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(54) Title: SELECTIVE HYDROCRACKING OF NORMAL PARAFFINS

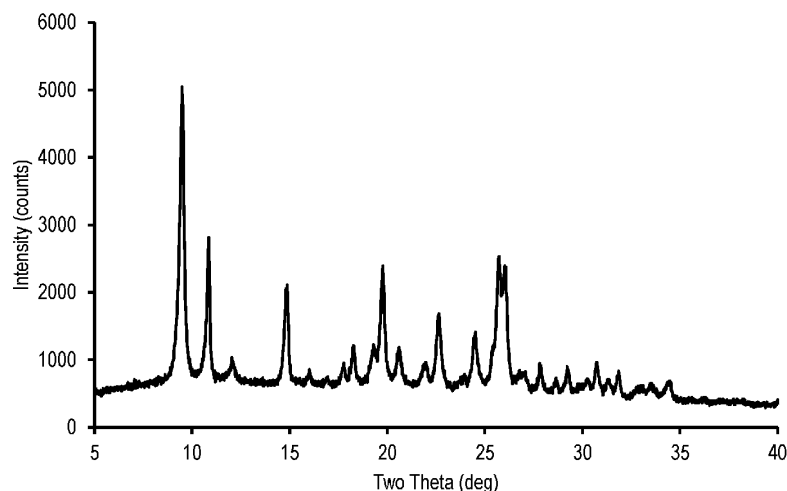


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: Provided is a process for hydrocracking normal paraffins into lighter normal paraffins with minimal formation of iso-paraffins. The process comprises hydrocracking a hydrocarbon feedstock comprising normal paraffins under hydrocracking conditions. The reaction is run in the presence of a specific type of zeolite based catalyst which has been found to provide high conversion with minimal iso-paraffin products. In one embodiment, the zeolite is of the framework PWO. The reaction conducted in the presence of the zeolite based catalyst produces an n-paraffin rich product that needs no separation step before being fed to a steam cracker to produce lower olefins.

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