

set of values that includes the target value, and differentiating the target value from the constructed set of values. A constructed set descriptor describes the constructed set and a differentiation descriptor identifies the target within the constructed set. The target then can be represented using the constructed set descriptor and the
5 differentiation descriptor.

In some implementations, the set of values including the target value is constructed by computing the senior most bit (SMB) of the target value and/or the so many on/off bits (SMOB) of the target value. The SMB may be defined as the position of the most senior bit of the bit string to be encoded. The SMOB may be
10 defined as the number of on or off bits in the bit string.

The constructed set of values may be formed by creating a combinatorial ordered set. For example, a combinatorial ordered set may be defined by the SMB of the target value and the SMOB of the target value.

In some implementations, differentiating the target value includes determining
15 the position of the target value within the constructed set. For example, the target value may be differentiated by computing one or more armatures, with each armature representing the position of the target value within the constructed set. The constructed set includes a first element and a last element. Differentiating the target value may include computing a first armature representing the position of the target
20 value relative to the first element of the constructed set, and computing a second armature representing the position of the target value relative to the last element of the constructed set. The target value can then be differentiated using a description of the two armatures.

Differentiation of the target value may be further refined by constructing a set
25 of good candidates from the constructed set of values by calculating one or more characteristics for each armature, and representing the set of good candidates using the armature characteristics. For example, the set of good candidates may be defined by calculating the SMB and the SMOB for each armature.

The set of good candidates may be further refined by constructing a set of
30 exact matches from the set of good candidates. One way to construct a set of exact