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(54) **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR TREATING A BOREHOLE**

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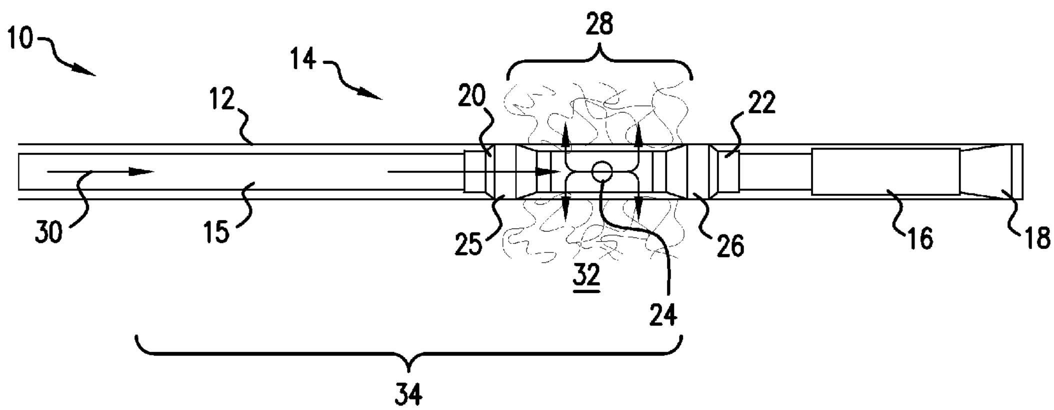
(57) **ABSTRACT**

A method for treating an open borehole including running a tool having axially spaced isolation band assemblies disposed thereon. The isolation band assemblies are deployed by pressuring on the tool. Fluid is applied to the open borehole between the isolation band assemblies. The tool is continuously moved through the borehole along a length of the borehole while treating. Further methods and a system for fracturing a borehole are also included.



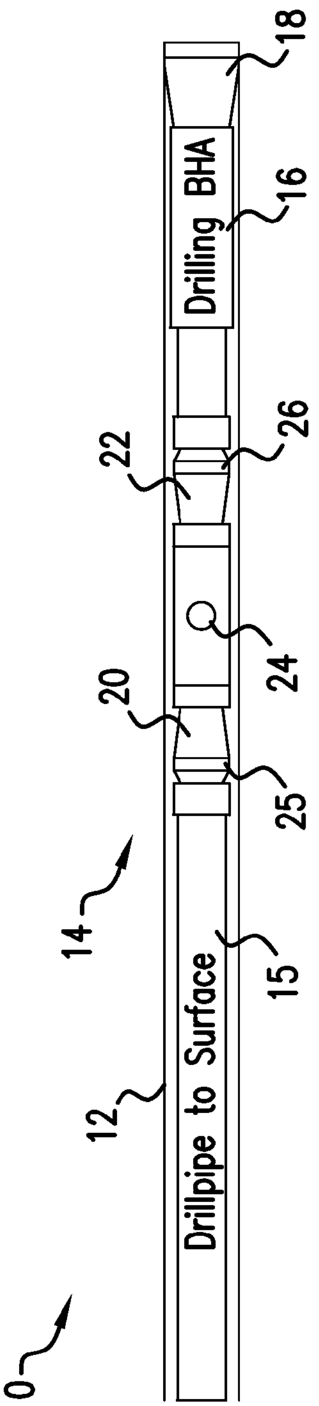

Drilling BHA
Drillpipe to Surface
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FIG.1

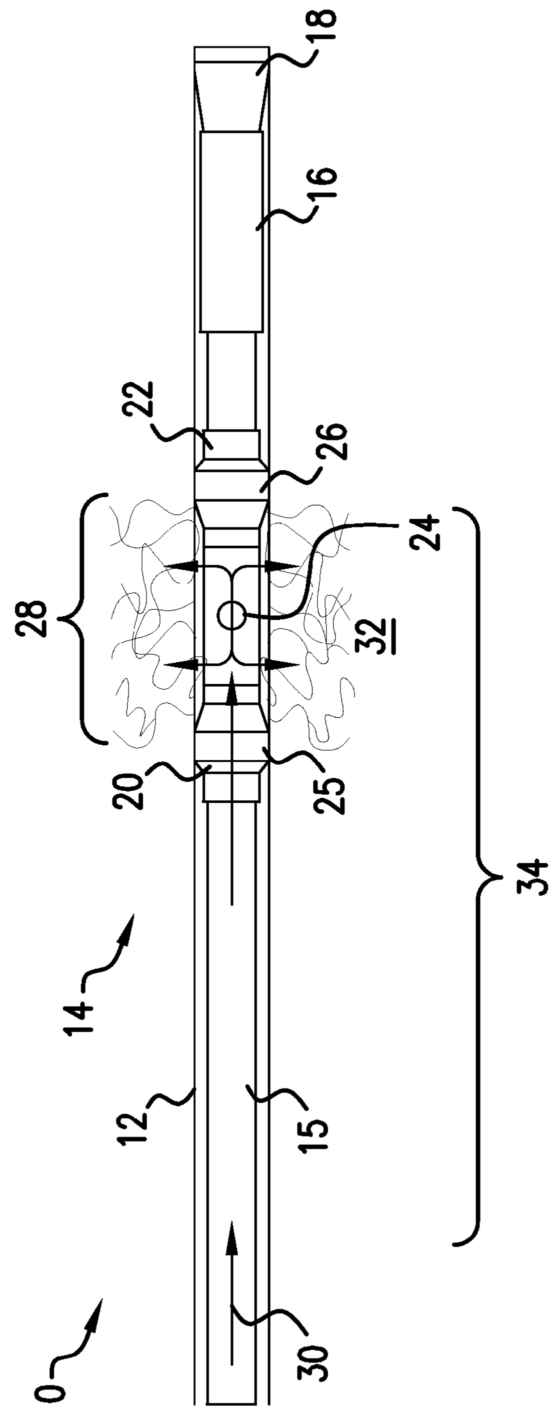
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FIG.2

