(19)





# (11) **EP 2 243 958 B1**

(12)

## EUROPEAN PATENT SPECIFICATION

(45) Date of publication and mention of the grant of the patent: 11.05.2016 Bulletin 2016/19 (51) Int Cl.: **F04C 18/02** <sup>(2006.01)</sup> **F04C 29/04** <sup>(2006.01)</sup>

F04C 27/00 (2006.01)

- (21) Application number: 10154576.2
- (22) Date of filing: 24.02.2010

### (54) Compressor and refrigerating apparatus having the same

Verdichter und Kühlvorrichtung damit

Compresseur et appareil de réfrigération en disposant

- (84) Designated Contracting States: AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU LV MC MK MT NL NO PL PT RO SE SI SK SM TR
- (30) Priority: 25.02.2009 KR 20090015847
- (43) Date of publication of application: 27.10.2010 Bulletin 2010/43
- (73) Proprietor: LG Electronics, Inc. Seoul 150-721 (KR)
- (72) Inventors:
  - Kim, Cheol-Hwan Seoul (KR)
  - Choi, Se-Heon Seoul (KR)

- Lee, Byeong-Chul Seoul (KR)
- Cho, Yang-Hee Seoul (KR)
  Jung, Chul-Su
- Jung, Chui-St Seoul (KR)
  Won, In-Ho
- Seoul (KR)
- (74) Representative: Vossius & Partner Patentanwälte Rechtsanwälte mbB Siebertstrasse 3 81675 München (DE)
- (56) References cited: EP-A2- 0 725 255 WO-A1-2007/050292 US-A- 5 277 563

EP 2 243 958 B1

Note: Within nine months of the publication of the mention of the grant of the European patent in the European Patent Bulletin, any person may give notice to the European Patent Office of opposition to that patent, in accordance with the Implementing Regulations. Notice of opposition shall not be deemed to have been filed until the opposition fee has been paid. (Art. 99(1) European Patent Convention).

10

15

20

#### Description

**[0001]** This relates to a compressor and, in particular, to a compressor including refrigerant bypasses, and a refrigerating apparatus including such a compressor.

**[0002]** A compressor is a component of a refrigerating cycle that compresses refrigerant gas. Types of compressors may include, for example, a reciprocating compressor in which a refrigerant is compressed by a piston and crank shaft, a rotary compressor in which refrigerant gas is compressed by a rotor and vanes, or a scroll compressor in which refrigerant gas is compressed by two inter-engaged scrolls, one rotating relative to the other. The scroll compressor may exhibit higher efficiency and lower vibration and noise compared to the reciprocating compressor or the rotary compressor.

**[0003]** WO 2007/050292 and EP0725255 disclose scroll compressors according to the preamble of claim 1. EP0725255 also discloses partial features of the characterising portion and can be considered as closest prior art.

[0004] According to claim 1 the invention provides a scroll compressor, comprising a casing, a fixed scroll fixed to an interior of the casing, an orbiting scroll movably engaged with the fixed scroll so as to form compression chambers therebetween that are consecutively moved as the orbiting scroll moves relative to the fixed scroll, a back pressure chamber formed at a bearing surface formed between the fixed and orbiting scrolls, wherein the back pressure chamber is configured to support a position of the orbiting scroll against the fixed scroll; a first passage formed in the fixed scroll and configured to guide refrigerant compressed in the compression chambers back into the back pressure chamber; and a second passage formed at the fixed scroll and configured to guide refrigerant into the compression chambers from a refrigerating cycle, wherein an angle between the first passage and the second passage is greater than approximately 30° in a circumferential direction along the wrap of the scroll, and wherein an outlet of the second passage is closer to a discharge side of the compression chambers than an outlet of the first passage.

**[0005]** The embodiments will be described in detail with reference to the following drawings in which like reference numerals refer to like elements wherein:

FIG. 1 is a longitudinal sectional view of an upper portion of a scroll compressor in accordance with an embodiment as broadly described herein;

FIG. 2 is a cut-away view of a compression unit of the scroll compressor shown in FIG. 1;

FIG. 3 is a view taken along the line "II-II" of FIG. 2; FIG. 4 is an enlarged longitudinal sectional view of a back pressure passage shown in FIG. 3;

FIG. 5 is an enlarged longitudinal sectional view of an injection passage shown in FIG. 3;

FIG. 6 is a view taken along the line "I-I" of FIG. 2;

FIG. 7 is an enlarged view of a phase difference between the back pressure passage and the injection passage shown in FIG. 6;

FIG. 8 is a schematic view of a refrigerating cycle including a scroll compressor as embodied and broadly described herein;

FIGS. 9A and 9B are graphs of pressure variation inside the back pressure chamber of the scroll compressor based on the phase difference between the back pressure passage and the injection passage in

the refrigerating cycle shown in FIG. 8; and FIG. 10 is a perspective view of an exemplary air conditioner having the scroll compressor shown in FIG. 1.

**[0006]** Scroll compressors may be divided into low pressure type scroll compressors and high pressure type scroll compressors based on how refrigerant is supplied into its compression chambers. That is, in a low pressure type scroll compressor, refrigerant may be indirectly drawn into a compression chamber via an inner space of a casing, the inner space of the casing being divided into a suction space and a discharge space. In a high pressure type scroll compressor, refrigerant may be sup-

<sup>25</sup> plied directly into a compression chamber without flowing through the inner space of the casing, and may then be discharged into the inner space of the casing, such that a majority of the inner space of the casing defines a discharge space.

