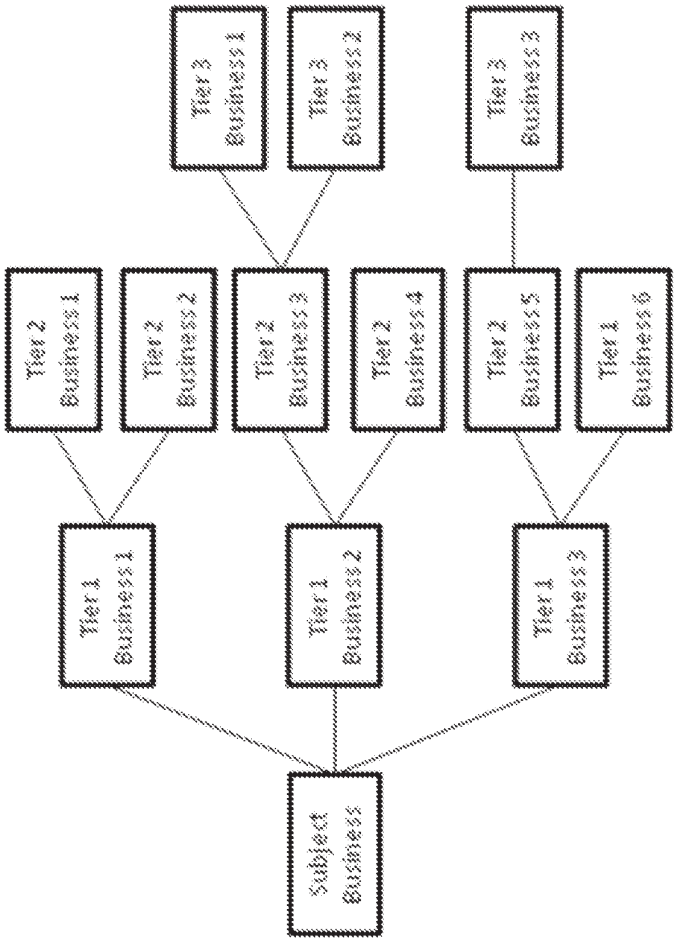

Tier 3 Business 1
Tier 3 Business 2
Tier 3 Business 3
Tier 2 Business 1
Tier 2 Business 2
Tier 2 Business 3
Tier 2 Business 4
Tier 2 Business 5
Tier 1 Business 6
Tier 1 Business 1
Tier 1 Business 2
Tier 1 Business 3
Subject Business

FIG. 1

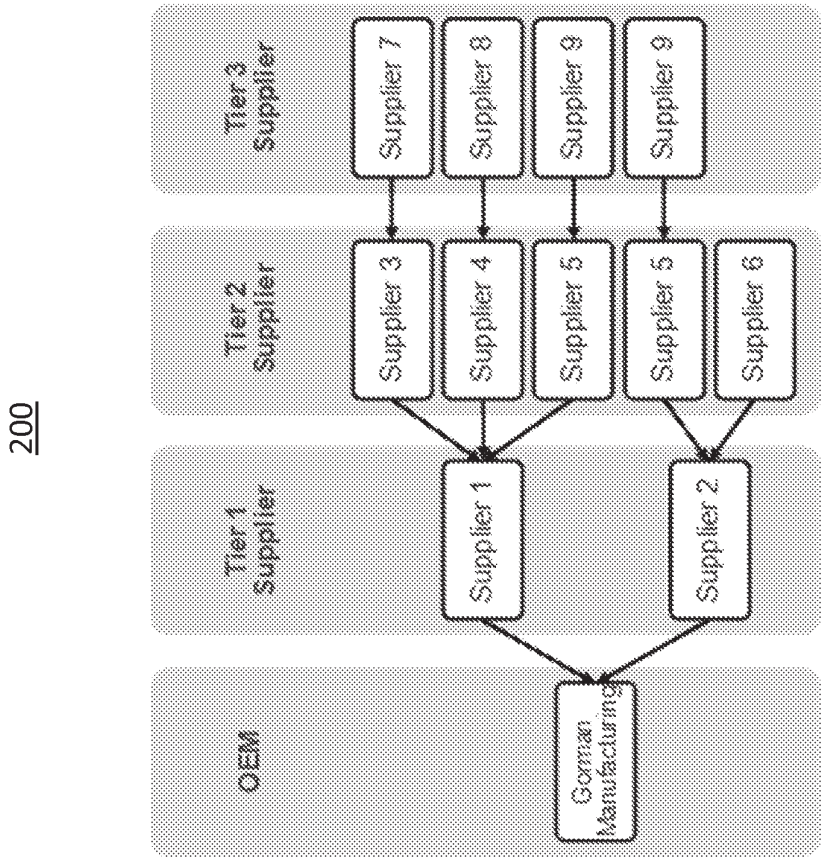

200
OEM
German Manufacturing
Tier 1 Supplier
Supplier 1
Supplier 2
Tier 2 Supplier
Supplier 3
Supplier 4
Supplier 5
Supplier 5
Supplier 6
Tier 3 Supplier
Supplier 7
Supplier 8
Supplier 9
Supplier 9

FIG. 2

TABLE 3
Calculation of Within Tier Indexes for Supplier 1

Tier 1	SER of entity in Tier 1	SER of entities in Tier 2	Industry Tier 2	CF of entities in Tier 2	SER of entities in Tier 3	Industry Tier 3	CF of entities in Tier 3
Supplier 1	2	5	Manufacturing	1.5	1	Manufacturing	1.5
		3	Finance	0.5	6	Services	1
		8	Wholesales	1	4	Telecom	0.5
Within Tier Index: 2		Within Tier Index: 5.7 =(5*1.5+3*0.5+8*1)/(1.5+0.5+1)			Within Tier Index: 3.2 =(1*1.5+6*1+4*0.5)/(1.5+1+0.5)		

