## **Supporting Information**

# Supported ionic liquid phase (SILP) facilitated gas-phase enzyme catalysis – CALB catalyzed transesterification of vinyl propionate

Changhee Lee <sup>a</sup>, Bernhard Sandig <sup>b</sup>, Michael R. Buchmeiser <sup>b</sup>, Marco Haumann <sup>a</sup> \*

a Friedrich-Alexander-Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg (FAU), Lehrstuhl für Chemische Reaktionstechnik (CRT), Egerlandstr. 3, 91058 Erlangen, Germany, marco.haumann@fau.de

b Universität Stuttgart, Institut für Polymerchemie, Pfaffenwaldring 55, 70569 Stuttgart, Germany

#### Continuous e-SILP gas-phase reactor setup



Figure S1. Picture of the continuous gas-phase reactor for e-SILP catalyzed transesterification. (1) Carrier gas dosing, (2) liquid dosing, (3) saturator, (4) bypass, (5) reactor, (6) back-pressure

#### **Calibration of online GC**



Figure S2. GC area count versus the injected sample amount in mol. Data for vinyl propionate (filled squares), 2-propanol (filled circles), 2-propylpropionate (open triangles) and acetaldehyde (open diamonds) are shown. The fitted lines all intersect in the origin.

## **Calibration of HPLC pump**



Figure S3. Measured mass flow as a function of HPLC pump revolutions. Data for vinyl propionate (filled squares), 2-propanol (filled circles) and a 1:1 molar mixture (open diamonds) are shown. The fitted lines all intersect in the origin.

Comparison between conversion calculated from bypass and cartridge data



Figure S4. Conversion over time on stream for the CALB e-SILP catalyzed gas-phase transesterification of vinyl propionate with 2-PrOH. Comparison between bypass (filled squares) and cartridge (open diamonds) measurements. Reaction conditions: reactor set temperature  $50^{\circ}$ C, reactor pressure = 4 bar abs, saturator temperature = 40 °C, molar flow VP = 29.5 µmol min<sup>-1</sup>, molar flow 2-PrOH = 29.5 µmol min<sup>-1</sup>, molar flow N<sub>2</sub> = 3,6 µmol min<sup>-1</sup>, residence time = 48 s.



Figure S5. Conversion over time on stream for the CALB e-SILP catalyzed gas-phase transesterification of vinyl propionate with 2-PrOH. Comparison between bypass (filled squares) and cartridge (open diamonds) measurements. Reaction conditions: reactor set temperature  $65^{\circ}$ C, reactor pressure = 4 bar abs, saturator temperature = 40 °C, molar flow VP = 29.5 µmol min<sup>-1</sup>, molar flow 2-PrOH = 29.5 µmol min<sup>-1</sup>, molar flow N<sub>2</sub> = 3,6 µmol min<sup>-1</sup>, residence time = 48 s.



Figure S6. Conversion over time on stream for the CALB e-SILP catalyzed gas-phase transesterification of vinyl propionate with 2-PrOH. Comparison between bypass (filled squares) and cartridge (open diamonds) measurements. Reaction conditions: reactor set temperature 75°C, reactor pressure = 4 bar abs, saturator temperature = 40 °C, molar flow VP = 29.5  $\mu$ mol min<sup>-1</sup>, molar flow 2-PrOH = 29.5  $\mu$ mol min<sup>-1</sup>, molar flow N<sub>2</sub> = 3,6  $\mu$ mol min<sup>-1</sup>, residence time = 48 s.



Figure S7. Conversion over time on stream for the CALB e-SILP catalyzed gas-phase transesterification of vinyl propionate with 2-PrOH for the **second cartridge**. Comparison between bypass (filled squares) and cartridge (open diamonds) measurements. Reaction conditions: reactor set temperature 55°C, reactor pressure = 4 bar abs, saturator temperature = 40 °C, molar flow VP = 29.5  $\mu$ mol min<sup>-1</sup>, molar flow 2-PrOH = 29.5  $\mu$ mol min<sup>-1</sup>, molar flow N<sub>2</sub> = 3,6  $\mu$ mol min<sup>-1</sup>, residence time = 48 s.

#### Effective activation energy for both e-SILP cartridges



Figure S8. Arrhenius-type diagram for transesterification reaction using the first (filled squares) and second (open diamonds) e-SILP cartridge. Reactor pressure = 4 bar abs, saturator temperature = 40 °C, molar flow VP = 29.5  $\mu$ mol min<sup>-1</sup>, molar flow 2-PrOH = 29.5  $\mu$ mol min<sup>-1</sup>, molar flow N<sub>2</sub> = 3,6  $\mu$ mol min<sup>-1</sup>, residence time = 48 s.