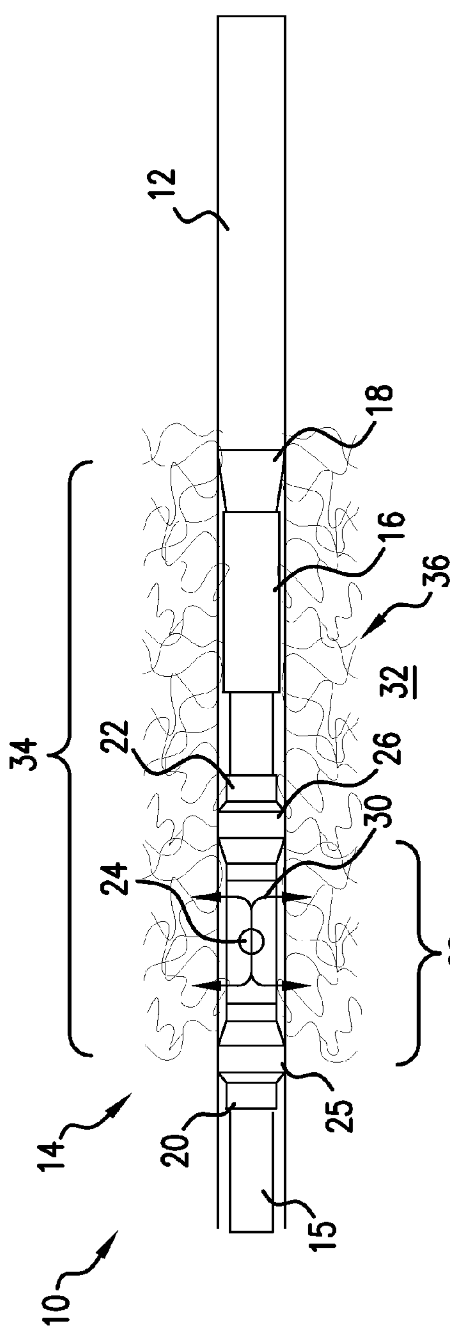

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FIG.3

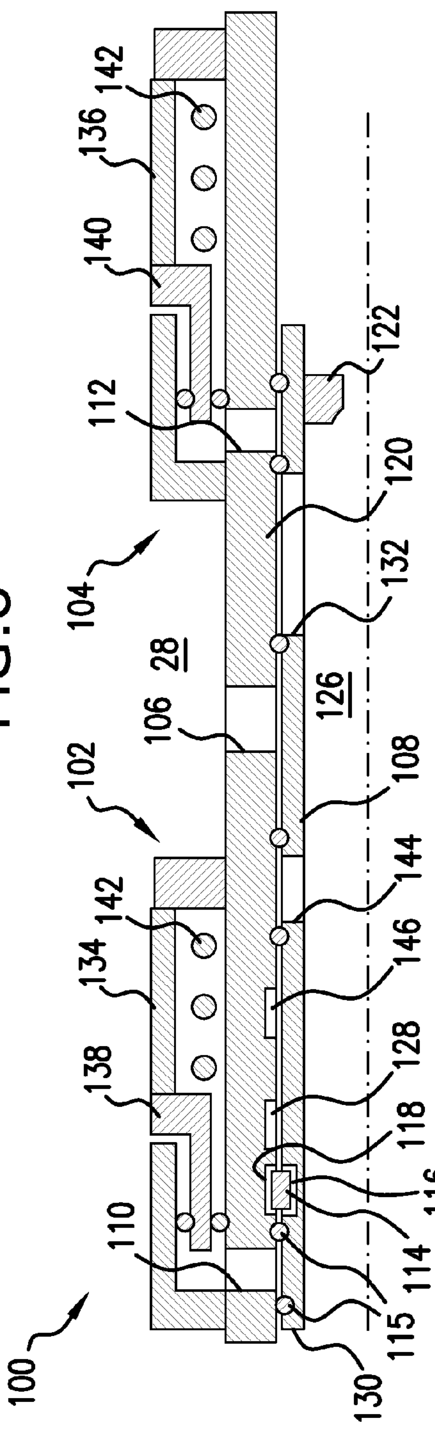

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FIG.4

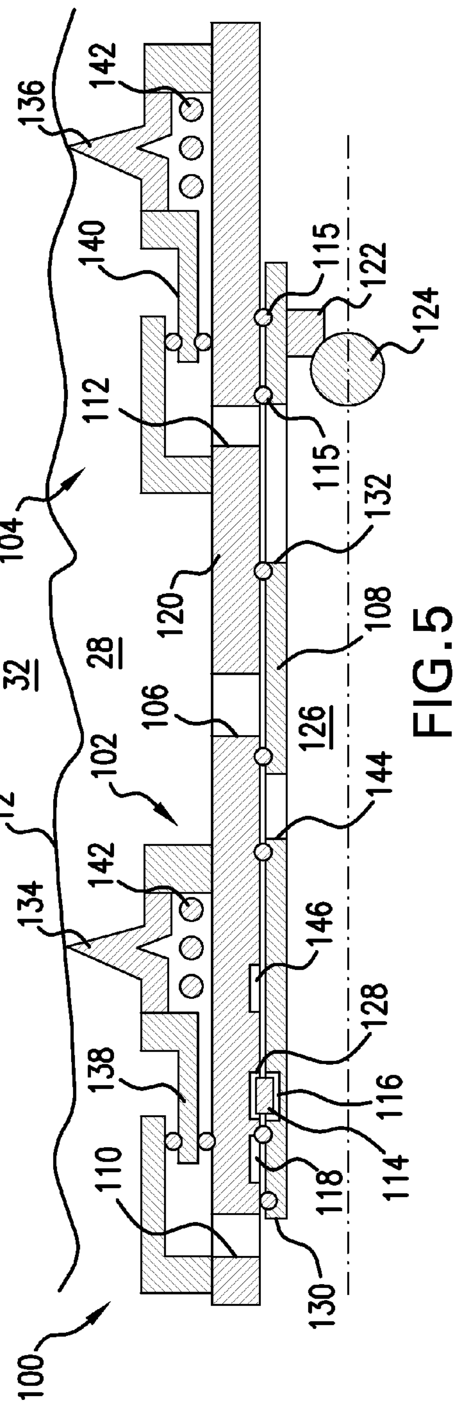
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FIG.5

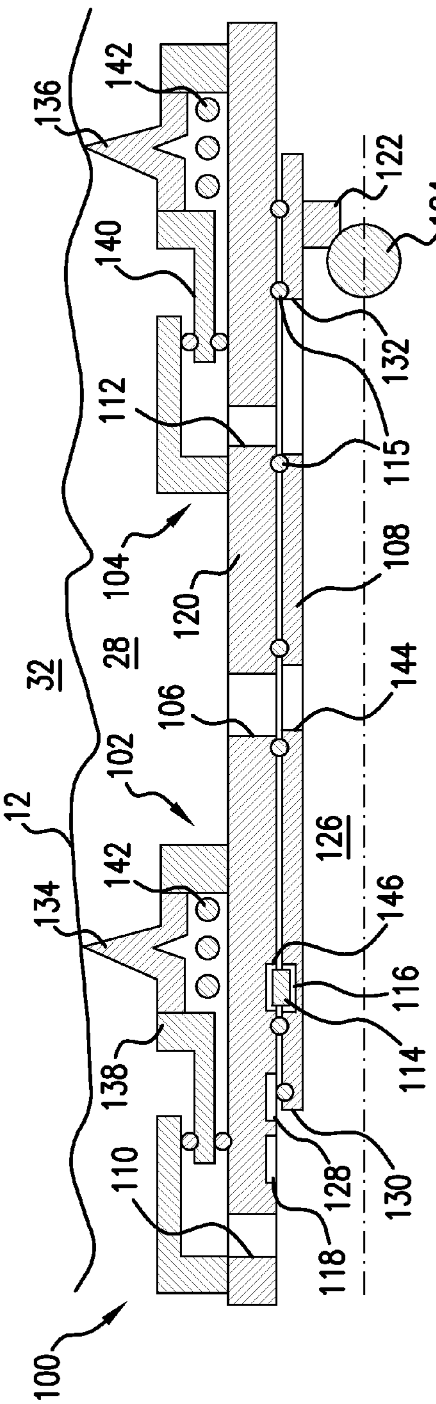
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FIG.6

METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR TREATING A BOREHOLE

BACKGROUND

[0001] In industries that practice in the subsurface environment, such as hydrocarbon recovery, carbon dioxide sequestration, etc., it is often desirable to treat the subsurface formation to affect various physical or chemical attributes thereof. One specific example of affecting physical attributes of the formation is fracturing (fracing) procedures that help to increase permeability of a formation.

