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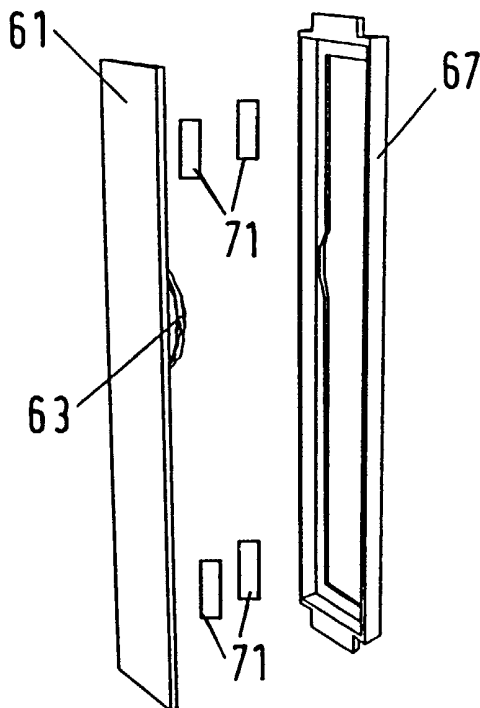
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(54) Title: PANEL LOUDSPEAKER



(57) Abstract: A panel loudspeaker comprising a panel (61) which supports resonant bending wave modes, a transducer (63) mounted on the panel (61) to excite resonant bending wave modes to produce an acoustic output, a panel support (67) and a panel suspension (71) for suspending the panel on the support (67), characterised in that the panel is elongate and the panel suspension (71) is located in the region of each short end of the panel to partially restrain the short ends so that the motion of a central region of the panel is significantly greater than the motion of the short ends. A television comprising a screen, a moulding surrounding the screen, and a panel loudspeaker as described above mounted in the moulding adjacent the screen.



WO 01/87003 A2

5                                    TITLE: PANEL LOUDSPEAKER

10                                   DESCRIPTION

15                                   TECHNICAL FIELD

The invention relates to a panel loudspeaker, in particular loudspeakers which produce an acoustic output using resonant bending wave modes and which are known, for 20 example from WO97/09842.

BACKGROUND ART

Loudspeakers such as those taught in WO97/09842 are generally known as distributed mode loudspeakers, and resonant bending wave modes associated with one axis of the 25 panel are interleaved with resonant bending wave modes associated with a normal axis so as to produce as even a spacing of resonant bending wave modes in frequency as possible. Such resonant bending wave loudspeaker have the beneficial effect of unusually wide directivity. WO97/09842 30 teaches preferred aspect ratios of 1:1.13 and 1:1.41 for an

isotropic panel that provide usefully interleaved frequency distributions of modal resonances.

Another panel loudspeaker is known from US 4,426,556 which describes a panel loudspeaker comprising a generally flat vibrating plate and first and second magnetic drives for driving the plate as an acoustic radiator. The vibrating plate is suspended in a support so that the plate moves freely when operating as an acoustic radiator.

#### DISCLOSURE OF INVENTION

10 According to the invention, there is provided a panel loudspeaker comprising a panel which supports resonant bending wave modes, a transducer mounted on the panel to excite resonant bending wave modes to produce an acoustic output, a panel support and a panel suspension for  
15 suspending the panel on the support, characterised in that the panel is elongate and the panel suspension is located in the region of each short end of the panel to partially restrain the short ends so that the motion of a central region of the panel is significantly greater than the  
20 motion of the short ends.

Since the panel is elongate, the panel has a short axis and a long axis. The fundamental frequency will be determined by the length and the bending stiffness along the long axis, which will give a low fundamental frequency  
25 for an elongate panel. Bending waves associated with the long axis occur along the length of the panel and involve bending about an axis across the width of the panel. At higher frequencies, the short axis will be effectively

modal and cross modes will appear. Cross modes are modes in which the panel bends across its width with the axis of bending along the length of the panel.

Although the resonant bending wave modes will be sparse in the region near the fundamental frequency, the density of modes will sufficiently increase at frequencies in which both axes are effectively modal. Preferably, the panel is for operation over a predetermined frequency range of interest in which modes associated with both axes are excited and thus there are resonant bending wave modes extending both along and across the panel over the whole of the predetermined frequency range. By exciting modes both along and across the panel much more even sound radiation can be obtained, i.e. a more even distribution of the modes over the frequency range may be obtained.

The invention provides an elongate loudspeaker with an effective broad frequency response extending from below 80 Hz up to 20K Hz at a level balanced for good sound quality. Suspending the panel so as to allow the central region of the panel to move significantly greater than the short ends appears critical to providing a good acoustic output. The central region may move twice, three times or four times the distance of the short ends. The short ends may be substantially stationary. The elongate panel of the present invention may thus achieve good acoustic results, without using the optimal ratios given in WO97/09842.

The panel may be provided with a longitudinal reinforcement member along its length on one or both sides

of the panel. The reinforcement member may extend across only part of the width of the panel. The reinforcement member may be provided on a central region of the area of the panel in the form of a strip across 3% to 40% of the width of the panel. For example, such reinforcement may be balancing skins of higher tensile stiffness.

The strip(s) are added to increase the bending stiffness along the long axis (i.e. about the short axis) although the strips will also increase the bending stiffness along the short axis (i.e. about the long axis) to a lesser extent. The increased stiffening may raise the fundamental frequency and may also create a much smoother acoustic transition at higher frequencies where the cross modes start to come into effect.

Depending on the width of the strip, the transducer may be mounted on the strip, bridge the edge of the strip or be placed outside the strip, on the rest of the panel. More than one transducer may be mounted on the panel. A first transducer may be mounted centrally on the strip and a second transducer may be mounted to bridge the edge of the strip. Different transducer coupling conditions in respect of mechanical impedance arise from these alternatives and the selection of a suitable alternative may used to balance and/or control the spectral power of the panel operating as an acoustic radiator over the frequency range of interest.

The suspension may comprise U-shaped resilient mountings attached to each opposed end of the panel. Each

mounting may extend approximately up to 30% along the length of the panel from each end. Alternatively, each mounting may extend up to 10% of the distance down the panel from each short end. In an alternative embodiment, 5 the suspension may comprise four resilient mounting blocks with each mounting block attached to the panel in the region of a respective corner of the panel. In this way, each block acts as a pivot point about which the panel may move. The four suspension blocks approximate to the U- 10 shaped suspension.

The suspension may further comprise one or more tuning block which are each mounted to the panel to suppress a particular unwanted resonance in the panel. The tuning block(s) may be mounted on the panel between the 15 suspensions at each short end of the panel. The suspension and/or tuning block may be made from a resilient foam.

Where the panel is not attached to the support by the suspension, an air gap may be defined between each long edge and panel support so that the long edge moves in the 20 air gap when the panel loudspeaker is producing an acoustic output. The panel movement is contained within the air gap and the panel support functions as a baffle. Alternatively, the panel may be attached to the support by a highly compliant soft foam in the regions not attached by 25 the resilient suspension. The use of such a soft foam should not hinder the movement of the central region of the panel.

The panel may have an aspect ratio in the range of

about 1.7:1 to 10:1 and preferably in the range of 3:1 to 5:1. The aspect ratio is defined as the ratio of the length of the long side of the panel to the length of the short side. The transducer is preferably an inertial transducer 5 and may be a moving coil transducer. More than one transducer may be mounted to the panel and the transducers may be connected in parallel to drive the panel.

The support may be an open frame or an enclosure which encloses a rear face of the panel. The enclosure may 10 comprise a vent which may be centrally located in a rear face of the enclosure. The panel loudspeaker may be mounted in a baffle which may for example be arranged only along one side of the loudspeaker.

