

# ARKEMA

4<sup>th</sup> meeting academic-industry of  
CNC

12/9/2024

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R&D Scientist

Factories of life: Generation and  
Transformation of materials and  
active ingredients

-

Biotechnologies: a revitalized lever  
for producing sustainable bio-  
sourced products

## Plan of the presentation

- **Biocatalysis: Expectations from Arkema?**
- **Example #1: A process combining fermentation and enzymatic catalysis for BioMethionine production**
- **Example #2: A drop-in approach of enzymatic catalysis using existing catalysts for ADAME® production**
- **Take-home messages**

1

# Biocatalysis: Expectations from Arkema?

**21,100**  
passionate  
employees  
across the  
globe

Diversity and  
inclusion



> **10,000**  
customers

Collaborations  
with  
leading brands

**WOMEN AND MEN  
AT THE HEART  
OF OUR  
DEVELOPMENT**

**2,3%** of  
company sales  
allocated in  
R&D

**17** R&D  
centers

**1800**  
researchers



**€9.5 bn**  
sales

Presence in  
**55** countries

**151** plants

# Biocatalysis: Expectations from Arkema?

→ **Driver #1: To reach a cost structure in adequation with commodity or specialty chemistry markets:**



- High volume (at least several hundred of tons/y for specialties)
- Medium market prices

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- Medium market prices

→ **Driver #2: We want to develop sustainable processes for producing biosourced or recycled based products** (ex. Drop-in chemicals)



- With a low product carbon footprint (PCF)
- A good Life Cycle Assessment cradle to gate of bioprocesses developed is a critical requisite to ensure a good final PCF

For us, it's at the heart of our development. We take concrete actions and measure our progress every step of the way.



## Climate

Keeping global warming in line with the Paris Agreement.

→ 2030 target

Emissions

**-48.5%** vs 2019

≤ 2,000 kt equivalent CO<sub>2</sub> absolute greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions for scopes 1 & 2

**-54%** vs 2019

≤ 85,000 kt equivalent CO<sub>2</sub> absolute greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions for scope 3

2

Example #1: A process combining fermentation and enzymatic catalysis for BioMethionine production

# Internal success-story – BioMethionine production through Joint-Venture with CJCJ

→ **Since 2015, at Kerteh (Malaysia)** Arkema's partner CheilJedang is producing methionine

→ This process uses **methyl-mercaptan supplied by Arkema** and bio-based raw material

→ CJ CheilJedang and Arkema teams worked together for developing this new process

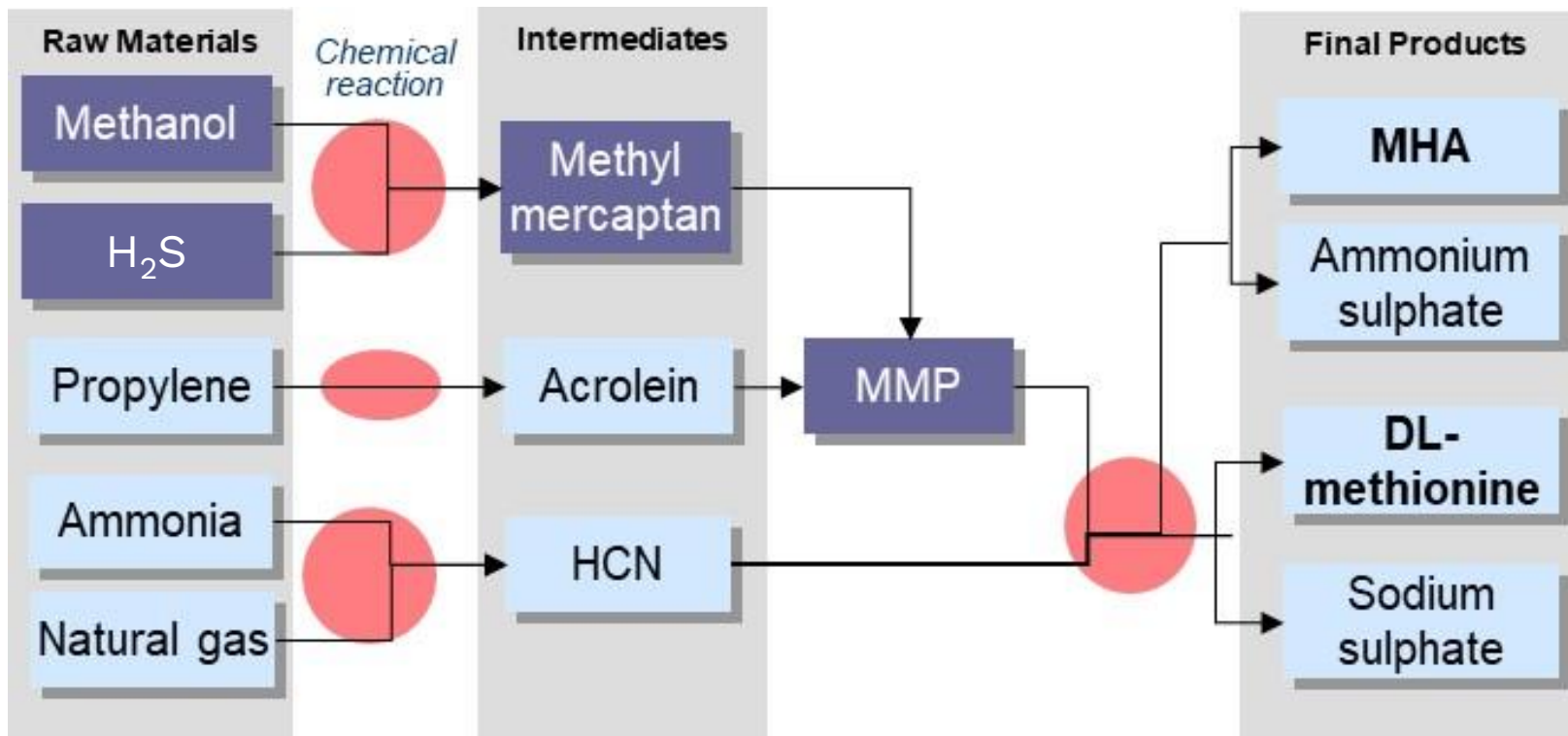
OCT 8, 2012 - PRESS RELEASE

## Arkema and CJ officially launch the start of the construction of their Bio-Methionine and Thiochemicals complex in Malaysia





