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

(10) **Patent No.:** **US D490,046 S**

(45) **Date of Patent:** **\*\* May 18, 2004**

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

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(57) **CLAIM**

(73) **Assignee:** **Bridgestone Corporation**, Tokyo (JP)

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

(\*\*) **Term:** **14 Years**

(21) **Appl. No.:** **29/182,601**

**DESCRIPTION**

(22) **Filed:** **May 30, 2003**

(30) **Foreign Application Priority Data**

Dec. 4, 2002 (JP) ..... 2002-033578

FIG. 1 is a perspective view of the top, front and right side 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;

(51) **LOC (7) Cl.** ..... **12-15**

(52) **U.S. Cl.** ..... **D12/521**

FIG. 2 is a front elevational view thereof, the top and bottom plan views being identical thereto;

(58) **Field of Search** ..... D12/503, 505, D12/512, 515, 519, 521, 531, 532; 152/209.1, 209.8, 209.9, 209.12, 209.13, 209.25, 209.28

FIG. 3 is a rear elevational view thereof;

(56) **References Cited**

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

- D422,247 S \* 4/2000 Gerresheim et al. .... D12/519
- D437,808 S \* 2/2001 Gerresheim et al. .... D12/519
- D438,827 S \* 3/2001 Gerresheim et al. .... D12/519
- D442,524 S \* 5/2001 Gerresheim et al. .... D12/519
- 6,439,286 B1 \* 8/2002 Baumhofer et al. .... 152/209.8
- D483,004 S \* 12/2003 Schomburg et al. .... D12/518

FIG. 4 is a right side elevational view thereof;

FIG. 5 is a left side elevational view thereof;

FIG. 6 is an enlarged fragmentary front elevational view thereof; and,

FIG. 7 is a cross-sectional view taken along the line 7—7 in FIG. 6 thereof.

The elements shown in broken lines are for illustrative purposes only and do not form any part of the claimed design.

