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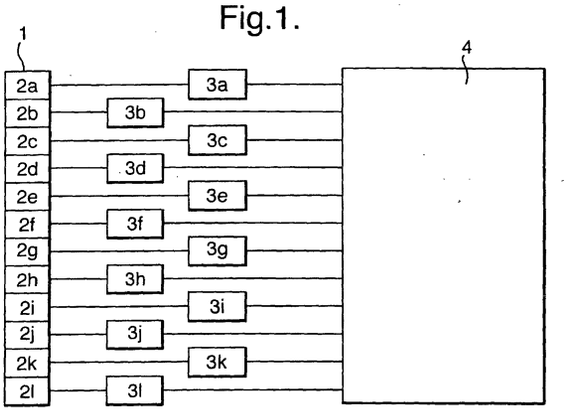
## (54) Magnetic thread reader

(57) A method of detecting a magnetic thread comprises causing relative movement between the thread and an array of magnetic heads (2a-2l), each head (2a-2l) generates a signal upon detecting a portion of the thread. The arrival of a thread at one of the heads is detected, that head being denoted a primary head, and the head on each side a secondary head. Output signals from the primary and secondary heads are monitored to generate a representation of the thread, and the magnitude of the signals from the primary and secondary heads are compared such that if the magnitude of the output signal from a secondary head exceeds that from the primary head, the primary and secondary heads are reallocated accordingly.

Fig.1.

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# EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 03 01 5595

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