

A B S T R A C TDISK DRIVE SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR ACCESSING
A PHYSICAL MEMORY LOCATION THEREIN

The present invention provides a method for accessing a physical memory location in a disk drive system having at least one magnetic storage disk (12) having a plurality of the physical memory locations (40), and at least one magnetic head (14) for accessing the physical memory locations, wherein each physical memory location is designated by a cylinder number, a head number and a sector number, the method comprising the steps of receiving a request for access to a physical memory location, the request comprising a logical cylinder address, a logical head address and a logical sector address, translating the logical cylinder address, the logical head address and the logical sector address into a physical cylinder number, a physical head number and a physical sector number, and seeking the at least one magnetic head to the physical memory location on the at least one magnetic storage disk designated by the physical cylinder number, the physical head number and the physical sector number. The translating step comprises obtaining the physical cylinder number by referring to an index table in which logical cylinder addresses correspond with physical cylinder numbers for physical cylinders arbitrarily located on the at least one magnetic storage disk.

[Figure 3]

This Sheet Has Been Replaced

