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(54) Title: CONCEALING MISSING NOZZLES

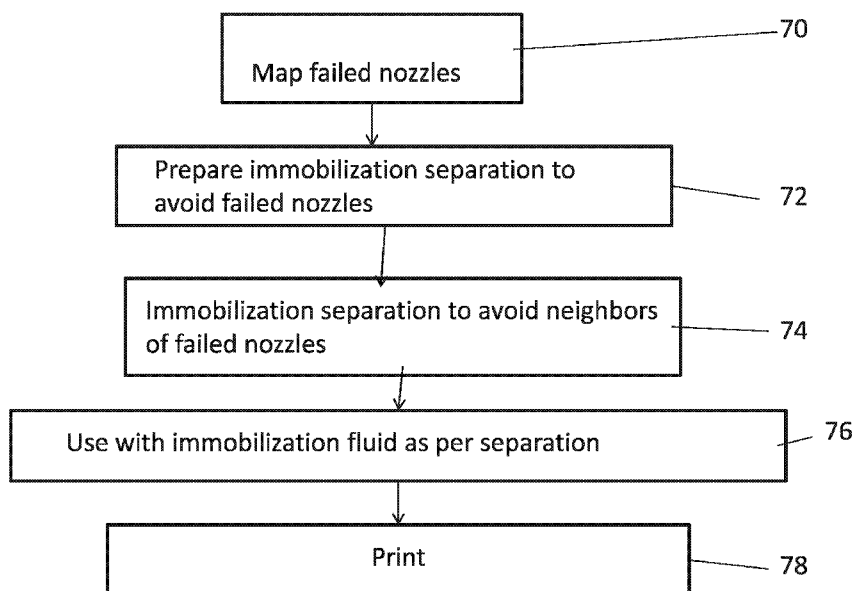


Fig. 7

(57) Abstract: Method and apparatus for digital printing of textiles with application of immobilization compound on the textile prior to printing. The method comprises, finding failed printing nozzles; carrying out immobilization of the textile without using at least some of the nozzles neighboring a failed printing nozzle; and printing the textile. The immobilization generally prevents the printing ink from running, so leaving out immobilization around the failed nozzle allows ink to seep into the unprinted gap. The immobilization however also stabilizes the ink, so one embodiment keeps some of the neighboring nozzles on during the immobilization.

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CONCEALING MISSING NOZZLES

FIELD AND BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The present invention, in some embodiments thereof, relates to concealing of
5 missing printing nozzles for inkjet textile printers and, more particularly, but not
exclusively, to concealing missing nozzles in an inkjet textile printer that uses
immobilization on the textile.

In inkjet printing in general, while using jetting nozzles, there is a common
phenomenon most clearly visible on bright substrates as a bright thin line or gap. The
10 phenomenon is the result of a failed nozzle.

In each printing head there are hundreds of nozzles. From time to time, nozzles
stop functioning for various reasons such as clogging, electrical failure etc. A missing
nozzle may appear very meaningfully on the image as a strike or a gap. This is even
more severely noticeable when the image is built of a solid color area.

15 Textile digital printing technology may use an immobilization mechanism in
which an immobilization agent is jetted through printing nozzles in immobilization
phase. The immobilization phase may be carried out shortly before, during or
immediately after application of the printing ink. The immobilization agent within an
immobilization fluid interacts with color ink drops that are also jetted from inkjet heads.
20 The immobilization agent prevents the color ink drops from bleeding into the fabric or
flowing into another color droplet. In addition, the interaction between the color ink
drops and the immobilization fluid phase prevents the color ink drops from spreading on
the fabric surface. The result is a sharp image and intense image color.

Accordingly, immobilization fluid drops are jetted on each specific location that
25 color ink drops are planned to be located in the same way that the actual printing is
carried out. In practice an image file separation which is the sum of all color file
separations is prepared and then printed onto the fabric as an immobilization phase.

Color ink drops that are not immobilized tend to bleed into the substrate and
spread. The final dot diameter without immobilization is much larger than same drop
30 which is immobilized by the immobilization phase, leading to an even more noticeable
effect of the bleeding than there would be without immobilization.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present embodiments involve knowing which nozzles are blocked, and masking the immobilization fluid phase in the surrounding nozzles so that color ink bleeds across the unprinted stripe.

5 According to an aspect of some embodiments of the present invention there is provided a method for digital printing of a substrate with immobilization of the color printing ink, the method comprising:

finding failed printing nozzles;

10 carrying out immobilization treatment over the substrate without using at least some of nozzles neighboring a failed printing nozzle; and printing the substrate.

The method may comprise mapping the failed printing nozzles.

The method may comprise providing a mapping for immobilization fluid.

15 The method may comprise modifying the immobilization fluid mapping using a mask formed from the failed printing nozzles.

In an embodiment, the mask comprises an alternating on-off pixel mask or chess mask.

The method may be applied to regions of solid color, where the non-printed stripe is most noticeable.

20 The method may comprise carrying out image analysis on a test print out to identify the failed printing nozzles.

Typically, the substrate comprises textile, including woven textiles and felts.

The method may be applied to already formed garments or to textiles.

25 The invention extends to the textile or garment printed using the herein-described methods, and to a printer that prints using the herein-described methods.

According to a further aspect of the present invention there is provided an apparatus for digital printing of a substrate with immobilization of the color printing ink, the apparatus comprising:

a printhead comprising a plurality of printing nozzles;

30 a nozzle failure analyzer configured to find failed printing nozzles;

an immobilization controller configured to carry out a modified operation of the print head to carry out immobilization treatment on the substrate without using at least some of nozzles neighboring a failed printing nozzle; and

a print controller configured to operate the print head to print color printing ink on the substrate, thereby allowing the color printing ink to bleed into a print region of the failed printing nozzle.

In an embodiment, the nozzle failure analyzer is configured to map the failed printing nozzles.

In an embodiment, the immobilization controller is configured to map the immobilization.

In an embodiment, the immobilization mapper is configured to modify the immobilization mapping using a mask formed from the failed printing nozzles.

In an embodiment, the mask comprises an alternating on-off pixel mask.

The apparatus may carry out the modified operation particularly or specifically for regions of solid color, where the non-printed stripe would be most noticeable.

In an embodiment, the nozzle failure analyzer is configured to carry out image analysis on a test print out to identify the failed printing nozzles.

According to a third aspect of the present invention there is provided a textile comprising printed color ink drops, the printed color ink drops comprising:

a first plurality of fixed ink drops fixed on the textile by an immobilization phase; and

a second plurality of ink drops enlarged relative to the first plurality of fixed ink drops, by bleeding into the textile.

The textile may be a textile roll, or may be manufactured into a garment or the like. The term "garment" used herein includes curtains, drapes, bedclothes and materials for tents.

