arranged such that phases of waves in the circumferential direction are the same.

[0033] The strut 30 adjacent to the end strut 20 is arranged such that a phase of a wave in the circumferential direction is shifted by 180° with respect to a phase of a wave in the circumferential direction of the end strut 20. That is, the strut 30 adjacent to one end strut 20 (the end strut 20 on the lower side on the paper surface in Fig. 1) is arranged such that the crest 32 faces the crest 24 of the end strut 20 in the axial direction. In addition, the strut 30 adjacent to the other end strut 20 (the end strut 20 on the upper side on the paper without illustrations) is arranged such that the crest 32 faces the crest 24 of the end strut 20 in the axial direction. Each of the crests 32 of the struts 30 adjacent to these end struts 20 is connected to the crest 24 of the end strut 20 facing each other in the axial direction through the link 60.

[0034] In the two struts 30 adjacent to each other in the axial direction, some crests 32a of the plurality of crests 32 of one strut 30 and some crests 34a of the plurality of crests 34 of the other strut 30 are connected through the link 70 to be described in detail later. For example, in the embodiment including the struts 30 each having the wave shape of nine cycles in one round, the struts 30 adjacent in the axial direction are connected by three links 70 arranged at equal intervals in the circumferential direction. The crest 34a of the other strut 30 connected to the crest 32a of the one strut 30 by the link 70 is the crest 34 closest to the crest 32a of the one strut 30 among the plurality of crests 34 of the other strut 30.

The link 70 connecting the nth (where n is an even number of two or more) strut 30 and the (n - 1)th strut 30 among the plurality of struts 30 arrayed side by side in the axial direction is shifted in the circumferential direction with respect to the link 70 connecting the nth strut 30 and the (n + 1)th strut 30. Furthermore, the link 70 connecting the nth strut 30 and the (n - 1)th strut 30 is inclined in the opposite direction with respect to the link 70 connecting the nth strut 30 and the (n + 1)th strut 30. Here, the crest 32a is an example of a first crest, and the crest 34a is an example of a second crest. When the odd-numbered strut 30 is an example of a first strut, the even-numbered strut 30 is an example of a second strut. Alternatively, when the odd-numbered strut 30 is an example of the second strut, the even-numbered strut 30 is an example of the first strut.

[0035] (Detailed Structure of Link 70)

In the stent 10, the link 70 connects the crest 32a of one strut 30 and the crest 34a of the other strut 30 of the two struts 30 adjacent in the axial direction as described above. The link 70 includes an extension portion 44 formed on the crest 32a, an extension portion 54 formed on the crest 34a, and a bridge portion 72 bridged between the extension portion 44 and the extension portion 54. In the following description, a bisector of the crest 32a is referred to as a bisector D1, and a bisector of the crest 34a is referred to as a bisector D2.

block copolymer, a styrene-isobutylene block copolymer, or the like. In addition, the biodegradable polymer forming the drug-eluting coating layer 96 may contain a polylactic acid, a poly-β-hydroxybutyric acid, a polyglycolic acid, a lactic acid-glycolic acid copolymer, polycaprolactone, a lactic acid-caprolactone copolymer, a glycolic acid-caprolactone copolymer, a poly-γ-glutamic acid, a glycolic acid-trimethylene carbonate copolymer, or the like.

[0061] A thickness of the drug-eluting coating layer 96 is preferably thin from the viewpoint of purpose of the stent 10, and for example, is preferably in a range of from 1 μm to less than 20 μm, and more preferably in a range of from 1 μm to less than 10 μm.

[0062] <Action and Effect>

Next, action and an effect of the disclosure will be described. In this description, in a case in which a configuration or the like similar to a configuration or the like of the stent 10 of the embodiment is used when describing a comparative embodiment with respect to the embodiment, the description is given directly using a reference sign and a name of the configuration or the like.

