## **Supplementary Information to**

## Optimization of the neutralization of Red Mud by pyrolysis bio-oil using a Design of

## **Experiments Approach.**

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#### Experimental data on the residuals.

The standardized effects are determined dividing the value of coefficients  $\beta$  by the square roots of the main diagonal elements of the covariance matrix  $\alpha^2 (X'X)^{-1}$ . The line of significance in red is established by the Student's t-distribution at the level  $\alpha = 0.05$  and the degree of freedom for the residual error corresponding to n-p. Any bars extending beyond this line are considered a significant terms.

For all graphs A, B and C = X1, X2 and X3.



Figure S1: Pareto charts of the standardized effects for the pH of the solid (full model in left, reduced model in right).



Figure S2: Residual plots for the pH of the solid (full model in left, reduced model in right).



Figure S3: Pareto charts of the standardized effects for the percentage of carbon in the solid (full model in left, reduced model in right).



Figure S4: Residual plots for the percentage of carbon in the solid (full model in left, reduced model in right).



Figure S5: Pareto charts of the standardized effects for the mass magnetic susceptibility (full model in left, reduced model in right).



Figure S6: Residual plots for the mass magnetic susceptibility (full model in left, reduced model in right).



Figure S7: Pareto charts of the standardized effects for the pH of the aqueous phase (full model in left, reduced model in right).



Figure S8: Residual plots for the pH of the aqueous phase (full model in left, reduced model in right).



Figure S9: Pareto charts of the standardized effects for the sodium content in the aqueous phase (full model in left, reduced model in right).



Figure S10: Residual plots for the sodium content in the aqueous phase (full model in left, reduced model in right).



Figure S11: Pareto charts of the standardized effects for the sodium content in the aqueous phase (full model in left, reduced model in right).



Figure S12: Residual plots for the mass of aqueous phase (full model in left, reduced model in right).

**Factorial plots** 



**Figure S12:** Mean effects plot for the sodium content (according to the temperature in left, and the reaction time in right). The reference lines correspond to the total average of responses. The points represent the average of responses at the border and the center of the domain.



Figure S14: Interaction plot for the sodium content between the reaction time and the temperature. The points represent the average of responses at the border and the center of the domain.

#### Magnetic separation experiemtns:

**Procedure:** The solid phases from the replication and the scale up experiments were separated in 6 samples (<20 grams each) according to the mass of solid obtained for wet magnetic separation testing. Each sample was to be individually processed using the Wet High Intensity Magnetic Separator [WHIMS]. Each sample was individually processed; each was slurried with approximately 300 mL of tap water and poured into the canister of the separator, which contained medium expanded metal matrix (MEX) with a background magnetic field of 1000 Gauss. The canister was then rinsed with 350 - 400 mL of tap water to flush out entrapped non-magnetic material, which was collected in a clean pail. The magnetic field was turned off and the magnetic material was rinsed from the matrix with tap water into a clean pail. The magnetic fraction was filtered, dried, weighed, and bagged. The non-magnetic fraction was reprocessed using the same matrix and a background magnetic field of 5000 Gauss. The magnetic and final non-magnetic fractions were filtered, dried, weighed, and bagged.

List of separation data for each sample.

Sample	Field	Fraction	Fraction
Id <sup>a</sup>	(Gauss)	Id <sup>a</sup>	(w%)
20 <sup>b</sup>	1000	magnetic	96.60
		non magnetic	3.40
	5000	magnetic	3.20
		non magnetic	0.19
20 <sup>b</sup>	1000	magnetic	97.24
		non magnetic	2.76
	5000	magnetic	2.62
		non magnetic	0.13
20 <sup>b</sup>	1000	magnetic	97.01
		non magnetic	2.99
	5000	magnetic	2.19
		non magnetic	0.58
18	1000	magnetic	93.63
		non magnetic	6.37
	5000	magnetic	5.75
		non magnetic	0.55
19	1000	magnetic	92.19
		non magnetic	7.81
	5000	magnetic	7.22
		non magnetic	0.55
19	1000	magnetic	90.76
		non magnetic	9.24
	5000	magnetic	8.21
		non magnetic	0.91

<sup>a</sup> Identification <sup>b</sup> Samples from experiments 14, 15, 16, 17 were mixed in one fraction called 20.



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# Subject : Typical Composition of the Process By-product of the Extraction of Alumina from Bauxite, often called Red Mud or Bayer Process Residue.

It is worth to mention that this composition varies with the source and the composition of the bauxite itself.

1. Elementary composition expressed as the oxide by XRF :

	<u>%</u>
AI2O3	15-25
Fe2O3	30-40
SiO2	10-20
TiO2	3-8
CaO	1-6
Na2O	5-10
H2O (chemical)	10

2. Phases identified :

Hematite	Fe2O3
Goethite	FeO(OH)
Bayer Sodalite	sodium aluminium silicate
Anatase	TiO2
Rutile	TiO2
Gibbsite	AI2O3.3H2O
Boehmite	AI2O3.H2O
Katoite	calcium aluminium silicate
Quartz	SiO2

3. Particle size distribution :

	%
+ 250 microns(sand)	10-15
10-250 microns	10-30
-10 microns	70
median	about 5 microns with sand
median	about 1 micron without sand

4. Other physical properties (when completely washed) :

Dried solid, inert, non toxic, slightly alkaline Specific density : 3.0-3.5 g/cc Specific surface area : 10-40 m2/g