Damping and/or mass loading may also be used to 15 improve the acoustic output, e.g. by enhancing the modal distribution of the loudspeaker. The panel loudspeaker may further comprise at least one mass and/or damping pad mounted to the panel. The damping pad may be mounted at a transducer location. The transducer may be mounted to the 20 panel by a mounting coil, e.g. the coil of a moving coil transducer, and the damping pad may be located within the coil. The or each mass may be added to the panel at selected positions to enhance the acoustic output.

According to a second aspect of the invention, there 25 is provided a television comprising a screen, a moulding surrounding the screen, and at least one panel loudspeaker as described above mounted in the moulding adjacent the screen. The elongate shape of the loudspeaker may make it

particularly suitable for mounting in the moulding of a television. Furthermore, as outlined above the loudspeaker may provide the beneficial effect of unusually wide directivity of such resonant bending wave mode speakers, 5 and a broad frequency range of operation.

The panel loudspeaker may be mounted so that the plane of the panel is parallel or perpendicular to the plane of the screen. Three panel loudspeakers may be mounted in the moulding to provide left, right and centre channels for 10 audio reproduction.

#### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

For a better understanding of the invention, specific embodiments will now be described, purely by way of example with reference to the accompanying drawings in which:

15 Fig. 1 is a plan view of a panel loudspeaker according to a first aspect of the invention,

Fig. 2 is a plan view of a frame for supporting the panel loudspeaker of Fig 1,

20 Fig. 3 is a plan view of a panel loudspeaker according to a second aspect of the invention,

Fig. 4 is a plan view of an enclosure for housing the panel loudspeaker of Fig 3,

25 Fig. 5 shows the frequency response (output in dB against frequency in Hz) for the panel loudspeaker of Fig. 3 in the frame shown in Fig. 4,

Fig. 6 is a plan view of a panel loudspeaker according to a third aspect of the invention,

Fig. 7 is a plan view of a frame for supporting the



panel loudspeaker of Fig 7,

Fig. 8 shows the frequency response for the panel loudspeaker of Fig. 6 mounted in the enclosure shown in Fig. 7,

5 Fig. 9a and Fig 9b show schematic views of a panel loudspeaker module for insertion in a television moulding,

Fig. 10 shows a perspective rear view of a television with the panel loudspeaker module of Fig. 9a and 9b mounted therein as shown in a cut-away section,

10 Fig. 11 shows the frequency response for the panel loudspeaker module of Fig. 9a mounted as shown in Fig. 10,

Fig. 12 is a schematic plan view of an alternative panel loudspeaker module,

Fig. 13 is a schematic plan view of an alternative  
15 panel loudspeaker to that of Fig. 9a,

Fig. 14 is a schematic plan view of a panel loudspeaker according to a fourth aspect of the invention,

Fig. 15 shows the frequency response for the panel loudspeaker module of Fig. 14,

20 Fig. 16 shows a perspective side view of a television incorporating a panel loudspeaker according to the invention in a side wall of the television,

Fig. 17 shows a perspective side view of a television incorporating a panel loudspeaker according to the  
25 invention in a top wall of the television,

Figs 18a, 18b, 18c are three side views of the panel loudspeaker of Fig. 9a showing three positions of the panel when operating as an acoustic radiator,

Figs 19a, 19b, 19c are three perspective laser plots of the panel loudspeaker of Fig. 9a showing three positions of the panel when operating as an acoustic radiator and

Fig. 20 is a schematic cross-section across the short 5 axis of a panel loudspeaker according to the invention.

#### BEST MODES FOR CARRYING OUT THE INVENTION

In the various embodiments shown in the drawings, the teaching of WO97/09842 and WO00/78090 and other patent publications to the present applicant are employed to  
10 determine panel materials, types of transducers, and the location of transducer on panel. The panels used are all capable of supporting a plurality of resonant bending wave modes and the transducers are mounted on the panels to excite bending wave modes in the panels so that the panels  
15 act as acoustic radiators. The panels are for operation over a predetermined frequency range of interest and have resonant bending wave modes extending both along and across the panels over the whole of the predetermined frequency range.

20 The transducers are vibration transducers, e.g. inertial moving coil transducers. The transducer position is determined to ensure a good modal distribution over the entire bandwidth of interest as described in WO97/09842. Analysis of the modal distribution or alternatively a more  
25 empirical methodology, e.g. consideration of the frequency response may be used to determine the placement of the transducers.

Referring to Fig. 1, there is shown a panel

loudspeaker comprising a panel 1 and two transducers 3,5 mounted on the panel 1 to excite bending wave modes in the panel 1. The panel 1 is of rectangular form with a length of 345mm and a width of 92mm and thus has an aspect ratio of 3.75:1. The panel is approximately 3.5mm thick and comprises a high stiffness foamed plastic core, e.g. Rohacell, sandwiched between two glass veil reinforced plastics skins.

The first transducer 3 is located 225mm from a first short end 19 (or top) of the panel and 46mm from an adjacent long side 20, i.e. along the long axis of the panel 1. The second transducer 5 is mounted 104mm from said first end 19 and 35mm from said long side 20.

The panel 1 has carbon reinforcement strips 7 mounted on each side of the panel. The reinforcement strips 7 extend along the length of the long axis of the panel and are centrally mounted with respect to the long sides of the panel. The width of each strip is approximately equal to the diameter of the first transducer 3 (i.e. approximately 19mm) and the thickness is negligible. The first transducer 3 is located centrally on the long axis of the strip 7. The centre of the second transducer 5 coincides with an edge of a strip 7 and hence the second transducer 5 bridges the edge of a strip 7. Both transducers are coupled to the strip. By bridging the edge of the strip, the second transducer is coupled to stiffest part of the reinforced panel and thus better results at high frequency are achievable.

Two brass masses 21, 23 in the form of discs are mounted to the panel 1. A first mass 21 of 7.2g is mounted at a position 235mm from the first short end 19 (or top) of the panel and 35mm from an adjacent long side 20. A second mass of 2.3g is mounted a position 71mm from the first short end 19 of the panel along the long axis of the panel 1. A damping pad 25, e.g. of resilient damping material, is mounted on the panel 1 at the location of the second transducer 5. The damping pad is located within the locus 10 of the coil of the transducer, i.e. within the coupling circle of the transducer coil to the panel.

Figure 2 shows an open frame 27 on which the panel 1 of Figure 1 is mounted. The frame 27 dimensions correspond to those of the panel 1. The panel 1 is mounted to the 15 extremities or short ends of the frame using a resilient polymer foam suspension 29 which is U-shaped. The suspension 29 restrains motion at the ends of the panel so that motion at the centre of the panel is significantly greater than that at the ends. Thus the suspension is 20 generally clamp-like but does allow some motion of the ends of the panel. The foam suspension 29 is 5mm deep by 5mm wide and extends 100mm from each short end of the frame. Hence the suspension extends approximately 30% along the length of the panel from each end.

25 Referring to Fig. 3, there is shown a panel loudspeaker comprising a panel 31 capable of supporting a plurality of resonant bending wave modes and two transducers 33,35 mounted on the panel 31 to excite bending

wave modes in the panel 31. The panel 31 is of rectangular form with a length of 495mm and a width of 100mm and thus has an aspect ratio of 4.95:1. The panel is made of 3.5mm Rohacell core compressed to a thickness of 2mm. The core is sandwiched between two glass veil reinforced plastics skins. The first and second transducers 33, 35 are respectively located 326mm and 145 mm from a short end 19 of the panel and 60mm and 40mm from an adjacent long side 20. The transducers are wired in parallel.

