



US008981168B2

(12) **United States Patent**
DeSisto et al.

(10) **Patent No.:** **US 8,981,168 B2**
(45) **Date of Patent:** **Mar. 17, 2015**

(54) **FORMATE-ASSISTED PYROLYSIS**

(2013.01); *C10B 57/06* (2013.01); *C10C 5/00* (2013.01); *C10G 2300/1014* (2013.01); *Y02E 50/14* (2013.01)

(71) Applicant: **University of Maine System Board of Trustees**, Bangor, ME (US)

USPC **585/242**; 585/240

(72) Inventors: **William Joseph DeSisto**, Orono, ME (US); **Marshall Clayton Wheeler**, Orono, ME (US); **Adriaan R. P. van Heiningen**, Orono, ME (US)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**
USPC 585/240, 242
See application file for complete search history.

(73) Assignee: **University of Maine System Board of Trustees**, Bangor, MD (US)

(56) **References Cited**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

(*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 37 days.

4,087,373 A 5/1978 Reed, Jr.
6,387,221 B1 5/2002 Schoenhard
2011/0098503 A1 4/2011 Wheeler et al.

(Continued)

(21) Appl. No.: **13/734,077**

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

(22) Filed: **Jan. 4, 2013**

WO WO-2011/123897 10/2011
WO WO 2011123897 A1 * 10/2011

(65) **Prior Publication Data**

US 2014/0100396 A1 Apr. 10, 2014

OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Demirbas, A., Mechanisms of liquefaction and pyrolysis reactions of biomass, *Energy Conversion & Management*, 41:633-646 (2000).

(Continued)

Related U.S. Application Data

(60) Provisional application No. 61/582,958, filed on Jan. 4, 2012, provisional application No. 61/600,232, filed on Feb. 17, 2012, provisional application No. 61/652,018, filed on May 25, 2012.

Primary Examiner — Bobby Ramdhanie

Assistant Examiner — Youngsul Jeong

(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Choate, Hall & Stewart LLP; Brian E. Reese

(51) **Int. Cl.**

C10G 1/00 (2006.01)
C10K 1/02 (2006.01)
C10B 49/22 (2006.01)
C10B 53/02 (2006.01)
C10B 57/06 (2006.01)
C10C 5/00 (2006.01)

(57) **ABSTRACT**

The present invention provides, among other thing, methods for creating significantly deoxygenated bio-oils from biomass including the steps of providing a feedstock, associating the feedstock with an alkali formate to form a treated feedstock, dewatering the treated feedstock, heating the dewatered treated feedstock to form a vapor product, and condensing the vapor product to form a pyrolysis oil, wherein the pyrolysis oil contains less than 30% oxygen by weight.

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC *C10G 1/002* (2013.01); *C10K 1/024* (2013.01); *C10B 49/22* (2013.01); *C10B 53/02*

14 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets

