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OPTICAL SEEKING METHOD AND APPARATUS

ABSTRACT

A method and apparatus for moving an optical head from an initial track to a target track. A data indicator signal is derived from a reflectivity level and includes indicator points corresponding to false indicators of track crossings. A track count number is incremented for each true indicator of a track crossing. The optical head is stopped when the track count number equals the total number of tracks to be crossed. The apparatus includes a sensor for measuring the reflectivity level, a preamplifier for generating a data signal, a tracking error signal generator for deriving a tracking error signal, a track/hold selector to direct the tracking error signal generator to generate a signal of constant amplitude for a predetermined period of time, and a track crossing signal generator responsive to the tracking error signal for deriving a track crossing signal.

Figure 4



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