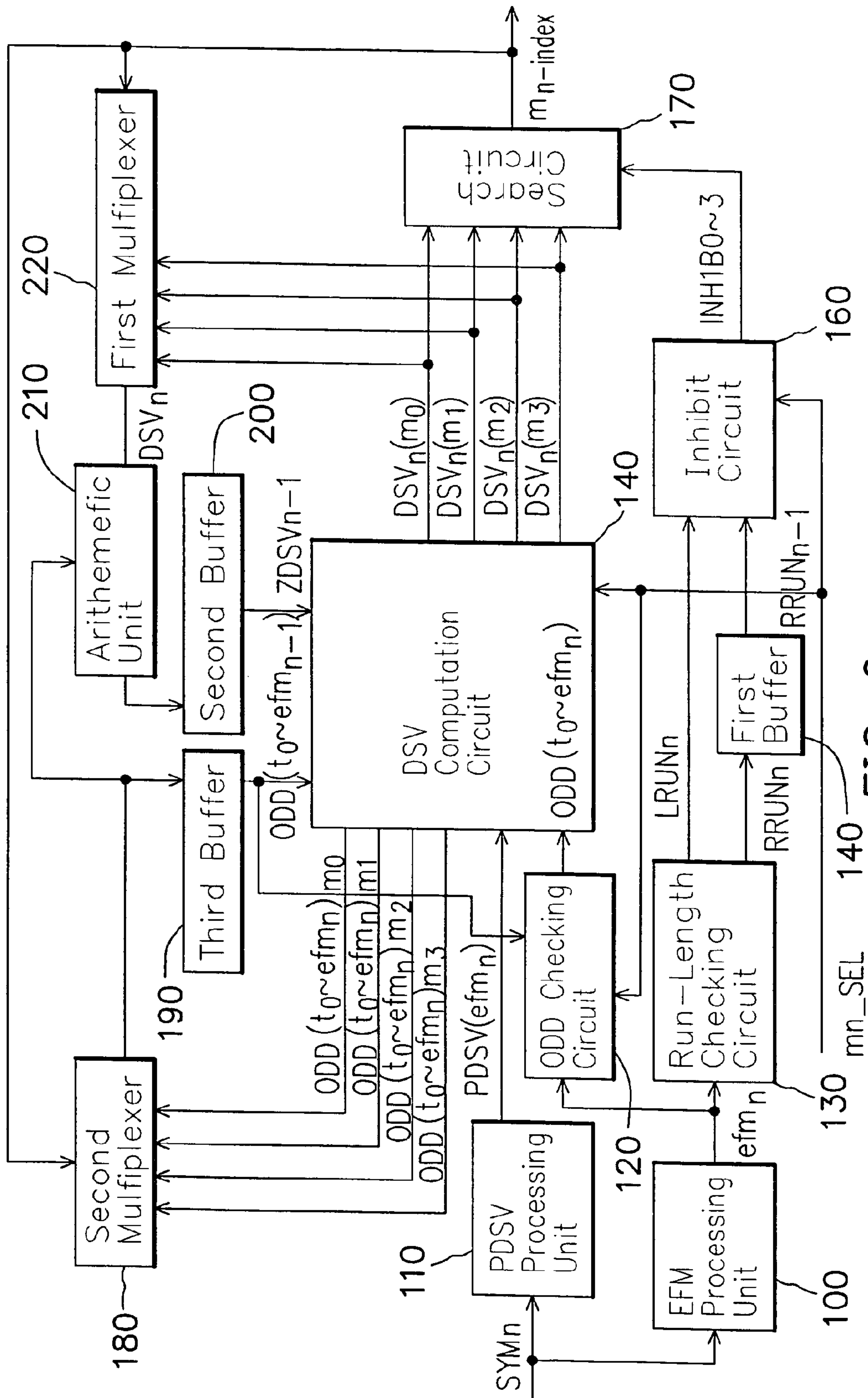


FIG. 6

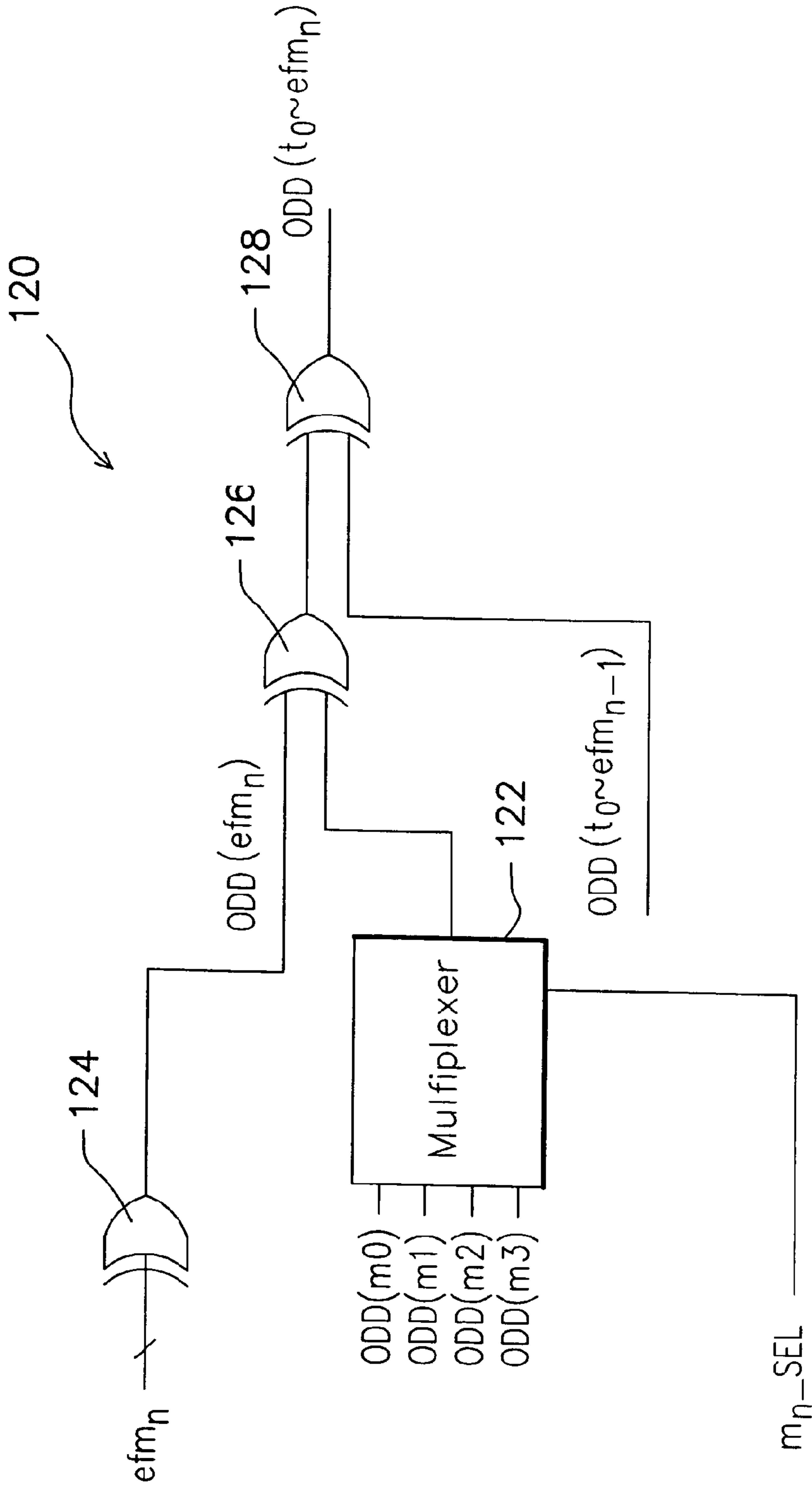


FIG. 7

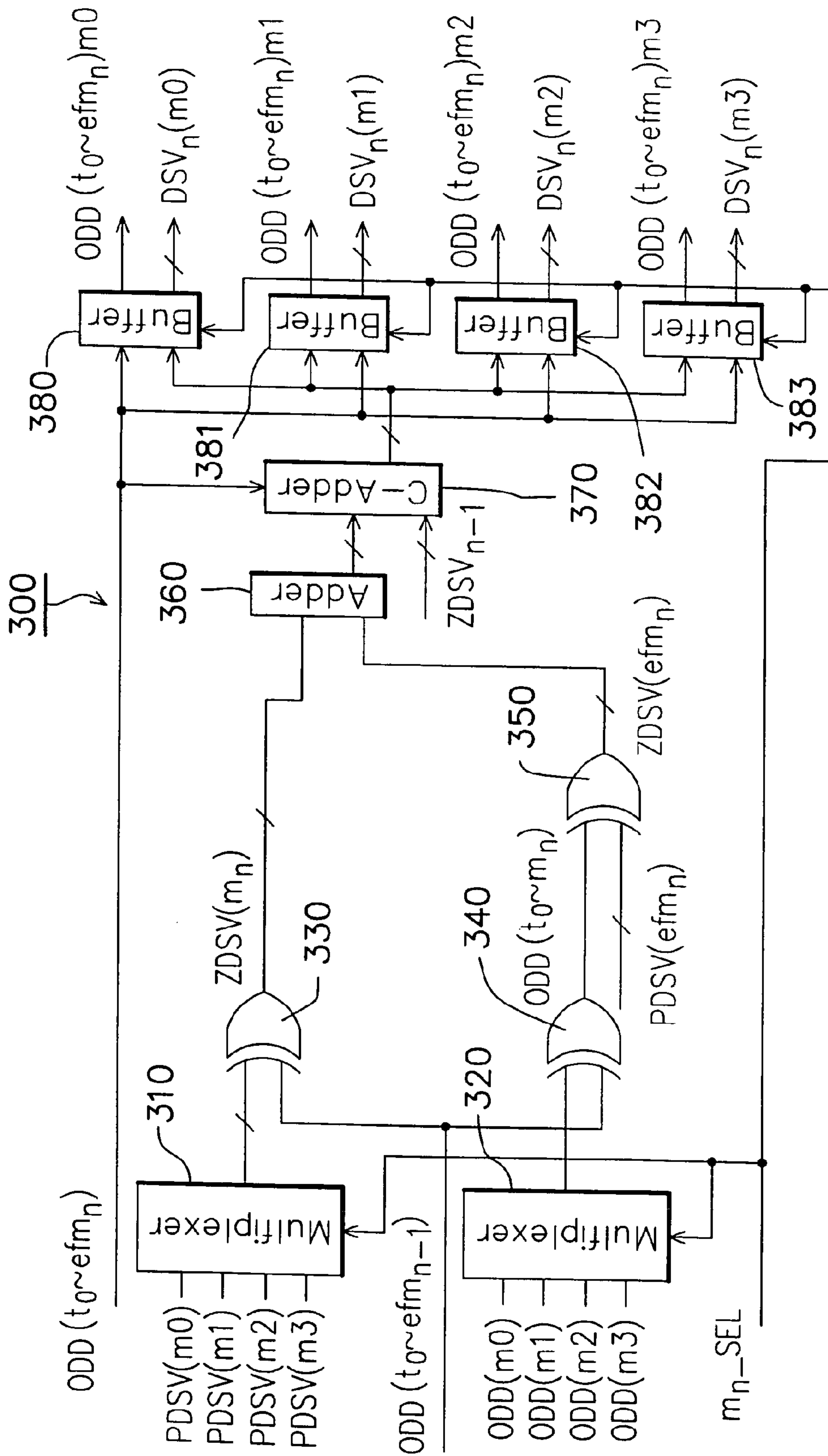
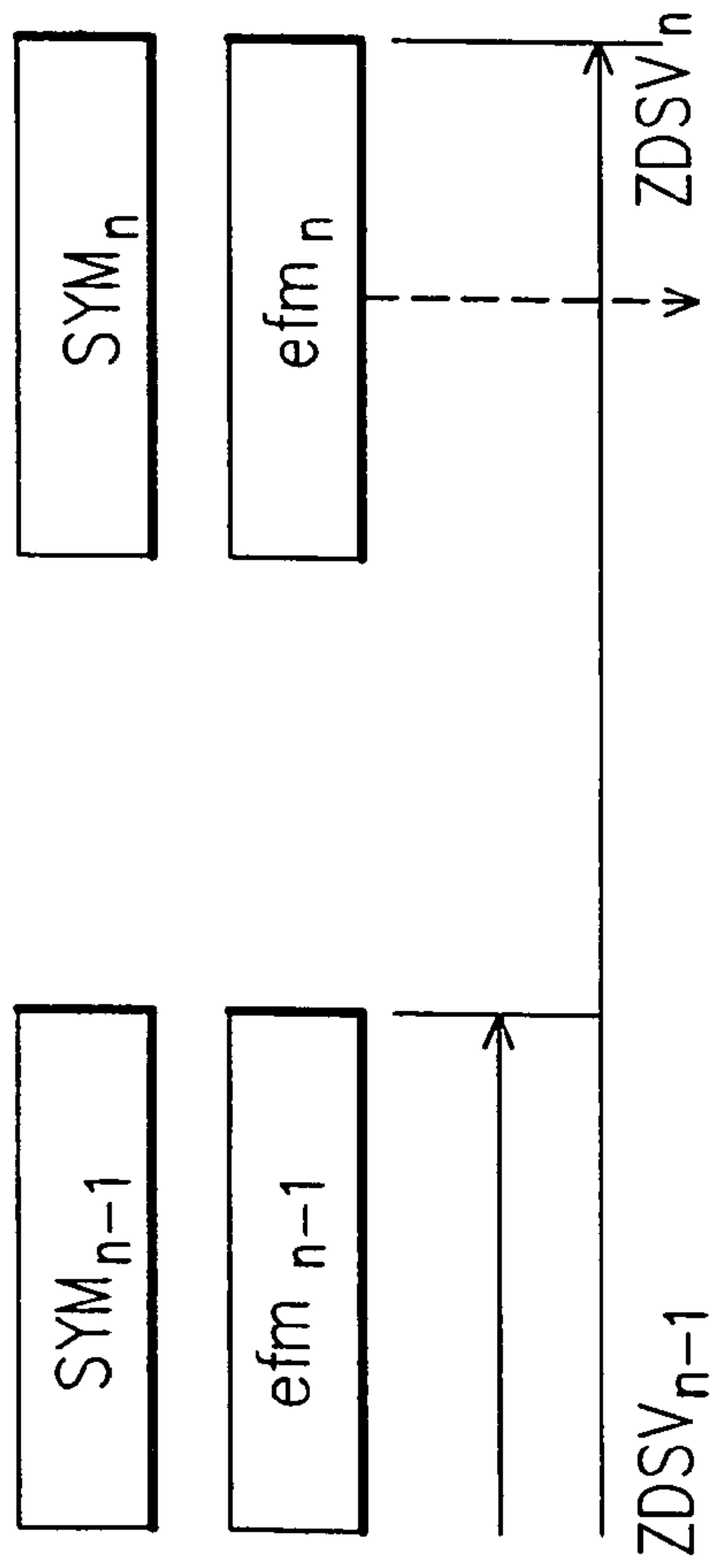


FIG. 8



$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{ODD}(t_0 \sim \text{efm}_{n-1}) \\
 & \text{PDSV}(\text{efm}_{n_i}) \\
 & \text{ZDSV}(\text{efm}_{n_i}) \\
 & \text{ODD}(\text{efm}_{n_i}) \\
 & \text{ZDSV}(\text{efm}_{n_i}) = \text{ODD}(t_0 \sim \text{efm}_{n-1}) \\
 & \text{PDSV}(\text{efm}_{n_i}) * (-1)^{\text{ODD}(t_0 \sim \text{efm}_{n-1})} \\
 & \text{ODD}(t_0 \sim \text{efm}_{n_i}) = \text{ODD}(t_0 \sim \text{efm}_{n-1}) \oplus \text{ODD}(\text{efm}_{n_i})
 \end{aligned}$$

FIG. 9

DIGITAL SUM VARIATION COMPUTATION METHOD AND SYSTEM

Matter enclosed in heavy brackets [] appears in the original patent but forms no part of this reissue specification; matter printed in italics indicates the additions made by reissue.

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a continuation application of, and claims the priority benefit of, U.S. application Ser. No 10/370,261 filed on Feb. 19, 2003, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,853,684 which is a continuation application of U.S. application Ser. No. 09/494,176 filed on Jan. 31, 2000, now U.S. Pat. No. 6,542,452 issued on Apr. 1, 2003, which claims the priority benefit of Taiwan application serial No 88117002, filed Oct. 2, 1999.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

1. Field of the Invention

This invention relates to digital technology, and more particularly, to a digital sum variation (DSV) computation method and system which is capable of determining the DSV value of a bit stream of channel-bit symbols to thereby find the optimal merge-bit symbol for insertion between each succeeding pair of the channel-bit symbols.

2. Description of Related Art

In a CD (compact disc) system, analog audio signals are processed through sampling and analog-to-digital conversion into a stream of digital data. Typically, the digital data are formatted into 16-bit words, with each word consisting of two bytes. By convention, each byte of the digital data is referred to as a symbol. These digital data are then written onto a CD. There exist, however, some problems when reading these digital data from the CD if these data are directly written onto the CD without further processing.

