BMW - noises coming from the front end of the vehicle when driving on uneven surfaces

Data sheet	
Manufacturer	BMW
Vehicle model	520 d G31
Engine	2.0d
Engine code	B47
Year of manufacture	2017
Symptoms	Noises coming from the front end of the vehicle when driving on uneven surfaces

Important safety information

Noise build-up in the area of the front axle

With the vehicle type mentioned above, it may happen that distinct clunking noises are audible from the front end of the vehicle when it is driven over uneven surfaces. The noise occurs mainly when the vehicle hits a series of bumps in quick succession, such as on cobblestones or at the edge of the roadway. This kind of noise is perceived inside the car as a dull thud.

Should the above-mentioned defect apply, special attention is to be paid to the stabiliser link (anti-roll bar link) on the front axle.

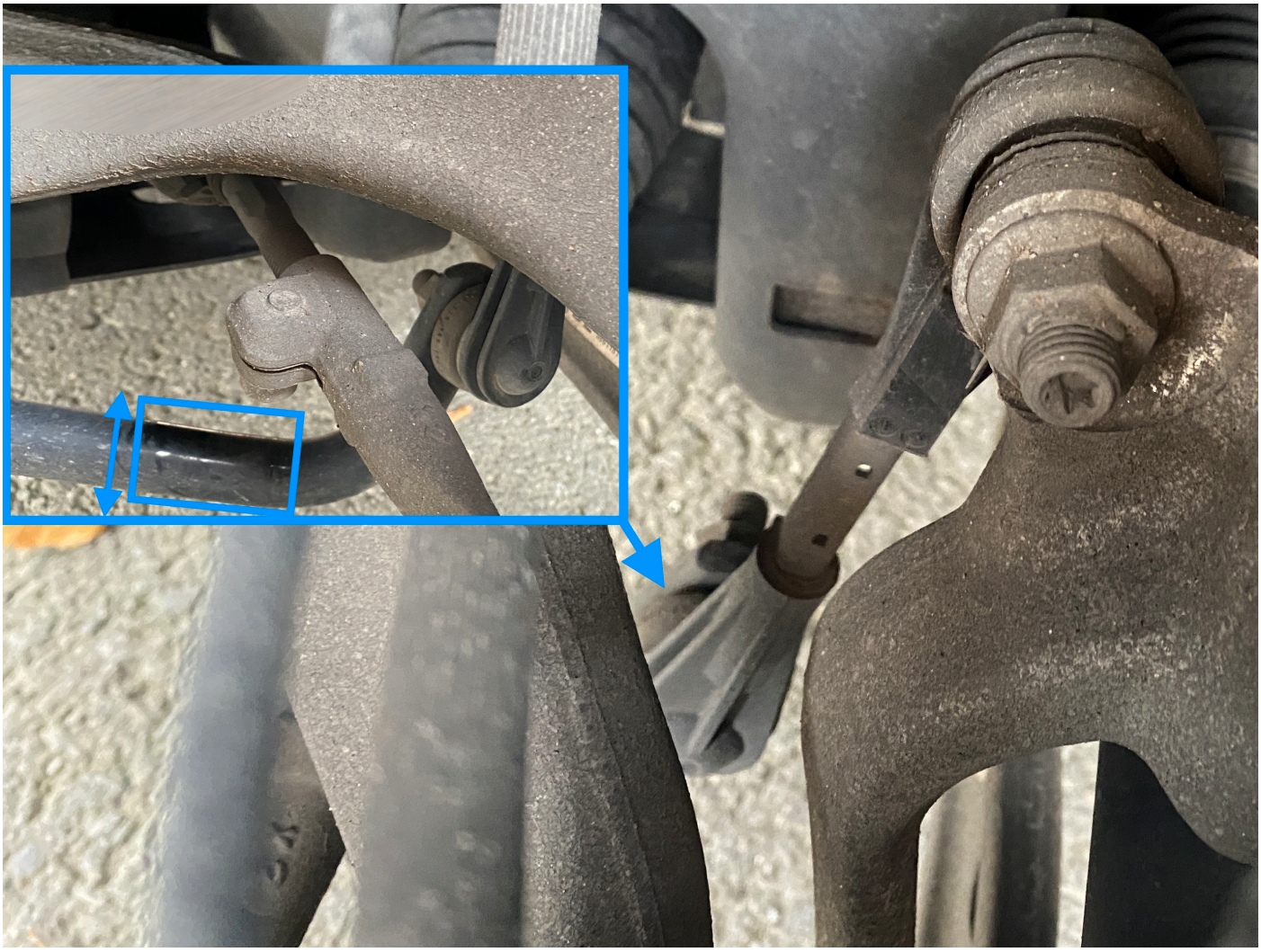
Worn ball joints cause play, which, under load changes and during suspension compression, lead to the noise symptoms described.

So as to troubleshoot the fault, the vehicle must be raised on a lifting platform so that the front axle is completely unloaded. The stabiliser link must then be checked in its mounted state. To run this check, the stabiliser must be gripped directly in the marked area and moved by pressing it up

and down (see Figure 1). If you can feel any play or reproduce the noise, this suggests that the stabiliser link is worn. The check should always be carried out on both sides, as both anti-roll bar links can cause similar symptoms.

If, during the diagnostic check, excessive play or a distinct noise is detected, the affected stabiliser link must be replaced. After replacement, all fastening points must be tightened to the specified torque in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions. Finally, a test drive should be carried out to check whether the noise issue has been rectified.

Please note

Please always observe the maintenance and repair notes provided by the vehicle manufacturer when carrying out such work and checks!

This fault pattern may also occur in other vehicle models with a comparable equipment variant.