[0002] While such procedures are commonly undertaken, they often require extended periods of time to complete and multiple runs in the borehole, both of which increase costs associated with the completion operation being undertaken. Since the art well appreciates new methods that improve efficiency and reduce costs, new methods for doing so with respect to fracturing and treating boreholes are always in demand.

SUMMARY

[0003] A method for treating an open borehole including running a tool having axially spaced isolation band assemblies disposed thereon; pressuring on the tool resulting in deployment of the isolation band assemblies; applying fluid to the open borehole between the isolation band assemblies; and continuously moving the tool through the borehole along a length of the borehole while treating.

[0004] A method for drilling and facing a borehole in a single trip including drilling with a bottom hole assembly (BHA) at a first end of a string, the string including a fracing tool upstring of the BHA, to form a borehole; deploying axially spaced isolation band assemblies into contact with a wall of the borehole; applying frac pressure to the wall between the isolation band assemblies; and continuously drawing the fracing tool in an uphole direction at a frac progression rate while applying the frac pressure.

[0005] A method for fracturing a borehole including running a tool having axially spaced isolation band assemblies disposed thereon; pressuring on the tool resulting in deployment of the isolation band assemblies; applying fluid to the borehole in a zone between the isolation band assemblies; and continuously moving the tool through the borehole while fracturing the borehole with the fluid.

[0006] A system for fracturing a borehole including a tool body; two or more isolation band assemblies spaced axially apart on the tool body; and one or more fluid openings in the tool body between the isolation band assemblies.

[0007] A method for fracturing a borehole including running a tool having axially spaced isolation band assemblies disposed thereon; pressuring on the tool resulting in deployment of the isolation band assemblies; applying fluid to the borehole between the isolation band assemblies for fracturing a downhole formation adjacent the borehole; moving the tool along a length of the borehole; and forming a continuous fracture pattern in the downhole formation along the length of the borehole.

[0008] A method for fracturing a borehole including forming an isolation zone in the borehole having a first length; and fracturing a downhole formation adjacent the isolation zone, wherein a fracture pattern of the fracturing is continuous over a second length longer than the first length.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

[0009] The following descriptions should not be considered limiting in any way. With reference to the accompanying drawings, like elements are numbered alike:

[0010] FIG. **1** is a schematic view of a system for performing a borehole treatment operation according to one embodiment disclosed herein;

[0011] FIG. **2** is a schematic view of the system of FIG. **1** having a pair of isolation bands in a set configuration for treating a section of the borehole;

[0012] FIG. **3** is a schematic view of the system of FIG. **2** after the system has been moved without unsetting the isolation bands or ceasing treatment;

[0013] FIG. **4** is a cross-sectional view of a tool in an initial configuration according to one embodiment disclosed herein;

[0014] FIG. **5** illustrates the tool of FIG. **4** in an intermediate open configuration in which isolation bands of the tool are open to fluid pressure; and

[0015] FIG. **6** illustrates the tool of FIG. **4** in a fully open configuration in which fluid communication through the tool for treating a borehole is established.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[0016] A detailed description of one or more embodiments of the disclosed apparatus and method are presented herein by way of exemplification and not limitation with reference to the Figures.

[0017] Referring now to FIG. **1**, a system **10** is illustrated for treating a borehole **12**. In one embodiment, the borehole **12** is an open borehole, while in other embodiments it could be cased, lined, cemented, etc. The system includes a tool **14** run in on a tubular string **15**. In the illustrated embodiment, the string **15** is a drillstring having a bottom hole assembly (BHA) **16**, which includes a drill bit **18**. Advantageously, the method of the present invention facilitates borehole treatment such as fracing in a single run (i.e., fracturing can be immediately undertaken following drilling with the same string that delivered the BHA into the borehole, the fracing being done while withdrawing the BHA) or a separate run, as desired. Drilling of a borehole in a formation followed by fracturing of the same borehole while the drilling BHA is being tripped out of the borehole improves efficiency and reduces cost. In non-illustrated embodiments, the tubular string **15** could be a work string or other string run into the borehole **12** after a drill string is pulled out.

[0018] The tool **14** includes a pair of isolation band assemblies **20** and **22** that can be radially expanded, enlarged, or otherwise deployed or set in order to sufficiently engage with or against the borehole **12** that fracture pressure will be contained in the target annulus axially bounded by the isolation bands. This may in some cases be a commonly understood seal or in other cases may be a condition that retards leakoff to a point sufficient to enable fracturing prior to bleed off of pressure past the isolation band assemblies. The isolation band assemblies **20** and **22** are initially unset or undeployed, as illustrated in FIG. **1**, in order to promote the ability to run the tool **14** in the hole to perform drilling or other operations. The tool **14** includes one or more ports **24** or other fluid opening that is initially closed, as shown in FIG. **1**, to enable the string **15** to be used normally, e.g., for typical drilling, circulation, or other operations. The assemblies **20** and **22** are shown in a set or expanded configuration in FIGS. **2** and **3** in which isolation bands **25** and **26** of the isolation band assemblies **20** and **22** are engaged against a wall of the borehole **12**. The isolation band assemblies **20** and **22** are transitioned between the set and unset configurations via pressure, spring force, mechanical coupling, etc., or combinations thereof.