30 [0007] Scroll compressors may also be divided into a tip seal type scroll compressor and a back pressure type scroll compressor based on a sealing mechanism used in the compression chamber. That is, in a tip seal mechanism, a tip chamber disposed at an upper end of wraps

of each scroll is raised so as to be closely adhered to a plate portion of a facing scroll. In a back pressure mechanism, a back pressure chamber is formed at a rear surface of one scroll and intermediate pressure oil or refrigerant is induced into the back pressure chamber to render

40 the scroll closely adhered to an opposite scroll due to pressure applied by the back pressure chamber. Typically, a tip seal mechanism is used with a low pressure type scroll compressor, and a back pressure mechanism is used with a high pressure type scroll compressor.

45 [0008] Scroll compressors may also be divided into a fixed capacity type and a variable capacity type based on how refrigerant circulates therethrough. That is, in a fixed capacity type scroll compressor substantially all of the refrigerant discharged therefrom circulates through 50 a closed loop refrigerating cycle, i.e., sequentially through the compressor, a condenser, an expansion apparatus and an evaporator and then back into the compressor. In a variable capacity type compressor, a portion of the refrigerant discharged therefrom is bypassed at a 55 middle portion of a refrigerating cycle and introduced into an intermediate compression chamber of the compressor, while the remainder of the refrigerant sequentially flows through the devices of a closed loop refrigerating

cycle and is introduced back into the compressor.

[0009] In a variable capacity type scroll compressor having a back pressure passage through which an intermediate compression chamber communicates with a back pressure chamber and an injection passage through which an outlet of the condenser communicates with the intermediate compression chamber of the compressor, an interval between the back pressure passage and the injection passage may adversely affect the performance of the compressor. That is, since a refrigerant at intermediate pressure within the refrigerating cycle is introduced into the intermediate compression chamber via the injection passage, if the back pressure passage and the injection passage are too close to a proceeding direction of a compression chamber, the intermediate pressure refrigerant in the injection passage may leak into the back pressure chamber via the back pressure passage, thereby increasing the pressure inside the back pressure chamber to an unacceptable level, thus not properly maintaining pressure of the back pressure chamber. As a result, a scroll supported by the pressure of the back pressure chamber may be excessively adhered to or pressed against the opposite scroll, thereby incurring frictional loss and abrasion of the wraps, and degrading reliability and performance of the compressor. [0010] As shown in FIG. 1, a high pressure type scroll compressor as embodied and broadly described herein may include a casing 10 that forms a hermetic inner space, a main frame 20 and a sub frame (not shown in FIG. 1) respectively positioned in an upper inner space and a lower inner space of the casing 10, a driving motor 30 mounted between the main frame 20 and the sub frame for generating a rotational force, a fixed scroll 40 fixed to an upper surface of the main frame 20 and directly coupled to a gas suction pipe SP, an orbiting scroll 50 positioned on the upper surface of the main frame 20 so as to form compression chambers P through its engagement with the fixed scroll 40, and an Oldham's ring installed between the orbiting scroll 50 and the main frame 20 so that the orbiting scroll 50 orbits without being rotated.

**[0011]** The hermetic inner space of the casing 10 may be divided into an upper space S1 and a lower space S2 by the main frame 20 and the fixed scroll 40 so that both the upper and lower spaces S1 and S2 are maintained at a high pressure. A bottom portion of the lower space S2 of the casing 10 may be filled with oil for lubrication of the friction components of the compressor. The gas suction pipe SP may penetrate the outer wall of the casing 10 so as to communicate with the upper space S1 of the casing 10, while a gas discharge pipe DP communicates with the lower space S2 of the casing 10.

**[0012]** A shaft accommodation hole 21 may be formed through a center of the main frame 20, and an oil pocket 22 in which oil drawn up through an oil passage 32a of a driving shaft 32 may be formed at an upper end of the shaft accommodation hole 21. A back pressure groove 23 may be formed at an edge of the upper surface of the

main frame 20 so as to create a back pressure chamber S3 having an intermediate pressure that is generated when a portion of refrigerant and oil drawn in are mixed together. A sealing groove may be formed in an annular shape within the back pressure groove 23 to receive a sealing member 60 therein such that oil collected in the oil pocket 22 may be maintained at a high pressure. The back pressure chamber S3 may be defined by a combination of the back pressure groove 23 of the main frame

20, a plate portion 41 of the fixed scroll 40 and a plate portion 51 of the orbiting scroll 50.

**[0013]** The driving motor 30 may include a stator secured to the inside of the casing 10 and having a coil 31 to which external power is supplied, a rotor disposed with-

in the stator 31 with a predetermined air gap therebetween so as to rotate by interaction with the stator, and a driving shaft 32 coupled to the rotor by, for example, a shrink fitting, for transferring the rotational force of the driving motor 30 to the orbiting scroll 50. An oil passage
32a may be formed through the driving shaft 32 in a lon-

32a may be formed through the driving shaft 32 in a longitudinal direction of the shaft 32, and an oil pump may be installed at a lower end of the oil passage 32a to pump oil from the bottom of the casing 10 into the oil passage 32a.

<sup>25</sup> [0014] The fixed scroll 40 may include fixed wraps 42 spirally formed at a lower surface of the plate portion 41 so as to form a pair of compression chambers P. An intake port 43 in direct communication with the gas suction pipe SP may be formed at a side surface of the plate portion

30 41, and a discharge port 44 through which a compressed refrigerant is discharged up to the upper space S1 of the casing 10 may be formed at a center of the upper surface of the plate portion 41. A back pressure passage 110 that defines a first passage between the compression cham-

<sup>35</sup> bers P and the back pressure chamber S3 is formed between the wraps 42 forming the compression chambers P at a lower surface of the plate portion 41, namely, at a surface thereof that defines a thrust bearing surface together with the orbiting scroll 50.

