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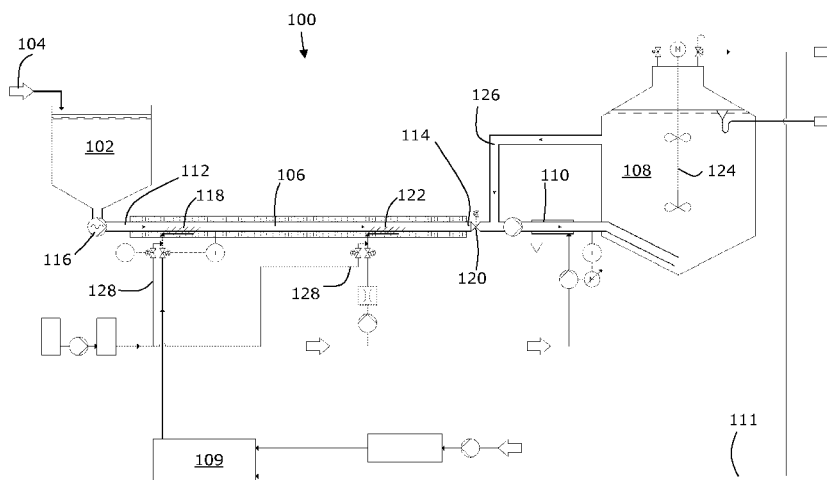


Fig. 1

(57) Abstract: A method for performing continuous thermal hydrolysis of sludge by feeding the sludge into a tube reactor subsequently elevating the temperature and pressure in the reactor. The sludge is cooled by introducing water into the sludge instead of cooling the sludge with a heat exchanger or a similar unit.