

Title (en)
Method for calibrating a thermal printer

Title (de)
Verfahren zur Eichung eines Thermodruckers

Title (fr)
Procédé pour calibrer une imprimante thermique

Publication
EP 1247654 A1 20021009 (EN)

Application
EP 01000107 A 20010405

Priority
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Abstract (en)
A thermal printer is calibrated by supplying a thermographic material, printer data, and default reference values; printing a calibration pattern for the printer data; measuring a density Dexpi for each patch of a density wedge of the pattern; calculating a corresponding value Prefnewj for a reference printing power; and calculating a corresponding density Di. Calibration of a thermal printer having a thermal head incorporating energizable heating elements, includes supplying to the thermal printer a thermographic material m, printer data Pi each intended to be recorded as a pixel having a density Di, and default reference values for printing parameters pi comprising a value Pref for a reference printing power; printing a calibration pattern for the printer data, where the calibration pattern comprises a step density wedge such that a whole range of a relation Di(Pi) between the printer data and the density is covered; measuring a density Dexpi for each patch of the density wedge of the calibration pattern in relation to the printer data, and storing a first set S1 = (Pref, Pi, Dexpi) in a first memory M1; calculating, for a desired density Dwantj, a corresponding value Prefnewj for the reference printing power, and storing a second set S2 = (Dwantj, Prefnewj) in a second memory M2; and calculating, for the desired density Dwantj and for each printer data, a corresponding density Di and storing a third set S3 = (Dwantj, Prefnewj, Pi, Di) in a third memory M3. Independent claims are included for the following: (a) A method of thermal recording by using a thermal head incorporating the energizable heating elements, and using the above calibration method; and (b) An apparatus for thermal recording an image on a thermographic material using the above method.

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CPC (source: EP)
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• [A] PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2000, no. 20 10 July 2001 (2001-07-10)
• [A] PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN vol. 2000, no. 21 3 August 2001 (2001-08-03)

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