

## TITLE OF THE INVENTION

INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM, APPARATUS FOR RECORDING AND/OR REPRODUCING DATA ON AND/OR FROM INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM, METHOD OF RECORDING AND/OR REPRODUCING DATA ON AND/OR FROM INFORMATION RECORDING MEDIUM, AND COMPUTER-READABLE RECORDING MEDIUM STORING PROGRAM FOR EXECUTING THE METHOD

## ABSTRACT OF DISCLOSURE

An information recording medium includes a lead-in area, a user data area, and a lead-out area, and at least one of the lead-in area or the lead-out area includes a compatibility information area in which compatibility information, specifying whether each area on the information recording medium is recordable and/or reproducible, is recorded. The compatibility information may include at least one of state information on whether the user data area is recordable and/or reproducible, state information on whether the lead-in/lead-out area is recordable and/or reproducible, state information on whether the compatibility information area is recordable and/or reproducible, or state information on whether a defect management area (DMA) is recordable and/or reproducible. Here, the DMA stores information of defects that have occurred in the user data area. Accordingly, an existing drive or apparatus for recording and/or reproducing data on and/or from an information recording medium can smoothly record and/or reproduce data on an information recording medium that is of a higher version than the existing drive or apparatus.

Figure 4