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(54) **BLOCK-BASED DIFFERENCING ALGORITHM**

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(58) **Field of Classification Search**
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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A system and method for a block based differencing algorithm which includes the ability to limit memory requirements regardless of source file sizes by splitting the source file into optimally sized blocks. The invention allows the blocks to be processed in any order allowing in-place operation. Further, the present invention allows a second stage compressor to match the compressor blocks to those used by the differencing algorithm to optimize compressor and decompressor performance.

10 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets

Differencing Process

