19 SEP 2002

PCT WORLD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ORGANIZATION
International Bureau

INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(51) International Patent Classification 6 : G11B 7/135 — A1

(11) International Publication Number: **WO 99/50843**

(43) International Publication Date: 7 October 1999 (07.10.99)

(21) International Application Number: PCT/US99/06982

(22) International Filing Date: 30 March 1999 (30.03.99)

(30) Priority Data:

60/079,903	30 March 1998 (30.03.98)	US
60/088,192	5 June 1998 (05.06.98)	US
09/124,812	29 July 1998 (29.07.98)	US
60/108,398	13 November 1998 (13.11.98)	US
Not furnished	9 December 1998 (09.12.98)	US
Not furnished	30 March 1999 (30.03.99)	US

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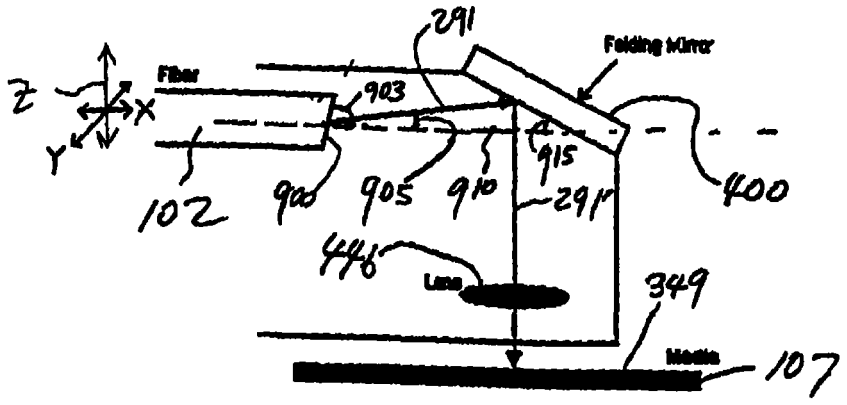
(81) Designated States: CN, JP, KR, SG, European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE).

Published
With international search report.
Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.



G00002

(54) Title: OPTICAL DATA STORAGE SYSTEM WITH MEANS FOR REDUCING NOISE FROM SPURIOUS REFLECTIONS



(57) Abstract

An optical data storage system utilizes optical fibers for transfer of information to and from storage media. The storage media comprise magneto-optical storage disks. The optical fibers are low-birefringence optical fibers. As compared with conventional approaches, a polarization state conveyed by the optical fiber is accurately reproduced with reduced noise. Various noise reduction techniques are provided by substantially decreasing or eliminating spurious reflections (or the effects thereof) at end faces and of an optical fiber. In particular, various techniques, such as index matching, a cover slip method, laser modulation, or angle polishing, may be used to eliminate spurious reflections (or the effects thereof) at the front end face of the optical fiber. Various techniques, such as angle cleaving, index matching, or multi-mode fiber splicing, may be used to eliminate spurious reflections (or the effects thereof) at the back end face of the optical fiber.



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