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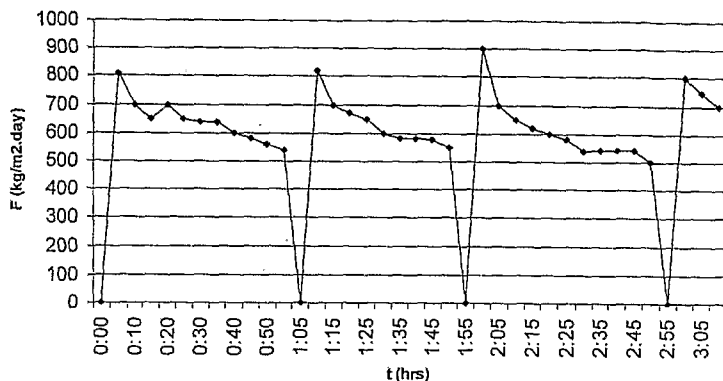
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(54) Title: PROCESS TO SEPARATE COLOUR BODIES AND/OR ASPHALTHENIC CONTAMINANTS FROM A HYDRO-
CARBON MIXTURE



(57) Abstract: Process for separating
colour bodies and/or asphalthenic
contaminants from a hydrocarbon mixture
using a membrane having a feed side
and a permeate side, by contacting the
hydrocarbon mixture with the feed side
of the membrane, wherein between the
feed and permeate sides of the membrane
a pressure difference is applied, thereby
passing part of the hydrocarbon mixture
from the feed side to the permeate side
and obtaining at the permeate side of
the membrane a hydrocarbon permeate
having a reduced content of colour bodies
and/or asphalthenic contaminants, and by
removing the hydrocarbon permeate from

the permeate side of the membrane, wherein during selected time intervals the removal of hydrocarbon permeate from the permeate
side of the membrane is stopped so that the pressure difference over the membrane is temporarily substantially lowered.

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