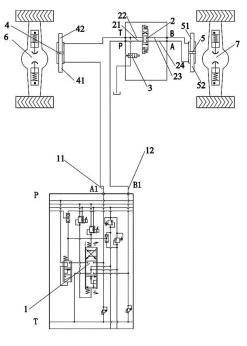
(19) Europäisches Patentamt European Patent Office Office européen des brevets	(11) EP 4 286 249 A1
	ENT APPLICATION ce with Art. 153(4) EPC
 (43) Date of publication: 06.12.2023 Bulletin 2023/49 (21) Application number: 22871140.4 (22) Date of filing: 29.11.2022 	 (51) International Patent Classification (IPC): <i>B62D 5/06</i> ^(2006.01) <i>B62D 5/08</i> ^(2006.01) <i>B62D 5/18</i> ^(2006.01) (86) International application number: <i>PCT/CN2022/134980</i>
	(87) International publication number: WO 2023/202080 (26.10.2023 Gazette 2023/43)
 (84) Designated Contracting States: AL AT BE BG CH CY CZ DE DK EE ES FI FR GB GR HR HU IE IS IT LI LT LU LV MC ME MK MT NL NO PL PT RO RS SE SI SK SM TR Designated Extension States: BA Designated Validation States: KH MA MD TN (30) Priority: 19.04.2022 CN 202210407581 (71) Applicant: LINGONG HEAVY MACHINERY CO., LTD Jinan City, Shandong 250104 (CN) 	 LI, Shaolei Jinan, Shandong 250104 (CN) WANG, Dehong Jinan, Shandong 250104 (CN) XUE, Desen Jinan, Shandong 250104 (CN) ZHAO, Zengzhi Jinan, Shandong 250104 (CN) DENG, Xiaofei Jinan, Shandong 250104 (CN) GUO, Bing Jinan, Shandong 250104 (CN) GUO, Bing Jinan, Shandong 250104 (CN)
 Jinan City, Shandong 250104 (CN) (72) Inventors: ZHANG, Zhaoliang Jinan, Shandong 250104 (CN) 	 (74) Representative: Rapisardi, Mariacristina Ufficio Brevetti Rapisardi S.r.I. Via Serbelloni, 12 20122 Milano (IT)

(54) FOUR-WHEEL STEERING CONTROL SYSTEM AND CONTROL METHOD THEREFOR

(57) Provided are a four-wheel steering control system and a method therefor. The four-wheel steering control system includes a front drive axle, a front drive cylinder, a rear drive axle, a rear drive cylinder, a first reversing valve, a second reversing valve, and a switch valve. The front drive cylinder is drivingly connected to the front drive axle, and the rear drive cylinder is drivingly connected to the rear drive axle. A first working oil port of the first reversing valve communicates with one oil chamber of the front drive cylinder. A second working oil port of the first reversing valve communicates with an oil inlet of the second reversing valve. An oil return port of the second reversing valve communicates with another oil chamber of the front drive cylinder. Two working oil ports of the second reversing valve communicate with two oil chambers of the rear drive cylinder one to one. The oil return port of the second reversing valve communicates with an oil tank through the switch valve.



Description

[0001] This application claims priority to Chinese Patent Application No. 202210407581.5 filed on Apr. 19, 2022, the disclosure of which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.

TECHNICAL FIELD

[0002] The present application relates to the technical field of four-wheel drive, for example, a four-wheel steering control system and a control method therefor.

BACKGROUND

[0003] With rapid development, construction sites, large or small, are spread throughout the country, and construction machinery is springing up. Due to different construction conditions on construction sites and relatively harsh environments, vehicle circulation construction is more suitable in narrow and complicated places with much debris. Therefore, the four-wheel steering technology emerged and is applied in a wider range of fields.

[0004] In the related art, vehicles only feature a frontwheel steering mode, a four-wheel steering mode, and a crab steering mode. The rear wheels of the vehicles cannot realize independent steering control, leading to poor driving flexibility.

SUMMARY

[0005] The present application provides a four-wheel steering control system and a control method therefor, which can realize independent steering control of the rear wheels of vehicles, improve driving flexibility, meet various working conditions, and facilitate drive of the rear wheels for independent centering.

[0006] In one aspect, an embodiment of the present application provides a four-wheel steering control system, including a front drive axle, a front drive cylinder, a rear drive axle, a rear drive cylinder, a first reversing valve, a second reversing valve, and a switch valve.

[0007] The front drive cylinder is drivingly connected to the front drive axle. The rear drive cylinder is drivingly connected to the rear drive axle. A first working oil port of the first reversing valve communicates with one oil chamber of the front drive cylinder. A second working oil port of the first reversing valve communicates with an oil inlet of the second reversing valve. An oil return port of the second reversing valve communicates with another oil chamber of the front drive cylinder. Two working oil ports of the second reversing valve communicate with two oil chambers of the rear drive cylinder one to one. The oil return port of the second reversing valve communicates with an oil return port of the second reversing valve communicates with an oil tank through the switch valve.

