ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

STRUCTURED PACKING WITH INCREASED CAPACITY

A structured packing element includes a means for intermeshing at least one edge of the structured packing element with an adjacent edge of another structured packing element. The structured packing elements may be used in a packed section in an exchange column which includes: a first layer of structured packing including a first structured packing element having an upper edge adapted to intermesh with a generally vertically adjacent lower edge of a second structured packing element; and a second layer of structured packing located above the first layer of structured packing, the second layer including the second structured packing element having the lower edge adapted to intermesh with the generally vertically adjacent upper edge of the first structured packing element. The upper edge of the first structured packing element intermeshes with the lower edge of the second structured packing element.

Figure 1