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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
18/000,520	12/02/2022	Ryohei TAKAHASHI	14634US02	6302

165418   7590   10/24/2024

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EXAMINER
ZALALEE, SULTANA MARCIA

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2614	

NOTIFICATION DATE	DELIVERY MODE
10/24/2024	ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	**Application No.** 18/000,520	**Applicant(s)** TAKAHASHI et al.	
	Examiner SULTANA M ZALALEE	**Art Unit** 2614	**AIA (FITF) Status** Yes

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☑ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>12/02/2022</u>.
   ☐ A declaration(s)/affidavit(s) under **37 CFR 1.130(b)** was/were filed on ____.
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL.**   2b) ☑ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ An election was made by the applicant in response to a restriction requirement set forth during the interview on ____; the restriction requirement and election have been incorporated into this action.
4) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims*

5) ☑ Claim(s) <u>1-20</u> is/are pending in the application.
   5a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
7) ☑ Claim(s) <u>1-20</u> is/are rejected.
8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
9) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement

* If any claims have been determined <u>allowable</u>, you may be eligible to benefit from the **Patent Prosecution Highway** program at a participating intellectual property office for the corresponding application. For more information, please see http://www.uspto.gov/patents/init_events/pph/index.jsp or send an inquiry to **PPHfeedback@uspto.gov.**

Application Papers

10) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
11) ☑ The drawing(s) filed on <u>12/02/2022</u> is/are: a)☑ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.
   Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
   Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
   Certified copies:
      a)☐ All   b)☐ Some**   c)☐ None of the:
         1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
         2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
         3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

** See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☑ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☑ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08a and/or PTO/SB/08b)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date

3) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
   Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Interpretation

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 112(f):

(f) Element in Claim for a Combination. – An element in a claim for a combination may be expressed as a means or step for performing a specified function without the recital of structure, material, or acts in support thereof, and such claim shall be construed to cover the corresponding structure, material, or acts described in the specification and equivalents thereof.

The following is a quotation of pre-AIA 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph:

An element in a claim for a combination may be expressed as a means or step for performing a specified function without the recital of structure, material, or acts in support thereof, and such claim shall be construed to cover the corresponding structure, material, or acts described in the specification and equivalents thereof.

This application includes one or more claim limitations that do not use the word "means," but are nonetheless being interpreted under 35 U.S.C. 112(f) or pre-AIA 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph, because the claim limitation(s) uses a generic placeholder that is coupled with functional language without reciting sufficient structure to perform the recited function and the generic placeholder is not preceded by a structural modifier. Such claim limitation(s) is/are: unit in claims 1-9, 11-19.

Because this/these claim limitation(s) is/are being interpreted under 35 U.S.C. 112(f) or pre-AIA 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph, it/they is/are being interpreted to cover the corresponding structure described in the specification as performing the claimed function, and equivalents thereof.

If applicant does not intend to have this/these limitation(s) interpreted under 35 U.S.C. 112(f) or pre-AIA 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph, applicant may: (1) amend the claim limitation(s) to avoid it/them being interpreted under 35 U.S.C. 112(f) or pre-AIA 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph (e.g., by reciting sufficient structure to perform the

claimed function); or (2) present a sufficient showing that the claim limitation(s) recite(s)

sufficient structure to perform the claimed function so as to avoid it/them being

interpreted under 35 U.S.C. 112(f) or pre-AIA 35 U.S.C. 112, sixth paragraph.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (a)(1) the claimed invention was patented, described in a printed publication, or in public use,
> on sale, or otherwise available to the public before the effective filing date of the claimed
> invention.

Claims 1, 9-11, 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(a)(1) as being

anticipated by Wang et al (WO 2020045590 A1, see corresponding US application

US 20210168392 A1 for translation cited herein).

RE claim 1, Wang teaches An information processing apparatus (Fig 1, [0008],

[0108]) comprising:

a tile management information generation unit that generates, by using tile

identification information indicating a tile of a point cloud corresponding to a data unit of

a bitstream of the point cloud expressing an object having a three-dimensional shape as

a set of points, tile management information that is information for managing the tile

corresponding to a subsample including a single or a plurality of consecutive data units

of the bitstream stored as a sample in a file (Figs 1-2, 10, 18, 20, 23, 26, 52,60, 63 etc,

[0087], [0124], [0372]); and

a file generation unit that generates the file that stores the bitstream and the tile

management information (Fig 26, [0259], [0265]).

RE claim 9, Wang teaches further comprising an encoding unit that encodes data of the point cloud and generates the bitstream, wherein the file generation unit generates the file that stores the bitstream generated by the encoding unit (Figs 1-2, 10, 18, 20, 23, 26, 52,60, 63 etc, [0087], [0124], [0372]).

RE claim 11, Wang teaches An information processing apparatus (Fig 1, [0008], [0108]) comprising: an extraction unit that extracts, from a file, a portion of a bitstream necessary for reproduction of a desired tile, on a basis of tile management information that is information for managing the tile corresponding to a subsample stored in the file by using tile identification information indicating the tile of a point cloud corresponding to the subsample including a single or a plurality of consecutive data units of the bitstream stored in the file together with the bitstream of the point cloud expressing an object having a three-dimensional shape as a set of points (Figs 1-2, 7, 15, 18, 28-29, 52,60-63 etc, [0098], [0201], [0205]).

RE claim 19, Wang teaches further comprising a decoding unit that decodes the portion necessary for reproducing the desired tile in the bitstream extracted by the extraction unit (Figs 1-2, 7, 15, 18, 28-29, 52,60- 63 etc, [0098], [0201], [0205]).

Claims 10 and 20 recite limitations similar in scope with limitations of claims 1 and 11 as method and therefore rejected under the same rationale.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103 which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> A patent for a claimed invention may not be obtained, notwithstanding that the claimed invention is not identically disclosed as set forth in section 102, if the differences between the claimed invention and the prior art are such that the claimed invention as a whole would have been obvious before the effective filing date of the claimed invention to a person having

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