[0008] In another aspect, an embodiment of the present application provides a control method for a four-

wheel steering control system, which is applied to any one of the four-wheel steering control systems described above. The control method includes the operations described below.

⁵ **[0009]** In a front-wheel steering mode, the first reversing valve is controlled to switch to a first work position, the second reversing valve is controlled to maintain a middle position, and the switch valve is controlled to maintain a closed position, so as to drive front wheels to

¹⁰ steer in a first direction; or the first reversing valve is controlled to switch to a second work position, the second reversing valve is controlled to maintain the middle position, and the switch valve is controlled to maintain the closed position, so as to drive the front wheels to steer in a second direction.

[0010] In a rear-wheel steering mode, the first reversing valve is controlled to switch to the second work position, the second reversing valve is controlled to switch to a second work position, and the switch valve is con-

trolled to switch to a conduction position, so as to drive rear wheels to steer in the first direction; or the first reversing valve is controlled to switch to the second work position, the second reversing valve is controlled to switch to a first work position, and the switch valve is controlled to switch to the conduction position, so as to

drive the rear wheels to steer in the second direction.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS

30 [0011]

35

40

45

50

55

FIG. 1 is a diagram of a four-wheel steering control system according to an embodiment of the present application.

FIG. 2 is a diagram of a signal jump of a detection member according to an embodiment of the present application.

FIG. 3 is a flowchart of the control method for the four-wheel steering control system according to an embodiment of the present application.

FIG. 4 is a diagram of a four-wheel steering control system according to an embodiment of the present application.

FIG. 5 is a circuit diagram of a four-wheel steering control system according to an embodiment of the present application.

Reference list

[0012]

- 1 first reversing valve
- 11 first working oil port
- 12 second working oil port

- 2 second reversing valve
- 21 oil inlet
- 22 oil return port
- 23 third working oil port
- 24 fourth working oil port
- 3 switch valve
- 4 front drive cylinder
- 41 first oil chamber
- 42 second oil chamber
- 5 rear drive cylinder
- 51 third oil chamber
- 52 fourth oil chamber
- 6 front drive axle
- 7 rear drive axle
- 81 first signal
- 82 second signal
- 9 detection member
- 10 controller
- 11 trigger switch

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0013] In the description of the present application, unless otherwise expressly specified and limited, a term "connected to each other", "connected" or "secured" is to be construed in a broad sense, for example, as securely connected, detachably connected, or integrated; mechanically connected or electrically connected to each other or indirectly connected to each other or indirectly connected between two components or interaction relations between two components. For those of ordinary skill in the art, specific meanings of the preceding terms in the present application may be construed according to specific situations.

[0014] In the present application, unless otherwise expressly specified and limited, when a first feature is described as "above" or "below" a second feature, the first feature and the second feature may be in direct contact or be in contact via another feature between the two features instead of being in direct contact. Moreover, when the first feature is "on", "above", or "over" the second feature, the first feature is right on, above, or over the second feature, or the first feature is obliquely on, above, or over the second feature, or the first feature is simply at a higher level than the second feature. When the first feature is "under", "below", or "underneath" the second feature, the first feature is right under, below, or underneath the second feature, or the first feature is obliquely under, below, or underneath the second feature, or the first feature is simply at a lower level than the second feature.

[0015] In the description of the embodiments, it is to be noted that orientations or position relations indicated by terms such as "above", "below", "left" and "right" are based on the drawings. These orientations or position relations are intended only to facilitate the description and simplify an operation and not to indicate or imply that

a device or element referred to must have such particular orientations or must be configured or operated in such particular orientations. Thus, these orientations or position relations are not to be construed as limiting the

⁵ present application. In addition, terms "first" and "second" are used only to distinguish between descriptions and have no special meaning.

[0016] As shown in FIG. 1 and FIG. 4, this embodiment provides a four-wheel steering control system, including

