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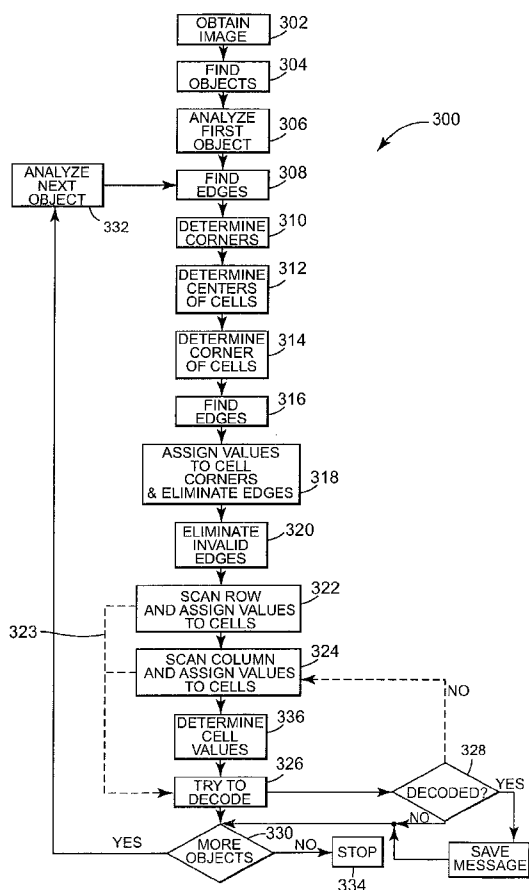
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(54) Title: METHOD FOR READING A SYMBOL HAVING ENCODED INFORMATION



(57) Abstract: Methods and apparatuses are provided for imaging and decoding symbols such as two-dimensional relief formed symbols and in particular, symbols wherein one or more edges of any number of data cells within the symbols are at least partially discernable. In one aspect of the present invention a symbol image based on a relief pattern, which represents encoded information and includes at least one discernable edge can be determined. Generally, determining an edge (308) of the relief pattern and validating the determined edge (320) by performing an edge analysis of the determined edge can determine (326) the symbol image. A data cell of the symbol image, which at least partially represents information encoded in the relief pattern, can be determined so that the symbol image can be decoded to provide the information encoded within the relief pattern.

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