ABSTRACT

"A method and device for monitoring flying height and the performance of a slider-disk interface"

A method and device for monitoring flying height and the performance of a slider-disk interface using the slider itself as a flying height transducer. Most sliders are conductive at present. A flying height monitoring device for monitoring the flying height of a slider above a rotatable disk is disclosed. The device comprises a flying height transducer for producing a signal indicative of the flying height, one pole of the transducer comprising a conductive slider and the other pole of the transducer comprising a surface of a conductive disk. A method of monitoring the flying height of a slider above a rotatable disk is also disclosed, the method comprising the step of producing a flying height signal indicative of the flying height from a transducer, one pole of the transducer comprising a conductive slider and the other pole of the transducer comprising a surface of a conductive disk.

[Figure 1]