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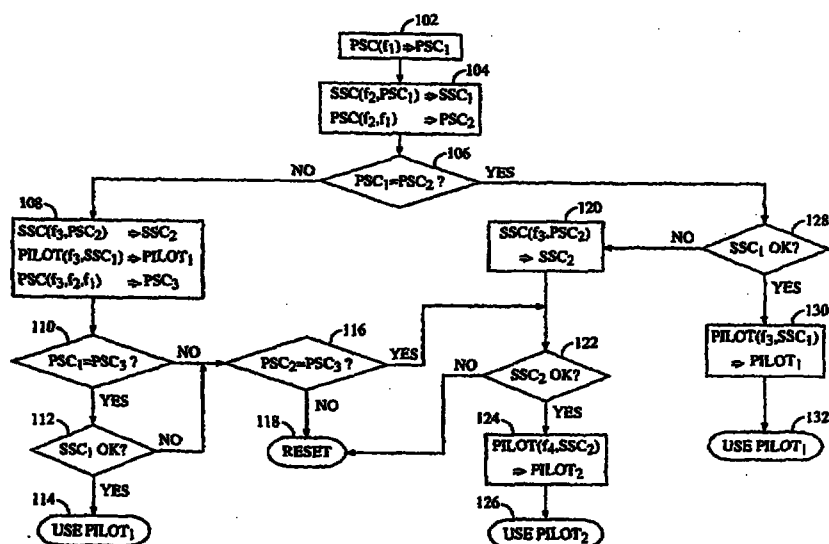
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR FAST WCDMA ACQUISITION



(57) Abstract: A method and apparatus for quickly acquiring synchronization of a signal in WCDMA communication system utilizing variable duration sample accumulation, validity testing of decoder estimates, and parallel decoding of multiple synchronization signals within a PERCH channel. The receiver (204) accumulates the samples necessary to reliably determine slot timing. Until slot timing estimates pass a validity test, samples are accumulated (304A, 304B) for frame timing estimates. Until frame timing estimates pass a validity test, samples are analyzed to determine the pilot offset of the channel.