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# **Supplementary materials**

# Biowaste valorization: multifunctional hybrid Lignin/TiO<sub>2</sub> nanostructures for bacterial-biocide disinfection and dye removal.

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### **Summary**

1. Photocatalytic activity

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2. Results and Discussion

2.1 Physico-chemical characterization of hybrid TiO2\_DL nanoparticles

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2.2 Functional characterization of hybrid nanoparticles

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2.3 Antimicrobial and the antifungal characterization of hybrid nanoparticles

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3. Organic dyes removal: adsorption and photocatalytic degradation

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### S.1. Experimental Setup



Figure S-1. Schematic illustration of the experimental set-up used for the photodegradation experiments.

#### S.2. Materials characterization



Figure S-2. FT-IR curves of DL and DL T (Panel A); TGA curves of DL and DL T samples (Panel B); DTG curves of DL and DL T samples (Panel C).



Figure S-3. TGA Curves of Bare TiO<sub>2</sub> and hybrid nanoparticles.



Figure S-4. TEM Micrograph of TiO<sub>2</sub> nanoparticles.



Figure S-5: Size distribution of bare TiO<sub>2</sub> and hybrid TiO<sub>2</sub>\_DL nanoparticles.



Figure S-6. N<sub>2</sub> adsorption isotherms at 77 K representative of all nanoparticles.



Figure S-7. XRD Spectra of: A)  $TiO_2$ , B)  $TiO_2$ \_DL25, C)  $TiO_2$ \_DL50, D)  $TiO_2$ \_DL100, E)  $TiO_2$ \_DL200, F) DL T.



**Figure S-8.** Transmittance spectra of bare  $TiO_2$  and of physical mixtures of  $TiO_2 + DL50$ ,  $TiO_2 + DL100$  and  $TiO_2 + DL200$  nanoparticles.



Figure S-9. Total phenolic content of DL100, DL T100, DL200, DL T200 solutions.



Figure S-10. ABTS radical scavenging activity of  $TiO_2$ , DL T200,  $TiO_2$ \_DL200 and  $TiO_2 + DL200$ . samples.



Figure S-11: DPPH analysis on TiO2, TiO2\_DL100 and TiO2\_DL200 nanomaterials.



**Figure S-12.** DDK results (A), MIC against Gram (+) and Gram (-) bacterial (B), MIC against fungi of neat lignin aqueous solution (DL 200) and lignin aqueous solution after the hydrothermal treatment (DL T200) (C).



Figure S-13.  $pH_{zpc}$  of all nanoparticles.



**Figure S-14.** % MB and % F adsorption capacity of  $TiO_2$ \_DL200 hybrid nanoparticles and  $TiO_2 + DL200$  physical mixture; t = 60 min; pH = 5.0; T = 25 °C.



**Figure S-15.** Langmuir adsorption isotherms for MB (A, C) and F (B, D) dyes in the case of TiO<sub>2</sub>\_DL100 and TiO<sub>2</sub>\_DL200 nanoparticles; pH = 5.0; T = 25°C.



Figure S-16. Operational stability of  $TiO_2$ \_DL100 and  $TiO_2$ \_DL200 after two cycles for A) MB and B) F adsorption. t = 60 minutes; pH = 5.0; T = 25 °C.



Figure S-17. Operational stability of  $TiO_2$  and  $TiO_2\_DL50$  after up to three cycles for A) MB and B) F photocatalytic removal. Reaction time = 120 minutes.

Functional group assignment	Wavenumber (cm <sup>-1</sup> )
-OH stretching vibration in aromatic and	3425
aliphatic hydroxyl groups	
C-H asymmetrical and symmetrical vibrations	2940
of the methyl $(-C^{H_3})$	
C-H asymmetrical and symmetrical vibrations	2842
of the methylene $(-C^{H_2})$	
Vibration of aromatic rings	1590, 1510, and 1420
Methoxyl C–H bending	1461
Aromatic C–O stretching of Syringyl units	1350
Aromatic C–O stretching of Guaiacyl units	1265
Phenolic -OH units	1220
Aromatic C-H in plain deformation of the	1128
syringyl unit	
C-O stretching of secondary alcohol	1084
C-O stretching of primary alcohol	1012
Stretching vibration of aliphatic OH/ether	1030
Aromatic C-H vibration out of plain	852 and 810
deformation	
Out-of-plane	620
bending of C–OH	

 Table S-1: Assignment of FTIR bands of lignin.

Table S-2. Hydrodynamic diameters and Zeta potential values of nanoparticles

Sample	Hydrodinamic diameter (D <sub>h</sub> ) (nm)	Standard deviation	Zeta Potential (mV)	Standard deviation
TiO <sub>2</sub>	165	± 2.9	25	± 2
TiO <sub>2</sub> _DL25	226	$\pm 4.6$	23	± 1

TiO <sub>2</sub> _DL50	236	$\pm 4.3$	-1	± 1
TiO <sub>2</sub> _DL100	910	± 1.4	-15	± 1
TiO <sub>2</sub> _DL200	1016	$\pm 4.0$	-17	± 2

 Table S-3. Mean crystalline size of all nanoparticles.

Sample	Crystalline size (nm)
TiO <sub>2</sub>	≈ 7
TiO <sub>2</sub> _DL25	≈ 7
TiO <sub>2</sub> _DL50	≈ 7
TiO <sub>2</sub> _DL100	≈ 8
TiO2_DL200	≈ 12