## Existing chemical process of D/L-Methionine production



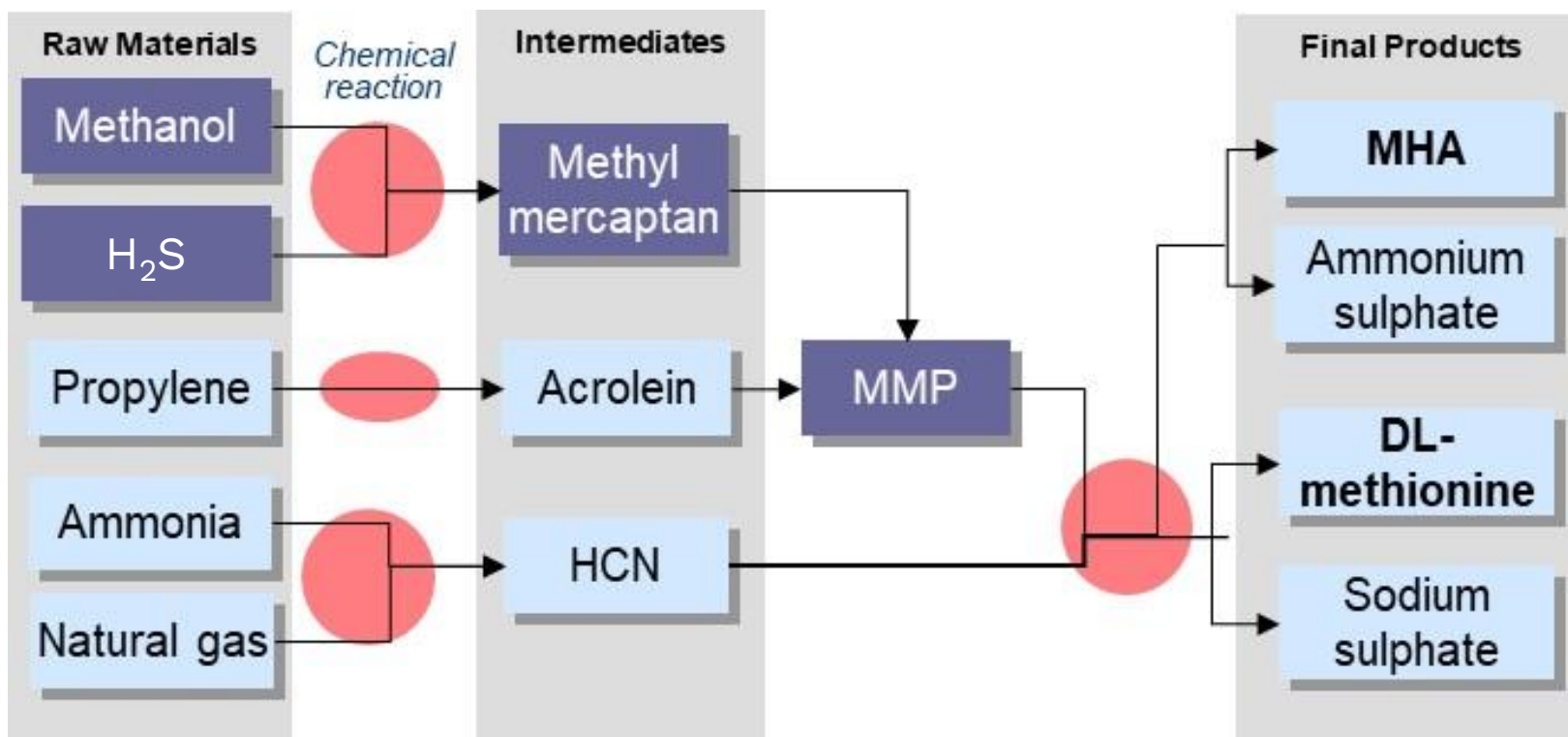
→ 5 steps, all chemical (**harsh conditions**) 🧤

→ **Toxic** and/or dangerous **intermediates** 🧤

→ **No stereoselectivity** 🧤

*HCN : cyanhydric acid ; MMP : 3-methyl mercaptopropionaldehyde ;  
MHA : methionine hydroxy analog*

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→ 5 steps, all chemical (**harsh conditions**) 🙌

→ **Toxic** and/or **dangerous intermediates** 🙌

→ **No stereoselectivity** 🙌

→ Possibility to **obtain analog** 👍

→ This process is **highly cost-efficient!**... 👍

→ Possibility of **lowering PCF** through propylene mass balance 👍

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# New chemo-enzymatic process for L-Methionine production

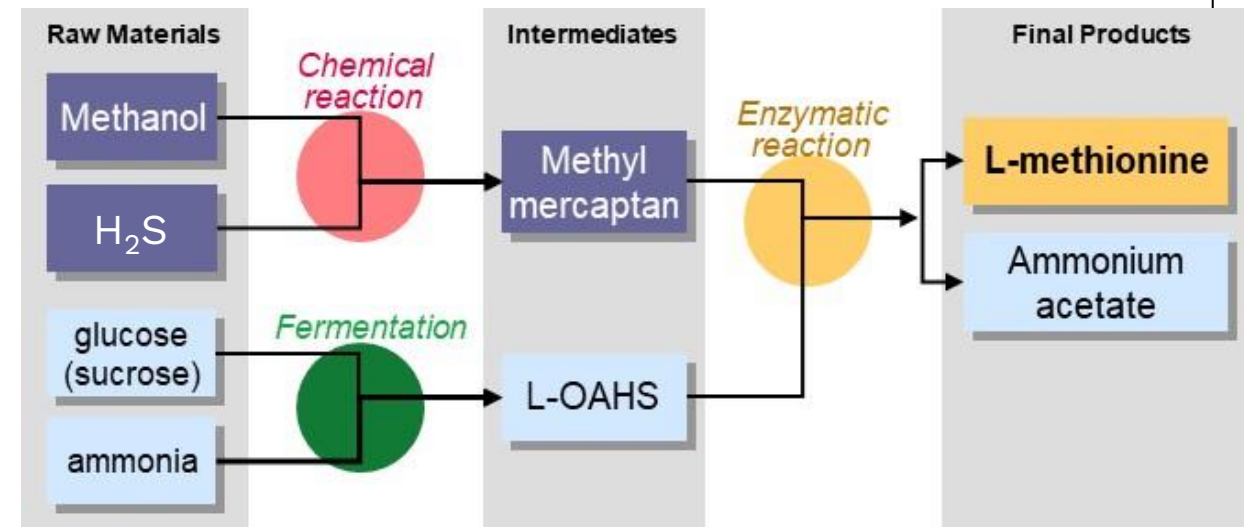
→ CJ CheilJedang/ARKEMA Plant

- **3 steps** : 1 chemical, 1 fermentation, 1 enzymatic catalysis reaction

→ **Very high volumes** (became a commodity product the last few years)

