

# Optimization and Characterization Freeze Dried Fish Protein Hydrolysate Production

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**Abstract.** The production of fish protein hydrolysate from underutilized fish species is attracting the industrial interest for increasing the rich protein values. The central composite design was used to optimize the degree of enzymatic hydrolysis of freeze-dried fish protein hydrolysate (FPH) production by the application of commercial Alcalase on the recovery mixed small fish protein. The effects of time, temperature, pH and enzyme concentration on the degree of hydrolysis (DH) of five strains of fish as *Rastrelliger brachysoma* (short-bodied mackerel), *Rastrelliger kanagurta* (Indian mackerel), *Leiognathidae* (Ponyfish), *Amblygaster leiogaster* (Smooth belly sardinella) and *Selaroides leptolepis* (yellow-stripe scad) were experimented. Result showed that the FSH production was optimized at 2.85%v/w enzyme concentration at 61 °C, pH 8.50 for 27 min with 89.42% DH. Mathematical model was proposed and validated under the optimum condition. The high proportion (46.43%) of smaller molecular weight <1 kDa was found in hydrolysate. Freeze-dried fish protein hydrolysate was produced and revealed that three predominant amino acids as glutamine, lysine and alanine. Based on amino acid compositions, the waste fish hydrolysate showed nutritional value and high potential for the applications of feed supplementation.

**Keyword.** Fish hydrolysate, Enzyme hydrolysis, Alcalase, Response surface methodology

## 1 Introduction

The fishery industries have been substantially increasing in catching because of the continuously increasing demand of the protein derived product to 463.8 million tons by 2050 [1]. To secure the sustainable economic impact and meet the competition of the world markets, there is a requirement to derive the fishery waste into valuable protein source of products through fish protein hydrolysate (FPH) production. As a great of the market size, the discard of rich dark muscle of small fishes has a potential to add up this demand. Hence, utilization by transformation of these rich proteins into protein hydrolysate produces highly valuable products. Several fish species mostly from North Atlantic and Pacific Ocean have studied for protein hydrolysates [2-4]; however, the related work in discard fish hydrolysate rarely reported in the fish species in tropical waters of Indo-West Pacific region. FPH plays an important role in the human and animal diet as a nutritional quality and functional food with highly digestible peptide and protein. This functional protein has used in many food applications such as emulsion properties, water holding capacity, fat absorption and foaming ability [2-8]. Moreover, bioactive properties of FSH also well known as antioxidant, antiproliferate activity and antihypertensive activity [9]. The choice of using these enzymes either endoproteinase, exoproteinase or the mixture of both is the crucial factor as the main activity with specificity toward the substrate resulting in the amino acid sequence of peptides or amino acid residues that lead to different bioactive, functional and nutritional

properties in the hydrolysates [9-14]. Among these hydrolyzing enzymes, Alcalase (EC 3.4.21.62) is an approved food grade endopeptidase and a highly efficient bacterial protease from *Bacillus licheniformis*. This enzyme has developed for the hydrolysis of all kinds of proteins with the optimum temperature range between 55 and 70°C, depending on the specific substrate and pH values between 6.5 and 8.5 [15]. The process parameters for production FPH involve on several factors including enzyme to substrate ratio, pH, time and temperature, while the response variables were degree of hydrolysis and protein yield [16-22]. Since production optimization using a one factor at a time is not effective and not include the interactions among effecting parameters, experimental design as statistical completely central composite by response surface methodology has to apply to the degree of hydrolysis in order to find the appropriate enzyme concentration, hydrolysis time, hydrolysis temperature and pH. The final aim was to provide the alternative processes to reduce the production cost depend upon the availability of operation. Comparison of amino acid content from amino acid profile of FSH was also determined.

## 2 Materials and methods

### 2.1 Enzyme

The enzymatic hydrolysis from bacterial protease from *Bacillus licheniformis* was carried out using a commercial protease, Alcalase®2.4 L (Activity =2.59

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U.mL<sup>-1</sup>; EC 3.4.21.14) was obtained from EMD Millipore, USA and stored at 4°C until used. HPLC grade acetonitrile, chloroform and acetone were supplied by Fisher Scientific. All other chemicals used analytical grade.

## 2.2 Substrate

Five fish strains as *Rastrelliger brachysoma* (short-bodied mackerel), *Rastrelliger kanagurta* (Indian mackerel), *Leiognathidae* (Ponyfish), *Amblygaster leiogaster* (Smooth belly sardinella) and *Selaroides leptolepis* (yellow-stripe scad) were provided by animal feed company, INTEQC Group., Co Ltd, Thailand. Equal proportion of fish was washed, minced to homogenous paste (< 3 mm in size) and then placed in plastic bags immediately after process. These 100 g of samples was stored in -20 °C individually until further use.

