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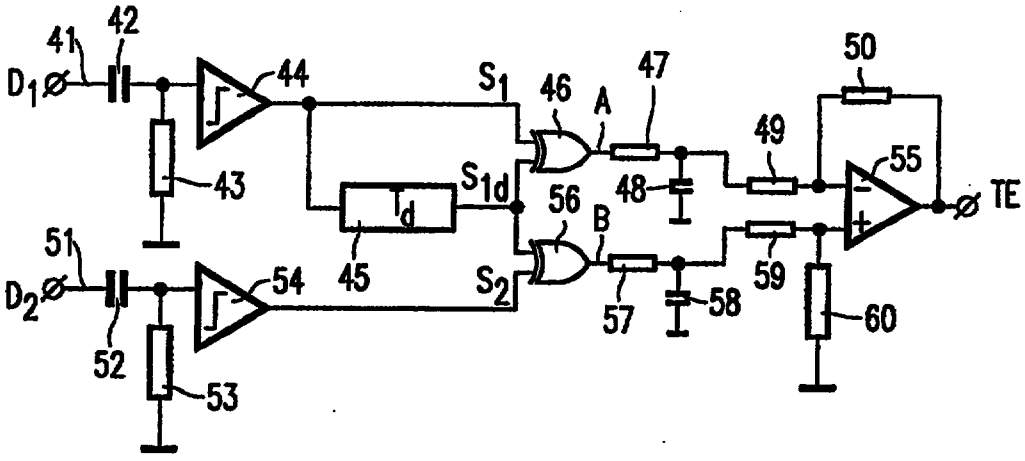
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(54) Title: APPARATUS AND DETECTION UNIT FOR SCANNING AN OPTICALLY READABLE RECORD CARRIER



(57) Abstract

A description is given of an apparatus and a detection unit for sanning an optically readable record carrier (1), in which a light beam modulated by the information marks in a track on the record carrier is incident on the detection unit (15) comprising four detectors. A reliable tracking error signal based on time differences between detector signals is obtained for high–density recording by comparing digitized signals of the detectors with a delayed signal Td generated by delay unit (45) based on the digitized signals. The time differences between the detector signals result in length differences between pulses in the comparing signals A and B, which pulses have a nominal length of Td. The comparing signals A and B are low–pass filtered and combined to generate the tracking error signal TE.