

Description

The present invention relates to a digital signal processing circuit for use, for example, in a magnetic recording and reproducing apparatus for recording and reproducing a digital audio signal with the use of a rotary drum (hereinafter referred to as "digital audio tape recorder" or "DAT").

While such a digital audio tape recorder can record and reproduce an audio signal at a high density with deterioration in the quality of sound effectively being prevented from occurring, it is unavoidable that the overall structure becomes complex. Therefore, it is the industry practice to implement circuit blocks such as the digital signal processing circuitry and the servo circuitry in integrated circuits to thereby simplify the overall structure.

Generally, in digital audio tape recorders, the magnetic heads are disposed on a rotary drum, having a diameter of 30 mm, at an angular separation of 180° and a magnetic tape is wound around the rotary drum through a lap angle of 90°.

However, it is possible to miniaturise the DAT using a rotary drum 15 mm in diameter with magnetic heads disposed thereon at an angular separation of 180° and with a magnetic tape lap angle of 180°. With this arrangement, it is possible to obtain similar record tracks to those obtained with the use of the 30 mm rotary drum.

However, when a rotary drum of 15 mm in diameter is used, the record signal must be supplied to the magnetic heads disposed on the rotary drum at a different timing from that when a rotary drum of 30 mm in diameter is used.

That is, it becomes necessary to provide a digital signal processing circuit which will output the record signal at a different timing depending on whether the rotary drum of 30 mm in diameter is used or the rotary drum of 15 mm in diameter is used.

As a measure to solve such a problem, it is considered to add a specific converter circuit to the digital signal processing circuit for changing the timing of the output so that only one type of digital signal processing circuit need be used for the cases where the rotary drum is 30 mm in diameter or 15 mm in diameter. In such a case, however, the overall structure becomes accordingly complex. Further, duplicated circuit portions are required in the converter circuit and the digital signal processing circuit and, therefore, this arrangement is still insufficient for practical use.

In view of the foregoing, an object of the present invention is to provide a digital signal processing circuit which will be used in common for different mechanical organisations of a digital audio tape recorder with respect to different sized rotary drums or the like.

EP-A-0,257,991 discloses a rotary head tape recorder in accordance with the preambles of claim 1 and claim 6.

According to the present invention, there is provided a digital signal processing circuit for use in any one of a plurality of different digital signal recording apparatus operative to convert a digital signal to a record signal and then to output the record signal at a predetermined timing to magnetic heads on a rotary drum with a magnetic tape wound around the same, thereby to record the digital signal on the magnetic tape, the circuit being characterised by:

memory means for storing for a respective recording apparatus control data representative of the diameter of the rotary drum, the lap angle of the magnetic tape wound around the rotary drum, and the angular spacing of the magnetic heads on the rotary drum; and

means connected to the memory means and responsive to the stored control data for outputting the record signal at a specific transmission speed and at a timing switched as a function of the data stored in the memory means.

The invention also provides a digital signal processing circuit for use in any one of a plurality of different digital tape recorder/reproducer for recording and reproducing signals on a magnetic tape, and including a rotary drum of a known diameter about which, in use, the tape is wrapped through a known angle and a pair of magnetic heads mounted on the rotary drum with a known angular spacing, the digital signal processing circuit comprising:

a digital memory for storing data, including control data for a respective recorder/reproducer representing the diameter of the rotary drum, the lap angle of the magnetic tape, and the angular spacing of the magnetic heads;

a digital signal input/output circuit supplied with the control data, from the digital memory for receiving, during recording, an input digital data signal, dividing it into blocks of data, and temporarily storing the blocks of data in the digital memory, and, upon reproduction of data signals recorded on the magnetic tape, temporarily storing the reproduced digital data signals in the memory and thereafter loading reproduced digital data signals from the digital memory by blocks and outputting the blocks of digital data;

a record signal generating circuit connected to the digital memory and supplied with the control data, for, during recording, loading digital data signals from the digital memory, modulating the digital data signals, and outputting the modulated, digital data signals as a record signal at a predetermined timing in accordance with the control data, and thereby, the digital signal is successively recorded on the magnetic tape in a predetermined record format.

The invention further provides a digital signal recording method for converting a digital signal to a record signal and then outputting the record signal at a predetermined timing to a magnetic head on a rotary drum with a magnetic tape wound around the same,

thereby recording the digital signal on the magnetic tape, characterised by the steps of outputting the record signal at a specified transmission speed and at a timing switched in accordance with information as to the drum diameter of the rotary drum, information as to the lap angle of the magnetic tape wound around the rotary drum, and information as to the angular spacing of the magnetic heads on the rotary drum, at least a part of such information being stored in a digital memory the remainder being optionally recorded on the magnetic tape and extracted during reproduction of signals recorded on the magnetic tape.

Other optional features of the invention are defined in the sub-claims.

The invention will be further described by way of non-limitative example with reference to the accompanying drawings, in which:-

Figure 1 is a block diagram showing a digital signal processing circuit according to an embodiment of the present invention;

Figure 2 is a block diagram showing a digital audio tape recorder in which the circuit depicted in Figure 1 is employed;

Figure 3 is a table showing the data arrangement of a mode byte;

Figure 4 is a table showing the data arrangement of a status byte;

Figure 5 is a schematic plan view showing a structure of a rotary drum of a type A head arrangement;

Figure 6 is a table for explaining the operations in various types of DATs;

Figures 7(A) and 7(B) are signal waveform charts showing the operation of the type A head arrangement during the LP mode recording of the normal mode, with FIG. 7(A) showing both the rotary drum reference signal (D_{REF}) and the switching pulse signal (SWP) and FIG. 7(B) showing the record signal (S_{REC});

FIGS. 8(A) to 8(D) are signal wave form charts showing the operation of the type A head arrangement during the SP mode recording of the normal mode, with FIG. 8(A) showing both the rotary drum reference signal (D_{REF}) and the switching pulse signal (SWP), FIG. 8(B) showing the record signal (S_{REC}), FIG. 8(C) showing the reproduced signal (S_{RF}), and FIG. 8(D) showing the record signal in the after recording mode (S_{RECAF});

FIGS. 9(A) to 9(C) are signal wave form charts showing the operation of the type A head arrangement during the reproduction of a tape recorded in the LP mode of the normal mode, with FIG. 9(A) showing the rotary drum reference signal (D_{REF}), FIG. 9(B) showing the switching pulse signal (SWP) and FIG. 9(C) showing the reproduced signal (S_{RF});

FIG. 10 is a schematic plan view showing a head arrangement of a rotary drum of the types B, C,

and D;

FIGS. 11(A) to 11(C) are signal wave form charts showing the operation of the type B head arrangement during the LP mode recording of the normal mode, with FIG. 11(A) showing both the rotary drum reference signal (D_{REF}), FIG. 11(B) showing the switching pulse signal (SWP), and FIG. 11(C) showing the record signal (S_{REC});

FIGS. 12(A) to 12(E) are signal wave form charts showing the operation of the type B head arrangement during the SP mode recording of the normal mode, with FIG. 12(A) showing the rotary drum reference signal (D_{REF}), FIG. 12(B) showing the switching pulse signal (SWP), FIG. 12(C) showing the record signal (S_{REC}), FIG. 12(D) showing the reproduced signal (S_{RF}), and FIG. 12(E) showing the record signal in the after recording mode (S_{RECAF});

FIGS. 13(A) to 13(C) are signal wave form charts showing the operation of the type B head arrangement during the reproduction of a tape recorded in the LP mode of the normal mode, with FIG. 13(A) showing the rotary drum reference signal (D_{REF}), FIG. 13(B) showing the switching pulse signal (SWP) and FIG. 13(C) showing the reproduced signal (S_{RF});

FIGS. 14(A) and 14(B) are signal wave form charts showing the operation of the type C head arrangement during the LP mode recording of the normal mode, with FIG. 14(A) showing both the rotary drum reference signal (D_{REF}) and the switching pulse signal (SWP) and FIG. 14(B) showing the record signal (S_{REC});

FIGS. 15(A) and 15(B) are signal wave form charts showing the operation of the type C head arrangement during the SP mode recording of the normal mode, with FIG. 15(A) showing both the rotary drum reference signal (D_{REF}) and the switching pulse signal (SWP) and FIG. 15(B) showing the record signal (S_{REC});

FIGS. 16 (A1) to 16(C) are signal wave form charts showing the operation of the type C head arrangement during the reproduction of a tape recorded in the LP and SP modes of the normal mode, with FIG. 16 (A1) showing the rotary drum reference signal (D_{REF}) in the LP mode and FIG. 16(A2) showing the rotary drum reference signal (D_{REF}) in the SP mode, FIG. 16(B) showing the switching pulse signal (SWP) and FIG. 16(C) showing the reproduced signal (S_{RF}) in both modes;

FIGS. 17(A) to 17(D) are signal wave form charts showing the operation of the type C head arrangement during the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode, in either of the LP mode or the SP mode, with FIG. 17(A) showing both the rotary drum reference signal (D_{REF}) and the switching pulse signal (SWP), FIG. 17(B) show-

ing the reproduced signal (S_{RF}), FIG. 17(C) showing the record signal (S_{REC}), and FIG. 17(D) showing the record signal in the after recording mode (S_{RECAF});

FIGS. 18(A) to 18(C) are signal wave form charts showing the operation of the type D head arrangement during the reproduction of a tape recorded in the LP mode of the normal mode, with FIG. 18(A) showing the rotary drum reference signal (D_{REF}), FIG. 18(B) showing the switching pulse signal (SWP) and FIG. 18(C) showing the reproduced signal (S_{RF});

FIGS. 19(A) to 19(D) are signal wave form charts showing the operation of the type D head arrangement when the magnetic tape recorded in the SP mode is reproduced, with FIG. 19(A) showing both the rotary drum reference signal (D_{REF}) and the switching pulse signal (SWP), FIG. 19(B) showing the reproduced signal (S_{RF}), FIG. 19(C) showing the record signal (S_{REC}), and FIG. 19(D) showing the record signal in the after recording mode (S_{RECAF}); and

FIGS. 20(A) to 22(B) are signal wave form charts similar to those of the preceding figures for explaining the operation of the record signal generating circuit depicted in FIG. 1 for the head arrangements of the types A, B, and C or D, respectively.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

An embodiment of the present invention will be described below in detail with reference to the accompanying drawings.

