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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/05340 (22) International Filing Date: 18 March 1998 (18.03.98) (30) Priority Data: 60/041,067 18 March 1997 (18.03.97) US (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): SEAGATE TECHNOLOGY, INC. [US/US]; Intellectual Property Building 14, 920 Disc Drive, Scotts Valley, CA 95066 (US). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): KUO, David, S. [US/US]; 18923 Sydney Circle, Castro Valley, CA 94546 (US). MARCHON, Bruno [US/US]; 1810 Hamilton Avenue, Palo Alto, CA 94303 (US). YAO, Wei, H. [-/US]; 33909 Shylock Drive, Fremont, CA 94555 (US). (74) Agent: NIEBUHR, Frederick, W.; Larkin, Hoffman, Daly & Lindgren, Ltd., 7900 Xerxes Avenue South #1500, Bloomington, MN 55431 (US).		(81) Designated States: CN, DE, GB, JP, KR, SG, US. Published <i>With international search report.</i>
(54) Title: MAGNETIC MEDIA WITH RANDOMLY POSITIONED TEXTURING FEATURES		
(57) Abstract A magnetic data storage medium includes a dedicated transducing head contact zone for engaging an air bearing slider, primarily when the disk is stationary. The contact zone is textured with an irregular sequence of spaced apart nodules forming a substantially circumferential, spiral path. The spiral path includes multiple turns that define a uniform radial pitch. The circumferential pitch is irregular, more preferably determined according to pseudo-random function in which the actual spacing intervals vary about a nominal interval, over a range comparable to, but generally less than, the interval. The pseudo-random array can be formed by a texturing process that includes directing a focused laser beam onto the contact zone. The disk is rotated to maintain a constant circumferential speed relative to the laser, and also is translated radially to provide the desired radial pitch. The laser is operated in a continuous wave mode, with an acousto-optic modulator between the laser and disk operated to provide a pseudo-random variance in time intervals between successive laser exposures.		

