

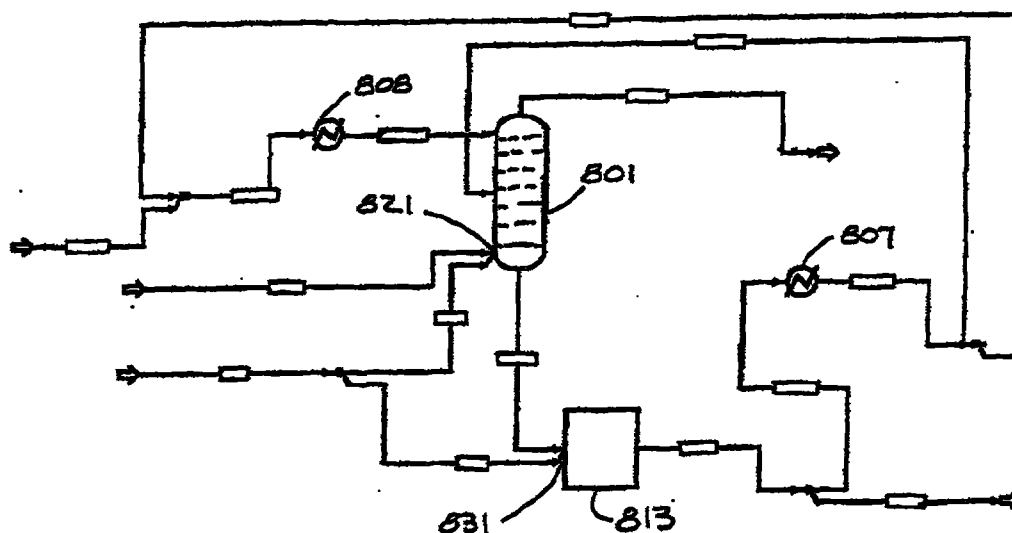
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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF 3-(METHYLTHIO)PROPANAL ✓



(57) Abstract

A process for the continuous preparation of 3-(methylthio)propanal. A liquid reaction medium is contacted with a gaseous acrolein feed stream in a gas/liquid contact zone. The reaction medium contains 3-(methylthio)propanal and a catalyst for the reaction between methyl mercaptan and acrolein. The gaseous acrolein feed stream comprises acrolein vapor and non-condensable gas. Acrolein is transferred from the acrolein feed stream to the reaction medium. Methyl mercaptan is introduced into the reaction medium and reacts with acrolein in that medium to produce a liquid reaction product containing 3-(methylthio)propanal. The non-condensable gas is separated from the liquid reaction product. The reaction product is divided into a product fraction and a circulating fraction, and the circulating fraction is recycled to the gas/liquid contact zone.