



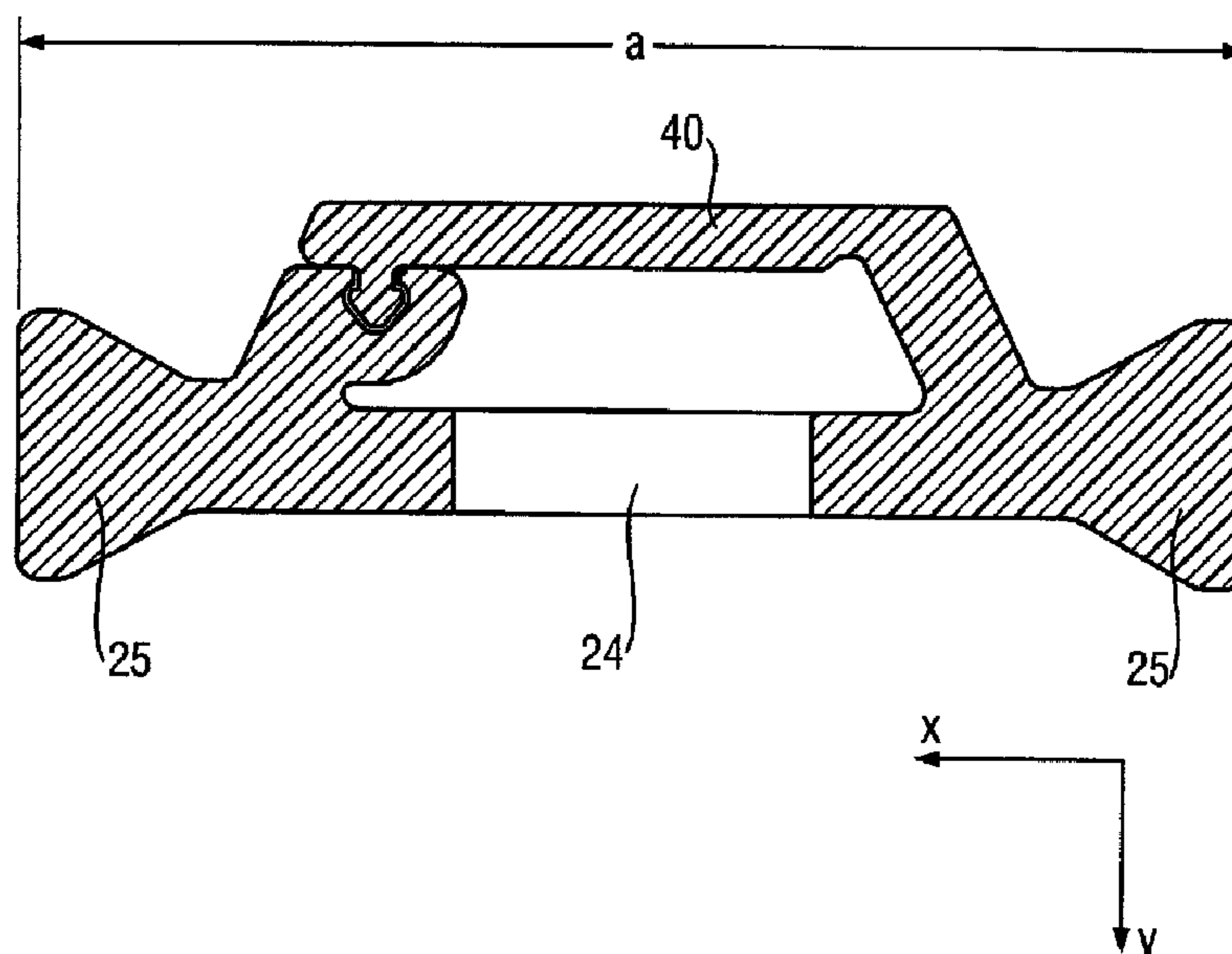
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(54) Titre : ENTRETOISE ISOLANTE SOUS FORME D'ECHELLE POUR PROFILE COMPOSITE POUR ELEMENTS DE FENETRES, DE PORTES ET DE FACADES ET PROFILE COMPOSITE POUR ELEMENTS DE FENETRES, DE PORTES ET DE FACADES

(54) Title: LADDER-TYPE INSULATING STRUT FOR A COMPOSITE PROFILE FOR WINDOW, DOOR AND FACADE ELEMENTS AND COMPOSITE PROFILE FOR WINDOW, DOOR AND FACADE ELEMENTS

**Fig. 5**



(57) Abrégé/Abstract:

The invention relates to an insulating strut for a composite profile for window, door and facade elements, comprising an insulating strut body that extends in a longitudinal direction (Z) and at least two longitudinal edges that are mutually spaced at a distance (a) in



(57) **Abrégé(suite)/Abstract(continued):**

a transversal direction (X), said edges being adapted for a non-slip connection to profiled parts of the composite profile. Said insulating strut body has cavities extending through one or more walls in the direction of its height (Y), said cavities being separated by struts similar to ladder rungs in the longitudinal direction (Z). The body is designed for the at least partial snap-on connection of a cover profile.

**1 ABSTRACT**

2  
3 The invention relates to an insulating strut for a composite profile for window, door and  
4 facade elements, comprising an insulating strut body that extends in a longitudinal direction (Z)  
5 and at least two longitudinal edges that are mutually spaced at a distance (a) in a transversal  
6 direction (X), said edges being adapted for a non-slip connection to profiled parts of the  
7 composite profile. Said insulating strut body has cavities extending through one or more walls in  
8 the direction of its height (Y), said cavities being separated by struts similar to ladder rungs in  
9 the longitudinal direction (Z). The body is designed for the at least partial snap-on connection of  
10 a cover profile.

**Ladder-Type Insulating Strut for a Composite Profile for Window, Door and Facade  
Elements and Composite Profile for Window, Door and Facade Elements**

The present invention relates to a ladder-shaped insulating strip for a composite profile for window-, door- and facade elements and a composite profile for window-, door- and facade elements.

Insulating strips for composite profiles for window-, door- and facade elements and composite profiles for window-, door- and facade elements are known, e.g., from DE 296 23 019 U1 (EP 0 829 609 B1), DE 197 35 702 A1, DE 298 21 183 U1 (EP 1 004 739 B1), DE 199 56 415 C1, DE 198 18 769 A1 and DE 198 53 235 A1.

An insulating strip is known from DE 198 18 769 A1 that is comprised of plastic and an embedded metal insert. The metal insert and the plastic have openings that result in a ladder-shaped structure of the ladder strip. The metal insert serves to prevent a total failure of the insulating strip in case of fire. The purpose of the openings in the metal insert is to reduce heat conductivity.

It is an object of the invention to provide an insulating strip (thermal isolating strip) for a composite profile, which facilitates a sufficiently high shear rigidity with improved thermal isolation, and a composite profile improved in this manner.

This object is achieved by an insulating strip according to claim 1, a covering profile according to claim 4 and a composite profile according to claim 5, respectively.

Further developments of the invention are provided in the dependent claims.

A composite profile, in particular a metal composite profile, is provided, in which the outwardly-located profile parts (e.g., outer frame and inner frame) made, e.g., of metal, are connected using one or more insulating strips made of plastic. A relative movement in the

1 longitudinal direction is limited and/or prevented by the high shear rigidity (characteristic of the  
2 rungs in width, thickness, length, number).

3  
4 The insulating strips are advantageously manufactured initially from a suitable material,  
5 e.g., by extrusion, as profile parts having a constant cross-section along the length. Thereafter,  
6 the rungs and/or more precisely the openings are produced by a processing such as a machine  
7 processing (e.g., milling), cutting (e.g., laser cutting, water jet cutting), punching, etc. The  
8 removed material can be recycled.

9  
10 The metal profiles are fixedly and thus undetachably connected with the insulating strip.

11  
12 The insulating strips can be provided with covering profiles or covering foils for covering  
13 the intermediate spaces between the rungs. The covering profiles or covering films can be, e.g.,  
14 clipped-on, adhered-on, extruded-on, laminated-on, etc. In the alternative or in addition, it is  
15 also possible to fill up the intermediate spaces between the ladder rungs with a material that has a  
16 lower heat conductivity coefficient than the material of the rungs. The function of such a  
17 covering profile, etc., is, on the one hand, to protect against the penetration of moisture and, on  
18 the other hand, the protection of the inner core. The covering profiles or covering films can be  
19 attached before or after the mounting of the doors. The protection against moisture can be  
20 ensured with the covering profiles or covering films. In addition, decorative elements can be  
21 attached. For example, the covering element can be made electronically conductive and thus  
22 assume the color of the metal profile during the powder lacquering. Printing thereon is also  
23 possible.

24  
25 One advantage is that the U-values (heat conductivity properties) of the insulating strip  
26 are not inordinately diminished by the attachment of the covering film/covering profile/filling.

27  
28 Further features and advantages will follow from the description of the exemplary  
29 embodiments with the assistance of the Figures. In the Figures:



1 Fig. 1 shows a first embodiment of an insulating strip, in a) in plan view, in b) in the  
2 cross-section perpendicular to the longitudinal direction along the line B-B from Fig. 1a), and in  
3 c) in the cross-section perpendicular to the longitudinal direction along the line C-C from Fig.  
4 1a);

5  
6 Fig. 2 shows a second embodiment of an insulating strip having another rung width in  
7 views corresponding to Fig. 1;

8  
9 Fig. 3 shows a cross-sectional view perpendicular to the longitudinal direction of an  
10 insulating strip when being connected with the inner- and outer profile parts of a composite  
11 profile by rolling-in;

12  
13 Fig. 4 shows a third embodiment of an insulating strip having meander-shaped rungs of  
14 the ladder-like structure in a view corresponding to Fig. 1 a);

15  
16 Fig. 5 shows a fourth embodiment of an insulating strip having an *in situ* extruded cover  
17 in a view corresponding to Fig. 1 c);

18  
19 Fig. 6 shows a modification of the fourth embodiment;

20  
21 Fig. 7 shows a fifth embodiment of an insulating strip, in a) in the cross-section of the  
22 insulating strip body perpendicular to the longitudinal direction, in b) in the cross-section of a to-  
23 be-clipped-on covering profile perpendicular to the longitudinal direction, and in c) in the  
24 installed state between two metal profiles in the cross-section perpendicular to the longitudinal  
25 direction; and

26  
27 Fig. 8 shows in the views a), b) a sixth embodiment of an insulating strip, in a) in plan  
28 view perpendicular to the longitudinal direction and in b) in the cross-section perpendicular to  
29 the longitudinal direction, in view c) a modification of the sixth embodiment in the cross-section  
30 perpendicular to the longitudinal direction, in d) a seventh embodiment in plan view  
31 perpendicular to the longitudinal direction, in e) an eighth embodiment in plan view

1 perpendicular to the longitudinal direction, and in f) a ninth embodiment in plan view  
2 perpendicular to the longitudinal direction;

3  
4 Fig. 9 shows a tenth embodiment of an insulating strip, in a) in plan view perpendicular  
5 to the longitudinal direction and in b) in the cross-section perpendicular to the longitudinal  
6 direction;

7  
8 Fig. 10 shows an eleventh embodiment of an insulating strip, in a) in plan view  
9 perpendicular to the longitudinal direction, in b) in the cross-section perpendicular to the  
10 longitudinal direction, in c) in a modification of the cross-sectional shape perpendicular to the  
11 longitudinal direction, in d) a cross-section without openings, in e) a modification of the  
12 embodiment of b) with filling material, and in f) a modification of the modification of c) with  
13 filling material;

14  
15 Fig. 11 shows modifications of the sixth to ninth embodiments in corresponding views;  
16 and

17  
18 Fig. 12 shows in a) a modification of the embodiments from Figs. 10 a) and c), in b) and  
19 c) modifications of the embodiments of Figs. 8 and 11, and in d) a modification of the  
20 embodiment of Fig. 10.

21  
22 In the insulating strips shown in Figs. 1, 2, the rungs 23 of the insulating strip body 20,  
23 which is formed in a ladder-like manner, extend transverse to the longitudinal direction Z  
24 between the continuous longitudinal edges 21, 22. However, these could also extend slightly  
25 inclined (up to about 20°) to the transverse direction. The rungs could also have a curved shape.  
26 All rungs preferably, but not necessarily, have the same shape.

27  
28 The longitudinal sides or edges 21, 22 are adapted for the (in the longitudinal direction Z)  
29 shear-resistant connection with profile parts 31, 32 (see Fig. 3) of the composite profile. In the  
30 illustrated embodiment, the longitudinal sides or edges 21, 22 are formed as roll-in heads 25 or  
31 roll-in projections for a rolling-in in grooves of the profile parts 31, 32, which are each formed

1 by a roll-in hammer 33 and an opposing wall segment 34. Other types of connections, such as  
2 adhesion, etc. are also possible.

3  
4 In plan view, the rungs 23 have a width  $b$  in the longitudinal direction  $z$  that is chosen in  
5 accordance with the required transverse tensile strength, the required transverse stiffness and the  
6 material utilized and falls within the range of 0.5 mm to 10 mm, preferably 1 mm to 5 mm, more  
7 preferably 1 mm to 3 mm. In a cross section perpendicular to the longitudinal direction, the  
8 rungs have a height (thickness)  $h$  (in direction  $y$ ) that is chosen in accordance with the required  
9 transverse tensile strength, the required transverse stiffness and the material utilized and falls  
10 within the range of 0.5 mm to 10 mm, preferably 0.5 mm to 5 mm, more preferably 0.7 mm to 2  
11 mm. The rungs 23 are disposed in the longitudinal direction with constant spacings  $d$  between  
12 them, which spacings fall within the range of 1 mm to 100 mm, preferably 1 mm to 50 mm, more  
13 preferably 1 mm to 5 mm and more preferably 1 to 3 mm. Naturally, other widths, thicknesses,  
14 lengths and spacings are possible in accordance with the requirements.

15  
16 First test results were obtained from ladder-like insulating strips with rungs that had, in  
17 the plan view in the longitudinal direction of the insulating strip, a width  $b$  of 1 mm in a first  
18 embodiment and a width of 3 mm in a second embodiment, and each had constant spacings  $d$  of  
19 about 3 mm in the longitudinal direction of the insulating strip. In the plan view, the rungs had a  
20 length  $c$  of about 14 mm long in the direction transverse to the longitudinal direction of the  
21 insulating strip with an overall dimension  $a$  of the insulating strip of about 23 mm in this  
22 direction. The insulating strips exhibited values for the transverse tensile strength (tension in the  
23 direction of the connection of the profile parts connected by the insulating strip, i.e. in direction  $x$   
24 in Figs. 1, 2), which values for both rung widths were higher than for comparable profiles  
25 according to DE 199 56 415 C1, and for the shear strength (relative displacement of the profile  
26 parts connected by the insulating strip in the longitudinal direction  $z$  of the profile parts, i.e. in  
27 the longitudinal direction  $z$  in Figs. 1, 2), which could be adjusted in a simple manner by setting  
28 the rung widths to values below or above the values for comparable profiles according to DE 199  
29 56 415 C1, so that the amount of the longitudinal displaceability is easily tailorable with a very  
30 high transverse tensile strength. These strips were designed to allow for a longitudinal  
31 displaceability, so that the so-called bi-metal problem is lessened.



Fig. 4 shows a third embodiment of an insulating strip having meander-shaped rungs of the ladder-like structure in a view corresponding to Fig. 1 a).

In the fourth embodiment of an insulating strip shown in Fig. 5, an *in situ* extruded cover (cover profile) 40 is provided for covering the intermediate spaces between the rungs. in a view corresponding to Fig. 1 c). The cover profile is integrally formed with the strip. As viewed in a cross section perpendicular to the longitudinal direction z, the cover profile is *in situ* extruded as a cover on one side of the rungs (as viewed in the x-direction) and its free end (edge) is clipped onto the other side of the rungs (as viewed in the x-direction). The clip-connection is constructed so that the clipping-in takes place in the height direction (y-direction).

In an alternative embodiment, which is shown in Fig. 6, the clip-connection is designed in another manner, so that it is clipped-in inclined to the height direction (y-direction) and a traction force in the transverse direction (x-direction) retains the clip in the engagement.

In the fifth embodiment shown in Fig. 7, the insulating strip body 20 is provided with clip heads (male clip parts) 28 on the rungs 23. These are disposed so that, in the height direction y, one clip head 28 is disposed on one side and two clip heads 28 are disposed on the other side. As a result, a single clip head 28 is disposed on the rung in the center in the transverse direction x, whereas the two other clip heads are disposed on the other side with identical distances from the center.

The clip heads each project by a height  $h_3$  relative to the rest of the surface of the rungs 23 of the insulating strip body 20. The sum of the thickness  $h_1$  in the height direction y and twice the projecting length  $h_3$  is preferably identical to the thickness of the roll-in heads 25 in the height direction y.

In the fifth embodiment, a cover (cover profile) 40 is constructed so that it has three clip retainers (female clip parts) 48, of which the two outer ones have the same spacing as the two clip heads 28 located on one side of the insulating strip body 20 and the third clip retainer is

1 disposed in the middle between these. As is implied by Fig. 7, such covers could be clipped onto  
2 both sides of the insulating strip body 20 without differently-formed covers being necessary.

