



(51) International Patent Classification:

F04B 1/20 (2006.01) *F04B 53/00* (2006.01)
F04B 1/24 (2006.01) *F04B 53/14* (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/EP2017/061853

(22) International Filing Date:

17 May 2017 (17.05.2017)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

16170434.1 19 May 2016 (19.05.2016) EP

(71) Applicant: INNAS BV [NL/NL]; Nikkelstraat 15, 4823 AE BREDA (NL).

(72) Inventor: ACHTEN, Peter Augustinus Johannes;
Fazantlaan 3A, 5613 CA EINDHOVEN (NL).

(74) Agent: DE VRIES & METMAN et al.; Overschiestraat 180, 1062 XK Amsterdam (NL).

(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DJ, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IR, IS, JP, KE, KG, KH, KN, KP, KR, KW, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SA, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(54) Title: A HYDRAULIC DEVICE

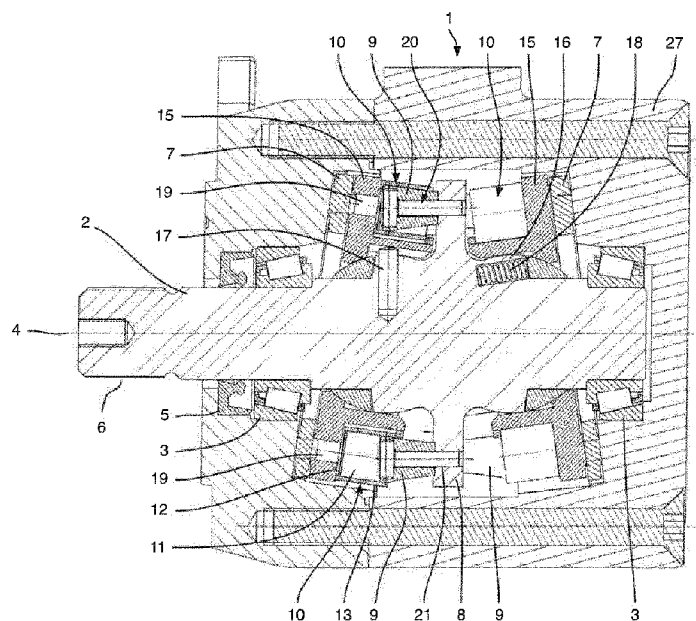


Fig. 1

(57) Abstract: A hydraulic device (1) comprises a housing (27), a shaft (2) which is mounted in the housing (27) and rotatable about a first axis of rotation (4), wherein the shaft (2) has a flange (8) extending perpendicularly to the first axis (4), a plurality of pistons (9) which are fixed to the flange (8) at equiangular distance about the first axis of rotation (4) and a plurality of cylindrical sleeves (10) cooperating with the pistons (9) to form respective compression chambers (11) of variable volume. The cylindrical sleeves (10) are rotatable about a second axis of rotation which intersects the first axis of rotation (4) by an acute angle such that upon rotating the shaft (2) the volumes of the compression chambers (11) change. Each piston (9) has a piston head (14) including a circumferential wall of which the outer side is ball-shaped and the inner side surrounds a cavity (25). Each of the pistons (9) is fixed to the flange (8) by means of a piston pin (20) having a piston pin head (22) including a circumferential outer side facing the inner side of the circumferential

(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, ST, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

- *with international search report (Art. 21(3))*
- *before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of amendments (Rule 48.2(h))*

A hydraulic device

The present invention relates to a hydraulic device according to the preamble of claim 1.

Such a hydraulic device is known from WO 2006/083163. The shaft has a flange which extends perpendicularly to the first axis and the pistons are fixed to the flange at equiangular distance about the first axis of rotation. An equal number of cylindrical sleeves are supported by a barrel plate and rotate together with the barrel plate about the second axis of rotation which is angled with respect to the first axis of rotation. Each piston is sealed directly to the inner wall of the corresponding cylindrical sleeve, i.e. without using a piston ring. During rotation of the barrel plate the cylindrical sleeve makes a combined translating and swivelling motion around the piston. Therefore, the outer side of the circumferential wall of the piston heads are ball-shaped. It is noted that the ball-shape creates a sealing line between the piston and the cylindrical sleeve which extends perpendicularly to the centre line of the cylindrical sleeve.

