

Application of β -glucosidase Immobilized on Chitosan microspheres in Degradation of Polydatin in *Polygonum cuspidatum*

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Abstract: Resveratrol in *Polygonum cuspidatum* is a β -glycoside, which can be hydrolyzed to resveratrol by β -glucosidase. It is an efficient production process to degrade polydatin from *Polygonum cuspidatum* extract by immobilized β -glucosidase. It is of great significance to explore suitable immobilization conditions to improve the catalytic efficiency and reusability of β -glucosidase for polydatin degradation and cost reduction. In this paper, the recombinant *Escherichia coli* bgl2238, which was screened and constructed from corn soil of Heilongjiang Province in the early laboratory, was immobilized by chitosan adsorption and glutaraldehyde crosslinking. The preparation conditions and immobilization process of bgl2238 were determined by single factor method: the optimal crosslinking time was 1 h, the optimal crosslinking temperature was 20 °C, the recovery rate of enzyme activity of bgl2238 was 87 %, and the enzyme activity was 859.65 mU/g. The optimum temperature of the immobilized bgl2238 is 50 °C, which is 6 °C higher than that of the free bgl2238, and the temperature stability and pH stability are improved. After six consecutive hydrolysis of *Polygonum cuspidatum*, the degradation rate of polydatin is still over 70 %, which proves that the immobilized bgl2238 has good reusability. This will be helpful to evaluate the application prospect of β -glucosidase immobilized in this system and determine the best conditions for its production.

1 Introduction

Resveratrol is a kind of natural antioxidant polyphenol. Various studies have shown that resveratrol has the characteristics of good health, can prevent or slow down the process of various pathological conditions, and can treat cancer and various disease[1]. In clinical trials, resveratrol has therapeutic effects on cancer[2-6], obesity[7-9], diabetes[10, 11], neurological[12-14] and cardiovascular diseases[15-17], and has significant antibacterial activities against a variety of bacteria, viruses and fungi[18, 19]. In recent years, resveratrol has been widely concerned because of its various health benefits. Resveratrol is widely found in many kinds of edible plants, such as *Polygonum cuspidatum*, grape and peanut[20]. *Polygonum cuspidatum* is a kind of medicinal plant. In addition to resveratrol, *Polygonum cuspidatum* also contains high content of polydatin. polydatin is a β -glycoside, which can be hydrolyzed to resveratrol by β -glucosidase. Therefore, *Polygonum cuspidatum* is the best raw material for the production of resveratrol in industry [21, 22].

β -glucosidase can catalyze the hydrolysis of β -D-glucosidase bond and convert polyglycoside into resveratrol, but the low yield of β -glucosidase limits its

use in industry. Through the experimental design of[2] recombinant β -glucosidase, the yield can be further improved [23, 24]. Compared with free enzyme, immobilized enzyme has become a research hotspot because of its high stability, reusability, easy separation of products after catalytic reaction and low industrial cost. Immobilized bgl2238 can not only avoid the need of separation and purification, but also avoid the need of separation and purification in use It can make bgl2238 reused, improve the stability of temperature and pH, and reduce the industrial cost of degradation of *Polygonum cuspidatum* to a large extent[25].

Various carriers and methods have been used to immobilize the enzyme. The selection of immobilization methods and appropriate carriers are very important for maintaining the activity and stability of the enzyme [26-28]. Chitosan is one of the most widely used carrier materials for enzyme immobilization at present. Chitosan has excellent properties such as non-toxic, biocompatibility and plasticity, and it can chelate metal ions. The thermal stability and enzyme activity of the enzyme immobilized by chitosan have been greatly improved [29]. However, the binding force of chitosan and enzyme is weak, so it is often used to fix the enzyme together with the crosslinker glutaraldehyde, which can further generate the adsorption bond to stabilize the

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interaction between the enzyme and the carrier, and improve the stability of the fixed enzyme [30]. The purpose of this study was to obtain the optimal conditions for degradation of polyglycosides by immobilized β - glucosidase. The effects of glutaraldehyde concentration, pH, time and temperature on the enzyme activity were studied.