Two masses 41, 43 are mounted to the panel 1. A first mass 21 of 5g is mounted at a position 285mm from the short end 19 and 75mm from the adjacent long side 20. A second mass of 3g is mounted a position 145mm from the first short end 19 and 40mm from the adjacent long side 20. The masses are added at selected positions to enhance the modal distribution of the loudspeaker. The positions are selected by analysis or more empirical methods, in a similar manner to the transducer positions.

The panel 31 of Figure 3 is mounted in an enclosure 45 shown in Figure 4. The enclosure 45 is formed from an acoustically inert material, e.g. plastics, and has a vent 47 which is 25mm by 320mm. The vent 47 is located centrally of the enclosure 45. A vented enclosure is resonated at a single low frequency to adjust the frequency response, while such a structure behaves as enclosed at high frequency. The panel 1 is mounted to the enclosure by a U-shaped foam suspension 29 similar to that described for Figure 2 whereby the rear face of the panel is

substantially enclosed.

Fig. 5 shows the frequency response for the panel loudspeaker of Fig. 3 when mounted in the enclosure of Fig. 4, in other words in a substantially closed back 5 arrangement. The upper and lower responses 11, 13 represent the responses (measured at 0.5m away on axis) for the panel with and without a side baffle, respectively. As can be seen, there are good results in a broad frequency range from 100Hz to 20kHz and a beneficial acoustic 10 response is provided over the whole of this very broad frequency range.

Referring to Fig. 6, there is shown a panel loudspeaker which is generally similar to that of Figure 3 and thus reference numbers in common have been used. As in 15 Fig. 3, the loudspeaker of Fig. 6 comprises a panel 1 and two transducers 3,5 mounted on the panel. Both Fig. 3 and Fig. 6 embodiments have the same dimensioned panels and the same locations of the two transducers.

There is no panel reinforcing strip on the embodiment 20 of Fig. 6 and only one mass 51 of 2.2g is mounted to the panel 1. The mass is mounted at a position 240mm from a panel short end 19 and 22mm from the adjacent long side 20. A damping pad 53 which comprises a washer of 0.2g is mounted on the panel 1 at the location of the second 25 transducer 5. By combining the washer with the damping pad, a mass loaded damping pad is formed. The damping pad is made of any suitable damping material, e.g. foam and the washer is made of any non-magnetic metal, e.g. brass. The

coil of the transducer surrounds the damping pad.

Figure 7 shows an open extruded plastics frame 57 on which the panel 1 of Figure 6 is mounted. The frame 57 dimensions correspond to those of the panel 1. The panel 1 is mounted to the extremities or short ends of the frame using a resilient foam suspension 29 which is U-shaped. The foam suspension 29 is 5mm deep by 5mm wide and extends 100mm from each short end of the frame. The frame 57 is formed with a structural bar 56 to which an additional panel suspension mounting block 55 is adhered. The mounting block 55 is of resilient foam and may be considered a tuning block since its purpose is to stabilise or restrain a selected resonance in the panel. The block has a length of 30mm and is located approximately 250mm from a short edge of the frame 57.

Fig. 8 shows the frequency response for the panel loudspeaker of Fig. 6 when mounted in the frame of Fig. 7, in other words in an open back arrangement. The upper and lower responses 15, 17 represent the responses for the panel with and without a side baffle, respectively. There are good results in a broad frequency range from 100Hz to 20kHz and a beneficial acoustic response is provided over the whole of this very broad frequency range.

Fig. 9a and Fig. 9b shows a small panel loudspeaker module for use in a television. The module comprises a panel 61 to which is attached a transducer 63. The panel 61 is suspended on a frame 67 via four intermediary suspension mounts 71 of resilient foam. The suspension

mounts 71 are designed to partially restrain the short ends of the panel so that the short ends of the panel move significantly less than the centre of the panel. By locating the four mounts towards the short ends of the 5 panels, a simple approximation to the U-shaped suspension of Figs 4 and 7 is obtained. The frame 67 is open and surrounds the suspension mounts 71. The panel module has dimensions of 213mm by 75mm. The panel 61 is 200mm by 40mm and hence has an aspect ratio of 5:1. The panel is 2mm 10 thick and is a Rohacell core sandwiched between two glass veil reinforced plastics skins. The frame 67 is of aluminium.

Fig. 10 shows the module of Figs 9a and 9b mounted in the front moulding 73 of a television 75. Two modules are 15 mounted in the front moulding, one either side of the television screen (not shown) to provide stereo channels. The panel is mounted so the plane of the panel is parallel to the plane of the screen.

Fig. 11 shows two frequency responses measured 1m from 20 the centre of the screen, the lower response 77 represents the measurements when only a left panel module similar to that of Figs 9a and 9b is connected to an audio input. The upper response 79 shows the measurements when both left and right panel modules are connected. The measurements are 25 taken at 1m from the television screen. As is to be expected, the output is greater when both modules are in use.

A small centre channel may also be added by mounting a



small panel module of the kind shown in Figs 9a and 9b in the moulding of the television above the television screen as shown in Fig. 12. The plane of the panel is parallel to that of the screen. The arrangement of the centre module  
5 corresponds to that of the larger stereo channels except that the panel 93 is only 120mm by 40mm by 2mm and thus the module has an overall dimension of 133mm by 53mm.

An alternative left or right channel module is shown in Fig. 13. The module corresponds to that of Fig. 9a  
10 except that a mass 95 of 0.5g has been mounted to the panel at a location 15mm from a long edge and 75mm from a short edge. The mass 95 is added to improve the modal distribution of the panel loudspeaker in the frequency range of interest.

15 As an alternative to the small panel module of Figs 9a and 9b, a large panel module having dimensions of 350mm by 95mm and hence an aspect ratio of 3.7:1 may be used in the front moulding of a television. The large panel module is shown in Fig. 14 and is generally similar to that of Figs  
20 9a and 9b. The large panel module comprises a panel 81, supported on a frame 83 by U-shaped resilient foam supports 87. Two transducers 89 are mounted on the panel 81 to provide additional power output.

Fig. 15 shows two frequency responses, the lower  
25 response 93 represents the measurements when only a left panel module similar to that of Fig. 14 is connected to an audio input. The upper response 91 shows the measurements when both left and right panel modules are connected. The

measurements are taken at 1m from the television screen.

As an alternative to the mounting arrangement of Fig. 10, large panel loudspeakers may be mounted in the television moulding 101 with the plane of the panel perpendicular to the plane of the television screen as shown in Figs. 16 and 17. In both mounting arrangements the moulding 101 is provided with a recess 103 in which a panel loudspeaker module, such as one shown in Figs 9a and 9b, is mounted. The recess 103 is provided with strengthening ribs 105 to maintain the structural integrity of the recess and an additional cavity 107 for a grille which covers the loudspeaker. In Fig. 16, the speaker is to be mounted in the side of the front moulding 101 to provide a right channel for stereo reproduction. In Fig. 17, the speaker 109 is to be mounted in a recess 111 in the top of the front moulding to provide a centre channel.

As detailed above the panels of each embodiment have aspect ratios in the range of 3:1 (fig. 12) to 5:1 (fig 13) and thus may be considered to be elongate or high aspect ratio panels. Although the general teaching of WO97/09842 and others is applied to determine transducer and/or mass/damping locations and panel materials, the high aspect ratios are not considered or taught in such applications. Accordingly, the general teaching of such applications which is to ensure good modal distribution is adapted to apply to such high aspect ratios and in particular, the termination conditions of each panel appear critical to acoustic performance.

Figs 18a, 18b, 18c and 19a, 19b and 19c show the movement of the panel 61 of the embodiment of Fig 9a at three snapshots in time. Figs 18b and 19b show the rest position of the panel 61. Figs 18a and 19a show the maximum upper displacement of the panel 61 and Figs 18c and 19c the maximum lower displacement of the panel 61. The central region 62 of the panel has a displacement which is far greater than the short edges 19 of the panel 61. The short edges 19 of the panel are relatively stationary whereas there is substantial movement of the central region. Figs. 18a, 18b and 18c also show the position and direction of the pivot point for each of the four suspension mounts 71.

