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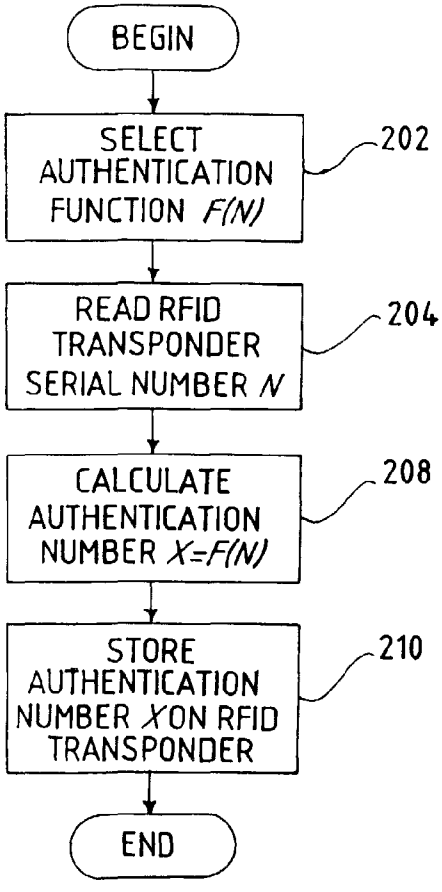
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(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR ARTICLE AUTHENTICATION



(57) Abstract: An authentication method for authenticating an article (Fig. 2a, 202, 204, 208, 210) in a device includes the steps of a) reading an identification number stored on the article, b) reading an authentication number stored on the article, c) determining an input number based at least in part on the identification number, d) applying an authentication function to the input number to calculate an output number, e) determining that the article is authentic only if the authentication number corresponds to the output number, and f) permitting use of the article in the device if the article is authentic, and disabling use of the article in the device if the article is not authentic.

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