### Accepted Manuscript

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PII: S0255-2701(17)30927-3

DOI: https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cep.2017.12.001

Reference: CEP 7135

To appear in: Chemical Engineering and Processing

Received date: 13-9-2017 Revised date: 7-11-2017 Accepted date: 1-12-2017

Please cite this article as: Tianlong Zhao, Jun Li, Hao Zhou, Zhanhua Ma, Lanyi Sun, A thermally coupled reactive distillation process to intensify the synthesis of isopropyl acetate, Chemical Engineering and Processing https://doi.org/10.1016/j.cep.2017.12.001

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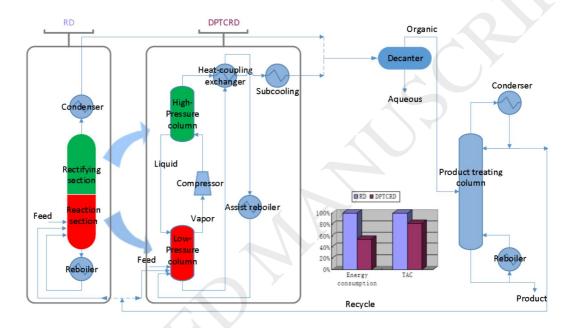
## ACCEPTED MANUSCRIPT

# A thermally coupled reactive distillation process to intensify the synthesis of isopropyl acetate

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#### **Graphical abstract**



#### Highlights

- 1). A different pressure thermally coupled reactive distillation process is proposed.
- 2). High-purity isopropyl acetate product can be synthetized.
- 3). HP column pressure should be strictly controlled during heat coupling.
- 4). The energy requirement and total annual cost are both reduced.

#### **Abstract**

On the basis of analyzing the azeotropic behavior, comparing the accuracy of different property models and selecting reaction kinetics, a reactive distillation (RD) process for production of isopropyl acetate (IPAc) through the esterification of acetic acid and isopropanol is designed, through which high-purity isopropyl acetate product can be obtained. Besides, considering the high energy requirements of the RD process, a

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