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(54) **Data playback apparatus and method**

(57) A data playback apparatus for playing back a recording medium in which a signal having digital watermark information embedded therein is recorded, the digital watermark information including copy control information, includes a reading unit, a signal detection unit, and a digital watermark information detection unit. The reading unit reads a signal from the recording me-

dium. The signal detection unit determines whether or not the signal read by the reading means is the signal having digital watermark information embedded therein. When the start of the signal having digital watermark information embedded therein is detected by the signal detection unit, the digital watermark information detection unit detects the digital watermark information using the detected start as a trigger.

FIG. 1

