Process for marking a multimedia document, such as an image, by generating a mark

Method of marking a multi-media document $I_{\text{orig}}$ by generating a mark from said document and a marking image $I_{\text{inf,0}}$, comprising the following steps:

- decomposing the initial document $I_{\text{orig}}$ according to a lossy approximation method;
- determining a reference image $I_{\text{ref}}$;
- point-by-point subtracting the initial document $I_{\text{orig}}$ and the reference image $I_{\text{ref}}$, and according to at least one vector representative of the image in order to produce a support image $I_s$;
- formatting the marking image $I_{\text{inf,0}}$ so as to obtain an image $I_{\text{inf}}$ of the same size as the support image $I_s$ by pre-introducing at least one level of redundancy;
- point-by-point combining the marking image $I_{\text{inf,0}}$ formatted beforehand, with the support image so as to generate a mark or a signature which can be, according to the case, either filed, or internally reintroduced into the initial document $I_{\text{orig}}$.

The combining of image $I_{\text{inf}}$ and support image $I_s$ produces a compact-sized mark which can be either stored or reintegrated within the document itself.

Fig. 1