Etherification of glycerol using zeolites as heterogeneous catalysts

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Diglycerol and triglycerol are useful compounds for various industrial fields including food, cosmetic, and pharmaceuticals. Alkali metal embedded zeolites were used as catalysts and they showed high selectivities for diglycerol and triglycerol. The influences of various reaction variables including the nature of catalyst, the loading amount of catalyst, reaction time, and reaction temperature on the etherification of glycerol were investigated.