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(54) Title: CONTROLLED DEGRADATION OF A STIMULI-RESPONSIVE POLYMER FILM

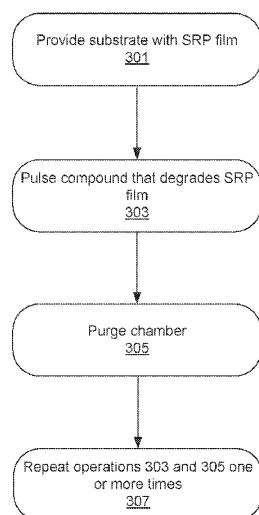


FIG. 3

(57) Abstract: Removing a stimuli responsive polymer (SRP) from a substrate includes controlled degradation. In certain embodiments of the methods described herein, removing SRPs includes exposure to two reactants that react to form an acid or base that can trigger the degradation of the SRP. The exposure occurs sequentially to provide more precise top down control. In some embodiments, the methods involve diffusing a compound, or a reactant that reacts to form a compound, only to a top portion of the SRP. The top portion is then degraded and removed, leaving the remaining SRP intact. The exposure and removal cycles are repeated.

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