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(12) **United States Design Patent**
Fukunaga

(10) **Patent No.:** **US D480,681 S**

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(54) **TREAD PORTION OF AN AUTOMOBILE TIRE**

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(73) **Assignee:** **Bridgestone Corporation**, Tokyo (JP)
(**) **Term:** **14 Years**

(57) **CLAIM**

The ornamental design for a tread portion of an automobile tire, as shown and described.

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(22) **Filed:** **Mar. 22, 2002**

DESCRIPTION

(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**
Sep. 28, 2001 (JP) 2001-028366
(51) **LOC (7) Cl.** **12-15**
(52) **U.S. Cl.** **D12/603**
(58) **Field of Search** D12/500, 501,
D12/564, 565, 566, 567, 600, 601, 602,
603; 152/209.1, 209.9, 209.25, 209.27

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of a tread portion of an automobile tire showing my new design, it being understood that the tread pattern repeats uniformly throughout the circumference of the tire;

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

- D287,841 S * 1/1987 Ono D12/602
- D336,270 S * 6/1993 Graas et al. D12/602
- D341,558 S * 11/1993 Matsushita et al. D12/602
- D403,632 S * 1/1999 Guspodin et al. D12/603

FIG. 2 is a front view thereof, a top view, a bottom view and a rear view being identical with the front view;

FIG. 3 is a left side view thereof, a right side view being identical with the left side view;

FIG. 4 is an enlarged fragmentary front view thereof; and,

FIG. 5 is a cross-sectional view thereof taken along line 5—5 in FIG. 4.

The portion of the article shown in broken lines is for illustrative purpose only and forms no part of the claimed design.

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

- Goodyear Eagle GA Tire, 2001 Tread Design Guide, Jan. 2001, p. 36. 3/2.*
- Kelly Explorer Tire, 2001 Tread Design Guide, Jan. 2001, p. 41. 3/5.*

