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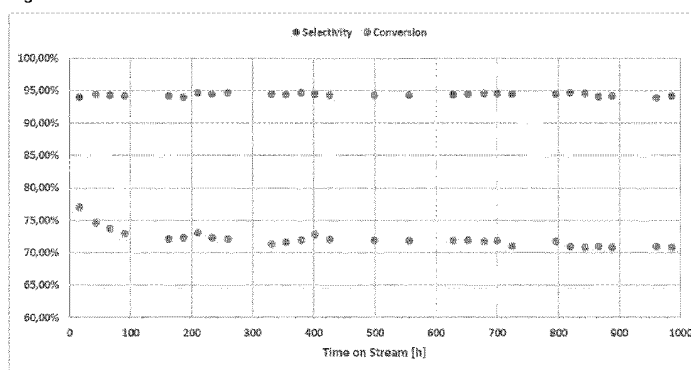
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(54) **Title:** REACTOR AND PROCESS FOR PRODUCING ALKYL (METH)ACRYLATES

Figure 1



(57) **Abstract:** The present invention relates to a novel process and reactors suitable therefor for performing a heterogeneously catalysed oxidation reaction, in the presence of a pulverulent noble metal- containing catalyst, of (meth)acrolein, an alkyl alcohol, in particular methanol, and an oxygen- containing gas to an alkyl (meth)acrylate, in particular to methyl (meth)acrylate. A particular aspect is here the effective retention of the particulate catalyst and the continuous discharge of fines fractions of the catalyst powder which are present particularly in a fresh catalyst batch as a consequence of its preparation. Such fines fractions may also be produced by abrasion during the reaction. A further feature is the effective recycling, recovery and utilization of these discharged catalyst fractions.

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