According to a fourth aspect of the present invention there is provided a method for digital printing of a substrate with immobilization of the printing ink, the digital printing and immobilization treatment using nozzles, the method comprising:

controllably selecting ones of the nozzles; and

carrying out the immobilization treatment using the selected nozzles while printing the textile.

In an embodiment, the controllably selecting ones of the nozzles comprises modifying an immobilization map and carrying out the selecting using the map.

Unless otherwise defined, all technical and/or scientific terms used herein have the same meaning as commonly understood by one of ordinary skill in the art to which
5 the invention pertains. Although methods and materials similar or equivalent to those described herein can be used in the practice or testing of embodiments of the invention, exemplary methods and/or materials are described below. In case of conflict, the patent specification, including definitions, will control. In addition, the materials, methods, and examples are illustrative only and are not intended to be necessarily limiting.

10 Implementation of the method and/or system of embodiments of the invention can involve performing or completing selected tasks manually, automatically, or a combination thereof. Moreover, according to actual instrumentation and equipment of embodiments of the method and/or system of the invention, several selected tasks could be implemented by hardware, by software or by firmware or by a combination thereof
15 using an operating system.

For example, hardware for performing selected tasks according to embodiments of the invention could be implemented as a chip or a circuit. As software, selected tasks according to embodiments of the invention could be implemented as a plurality of software instructions being executed by a computer using any suitable operating system.

20 In an exemplary embodiment of the invention, one or more tasks according to exemplary embodiments of method and/or system as described herein are performed by a data processor, such as a computing platform for executing a plurality of instructions. Optionally, the data processor includes a volatile memory for storing instructions and/or data and/or a non-volatile storage, for example, a magnetic hard-disk and/or removable
25 media, for storing instructions and/or data. Optionally, a network connection is provided as well. A display and/or a user input device such as a keyboard or mouse are optionally provided as well.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWINGS

30 Some embodiments of the invention are herein described, by way of example only, with reference to the accompanying drawings. With specific reference now to the drawings in detail, it is stressed that the particulars shown are by way of example and

for purposes of illustrative discussion of embodiments of the invention. In this regard, the description taken with the drawings makes apparent to those skilled in the art how embodiments of the invention may be practiced.

In the drawings:

5 Fig. 1 is a simplified diagram showing a test print in which a nozzle failure crosses different regions including a block of bright color, a block of pale color and text;

Fig. 2 is a simplified diagram showing a pre-printing map or separation and a printing map or separation;

10 Fig. 3 is a simplified diagram showing a printing separation;

Fig. 4 is a simplified diagram showing how the printing separation is modified by the failure of a single nozzle;

Fig. 5 is a simplified diagram showing how the pre-printing separation may be modified according to the present embodiments in order to overcome the missing nozzle
15 in FIG. 4;

Fig. 6 is a simplified diagram showing the result of printing using the missing nozzle of FIG. 4 and the printing separation of FIG. 5;

Fig. 7 is a simplified flow diagram showing a method of printing textiles in the presence of failed nozzles according to embodiments of the present invention;

20 Fig. 8 is a simplified diagram illustrating use of a mask to modify the method of FIG. 7 in order to make the printed textile more resilient to washing;

Fig. 9 is a simplified flow diagram illustrating a method of printing textiles in the presence of failed nozzles using the mask of FIG. 8;

25 Fig. 10 is a simplified flow diagram showing in greater detail the use of the mask to modify the immobilization separation;

Fig. 11 is a simplified block diagram illustrating textile printing apparatus with immobilization and designed to print in a way that is resilient to missing nozzles, according to embodiments of the present invention; and

30 Fig. 12 is a simplified flow chart illustrating modification of an immobilization separation according to embodiments of the present invention.

DESCRIPTION OF SPECIFIC EMBODIMENTS OF THE INVENTION

The present invention, in some embodiments thereof, relates to printing nozzles for inkjet textile printers and, more particularly, but not exclusively, to an inkjet textile printer that uses immobilization on the textile.

5 The method comprises finding failed printing nozzles, carrying out immobilization of the textile while switching off and thus not using at least some of the nozzles neighboring a failed printing nozzle; and then printing the textile. The immobilization generally prevents the color printing ink from running, so leaving out immobilization around the failed nozzle allows color ink to seep into the unprinted gap
10 that arises because of a blocked nozzle. The immobilization however also stabilizes the ink, so one embodiment keeps some of the neighboring nozzles on during the immobilization phase so that the area around the failed nozzle is at least partially immobilized.

 More specifically, the blocked nozzle is identified. In addition, regions may be
15 distinguished, such as blocks of monolithic bright color, where unprinted stripes would most stand out. Then, particularly but not exclusively within such regions, nozzles around the blocked nozzle are identified and removed from the mapping or separation used for preprinting. Removal of the nozzles means that pixels around the blocked nozzle are not pretreated. The lack of immobilization allows for pixels immediately
20 around the unprinted stripe to bleed into the unprinted stripe and thus color the unprinted stripe, leaving the stripe undetectable or substantially undetectable.

 More generally, the immobilization treatment may be controlled by selecting which of the available printing nozzles to use for immobilization treatment. The selection may be carried out by generating an immobilization map that defines the
25 printing nozzles to be used.

 For purposes of better understanding some embodiments of the present invention, as illustrated in Figures 3 -10 of the drawings, reference is first made to the construction and operation of a conventional printer with a blocked nozzle as illustrated in Figure 1. Fig. 1 shows a test print 10 produced by a printer with a blocked nozzle.
30 The blocked nozzle produces blank strip 12 which extends across the test print. The test print includes blocks of bright color 14, blocks of pale color 16 and lettering 18. While

the blank strip is visible in all of the different parts of the test strip, it is most noticeable in the solid color regions and in particular in the strong color region.

Fig. 2 shows immobilization and printing mappings. The blue dots 20 are color pixels it is intended to print on a fabric. The grey dots 22 are pixels of immobilization treatment which may be printed concomitantly with the color drops on the fabric to immobilize the color ink in the fabric when printed. In practice the grey dots are not grey of course but rather transparent.

The blue dots 20 form a printing map 24 and the grey dots form an immobilization map 26. In normal circumstances the two maps are identical so that every pixel is printed on a target which contains drops of immobilization compound.

It is noted that the immobilization pixels are larger than the printing dots as the immobilization fluid is not in itself immobilized in the textile. It is noted that herein the term pixel refers to the electronic image in the mapping of dots to be printed on the textile by an individual jet of printing ink from a nozzle on the printhead.

Before explaining at least one embodiment of the invention in detail, it is to be understood that the invention is not necessarily limited in its application to the details of construction and the arrangement of the components and/or methods set forth in the following description and/or illustrated in the drawings and/or the Examples. The invention is capable of other embodiments or of being practiced or carried out in various ways.

Referring now to the drawings, Figure 3 illustrates the same mapping for color printing shown in Fig. 2. Fig. 4 shows the mapping of Fig. 3 with a row 40-40 of color ink droplets missing due to the failure of a nozzle.

