



(51) International Patent Classification:

C12P 7/40 (2006.01) *C12P 7/64* (2006.01)
C12P 7/62 (2006.01)

(21) International Application Number:

PCT/EP2015/066174

(22) International Filing Date:

15 July 2015 (15.07.2015)

(25) Filing Language:

English

(26) Publication Language:

English

(30) Priority Data:

14177492.7 17 July 2014 (17.07.2014) EP

(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **EVONIK
DEGUSSA GMBH** [DE/DE]; Rellinghauser Straße 1-11,
45128 Essen (DE).

(72) Inventors; and

(71) Applicants (for US only): **HAAS, Thomas** [DE/DE];
Backenkamp 9, 48161 Münster (DE). **BECK, Simon**
[DE/DE]; Kerkheideweg 21, 48163 Münster (DE).

(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, 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, 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))
- before the expiration of the time limit for amending the
claims and to be republished in the event of receipt of
amendments (Rule 48.2(h))

(54) Title: PROCESS FOR PRODUCING PENTANOIC ACID AND HEPTANOIC ACID FROM ETHANOL AND PROPIONIC ACID

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a method of producing valeric acid, heptanoic acid, esters and/or salts thereof from a carbon source, the method comprising a step of contacting at least one microorganism with the carbon source in an aqueous medium, wherein the carbon source is ethanol and propionic acid and the concentration of propionic acid is about $\leq 10\text{g/L}$.