Fig. 20 shows the movement of the central region of a panel 121 relative to a portion of a panel support 123 which may be a frame or an enclosure adjacent a baffle 124.

The rest or median position of the panel 121 is indicated in solid lines and the positions of upper and lower displacement are indicated in dashed lines. The long edge of the panel is adjacent the support and defines a small air gap 125 between the panel and the support 123. The panel is free to move relative to the panel support in the air gap, but the panel edge is effectively baffled by the support and baffle combination.

CLAIMS

1. A panel loudspeaker comprising a panel which supports resonant bending wave modes, a transducer mounted on the panel to excite resonant bending wave modes to produce an  
5 acoustic output, a panel support and a panel suspension for suspending the panel on the support, characterised in that the panel is elongate and the panel suspension is located in the region of each short end of the panel to partially restrain the short ends so that the motion of a central  
10 region of the panel is significantly greater than the motion of the short ends.
2. A panel loudspeaker according to claim 1, wherein the panel is provided with a longitudinal reinforcement member along its length.
- 15 3. A panel loudspeaker according to claim 2, wherein the reinforcement member is provided on both sides of the panel.
4. A panel loudspeaker according to claim 2 or claim 3, wherein the reinforcement member extends across only part  
20 of the width of the panel.
5. A panel loudspeaker according to any one of claims 2 to 4, wherein the reinforcement member is provided on a central region of the area of the panel in the form of a strip across 3% to 40% of the width of the panel.
- 25 6. A panel loudspeaker according to any one of claims 2 to 5, wherein the transducer is mounted so as to bridge an edge of the reinforcement member.
7. A panel loudspeaker according to any one of the

preceding claims, wherein the suspension comprises U-shaped resilient mountings attached to each opposed short end of the panel.

8. A panel loudspeaker according to claim 7, wherein each 5 mounting extends approximately 30% along the length of the panel from each short end.

9. A panel loudspeaker according to claim 7 or claim 8, wherein the suspension further comprises a tuning block which is mounted to the panel to suppress a selected 10 unwanted resonance in the panel.

10. A panel loudspeaker according to claim 9, wherein the tuning block is mounted on the panel between the suspensions at each short end of the panel.

11. A panel loudspeaker according to any one of claims 1 15 to 6, wherein the suspension comprises four resilient mounting blocks with each mounting block attached to the panel in the region of a respective corner of the panel.

12. A panel loudspeaker according to any preceding claim, wherein an air gap is defined between each long edge and 20 panel support in regions of the panel which are not attached to the suspension so that the long edge moves in the air gap when the panel loudspeaker is producing an acoustic output.

13. A panel loudspeaker according to any preceding claim, 25 wherein the panel has an aspect ratio in the range of 3:1 to 5:1.

14. A panel loudspeaker according to any preceding claim, wherein the support is an open frame.

15. A panel loudspeaker according to any one of claims 1 to 13, wherein the support is an enclosure which encloses a rear face of the panel.

16. A panel loudspeaker according to claim 15, wherein the enclosure comprises a vent.

17. A panel loudspeaker according to any preceding claim, wherein a mass is added to the panel at a selected position to enhance the acoustic output of the loudspeaker.

18. A panel loudspeaker according to any preceding claim, wherein the transducer is an inertial transducer.

19. A panel loudspeaker according to any preceding claim, wherein two transducers are mounted to the panel to drive the panel.

20. A panel loudspeaker according to any preceding claim, wherein a damping pad is mounted to the panel at a location of the or each transducer.

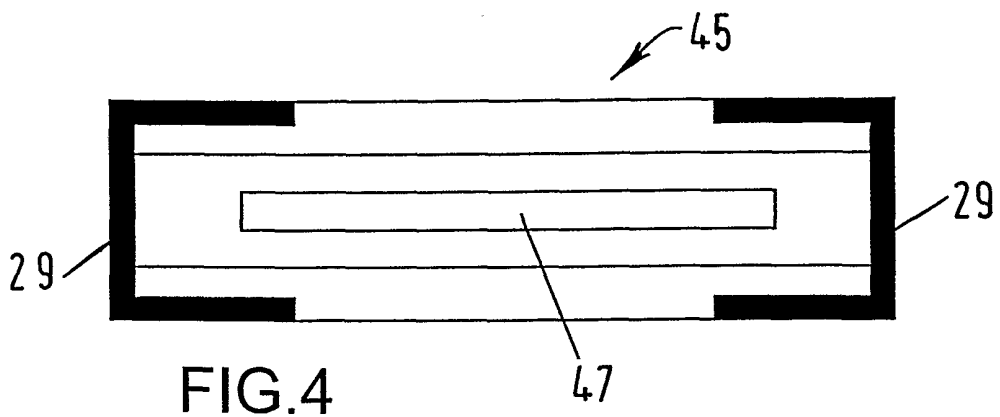
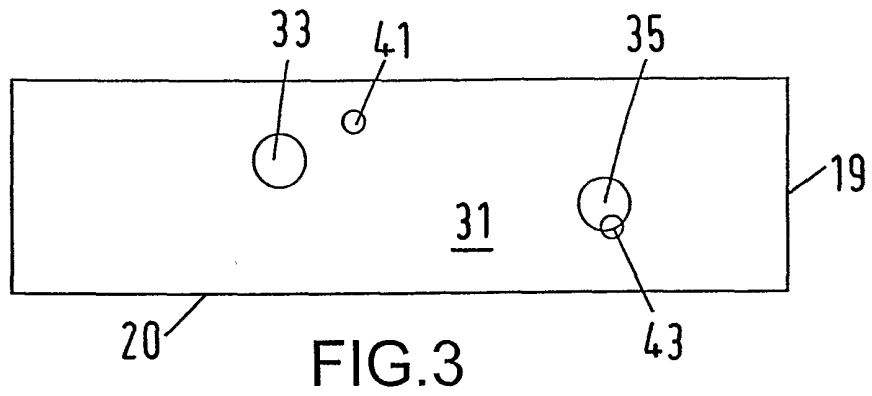
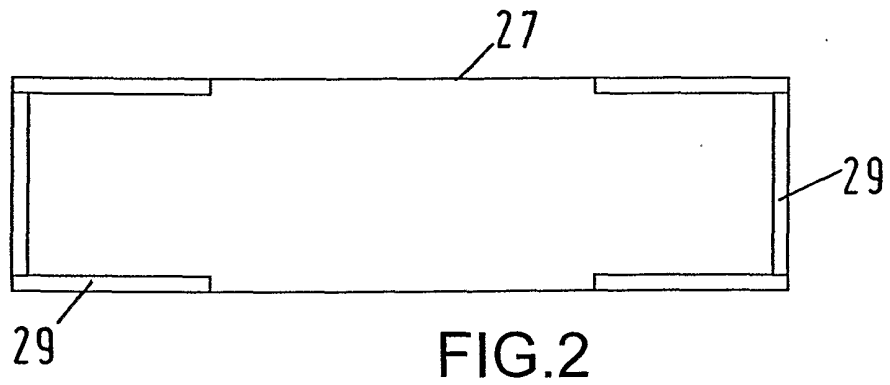
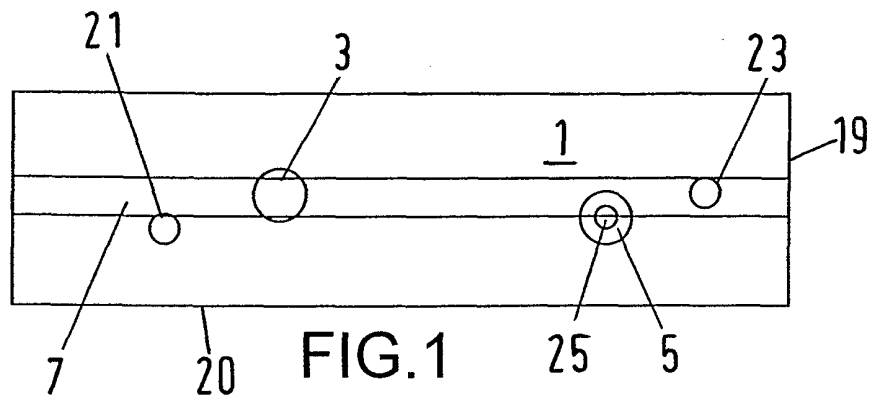
21. A panel loudspeaker according to claim 20, wherein the or each transducer is mounting to the panel via a mounting coil and the damping pad is located within the coil.

22. A television comprising a screen, a moulding surrounding the screen, and at least one panel loudspeaker according to any one of claims 1 to 21 mounted in the moulding adjacent the screen.

23. A television according to claim 22, wherein the panel loudspeaker is mounted so that the plane of the panel is parallel to the plane of the screen.

24. A television according to claim 22 or claim 23, wherein three panel loudspeakers are mounted in the

moulding to provide left, right and centre channels for audio reproduction.





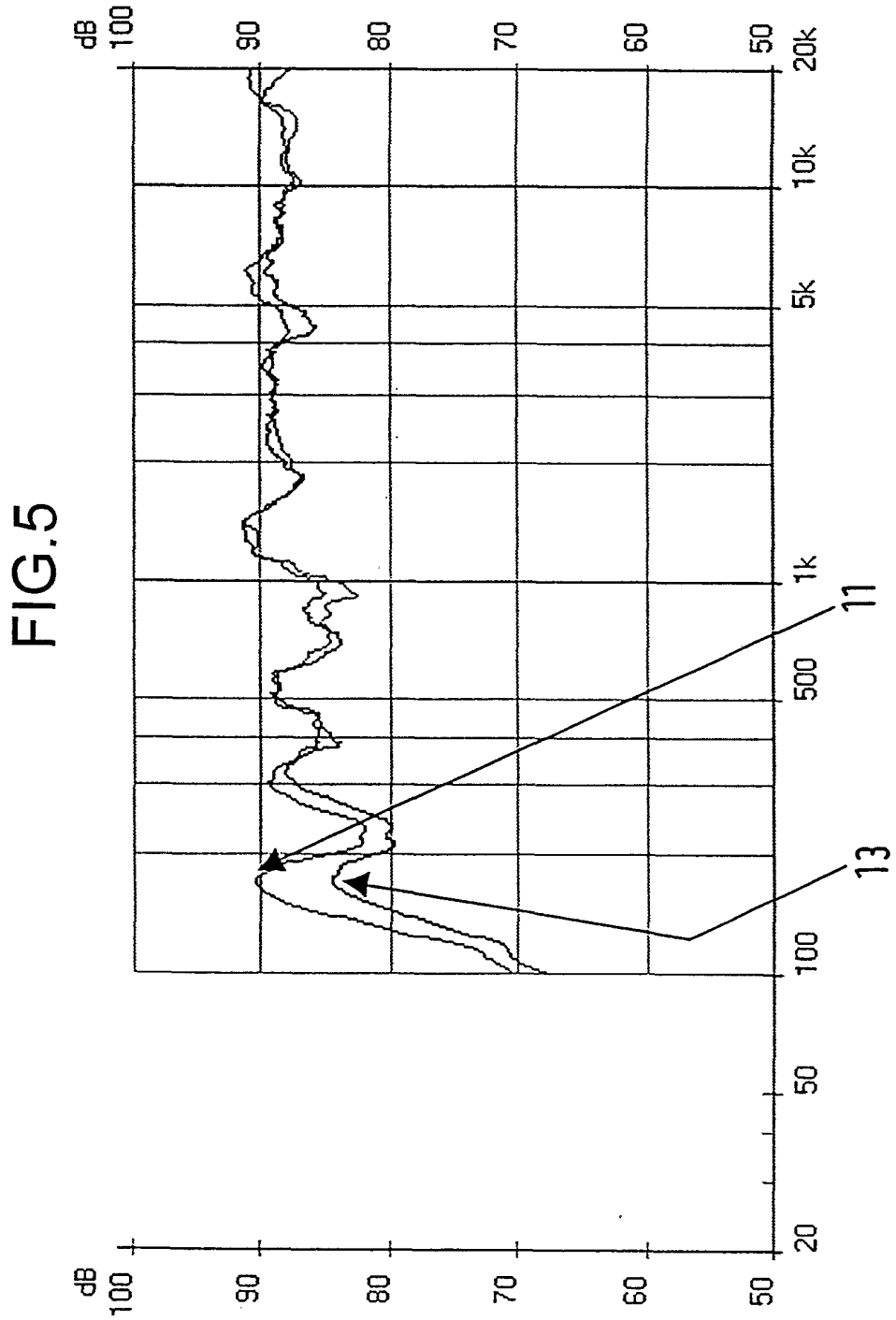


FIG.6

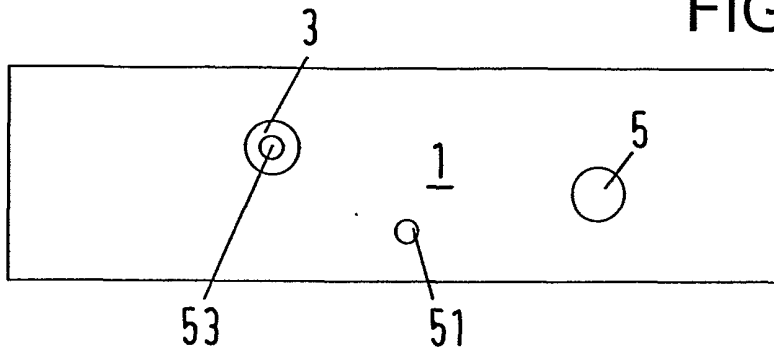


FIG.7

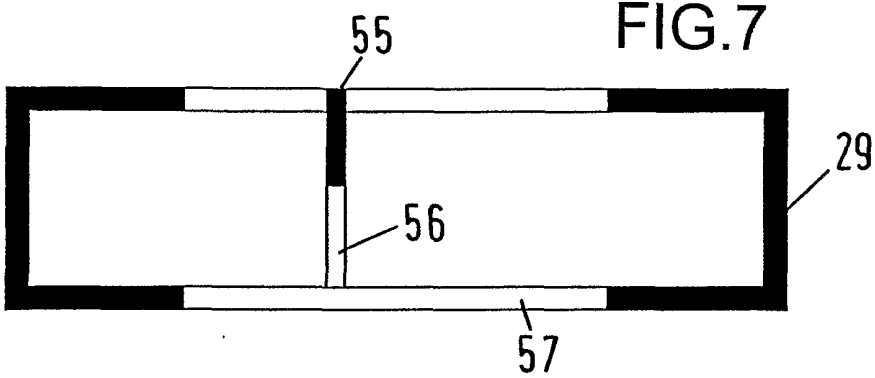


FIG.9a

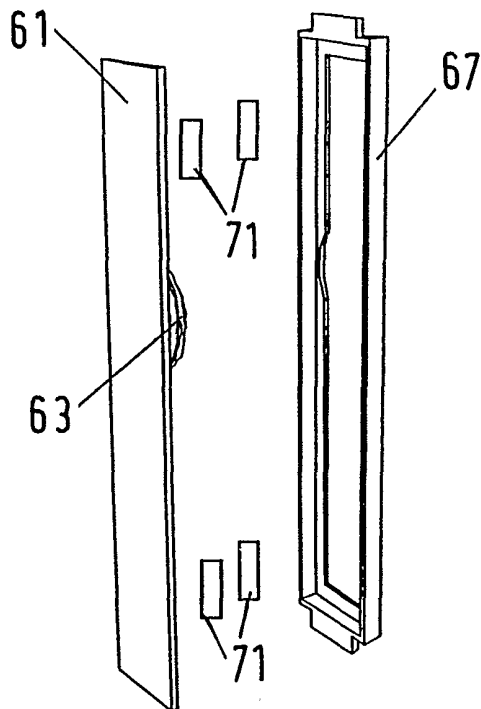
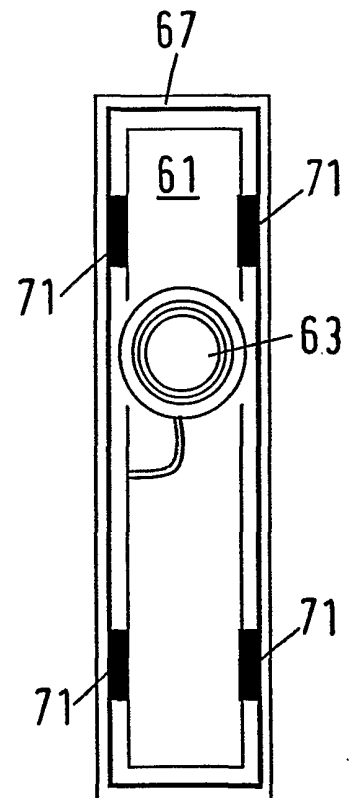