Due to internal pressure in the compression chamber the cylindrical sleeve deforms in radial direction under operating conditions. The cavity in the piston head forms part of the compression chamber and serves to deform the piston at the sealing line such that the piston expansion follows the piston sleeve expansion. Consequently, leakage flow between the piston and the cylindrical sleeve at the sealing line is minimized. In order to allow deformation of the piston head it has a thin-walled circumferential wall. In the known hydraulic device the cavity is formed between a central cavity filling portion of the piston and the inner side of the circumferential wall. Due to the cavity filling portion the

volume of the cavity at the inner side of the circumferential wall of the piston head is minimized. This means that the dead volume of the compression chamber is minimized, which has an advantageous effect on noise emission and hydraulic efficiency of the hydraulic device. A disadvantage of the known device is that manufacturing of the pistons is rather complicated.

An object of the invention is to provide a hydraulic device which can be manufactured in a simple manner.

This object is accomplished with the hydraulic device according to the invention, which is characterized in that each of the pistons is fixed to the flange by means of a piston pin extending through the piston and having a piston pin head including a circumferential outer side facing the inner side of the circumferential wall of the piston head.

An advantage of the invention is that the piston can be secured to the flange by means of the piston pin in a relatively easy way. Besides, the application of the piston pin provides the opportunity to influence the dead volume of the compression chamber by adjusting the shape and size of the piston pin head and the inner side of the circumferential wall to each other. It is noted that the piston and the piston pin are separate parts and together form a piston function in assembled condition.

A further benefit is achieved when the piston pin has a piston pin shank of which an end portion is clamped in the flange since this is a relatively simple manufacturing step.

In a specific embodiment the piston is locked to the flange in transverse direction of the piston pin, whereas play is present between the piston pin and the piston in transverse direction of the piston pin beyond the flange. This means that a torque and/or a lateral force onto the piston will be absorbed by the flange instead of the piston pin. This provides the possibility of applying piston pins including relatively narrow piston pin shanks requiring relatively

narrow holes in the flange. Consequently, the flange can have a relatively small width compared to a conventional flange in which each of the pistons is mounted, since a portion of the piston to be mounted in the flange has a larger diameter than
5 a piston pin shank which is mounted in the flange.

In practice, the flange may be provided with flange recesses in which end portions of the respective pistons are received so as to lock the pistons to the flange in transverse direction of the piston pins. The diameters of the recesses
10 are larger than the respective holes in which the piston pins are received. Preferably, the end portions of the pistons rest on the bottoms of the respective recesses accurately and are free from play. In a practical embodiment there is play
15 between the piston pin shank and the piston in transverse direction of the piston, which means that the piston pin shank extends through a through-hole of the piston and has a smaller diameter than that through-hole.

In an alternative embodiment the piston is locked to the piston pin in transverse direction of the piston pin at a
20 locking location close to the flange, whereas play is present between the piston pin and the piston in transverse direction of the piston pin beyond the locking location as seen from the flange. This means that a torque and/or a lateral force onto the piston will be transferred to the flange by the piston
25 pin, but due to the location of the locking location, the transfer of force from the piston to the piston pin occurs close to the flange. Therefore, a resulting torque or lateral force on the piston pin is limited. In this case the piston
30 pin extends through a through-hole of the piston and has a smaller diameter than the through-hole outside the locking location. Preferably, the end portions of the pistons rest on the flange accurately and are free from play.

In a particular embodiment a slot-shaped cavity is present between the inner side of the circumferential wall and

the outer side of the piston pin head. In this case a narrow slot at the piston head can be created by adjusting the shape and size of the piston pin head and the inner side of the circumferential wall to each other. This means that

5 conventional complicated manufacturing steps onto a massive workpiece, such as accurately removing material from a workpiece at the intended slot, in order to create the slot-shaped cavity in the piston head can be omitted. Since the hydraulic device comprises a plurality of pistons the entire
10 manufacturing effort is simplified.

In a practical embodiment the outer side of the piston pin head and the inner side of the circumferential wall of the piston head are parallel.

