



# DEGRADATION OF DISTILLERY SPENT WASH USING ALUMINIUM ELECTRODES IN ELECTROCOAGULATION PROCESS

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**Abstract** - The distillery industry is one of the oldest industries that is very complex and characterized by high BOD, COD, Total Solids, Odor, and Color. Untreated distillery wastewater, when discharged directly into water bodies or into the field, causes irreversible damage to the environment. Electrocoagulation is one of the most significant electrochemical treatments utilized in modern wastewater treatment to diminish suspended and colloidal materials, Conductivity, Turbidity, TDS and COD in wastewater. During the last decade, Electrocoagulation in industrial wastewater treatment. Electrocoagulation is used as point-of-use technology in developing communities, since they are relatively more effective compared to chemical coagulants. In the Present Research work Electrocoagulation treatment has been adopted to study the removal efficiency of Color, COD, TDS, EC, and Turbidity with variable parameters viz., the Voltage, Electrode Distance and Electrolysis time. The experiments were carried out using Al-Al, Fe-Fe, and aluminium oxide as anodic and cathodic electrodes. The influence of various operating parameters on the COD removal of biomethanated distillery waste wash was investigated in this study utilising Anodized Aluminium electrodes. Operating parameters were optimized for Anodized aluminium electrodes by using previous researches and are predicted using regression analysis tool maximum Conductivity, Turbidity, TDS, and COD removal efficiency.

**Key Words:** Electrocoagulation, Distillery wastewater and Aluminum oxide

## 1. INTRODUCTION (Size 11, cambria font)

This is a revolutionary method of treating wastewater that uses electricity to create coagulants that can be controlled. Electrochemical methods are used for coagulation and particle flocculation. This employs the same fundamentals as chemically induced coagulation. The primary goal is to eliminate the bonds with repulsive properties that are causing the effluent to be in suspension. The pollution particles would become connected to one another, generating heavier masses that would fall by gravity once these connections were

broken. Because no chemicals are used in this process, EC is economical. To create ions for coagulation, oxidation takes place. Consequently, less sludge will be produced. Figure 1.1 shows Electrocoagulation process, this method its help to remediate greasy water also. Electro coalescence of oil droplets can be aided by the presence of electric current. Electro coalescence has been shown to be useful in removing close-fitting emulsions with small drops.

### 1.1 Industrial Wastewater

Industries produce industrial wastewater as an annoying by-product. Treated industrial effluent (or effluent) may be reused or released to sewage or water sources in the environment after treatment. A major cause of water contamination is rapid industrialization. Pollution of waterways, ponds and ditches was caused by the discharge of untreated and partially treated effluent by divers such as chemicals, pesticides, fertilizers, pulp and paper, and sugar, among other things.

### 1.2 Distillery Wastewater

Breweries are one of the most polluting, and residues in the form of "spent wash" is among the greatest and most powerful contamination caused by the breweries. Molasses, a by-product of the sugar industry, is used as a raw resource by the majority of breweries in India. For each litre of alcoholic beverage produced, these produce 8.5–15.5 litres of effluent, which has a high BOD, a high COD, and a high concentration of liquid with a nuisance Color. The existence of melanoid brown polymers that have a complicated structure and are toxic to biological agents is responsible for this recalcitrance. During the commercial process of molasses fermentation with yeast, followed by the distillation of fermented wash and the recovery of alcohol, distillery wastewater, also known as spent



wash, is created. The ecology is seriously threatened by the exceedingly harmful nature of the distilleries' spent wash. Without a question, one of the biggest problems for national sickness is distillery effluent. especially those who distil alcohol using sugar stick molasses that has been aged and refined afterward.

**2. OBJECTIVES**

The objectives of the present work are as follows:

- To Optimize the Operating Parameters viz, Electrolysis duration, Voltage and Electrode distance.
- To Evaluate the Removal efficiency of Pollution Parameters: COD, Conductivity, TDS, Turbidity.
- To Estimate the cost analysis.

**Table -1: Characteristics of spent wash:**

Effluent from distilleries is warm, Darkest Colored, acidic, and has strongest objectionable aromas, posing a considerable disposal or treatment challenge.