→ Performances addressed by this technology:

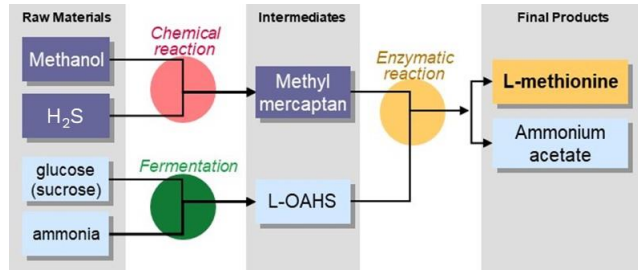
- **Good BOM from sugar, ammonia and MeSH**
- **Production cost** globally in adequation with the market targeted
- The only **stereoselective process** (enantiopure form only (levogyre)) ► product efficiency ++
- **Partially biobased product** (4 biogenic carbons (on 5) came from bioresources)



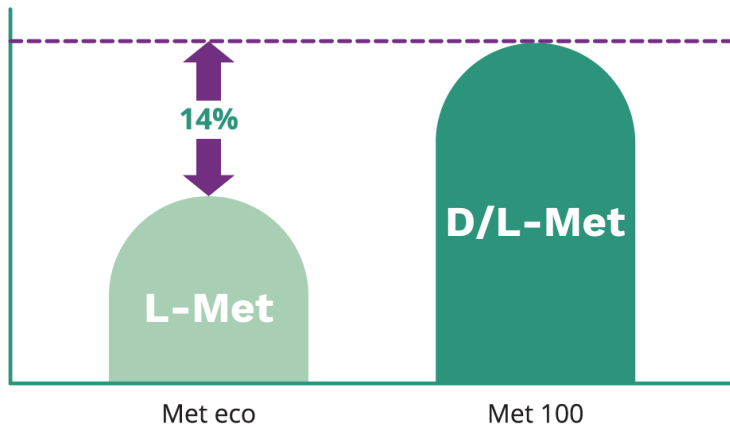
WO13029690 B1 - PREPARATION OF PROCESS OF L-METHIONINE



# Carbon-efficiency of BioMethionine obtained from Biocatalysis



## Carbon emissions during the production process



CJ BIO internal calculation with partial estimated data

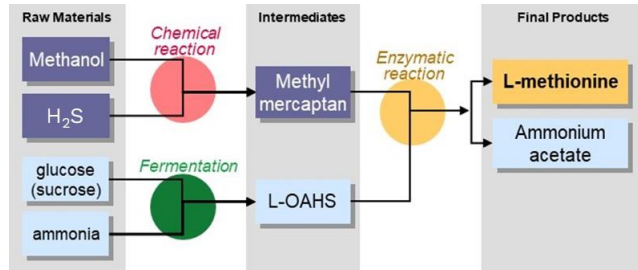
**Bioprocess is more sustainable** than chemical one

(- 14% of Greenhouse Gas emissions)

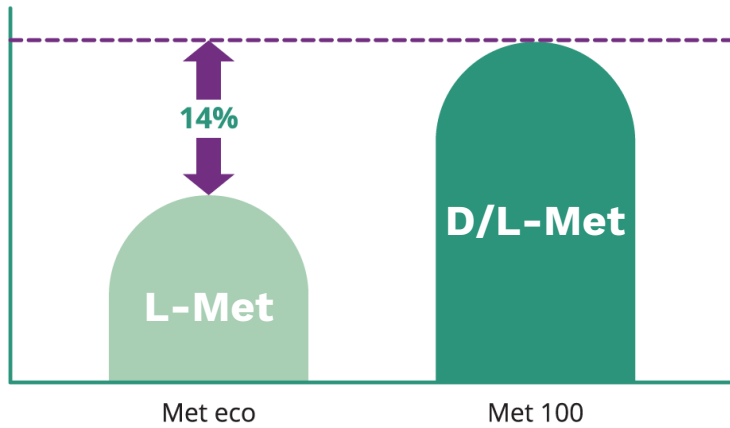
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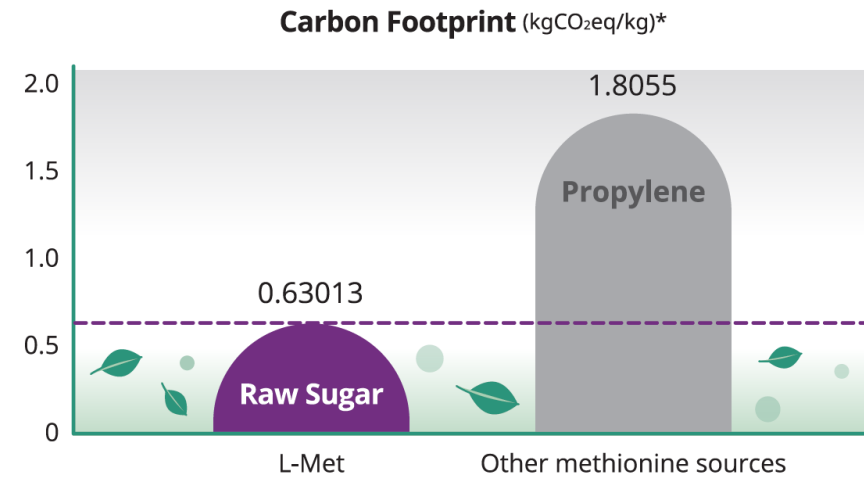


CJ BIO internal calculation with partial estimated data

**Bioprocess is more sustainable** than chemical one

(- 14% of Greenhouse Gas emissions)

