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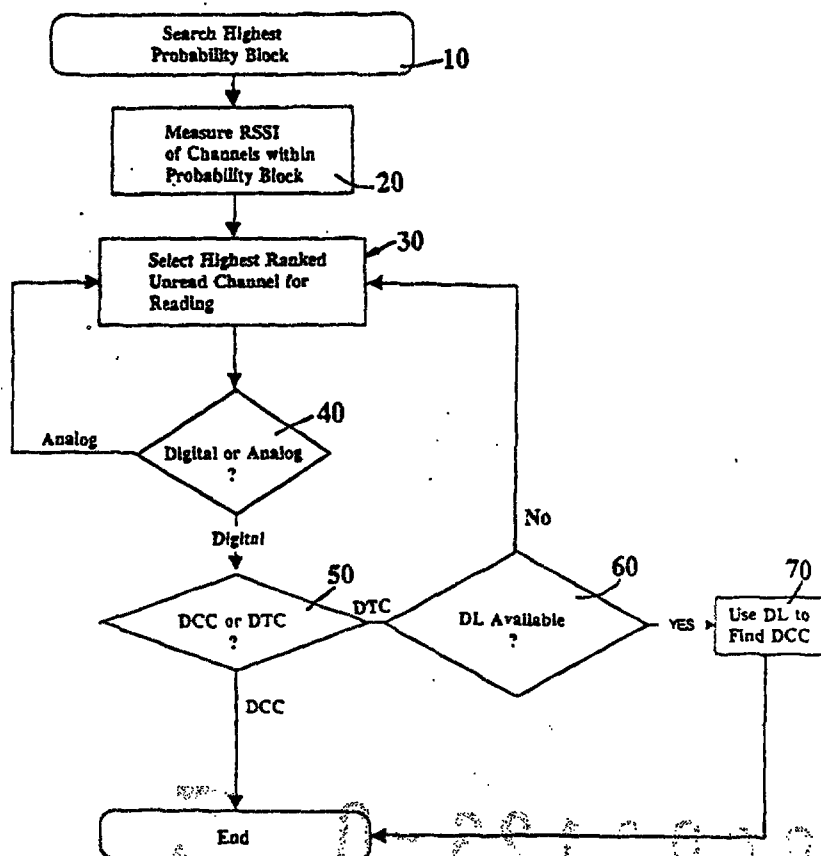
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(54) Title: A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR LOCATING A DIGITAL CONTROL CHANNEL IN A RADIOCOMMUNICATION SYSTEM

(57) Abstract

A method and system for locating control channels (70), particularly digital control channels are described. By grouping the channels which are candidates for carrying supervisory messages in blocks indicative of their relative likelihood for being used as control channels, a mobile station can begin its search for a control channel with channels which are most likely to actually be control channels. Placing location information on other channels allows the mobile station (120) to be redirected to a control channel when it reads one of these other channels. Similarly, by placing information describing the location of a control channel in a message associated with handoff, a mobile station avoids the necessity of having to relocate a new control channel associated with the base station to which the mobile has been handed off.



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