3 The insulating strip body 20 has a substantially constant thickness  $h_1$  over a width  $a_1$  in the  
4 transverse direction  $x$ . The width  $a_2$  of the cover 40 in the transverse direction  $x$  is less than or  
5 the same as this width  $a_1$  of the insulating strip body 20.

6  
7 The cover has abutting lips 42 formed on its edges in the transverse direction  $x$ , which  
8 abutting lips 42 extend in the longitudinal direction  $Z$ . The clip retainers (female clip parts) 48  
9 have a distance  $h_4$  from the bottom of the clip retainer in the height direction  $y$  to the outermost  
10 point of the clip retainer, which distance  $h_4$  is less than the height  $h_3$  of the clip head 28. The lips  
11 42 end in the height direction  $y$  at the height level of the clip retainers 48 or somewhat higher  
12 (see also Fig. 7 c)).

13  
14 Plastic having a Young's modulus value of greater than  $2000 \text{ N/mm}^2$  is advantageously  
15 utilized as the material for the insulating strip. Suitable plastics are polyamide, polyester or  
16 polypropylene, for example PA66.

17  
18 The thickness  $h_1$  of the insulating strip bodies of all embodiments falls within the range  
19 of 1 mm to 50 mm, preferably 1 mm to 10 mm, more preferably 1 mm to 2 mm, more preferably  
20 1.4 to 1.8 mm. The thickness  $h_2$  of the cover is preferably less than or equal to the thickness of  
21 the insulating strip body associated therewith.

22  
23 The embodiment shown in Figs. 5 and 6 is well-suited for smaller values of  $a$  in the range  
24 of 8 to 20 mm, for example, 14 mm. The thickness  $h_1$  is then preferably, for example, 1.4 mm.  
25 The embodiment of Fig. 7 is well-suited for values of  $a$  in the range of 20 to 40 mm, e.g., 32 mm.  
26 In this case, the preferred thickness  $h_1$  falls in the range of 1.5 to 1.8 mm. PA66 is preferred as  
27 the material for the stated widths and material thicknesses.

28  
29 Because the insulating strip bodies are comprised of plastic, no metal inserts are present,  
30 i.e. they are formed without metal inserts.

1 In Fig. 8 a) an embodiment defined with regard to shear strength is illustrated in a plan  
2 view perpendicular to the longitudinal direction. The insulating strip has a width  $a$  in the  $x$ -  
3 direction in the range of  $10 \text{ mm} \leq a \leq 100 \text{ mm}$ . The insulating strip has openings 24 passing  
4 through the material of the strip in the height direction (thickness direction)  $y$ . The shape of the  
5 openings is substantially triangular in the plan view, with corners having an inner curvature of  
6 radius  $R$ . The height of the triangle in the transverse direction  $x$  is  $c$ . The triangles are disposed  
7 in an alternating manner. This means that, in the plan view in Fig. 8 a), one longitudinal side of  
8 each triangle is respectively disposed alternately parallel adjacent to the left side, then to the right  
9 side, then again to the left side, etc. From this, it also follows that the vertices are disposed in an  
10 alternating manner. Rungs 23 are located between the triangles and have a width  $b$  perpendicular  
11 to the sides of the triangles that border them. The triangles are spaced by a length  $e$  from the  
12 respective outer edges in the transverse direction. From that, it results that  $a = c + 2e$ . The  
13 insulating strip has a height (thickness)  $h$  in the height direction over its entire width, except for  
14 the roll-in heads 25. The values are thus chosen as follows. For insulating strips having  $a < 22$   
15 mm,  $c$  falls in the range of 7 to 10, preferably 8 mm. The radius  $R$  is  $< 2 \text{ mm}$ , preferably  $< 1$   
16 mm, more preferably 0.5 mm. This radius serves to prevent a stress concentration and also to  
17 prevent the formation of a type of bending joint. The width of the rungs is 1 to 3 mm, preferably  
18 2 mm.

19  
20 For strips having  $a \geq 22 \text{ mm}$ ,  $c$  falls in the range of 8 to 18 mm, preferably 12 mm. The  
21 height  $h$  in the height direction  $y$  is 1.2 to 2.4 mm, preferably 1.8 mm. The strip is made from  
22 PA66GF25.

23  
24 Fig. 8 c) shows a modification of the sixth embodiment in cross-section, in which the  
25 path of the strip between the two roll-in heads is not straight, as in Fig. 8 b).

26  
27 Fig. 8 d) shows a seventh embodiment. The seventh embodiment differs from the sixth  
28 embodiment in that the openings are not substantially triangular, but rather are substantially  
29 rectangular. The cross-section perpendicular to the longitudinal direction can be as shown in  
30 Figs. 8 b) or c). The dimension specifications for  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$ ,  $e$  or  $R$  for the sixth embodiment also  
31 apply to the seventh embodiment. The length  $d$ , i.e. the dimension of the openings in the



1 longitudinal direction  $z$ , falls in the range of 3 to 8 mm, preferably 5 mm. This dimension  $d$  also  
2 applies to the preferred maximum dimension of the triangular openings in the sixth embodiment,  
3 even though the dimension  $d$  is not shown in Fig. 8 a).  
4

5 Fig. 8 e) shows an eighth embodiment. The eighth embodiment differs from the sixth  
6 and seventh embodiment in that the openings are circular with a diameter having the dimension  
7  $c$ . Fig. 8 f) shows a ninth embodiment that differs from the sixth and seventh embodiment in that  
8 the openings are six-sided. The remaining specifications for the sixth and seventh embodiments  
9 also apply, as far as they are applicable, to the eighth and ninth embodiments.  
10

11 Fig. 9 shows, in a) in the plan view perpendicular to the longitudinal direction and in b)  
12 in the cross-section to the longitudinal direction, an insulating strip having a so-called package-  
13 design. This package-design is designed to be installed in a composite profile as is shown in an  
14 exemplary manner in the cross-section in Fig. 7 c). For this purpose, the four roll-in heads 25 are  
15 rolled into the corresponding four retainers, as is readily apparent from a comparison with Fig. 7.  
16 The upper insulating strip part 20a in Fig. 9 b) is thus rolled-in above in Fig. 7 c) and the lower  
17 insulating strip part 20b in Fig. 9 b) is thus rolled-in below in Fig. 7 c). Both insulating strip  
18 parts are connected by a clipped-on connecting piece 20c so that, on the one hand, a shield  
19 against convection and irradiation is achieved between the inner and outer sides of the composite  
20 profile and, on the other hand, a plurality of hollow chambers 20d is formed. The hollow  
21 chambers 20d are sub-divided in the height direction  $y$  by a diagonal strut 20e of the connecting  
22 piece 20c. As is easily recognizable in Fig. 9 a), openings 24 can be formed with a width in the  
23 transverse direction  $x$  and a longitudinal dimension  $d$  in the longitudinal direction  $z$  and can be  
24 formed in one or more insulating strip parts 20a, 20b and/or in the connecting piece 20c. The  
25 insulating strip parts 20a and 20b shown in Fig. 9 d) each also have outwardly-pointing  
26 projections 20f that can form the retainers for rubber seals and/or mounting parts. These are not  
27 an essential component of the depicted embodiment. The number of the openings and the width  
28 and length of the openings is not limited to the arrangement shown in Fig. 9 a).  
29

30 The embodiment with modifications shown in Fig. 10 shows a so-called hollow chamber  
31 profile. In such a hollow chamber profile, hollow chambers are located between the roll-in



1 projections 25 in the transverse direction x. In Fig. 10 d), the cross-section of a conventional  
2 hollow chamber profile is shown. As can be readily derived from the comparison with the cross-  
3 section of the eleventh embodiment in Fig. 10 b), the difference essentially consists in that the  
4 wall in the central hollow chamber between the rungs 23 is removed, i.e. openings 24 are  
5 formed. The openings have a width g in the transverse direction x and a length dimension d in  
6 the longitudinal direction z. In particular for hollow chamber profiles having a width a of  $\geq 25$   
7 mm, the specifications for c) of the sixth to ninth embodiments can also be utilized for g). In the  
8 modification in Fig. 10 c), an opening 24 is formed only on one side of the hollow chambers.  
9 According to the modifications, which are shown in Figs. 10 e) and f), the part of the hollow  
10 chamber profile, in which one or more openings 24 are formed, is filled with a foam as a filling  
11 material. This foam is preferably a PUR foam that has a lower heat conductivity coefficient than  
12 the material formed for forming the insulating strip body.

13  
14 Figs. 11 a) to f) show modifications of the sixth to ninth embodiments in views having  
15 the same numbering a) to f), in each of which a projection 28 is formed that projects from the  
16 insulating strip body substantially in the height direction y. This projection 28 principally serves  
17 to obstruct convection and radiation. The height of the projection 8 in the height direction y is  
18 chosen accordingly. In Fig. 7 c), the installation of an insulating strip having such a projection  
19 28 is indicated below in a dashed manner. If the insulating strip shown above in Fig. 7 c) has  
20 one or more corresponding projections 28, which overlap with the lower projection 28 as viewed  
21 in the transverse direction x, then a particularly effective hindering of the convection and  
22 radiation is achieved. Figs. 12 b), c) and d) show modifications of insulating strips having two  
23 such projections 28.

24  
25 All of the embodiments shown in Figs. 8 to 12 are preferably provided with *in situ*  
26 extruded covers of the type shown in Figs. 5, 6 or more preferably with clip projections and/or  
27 clip retainers of the type shown in Fig. 7. In the alternative, it is also possible to provide films  
28 for covering the openings or to perform a filling with a material of lesser heat conductivity than  
29 the material of the insulating strip body. The at least partially or entirely clipped-on covers or, if  
30 applicable, films are preferred.

1 Hard-PVC, PA, PET, PPT, PA/PPE, ASA and PA66 are possibilities for the material of  
2 the insulating strip body and PA66GF25 is preferred. Foams made of thermosetting plastics,  
3 such as PU having an appropriate density, are possibilities, preferably foams of lower density  
4 (0.01 to 0.3 kg/l).

5  
6 Further applications of ladder-like profiles are directed to achieving a low shear strength  
7 (high longitudinal movability). In another application, openings are provided only to reduce the  
8 heat conductivity when a known, highly-conductive metal insert is used.

9  
10 In the preferred embodiments having partially *in situ* extruded covers that are clipped  
11 onto the other side, wherein embodiments with completely clipped-on covers are particularly  
12 preferred, and also in the embodiments having adhered-on or laminated-on films, each for  
13 covering the openings, it is been determined in a surprising way for the entire or partially  
14 clipped-on covers that these only insubstantially influence the so-called U-values, i.e. the heat  
15 isolating characteristics of the insulating strip, as compared to not-covered versions. Thus,  
16 experiments with a solid strip having a cross-section of the type shown in Fig. 8 b), i.e. a strip  
17 without openings, which strip has a width of 25 mm, a height h of 1.8 mm and PA26GF25 as the  
18 material, resulted in a U-value ( $\text{W}/\text{m}^2\text{K}$ ) of 2.4.

19  
20 An insulating strip of the type shown in Fig. 8 d) having  $c = 8 \text{ mm}$ ,  $d = 5 \text{ mm}$  and  $b = 2$   
21 mm resulted in a U-value of  $2.15 \text{ W}/\text{m}^2\text{K}$  without covering. A corresponding strip having  
22 clipped-on covers according to Fig. 7 had a U-value of  $2.25 \text{ W}/\text{m}^2\text{K}$ . The measurements were  
23 performed in a so-called "hot-box", wherein a system with 25 mm wide, flat insulating strips was  
24 utilized as the initial system, which insulating strips were not exchanged during the course of the  
25 experiment. Therefore, the improvement of the U-values should be even better in reality.

26  
27 Even though the cause of this effect is not completely clear, it is probably due to the  
28 design of the clip connections and thus the heat transmission path that is severely obstructed by  
29 the cover.

1 For the embodiments with the hollow chambers shown in Figs. 9, 10, which are already  
2 utilized for systems having excellent insulating properties, these properties can be further  
3 improved. The usage of convention and/or radiation shielding projections 28 likewise increases  
4 this effect.  
5

6 It is explicitly emphasized that all features disclosed in the description and/or the claims  
7 should be regarded as separate and independent of each other for the purpose of the original  
8 disclosure as well as for the purpose of restricting the claimed invention, independent of the  
9 combination of features in the embodiments and/or the claims. It is explicitly stated that all  
10 specifications of ranges or of groups of units disclose all possible intermediate values or sub-  
11 group of units for the purpose of original disclosure as well as for the purpose of restriction of  
12 the claimed invention, in particular also as a limit of a range indication.  
13

**WE CLAIM:**

1. Insulating strip (10) for a composite profile (1) for window-, door- and facade elements having an insulating strip body (20), which extends in a longitudinal direction (Z) and has at least two longitudinal edges (21, 22) that are separated from each other by a distance (a) in a transverse direction (X), which longitudinal edges are adapted for the shear-resistant connection with profile parts (31, 32) of the composite profile (1), which insulating strip body (20) has openings (24) passing through one or more walls of the insulating strip body (20) in a height direction (Y), which openings (24) are separated from each other by ladder-rung-like strips (23) in the longitudinal direction (Z), which insulating strip body (20) is formed for the at least partial clipping-on of a covering profile (40).

2. Insulating strip according to claim 1, which has clip heads (28) projecting from at least one side in the height direction (Y) and/or clip retainers (48) having recesses extending in the height direction (Y).

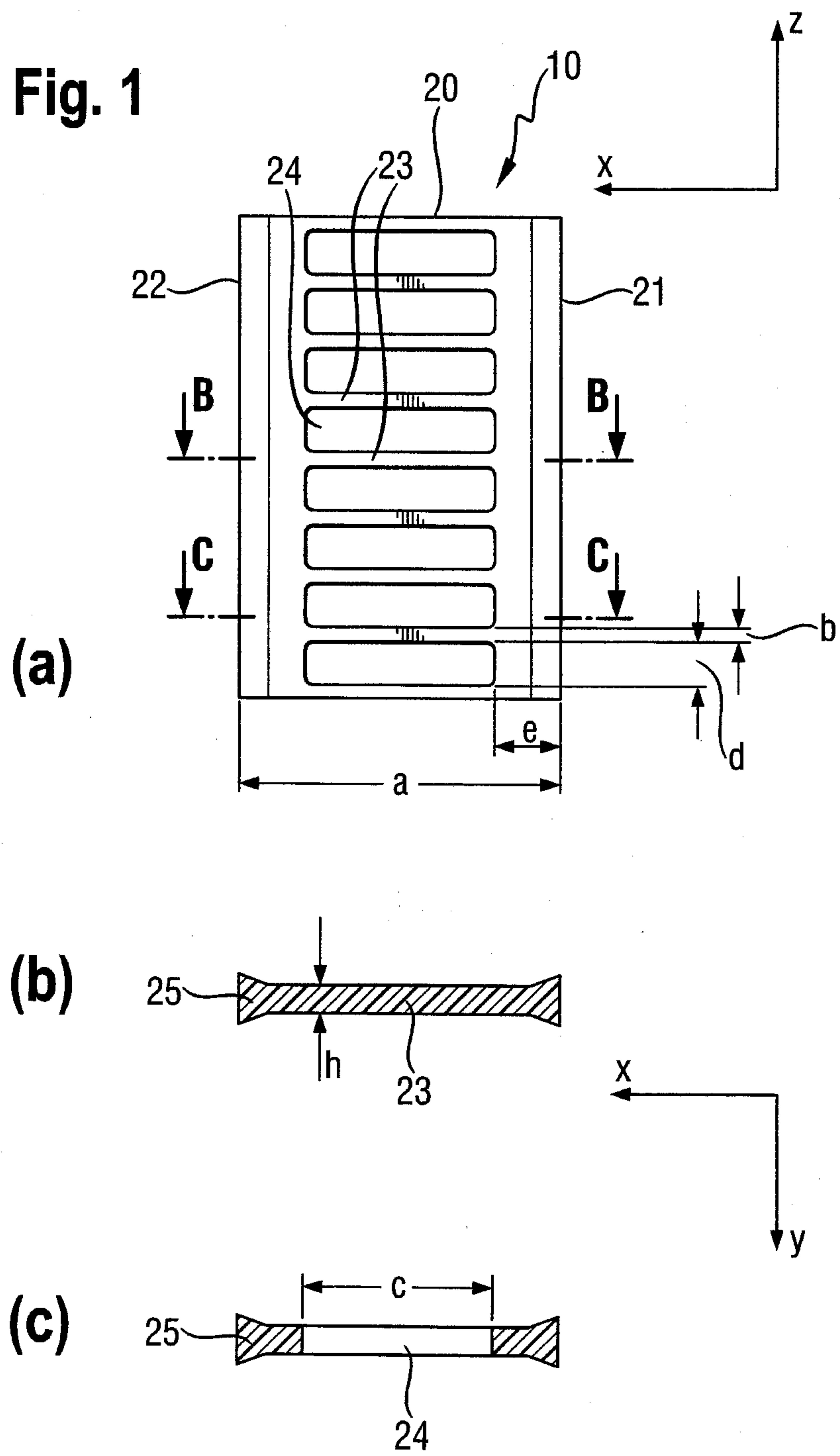
3. Insulating strip according to claim 1 or 2, wherein a covering profile (40) is *in situ* extruded on the insulating strip body (20) on one side of the openings as viewed in the transverse direction (X), and the covering profile (40) and the insulating strip body (20) are adapted for a clip connection on the other side of the openings as viewed in the transverse direction (X).