Conventionally, these digital data should be further processed through the what is known as an eight-to-fourteen modulation (EFM) to convert each 8-bit symbol into a 14-bit data length called channel bits (each set of channel bits is hereinafter referred to as a channel-bit symbol). The EFM process is achieved through the use of a lookup table. The length of each channel-bit symbol should be compliant with the specified run length of the CD driver between 3 bits and 11 bit.

During a write operation, it is possible that the current channel-bit symbol and the next one are not compliant with the specified run length. One solution to this problem is to insert 3 bit, called merge bits, between each succeeding pair of channel-bit symbols, so as to ensure that all the data written onto the CD are absolutely compliant with the run length.

There are four merge-bit symbols (000), (001), (010), and (100) which can be selected for insertion between each succeeding pair of channel-bit symbols; through computation, the optimal merge-bit symbol can be found for the insertion.

During write operation, a pit is formed in the CD surface for each change of binary value. During read operation, the CD driver can produce a what is known as a Non-Return-to-Zero-and-Invert (NRZI) signal based on the pattern of the pits on the CD.

FIG. 1 is a schematic diagram used to depict the generation of an NRZI signal and a bit stream from a pattern of pits on a CD. During the read, when a pit is encountered, it represents

a logic change from 0 to 1 or from 1 to 0. The starting logic voltage state for the NRZI signal can be either LOW or HIGH. In the example of FIG. 1, the NRZI signal waveform (I) has a LOW starting logic voltage state, whereas the NRZI signal waveform (II) has a HIGH starting logic voltage state. In either case, the CD driver can produce a bit stream of channel-bit symbols (efm_1 , efm_2 , efm_3) and a number of merge-bit symbols (m_1 , m_2 , m_3) each being inserted between one succeeding pair of the channel-bit symbols. The merge-bit symbols (m_1 , m_2 , m_3) can be removed later to obtain the channel-bit symbols (efm_1 , efm_2 , efm_3) which are then processed through reverse EFM to recover the original 8-bit symbols (SYM_1 , SYM_2 , SYM_3).

