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(54) Title: LOW RESONANCE TEXTURING OF MAGNETIC MEDIA

(57) Abstract

A magnetic data storage medium includes a dedicated transducing head contact zone for engaging an air bearing slider, primarily when the disk is stationary. The contact zone is textured with at least one elongate ridge extending in the circumferential direction. When a single ridge is formed, it runs in a spiral path in multiple turns with a predetermined radial pitch at least ten times the nominal ridge width. The ridge protrudes axially outward from a nominal surface plane of the contact zone, and is rounded and free of sharp edges. The ridge, or plurality of ridge sections, can be formed by a texturing process that includes directing a laser beam, focused, onto the contact zone surface. While the disk is rotated to maintain a constant circumferential speed relative to the laser, it also is translated radially to provide the desired radial pitch. The laser is operated in a CW (continuous wave) mode, to create a more uniform ridge.