**OTHER PUBLICATIONS**

Kumho P'Zen KW15 Tire, 2002 Tread Design Guide, Jan. 2002, p. 42. 2/2.\*

\* cited by examiner

**1 Claim, 7 Drawing Sheets**

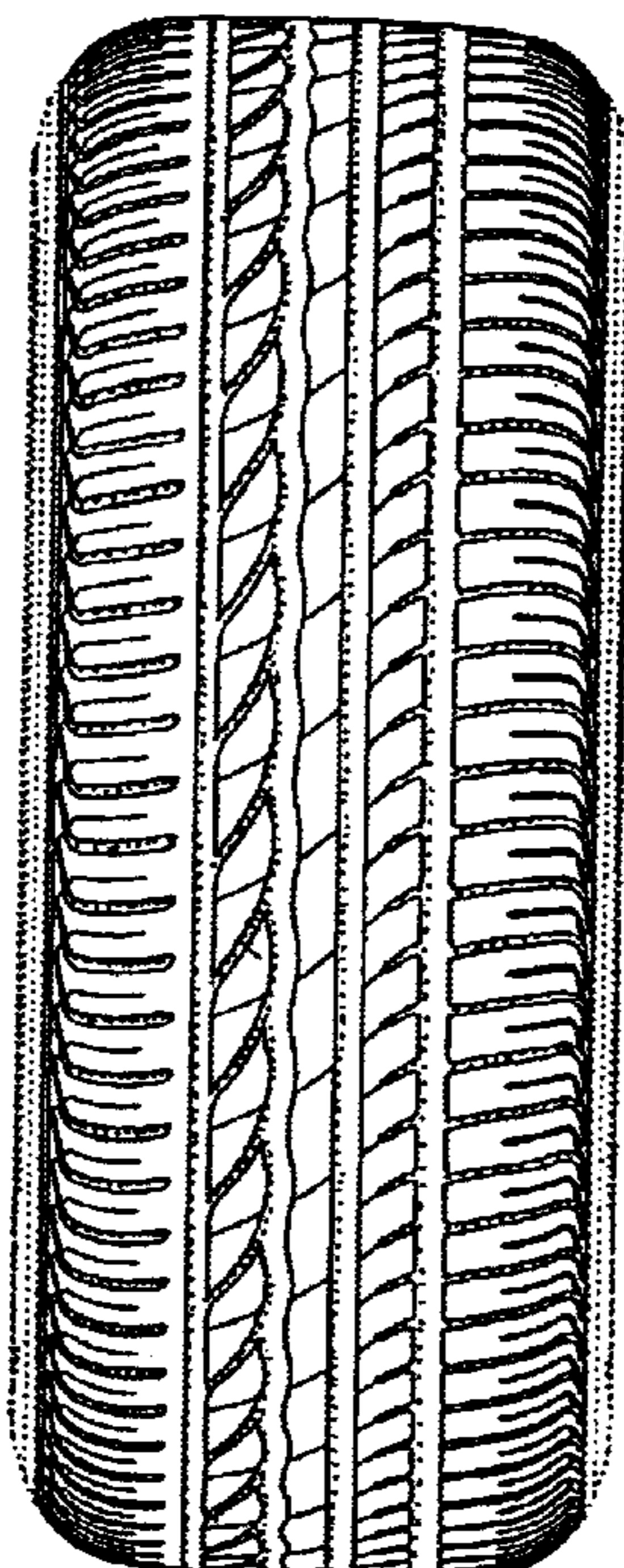