2 Materials and Methods

2.1 Chemicals and Materials

4-nitrophenyl- β -D-glucopyranoside (pNPG) and pNP were purchased from Shanghai biotechnology company. The recombinant β - glucosidase crude enzyme solution (bgl2238) was preserved in our laboratory. High density chitosan (degree of deacetylation is 85 % - 95 %) was purchased from onco, 50 % glutaraldehyde was purchased from Aladdin biochemical company. Polygonum cuspidatum powder was obtained from Chinese herbal pieces. Resveratrol standard and resveratrol standard were purchased from Chinese herbal pieces Dalian Meilun biological Co., Ltd.; methanol is the first-class chromatographic purity; water is the pure water, filtered by 0.45 μ M filter membrane; other reagents are analytical grade.

2.2 Preparation of Chitosan Microspheres

Dissolve 0.4 g chitosan with 20 mL 1 % dilute acetic acid, stir and dissolve it fully, then ultrasound till there is no bubble. Take the chitosan solution with a 1mL syringe, drop it vertically into 25 mL of the condensate in a 10 cm suspension to form chitosan microspheres. After standing for 5min at room temperature, washing the microspheres with deionized water to neutral, putting them in 0.1 % glutaraldehyde solution, crosslinking at 30 °C and 150 rpm for 1h, washing the crosslinked microspheres with distilled water, the immobilized chitosan carrier is obtained, and stored at 4 °C.

2.3 Immobilization of β - glucosidase bgl2238

The activity of β -glucosidase was determined by colorimetry with pNPG as substrate. β - galactosidase can catalyze pNPG to produce pNP and glucose. It is yellow in alkaline condition and has absorbance value at 405 nm. The enzyme activity obtained shows the activity of β - glucosidase completely[31]. Accurately weigh 0.05g of immobilized bgl2238, add 20 μ l 50mM of pNPG, 180 μ L pH of 6.10 of B-R buffer solution, mix evenly, after bathing in water at 44 °C for 20 min, add 400 μ L of 1M Na₂CO₃ solution to stop the enzymatic reaction, under the same conditions, the inactivated crude enzyme solution is set as the blank control, take 200 μ L of the above mixture and add it to 96 well plates, measure OD₄₀₅ in three parallel experiments. An enzyme activity unit (U) is defined as the amount of enzyme required to decompose PNP in one minute to produce 1 μ mol pNP.

2.4 Determination of Residual enzyme activity of immobilized β - glucosidase bgl2238

The total enzyme activity of the immobilized bgl2238 was obtained by multiplying the enzyme activity of the immobilized bgl2238 by its total mass. The recovery of enzyme activity is equal to the total enzyme activity of the immobilized bgl2238 divided by the enzyme activity of the immobilized crude enzyme solution.

2.5 Study on the immobilization of bgl2238 on Chitosan Microspheres

Single factor method was used to optimize the crosslinking conditions (glutaraldehyde concentration, crosslinking time, crosslinking temperature) and the immobilization process (adsorption time and enzyme addition) of bgl2238.

2.6 Study on the preparation of immobilized bgl2238 microspheres

Under the optimum conditions of bgl2238 immobilization, the effects of sodium hydroxide concentration, methanol concentration, acetic acid concentration and chitosan concentration on bgl2238 immobilization were explored.

2.7 Enzymatic properties of immobilized bgl2238

2.7.1 Optimum temperature and temperature stability of immobilized bgl2238

After adding 0.5 g immobilized bgl2238 to 1.5 mL EP tube and 20 μ 150 mm PNP, a 200 μ L enzymolysis system was constructed with B-R buffer of pH6.10. After mixing, the reaction was carried out at different temperatures (35°C - 60°C) for 20 minutes, 400 μ L of 1 m Na₂CO₃ solution was added to stop the enzymatic reaction, 200 μ L of the reaction solution was added to 96 well plates, and OD₄₀₅ was determined in three parallel experiments. The maximum enzyme activity was defined as 100 %, and the optimum temperature for immobilization of bgl2238 was determined. Then the reaction system of immobilized bgl2238 was placed in (35 °C-60 °C) for 1 The residual enzyme activity was measured at the optimum temperature of the immobilized bgl2238. The temperature stability of the immobilized bgl2238 was determined with the enzyme activity of 100 % without heat treatment.

