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under INID code 62.

(54) **Method of specifying and diagnosing abnormalities in partially-connected clutch stroke levels**

(57) An apparatus for automatic control of a friction clutch (1) in a vehicle, which clutch is designed to be disengaged and engaged by a clutch actuator (5) under automatic control. An initial partially engaged clutch stroke position (Q1) and an initial clutch stroke position (PI) at which fluid pressure in the clutch actuator reaches a prescribed value are detected to obtain a difference (R1) between said two clutch stroke positions prior to initiation of automatic clutch control. The friction clutch wears as it is used. Therefore, both of the partially engaged clutch stroke position and the clutch stroke posi-

tion attaining the prescribed fluid pressure value change while the automatic clutch engagement/disengagement control is being performed. However, the difference between these two clutch stroke positions does not change. A current clutch stroke position attaining the predetermined fluid pressure is only detected during the automatic clutch control, and a current partially engaged clutch stroke position (Q2) is determined by adding the difference (R1) to the detected clutch stroke position (P2) .

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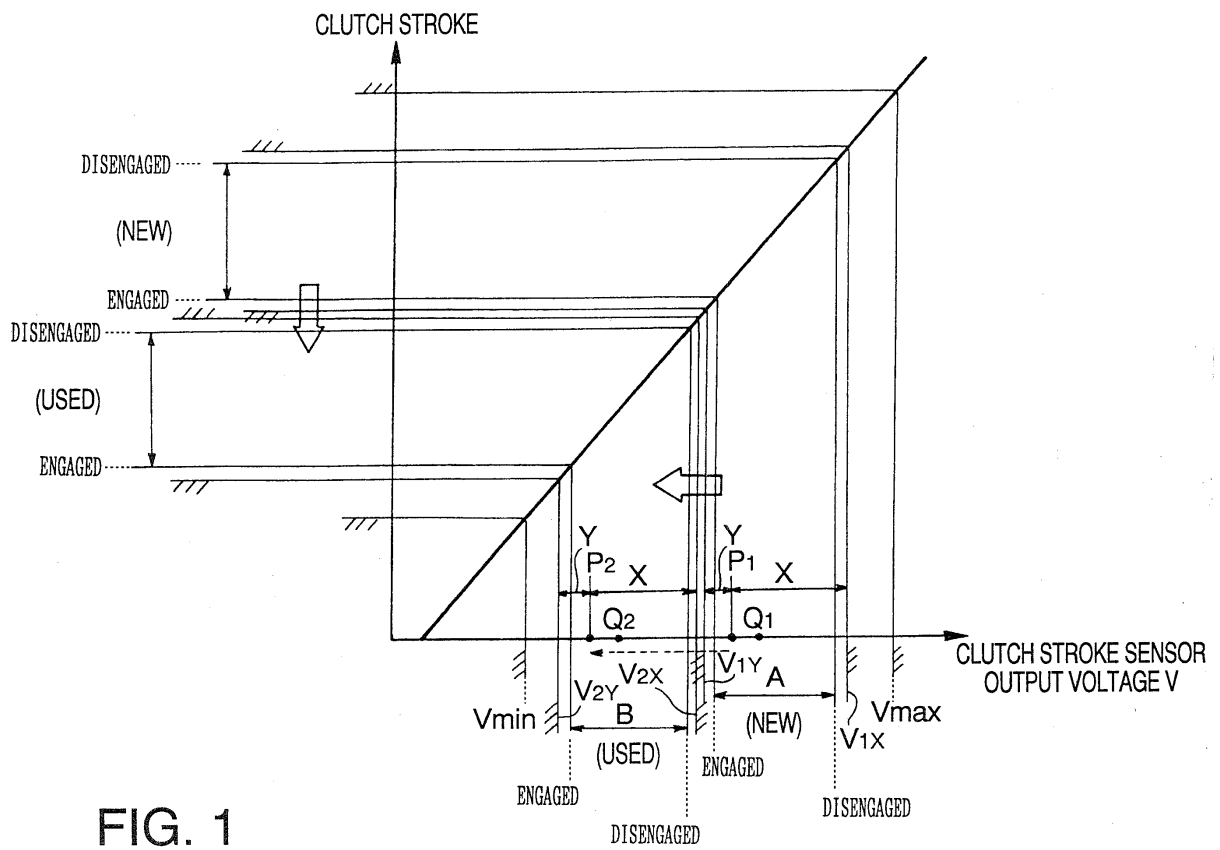


FIG. 1