FIG. 3

TABLE 4

Calculation of SCRI for Supplier 1

Tier 1	SER of entity in Tier 1	SCRI
Supplier 1	2	3.1 = 2*0.6+5.7*0.25+3.2*0.15

FIG. 4

TABLE 5
Calculation of Within Tier Indexes for Supplier 2

Tier 1	SER of entity in Tier 1	SER of entities in Tier 2	Industry Tier 2	CF of entities in Tier 2	SER of entities in Tier 3	Industry Tier 3	CF of entities in Tier 3
Supplier 2	2	8	Wholesales	1	4	Telecom	0.5
		1	Manufacturing	1.5			
Within Tier Index: 2		Within Tier Index: 3.8 =(8*1+1*1.5)/(1+1.5)			Within Tier Index: 4		

FIG. 5

TABLE 6
Calculation of SCRI for Supplier 2

Tier 1	SER of entity in Tier 1	SCRI
Supplier 2	2	2.8 = 2*0.6+3.8*0.25+4*0.15

FIG. 6

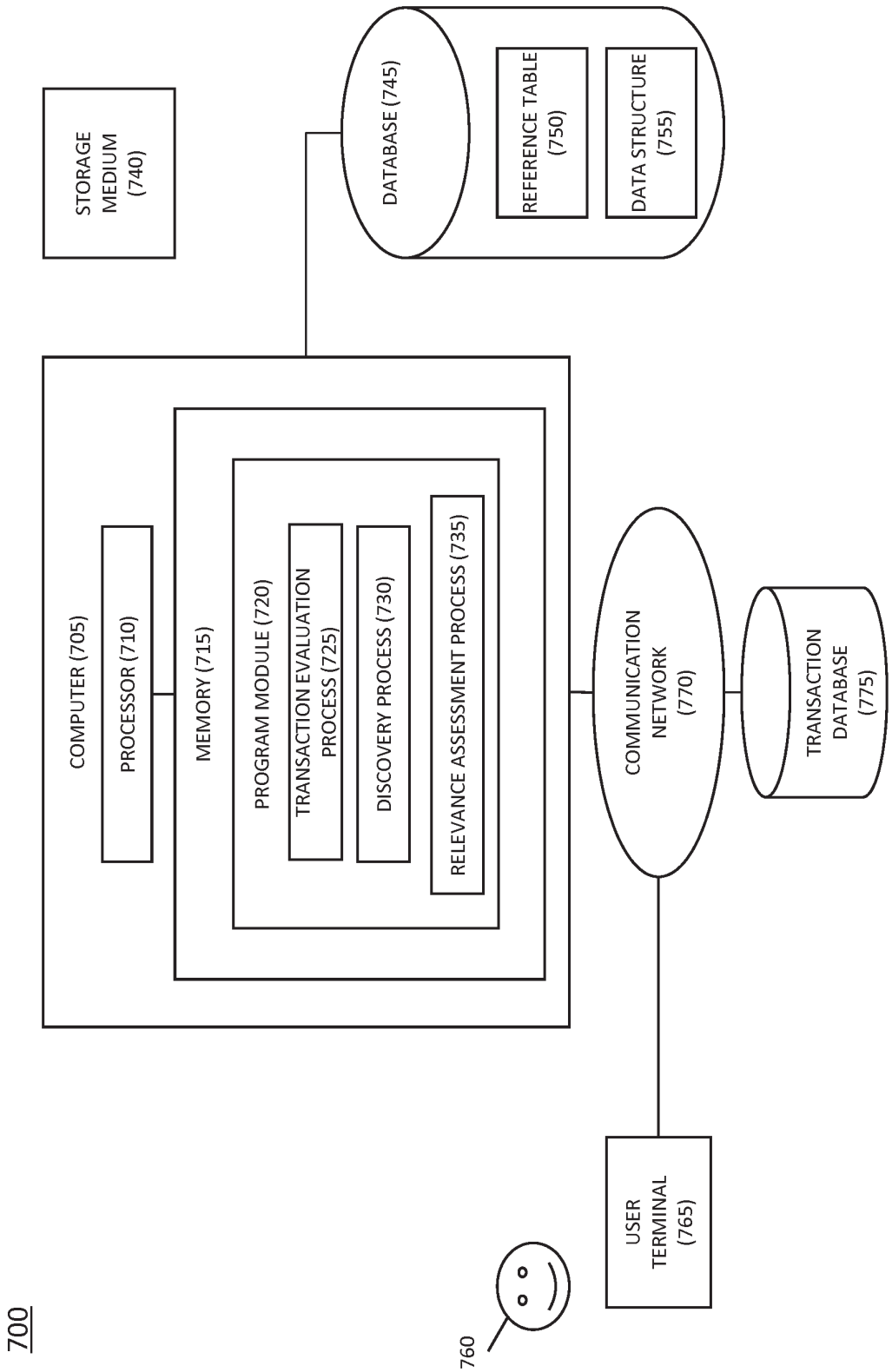

700
760
USER TERMINAL (765)
COMMUNICATION NETWORK (770)
TRANSACTION DATABASE (775)
COMPUTER (705)
PROCESSOR (710)
MEMORY (715)
PROGRAM MODULE (720)
TRANSACTION EVALUATION PROCESS (725)
DISCOVERY PROCESS (730)
RELEVANCE ASSESSMENT PROCESS (735)
STORAGE MEDIUM (740)
DATABASE (745)
REFERENCE TABLE (750)
DATA STRUCTURE (755)

