

Oxidation of 3,5-ditert-butylcatechol catalyzed by copper(II) complexes. A kinetic study

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Copper(II) complexes of the ligands (6-methyl-2,2'-dipyridyl)methane (MeDPM) and (6,6'-dimethyl-2,2'-dipyridyl)methane (diMeDPM) were prepared and used as catalysts for the oxidation of 3,5-ditert-butylcatechol to 3,5-ditert-butyl-o-benzoquinone. The rate of reaction was determined in the presence and absence of base (KOH) in methanol. The kinetic data are interpreted, postulating two reactive species towards molecular oxygen: a copper(I) complex and a species described as a ternary copper(II) catecholate complex. © 1997 Elsevier Science Ltd.