ASYMMETRIC LOAD/UNLOAD RAMP AND DISK DRIVE USING SAME

ABSTRACT

A load/unload ramp (40) in a disk drive has first and second compound surfaces (8A,8B) located on opposite sides of the median plane (7) of the disk (8). Each compound surface (8A,8B) has a parking surface (50A,50B) disposed outside the disk perimeter. When the read/write heads (12A,12B) of the disk drive are unloaded from the disk (8), the head suspension assemblies (24A,24B) that support the heads (12A,12B) are parked on the parking surfaces (50A,50B). One of the two parking surfaces (50B) is farther than the other parking surface (50A) from the median plane (7) of the disk (8), providing increased separation between the parked read/write heads (12A,12B), thereby improving the ability of the disk drive to withstand shock.

FIG.8