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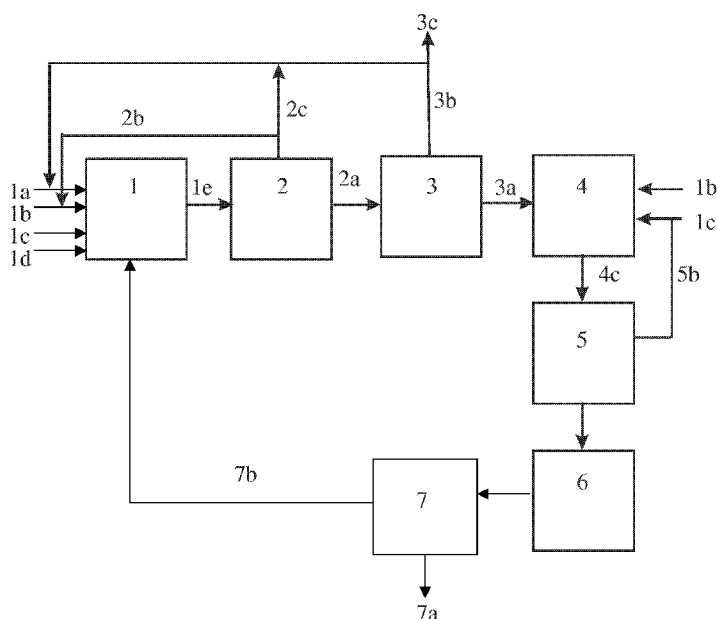
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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF A DICARBOXYLIC ACID



(57) Abstract: A process for the preparation of a dicarboxylic acid, comprising the steps of (a) contacting a conjugated diene with carbon monoxide and water in the presence of a catalyst system including a source of palladium, a source of an anion and a bidentate phosphine ligand, to obtain a mixture containing an ethylenically unsaturated acid and one or more reversible adduct of the conjugated diene and the ethylenically unsaturated acid; and (b) removing unreacted conjugated diene, and the reversible adducts of the conjugated diene from the reaction mixture; and (c) reacting the mixture obtained in step (b) containing the ethylenically unsaturated acid further with carbon monoxide and water to obtain the dicarboxylic acid.



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