

In processes for the hydrolysis of a methyl acetate with at least one of water and methanol in the presence of at least one Brensted acid catalyst to produce acetic acid the performance of the catalyst is improved by using a methyl acetate feed in which the total amount of acetaldehyde and 1,1 dimethoxyethane impurities is maintained at 100 ppm wt or less calculated as mass equivalents of acetaldehyde.