In the case of the NRZI signal waveform (I), whose starting logic voltage state is LOW, its digital sum variation (DSV), here represented by DSV_1 , can be computed as follows: since $efm_1=(01001000100000)$, the DSV_1 value at t_0 is 0; subsequently, since the first bit 0 is at the LOW state, the DSV_1 value becomes -1 ; subsequently, since the next three bits 100 are at the HIGH state, the DSV_1 value becomes $-1+3=+2$; subsequently, since the next four bits 1000 are at the LOW state, the DSV_1 value becomes $+2-4=-2$; and subsequently, since the next six bits 100000 are at the HIGH state, the DSV_1 value becomes $-2+6=+4$.

Subsequently at t_2 (i.e., at the end of m_2), the DSV_1 value becomes $+5$; at t_3 (i.e., at the end of efm_2), the DSV_1 value becomes -3 ; at t_4 (i.e., at the end of m_3), the DSV_1 value becomes -2 ; at t_5 (i.e., at the end of efm_3), the DSV_1 value becomes 0. The DSV for the NRZI signal waveform (II), here denoted by DSV_2 , is simply the negative of the DSV_1 value, i.e., $DSV_2=-DSV_1$ at any time point.

What is described above is how the pattern of pits on a CD can be converted into a stream of bit data during read operation. The encoding of the original digital data through EFM with insertion of merge bits before being written onto the CD is rather complex in procedure. The U.S. Pat. No. 5,375,249 entitled "EIGHT-TO-FOURTEEN-MODULATION CIRCUIT FOR A DIGITAL AUDIO DISC SYSTEM" issued on Dec. 20, 1994 discloses a method for finding the optimal merge-bit symbol through the use of DSV. This patented method is briefly depicted in the following with reference to FIG. 2.

Referring to FIG. 2, after efm_1 and efm_2 are obtained, four bit streams are obtained by inserting each of the following four merge-bit symbols: (000), (001), (010), and (100), between efm_1 and efm_2 . After this, the respective DSV values for these four bit streams are computed, which are respectively denoted by DSV_1 , DSV_2 , DSV_3 , and DSV_4 .

Next, whether the length of the merge bits inserted between efm_1 and efm_2 exceeds the specified run length is checked; if the length is exceeded, these merge bits are inhibited from insertion between efm_1 and efm_2 . To do this, a check is conducted for each of the four bit streams as to whether the number of consecutive 0s between the last 1 and the next 1 in efm_1 exceeds the run length, and whether the number of consecutive 0s between the first 1 and the preceding 1 in efm_2 exceeds the run length.

In the example of FIG. 2, $efm_1=(01001000100000)$, $efm_2=(00100100000000)$, and $efm_3=(01000001000000)$. Then, the insertion of each of the four merge-bit symbols: $m_1=(000)$, $m_2=(001)$, $m_3=(010)$, and $m_4=(100)$, between efm_1 and efm_2 results in four bit streams, with $DSV_1=+15$, $DSV_2=-3$, $DSV_3=-5$, and $DSV_4=-7$, where DSV_1 is the DSV of the bit stream (efm_1 , m_1 , efm_2); DSV_2 is the DSV of the bit stream (efm_1 , m_2 , efm_2); DSV_3 is the DSV of the bit stream (efm_1 , m_3 , efm_2); and DSV_4 is the DSV of the bit stream (efm_1 , m_4 , efm_2). Among these DSV values, $DSV_2=-3$ is closest to 0,

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and the associated merge-bit symbol $m_2=(001)$ is therefore chosen for insertion between efm_1 and efm_2 .

In a similar manner, for efm_2 and efm_3 , the DSV value of -8 can be obtained for the bit stream (efm_2, m_1, efm_3) . The bit stream (efm_2, m_2, efm_3) is not compliant with the run length and is therefore disregarded the DSV value for the bit stream (efm_2, efm_3, efm_3) is 0, and the DSV value for the bit stream (efm_2, m_4, efm_3) is 2. Among these DSV values, DSV=0 is closest to 0, and the associated merge-bit symbol $m_3=(010)$ is therefore chosen for insertion between efm_2 and efm_3 . An NRZI signal can be then obtained based on the resulting bit stream (efm_2, m_3, efm_3) .

One drawback to the foregoing method, however, is that a large amount of memory space is required to implement the DSV-based algorithm for finding the optimal merge-bit symbol for insertion between each succeeding pair of the 14-bit channel-bit symbols. This is because that the method requires the storage of a lookup table used in the EFM process and the binary data of each 14-bit channel-bit symbols, which are quite memory-consuming. Moreover, the process for finding the optimal merge-bit symbol is quite complex in procedure, and requires a lengthy program to implement.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

It is therefore an objective of this invention to provide a DSV computation method and system, which can find the optimal merge-bit symbol based on DSV in a more cost-effective manner with the need of a reduced amount of memory.

It is another objective of this invention to provide a DSV computation method and system, which utilizes a lookup table requiring a reduced amount of memory space for storage so that memory space can be reduced compared to the prior art.

In accordance with the foregoing and other objectives, the invention proposes a new DSV computation method and system. The DSV computation method and system of the invention is capable of determining the DSV value of a bit stream of channel-bit symbols to thereby find the optimal merge-bit symbol for insertion between each succeeding pair of the channel-bit symbols.

In terms of system, the invention comprises the following constituent parts: (a) an EFM processing unit for converting each original binary symbol into its corresponding channel-bit symbol; (b) a PDSV processing unit for processing each original binary symbol to obtain its channel-bit symbol PDSV; (c) a channel-bit symbol inhibit circuit, receiving the output channel-bit symbol from the EFM processing unit and under control of a m_n_SEL signal, for determining which one of the merge-bit symbols is invalid for compliance with a specified run length; (d) an ODD checking circuit, receiving the output channel-bit symbol from the EFM processing unit and under control of a m_n_SEL signal, for determining, based on a previous start-to-channel-bit ODD value, a number of start-to-channel-bit ODD values for the merge-bit symbols, respectively; (e) a DSV computation and search circuit, coupled to the PDSV processing unit and the ODD checking circuit, for computing for the respective DSV values corresponding to the merge-bit symbols based on the current start-to-channel-bit ODD, the PDSV, the previous start-to-channel-bit ODD, the previous ZDSV, which DSV computation and search circuit is under control of the channel-bit symbol inhibit circuit to eliminate any of the DSV values corresponding to an invalid merge-bit symbol determined by the channel-bit symbol inhibit circuit, the DSV computation and search circuit outputting an index signal indicative of the

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selected merge-bit symbol using as the optimal merge-bit symbol for insertion between the current channel-bit symbol and the previous channel-bit symbol; (f) a third buffer, coupled to the DSV computation and search circuit, for temporary storage of the previous start-to-channel-bit ODD; and (g) a second buffer, coupled to the DSV computation and search circuit, for temporary storage of the previous ZDSV.

In terms of method, the invention comprises the following steps: (1) fetching the current channel-bit symbol; and then, based on the starting logic voltage state of an NRZI signal, determining the PDSV and ODD of the current channel-bit symbol; (2) assigning the current channel-bit symbol PDSV as the previous channel-bit symbol ZDSV, and assigning the current channel-bit symbol ODD as the previous channel-bit symbol ODD; (3) fetching the next channel-bit symbol; and then, based on the starting logic voltage state of the NRZI signal, determining the PDSV and ODD of this channel-bit symbol; (4) from four merge-bit symbols including a first merge-bit symbol, a second merge-bit symbol, a third merge-bit symbol, and a fourth merge-bit symbol, selecting the first merge-bit symbol; and then determining the first merge-bit symbol PDSV and ODD; and then performing an XOR logic operation on the previous channel-bit symbol ODD and the first merge-bit symbol ODD to thereby obtain a start-to-the-first-merge-bit ODD; and then determining the ZDSV value for the first merge-bit symbol based on the previous channel-bit symbol ZDSV and the first PDSV; and then, in the case of the starting logic voltage state of the NRZI signal being LOW, determining the result of the first ZDSV plus the start-to-next-channel-bit ODD to thereby obtain a first DSV corresponding to the first merge-bit symbol; and while in the case of the starting logic voltage state of the NRZI signal being HIGH, determining the result of the first ZDSV minus the start-to-next-channel-bit ODD to thereby obtain a first DSV corresponding to the first merge-bit symbol; and then checking whether the resulting bit stream from the first merge-bit symbol exceeds a specified run length; if YES, eliminating the first DSV; (5) selecting the second merge-bit symbol; and then determining the second merge-bit symbol PDSV and ODD; and then performing an XOR logic operation on the previous channel-bit symbol ODD and the second merge-bit symbol ODD to thereby obtain a start-to-the-second-merge-bit ODD; and then determining the ZDSV value for the second merge-bit symbol based on the previous channel-bit symbol ZDSV and the second PDSV; and then, in the case of the starting logic voltage state of the NRZI signal being LOW, determining the result of the second ZDSV plus the start-to-next-channel-bit ODD to thereby obtain a second DSV corresponding to the second merge-bit symbol; and while in the case of the starting logic voltage state of the NRZI signal being HIGH, determining the result of the second ZDSV minus the start-to-next-channel-bit ODD to thereby obtain a second DSV corresponding to the second merge-bit symbol; and then checking whether the resulting bit stream from the second merge-bit symbol exceeds a specified run length; if YES, eliminating the second DSV; (6) selecting the third merge-bit symbol; and then determining the third merge-bit symbol PDSV and ODD; and then performing an XOR logic operation on the previous channel-bit symbol ODD and the third merge-bit symbol ODD to thereby obtain a start-to-the-third-merge-bit ODD; and then determining the ZDSV value for the third merge-bit symbol based on the previous channel-bit symbol ZDSV and the third PDSV; and then, in the case of the starting logic voltage state of the NRZI signal being LOW, determining the result of the third ZDSV plus the start-to-next-channel-bit ODD to thereby obtain a third DSV corresponding to the third merge-bit symbol; and while in the case

