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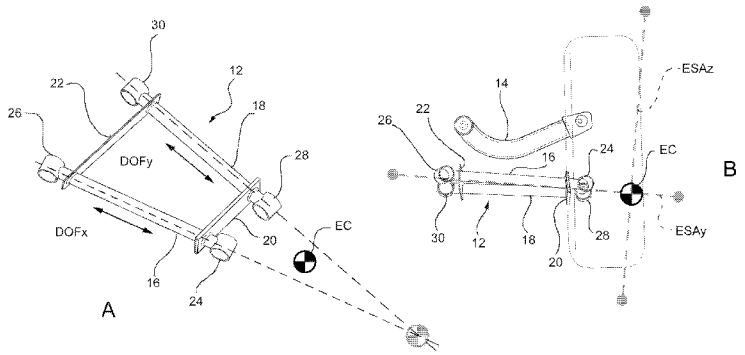
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(54) Title: ARM FOR A MOTOR-VEHICLE INDEPENDENT SUSPENSION AND MOTOR-VEHICLE INDEPENDENT SUSPENSION COMPRISING THE SAME



(57) Abstract: The arm (12) comprises a pair of transverse rods (16, 18) ar¬ ticulated at their outer ends (24, 28) to the wheel-carrier of a vehicle wheel and at their inner ends (26, 30) to the vehicle body, and at least one pair of connecting elements (20, 22) which connect the rods (16, 18) to one another and are preferably formed as blade-like or plate-like elements, in such a manner that their bending stiffness in a plane is higher than their bending stiffness in a direction perpen¬ dicular to that plane. The arm (12) is capable of control¬ ling two translational degrees of freedom (DOFx, DOFy) along the axes of the rods (16, 18) and, by virtue of the geometry and torsional stiffness of the rods (16, 18), as well as of the geometry and bending stiffness of the connecting elements (20, 22) in their plane, a first rotational degree of freedom (DOFθy) about a first, mainly transverse and horizontal axis (ESAy). According to the invention, the rods (16, 18) con¬ verge, preferably towards the outside of the vehicle, in such a manner that the arm has an elastic centre (EC) located out¬ side its physical envelope and is thus capable of control¬ ling, by virtue of the geometry and bending stiffness of the rods (16, 18), as well as of the geometry and bending stiff¬ ness of the connecting elements (20, 22) in the direction perpendicular to their plane, a second rotational degree of freedom (DOFθz) about a second, mainly vertical axis (ESAz).

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
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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)
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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)
EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
Y	US 4 772 043 A (MURAMATSU TADAO [JP]) 20 September 1988 (1988-09-20) column 3, line 6 - column 5, line 14; claims 1-3,6; figures 1,2,4,5	1-4,7,8, 10
A		11,12
Y	EP 1 361 083 A (SISTEMI SOSPENSIONI S P A [IT]) 12 November 2003 (2003-11-12) cited in the application paragraphs [0004], [0018], [0019]; claims 1-4,6-8; figure 4	1-4,7,8, 10
A	EP 1 288 028 A (SISTEMI SOSPENSIONI S P A [IT]) 5 March 2003 (2003-03-05) paragraphs [0006], [0011] - [0027], [0033]; claims 1,3-5,9,22,24; figures 2,17	1-4,6, 10-12

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[X] Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

[X] See patent family annex.

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Date of the actual completion of the international search	Date of mailing of the international search report
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/	Authorized officer
European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epo nl, Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016	Singer, Gerhard

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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.
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A	EP 1 125 774 A (BENTELER WERKE AG [DE]) 22 August 2001 (2001-08-22) paragraph [0019]; figure 7	1,2,5,7, 10

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Information on patent family members

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