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ABSTRACT**METHOD FOR DETECTING AND TRACKING POINTLIKE TARGETS, IN
AN OPTRONIC SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM**

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In an optronic image processing, to detect and follow pointlike target tracks, there is provided a quantization of a level of complexity of the local background on which a target is detected in an image, so as to adapt
15 the criteria of association of plots with tracks as a function of the said level of complexity. This quantization is based on a splitting of the image into zones of homogeneous radiometric characteristics. The consideration of the level of complexity of the local background on which a pointlike target is detected
20 makes it possible to validate more rapidly the hypothesis tracks for which the plots detected have strong contrast. It allows in addition the detection of phantom plots, for the exclusive purposes of monitoring the validated tracks, by lowering the plot detection threshold, locally, in a zone of the complex image in which the target ought to be situated.

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Figure 4