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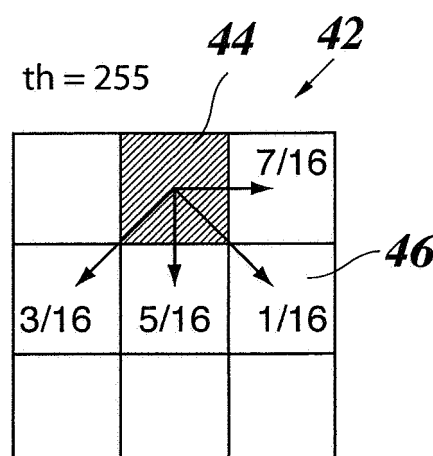
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(54) **Printing method with camouflage of defective print elements**

(57) A printing method for a printer having a printhead with a plurality of print elements and capable of printing a binary pixel image, the method comprising the steps of:
a) locating defective print elements,
b) determining a camouflage area in the vicinity of pixels that would have to be printed with the defective print elements, and
c) camouflaging defective print elements by modifying image information in said camouflage area, characterised in that the camouflaging step is incorporated in a halftoning step, in which error diffusion is used for creating said binary pixel image, and comprises a step (S104; S204) of modifying an error propagation scheme for the camouflage area.

Fig. 4





EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
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			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 11 November 2009	Examiner Didenot, Benjamin
<p>CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS</p> <p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p> <p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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