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(54) **BARRIER MECHANISM**

(57) The present application describes a barrier  
mechanism for level crossing control systems.

This new mechanism presents a set of differentiated  
requirements and solutions, whereby the main distinctive  
characteristic is the boom balance system which does  
not use the conventional counterweights, resulting in a  
reduction in the operational space of the barrier, avoiding  
possible accidents with workers and passers-by, mini-

mizing as well the material damages.

To achieve the indicated objective, guaranteeing the  
balance and stability in the movement of the boom a set  
of compression springs is used which exert more, or less,  
force on the main shaft according to the position in which  
the boom is found. Another important characteristic of  
the barrier lies in the mechanics and the transmission  
systems used, which present high levels of reliability.

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## Description

### Technical domain

[0001] The present application describes a barrier mechanism for level crossing control systems.

### Prior art

[0002] Currently most of the level crossing barriers use as a balance system for the boom the conventional bulky counterweights. The use of the counterweight is a widely used method, whereby there exists more knowledge about this technique and consequently trust in the system. However, when increasing the length of the boom, there is the need to have more robust, bulky counterweights, and/or which are placed further away from the intermediary fixation point.

[0003] This intrinsic need to occupy more working space can lead to more inconvenient and embarrassing situations, such as damaging material goods of the passers-by and technicians and of causing, inadvertently, damage to the physical integrity of the road users and collaborators of the railway network.

[0004] The increase in the size of the counterweights also leads to an increase in setbacks when the meteorological conditions are not favourable, particularly when there is precipitation of ice flakes and crystals, which leads to the formation of solid crystalline layers that block the regular movement of the boom.

### Summary

[0005] The present application describes a boom comprising at least one outer profile comprising a lower support rail, and at least one socket cavity, and at least one inner profile comprising a lower projection socket, and at least one socket rectangle, wherein the at least one outer profile and the at least one inner profile are coupled by means of the mechanical union between the at least one socket cavity and the at least one socket rectangle, and between the lower support rail and the lower projection socket.

[0006] In one proposed embodiment of the invention, the outer profile of the boom allows the installation of light signals and/or a metallic skirt.

[0007] Yet in another proposed embodiment of the invention, the inner profile of the boom allows the junction of two modules of the outer profile and a length adjustment of said boom.

### Brief description

[0008] The present application describes a barrier mechanism for level crossing control systems. It is an equipment that is designed to maximize the protection in level crossings, mitigating risk behaviour and situations.

[0009] This is distinct from the overwhelming majority

of the competing counterpart products for level crossings, since the stability of the movement is internally guaranteed, resulting in the elimination of the workspace of the vulgar counterweights and in the elimination of the risks originating from the conventional solution. The static and dynamic balance of the main shaft is obtained by means of a set of mechanical elements comprised of steel cams, chains, forks, and a set of compression springs which, when compressed have the function of compensating the moment of force caused by the boom on the main shaft.

[0010] The mechanism is controlled by an automaton which, when it receives the information that the train is approaching, it commands the barrier to lower (obstructing the passage of road vehicles or pedestrians to the railway line), and when it receives the indication of the effective passing of the train, again commands the barrier, this time to rise, enabling once more the road and pedestrian circulation.

[0011] The equalizer system of the main shaft was the solution developed with the purpose of complying with the requirement of absence of conventional counterweights, which are usually used in this type of application. The fact that the counterweights are not used results in a reduction of the working space of the arm of the mechanism, and this reduction mitigates the risk of material damage and harm to physical integrity, thus resulting in a system that is conducive to the well-being of all the passers-by on the road and the professionals in the area of railway signalization. The function of the equalizer system of the main shaft is to balance the moment of force on the main shaft. This mechanical system compensates the torque generated by the weight of the boom when it is in the horizontal position and balances the forces that are applied to the main shaft when the boom is moving. This compensation of the force applied results in a considerably stable movement of the boom.

[0012] The distinctive factor of the mechanism developed resides in applying a set of compression springs, to guarantee the static balance and the dynamic stability of the boom of the barrier mechanism of a level crossing.

[0013] The solution developed is designed as an integral part of the level crossing system, whereby it is possible to configure lengths, types of signalling and other secondary accessories to better adapt to each scenario and type of installation.

### Brief Description of the Figures

[0014] For an easier understanding of the present application there are figures attached which represent embodiments that, however, do not intend to limit the technology herein disclosed.

Figure 1 shows a view of the barrier mechanism (100) - perspective 1 - wherein the boom (101) and the mechanism (102) are referenced.

Figure 2 shows a view of the barrier mechanism (100) - perspective 2 - wherein the boom (101) and the mechanism (102) are referenced.

Figure 3 is a front view of the barrier mechanism (100) wherein the boom (101) and the mechanism (102) are referenced. 5

Figure 4 is a rear view of the barrier mechanism (100) wherein the boom (101) and the mechanism (102) are referenced. 10

Figure 5 shows a right lateral view of the barrier mechanism (100) wherein the boom (101) and the mechanism (102) are referenced. 15

Figure 6 shows a left lateral view of the barrier mechanism (100) wherein the boom (101) and the mechanism (102) are referenced. 20

Figure 7 shows a top view of the barrier mechanism (100) wherein the boom (101) and the mechanism (102) are referenced.

Figure 8 shows a lower view of the barrier mechanism (100) wherein the boom (101) and the mechanism (102) are referenced. 25

Figure 9 shows an upper view of the mechanism (102) wherein there are represented: main shaft (1020), wheel 5 (1021), connection cam (10201), shaft 2 (10212), wheel 3 (10211), wheel 4 (10213) and handle (1022). 30

Figure 10 shows a lower view of the mechanism (102) wherein the support mass is represented (1023). 35

Figure 11 shows a lateral view of the mechanism (102) - profile A - wherein there are represented: main shaft (1020), wheel 5 (1021), handle (1022), support mass (1023), set of transmission chains (1024), set of compression springs (1025), DC motor (1028), shaft 2 (10212), shaft 1 (10214), connecting profile (10253), upper fixed plate for spring compression (10254), mobile plate compression rod (10252) and mobile plate for spring compression (10251). 40 45

Figure 12 shows a lateral view of the mechanism (102) - profile B - wherein there are represented: main shaft (1020), wheel 5 (1021), handle (1022), support mass (1023), set of transmission chains (1024), set of compression springs (1025), position detection system (1026), anchor-fork for chains (10241), mobile plate for spring compression (10251), connecting profile (10253), and upper fixed plate for spring compression (10254). 50 55

Figure 13 shows a lateral view of the mechanism (102) - profile C - wherein there are represented: main shaft (1020), wheel 5 (1021), handle (1022), support mass (1023), set of transmission chains (1024), set of compression springs (1025), position detection system (1026), DC motor (1028), connecting profile (10253), upper fixed plate for spring compression (10254), mobile plate compression rod (10252) and mobile plate for spring compression (10251).

Figure 14 shows a lateral view of the mechanism (102) - profile D - wherein there are represented: main shaft (1020), wheel 5 (1021), handle (1022), support mass (1023), set of transmission chains (1024), set of compression springs (1025), position detection system (1026), and DC motor (1028),

Figure 15 shows an oblique lateral view of the mechanism (102) - profile E - wherein there are represented: main shaft (1020), wheel 5 (1021), support mass (1023), set of transmission chains (1024), set of compression springs (1025), position detection system (1026), connecting profile (10253), mobile plate compression rod (10252) and mobile plate for spring compression (10251).

Figure 16 shows an oblique lateral view of the mechanism (102) - profile F - wherein there are represented: main shaft (1020), handle (1022), support mass (1023), set of transmission chains (1025), connecting terminal plate (1027), DC motor (1028), shaft 2 (10212), shaft 1 (10214), connecting profile (10253), fixed plate for spring compression (10254) and mobile plate for spring compression (10251).

Figure 17 shows an oblique lateral view of the mechanism (102) - profile G - wherein there are represented: main shaft (1020), support mass (1023), set of transmission chains (1024), set of compression springs (1025), connecting terminal plate (1027) and DC motor (1028).