The piston pin head may partly project from the end
15 of the piston head in order to minimize the dead volume.

The invention will hereafter be elucidated with reference to very schematic drawings showing embodiments of the invention by way of example.

Fig. 1 is a cross-sectional view of an embodiment of
20 a hydraulic device according to the invention.

Fig. 2 is a cross-sectional view of a part of the embodiment of Fig. 1 on a larger scale.

Fig. 3 is a perspective view of the shaft of the embodiment with pistons in non-assembled condition of Fig. 1.

25 Fig. 4 is a similar view as Fig. 2, but showing an alternative embodiment.

Fig. 1 shows internal parts of a hydraulic device 1, such as a pump or hydromotor, which are fitted into a housing
27 in a known manner. The hydraulic device 1 is provided with
30 a shaft 2 which is supported by bearings 3 at both sides of the housing 27 and it is rotatable about a first axis of rotation 4. The housing 27 is provided on the one side with an opening with a shaft seal 5 in a known manner, as a result of which the end of the shaft 2, which is provided with a toothed

shaft end 6, protrudes from the housing 27. A motor can be coupled to the toothed shaft end 6 if the hydraulic device 1 is a pump, and a driven tool can be coupled thereto if the hydraulic device 1 is a motor.

5 The hydraulic device 1 comprises face plates 7 which are mounted inside the housing 27 at a distance from each other. The face plates 7 have a fixed position with respect to the housing 27 in rotational direction thereof. The shaft 2 extends through central through-holes in the face plates 7.

10 The shaft 2 is provided with a flange 8 which extends perpendicularly to the first axis of rotation 4. A plurality of pistons 9 are fixed at both sides of the flange 8 at equiangular distance about the first axis of rotation 4, in this case fourteen pistons 9 on either side. The pistons 9
15 have centre lines which extend parallel to the first axis of rotation 4. The planes of the face plates 7 are angled with respect to each other and with respect to the plane of the flange 8.

Each of the pistons 9 cooperates with a cylindrical
20 sleeve 10 to form a compression chamber 11 of variable volume. The hydraulic device 1 as shown in Fig. 1 has 28 compression chambers 11. The cylindrical sleeve 10 comprises a sleeve bottom 12 and a sleeve jacket 13. Each piston 9 is sealed directly to the inner wall of the sleeve jacket 13 through a
25 ball-shaped piston head 14. Fig. 2 shows the piston 9 including the piston head 14 on a larger scale.

The sleeve bottoms 12 of the respective cylindrical sleeves 10 are supported by respective barrel plates 15 which are fitted around the shaft 2 by means of respective ball
30 hinges 16 and are coupled to the shaft 2 by means of keys 17. Consequently, the barrel plates 15 rotate together with the shaft 2 under operating conditions. The barrel plates 15 rotate about respective second axes which are angled with respect to the first axis of rotation 4. This means that the

cylindrical sleeves 10 also rotate about the respective second axes of rotation. As a consequence, upon rotating the shaft 2 the volumes of the compression chambers 11 change. During rotation of the barrel plates 15 each cylindrical sleeve 10 makes a combined translating and swivelling motion around the cooperating piston 9. Therefore, the outer side of each piston head 14 is ball-shaped. The ball-shape creates a sealing line between the piston 9 and the cylindrical sleeve 10 which extends perpendicularly to the centre line of the cooperating cylindrical sleeve 10. The pistons 9 are conical and their outer diameters outside the respective piston heads 14 decrease towards the flange 8 in order to allow the relative motion of the cooperating cylindrical sleeves 10 about the pistons 9.

The sides of the respective barrel plates 15 which are directed away from the flange 8 are supported by respective supporting surfaces of the face plates 7. Due to the inclined orientation of the face plates 7 with respect to the flange 8 the barrel plates 15 pivot about the ball hinges 16 during rotation with the shaft 2. The angle between the first axis of rotation and the respective second axes of rotation is approximately nine degrees in practice, but may be smaller or larger.

The barrel plates 15 are pressed against the respective face plates 7 by means of springs 18 which are mounted in holes in the shaft 2. The compression chambers 11 communicate via a central through-hole in the respective sleeve bottoms 12 with cooperating passages 19 in the barrel plates 15. The passages 19 in the barrel plates 15 communicate via passages in the face plates 7 with a high-pressure port and a low-pressure port in the housing 27.