* cited by examiner

1 Claim, 5 Drawing Sheets

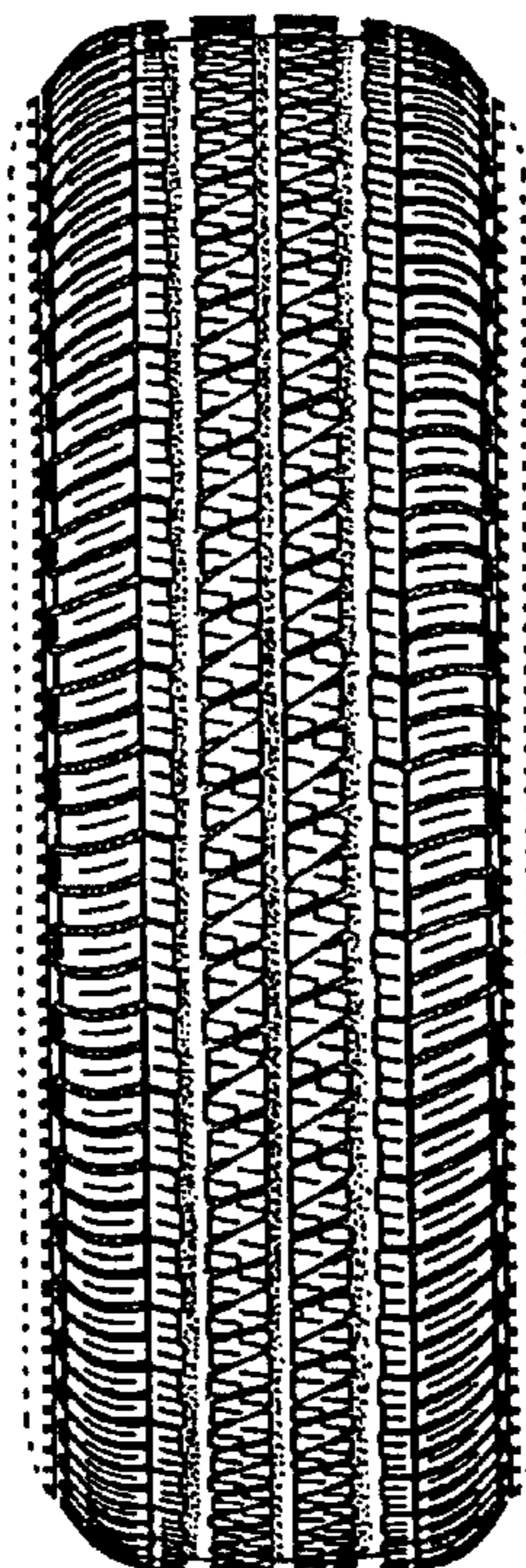


FIG. 1