FIG. 7

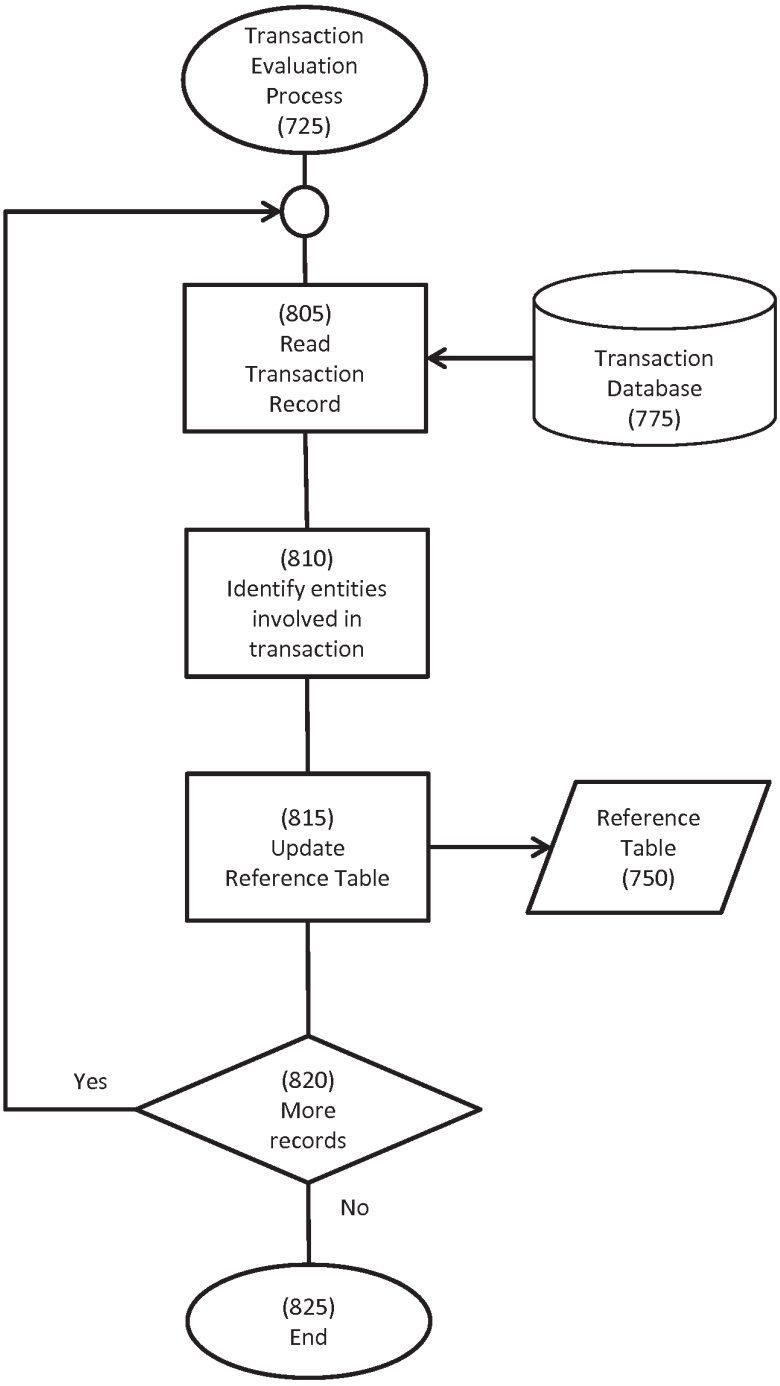

Transaction Evaluation Process (725)
(805) Read Transaction Record
Transaction Database (775)
(810) Identify entities involved in transaction
(815) Update Reference Table
Reference Table (750)
(820) More records
Yes
No
(825) End