[0019] By deploying the assemblies **20** and **22**, isolation of a zone **28** between the assemblies **20** and **22** is achieved. The act of deploying the assemblies **20** and **22**, discussed in more detail below, may result in the port(s) **24** becoming opened, or the port(s) **24** may be opened subsequent to deployment of the assemblies **20** and **22**. Once the one or more ports **24** is/are opened, as shown in FIG. **2**, a fluid or media **30** (e.g., borehole fluid, a slurry, with or without proppant, etc.), indicated by a set of arrows (labeled **30**), may be pumped or delivered through the string **15** to the isolated zone **28** via the port(s) **24**. This enables the portion of a downhole formation **32** contiguous to the zone **28** to be treated, e.g., fractured, by the media **30**. Of course, it is again noted that while hydraulic fracturing operations are particularly benefitted by the illustrated embodiment, any other fluid or media treatment operation could be performed by the system **10**.

[0020] Currently known fracing systems rely on packers that split the borehole into a plurality of separate isolated zones that are fractured individually (e.g., via frac sleeves, plug and perf operations, etc.). Disadvantageously, these known fracturing operations may lead to the downhole formation not being fully fractured, i.e., in the areas proximate to the packers between zones.

[0021] Instead of creating a plurality of separate isolated zones that are individually fractured, as in the aforementioned previously known systems, the system **10** is arranged to continuously treat or fracture the formation **32** along an extended length **34** that is larger than that of the zone **28**. In order to facilitate the continuous treating operation, the assemblies **20** and **22** of the tool **14** remain deployed against the borehole **12** during movement of the tool. For example, as noted above, the tool **14** directs fracture fluid under pressure to the formation **32** within zone **28** as it is pulled out of the hole or moved in the uphole direction. In this way, the assemblies **20** and **22** can be said to be "dragged" along the borehole **12** while the tool **14** is moved by the string **15** along the length **34**. The assemblies **20** and **22** can be initially deployed and the zone **28** initially fractured, as shown in FIG. **2**, and then the tool **14** moved along the length **34** without retracting the assemblies **20** and **22** and while applying a pressurized fluid via the port(s) **24** to continuously fracture the entirety of the length **34** as shown in FIG. **3**. At any instantaneous moment along the length **34**, only the formation contiguous to the zone **28** is being treated. However, as the location of the zone **28** is constantly moving due to the movement of the tool **14** (and "dragging" of the assemblies **20** and **22**), the entire length **34** of the formation **32** is treated over the time it takes tool **14** to traverse length **34**.

[0022] In one embodiment, the spacing between the assemblies **20** and **22**, and thus the size of the zone **28**, is considerably smaller than the distance between the aforementioned statically positioned packers of known systems. Advantageously, this reduces the horsepower required to pump the media **30** downhole for treating or fracturing the formation **32**. The use of smaller zones is infeasible in known systems, as the number of packer systems, and thus the expense of completing a borehole, would increase drastically as the distance between the systems is decreased. It is also noted that a fracture pattern **36** of the formation **32** is advantageously formed as a continuous or uniform pattern (generally, a "continuous pattern"). For example, as illustrated in FIG. **3**, there are no regular gaps or breaks in the fracture pattern **36** along the length **34**. In contrast, currently known system employing statically positioned packers result in areas adjacent to the packers that are not fully fractured or treated, thus forming discontinuous fracture or treatment patterns. A continuous fracture pattern, e.g., the pattern **36**, enables the more complete extraction of hydrocarbons or the like from the downhole formation **32**. For this reason, the system **10** or other systems according to the current invention can also be used, as discussed in more detail below, to fracture or re-fracture existing wells that have already been fractured and/or produced, and/or which may be considered dry or depleted.

[0023] The speed or progression rate at which the tool **14** is moved can be set in response to the particular conditions under which the system **10** is utilized, e.g., porosity of the formation **32**, depth, temperature, materials used for the media **30**, pressure of the media **30**, frac pressure required to fracture the formation **32**, etc. For example, the progression rate should not be so high that the media **30** does not have sufficient time to fully penetrate, fracture, or treat a portion of the formation **32** before the zone **28** is moved out of range of that portion. However, higher rates of speed will reduce the potential of the tool **14** becoming stuck. For example, proppant, sand, or solids in the media **30** can settle and become wedged between the borehole **12** and the isolation bands **25** and/or **26**. Accordingly, it may be desirable to determine a proper progression rate based on these and other conditions and parameters that are determined or measured with respect to the media **30**, the borehole **12**, the tool **14**, the formation **32**, etc. prior to setting a speed or while the operation is proceeding for real time adjustment of the process.