Figure 18 shows an oblique lateral view of the mechanism (102) - profile H - wherein there are represented: main shaft (1020), wheel 5 (1021), handle (1022), support mass (1023), set of transmission chains (1024), set of spring compression chains (1024), position detection system (1026), connecting profile (10253), upper fixed plate for spring compression (10254) and mobile plate for spring compression (10251).

Figure 19 shows an oblique upper lateral view of the mechanism (102) - profile I - wherein there are represented: main shaft (1020), wheel 5 (1021), handle (1022), set of transmission chains (1024), set of compression springs (1025), position detection system

(1026), wheel 4 (10213), connecting profile (10253), upper fixed plate for spring compression (10254), mobile plate for spring compression (10251), wheel 3 (10211), shaft 2 (10212) and shaft 1 (10214).

Figure 20 shows an upper oblique lateral view of the mechanism (102) - profile J - wherein there are represented: main shaft (1020), wheel 5 (1021), handle (1022), set of transmission chains (1024), set of compression springs (1025), position detection system (1026), connecting profile (10253), upper fixed plate for spring compression (10254) and mobile plate for spring compression (10251).

Figure 21 shows an upper oblique lateral view of the mechanism (102) - profile K - wherein there are represented: main shaft (1020), wheel 5 (1021), handle (1022), support mass (1023), set of compression springs (1025), connecting terminal plate (1027) and DC motor (1028).

Figure 22 shows an upper oblique lateral view of the mechanism (102) - profile L - wherein there are represented: main shaft (1020), wheel 5 (1021), handle (1022), support mass (1023), set of compression springs (1025), connecting terminal plate (1027) and DC motor (1028).

Figure 23 shows an exemplary view of the metallic skirt (103) for optionally applying to the barrier boom (101).

Figure 24 shows a view of the equalizer system (104) of the mechanism (102), wherein there are represented: main shaft (1020), wheel 5 (1021), cam/connecting braces (10201), set of transmission chains (1024), set of compression springs (1025), mobile plate compression rod (10252), anchor-fork for chains (10241), reinforcement profile (10242), fork connecting profile (10253), upper fixed plate for spring compression (10254) and mobile plate for spring compression (10251).

Figure 25 shows an outer profile view (1011) of the boom (101), lower support rail (10111) and socket cavity (10112).

Figure 26 shows an inner profile view (1012) of the boom (101), lower projection socket (10121) and socket rectangle (10122).

Figure 27 shows a view of the main transmission system of the mechanism (102) wherein the following elements are represented: main shaft (1020), wheel 5 (1021), DC motor (1028), flexible coupling (10282), worm screw (10283), auxiliary motor shaft (10284), reel (10285), crown wheel (10216), binary limiter (10217), wheel 3 (10211), wheel 4 (10213),

shaft 2 (10212), shaft 1 (10214) and wheel 2 (10215).

## Description of embodiments

5 **[0015]** Referring to the figures, some embodiments are now described in a more detailed manner, which do not intend, however, to limit the scope of the present application.

10 **[0016]** The present application describes a barrier mechanism (100) for level crossing control systems. The barrier mechanism (100), in one of the proposed embodiments, comprises the use of three components, the mechanism (102) itself, the boom (101) and the metallic skirt (103).

15 **[0017]** The main function of the barrier mechanism (100) is to protect users in circulation on the road from a situation of imminent danger whenever it is necessary to cross the railway lines. The mechanism (100) is characterized by the conventional movement, wherein a boom  
20 (101) describes a circular movement of 0° (barrier in closed position - horizontal position) to 90° (barrier in open position - vertical position), there existing a boom fixation point (101) to the main shaft (1020) of the mechanism. The torque and the speed provided on the main  
25 shaft (1020) of the mechanism are resulting from the transmission of the mechanical power of a DC motor (1028), and of a reduction set, comprised by a three-floor reduction, resulting in the mechanical efforts necessary to generate the boom movement. However, this mechanism differs from the overwhelming majority of the equipment in this field of application since the balance system  
30 of the main shaft is not made in the conventional manner, resorting to the use of bulky and heavy solid counterweights on the opposite side of the road, which is a solution that is used worldwide. This traditional solution, due to its robustness and the volume of working space of the counterweights, can cause certain inconveniences to the passers-by and workers that are skilled in the mechanism. These constraints can result in harm to the  
35 physical integrity of a passer-by/maintenance technician and in material damages. In the mechanism that is developed the stability of the movement is internally guaranteed, resulting in the elimination of the volume of working space of the counterweights and in the elimination of the risk deriving from the conventional solution. The static and dynamic balance of the main shaft is obtained by means of a set of mechanical elements (steel cam, chains, forks, and spring pack) which have the function of compensating the moment of force caused by the  
40 boom on the main shaft.

45 **[0018]** The boom (101), used together with the mechanism (102), consists in two profiles that are compatible with each other: the outer profile (1011) and the inner profile (1012).

50 **[0019]** The outer profile (1011) is constructively designed to resist the adverse meteorological conditions and has the function of being sufficiently visible to the road users to indicate the presence of a level crossing

barrier, allow the installation of light signals as well as the installation of a metallic skirt to obstruct the passage of passers-by through the lower part of the boom.

**[0020]** The outer profile (1011) of the boom (101) presents, in the lower area, a lower support rail (10111) which is destined to the fixation of accessories, namely, the metallic skirt (103).

**[0021]** The inner profile (1012) of the boom (101) has two functions: the first one is to unite two modules of the outer boom profile (1011), so that it is possible to configure the boom (101) in several lengths, and the second function is to guarantee that, apart from the fixed length originating from each boom configuration (101), there exists the possibility of customizing and adjusting the final length of the boom (101) at the location of the installation.

**[0022]** Since to fulfil each function the inner boom profile (1012) must have different lengths, while a physical part will have two distinct names: Profile Union and Telescopic Point.

**[0023]** The metallic skirt (103) acts as an accessory and it is conceived to supplement the obstruction of passage exerted by the boom preventing the road users from passing through the lower part of the boom. This component is optional and the fixation thereof to the boom can be made by means of screws.

#### *Main transmission system*

**[0024]** Main transmission system is the designation given to the set of mechanical elements of the mechanism which has the primary function in the movement of the level crossing barrier. This set is permanently demanded, whether during automatic drive, whether during the manual drive of the mechanism.

**[0025]** The movement of the mechanism is generated from the electric drive of a motor organ (1028) (CC Motor, 24V, 1500rpm, >1.2 N.m), which has the flange vertically fixed to the metallic structure that gives body to the mechanism. This motor organ is responsible for creating the rotation movement (the translation movement is restricted to the three shafts and the rotation axis is perpendicular to the XZ plan) necessary for the automatic operation of the barrier mechanism (101).

**[0026]** After generating this first movement, it is necessary to transmit it to a second shaft, the auxiliary motor shaft. This transmission is made with a shaft union joint, which has three purposes: transmit rotation, mitigate vibrations, and compensate axial or angular misalignments. The auxiliary motor shaft is a propelled element which has a rotation speed and rotation direction that is equal to that debited by the motor. The worm screw is fixed to the auxiliary shaft of the motor, since it is necessary to transmit the movement to the shaft 1, by means of the semi-globoid crown wheel, wheel 5, which is fixed to the binary limiter that is found keyed to the shaft 1. The movement transmission is transversal, irreversible, and has a 40:1 transmission relation. This transmission corresponds to a movement by direct contact by means

of a gear joint.

**[0027]** In shaft 1, there is a pinion installed which has the function of a motor on the second transmission floor (4:1 ratio), when transmitting the movement of shaft 1 to shaft 2, by means of a cylindrical gear joint with straight teeth. The third transmission floor is the last step in the main transmission, and it guarantees that the upwards movement and the declining movement of the boom are executed, according to the swaying movement of the main shaft. Apart from the welding of the cylindrical gear joint with straight teeth there is also fixed to shaft 2 a pinion for transmitting the rotation movement to the main shaft, which as in the second transmission floor, has a 4:1 transmission relation.

#### *Main shaft equalizer system - set of springs*

**[0028]** The equalizer system of the main shaft is the solution developed with the purpose of meeting the requirement of absence of conventional counterweights, which are commonly used in this type of application. The fact that the counterweights are not used results in a reduction in the working space of the mechanism. This reduction has the main effect of mitigating the risk of material damage and damage to the physical integrity, thus resulting in a system that is conducive to the well-being of all the road passers-by and the workers in the area of railway signalling. The function of the main shaft equalizer system is to balance the moment of force in the main shaft. This mechanical system compensates the torque generated by the weight of the boom when it is in the horizontal position and balances the forces applied to the main shaft when the boom is moving. This instantaneous compensation of the moment of force in the main shaft results in a considerably stable movement of the boom.