Fig. 1 shows that each piston 9 is fixed to the flange 8 by means of a piston pin 20 which is pressed into a flange hole 21. Fig. 2 shows the press fitting for one piston

9. Fig. 3 shows the shaft 2 including the flange 8 and non-assembled pistons 9, which illustrates that the flange 8 is provided with 28 flange holes 21. The reason for this is that the embodiment as shown in Fig. 1 is designed such that the pistons 9 on either side of the flange 8 alternately move into the top dead centre and bottom dead centre, which refers to the position where the volume of the compression chambers 11 is at its minimum and maximum, respectively. Consequently, in circumferential direction of the flange 8 adjacent flange holes 21 receive pistons 9 on either side of the flange 8.

Fig. 2 shows that the piston pin 20 has a piston pin head 22 and a piston pin shank 23. The diameter of the piston pin head 22 is larger than that of the piston pin shank 23. The piston pin shank 23 extends through a through-hole along the centre line of the piston 9 and an end portion thereof is clamped in the flange hole 21. The piston pin head 22 rests on a bottom of a piston recess inside the piston head 14. The piston head 14 of each piston 9 has a circumferential wall of which the inner side surrounds the piston recess. In assembled condition as shown in Fig. 2 a circumferential outer side of the piston pin head 22 faces the inner side of the circumferential wall of the piston head 14. The circumferential outer side of the piston pin head 22 and the inner side of the circumferential wall of the piston head 14 are parallel and form a slot-shaped cavity 25 between the inner side of the circumferential wall and the outer side of the piston pin head 22. This means that under operating conditions hydraulic fluid can enter the cavity 25 and exert a force onto the circumferential wall of the piston head 14 in order to deform the piston head 14.

Furthermore, Fig. 2 shows that an end portion of the piston 9 remote from the piston head 14 is received in a flange recess 26 such that the piston 9 is locked in lateral direction with respect to the flange 8. There is play between

the piston pin shank 23 and the piston 9 in transverse direction of the piston pin 20 beyond the flange 8. Fig. 2 also shows that the piston pin head 22 partly extends beyond the end of the piston head 14 as seen from the flange 8.

5 Fig. 4 shows an alternative embodiment in which the piston 9 rests on the flange 8 and is locked to the piston pin shank 23 in transverse direction of the piston pin 20 at a locking location 28. The locking location 28 is close to the flange 8 so as to minimize torque on the piston pin shank 23.
10 There is play between the piston pin 20 and the piston 9 in transverse direction of the piston pin 20 beyond the locking location 28 as seen from the flange 8.

 Fixing the pistons 9 to the flange 8 by means of the piston pins 20 as described hereinbefore is a relatively
15 simple way of manufacturing, whereas the desired slot-shaped cavity 25 is easily created by selecting the dimensions of the piston pin head 22 and the piston recess.

 The invention is not limited to the embodiments shown in the drawings and described hereinbefore, which may be
20 varied in different manners within the scope of the claims and their technical equivalents.

CLAIMS

1. A hydraulic device (1) comprising a housing (27), a shaft (2) which is mounted in the housing (27) and rotatable about a first axis of rotation (4), wherein the shaft (2) has a flange (8) extending perpendicularly to the first axis (4), a plurality of pistons (9) which are fixed to the flange (8) at equiangular distance about the first axis of rotation (4), a plurality of cylindrical sleeves (10) cooperating with the pistons (9) to form respective compression chambers (11) of variable volume, wherein the cylindrical sleeves (10) are rotatable about a second axis of rotation which intersects the first axis of rotation (4) by an acute angle such that upon rotating the shaft (2) the volumes of the compression chambers (11) change, wherein each piston (9) has a piston head (14) including a circumferential wall of which the outer side is ball-shaped and the inner side surrounds a cavity (25), **characterized in that** each of the pistons (9) is fixed to the flange (8) by means of a piston pin (20) extending through the piston (9) and having a piston pin head (22) including a circumferential outer side facing the inner side of the circumferential wall of the piston head (14).

