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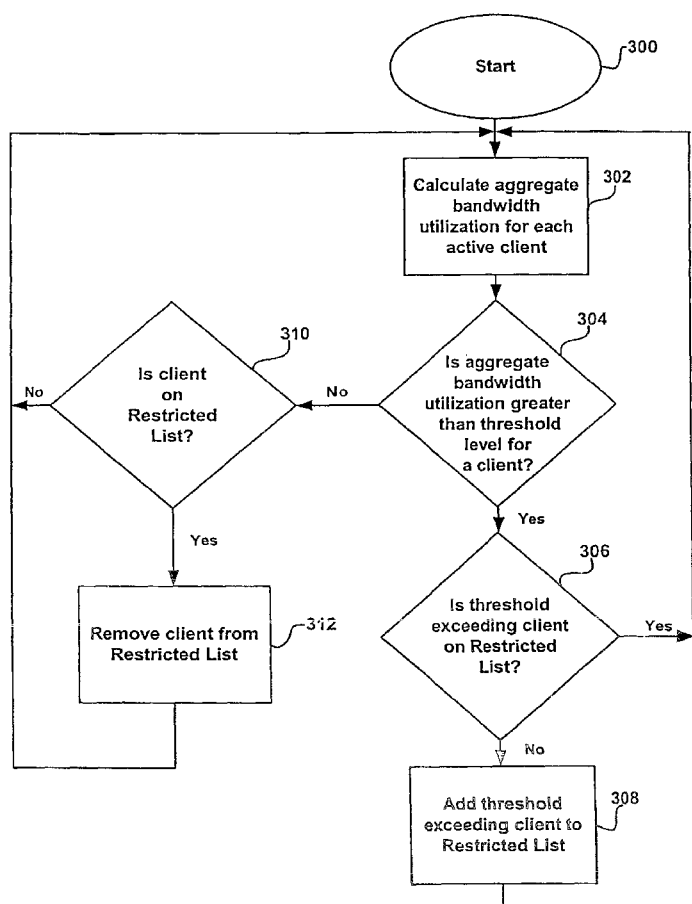
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(54) Title: BANDWIDTH MANAGEMENT IN A WIRELESS NETWORK



(57) Abstract: In accordance with the preferred embodiment, an access point provides dynamic load balancing of network bandwidth between access points within the 802.11 wireless LAN. The access point uses the RTS/CTS protocol to reduce the bandwidth available to a single device using an excessive amount of network bandwidth. The access point places a device that has been monopolizing a network channel on a Restricted List, and regulates bandwidth on the network by not returning a CTS to any client on the Restricted List. When the client's network usage drops below a policy driven threshold set by the number of network users, the client is removed from the list and the access point will respond to a RTS from the client with a CTS.



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