FIG.9b



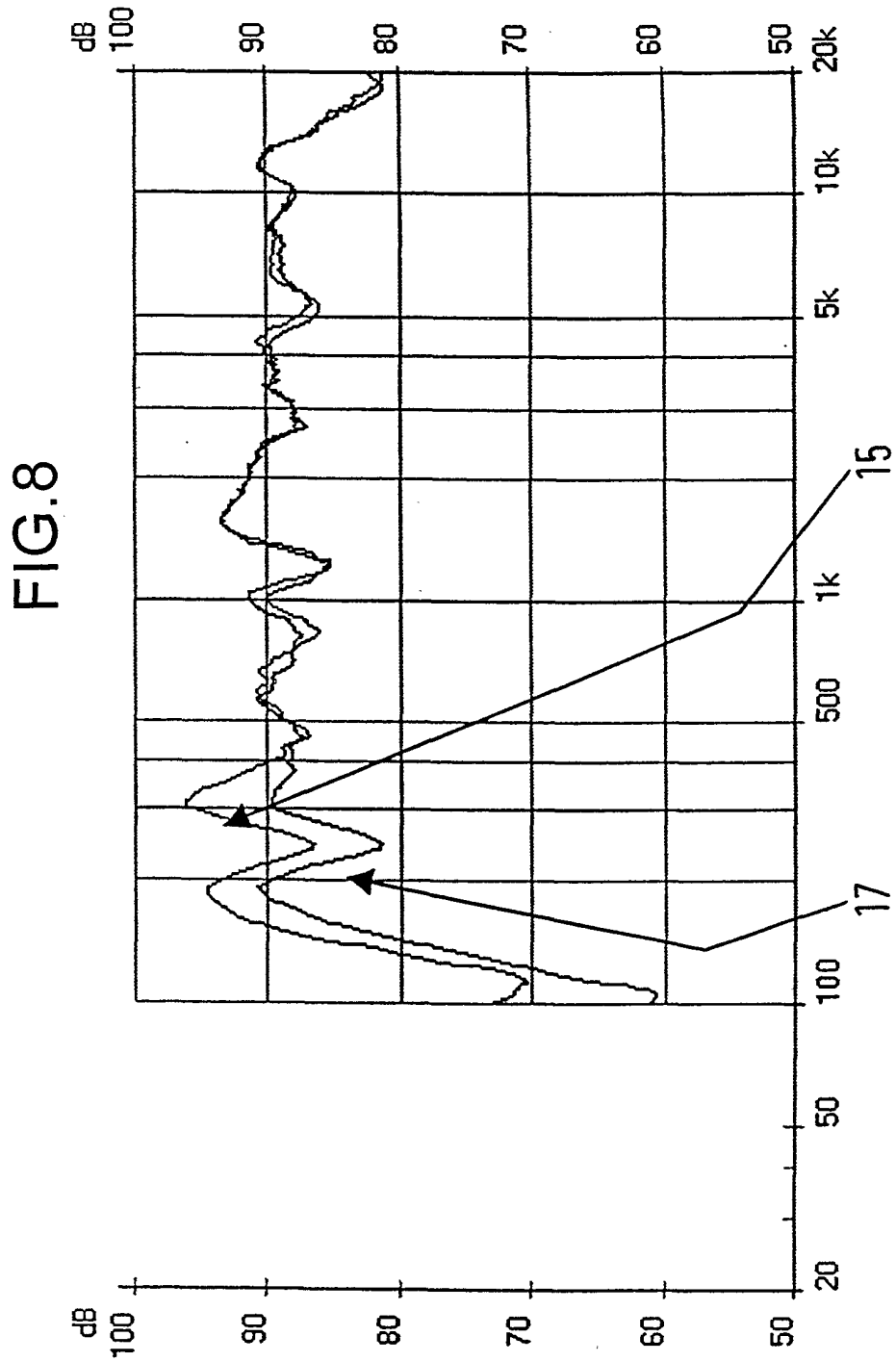


FIG.10

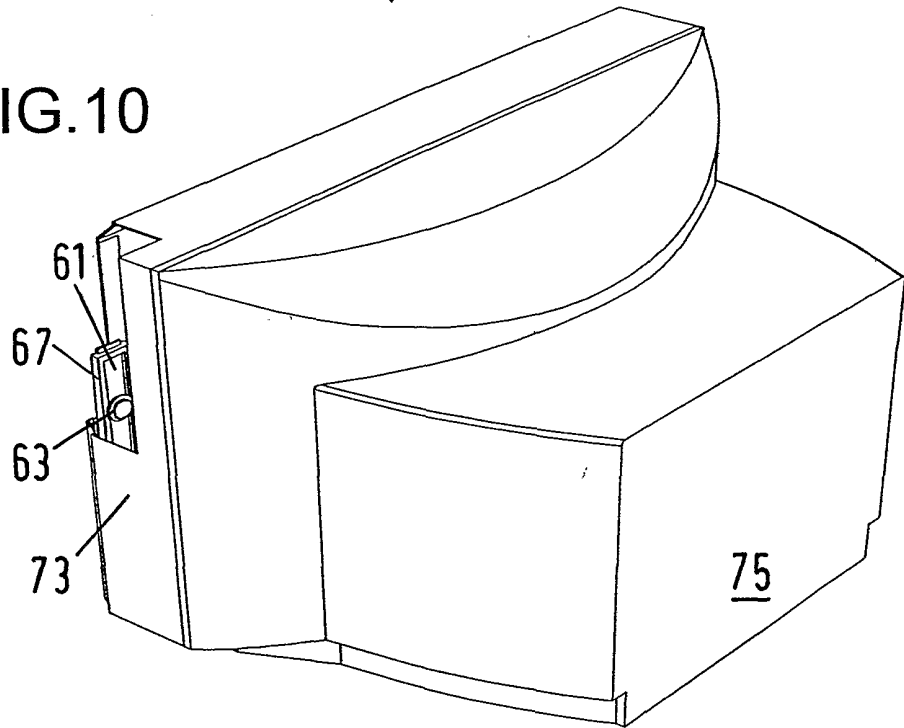


FIG.11

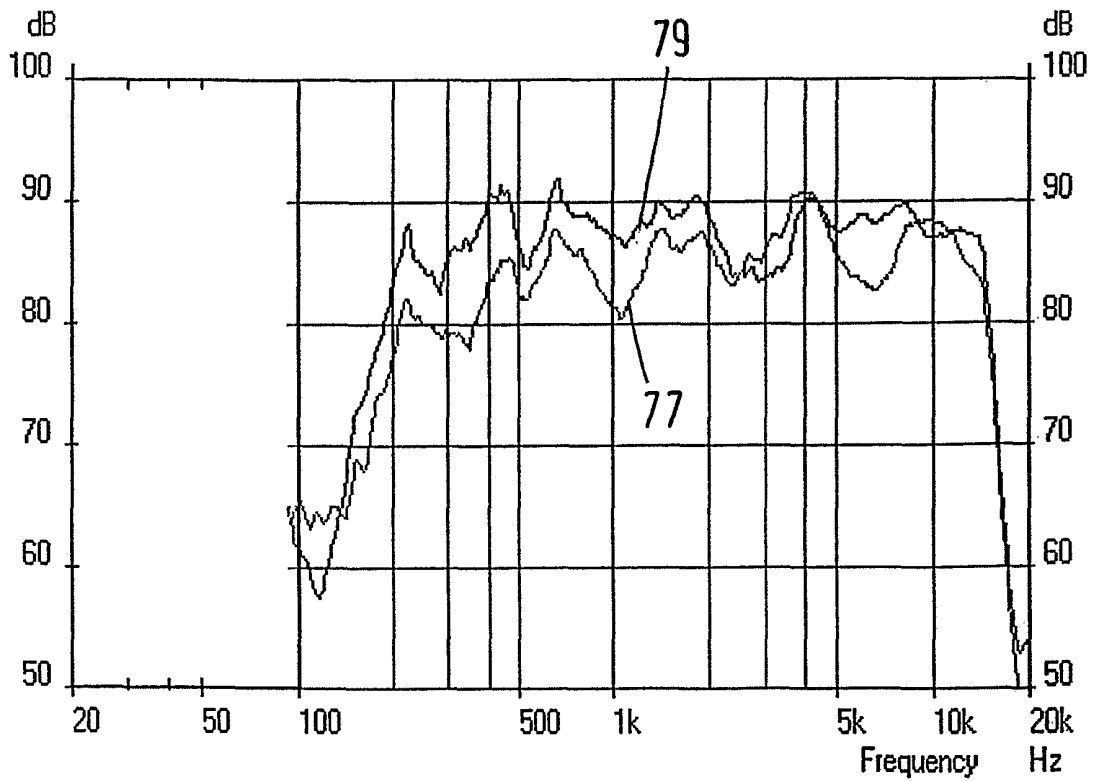


FIG.12

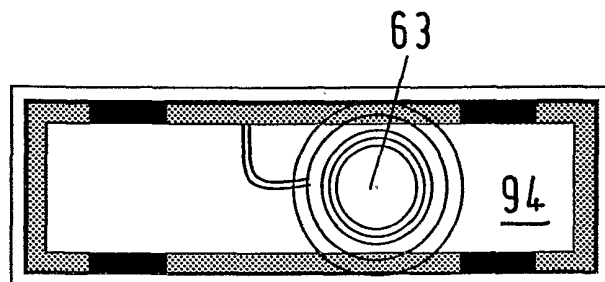
