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Study of crustaceans and bivalves residue as a catalyst in the synthesis of biojet fuel and biodiesel

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B iofuels are renewable fuels and the main alternative to fossil fuels. Actually, we can call the attention for the two most studied, the biojet fuel and biodiesel. Biojet fuel can be produced by different routes and biomass, while Biodiesel consists of alkyl esters and is mainly obtained by the transesterification of a triglyceride with an alcohol in the presence of a homogeneous or heterogeneous catalyst. Heterogeneous catalysts, especially CaO, are widely studied for biodiesel synthesis since they can be reused and synthesized from renewable sources. Its precursor is the CaCO₃ that can be obtained from limestone or alternative source as fishery residue. Our group has processed and characterized the different fishery residue, actually seen as an ecological problem at the Brazilian littoral, evaluating its usage as a heterogeneous catalyst in the production of biojet fuel and biodiesel, respectively. Crustaceans and bivalve carapaces, crude and calcined, were studied in the production of both biofuels. A special attention is given to the crustacean considering that is reach in the biopolymers chitin and chitosan (about 50%), that can be used as carbon and hydrogen extra source at the biojet fuel production, plus the CaCO₃ (about 50%), used as an alkaline catalyst. Both crustaceans and bivalve, once calcinated, originates the CaO that has been used as a heterogeneous catalyst for biojet fuel as for biodiesel.

Biography

Claudia Cardoso has completed her PhD at the age of 31 years from the Federal University of Pernambuco-Brazil and postdoctoral studies from the Federal University of Minas Gerais-Brazil. She is the Associate Professor of chemistry at Federal Rural University of Pernambuco-Brazil, since 2006. She has published 11 papers in reputed journals and has been working with biodiesel and biojet fuel since 2012.

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