**[0029]** This equalizer system consists in a set of cylindrical compression springs with a configurable distribution, whereby the number thereof can vary between the use of 0 and 14 springs, always in even numbers and distributed in a specific manner, so that the exertion of the springs is always distributed symmetrically and uniformly in the structure that surrounds them. By submitting each spring to an axial exertion in the direction of the mass of the component, a deformation is originated, which has an elastic constant of 18,9 N/mm, which allows creating a force in the main shaft that can vary between 0 kgf up to 2500 kgf to compensate all the exertion resulting from the weight of the boom, weight of the metallic skirt and by the illumination sources installed along the boom.

**[0030]** The movement responsible for the compression of the set of springs is initiated by the DC motor and is transmitted by the main shaft to the spring pack by means of a flexible intermediary connection, using a set of four transmission chains, which are bolted to the connecting braces, which are components that are directly welded to the main shaft. The connecting brace transmits the swaying movement of the main shaft to the chains by

means of a dowel which operates as a mechanical joint pin. This swaying movement of the connecting brace cam is converted in the translation movement in height of the sliding plate, which is the component that compresses the springs when it is subjected to the exertion of the chains in the upwards direction. The movement of the sliding plate is made possible and conducted by two M20 rods, which operate with a translation joint and guarantee the lightness and uniformity of the movement.

**[0031]** The compression springs, in one of the proposed embodiments, present 410mm length, 73mm outer diameter and one compresses 1mm when 18,915 N are applied in the direction of the spring shaft.

**[0032]** The movement that originates the compression of the spring set is generated in the main shaft and transmitted to the spring set by means of a semi-flexible chain of mechanical elements (connecting brace welded to the shaft, chains, forks, connecting profile and M20 rods), particularly dimensioned and designed for this application. The resulting force of this compression maintains the flexible part in constant traction and allows balancing the moment of force in the main shaft.

#### *Manual drive system*

**[0033]** To manually drive the system, it is necessary to attach the handle on the horizontal shaft of the manual drive and apply a rotation movement, whereby this movement is transmitted by a conical set with a 2:1 transmission ratio for the respective vertical shaft. The wheel 2 is fixed to the main shaft of the drive which transmits the movement of the manual drive to a reel which is fixed to the auxiliary motor shaft. By transmitting the movement to the auxiliary shaft, we have the main transmission of the mechanism in operation. This transmission corresponds to a direct contact movement by a gear joint.

#### *Position detection system of the boom*

**[0034]** For the position detection of the boom, the movement of the main shaft is used to mechanically validate the position of the boom. The connecting braces are eccentric fixed components having a thickness that is capable of mechanically driving the microswitches. The movement that is made by these eccentric components is an alternating curvilinear shuttle movement. It is an upper contact, since the contact is made by means of a line that corresponds to the intersection of the microswitch rolling head and the outer perimeter of the connecting brace.

#### *Automatic mechanism movement sequence*

**[0035]** In the automatic driving of the mechanism, the movement is originated after receiving an electric command from the control system, this command initiates the succession of movements described sequentially:

I. The movement of the mechanism is produced by the DC motor (1028), which transmits the rotation movement to the auxiliary shaft of the motor (10284), by means of a flexible coupling (10282). Fixed to the auxiliary shaft of the motor (10284) is the worm screw (10282) and on the upper part of this shaft is the reel (10285) which makes the interconnection of the manual drive with the main transmission system. All these components (10282, 10283, 10284 and 10285) have their rotation speed and torque commanded by the motor;

II. After the movement is produced by the motor (1028), there is the first step of the mechanical transmission, by means of a reduction with a 40:1 ratio to the crown wheel (10216) installed in the shaft 1 (10214). In order to enable the maximum admissible binary calibration in the system a binary limiter is installed (10217) and to continue the reduction in speed and the progressive increase of the available torque, the wheel 2 is used (10215), part of the set of gearings responsible for the second step of the mechanical power transmission;

III. After the second transmission step, the rotary movement remains available in the shaft 2 (10212), where the wheel 3 (10211) receives the movement of wheel 2 (10215) and by means of the shaft 2 (10212) that transmits the rotary movement to the wheel 4 (10213);

IV. The wheel 4 (10213) transmits the rotation of the shaft 2 (10212) to the main shaft (1020) which, due to the geometry of the gearwheel 5 (1021), will not have a rotation movement - since none of the points of the main shaft describe a circular trajectory around the rotation axis - in this case the movement of the main shaft (and consequently of the boom) must be characterized as being a swaying movement, since it is limited within a certain amplitude (approximately 0° - 90°, and not the usual 360° that characterizes the rotation movement). In the main shaft (1020) there are welded four connecting braces (10201) which are responsible for interconnecting the exertion of the boom on the main shaft to the equalizer system (104), comprised of the spring set (1025);

V. The main shaft (1020) is one of the components with most mechanical demand, since there is the combination of the last step of the reduction (where there is the highest binary of the transmission system), the exertion of the boom and the effect of the counterweight by the spring set. Due to the geometry of the connection braces (10201) there is a conversion of the swaying movement of the boom to the translation movement in height (YY' axis) by means of a mixed mechanical interconnection which includes a flexible intermediary chain connection (1024) and a rigid connection with M20 steel rods (10252). The interface between these two types of connection is made by two components: the fork connection profile (10253) and the reinforcement stain-

less steel plate (10242).

VI. The M20 rod (10252) together with the chains (1024) raises the sliding plate (10251), which presses the compression spring set (1025) when the boom (101) makes the downward movement (90° / vertical position → 0° / horizontal position). When the boom makes the upwards movement (0° / horizontal position → 90° / vertical position) the spring set (1025) must return to the L0 length (the length of the springs when they are not under the effect of any force).

#### *Manual mechanism movement sequence*

**[0036]** To manually drive the mechanism, it is necessary to follow the established procedure and carry out the gear manoeuvre, which comprises the following steps:

- Electrically turning off the mechanism (to avoid electric command during manual use by the user);
- Unblocking the passage of the handle for the manual drive;
- Engaging the manual drive system to the main transmission system, so that it is possible to transmit the movement to the boom;

**[0037]** Subsequently to the gear manoeuvre, the handle is installed in the horizontal shaft of the manual drive, and by means of the application of a rotation in the horizontal shaft it is possible to operate the mechanism. In the manual drive of the mechanism, the movement is originated by the user (maintenance technician of the railway network). The engagement point is made by means of a direct transmission using cylindrical gears with straight teeth.

**[0038]** The rotation movement is transmitted from the reel (10285) to the auxiliary shaft of the motor (10284). The components (10282, 10283, 10284 and 10285) have a rotation speed and torque commanded by the user. From the worm screw (10283), the sequence of movements remains the same as that of the automatic drive.

**[0039]** The present description is not, naturally, in any way restricted to the embodiments presented in this document and a person skilled in the art can foresee many possibilities of altering the same without moving away from the general idea, such as defined in the claims. The preferred embodiments described above are obviously changeable among themselves. The following claims additionally define preferred embodiments.

#### **Claims**

1. Boom (101) comprising
  - at least one outer profile (1011) comprising
  - a lower support rail (10111), and

at least one socket cavity (10112), and

at least one inner profile (1012) comprising

a lower projection socket (10121), and  
at least one socket rectangle (10122),

wherein the at least one outer profile (1011) and the at least one inner profile (1012) are coupled by means of the mechanical union between the at least one socket cavity (10112) and the at least one socket rectangle (10122), and between the lower support rail (10111) and the lower projection socket (10121).

2. Boom (101) according to the previous claim, wherein the outer profile (1011) comprises the installation of light signals and/or a metallic skirt (103).
3. Boom (101) according to previous claims 1 and 2, wherein the inner profile (1012) of the boom enables the junction of two modules of the outer profile (1011) and a length adjustment of said boom.

