



AMTC IP Coverage

Cable Systems Transmitting Media to
Set-top Boxes

(PPV, VOD, Broadcast of Prerecorded
Digital Content)

Compared to Yurt '992 Claim 41

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Patent 5,132,992 Claim 41:

41. A method of transmitting information to remote locations, the transmission method comprising the steps, performed by a transmission system, of:

storing items having information in a source material library;

retrieving the information in the items from the source material library;

assigning a unique identification code to the retrieved information;

placing the retrieved information into a predetermined format as formatted data;

placing the formatted data into a sequence of addressable data blocks;

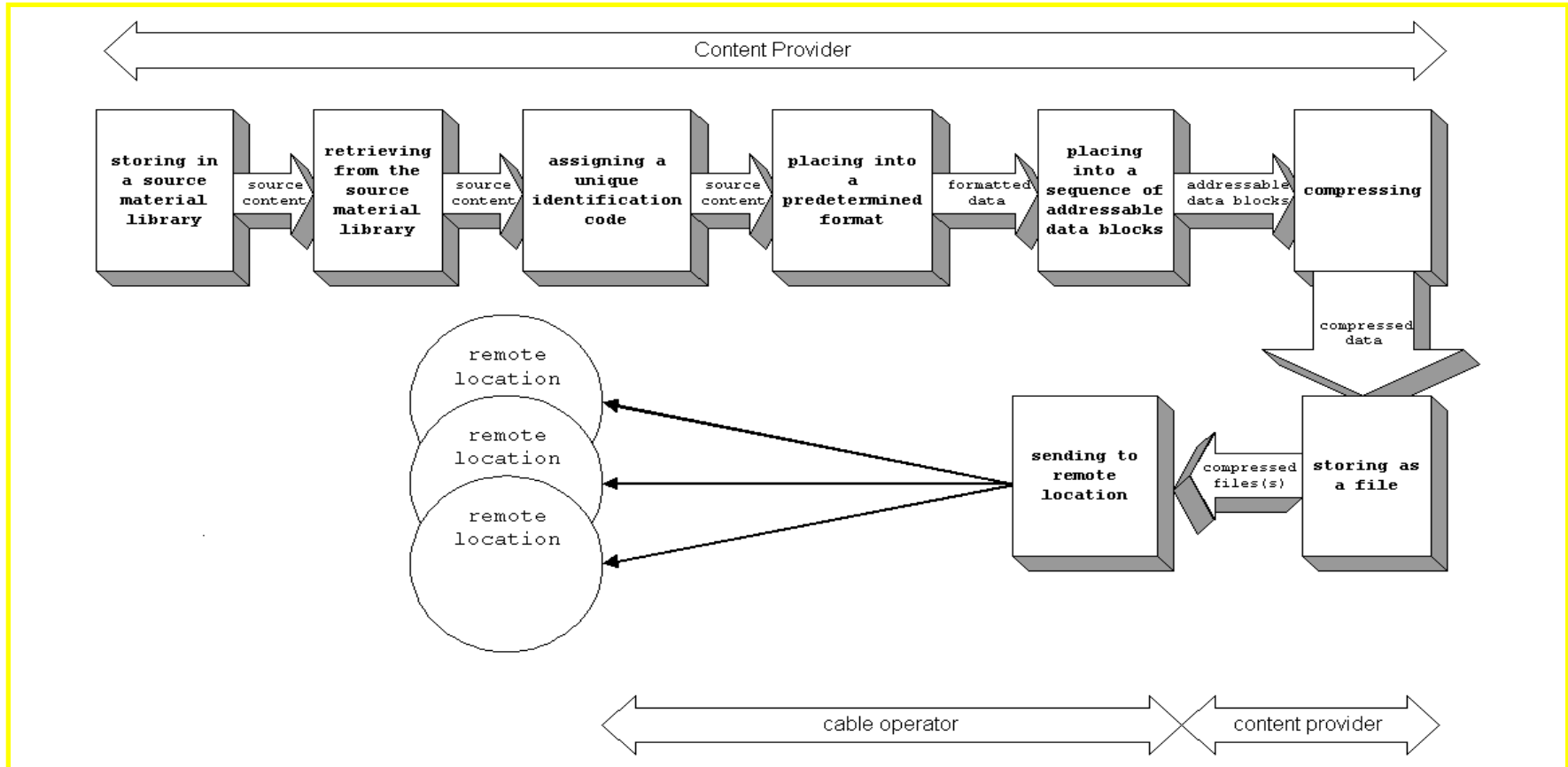
compressing the formatted and sequenced data blocks;

storing, as a file, the compressed, formatted, and sequenced data blocks with the assigned unique identification code; and

sending at least a portion of the file to one of the remote locations.