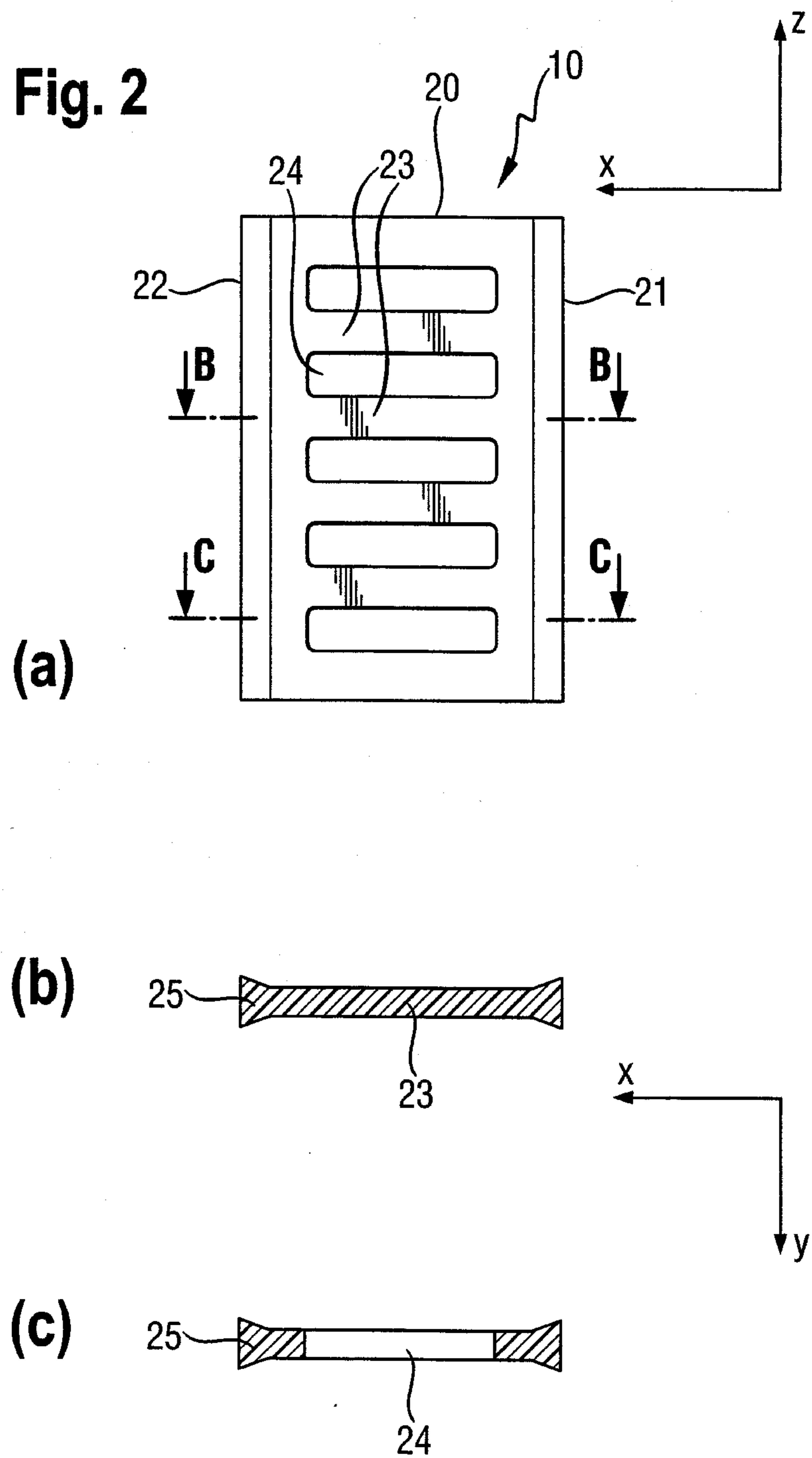
4. Covering profile (40) for an insulating strip body according to claim 2, which has a width (a<sub>2</sub>) in the transverse direction that is less than the width (a<sub>1</sub>) of the insulating strip that has clip heads (28) complementary to the clip heads (28) and/or the clip retainers (48) and/or has clip retainers (48) for clipping onto the cover on the insulating strip, and which has abutment lips (42) extending in the longitudinal direction (Z).

5. Composite profile for window-, door- and facade elements having at least two profile parts (31, 32) and at least one insulating strip according to one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the profile parts (31, 32) are connected with the insulating strip(s) (10) in a shear-resistant manner.

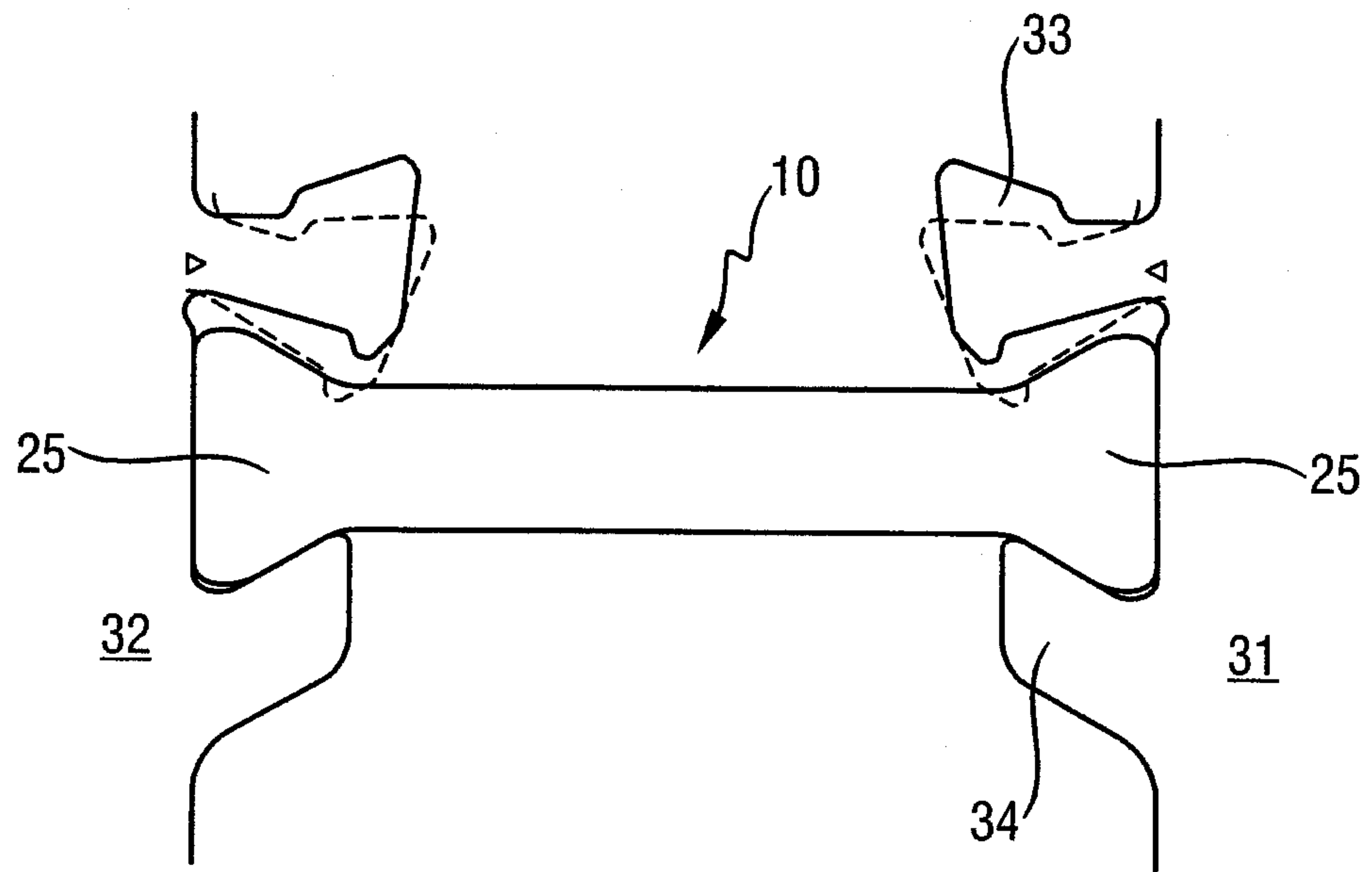


6. Composite profile according to claim 5, wherein the insulating strip according to claim 2 is formed with at least one covering profile according to claim 4.