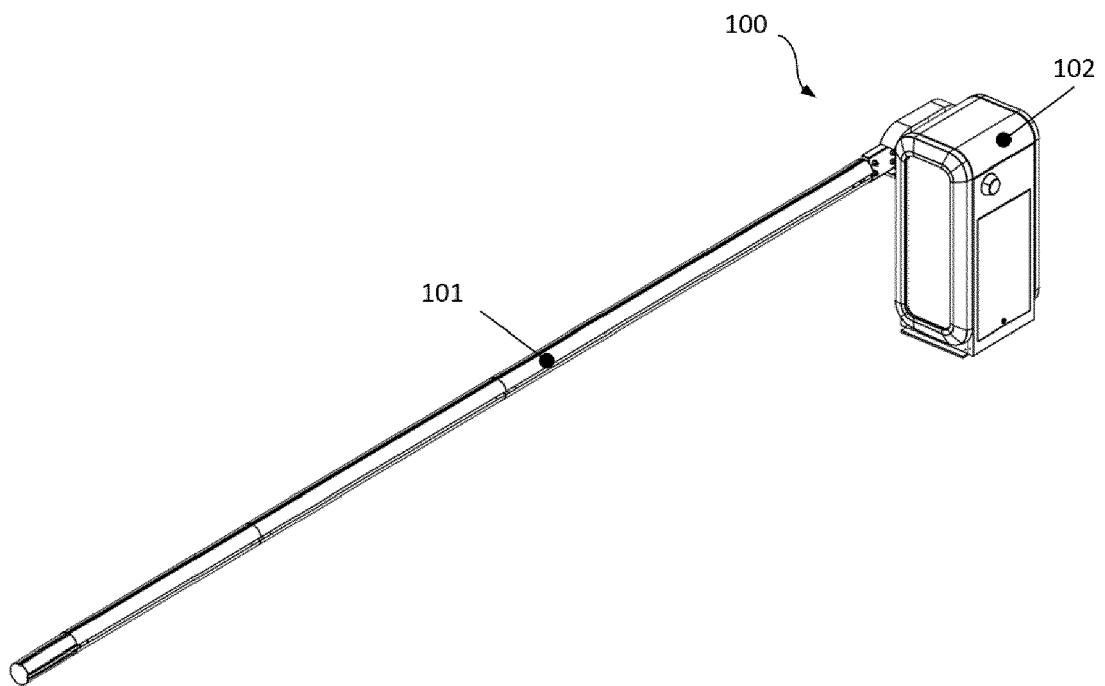


Fig. 1

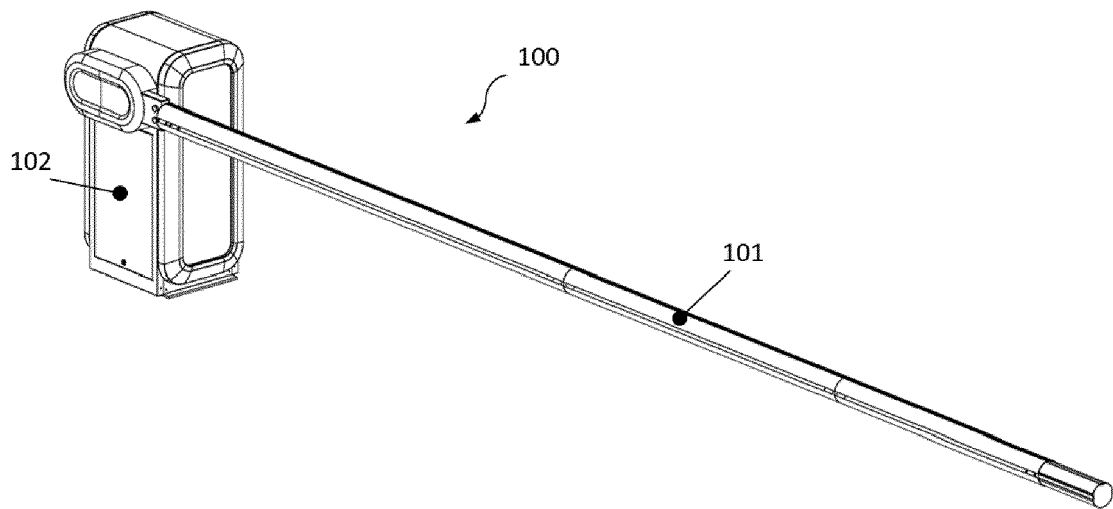


Fig. 2



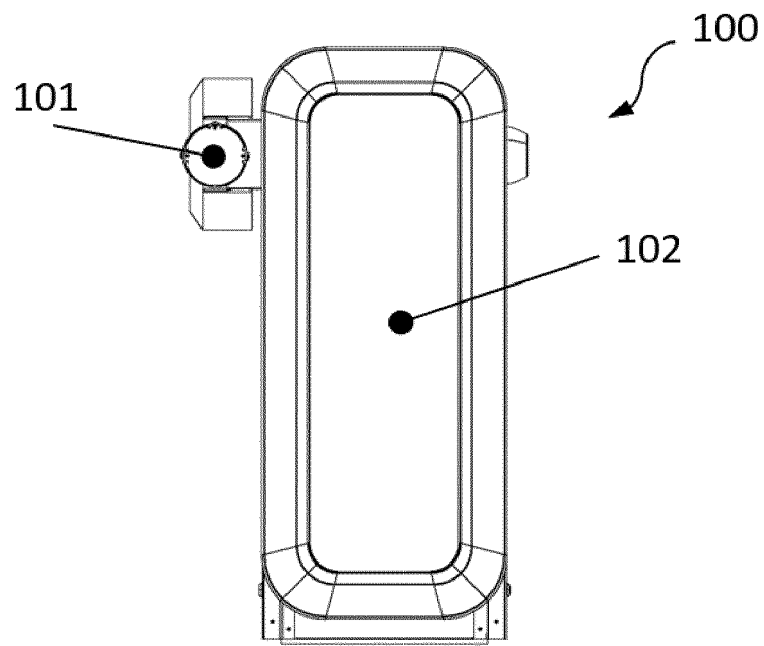


Fig. 3

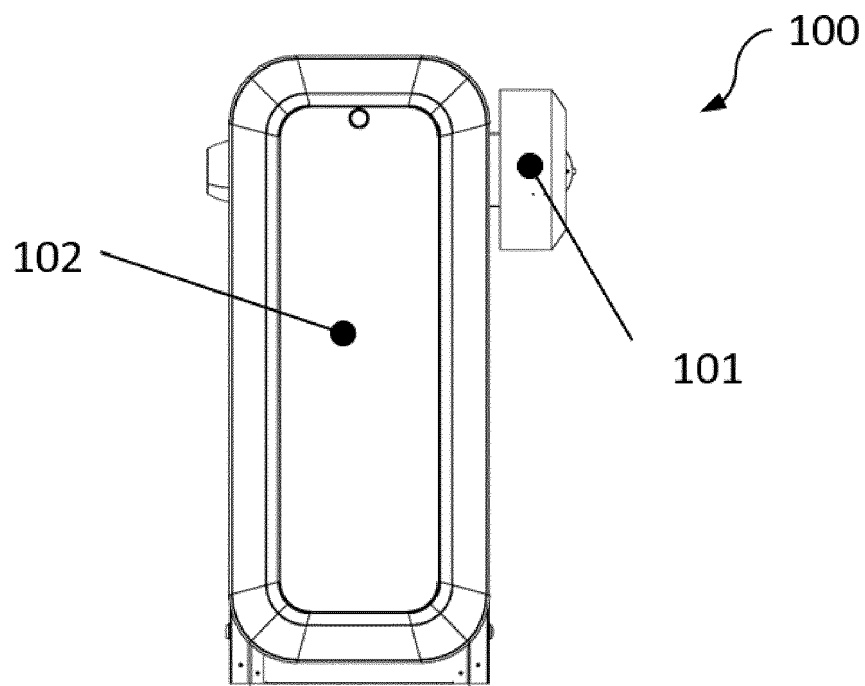


Fig. 4

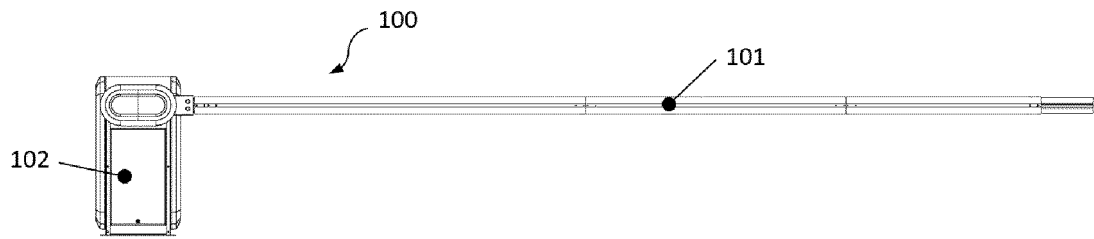


Fig. 5

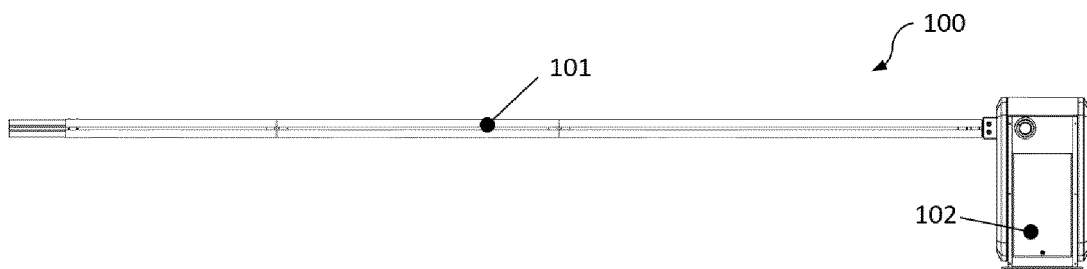