(1) Structure of a digital audio tape recorder

Referring to FIG. 2, reference numeral 1 denotes the whole of a digital audio tape recorder, which converts an audio signal in a stereo system to a digital signal and records the digital signal.

In the digital audio tape recorder 1, an input display circuit 2, which includes a processor circuit, generates operating data D_{SOU} in response to operation of operating devices and also changes the display on its display panel in accordance with the display data output from a system control circuit 6.

A servo circuit 4 is entirely arranged in an integrated circuit form and includes the system control circuit 6, a reel motor control circuit 10, a mechanical control circuit 12, a drum servo circuit 14 and a capstan servo circuit 16. The servo circuit 4 supplies the operating data D_{SOU} to the system control circuit 6 structured of a processor circuit (not shown).

The system control circuit 6, at the time of recording data, generates control data D_{CONT} in accordance with preset structural information corresponding to the structure, i.e. the diameter and head arrangement

of the rotary drum and the like of the digital audio tape recorder 1 and the operating data D_{SOU} and outputs the control data D_{CONT} to the reel motor control circuit 10, the mechanical control circuit 12, the drum servo circuit 14, and the capstan servo circuit 16, which are internally connected, and to a digital signal processing circuit 18, which is externally connected to the servo circuit 4.

The system control circuit 6, at the time of reproduction of the recorded data, generates the control data D_{CONT} , other than a status byte, and outputs it to the digital signal processing circuit 18.

Further, at the time of reproduction of the data, the system control circuit 6 takes the status byte data output from the digital signal processing circuit 18 and generates control data D_{CONT} using it and supplies the data to the reel motor control circuit 10, the mechanical control circuit 12, the drum servo circuit 14, and the capstan servo circuit 16.

Thus, the reel motor control circuit 10, the mechanical control circuit 12, the drum servo circuit 14, and the capstan servo circuit 16, at the time of recording, drive mechanical portions such as the magnetic tape traveling system of the digital audio tape recorder 1 in response to user operation, on the basis of the prescribed structural information and the operating data D_{SOU} .

On the other hand, the same elements, at the time of reproduction, drive the mechanical portions in response to the operation by the user and the mode of the digital audio signal recorded on the magnetic tape 19, on the basis of subcode data which has been recorded on the magnetic tape, the prescribed structural information, and the operating data D_{SOU} .

More specifically, the reel motor control circuit 10 drives the reel motor 20 in accordance with rotating speed information of a reel motor 22 input through an amplifier 20 (which information is formed of a frequency generator signal FG_1) and on the basis of the control data D_{CONT} output from the system control circuit 6, whereby the reel of a magnetic tape cassette (not shown) is driven to rotate at a predetermined speed.

The mechanical control circuit 12 controls the operations of a tape cassette loading and ejecting mechanism, magnetic tape loading mechanism, and the like (not shown) in accordance with the control data D_{CONT} output from the system control circuit 6.

The drum servo circuit 14, through an amplifier 25, controls the operation of a drum motor 24 in accordance with the control data D_{CONT} output from the system control circuit 6, thereby driving a rotary drum 26 to rotate at a predetermined speed.

At this time, the drum servo circuit 14 accepts from the drum motor 24 a frequency generated signal FG_2 , whose signal level rises at intervals of one rotation of the rotary drum 26, and a PG (pulse generator) signal, whose signal level rises at intervals of a pre-

determined angle of rotation of the rotary drum 26, through an amplifier 28. On the bases of these signals, the drum servo circuit 14 generates a switching pulse signal SWP whose signal level changes at intervals of one rotation of the rotary drum 26.

The drum servo circuit 14 further controls the operation of the drum motor 24 so that the phase of the switching pulse signal SWP becomes a predetermined phase referenced from a rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} output from the digital processing circuit 18, thereby driving the rotary drum 26 to rotate at a predetermined speed in synchronism with the timing of the signal processing in the digital signal processing circuit 18.

The rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} is formed of a reference signal, having a duty factor of 50%, recurring at an interleave period.

Therefore, when a set of magnetic heads are disposed on the rotary drum 26 at an angular distance of 180° and record tracks are formed in succession at intervals of a rotation of 180° of the rotary drum 26, the control is such that the switching pulse signal SWP can synchronize with the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} .

On the other hand, during reproduction of the signals recorded in the tape 19, the capstan servo circuit 16, on the basis of a pilot signal for ATF (automatic track finding) tracking control extracted from a reproduced signal S_{RF} , a frequency generated signal FG_3 input through an amplifier 30 from the capstan motor 32, and the control data D_{CONT} output from the system control circuit 6, drives a capstan motor 32 to rotate so that the magnetic tape 19 is moved at a predetermined speed and tracking control is performed.

(2) Structure of control data

The control data D_{CONT} is formed of serial data, whose predetermined bytes are assigned to a mode byte and a status byte, each being formed of 8 bits.

In the mode byte as shown in FIG. 3, the high-order two bits represent the diameter of the rotary drum 26 and the arrangement of the magnetic heads and the value set up in advance in the servo circuit 12 on the basis of the structure of the rotary drum or the like of the digital audio tape recorder 1 is output from the system control circuit 6 as the two-bit data.

More specifically, when the bits are "00", "01", "10", and "11", they mean that the arrangement of the rotary drum 26 and the magnetic heads constituting the digital audio tape recorder 1 is of type A, type B, type C, and type D, respectively.

The third bit indicates, when it is "1", that the digital audio tape recorder 1 is in a test signal recording mode.

When the third bit is "0", the fourth bit indicates, when it is "1", that the apparatus is in the state of reproduction, the fifth bit indicates, when it is "1", that

the apparatus is in the state of recording, and the sixth bit indicates whether the apparatus is in the normal mode ("0") in which recording and reproduction are performed at the normal recording and reproducing speeds or it is in the multiple-speed mode ("1") in which recording and reproduction are performed at two times the speeds in the normal mode.

Thus, it is arranged such that, when the mode byte is "-001000" or "-001100", it is detected that the apparatus is in the after record mode for recording subcode data in the normal mode or in the multiple-speed mode, respectively, and when it is "-01-0-" or "-01-1-", it is detected that the apparatus is in the recording mode in the normal mode or in the multiple-speed mode, respectively.

When the mode byte is "-01-0-" or "-01-1-", it indicates that the apparatus is in the state to start recording or in a standby state for recording, respectively. The bit "-" means that bit's data can be either "0" or "1".

The status byte as shown in FIG. 4, is generated, at the time of recording, in the system control circuit 6 on the basis of the operating data D_{SOU} , whereas at the time of reproduction and after recording, it is generated in the digital signal processing circuit 18 on the basis of the data of the subcode recorded on the magnetic tape 19.

In the status byte the high-order two bits represent the sampling frequency f_s of the digital audio signal, and the following two bits represent the number of channels of the audio signal which the digital audio tape recorder processes for recording and reproduction.

To the fifth and sixth bits are assigned the data for identifying the quantization process, e.g. 16 bit linear quantizing or 12 bit non-linear quantizing, respectively, used when the audio signal is converted to the digital audio signal and, conversely, the digital audio signal is converted to the audio signal, and the seventh and eighth bits are designed to identify the track pitch T_p .

Thus, when the status byte is "100-01-", it is known that the case is where an audio signal of two channels is subjected to a 16-bit non-linear quantization process at a sampling frequency of 32 kHz, and that the case is where recording is made in a long-play mode (hereinafter referred to as "LP mode") or a magnetic tape recorded in the LP mode is reproduced.

Further, when the status byte is "01----01", the mode is known to be a 1.5-times track pitch mode in which a magnetic tape recorded at 1.5 times the ordinary track pitch is reproduced. When the status byte is other than "100-01-" and "01----01" it is known that the case is where recording is made in a standard-play mode (hereinafter referred to as "SP mode") or a magnetic tape recorded in the SP mode is reproduced.

(1-1-1) Operation of the drum servo circuit and capstan servo circuit in the type A

The type A head arrangement indicated by the high-order two bits ("00") of the mode byte is arranged, as shown in FIG. 5, such that a pair of heads, i.e. an A head and a B head 33A and 33B, respectively, with different azimuth angles are disposed at an angular distance of 180° on the rotary drum 26 having a diameter of 30 mm, and the magnetic tape 19 is wound around the rotary drum 26 at a lap angle of 90° .

Therefore, the A and B heads 33A and 33B alternately scan the magnetic tape 19 every other period, the period being that during which the rotary drum 26 rotates 90° .

At this time, as shown in FIG. 6 under the column designated "A type", the drum servo circuit 14 and the capstan servo circuit 16 switch their operations in accordance with the data of the mode byte and the status byte and in the LP mode recording of the normal mode, the drum motor 24 and the capstan motor 32 operate so that the rotating speed N of the rotary drum 26 becomes 1000 rpm and the traveling speed V_t of the magnetic tape 19 becomes 4.075 mm/sec.

Therefore, as shown in FIGS. 7A and 7B, the rotary drum 26 makes one rotation in 60 msec in synchronism with the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} (FIG. 7(A)) (which, in this case, agrees with the switching pulse signal SWP).