[0024] If the isolation bands become stuck e.g., on a protuberance, projection, or radially restricted area of the borehole **12**, and/or by proppant or other solids becoming wedged or lodged between the isolation bands and the wall of the borehole **12**, several actions can be taken alone or in combination to free the tool. For example, the isolation bands can be retracted, e.g., by reducing the pressure internal to the string **15** used to actuate the isolation band assemblies, in order to permit circulation past the fractures bands in order to clear out settled or lodged particles and then pressure reapplied to redeploy the isolation bands, the string **15** can be forced or bumped in an opposite direction and then continued along its path in the desired direction, etc.

[0025] It is to be appreciated that movement of the tool **14** can be halted and resumed any number of times for continuously treating any number of lengths of the borehole **12**, with the length **34** designating one such length. That is, the length **34** may correspond to the entirety of an interval of the borehole **12** that is desired to be treated or fractured by the system **10**, or the length **34** may be some portion of a desired interval (e.g., determined on-the-fly during the treatment operation, or portions of the borehole between joints, etc.). For example, if the tool **14** becomes stuck, as noted above (e.g., the tool **14** needs to be bumped, the assemblies **20** and **22** retracted and redeployed, fluid circulated past the assemblies **20** and/or **22**, etc.), the length **34** may correspond to a distance along the borehole **12** up to the point at which movement of the tool **14** is halted and corrective action to free the tool **14** occurs. As another example, movement of the tool **14** may be paused or halted if it is measured or determined that the pressure and/or flow rate of the media **30** is too low (e.g., relatively high fluid loss occurs through a particularly soft or porous portion of the formation **32**), if the progression rate is determined during treating to be too fast, or to otherwise ensure a complete and effective treatment or fracture of the formation **32**. In any such case, the length **34** again corresponds to the portion of the borehole **12** up to the point at which movement of the tool **14** is paused or halted.

[0026] In one embodiment, the isolation bands **25** and **26** also exert a sufficient force against the wall of the borehole **12** to induce stress therein that will help the fracture process. More particularly, the contact stress imparted to the formation **32** is substantially equal to or greater than the strength of the formation thus promoting sealing against the formation while inducing mechanical failure of the formation either alone or in combination with the hydraulic failure induced by pressure of the media **30** supplied by the port(s) **24** as discussed above.

[0027] Whether the isolation bands are arranged only to retard fluid pressure escape from zone **28** or to induce stress, or both, the material of the isolation bands **25** and **26** is in some embodiments selected to be resistant to disintegration or wear during movement along the formation while in loaded contact with the borehole **12**. Exemplary materials include various metals, ceramics, and composites, which exhibit good strength properties in downhole conditions.

[0028] A tool **100** suitable for the above-discussed continuous treatment operation is illustrated in FIGS. **4-6**. The tool **100** includes a pair of isolation band assemblies **102** and **104**, similar to the assemblies **20** and **22**, i.e., to engage a wall of the borehole **12** in order to form the zone **28** therebetween. The tool **100** also includes one or more ports **106** arranged similarly to the port(s) **24**, i.e., to provide fluid to the zone **28**, e.g., for fracturing or treating the formation **32** contiguous to the zone **28**. In this way, the tool **100** can be generally used in the above-described manner as tool **14**.

[0029] The tool **100** is shown in an initially closed configuration in FIG. **4**. In this configuration, a sleeve **108** blocks fluid flow through the port(s) **106**. The isolation band assemblies **102** and **104** respectively have one or more ports **110** and **112**, which ports **110** and **112** are also initially closed by the sleeve **108**. A plurality of seal elements **115**, such as O-rings, are included throughout the tool **100** to seal off unintended fluid pathways throughout the tool **100**. The sleeve **108** can initially be held in the closed configuration by a release mechanism, such as a shear screw or ring, ratchet profile, magnetic coupling, collet, spring-loaded dog, etc., such that the sleeve **108** will not open the ports **106**, **110**, or **112** until suitable force is applied to the sleeve **108**. In the illustrated embodiment, the release mechanism takes the form of a resilient member **114**, e.g., a split or expandable ring, disposed in both a groove or slot **116** of the sleeve **108** and a groove or slot **118** of a body or mandrel **120** (e.g., part of the string **15** in FIGS. **1-3**). A seat **122** is included by the sleeve **108** and receptive of a ball, dart, plug, or other object (collectively "plug") to enable the aforementioned application of force for releasing the resilient member **114** or other release mechanism.

[0030] The tool **100** is shown in an intermediate open configuration in FIG. **5**. Specifically, the sleeve **108** can be shifted by landing a plug **124** at the seat **122** and pressurizing an internal passageway **126** of the body **120** against the plug **124**. The plug **124** can be dropped from surface and/or from a designated tool along the length of the body **120** and/or string **15**. When sufficiently pressurized, the member **114** will release from the groove **116** and enable movement of the sleeve **108** relative to the body **120**. The sleeve **108** is held in the intermediate configuration by the resilient member **114** springing into or resiliently engaging with an intermediate groove or slot **128** of the body **120**. When the sleeve **108** is shifted to the intermediate configuration, the ports **110** and **112** become opened, i.e., in fluid communication with the interior passageway **126** of the body **120**, by movement of an end **130** of the sleeve **108** beyond the port **110** and alignment of a port **132** in the sleeve **108** with the port **112**.