Fig. 6

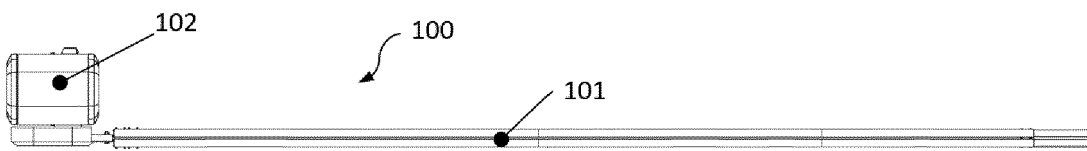


Fig. 7

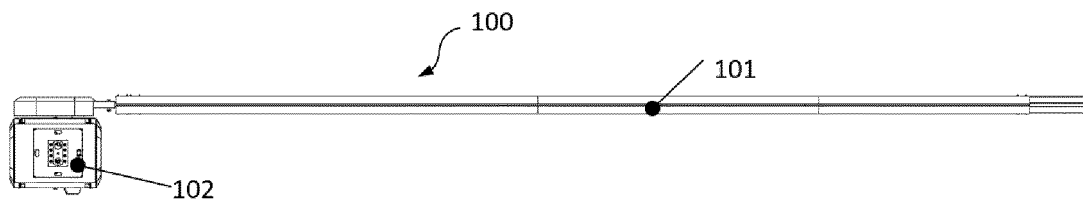


Fig. 8

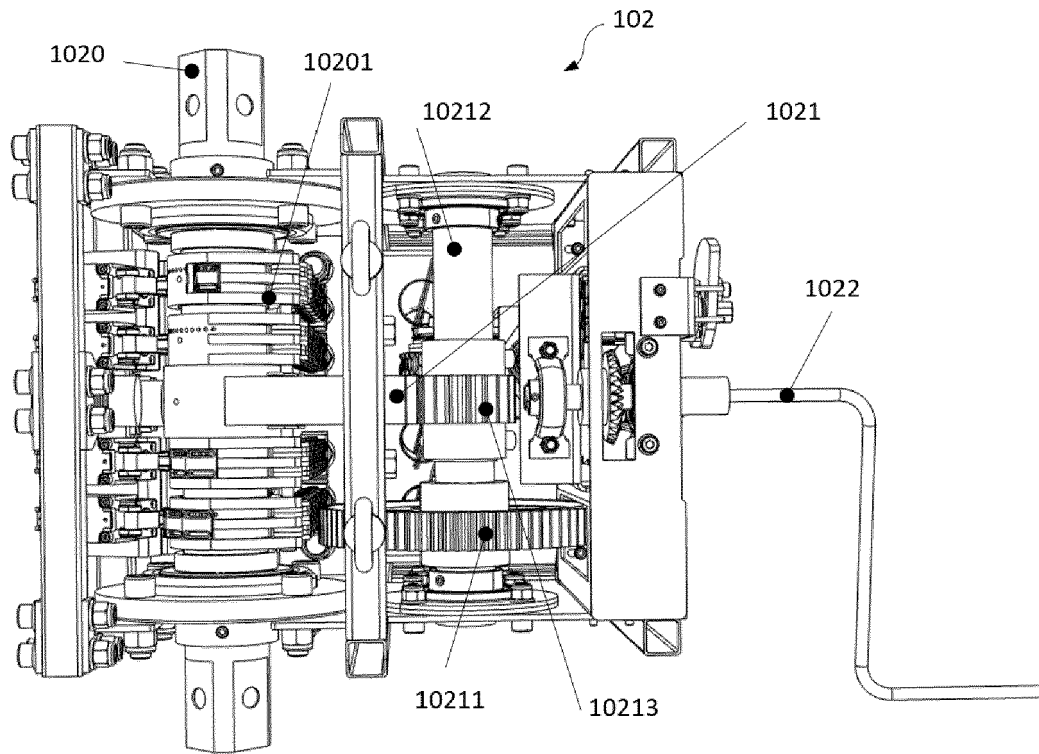


Fig. 9

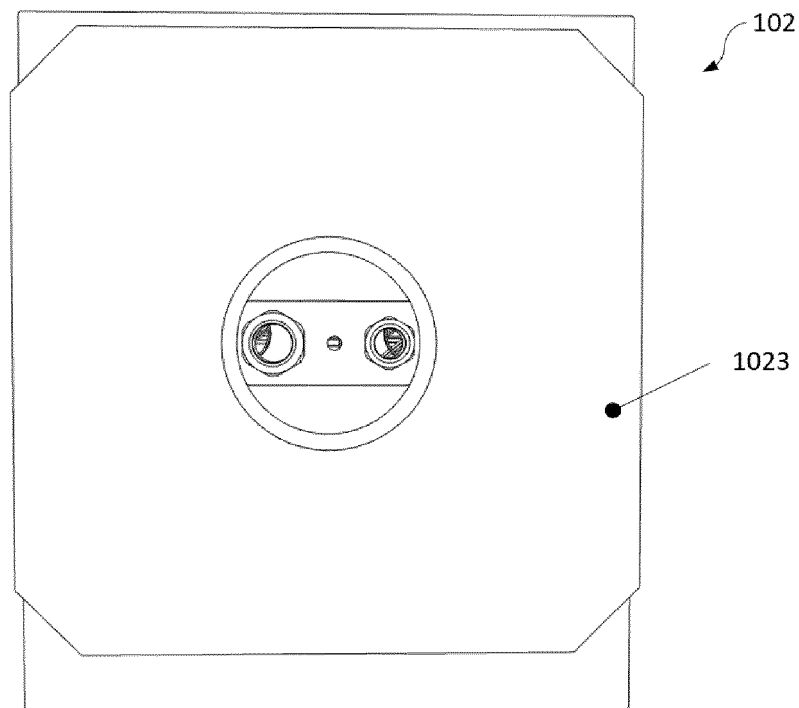


Fig. 10

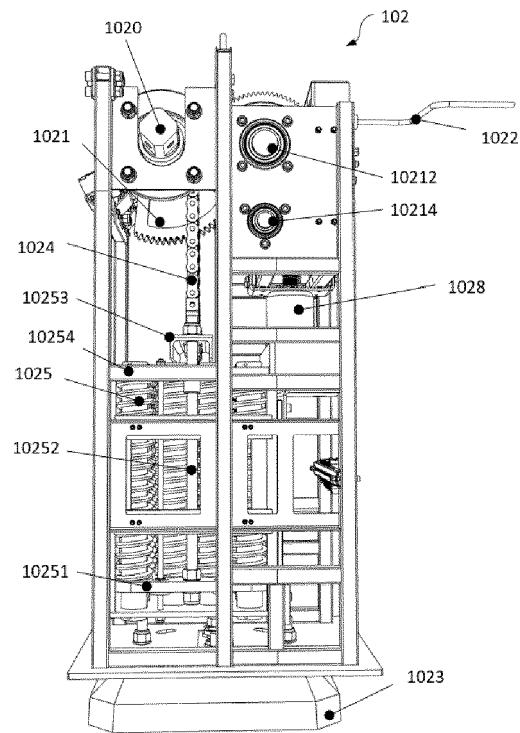


