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(54) Title: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR CALIBRATION OF A READ/WRITE CHANNEL

(57) Abstract

A read channel is described for use in a storage device including a storage medium (22a-d) for storing data, an interactive element (24a-h) for reading information from and writing information on the storage medium (22a-d) and a processor (35) for performing control functions in the storage device. The read channel comprises a set of electronic components (50, 52, 54) for receiving and processing information read by the interactive element from the storage medium. An adjustable noise generator (56) is included in the read channel and is coupled to the set of electronic components. The noise generator (56) is selectively operated to introduce noise into the set of electronic components to cause the set of electronic components to operate at a marginal level of performance and thereby increase the error rate of the read channel. A calibration of the read channel is performed when the read channel is operating at the marginal level of performance to decrease the time required to accumulate error statistics used in the calibration.