Cable Systems Transmitting Media to Set-top Boxes Compared to the '992 Patent Claim 41:

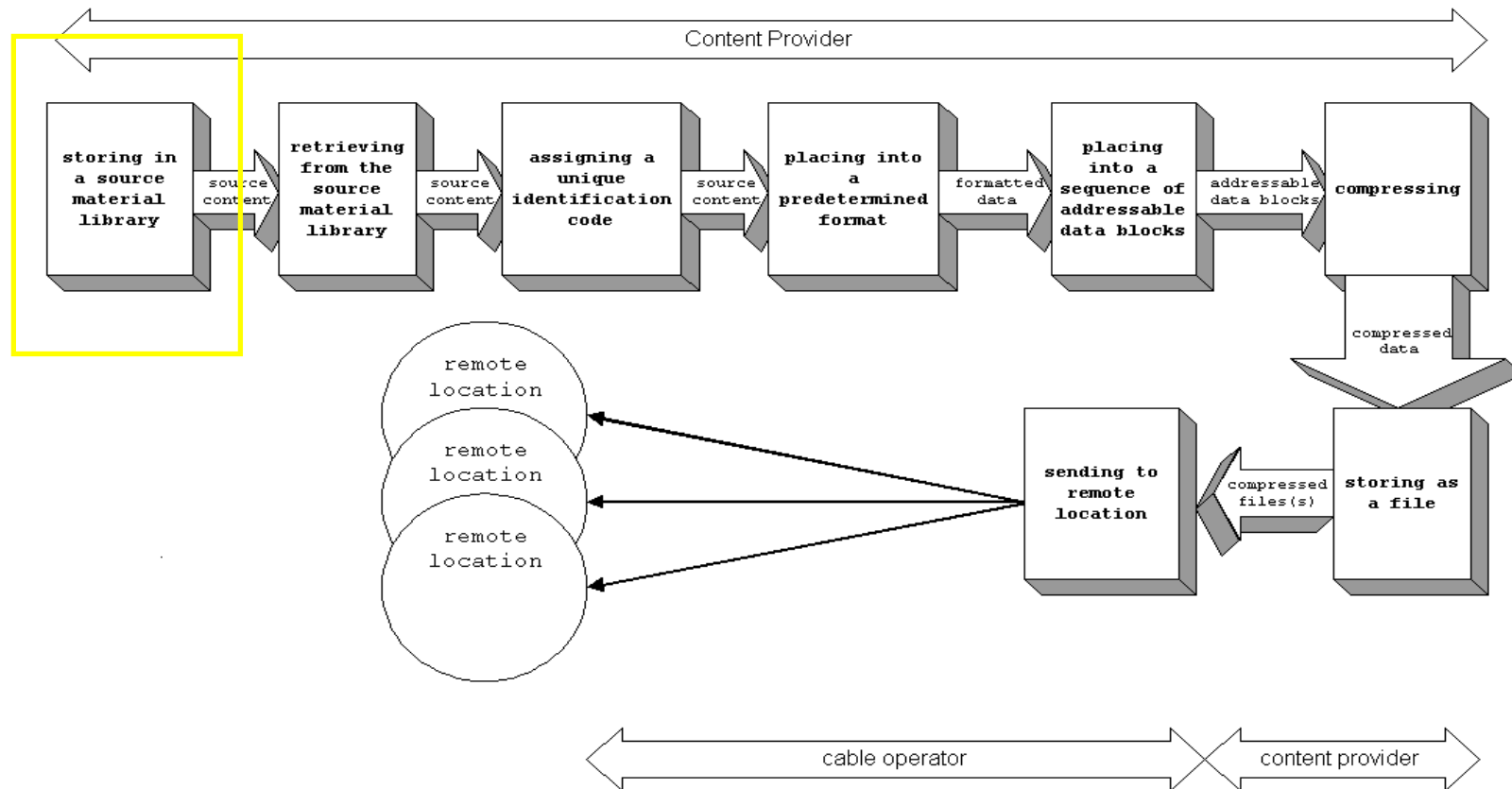
A method of transmitting information to remote locations, the transmission method comprising the steps, performed by a transmission system, of:



A cable system delivering media (e.g., movies, television shows) via video-on-demand or pay-per-view to set-top boxes and a cable system broadcasting prerecorded digital content (e.g., HBO, Showtime) in a digital or analog format to set-top boxes are examples of a method of transmitting information to remote locations.

Cable Systems Transmitting Media to Set-top Boxes Compared to the '992 Patent Claim 41:

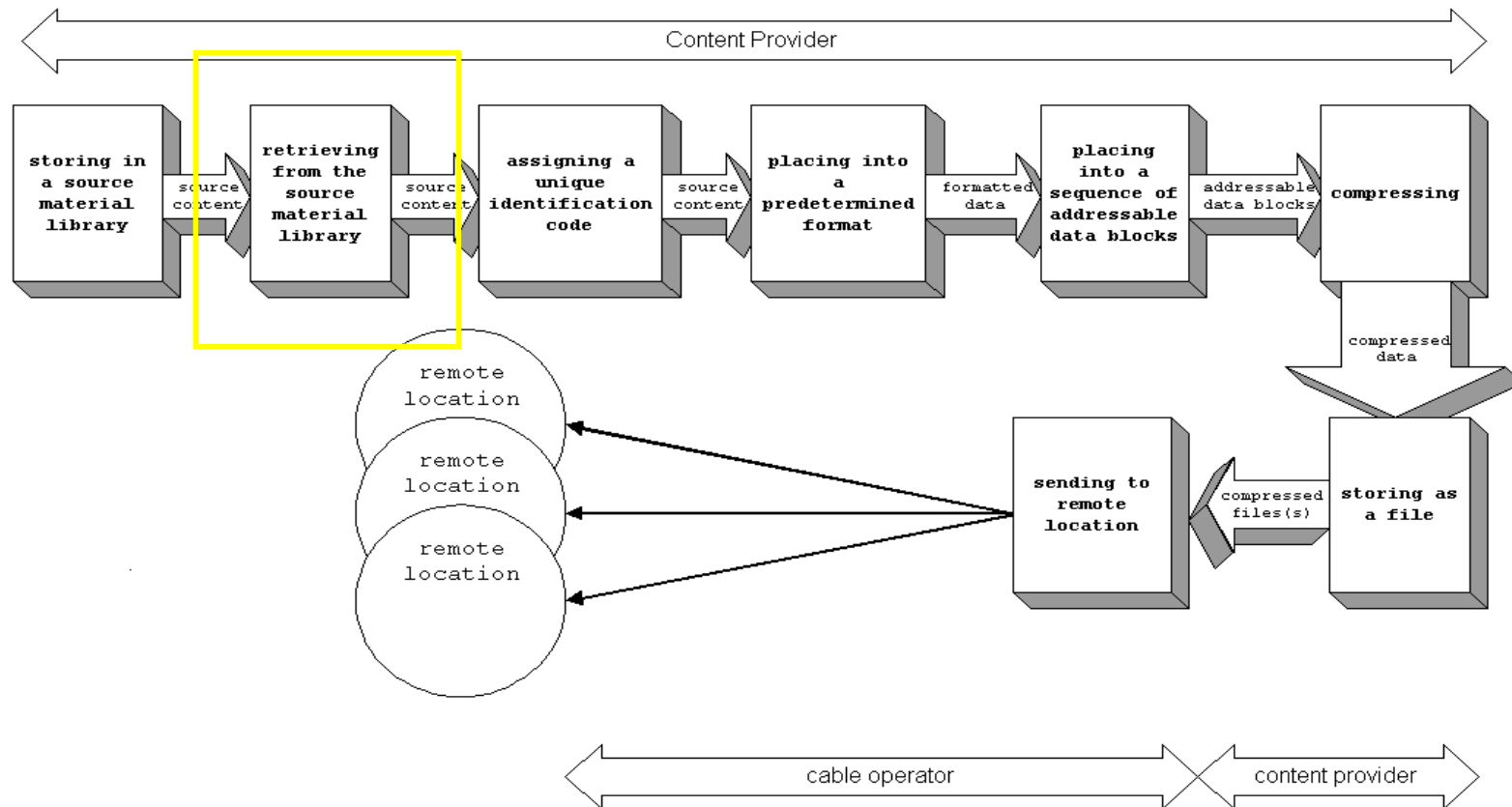
storing items having information in a source material library;



Physical media, such as a videotape, is received by a content provider acting on behalf of the cable company. The media is received by the content provider receiving department, logged in as received, and placed in the received media storage library. Receiving physical media into the media storage library is an example of storing material in a source material library.

Cable Systems Transmitting Media to Set-top Boxes Compared to the '992 Patent Claim 41:

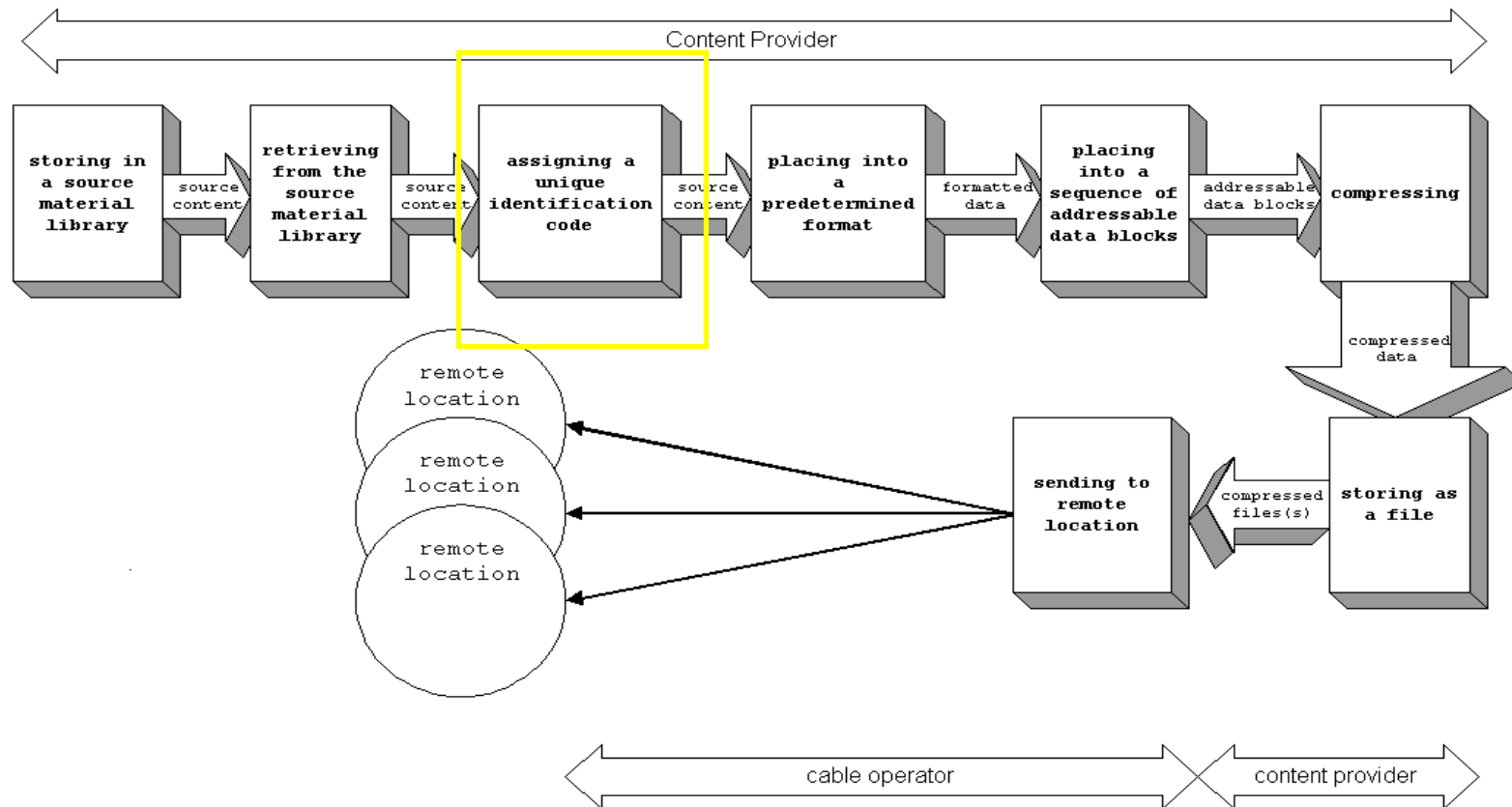
retrieving the information in the items from the source material library;



The physical media is digitized and compressed prior to distribution to subscribers. A tape operator(s) retrieves physical media from the library to be encoded. The tape operator(s) retrieving the media from the library is an example of retrieving the information in the items from the source material library.

Cable Systems Transmitting Media to Set-top Boxes Compared to the '992 Patent Claim 41:

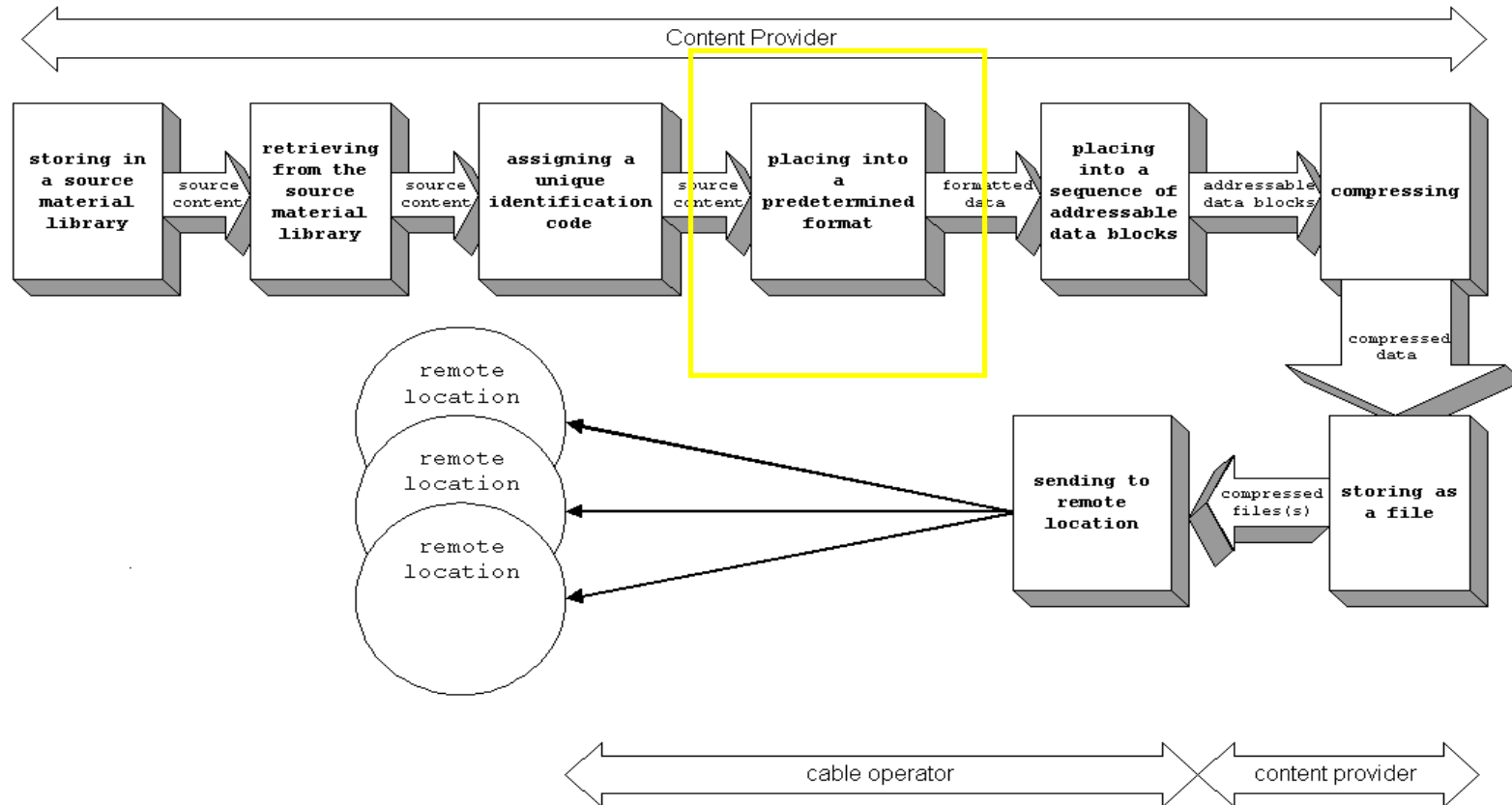
assigning a unique identification code to the retrieved information;