Global product carbon footprint of L-Methionine is better than D/L-Methionine (~ 3 times less CO<sub>2</sub> emissions)



\* CML climate change data

Public communication of CJ CheilJedang  
Kim et al., 2024 – WO 10.1016/j.jclepro.2024.142700

# Sum-up: BioMethionine process vs. expectations of Arkema from Biocatalysis





→ **Driver #1:** To reach a cost structure in adequation with commodity or specialty chemistry markets

→ Globally OK for BioMethionine:

- Challenge: Methionine is currently a commodity

→ Cost efficiency on BioMethionine permitted by:

- **Feedstocks:** reliable & cheap 
- **Catalyst** performances fully fine tuned 
- **Production process:** full optimization
- **Waste streams:** full valorization ► mandatory for bioprocesses cost efficiency

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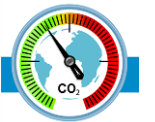
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→ **Driver #2:** Develop sustainable processes for producing biosourced or recycled based products

→ OK for BioMethionine:

- Carbon emissions during production process have been optimized
- Biogenic carbon contained in raw material allows to reach a very low PCF for BioMethionine (~ 3 times lower than petrobased Methionine)



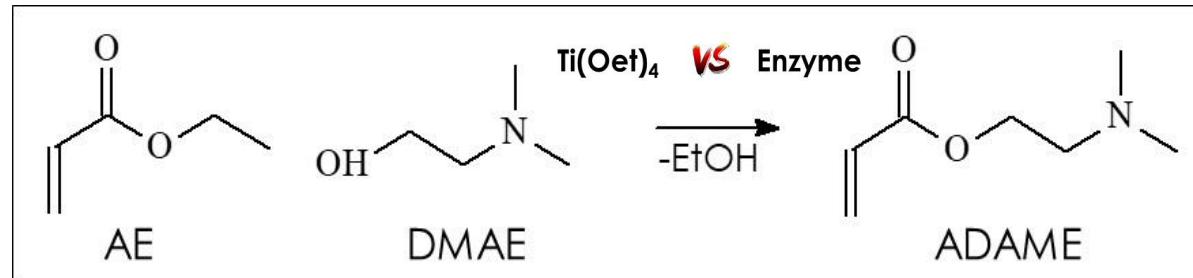
# 3

Example #2: A drop-in approach of enzymatic catalysis using existing catalysts for ADAME® production



# Why replacing ethyl titanate homogeneous catalyst?

→ Dimethylaminoethyl acrylate is currently produced at Carling plant using a **homogeneous catalyst (ethyl titanate)**:



AE: Ethyl acrylate

DMAE: Dimethylaminoethanol

EtOH: Ethanol

ADAME: Dimethylaminoethyl acrylate

PTZ = Phénothiazine

$\text{Ti(OEt)}_4$  = Ethyl titanate

# Why replacing ethyl titanate homogeneous catalyst?

→ Technical data sheet for the dreamed catalyst:

CHARACTERISTICS	BENEFITS
<b>Heterogeneous catalyst</b> Supported enzyme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>To avoid an additional distillation column in case of new unit (currently needed for removing homogeneous catalyst)</li> <li>Lower CAPEX</li> </ul>

AE: Ethyl acrylate

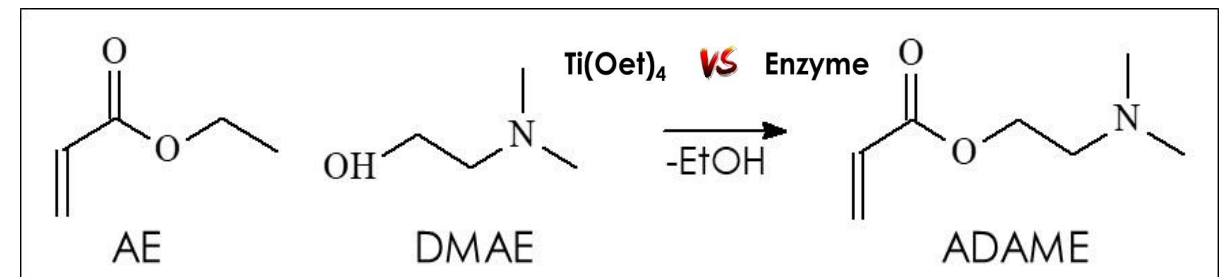
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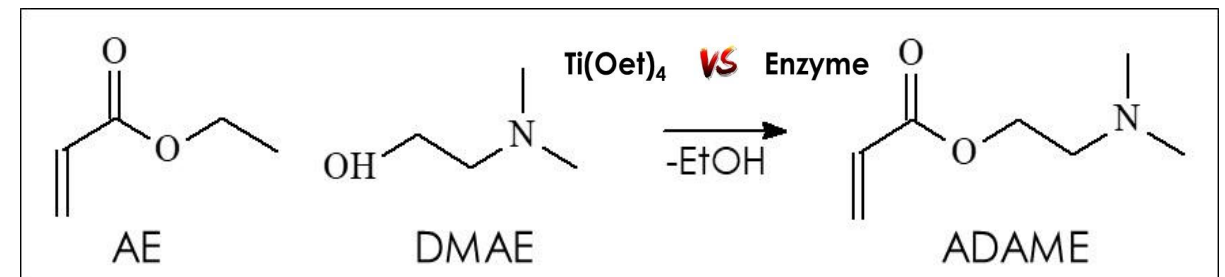
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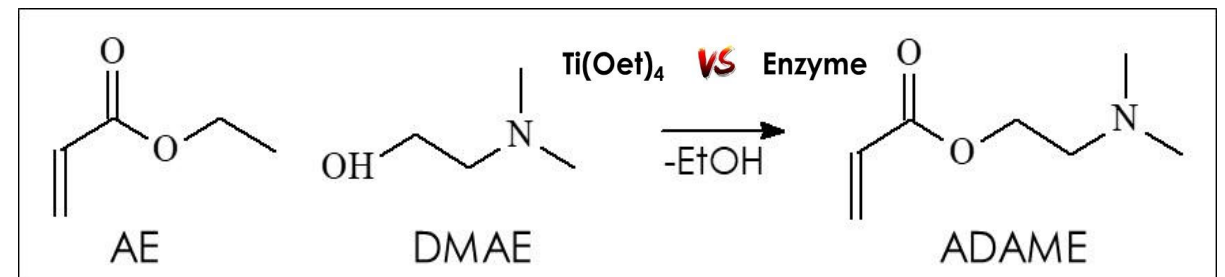
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<b>Sustainable catalyst</b> Coming from renewable resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Catalyst supplying ensured (even if titanate would not be limiting over coming years)</li> </ul>

