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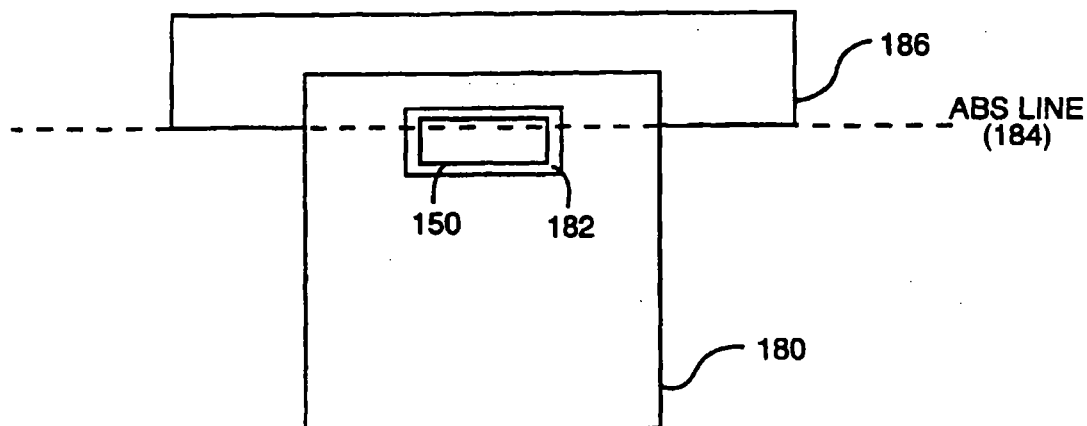
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ACTION

(54) Title: **SHIELD DESIGN FOR MAGNETORESISTIVE SENSOR**



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(57) Abstract: A magnetic sensor includes a magnetoresistive sensor element (160) and electrical contacts coupled to the magnetoresistive element (160) configured to sense a response of the magnetoresistive element to a magnetic field. A magnetic shield (150) is positioned adjacent the magnetoresistive element (160) and configured to shield the magnetoresistive element (160) from stray magnetic fields. The shield (150) has a substantially stable magnetic domain pattern. A shield flux thief (180) is positioned generally in a plane of the shield (150) and spaced apart from the shield (150) by a gap (182).