FIG. 1

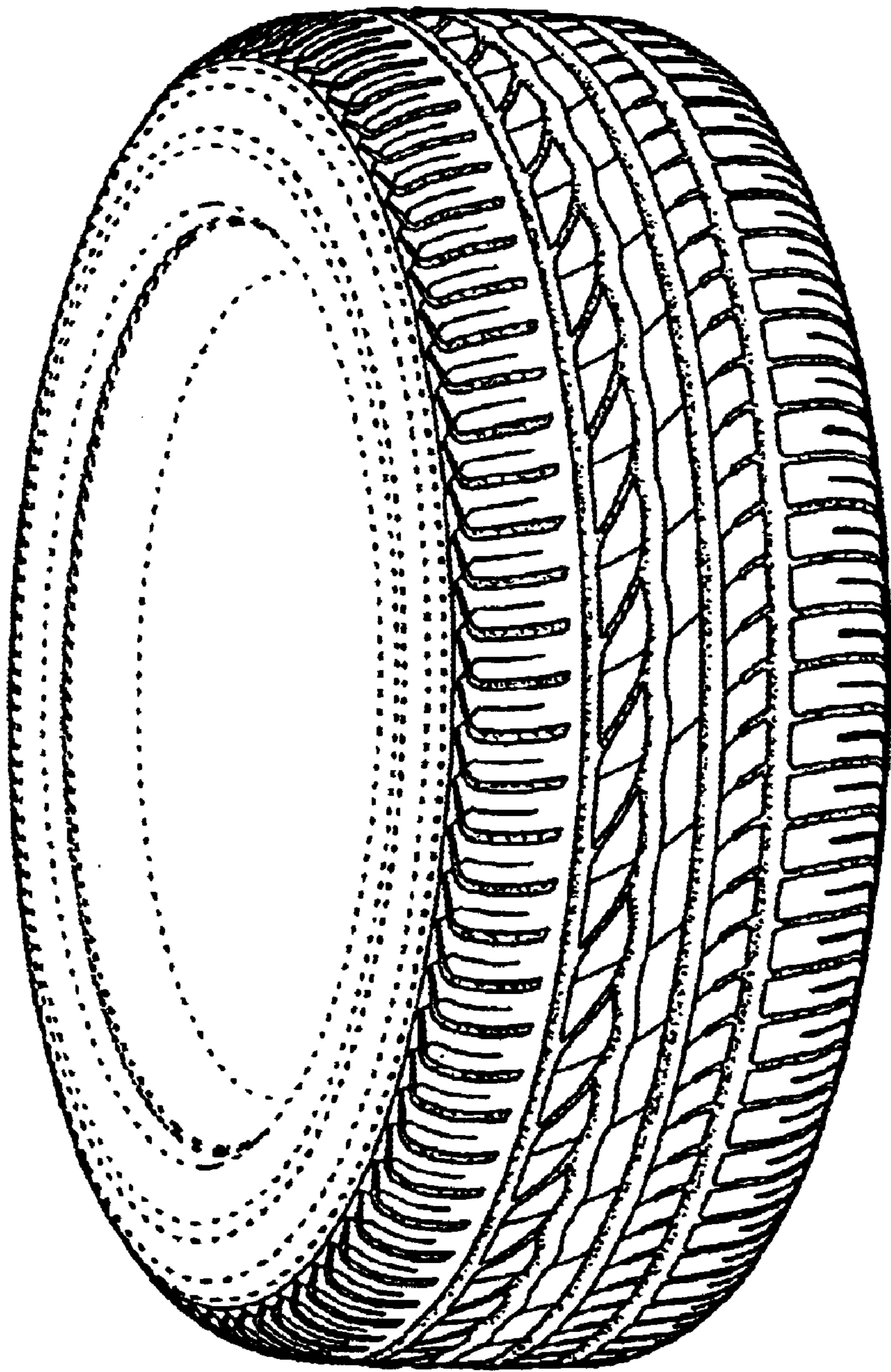




FIG. 3

