

An article presented by Dr. Francois Jerome and Prof. Samir *et. al.*, of the University of Poitiers, France and University of Alberta, Canada.

Unraveling the mechanism of the oxidation of glycerol to dicarboxylic acids over a sonochemically synthesized copper oxide catalyst

Low frequency ultrasound was employed to synthesize a highly crystalline and highly pure copper oxide, within only few minutes. In combination with  $\rm H_2O_{2r}$  the as-synthesized CuO was to be found capable of selectively oxidizing glycerol, a co-product of the vegetable oil industry, to valuable dicarboxylic acids (oxalic and tartronic acids) in an overall 78% yield. DFT calculations were performed to rationalize the reaction mechanism.