A unique file name will be assigned to identify the encoded media on a server after it has been encoded. This is an example of assigning a unique identification code to the retrieved information.

Cable Systems Transmitting Media to Set-top Boxes Compared to the '992 Patent Claim 41:

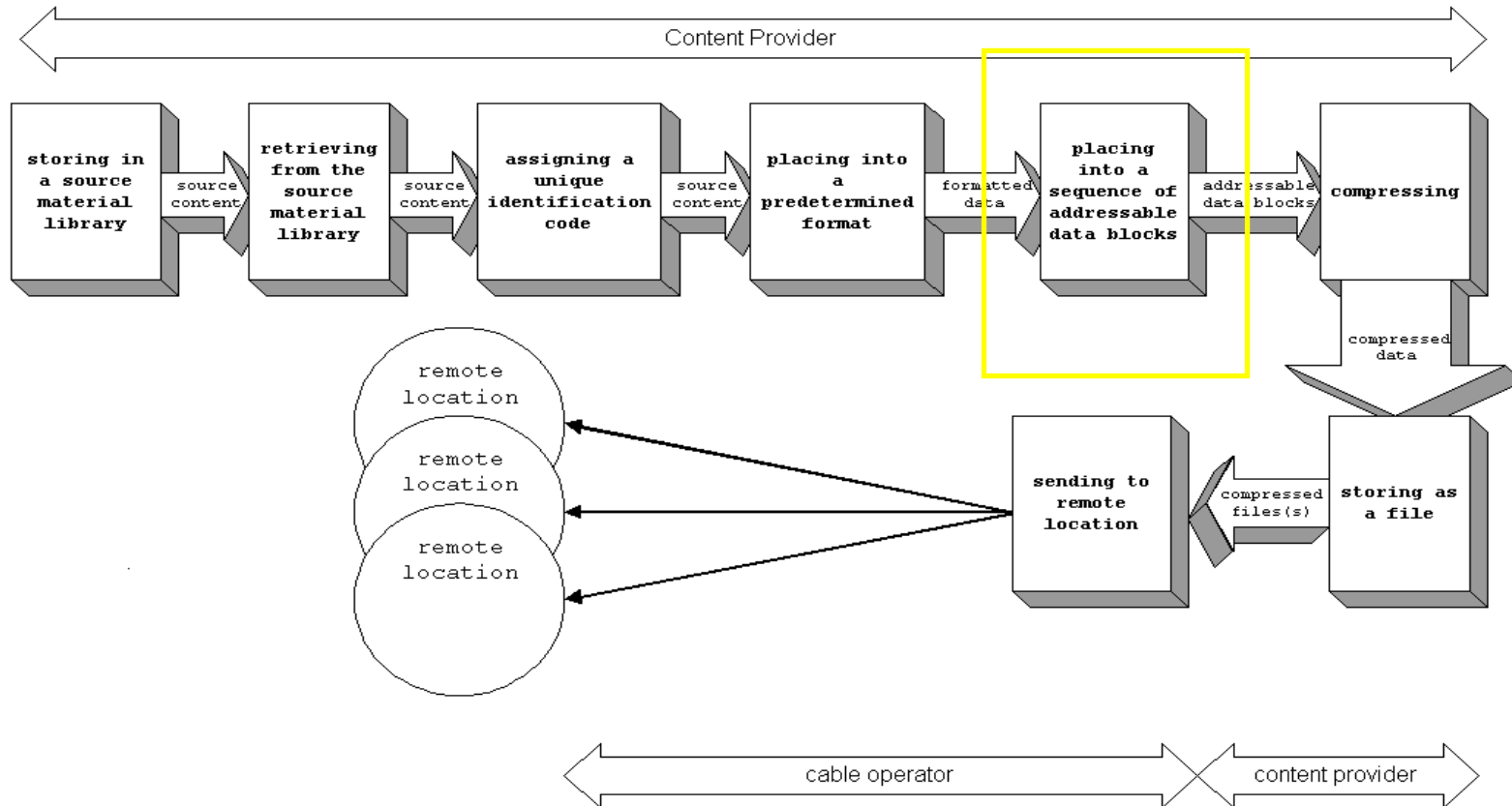
placing the retrieved information into a predetermined format as formatted data;



