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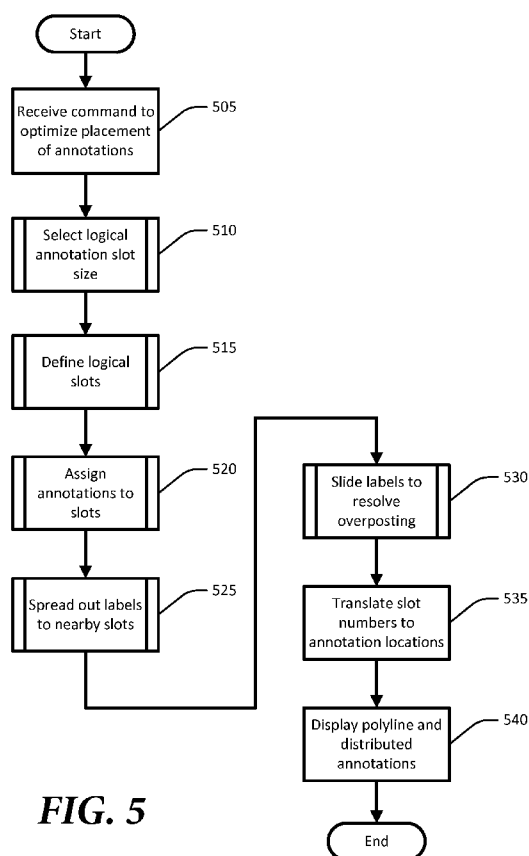
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(54) Title: OPTIMIZING THE PLACEMENT OF CLUSTERED TEXTURAL ANNOTATIONS

**FIG. 5**

(57) Abstract: A processor receives a command to optimize the placement of a plurality of annotations along a polyline displayed on a graphical user interface. The plurality of annotations has a plurality of font sizes and each font size has a height. A plurality of annotation slot size candidates is selected for logical annotation slots along the polyline. An annotation slot size is selected from among the plurality of annotation slot size candidates, wherein the chosen annotation slot size is smaller than largest of the font sizes. The polyline is divided into logical annotation slots having the chosen annotation slot size. The plurality of annotations is distributed among the logical annotation slots. The polyline and the distributed plurality of annotations is displayed on the graphical user interface.

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