Meanwhile, the magnetic heads 33A and 33B scan the magnetic tape 19 such that the A head 33A scans the magnetic tape 19 for the period of 15 msec, during which the rotary drum 26 rotates 90° , from the point of time t_{11} when the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} falls, whereas the B head 33B scans the magnetic tape 19 for the period of 15 msec, during which the rotary drum 26 rotates 90° from the point of time t_{12} when the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} rises.

In the SP mode recording of the normal mode, the drum servo circuit 14 and the capstan servo circuit 16 drive the drum motor 24 and the capstan motor 32, respectively, so that the rotating speed N of the rotary drum 26 becomes 2000 rpm and the traveling speed V_t of the magnetic tape 19 becomes 8.150 mm/sec.

Accordingly, in the SP mode, as shown in FIGS. 8(A) - (D), the rotary drum 26 makes one rotation in 30 msec, and meanwhile, the A head 33A scans the magnetic tape 19 for the period of 7.5 msec, during which the rotary drum 26 rotates 90° , from the point of time t_{21} when the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} falls, whereas the B head 33B scans the magnetic tape 19 for the period of 7.5 msec, during which the rotary drum 26 rotates 90° , from the point of time t_{22} when the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} rises.

In this way, in the normal mode recording of the type A, record tracks are successively formed in the format standardized for the digital audio tape recorder

by successively supplying record signals S_{REC} (FIG. 7(B) and FIG. 8(B)) to the magnetic heads 33A and 33B during the periods that the magnetic heads 33A and 33B scan the magnetic tape 19.

The characters A and B in FIG. 7(B) and FIG. 8(B), (C) represent recorded/reproduced signals by the A and B heads 33A and 33B, respectively.

To repeat, in the normal mode reproduction, the drum motor 24 is driven so that the rotating speed N of the rotary drum 26 becomes 2000 rpm and the capstan motor 32 is driven so that the traveling speed V_t of the magnetic tape 19 becomes 4.075 mm/sec or 8.150 mm/sec in the LP mode or in the SP mode, respectively.

In the reproducing mode, the rotary drum 26 is rotated at the same timing as that during recording in the SP mode. Hence, the magnetic heads 33A and 33B, when reproducing the magnetic tape 19 recorded in the SP mode, scan the magnetic tape 19 so as to draw the same scanning loci as those drawn at the time of recording, and thus, the reproduced signal S_{RF} obtained through the magnetic heads 33A and 33B is successively demodulated and an audio signal is reproduced.

In this case, the capstan servo circuit 16, when reproducing the magnetic tape 19 recorded in the SP mode, uses the ATF tracking servo method (hereinafter referred to as "ATF servo") to control the operation of the capstan motor 32, so that tracking control of the magnetic heads 33A and 33B is positively performed.

When a tape 19 recorded in the LP is reproduced, since the magnetic tape 19 travels at $1/2$ the traveling speed on recording, each of the magnetic heads 33A and 33B scans the magnetic tape 19 two times while the magnetic tape 19 travels one record track portion.

Therefore, the capstan servo circuit 16, as shown in FIGS. 9(A) - (C), controls the operation of the capstan motor 32 so that the switching pulse signal SWP (FIG. 9 (B)) exhibits two periods of changes during one period of the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} (FIG. 9(A)). Thus, tracking control is performed such that the magnetic heads 33A and 33B positively scan predetermined record tracks two times each (which control method will hereinafter be referred to as "semi NT servo")

In the case of the multi-speed recording/reproducing mode, in which high-speed dubbing of an audio signal is performed by recording or reproducing a tape at a recording/reproducing speed 2 times as high as that on recording (namely, consisting of 2 times-speed mode recording and 2 times-speed mode reproduction), the drum servo circuit 14 and the capstan servo circuit 16 drive the drum motor 24 and the capstan motor 32, respectively, so that the rotating speed N of the rotary drum 26 becomes 2000 rpm and the traveling speed V_t of the magnetic tape 19 becomes 8.150 mm/sec.

Thereby, with the traveling speed of the magnetic tape 19 relative to the rotating speed of the rotary drum 26 kept at the same value as that in the LP mode recording, the magnetic tape 19 is moved at a traveling speed switched to double that speed, and thus, recording/reproduction of an audio signal at 2 times the recording/reproducing speed in the LP mode recording is achieved.

Therefore, in the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode, the rotary drum 26 and the magnetic heads 33A and 33B operate at the same timing as that in the SP mode recording and reproduction (FIGS. 8(A) - (D)).

In the case of the after recording mode for recording subcode data, the drum servo circuit 14 and the capstan servo circuit 16 control the operation of the drum motor 24 and the capstan motor 32, respectively, so that the traveling speed V_t of the magnetic tape 19 and the rotating speed N of the rotary drum 26 become the same as those in the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode.

Thus, in the after recording mode, the rotary drum 26 and the capstan motor 32 are driven at the same timing as that in the SP mode recording (FIGS. 8(A) - (D)) and thereby, subcode data is recorded while the magnetic tape recorded in the LP mode or SP mode is being reproduced under the ATF servo control.

Thus, the drum servo circuit 14 and the capstan servo circuit 16 drive the rotary drum 26 and the magnetic tape 11 at predetermined speeds in accordance with the operating mode information and structural information of the digital audio tape recorder detected from the control data D_{CONT} .

(1-1-2) Operation of the drum servo circuit and capstan servo circuit in the type B

In the type B, as shown in FIG. 10, the A and B heads 33A and 33B are disposed at an angular distance of 180° and with an offset of $1/2$ track pitch on a rotary drum 26 having a diameter of 15 mm, and the magnetic tape 19 is wound around the rotary drum 26 at a lap angle of 180° .

Therefore, the A and B heads 33A and 33B alternately scan the magnetic tape 19 at intervals of the period during which the rotary drum 26 makes a half rotation.

At this time, the drum servo circuit 14 and the capstan servo circuit 16 operate in accordance with the data of the mode byte and the status byte and in the LP mode recording of the normal mode, drive the drum motor 24 and the capstan motor 32, respectively, so that the rotating speed N of the rotary drum 26 becomes 2000 rpm and the traveling speed V_t of the magnetic tape 19 becomes 4.075 mm/sec.

Further, in the SP mode recording of the normal mode, the drum servo circuit 14 and the capstan ser-

vo circuit 16 drive the drum motor 24 and the capstan motor 32, respectively, so that the rotating speed N of the rotary drum 26 becomes 4000 rpm and the traveling speed V_t of the magnetic tape 19 becomes 8.150 mm/sec.

Therefore, in the type B, the magnetic tape 19 travels during the period that the rotary drum 26 makes two rotations, a distance corresponding to the distance it travels during the period of one rotation in the type A. Since the $1/2$ track pitch offset is provided between the magnetic heads 33A and 33B, by supplying the record signal to the magnetic heads 33A and 33B continuously during the first rotation of the two rotations made by the rotary drum 26, record tracks are formed in succession in the format standardized for the digital audio tape recorder.

Therefore, as shown in FIGS. 11(A) - (C) and FIGS. 12(A) - (E), for the LP mode and the SP mode, respectively, of the normal recording mode, the rotary drum 26 is driven to rotate such that one period of the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} (FIG. 11(A) and FIG. 12(A)) corresponds to two periods of the switching pulse signals SWP (FIG. 11(B) and FIG. 12(B)) and the rotary drum 26 makes one rotation in 30 msec or 15 msec, respectively.

Meanwhile, the magnetic heads 33A and 33B are supplied with the record signals S_{REC} (FIG. 11(C) and FIG. 12(C)) during the period of the first rotation of the two rotations made by the rotary drum 26, and thereby record tracks are formed in succession.

In the normal mode reproduction, the drum motor 24 is driven so that the rotating speed N of the rotary drum 26 becomes 4000 rpm and the capstan motor 32 is driven so that the traveling speed V_t of the magnetic tape 19 becomes 4.075 mm/sec or 8.150 mm/sec in the LP mode or the SP mode, respectively.

Therefore, in the reproduction mode, the rotary drum 26 is rotated at the same timing as that in the SP mode recording of the normal mode (FIGS. 12(A) - (E) and FIGS. 13(A) - (C)).

Hence, the capstan servo circuit 16, when reproducing the magnetic tapes 19 recorded in the LP mode and in the SP mode, performs tracking control selecting the semi NT servo method and the ATF servo method, respectively.

In the case of the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode, the drum servo circuit 14 and the capstan servo circuit 16 drive the drum motor 24 and the capstan motor 32, respectively, so that the rotating speed of the rotary drum 26 becomes 4000 rpm and the traveling speed V_t of the magnetic tape 19 becomes 8.150 mm/sec.

Therefore, the rotating speed of the rotary drum 26 and the traveling speed of the magnetic tape 19 are set to be 2 times those in the LP mode recording of the "normal mode (FIGS. 12(A) - (E)) and thus, recording and reproduction at 2 times the recording/reproducing speed in the LP mode recording of the nor-

mal mode is achieved.

In the case of the after recording mode for recording subcode data, the drum servo circuit 14 and the capstan servo circuit 16 control the operation of the drum motor 24 and the capstan motor 32, respectively, so that the traveling speed V_t of the magnetic tape 19 and the rotating speed N of the rotary drum 26 become the same values as in the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode.

Thus, in the after recording mode, the subcode data is recorded again while the magnetic tape recorded in the LP mode or the SP mode is reproduced under the ATF servo control.

As described above, in the type B, just as in the type A, the drum servo circuit 14 and the capstan servo circuit 16 drive the drum motor 24 and the capstan motor 32, respectively, in accordance with operating mode information and structural information of the digital audio tape recorder 1 detected from the control data D_{CONT} .