2.7.2 Optimal pH and pH stability of immobilized bgl2238

The procedure was carried out according to the method 2.7.1 above, keep the optimal temperature unchanged, and determine the optimal pH value of the immobilized bgl2238 in the pH range of 3-11. Then the reaction system of immobilized bgl2238 was put into B-R buffer with pH of 3-11, respectively. After 1 hour at room temperature, the residual enzyme activity of immobilized bgl2238 was measured at the optimum temperature. The pH stability of immobilized bgl2238 was measured with the enzyme

activity of untreated 100 %.

2.7.3 Effect of metal ions on the immobilization of bgl2238

0.5 g immobilized bgl2238 was put into the solution of CuSO_4 , CoCl_2 , FeSO_4 , CaCl_2 , MgSO_4 and MnCl_2 with the concentration of 10 mm respectively, and placed for 1 day at room temperature. The activity of the remaining enzyme was measured at the optimum temperature of the immobilized bgl2238. The activity of the enzyme without metal ion treatment was 100 %, and the effect of metal ion on the immobilized bgl2238 was measured.

3 Results and analysis

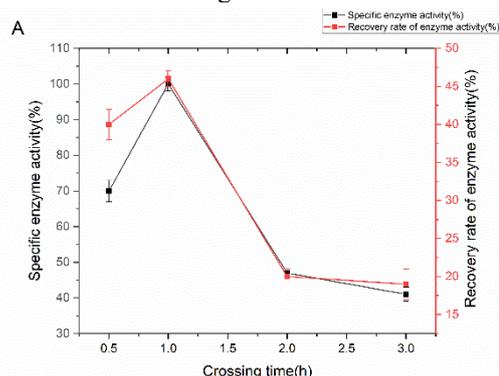
3.1 Bgl2238 immobilization process

The immobilization process of bgl2238 was studied. The immobilization parameters, such as time, temperature, glutaraldehyde concentration and enzyme dosage, were investigated. The effect of cross-linking time on the activity of immobilized enzyme bgl2238 is shown in Figure 1A. the specific activity and recovery rate of immobilized enzyme bgl2238 increase in 0.5-1 h, and reach the maximum in 1h. The best crosslinking time should be the time when the fixed amount of chitosan to bgl2238 reaches equilibrium. The crosslinking time is too short, and the enzyme of carrier crosslinking is less. With the prolongation of crosslinking time, the crosslinking reaction is gradually completed, and the enzyme activity is increased. If the crosslinking time is prolonged, the denaturation probability of glutaraldehyde to enzyme will be increased[31].The best immobilization time was 1h. When the crosslinking temperature rises to 20 °C, the recovery rate and specific enzyme activity of immobilized bgl2238 are the largest (Fig. 1B), but the enzyme activity decreases when the temperature continues to rise. The reason is that when the temperature is too high, the aldehyde group in glutaraldehyde and lactase amino group combine too fast, resulting in the increase of the steric hindrance of enzyme and the decrease of enzyme activity[31]. And the high temperature environment makes the enzyme structure damage, and the enzyme with weak binding with chitosan falls off from the carrier, so the optimal cross-linking temperature is 20 °C.

It is reported that the amount of crosslinking agent will affect the degree of crosslinking. The aldehyde group in glutaraldehyde can covalently combine with the amino group in the enzyme, and also can combine with the active group in the carrier. Therefore, glutaraldehyde can improve the immobilization efficiency of Chitosan on the enzyme[32, 33]. When the concentration of glutaraldehyde is low, the active groups in chitosan are less, which can not form enough cross-linking to fix the enzyme. With the increase of the concentration of glutaraldehyde solution, the carrier is activated, and the amount of enzyme immobilization also increases. At a higher concentration, excessive cross-linking may lead to

the denaturation and deactivation of the enzyme structure [34-36]. The effect of glutaraldehyde concentration on the immobilization effect of bgl2238 is shown in Figure 1C. The concentration of glutaraldehyde has a significant impact on the immobilization effect of bgl2238. When the concentration of glutaraldehyde is 0.5 %, the immobilization effect of bgl2238 is the best.

