

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP2009/007313

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

G11B7/26(2006.01) i, G11B7/004(2006.01) i, G11B7/24(2006.01) i

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

G11B7/26, G11B7/004, G11B7/24

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1922-1996	Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho	1996-2010
Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1971-2010	Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1994-2010

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X Y	JP 9-147424 A (Sony Corp.), 06 June 1997 (06.06.1997), claims; paragraphs [0032] to [0035] (Family: none)	1 2
Y	JP 10-11808 A (Toshiba EMI Ltd.), 16 January 1998 (16.01.1998), claims (Family: none)	2
A	JP 2007-149212 A (TDK Corp.), 14 June 2007 (14.06.2007), entire text; all drawings & US 2007/0121438 A1	1-14

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

“A” document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

“E” earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

“L” document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

“O” document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

“P” document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

“T” later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

“X” document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

“Y” document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

“&” document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search
11 March, 2010 (11.03.10)

Date of mailing of the international search report
23 March, 2010 (23.03.10)

Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Japanese Patent Office

Authorized officer

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C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	JP 2008-135130 A (Expert Magnetics Corp.), 12 June 2008 (12.06.2008), entire text; all drawings (Family: none)	1-14
A	JP 2006-127639 A (Teac Corp.), 18 May 2006 (18.05.2006), entire text; all drawings & US 2006/0092791 A1 & KR 10-2006-0052243 A & CN 1783308 A	1-14
A	WO 2008/069246 A1 (NEC Corp.), 12 June 2008 (12.06.2008), entire text; all drawings & US 2010/0002554 A & KR 10-2009-0080114 A & CN 101568960 A	1-14

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Box No. II Observations where certain claims were found unsearchable (Continuation of item 2 of first sheet)

This international search report has not been established in respect of certain claims under Article 17(2)(a) for the following reasons:

1. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to subject matter not required to be searched by this Authority, namely:

2. Claims Nos.:
because they relate to parts of the international application that do not comply with the prescribed requirements to such an extent that no meaningful international search can be carried out, specifically:

3. Claims Nos.:
because they are dependent claims and are not drafted in accordance with the second and third sentences of Rule 6.4(a).

Box No. III Observations where unity of invention is lacking (Continuation of item 3 of first sheet)

This International Searching Authority found multiple inventions in this international application, as follows:

The feature common to the inventions in claims 1-14 is such that "a first light receiving section and a second light receiving section are arranged in this order in the track direction of a recording layer, and a method for inspecting an optical information recording medium includes a detection step of detecting the level of reflected light from the recording layer using the first and second light receiving sections, (continued to extra sheet)

1. As all required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers all searchable claims.
2. As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying additional fees, this Authority did not invite payment of additional fees.
3. As only some of the required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant, this international search report covers only those claims for which fees were paid, specifically claims Nos.:

4. No required additional search fees were timely paid by the applicant. Consequently, this international search report is restricted to the invention first mentioned in the claims; it is covered by claims Nos.:

Remark on Protest

- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest and, where applicable, the payment of a protest fee.
- The additional search fees were accompanied by the applicant's protest but the applicable protest fee was not paid within the time limit specified in the invitation.
- No protest accompanied the payment of additional search fees.

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Continuation of Box No.III of continuation of first sheet (2)

anda determining step of determining conformity of the optical information recording medium by comparing the first reflected light level of light received by the first light receiving section and the second reflected light level of light received by the second light receiving section with each other and determining conformity of the optical information recording medium based on the comparison results". The results of the international search, however, revealed that this common feature is not novel, since it is disclosed in document JP 9-147424 A (Sony Corp.), 06 June 1997 (06.06.1997) in [claims] and paragraphs [0032]-[0035]. As a result, this common feature is not a special technical feature, and there is no other common feature considered to be a special technical feature.