(1-1-3) Operation of the drum servo circuit and capstan servo circuit in the type C

The type C corresponds to the arrangement of the type B but without the offset provided between the magnetic heads 33A and 33B.

In this case, the drum servo circuit 14 and the capstan servo circuit 16, in the LP mode recording of the normal mode, drive the drum motor 24 and the capstan motor 32, respectively, so that the rotating speed N of the rotary drum 26 becomes 1000 rpm and the traveling speed V_t of the magnetic tape 19 becomes 4.075 mm/sec. In the SP mode recording of the normal mode, the drum motor 24 and the capstan motor 32 are driven so that the rotating speed N of the rotary drum 26 becomes 2000 rpm and the traveling speed V_t of the magnetic tape 19 becomes 8.150 mm/sec.

Therefore, the rotary drum 26 makes one rotation in each of the LP mode and the SP mode, in 60 msec or 30 msec, respectively, in synchronism with the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} (FIG. 14(A) or FIG. 15(A)).

The magnetic heads 33A and 33B alternately scan the magnetic tape 19 during the periods that the signal level of the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} is held at high level and a low level, respectively, and, by supplying the record signal to each of the magnetic heads 33A and 33B at that time, record tracks are formed in succession in a standardized format for the digital audio tape recorder.

In the normal mode reproduction, the drum motor 24 is driven so that the rotating speed N of the rotary drum 26 becomes 4000 rpm and the capstan motor 32 is driven so that the traveling speed V_t of the magnetic tape 19 in the LP mode and the SP mode becomes 4.075 mm/sec and 8.150 mm/sec, respectively.

Hence, in the reproducing mode, as shown in FIGS. 16(A) - (C), the rotary drum 26 makes one rotation in 15 msec such that one period of reference drum signals D_{REF} (FIG. 16 (A1) and (A2)) become, in each of the LP and SP modes, respectively, two periods and four periods of the switching pulse signal SWP (FIG. 16(B)), and thus, tracking control is performed by the semi NT servo.

In the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode, the drum servo circuit 14 and the capstan servo circuit 16 drive the drum motor 24 and the capstan motor 32, respectively, so that the rotating speed N of the rotary drum 26 becomes 4000 rpm and the traveling speed V_t of the magnetic tape 19 becomes 16.30 mm/sec.

Therefore, in the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode, as shown in FIGS. 17(A) - (D), both the magnetic heads 33A and 33B, in either the LP mode or the SP mode, scan the record track during the period in which the rotary drum 26 makes one rotation in 15 msec in synchronism with the reference drum signal D_{REF} (FIG. 17(A)) and thereby recording and reproduction is achievable at recording/reproducing speeds four times and two times as high as that at the time of recording, respectively.

In the after recording mode for recording subcode data, the drum servo circuit 14 and the capstan servo circuit 16 control the operation of the drum motor 24 and the capstan motor 32, respectively, so that the traveling speed V_t of the magnetic tape 19 and the rotating speed N of the rotary drum 26 becomes the same as those in the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode.

Thus, in the after recording mode, the rotary drum 26 and the capstan motor 32 are driven at the same timing as that in the SP mode recording, and thereby, the subcode data is recorded again while the magnetic tape 19 recorded in the LP mode or the SP mode is being reproduced under the ATF servo control.

(1-1-4) Operation of the drum servo circuit and capstan servo circuit in the type D

The type D uses a rotary drum 26 of the same structure as that of the type C but the rotating speed N of the rotary drum 26 is made lower than that during reproduction.

More specifically, the drum servo circuit 14 and the capstan servo circuit 16, in the normal mode recording, drive the rotary drum motor 24 and the capstan motor 32, respectively, in the same conditions as in the type C. In the normal mode reproduction, however, the drum servo circuit 14 and the capstan servo circuit 16 drive the drum motor 24 so that the rotating speed N of the rotary drum 26 becomes 2000 rpm and drive the capstan motor 32 so that the traveling speed V_t of the magnetic tape 19 becomes 4.075 mm/sec

and 8.150 mm/sec in the LP mode and the SP mode, respectively, which are 1/2 of the corresponding values for the type C arrangement.

Hence, when the magnetic tape 19 recorded in the LP mode is reproduced, as shown in FIGS. 18(A) - (C), the rotary drum 26 is controlled such that one period of the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} (FIG. 18(A)) corresponds to two periods of the switching pulse signal SWP (FIG. 18(B)) and a reproduced signal S_{RF} (FIG. 18(C)) is obtained with the tracking control performed by the semi NT servo.

On the other hand, when the magnetic tape 19 recorded in the SP mode is reproduced, as shown in FIGS. 19(A) - (D), the rotary drum 26 rotates such that the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} and the switching pulse signal SWP (FIG. 19(A)) come into phase and a reproduced signal S_{RF} (FIG. 19(B)) is obtained with the tracking control performed by the ATF servo.

In the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode, the drum servo circuit 14 and the capstan servo circuit 16 control the drum motor 24 and the capstan motor 32, respectively, so that the rotating speed N of the rotary drum 26 becomes 2000 rpm and the traveling speed V_t of the magnetic tape 19 becomes 8.150 mm/sec.

Hence, the rotating speed of the rotary drum 26 and the traveling speed of the magnetic tape 19 in the recording of the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode are maintained at 2 times the speeds in the LP mode of the normal mode, and thus, recording and reproduction at 2 times the recording/reproducing speeds in the normal mode is made with the tracking control performed by the ATF servo (FIGS. 19(A) - (D)).

Further, in the after recording mode for recording subcode data, the drum servo circuit 14 and the capstan servo circuit 16 control the operation of the rotary drum motor 24 and the capstan motor 32, respectively, so that the traveling speed V_t of the magnetic tape 19 and the rotating speed of the rotary drum 26 become the same as those in the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode.

Thus, the drum servo circuit 14 and the capstan servo circuit 16 detect the structure of the rotary drum 26 depending on the control data D_{CONT} and drive the drum motor 24 and the capstan motor 32, respectively, in accordance with the result of the detection and the operating mode.

(1-2) Processing of the digital audio signal

Referring again to FIG. 2, a digital signal converter circuit 36 is composed of an analog digital converter, a digital analog converter, and a digital filter circuit (not shown). In the recording mode, the digital signal converter circuit 36 converts the right and left channel analog audio signals S_{RIN} and S_{LIN} , respectively, input to the digital audio tape recorder 1 into a digital audio

signal D_{AU} .

The digital signal converter circuit 36, in the reproducing mode, converts the digital audio signal output D_{AU} from the digital signal processing circuit 18 into right and left channel audio signals S_{ROUT} and S_{LOUT} , respectively, and outputs the audio signals S_{ROUT} and S_{LOUT} from the digital audio tape recorder 1.

Thus, in the digital audio tape recorder 1, audio signals S_{RIN} and S_{LIN} and audio signals S_{ROUT} and S_{LOUT} , which are all analog signals, are recorded and reproduced through the digital signal converter circuit 36.

(1-2-1) Digital signal processing circuit

The digital signal processing circuit 18 switches the operating mode in accordance with the control data D_{CONT} , and, on recording, it generates the record signal S_{REC} , while, on reproduction, it processes the reproduced signal S_{RF} .

More specifically, referring to FIG. 1 which shows the digital signal processing circuit 18 in more detail, an input/output circuit 40 converts a digital audio signal RX in an AES/EBU format input to the digital audio tape recorder 1 to a predetermined format and outputs the converted signal to a digital signal input/output circuit 41. The input/output circuit 41 receives or outputs the digital audio signal D_{AU} directly from the digital signal converter circuit 36 when recording or reproducing, respectively.

The input/output circuit 40 further converts a digital audio signal output from the digital signal input/output circuit 41 to a digital audio signal TX in the AES/EBU format and outputs the signal.

Thus the digital audio tape recorder 1 is enabled to record and reproduce the digital audio signals TX and RX in the AES/EBU format in addition to audio signals S_{RIN} and S_{LIN} as well as S_{ROUT} and S_{LOUT} , all thereof being analog signals.

The digital signal input/output circuit 41 loads the control data D_{CONT} from a predetermined region in a memory circuit 44 through a BUS and a memory interface circuit 42 at a predetermined timing and switches the operating mode on the basis of the control data D_{CONT} .

More specifically, the digital signal input/output circuit 41, at the time of recording, selectively inputs a digital audio signal output from the input/output circuit 40 or the digital signal converter circuit 36 in accordance with the control data D_{CONT} , divides the digital audio signal into predetermined blocks, interleaves the blocks, and stores the signal in the memory circuit 44.

The block is set to a period of 60 msec in the LP mode of the normal mode, to a period of 30 msec in the SP mode of the normal mode and in the LP mode of the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode,

and to a period of 15 msec in the SP mode of the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode.

The digital signal input/output circuit 41 has a reference signal generating circuit (not shown) and it generates a clock signal for sampling to be supplied to the digital signal converter circuit 36 and also generates a clock signal CK1 for record signal generation and the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} .

At this time, the digital signal input/output circuit 41 switches the signal level of the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} so that one block of the digital audio signal stored in the memory circuit 44 may correspond to one period of the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} .

Thus, in the digital signal processing circuit 18, by having the digital audio signal subjected to a block-wise interleave treatment and then having the signal stored in the memory circuit 44, one period of the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} agrees with the interleave period.