In terms of technology, saving the amount of enzyme added is an important factor to be considered, so it is necessary to investigate the amount of enzyme in bgl2238[37]. the active groups coupled with enzyme on chitosan microspheres are certain, with the increase of enzyme concentration, these coupling sites will gradually saturate, and the enzyme activity of immobilized enzyme will increase. However, when the enzyme is nearly saturated, a large number of enzyme molecules are gathered in a narrow space, which changes the conformation of the enzyme activity space, but reduces the enzyme activity of the immobilized enzyme. With the increase of enzyme concentration, these coupling sites will gradually saturate and the enzyme activity of immobilized enzyme will increase. However, when the enzyme is nearly saturated, a large number of enzyme molecules are gathered in a narrow space, which changes the conformation of the enzyme activity space, but reduces the enzyme activity of the immobilized enzyme[38]. With the increase of the dilution ratio of bgl2238 crude enzyme solution, the the recovery rate of enzyme activity and specific enzyme activity of the immobilized bgl2238 increased first and then decreased. When the dilution ratio of bgl2238 crude enzyme solution was 2 times, the immobilization effect of bgl2238 was the best (Figure 1D). The results of the study on the immobilization process of bgl2238 showed that the optimal crosslinking time was 1 h, the optimal crosslinking temperature was 20 °C, when the concentration of glutaraldehyde was 0.5 %, and the dilution of bgl2238 crude enzyme solution was twice, the immobilization effect of bgl2238 was the best.



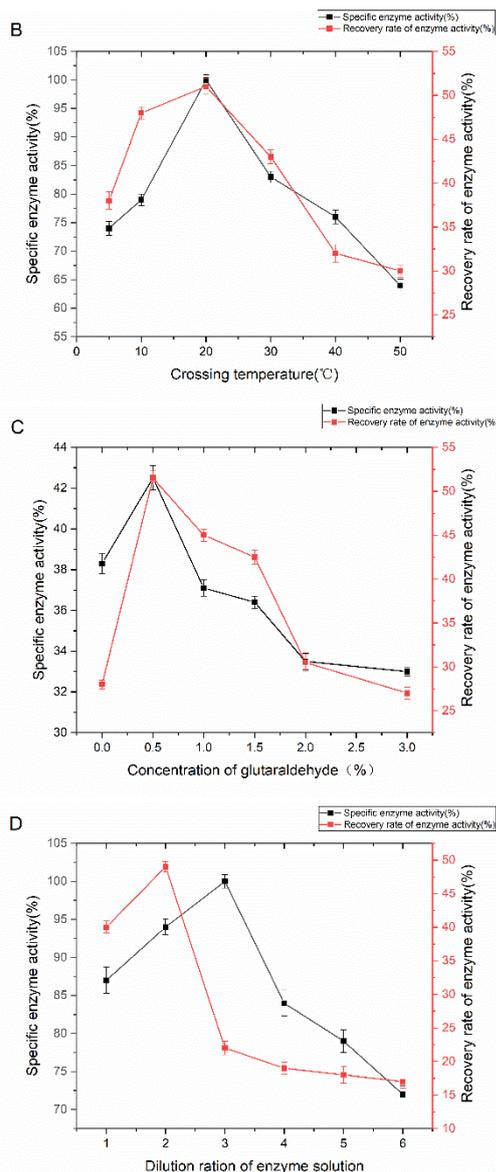


Fig.1 Effects of crosslinking time, temperature, glutaraldehyde concentration and enzyme dosage on the activity of immobilized enzyme bgl2238 (A)Effects of crosslinking time. (B)Effects of crosslinking temperature (C)Effects of glutaraldehyde concentration. (D)Effects of enzyme dosage. Data points are the average of triplicate measurements, and error bars represent the standard deviation

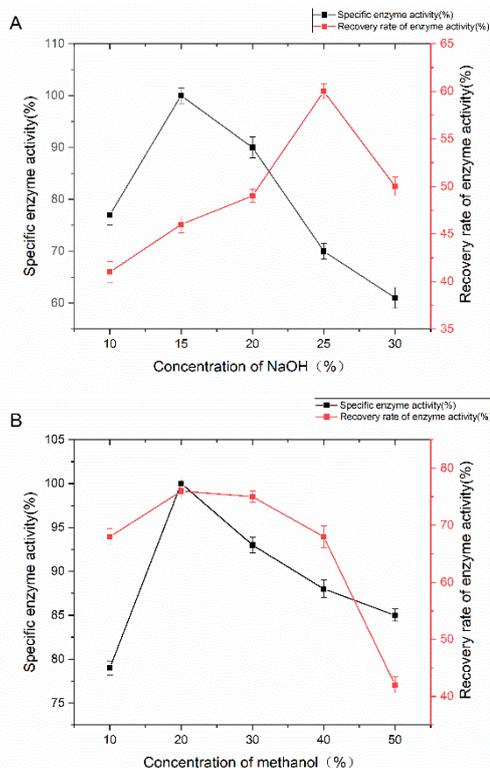
3.2 Preparation conditions of bgl2238 immobilized on Chitosan