Fig. 11

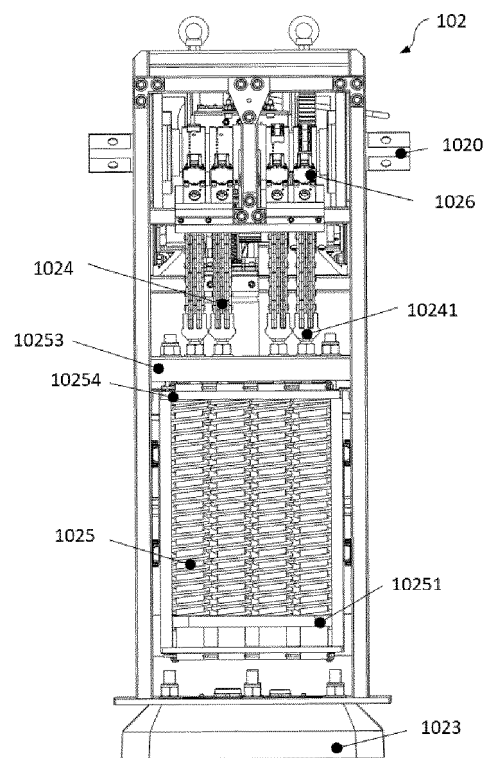


Fig. 12

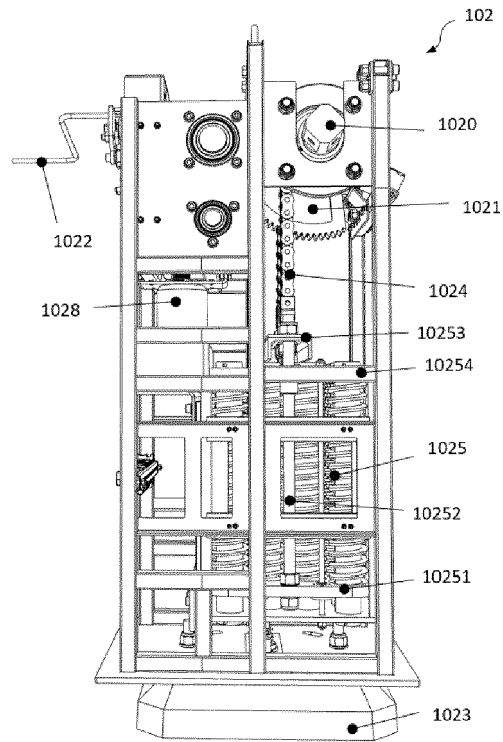


Fig. 13

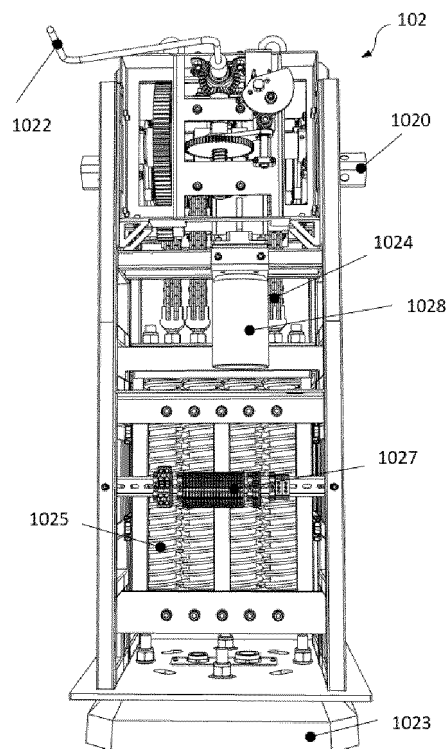


Fig. 14

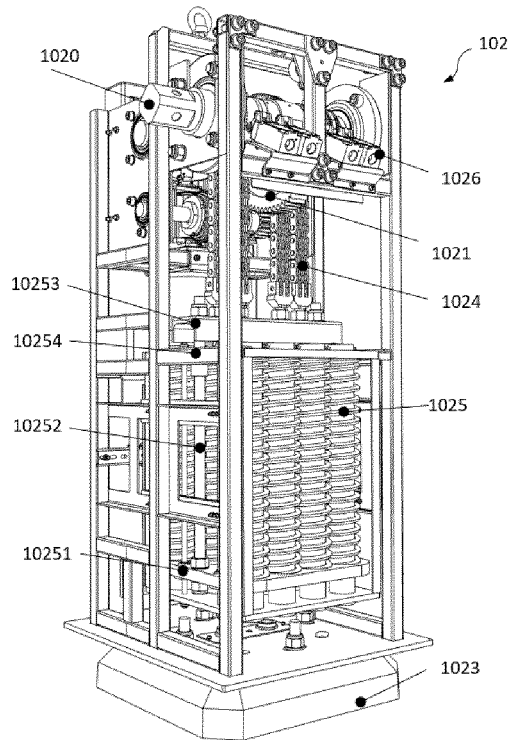


Fig. 15

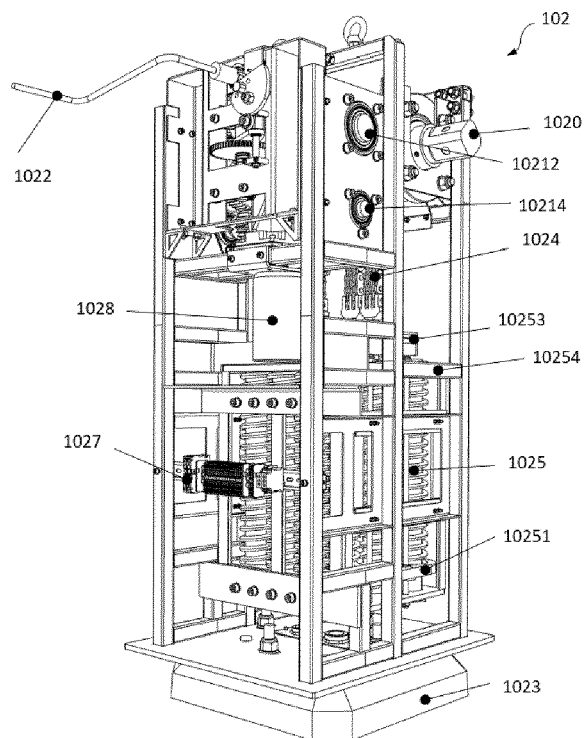


Fig. 16

