Enhanced selectivity of di- and triglycerol by proton donor

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Di- and triglycerol are useful compounds for various industrial fields including plasticizer, lubricant, and pharmaceuticals. However, the production of di- and triglycerol using base catalysts have been suffered by the low selectivity. To enhance the yield and selectivity of di- and triglycerol, proton donors were used as co-catalysts. In order to examine the role of proton donor in the etherification reaction of glycerol, varied reaction conditions such as the amount of proton donor, reaction time and reaction temperature were tested.