The effects of the concentration of NaOH, methanol, acetic acid and chitosan on the immobilization of bgl2238 were studied. The concentration of NaOH can affect the charge of carrier and enzyme, and change the electrostatic attraction between them. A certain concentration of NaOH can increase the number of deprotonamide, keep the uniformity of the solution but not lead to the precipitation of the polymer. The results showed that with the increase of NaOH concentration, the activity recovery and specific activity of immobilized bgl2238 increased first and then decreased, but the specific activity was the highest when the concentration of NaOH was 15 %, and the

concentration of NaOH was 25 % when the activity recovery was the highest. Therefore, according to the proportion of specific enzyme activity and the recovery rate of enzyme activity ratio of 1:2, the optimal concentration of NaOH is 15 % (Figure 2A).

The solvent in the reaction can affect the catalytic performance, because the catalytic performance of the enzyme is closely related to the molecular structure of the enzyme, and methanol causes the conformational change of the enzyme to change the catalytic performance of the immobilized enzyme[39, 40]. At the same time, methanol in the condensate can increase the surface porosity of chitosan microspheres. Although the mechanical strength of the microspheres is weakened, it also increases the probability of enzyme and carrier connection. As shown in Figure 2B, when the methanol concentration is 20 %, the immobilization effect of bgl2238 is the largest. As shown in Figure 2C, when the acetic acid concentration is 1.5 %, the recovery rate of enzyme activity and specific activity of bgl2238 immobilized enzyme are the largest.

With the increase of chitosan concentration, on the one hand, it can provide more free aldehydes for covalent connection, on the other hand, the space of carrier becomes smaller, which affects the entry of enzyme and reduces the effective connection between enzyme and carrier, so the concentration of chitosan affects the immobilization effect. As shown in Figure 2D, the optimal concentration of chitosan is 2.0 % when bgl2238 is immobilized. The results showed that when the concentration of NaOH was 15 %, the concentration of methanol was 20 %, the concentration of acetic acid was 1.5 %, and the concentration of chitosan was 2.0 %, the immobilization effect was the best.



