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(54) Title: CONTROLLING MESOPHASE SOFTENING POINT AND PRODUCTION YIELD BY VARYING SOLVENT SBN VIA SOLVENT DEASPHALTING

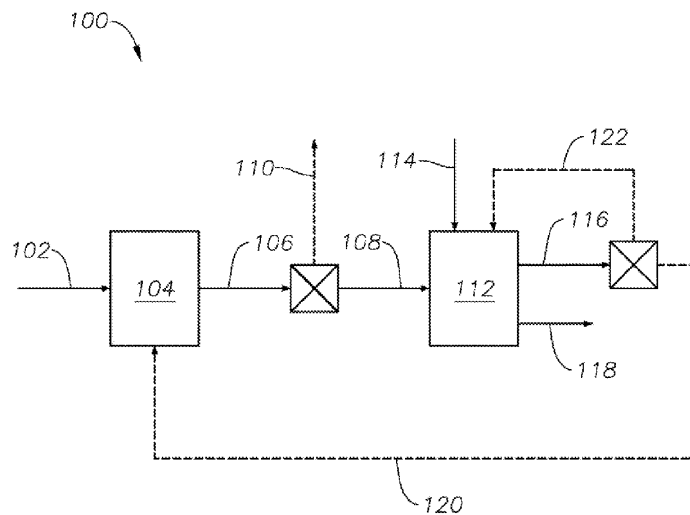


FIG. 1

(57) **Abstract:** A process for producing mesophase pitch, the process including: contacting an isotropic pitch with a solvent under conditions sufficient to produce a solvent fraction comprising the solvent and an insoluble fraction comprising mesophase pitch; and recovering the mesophase pitch, wherein the contacting includes the solvent having a Solubility Blending number (SEN) that causes the mesophase pitch to have a softening point ranging from 270°C to 350°C, as measured in accordance with ASTM D3104-14.

[Continued on next page]

TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW,
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