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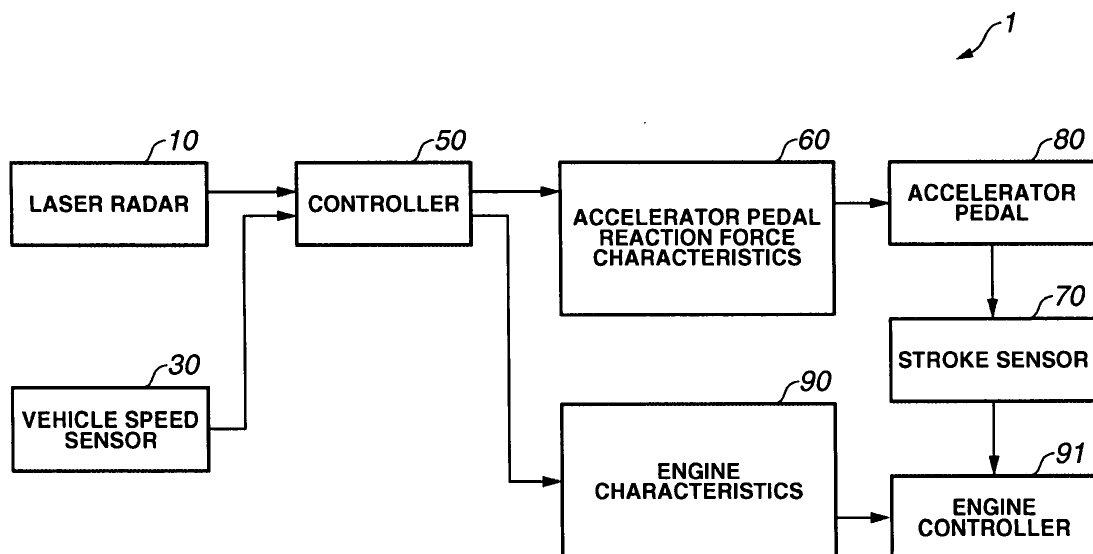
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(54) **System and method assisting a vehicle driver via changes in accelerator reaction force and engine output characteristic**

(57) A scene recognition device detects the state of the environment around a vehicle. Risk is determined based on the detected state of the environment. Based on the detected state of the environment and/or the determined risk, an actuator coupled to an accelerator selects one out of different reaction force characteristics of

varying of reaction force with different positions of the accelerator. Based on the detected state of the environment and/or the determined risk, an engine output modifier modifies an engine output characteristic of varying of engine output with different positions of the accelerator.

FIG.1





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Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (IPC)
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The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search The Hague		Date of completion of the search 1 March 2006	Examiner Clasen, M
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	

2
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**ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT
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