FIG. 8

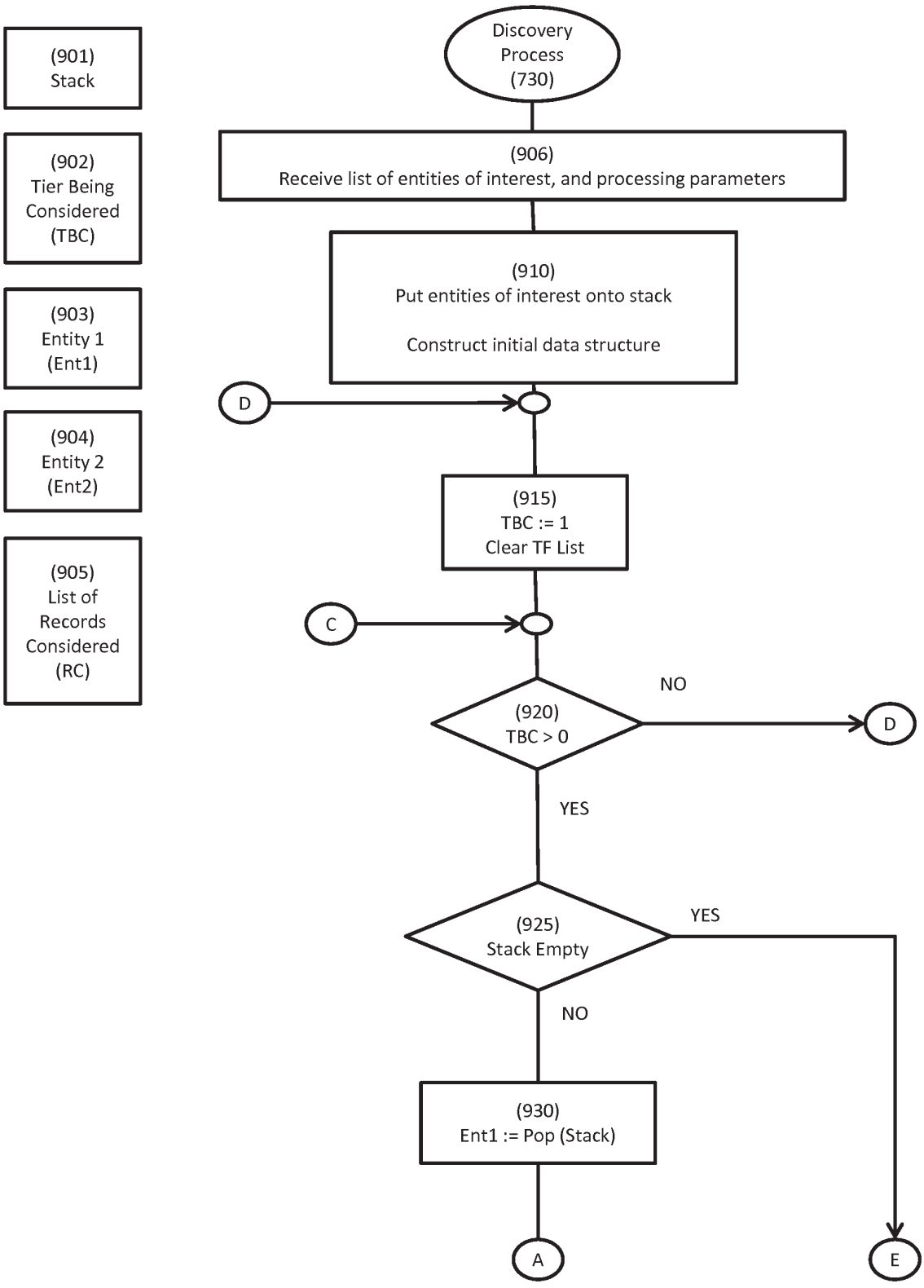

(901)
Stack
(902)
Tier Being
Considered
(TBC)
(903)
Entity 1
(Ent1)
(904)
Entity 2
(Ent2)
(905)
List of
Records
Considered
(RC)
Discovery
Process
(730)
(906)
Receive list of entities of interest, and processing parameters
(910)
Put entities of interest onto stack
Construct initial data structure
D
(915)
TBC := 1
Clear TF List
C
(920)
TBC > 0
NO
D
YES
(925)
Stack Empty
YES
NO
(930)
Ent1 := Pop (Stack)
A
E