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of the starting logic voltage state of the NRZI signal being HIGH, determining the result of the third ZDSV minus the start-to-next-channel-bit ODD to thereby obtain a third DSV corresponding to the third merge-bit symbol; and then checking whether the resulting bit stream from the third merge-bit symbol exceeds a specified run length; if YES, eliminating the third DSV; (7) selecting the fourth merge-bit symbol; and then determining the fourth merge-bit symbol PDSV and ODD; and then performing an XOR logic operation on the previous channel-bit symbol ODD and the fourth merge-bit symbol ODD to thereby obtain a start-to-the-fourth-merge-bit ODD; and then determining the ZDSV value for the fourth merge-bit symbol based on the previous channel-bit symbol ZDSV and the fourth PDSV; and then, in the case of the starting logic voltage state of the NRZI signal being LOW, determining the result of the fourth ZDSV plus the start-to-next-channel-bit ODD to thereby obtain a fourth DSV corresponding to the fourth merge-bit symbol; and while in the case of the starting logic voltage state of the NRZI signal being HIGH, determining the result of the fourth ZDSV minus the start-to-next-channel-bit ODD to thereby obtain a fourth DSV corresponding to the fourth merge-bit symbol; and then checking whether the resulting bit stream from the fourth merge-bit symbol exceeds a specified run length; if YES, eliminating the fourth DSV; (8) finding which one of the non-eliminated DSV values has the minimum absolute value; (9) if the first DSV has the minimum absolute value, then assigning the current channel-bit symbol as the previous channel-bit symbol, the first ZDSV as the previous channel-bit symbol ZDSV, and the current start-to-channel-bit ODD as the previous channel-bit symbol ODD; then jumping to the step (3); (10) if the second DSV has the minimum absolute value, then assigning the current channel-bit symbol as the previous channel-bit symbol, the second ZDSV as the previous channel-bit symbol ZDSV, and the current start-to-channel-bit ODD as the previous channel-bit symbol ODD; then jumping to the step (3); (11) if the third DSV has the minimum absolute value, then assigning the current channel-bit symbol as the previous channel-bit symbol, the third ZDSV as the previous channel-bit symbol ZDSV, and the current start-to-channel-bit ODD as the previous channel-bit symbol ODD; then jumping to the step (3); and (12) if the fourth DSV has the minimum absolute value, then assigning the current channel-bit symbol as the previous channel-bit symbol, the fourth ZDSV as the previous channel-bit symbol ZDSV, and the current start-to-channel-bit ODD as the previous channel-bit symbol ODD; then jumping to the step (3).

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

The invention can be more fully understood by reading the following detailed description of the preferred embodiments, with reference made to the accompanying drawings, wherein:

FIG. 1 (PRIOR ART) is a schematic diagram used to depict the generation of an NRZI signal and a bit stream from a pattern of pits on a CD;

FIG. 2 (PRIOR ART) is a schematic diagram used to depict how a conventional method is used to obtain the optimal merge-bit symbol for insertion between each succeeding pair of channel-bit symbols;

FIG. 3a shows a comparison between DSV and ZDSV in the case of the starting logic voltage state being LOW and the total of 1s being an odd number;

FIG. 3b shows a comparison between DSV and ZDSV in the case of the starting logic voltage state being LOW and the total of 1s being an even number;

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FIG. 4 is a schematic diagram used to depict the algorithm used to compute for ZDSV;

FIG. 5 is a schematic diagram used to show a comparison between DSV and ZDSV in the case of the starting logic voltage state of the NRZI signal being HIGH and the total of 1s being an odd number;

FIG. 6 is a schematic block diagram showing the system architecture of the DSV computation method and system according to the invention;

FIG. 7 is a schematic diagram showing the inside circuit architecture of the ODD checking circuit used in the DSV computation system of the invention shown in FIG. 6;

FIG. 8 is a schematic diagram showing the inside architecture of the DSV computation circuit used in the DSV computation system of the invention shown in FIG. 6; and

FIG. 9 is a schematic diagram used to depict how to compute for ZDSV in a DVD system.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

In the following detailed description of the invention, the algorithm utilized by the invention will be first introduced, following the implementation of the algorithm.

Algorithm Utilized by the Invention

The invention utilizes a new concept called Zero Digital Sum Variation (ZDSV). Based on the ZDSV principle, each 0 in the NRZI signal is regarded as a “-1” if the 0 is at the LOW state and as a “+1” if the 0 is at the HIGH state.

FIG. 3A shows a comparison between DSV and ZDSV when the starting logic voltage state of the NRZI signal is LOW and the total number of 1s is an odd number. As shown, at the start, the ZDSV value is 0; subsequently at the appearance of the first 0, since this 0 is at the LOW state, the ZDSV value becomes -1; since the next three bits 100 are at the HIGH state and include two 0s, the ZDSV value becomes $-1+2=+1$; subsequently, since the next four bits 1000 are at the LOW state and include three 0s, the ZDSV value becomes $-1+2-3=-2$; and subsequently, the next six bit 100000 are at the HIGH state and include five 0s, the ZDSV value becomes $-1+2-3+5=+3$ at t_1 . (i.e., at the end of efm_1).

Subsequently, at t_2 , the ZDSV value becomes +1 for the bit stream (efm_1, m_2); at t_3 , the ZDSV value becomes -3 for the bit stream (efm_1, m_2, efm_2); at t_4 , the ZDSV value becomes -3 for the bit stream (efm_1, m_2, efm_2, m_3); and at t_5 , the ZDSV value becomes 3 for the bit stream ($efm_1, m_2, efm_2, m_3, efm_3$).

By contrast, based on the conventional DSV method, the DSV value varies in such a manner that, at t_2 , the DSV value is +4; at t_3 , the DSV value becomes -3; at t_4 , the DSV value becomes -2; and at t_5 , the DSV value becomes +4.

FIG. 3B shows a comparison between DSV and ZDSV when the starting logic voltage state is LOW and the total number of 1s is an even number.

As shown, at t_1 , the ZDSV value is +3; at t_2 , the ZDSV value becomes +6; at t_3 , the ZDSV value becomes +10; at t_4 , the ZDSV value is still +10; and at t_5 , the ZDSV value becomes +4.

By contrast, based on the conventional DSV method, the DSV value varies in such a manner that, at t_1 , the DSV value is +4; at t_2 , the DSV value becomes +7; at t_3 , the DSV value becomes +11; at t_4 , the DSV value becomes +10; and at t_5 , the DSV value becomes +4.

From the foregoing examples of FIGS. 3A and 3B, it can be learned that when the total number of 1s is an odd number, the NRZI signal varies in voltage state for an odd-number of times, and the difference between the ZDSV value and the DSV value is 1 (i.e., $DSV=ZDSV+1$); whereas when the total

number of 1s is an even number, the NRZI signal varies in voltage state for an even-number of times, and the difference between the ZDSV value and the DSV value is 0 (i.e., ZDSV=DSV).

In the forgoing case, the computation for ZDSV and the conversion of ZDSV into DSV are disclosed in the following. The algorithm involves the use of the following variables: GZ_n , ZDSV, PDSV(SEGMENT), ZDSV(SEGMENT), and ODD(SEGMENT), which are introduced in the following.

Assume that, in a bit stream, each series of consecutive 0s are collected as a group, with 1 serving as the separator between each neighboring pair of groups. Furthermore, assume that GZ_n represents the total number of 0s in the (n)th group. In the example of FIG. 3A, starting at t_0 , it can be easily seen that $GZ_1=1$, $GZ_2=2$, $GZ_3=3$, $GZ_4=5$, and so forth.

ZDSV

When the starting logic voltage state of the NRZI signal is LOW, it is apparent that the first 0 group is minus. It can be deduced that:

$$ZDSV = \sum_{x=1}^n GZ_x \cdot (-1)^x$$

In the example of FIG. 3A, at t_5 , a total of ten 0 groups are collected, and therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} ZDSV &= GZ_1 \cdot (-1) + GZ_2 \cdot (+1) + GZ_3 \cdot (-1) + \\ &GZ_4 \cdot (+1) + GZ_5 \cdot (-1) + GZ_6 \cdot (+1) + GZ_7 \cdot (-1) + \\ &GZ_8 \cdot (+1) + GZ_9 \cdot (-1) + GZ_{10} \cdot (+1) \\ &= (-1) + (2) + (-3) + (5) + (-2) + (4) + (-9) + \\ &(2) + (-3) + (8) \\ &= 3 \end{aligned}$$

PDSV(SEGMENT)

PDSV(SEGMENT) refers to Partial ZDSV, which represents the ZDSV value of a particular segment in the total bit stream, where the segment can be one of the 14-bit channel-bit symbols efm_1 , efm_2 , efm_3 , or one of the 3-bit merge-bit symbols m_2 , m_3 inserted among efm_1 , efm_2 , efm_3 . By PDSV, the first group starts at the beginning of a channel-bit symbol or a merge-bit symbol. It can be formulated as follows:

$$PDSV = \sum_{x=1}^n GZ_x \cdot (-1)^x$$

Accordingly, in the example of FIG. 3A,

$$\begin{aligned} PDSV(efm_1) &= \sum_{x=1}^4 GZ_x \cdot (-1)^x = (-1) + (2) + (-3) + (5) = 3 \\ PDSV(m_2) &= 2 \\ PDSV(efm_2) &= (4) + (-8) = -4 \\ PDSV(m_3) &= (-1) + (1) = 0 \\ PDSV(efm_3) &= (-1) + (3) + (-8) = -6 \end{aligned}$$

ZDSV(SEGMENT)

ZDSV(SEGMENT) is similar to PDSV except that the number of 0 groups is counted from the start of the bit stream. It is formulated as follows:

$$ZDSV = \sum_{x=m}^p GZ_x \cdot (-1)^x$$

where

m represents the total number of 0 groups between the start of the bit stream and the start of the segment.