More specifically, the digital signal input/output circuit 41, by counting a predetermined clock signal using a counter circuit (not shown), sets the frequency of the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} to 50/3 Hz in the LP mode processing of the normal mode of the types A to D (FIGS. 7(A), (B), FIGS. 9(A) - (C), FIGS. 11(A) - (C), FIGS. 13(A) - (C), FIGS. 14(A), (B), FIGS. 16(A) - (C), and FIGS. 18(A) - (C)) and sets the frequency of the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} to 100/3 Hz in the SP mode processing of the normal mode (FIGS. 8(A) - (D), FIGS. 12(A) - (E), FIGS. 15(A), (B), FIGS. 16(A) - (C), and FIGS. 19(A) - (D)).

Further, in the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode of the LP mode and the after recording mode for subcode data in the types A, B, and D, and in the after recording mode of the SP mode in the types A, B, and D (FIGS. 8(A) - (D), FIGS. 12(A) - (E), and FIGS. 19(A) - (D)) it sets the frequency of the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} to 100/3 Hz and in the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode and the after record mode in the type C (FIGS. 17(A) - (D)) it sets the frequency to 200/3 Hz.

At the time of reproduction, the digital signal input/output circuit 41 loads the digital audio signal stored in the memory circuit 44 in units of blocks and then successively outputs the signal in accordance with a predetermined clock signal to the input/output circuit 40 and the digital signal converter circuit 36.

An error detection and correction circuit (ECC) 46, like the digital signal input/output circuit 41, loads the control data D_{CONT} stored in the memory circuit 44 at a predetermined timing and switches its operation in accordance with the control data D_{CONT} .

More specifically, at the time of recording, the error detection and correction circuit 46 accesses the memory circuit 44 at a predetermined timing and sequentially loads, through the digital signal input/output circuit 41, the digital audio signal stored in the

memory circuit 44, in the order of the performed interleave treatment.

Thereupon, the error detection and correction circuit 46 generates an error correcting parity code completing in the unit of a block (i.e., formed of an internal code and an external code) of data for the digital audio signal and then stores the parity code in the memory circuit 44.

At the time of reproduction, the error detection and correction circuit 46 sequentially loads reproduced data stored in the memory circuit 44 through a reproduced signal processing circuit 48, carries out the error detection and error correction of the reproduced data, and stores the data in the memory circuit 44.

Thus, at the time of recording, the digital audio signal with the parity code added thereto is sequentially stored in the memory circuit 44 in units of the blocks, whereas, at the time of reproduction, the digital audio signal finished with error correction code is sequentially stored in the memory circuit in the units of the blocks.

(1-2-2) Record signal generating circuit

The record signal generating circuit 50, like the digital signal input/output circuit 41, loads the control data D_{CONT} stored in the memory circuit 44 at a predetermined timing and switches its operation in accordance with the control data D_{CONT} .

More specifically, at the time of recording, the record signal generating circuit 50 sequentially reads out the digital audio signal stored in the memory circuit 44 together with the parity code in a predetermined order and applies an 8-10 modulation to the signals.

The record signal generating circuit 50, further, converts the modulated signal to serial data and outputs it with a pilot signal for an ATF tracking control sync signal and others attached thereto.

Thus, through the record signal generating circuit 50, a record signal S_{REC} which was first subjected to a block-wise interleave treatment and then provided with the parity code and the like can be obtained. By outputting the record signal S_{REC} to the magnetic heads 33A and 33B through an amplifier circuit 38, the digital audio signal can be successively recorded on the magnetic tape 19.

At this time, the record signal generating circuit 50, in accordance with the control data D_{CONT} , switches the data transmission speed and the timing of the outputting of the record signal S_{REC} , and thereby, the digital audio signal is successively recorded in the format standardized for the digital audio tape recorder.

More specifically, the record signal generating circuit 50 generates the reference signal for generating the record signal by dividing the frequency of a

clock signal CK1 and, at this time, the factor by which the frequency of the clock signal CK1 is divided is switched on the basis of the control data D_{CONT} .

The record signal generating circuit 50 further generates the record signal S_{REC} in accordance with the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} and the switching pulse signal SWP, and at this time, it switches the outputting timing in accordance with the control data D_{CONT} .

In the reproducing mode, the record signal generating circuit 50 stops outputting of the record signal S_{REC} in accordance with the control data D_{CONT} .

(1-2-3) Modes in the type A

In the type A, as shown in FIGS. 20(A), (B), the record signal S_{REC} (FIG. 20(B)) for one block unit is output in one period of the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} (FIG. 20(A)) such that the record signal S_{REC} is output for 1/4 period of the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} after the signal level of the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} changes.

At this time, the record signal generating circuit 50, in the LP mode recording, sets the transmission speed to 4.704 Mbps in accordance with the reference signal, whereas in the SP mode recording and in the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode, it sets the transmission speed to 9.408 Mbps.

Thus, in the LP mode recording of the type A, the record signal generating circuit 50 is able to supply the magnetic heads 33A and 33B with a record signal S_{REC} having a transmission speed of 4.704 Mbps (FIG. 7(B)) for the period of 15 msec each during which the magnetic heads 33A and 33B scan the magnetic tape 19 at intervals of one interleave period T ($T = 60$ msec) whereby the audio signal can be recorded in a standardized format for the digital audio tape recorder.

In the SP mode recording of the type A, the record signal generating circuit 50 is able to supply the magnetic heads 33A and 33B with a record signal S_{REC} having a transmission speed of 9.408 Mbps (FIG. 8(B)) for the period of 7.5 msec each while the magnetic heads 33A and 33B scan the magnetic tape 19 at intervals of one interleave period T ($T = 30$ msec) whereby the audio signal can be recorded in the standardized format for the digital audio tape recorder 1.

Further, in the recording of the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode, it is made possible to supply a record signal S_{REC} having a transmission speed of 9.408 Mbps (FIG. 8(B)) which is double that in the LP mode recording (which therefore is generated at the same timing as that in the SP mode recording) for the period of 7.5 msec during which the magnetic heads 33A and 33B scan the magnetic tape 19 at intervals of one interleave period T ($T = 30$ msec). Thus it is made possible to reproduce a magnetic tape recorded in the LP mode and record the signal in the

multiple-speed mode.

(1-2-4) Modes in the type B

In the case of the type B as shown in FIGS. 21(A) - (C), the record signal S_{REC} (FIG. 21(C)) is supplied to the A head 33A for the period beginning with the simultaneous fall times of the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} (FIG. 21(A)) and the switching pulse signal SWP (FIG. 21(B)) and ending with the timing of the rise of the switching pulse signal SWP. The record signal S_{REC} is supplied to the B head 33B for the period following the above period until the switching pulse signal SWP again falls.

At this time, the record signal generating circuit 50, in the LP mode recording, sets the transmission speed to 4.704 Mbps whereas it, in the SP mode recording and in the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode, sets the transmission speed to 9.408 Mbps.

Thereby, in the LP mode recording of the type B, it is made possible to supply a record signal S_{REC} with a transmission speed of 4.704 Mbps (FIG. 11(C)) to the magnetic heads 33A and 33B for the first of two periods of changes made by the switching pulse signal SWP (FIG. 11(B)) at intervals of one interleave period T ($T = 60$ msec) (FIG. 11(A)). Thus, the audio signal can be recorded in the format standardized for the digital audio tape recorder the same as with the type A.

In the SP mode recording of the type B (in this case, one interleave period $T = 30$ msec as shown in (FIG. 12(A)), the same as in the LP mode recording, a record signal S_{REC} of having a transmission speed of 9.408 Mbps (FIG. 12(C)) is supplied to the magnetic heads 33A and 33B in the first period of the switching pulse signal SWP (FIG. 12(B)) and thus, the same as with the type A, the audio signal can be recorded in the format standardized for the digital audio tape recorder.

Further, in the recording of the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode, the record signal is output at the same timing as in the SP mode recording as was the case with the type A (FIG. 12(C)), and thus, it is made possible to reproduce a magnetic tape recorded in the LP mode and record the signal in the multiple-speed mode.

(1-2-5) Modes in the type C and type D

In the type C and the type D, as shown in FIG. 22(B), the record signal S_{REC} is output continuously and is supplied to the magnetic heads 33A and 33B alternatively when the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} (FIG. 22(A)) reverses.

At this time, the record signal generating circuit 50, in the LP mode recording of the type C and the type D, sets the transmission speed to 2.453 Mbps

whereas, in the SP mode recording of the type C and the type D and in the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode of the type D, the record signal generating circuit 50 sets the transmission speed to 4.704 Mbps.

Thereby, in the LP mode recording of the type C and the type D, it is possible to continuously supply the record signal S_{REC} with a transmission speed of 2.453 Mbps (FIG. 14(B)) to the magnetic heads 33A and 33B, and thus, as was the case with the type A, the audio signal can be recorded in the format standardized for the digital audio tape recorder.

In the SP mode recording of the type C and the type D, (in this case, one interleave period $T = 30$ msec as shown in (Fig. 15(A)) a record signal S_{REC} with a transmission speed of 4.704 Mbps (Fig. 15(B)) can be supplied to the magnetic heads 33A and 33B, and thus, as was the case with the type A, the audio signal can be recorded in the format standardized for the digital audio tape recorder.

Further, the record signal generating circuit 50, in the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode of the type C, sets the transmission speed to 9.408 Mbps whereas, it, in the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode of the type D, sets the transmission speed to 4.704 Mbps.

Thus, in the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode of the type C, it is made possible to reproduce magnetic tapes recorded in the LP mode and the SP mode and record the obtained signal in the multiple-speed mode at a transmission speed of 9.408 Mbps (FIG. 17(C)).

Likewise, in the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode of the type D, it is made possible to reproduce a magnetic tape recorded in the LP mode and record the obtained signal in the multiple-speed mode at a transmission speed of 4.704 Mbps (FIG. 19(C)).