- a front drive axle 6, a front drive cylinder 4, a rear drive axle 7, a rear drive cylinder 5, a first reversing valve 1, a second reversing valve 2, and a switch valve 3.
 [0017] In an embodiment, the front drive cylinder 4 is
- drivingly connected to the front drive axle 6, and the rear
 drive cylinder 5 is drivingly connected to the rear drive axle 7. A first working oil port 11 of the first reversing valve 1 communicates with one oil chamber of the front drive cylinder 4. A second working oil port 12 of the first reversing valve 1 communicates with an oil inlet 21 of
- the second reversing valve 2. An oil return port 22 of the second reversing valve 2 communicates with another oil chamber of the front drive cylinder 4. Two working oil ports of the second reversing valve 2 communicate with two oil chambers of the rear drive cylinder 5 one to one.
- The oil return port 22 of the second reversing valve 2 communicates with an oil tank through the switch valve 3.
 [0018] In this embodiment, the front drive cylinder 4 includes a first oil chamber 41 and a second oil chamber 42. The first working oil port 11 communicates with the
- ³⁰ first oil chamber 41, and the oil return port 22 of the second reversing valve 2 communicates with the second oil chamber 42. When the first oil chamber 41 receives oil and the second oil chamber 42 discharges oil, front wheels steer in a first direction. When the second oil
- ³⁵ chamber 42 receives oil and the first oil chamber 41 discharges oil, the front wheels steer in a second direction. The rear drive cylinder 5 includes a third oil chamber 51 and a fourth oil chamber 52. The two working oil ports of the second reversing valve 2 are a third working oil port
- 40 23 and a fourth working oil port 24. The third working oil port 23 is connected to the third oil chamber 51, and the fourth working oil port 24 is connected to the fourth oil chamber 52. When the third oil chamber 51 receives oil and the fourth oil chamber 52 discharges oil, rear wheels
- steer in the first direction. When the fourth oil chamber52 receives oil and the third oil chamber 51 discharges oil, the rear wheels steer in the second direction.
- [0019] When in operation, the first reversing valve 1 is controlled to switch to a second work position, the second
 ⁵⁰ reversing valve 2 is controlled to switch to a second work position, and the valve 3 is controlled to switch to a conduction position, the oil flows into the third oil chamber 51 of the rear drive cylinder 5 through the first reversing valve 1 and the second reversing valve 2 to drive the rear
 ⁵⁵ wheels to steer in the first direction. When the first reversing valve 1 is controlled to switch to the second work position, the second reversing valve 2 is controlled to switch to the second work position, the second reversing valve 2 is controlled to switch to the second work position, the second reversing valve 2 is controlled to switch to a first work position, and the switch valve 3 is

10

controlled to switch to the conduction position, the oil flows into the fourth oil chamber 52 of the rear drive cylinder 5 through the first reversing valve 1 and the second reversing valve 2 to drive the rear wheels to steer in the second direction. And when the rear drive cylinder 5 drives the rear wheels to steer directions, the oil which returns to the rear drive cylinder 5 flows into the oil tank through the second reversing valve 2 and the switch valve 3. This embodiment realizes independent steering control of the rear wheels of vehicles, improves driving flexibility, meets various working conditions, and facilitates the drive of the rear wheels for independent centering. [0020] In related technologies, to adapt to different working conditions, axle-driven electric boom lift cars have been added a four-wheel steering mode and a crab steering mode on the basis of the commonly used twowheel steering mode. However, the switching of different steering modes is completely through hydraulic pressure, and the electronic control system simply controls the on-off of the switch valve 3. When different switch valves 3 are combined, the hydraulic system can realize different steering modes according to different combinations of on-off of the switch valves 3. In related technologies, a rotation-angle sensor is configured for each steering wheel to facilitate the control of the steering mode. The electronic control system controls the steering direction of each wheel according to the angular position of each wheel. In this manner, two-wheel steering, fourwheel steering, and crab steering can be realized. When the steering wheels are in chaos, the electronic control system can realize automatic centering according to the angular position of each wheel. However, the four-wheel steering control system of this embodiment has no usable rotation-angle sensor, so when the steering wheels are in chaos, automatic centering is not achieved according to the angular positions of the steering wheels.

[0021] To solve the above-mentioned problem, the four-wheel steering control system also includes two detection members 9 which are disposed on the front drive axle 6 and the rear drive axle 7 respectively and are configured to detect position states of front wheels and rear wheels respectively. The position states include a middle position, a left side of the middle position, and a right side of the middle position. When at least one of the front wheels or the rear wheels is in a middle position, the detection members 9 output a first signal 81; when at least one of the front wheels or the rear wheels is not in a middle position, the detection members 9 output a second signal 82. When the detection members 9 are in operation, the position states of the wheels are determined and recorded according to a steering direction of the wheels when the first signal 81 and the second signal 82 are switched in the previous action. It should be noted that the preceding wheels include front wheels and rear wheels, and wheels are a general term for front wheels and rear wheels.

[0022] In this embodiment, as shown in FIG. 2, detection members 9 are centering switches. One of the first

signal 81 or the second signal 82 is a high-level signal, and another one of the first signal 81 or the second signal 82 is a low-level signal.

[0023] In an embodiment, as shown in FIG. 5, the fourwheel steering control system also includes a trigger switch 11 configured to control the front wheels and the rear wheels to steer to a middle position.

[0024] In this embodiment, the first reversing valve 1, the second reversing valve 2, and the switch valve 3 are electromagnetic valves, which are controlled by a controller 10.

[0025] The first reversing valve 1 is a three-position six-way reversing valve, including a first work position, a second work position, and a third work position. When

¹⁵ the first reversing valve 1 is in the first work position, oil flows out through the first working oil port 11 and returns to the second working oil port 12. When the first reversing valve 1 is in the second work position, the oil flows out through the second working oil port 12 and returns to the

first working oil port 11. When the first reversing valve 1 is in the third work position, the first working oil port 11 and the second working oil port 12 are blocked separately, and the four-wheel steering control system does not work at this time.

²⁵ [0026] The second reversing valve 2 is a three-position four-way reversing valve, including a first work position, a second work position, and a middle position. When the second reversing valve 2 is in the second work position, the oil inlet 21 communicates with the third working oil

³⁰ port 23, and the oil return port 22 communicates with the fourth working oil port 24. When the second reversing valve 2 is in the first work position, the oil inlet 21 communicates with the fourth working oil port 24, and the oil return port 22 communicates with the third working oil
 ³⁵ port 23. When the second reversing valve 2 is in the middle position, the oil inlet 21 communicates with the oil return port 22.