FIG. 9A

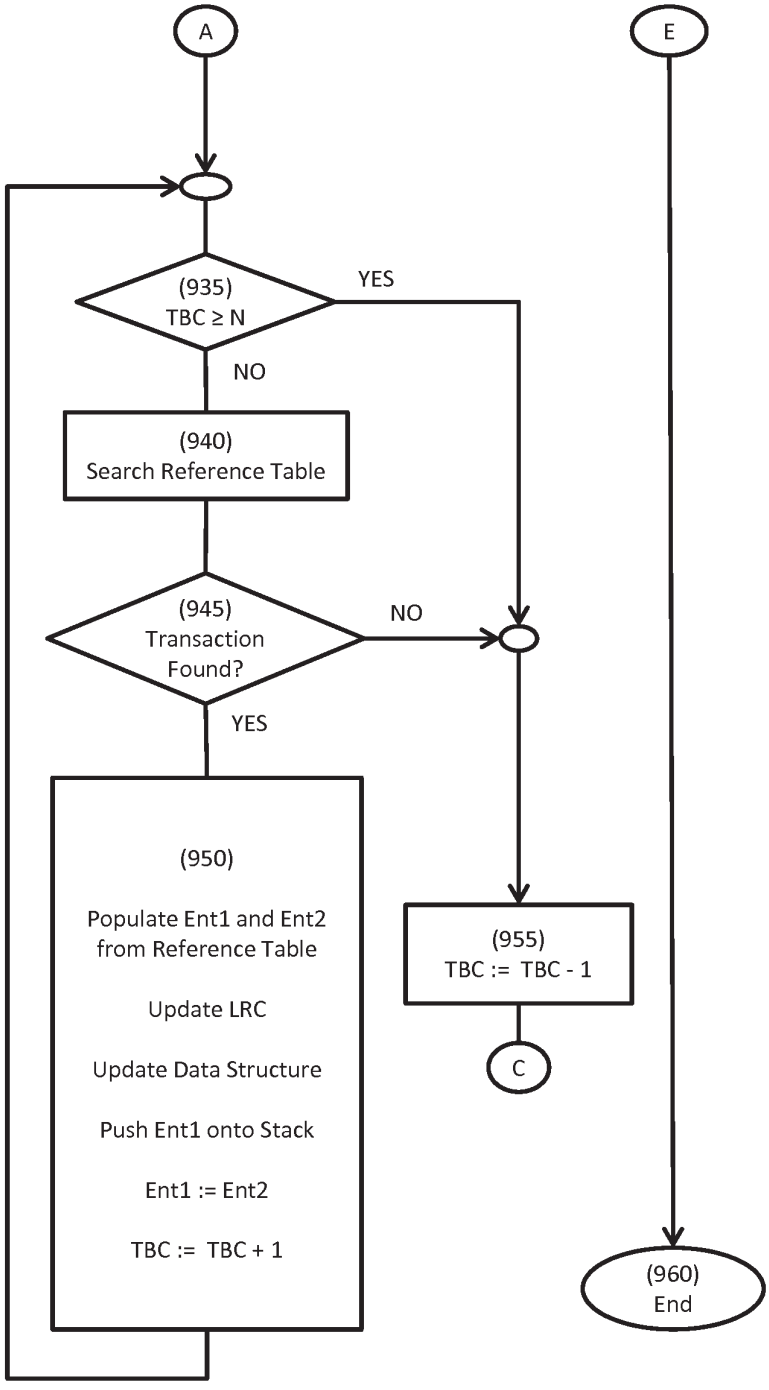

A
E
(935)
TBC ≥ N
YES
NO
(940)
Search Reference Table
(945)
Transaction
Found?
NO
YES
(950)
Populate Ent1 and Ent2
from Reference Table
Update LRC
Update Data Structure
Push Ent1 onto Stack
Ent1 := Ent2
TBC := TBC + 1
(955)
TBC := TBC - 1
C
(960)
End

FIG. 9B

STATE TABLE 1000

N = 3

State	Stack 901	TBC 902	Ent1 903	Ent2 904	Structure 755	LRC 905
1001	S2, S1	x	x	x	FIG. 11A	x
1002	S2, S1	1	x	x	FIG. 11A	0
1003	S2	1	S1	x	FIG. 11A	0
1004	S2, S1	2	S3	S3	FIG. 11B	1
1005	S2, S1, S3	3	S7	S7	FIG. 11C	1, 6
1006	S2, S1, S3	2	S7	S7	FIG. 11C	1, 6
1007	S2, S1	2	S3	S7	FIG. 11C	1, 6
1008	S2, S1	1	S3	S7	FIG. 11C	1, 6