AE: Ethyl acrylate

DMAE: Dimethylaminoethanol

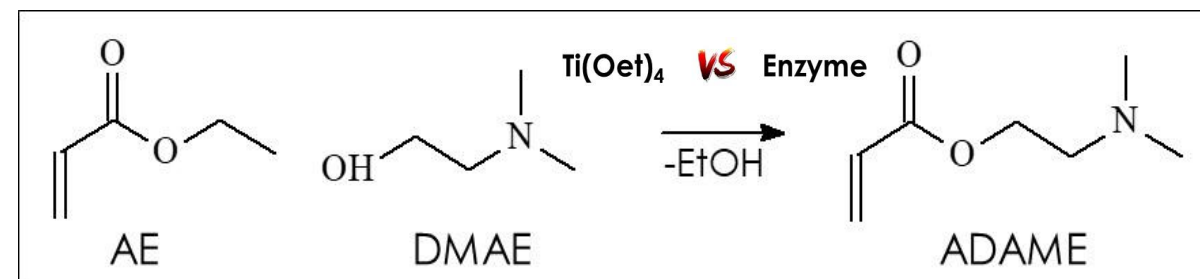
EtOH: Ethanol

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→ Several supported enzymes are available on the market: **Novonesis, Amano, Purolite**



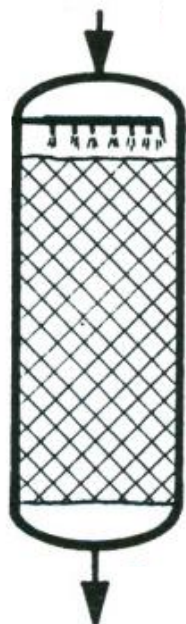
# ADAME enzymatic synthesis conditions at lab scale

(\* PTZ is an inhibitor of polymerization)

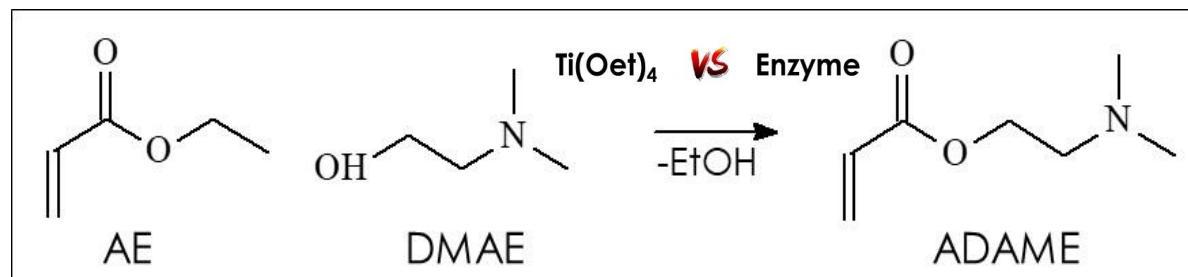
## Continuous synthesis with azeotrope withdrawing

### Conditions:

- Temperature = 50°C vs. 110°C with ethyl titanate
- Pressure = 130 mbar vs. 420 mbar with ethyl titanate
- Residence time = 3 hours
- Rate flow = 14 g/h



- Ethyl acrylate (AE)
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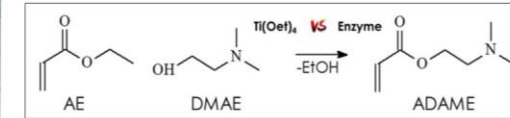
# Better kinetic and selectivity obtained with enzyme!

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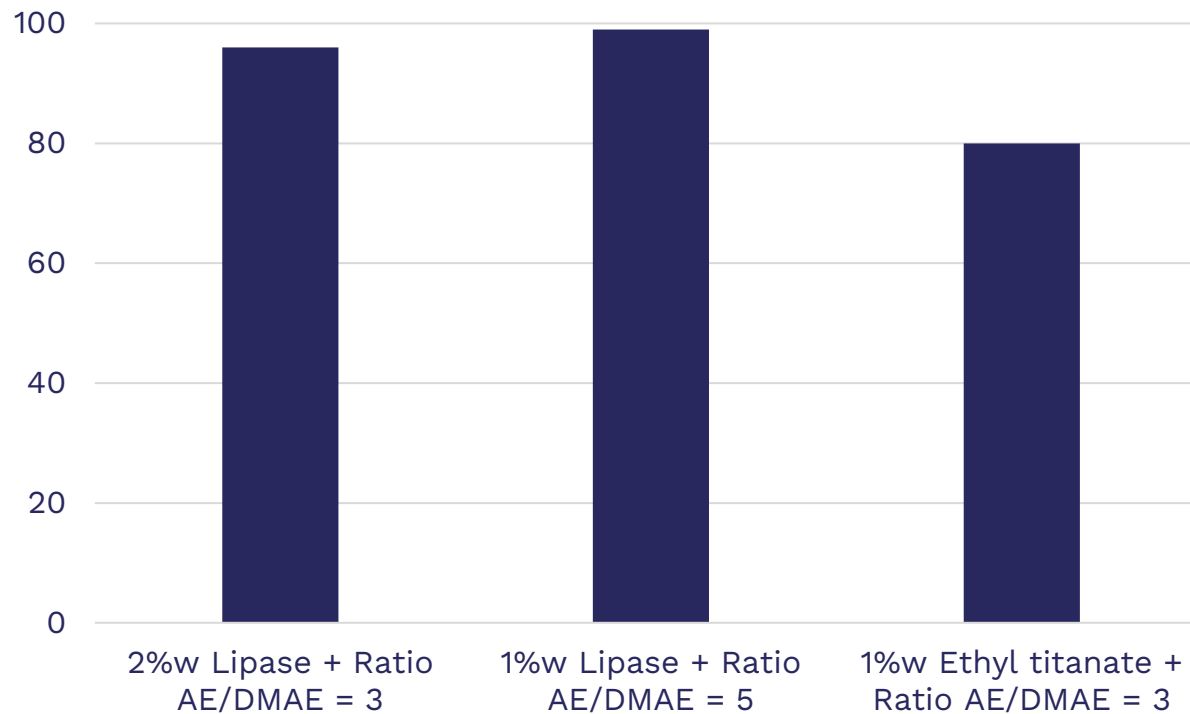
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Reaction yield after

