Abstract

1. Compatible recording and/or playback device

2.1. It is an object of the invention to provide, despite information carriers of different storage densities, a recording and/or playback device which is compatible or can be used for different optical information carriers despite a functional relationship which to be satisfied between the size of the information memory location or pit size and the size of the light spot, without changing the wavelength of the laser used or changing the numerical aperture of the objective lens.

2.2. According to the invention in order to operate optical information carriers (IT1, IT2) of different storage densities use is made of an optical system which has a wavelength and numerical aperture matched to the highest storage density, provides a plurality of secondary beams (E, F, G, H) matched to the respective track width, and has a number of secondary beam detector pairs which corresponds to the number of different information carriers. The information or data signal of an optical information carrier (IT2) of relatively low storage density in the compatible recording and/or playback device is then reconstructed using a means for detecting the rise in the signal of the information carrier (IT2) which is detected from the information carrier (IT2) by the main beam (A).

2.3 The field of application relates to recording and/or playback devices which can be used for information carriers of different storage densities such as, for example, audio and video CDs.

3. Figure 1

This Sheet Has Been Replaced