In greater detail the present embodiments provide a compensation method to compensate for the disruption in appearance of the printed outcome on a textile or fabric caused by a non-functioning inkjet nozzle. The compensation method reduces the uneven appearance in the printed outcome caused by the missing nozzle. As illustrated in Fig. 5, the uneven appearance may be masked by deactivating the immobilization ink in the row 50 of the inactivated nozzle and also in the two neighboring rows on either side 52 and 54. Fig. 6 shows the result. The two neighboring rows are printed and the ink runs, allowing the spreading of those color ink drops that did not encounter the immobilization fluid through the fabric. The non-immobilized color ink drops enlarge -

60, and thus create a region of smoothly printed solid color that obscures the blank stripe of the missing nozzle.

That is to say, according to the present embodiments, an immobilization separation file is prepared in such a way that immobilization fluid drop jetting is canceled in the location 50, where the color printing ink drops are going to be missing 40. In addition, neighboring immobilization fluid drops 52 and 54 are also canceled.

Due to the lack of immobilization, color ink drops that are positioned near the gap caused by the missing nozzle run through the fabric and become enlarged compared to other drops - 60, thus covering the missing area. The result is a more uniform image without visible strikes.

Reference is now made to Fig. 7, which is a simplified diagram showing a printing process for printing textiles in the face of failed nozzles according to an embodiment of the present invention. The method involves finding failed printing nozzles, carrying out immobilization of the textile without using at least some of nozzles neighboring a failed printing nozzle; and then printing the textile. In Fig. 7, ink nozzles that are not functioning are initially found and may be mapped 70. One way to carry out such mapping is to print a test pattern such as that shown in Fig. 1 and to use image analysis to identify gaps such as gap 12 in Fig. 1. The identified gaps may then be associated with corresponding nozzles which may be recognized as failed nozzles.

Then, as discussed, the software may prepare the pre-treatment mapping, or immobilization ink separation, in such a way that immobilization fluid drops are skipped wherever the color ink drops are missing 72. In addition the neighboring nozzles are also deleted from the immobilization separation - 74. The immobilization is carried out according to the separation, 76 and printing using the colored inks is carried out. Thus, as explained, the ink droplets produced by the nozzles near the missing strip expand and cover the blank/uncovered area of the missing strip. As discussed above, the immobilization and printing may be carried either together or successively.

Reference is now made to Fig. 8, which is a simplified diagram showing a further embodiment of the present invention. On the left hand of the figure, 80 are fixation lines of the immobilization separation according to the previous embodiment. On the right hand side of the figure - 82 - the fixation lines are multiplied with a mask.

Since the software prepares the separation for the immobilization ink, the same can create a mask and use the mask to modify the immobilization process.

The motivation for using such a mask is that without immobilization the ink may not be stable in the textile. Use of the mask may spread at least some immobilization fluid in the region of the missing nozzle and thus partly immobilize the color ink around the missing strip on the fabric. There is less immobilization fluid so that the color ink runs into the blank area but there is enough immobilization fluid to stabilize the color ink so that color ink remains after washing. The outcome may thus be stable color ink coverage of the missing nozzle area on the fabric.

Reference is now made to Fig. 9, which is a simplified diagram showing a printing process for printing textiles in the face of failed nozzles according to the embodiment of Fig. 8. In Fig. 9, printing nozzles that are not functioning are initially mapped 90 as discussed above.

Then, as before, the software may prepare the immobilization fluid separation in such a way that immobilization fluid drops are skipped wherever the color ink drops are missing 92. In addition the neighboring drops are also deleted from the immobilization separation - 94. In box 96, a chessboard-type mask or similar filter may be multiplied with the separation prepared in boxes 92 and 94. The process may go over the rows that were eliminated and multiply by the selected mask so that certain spots in these rows are reinstated, for example every second spot is reinstated. This still allows the drops to spread but also partially immobilizes so that the color ink is stabilized. After washing the color ink remains on the fabric and the outcome may be stable coverage of the blank strip that would otherwise slowly become visible on the fabric as the fabric is washed.

Table 1 and corresponding Fig. 10 illustrate the pseudo code for the masking process as outlined above, in which the initial separation file is masked as described.

Pseudo code algorithm:

File inputFile;

File outputFile;

Mask m; //Mask file

// For each line I in input file

10

```

For( I = 0 until I < inputFile.size)
{
    // For each byte in line I in input file
    For(index = 0 until index < inputFile [i].rowSize)
5  {
    outputFile[i].index =
    inputFile [i].index MASK m[I module m.size]. index module m.rowSize;
    }
    }

```

10 Where MASK can be a bitwise AND operator (&&) or other operations.

inputFile is the original input file to print,

outputFile is the actual result to print after manipulation.

inputFile and outputFile files have the same size.

m is the mask file.

15 inputFile.size is the size of input file, which is input file height, equals to num of rows in file.

m.size is the size of mask file, which is mask file height, equals to num of rows in file.

rowSize is the amount of bytes in one line of file.

Table 1 – Pseudocode for masking.

20 Reference is now made to Fig. 11, which is a simplified block diagram illustrating apparatus for printing a textile according to the present embodiments with immobilization to immobilize the color ink and mapping of the immobilization in view of failed nozzles to reduce or remove the amount of immobilization around the failed nozzle.

25 Apparatus 110 comprises a printhead 111 which includes multiple printing nozzles in nozzle region 112. Textile 114 passes below the printhead to be printed with jets of immobilization fluid and color ink from the nozzles.

A nozzle failure analyzer 116 finds and maps failed printing nozzles, typically using image analysis 118 of test prints as in Fig. 1.

30 As explained above, the expression “immobilization” is used to describe the application of immobilization fluid – which may be applied a short time prior to or post the color ink drop application or together with the color ink drops.

An immobilization controller 120 receives a failure map of the failed nozzles discovered by the image analysis. The immobilization controller may have an immobilization or separation map which is typically identical to a print map for the current print operation. The immobilization map is then modified by the failure map to
5 switch off nozzles neighboring the failed nozzles. Mask 122 may then be used to switch on some of the nozzles switched off in the previous stage. The final immobilization map is then used to operate the print head 111 to carry out immobilization of the textile 114, wherein some or all of the nozzles neighboring the failed nozzles are not used.

Print controller 124 then operates the print head to print the pretreated textile
10 114.

The modification of the immobilization area may be carried out in particular for those areas of the textile which are solid blocks of bright color, as these are the regions where missing nozzles are most noticeable.

The textile being printed may be a sheet or roll of textile, or may be a ready
15 formed garment, of any kind of fabric.

Reference is now made to Fig. 12 which illustrates a further embodiment of the present invention, in which immobilization treatment is carried out using selected nozzles. The idea is to carry out controlled immobilization and consequent controlled printing.