## 2.3 Proximate chemical analysis

The chemical compositions of mixed fish samples and FPH were determined according to Association of Official Analytical Chemists (AOAC, 1990). All experiments performed in triplicate.

## 2.4 Enzymatic hydrolysis

Each experiment run was carried out 10 g of samples were thawed at room temperature and adjusted pH 4-12 according the experiment plan in 250 mL Erlenmeyer flask. Samples were then adjusted the final volume to 30 mL and incubated in shaking incubator at desired temperature from 40-80 °C at 200 rpm for the reaction times from 0-40 min. Different concentrations of Alcalase were added at 1-5 %v/w during the control hydrolysis reaction temperature. To stop the reaction, the mixtures were stopped at 85 °C for 5 minutes. The samples were then transferred to microcentrifuge tube after centrifuged at 12,000 rpm for 15 min for analytical analysis.

## 2.5 Central composite design

The chosen parameters on FPH were evaluated using response surface methodology (RSM). The Central Composite Statistical Design (CCD) was carried out the statistical model for the individual and interactive the effects of time (0-40 min), temperature (40-80°C), pH (4-12) and enzyme concentration (1-5% v/w) on the degree of hydrolysis. Levels of these factors were optimized for maximum degree of hydrolysis (the response) according to Table 1. All the 30-trial experiments were investigated in triplicate. Degree of hydrolysis was determined as the response for the combination of the reaction effects given in Table 2. The regression analysis of data obtained on degree of hydrolysis was chosen as quadratic model by equations of the following form:

$$y_1 = \beta_0 + \sum_{i=1}^4 \beta_i X_i + \sum_{i=1}^4 \sum_{j=1}^4 \beta_{ij} X_i X_j + \sum_{i=1}^4 \beta_{ii} X_i^2 \quad (1)$$

Here, X<sub>1</sub>, X<sub>2</sub>, X<sub>3</sub>, X<sub>4</sub>, are the parameter values for the independent variables (time, temperature, pH, enzyme concentration) as described in Table 2. The constants β<sub>0</sub>, β<sub>i</sub>, and β<sub>ij</sub> (i, j = 1, 2, 3, 4) are coefficient estimates for degree of hydrolysis (y<sub>1</sub>), where β<sub>0</sub> is an intercept term, β<sub>i</sub> are linear terms, β<sub>ii</sub> are quadratic terms, and β<sub>ij</sub> are interaction terms. The accuracy and general suitability of the above polynomial model was evaluated by the coefficient of determination (R<sup>2</sup>). The experimental data was analyzed using the statistical software, Design-Expert software version 8.0.6 (STAT-EASE Inc., Minneapolis, MN, USA)

**Table1.** Levels of factor for fish protein hydrolysis production.

Factor	Level				
	1	2	3	4	5
A: Time (min)	0	10	20	30	40
B: Temp (°C)	40	50	60	70	80
C: pH	4	6	8	10	12
D: Concentration (%v/w)	1	2	3	4	5

## 2.6 Degree of hydrolysis

DH of FPH was analyzed for the content of α-amino acid from the supernatant of each hydrolysis run according to Adler-Nissan, 1979 [23]. The degree of hydrolysis calculation reported according to equation 2.

$$DH = [(L_t - L_0) / (L_{max} - L_0)] \times 100 \quad (2)$$

## 2.7 Molecular distribution of FPH

The supernatant of FPH was subjected to sequentially ultramembrane filtration by using a series of membranes (Centrifugal Devices, PALL Corporation, USA) from 100, 30, 10, 5, 3 and 1 kDa, respectively. Fractions of hydrolysate separation were centrifuged at 2,000 g-force for 5 min. to obtain both retentate and permeate. Both fractions were collected and measured its protein concentration by Nanodrop (Optizen NANOQ, Mecasys Co., Ltd, Korea).

## 2.8 Amino acid composition analysis

Chromatographic conditions of the HPLC system consisted of 626 pump, a 727 autosampler, 600S controller (Waters, MA), and a scanning fluorescence detector (Hewlett Packard), Millinnium™ 2010 were used to determine the amino acid profile. The amino acid composition and chemical score of amino acid composition were previously calculated [24].

## 2.9 Statistical analysis

All data were expressed as mean ± SD for all experiment. ANOVA was used to determine the significance of each term in the fitted equation. A p-value less than 0.05 was considered statistically significant.

