CHAPTER V

CONCLUSIONS

From the results discussed in the previous section, it can be concluded that:

- 1. The amount of LMWPE produced in slurry polymerization semibatch reactor was in the range of 0.06-0.34 % by weight of HDPE produced which is lower than the commercial plants (because of the separation method).
- 2. The amount of LMWPE was increased by 60 % when operating at low stirring speed because of non-uniform temperature in the reactor.
- 3. The higher the H₂/C₂H₄ ratio, the lower the molecular weight of HDPE resulting in an increase in the amount of LMWPE produced.
- 4. The observed activation energies of HDPE and LMWPE were 3.5 and 20 kcal/mole respectively. It can be concluded that HDPE and LMWPE are formed from different active sites.
- 5. The Al/Ti ratio and polymerization time seem not to affect significantly the amount of LMWPE produced (10-20 % change).

6. Below 80 °C, the relationship between the amount of LMWPE produced and the molecular weight of HDPE can be expressed by the following equation:

$$log(Y) = 11.8451-2.6739 log(X)$$

where Y = the amount of LMWPE produced (% by wt. of HDPE produced);

X = molecular weight of HDPE.