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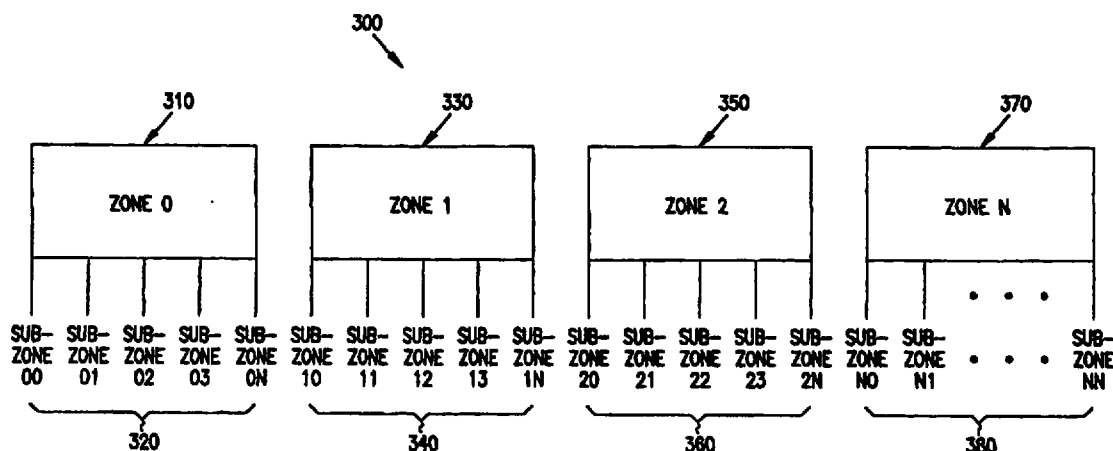


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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/14210 ✓ (22) International Filing Date: 25 June 1999 (25.06.99) ✓ (30) Priority Data: ① 60/090,874 ✓ 26 June 1998 (26.06.98) ✓ US ✓ ② 09/344,132 ✓ 24 June 1999 (24.06.99) ✓ US ✓ (71) Applicant: ① SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY, INC. [US/US]; 920 Disc Drive, B15-7, Scotts Valley, CA 95066 (US). (71)(72) Applicants and Inventors: ① MALAKAPALLI, Krishna, Rameshwaray [IN/US]; 12725 Sable Drive, Burnsville, MN 55441 (US); ② DAO, Kevin, Nghia [US/US]; 14862 Delft Avenue West, Rosemount, MN 55068 (US). KOTHARI, Bharatkumar, Mansukhlal [US/US]; 10099 Gristmill Ridge, Eden Prairie, MN 55347-4761 (US); ③ AGUILAR, John, T. [US/US]; 5627 Green Circle Drive, Minnetonka, MN 55434 (US). (74) Agents: HOLLOWAY, Sheryl, S.; Schwegman, Lundberg, Woessner & Kluth, P.O. Box 2938, Minneapolis, MN 55402 (US) et al.		(81) Designated States: CN, DE, GB, JP, KR, (SG) ✓ Published With international search report. ✓ 2 PDs. 1 appl ⁿ . (see 1B/306) - addn follow 1B/306, inform e agent, & ask 'em to lodge PF23 to correct e addn in PF37. 4 Invs. IPC: H04N 5/76; G11B 3/90, 5/09 ✓ IPER 26/1/00.	

(54) Title: VARIABLE DISC DRIVE CYLINDER RECORDING SYSTEM ✓



(57) Abstract

A method to dynamically map known lower performing heads for disc drives in order to reduce the likelihood of expensive manufacturing rework being conducted on the entire drive. Using the head in a drive that is performing well or better than average, the method allows one to record more bits per density on that specific head. This is especially true where zone recording (300) is done, otherwise known as defining the recording density for a group of cylinders (310, 330, 350, 370). Frequency-adjusting of heads (lowering the recording frequency) within a cylinder allows for variable logical block addressing schemes that correspond to a user's preferred data accessing layout. Several tracks may be accessed, while others can be reserved for system data. The method described works particularly well in a headerless architecture environment. The performance of lower performing or "poor" heads can be improved.