

Editorial

The first issue of the eighteenth volume of AU Journal of Technology contains contributions from the fields of biotechnology, software engineering, technological innovation and materials engineering.

The Research Paper entitled “Production and Characterization of Protease from *Serratia marcescens*” by Titilayo Olufunke Femi-Ola, Obafemi Peters Akinsanmi and Olufemi Samuel Bamidele investigates extracellular protease produced by *Serratia marcescens* isolated from the gut of termite (*Centrocestus formosanus*) by showing the conditions for optimal protease production and the best carbon and nitrogen sources.

The Research Paper entitled “Adsorption of Heavy Metals from Wastewaters Using *Adonisia digitata* Fruit Shells and *Theobroma cacao* Pods as Adsorbents: A Comparative Study” by Charles Emeka Osakwe, Isma’il Sanni, Suraj Sa’id and Adamu Zubairu evaluates the effectiveness of activated carbon produced from agricultural residual materials as an adsorbent for lead and cadmium ion removal from wastewater.

The Research Paper entitled “An Investigative Study of Corrosion Effects of Cereals on the Grinding Components of Commercially Available Grinding Machines” by Hakeem Ayodeji Owolabi, Babatunde Victor Omidiji and Emmanuel Oluwatobi Olugbade considers corrosion effects of household food products such as corn and sorghum solutions on alloys of cast iron and mild steel in grinding machines.

The Research Paper entitled “Investigating the Kinetics of Biodesulfurization of Diesel” by Semiu Adebayo Kareem, Alfred Akpoveta Susu, David Stan Aribike and Simon Cyril Ugwumba Nwachukwu compares simulation and experimental data of the biodesulfurization of diesel and shows that the kinetics of the process by *Desulfobacterium anilini* appears to be driven by mass transfer.

The Review Article entitled “An Exploratory Survey of Phase-wise Project Cost Estimation Techniques” by Peraphon Sophatsathit surveys alternate approaches on project cost estimation in software project management based on current and emerging research endeavors in software engineering.

The Book Review entitled ‘A Review of “The Global Innovation Index 2014: The Human Factor in Innovation” (Editors: Soumitra Dutta, Bruno Lanvin and Sacha Wunsch-Vincent)’ by Dobri Atanassov Batovski summarizes aspects of technological innovation which are extensively presented in the chapters and appendices of a noteworthy publication on innovation.

The Letter entitled “A Comparison between Different Materials Based on Transition Metal Oxides as Additives for Laser Bonding on Stainless Steel” by Mihail Stoyanov Mihalev introduces a modification of the laser bonding process using only one transition metal oxide for the creation of an additive coating on the surface of a stainless steel substrate.

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