In box 130 an immobilization separation is prepared, spatially defining the
20 immobilization to be carried out. In box 132 the separation is used to select print head nozzles for the immobilization treatment and then in box 134 immobilization fluid is fed to the selected nozzles but not to the non-selected nozzles. In box 136 printing is carried out. Boxes 134 and 136 may be carried out simultaneously or one slightly
25 before the other, the order not being significant.

It is expected that during the life of a patent maturing from this application many relevant ink jet, textile printing, types of textiles and types of suitable substrates in general, and ink immobilizing technologies will be developed and the scopes of the corresponding terms are intended to include all such new technologies *a priori*.

The terms "comprises", "comprising", "includes", "including", "having" and
30 their conjugates mean "including but not limited to".

The term "consisting of" means "including and limited to".

As used herein, the singular form "a", "an" and "the" include plural references unless the context clearly dictates otherwise.

It is appreciated that certain features of the invention, which are, for clarity, described in the context of separate embodiments, may also be provided in combination
5 in a single embodiment, and the above description is to be construed as if this combination were explicitly written. Conversely, various features of the invention, which are, for brevity, described in the context of a single embodiment, may also be provided separately or in any suitable subcombination or as suitable in any other described embodiment of the invention, and the above description is to be construed as
10 if these separate embodiments were explicitly written. Certain features described in the context of various embodiments are not to be considered essential features of those embodiments, unless the embodiment is inoperative without those elements.

Although the invention has been described in conjunction with specific embodiments thereof, it is evident that many alternatives, modifications and variations
15 will be apparent to those skilled in the art. Accordingly, it is intended to embrace all such alternatives, modifications and variations that fall within the spirit and broad scope of the appended claims.

All publications, patents and patent applications mentioned in this specification are herein incorporated in their entirety by reference into the specification, to the same
20 extent as if each individual publication, patent or patent application was specifically and individually indicated to be incorporated herein by reference. In addition, citation or identification of any reference in this application shall not be construed as an admission that such reference is available as prior art to the present invention. To the extent that section headings are used, they should not be construed as necessarily limiting.

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. Method for digital printing of a substrate with immobilization of the color printing ink, the method comprising:
 - finding failed printing nozzles;
 - carrying out immobilization treatment over the substrate without using at least some of nozzles neighboring a failed printing nozzle; and
 - printing the substrate.
2. The method of claim 1, comprising mapping said failed printing nozzles.
3. The method of claim 1 or claim 2, comprising providing a mapping for immobilization fluid.
4. The method of claim 3, comprising modifying said immobilization fluid mapping using a mask formed from said failed printing nozzles.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein said mask comprises an alternating on-off pixel mask (chess mask).
6. The method of any one of the preceding claims, applied to regions of solid color.
7. The method of any one of the preceding claims, comprising carrying out image analysis on a test print out to identify said failed printing nozzles.
8. The method of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the substrate comprises textile.
9. The method of any one of the preceding claims, applied to garments.

10. A textile or garment printed using the method of any one of claims 1 to 8.
11. A printer configured to print a textile using the method of any one of claims 1 to 8.
12. Apparatus for digital printing of a substrate with immobilization of the color printing ink, the apparatus comprising:
 - a printhead comprising a plurality of printing nozzles;
 - a nozzle failure analyzer configured to find failed printing nozzles;
 - an immobilization controller configured to carry out a modified operation of said print head to carry out immobilization treatment on the substrate without using at least some of nozzles neighboring a failed printing nozzle; and
 - a print controller configured to operate said print head to print color printing ink on the substrate, thereby allowing said color printing ink to bleed into a print region of said failed printing nozzle.
13. The apparatus of claim 12, wherein said nozzle failure analyzer is configured to map said failed printing nozzles.
14. The apparatus of claim 12 or claim 13, wherein said immobilization controller is configured to map said immobilization.
15. The apparatus of claim 14, wherein said immobilization mapper is configured to modify said immobilization mapping using a mask formed from said failed printing nozzles.
16. The apparatus of claim 15, wherein said mask comprises an alternating on-off pixel mask.
17. The apparatus of any one of claims 12 to 16, configured to carry out said modified operation for regions of solid color.

18. The apparatus of any one of claims 12 to 17, wherein said nozzle failure analyzer is configured to carry out image analysis on a test print out to identify said failed printing nozzles.

19. The apparatus of any one of claims 12 to 18, wherein said substrate comprises textile.

20. A textile comprising printed color ink drops, said printed color ink drops comprising:

a first plurality of fixed ink drops fixed on said textile by an immobilization phase; and

a second plurality of ink drops enlarged relative to said first plurality of fixed ink drops, by bleeding into said textile.

21. Method for digital printing of a substrate with immobilization of the printing ink, the digital printing and immobilization treatment using nozzles, the method comprising:

controllably selecting ones of said nozzles; and

carrying out said immobilization treatment using said selected nozzles while printing the textile.

22. The method of claim 21, wherein said controllably selecting ones of said nozzles comprises modifying an immobilization map and carrying out said selecting using said map.



