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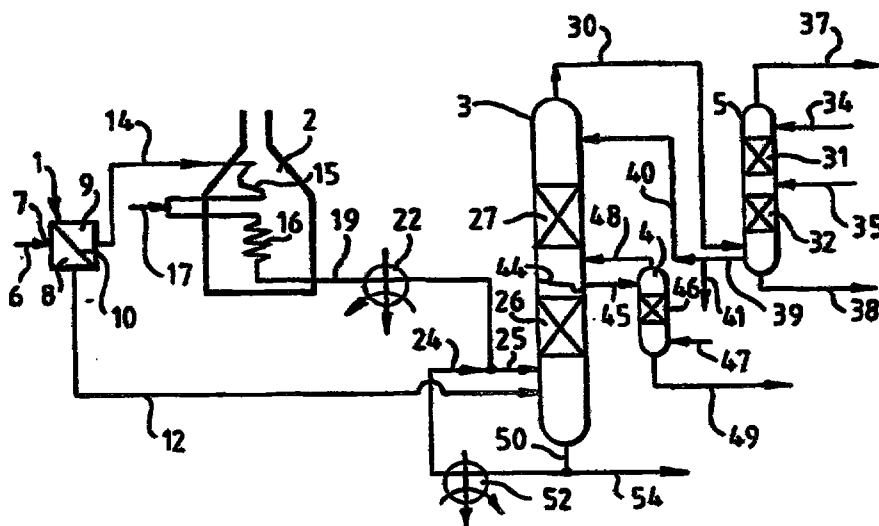
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(54) Title: **PRODUCING LIGHT OLEFINS FROM A CONTAMINATED LIQUID HYDROCARBON STREAM BY MEANS OF THERMAL CRACKING**



(57) Abstract

Producing light olefins from a contaminated liquid hydrocarbon feed by means of thermal cracking of, which process comprises the steps of supplying the feed (6) to the inlet (7) of a membrane unit (1) provided with a polysiloxane membrane (10), and removing from the permeate side (9) a permeate (14) and from the retentate side (8) a retentate (12); supplying the permeate (14) to the inlet of a cracking furnace (2), allowing the permeate to crack in the coils (15, 16) of the cracking furnace (2) in the presence of steam (17) at elevated temperature and removing from the cracking furnace (2) a cracked stream (19) which is enriched in light olefins; quenching (22, 24) the cracked stream; supplying the cooled cracked stream to a fractionation column (3); supplying the retentate (12) to the fractionation column (3); and removing from the fractionation column (3) a gaseous stream (30), a side stream of fuel oil components (45) and a bottom stream (50).