100100	36
101000	40
110000	48

The number of active candidates is often a very large number. The data representation must be able to identify a target from the ordinal set of all active candidates. For example, the system could simply identify a count representing the order in which the target T appears within the series. For a target of 34, T is second within the ordinal series of active candidates. The size of the set of active candidates may be very large, so it is often desirable to further reduce the information needed to identify a particular target T.

In one implementation, the active candidate space is reduced by computing two values called armatures (step 208). In this example, the armatures represent the first fractal component 104 and the second fractal component 106. The first armature is the number of active candidates from the smallest active candidate to the target in consideration. The second armature is the number of active candidates from the largest active candidate to the target. For a target of 34, the first armature is 1 because 33, the first active candidate, is one active candidate away from the target 34 and the second armature is 3 because 48 is three active candidates away from the target 34.

For very large numbers, the first and second armatures may also be very large. Instead of transmitting or storing these numbers, it is possible to simply record the SSR record for each armature. The value of the first armature is "1." The SMB and SMOB of the value "1" are "1" and "1", respectively. The value of the second armature is "3". The SMB and SMOB of the value "3" are "2" and "2", respectively. The SSR record of the first armature may be expressed as "(1,1)" and the SSR record of the second armature may be expressed as "(2,2)".

Using the SSR records of the armatures, the series of active candidates may be significantly reduced by computing a series of values from the set of active candidates having the same SSR records for the first and second armatures. For the example