2. A hydraulic device according to claim 1, wherein the piston pin (20) has a piston pin shank (23) of which an end portion is clamped in the flange (8).

3. A hydraulic device according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the piston (9) is locked to the flange (8) in transverse direction of the piston pin (20), whereas play is present between the piston pin (20) and the piston (9) in transverse direction of the piston pin (20) beyond the flange (8).

4. A hydraulic device according to claim 3, wherein the flange (8) is provided with flange recesses (26) in which

end portions of the respective pistons (9) are received so as to lock the pistons (9) to the flange (8) in transverse direction of the piston pins (20).

5 5. A hydraulic device according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the piston (9) is locked to the piston pin (20) in transverse direction of the piston pin (20) at a locking location (28) close to the flange (8), whereas play is present between the piston pin (20) and the piston (9) in transverse direction of the piston pin (20) beyond the locking location
10 (28) as seen from the flange (8).

6. A hydraulic device according to one of the preceding claims, wherein a slot-shaped cavity (25) is present between the inner side of the circumferential wall and the outer side of the piston pin head (22).

15 7. A hydraulic device according to claim 6, wherein the outer side of the piston pin head (22) and the inner side of the circumferential wall of the piston head (14) are parallel.

20 8. A hydraulic device according to one of the preceding claims, wherein the piston pin head (22) partly projects from the end of the piston head (14).