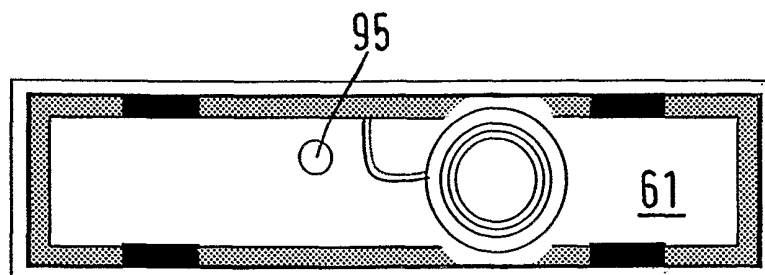


FIG.13



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FIG.14

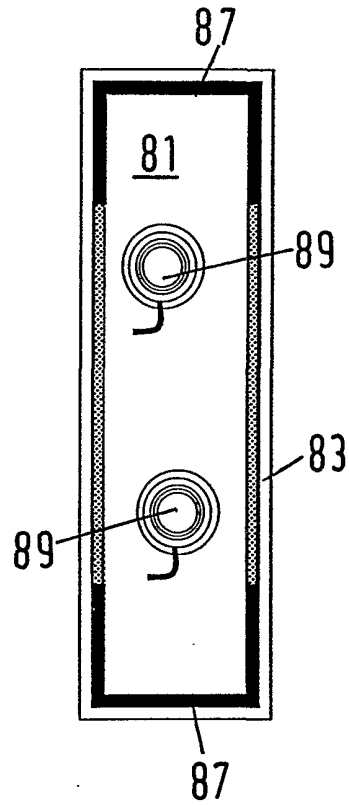
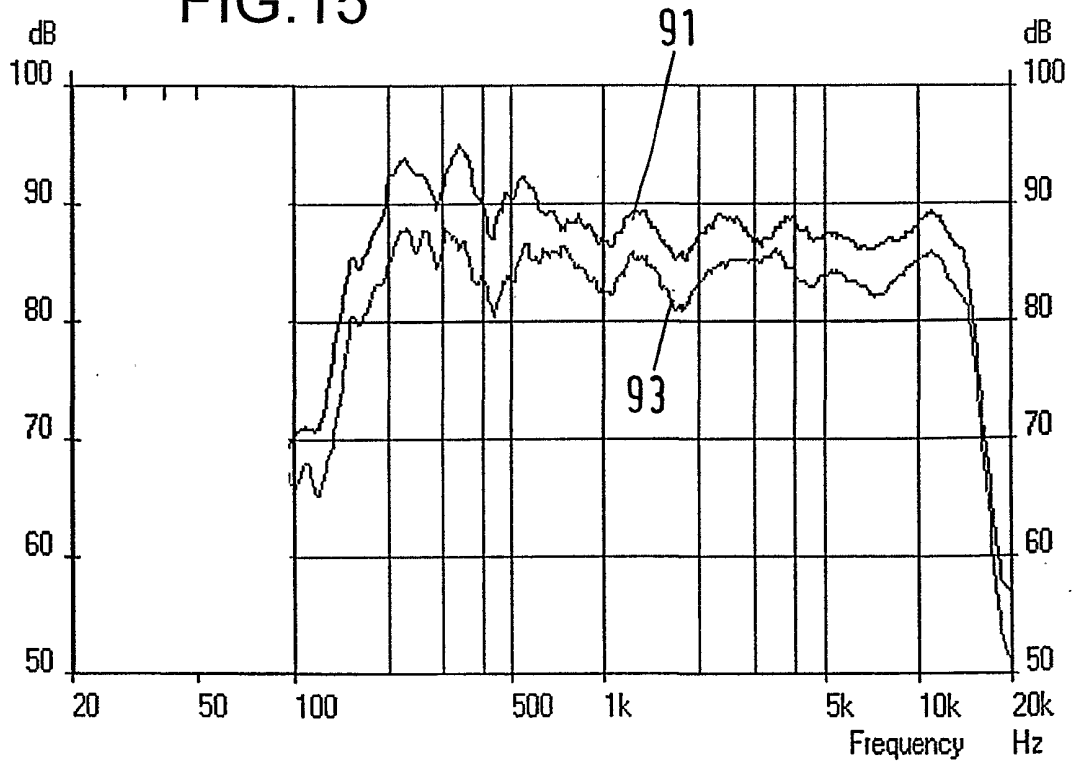