Fig. 1

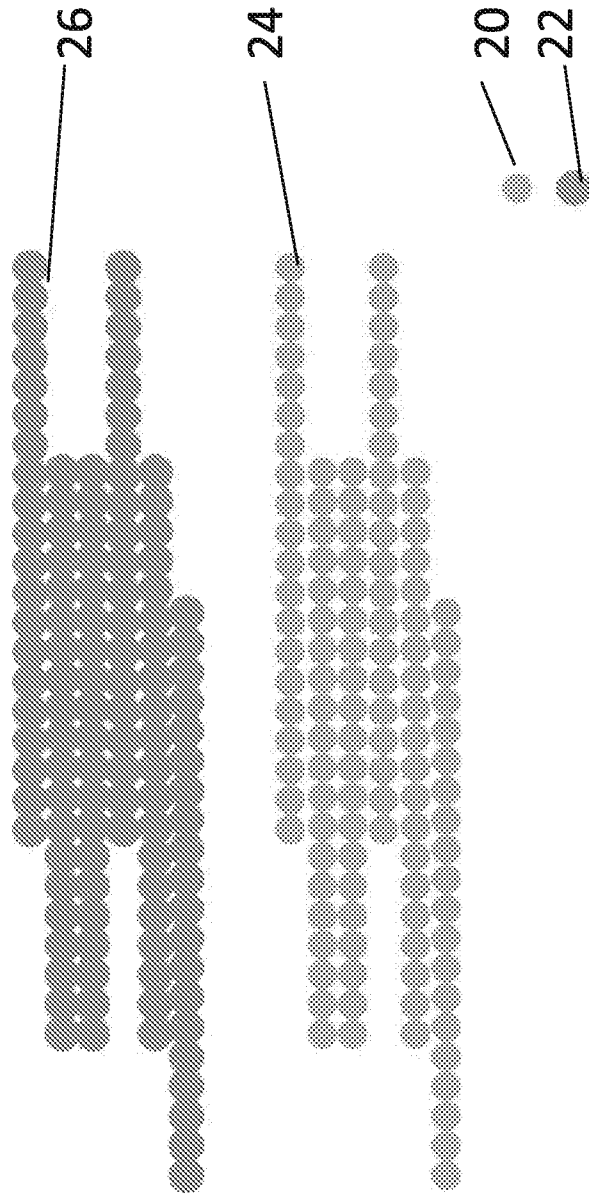


Fig. 2

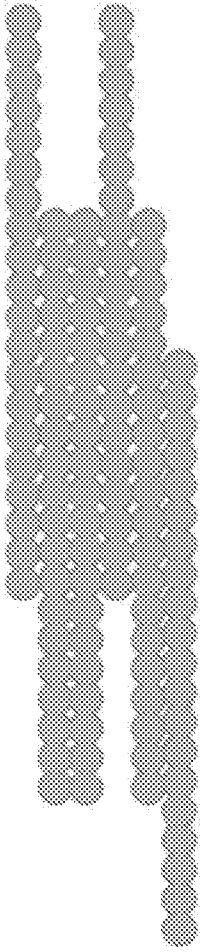


Fig. 3

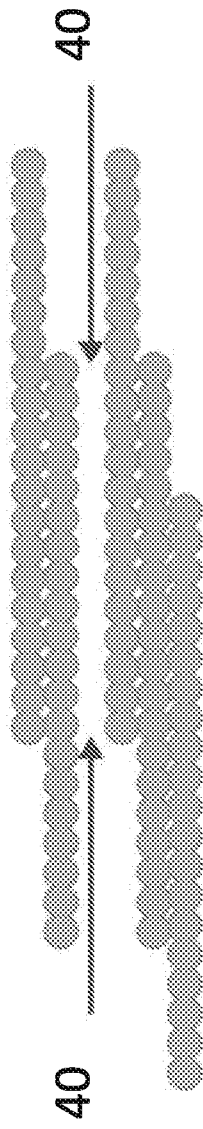


Fig. 4

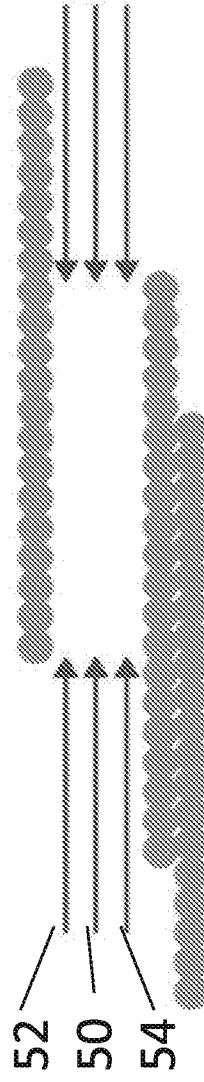