**Fig. 1**

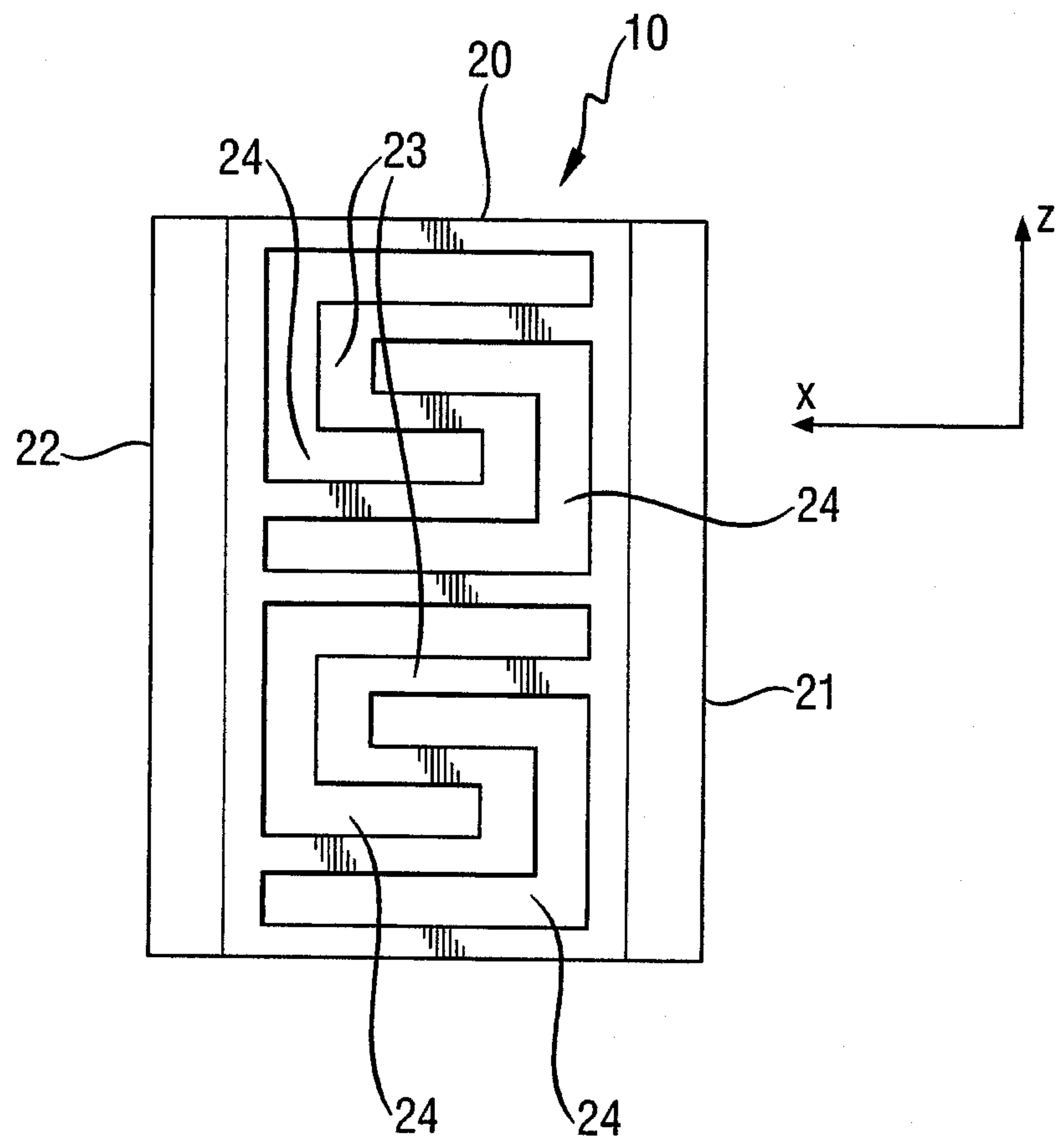
**Fig. 2**

**Fig. 3**

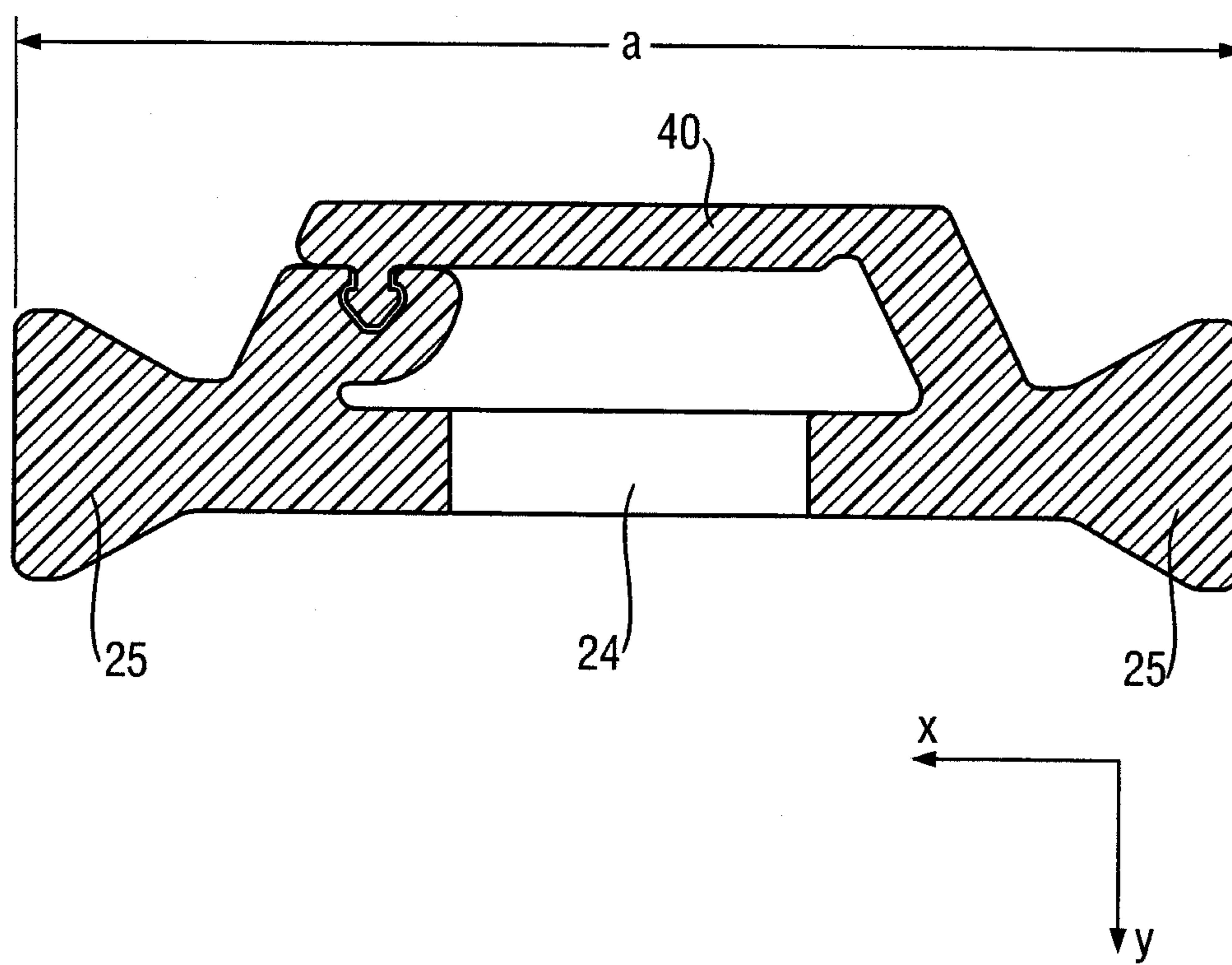




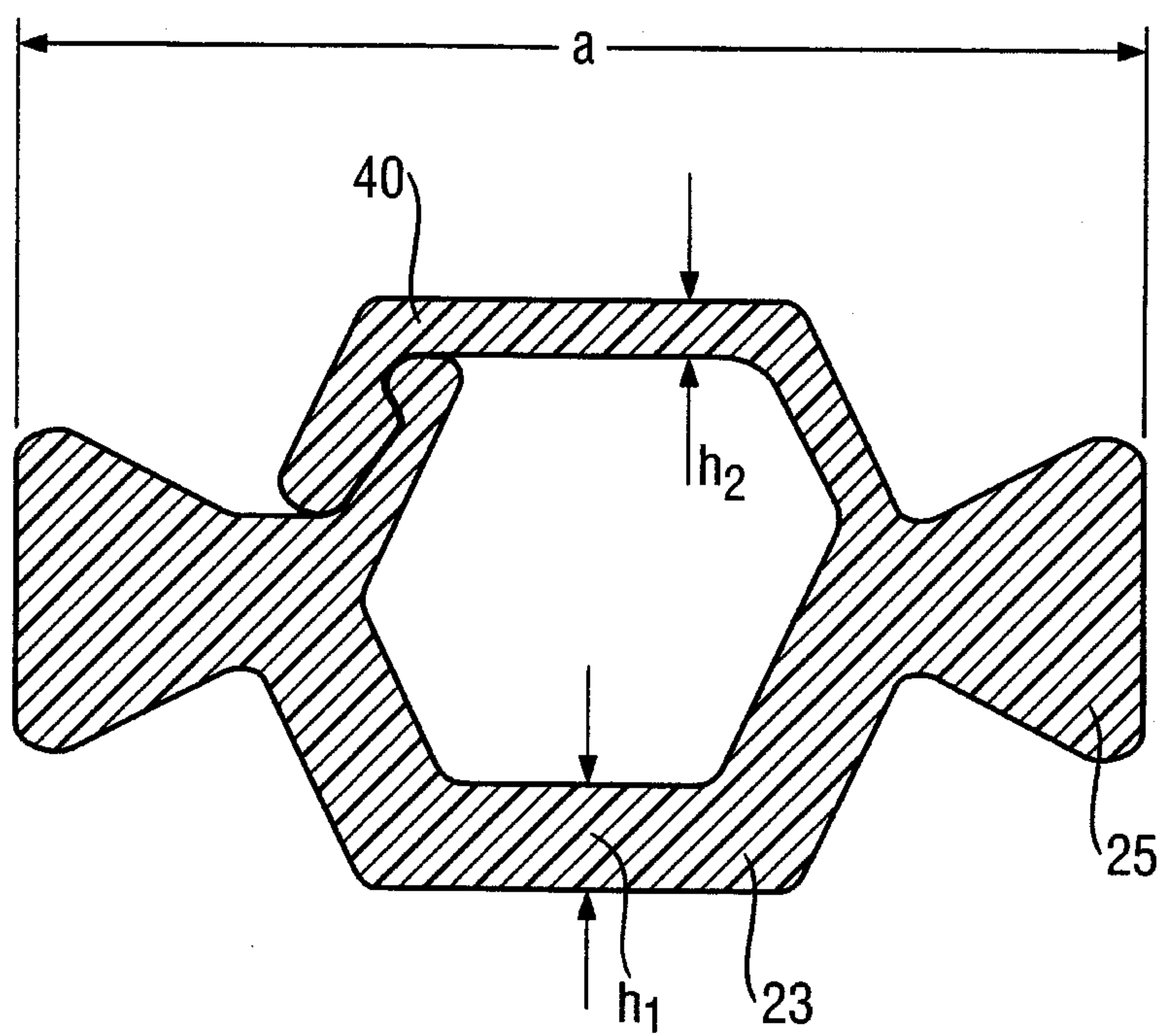
**Fig. 4**

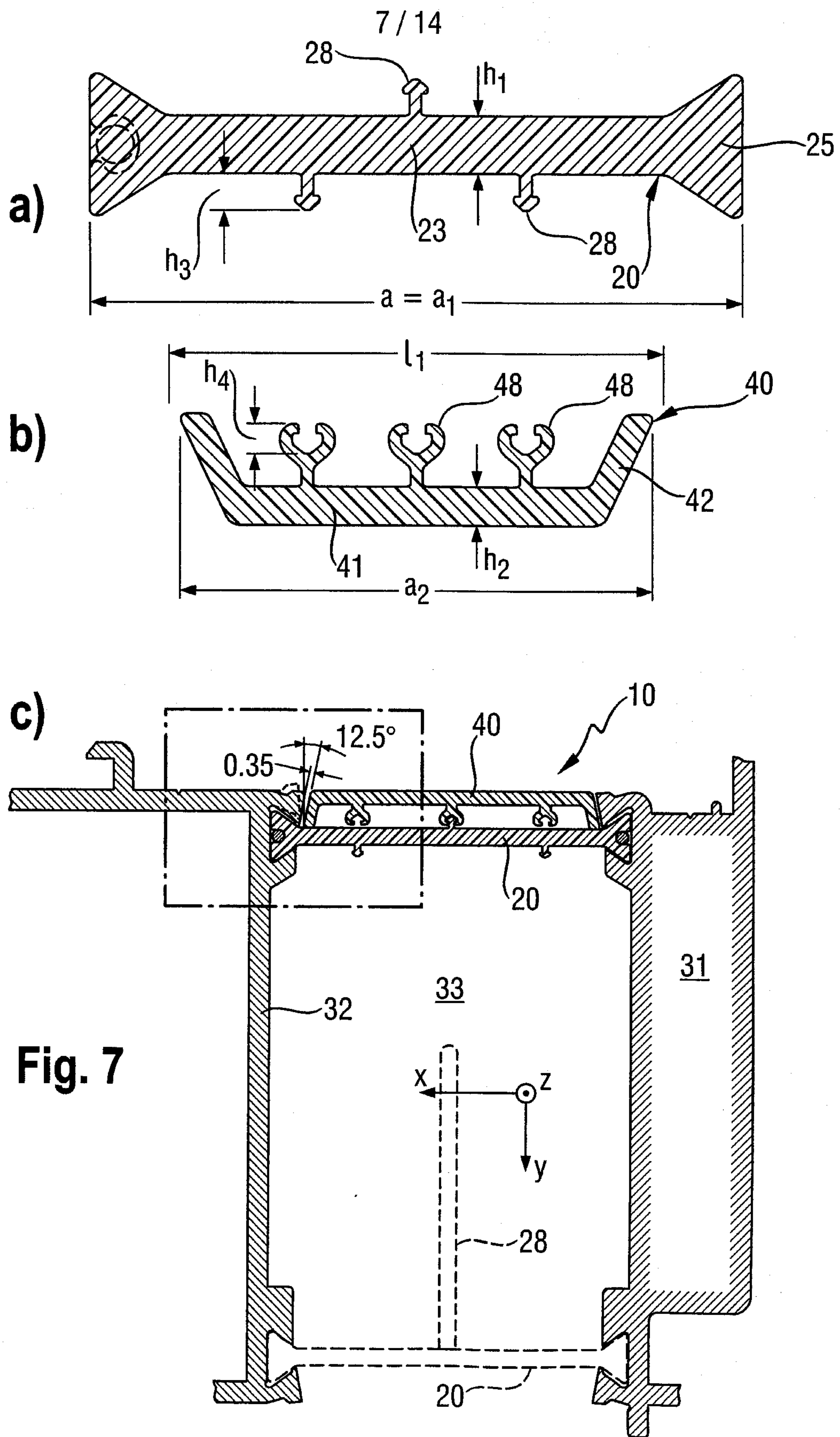


**Fig. 5**



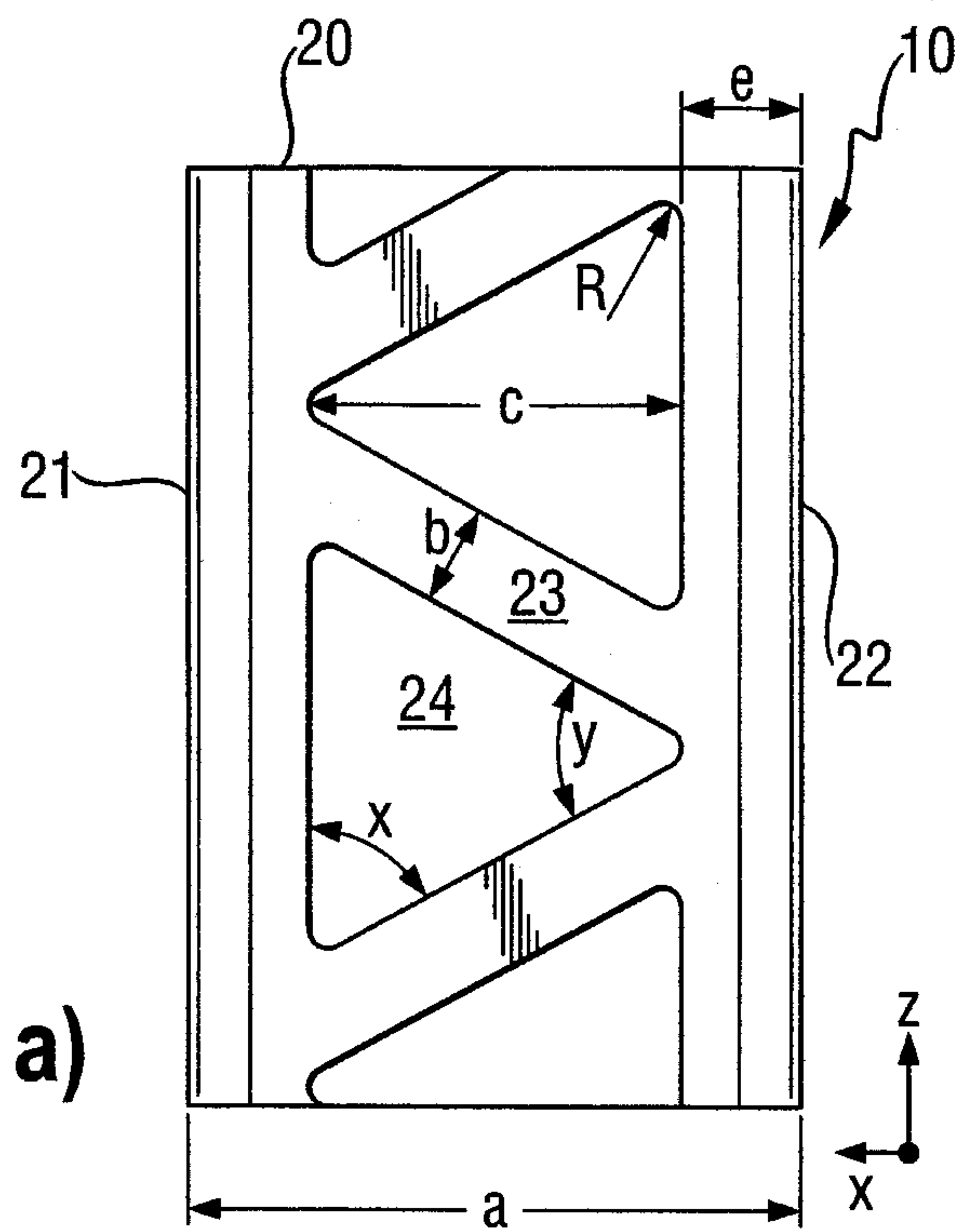
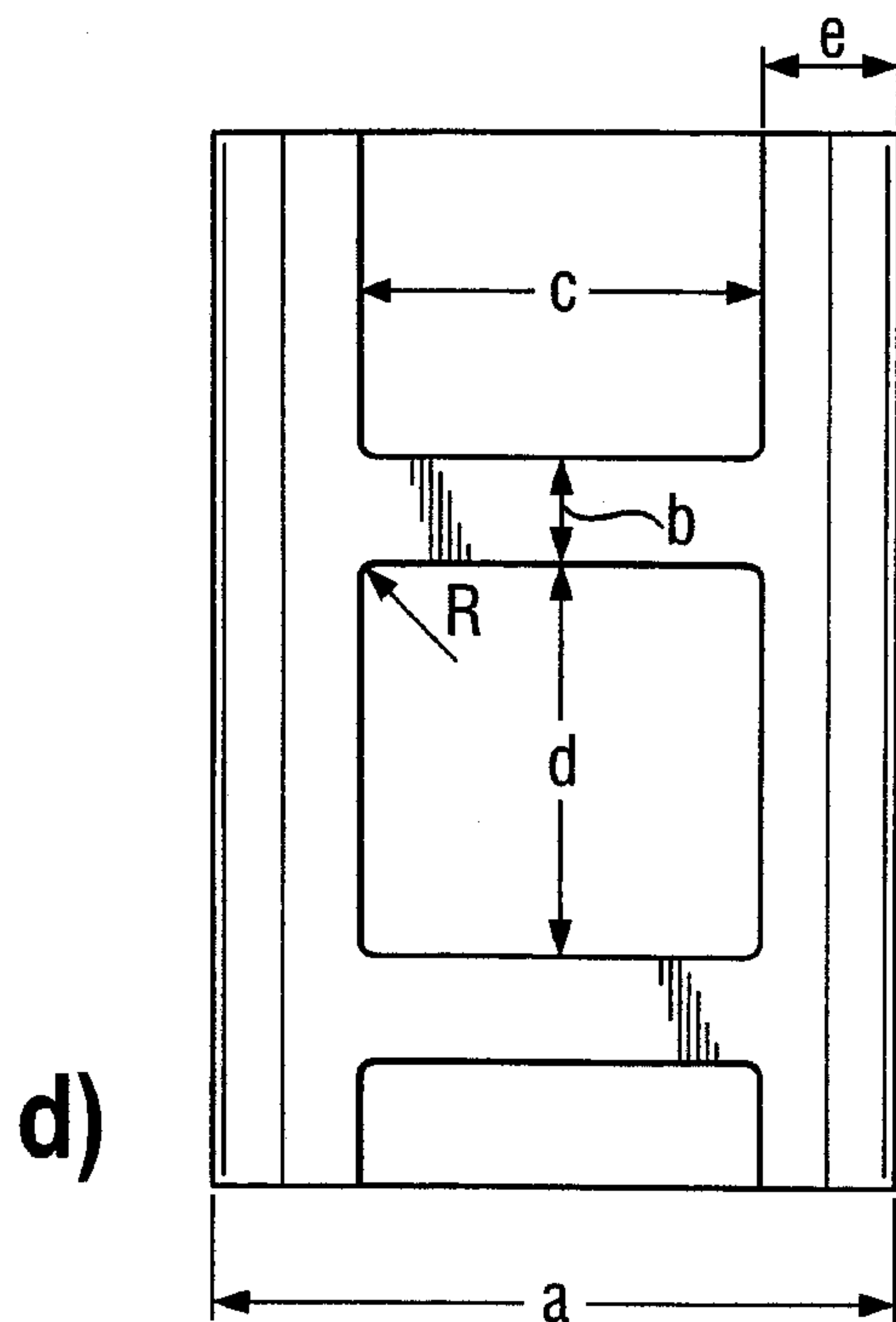
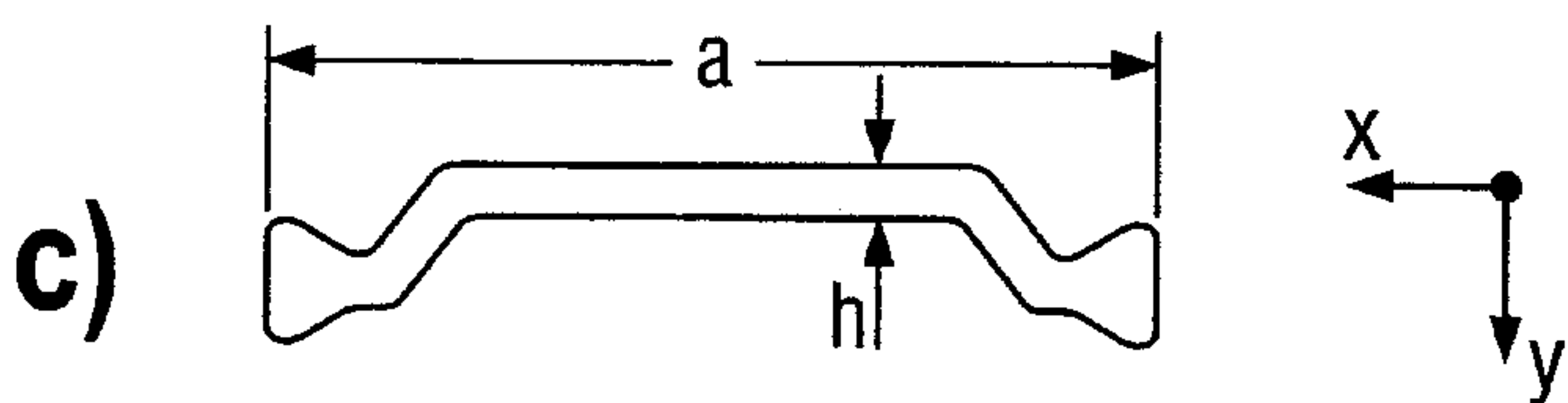
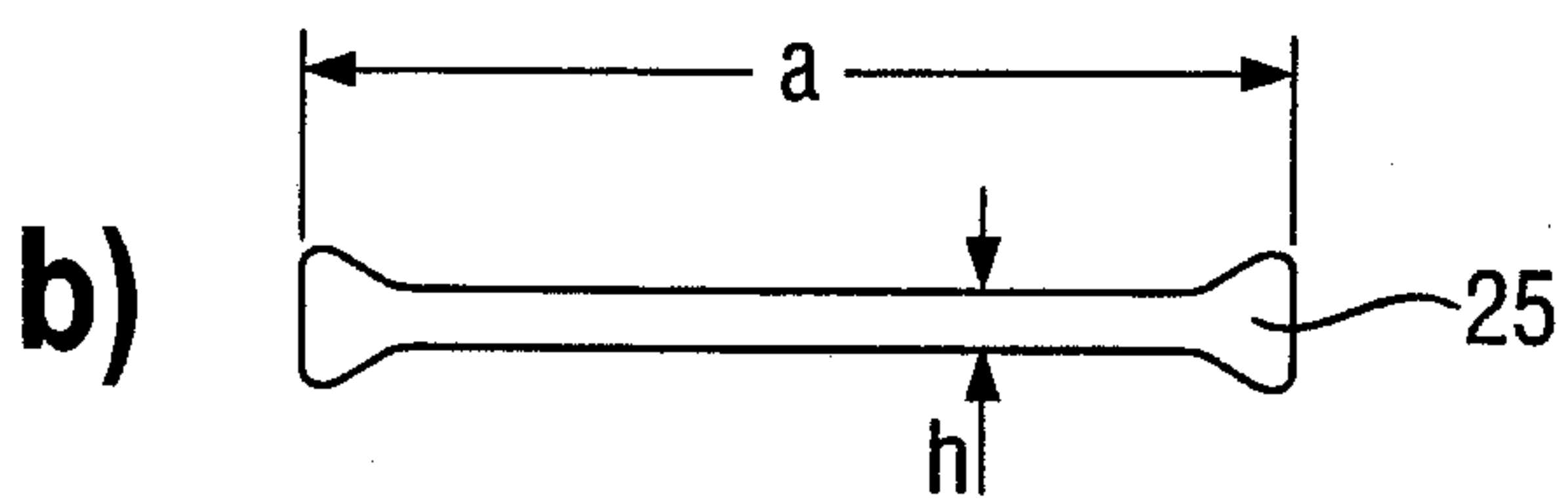
6/14