### 3 Results and discussion

#### 3.1 Degree of hydrolysis

The influential parameters including time, temperature, pH and enzyme concentration on the Alcalase hydrolysis to DH were determined using CCD as described on the previous section. The design matrix of all the independent variables and the result of 30 runs in triplicate on DH are exhibited in Table 2. The observed results found DH in the range of 0% to 95.38%. The highest observed condition for the DH of 95.38% was found at 60 °C, pH 8.0 with 3% v/w enzyme concentration over 40 min. The quadratic term for hydrolysis temperature was found highly significant affecting DH ( $p < 0.0001$ ) followed by pH with  $p$ -value of 0.0019 as shown in the ANOVA (Table 3).

**Table 2.** Actual levels of Alcalase hydrolysis conditions along with the observed values for the response variable, degree of hydrolysis.

Run	Time (min)	Temp. (°C)	pH	Conc. (% v/w)	DH
1	30	70	6	2	64.04 ± 4.62
2	30	70	10	2	69.62 ± 6.40
3	20	60	4	3	32.5 ± 1.90
4	30	50	6	2	35.96 ± 1.28
5	20	60	8	3	82.88 ± 1.17
6	20	80	8	3	8.85 ± 4.89
7	0	60	8	3	0
8	20	60	8	1	86.92 ± 0.74
9	20	60	8	5	84.81 ± 0.09
10	40	60	8	3	95.38 ± 1.68
11	20	60	8	3	82.12 ± 5.40
12	20	60	8	3	83.46 ± 2.14
13	10	70	6	2	46.15 ± 6.04
14	30	70	10	4	66.54 ± 2.06
15	20	60	8	3	82.69 ± 2.03
16	30	50	6	4	49.23 ± 2.69
17	10	50	10	4	53.46 ± 1.54
18	10	50	6	2	33.46 ± 0.62
19	10	70	6	4	56.15 ± 3.08
20	30	70	6	4	65.38 ± 3.81
21	20	60	8	3	81.92 ± 0.78
22	10	70	10	4	51.54 ± 0.99
23	30	50	10	2	56.15 ± 0.38
24	20	60	8	3	82.31 ± 0.54
25	10	50	6	4	25.00 ± 0.59
26	20	40	8	3	25.00 ± 4.35
27	30	50	10	4	62.69 ± 0.40
28	10	50	10	2	59.62 ± 0.44
29	10	70	10	2	51.54 ± 2.31
30	20	60	12	3	52.69 ± 2.17

However,  $p$ -values of hydrolysis time and enzyme concentration were insignificant ( $p=0.2569$  and  $0.7740$ ). Results from the interaction terms between hydrolysis time and temperature, time and pH, time and concentration were not significant with the  $p$ -values,  $0.6065$ ,  $0.7796$  and  $0.6728$ , respectively as well as other

two interactions with temperature (Table 3). For the DH, the high coefficient of determination value ( $R^2= 0.8465$ ) indicated that 84.65% of the variability in the response could be explained by the model. The independent and dependent variables were re-analyzed to obtain a real effect parameter model from regression equation that could predict the response within the given range. The regression equation for DH was reevaluated by the regression coefficient of linear, quadratic and interaction terms to fit a response surface model.

**Table 3.** ANOVA of enzymatic hydrolysis of fish protein affected by condition parameters for full quadratic equation.

Source	Sum of Squares	d f	Mean Square	F Value	$p$ -value Prob >F
Model	14344.12	14	1024.58	5.91	0.0008
A-Time	240.93	1	240.93	1.39	0.2569
B-Temp	5997.38	1	5997.38	34.58	< 0.0001
C-pH	2437.11	1	2437.11	14.05	0.0019
D-concentration	14.82	1	14.82	0.085	0.7740
AB	47.99	1	47.99	0.28	0.6065
AC	14.08	1	14.08	0.081	0.7796
AD	32.18	1	32.18	0.19	0.6728
BC	407.54	1	407.54	2.35	0.1461
BD	0.59	1	0.59	3.397E-003	0.9543
CD	22.21	1	22.21	0.13	0.7254
A <sup>2</sup>	1731.42	1	1731.42	9.98	0.0065
B <sup>2</sup>	6706.16	1	6706.16	38.67	< 0.0001
C <sup>2</sup>	2331.08	1	2331.08	13.44	0.0023
D <sup>2</sup>	70.10	1	70.10	0.40	0.5345
Residual	2601.20	15	173.41		
Cor Total	16945.31	29			

