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(71) Applicant *(for all designated States except US)*: **TAO GROUP LIMITED** [GB/GB]: 62/63 Suttons Business Park, Earley, Reading RG6 1AZ (GB).

(72) Inventor; and

(75) Inventor/Applicant *(for US only)*: **GEIRINGER, Felix, Egmont** [GB/GB]; 33 Regent Street, Oxford OX4 1DX (GB).

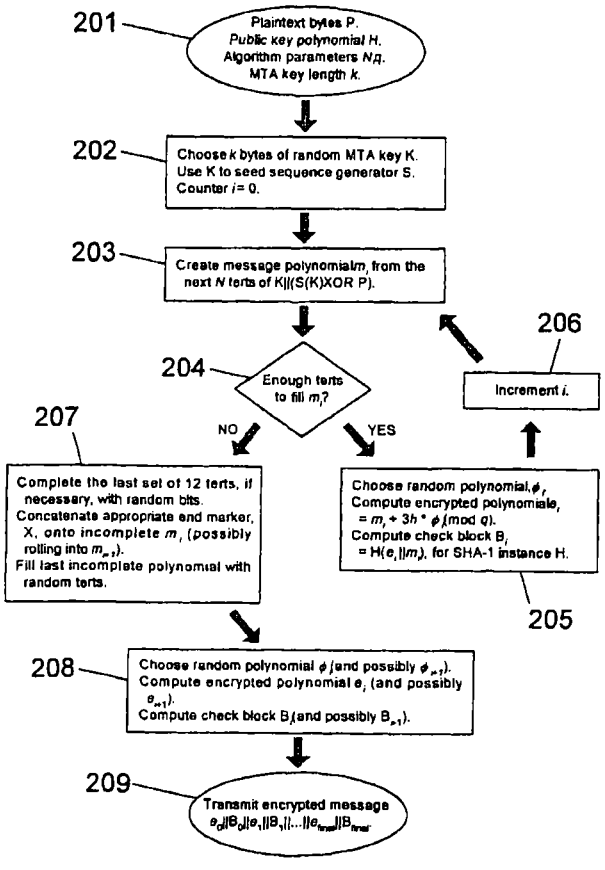
(74) Agents: **MAGGS, Michael, Norman** et al.; Kilburn & Strode, 20 Red Lion Street, London WC1R 4PJ (GB).

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(54) Title: END OF MESSAGE MARKERS



(57) Abstract: A method of identifying the end of a digital message, for example within a cryptosystem, uses a conversion function to convert a first string which includes the message into a second string. The first string is of a different base from the second, and the bases are chosen so that the entirety of the available space in the second string is not made use of by the conversion function. An end of message marker, which defines the position of the end element of the message within the first string, is chosen from that portion of the available space which is inaccessible to the conversion function, and the marker is then appended to the second string. The entire string may then be encrypted and sent to a recipient. The recipient uses an inverse function to locate the end of message marker and, from that, the position of the end element of the message.

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