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ABSTRACT

A video CD has a program area having plural recorded programs and a managerial area in which alternatives for selecting the programs in reproducing the programs are recorded as the managerial information. In the managerial area is pre-recorded an identifier for determining the program reproducing mode as the managerial information. An optical head 34 reproduces the programs from the program area of the video CD, while reproducing the managerial information from the managerial area. A system controller 53 judges the reproducing mode based upon the identifier included in the managerial information and, based upon the judged reproducing mode, selects an alternative based upon the random number if the reproducing mode is the random reproduction mode. The system controller 53 controls the optical head 34 and the servo circuit 37 for reproducing the program associated with the alternative. The audio data of the reproduced program is decoded by an MPEG audio decoder 40 and outputted after conversion into audio signals by a D/A converter 45. The video data is decoded by a video decoder 42 and outputted after conversion into video signals by the D/A converter 47.

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