

A hydraulic actuator (1a, 1b), particularly of the shock absorbing and/or damping type, comprising a piston (2) that is accommodated so that it can slide hermetically in a hollow cylinder (3) so as to divide the internal volume of the hollow cylinder (3) into two chambers (4, 5) mutually separated by the head (6) of the piston (2). The two chambers (4, 5) are connectable separately, respectively by means of at least one delivery duct (17) and at least one discharge duct (18), to a first circuit adapted to feed under pressure a first fluid into one of them with consequent emptying of the other one for the extension or compression movement of the piston (2) with respect to the hollow cylinder (3). The hydraulic actuator comprises a first movable element (7) that is accommodated so that it can slide hermetically in a longitudinal cavity (8) defined inside the stem (9) of the piston (2) so as to divide the longitudinal cavity (8) into two portions (10, 11) with the first one connected to one of the two chambers (4, 5) and with the second one connectable to a second circuit adapted to feed under pressure a second fluid into the second portion (11). The second fluid has a coefficient of compressibility and a nominal pressure greater than those of the first fluid so as to act as a shock absorber and/or damper in case of sudden peaks of pressure in the chamber (4, 5) connected to the first portion (10) of the longitudinal cavity (8) defined inside the stem (9) of the piston (2).