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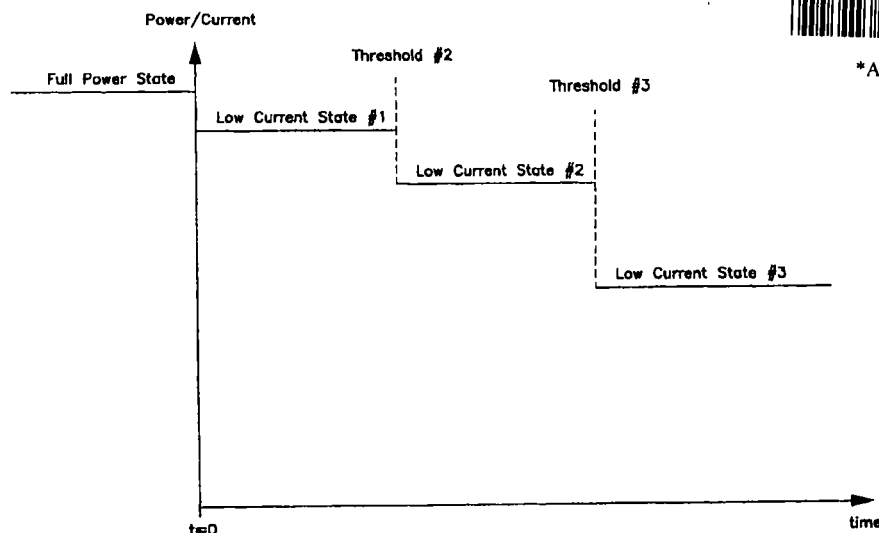
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(54) Title: INTELLIGENT POWER MANAGEMENT OF DISC DRIVES



ACTION

(57) Abstract: Herein is disclosed a method and apparatus for controlling power consumption of a disc drive in a portable computer based upon statistical characteristics of recent user disc access. This is accomplished by a disc drive that initially instantiates a set of thresholds, each of which govern transition into a corresponding power consumption mode. Next, the disc drive measures, at intervals, the time span since the disc drive was last issued a command. Prior to receipt of a new command by the disc drive, the disc drive is progressively transitioned into lower power consumption modes as the measured time span since the last command was issued meets each successive threshold. Following receipt of a new command by the disc drive, the threshold governing transition in to the next lower power consumption mode is adjusted based upon the measured time span.

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