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(54) Title: ELECTRODE AND CATHETER DESIGN FOR DIRECTIONAL LITHOTRIPSY CATHETERS

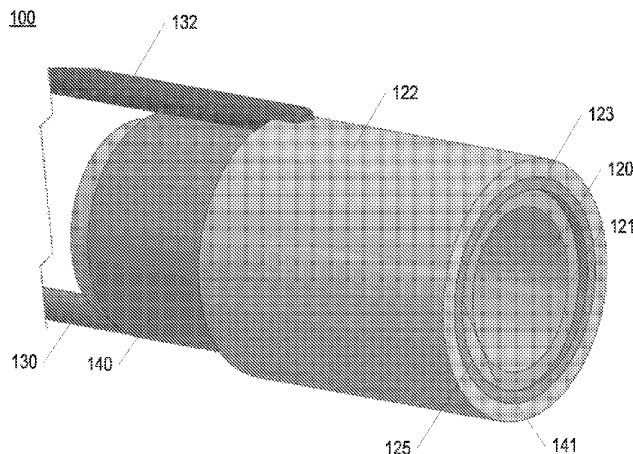


FIG. 3

(57) Abstract: The present disclosure provides a catheter for treating lesions in a body lumen, such as calcified lesions and occlusions in vasculature. When a voltage is applied across the conductive elements, current flows across an arcing region, from one electrode element to another, to produce shock waves and cavitation bubbles. As a treatment continues, the conductive elements slowly erode at the arcing region where current flows between the electrodes. To increase the lifespan of the electrode assembly, the distal edges of the conductive elements may be shaped to promote erosion of the sheaths in a predetermined or semi-controlled pattern.

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