Physical media (e.g., a videotape) is placed in a tape player (i.e., an input receiver) where it is output from the player in either a digital or analog form. If in an analog form, the signal is applied to an analog input and converted to a standard digital format (such as an "AVI" file format) in an analog-digital converter. If in a digital form, the signal is input to a digital formatter and converted to a predetermined format (such as an "AVI" file format). This is an example of placing the retrieved information into a predetermined format as formatted data.

Cable Systems Transmitting Media to Set-top Boxes Compared to the '992 Patent Claim 41:

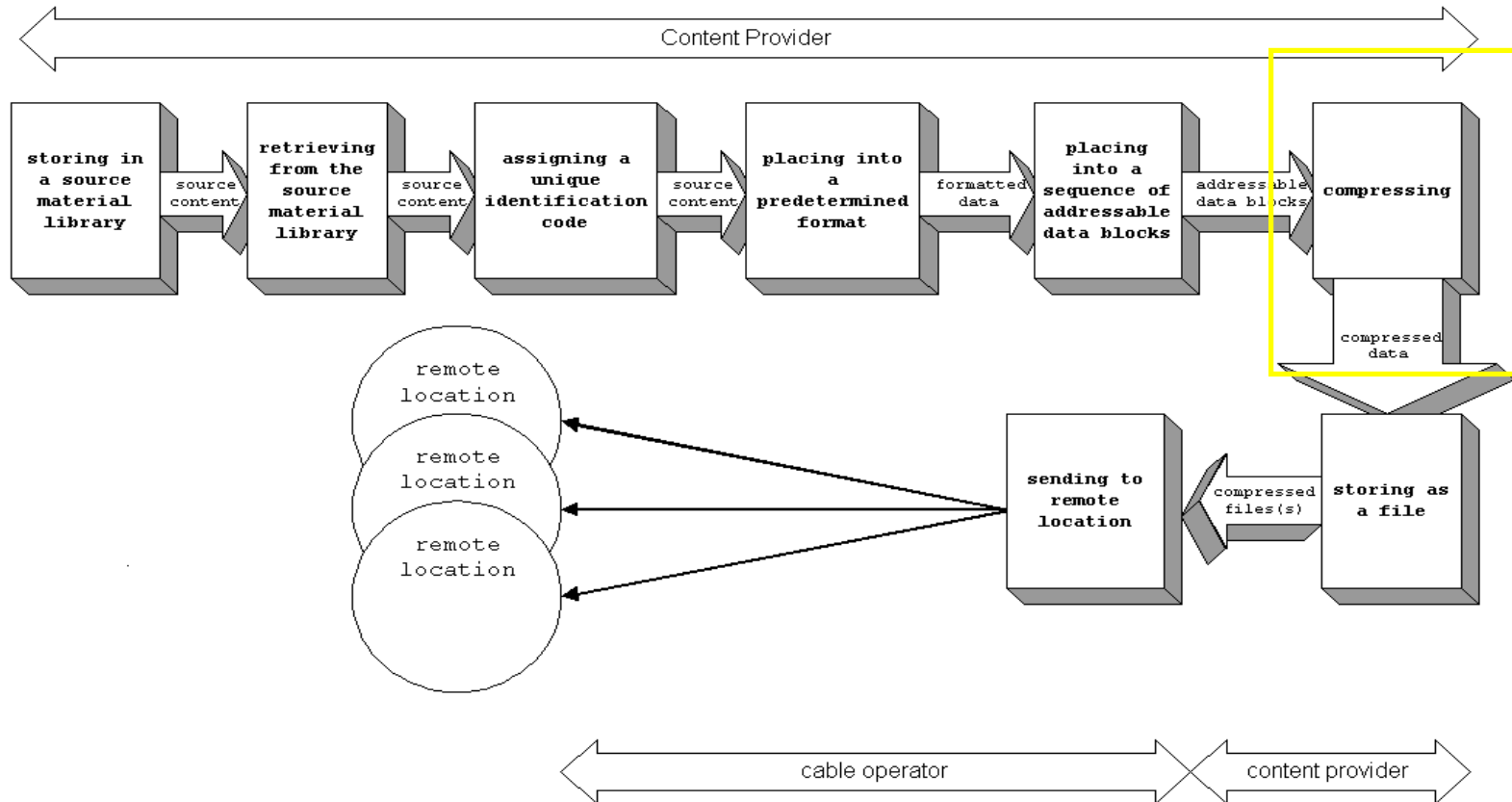
placing the formatted data into a sequence of addressable data blocks;



