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(54) Title: A FIBRE OPTIC CABLE MONITORING METHOD AND SYSTEM

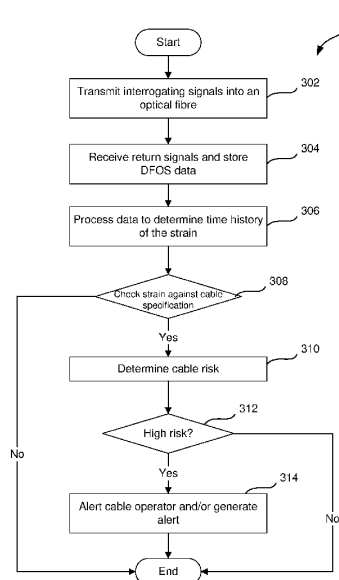


Fig. 3

(57) Abstract: Method and system for determining the condition of a cable are disclosed. The method includes: transmitting interrogating signals into a sensing optical fibre extending the length of the cable and receiving backscattered signals from the sensing optical fibre in response to the interrogating signals. The method further includes processing the backscattered signals to determine variations in strain or strain rate along the sensing optical fibre and determining the time history of the strain or strain rate to obtain accumulated strain data indicative of the condition of the cable at points along the cable.

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