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## DISCOLOURIZATION OF AMMONIUM LIGNOSULFONATE BY H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> ACTIVATED WITH Co (acac)<sub>2</sub> IMMOBILIZED ON FUNCTIONALIZED SILICA

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### Abstract

The potential of ammonium lignosulfonate (ALS) discolouring and partial degradation in aqueous solution was studied in heterogeneous system by using the hydrogen peroxide and Co (II) acetylacetonate immobilized on functionalized silica (HC-Co II) as a catalyst. In order to optimize the system efficiency, the influence of process parameters like H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub> concentration, pH, contact time, ALS concentration, temperature and catalyst amount was evaluated. Lignosulfonate degradation was furthermore pointed out through modification of final pH and determination of phenolic compounds. The catalyst stability and its reusability have also investigated. The experimental results indicate that, in optimal conditions, the ammonium lignosulfonate solutions exhibit a total discolourization, associated with its significant degradation.

*Key words:* ammonium lignosulfonate, Co (II) catalyst, discolourization, heterogeneous catalysis, hydrogen peroxide

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