40 [0015] The backpressure passage 110, as shown in FIGS. 2 to 4, may include a first back pressure hole 111 that communicates with the back pressure chamber S3, a second back pressure hole 112 that communicates with the compression chamber P, and a third back pressure

<sup>45</sup> hole 113 that provides for communication between the first back pressure hole 111 and the second back pressure hole 112. A communication groove 114 may be formed at an end of the first back pressure hole 111, namely, at a surface facing the back pressure groove 23,

to provide for communication between the first back pressure hole 111 and the back pressure groove 23. The communication groove 114 may be radially formed and have a long, substantially rectangular shape such that its width is greater than that of the first back pressure hole 111. Diameters d1, d2 and d3 of the back pressure holes 111, 112 and 113, respectively maybe approximately the same so as to minimize flow resistance.

**[0016]** The first, second and third back pressure holes

111, 112 and 113 may define one passage that alternately communicates with the pair of compression chambers P. That is, the second back pressure hole 112 may be located between adjacent fixed wraps 42, and the diameter d2 of the second back pressure hole 112 may be less than a thickness t of the wrap 52 of the orbiting scroll 50, as shown in FIG. 4 so as to prevent refrigerant leakage from an inner compression chamber P to an outer compression chamber P due to a pressure difference.

[0017] A blocking member 115 may be coupled to the third back pressure hole 113. For example, in the embodiment shown in FIG. 4, the blocking member 115 may be inserted into an external end of the third back pressure hole 113 by a predetermined depth so as to isolate the third back pressure hole 113 from the inner space of the casing 10. In certain embodiments, the blocking member 115 may be formed of a comparatively elastic non-ferrous metal so as to be hermetically press-fitted within the external end of the third bypass hole 113. Alternatively, as shown in FIGS. 3 and 4, the blocking member 115 may be a metallic bolt that is threadly coupled to a predetermined depth into the external end of the third bypass hole 113. When using such a metallic bolt, a sealing washer 116 maybe hermetically inserted at a head portion of the metallic bolt for coupling.

**[0018]** As shown in FIG. 1, the orbiting scroll 50 may include orbiting wraps 52 spirally formed on an upper surface of a plate portion 51 so as to form a pair of compression chambers P together with the fixed wraps 42 of the fixed scroll 40. A boss portion 53 may extend from a central portion of a lower surface of the plate portion 51 and be coupled to the driving shaft 32 so as to receive a driving force from the driving motor 30.

**[0019]** In certain embodiments, the fixed wrap 42 and the orbiting wrap 52 may be symmetrically formed with substantially the same wrap length. In certain embodiments, they may be symmetrically formed with different wrap lengths. For example, the orbiting wrap 52 may be approximately 180° longer than the fixed wrap 42. Other arrangements may also be appropriate.

**[0020]** During operation, when power is applied to the driving motor 30, the driving shaft 32 rotates together with the rotor to transfer a rotational force to the orbiting scroll 50. The orbiting scroll 50 performs an orbiting motion by an eccentric distance on the upper surface of the main frame 20 due to the Oldham's ring, thereby forming a pair of compression chambers P which are consecutively moved between the fixed wrap 42 of the fixed scroll 40 and the orbiting wrap 52 of the orbiting wrap 50. The volumes of the compression chambers P are decreased as are moved toward the center in response to the consecutive orbiting motion of the orbiting scroll 50, thereby compressing refrigerant therein.

**[0021]** Simultaneously, an oil pump provided at the lower end of the driving shaft 32 pumps oil contained in the casing 10 up via the oil passage 32a of the driving shaft 32. A portion of the oil is supplied into the shaft accommodation hole 21 of the main frame 20, and a por-

tion of the oil is dispersed at the upper end of the driving shaft 32 so as to be introduced into the back pressure chamber S3 of the main frame 20. The oil introduced into the back pressure chamber S3 supports the orbiting scroll 50, which is accordingly raised upward the fixed

- <sup>5</sup> scroll 50, which is accordingly raised upward the fixed scroll 40. Hence, the fixed wraps 42 and the orbiting wraps 52 are closely adhered to the corresponding plate portions 51 and 41, respectively, thereby sealing the compression chambers P.
- 10 [0022] In this state, refrigerant is compressed by the continuous orbiting motion of the orbiting scroll 50. The compressed refrigerant partially flows into the back pressure chamber S3 via the back pressure passage 110, so that the pressure within the back pressure chamber S3

<sup>15</sup> may be maintained at a predetermined level. Although only one outlet of the back pressure passage 110, namely, the second back pressure hole 112, is provided, the second back pressure hole 112 alternately communicates with both compression chambers P as the orbiting <sup>20</sup> scroll 50 orbits, allowing oil to be uniformly supplied into

each compression chamber P via the back pressure passage 110.

[0023] In a variable capacity type compressor, refrigerant may be reintroduced into an intermediate compressor sion chamber of the compressor at a middle portion of a refrigerating cycle, namely, from an outlet of a condenser, so as to increase an amount of refrigerant to be compressed, resulting in an increase in the compression capacity of the compressor.

<sup>30</sup> **[0024]** For example, as shown in Fig. 8, an injection pipe 6 may diverge at a middle portion of a refrigerant pipe 5 that connects a condenser 2 and an expansion apparatus 3 of the refrigerating cycle, namely, at an outlet of the condenser 2. The injection pipe 6 may be connect-

ed to an injection passage 120 that forms a second passage at the fixed scroll 40 of the scroll compressor 1 shown in FIGS. 1 and 2. A bypass valve 7 for controlling the flow of refrigerant through the injection pipe 6 may be installed at a middle portion of the injection pipe 6 or at an area where the injection pipe 6 diverges from the

at an area where the injection pipe 6 diverges from the refrigerant pipe 5.