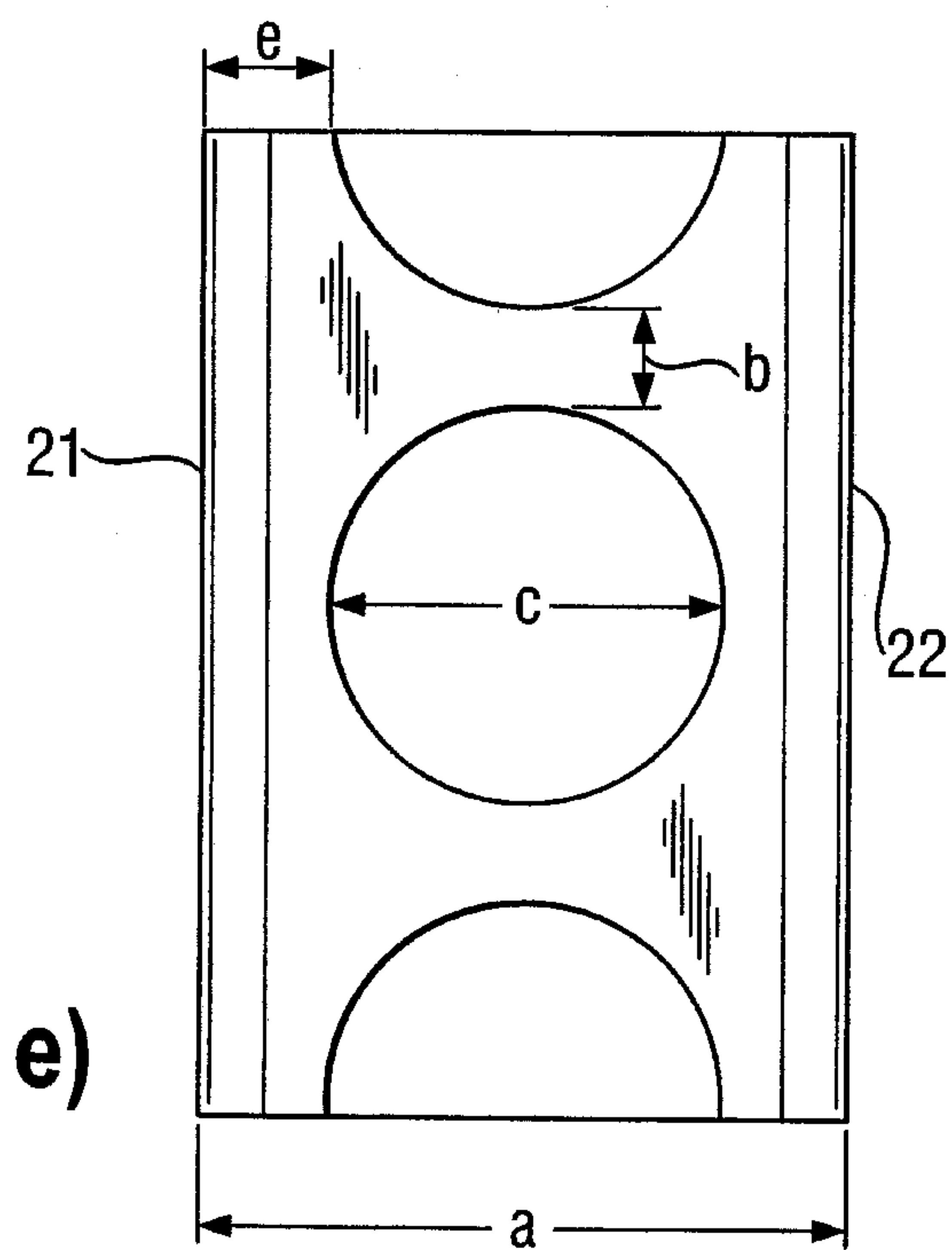
**Fig. 6**



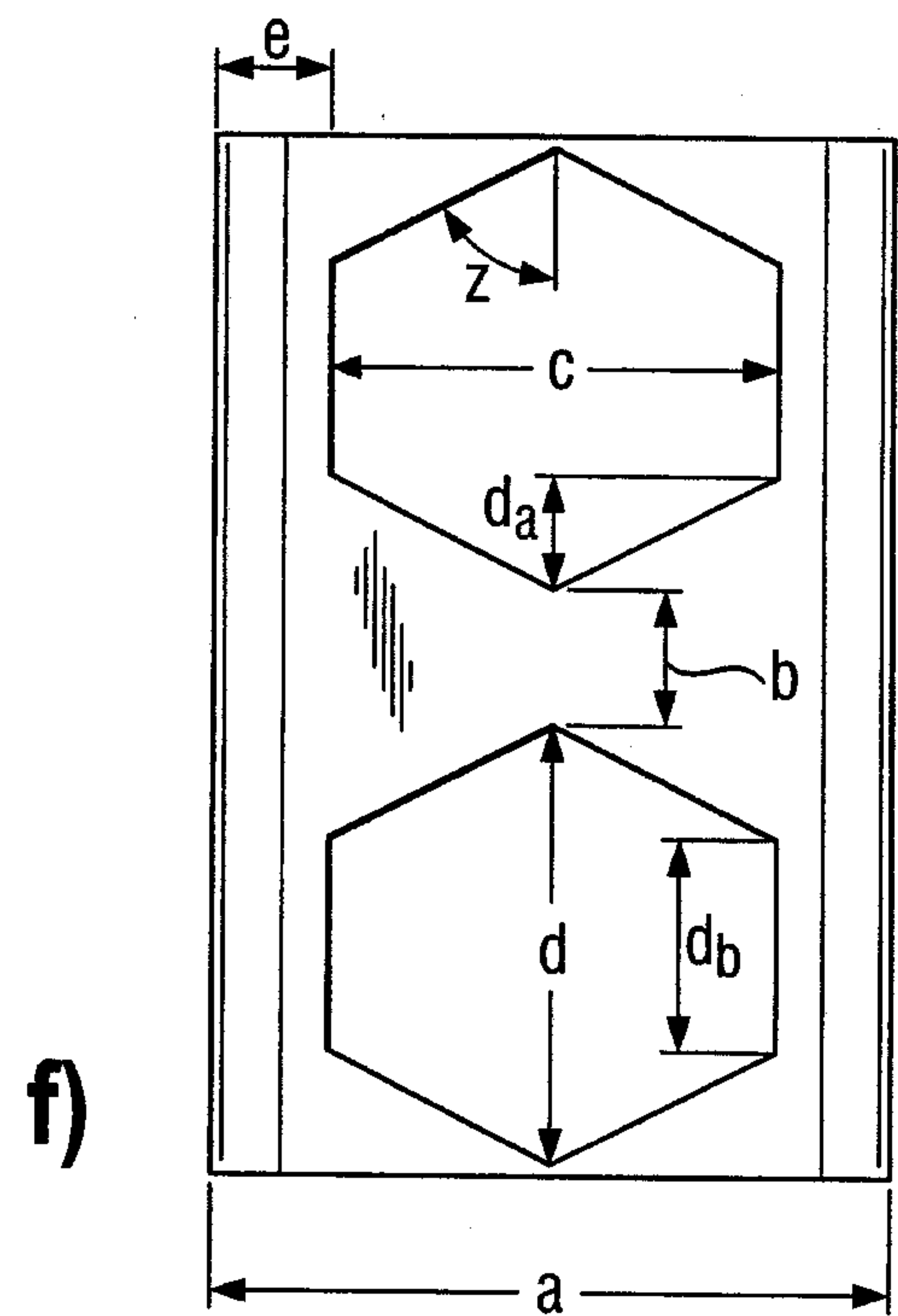
**Fig. 7**



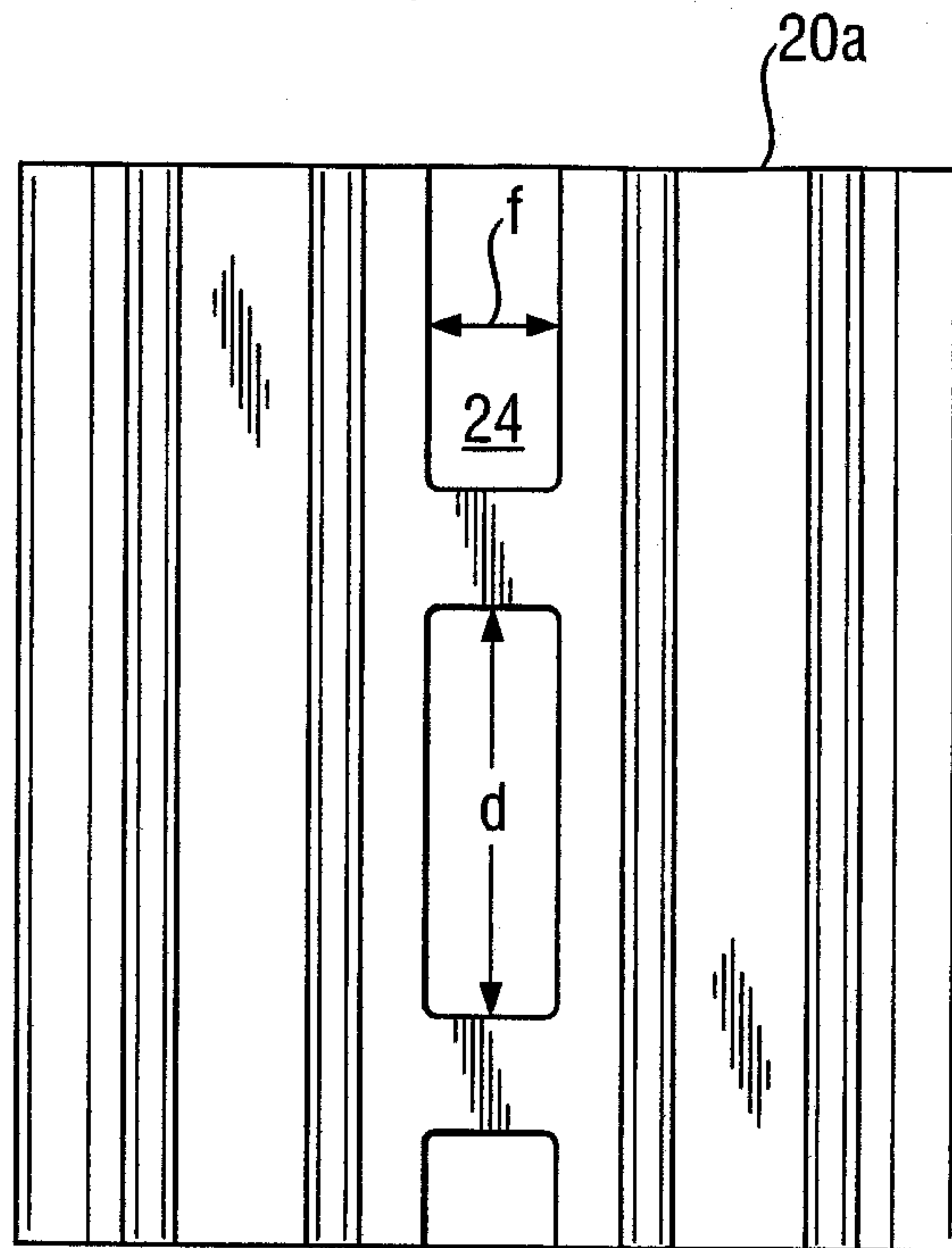
**Lattice Truss****Rectangular  
and/or  
Quadratic Hole  
Formation****Fig. 8**

**Fig. 8**

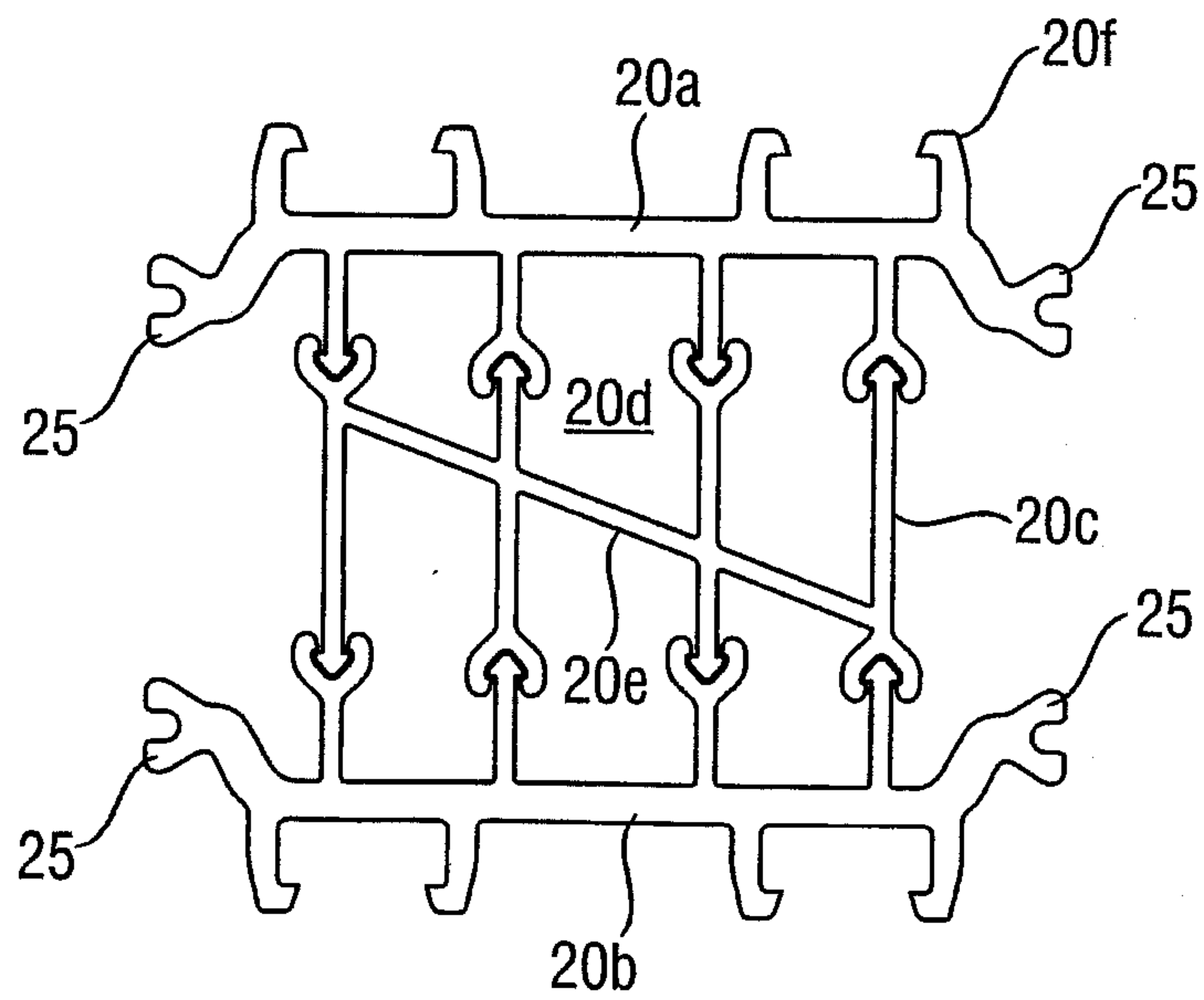
**Circular Hole  
Formation**



**Honeycomb Hole  
Formation  
(Known as Litzka  
Cut-Pattern in  
Steel Construction)**

**Fig. 9****a)**

**Package with Rectangular  
and/or Quadratic Hole  
Formation**

**b)**

a)