FIG.15



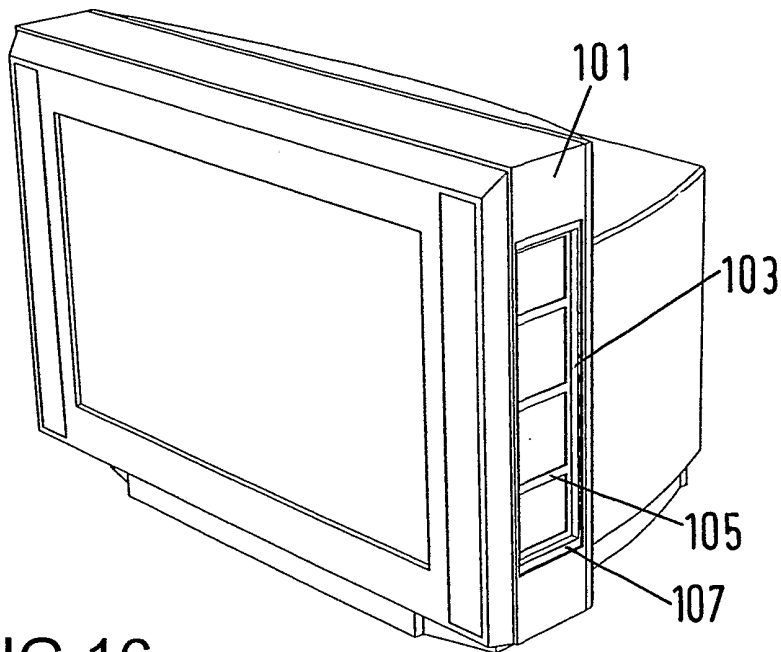


FIG. 16

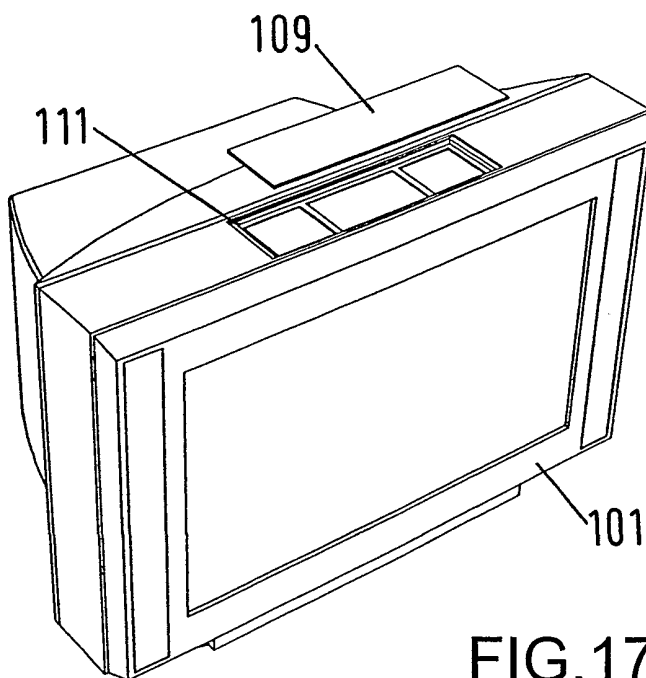


FIG. 17

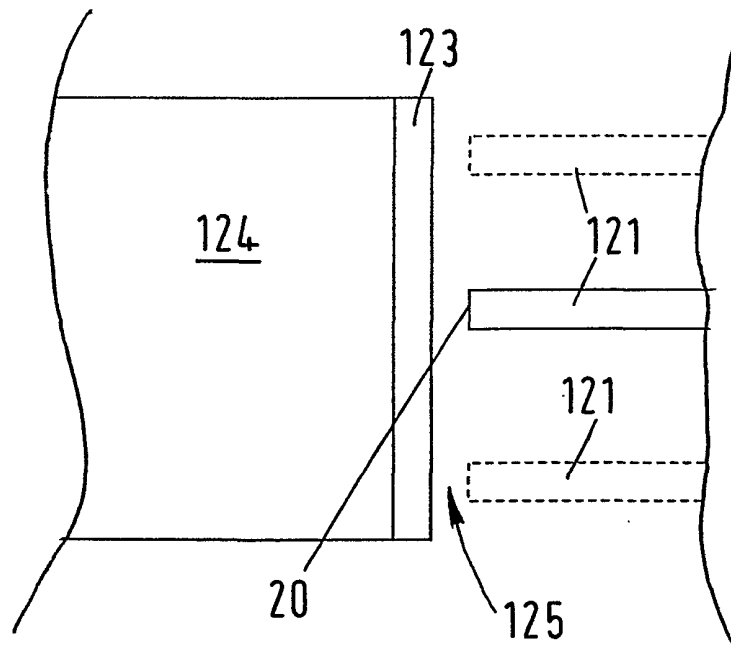
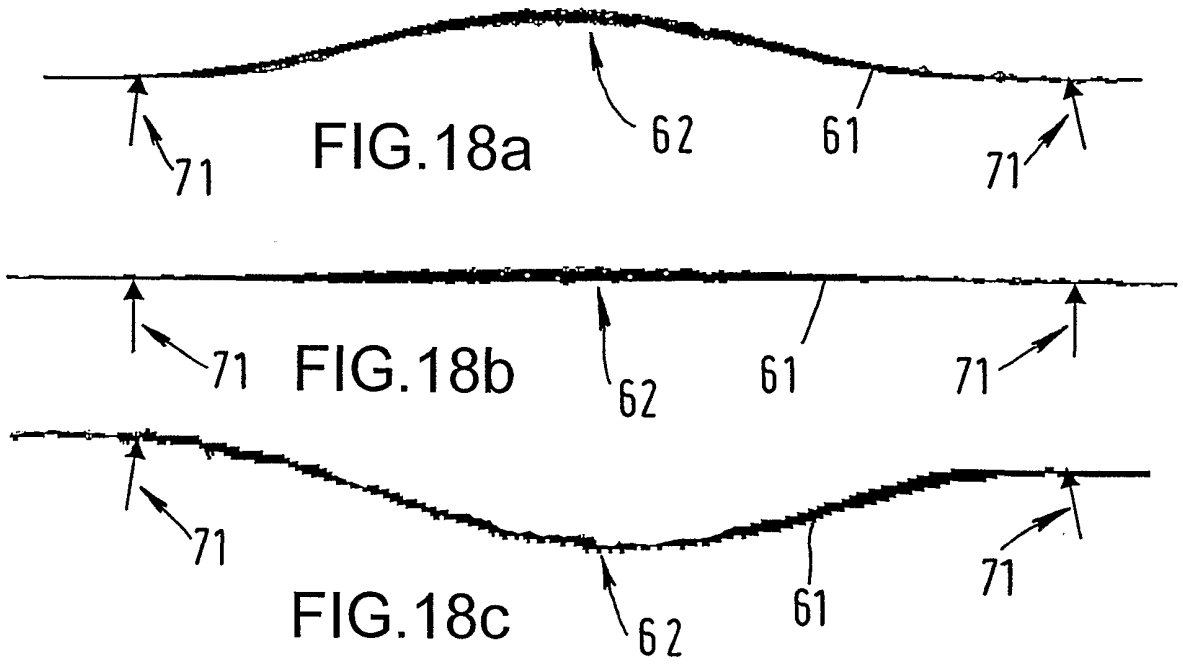


FIG.20



