

**POLYMERIZATION, AND DEPOLYMERIZATION, OF CYCLIC ETHERS
USING HETEROGENEOUS CATALYSTS**

ABSTRACT

Polymerization of cyclic ethers is carried out using zeolites containing metal cations, or selected metal perfluoroalkylsulfonates which are attached to solid supports, as catalysts, in the presence of selected accelerators. The polyethers produced are useful as monomers, flocculants, lubricants, etc. Polytetrahydrofurans are depolymerized at elevated temperatures to tetrahydrofurans using selected metal perfluoroalkylsulfonates which are attached to solid supports as catalysts.