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(54) **MAGNETORESISTIVE SENSOR WITH REDUCED SIDE-READING EFFECT**

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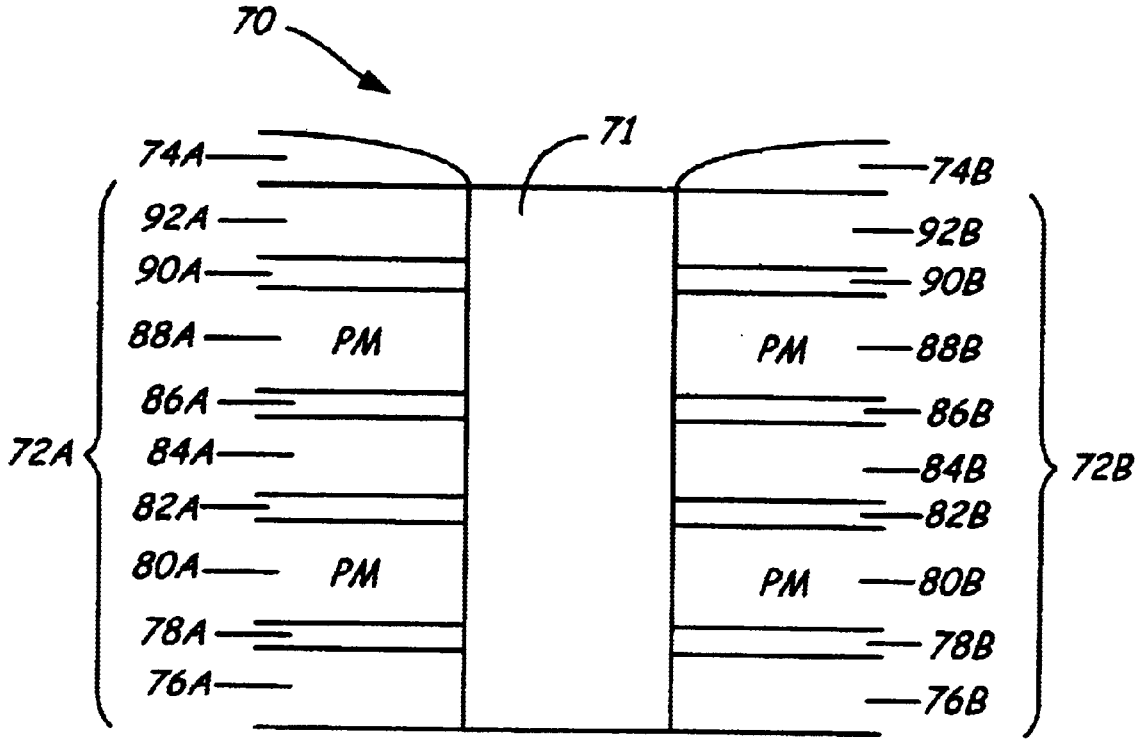
(57) **ABSTRACT**

A read sensor for use in a magnetic read head includes a magnetoresistive stack having a plurality of layers, and first and second shield regions positioned adjacent to the magnetoresistive stack. Each of the shield regions includes a first soft magnetic layer for shunting flux from an adjacent track to the shield region instead of the magnetoresistive stack.

25 Claims, 3 Drawing Sheets