Video encoding methods organize frames into sequences of frames (data blocks) prior to compression. These frames are compressed and assigned relative time markers so that they are addressable by presentation time. Organizing the frames into sequences and assigning relative time markers is an example of placing the formatted data into a sequence of addressable data blocks.

Cable Systems Transmitting Media to Set-top Boxes Compared to the '992 Patent Claim 41:

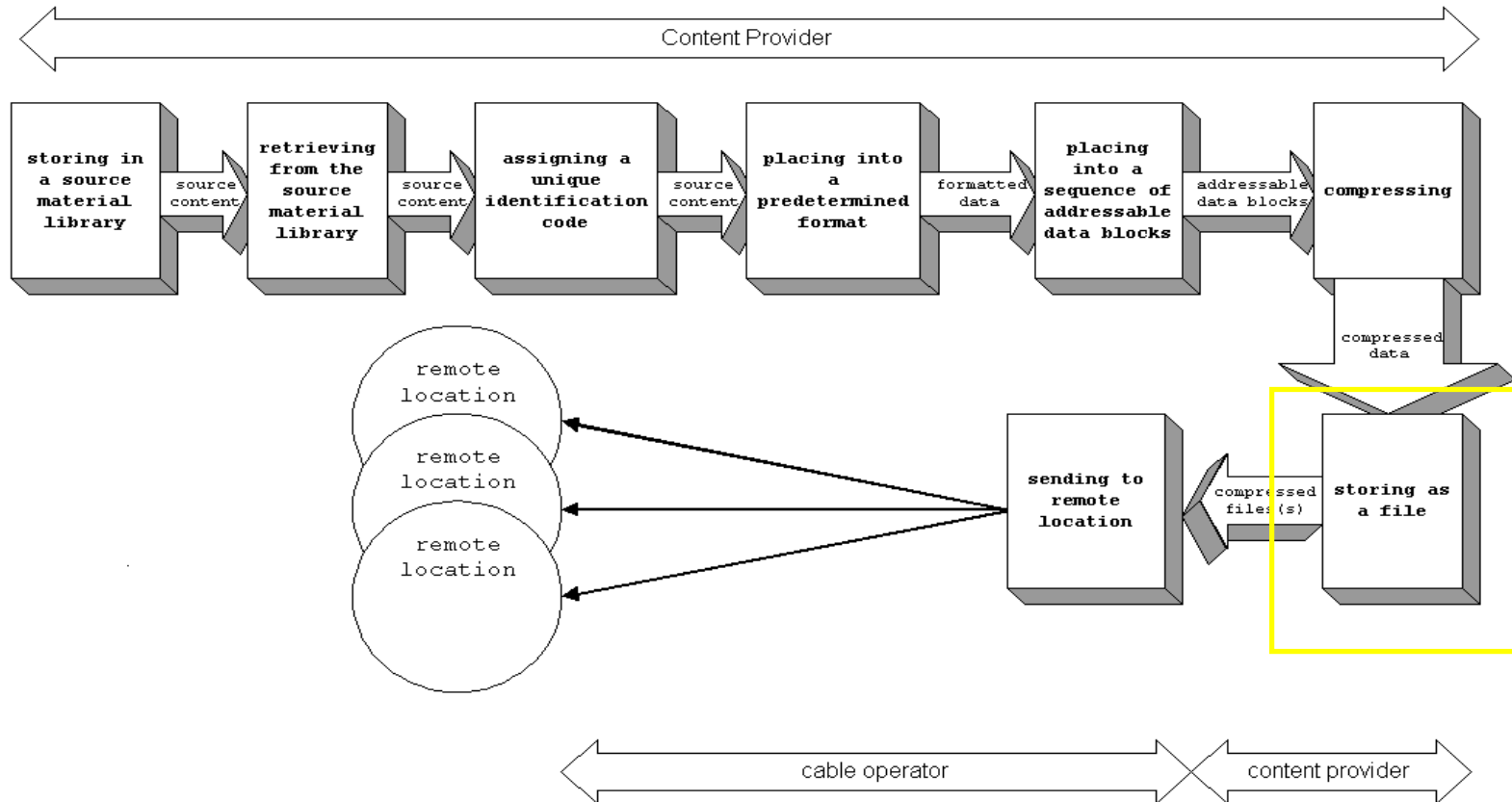
compressing the formatted and sequenced data blocks;



Video encoders, such as MPEG-2 encoders, compress video by operating on individual video frames and sequences of video frames. Using MPEG-2 encoders is an example of compressing the formatted and sequenced data blocks.