When the stent 10 is indwelled in a biological organ (hereinafter, a "blood vessel" is used as an example) having a lumen structure such as a blood vessel, the stent 10 in the reduced diameter state is set in an indwelling device such as a delivery catheter. When being ejected from the indwelling device at a predetermined position in the blood vessel, the stent 10 expands in diameter in the blood vessel, comes into close contact with the inner wall of the blood vessel, and is indwelled in the blood vessel. The stent 10 made of the shape memory alloy has favorable followability to deformation of the blood vessel. A drug is eluted from the drug-eluting coating layer 96 of the stent 10 indwelled in the blood vessel.

[0063] Here, in the stent 10 of the embodiment, the link 70 connecting the crest 32a of one strut 30 and the crest 34a of the other strut 30 of the two struts 30 adjacent in the axial direction includes the extension portion 44, the extension portion 54, and the bridge portion 72. The stent 10 of the embodiment will be compared with a stent 110 as the comparative embodiment to be described below.

[0064] As illustrated in Fig. 4, the stent 110 of the comparative embodiment does not have the extension portions 44 and 54 in the stent 10 of the embodiment. In the stent 110, the crest 32a of one strut 130 and the crest 34a of the other strut 130 of the two struts 130 adjacent in the axial direction are integrally connected by a link 170. The link 170 extends from a portion on a side closer to the crest 32a to be connected with respect to the bisector D1 toward this crest 32a. When viewed conversely, the link 170 extends from a portion on a side closer to the crest 34a to be connected with respect to the bisector D2 toward the crest 34a. That is, in the stent

110 of the comparative embodiment, the link 170 extends from one side with respect to the bisector of each of the crest 32a and the crest 34a (that is, is located only between the bisectors D1 and D2 in the circumferential direction). In the link 170, both ends of an edge portion 174 are linearly formed. That is, in the edge portion 174 of the link 170, one end on the side closer to the crest 32a does not form a common tangent with an edge of the crest 32a at a boundary with respect to the crest 32a when viewed from the radial direction. In addition, in the edge portion 174 of the link 170, the other end on the side closer to the crest 34a does not form a common tangent with an edge of the crest 34a at a boundary with respect to the crest 34a when viewed from the radial direction. Except for the above points, the stent 110 of the comparative embodiment has the same configuration as the stent 10 of the embodiment.

[0065] Since the stent 110 of the comparative embodiment has a configuration in which the link 170 extends from one side with respect to the bisector of the crest 32a or the crest 34a, stress is likely to concentrate on the link 170 and a peripheral portion of the link 170 with a transition from one of the reduced diameter state or the expanded diameter state to the other. In particular, in stents having a configuration in which a circumferential position of the crest 32a of one strut 130 is shifted with respect to the crest 34a of the other strut 130, stress is likely to concentrate on the link 170 and the peripheral portion of the link 170 in the stent 110 of the comparative embodiment. There is a possibility that this stress concentration deteriorates shape accuracy of the stent 110 after diameter expansion.

[0066] On the other hand, the stent 10 of the embodiment has a configuration in which the extension portion 44 or 54 of one strut 30 extends along the bisector D1, D2 from both the sides of the bisector D1 or D2 bisecting the crest 32a or 34a toward the other strut 30. In the stent 10 of the embodiment, the extension portions 44 and 54 are bridged by the bridge portion 72. As a result, in the stent 10 of the embodiment, stress is less likely to concentrate on the link 70 and a peripheral portion of the link 70 with a transition from the reduced diameter state or the expanded diameter state to the expanded diameter state or the reduced diameter state as compared with the stent 110 of the comparative embodiment. Thus, in stents in which a circumferential position of the crest 32a of one strut 30 is shifted with respect to the crest 34a of the other strut 30, the shape accuracy after diameter expansion of the stent 10 is improved in the stent 10 of the embodiment as compared with the stent 110 of the comparative embodiment.

[0067] In addition, the stent 10 of the embodiment has a configuration in which the thickness of the bridge portion 72 is equal to and uniform with the thicknesses of the extension portion 44 and the extension portion 54. As a result, stress is less likely to concentrate on the link 70 and the peripheral portion of the link 70 in the stent 10 of the embodiment as compared with a configuration in which the thickness of the bridge portion 72 is smaller than the thickness of