Fig. 5

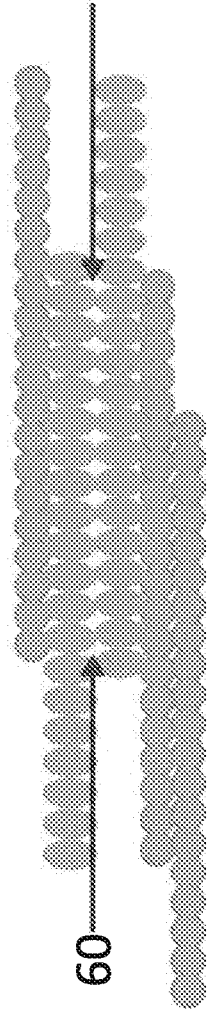


Fig. 6

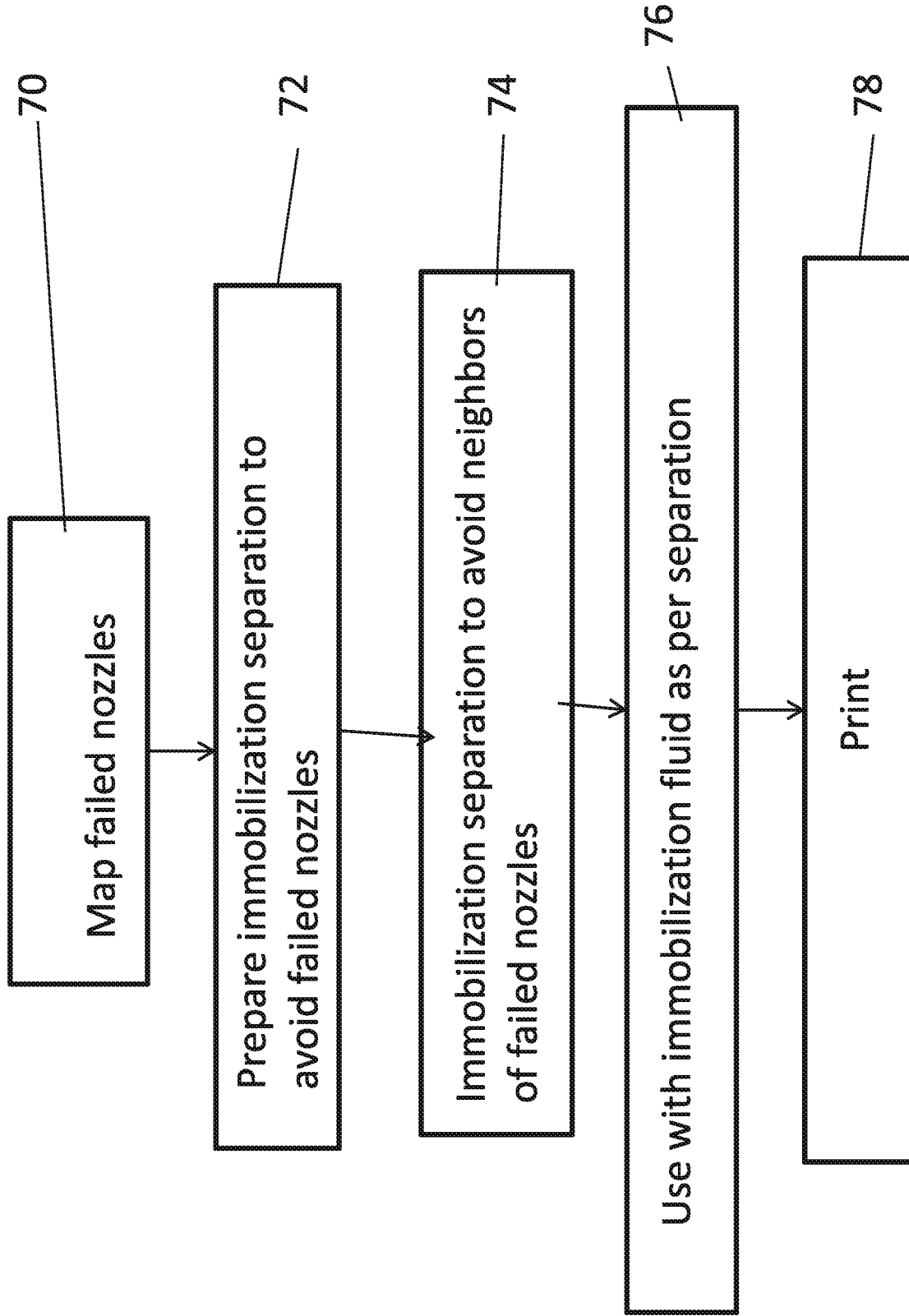


Fig. 7

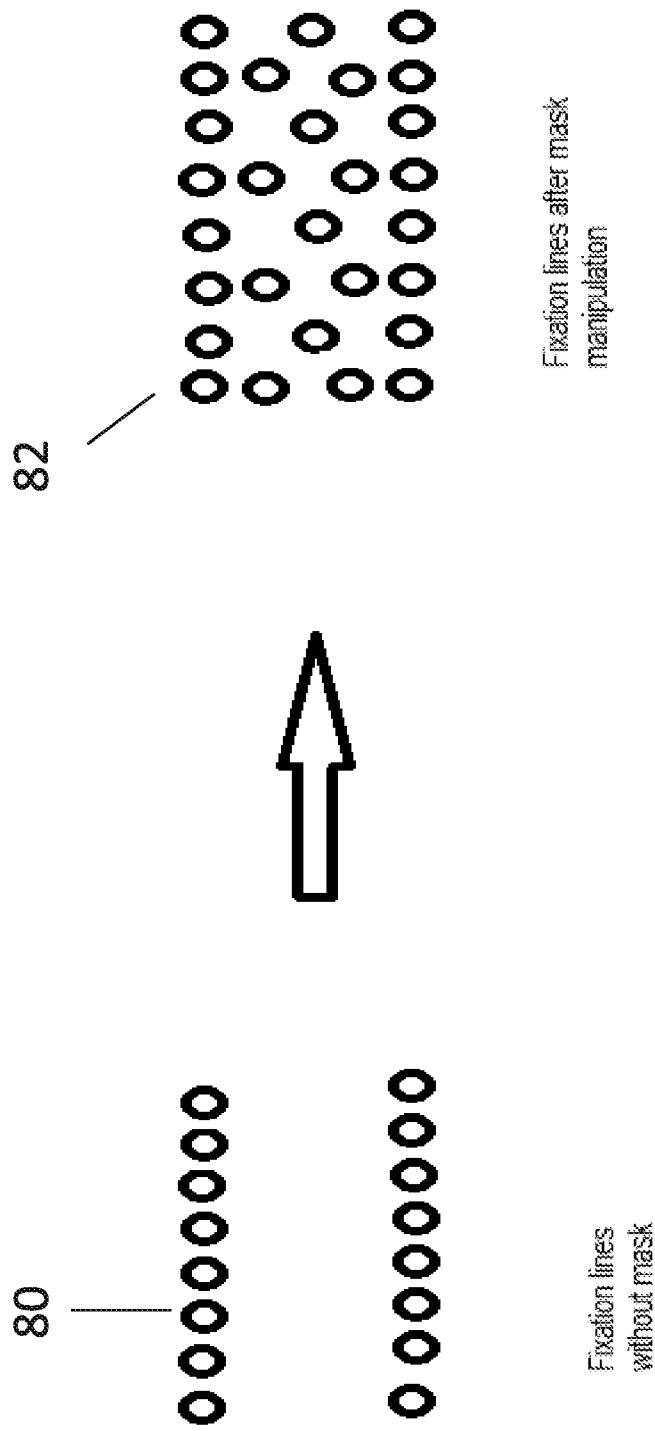
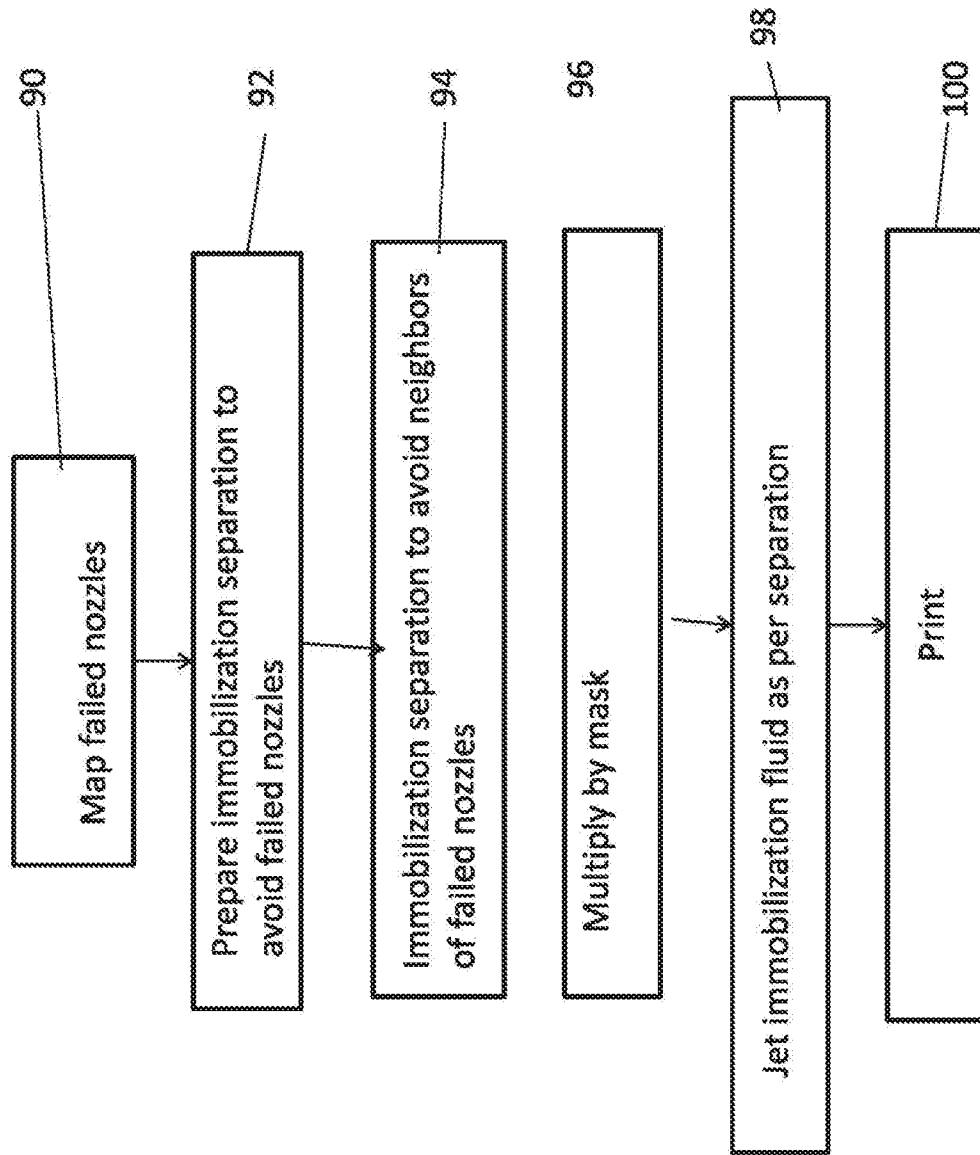