FIG. 10

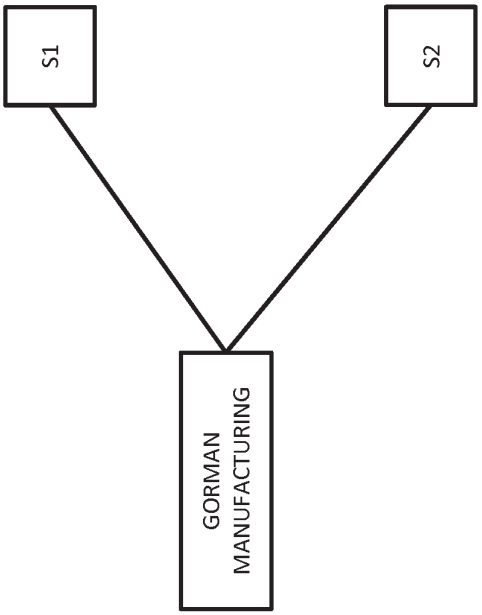


FIG. 11A

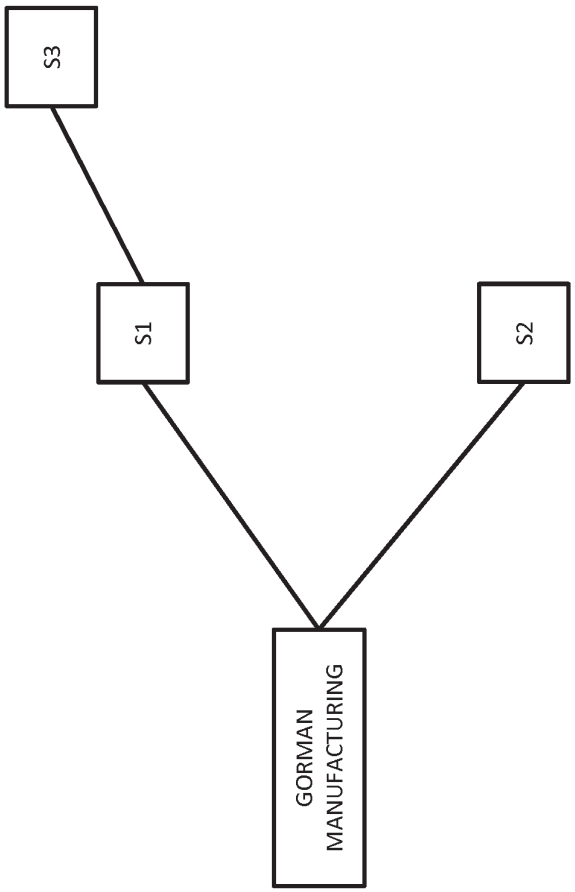


FIG. 11B

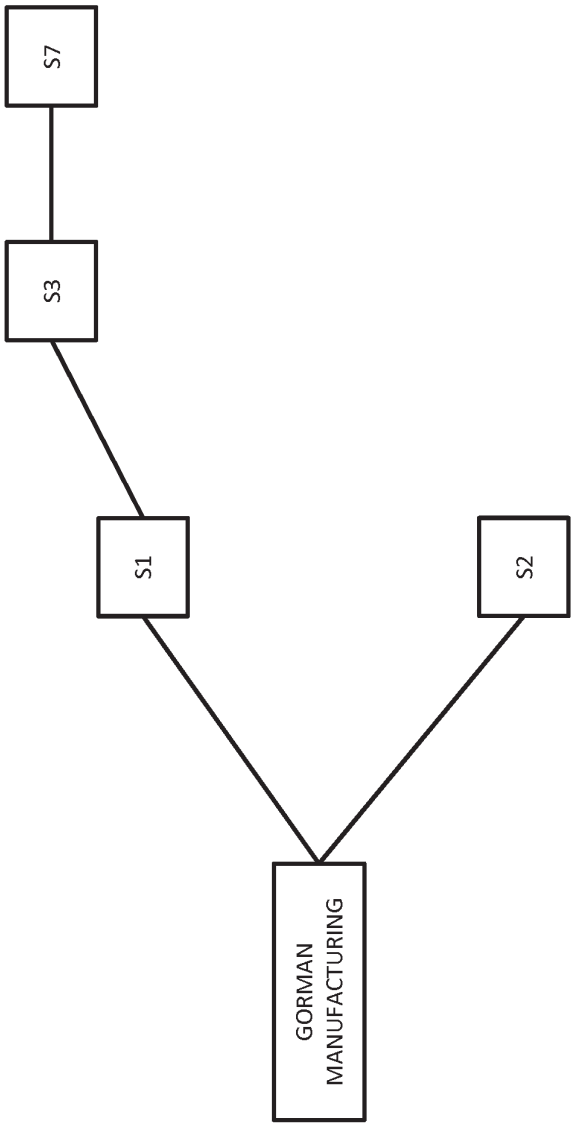


FIG. 11C