1/2

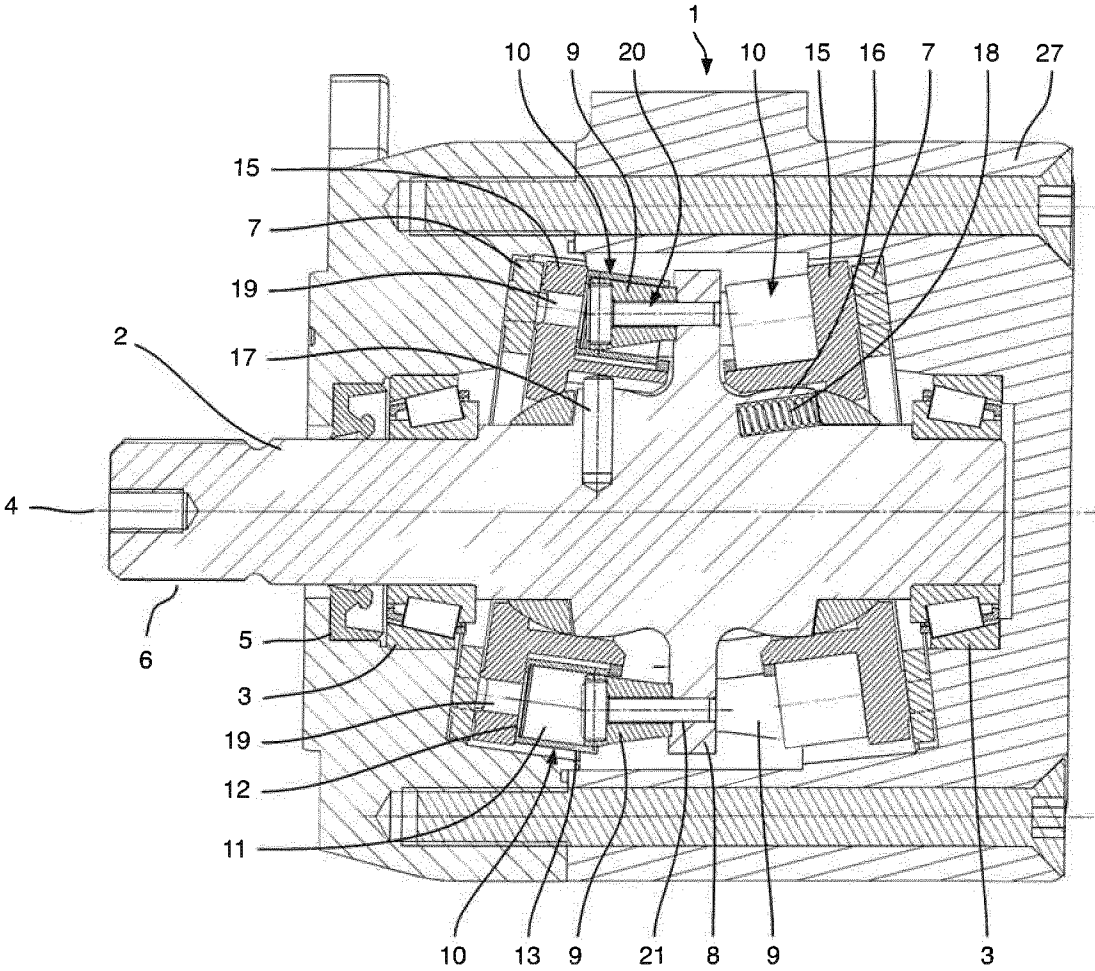


Fig. 1

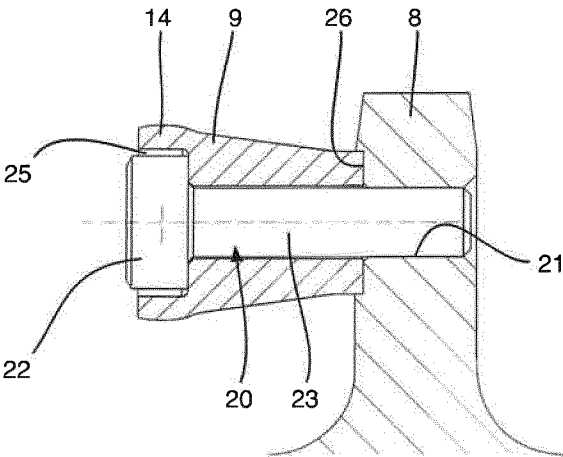


Fig. 2

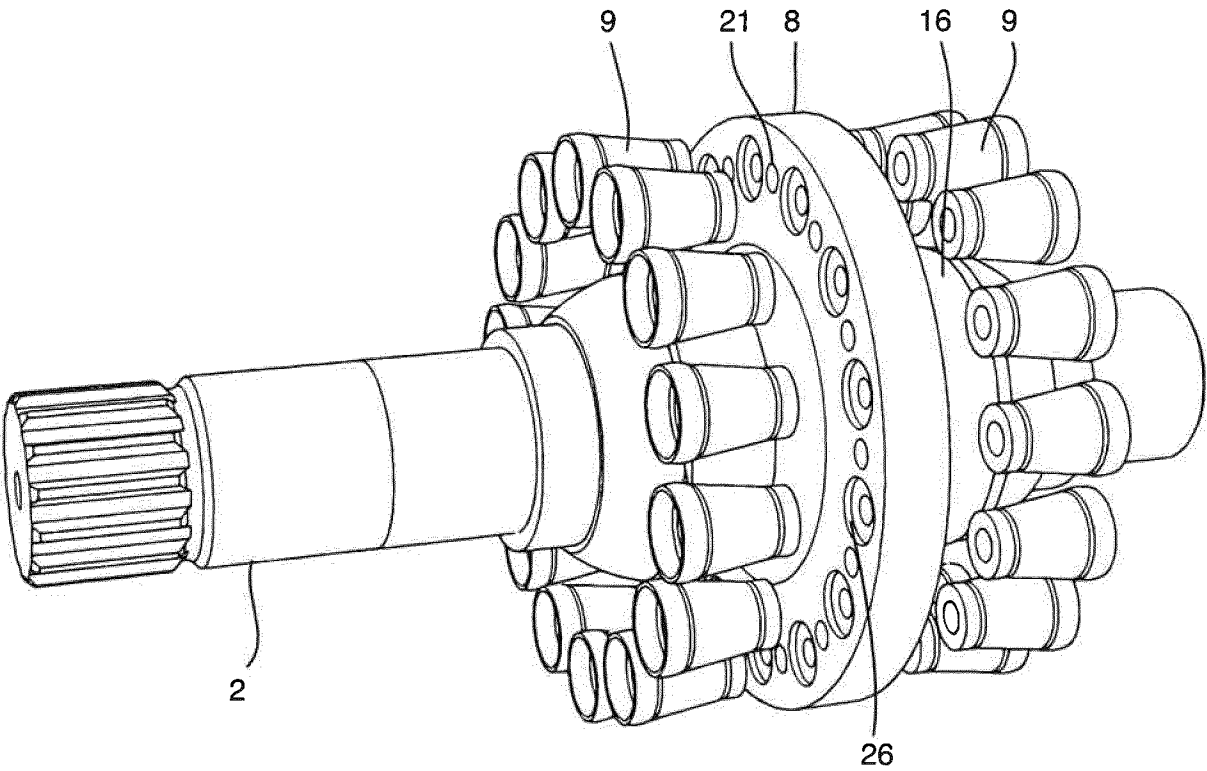


Fig. 3

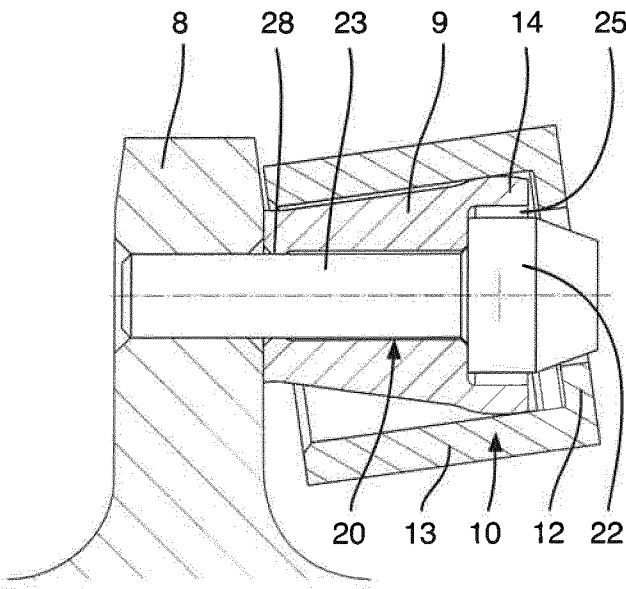


Fig. 4

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No
PCT/EP2017/061853

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
INV. F04B1/20 F04B1/24 F04B53/00 F04B53/14
ADD.

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)
F04B

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 practicable, 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.
X	WO 86/00662 A1 (SEARLE RUSSELL JOHN) 30 January 1986 (1986-01-30)	1,6-8
A	page 2, line 21 - page 5, line 14; figure 1	4,5
A	----- US 5 636 561 A (PECORARI FELICE [IT]) 10 June 1997 (1997-06-10) column 5, line 52 - column 6, line 12; figure 8	1-8
A	----- WO 2006/083163 A1 (INNAS BV [NL]; ACHTEN PETER [NL]) 10 August 2006 (2006-08-10) cited in the application figure 3	1-8
A	----- WO 2004/055369 A1 (BOSCH REXROTH AG [DE]; DANTLGRABER JOERG [DE]) 1 July 2004 (2004-07-01) figure 1	1-8



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

19 October 2017