**[0025]** The injection passage 120, as shown in FIGS. 2, 3 and 5, includes a first injection hole 121 formed in a radial direction at a predetermined depth in the fixed scroll

<sup>45</sup> 40, and a second injection hole 122 that extends in a shaft direction from an end portion of the first injection hole 121 through the intermediate compression chamber.

[0026] Depending on the position of the second injection hole 122, refrigerant injected therethrough from the middle portion of the refrigerating cycle may leak into the back pressure chamber S3, possibly degrading compression performance. In order to enhance performance of the compressor, specific positioning of the injection passage 120 with respect to the back pressure passage 110, and more particularly, the second back pressure hole 112 of the back pressure passage 120 with respect 22 of the injection passage 120,

maybe established.

[0027] To this end, the second injection hole 122 of the injection passage 120 is formed, as shown in FIGS. 6 and 7, closer to the discharge side of the compression chamber than the second back pressure hole 112 of the back pressure passage 110. More particularly, the second injection hole 122 is formed so that an angle at which a refrigerant starts to be injected into the intermediate compression chamber P and an angle at which the refrigerant within the intermediate compressor chamber starts to be introduced into the back pressure chamber S3 is greater than approximately 30°. Consequently, leakage of the refrigerant injected into the intermediate compression chamber via the injection passage 120 into the back pressure passage 110 is prevented. The greater the phase difference between the second back pressure passage 112 of the back pressure passage 110 and the second injection passage 122 of the injection passage 120, the greater the leakage prevention.

**[0028]** A diameter 24 of the second injection hole 122 may be substantially the same as a diameter of the second back pressure hole 112, so as to smoothly control the amount of refrigerant injected. The diameter d4 of the second injection hole 122 may be less than a thickness t of the orbiting wrap 52 of the orbiting scroll 50 so as to prevent a refrigerant injected via the injection passage 120 from being leaked into both the compression chambers P due to the injection passage 120 communicating with the compression chambers P.

**[0029]** A temperature of the refrigerant injected into the intermediate compression chamber may be lower than a temperature at the outlet of the condenser 2 but higher than a temperature at a suction side of the compression chamber P, so as to increase the amount of the refrigerant to be injected. That is, as shown in FIG. 8, after a refrigerant discharged from the compressor 1 flows through the condenser 2, part of the refrigerant is bypassed into the injection pipe 6 at the outlet of the condenser 2. The high temperature and high pressure bypassed liquid refrigerant is expanded and converted into a mixed refrigerant (gaseous refrigerant + liquid refrigerant) with a temperature of about 20 °C. The mixed refrigerant is re-heat-exchanged via a re-heat exchanger 6a positioned between the condenser 2 and the injection pipe 6 for heat exchange with the condenser 2 so as to be converted into a low temperature gaseous refrigerant. The low temperature gaseous refrigerant is then injected into the intermediate compression chamber via the injection passage 120.

**[0030]** As described above, in a scroll compressor 1 having the back pressure passage 110 and the injection passage 120, if an angle  $\alpha$  formed between the back pressure passage 110 and the injection passage 120 is greater than approximately 30°, the actual pressure within the back pressure chamber 53, as shown in FIG. 9A, may be maintained substantially close to/at the design pressure, thereby stably supporting the orbiting scroll 50. If the angle  $\alpha$  therebetween is 20°, the actual pressure

within the back pressure chamber, as shown in FIG. 9B, is greater than the design pressure, which may cause the orbiting scroll 50 to be excessively raised and pressed against the fixed scroll 40. Accordingly, frictional loss or abrasion may occur between the orbiting scroll 50 and

the fixed scroll 40, thereby lowering the performance and/or reliability of the compressor 1.

**[0031]** Consequently, the angle between the injection passage 120 and the back pressure passage 110 main-

<sup>10</sup> tains an appropriate phase difference, or angle  $\alpha$  therebetween, so as to effectively prevent a refrigerant injected into the intermediate compression chamber via the injection passage from leaking into the back pressure chamber via the back pressure passage without flowing

<sup>15</sup> along the proceeding direction of the compression chamber. Hence, during a high capacity operation of the scroll compressor, a refrigerant injected into the intermediate compression chamber via the injection passage at the middle portion of the refrigerant cycle may be combined

20 with a refrigerant sucked into a suction side of the compression chamber, thereby increasing the amount of refrigerant to be compressed, resulting in improved performance.

**[0032]** Similarly, if a scroll compressor as embodied and broadly described herein is applied to a refrigerating apparatus, the efficiency of the refrigerating apparatus may also be improved.

[0033] As shown in FIG. 10, an exemplary refrigerating apparatus 700 as embodied and broadly described here<sup>30</sup> in may include a refrigerant compression type refrigerating cycle provided with a scroll compressor 1, a condenser 2, an expansion apparatus 3, and an evaporator 4 as shown in FIG. 8. The compressor 1 may include an injection passage through which a portion of refrigerant
<sup>35</sup> flowing through the condenser 2 is injected back into an intermediate compression chamber of the scroll compressor 1. Within the refrigerating apparatus 700, the scroll compressor 1 may be connected to a main sub-

strate 710, which controls an overall operation of the refrigerating apparatus 700. A fixed scroll installed within the scroll compressor 1 may include a back pressure passage through which refrigerant is discharged from the intermediate compression chamber into a back pressure chamber, and an injection passage through which refrig-

<sup>45</sup> erant flows back into the intermediate compression chamber via an outlet of the condenser 2. The back pressure passage and the injection passage forms an angle therebetween of at least more than 30°, as described above. Consequently, leakage of the refrigerant injected <sup>50</sup> into the intermediate compression chamber via the injec-

tion passage into the back pressure passage is prevented, resulting in improved performance of the refrigerating apparatus having such a scroll compressor.

