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(71) Applicant: **Fujitsu General Limited**
Kawasaki-shi,
Kanagawa-ken (JP)

(72) Inventor: **Itakura, Shunji**

Kawasaki-shi, Kanagawa-ken (JP)

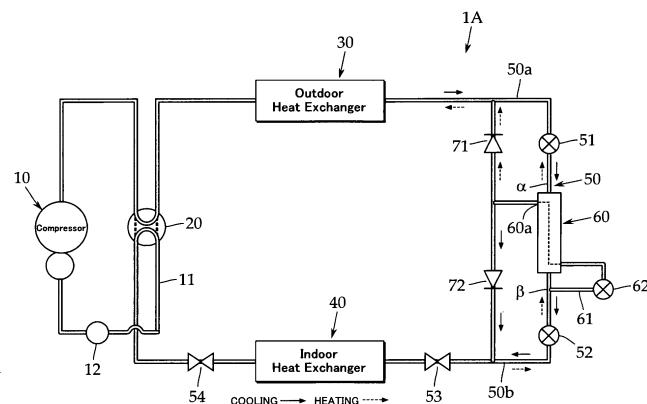
(74) Representative: **Small, Gary James**
Carpmaels & Ransford
One Southampton Row
London
WC1B 5HA (GB)

(54) Air conditioner

(57) In an air conditioner having a double-pipe heat exchanger in a refrigerating cycle, the degree of opening of a bypass expansion valve is controlled easily without liquid return to a compressor and without considering the state of a low-pressure two-phase refrigerant in the double-pipe heat exchanger. In the air conditioner including a refrigerating cycle 1A in which a heating expansion valve 51 is provided between the outdoor heat exchanger 30 and the double-pipe heat exchanger 60; a cooling expansion valve 52 is provided between the indoor heat exchanger 40 and the double-pipe heat exchanger 60; and in the double-pipe heat exchanger 60, a high-pres-

sure liquid refrigerant flowing in a liquid-side refrigerant pipe 50 is heat-exchanged with a low-pressure two-phase refrigerant that is formed by decompressing some of the high-pressure liquid refrigerant by a bypass expansion valve 62, a low-pressure refrigerant outflow portion 60a of the double-pipe heat exchanger 60 is connected to a refrigerant pipe portion 50a between the outdoor heat exchanger 30 and the heating expansion valve 51 via a first check valve 71, and is connected to a refrigerant pipe portion 50b between the indoor heat exchanger 40 and the cooling expansion valve 52 via a second check valve 72.

FIG. 1





EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

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DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	
A	EP 0 855 562 A1 (DAIKIN IND LTD [JP]) 29 July 1998 (1998-07-29) * sentence 3, paragraph 5 - sentence 15, paragraph 6; figure 1A * -----	1-5	INV. F25B13/00 F25B40/02
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
1	Place of search	Date of completion of the search	Examiner
	Munich	31 May 2011	Gasper, Ralf
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document			
T : theory or principle underlying the invention E : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document			

**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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