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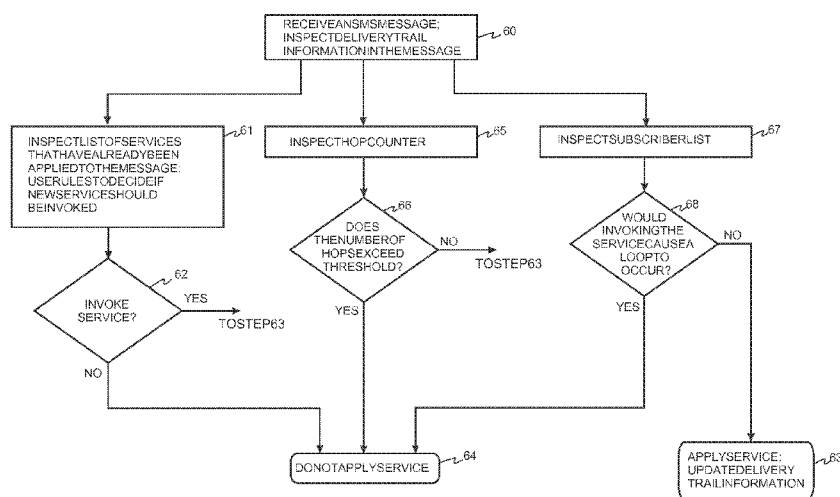


Fig. 4

(57) Abstract: A message service entity of a first mobile operator network receives an SMS message and inspects delivery trail information associated with the received message. The message service entity controls invocation of a message-handling service for the received message based on the inspected delivery trail information. The delivery trail information can be carried with the message and the step of inspecting delivery trail information associated with the received message can comprise inspecting the delivery trail information carried with the message. Alternatively, the message service entity stores delivery trail information for messages previously processed by the message service entity, and the step of inspecting delivery trail information associated with the received message comprises using an identifier in the received message, or derived from the received message, to access the stored delivery trail information.