Cable Systems Transmitting Media to Set-top Boxes Compared to the '992 Patent Claim 41:

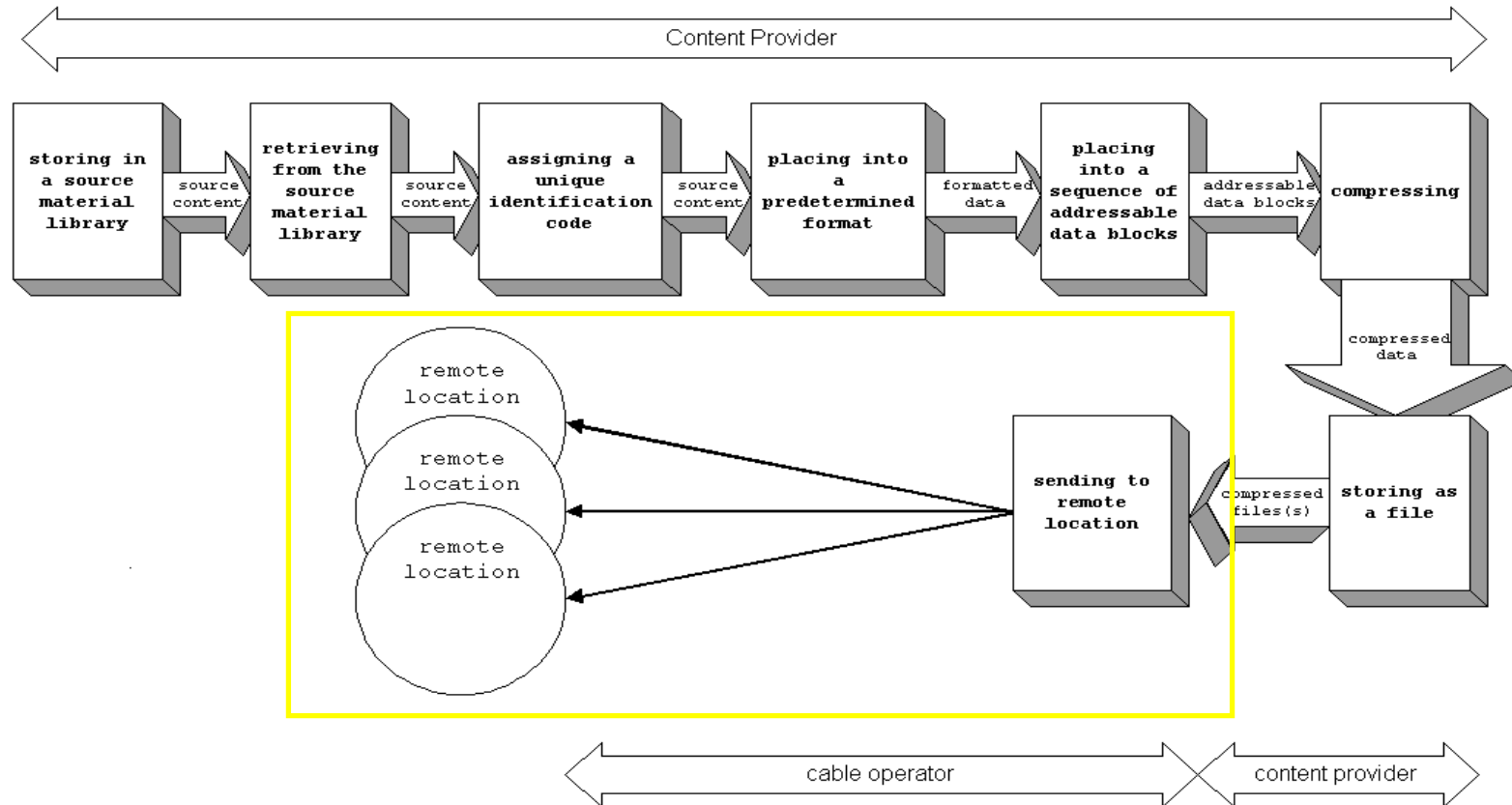
storing, as a file, the compressed, formatted, and sequenced data blocks with the assigned unique identification code; and



Once compressed, media is stored as files on a server.

Cable Systems Transmitting Media to Set-top Boxes Compared to the '992 Patent Claim 41:

sending at least a portion of the file to one of the remote locations.



Media is transmitted as files from the content provider to the cable operator via satellite or terrestrially. Once at the cable headend, the cable operator uses the cable plant to transmit the media (either in an MPEG-2 format or an analog format) to the subscribers' set-top box. This is an example of sending at least a portion of the file to one of the remote locations.