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(74) Common Representative: **UOP LLC**; John G. Tolomei,
Assistant Secretary-Patent Matters, 25 East Algonquin
Road, P.o. Box 5017, Des Plaines, IL 60017-5017 (US).

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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **UOP
LLC** [US/US]; John G. Tolomei, Assistant Secre-
tary-Patent Matters, 25 East Algonquin Road, P.o. Box
5017, Des Plaines, IL 60017-5017 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **XU, Zhanping**
[CA/US]; UOP LLC, 175 East Park Drive, Tonawanda,
New York 14150 (US). **MONKELBAAN, Daniel R.**
[US/US]; UOP LLC, 175 East Park Drive, Tonawanda,
NY 14150 (US). **NOWAK, Brian J.** [US/US]; UOP
LLC, 175 East Park Drive, Tonawanda, NY 14150 (US).
MILLER, Robert J. [US/US]; UOP LLC, Suite 600,
13105 Northwest Freeway, Houston, Texas 77095 (US).

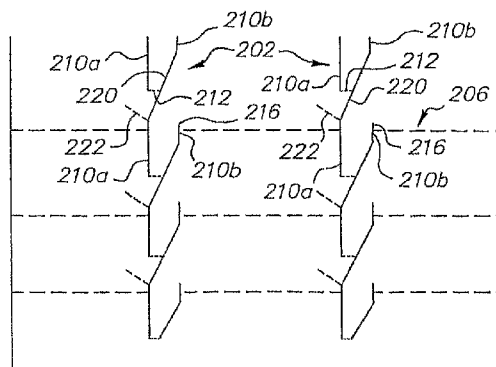
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(54) Title: PARALLEL FLOW FRACTIONATION TRAY



(57) Abstract: The invention comprises multiple configurations of downcomers (20) in a parallel flow multiple downcomer tray (100) for vapor-liquid contacting processes such as the separation of chemical compounds via fractional distillation or the removal of a component of a gas stream with a treating liquid. In one embodiment, side downcomers (104) are incorporated into a parallel flow multiple downcomer tray (100). In another embodiment, the downcomers (202) have an inclined side wall (220) that directs liquid onto the deck (206) below the downcomer. The inclined side wall (220) also provides additional volume above the inferior downcomer inlet to reduce pinching at this inlet without the need for a stilling deck (114).

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