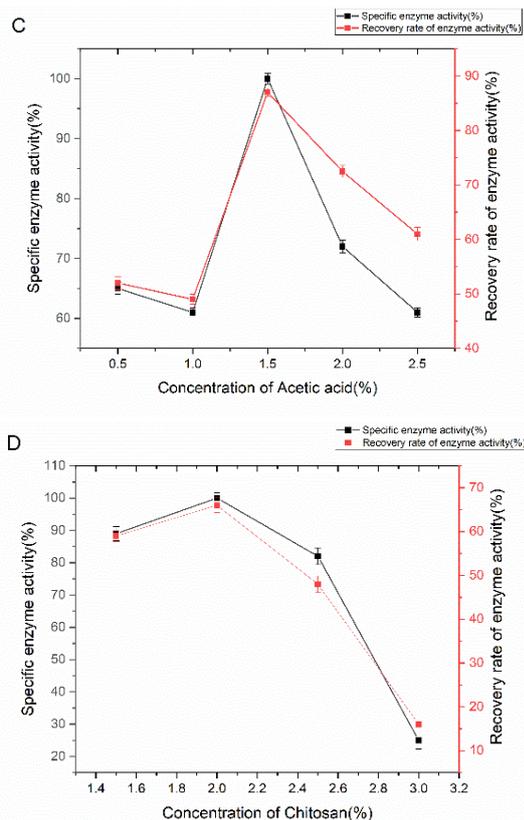


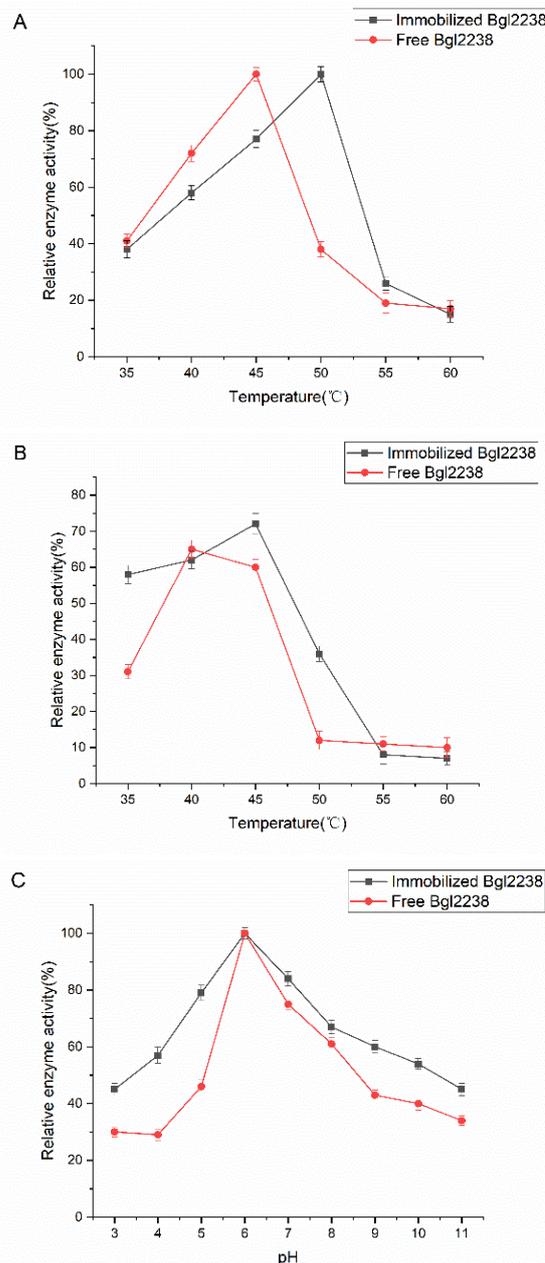
Fig. 2 Effect of NaOH concentration, methanol concentration, acetic acid concentration and chitosan concentration on the immobilization effect of bgl2238 (A) Effect of NaOH concentration (B) Effect of methanol concentration (C) Effect of acetic acid concentration (D) Effect of chitosan concentration. Data points are the average of triplicate measurements, and error bars represent the standard deviation

3.3 Study on the properties of immobilized bgl2238

3.3.1 Effect of temperature and pH on immobilized bgl2238

In order to determine the optimal temperature of bgl2238, the catalytic activity of the enzyme in the temperature range of 35 °C - 60 °C was investigated. The optimal reaction temperature and temperature stability of free bgl2238 and immobilized bgl2238 are shown in Figure A and Figure 3B. It can be seen from Figure 3A that the enzyme activity of immobilized bgl2228 is the largest at 50 °C, while that of free bgl2238 is the largest at 44 °C, and the optimal temperature of immobilized bgl2228 is raised by 6 °C. It can be seen from Figure B that the free bgl2238 has almost no activity at 50 °C, while the immobilized bgl2238 still has 37 % activity at 50 °C. Therefore, compared with the free bgl2238, the immobilized bgl2238 has a significant improvement in both the temperature range and the temperature stability. It can be seen that the optimal temperature and thermal stability of the immobilized bgl2238 are slightly increased, because the multi-point covalent connection between the immobilized enzyme and the carrier improves the conformational stability of the enzyme molecule[41].

The optimal pH of bgl2238 is shown in Figure 3C. The optimal pH after immobilization is still 6.0, which has no change compared with free bgl2238, but the enzyme activity of bgl2238 after immobilization in the range of pH4.0-6.0 has been significantly improved. Figure 3D is the experimental result of the pH stability of bgl2238. It can be seen from the figure that the stability of the immobilized bgl2238 is much higher than that of the free bgl2238 after being placed for 1h at pH4.0-6.0.