[0034] In the scroll compressor according to the present invention and a refrigerating apparatus having the same, leakage of the refrigerant from the intermediate compression chamber into the back pressure chamber is prevented, thereby appropriately maintaining the pressure of the back pressure chamber, and also increasing the amount of refrigerant within the compression chamber, resulting in improved performance of the scroll compressor and the refrigerating apparatus in which it is installed.

**[0035]** A scroll compressor as embodied and broadly described herein may be applied to numerous different types of refrigerating apparatuses, such as, for example, an air conditioning apparatus, a refrigerating/freezing apparatus, or other refrigerating apparatus in which compression of refrigerant is employed.

**[0036]** A scroll compressor as embodied and broadly described herein is capable of maintaining an appropriate pressure inside the back pressure chamber by preventing a refrigerant, injected from the refrigerating cycle into the intermediate pressure via the injection passage, from being drastically leaked from the intermediate compression chamber into the back pressure chamber, and a refrigerating apparatus having the same.

20 [0037] A scroll compressor as embodied and broadly described herein may include compression chambers formed to be consecutively moved as a plurality of scrolls perform a relative motion with being engaged with each other, a back pressure chamber formed at a bearing sur-25 face at which the plurality of scrolls come in contact with each other and configured to support the neighboring scrolls, a first passage formed at a fixed scroll and configured so that part of refrigerant compressed in the compression chambers is bypassed to be guided into the back pressure chamber, and a second passage formed 30 at a fixed scroll and configured so that part of refrigerant discharged from the compression chambers into a refrigerating cycle is bypassed at a middle portion of the refrigerating cycle to be supplied back into the compression 35 chambers.

[0038] A scroll compressor in accordance with another embodiment as broadly described herein may include a fixed scroll having spiral wraps, and an orbiting scroll having spiral wraps, the spiral wraps orbiting with being 40 engaged with the wraps of the fixed scroll so as to form a pair of compression chambers consecutively moved during the orbiting motion, a back pressure chamber for containing a refrigerant bypassed from the compression chambers being formed at a rear surface of the orbiting scroll, wherein the fixed scroll is provided with at least 45 one back pressure passage formed at the fixed scroll for communicating the compression chambers with the back pressure chamber, and an injection passage through which part of a refrigerant discharged from the compression chambers into the refrigerating cycle is injected back 50 into the compression chambers.

**[0039]** A refrigerating apparatus as embodied and broadly described herein may include a compressor, a condenser connected to a discharge side of the compression, an expansion apparatus connected to the condenser, and an evaporator connected to the expansion apparatus and to a suction side of the compressor, wherein the compressor is a scroll compressor config-

ured so that an angle between an injection passage communicating with an intermediate compression chamber at a middle portion of a refrigerating cycle and a back pressure passage is approximately more than 30°.

- <sup>5</sup> **[0040]** Any reference in this specification to "one embodiment," "an embodiment," "example embodiment," etc., means that a particular feature, structure, or characteristic described in connection with the embodiment is included in at least one embodiment of the invention.
- <sup>10</sup> The appearances of such phrases in various places in the specification are not necessarily all referring to the same embodiment.

#### 15 Claims

**1.** A scroll compressor, for compressing refrigerant, comprising:

a casing (10);

a fixed scroll (40) fixed to an interior of the casing (10);

an orbiting scroll (50) movably engaged with the fixed scroll (40) so as to form compression chambers (P) therebetween that are consecutively moved as the orbiting scroll (50) moves relative to the fixed scroll (40);

a back pressure chamber (S3) formed at a bearing surface formed between the fixed (40) and orbiting (50) scrolls, wherein the back pressure chamber (S3) is configured to support a position of the orbiting scroll (50) against the fixed scroll (40);

#### characterised by

a first passage (110) formed in the fixed scroll (40) and configured to guide refrigerant compressed in the compression chambers (P) back into the back pressure chamber (S3); and

a second passage (120) formed at the fixed scroll (40) and configured to guide refrigerant into the compression chambers (P) from a refrigerating cycle,

an angle between the first passage (110) and the second passage (120) is greater than approximately 30° in a circumferential direction along the wrap of the scroll, and an outlet (112) of the second passage (120) is closer to a discharge side of the compression chambers (P) than an outlet of the first passage (110) is.

- 2. The compressor of claim 1, further comprising a main frame (20) fixed to the interior of the casing (10) so as to support the fixed scroll (40) and the orbiting scroll (50).
- **3.** The compressor of claim 2, wherein the back pressure chamber (S3) is defined by a recess formed in an upper surface of the main frame (20), a lower

10

30

surface of the fixed scroll (40), and an outer peripheral portion of the orbiting scroll (50).

- The compressor of claim 3, further comprising a groove formed in the lower surface of the fixed scroll (40) so as to provide for communication between the first passage (110), which is formed in the fixed scroll (40), and the back pressure chamber (S3).
- 5. The compressor of claim 4, wherein the first passage (110) comprises:

a first bypass hole (111) having a first end connected to the communication groove (114); a second bypass (112) hole having a first end <sup>15</sup> alternately connected to the compression chambers (P) as the orbiting scroll (50) moves relative to the fixed scroll (40); and a third bypass hole (113) that connects second ends of the first and second bypass holes (111, <sup>20</sup> 112).

- The compressor of claim 5, further comprising a blocking member (115) positioned in an external end of the third bypass hole (113) so as to seal the first <sup>25</sup> passage (110).
- 7. The compressor of claim 1, wherein the second passage (120) comprises:

a first injection hole (121) that extends into a plate portion of the fixed scroll (40); and a second injection hole (122) having a first end connected to the first injection hole (121) and a second end that alternately communicates with <sup>35</sup> the compression chambers (P).