[0031] The port **106** remains closed or blocked by the sleeve **108** in the intermediate configuration. To this end, a pair of isolation bands **134** and **136** corresponding respectively to the isolation band assemblies **102** and **104** can be deployed before the port **106** is opened. Deployment of the isolation bands **134** and **136** is achieved in the illustrated embodiment by pressurizing a pair of pistons **138** and **140** corresponding respectively to the isolation band assemblies **102** and **104** with fluid from the passageway **126** provided to the pistons **138** and **140** respectively via the ports **110** and **112**. The pistons **138** and **140** axially compress the isolation bands **134** and **136**, which causes the isolation bands **134** and **136** to extend radially outwardly to engage the borehole **12** as shown. A spring **142** or other resilient member can be included to initially maintain each of the isolation band assemblies **102** and **104** in their undeployed or retracted configuration of FIG. **4**, and/or to urge the isolation bands **132** and **134** to at least partially retract when the pressure in the passageway **126** is reduced.

[0032] Similar to the isolation bands **25** and **26** discussed above, the isolation bands **134** and **136** can be arranged to retard fluid escape, seal against the borehole, and/or exert a fracture force or pressure mechanically on the formation **32**. The isolation bands **134** and **136** are made of, include, or are coated by a metal, ceramic, composite, or some other material or combination of materials resistant to damage, wear, or disintegration of the isolation bands **134** and **136** as they are dragged along the borehole **12** in the manner discussed above with respect to FIGS. **2** and **3**. In one embodiment, the isolation bands **134** and **136** include an elastomeric material covered by a metal or other hard material, such that the elastomeric material helps support the metal from buckling when highly pressured or mechanically forced against the borehole **12**. In one embodiment, the borehole **12** is cased or lined with relatively smooth walled structures, and an elastomeric material, metal, or any other suitable material is used alone or in combination for the isolation bands. In one embodiment, the borehole **12** has already been completed, fractured and/or produced, and may include a cased, lined, and/or cemented borehole, packers, frac sleeves, perforations, cementation, or any other currently used fracturing device or component, and a system according to the current invention is utilized to re-fracture the borehole. In this way, seemingly depleted or dry wells can be revitalized for additional production. The isolation bands **134** and **136** may be scored or include slots, slits, or notches in order to ensure or encourage the isolation bands **134** and **136** to extend in the desired direction and/or create the desired sealing profile. For example, a plurality of different borehole engagement profiles for the isolation bands (e.g., pointed as shown in FIGS. **5** and **6**, rounded, squared off, etc.) is taught in U.S. Pat. No. 6,896,049 to Moyes, which patent is hereby incorporated by reference in its entirety, and the teachings of which are generally applicable to the operation and/or structure of isolation band assemblies according to various embodiments.

[0033] In lieu of the axially compressible members shown, one of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that radial deployment of isolation band assemblies could be accomplished in other ways. For example, the deployment could be the result of radially expanding an isolation band, plastically and/or elastically, e.g., with a wedge or cone, inflating a chamber at least partially defined by the isolation bands with a pressurized fluid, etc. It is also noted that the pertinent parameters of the release mechanism can be set to resist further actuation of the sleeve **108** until the pressure to fully set or deploy the isolation band assemblies **102** and **104** is reached. For example, with respect to the groove **128**, the depth of the groove **128**, the angle of the edge of the groove **128**, etc., can be set to resist a selected threshold pressure. For example, a higher pressure must be provided to release the resilient member **114** from a relatively deeper groove and/or a groove having walls at angles approaching perpendicularity with the direction of movement of the sleeve **108** than if the groove **128** were shallower or had a more gently tapered edge.

[0034] Once a suitable pressure is reached to release the member **114** from the groove **128**, the sleeve **108** is further actuated to open the port(s) **106** by aligning the port(s) **106** with one or more ports **144** in the sleeve **108**. The sleeve **108** is held in the fully open configuration of FIG. **6** by way of the resilient member **114** engaging with a groove or slot **146** in the body **120** or some other manner such as a stop. Once the port(s) **106** is opened, the passageway **126** is in fluid communication with the zone **28** between the assemblies **102** and **104**. If the tool **100** is used in a fracturing operation, a proppant slurry can then be communicated to the zone **28** for fracturing the formation **32**. Other fluids can be similarly communicated for treating the formation **32** contiguous to the zone **28**.