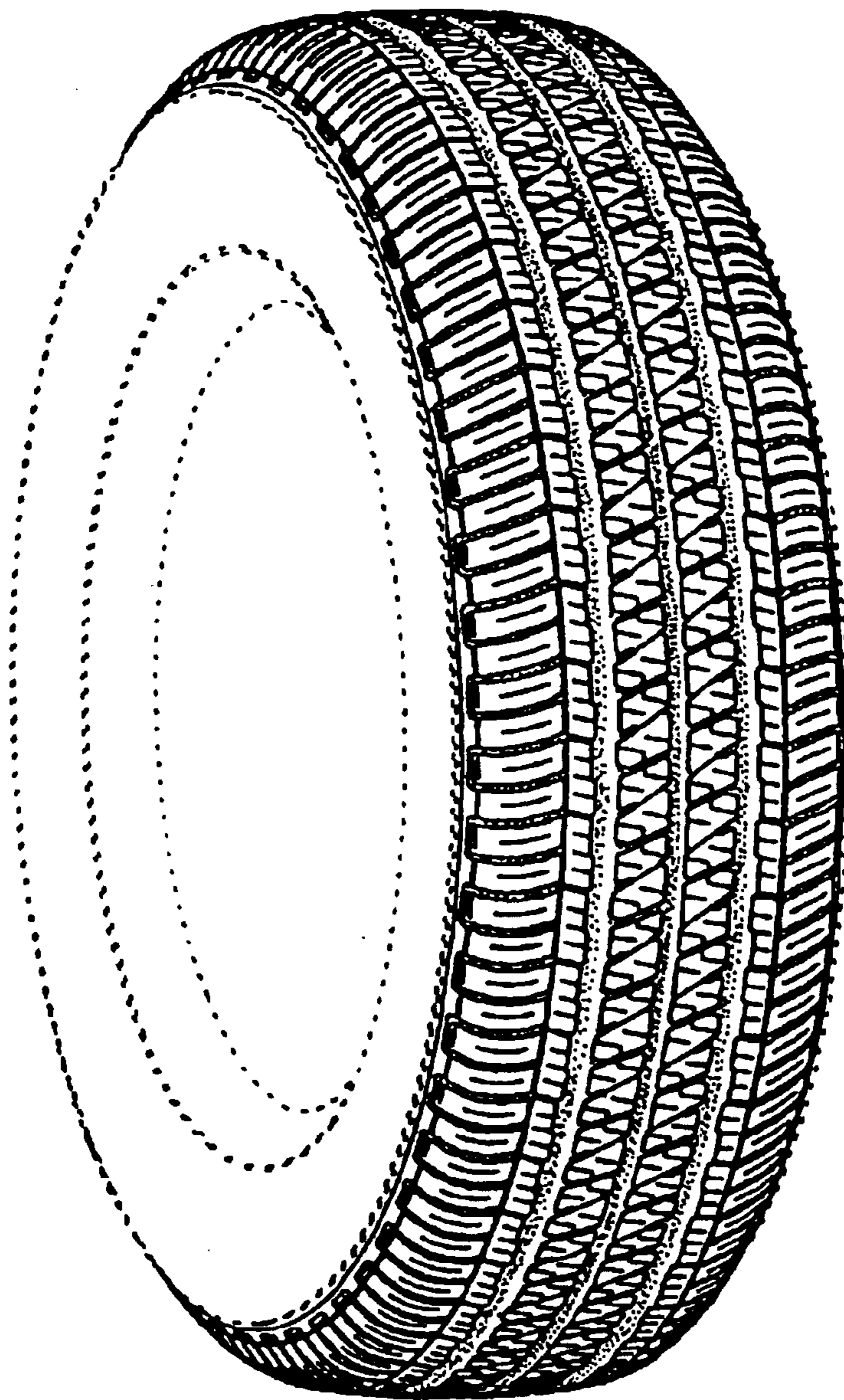


FIG. 2

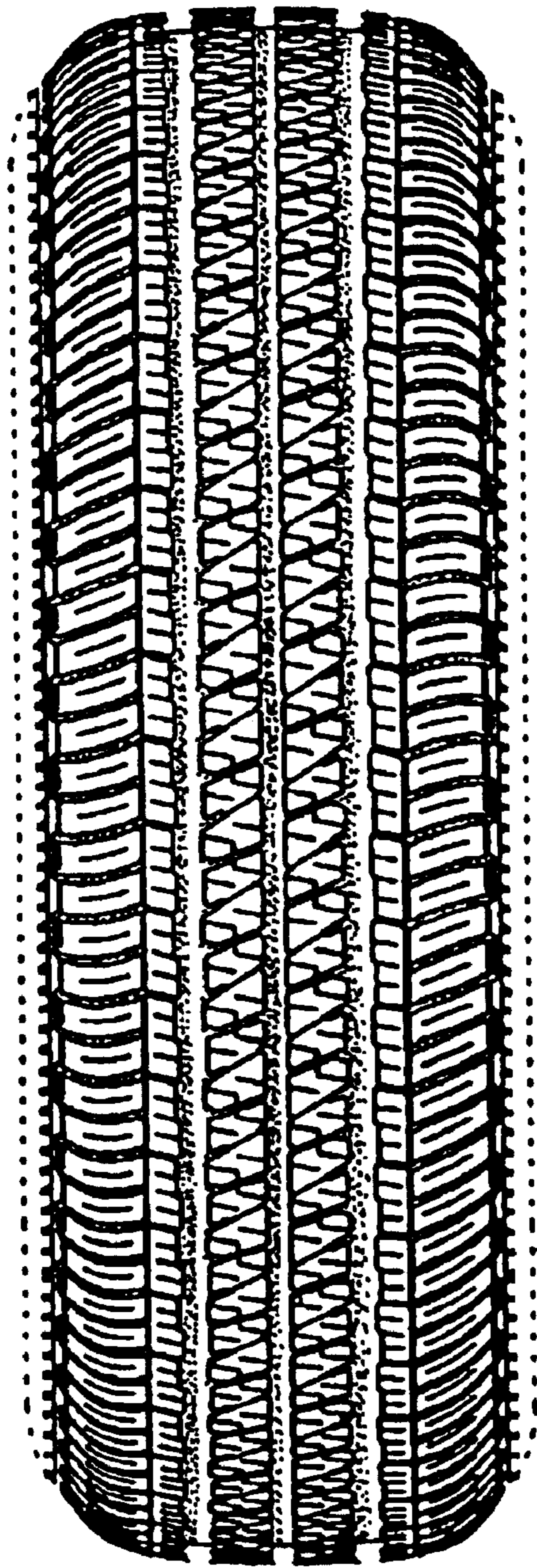


FIG. 3

