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(54) **Title:** PROCESS FOR TREATING ZEOLITE CATALYSTS

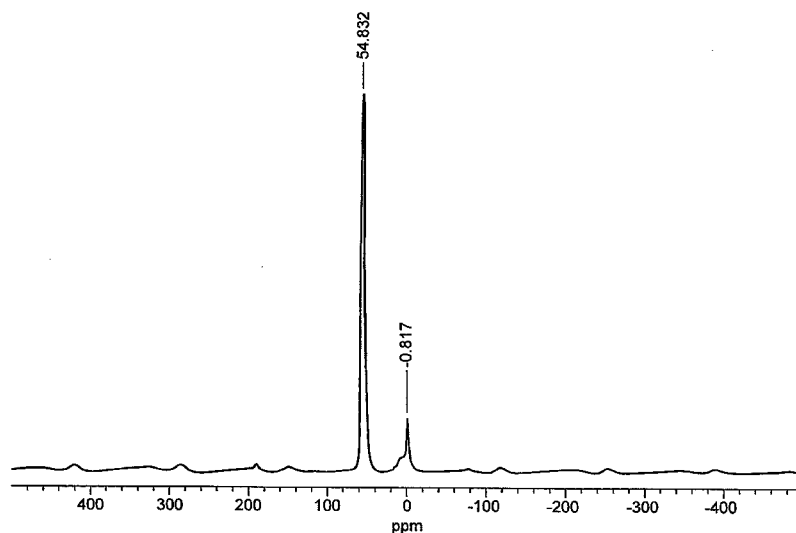


FIG. 1

(57) **Abstract:** A process for treating a zeolite catalyst for the carbonylation of dimethyl ether to produce methyl acetate in which the catalyst is contacted with a treatment gas comprising water vapour in an amount of at least 1 mol% and at a temperature below which dealumination of the zeolite structure occurs.