

ABSTRACT



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**Accommodation of Media Defect Growth on a Data Storage Medium
Through Dynamic Remapping**

An apparatus, program product and method of mapping defects on a data storage medium analyze (58) one or more previously-identified defects on a storage medium to detect any growth in those defects over time, such that any detected growth of a previously-identified defect can be accommodated for through the dynamic remapping (50) of additional surface area adjacent the defect to one or more replacement regions located elsewhere on the storage medium. As such, any buffer regions defined around pre-existing defects are effectively maintained as those defects grow over time, thus maintaining suitable protection from data loss that would otherwise result from an attempt to store information in a region that has been impinged upon as a result of the growth of an adjacent defect.

Fig. 3A.