[0027] The switch valve 3 is a two-position two-way reversing valve, including a conduction position and a
closed position. When the switch valve 3 is in the conduction position, the oil return port 22 of the second reversing valve 2 communicates with the oil tank. When the switch valve 3 is in the closed position, the oil return port 22 of the second reversing valve 2 and the oil tank
45 are cut off.

[0028] As shown in FIG. 3, this embodiment also provides a control method for a four-wheel steering control system which is applied to the four-wheel steering control systems described above. The control method includes

50 a front-wheel steering mode, a rear-wheel steering mode, a four-wheel steering mode, and a crab steering mode, which improves the flexibility of the four-wheel steering control system.

[0029] In an embodiment, in the front-wheel steering mode, the first reversing valve 1 is controlled to switch to a first work position, the second reversing valve 2 is controlled to maintain in a middle position, and the switch valve 3 is controlled to maintain in a closed position. In

this manner, the oil flows into the first oil chamber 41 of the front drive cylinder 4 through the first working oil port 11 of the first reversing valve 1 to drive the front wheels to steer in a first direction, and then the oil flows out through the second oil chamber 42 of the front drive cylinder 4 and flows back to the second working oil port 12 of the first reversing valve 1 through the second reversing valve 2. Or the first reversing valve 1 is controlled to switch to a second work position, the second reversing valve 2 maintains in the middle position, and the switch valve 3 is controlled to maintain in the closed position. In this manner, the oil flows into the second oil chamber 42 of the front drive cylinder 4 through the first reversing valve 1 and the second reversing valve 2 to drive the front wheels to steer in a second direction, and then the oil flows out through the first oil chamber 41 of the front drive cylinder 4 and flows back to the first working oil port 11 of the first reversing valve 1, thus realizing the independent drive of the front wheels.

[0030] In the rear-wheel steering mode, the first reversing valve 1 is controlled to switch to the second work position, the second reversing valve 2 is controlled to switch to a second work position, and the switch valve 3 is controlled to switch to a conduction position. In this manner, the oil flows into the third oil chamber 51 of the rear drive cylinder 5 through the first reversing valve 1 and the second reversing valve 2 to drive rear wheels to steer in the first direction, and then the oil flows out through the fourth oil chamber 52 of the rear drive oil cylinder 5 and flows into the oil tank through the second reversing valve 2 and the switch valve 3. Or the first reversing valve 1 is controlled to switch to the second work position, the second reversing valve 2 is controlled to switch to a first work position, and the switch valve 3 is controlled to switch to a conduction position. In this manner, the oil flows into the fourth oil chamber 52 of the rear drive cylinder 5 through the first reversing valve 1 and the second reversing valve 2 to drive the rear wheels to steer in the second direction, and then the oil flows out through the third oil chamber 51 of the rear drive cylinder 5 and flows into the oil tank through the second reversing valve 2 and the switch valve 3. When the rear drive cylinder 5 drives the rear wheels to steer directions, the oil which returns to the rear drive cylinder 5 flows into the oil tank through the second reversing valve 2 and the switch valve 3, thereby realizing the independent drive of the rear wheels.

[0031] In the crab steering mode, the first reversing valve 1 is controlled to switch to the second work position, the second reversing valve 2 is controlled to switch to the first work position, and the switch valve 3 is controlled to maintain the closed position. In this manner, the oil flows into the fourth oil chamber 52 of the rear drive cyl-inder 5 through the first reversing valve 1 and the second reversing valve 2, and then the oil flows out through the third oil chamber 51 of the rear drive oil cylinder 5 and flows into the second oil chamber 42 of the front drive oil cylinder 4 through the second reversing valve 2 to drive

the front wheels and the rear wheels to steer in the second direction simultaneously, and then the oil flows out through the first oil chamber 41 of the front drive cylinder 4 and flows into the first working oil port 11 of the first reversing valve 1. Or the first reversing valve 1 is controlled to switch to the first work position, the second reversing valve 2 is controlled to switch to the first work position, and the switch valve 3 is controlled to maintain the closed position. In this manner, the oil flows into the

¹⁰ first oil chamber 41 of the front drive cylinder 4 through the first reversing valve 1, and then the oil flows out from the second oil chamber 42 of the front drive cylinder 4 and flows into the third oil chamber 51 of the rear drive cylinder 5 through the second reversing valve 2 to drive

the front wheels and the rear wheels to steer in the first direction simultaneously, and then the oil flows out of the fourth oil chamber 52 of the rear drive oil cylinder 5 and flows into the second working oil port 12 of the first reversing valve 1 through the second reversing valve 2 so
that the front wheels and the rear wheels can steer in the

same direction at the same time. [0032] In the four-wheel steering mode, the first reversing valve 1 is controlled to switch to the second work position, the second reversing valve 2 is controlled to 25 switch to the second work position, and the switch valve 3 is controlled to maintain the closed position. In this manner, the oil flows into the third oil chamber 51 of the rear driving cylinder 5 through the first reversing valve 1 and the second reversing valve 2, and then the oil flows out 30 through the fourth oil chamber 52 of the rear drive cylinder 5 and flows into the second oil chamber 42 of the front drive cylinder 4 through the second reversing valve 2 to drive the front wheels to steer in the second direction and the rear wheels to steer in the first direction simultane-35 ously, and then the oil flows out of the first oil chamber 41 of the front drive cylinder 4 and flows into the first working oil port 11 of the reversing valve 1. Or the first reversing valve 1 is controlled to switch to the first work position, the second reversing valve 2 is controlled to

- 40 switch to the second work position, and the switch valve 3 is controlled to maintain the closed position. In this manner, the oil flows into the first oil chamber 41 of the front drive cylinder 4 through the first reversing valve 1, and then the oil flows out through the second oil chamber 42
- of the front drive cylinder 4 and flows into the fourth oil chamber 52 of the rear drive cylinder 5 through the second reversing valve 2 to drive the front wheels to steer in the first direction and the rear wheels to steer in the second direction simultaneously, and then the oil flows
 out through the third oil chamber 51 of the rear drive oil cylinder 5 and flows into the second working oil port 12 of the first reversing valve 1 through the second reversing valve 2 so that the front wheels and the rear wheels are steered simultaneously in opposite directions.

⁵⁵ **[0033]** To prevent safety accidents caused by misjudgment when the front wheels and rear wheels are not in a centered state, in an embodiment, detection members 9 are disposed on the front drive axle 6 and the rear drive

10

15

20

25

axle 7 respectively and are configured to detect position states of the front wheels and the rear wheels. A controller 10 is configured to receive a detection signal from the detection members 9 and control the steering of the front wheels and the rear wheels according to the detection signal so that at least one of the front wheels or the rear wheels is centered. The front-wheel centering is driven by the front-wheel steering mode, and the rear-wheel centering is driven by the rear-wheel steering mode.

[0034] In an embodiment, when at least one of the front wheels or the rear wheels is in a middle position, the detection members 9 output a first signal 81; and when at least one of the front wheels or the rear wheels is not in a middle position, the detection members output a second signal 82. The step of detecting the position states includes determining and recording the position states of the wheels according to a steering direction of the wheels when the first signal 81 and the second signal 82 are switched in the previous action. In this embodiment, the detection member 9 is a centering switch whose first signal 81 is a high-level signal and whose second signal 82 is a low-level signal. From being untriggered to being triggered, the signal of the centering switch jumps from low level to high level, which is called a rising edge; and from being triggered to being untriggered, the signal of the centering switch jumps from high level to low level, which is called a falling edge.

[0035] When the steering is manually operated, no matter whether the steering relationship of the front wheels or the rear wheels is chaotic, the electromagnetic 30 valve controlling the wheels enables the wheels to steer in the correct direction under the control of the controller 10. When the drive-axle moves from an uncentered state to a centered state or from a centered state to an uncentered state, the centering switch has a signal jump, that 35 is, a rising edge or a falling edge happens. In this case, the controller 10 can judge whether the current wheels turn to the right or the left according to the direction of motion of the wheels (turn left or right) and the jump of 40 the centering switch and permanently save the position of the wheels so that even if powered off at this time, the controller 10 still knows the position states of the wheels before the power failure when the controller 10 is powered on again.

[0036] When an operator toggles the trigger switch 11, the controller 10 controls the action of the corresponding electromagnetic valve according to the position of the wheels at this time so that the wheels move toward the middle position in sequence. When the signal of the centering switch collected by the controller 10 becomes 50 high level, the steering is stopped immediately to complete the automatic centering.

[0037] In this embodiment, the position states of the wheels are judged by using the signal jump of the centering switch and the steering direction. To provide the controller 10 with the position information of the wheels, an operator simply needs to toggle the automatic centering trigger switch 11 on the controller 10. The controller 10

automatically controls the wheels to start turning toward the middle position to realize the automatic centering of the wheels. At the same time, it is necessary to reasonably configure the steering speed of the wheels during

the automatic centering to ensure that the wheels can stop in time when moving to the middle position, thereby realizing automatic centering.

[0038] It should be noted that the controller 10 in this embodiment is an electronic control unit (ECU).

Claims

1. A four-wheel steering control system, comprising:

a front drive axle (6) and a front drive cylinder (4), wherein the front drive cylinder (4) is drivingly connected to the front drive axle (6);

a rear drive axle (7) and a rear drive cylinder (5), wherein the rear drive cylinder (5) is drivingly connected to the rear drive axle (7);

a first reversing valve (1) and a second reversing valve (2), wherein a first working oil port (11) of the first reversing valve (1) communicates with one oil chamber of the front drive cylinder (4), a second working oil port (12) of the first reversing valve (1) communicates with an oil inlet (21) of the second reversing valve (2), an oil return port (22) of the second reversing valve (2) communicates with another oil chamber of the front drive cylinder (4), and two working oil ports of the second reversing valve (2) communicate with two oil chambers of the rear drive cylinder (5) one to one; and

a switch valve (3), wherein the oil return port (22) of the second reversing valve (2) communicates with an oil tank through the switch valve (3).

