

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
03 February 2022 (03.02.2022)



(10) International Publication Number
WO 2022/022939 A1

(51) International Patent Classification:
C07C 67/39 (2006.01) C07C 69/54 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/EP2021/068155

(22) International Filing Date:
01 July 2021 (01.07.2021)

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
20188528.2 30 July 2020 (30.07.2020) EP

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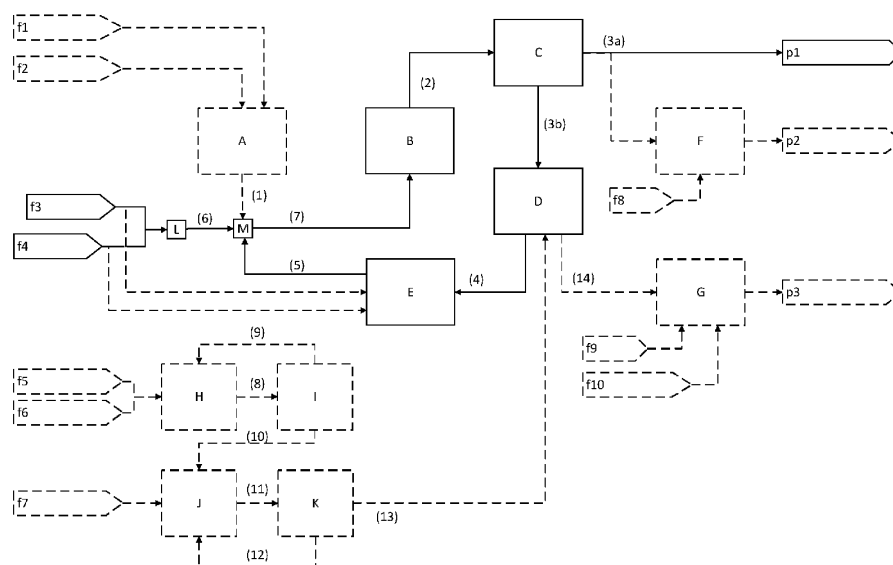
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(81) Designated States (unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of national protection available): AE, AG, AL, AM, AO, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BH, BN, BR, BW, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CL, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DJ, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IR, IS, IT, JO, JP, KE, KG, KH, KN, KP, KR, KW, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LU, LY, MA, MD, ME, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MY, MZ, NA, NG, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PA, PE, PG, PH, PL, PT, QA, RO, RS, RU, RW, SA, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, WS, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(54) Title: PROCESS FOR MINIMISING THE LOSS OF ACTIVITY IN REACTION STEPS CARRIED OUT IN CIRCULATION

Fig. 1



(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a novel process for preparing methacrylates, such as methacrylic acid and/or alkyl methacrylates, especially MMA. The present invention is based on prolonging of the catalyst service life and an increase in efficiency of preparation processes based on C2 or C4 raw materials, i.e. especially those processes that proceed from isobutylene or tert-butanol or ethylene as raw material. It has been possible by the present process according to the invention to perform such processes for longer periods without disruption, with constant or even increased activities and selectivities. This gives rise to the possibility of performing such processes in a very simple, economically viable and environmentally benign manner. In addition, it has been possible by the present process according to the invention to minimize known safety risks that emanate from the methacrolein intermediate.

[Continued on next page]

(84) Designated States (*unless otherwise indicated, for every kind of regional protection available*): ARIPO (BW, GH, GM, KE, LR, LS, MW, MZ, NA, RW, SD, SL, ST, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, RU, TJ, TM), European (AL, AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HR, HU, IE, IS, IT, LT, LU, LV, MC, MK, MT, NL, NO, PL, PT, RO, RS, SE, SI, SK, SM, TR), OAPI (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, KM, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

Published:

— with international search report (Art. 21(3))