3 hours of reaction (%w)



→ Results highlight that:

- **Enzyme kinetic is good** (better reaction yield after 3 hours of reaction at iso-weight of lipase vs. ethyl titanate)
- **Reaction yields up to 99%w** could be obtained after 3 hours of reaction using lipase

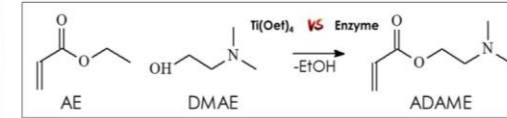
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Mole of Michael adducts per mole of ADAME

4,0E-01

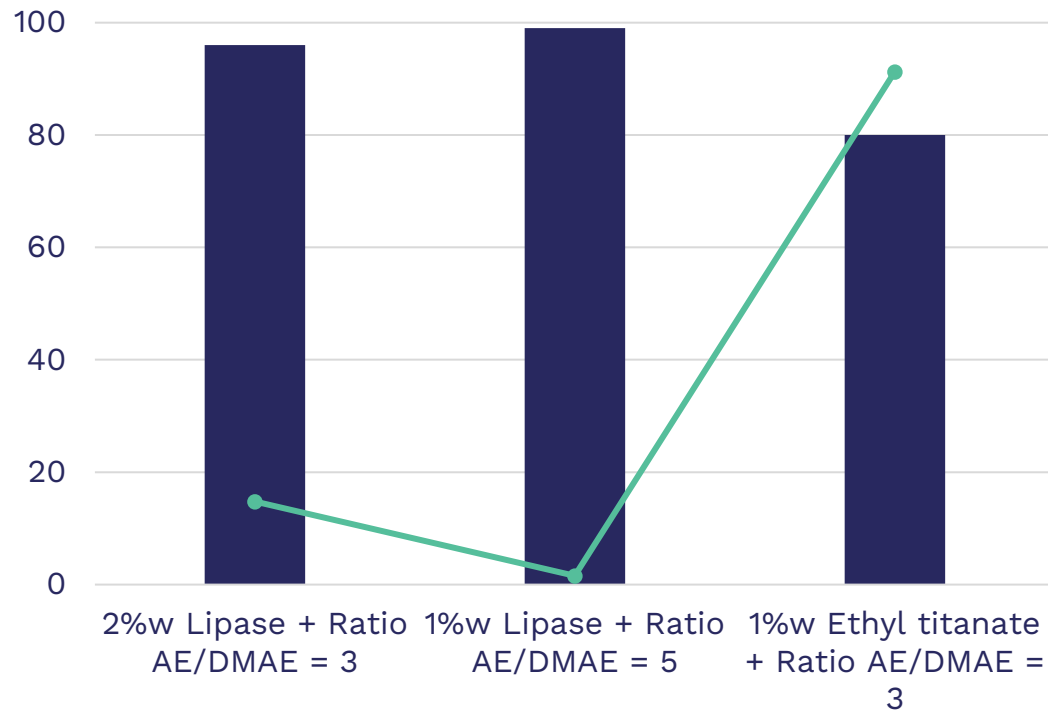
2,0E-02

1,0E-03

~ X 100 ethyl titanate vs. lipase

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- **Reaction yields up to 99%w** could be obtained after 3 hours of reaction using lipase
- **100 times less** sides products are obtained vs. ethyl titanate (at iso-conversion for longer reaction times, still worst selectivity obtained with the chemical catalyst)



# No PTZ required anymore with enzyme!

## Continuous synthesis with azeotrope withdrawing

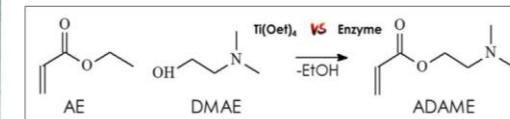
CONDITIONS	REACTION YIELDS (%w)	POLYMER IDENTIFICATION THROUGH SEC ANALYSIS (+/-)
1%w Lipase + <b>2000 ppm of PTZ</b> + Ratio AE/DMAE = 3 Reaction time = 3 hours	97	-
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1%w Lipase + <b>0 ppm of PTZ</b> + Ratio AE/DMAE = 3 Reaction time = 3 hours	95	-

