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# (12) United States Patent Okuchi et al.

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### (54) SYSTEM FOR AUTOMATICALLY ADJUSTING OPTICAL AXIS DIRECTION OF VEHICLE HEADLIGHT

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(73) Assignee: **DENSO Corporation**, Kariya (JP)

(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35

U.S.C. 154(b) by 0 days.

(21) Appl. No.: 09/333,686

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Apr.	15, 1999	(JP)	
Apr.	15, 1999	(JP)	
Apr.	15, 1999	(JP)	
(51)	Int. Cl. <sup>7</sup>		G01B 13/18
(52)	U.S. Cl.		
` ′			362/465: 362/37: 362/276

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362/465, 466, 37, 276

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### (57) ABSTRACT

In a vehicle headlight optical axis automatic adjusting system, a pitch angle in the longitudinal direction of a vehicle is calculated from a signal of a height sensor. Filtering corresponding to a control mode according to the acceleration is fixed and is not frequently switched unless the constant speed state of the vehicle continues for a predetermined time. The pitch angle may be calculated on the basis of the vehicle rear height value by using a prediction expression which is divided into a plurality of regions of vehicle postures according to loading conditions of an occupant load and a trunk load in correspondence with the vehicle type. The pitch angle may be updated when the vehicle enters a constant speed driving mode, i.e., stable driving mode, so that even when one trip is not finished the error is cancelled.

#### 9 Claims, 18 Drawing Sheets

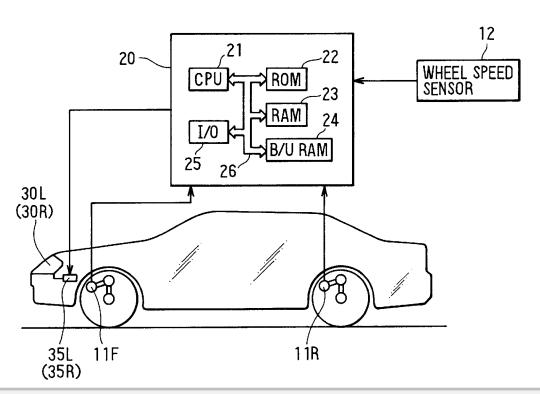
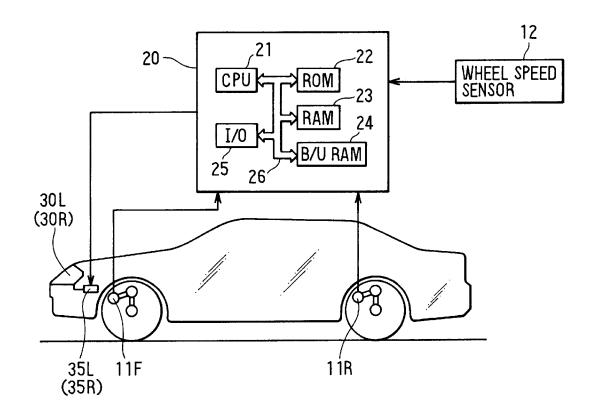




FIG.I



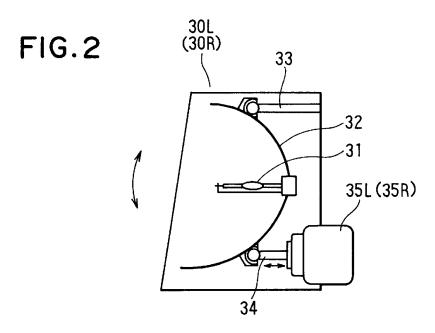


FIG. 3

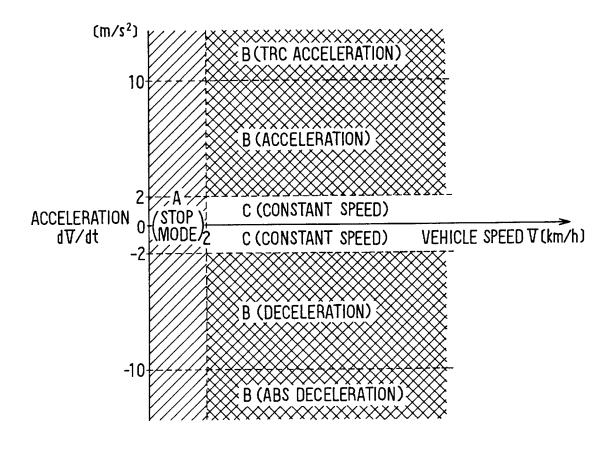




FIG.4

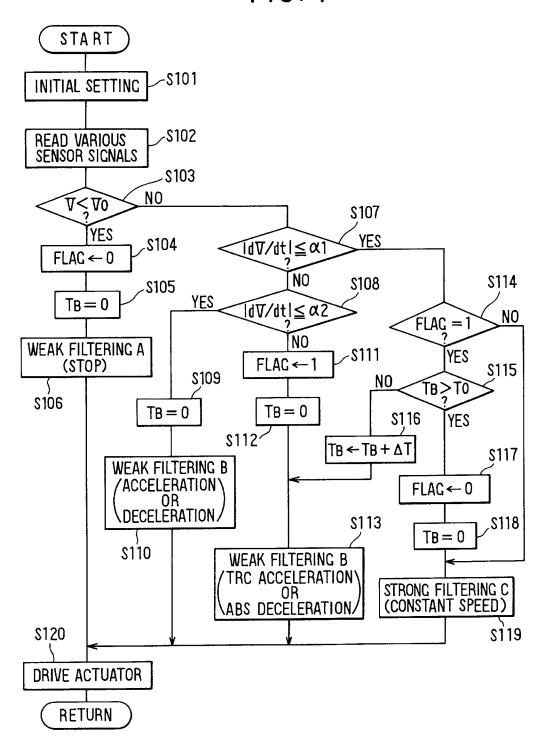


FIG. 5

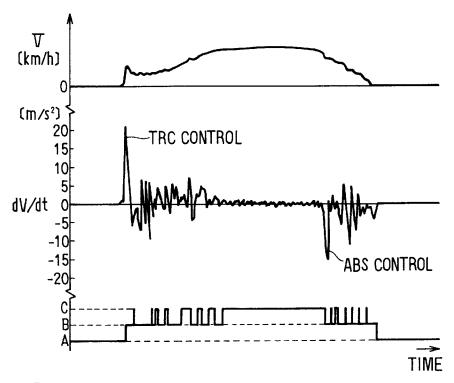
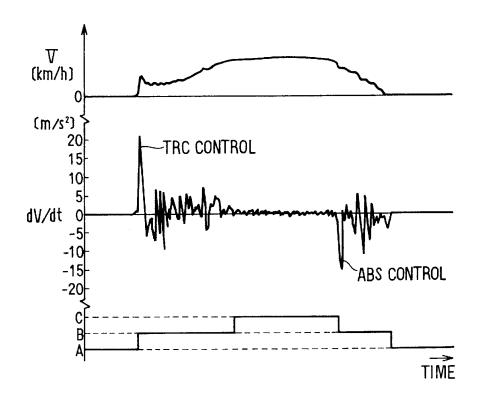


FIG. 6





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