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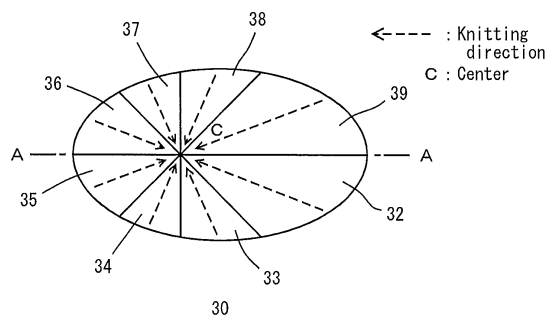
(54) **Knit design method and knit design apparatus**

(57) Configuration: A knitted fabric having a plurality of triangular parts is designed so that the knitted fabric is knittable on a flat knitting machine. An external shape (30, 50) of a knitted fabric is input, the position of a center (C) at which apexes of respective parts into which the knitted fabric is divided gather is input, and the number of parts is determined. The knitted fabric is divided into a plurality of parts, each part having the shape of a triangle, the center (C) being the apex of the triangle, a peripheral edge of the knitted fabric being the base of the triangle, and lines connecting both ends of the base to the center (C) being the two sides of the triangle. Assuming that the peripheral edge of the knitted fabric is set in the course direction of knitting, whether the number of stitches corresponding to the length (d) of the base of each part can be decreased during knitting of the number of rows corresponding to the height (h) of that part while satisfying a condition of decrease is evaluated. If it is evaluated that the decrease is not possible, the number of parts is increased, or the base of the part is shortened. Then, flechage lines (60) are produced so as to be parallel to the course direction so that the difference in the number of rows between the two sides of each part due to a difference between lengths of the two sides is compensated for by flechage knitting that turns back in that part, and decrease courses are produced so that the same number of stitches as the number of stitches of the base are decreased.

Effects: A knitted fabric that is knittable can be substantially automatically designed even in the cases of a

knitted fabric having a complicated external shape and a knitted fabric whose center (C) is shifted from the center of its external shape.

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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 14 02 0003

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A	JP 2009 068124 A (SHIMA SEIKI MFG) 2 April 2009 (2009-04-02) * abstract; figures 1-5 *	1-4	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (IPC)
			D04B
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search Munich		Date of completion of the search 30 March 2015	Examiner Braun, Stefanie
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			

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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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EP 14 02 0003

This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report.
The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on
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