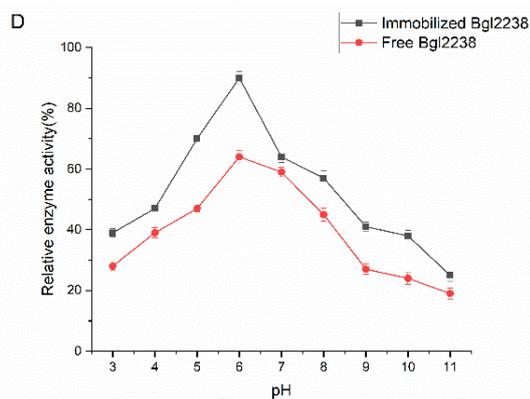


Fig. 3 Effect of pH and temperature on the activity and stability of free (blue line) and immobilized β -glucosidase (black line). (A) The optimum temperature of free bgl2238 (blue line) and immobilized bgl2238 (black line). (B) Temperature stability of free bgl2238 (blue line) and immobilized bgl2238 (black line) (C) Optimal pH of free bgl2238 (blue line) and immobilized bgl2238 (black line) (D) pH stability of free bgl2238 (blue line) and immobilized bgl2238 (black line). Data points are the average of triplicate measurements, and error bars represent the standard deviation

3.3.2 Effect of metal ions on the immobilization of bgl2238

The effects of metal ions Cu^{2+} , Co^{2+} , Fe^{2+} , Ca^{2+} , Mg^{2+} and Mn^{2+} on the immobilized bgl2238 and free bgl2238 are shown in Figure 4. The figure shows that compared with the free bgl2238, Ca^{2+} and Mg^{2+} can enhance the promotion of the immobilized bgl2238, but Co^{2+} , Fe^{2+} , Mn^{2+} can weaken the promotion of the immobilized bgl2238, and Cu^{2+} can also reduce the inhibition of the immobilized bgl2238. This may be because metal ions repel chitosan with positive charge, which reduces the contact between metal ions and enzyme molecules, thus weakening the promotion and inhibition of metal ions on immobilized bgl2238.

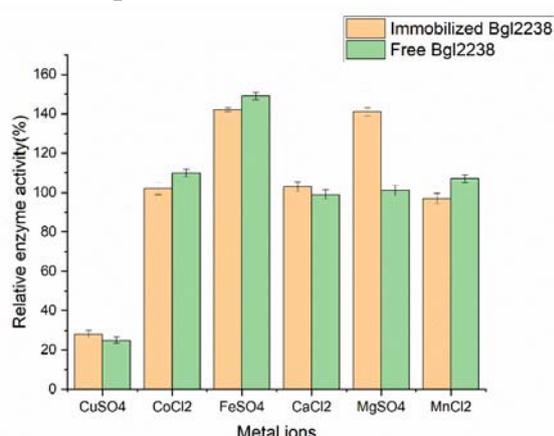


Fig.4 Effect of metal ions on the activity of free bgl2238 and immobilized bgl2238.

3.4 reuse of immobilized bgl2238

Weigh 12 g of immobilized bgl2238 to 1g of Polygonum cuspidatum powder and hydrolyze it in 10 mL system at

50 °C and 120rpm for 12h. The degradation rate of polydatin by free bgl2238 was 100 %, and the degradation rate of polydatin was still over 70 % after the same enzymolysis system was explained for 6 times. (Table 1).

Table.1 continuous hydrolysis of Polygonum cuspidatum by immobilized bgl2238

Repetitions	Degradation rate of polydatin (%)
1	95
2	89
3	83
4	80
5	76
6	72

4 Conclusions

β -glucosidase bgl2238 has significant degradation effect on polydatin. Immobilization of bgl2238 can not only reuse, but also improve the stability of the enzyme. Operational stability or reusability is an important index to evaluate the efficiency of immobilized enzyme[37]. After hydrolysis of Polygonum cuspidatum for six times, the degradation rate of polydatin is still over 70 %, which proves that the immobilized bgl2238 has good reusability. Temperature stability and pH stability were improved. The results show that the immobilization process is simple, the carrier material is easy to obtain, and the enzyme activity and stability are improved, which shows the effectiveness and feasibility of the process and determines the best conditions for its production[42]. It also laid a foundation for the application of immobilized β -glucosidase in practice.

Funding

This work was supported by Natural Science Foundation of China (31400680), Science and Technology Plan Project of Guangzhou (201802030009), Innovation and Strengthening School Project from Guangdong Pharmaceutical University (2016SFKC_28 and 2016KTSCX067), Science and Technology Plan Project of Guangdong Province (2017 A010105011), Science and Technology Plan Project of Guangzhou (201802030009). National Natural Science Foundation of China (31971384).

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