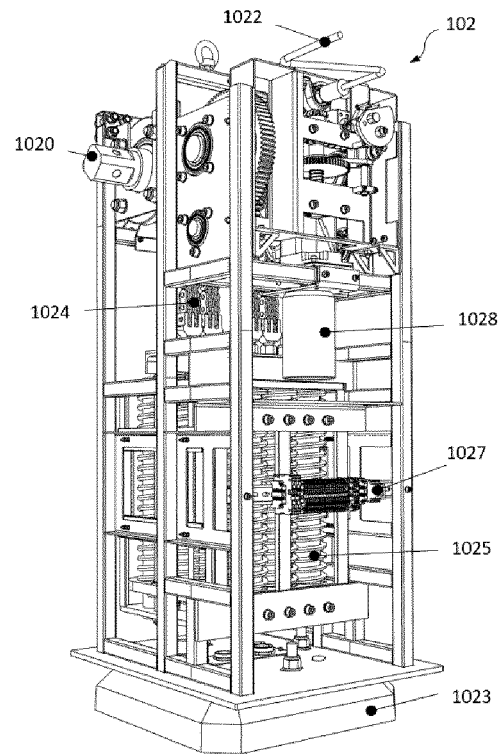


Fig. 17

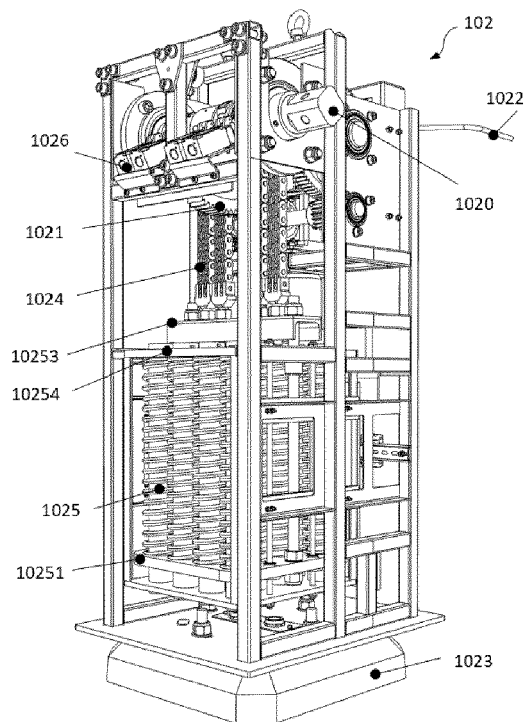


Fig. 18

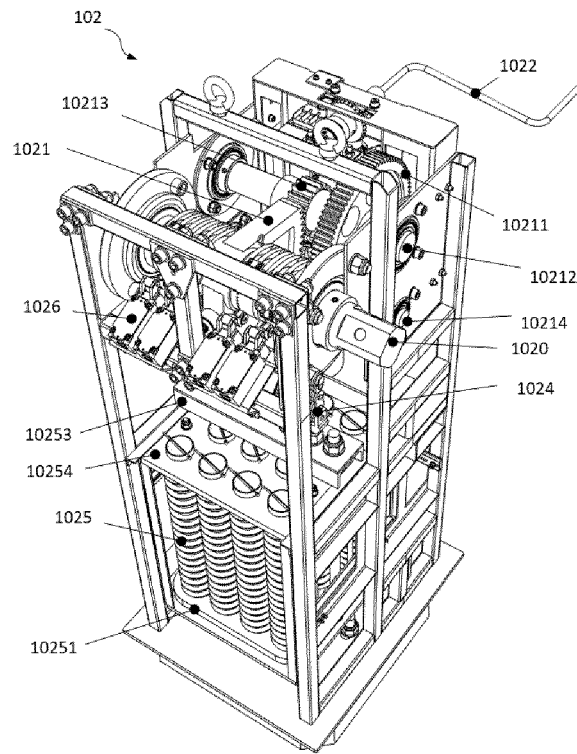


Fig. 19

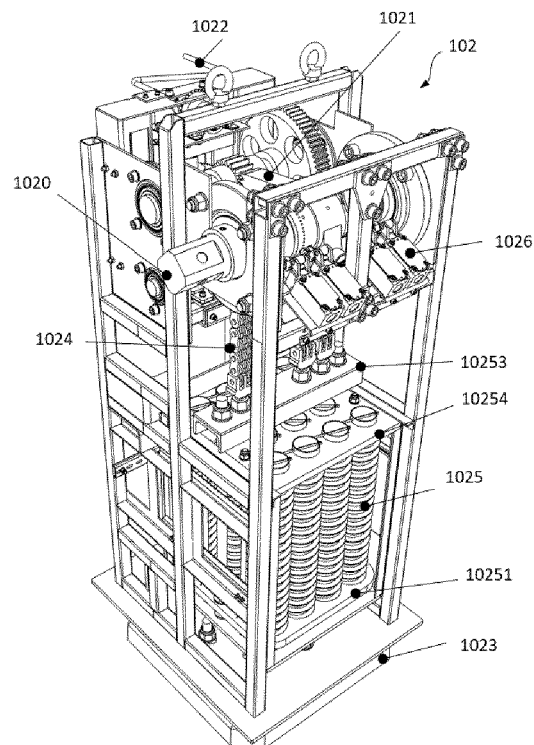


Fig. 20



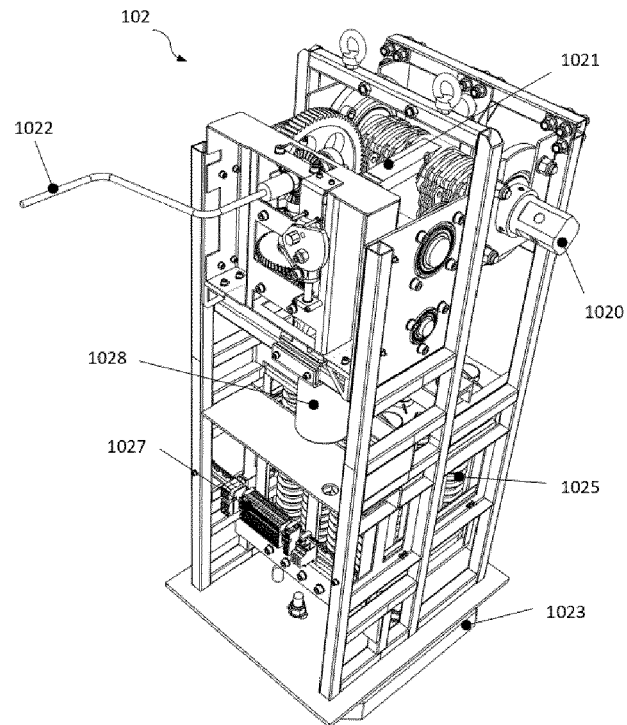


Fig. 21

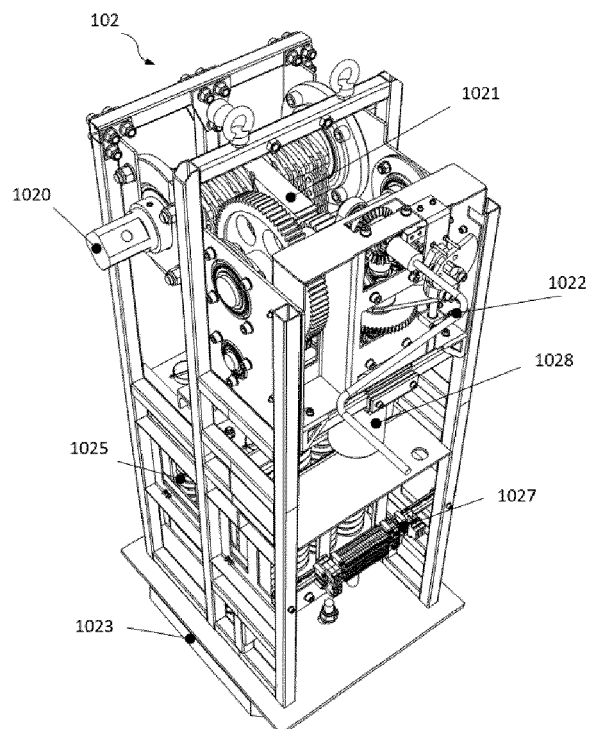


