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(71) Applicant: **MESO SCALE TECHNOLOGIES, LLC.**
[US/US]; 1601 Research Boulevard, Rockville, Maryland
20850 (US).

(72) Inventors: **MIRTCEV, Slavi**; c/o Meso Scale Technologies, LLC., 1601 Research Boulevard, Rockville, Maryland
20850 (US). **KRIVOY, Gary I.**; c/o Meso Scale Technologies, LLC., 1601 Research Boulevard, Rockville, Mary-

land 20850 (US). **KOCHAR, Manish**; c/o Meso Scale Technologies, LLC., 1601 Research Boulevard, Rockville, Maryland 20850 (US). **LEIMKUEHLER, Aaron H.**; c/o Meso Scale Technologies, LLC., 1601 Research Boulevard, Rockville, Maryland 20850 (US).

(74) Agent: **HOOPER, James A.** et al.; Conley Rose, P.C., 777 North Eldridge Parkway, Suite 600, Houston, Texas 77079 (US).

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(54) Title: SELF-ALIGNING GRIPPER ASSEMBLIES FOR ROBOTIC ARMS

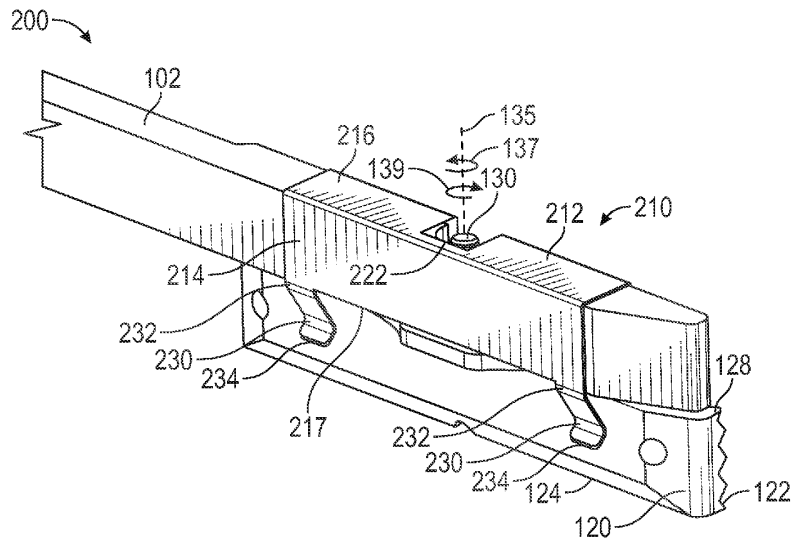


FIG. 12

(57) Abstract: A gripper assembly for a robotic arm includes a gripper finger having a first end and a second end, a gripper pad pivotally coupled to the gripper finger such that the gripper pad is permitted to rotate about a rotational axis relative to the gripper finger, the gripper pad having a pair of sides with one of the sides forming a gripping surface configured to grip an object, and a proximal side located between the pair of sides, and a gripper pad aligner including a pad alignment element coupled to the gripper pad and a finger alignment element coupled to the gripper finger, wherein the pad alignment element is coupled to the finger alignment element and configured to apply an aligning torque to the gripper pad that, when applied, rotates the gripper pad toward a first angular orientation about the rotational axis between the gripper pad and the gripper finger.

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