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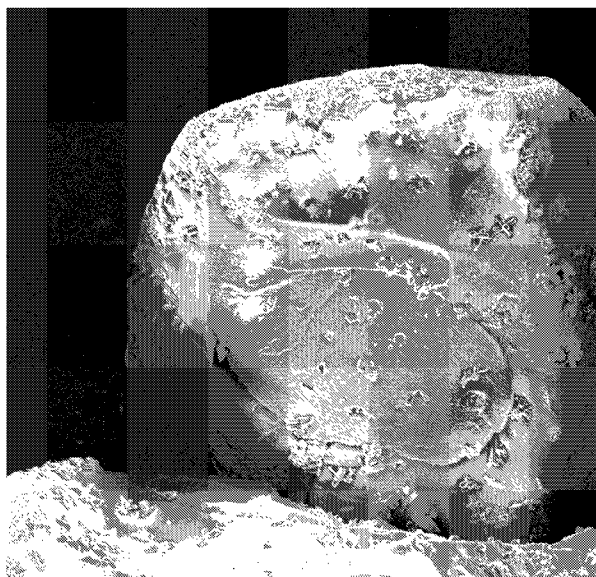
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(54) **Title:** CATALYST AND PROCESS FOR HYDROCARBON CONVERSION



(57) **Abstract:** The subject invention comprises a hydrocarbon-conversion process using a zeolitic catalyst comprising very low concentrations of non-zeolitic material and featuring a gradient in crystallinity decreasing from the outer portion to the center and an intrusion pore volume of at least 0.6 cc/gram. The catalyst is particularly effective in a xylene-isomerization process comprising ethylbenzene conversion.



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