#### Estimation of the Biot-number of mass for first e-SILP cartridge

The Biot number of mass  $Bi_m$  accounts for the relation between film diffusion around the pellet and effective diffusion inside the pellet.

$$Bi_m = \frac{k_f \cdot R}{D_{eff}} \tag{S1}$$

The radius *R* of the microglobules was determined to be 2.1  $\mu$ m. The binary diffusion coefficient  $D_{12}$  of 2-PrOH in N<sub>2</sub> was estimated according to the Chapman-Enskog theory to be 3.3 10<sup>-2</sup> m<sup>2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>. The effective diffusion coefficient  $D_{eff}$  was estimated according to Equation (S2).

$$D_{eff} = \frac{\varepsilon \cdot D_{12}}{\tau}$$
(S2)

The monolith porosity  $\varepsilon$  was determined to be 0.5 based on N<sub>2</sub> sorption data. The tortuosity  $\tau$  was calculated form this porosity to be 2.7 using the Dumansky correlation shown in Equation (S3).

$$\frac{1}{\tau} = 1 - (1 - \varepsilon)^{0.67}$$
(S3)

By Equation (S2) the  $D_{eff}$  was calculated to be 6.1 10<sup>-3</sup> m<sup>2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup>. In Equation (S1) the film diffusion coefficient  $k_f$  can be estimated from the Sherwood number according to Equation (S4).

$$Sh = \frac{k_f \cdot 2R}{D_{12}} \tag{S4}$$

It was assumed that the packing of spherical microglobules inside the monolith allows the calculation of the Sherwood number Sh based on the following correlation (S5) that can be found in engineering textbooks.

$$Sh = 2 + 1.9 (Re)^{0.5} (Sc)^{0.333}$$
(S5)

The Reynold number *Re* for the packed-bed monolith was calculated form Equation (S6). The required kinematic viscosity v of N<sub>2</sub> at 55 °C and 4 bar was taken from the literature to be 0.77 m<sup>2</sup> s<sup>-1</sup> and the superficial gas velocity u was calculated from the total volume flow to be 1.55 10<sup>-3</sup> m s<sup>-1</sup>.

$$Re = \frac{2R \cdot u}{v \cdot (1 - \varepsilon)} \tag{S6}$$

Thus, a Reynold number of  $5.2 \ 10^{-9}$  results, indicate of a strong laminar flow regime. The required Schmidt number *Sc* was calculated from the relation between kinematic viscosity and binary diffusion coefficient to be 23.3 according to Equation (S7).

$$Sc = \frac{v}{D_{12}}$$
(S7)

Based on the extremely small value for Re, the Sherwood number was then calculated to be 2. This resulted in a film diffusion coefficient  $k_f$  of 1.55 10<sup>4</sup> m s<sup>-1</sup>. With this value, the Biot number of mass was calculated to be 5.4. As a rule of thumb, no film diffusion influence occurs when values of  $Bi_m$  are larger than 100. Thus, the reaction using the e-SILP monolith seems strongly limited by film diffusion.

#### Integral kinetic analysis for second e-SILP cartridge

Assuming a first order dependency of the effective reaction rate with substrate concentration, the power rate law in Equation (S8) applies.

$$r_{eff} = -\frac{dc_{VP}}{dt} = k_{eff} \cdot c_{VP}$$
(S8)

Integration of Equation (S8) yields the well-known form shown in Equation (S9).



Figure S9. First order k-value determination of second e-SILP cartridge.

Plotting  $-\ln(1-X_{VP})$  over the contact time *t* inside the e-SILP cartridge yields the effective reaction rate constants  $k_{eff}$  for each reaction temperature as shown in Figure S8.An Arrhenius-type diagram can be drawn by using these calculated effective reaction rate constants as shown in Figure S10.



Figure S10. Arrhenius-type diagram for transesterification reaction using the second e-SILP cartridge.

## Appearance of e-SILP cartridges after gas-phase reaction



Figure S11. a) Schematic representation of the gas-phase transesterification and the resulting concentration profiles inside the e-SILP monolith; b) first e-SILP monolith after 320 h time on stream; c) second e-SILP monolith after 700 h time on stream.

## Thermal stability analysis of the e-SILP cartridge



Figure S12. Thermal gravimetric analysis of the e-SILP cartridge. Heating rate 10 °C min<sup>-1</sup>, air flow 50 mL min<sup>-1</sup>. Insert shows mass loss from room temperature up to 200 °C.