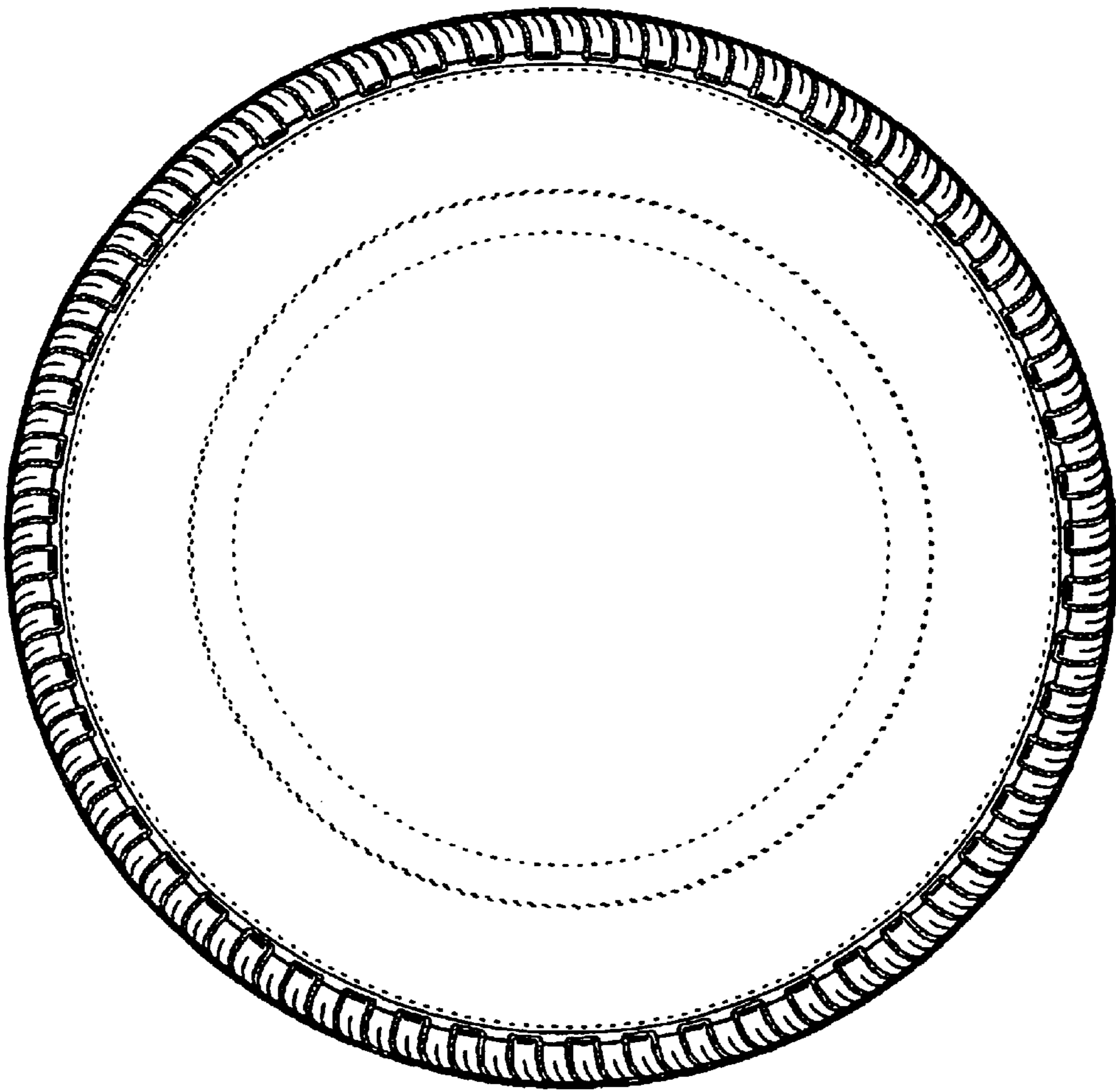


FIG. 4

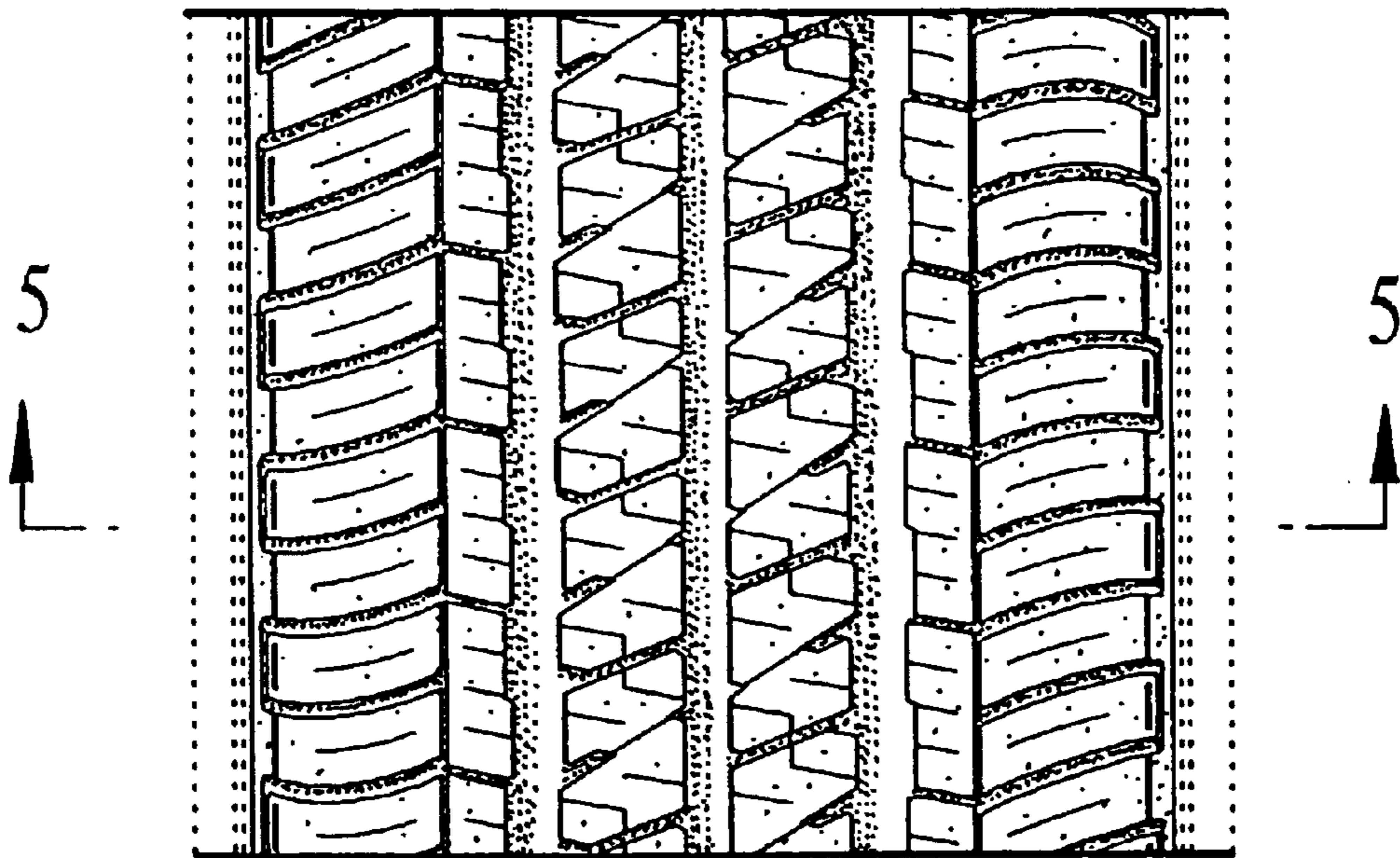


FIG. 5