Date of mailing of the international search report

27/10/2017

Name and mailing address of the ISA/

European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2
NL - 2280 HV Rijswijk
Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040,
Fax: (+31-70) 340-3016

Authorized officer

Ziegler, Hans-Jürgen

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

International application No

PCT/EP2017/061853

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
WO 8600662	A1	30-01-1986	EP	0189452 A1		06-08-1986
			WO	8600662 A1		30-01-1986

US 5636561	A	10-06-1997	AU	2955392 A		24-05-1994
			EP	0676009 A1		11-10-1995
			EP	0682748 A1		22-11-1995
			FI	952068 A		28-04-1995
			JP	3429764 B2		22-07-2003
			JP	H08502802 A		26-03-1996
			NO	951238 A		29-06-1995
			RU	2112889 C1		10-06-1998
			SK	41195 A3		11-10-1995
			US	5636561 A		10-06-1997

WO 2006083163	A1	10-08-2006	NL	1027657 C2		07-06-2006
			WO	2006083163 A1		10-08-2006

WO 2004055369	A1	01-07-2004	AT	354729 T		15-03-2007
			DE	10393875 D2		18-08-2005
			EP	1573200 A1		14-09-2005
			US	2006120881 A1		08-06-2006
			WO	2004055369 A1		01-07-2004
