

Content

Vorwort	I
Kurzfassung	III
Abstract	V
List of Symbols	VI
Content	X
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Problem Formulation	1
1.2 Scope and Approach	2
2 Crystallization Fundamentals	4
2.1 Supersaturation	4
2.2 Nucleation	6
2.3 Growth	10
2.4 Reactive Crystallization	13
2.5 Product Quality in Reactive Crystallization	15
2.5.1 Crystal Size Distribution	15
2.5.2 Purity	17
3 State of the Art	19
3.1 PET Synthesis and Recycling	21
3.1.1 PET Polycondensation	21
3.1.2 Thermomechanical PET Recycling	22
3.1.3 Back-to-Monomer Recycling	25
3.2 Terephthalic Acid	31
3.2.1 Synthesis by p-Xylene Oxidation	31
3.2.2 Polymorphism and Morphology	32
3.2.3 Precipitation from Alkaline Solution	35
3.2.4 Solubility	39
3.2.5 Impurities and Purification in BMR	41
3.2.6 Alternative Precipitation Acids Potential	47
3.2.7 Influence of pH on Speciation and Supersaturation	48
3.3 Systematic Approach of this Work	51
4 Experimental	53
4.1 Equipment and Procedures	53

4.1.1	Description of Laboratory Setup.....	53
4.1.2	Batch Precipitation Procedure.....	54
4.1.3	Continuous Precipitation Procedure.....	55
4.1.4	Experimental Scope	58
4.2	Materials	61
4.2.1	Reactants for Precipitation Experiments	61
4.2.2	Analytical.....	62
4.2.3	Dosage Quantity of Precipitation Acids.....	63
4.2.4	PET Reactants.....	64
4.3	Analysis.....	65
4.3.1	Particle Size Measurement.....	65
4.3.2	Filterability	65
4.3.3	Morphology	67
4.3.4	Concentration Measurement	67
4.3.5	Hazen Colour Index	68
4.3.6	Isophthalic Acid Content	68
5	Batch Precipitation of Terephthalic Acid	69
5.1	Screening of Optimal Parameters in Model System.....	69
5.1.1	Effect of Temperature and Precipitation Acid.....	70
5.1.2	Reactant Dispersion	75
5.1.3	Extended Screening of Alternative Precipitation Acids.....	79
5.2	Application to PET Reactants	85
5.2.1	Purification Potential	85
5.2.2	Validation of Temperature and Precipitation Acid Influence...	90
6	Transfer to Continuous Operation	94
6.1	Precipitation Acids Comparison.....	94
6.2	Variation of Throughput.....	101
6.3	Reactant Concentration and Dispersion	105
6.4	Start-up and pH Effect.....	110
6.4.1	Variation of Start-up	111
6.4.2	pH Variation	112
6.5	Precipitation Concept.....	118

7	Conclusion and Outlook	126
7.1	Conclusion.....	126
7.2	Outlook.....	129
	References	131
8	Appendix	145
8.1	Appendix A – General.....	145
8.2	Appendix B – Experimental	146
8.3	Appendix C – Batch Operation.....	148
8.4	Appendix D – Continuous Operation	150
8.4.1	Start-up.....	154
8.4.2	pH Variation.....	155
8.4.3	Precipitation Concept.....	158
	Curriculum Vitae	160
	List of Publications.....	161
	Student contributions.....	162