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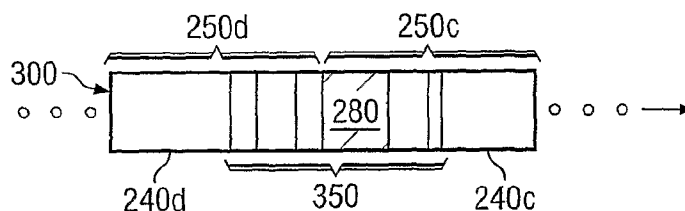
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(54) Title: METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR ENCAPSULATING PACKETS



(57) Abstract: Encapsulating packets includes receiving packets at a queue of an encapsulator. The following operations are repeated until certain criteria are satisfied. A number of packets are accumulated at the queue. A current encapsulation efficiency associated with the accumulated packets is determined. A next encapsulation efficiency associated with the accumulated packets and a predicted next packet is determined. If the current encapsulation efficiency satisfies an encapsulation efficiency threshold and if the current encapsulation efficiency is greater than the next encapsulation efficiency, the accumulated packets are encapsulated. Otherwise, the packets continue to be accumulated at the queue.

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