ABSTRACT

OPTICAL PICKUP APPARATUS

An optical pickup apparatus for reading data stored in a flat information carrier disc (7) by projecting a beam of light from a laser source (1) onto the disc surface and directing light reflected by the disc toward a photodetector (8). The apparatus includes a diffraction grating (4a) which derives from the laser beam a main beam (9a), which is focussed on the disc for data reproduction, and a pair of sub-beams (10a, 11a), which are focussed on the disc for use in sensing tracking error of the main beam. A holographic grating (3) directs the light reflected by the disc toward the photodetector (8). The diffraction grating (4a) is arranged between the laser source (1) and the holographic grating (3) such that the light beam (9c-11c) directed by the holographic grating to the photodetector does not pass through the diffraction grating.