- 8. The compressor of claim 7, wherein an inlet end of the first injection hole (121) is connected to an injection pipe (6) that extends through an outer wall of the casing (10) so as to receive refrigerant from an intermediate section of a refrigerating cycle and to direct the received refrigerant back into the compression chambers (P) through the second passage (120).
- The compressor of claim 1, wherein the first passage (110) is formed in the fixed scroll (40) and is configured to communicate with one of the compression chambers (P) at an intermediate pressure between a suction pressure and a discharge pressure.
- 10. The compressor of claim 1, wherein the second passage (120) is formed in the fixed scroll (40) and is configured to communicate with one of the compression chambers (P) at an intermediate pressure between a suction pressure and a discharge pressure.

**11.** The compressor of claim 1, wherein a diameter of an outlet of the second passage (120) is greater than or equal to a diameter of an outlet of the first passage (110).

#### Patentansprüche

1. Spiralverdichter zum Verdichten eines Kältemittels, mit:

einem Gehäuse (10);

einer feststehenden Spirale (40), die an einem Inneren des Gehäuses (10) befestigt ist;

einer umlaufenden Spirale (50), die beweglich mit der feststehenden Spirale (40) in Eingriff steht, um dazwischen Verdichtungskammern (P) zu bilden, die fortlaufend bewegt werden, wenn sich die umlaufende Spirale (50) relativ zur feststehenden Spirale (40) bewegt;

einer Gegendruckkammer (S3), die an einer Lagerfläche ausgebildet ist, die zwischen der feststehenden (40) und umlaufenden (50) Spirale ausgebildet ist, wobei die Gegendruckkammer (S3) konfiguriert ist, eine Position der umlaufenden Spirale (50) gegen die feststehende Spirale (40) zu halten;

#### gekennzeichnet durch

einen ersten Kanal (110), der in der feststehenden Spirale (40) ausgebildet und konfiguriert ist, in den Verdichtungskammern (P) verdichtetes Kältemittel zurück in die Gegendruckkammer (S3) zu leiten; und

einen zweiten Kanal (120), der an der feststehenden Spirale (40) ausgebildet und konfiguriert ist, Kältemittel aus einem Kühlzyklus in die Verdichtungskammern (P) zu leiten, wobei ein Winkel zwischen dem ersten Kanal (110) und dem zweiten Kanal (120) in eine Umfangsrichtung längs der Windung der Spirale größer als annähernd 30° ist, und ein Auslass (112) des zweiten Kanals (120) einer Ausstoßseite der Verdichtungskammern (P) näher liegt als ein Auslass des ersten Kanals (110).

- Verdichter nach Anspruch 1, der ferner einen Hauptrahmen (20) aufweist, der am Inneren des Gehäuses (10) befestigt ist, um die feststehende Spirale (40) und die umlaufende Spirale (50) zu halten.
- 3. Verdichter nach Anspruch 2, wobei die Gegendruckkammer (S3) durch eine Aussparung definiert wird, die in einer Oberseite des Hauptrahmens (20), einer Unterseite der feststehenden Spirale (40) und einem Außenumfangsabschnitt der umlaufenden Spirale (50) ausgebildet ist.
- 4. Verdichter nach Anspruch 3, der ferner eine Nut auf-

50

15

20

25

5. Verdichter nach Anspruch 4, wobei der erste Kanal (110) aufweist:

ein erstes Umgehungsloch (111), das ein erstes Ende aufweist, das mit der Verbindungsnut (114) verbunden ist;

ein zweites Umgehungsloch (112), das ein erstes Ende aufweist, das abwechselnd mit den Verdichtungskammern (P) verbunden ist, wenn sich die umlaufende Spirale (50) relativ zur feststehenden Spirale (40) bewegt; und

ein drittes Umgehungsloch (113), das zweite Enden des ersten und zweiten Umgehungslochs (111, 112) verbindet.

- 6. Verdichter nach Anspruch 5, der ferner ein Sperrelement (115) aufweist, das in einem äußeren Ende des dritten Umgehungslochs (113) angeordnet ist, um den ersten Kanal (110) abzudichten.
- Verdichter nach Anspruch 1, wobei der zweite Kanal (120) aufweist:

ein erstes Einspritzloch (121), das sich in einen <sup>30</sup> Plattenabschnitt der feststehenden Spirale (40) erstreckt; und ein zweites Einspritzloch (122), das ein erstes Ende, das mit dem ersten Einspritzloch (121) verbunden ist, und ein zweites Ende aufweist, <sup>35</sup> das abwechselnd mit den Verdichtungskammern (P) verbunden ist.

- Verdichter nach Anspruch 7, wobei ein Einlassende des ersten Einspritzlochs (121) mit einem Einspritzrohr (6) verbunden ist, das sich durch eine Außenwand des Gehäuses (10) erstreckt, um Kältemittel aus einem Zwischenabschnitt eines Kühlzyklus aufzunehmen und das aufgenommene Kältemittel durch den zweiten Kanal (120) zurück in die Verdichtungskammern (P) zu leiten.
- 9. Verdichter nach Anspruch 1, wobei der erste Kanal (110) in der feststehenden Spirale (40) ausgebildet und konfiguriert ist, mit einer der Verdichtungskammern (P) mit einem Zwischendruck zwischen einem Ansaugdruck und einem Ausstoßdruck in Verbindung zu stehen.
- Verdichter nach Anspruch 1, wobei der zweite Kanal (120) in der feststehenden Spirale (40) ausgebildet und konfiguriert ist, mit einer der Verdichtungskammern (P) mit einem Zwischendruck zwischen einem

Ansaugdruck und einem Ausstoßdruck in Verbindung zu stehen.

11. Verdichter nach Anspruch 1, wobei ein Durchmesser eines Auslasses des zweiten Kanals (120) größer oder gleich einem Durchmesser eines Auslasses des ersten Kanals (110) ist.

