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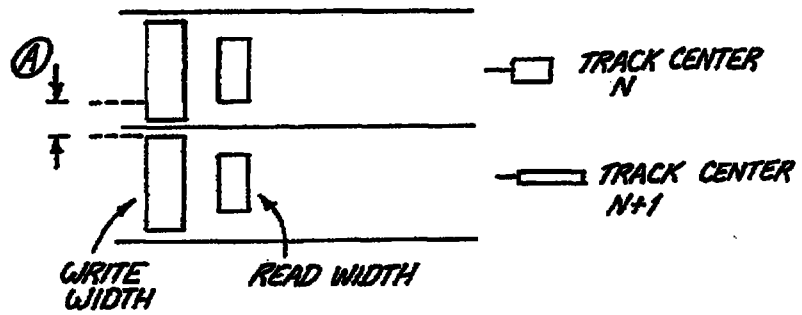
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(54) Title: ADAPTIVE CONTROL OF A WRITE INHIBIT SIGNAL IN A DISK DRIVE



A= VARIES WITH HEAD GEOMETRY
THE LARGER THE VALUE A THE LARGER THE WRITE INHIBIT CAN BE SAFELY SET
THE SMALLER THE VALUE A THE SMALLER THE WRITE INHIBIT CAN BE SET.

(57) Abstract

A method for controlling assertion of a write inhibit signal in a disk drive (20) is described. The disk drive comprises at least one rotating disk (22) having data recording surfaces, and a head (24) for each recording surface. Each head is mounted by an actuator (28) for selective positioning of the head over the respective disk surface. Each disk surface includes data tracks. The method comprises the steps of calculating and storing a write inhibit threshold value (42a) for each head in the disk drive, performing a track following operation to determine position of a preselected head relative to a preselected data track, retrieving the write inhibit threshold value for the preselected head, comparing the determined head position to the retrieved write inhibit threshold value and asserting a write inhibit signal upon a certain relationship between the determined head position and the retrieved write inhibit threshold value.