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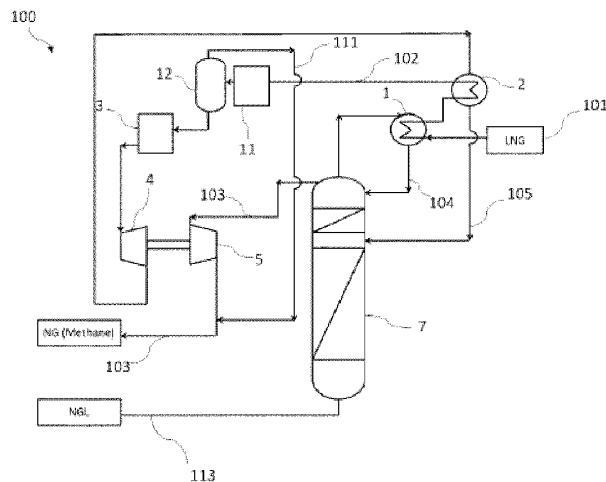


Fig. 1

(57) Abstract: The problem addressed by the present invention lies in providing a natural gas supply apparatus and supply method which make it possible to supply natural gas having a desired calorific value while the recovery rate of natural gas liquid is maintained, without the size of a distillation column being increased. A natural gas production apparatus comprises: a starting material supply flow path (102); a separator (12) for separating, into a liquid phase and a gas phase, a gas/liquid mixed fluid drawn from a first liquefied natural gas heater (11); a low-boiling-point component supply flow path (111) for delivering, as natural gas, a vapor component drawn from the separator (12); a high-boiling-point component supply flow path (105) for introducing a liquid component drawn from the separator (12) into a distillation column (7); a first natural gas delivery flow path (103) for delivering, as the natural gas, at least a portion of a methane-rich vapor component drawn from a column top portion of the distillation column (7); and a natural gas liquid delivery flow path (113) for delivering, as natural gas liquid, a liquid component drawn from a column bottom portion of the distillation column (7).

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