#### 10 Revendications

- 1. Compresseur à spirale pour la compression d'un fluide réfrigérant, comprenant:
  - un carter (10) ;

une volute fixe (40) montée à l'intérieur du carter (10) ;

une volute orbitale (50) en prise mobile avec la volute fixe (40) de manière à former des chambres de compression (P) intercalées qui sont déplacées en conséquence quand la volute orbitale (50) se déplace par rapport à la volute fixe (40) ;

une chambre de contre-pression (S3) formée sur une surface de palier entre la volute fixe (40) et la volute orbitale (50), ladite chambre de contre-pression (S3) étant prévue pour supporter une partie de la volute orbitale (50) contre la volute fixe (40) ;

caractérisé par

un premier passage (110) formé dans la volute fixe (40) et prévu pour ramener le fluide réfrigérant comprimé dans les chambres de compression (P) vers la chambre de contre-pression (S3) ; et

un deuxième passage (120) formé sur la volute fixe (40) et prévu pour conduire le fluide réfrigérant vers les chambres de compression (P) depuis un cycle de réfrigération, un angle entre le premier passage (110) et le deuxième passage (120) étant supérieur à env. 30° dans la direction circonférentielle le long de l'enveloppe de la volute, et une sortie (112) du deuxième passage (120) étant plus proche d'un côté d'échappement des chambres de compression (P) qu'une sortie du premier passage (110).

- Compresseur selon la revendication 1, comprenant en outre un cadre principal (20) monté à l'intérieur du carter (10) de manière à supporter la volute fixe (40) et la volute orbitale (50).
- Compresseur selon la revendication 2, où la chambre de contre-pression (S3) est définie par une cavité formée dans une surface supérieure du cadre principal (20), une surface inférieure de la volute fixe (40) et une partie périphérique extérieure de la volute orbitale (50).

50

- 4. Compresseur selon la revendication 3, comprenant en outre une rainure formée dans la surface inférieure de la volute fixe (40) pour permettre une communication entre le premier passage (110) formé dans la volute fixe (40) et la chambre de contre-pression (S3).
- 5. Compresseur selon la revendication 4, où le premier passage (110) comprend :

un premier trou de dérivation (111) avec une première extrémité reliée à la rainure de communication (114) ;

un deuxième trou de dérivation (112) avec une première extrémité alternativement reliée aux chambres de compression (P) quand la volute orbitale (50) se déplace par rapport volute fixe (40) ; et

un troisième trou de dérivation (113) reliant les deuxièmes extrémités du premier et du deuxiè-<sup>20</sup> me trou de dérivation (111, 112).

- Compresseur selon la revendication 5, comprenant en outre un élément de blocage (115) disposé à une extrémité externe du troisième trou de dérivation <sup>25</sup> (113) de manière à obturer le premier passage (110).
- 7. Compresseur selon la revendication 1, où le deuxième passage (120) comprend :

un premier trou d'injection (121) s'étendant dans une partie de plaque de la volute fixe (40) ; et

un deuxième trou d'injection (122) avec une première extrémité reliée au premier trou d'injection <sup>35</sup> (121) et une deuxième extrémité communiquant alternativement avec les chambres de compression (P).

- 8. Compresseur selon la revendication 7, où une extrémité d'admission du premier trou d'injection (121) est reliée à une conduite d'injection (6) traversant une paroi extérieure du carter (10) de manière à recevoir le fluide réfrigérant d'une section intermédiaire d'un cycle de réfrigération et pour ramener le fluide réfrigérant reçu vers les chambres de compression (P) par le deuxième passage (120).
- Compresseur selon la revendication 1, où le premier passage (110) est formé dans la volute fixe (40) et est prévu pour communiquer avec une des chambres de compression (P) à une pression intermédiaire entre une pression d'aspiration et une pression de refoulement.
- Compresseur selon la revendication 1, où le deuxième passage (120) est formé dans la volute fixe (40) et est prévu pour communiquer avec une des cham-

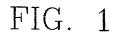
bres de compression (P) à une pression intermédiaire entre une pression d'aspiration et une pression de refoulement.

 Compresseur selon la revendication 1, où le diamètre d'une sortie du deuxième passage (120) est supérieur ou égal au diamètre d'une sortie du premier passage (110).

10

15

30



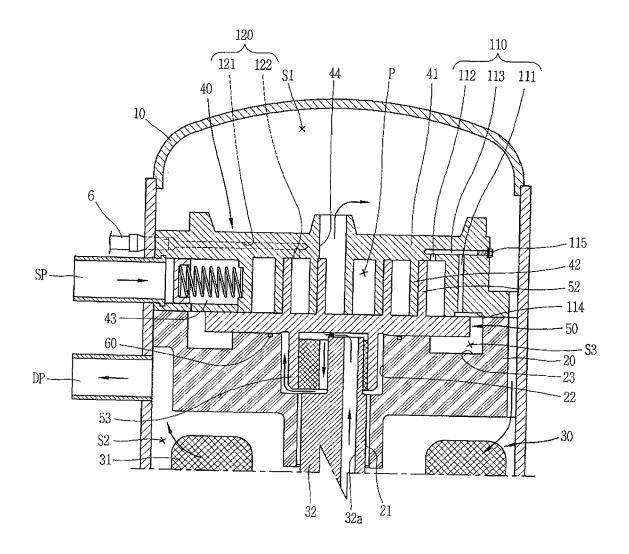
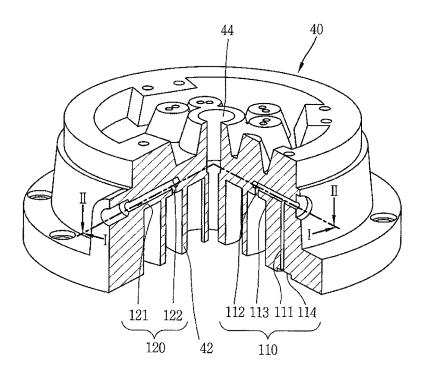
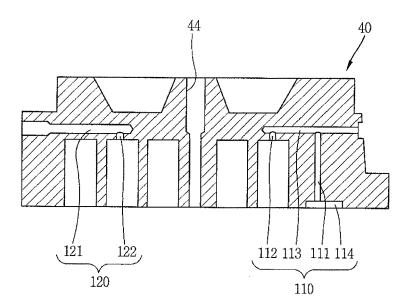


