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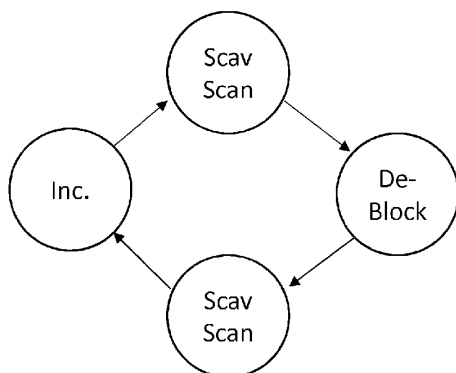


FIG. 3

(57) Abstract: A polynucleotide sequencing method comprises (i) remov-
ing a label and a blocking moiety from a blocked, labeled nucleotide incor-
porated into a copy polynucleotide strand that is complementary to at least
a portion of a template polynucleotide strand; and (ii) washing the removed
label and blocking moiety away from the copy strand with a wash solution
comprising a first buffer comprising a scavenger compound. Removing the
label and blocking moieties may comprise chemically removing the moi-
eties. The first buffer may also comprise an antioxidant and may be used
in a scanning buffer used during a nucleotide detection step.

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