## **TABLE OF CONTENTS**

1	Introduction			1
	1.1	Background		1
	1.2	2 Motivation		
1.3 Thesis objectives			objectives	3
	1.4	Disserta	ation organization	4
2	Gene	eral Part		5
	2.1	Glycerol as a renewable raw material in chemical industry		5
		2.1.1	Glycerol market	6
		2.1.2	Products from catalytic glycerol oxidation reactions	7
	2.2	Heterogeneous catalysts for glycerol oxidation reactions		8
		2.2.1	Introduction	8
		2.2.2	Early catalytic glycerol oxidation reactions	10
		2.2.3	Gold catalysts in alcohol and glycerol oxidation reactions	10
		2.2.4	Oxidation reaction without additional base	11
		2.2.5	Metal comparison	12
		2.2.6	Influence of catalyst particle size	16
		2.2.7	Effect of preparation methods	17
		2.2.8	Effect of reduction methods	18
		2.2.9	Effect of support materials	19
		2.2.10	Glyceric acid as the main product of glycerol oxidation reactions	20

		2.2.11	Glyceric acid as a starting material for further oxidation reactions	21
	2.3	Immobilized catalysts and their application in catalytic alcohol oxidations		22
		2.3.1	Introduction	22
		2.3.2	Methods to immobilize TMC	23
	2.4	Metal nanoparticles		27
		2.4.1	Introduction	27
		2.4.2	Synthesis of metal nanoparticles	30
	2.5	Magnetic particles and their application in processing industry		32
		2.5.1	Separation of magnetic particles	32
		2.5.2	Magnetic nanoparticles and their application in catalysis	33
	2.6	Reactor	r types for heterogeneous catalytic reactions	34
3	Results and discussion			37
	3.1	Heterogeneous catalysts for glycerol oxidation reaction		37
		3.1.1	Catalysts comparison	37
		3.1.2	Influence of reaction pressures	40
		3.1.3	Influence of reaction temperatures	41
		3.1.4	Influence of glycerol initial concentration	43
		3.1.5	Influence of alkaline concentration	44
		3.1.6	Limitation to the reaction rate	45
		3.1.7	Deactivation and reactivation of the catalysts	46
		3.1.8	Glycerol oxidation reactions in a continuous stirred tank reactor	47
	3.2	Immob	ilized homogeneous catalysts for glycerol oxidation	50

	3.3	A magnetic reactor system for glycerol oxidation reactions		54
		3.3.1	Introduction	54
		3.3.2	Glycerol oxidation in the presence of magnetic particles $(Fe_3O_4)$	56
		3.3.3	The set-up of the continuous magnetic slurry system	58
	3.4	3.4 Nano and magnetic particles for glycerol oxidation reactions		65
		3.4.1	Particles characterization	65
		3.4.2	Glycerol oxidation catalyzed by magnetic catalysts	76
	3.5	Economic aspects of the magnetic catalytic system for glycerol oxidation reactions		79
	3.6 Glycerol for an environmental friendly synthesis of nanoparticles		ol for an environmental friendly synthesis of nanoparticles	82
		3.6.1	Introduction	82
		3.6.2	Formation of nanoparticles	83
		3.6.3	Morphology of the nanoparticles	85
		3.6.4	Comparison with other reduction agents	86
4	Cond	clusions		89
5	Expe	Experimental part		95
	5.1	Chemic	cals	95
	5.2	Analyti	c equipments and methods	96
		5.2.1	High performance liquid chromatography (HPLC)	96
		5.2.2	UV-Vis spectroscopy	97
		5.2.3	Transmission electron microscopy (TEM)	97
		5.2.4	Dynamic light scattering (DLS)	97
		5.2.5	Scanning electron microscopy (SEM)	98

	5.2.6	X-ray diffraction (XRD)	98
	5.2.7	Inductively coupled plasma spectroscopy (ICP)	98
5.3	Experimental methods		
	5.3.1	Fixed bed reaction	98
	5.3.2	Trickle and fluidized bed systems	100
	5.3.3	Synthesis of the MCM-22 precursor	101
	5.3.4	Synthesis of (salicylaldehyd)ethylendiamine (salen)	102
	5.3.5	Synthesis of the cobalt-salen complex	103
	5.3.6	Synthesis of the cobalt-salen MCM-22 catalyst	103
	5.3.7	Synthesis of magnetite	103
	5.3.8	Synthesis of nanoparticles	103
Bibliography			105

Appendices		119
A1	Definition of conversion, selectivity and yield	119
A2	Spectrum	120
A3	Magnetic slurry system	121
A4	Solutions of nanoparticles and magnetic particles	123
A5	Possible products of glycerol oxidation reactions	125