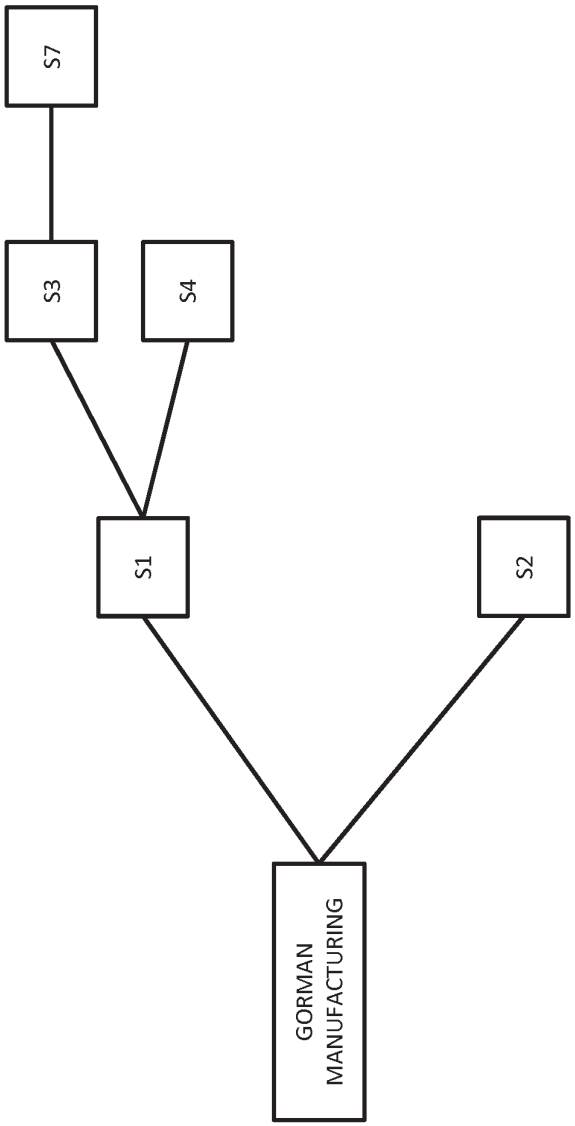


FIG. 11D

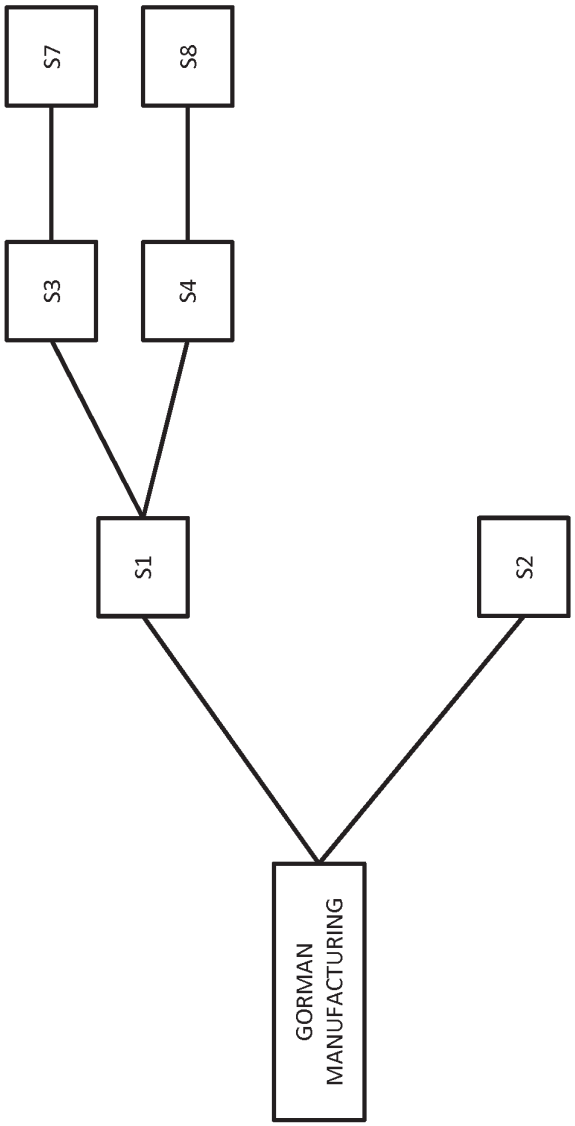


FIG. 11E

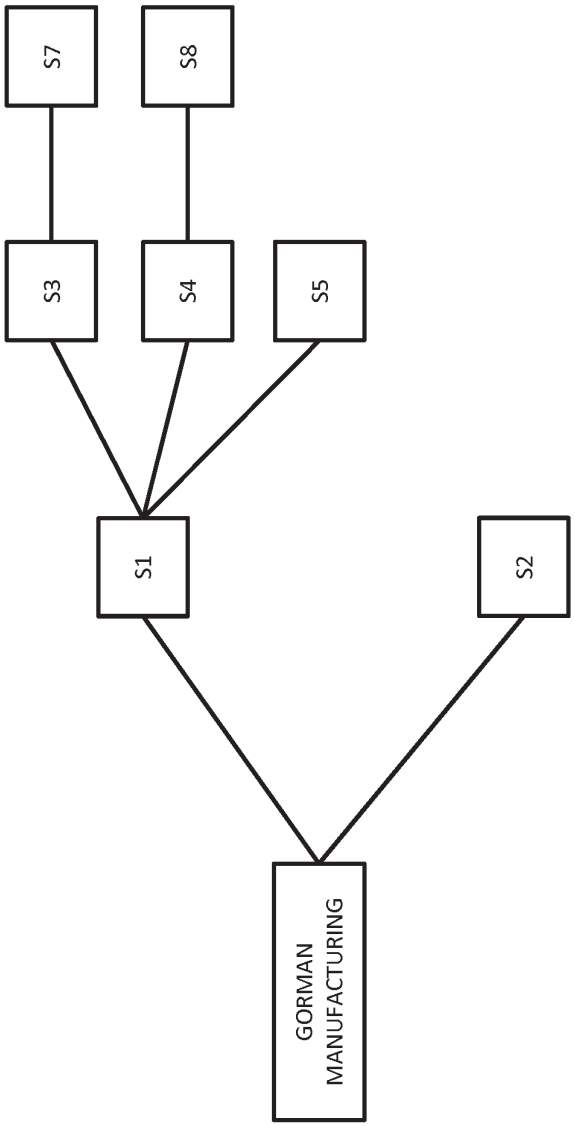


FIG. 11F

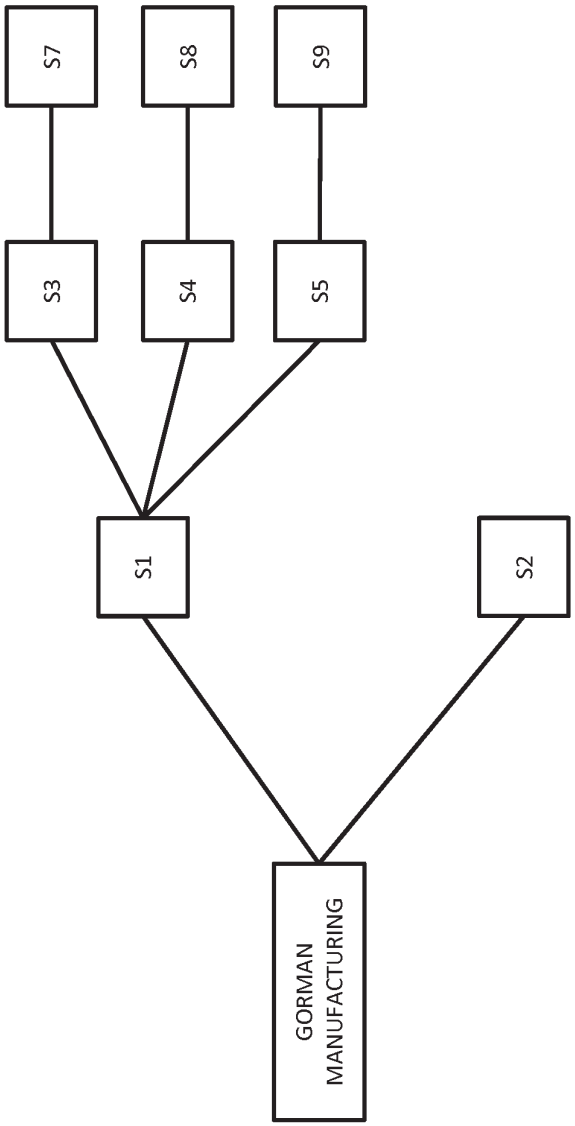


