Abstract

Process for the continuously operated purification by distillation of the methanol used as solvent in the synthesis of propylene oxide by reaction of a hydroperoxide with propylene, with the methoxypropanols being separated off simultaneously, wherein the solvent mixture obtained in the synthesis is separated in a dividing wall column into a low-boiling fraction comprising methanol, an intermediate-boiling fraction comprising the methoxypropanols as azeotrope with water and a high-boiling fraction comprising water and propylene glycol.