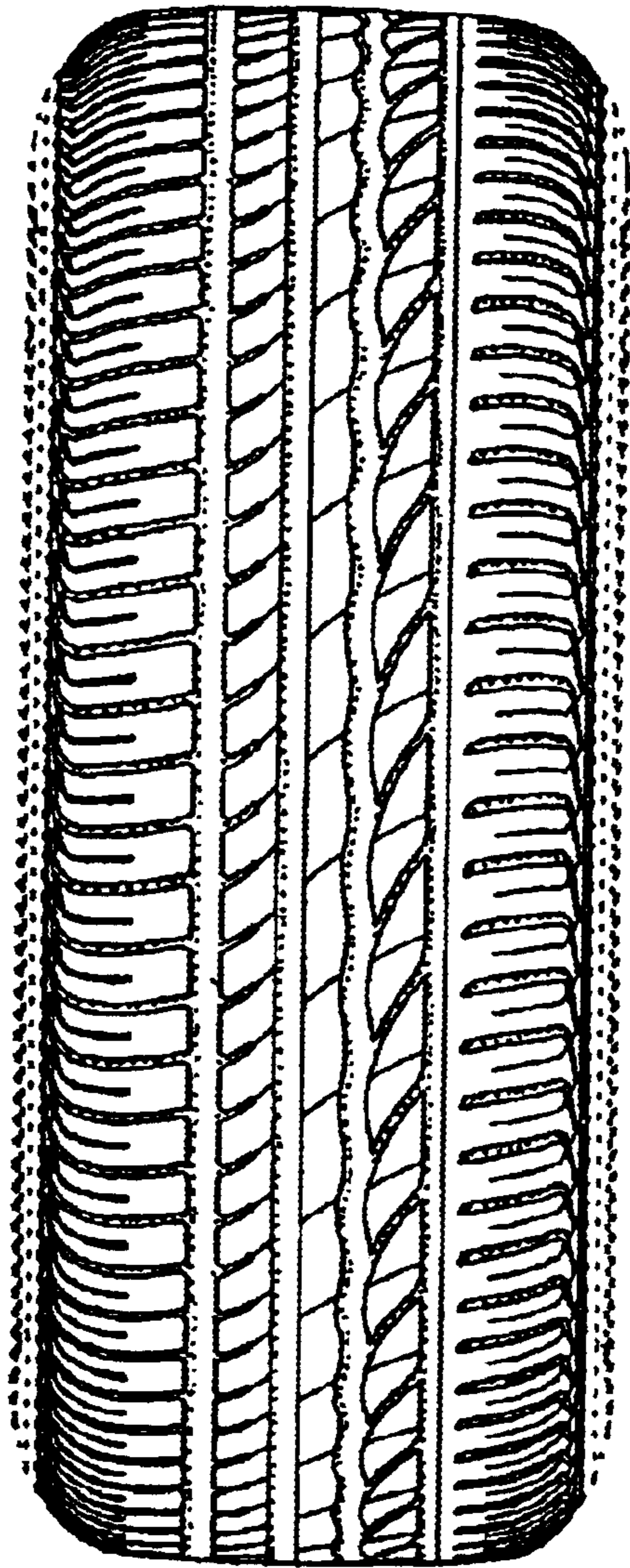


FIG. 4

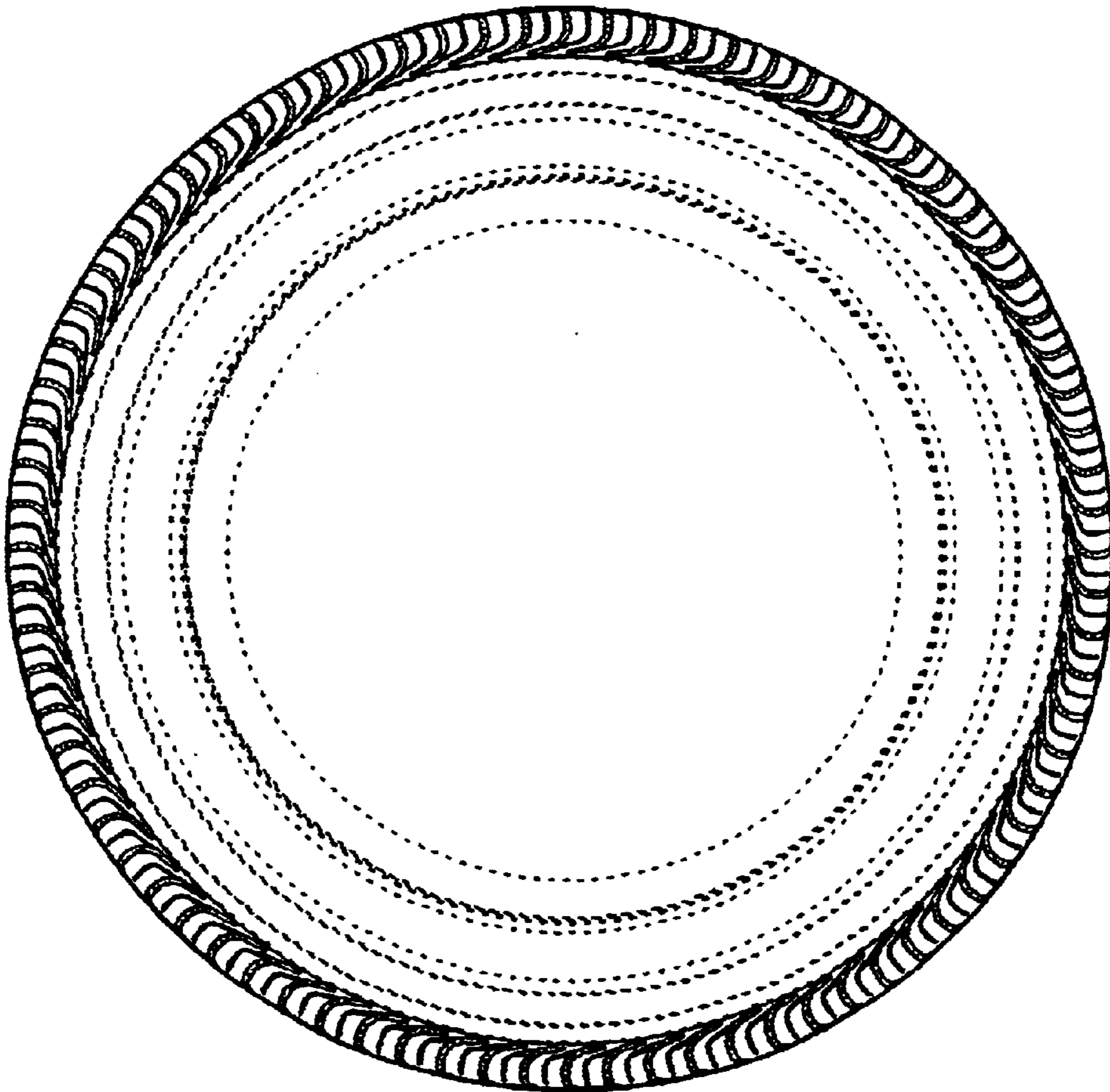


FIG. 5

