

Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S0009-2509(18)30403-2
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ces.2018.06.032>
Reference: CES 14306

To appear in: *Chemical Engineering Science*

Received Date: 18 March 2017
Revised Date: 16 February 2018
Accepted Date: 13 June 2018

Please cite this article as: N. Ghadipasha, J.A. Romagnoli, S. Tronci, R. Baratti, A Model-Based Approach for Controlling Particle Size Distribution in Combined Cooling-Antisolvent Crystallization Processes, *Chemical Engineering Science* (2018), doi: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ces.2018.06.032>

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A MODEL-BASED APPROACH FOR CONTROLLING PARTICLE SIZE DISTRIBUTION IN COMBINED COOLING-ANTISOLVENT CRYSTALLIZATION PROCESSES

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Abstract:

This article focuses on the design and implementation of model-based control strategies for real time control of crystal size distribution (CSD) in semi batch crystallization processes. The objective of the feedback controller is to reach a desired particle mean size while the standard deviation is controlled in a feedforward fashion. Alternative model-based control strategies are formulated and implemented for a target mean size. An image processing technique based on wavelet-fractal and energy signature analysis is employed to determine online CSD status for controller corrective actions. To validate the proposed model-based control strategies, unseeded crystallization of sodium chloride in water using ethanol as antisolvent is performed in an experimental bench-scale semi-batch crystallizer.

Keywords: Crystallization, Image analysis, Fokker-Planck Equation, Particle Size Distribution, Model-based Control

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