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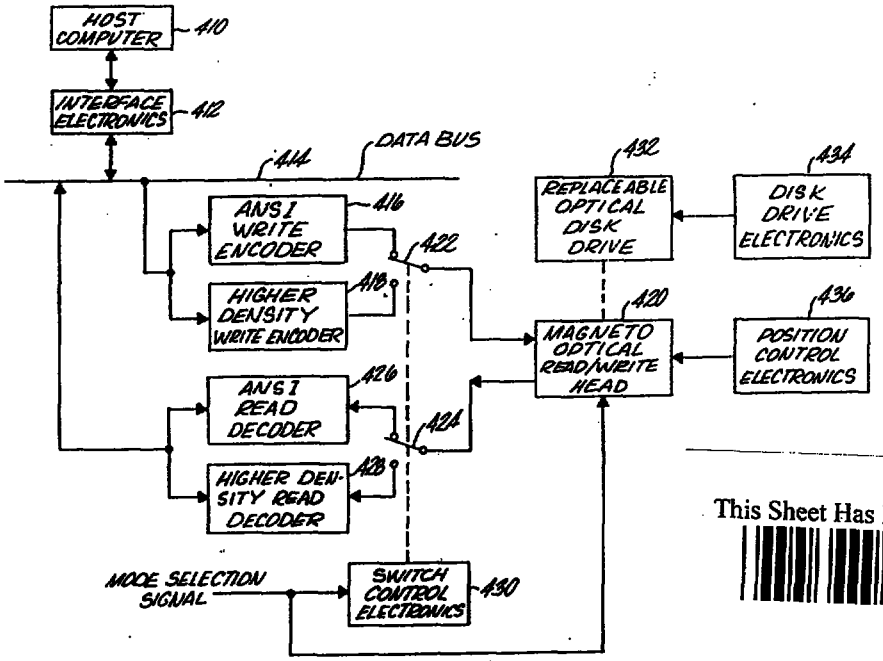
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(54) Title: OPTICAL DATA STORAGE AND RETRIEVAL SYSTEM AND METHOD



This Sheet Has Been Replaced

(57) Abstract

A first write encoder (418) encodes digital data in a first high density format. A second write encoder (416) encodes digital data in a second low density, i.e. ANSI format. A first read decoder (428) decodes digital data from the first format. A second read decoder (426) decodes digital data from the second format. A disk drive (434) receives a replaceable 90 millimeter optical disk. A read/write head (420) reads and writes encoded data on the disk. Control electronics switches (430) depending on the recorded format in a first mode where the first encoder is connected between a source of digital data (410) and the head (420), and the first decoder is connected between the head and utilizing apparatus (410), and in a second mode, the second encoder is connected between the source and the head, and the second decoder is connected between the head and the utilizing apparatus.