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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/20311 (22) International Filing Date: 29 September 1998 (29.09.98) (30) Priority Data: 60/074,966 17 February 1998 (17.02.98) US (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY, INC. [US/US]; 920 Disc Drive, Scotts Valley, CA 95066 (US). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): DURNIN, James, E. [US/US]; 13770 Flagstaff Avenue, Apple Valley, MN 55124 (US). GAGE, Edward, C. [US/US]; 14050 Flintwood Court, Apple Valley, MN 55124 (US). MOWRY, Gregory, S. [US/US]; 18 Geneva Boulevard, Burnsville, MN 55306 (US). (74) Agents: DARDI, Peter, S.; Westman, Champlin & Kelly, P.A., International Centre, Suite 1600, 900 Second Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55402-3319 (US) et al.		(81) Designated States: CN, DE, GB, JP, KR, SG, US. Published <i>With international search report.</i>
(54) Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS TO DETERMINE FLY HEIGHT OF A RECORDING HEAD 		
(57) Abstract The invention features a fly height measurement system for measuring fly height of a slider (104) over a storage disc (112). The fly height measuring system includes a source of light (100), a slider (104), a detector module (106) and a processor (108). The source of light (100) produces light along a light path. The slider (104) includes an objective lens positioned such that light from said source hits the objective lens (124) and is directed toward a surface (110) of a disc (112). Light propagating from the disc (112) is directed to a detector (106). The processor (108) estimates the fly height of the slider (104) based on detector module output.		