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Novel Linearized Kinetic Modeling of Starch Hydrolysis

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Authors' contributions

This work was carried out in collaboration between all authors. Author NCIA designed the study, wrote the protocol and managed the literature searches. Author IPC anchored the field study, gathered the initial data and performed preliminary data analysis. Author NAU interpreted the results and produced the initial draft. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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ABSTRACT

The hydrolysis of starch into glucose by acid and enzyme techniques has recorded higher glucose recovery and optimization of processes, but lacks the fitting of the results into a kinetic linear model. The application of kinetic linearized model effect of temperature on pH and acid concentration during hydrolysis of starch into glucose was studied. The experiment was conducted at different durations using reported preparatory techniques and average values of triplicates were reported. The maximum glucose yield of 18.20 mg/ml was observed on 4 hours at 60 $\mathbb C$ from acid hydrolysis and similarly observed at 4 hours at 100°C for enzym e hydrolysis. The lowest glucose yield of 10.0 mg/ml and 11.1 mg/ml were both recorded at 30 minutes duration for acid and enzyme hydrolysis respectively. The correlation coefficient of acid hydrolysis when starch was hydrolyzed for 2 hours at 80°C had a value of 1 (line of best fit) while the w eakest linear relationship (0.715) was obtained was in enzymatic hydrolysis when starch was hydrolyzed at 4 hours for 80°C Hence, the highest glucose yield was not automatically the most efficient process. The linear model equations showed that acid hydrolysis of starch had a positive energetic interaction while enzymatic hydrolysis had a

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negative energetic interaction. The slope and intercept of acid hydrolysis were all positive and indicated a positive relationship with parameters. All enzymatic hydrolysis had negative slope and indicated inverse relationship with the parameters. Therefore, the model allows researchers to make well interpretations of their results using linearized kinetic model.

Keywords: Starch; hydrolysis; glucose; linearized model.

1. INTRODUCTION

Manihot esculenta generally known as Cassava is a common occurring plant in Nigeria usually processed into different starch stables [1]. The starch precursors are usually subjected to various acid and enzymatic hydrolyzing techniques to optimize the production of starch or glucose [2]. Acid hydrolysis involves the conversion of lignocelluloses content to valuable products that are edible, while enzymatic hydrolysis has been presented as bio-friendly approach for both waste peel and fibers of cassava [3,4]. However, challenges such as nonspecific binding, low immobilization yield, and acute diffusion problem exist for large proteins during enzymatic hydrolysis [5,6]. These occur because the rates of hydrolysis depend on the molecular size and structure of the substrates. Hence, researchers are continuously investigating production kinetics and improved approaches that will give higher recovery of glucose at cost effective process like use of microwave pre-treated hydrolysis [7]. However, studies on linear relationships with parameters are uncommon.

The sustained studies on acid catalysed hydrolysis of starch into reducing sugars have relatively provided information on physicochemical and functional properties of starch and glucose [8,9], but no linear model has been developed for such hydrolysis of starch into glucose. The Optimization of acid hydrolysis of starch for glucose production has also seen a progressive trend towards maximum glucose concentration and recovery [3,7,10,11,12]. Consequently, factors like temperature, pH, acid concentration, particle size and pre-treatment are known to affect yield of final product [11-14] but lacks physical translation into a linear model.

Additionally, enzymatic hydrolysis has found useful applications with enzymes such as cellulase, β-glucanase, fungal glucoamylase and amyloglucosidase [15-18] in conversion of starch to glucose. Subsequently, the nature of the product formed depends on the enzyme, substrate and particular approach used [19-22]. On the other hand, the acid hydrolysis depends on factors such as acid concentration, particle size and pre-treatment to yield optimally [11-14]. Thus the study will utilize the effect of temperature on acid concentration and pH of enzymes during hydrolysis in order to investigate for the first time, the application of linearized kinetic model interpretation of results obtained from cassava starch hydrolysis into glucose.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.1 Cassava Preparation

The cassava tuber (Manihot esculenta) was sampled from a small scale cassava farmland in Mbaise, Imo State of Nigeria. The harvested cassava was peeled and washed with water. The peeled tuber was chipped into small sizes and dried at 60°C for 48 hours in a cabinet dryer. The dried chips were further dry-milled and screened to obtain the flour [6,23,24].

2.2 Enzyme Preparation

α–amylase and amyloglucosidase were obtained from the culture collection unit of the Department of Biotechnology, National Root Crops Research Institute, (NRCRI) Umudike, Abia State Nigeria.

2.3 Acid Hydrolysis

50 g cassava flour was weighed out and dispersed into a 150 ml H_2 SO₄ with varied concentrations of 0.2 M to 1.0 M. Hydrolysis was initiated when cassava was dispatched into the hydrolyser and conducted at different acid concentration strength ranging from 0.2 M to 1.0 M. A water bath was set to maintain 60°C to 100°C within the selected time range of 30 minutes, 1 hours, 2 hours and 4 hours. 0.1 M of NaOH was used to bring the acidic slurry to neutral pH (clear sugar concentrate obtained; glucose syrup). The starch stock was prepared with 1 gm/L concentration in sterile distilled water. The blank sample was prepared using distilled water and DNS reagent. It was used as a substrate for optimization of acid treatment for

starch hydrolysis. Sugar concentration was determined by DNS method (3,5 - dinitrosalicylic acid method) [10,22].

2.4 Enzymatic Hydrolysis

50 g of starch was dispersed into 150 ml of distilled water at a ratio of 1:3 to initiate enzymatic hydrolysis. The obtained white slurry was gradually heated up to 80°C to break down the intermolecular bonds of starch for 30 minutes using water bath. Further heating was initiated in the water bath at 90° . A 2.0 ml of alpha amylase (Termanyl) was introduced into the slurry and allowed to equilibrate for 1 hour. The starch mixture was cooled at 60°C and pH range maintained at 4.0 – 7.0. A 2.0 ml of glucoamylase enzyme was also added to the reaction mixture and then kept at selected temperatures of 60, 80, and 100 $\mathbb C$ at varied time intervals of between 30 minutes and 4 hours. Incubation of substrates without enzyme addition was set as blank control. Glucose concentrations were determined by DNS method (3,5 dinitrosalicylic acid method) [14,22]. All reported experiments were done in triplicates. Average values were calculated and recorded.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A plot of glucose yield against concentration of acid used was plotted as shown in Fig. 1 while the graph of glucose yield against pH of enzymes were shown in Fig. 2. The Tables 1 and 2 show tabular presentation of the linear models (equations) generated in their respective kinetic linear graphs.

3.1 Glucose Yield

The Fig. 1 showed that as the acid concentration increases, the glucose yield also increases. The highest glucose yield of 18.20 mg/ml was observed at 4 hours of hydrolysis at 60 $\mathbb C$ while the lowest glucose yield of 10.0 mg/ml was at 30 minutes for 100°C during acid hydrolysis. Similarly, Fig. 2 showed the highest glucose yield (20.1 mg/ml) observed for enzyme hydrolysis was at pH of 4.0 for 4 hours at 100 $\mathbb C$ while the lowest yield (11.1 mg/ml) was obtained at pH of 6.0 at 30 minutes duration; and had been similarly observed [2,22]. The results showed that the reaction was favorable at longer duration and intermediate temperature. Albeit, there was a correlation of maxima and minima glucose yield at same duration of 4 hours and 30 minutes.

3.2 Model Equation

The linear equations (Y) consist of both the slope and the intercept in the equation of straight line graph. The linear model equations determined from the graph showed that acid hydrolysis of starch had a positive energetic interaction (exothermic reaction) while the enzymatic hydrolysis of starch, all had a negative energetic interaction (endothermic reaction). Fig. 1 demonstrated that glucose concentration increases as acid concentration increases. Conversely, Fig. 2 shows that glucose concentration decreases as the pH increases (reaction was favorable at higher temperature and lower pH). The highest enzymatic yield was 20.1 mg/ml while the lowest enzymatic yield was 11.0 mg/ml. 18.20 mg/ml and 10.0 mg/ml were the respective maximum and minimum acid hydrolysis yield. These demonstrated greater glucose yield from enzymatic hydrolyzing approach.

3.3 Correlation Coefficient (R²)

The correlation coefficient determines the extent to which changes in one variable affects the other. The correlation coefficient of both Figs. 1 and 2 can be seen more elaborate at Tables 1 and 2 respectively. The results showed that there was no negative correlation coefficient in both acid and enzymatic hydrolyses. The strongest linear relationship was obtained in Table 1 for acid hydrolysis when starch was hydrolyzed at 2 hours for 80°C and had a positive correlation value of 1 (line of best fit), while the weakest linear relationship was obtained in Table 2 for enzymatic hydrolysis when starch was hydrolyzed at 4 hours for 80°C and had a positive value of 0.715. These demonstrated that the effect of experimental variables were unstable and erratic at 4 hours for 80° during enzymatic hydrolysis. However, it had greater yield of glucose (14.8 mg/ml) than 11.1 mg/ml (lowest yield) obtained at pH of 6.0 at 30 minutes which had a R^2 = 0.824 The tables also showed independent behaviors of correlation coefficient among graphs and the sensitivity of linearized regression application in explaining the hydrolysis of starch using acid and enzymes. However, detailed observation indicated that enzymatic hydrolysis gave a better correlation coefficient (0.920 at 30 minutes, 0.869 at 1 hour, 0.910 at 2 hours and 0.967 at 4 hours) for all time intervals of 100°C. These tied a correlation that higher temperature and lower pH favors glucose production during enzymatic and acid hydrolysis of starch from cassava.

Fig. 1. (L-R) Graph of glucose concentration against acid concentration at selected time intervals of (A) 30 minutes, (B) 1 hr, (C) 2 hours, (D) 4 hours

Acid hydrolysis	30 minutes	1 hr	2 hours	4 hours
60C	$Y = 3.15x + 12.47$	$Y = 1.95x + 13.53$	$Y = 2.5x + 15.24$	$Y = 3.65x + 14.85$
	$R^2 = 0.907$	$R^2 = 0.800$	$R^2 = 0.759$	$R^2 = 0.956$
80 C	$Y = 0.9x + 14.94$	$Y = 1.9x + 14.82$	$Y = 0.5x + 15.10$	$Y = 1x + 14.98$
	$R^2 = 0.835$	$R2 = 0.930$	$R^2 = 1$	$R^2 = 0.581$
100 \mathcal{C}	$Y = 1.01x + 9.832$ $R^2 = 0.974$	$Y = 1.4x + 9.622$ $R^2 = 0.799$	$Y = 1.55x + 10.55$ $Y = 1.4x + 10.92$ $R^2 = 0.867$	$R^2 = 0.878$

Table 1. Graphical equations table of acid hydrolysis at selected temperature and time

Fig. 2. (L-R) Graph of glucose concentration against pH value at selected time intervals of (A) 30 minutes, (B) 1 hr, (C) 2 hours, (D) 4 hours

Enzymatic hydrolysis	30 minutes	1 hr	2 hours	4 hours
60 °C	$R^2 = 0.793$	$Y = -0.35x + 13.28$ $Y = -0.36x + 13.56$ $R^2 = 0.822$	$Y = -0.33x + 13.53$ $R^2 = 0.691$	$Y = -0.59x + 15.08$ $R^2 = 0.824$
80C	$R^2 = 0.748$	$Y = -0.75x + 15.92$ $Y = -0.55x + 14.98$ $R^2 = 0.938$	$Y = -1.43x + 20.62$ $R^2 = 0.871$	$Y = -1.3x + 19.47$ $R^2 = 0.715$
100 \mathcal{C}	$Y = -1.11x + 18.52$ $Y = -2.08x + 25.58$ $R^2 = 0.902$	$R^2 = 0.869$	$Y = -2.75x + 30.14$ $R^2 = 0.910$	$Y = -3.05x + 32.67$ $R^2 = 0.967$

Table 2. Graphical equations table of enzymatic hydrolysis at selected temperature and time

3.4 Slope and Intercept

The slope and intercept of the equations shown in Tables 1 and 2 can also be seen from the equation of straight line graph as per generated from their graphs. All the graphs in acid hydrolysis gave a positive slope which meant that in all the acid hydrolysis, there were positive relationships with parameters. Therefore when the acid concentration increases, the yield also increases. Furthermore, the intercept was highest (15.24) when the starch was hydrolyzed

at 60°C for 2 hours; similarly, the lowest intercept was observed when the starch was hydrolyzed at 100°C for 1hr. Thus averagely, the intercepts of acid hydrolyses at 100 $\mathbb C$ for 30 minutes, 1 hour, 2 hours and 4 hours gave the lowest sum of intercept and had corresponding highest yield of glucose during hydrolysis. However, since the intercepts were greater than 9.622 and less 15.25; this confirms that even very dilute acid will cause hydrolyses of starch obtained from cassava. The graphs in enzymatic hydrolysis each had a negative slope respectively. This indicated an inverse relationship with the parameters (when the pH increases, the glucose yield decreases). The highest intercept for enzymatic hydrolysis was (32.7) when starch was hydrolyzed for 4 hours at 100°C. While the lowest intercept was observed when the starch was hydrolyzed at 60°C for 30 minutes.

4. CONCLUSION

The results showed that as the acid concentration increases with higher temperature, the glucose yield also increases favoring longer duration and intermediate temperatures. The results showed that the reaction was favorable at longer duration and intermediate temperature. Furthermore, enzymatic hydrolysis gave a better correlation coefficient (0.920 at 30 minutes, 0.869 at 1 hour, 0.910 at 2 hours and 0.967 at 4 hours) for all time intervals of 100°C. Additionally, all enzymatic hydrolysis had a negative slope respectively. This indicated inverse relationship with the parameters. The acid hydrolyses had a positive slope which meant that all the acid hydrolysis had a positive relationship with the parameters. Thus, the highest glucose yield was not the most efficient process when factors such as temperature, pH and time are taken into consideration given that the highest glucose yield was not obtained when R^2 = 1. Hence, the model like other previous models [12,21], can significantly describe starch hydrolyses into glucose by acid and enzyme when process factors are taking into consideration.

COMPETING INTERESTS

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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