2. The four-wheel steering control system of claim 1, further comprising two detection members (9) which are disposed on the front drive axle (6) and the rear drive axle (7) respectively and are configured to detect position states of front wheels and rear wheels respectively, wherein the position states comprise a middle position, a left side of the middle position, and a right side of the middle position;

> the detection members (9) are configured to output a first signal (81) when at least one of the front wheels or the rear wheels is in the middle position; and

> the detection members (9) are configured to output a second signal (82) when at least one of the front wheels or the rear wheels is not in the middle position.

3. The four-wheel steering control system of claim 2, wherein the detection members (9) are centering

55

15

20

40

45

50

55

12

switches, one of the first signal (81) or the second signal (82) is a high-level signal, and another one of the first signal (81) or the second signal (82) is a low-level signal.

- **4.** The four-wheel steering control system of claim 1, wherein the first reversing valve (1) is a three-position six-way reversing valve.
- **5.** The four-wheel steering control system of claim 1, ¹⁰ wherein the second reversing valve (2) is a three-position four-way reversing valve, and the switch valve (3) is a two-position two-way reversing valve.
- 6. The four-wheel steering control system of claim 2, further comprising a trigger switch (11) configured to control the front wheels and the rear wheels to steer to the middle position.
- A control method for a four-wheel steering control system, the method being applied to the four-wheel steering control system of any one of claims 1 to 6 and comprising:

in a front-wheel steering mode, controlling the first reversing valve (1) to switch to a first work position, the second reversing valve (2) to maintain a middle position, and the switch valve (3) to maintain a closed position, so as to drive front wheels to steer in a first direction; or controlling the first reversing valve (1) to switch to a second work position, the second reversing valve (2) to maintain the middle position, and the switch valve (3) to maintain the closed position, so as to drive the front wheels to steer in a second direction; and

in a rear-wheel steering mode, controlling the first reversing valve (1) to switch to the second work position, the second reversing valve (2) to switch to a second work position, and the switch valve (3) to switch to a conduction position, so as to drive rear wheels to steer in the first direction; or controlling the first reversing valve (1) to switch to the second work position, the second reversing valve (2) to switch to a first work position, and the switch valve (3) to switch to the conduction position, so as to drive the rear wheels to steer in the second direction.

8. The control method of claim 7, further comprising:

in a crab steering mode, controlling the first reversing valve (1) to switch to the second work position, the second reversing valve (2) to switch to the first work position, and the switch valve (3) to maintain the closed position, so as to drive the front wheels and the rear wheels to steer in the second direction simultaneously; or controlling the first reversing valve (1) to switch to the first work position, the second reversing valve (2) to switch to the first work position, and the switch valve (3) to maintain the closed position, so as to drive the front wheels and the rear wheels to steer in the first direction simultaneously; and

- in a four-wheel steering mode, controlling the first reversing valve (1) to switch to the second work position, the second reversing valve (2) to switch to the second work position, and the switch valve (3) to maintain the closed position, so as to drive the front wheels to steer in the second direction and the rear wheels to steer in the first direction simultaneously; or controlling the first reversing valve (1) to switch to the first work position, the second reversing valve (2) to switch to the second work position, and the switch valve (3) to maintain the closed position, so as to drive the front wheels to steer in the first direction and the rear wheels to steer in the second direction simultaneously.
- 25 9. The control method of claim 7 or 8, wherein detection members (9) are disposed on the front drive axle (6) and the rear drive axle (7) respectively and are configured to detect position states of the front wheels and the rear wheels respectively, and a controller (10) is configured to receive a detection signal from the detection members (9) and control steering of the front wheels and the rear wheels according to the detection signal so that at least one of the front wheels or the rear wheels is centered.
 - **10.** The control method of claim 9, wherein when at least one of the front wheels or the rear wheels is in a middle position, the detection members (9) output a first signal (81); and when at least one of the front wheels or the rear wheels is not in the middle position, the detection members (9) output a second signal (82); and

detecting the position states of the front wheels and the rear wheels respectively comprises determining and recording the position states of the front wheels according to the steering of the front wheels performed when the first signal (81) and the second signal (82) are switched in a previous action; and determining and recording the position states of the rear wheels according to the steering of the rear wheels performed when the first signal (81) and the second signal (82) are switched in the previous action.