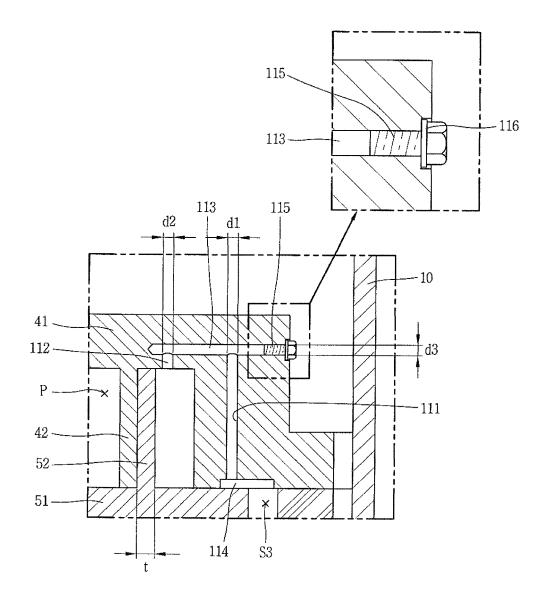
FIG. 2

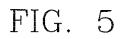


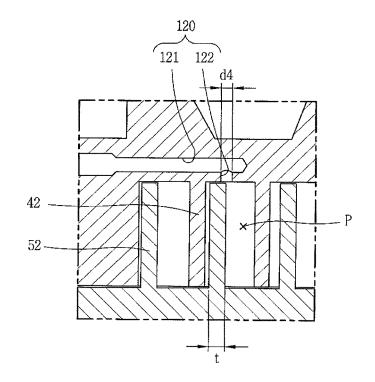


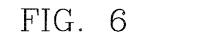


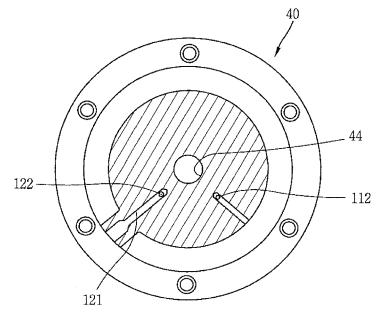




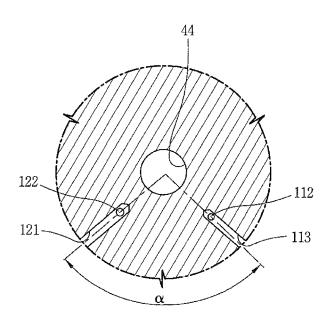


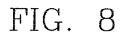












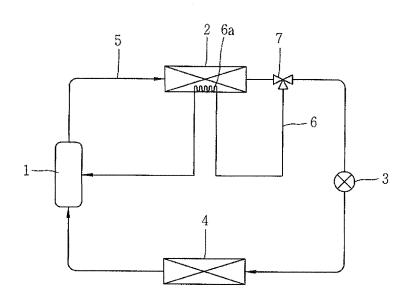


FIG. 9A

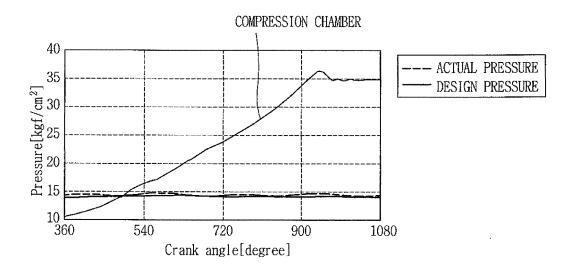
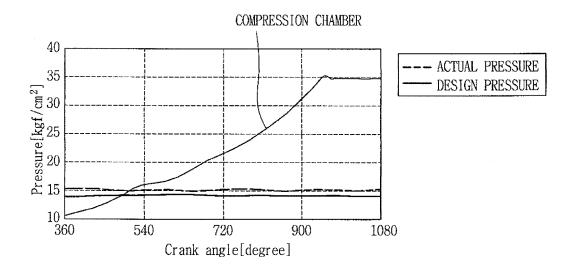
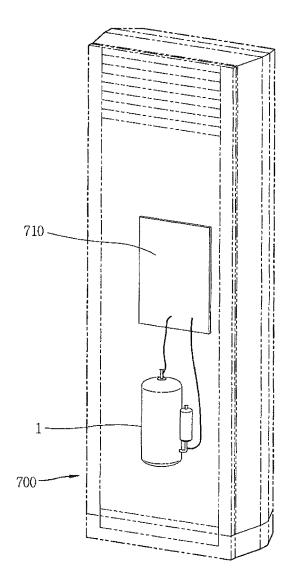


FIG. 9B



# FIG. 10



#### **REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION**

This list of references cited by the applicant is for the reader's convenience only. It does not form part of the European patent document. Even though great care has been taken in compiling the references, errors or omissions cannot be excluded and the EPO disclaims all liability in this regard.

#### Patent documents cited in the description

• WO 2007050292 A [0003]

• EP 0725255 A [0003]