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(71) Applicant: SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY, INC. [US/US]; 920 Disc Drive, Scotts Valley, CA 95066 (US).

(72) Inventors: WILDE, Jeffrey, P.; 18555 Mountain View Avenue, Los Gatos, CA 95030 (US). TSELIKOV, Alexander; 3803 Darwin Drive #265, Fremont, CA 94555 (US). ZHANG, Yongwei; 1504 Woodmeadow Court, San Jose, CA 95131 (US). GRAY, George, R.; 14180 Flagstone Terrace, Apple Valley, MN 55124 (US).

(74) Agent: WARDAS, Mark, A.; Quinta Corporation, 1870 Lundy Avenue, San Jose, CA 95131–1826 (US).

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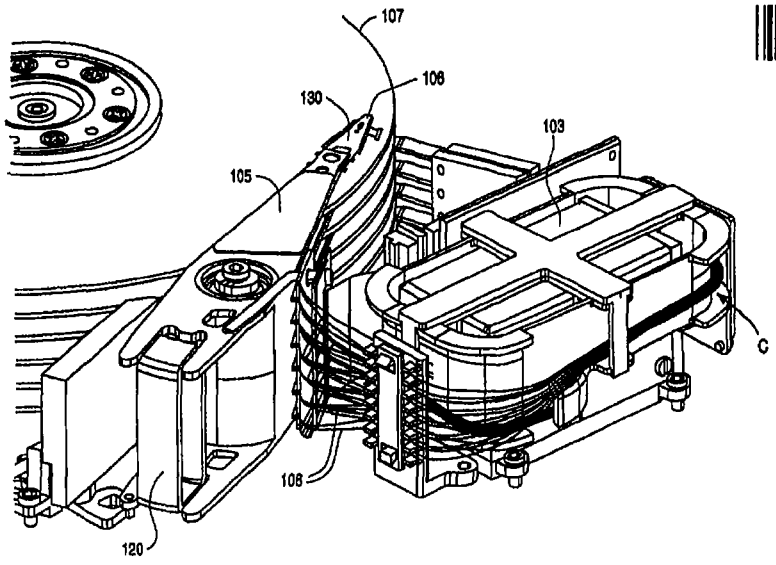


162162

(54) Title: OPTICAL DATA STORAGE SYSTEM UTILIZING POLARIZATION MAINTAINING OPTICAL FIBER



G00002



(57) Abstract

An optical system and method for selective transmission of light between a source of light and a set of optical storage disks along an optical path includes at least one polarization maintaining optical fiber. Various noise reduction techniques are provided by substantially decreasing or eliminating spurious reflections (or the effects thereof) at end faces of an optical fiber. In particular, various techniques, such as index matching, a cover slip method, laser modulation, or angle polishing, may be used to eliminate spurious reflections (or the effects thereof) at the front end face of the optical fiber. Various techniques, such as angle cleaving, index matching, or multi-mode fiber splicing, may be used to eliminate spurious reflections (or the effects thereof) at the back end face of the optical fiber.

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