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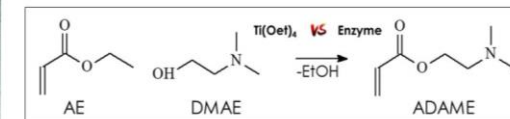
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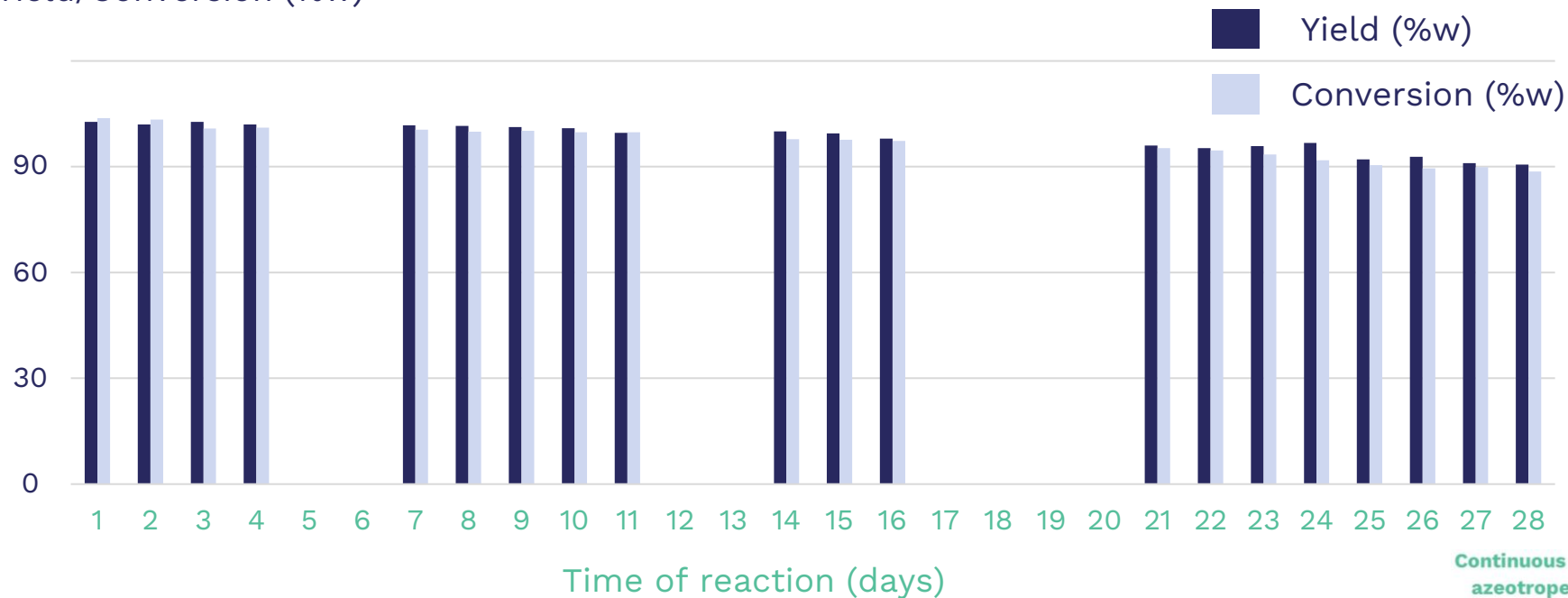
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1%w Ethyl titanate+ <b>2000 ppm of PTZ</b> + Ratio AE/DMAE = 3 Reaction time = 3 hours	80	-
1%w Ethyl titanate+ <b>200 ppm of PTZ</b> + Ratio AE/DMAE = 3 Reaction time = 3 hours	73	+
1%w Ethyl titanate+ <b>0 ppm of PTZ</b> + Ratio AE/DMAE = 3 Reaction time = 3 hours	79	++

→ Results highlight that the enzymatic reaction could be achieved without PTZ (polymerization inhibitor) because realized in milder conditions (50°C vs. 110°C with ethyl titanate)

→ By decreasing PTZ 10 times (i.e. 200 ppm), **we decrease the impact of PTZ on variable costs**

# Recycling tests of Lipase in continuous conditions

Yield/Conversion (%w)

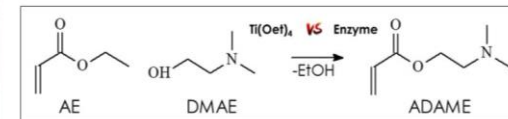


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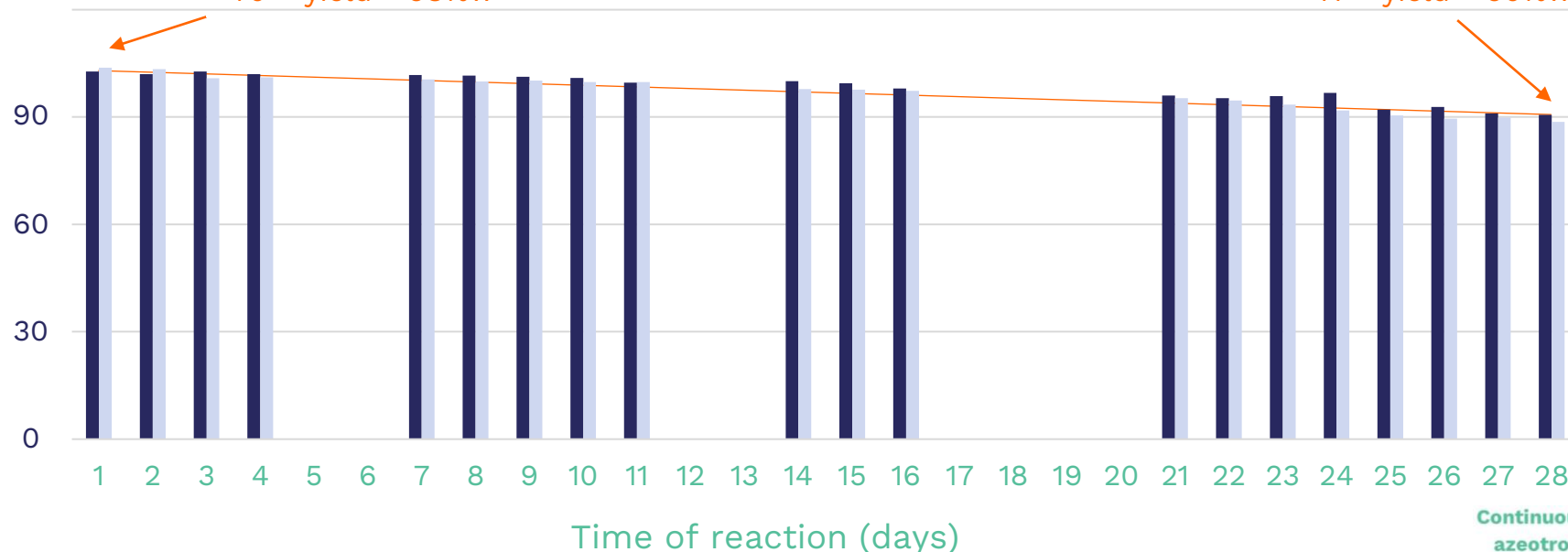
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# Recycling tests of Lipase in continuous conditions

Yield/Conversion (%w)

T<sub>0</sub> = yield ~ 98%wT<sub>f</sub> = yield ~ 90%w

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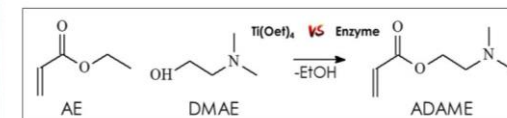
→ T<sub>0</sub> yield achieved corresponds to the **maximal yield** that could be theoretically reached

→ There is a **slow and continuous loss of catalyst activity**:

- Caused by slight enzyme deactivation?
- Caused by slight enzyme support destruction?