Accordingly, in the example of FIG. 3A,

$$ZDSV(efm_1) = \sum_{x=1}^4 GZ_x \cdot (-1)^x = (-1) + (2) + (-3) + (5) = 3$$

$$ZDSV(m_2) = \sum_{x=5}^5 GZ_x \cdot (-1)^x = -2$$

$$ZDSV(efm_2) = \sum_{x=6}^7 GZ_x \cdot (-1)^x = (4) + (-8) = -4$$

$$ZDSV(m_3) = \sum_{x=7}^8 GZ_x \cdot (-1)^x = (-1) + (1) = 0$$

$$ZDSV(efm_3) = \sum_{x=8}^{10} GZ_x \cdot (-1)^x = (1) + (-3) + (8) = 6$$

ODD(SEGMENT)

ODD(SEGMENT) is used to indicate whether SEGMENT contains an odd-number or an even-number of 1s, where SEGMENT is a series of consecutive bits. Each consecutive bit can be a channel-bit symbol, a merge-bit symbol, or a segment of bits starting at to and ending at a channel-bit symbol or a merge-bit symbol. If the number is odd, ODD(SEGMENT)=1; otherwise, if the number is even, ODD(SEGMENT)=0. In the example of FIG. 3A,

ODD(efm_1)=1; (three 1s)

ODD(m_2)=1; (one 1)

ODD(efm_2)=0; (two 1s)

ODD(m_3)=1; (one 1)

ODD(efm_3)=0; (two 1s)

ODD($t_0 \sim efm_1$)=ODD(efm_1)=1; (three 1s)

ODD($t_0 \sim m_2$)=0; (four 1s)

ODD($t_0 \sim efm_2$)=0; (six 1s)

ODD($t_0 \sim efm_3$)=0; (seven 1s)

ODD($t_0 \sim efm_2$)=1; (nine 1s)

For ODD($t_0 \sim m_2$), ODD($t_0 \sim efm_2$), ODD($t_0 \sim m_3$), ODD($t_0 \sim efm_2$), they can be formulated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} ODD(t_0 \sim m_2) &= ODD(efm_1) \oplus ODD(m_2) \\ &= 1 \oplus 1 \text{ (where } \oplus \text{ represents the} \\ &\text{XOR logic operation)} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} ODD(t_0 \sim (efm_2)) &= ODD(t_0 \sim m_2) \oplus ODD((efm_2)) \\ &= 0 \oplus 0 \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

-continued

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ODD}(t_0 \sim m_3) &= \text{ODD}(t_0 \sim (\text{efm})_2) \oplus \text{ODD}(m_3) \\ &= 0 \oplus 1 \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ODD}(t_0 \sim (\text{efm})_3) &= \text{ODD}(t_0 \sim m_3) \oplus \text{ODD}((\text{efm})_3) \\ &= 1 \oplus 0 \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

FIG. 4 is a schematic diagram used to depict the algorithm used to compute ZDSV. Assume that SYM_n represents the original (n)th symbol. Through EFM, the (n-1)th channel-bit symbol efm_{n-1} is obtained from the (n-1)th symbol SYM_{n-1} , and the (n)th channel-bit symbol efm_n is obtained from the (n)th symbol SYM_n . Assume that m_n is the merge-bit symbol inserted between efm_{n-1} and efm_n .

The values of ZDSV_{n-1} , $\text{ODD}(t_0 \sim \text{efm}_{n-1})$, $\text{PDSV}(m_n)$, $\text{ODD}(m_n)$, $\text{DSV}(\text{efm}_n)$, and $\text{ODD}(\text{efm}_n)$ can be determined through the use of the above-mentioned equations. Further, it can be deduced that:

$$\text{ZDSV}(m_n) = \text{PDSV}(m_n) * (-1)^{\text{ODD}(t_0 \sim \text{efm}_{n-1})}$$

$$\text{ODD}(t_0 \sim m_n) = \text{ODD}(t_0 \sim (\text{efm})_{n-1}) \oplus \text{ODD}(m_n)$$

$$\text{ZDSV}((\text{efm})_n) = \text{PDSV}((\text{efm})_n) * (-1)^{\text{ODD}(t_0 \sim m_n)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ODD}(t_0 \sim (\text{efm})_n) &= \text{ODD}(t_0 \sim m_n) \oplus \text{ODD}((\text{efm})_n) \\ &= \text{ODD}(t_0 \sim (\text{efm})_{n-1}) \oplus \text{ODD}(m_n) \oplus \text{ODD}((\text{efm})_n) \end{aligned}$$

Accordingly, ZDSV_n can be formulated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ZDSV}_n &= \text{ZDSV}_{n-1} + \text{ZDSV}(m_n) + \text{ZDSV}((\text{efm})_n) \\ &= \text{ZDSV}_{n-1} + \text{PDSV}(m_n) * (-1)^{\text{ODD}(t_0 \sim \text{efm}_{n-1})} + \\ &= \text{PDSV}((\text{efm})_n) * (-1)^{\text{ODD}(t_0 \sim m_n)} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\text{DSV}_n = \text{ZDSV}_n + \text{ODD}(t_0 \sim \text{efm}_n)$$

This equation shows that when $\text{ODD}=1$, i.e., the segment ($t_0 \sim \text{efm}_n$) contains an odd-number of 1s, $\text{DSV}=\text{ZDSV}+1$; and when $\text{ODD}=0$, i.e., the segment contains an even-number of 1s, $\text{DSV}=\text{ZDSV}$.

FIG. 5 is a schematic diagram used to show a comparison between DSV and ZDSV when the starting logic voltage state of the NRZI signal is HIGH and the total number of 1s is an odd number.

As shown, it can be seen that, at the start, the ZDSV value is 0. Subsequently, since the first 0 is at the HIGH state, the ZDSV value becomes +1; subsequently, since the next three bits 100 are at the LOW state and include two 0s, the ZDSV value becomes -1; subsequently, since the next four bits 1000 are at the HIGH state and include three 0s, the ZDSV value becomes +2; and subsequently, since the next six bits 100000 are at the LOW state, the ZDSV value becomes -3 at t_1 .

Next, at the time point t_2 , the ZDSV value becomes -1; subsequently at t_3 , the ZDSV value becomes +3; subsequently at t_4 , the ZDSV value becomes +3; and finally at t_5 , the ZDSV value becomes -3.

By contrast, the DSV value varies in such a manner that, at t_1 , the DSV value is -4; at t_2 , the DSV value becomes -1; at t_3 , the DSV value becomes +3; at t_4 , the DSV value becomes +2; and at t_5 , the DSV value becomes -4.

Therefore, it can be learned that, in foregoing case, the NRZI signal varies in voltage state for an odd-number of times, and the difference between the ZDSV value and the DSV value is 1, i.e., $\text{DSV}=\text{ZDSV}-1$; whereas when the total number of 1s is an even number, the NRZI signal varies in voltage state for an even-number of times, and the difference between the ZDSV value and the DSV value is 0, i.e., $\text{ZDSV}=\text{DSV}$.

In the foregoing case, the computation for ZDSV and the conversion of ZDSV into DSV are disclosed in the following. The algorithm involves the use of the following variables: GZ_n , ZDSV, PDSV(SEGMENT), ZDSV(SEGMENT), and ODD(SEGMENT), which are introduced in the following.

Assume that, in a bit stream, each series of consecutive 0s are collected as a group, with 1 serving as the separator between each neighboring pair of 0 groups. Furthermore, assume that GZ_n represents the total number of 0s in the (n)th 0 group. In the example of FIG. 5, starting at t_0 , it can be easily seen that $\text{GZ}_1=1$, $\text{GZ}_2=2$, $\text{GZ}_3=3$, $\text{GZ}_4=5$, and so forth.

ZDSV

In this case, ZDSV can be formulated as follows:

$$\text{ZDSV} = \sum_{x=1}^n \text{GZ}_x \cdot (-1)^{x+1}$$

Here, the power of (-1) is $x+1$ instead of x because the start of the NRZI signal is positive. Accordingly, in the example of FIG. 5, at t_5 , the ZDSV value is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ZDSV} &= (1) + (-2) + (3) + (-5) + (2) + (-4) + \\ &= (9) + (-2) + (3) + (-8) \\ &= -3 \end{aligned}$$

PDSV(SEGMENT)

PDSV(SEGMENT) refers to Partial ZDSV of a particular segment in the bit stream, where the segment can be one of the 14-bit channel-bit symbol efm_1 , efm_2 , efm_3 , or one of the 3-bit merge-bit symbols m_2 , m_3 . PDSV can be formulated as follows:

$$\text{PDSV} = \sum_{x=1}^n \text{GZ}_x \cdot (-1)^{x+1}$$

Accordingly, in the example of FIG. 5,

$$\text{PDSV}(\text{efm}_1) = \sum_{x=1}^4 \text{GZ}_x \cdot (-1)^{x+1} = (1) + (-2) + (3) + (-5) = -3$$

$$\text{PDSV}(m_2) = -2$$

$$\text{PDSV}(\text{efm}_2) = (-4) + (8) = 4$$

$$\text{PDSV}(m_3) = (1) + (-1) = 0$$

$$\text{PDSV}(\text{efm}_3) = (1) + (-3) + (8) = 6$$

ZDSV(SEGMENT)

ZDSV(SEGMENT) is similar to PDSV except that the number of 0 groups is counted from the start of the bit stream. It is here formulated as follows:

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$$ZDSV = \sum_{x=m}^p GZ_x \cdot (-1)^{x+1}$$

where

m represents the total number of 0 groups between the start of the bit stream and the start of the segment.