FIG. 11G

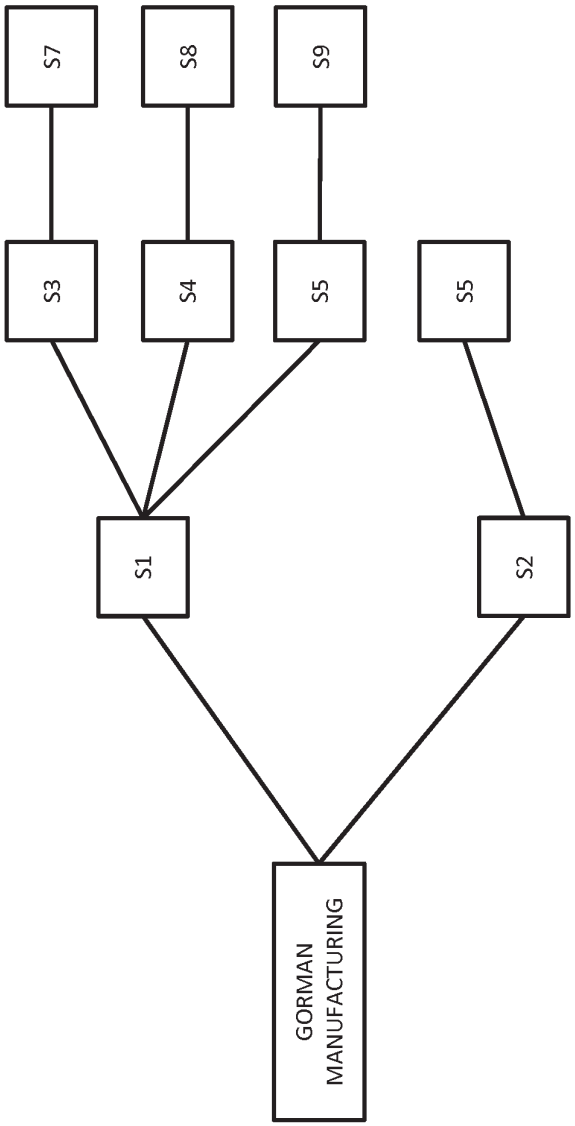


FIG. 11H

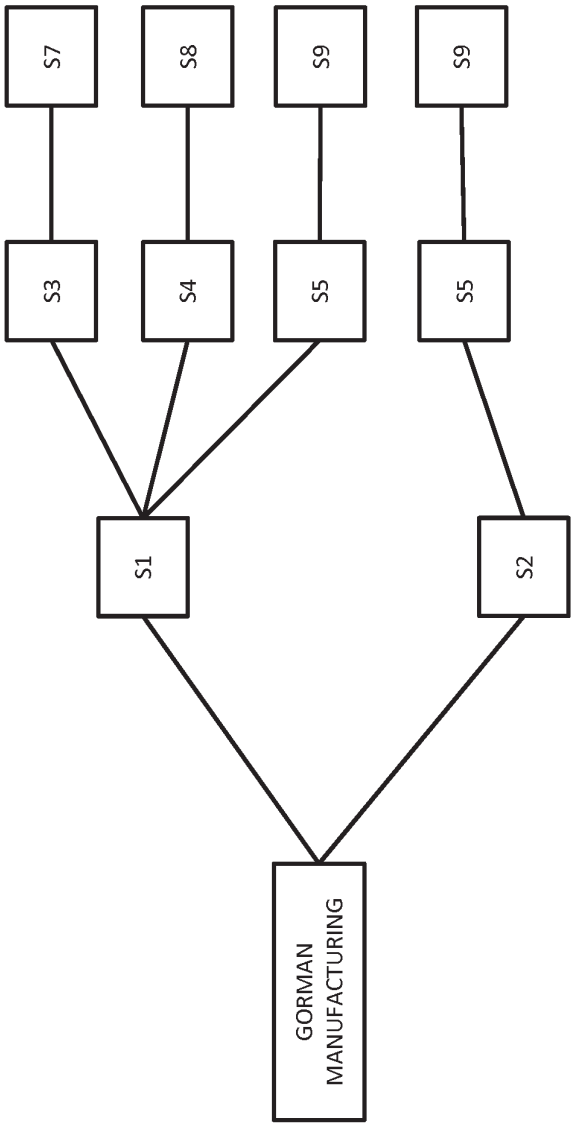


FIG. 11I

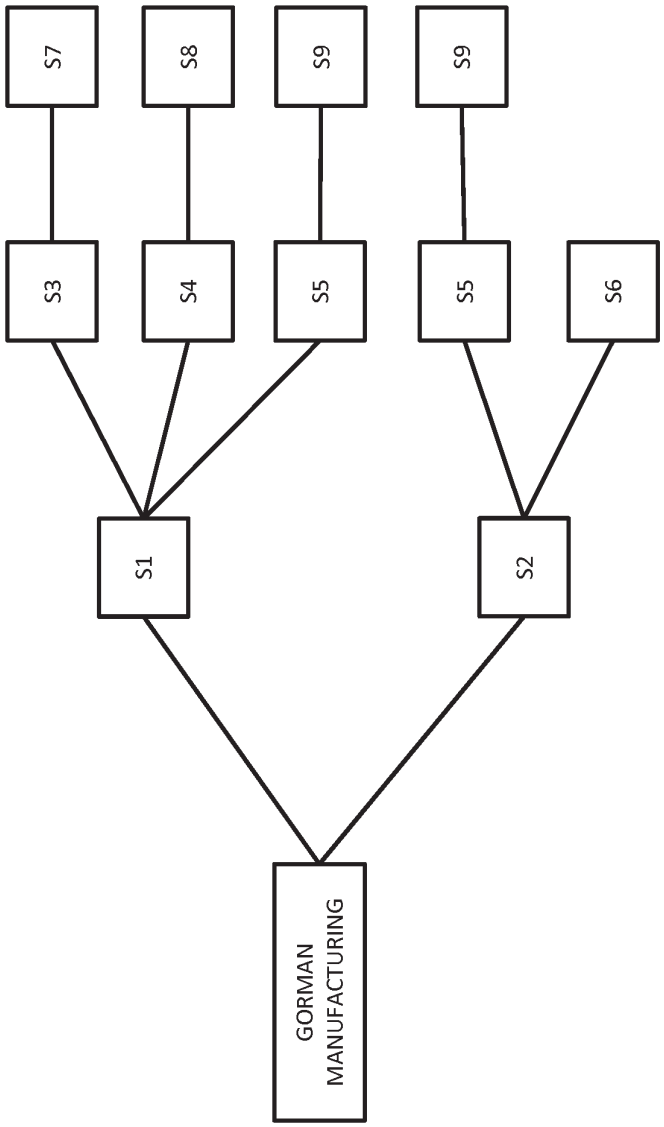


FIG. 11J