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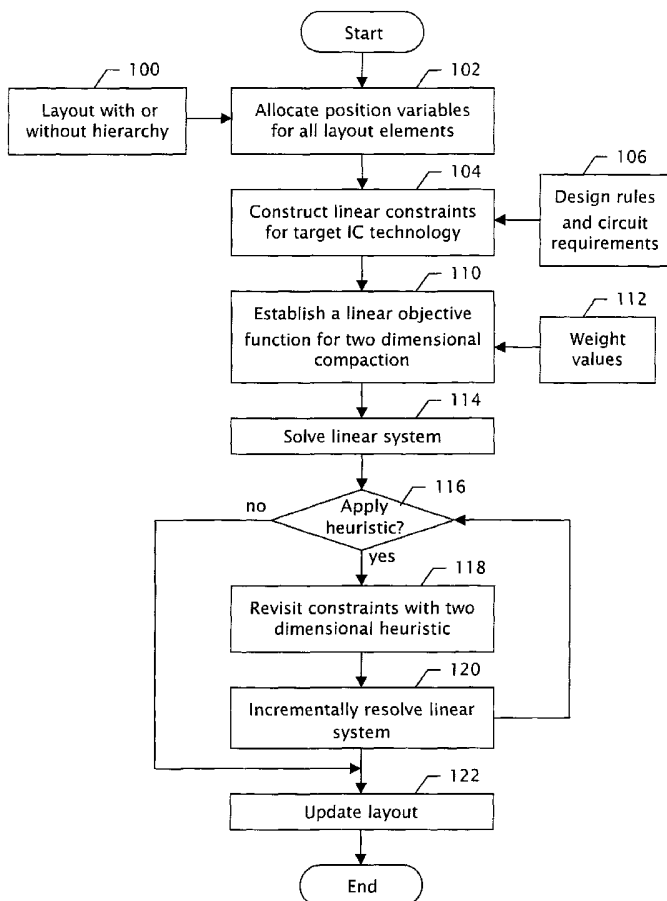
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- (71) Applicant and (72) Inventor: For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: TWO DIMENSIONAL COMPACTION SYSTEM AND METHOD



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to layouts with geometrical objects (1-7), and more particularly, to a system and method (8-9) for compacting layouts in two dimensions simultaneously. In an embodiment, the system and method of the present invention are applied to IC layouts. The present invention provides for compacting layouts in two dimensions at once without depending on expensive methods such as Branch and Bound. As a result, in an embodiment, the present invention can be applied to large layouts in much the same way as conventional, one dimensional compaction systems and methods. The present invention also provides for compacting hierarchical layouts in two dimensions at once while preserving the complete hierarchy.



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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(7) : G06F 17/50
US CL : 716/9

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
U.S. : 716/2, 7-18

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X --- A	US 6,189,132 B1 (HENG et al) 13 February 2001 (13.02.2001), figures 1-8, columns 1-11	1, 3-10, 12-19 ----- 2, 11
A	US 4,815,003 A (PUTATUNDA et al) 21 March 1989 (21.03.1989), whole document	1-19
A	US 5,847,965 A (CHENG) 8 December 1998 (08.12.1998), whole document	1-19

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:	"T"	later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
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