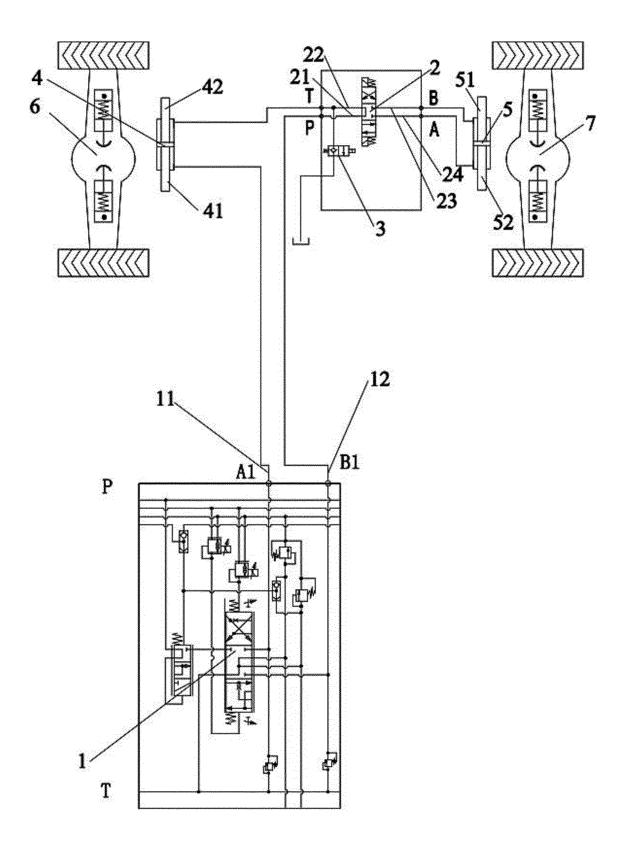


FIG. 1

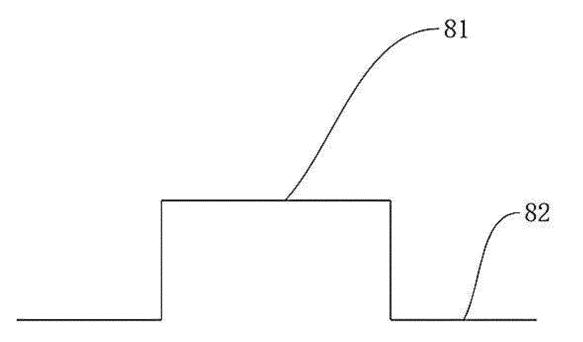


FIG. 2

In a front-wheel steering mode, control the first reversing valve to switch to a first work position, the second reversing valve to maintain a middle position, and the switch valve to maintain a closed position, so as to drive front wheels to steer in a first direction; or control the first reversing valve to switch to a second work position, the second reversing valve to maintain the middle position, and the switch valve to maintain the closed position, so as to drive the front wheels to steer in a second direction.

In a rear-wheel steering mode, control the first reversing valve to switch to the second work position, the second reversing valve to switch to a second work position, and the switch valve to switch to a conduction position, so as to drive rear wheels to steer in the first direction; or control the first reversing valve to switch to the second work position, the second reversing valve to switch to a first work position, and the switch valve to switch to the conduction position, so as to drive the rear wheels to steer in the second direction position, so as to drive the rear wheels to steer in the second direction