Thus, in the present embodiment, the functional information of the digital audio tape recorder 1, such as the diameter of the rotary drum 26, the arrangement of the magnetic heads 33A and 33B on the rotary drum 26, and the lap angle of the magnetic tape 19 is stored in the memory circuit 44 together with the operating mode information as the control data D_{CONT} . The timing of the outputting and the transmission speed of the record signal S_{REC} is switched in accordance with the control data D_{CONT} , and, therefore, it is made possible, even if the rotating drum or the like is changed, to supply the record signal S_{REC} in response to the change. Thus, the digital signal processing circuit can be used in common in the arrangements in which the rotating drum or the like is changed.

(1-2-6) Processing of the reproduced signal

Referring again to FIG. 1, a clock signal extract-

ing circuit 52, in the reproducing mode, receives the reproduced signal S_{RF} output from the magnetic heads 33A and 33B and extracts a reproduction clock signal CK2 from the reproduced signal S_{RF} and supplies it to a reproduced signal processing circuit 48.

The reproduced signal processing circuit 48, in accordance with the control data D_{CONT} , stops its operation at the time of recording, and it, in accordance with the reproduction clock signal CK2, applies a 10-8 demodulation to the reproduced signal S_{RF} at the time of reproduction and stores the thus obtained reproduced data sequentially in predetermined regions of the memory circuit 44.

More specifically, in the LP mode reproduction of the type A (FIGS. 9(A) - (C)) the reproduced signal S_{RF} (FIG. 9(C)) for one interleave period, or for two periods of the switching pulse signal SWP (FIG. 9(B)) is output at a transmission speed of 9.408 Mbps 2 times over. Therefore, the reproduced data is demodulated by using a method disclosed in Japanese Laid-open Patent Publication No. 63-205861 (which method will hereinafter be referred to as "NT demodulation")

In the SP mode reproduction and the reproduction in the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode (FIGS. 8(A) - (D)), a reproduced signal S_{RF} with the same transmission speed 9.408 Mbps as the record signal S_{REC} is obtained (FIG. 8(C)) and the reproduced data is demodulated by processing the reproduced signal S_{RF} in accordance with the reproducing clock signal CK2 (which method will hereinafter be deferred to as "ATF demodulation" as against the NT demodulation)

Likewise, in the LP mode demodulation of the type B (FIGS. 13(A) - (C)) a reproduced signal S_{RF} with a transmission speed of 4.704 Mbps (FIG. 13(C)) can be obtained in accordance with the rotary drum reference signal D_{REF} (FIG. 13(A)) and the switching pulse signal SWP (FIG. 13(B)) whereas in the SP mode reproduction of the type B and in the reproduction of the multiple-speed recording/reproducing mode of the type B (FIGS. 12(A) - (E)) a reproduced signal S_{RF} with a transmission speed of 9.048 Mbps (FIG. 12(D)) can be obtained, and the reproduced data are output through the NT demodulation and the ATF demodulation, respectively.

In the type C and the type D, reproduced signals S_{RF} with transmission speeds of 9.408 Mbps and 4.704 Mbps (FIG. 16(C), FIG. 17(D), FIG. 18(C) and FIG. 19(C)) are respectively obtained and the reproduced data are output through the NT demodulation or the ATF demodulation.

The thus demodulated reproduced data are once stored in the memory circuit 44, then corrected for errors in the error detection and correction circuit 46, and sequentially output through the digital signal input/output circuit 41. The digital audio signal recorded in the magnetic tape 19 can thus be reproduced.

The record signals denoted by characters S_{RECF} (FIG. 8(D), FIG. 12(E), FIG. 17(D) and FIG. 19(D)) represent the record signals of subcodes in the after recording modes. Further, the reproduced signal processing circuit 48 extracts the data of the subcode from the reproduced data and stores the data as data for the status byte of the control data D_{CONT} in the memory circuit 44.

A control data input/output circuit 54 stores the control data D_{CONT} output from the system control circuit 6 into a predetermined region of the memory circuit 44.

Further, the control data input/output circuit 54, at the time of reproduction, reads out the data of the status byte from the memory circuit 44 and outputs it to the system control circuit 6.

Thus, at the time of recording, the control data D_{CONT} , including the mode byte and the status byte is output from the system control circuit 6. The digital signal processing circuit 18 switches its operation in accordance with the data of the mode byte and the status byte and thereby, recording of the audio signal in a predetermined record format is achieved.

At the time of reproduction, the data of the status byte output from the reproduced signal processing circuit 48 is stored in the memory circuit 44 together with the data of the mode byte output from the system control circuit 6. In this way, reproduction of the magnetic tape 19 is achieved in accordance with the structural information output from the system control circuit 6 and the record format which can be detected from the reproduced signal S_{RF} .

(2) Operation of the embodiment

In the above described arrangement, the digital signal input/output circuit 41, reproduced signal processing circuit 48, record signal generating circuit 50, and the error detection and correction circuit 46 load the control data D_{CONT} stored in the memory circuit 44 at a predetermined timing, and switch their operating modes in accordance with the control data D_{CONT} .

More specifically, in the recording mode, the digital audio signal D_{AU} input through the audio signal converter circuit 36 (FIG. 2) is subjected to an interleave treatment in the digital signal input/output circuit 41 and divided into units of blocks and is stored in the memory circuit 44.

The digital audio signal D_{AU} stored in the memory circuit 44 is provided with a parity code in the error detection and correction circuit 46, and thereafter, converted to the record signal S_{REC} in the record signal generating circuit 50.

At this time, the record signal S_{REC} is successively output to the magnetic heads 33A and 33B at a predetermined timing corresponding to the diameter of the rotary drum or the like in accordance with the control data D_{CONT} , and thereby, the digital signal is suc-

cessively recorded on the magnetic tape 19 in a predetermined record format.

At the time of reproduction, the record signal generating circuit 50 stops its operation in accordance with the control data D_{CONT} and the reproduced signal processing circuit 48 performs its operation.

The error detection and correction circuit 46 and the digital signal input/output circuit 41 switch their operations and process the reproduced signal S_{RF} .

More specifically, after the clock signal $CK2$ is extracted from the reproduced signal S_{RF} in the clock signal extracting circuit 52, it is demodulated in the reproduced signal processing circuit 48.

The thus demodulated reproduced data is once stored in the memory circuit 44, then subjected to the error detection and correction treatment in the error detection and correction circuit 46 and stored in the memory circuit 44, and thereafter, successively output through the digital signal input/output circuit 41.

At this time, the reproduced signal processing circuit 48 processes the reproduced signal S_{RF} in accordance with the control data D_{CONT} . Thus, a digital signal processing circuit 18 which can be used in common to systems having different arrangement of the rotary drum or the like can be provided.

(3) Effects of the embodiment

According to the above described arrangement, by having the structural information of the digital audio tape recorder 1 stored in the memory circuit 44 together with the operating mode information or the like as the control data D_{CONT} , and by switching the timing of outputting of the record signal and the transmission speed in accordance with the control data D_{CONT} , the digital signal processing circuit 18 can be used in common to different arrangements in which the rotary drum or the like is changed.

(4) Other embodiments

Although, in the above embodiments, the cases were described where the present invention was applied to a digital audio tape recorder having a rotary the drum with different diameters of 30 mm or 15 mm, the present invention is not limited to such an arrangement but the above described teachings can be widely applied to a digital audio tape recorder having a rotary drum whose diameter is, for example, 20 mm or 10 mm.

Although, in the above embodiments, the cases were described where the rotary drum and the magnetic tape were driven in the conditions described in FIG. 6, the present invention is not limited to such cases but can be widely applied to the cases where they are driven in various other conditions.

Although, in the above embodiments the case where the control data was stored in the memory cir-

cuit 44 was described, the present invention is not limited to such an arrangement but can be widely applied to such cases where the memory circuit for storing the control data is provided separately or only the structural data is set for example, by switches or similar means.

Although, in the above embodiments, the cases where audio signals were recorded and reproduced were described, the present invention is not limited to such signal processing but can be applied to a digital audio tape recorder which is dedicated for reproduction or dedicated for recording, or a magnetic recording apparatus for recording and reproducing various data other than audio signals.

Claims

1. A digital signal processing circuit for use in any one of a plurality of different digital signal recording apparatus (1) operative to convert a digital signal to a record signal and then to output the record signal at a predetermined timing to magnetic heads on a rotary drum (26) with a magnetic tape (19) wound around the same, thereby to record the digital signal on the magnetic tape, the circuit being characterised by:

memory means (44) for storing for a respective recording apparatus control data representative of the diameter of the rotary drum, the lap angle of the magnetic tape wound around the rotary drum, and the angular spacing of the magnetic heads (33a, 33b) on the rotary drum; and

means (18) connected to the memory means and responsive to the stored control data for outputting the record signal at a specific transmission speed and at a timing switched as a function of the data stored in the memory means.

2. A digital signal processing circuit for use in any one of a plurality of different digital tape recorder/reproducer for recording and reproducing signals on a magnetic tape (19), and including a rotary drum (26) of a known diameter about which, in use, the tape is wrapped through a known angle and a pair of magnetic heads mounted on the rotary drum with a known angular spacing, the digital signal processing circuit comprising:

a digital memory (44) for storing data, including control data (D_{CONT}) for a respective recorder/reproducer representing the diameter of the rotary drum (26), the lap angle of the magnetic tape (19), and the angular spacing of the magnetic heads (33a, 33b);

a digital signal input/output circuit (18) supplied with the control data D_{CONT} from the digital memory for receiving, during recording, an

input digital data signal, dividing it into blocks of data, and temporarily storing the blocks of data in the digital memory, and, upon reproduction of data signals recorded on the magnetic tape (19), temporarily storing the reproduced digital data signals in the memory and thereafter loading reproduced digital data signals from the digital memory (44) by blocks and outputting the blocks of digital data;

a record signal generating circuit (18) connected to the digital memory and supplied with the control data (D_{CONT}), for, during recording, loading digital data signals from the digital memory, modulating the digital data signals, and outputting the modulated, digital data signals as a record signal (S_{REC}) at a predetermined timing in accordance with the control data (D_{CONT}), and thereby, the digital signal is successively recorded on the magnetic tape in a predetermined record format.