Accordingly, in the example of FIG. 5,

$$ZDSV(efm_1) = \sum_{x=1}^4 GZ_x \cdot (-1)^{x+1} = (1) + (-2) + (3) + (-5) = -3$$

$$ZDSV(m_2) = \sum_{x=5}^5 GZ_x \cdot (-1)^{x+1} = 2$$

$$ZDSV(efm_2) = \sum_{x=6}^7 GZ_x \cdot (-1)^{x+1} = (-4) + (8) = 4$$

$$ZDSV(m_3) = \sum_{x=7}^8 GZ_x \cdot (-1)^{x+1} = (1) + (-1) = 0$$

$$ZDSV(efm_3) = \sum_{x=8}^{10} GZ_x \cdot (-1)^{x+1} = (-1) + (3) + (-8) = -6$$

ODD(SEGMENT)

ODD(SEGMENT) is used to indicate whether SEGMENT contains an odd-number or an even-number of 1s. If the number is odd, ODD(SEGMENT)=1; otherwise, if the number is even, ODD(SEGMENT)=0.

Assume that SYM_n represents the original (n)th symbol. Through EFM, the (n-1)th channel-bit symbol efm_{n-1} is obtained from the (n-1)th symbol SYM_{n-1} , and the (n)th channel-bit symbol efm_n is obtained from the (n)th symbol SYM_n . Assume that m_n is the merge-bit symbol inserted between efm_{n-1} and efm_n .

The values of $ZDSV_{n-1}$, $ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1})$, $PDSV(m_n)$, $ODD(m_n)$, $DSV(efm_n)$, and $ODD(efm_n)$ can be determined through the use of the above-mentioned equations. Further, it can be deduced that:

$$ZDSV(m_n) = PDSV(m_n) * (-1)^{ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1})}$$

$$ODD(t_0 \sim m_n) = ODD(t_0 \sim (efm)_{n-1}) \oplus ODD(m_n)$$

$$ZDSV((efm)_n) = PDSV((efm)_n) * (-1)^{ODD(t_0 \sim m_n)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} ODD(t_0 \sim (efm)_n) &= ODD(t_0 \sim m_n) \oplus ODD((efm)_n) \\ &= ODD(t_0 \sim (efm)_{n-1}) \oplus ODD(m_n) \oplus ODD((efm)_n) \end{aligned}$$

Accordingly, $ZDSV_n$ can be formulated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} ZDSV_n &= ZDSV_{n-1} + ZDSV(m_n) + ZDSV((efm)_n) \\ &= ZDSV_{n-1} + PDSV(m_n) * (-1)^{ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1})} + \\ &= PDSV((efm)_n) * (-1)^{ODD(t_0 \sim m_n)} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$DSV_n = ZDSV_n - ODD(t_0 \sim efm_n)$$

This equation shows that when ODD=1 (i.e., the segment contains an odd-number of 1s), $DSV=ZDSV - 1$; and when ODD=0 (i.e., the segment contains an even-number of 1s), $DSV=ZDSV$.

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Implementation of the Invention

FIG. 6 is a schematic block diagram showing the system architecture of the DSV computation method and system according to the invention. As shown, the system architecture includes an EFM processing unit 100, a PDSV processing unit 110, an ODD checking circuit 120, a run-length checking circuit 130, a first buffer 150, a second buffer 200, a third buffer 190, an inhibit circuit 160, a search circuit 170, a first multiplexer 220, a second multiplexer 180, an arithmetic unit 210, and a DSV computation circuit 300. The EFM processing unit 100 and the PDSV processing unit 110 are two separate memory units which are used to implement a lookup table that allows each input 8-bit symbol SYM_n to find its corresponding channel-bit symbol efm_n and $PDSV(efm_n)$.

The efm_n data is outputted from the EFM processing unit 100 and then transferred to both the ODD checking circuit 120 and the run-length checking circuit 130, while the $PDSV(efm_n)$ data is outputted from the PDSV processing unit 110 and then transferred to the DSV computation circuit 300. The merge-bit selection signal m_n_SEL varies state sequentially in such a manner as to represent the selection of one of the four merge-bit symbols $m_0=(000)$, $m_1=(001)$, $m_2=(010)$, and $m_3=(100)$. These four merge-bit symbols are then inserted one by one between efm_n and efm_{n-1} to compute the corresponding DSV_n values, which are respectively denoted by $DSV_n(m_0)$, $DSV_n(m_1)$, $DSV_n(m_2)$, and $DSV_n(m_3)$.

The run-length checking circuit 130 is used to check whether the current channel-bit symbol efm_n , after one merge-bit symbol has been inserted, will be compliant with the specified run length. To do this, the run-length checking circuit 130 first checks the 0 groups of the 14 bits of emf_n and thereby assigns the first 0 group GZ_1 as $LRUN_n$ and the last 0 group GZ_{LAST} as $RRUN_n$. In the example of $emf_n=(01001000100000)$, $GZ_1=1$ so that $LRUN_n=1$, and $GZ_{LAST}=5$ so that $RRUN_n=5$. The first buffer 150 is used for temporary storage of the $RRUN_n$ value of the previous channel-bit symbol efm_{n-1} . The run-length checking circuit 130 then sends the $RRUN_n$ value to the first buffer 150 to replace the $RRUN_{n-1}$ value previously stored therein, and meanwhile sends the $LRUN_n$ value to the inhibit circuit 160.

Under control of the m_n_SEL signal, the inhibit circuit 160 first reads the $LRUN_n$ value and the $RRUN_{n-1}$ value, respectively, from the run-length checking circuit 130 and the first buffer 150, then successively inserts each of the four merge-bit symbols $m_0=(000)$, $m_1=(001)$, $m_2=(010)$, and $m_3=(100)$ between the $RRUN_{n-1}$ and the $LRUN_n$ value, and then checks whether the combined bit stream is compliant with the run length or not. If not compliant, the corresponding merge-bit symbol (hereinafter referred to as an invalid merge-bit symbol) will be sent via the INHIBIT0~3 data line to the search circuit 170, allowing the search circuit 170 to eliminate the DSV_n corresponding to the invalid merge-bit symbol. For instance, if m_1 is an invalid merge-bit symbol, then $DSV_1(m_1)$ is eliminated.

The DSV computation circuit 300 is designed to compute $DSV_n(m_0)$, $DSV_n(m_1)$, $DSV_n(m_2)$, and $DSV_n(m_3)$ in accordance with the above-mentioned equations.

The ODD checking circuit 120 is used to perform the following steps: a first step of receiving efm_n from the EFM processing unit 100 and $ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1})$ from the third buffer 190; a second step of determining $ODD(efm_n)$; a third step of determining $ODD(m_n)$ under control of the m_n_SEL signal; and a final step of determining $ODD(t_0 \sim efm_n) = ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1}) \oplus ODD(m_n) \oplus ODD(efm_n)$ for m_0 , m_1 , m_2 , and m_3 , respectively. The resulting four pieces of data are then transferred to the DSV computation circuit 300 for further processing.

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The DSV computation circuit **300** receives the PDSV (efm_n) data from the PDSV processing unit **110**, the ODD ($t_0 \sim efm_n$) data from the ODD checking circuit **120**, the ODD ($t_0 \sim efm_{n-1}$) data from the third buffer **190**, and the ZDSV $_{n-1}$ data from the second buffer **200**, and then computes for DSV $_n$ (m_0) at the appearance of the m_n _SEL signal for m_0 in accordance with the following equations:

$$\begin{aligned} ZDSV_n &= ZDSV_{n-1} + ZDSV(m_n) + ZDSV((efm)_n) \\ &= ZDSV_{n-1} + PDSV(m_n) * (-1)^{ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1})} + \\ &= PDSV((efm)_n) * (-1)^{ODD(t_0 \sim m_n)} \end{aligned}$$

$$ODD(t_0 \sim m_n) = ODD(t_0 \sim (efm)_{n-1}) \oplus ODD(m_n)$$

$$DSV_n = ZDSV_n + ODD(t_0 \sim (efm)_n)$$

The DSV $_n(m_0)$ data is then transferred both to the search circuit **170** and to the first multiplexer **220** and latched thereby. Meanwhile, the ODD($t_0 \sim efm_n$) data for m_0 , denoted as ODD($t_0 \sim efm_n$) m_0 , is transferred back to the second multiplexer **180**.

In a similar manner, DSV $_n(m_1)$, DSV $_n(m_2)$, and DSV $_n(m_3)$ can be determined, and are then transferred both to the search circuit **170** and to the first multiplexer **220**. Meanwhile, ODD ($t_0 \sim efm_n$) m_1 , ODD($t_0 \sim efm_n$) m_2 , and ODD($t_0 \sim efm_n$) m_3 are transferred to the second multiplexer **180** to be latched therein.

