

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

There is disclosed a process for hydrogenating treatment of a heavy hydrocarbon oil comprising the successive steps of (1) hydrogenating-demetalizing treatment, (2) hydrocracking treatment and (3) hydrodesulfurizing-hydrodenitrifying treatment in the presence of respective catalysts which process comprises employing in the hydrodesulfurizing-hydrodenitrifying treatment, a catalyst having a pore size distribution restricted to a specific range as measured by nitrogen release method. According to the above-mentioned process, a product oil with a low sulfur content can be obtained in high cracking efficiency from a heavy hydrocarbon oil without equipment trouble due to sludge formation.

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