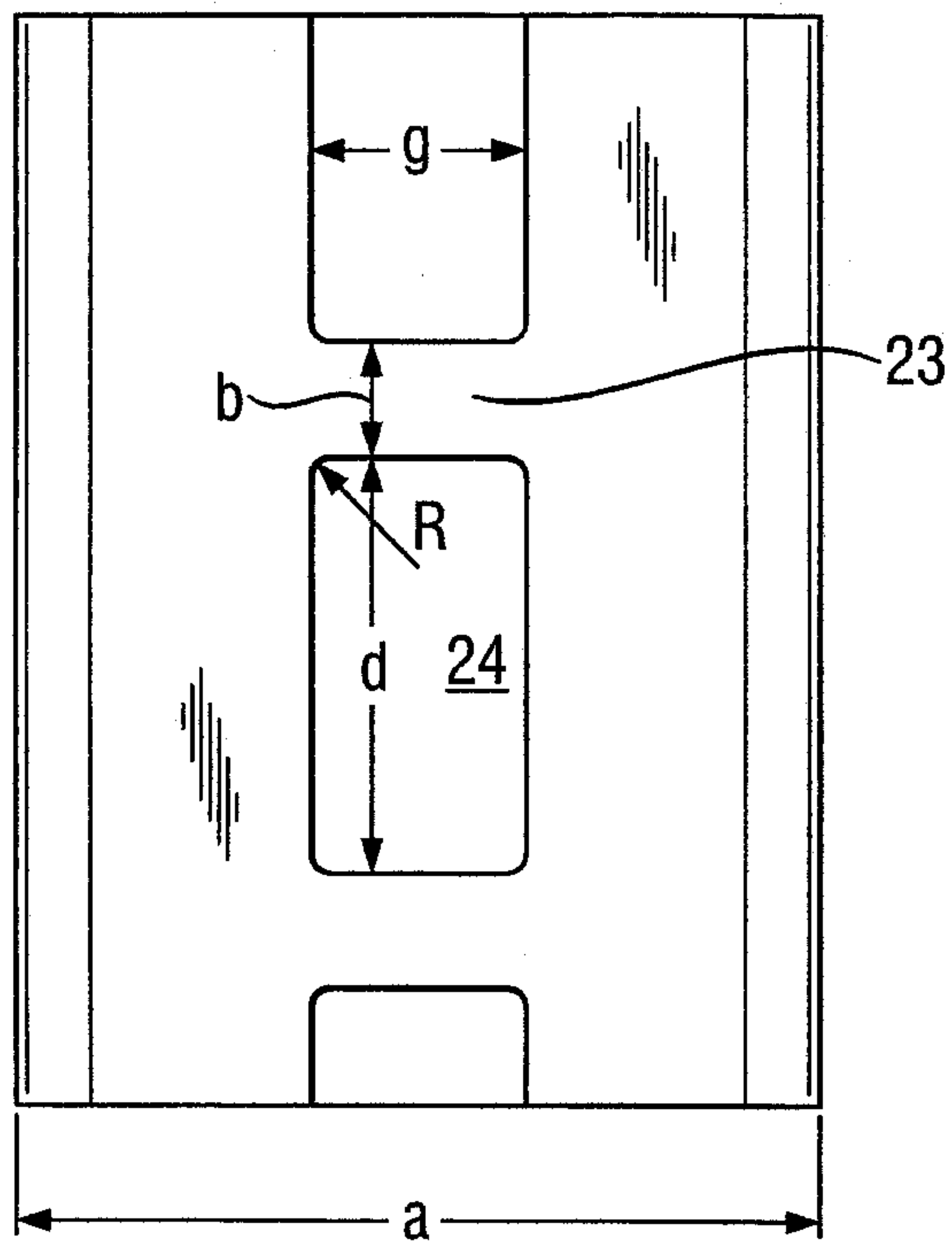
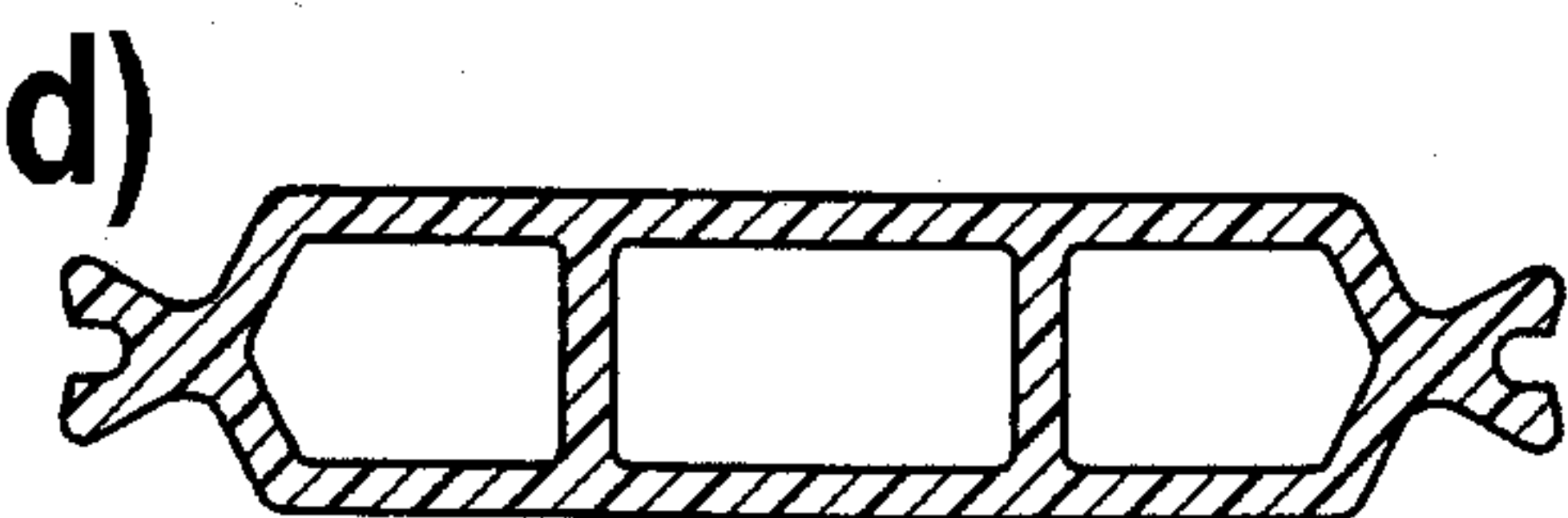
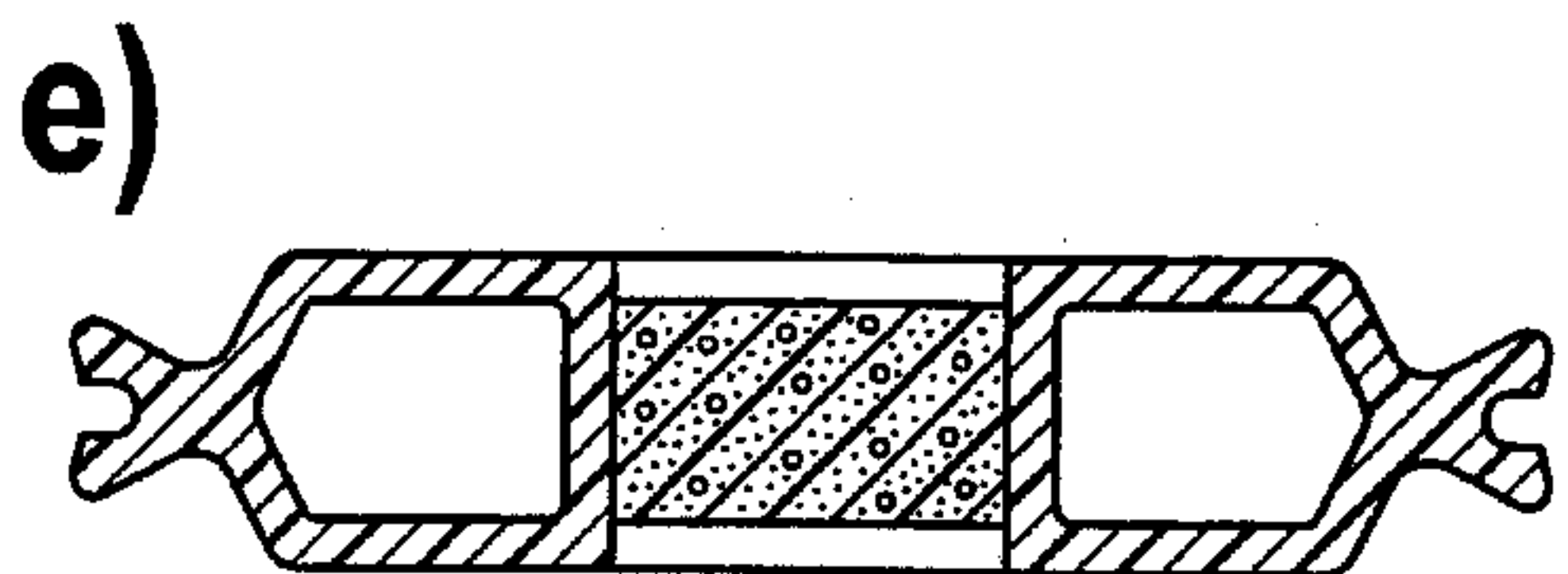
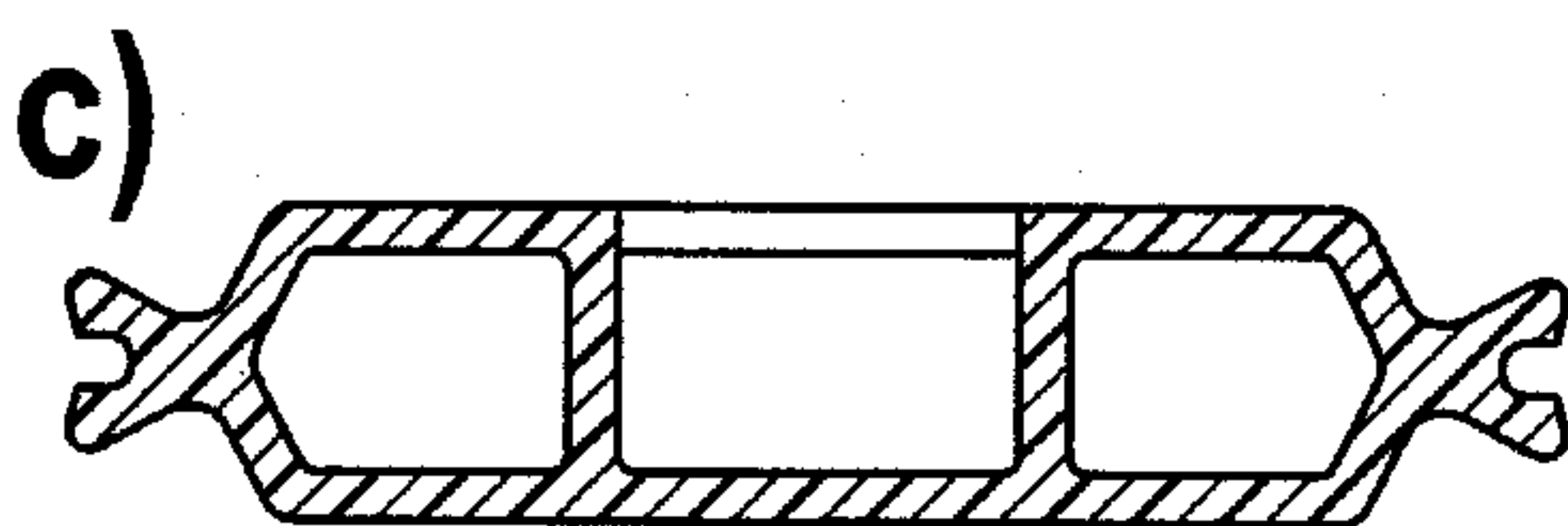
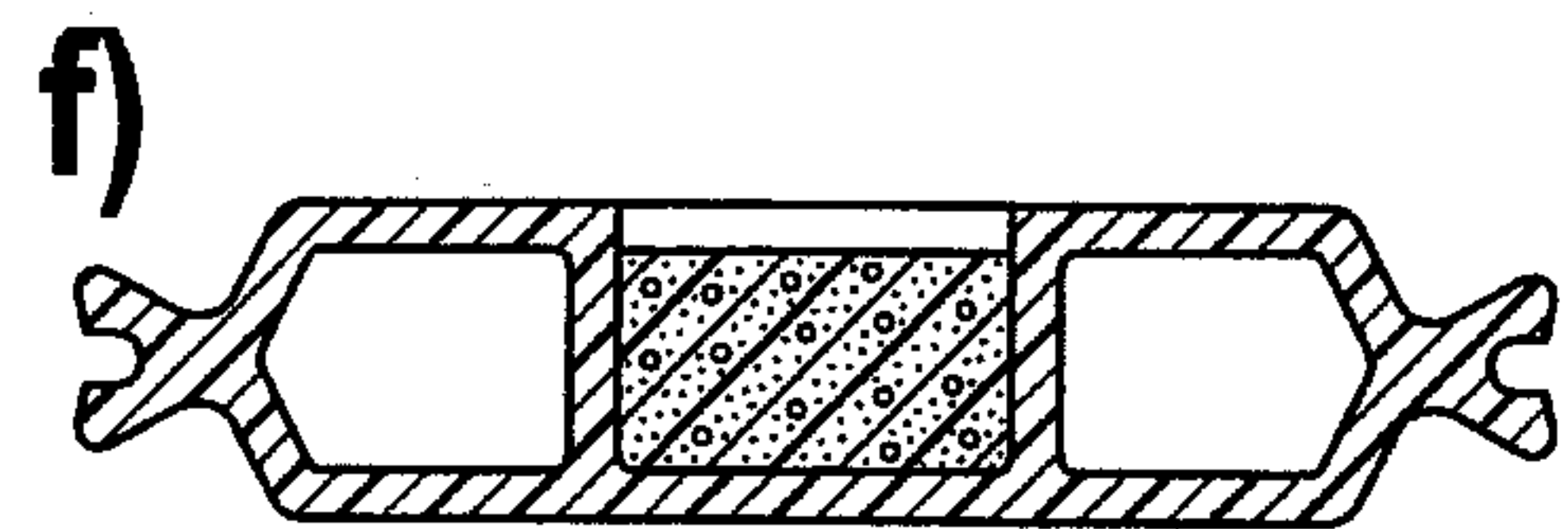
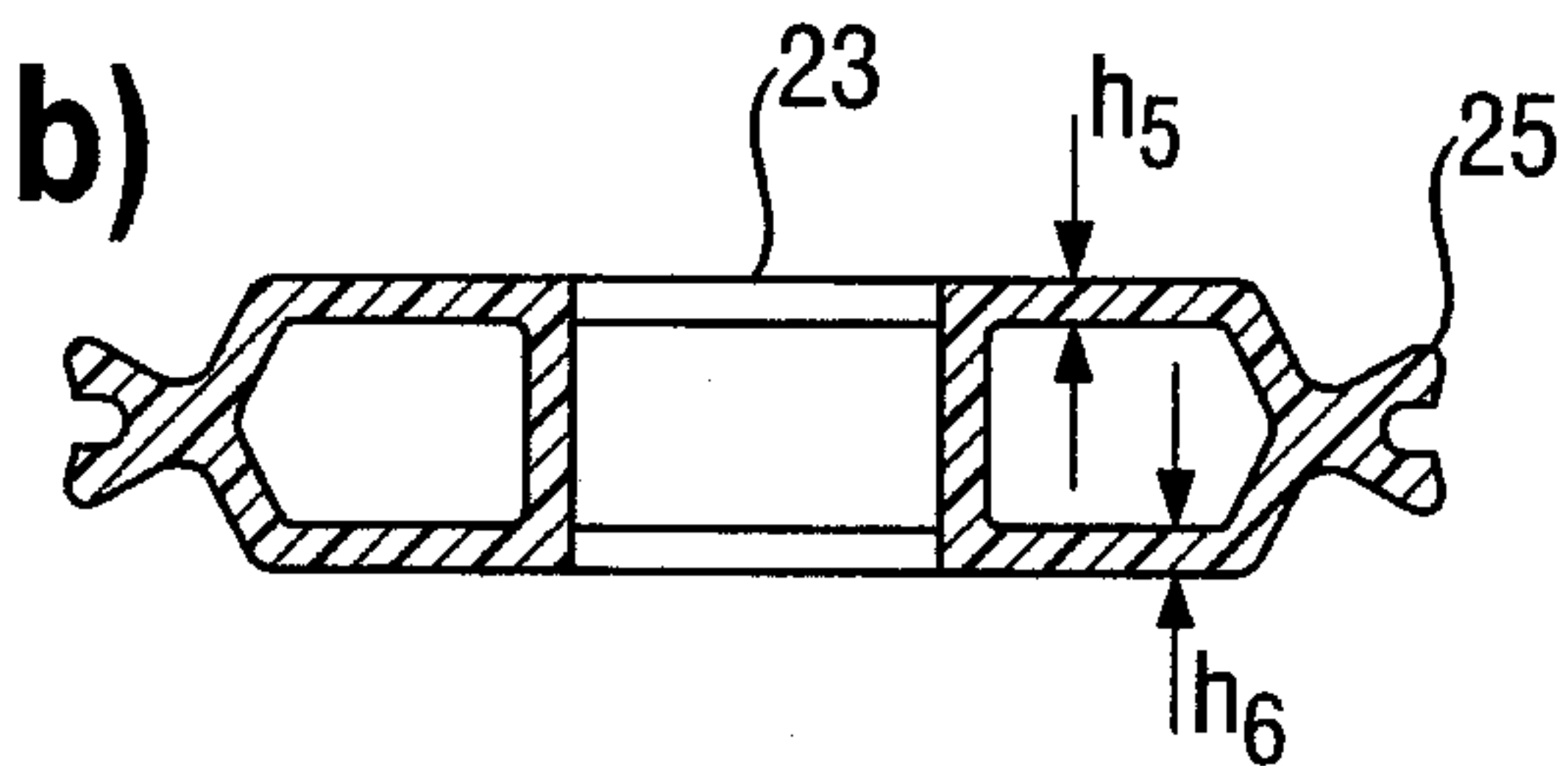
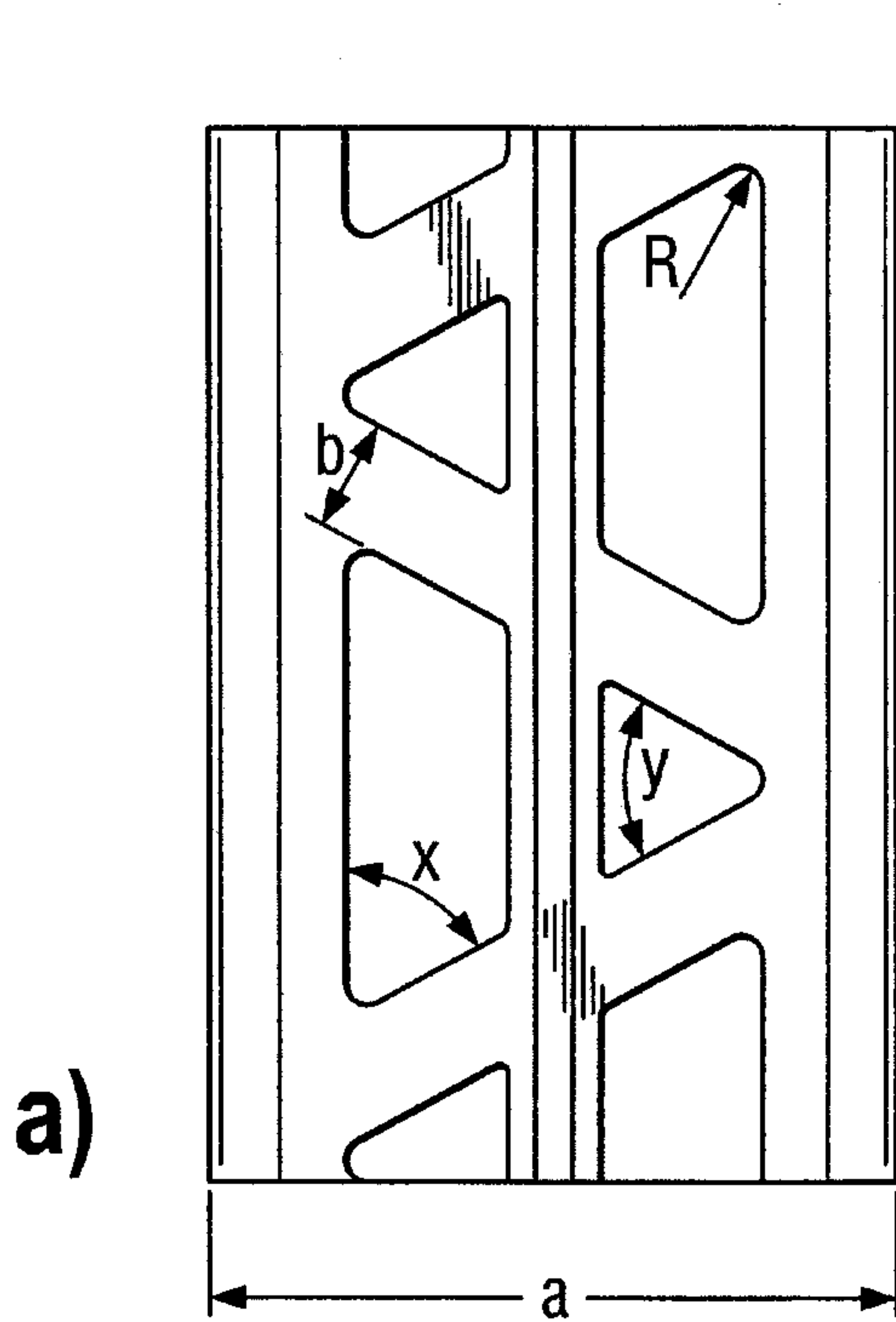