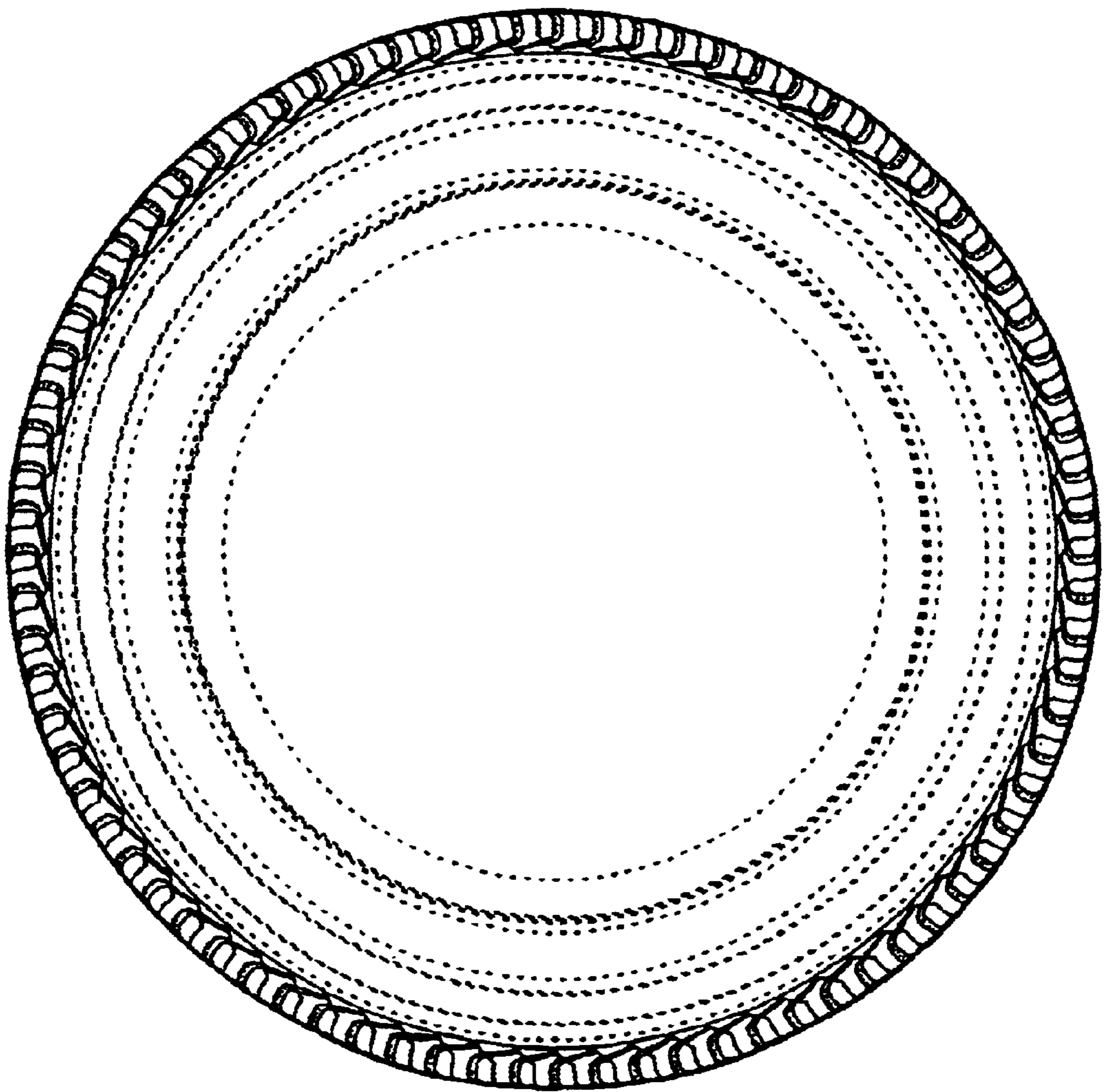


FIG. 6

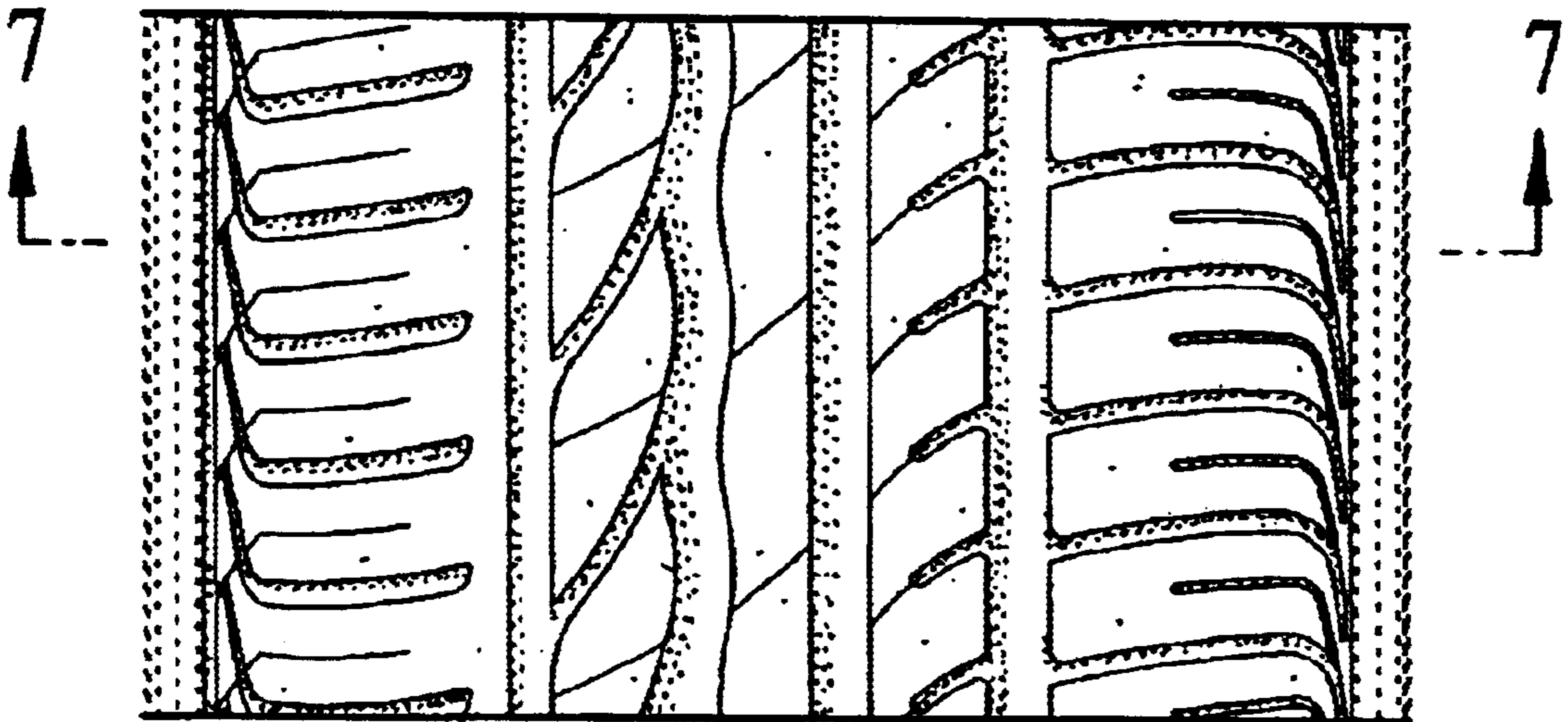


FIG. 7

