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[Continued on next page]

- (54) **Title:** A PROCESS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF ETHYLENICALLY UNSATURATED CARBOXYLIC ACIDS OR ESTERS AND A CATALYST THEREFOR

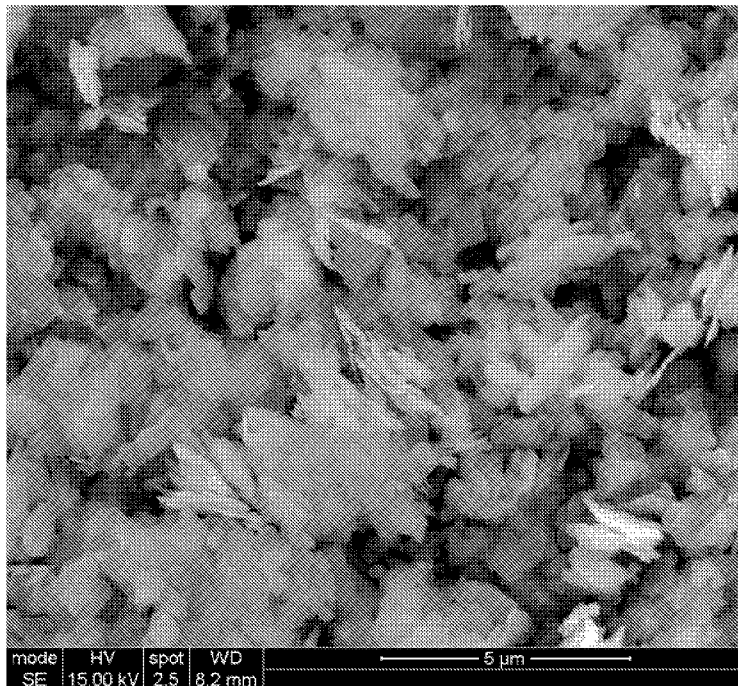


Figure 1. SEM image of example 1.

(57) **Abstract:** A method of producing an ethylenically unsaturated, typically, an α , β ethylenically unsaturated carboxylic acid or ester is described. The method comprises the steps of contacting formaldehyde, or a source of formaldehyde, with a carboxylic acid or ester in the presence of a catalyst and optionally in the presence of an alcohol. The catalyst comprises barium phosphate leaf or plate shaped/like crystals, or a source thereof. A catalyst system is also described. The catalyst system comprises a crystalline barium phosphate catalyst and optionally a catalyst support.



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