The search circuit **170**, based on the information about the invalid merge-bit symbol from the INHIBIT0~3 data line, first eliminates any one of the DSV $_n(m_0)$, DSV $_n(m_1)$, DSV $_n(m_2)$, DSV $_n(m_3)$ corresponding to the invalid merge-bit symbol, and then, from the remaining ones, chooses the one whose value is closest to zero (i.e., the one whose absolute value is minimum). The corresponding merge-bit symbol of the chosen DSV $_n$, referred to as the optimal merge-bit symbol, is then indicated via the m_n _Index data line to the second multiplexer **180** and the first multiplexer **220**. The m_n _Index signal causes the second multiplexer **180** to select the ODD ($t_0 \sim efm_n$) corresponding to the optimal merge-bit symbol and then transfers the selected one to the third buffer **190** and the arithmetic unit **210**. Meanwhile, the m_n _Index signal causes the first multiplexer **220** to select the DSV $_n$ corresponding to the optimal merge-bit symbol and then transfer the selected one to the arithmetic unit **210**. At the arithmetic unit **210**, the following arithmetic operation is performed to obtain ZDSV $_n$:

$$ZDSV_n = DSV_n - ODD(t_0 \sim efm_n)$$

Note that in the foregoing case, the arithmetic unit **210** performs a summation operation, but when the starting logic voltage state of the NRZI signal is HIGH, the above arithmetic operation will be $ZDSV_n = DSV_n + ODD(t_0 \sim efm_n)$, and thus the arithmetic unit **210** performs a subtraction operation. The obtained ZDSV $_n$ is then transferred to the second buffer **200**. Next, the current ZDSV $_n$ and ODD($t_0 \sim efm_n$) data stored respectively in the second buffer **200** and the third buffer **190** are fetched as ZDSV $_{n-1}$ and ODD($t_0 \sim efm_{n-1}$) for the next symbol SYM $_n$ to find its optimal merge-bit symbol.

FIG. **7** is a schematic diagram showing the inside circuit architecture of the ODD checking circuit **120** used in the DSV computation system of the invention shown in FIG. **6**. As shown, the ODD checking circuit **120** includes a multiplexer **122**, a first XOR gate **124**, a second XOR gate **126**, and a third XOR gate **128**. When the m_n _SEL signal represents m_0 , it causes the multiplexer **122** to select ODD(m_0) as output. The first XOR gate **124** processes efm_n to obtain ODD(efm_n). The

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second XOR gate **126** and the third XOR gate **128** in combination perform following the logic operation to obtain ODD ($t_0 \sim efm_n$):

$$ODD(t_0 \sim efm_n) = ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1}) \oplus ODD(m_n) \oplus ODD(efm_n)$$

Since the output ODD($t_0 \sim efm_n$) corresponds to m_0 , it is denoted as ODD($t_0 \sim efm_n$) m_0 .

In a similar manner, when the m_n _SEL signal successively represents m_1 , m_2 , and m_3 , the output ODD($t_0 \sim efm_n$) m_1 , ODD($t_0 \sim efm_n$) m_2 , and ODD($t_0 \sim efm_n$) m_3 will be successively obtained.

FIG. **8** is a schematic diagram showing the inside circuit architecture of the DSV computation circuit **300** used in the DSV computation system of the invention shown in FIG. **6**. As shown, the DSV computation circuit **300** includes a first multiplexer **310**, a second multiplexer **320**, a first XOR gate **330**, a second XOR gate **340**, a third XOR gate **350**, an adder **360**, a C-adder (add with carry) **370**, a first buffer **380**, a second buffer **381**, a third buffer **382**, and a fourth buffer **383**. When the m_n _SEL signal represents m_0 , it causes the first multiplexer **310** to select PDSV(m_0) as output and meanwhile causes the second multiplexer **320** to select ODD(m_0) as output. The first XOR gate **330** then performs the logic operation $PDSV(m_0) \oplus ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1})$ to obtain the output ZDSV(m_n). Meanwhile, the second XOR gate **340** performs the logic operation $ODD(m_0) \oplus ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1})$ to obtain the output ODD($t_0 \sim m_n$). Subsequently, the third XOR gate **350** performs the logic operation $ODD(t_0 \sim m_n) \oplus PDSV(efm_n)$ to obtain the output ZDSV(efm_n). After this, the adder **360** performs the arithmetic operation $ZDSV(m_n) + ZDSV(efm_n)$, and subsequently, the second buffer **381** adds ZDSV $_{n-1}$ to the output of the adder **360** with ODD($t_0 \sim efm_n$) from the ODD checking circuit **120** (FIG. **6**) being used as carry bit. The output of the C-adder **370** serves as the desired DSV $_n(m_0)$, which is then transferred to the first buffer **380**. The ODD ($t_0 \sim efm_n$) m_0 data is stored together with the DSV $_n(m_0)$ data in the first buffer **380**.

Subsequently, the m_n _SEL signal changes states to represent m_1 , m_2 , and m_3 in a sequential manner to cause the DSV computation circuit **300** to successively produce DSV $_n(m_1)$, DSV $_n(m_2)$, and DSV $_n(m_3)$. The DSV $_n(m_1)$ and ODD ($t_0 \sim efm_n$) m_1 data are stored together in the second buffer **381**; the DSV $_n(m_2)$ and ODD($t_0 \sim efm_n$) m_2 data are stored together in the third buffer **382**; and the DSV $_n(m_3)$ and ODD($t_0 \sim efm_n$) m_3 data are stored together in the fourth buffer **383**.

The invention is also applicable for use with a DVD system in which digitized video data are also represented by 8-bit symbols and converted through EFM into 14-bit channel-bit symbols. The difference is that in the DVD system, the EFM produces a number of 14-bit channel-bit symbols corresponding to each original 8-bit symbol. For this reason, there is no need to find the optimal merge-bit symbol and it is only required to find any one of the channel-bit symbols that is compliant with the run length.

FIG. **9** is a schematic diagram used to depict how to compute for ZDSV in a DVD system. In this case, assume that one channel-bit symbol efm_{n-1} is obtained by processing the (n-1)th symbol SYM $_{n-1}$ through EFM, and a number of channel-bit symbols efm_{n-i} are obtained by processing the (n)th symbol SYM $_n$ through EFM.

In this case, the values of ZDSV $_{n-1}$, ODD($t_0 \sim efm_{n-1}$), PDSV(efm_{n-i}), and ODD(efm_{n-i}) for efm_{n-i} can be determined through the use of the above-mentioned equations. It can be deduced that:

$$ZDSV(efm_{n-i}) = PDSV(efm_{n-i}) * (-1)^{ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1})}$$

$$ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-i}) = ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1}) \oplus ODD(efm_{n-i})$$

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Accordingly, $ZDSV_{n-1}$ can be formulated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} ZDSV_{n,i} &= ZDSV_{n-1} + ZDSV((efm)_{n,i}) \\ &= ZDSV_{n-1} + PDSV((efm)_{n,i}) * (-1)^{ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1})} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$DSV_{n,i} = ZDSV_{n-1} + ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n,i})$$

Next, all the $efm_{n,i}$ corresponding to SYM_n are plugged into the above equation to obtain a number of $DSV_{n,i}$ values, and from which the $efm_{n,i}$ corresponding to the $DSV_{n,i}$ having the minimum absolute value is chosen as the optimal channel-bit symbol for SYM_n .

In conclusion, the invention provides a DSV computation method and system which is capable of determining the DSV value of a bit stream to find the optimal merge-bit symbol for insertion between each succeeding pair of channel-bit symbols. Compared to the prior art, the invention can find the optimal merge-bit symbol based on DSV in a more cost-effective manner with a reduced amount of memory and utilizes a lookup table requiring a reduced amount of memory space for storage so that memory space can be reduced as compared to the prior art. The invention is therefore more advantageous to use than the prior art.

The invention has been described using exemplary preferred embodiments. However, it is to be understood that the scope of the invention is not limited to the disclosed embodiments. On the contrary, it is intended to cover various modifications and similar arrangements. The scope of the claims, therefore, should be accorded the broadest interpretation so as to encompass all such modifications and similar arrangements.

What is claimed is:

1. A method for computing a zero digital sum variation (ZDSV) of a stream of channel-bit symbols, comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing an initial value $ZDSV_{n-1}$, an initial value $ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1})$ and a initial bias value *by a digital sum variation (DSV) computation system*, wherein the initial value $ZDSV_{n-1}$ is the zero digital sum variation of a previous start-to-channel-bit symbol efm_{n-1} , wherein the $ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1})$ indicates that the stream of the channel-bit symbols from a starting logic voltage state to the previous start-to-channel-bit symbol efm_{n-1} contains an odd-number or an even-number of 1s, the initial bias value is either 1 or -1;
- (b) providing a current channel-bit symbol efm_n *by the DSV computation system*, and obtaining a partial digital sum variation (PDSV) value $PDSV(efm_n)$ and a $ODD(efm_n)$ value in accordance with the current symbol efm_n ;
- (c) obtaining a plurality of partial digital sum variation (PDSV) values $PDSV(m_n^i)$ and $ODD(m_n^i)$ values in accordance with all possible merge-bit symbols m_n^i *by the DSV computation system*, wherein $i=0, 1, \dots, x$, the number of the possible merge-bit symbols is $x+1$;
- (d) calculating $ZDSV_n^i = ZDSV_{n-1} + ZDSV(m_n^i) + ZDSV(efm_n)_i$ *by the DSV computation system* and calculating $ODD(t_0 \sim efm_n)_i = ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1}) \oplus ODD(m_n^i) \oplus ODD(efm_n)_i$ *by the DSV computation system*, wherein $i=0, 1, \dots, x$, in order to determine the $ZDSV_n$ of the zero digital sum variation of the current channel-bit symbol efm_n , wherein $ZDSV(m_n^i) = PDSV(m_n^i) * (-1)^{ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1})}$ and $ZDSV(efm_n)_i = PDSV(efm_n)_i * (-1)^{ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1})}$,