FIG. 3

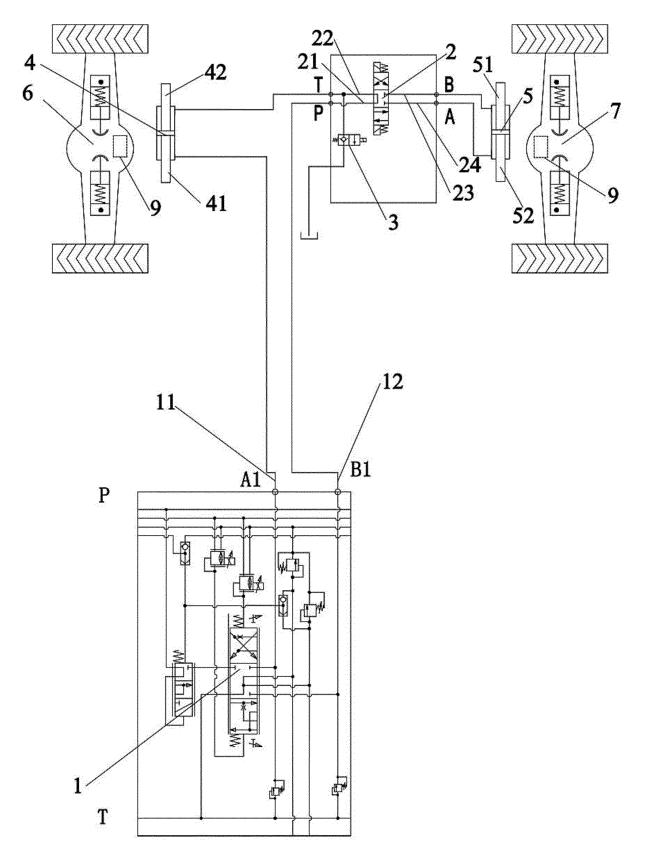


FIG. 4

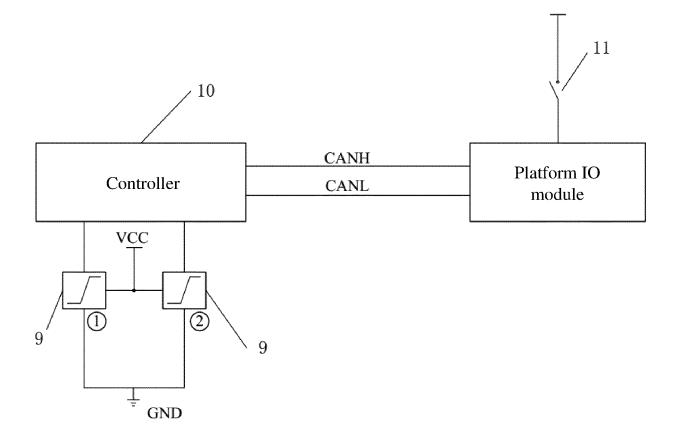


FIG. 5

EP 4 286 249 A1

		INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT International applicat		tion No.	
				PCT/CN2	2022/134980
5	A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER B62D5/06(2006.01)i;B62D5/08(2006.01)i;B62D5/18(2006.01)i				
	According to	International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both na	tional classification a	nd IPC	
10	B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) B62D, F15B Decumentation searched other then minimum documentation to the autent that such documentation are included in the fields excerched				
10					
15	Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) EPODOC, WPI, CNPAT, CNKI: 临工集团济南重机, 临工重机, 张照良, 李绍蕾, 王德红, 薛德森, 赵增枝, 邓晓飞, 郭兵, 四轮, 前轮, 后轮, 驱动桥, 前桥, 后桥, 转向, 缸, 阀, 对中, 调中, 中位, drive, front, rear, back, wheel, axle, steer, switch, cylinder, valve, switch, change, adjust, middle, center, centre				
20	C. DOC	UMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT			
20	Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where a	appropriate, of the rele	evant passages	Relevant to claim No.
	PX	1-10			
25	X	CN 107813870 A (LINGONG GROUP JINAN HEA 2018 (2018-03-20) description, paragraphs 21-31, and figures 1-10	AVY MACHINERY	CO., LTD.) 20 March	1, 4, 5, 7, 8
	Y	2, 3, 6, 9, 10			
30	Y CN 110861708 A (CHONGQING DAHANG INDUSTRY CO., LTD.) 06 March 2020 (2020-03-06) description, paragraphs 39-92, and figures 1-4				2, 3, 6, 9, 10
35	A	CN 108891481 A (SICHUAN CHUANLONG TRAC 27 November 2018 (2018-11-27) entire document	CTOR MANUFACT	URING CO., LTD.)	1-10
		locuments are listed in the continuation of Box C.	See patent fami	•	. 1.41. 1
40	 "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance "D" document cited by the applicant in the international application "E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date "T document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is "Y" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is 			onflict with the applicatic ry underlying the inventi rticular relevance; the c l or cannot be considered ent is taken alone rticular relevance; the c	laimed invention cannot be to involve an inventive step laimed invention cannot be
45	 cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed 				ocuments, such combination rt nily
	Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search repo			1	
31 January 2023				13 February 202	3
		ling address of the ISA/CN	Authorized officer		
50	CN)	tional Intellectual Property Administration (ISA/ . 6, Xitucheng Road, Jimenqiao, Haidian District, 0088			
	• •	(86-10)62019451	Telephone No.		
	Form DCT/ISA	/210 (second sheet) (July 2022)			

Form PCT/ISA/210 (second sheet) (July 2022)

EP 4 286 249 A1

		INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT	International applica PCT/CN	tion No. 2022/134980		
5	C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT					
	Category*	Category* Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages				
10	A	CN 203974931 U (JINING SUN-RISING BUSINESS MACHINE CO., 2014 (2014-12-03) entire document	LTD.) 03 December	1-10		
	A	CN 212738266 U (LUOYANG RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR INTELI AGRICULTURAL EQUIPMENT CO., LTD.) 19 March 2021 (2021-03- entire document				
15	Α	A CN 107433975 A (BYD CO., LTD.) 05 December 2017 (2017-12-05) entire document				
	A JP 2004284522 A (SHIYOOSHIN K.K.) 14 October 2004 (2004-10-14) entire document			1-10		
20						
25						
30						
35						
0						
5						
0						
55	Form PCT/ISA	A/210 (second sheet) (July 2022)				

International application No.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT т.е.

	Information on patent family members						PCT/CN2022/134980		
	Patent document cited in search report			Publication date (day/month/year)	Patent family member(s)		Publication date (day/month/year)		
	CN	114506384	А	17 May 2022	None				
	CN	107813870	А	20 March 2018	None				
	CN	110861708	А		None				
	CN	108891481	А	27 November 2018	None				
	CN	203974931	U	03 December 2014	None				
	CN	212738266	U	19 March 2021	None				
	CN	107433975	А	05 December 2017	None				
	JP	2004284522	Α	14 October 2004		322 B2	10 December 2008		



REFERENCES CITED IN THE DESCRIPTION

This list of references cited by the applicant is for the reader's convenience only. It does not form part of the European patent document. Even though great care has been taken in compiling the references, errors or omissions cannot be excluded and the EPO disclaims all liability in this regard.

Patent documents cited in the description

• CN 202210407581 [0001]