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ABSTRACT:

Magneto-optical read/write device.

In a magneto-optical read/write device a magneto-optical read/write head comprises a radiation source (4) for generating a radiation beam (5). The radiation beam (5) is focused at a magneto-optical detection system (7) by an optical system (6) *via* a record carrier (1). The magneto-optical detection system (7) comprises two radiation-sensitive detectors (10,11). Outputs of the detectors (10,11) are connected *via* DC coupled current-to-voltage converters (12,13) to an input of an adder circuit and of a subtracter circuit to obtain a sum signal and a difference signal. The sum signal on the output of the adder circuit (13) is coupled to an input (20) of a selection circuit (17) *via* a capacitive coupling (16). The difference signal on the output of the subtracter circuit (14) is coupled to an input (22) of the selection circuit (17). An output (21) of the selection circuit (17) is coupled to a signal processing circuit (18a) *via* a capacitive coupling (18).

The device is especially suitable for use in combination with magneto-optical record carriers comprising sector headers having a pre-arranged pit structure. When information areas between the sector headers are recorded and erased, whereas the intensity level is maintained at a constant read level when the sector headers are scanned, undesired transition phenomena on the output of the selection circuit (17) can be avoided with the aid of the device.

(Fig. 1)

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