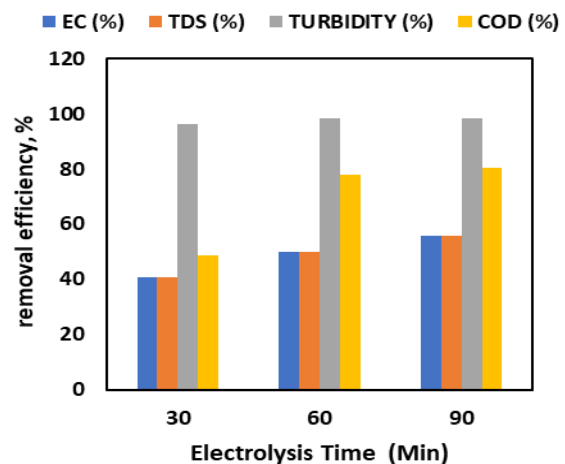
Table 1.1 Characteristics of Distillery Wastewater

Parameter	Values
Color	Darkest brown
Odor	Disagreeable burn
pH	3.83
TDS (mg/L)	1281.5
COD (mg/L)	4325

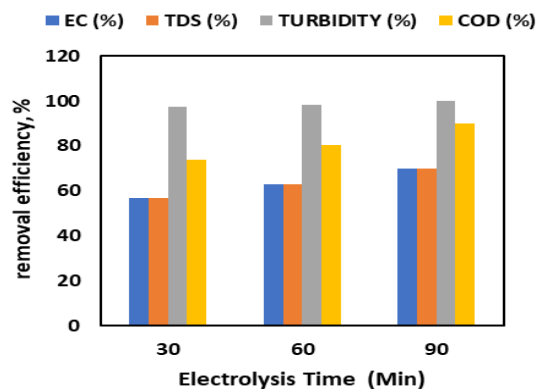
**Chart -1: Effect of Electrode distance on COD, Conductivity, TDS, and Turbidity removal efficiency (1 in 100 dilution)**

Constant Parameters			COD removal efficiency(mg/l)		
pH	Voltage	Time (min)	4cm	3cm	2cm
7	30	30	48.6	74	79
7	30	60	78	80.4	89.8
7	30	90	80.6	89.8	90.6
Constant Parameters			Conductivity removal efficiency (m. mhos/cm)		

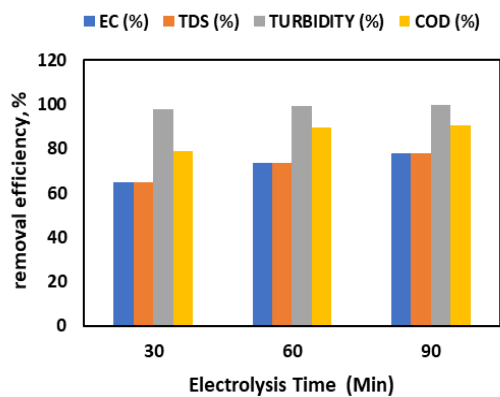
pH	Voltage	Time	4cm	3cm	2cm
7	30	30	40.86	56.86	64.8
7	30	60	49.76	62.98	73.4
7	30	90	55.75	70.06	77.9
Constant Parameters			TDS removal efficiency(mg/l)		
pH	Voltage	Time	4cm	3cm	2cm
7	30	30	40.86	56.86	64.8
7	30	60	49.76	62.98	73.4
7	30	90	55.75	70.06	77.9
Constant Parameters			Turbidity removal efficiency(mg/l)		
pH	Voltage	Time	4cm	3cm	2cm
7	30	30	96.29	97.4	97.8
7	30	60	98.4	98.4	99.19
7	30	90	98.6	100	100



Electrode distance at 4cm, 30V



Electrode distance at 3cm, 30V



Electrode distance at 2cm, 30V

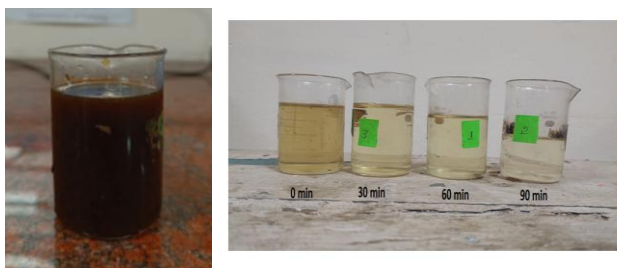


Figure 1: Untreated sample      Figure: Treated samples

### 3. CONCLUSIONS

- At 1.45 A, 2 cm spacing, pH 7, and 90-min duration, Aluminium electrode was proven to have the highest COD removal efficiency of 90.6 percent, Conductivity removal efficiency of 78 percent, TDS removal efficiency of 78 percent and Turbidity removal efficiency of 100 percent.
- The use of Aluminium-Aluminium electrode in the process showed that the efficiency of the removal process increased as the distance between the electrodes decreased. This is because as the distance between the electrodes increases, there is a decrease in the electrical attraction between the ions generated by the electrode, resulting in an increase in resistance between them. In contrast, when the electrode distance is shorter, the collision of ion generation occurs in a smaller space, which leads to increased floc creation.
- From Experimental Analysis Maximum COD, Conductivity, TDS and Turbidity removal efficiency found to be 90.6%, 78%, 78% and 100% respectively for optimized condition viz 30 Volts, 90-minute electrolysis time, 2 cm electrode distance, at neutral pH 7 and Constant agitation speed 500 rpm.

- The alkaline medium was shown the most operative for maximal removal efficiency by both the electrodes.

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