Fig. 22

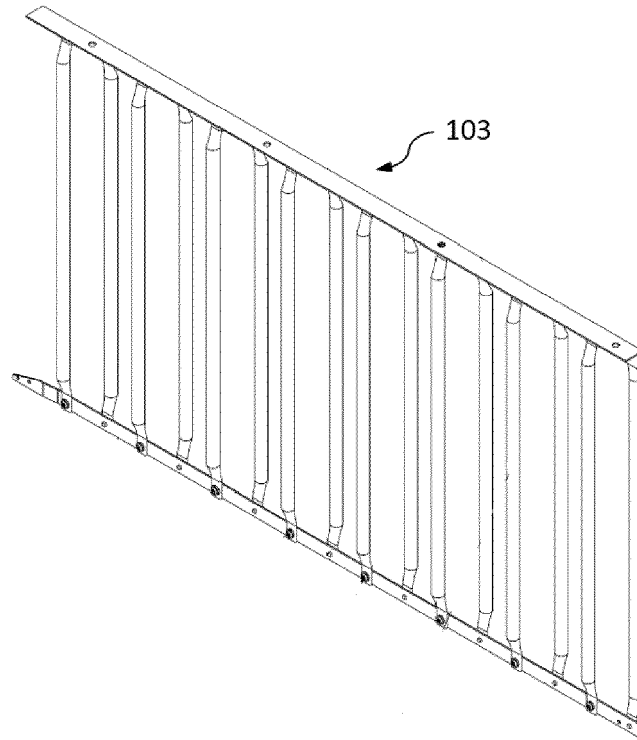


Fig. 23

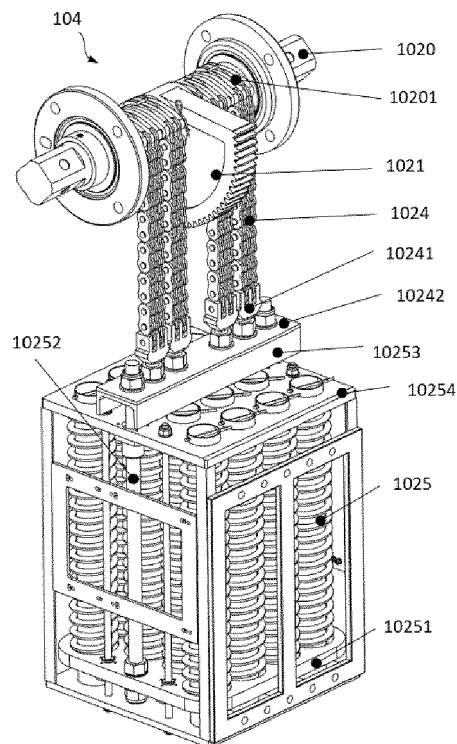


Fig. 24

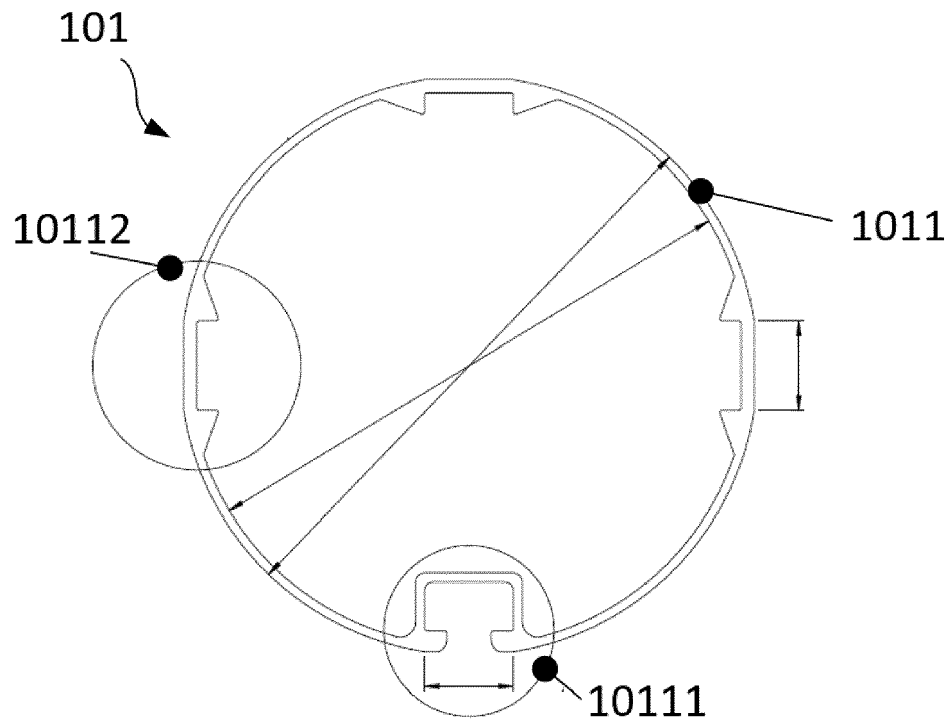


Fig. 25

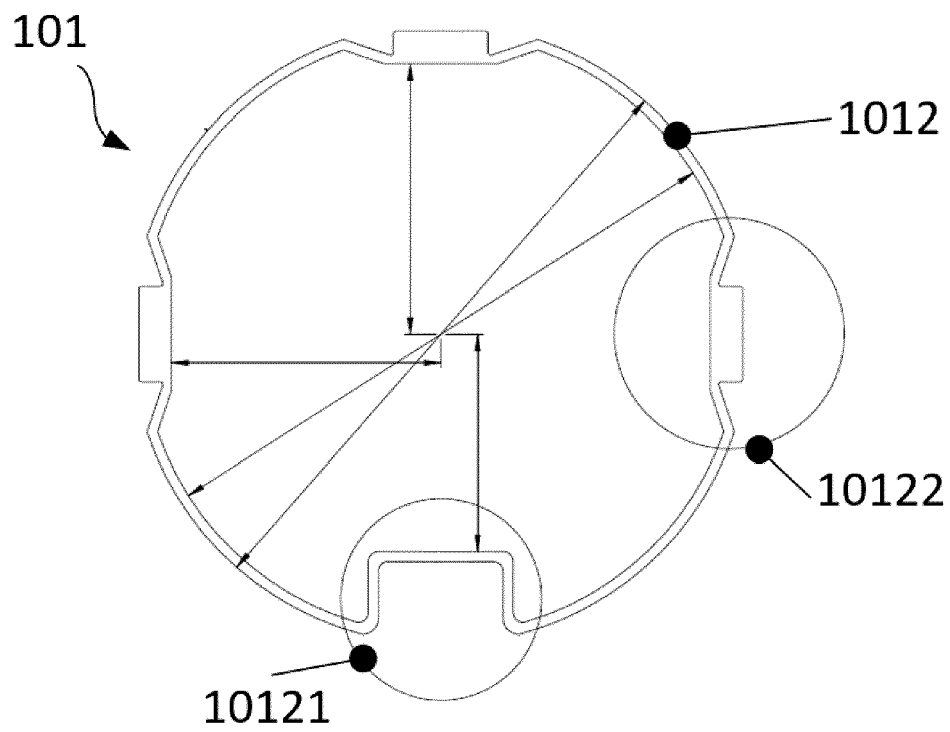


Fig. 26

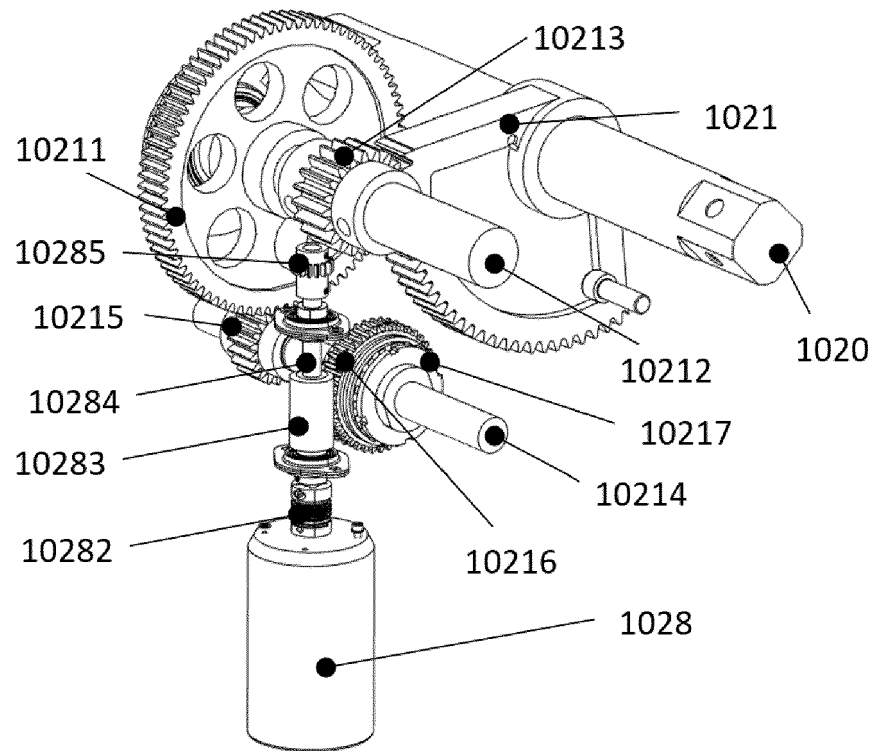


Fig. 27