Fig. 8

Fig. 9



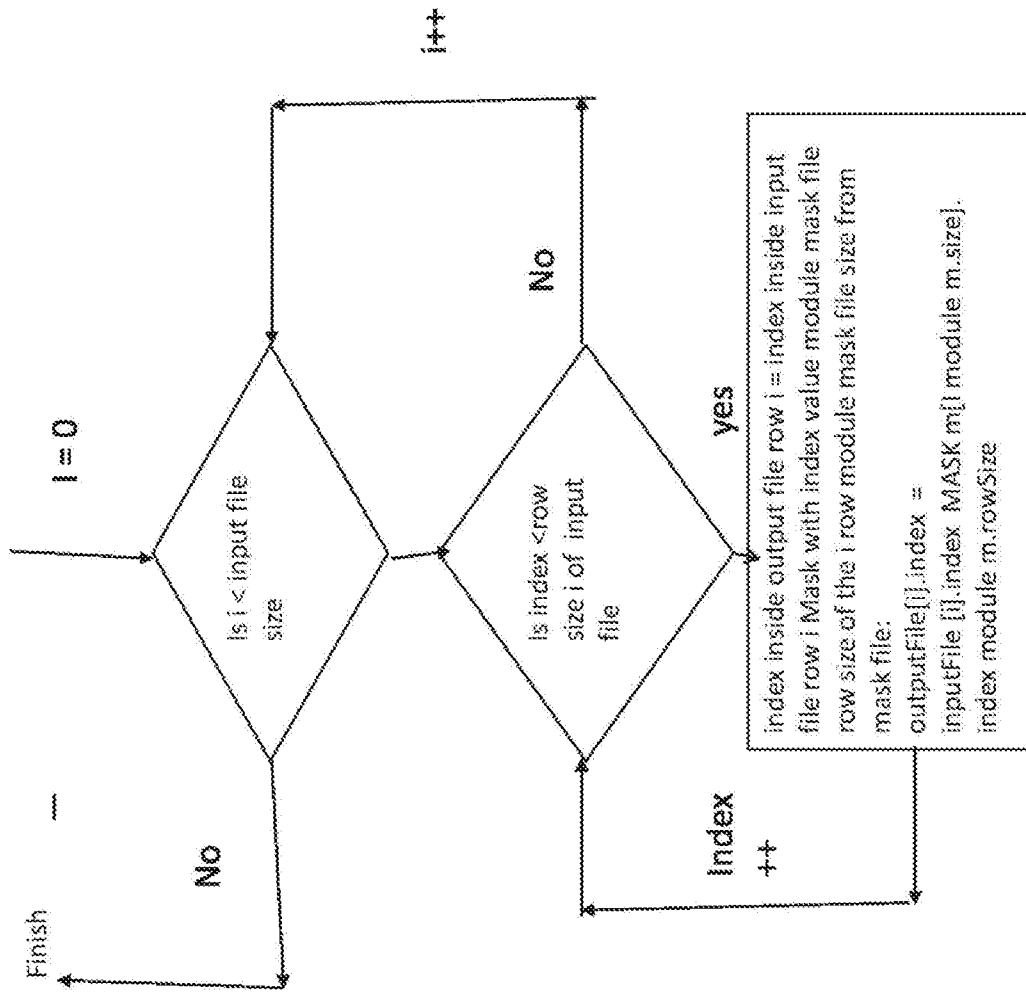


Fig. 10

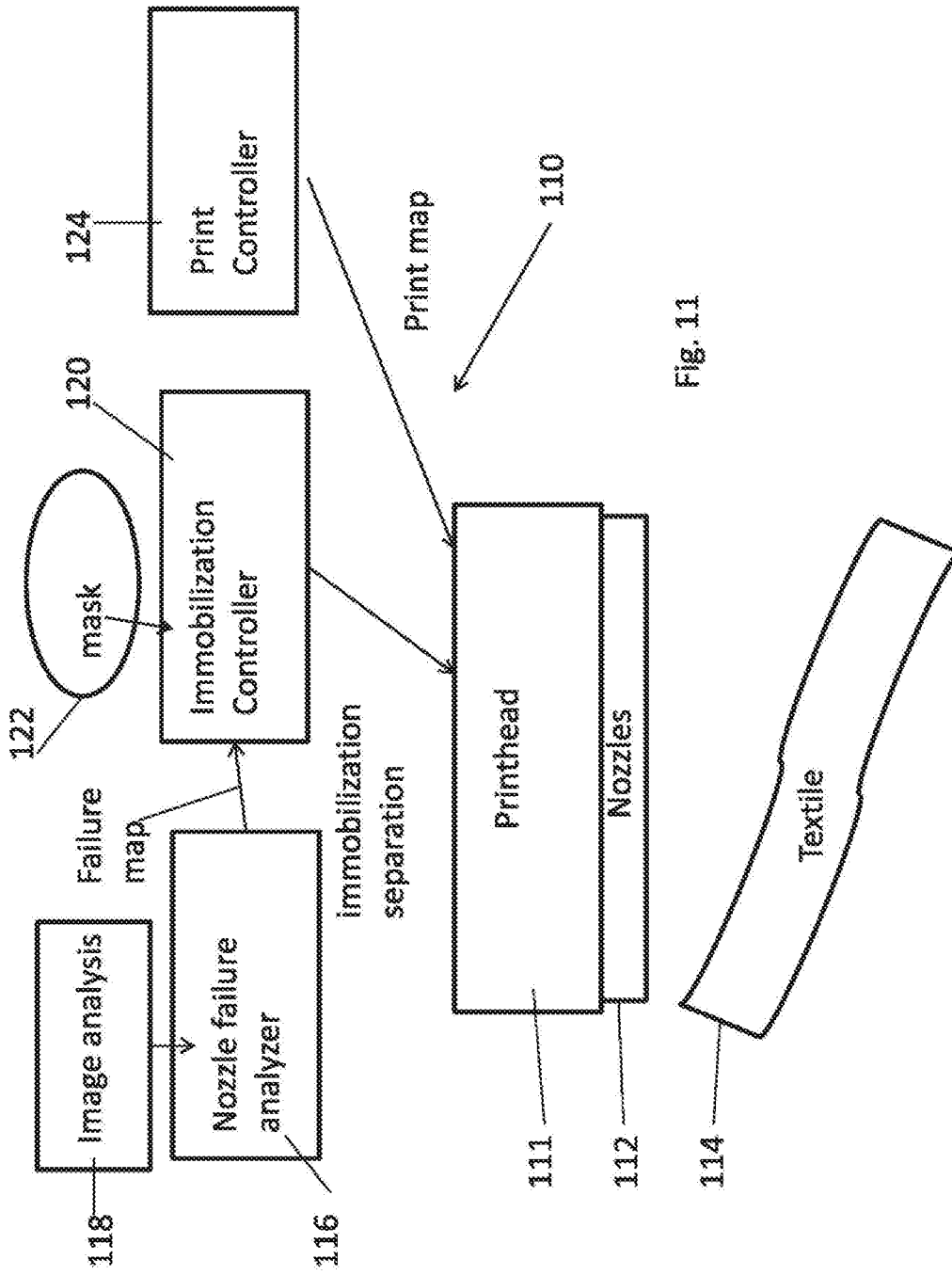


Fig. 11

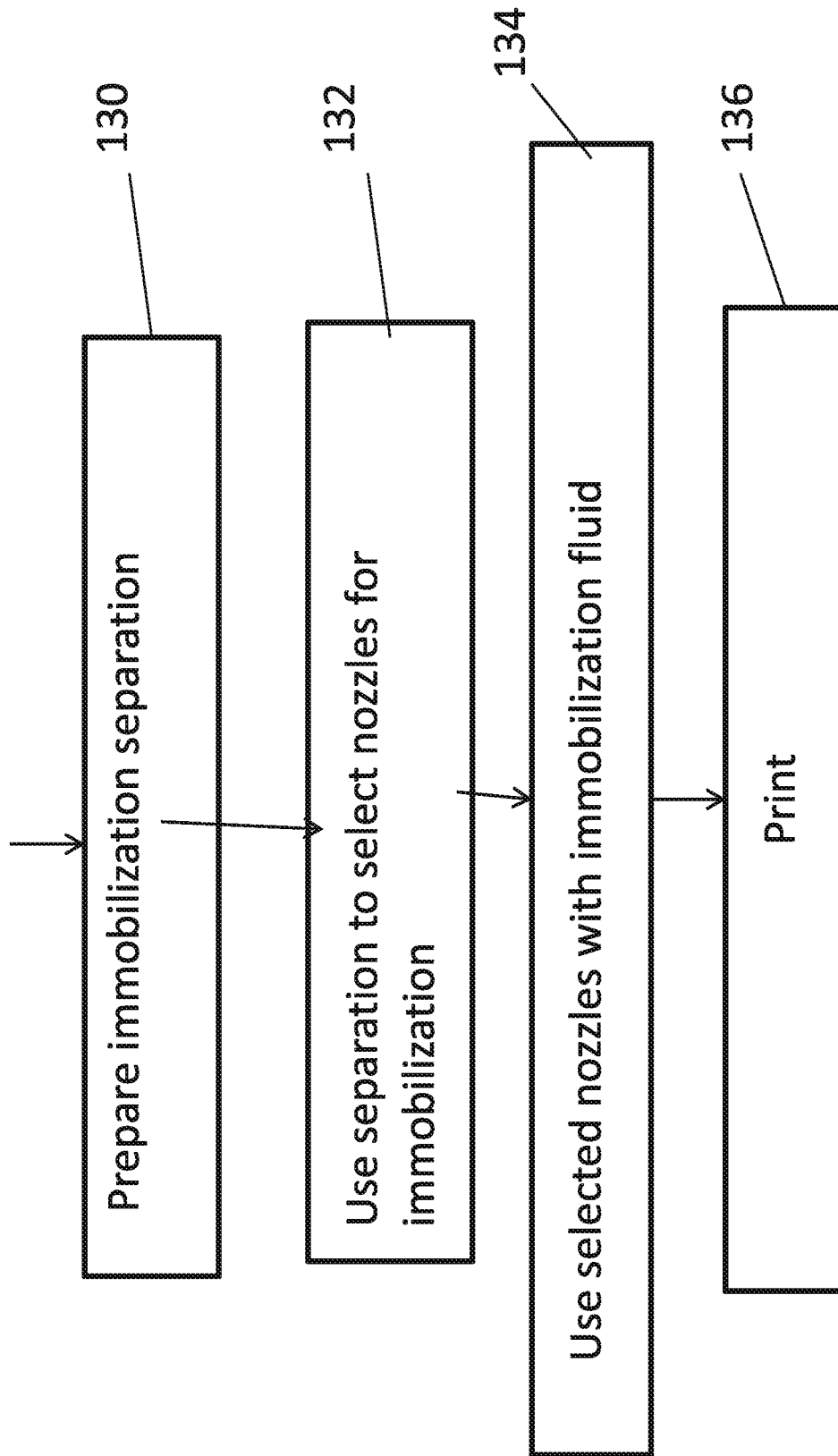


Fig. 12

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/IL2016/051080

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC (2016.01) D06P 5/30, D06P 5/22, B41J 2/21		
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) IPC (2016.01) D06P 5/30, D06P 5/22, B41J 2/21, B41J 2/21, G06K 15/02		
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) Databases consulted: Esp@cenet, Google Patents, PatBase Search terms used: nozzle, orifice, malfunction, fail, defect, fault, non-ejection, block, clog, compensate, correct, chart, map, test, pattern, analyze, stabilize, immobilize, fix, agent, control, treatment, neighbor, near adjoin, adjacent, bleed, spread, blur, run, migration, textile, cloth, garment		
C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	US 2004172773 A1 (KANG PETER K, et al.) 09 Sep 2004 (2004/09/09) Paragraphs: 0002-0003, 0013, 0029-0030, 0045, 0068, 0074-0075.	20-22
A		1-19
A	US 2007024661 A1 (KIM TAE-KYUN, ; JU YOUNG-BOK) 01 Feb 2007 (2007/02/01) Paragraphs: 0021, 0025-0026, 0075, 0077, 0100.	1-22
A	US 2015070428 A1 (SEIKO EPSON CORPORATION) 12 Mar 2015 (2015/03/12) Figures: 2, 6, 12A-12B; Paragraphs: 0031, 0064, 0073, 0081-0089, 0108-0111	1-22
<input type="checkbox"/> Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> See patent family annex.		
* Special categories of cited documents: "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed "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 "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art "&" document member of the same patent family		
Date of the actual completion of the international search 17 Jan 2017		Date of mailing of the international search report 18 Jan 2017
Name and mailing address of the ISA: Israel Patent Office Technology Park, Bldg.5, Malcha, Jerusalem, 9695101, Israel Facsimile No. 972-2-5651616		Authorized officer Aamidior Josh Telephone No. 972-2-5651722

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT
Information on patent family members

International application No.
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