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(54) Title: TAMPER DETECTION SYSTEM

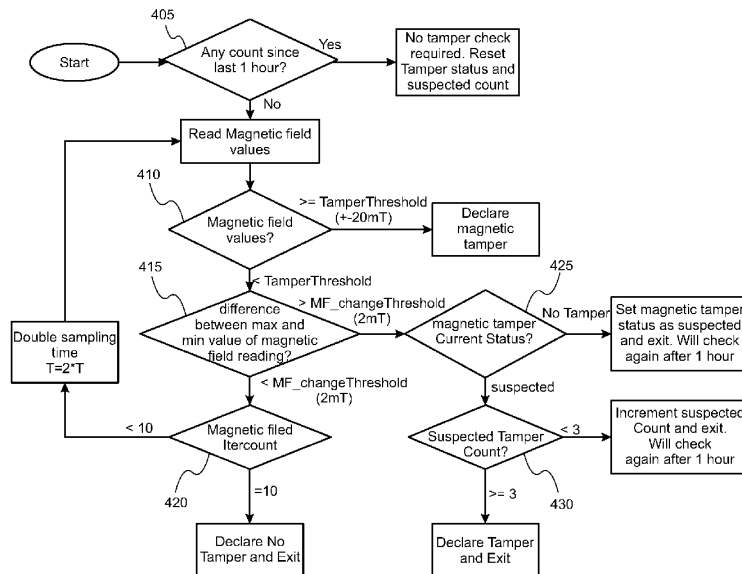


FIG. 4

(57) Abstract: A tamper detection system (510) for use in a utility meter (500) is disclosed. The system comprises at least one sensor (515, 520) configured to sense a magnetic field. The system comprises a processing circuit (525) coupled to the at least one sensor and configured to generate pulses for incrementing a pulse counter in response to a level of at least one signal from the at least one sensor being outside a first threshold range. When the processing circuit determines that the pulse counter has not incremented within the tamper detect interval, the processing circuit determines, based on the level of the at least one signal, whether the magnetic field sensed by the at least one sensor has varied by more than a second threshold range.

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