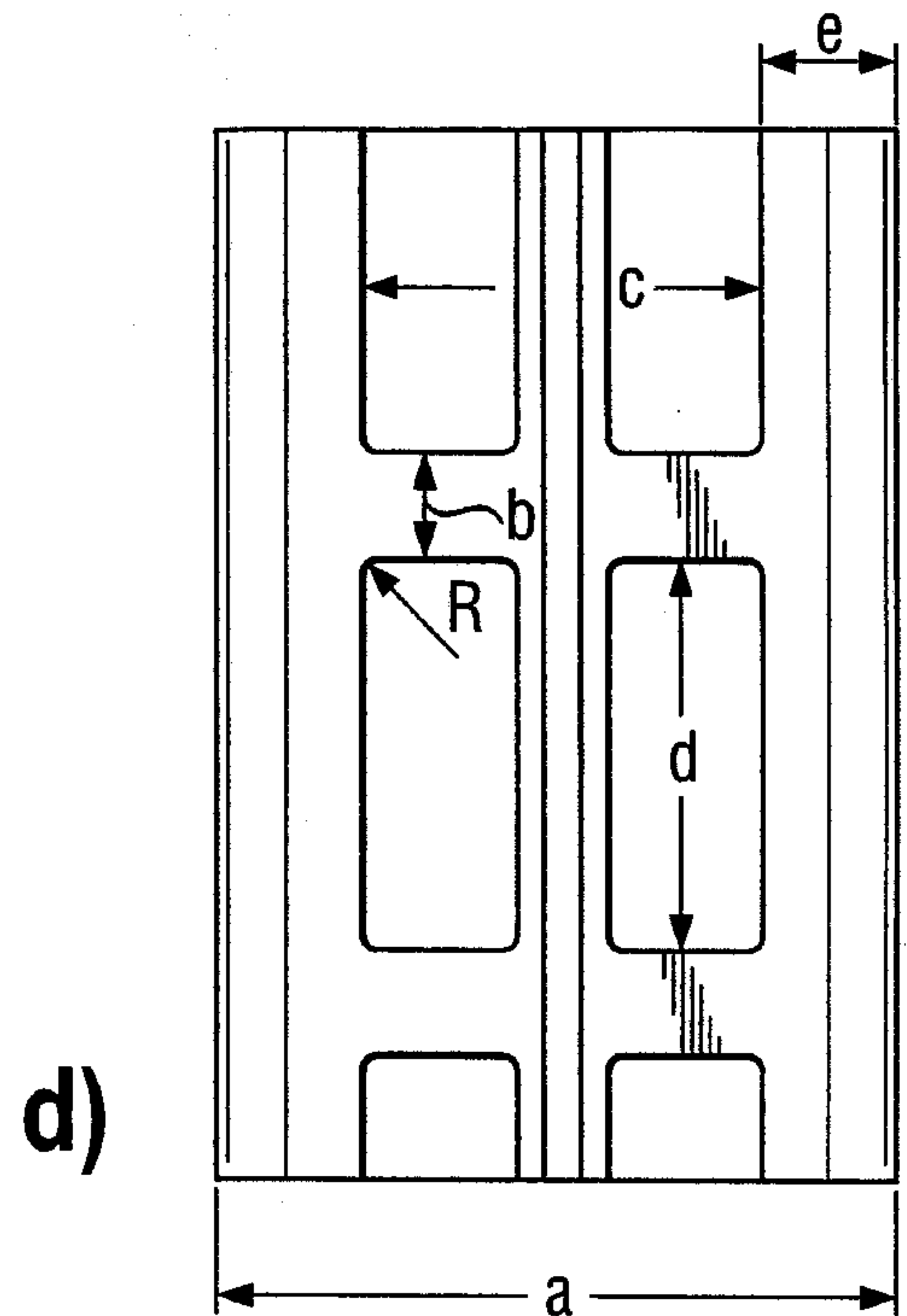
Fig. 10

**Rectangular and/or  
Quadratic Hole  
Formation**

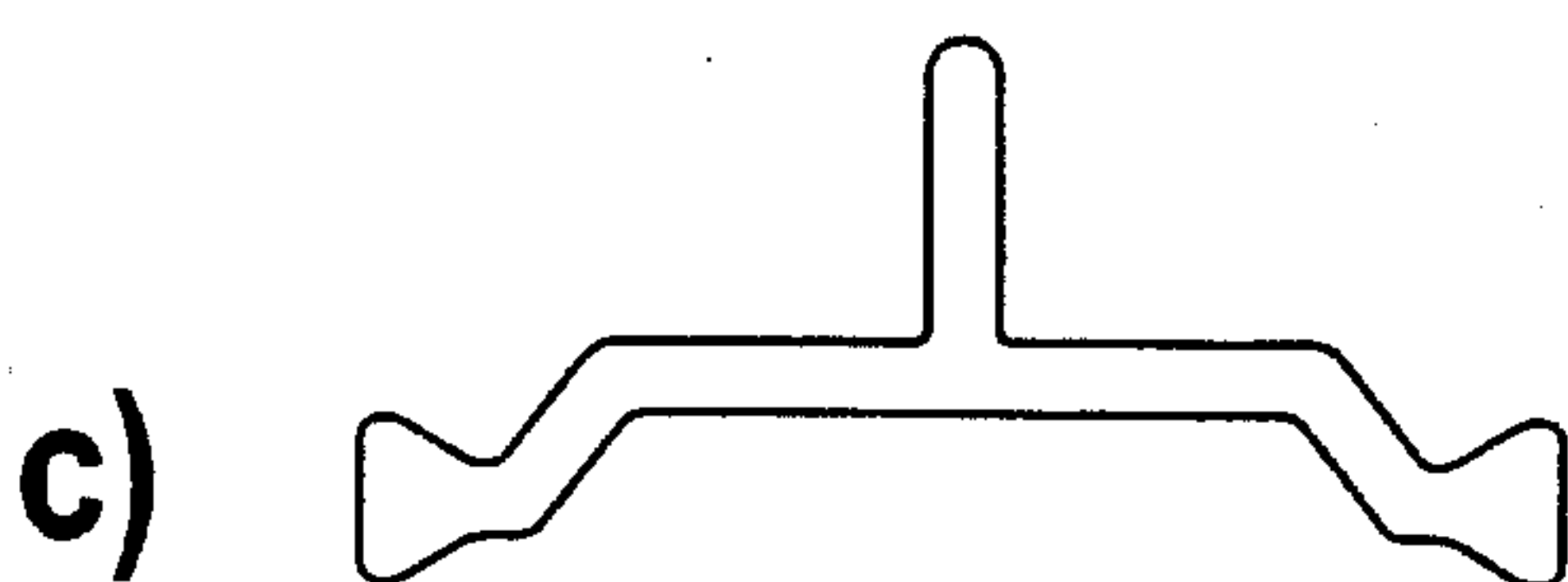
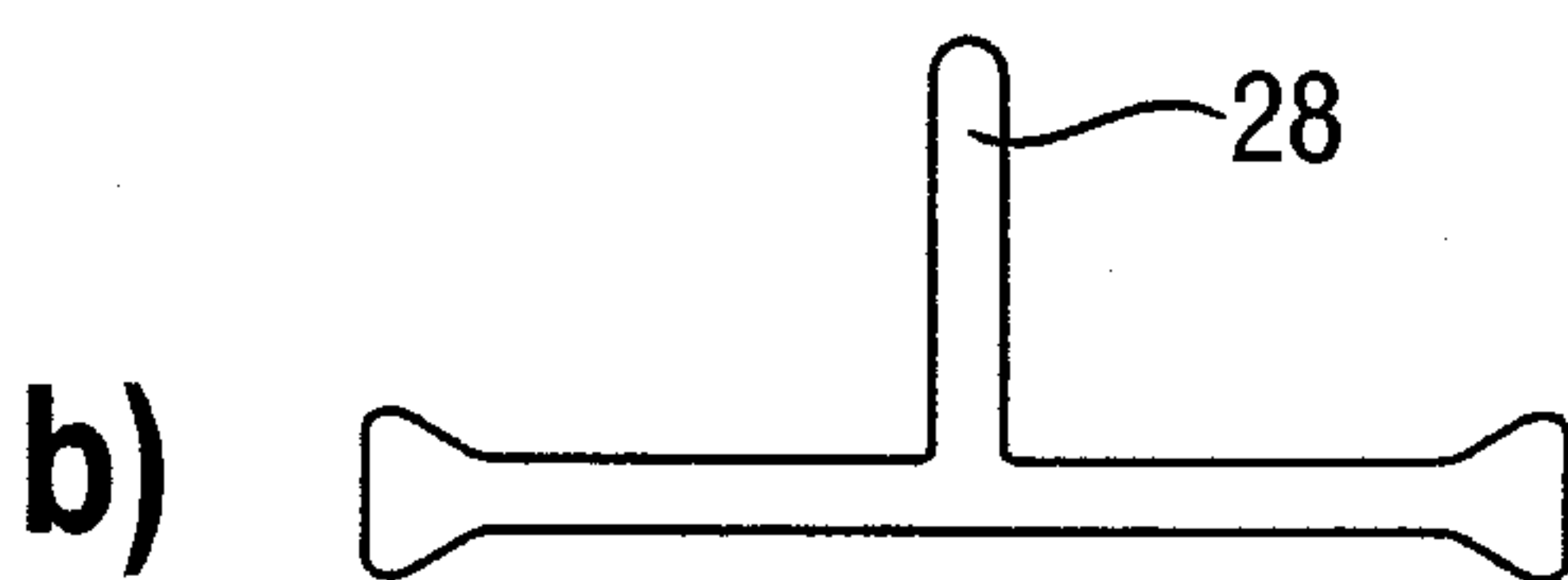