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1) $ODD(t_0 \sim m_n^i)$, wherein $ODD(t_0 \sim m_n^i) = ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1}) \oplus ODD(m_n^i)$, wherein \oplus represents the XOR logic operation,

the $ZDSV_n^i$ is the zero digital sum variation of the channel-bit symbol efm_n corresponding to the i -th merge-bit symbol of the possible merge-bit symbols,

the $ZDSV(m_n^i)$ means a zero digital sum variation of the i -th merge-bit symbol of the possible merge-bit symbols corresponding to the current channel-bit symbol efm_n , the $ZDSV(efm_n)_i$ means a zero digital sum variation of the current channel-bit symbol efm_n corresponding to the i -th merge-bit symbol of the possible merge-bit symbols;

- (e) $DSV_n^i = ZDSV_n^i + (\text{initial bias value}) * ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1})_i$, wherein the DSV_n^i is a digital sum variation of the current channel-bit symbol efm_n corresponding to the i -th merge-bit symbol of the possible merge-bit symbols;
- (f) determining a final merge-bit symbol m_n^j in accordance with the absolute value of DSV_n^i and a run time limit *by the DSV computation system*, wherein $j \in \{i\}$, wherein $i=0, 1, \dots, x$; and
- (f) assigning the initial value $ZDSV_{n-1} = ZDSV_n^j$, the $ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1}) = ODD(t_0 \sim efm_n)_j$ *by the DSV computation system*, and then jumping to step (b).

2. A method for use on a DVD system for computing a digital sum variation (DSV) of a data stream, comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a pre-determined zero digital sum variation initial value $ZDSV_{n-1}$, an initial value $ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1})$ and an initial bias value *by a digital sum variation (DSV) computation system*, the initial bias value is either 1 or -1;
- (b) converting the data stream into a plurality of channel-bit symbol efm_n^i *by the DSV computation system*, wherein $i=0, 1, 2, \dots, x$;
- (c) obtaining a partial digital sum variation (PDSV) value $PDSV(efm_n^i)$ and a $ODD(efm_n^i)$ value in accordance with the channel-bit symbol efm_n^i *by the DSV computation system*, wherein $i=0, 1, 2, \dots, x$;
- (d) calculating $ZDSV_n^i = ZDSV_{n-1} + ZDSV(efm_n^i)$ and $ODD(t_0 \sim efm_n^i) = ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1}) \oplus ODD(efm_n^i)$ *by the DSV computation system*, wherein $i=0, 1, \dots, x$, in order to determine the $ZDSV_n^i$ of the zero digital sum variation of the current channel-bit symbol efm_n^i , wherein $ZDSV(efm_n^i) = PDSV(efm_n^i) * (-1)^{ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1})}$, wherein
- the $ZDSV_n^i$ is the zero digital sum variation of the i -th channel-bit symbol efm_n^i ,
- the $ZDSV(efm_n^i)$ means a zero digital sum variation of the i -th channel-bit symbol efm_n^i ;
- (e) $DSV_n^i = ZDSV_n^i + (\text{the initial bias value}) * ODD(t_0 \sim efm_n^i)$, wherein the DSV_n^i is a digital sum variation of the i -th channel-bit symbol efm_n^i ;
- (f) determining a final merge-bit symbol efm_n^j in accordance with the absolute value of the DSV_n^i and a coding rule *by the DSV computation system*, wherein $j \in \{i\}$, wherein $i=0, 1, \dots, x$; and
- (f) assigning *by the DSV computation system* the initial value $ZDSV_{n-1} = ZDSV_n^j$, the $ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1}) = ODD(t_0 \sim efm_n^j)$, and then jumping to step (b).

3. A method for use on a DVD system for computing a digital sum variation (DSV) of a data stream, comprising the steps of:

- (a) providing a pre-determined zero digital sum variation initial value $ZDSV_{n-1}$ and an initial value $ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1})$ by a digital sum variation (DSV) computation system;
- (b) converting the data stream into a plurality of channel-bit symbol efm_n^i by the DSV computation system, wherein $i=0, 1, 2, \dots, x$;
- (c) obtaining a partial digital sum variation (PDSV) value $PDSV(efm_n^i)$ and a $ODD(efm_n^i)$ value in accordance with the corresponding channel-bit symbol efm_n^i by the DSV computation system, wherein $i=0, 1, 2, \dots, x$;
- (d) calculating $ZDSV_n^i = ZDSV_{n-1} + ZDSV(efm_n^i)$ and $ODD(t_0 \sim efm_n^i) = ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1}) \oplus ODD(efm_n^i)$ by the DSV computation system, wherein $i=0, 1, \dots, x$, in order to determine the $ZDSV_n^i$ of the zero digital sum variation of the current channel-bit symbol efm_n^i , wherein $ZDSV(efm_n^i) = PDSV(efm_n^i) \cdot (-1)^{ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1})}$, wherein the $ZDSV_n^i$ is the zero digital sum variation of the i -th channel-bit symbol efm_n^i , the $ZDSV(efm_n^i)$ means a zero digital sum variation of the i -th channel-bit symbol efm_n^i ;
- (e) determining a final merge-bit symbol efm_n^j in accordance with the absolute value of the $ZDSV(efm_n^i)$ and a coding rule by the DSV computation system, wherein $j \in \{i\}$, wherein $i=0, 1, \dots, x$; and
- (f) assigning the initial value $ZDSV_{n-j} = ZDSV_n^j$, the $ODD(t_0 \sim efm_{n-1}) = ODD(t_0 \sim efm_n^j)$ by the DSV computation system, and then jumping to step (b).

4. A method for generating a Zero digital sum variation (ZDSV) value of a Non-Return-to-Zero-and-Invert (NRZI) bit-stream, wherein the NRZI bit-stream comprises a first portion of bit-stream having a first ZDSV value, a merge-bit symbol, and a current channel-bit symbol, the method comprising:

- calculating a segment ZDSV value of the merge-bit symbol by a digital sum variation (DSV) computation system;
- calculating a segment ZDSV value of the current channel-bit symbol by the DSV computation system; and
- summing the first ZDSV value, the segment ZDSV value of the merge-bit symbol and the segment ZDSV value of the current channel-bit symbol to generate the ZDSV value of the NRZI bit-stream by the DSV computation system.

5. The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein, in the merge-bit symbol, each series of consecutive zero bit are collected as a group, with 1 bit serving as the separator between each neighboring groups, and the step of calculating the segment ZDSV value of the merge-bit symbol comprises:

- generating a partial ZDSV (PDSV) value of the merge-bit symbol by the DSV computation system;
- calculating a state of the merge-bit symbol by the DSV computation system; and
- multiplying the state of the merge-bit symbol by the PDSV value by the DSV computation system to obtain the segment ZDSV value of the merge-bit symbol.

6. The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the step of generating the PDSV value of the merge-bit symbol by the DSV computation system is calculated according to the following algorithm:

$$PDSV = \sum_{x=1}^n GZ_x \cdot (-1)^x;$$

wherein PDSV is the PDSV value, x is an index of the groups, GZ_x is a total number of zeros in a x -th group, and n is a total number of the group in the merge-bit symbol.

7. The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the step of calculating a state of the merge-bit symbol by the DSV computation system is calculated according to the following algorithm:

$$State = (-1)^{ODD};$$

wherein ODD indicates whether the merge-bit symbol comprises an odd-number or an even-number of 1's.

8. The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein, in the current channel-bit symbol, each series of consecutive zero bit are collected as a group, with 1 bit serving as the separator between each neighboring groups, and the step of calculating the segment ZDSV value of the current channel-bit symbol comprises:

- generating a partial ZDSV (PDSV) value of the current channel-bit symbol by the DSV computation system;
- calculating a state of the current channel-bit symbol by the DSV computation system; and
- multiplying the state of the current channel-bit symbol by the PDSV value by the DSV computation system to obtain the segment ZDSV value of the current channel-bit symbol.

9. The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the step of generating the PDSV value of the current channel-bit symbol by the DSV computation system is calculated according to the following algorithm:

$$PDSV = \sum_{x=1}^n GZ_x \cdot (-1)^x;$$

wherein PDSV is the PDSV value, x is an index of the groups, GZ_x is a total number of zeros in a x -th group, and n is a total number of the group in the current channel-bit symbol.

10. The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the step of calculating a state of the current channel-bit symbol by the DSV computation system is calculated according to the following algorithm:

$$State = (-1)^{ODD};$$

wherein ODD indicates whether the current channel-bit symbol comprises an odd-number or an even-number of 1's.

11. The method as claimed in claim 8, wherein the step of generating the PDSV value of the current channel-bit symbol by the DSV computation system is calculated according to a lookup table.

12. The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein the method further comprises:

- if a total number of 1s in the NRZI bit-stream is an even number, outputting the ZDSV value of the NRZI bit-stream by the DSV computation system to obtain the DSV value of the NRZI bit-stream;
- if the total number of 1s in the NRZI bit-stream is an odd number and a starting logic voltage state of the NRZI

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bit-stream is low, adding 1 to the ZDSV value of the NRZI bit-stream by the DSV computation system to obtain the DSV value of the NRZI bit-stream; and if the total number of 1s in the NRZI bit-stream is an odd number and the starting logic voltage state of the NRZI bit-stream is high, subtracting 1 from the ZDSV 5

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value of the NRZI bit-stream by the DSV computation system to obtain the DSV value of the NRZI bit-stream.

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