3. A digital signal processing circuit, as recited in claim 2, wherein a portion of the control data (D_{CONT}) is recorded as a status byte in the form of subcode data on the magnetic tape, the remainder of the control data being stored in said digital memory, and at the time of reproduction, the magnetic heads reproduce the signals recorded on the tape as a reproduced signal S_{RF} , and further comprising:

a reproduced signal processing circuit (18) connected to the digital memory and supplied with the control data (D_{CONT}), for receiving and demodulating the reproduced signal (S_{RF}) in accordance with the control data (D_{CONT}) and, from subcode data in the reproduced signal (S_{RF}), extracting the status byte and storing it in the digital memory as part of the control signal (D_{CONT}).

4. A digital signal processing circuit, as recited in claim 2 or 3, further comprising operator controllable means (2) for changing the control data (D_{CONT}) stored in the digital memory and wherein the timing of the outputting and the transmission speed of the record signal (S_{REC}) is switched in accordance with the control data (D_{CONT}), and therefore, it is made possible, even if the rotating drum or the like is changed, to supply the record signal (S_{REC}) in response to the change by changing the control data (D_{CONT}), and thus, the digital signal processing circuit can be used in common to the arrangements in which the rotating drum or the like is changed.

5. A digital signal processing circuit, as recited in claim 2, 3 or 4 wherein the control data includes data representing the operational mode of the digital tape recorder/reproducer.



cuit 44 was described, the present invention is not limited to such an arrangement but can be widely applied to such cases where the memory circuit for storing the control data is provided separately or only the structural data is set for example, by switches or similar means.

Although, in the above embodiments, the cases where audio signals were recorded and reproduced were described, the present invention is not limited to such signal processing but can be applied to a digital audio tape recorder which is dedicated for reproduction or dedicated for recording, or a magnetic recording apparatus for recording and reproducing various data other than audio signals.

Claims

1. A digital signal processing circuit for use in any one of a plurality of different digital signal recording apparatus (1) operative to convert a digital signal to a record signal and then to output the record signal at a predetermined timing to magnetic heads on a rotary drum (26) with a magnetic tape (19) wound around the same, thereby to record the digital signal on the magnetic tape, the circuit being characterised by:

memory means (44) for storing for a respective recording apparatus control data representative of the diameter of the rotary drum, the lap angle of the magnetic tape wound around the rotary drum, and the angular spacing of the magnetic heads (33a, 33b) on the rotary drum; and

means (18) connected to the memory means and responsive to the stored control data for outputting the record signal at a specific transmission speed and at a timing switched as a function of the data stored in the memory means.

2. A digital signal processing circuit for use in any one of a plurality of different digital tape recorder/reproducer for recording and reproducing signals on a magnetic tape (19), and including a rotary drum (26) of a known diameter about which, in use, the tape is wrapped through a known angle and a pair of magnetic heads mounted on the rotary drum with a known angular spacing, the digital signal processing circuit comprising:

a digital memory (44) for storing data, including control data (D_{CONT}) for a respective recorder/reproducer representing the diameter of the rotary drum (26), the lap angle of the magnetic tape (19), and the angular spacing of the magnetic heads (33a, 33b);

a digital signal input/output circuit (18) supplied with the control data D_{CONT} from the digital memory for receiving, during recording, an

input digital data signal, dividing it into blocks of data, and temporarily storing the blocks of data in the digital memory, and, upon reproduction of data signals recorded on the magnetic tape (19), temporarily storing the reproduced digital data signals in the memory and thereafter loading reproduced digital data signals from the digital memory (44) by blocks and outputting the blocks of digital data;

a record signal generating circuit (18) connected to the digital memory and supplied with the control data (D_{CONT}), for, during recording, loading digital data signals from the digital memory, modulating the digital data signals, and outputting the modulated, digital data signals as a record signal (S_{REC}) at a predetermined timing in accordance with the control data (D_{CONT}), and thereby, the digital signal is successively recorded on the magnetic tape in a predetermined record format.

3. A digital signal processing circuit, as recited in claim 2, wherein a portion of the control data (D_{CONT}) is recorded as a status byte in the form of subcode data on the magnetic tape, the remainder of the control data being stored in said digital memory, and at the time of reproduction, the magnetic heads reproduce the signals recorded on the tape as a reproduced signal S_{RF} , and further comprising:

a reproduced signal processing circuit (18) connected to the digital memory and supplied with the control data (D_{CONT}), for receiving and demodulating the reproduced signal (S_{RF}) in accordance with the control data (D_{CONT}) and, from subcode data in the reproduced signal (S_{RF}), extracting the status byte and storing it in the digital memory as part of the control signal (D_{CONT}).

4. A digital signal processing circuit, as recited in claim 2 or 3, further comprising operator controllable means (2) for changing the control data (D_{CONT}) stored in the digital memory and wherein the timing of the outputting and the transmission speed of the record signal (S_{REC}) is switched in accordance with the control data (D_{CONT}), and therefore, it is made possible, even if the rotating drum or the like is changed, to supply the record signal (S_{REC}) in response to the change by changing the control data (D_{CONT}), and thus, the digital signal processing circuit can be used in common to the arrangements in which the rotating drum or the like is changed.

5. A digital signal processing circuit, as recited in claim 2, 3 or 4 wherein the control data includes data representing the operational mode of the digital tape recorder/reproducer.



6. A digital signal recording method for converting a digital signal to a record signal and then outputting the record signal at a predetermined timing to a magnetic head (33a, 33b) on a rotary drum (26) with a magnetic tape (19) wound around the same, thereby recording the digital signal on the magnetic tape (19), characterised by the steps of outputting the record signal (S_{RF}) at a specified transmission speed and at a timing switched in accordance with information as to the drum diameter of the rotary drum, information as to the lap angle of the magnetic tape wound around the rotary drum, and information as to the angular spacing of the magnetic heads on the rotary drum, at least a part of such information being stored in a digital memory (44) the remainder being optionally recorded on the magnetic tape and extracted during reproduction of signals recorded on the magnetic tape.

Patentansprüche

1. Digitale Signalverarbeitungsschaltung zur Verwendung in einer von mehreren verschiedenen Signalaufzeichnungsvorrichtungen (1), welche ein digitales Signal in ein Aufzeichnungssignal umsetzen kann und dann das Aufzeichnungssignal mit einem vorgegebenen Zeittakt an Magnetköpfe auf einer Drehtrommel (26) ausgeben kann, wobei ein Magnetband (19) um diese geschlungen ist, wodurch das digitale Signal auf dem Magnetband aufgezeichnet wird, wobei die Schaltung gekennzeichnet ist durch:

eine Speichereinrichtung (44) zum Speichern von Steuerdaten für eine entsprechende Aufzeichnungsvorrichtung, die stellvertretend für den Durchmesser der Drehtrommel sind, des Überlappungswinkels des Magnetbandes, das um die Drehtrommel geschlungen ist, und des Winkelabstands der Magnetköpfe (33A, 33B) auf der Drehtrommel; und

eine Einrichtung (18), die mit der Speichereinrichtung verbunden ist und auf die gespeicherten Steuerdaten antwortet, um das Aufzeichnungssignal mit einer bestimmten Übertragungsgeschwindigkeit und mit einem Zeittakt auszugeben, die als Funktion der Daten, die in der Speichereinrichtung gespeichert sind, geschaltet werden.

2. Digitale Signalverarbeitungsschaltung zur Verwendung in einem von mehreren verschiedenen digitalen Bandrekordern/Wiedergabegeräten zur Aufzeichnung und zur Wiedergabe von Signalen auf einem Magnetband (19), mit einer Drehtrommel (26) mit einem bekannten Durchmesser, um die im Gebrauch das Band um einen bekannten

Winkel geschlungen ist, und einem Paar von Magnetköpfen, die auf der Drehtrommel mit einem bekannten Winkelabstand befestigt sind, wobei die digitale Signalverarbeitungsschaltung aufweist:

einen digitalen Speicher (44) zur Speicherung von Daten einschließlich von Steuerdaten (D_{CONT}) für einen entsprechenden Rekorder/Wiedergabegerät, die stellvertretend sind für den Durchmesser der Drehtrommel (26), den Überlappungswinkel des Magnetbands (19) und den Winkelabstand der Magnetköpfe (33A, 33B);

eine digitale Signaleingangs/ausgangsschaltung (18), die mit den Steuerdaten (D_{CONT}) vom digitalen Speicher beliefert wird, um während des Aufzeichnens ein digitales Eingangssignalsignal zu empfangen, es in Datenblöcke aufzuteilen und die Datenblöcke im digitalen Speicher temporär zu speichern, und, um bei der Wiedergabe der Datensignale, die auf dem Magnetband (19) aufgezeichnet sind, die wiedergegebenen digitalen Datensignale im Speicher temporär zu speichern und danach die wiedergegebenen digitalen Datensignale vom digitalen Speicher (44) blockweise zu laden und die Blöcke von digitalen Daten auszugeben;

eine Aufzeichnungssignalerzeugungsschaltung (18), die mit dem digitalen Speicher verbunden ist und mit den Steuerdaten (D_{CONT}) beliefert wird, um während des Aufzeichnens digitale Datensignale vom digitalen Speicher zu laden, die digitalen Datensignale zu modulieren und die modulierten digitalen Datensignale als Aufzeichnungssignal (S_{REC}) mit einem vorgegebenen Zeittakt gemäß den Steuerdaten (D_{CONT}) auszugeben, wodurch das digitale Signal nacheinander auf dem Magnetband in einem vorgegebenen Aufzeichnungsformat aufgezeichnet wird.