[0035] While the invention has been described with reference to an exemplary embodiment or embodiments, it will be understood by those skilled in the art that various changes may be made and equivalents may be substituted for elements thereof without departing from the scope of the invention. In addition, many modifications may be made to adapt a particular situation or material to the teachings of the invention without departing from the essential scope thereof. Therefore, it is intended that the invention not be limited to the particular embodiment disclosed as the best mode contemplated for carrying out this invention, but that the invention will include all embodiments falling within the scope of the claims. Also, in the drawings and the description, there have been disclosed exemplary embodiments of the invention and, although specific terms may have been employed, they are unless otherwise stated used in a generic and descriptive sense only and not for purposes of limitation, the scope of the invention therefore not being so limited. Moreover, the use of the terms first, second, etc. do not denote any order or importance, but rather the terms first, second, etc. are used to distinguish one element from another. Furthermore, the use of the terms a, an, etc. do not denote a limitation of quantity, but rather denote the presence of at least one of the referenced item.

What is claimed is:

1. A method for treating an open borehole comprising:
running a tool having axially spaced isolation band assemblies disposed thereon;
pressuring on the tool resulting in deployment of the isolation band assemblies;
applying fluid to the open borehole between the isolation band assemblies; and
continuously moving the tool through the borehole along a length of the borehole while treating.

2. The method of claim **1**, wherein the pressuring is subsequent to seating a plug in the tool.

3. The method of claim **2**, wherein seating the plug includes landing the plug at a seat of a sleeve of the tool, the pressuring includes shifting a sleeve in order to open a port, and the applying includes flowing fluid through the port.

4. The method of claim **2**, further comprising dropping the plug from surface.

5. The method of claim **1**, wherein the applying is applying fracture pressure.

6. The method of claim **1**, wherein the continuously moving is at a progression rate related to a particular formation in which the method is being employed.

7. The method of claim **1**, wherein the pressuring includes shifting a sleeve.

8. The method of claim **1**, wherein the deployment of the isolation band assemblies includes axially compressing isolation bands of the isolation band assemblies, resulting in radial extension of the isolation bands.

9. A method for drilling and fracing a borehole in a single trip comprising:
drilling with a bottom hole assembly (BHA) at a first end of a string, the string including a fracing tool upstring of the BHA, to form a borehole;
deploying axially spaced isolation band assemblies into contact with a wall of the borehole;
applying frac pressure to the wall between the isolation band assemblies; and
continuously drawing the fracing tool in an uphole direction at a frac progression rate while applying the frac pressure.

10. The method of claim **9**, wherein the drilling includes circulation.

11. The method of claim **9**, wherein the deploying includes seating a plug in a seat of the fracing tool.

12. The method of claim **11**, wherein the method includes shifting a sleeve that is operatively connected to the seat to open a port to the wall of the borehole between the isolation band assemblies.

13. The method of claim **9**, wherein the deploying includes imposing hoop stress in the borehole.

14. The method of claim **9**, wherein pressure is relieved to at least partially retract the isolation band assemblies.

15. The method of claim **14**, further comprising circulating.

16. A method for fracturing a borehole comprising:
running a tool having axially spaced isolation band assemblies disposed thereon;
pressuring on the tool resulting in deployment of the isolation band assemblies;
applying fluid to the borehole in a zone between the isolation band assemblies; and
continuously moving the tool through the borehole while fracturing the borehole with the fluid.

17. The method of claim **16**, wherein the borehole has been fractured or produced prior to performing the method.

18. A system for fracturing a borehole comprising:
a tool body;
two or more isolation band assemblies spaced axially apart on the tool body; and

one or more fluid openings in the tool body between the isolation band assemblies.

19. The system of claim **18**, wherein the two or more isolation band assemblies are operatively arranged to extend radially outwardly against a borehole wall in order to isolate a zone therebetween.

20. The system of claim **19**, wherein the tool body is operatively arranged to be moved a desired length along the borehole while maintaining engagement of the two or more isolation band assemblies with the borehole.

21. The system of claim **19**, wherein each of the two or more isolation band assemblies includes an isolation band that is operatively arranged to be axially compressed and radially extended via pressure within the tool body.

22. The system of claim **22** further comprising a sleeve having a seat receptive of a plug, the sleeve movable between an initial configuration in which the one or more openings are closed and fluid communication is blocked between the two or more isolation band assemblies and the pressure in the tool body, an intermediate configuration in which the two or more isolation band assemblies become in fluid communication with the pressure in the tool body, and a fully open configuration in which the one or more openings are also in flow communication with the pressure in the tool body.

23. A method for fracturing a borehole comprising:

running a tool having axially spaced isolation band assemblies disposed thereon;

pressuring on the tool resulting in deployment of the isolation band assemblies;

applying fluid to the borehole between the isolation band assemblies for fracturing a downhole formation adjacent the borehole;

moving the tool along a length of the borehole; and

forming a continuous fracture pattern in the downhole formation along the length of the borehole.

24. A method for fracturing a borehole comprising:

forming an isolation zone in the borehole having a first length; and

fracturing a downhole formation adjacent the isolation zone, wherein a fracture pattern of the fracturing is continuous over a second length longer than the first length.

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