

CORRECTED VERSION

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau

(43) International Publication Date
2 October 2014 (02.10.2014)



(10) International Publication Number
WO 2014/158985 A8

(51) International Patent Classification:

B01J 23/44 (2006.01) *C07C 2/74* (2006.01)
B01J 29/74 (2006.01) *B01J 37/00* (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/US2014/021280

(22) International Filing Date:

6 March 2014 (06.03.2014)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

61/804,962 25 March 2013 (25.03.2013) US
13173550.8 25 June 2013 (25.06.2013) EP

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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, DK, DM, DO, DZ, EC, EE, EG, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, GT, HN, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IR, IS, JP, KE, KG, KN, KP, KR, KZ, LA, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, 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, SM, ST, SV, SY, TH, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(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, 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,

[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: PROCESS FOR MAKING ALKYLATED AROMATIC COMPOUND

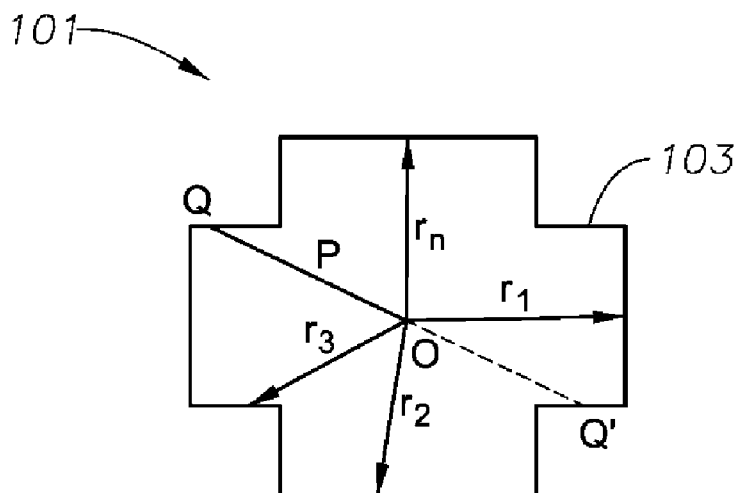


FIG. 1

(57) Abstract: A process for producing an alkylated aromatic compound comprises contacting an aromatic starting material and hydrogen with a plurality of catalyst particles under hydroalkylation conditions to produce an effluent comprising the alkylated aromatic compound, the catalyst comprising a composite of a solid acid, an inorganic oxide different from the solid acid and a hydrogenation metal, wherein the distribution of the hydrogenation metal in at least 60 wt% of the catalyst particles is such that the average concentration of the hydrogenation metal in the rim portion of a given catalyst particle is C_{rim} , the average concentration of the hydrogenation metal in the center portion of the given catalyst particle is C_{center} , where $0.2 < C_{rim}/C_{center} < 2.0$. Also disclosed are hydroalkylation catalyst and process for making phenol and/or cyclohexanone using the catalyst.



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))*

Declarations under Rule 4.17:

- *as to applicant's entitlement to apply for and be granted a patent (Rule 4.17(ii))*
- *as to the applicant's entitlement to claim the priority of the earlier application (Rule 4.17(iii))*

(48) Date of publication of this corrected version:

2 July 2015

(15) Information about Correction:

see Notice of 2 July 2015