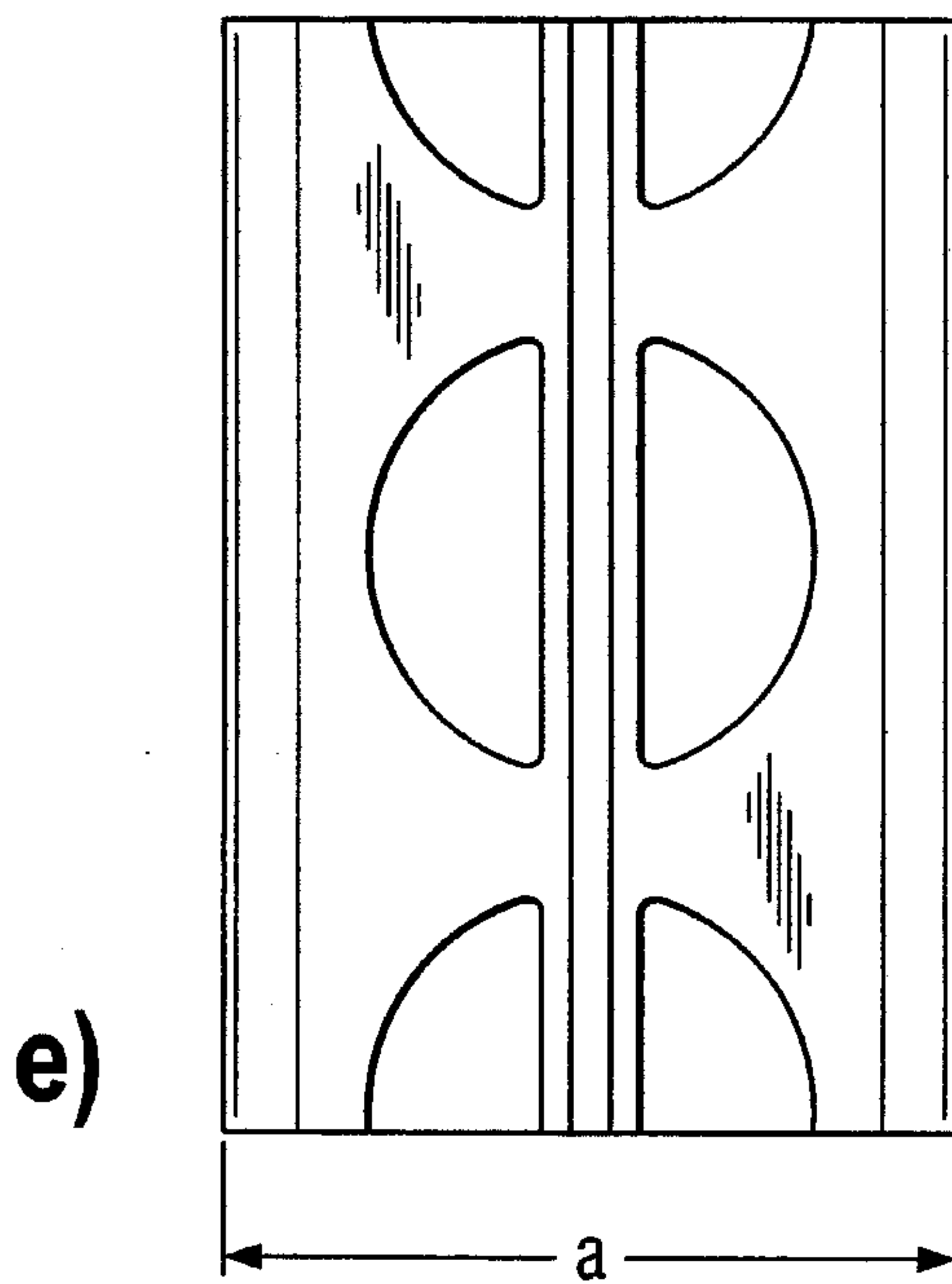
**Lattice Truss**



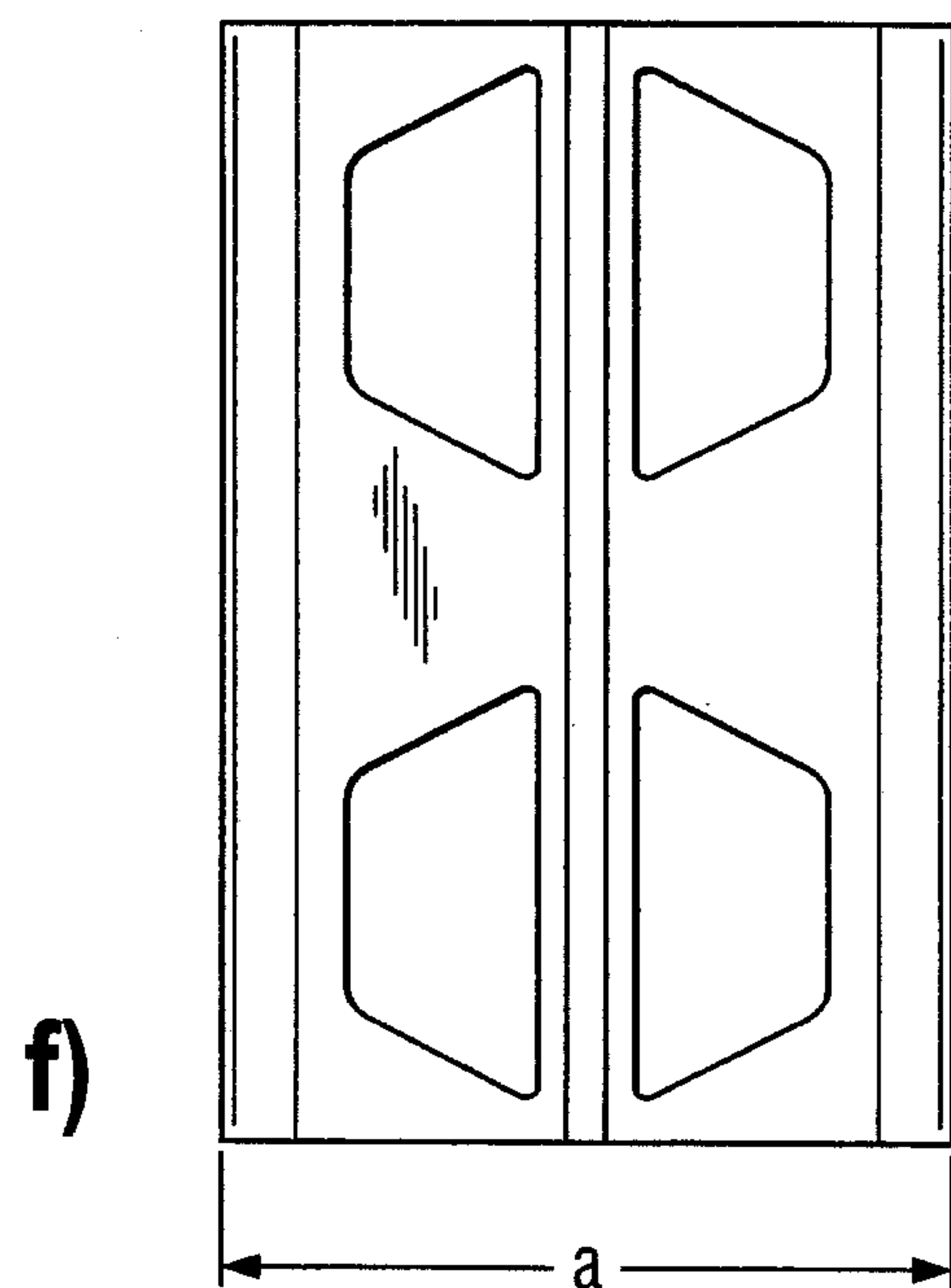
**Rectangular and/or  
Quadratic Hole  
Formation**



**Fig. 11**

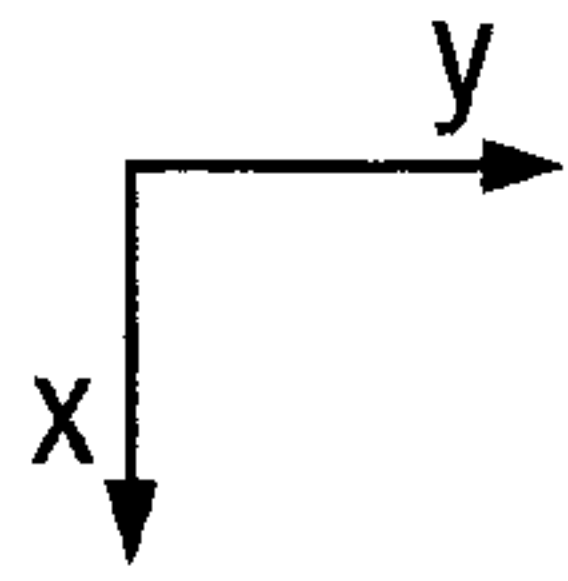
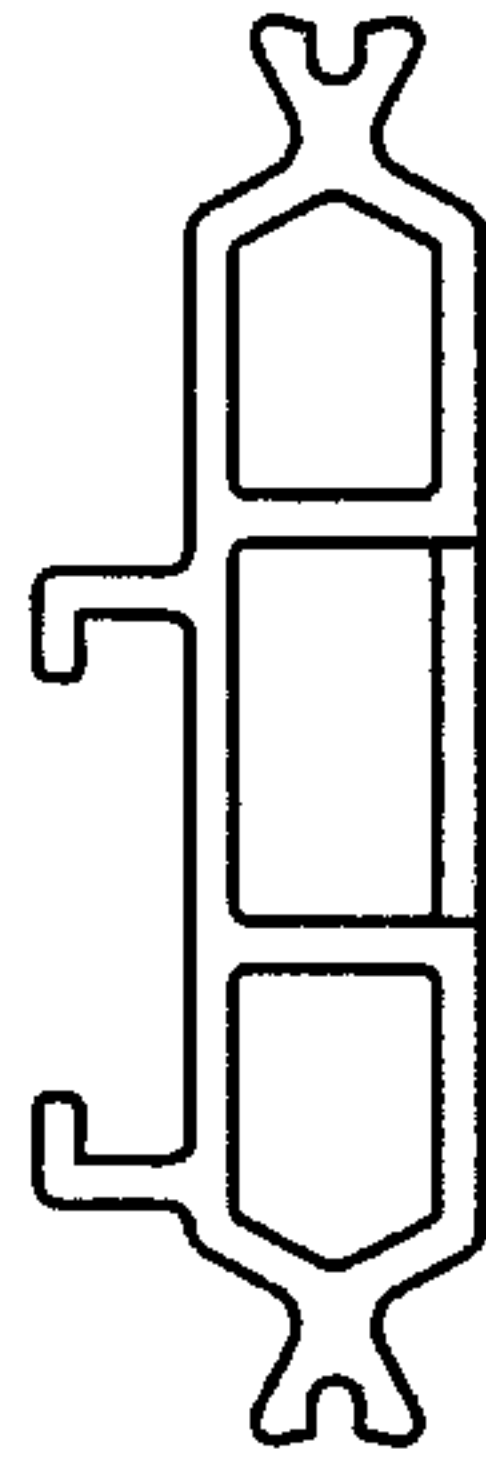
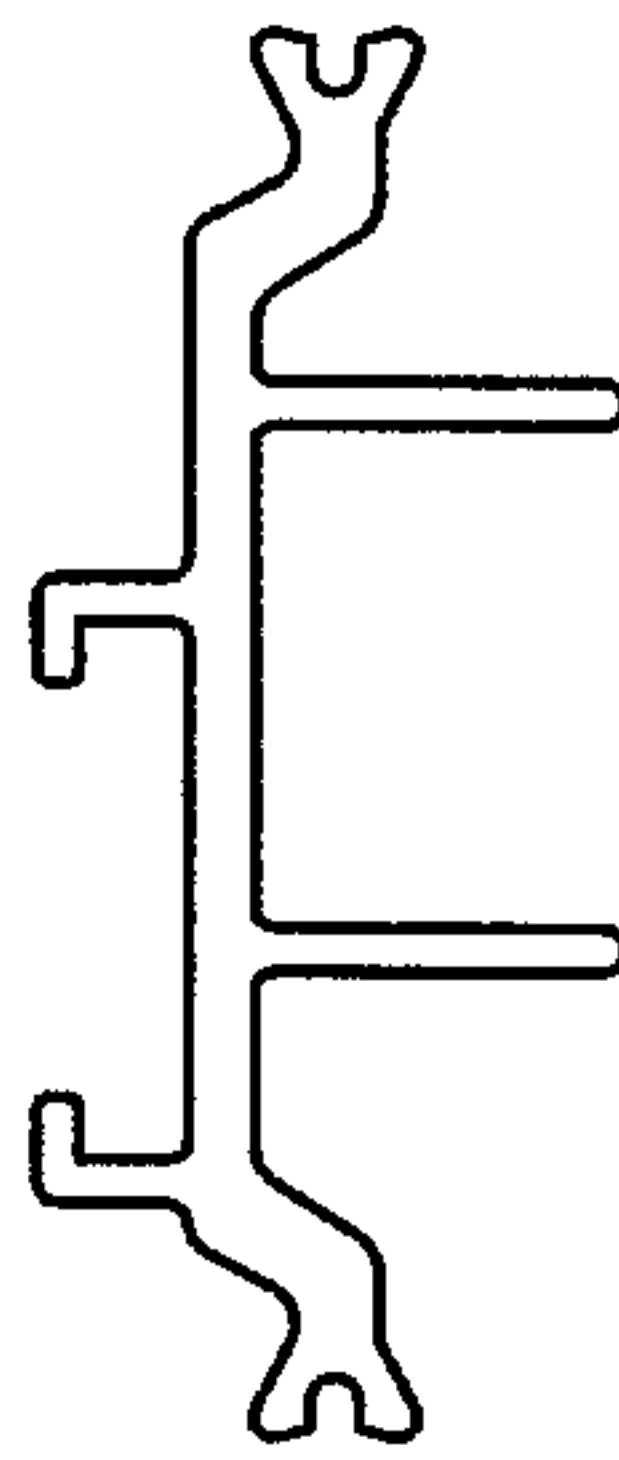
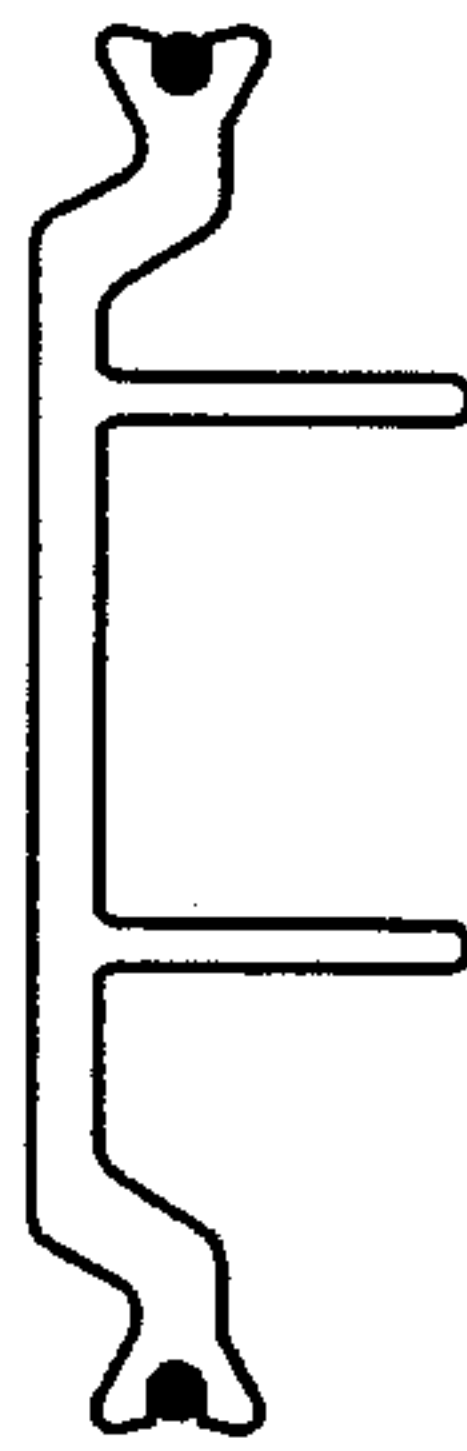
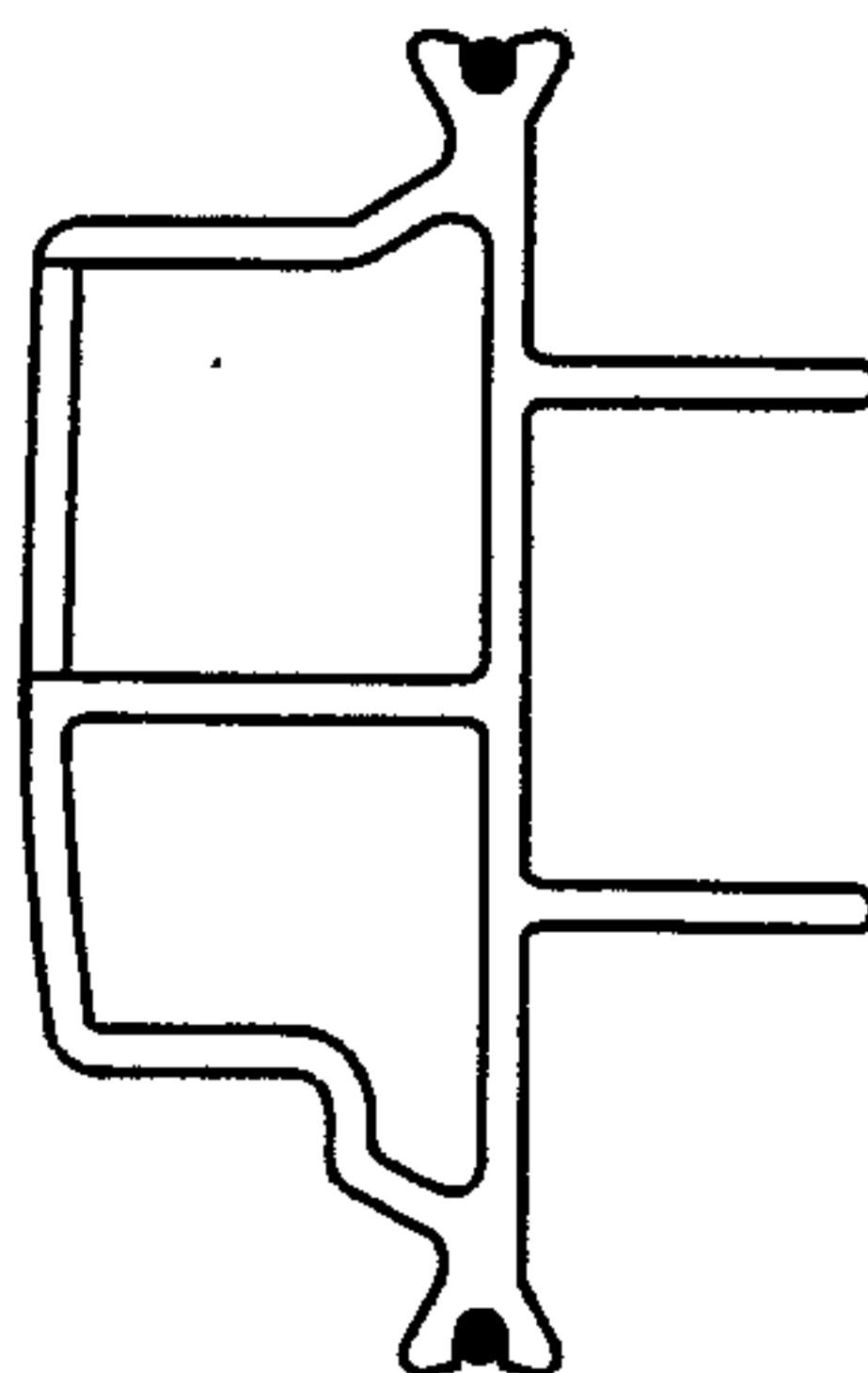


**Circular Hole  
Formation**



**Honeycomb Hole  
Formation  
(Known as Litzka Cut-  
Pattern in Steel  
Construction)**



**Fig. 12****a)****b)****c)****d)**

**Fig. 5**

