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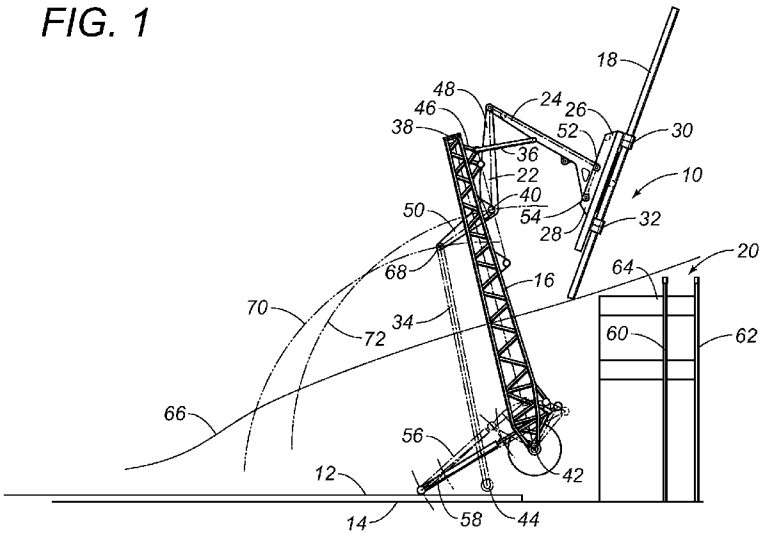
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FIG. 1



(57) Abstract: A pipe handling apparatus (10) has a boom (16) pivotally movable between a first position and a second position, a lever assembly (22) pivotally connected to the boom (16), an arm (24) pivotally connected at one end to the first portion of the lever assembly (22) and extending outwardly therefrom, a gripper (26) affixed to a opposite end of the arm suitable for gripping a diameter of the pipe (18), a link (34) pivotally connected to the lever assembly (22) and pivotable so as to move relative to the movement of the boom (16) between the first and second positions, and a brace (36) having a one end pivotally connected to the boom (16) and an opposite end pivotally to the arm (24) between the ends of the arm (24). The lever assembly (22) has a first portion (48) extending outwardly at an obtuse angle with respect to the second portion (50).

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