3. Digitale Signalverarbeitungsschaltung nach Anspruch 2, wobei ein Teil der Steuerdaten (D_{CONT}) als Statusbyte in Form von Subcodedaten auf dem Magnetband aufgezeichnet wird, der Rest der Steuerdaten im digitalen Speicher gespeichert wird, und im Zeitpunkt der Wiedergabe die Magnetköpfe die Signale, die auf dem Band aufgezeichnet sind, als Wiedergabesignal (S_{RF}) reproduzieren, wobei sie weiter aufweist:

eine Wiedergabesignalverarbeitungsschaltung (18), die mit dem digitalen Speicher verbunden ist und mit den Steuerdaten (D_{CONT}) beliefert wird, um das Wiedergabesignal (S_{RF}) gemäß den Steuerdaten (D_{CONT}) zu empfangen und zu demodulieren, und, um aus den Subcodedaten im Wiedergabesignal (S_{RF}) das Statusbyte zu extrahieren und um dieses im digitalen Speicher als Teil des Steuersignals (D_{CONT}) zu speichern.



4. Digitale Signalverarbeitungsschaltung nach Anspruch 2 oder 3, die weiter eine steuerbare Bedieneinrichtung (2) zur Änderung der Steuerdaten (D_{CONT}) aufweist, die im digitalen Speicher gespeichert sind, und wobei der Zeittakt der Ausgabe und die Übertragungsgeschwindigkeit des Aufzeichnungssignals (S_{REC}) gemäß den Steuerdaten (D_{CONT}) geschaltet wird, und es daher möglich gemacht wird, sogar wenn die Drehtrommel oder dergleichen geändert wird, das Aufzeichnungssignal (S_{REC}) in Abhängigkeit von der Änderung durch Ändern der Steuerdaten (D_{CONT}) zu liefern, und somit die digitale Signalverarbeitungsschaltung gemeinsam für Einrichtungen verwendet werden kann, bei denen die Drehtrommel oder dergleichen geändert ist. 5
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5. Digitale Signalverarbeitungsschaltung nach Anspruch 2, 3 oder 4, wobei die Steuerdaten Daten enthalten, die den Betriebsmodus des digitalen Bandrekorders/Wiedergabegeräts aufzeigen. 20
6. Digitales Signalaufzeichnungsverfahren zur Umsetzung eines digitalen Signals in ein Aufzeichnungssignal und dann zur Ausgabe des Aufzeichnungssignals mit einem vorgegebenen Zeittakt an einen Magnetkopf (33A, 33B) auf einer Drehtrommel (26), wobei ein Magnetband (19) um diesen geschlungen ist, wodurch das digitale Signal auf dem Magnetband (19) aufgezeichnet wird, gekennzeichnet durch die Schritte: Ausgabe des Aufzeichnungssignals (S_{RF}) mit einer bestimmten Übertragungsgeschwindigkeit und mit einem Zeittakt, die gemäß der Information bezüglich des Trommeldurchmessers der Drehtrommel, der Information bezüglich des Überlappungswinkels des Magnetbandes, das um die Drehtrommel geschlungen ist, und der Information bezüglich des Winkelabstands der Magnetköpfe auf der Trommel geschaltet werden, wobei zumindest ein Teil einer solchen Information in einem digitalen Speicher (44) gespeichert wird, der Rest fakultativ auf dem Magnetband aufgezeichnet wird und während der Wiedergabe der Signale, die auf dem Magnetband aufgezeichnet sind, extrahiert wird. 25
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Revendications

1. Circuit de traitement de signal numérique pour une utilisation dans un quelconque d'une pluralité de dispositifs différents d'enregistrement de signal numérique (1) prévu pour convertir un signal numérique en un signal d'enregistrement puis pour fournir le signal d'enregistrement selon une synchronisation prédéterminée aux têtes magnétique d'un tambour rotatif (26), une bande 50
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magnétique (19) étant enroulée autour de ce dernier, afin d'enregistrer ainsi le signal numérique sur la bande magnétique, circuit caractérisé par :

- un moyen de mémoire (44) pour le stockage, pour un dispositif d'enregistrement respectif, de données de commande concernant le diamètre du tambour rotatif, l'angle de chevauchement de la bande magnétique enroulée autour du tambour rotatif et de l'espacement angulaire des têtes magnétiques (33a, 33b) sur le tambour rotatif; et
 - un moyen (18), raccordé au moyen de mémoire et sensible aux données de commande stockées, pour générer le signal d'enregistrement à une vitesse de transmission spécifique et selon une synchronisation commutées en fonction des données stockées dans le moyen de mémoire.
2. Circuit de traitement de signal numérique dans un quelconque d'une pluralité d'enregistreurs/lecteurs différents de bande numérique pour l'enregistrement et la lecture de signaux sur une bande magnétique (19) et comprenant un tambour rotatif (26) d'un diamètre connu sur lequel, en utilisation, la bande est enroulée selon un angle connu et une paire de têtes magnétiques sont montées sur le tambour rotatif selon un espacement angulaire connu, circuit de traitement de signal numérique comprenant :
 - une mémoire digitale (44) pour le stockage de données comprenant des données de commande (D_{CONT}) pour un enregistreur/lecteur respectif représentant le diamètre du tambour rotatif (26), l'angle de chevauchement de la bande magnétique (19) et l'espacement angulaire des têtes magnétiques (33a, 33b);
 - un circuit d'entrée/sortie de signal numérique (18) recevant les données de commande (D_{CONT}) à partir de la mémoire digitale pour recevoir, lors de l'enregistrement, un signal de données numériques d'entrée, le divisant en blocs de données et stockant, de façon temporaire, les blocs de données dans la mémoire digitale et, lors de la lecture des signaux de données enregistrés sur la bande magnétique (19), pour stocker, de façon temporaire, les signaux reproduits de données numériques dans la mémoire puis pour charger les signaux reproduits de données numériques à partir de la mémoire digitale (44) par blocs et pour fournir les blocs de données numériques; et
 - un circuit de génération de signal d'enregistrement (18) raccordé à la mémoire digitale et recevant les données de commande



- (D_{CONT}) pour charger, lors de l'enregistrement, les signaux de données numériques à partir de la mémoire digitale, pour moduler les signaux de données numériques et pour générer les signaux modulés de données numériques comme signal d'enregistrement (S_{REC}) selon une synchronisation prédéterminée selon les données de commande (D_{CONT}) et ainsi, le signal numérique est enregistré, de façon successive, sur la bande magnétique dans un format d'enregistrement prédéterminé.
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3. Circuit de traitement de signal numérique selon la revendication (2), dans lequel une partie des données de commande (D_{CONT}) est enregistrée comme octet d'état sous la forme de données de sous-code sur la bande magnétique, le reste des données de commande (D_{CONT}) étant stocké dans ladite mémoire digitale et au moment de la lecture, les têtes magnétiques lisent les signaux enregistrés sur la bande comme signal de lecture (S_{RF}), et comprenant, de plus, un circuit de traitement de signal de lecture (18) raccordé à la mémoire digitale et recevant les données de commande (D_{CONT}) pour recevoir et démoduler le signal de lecture (S_{RF}) selon les données de commande (D_{CONT}) et à partir des données de sous-code du signal de lecture (S_{RF}), pour extraire l'octet d'état et le stocker dans la mémoire digitale comme partie des données de commande (D_{CONT}).
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4. Circuit de traitement de signal numérique selon la revendication 2 ou 3, comprenant, de plus, un moyen commutable par opérateur (2) pour modifier les données de commande (D_{CONT}) stockées dans la mémoire digitale et dans lequel la synchronisation de la sortie et de la vitesse de transmission du signal d'enregistrement (S_{REC}) est commutée selon les données de commande (D_{CONT}) et par conséquent, il est possible, même si le tambour rotatif ou similaire est modifié, de fournir le signal d'enregistrement (S_{REC}) en réponse à la modification en changeant les données de commande (D_{CONT}) et ainsi, le circuit de traitement de signal numérique peut être utilisé en commun avec les agencements dans lesquels le tambour rotatif ou similaire est modifié.
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5. Circuit de traitement de signal numérique selon la revendication 2, 3 ou 4, dans lequel les données de commande (D_{CONT}) comprennent des données représentant le mode de fonctionnement de l'enregistreur/lecteur de bande numérique.
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6. Procédé d'enregistrement de signal numérique pour convertir un signal numérique en un signal

d'enregistrement puis pour fournir le signal d'enregistrement selon une synchronisation prédéterminée à une tête magnétique (33a, 33b) sur un tambour rotatif (26), une bande magnétique (19) étant enroulée autour de ce dernier, enregistrant ainsi le signal numérique sur la bande magnétique (19), procédé caractérisé par une étape de génération du signal d'enregistrement (S_{RF}) à une vitesse de transmission spécifié et une synchronisation commutées en fonction de l'information du diamètre du tambour rotatif, d'une information concernant l'angle de chevauchement de la bande magnétique enroulée autour du tambour rotatif et d'une information concernant l'espace angulaire des têtes magnétiques sur le tambour rotatif, au moins une partie d'une telle information étant stockée dans une mémoire digitale (44), le reste étant enregistré en option sur la bande magnétique et extrait lors de la lecture des signaux enregistrés sur la bande magnétique.