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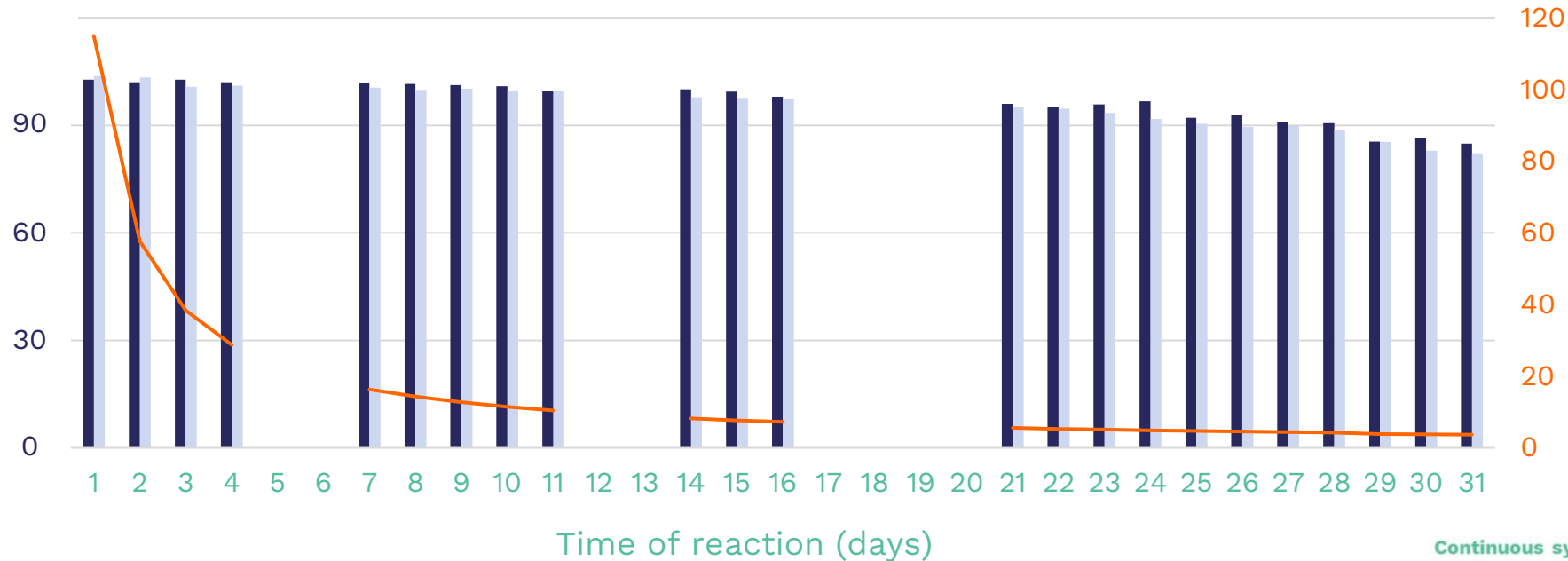


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# Recycling tests of Lipase in continuous conditions

Yield/Conversion (%w)

Impact ratio on enzyme cost



Decrease of > 100 times the impact of enzyme price on process variable costs

→ **Enzyme recycling allows to decrease the catalyst price ~ X 100** in these conditions

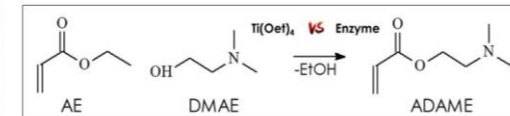
→ Further optimizations are needed to decrease even more the impact of catalyst on variables costs of ADAME process as impact on variable costs still **(start to be negligible)**

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# Sum up on ADAME synthesis and perspectives

PROPERTIES	BENEFITS EXPECTED	IMPACT
<b>Enzyme kinetic</b> Better than chemical catalyst at iso-weight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Good productivity</li><li>• Acceptable residence times</li></ul>	+

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<b>Very high selectivity</b> 100 times fewer side products in our conditions than chemical catalyst	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvement of raw materials variables costs</li> <li>• Easier down-stream processing by avoiding Michael adducts cracking</li> <li>• Energy gains</li> </ul>	+++



# Sum up on ADAME synthesis and perspectives

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<b>Enzyme kinetic</b> Better than chemical catalyst at iso-weight	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Good productivity</li> <li>• Acceptable residence times</li> </ul>	+
<b>Process temperature</b> Lower than chemical process (50°C instead of 110°C) No PTZ required anymore at lab scale	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Energy gains</li> <li>• Gains on process variables costs (by decreasing phenothiazine)</li> </ul>	++
<b>Very high selectivity</b> 100 times fewer side products in our conditions than chemical catalyst	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Improvement of raw materials variables costs</li> <li>• Easier down-stream processing by avoiding Michael adducts cracking</li> <li>• Energy gains</li> </ul>	+++
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→ **Patent filed** in January 2023:

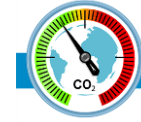
- Title: Production process of (meth)acrylic esters from amino alcohol through enzymatic transesterification

→ Next steps:

- Pursue optimizations for decreasing impact of catalyst price on process variables costs
- **Pre-industrial pilot** to validate the process performances using the best conditions
- **Opportunity for other esters** through enzymatic transesterification (**mass balance/fully biobased?**)...

# Take-home messages: Develop a biocatalysis process for meeting sustainability!

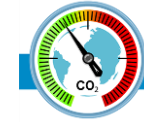
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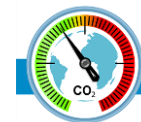
→ **Long time of development** (at least 7-8 years in specialty chemistry field) ► Impact on the payback (chassis optimization and scaling up are time consuming steps)

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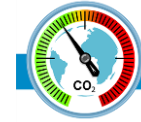
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→ **Arkema firmly believes that biotechnologies will be one of key tools for industrial decarbonization in the coming years** and **is developing several projects** through collaborations and partnerships with academic and industrial groups



# ARKEMA

4<sup>th</sup> meeting academic-industry of  
CNC

12/9/2024

Jean-Christophe LEC, PhD  
R&D Scientist

Factories of life: Generation and  
Transformation of materials and  
active ingredients

-

Biotechnologies: a revitalized lever  
for producing sustainable bio-  
sourced products