The resulting ANOVA for the reduced quadratic model (Table 4) summarizes the analysis of variance of each response and shows the significant model terms. The F-value of 11.57 implies that the model is significant (at  $p < 0.0001$ ). Values of “Prob > F” ( $p$  values) less than 0.05 indicated that the model terms were significant. There is only a 0.01% chance that a “Model F Value” this large could occur due to noise. In this case hydrolysis temperature and pH were highly significant model terms with  $p$ -values of  $< 0.0001$  and  $0.0003$ . For the reduced model, we found  $R^2=0.8726$  showing that the model gives a satisfactory fit to the experimental data. The following reduced quadratic model in terms of tested fermentation parameters was achieved as shown in equation (5).

$$DH = - 840.53 + (3.79*Time) + (20.97*Temp) + (56.70*pH) + (0.02*Time*Temp) - (0.05*Time*pH) - (0.25*Temp*pH) - (0.08*Time^2) - (0.16*Temp^2) - (2.36*pH^2) \quad (5)$$

**Table 4.** ANOVA of enzymatic hydrolysis of fish protein affected by condition parameters for reduce quadratic equation.

Source	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F Value	p-value Prob > F
Model	1425.49	9	1579.5	11.57	< 0.0001
A-Time	371.15	1	371.15	2.72	0.1148
B-Temp	6836.00	1	6836.00	50.08	< 0.0001
C-pH	2664.31	1	2664.31	19.52	0.0003
AB	47.99	1	47.99	0.35	0.5599
AC	14.08	1	14.08	0.10	0.7514
BC	407.54	1	407.54	2.99	0.0994
A <sup>2</sup>	1870.56	1	1870.56	13.70	0.0014
B <sup>2</sup>	7047.31	1	7047.31	51.63	< 0.0001
C <sup>2</sup>	2499.01	1	2499.01	18.31	0.0004
Residual	2729.82	20	136.49		
Cor Total	16945.31	29			

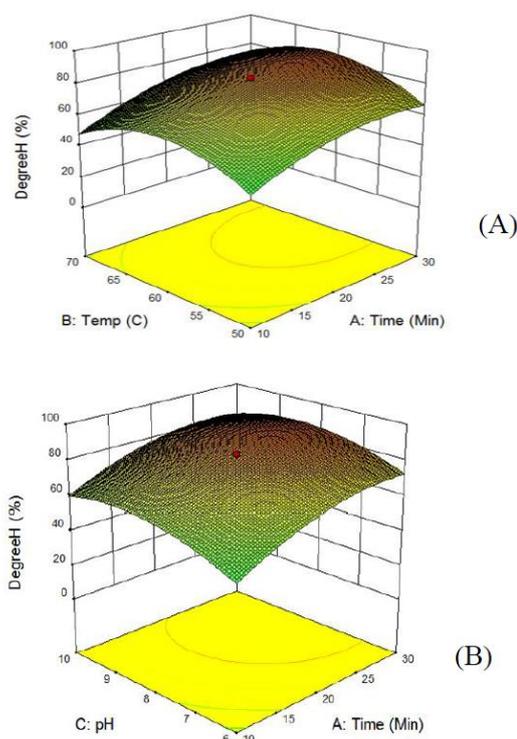
Results found that DH of FSH production was significantly influenced by temperature and pH. Our relationship of fish waste hydrolysis is well in agreement with the previous studies reported a quadratic model for production of protein hydrolysate [18, 25].

### 3.2 Optimization of FSH condition

From the optimization analysis of Alcalase hydrolysis to produce FPH, the suggested optimum levels of all the variables determined by the quadratic model of CCD in this study to obtained 89.42% DH were 2.85% v/w Alcalase concentration at pH 8.48 for 27.18 minutes of hydrolysis time as 61°C. In terms of pH and temperature, the results in this present study are in accordance with the results of study of Yuan et al., 2008 [18] showing Alcalase 2.4 L exhibited the highest values in terms of DH when optimum temperature at 60 °C, pH 8.0 with high protein yield up to 80.33%. Figure 1 shows the respective response surface plots (3-D). These plots illustrate the significant interaction of the two independent variables to determine the optimum conditions for enzymatic hydrolysis in this study. Figure 1A shows the effect of temperature and reaction time on DH. Results showed DH increased as time and temperature increased. When the reaction temperature increased from 50°C to 60 °C, the DH significantly increased from 20% to 89%.

The reaction temperature has a significantly impact on the DH of this mixed fish species. However, by further increasing the reaction temperature to 70°C, a decline in the DH observed. The reduction in the DH possibly resulted from the thermal denaturation of enzyme increased since the reaction shifted out from the optimum temperature, thus leading to a decrease in the DH. In this production, 61°C was chosen as the optimum reaction temperature once all other influential parameters were kept in the ranges. Our results agree with Vannabun et al., 2014 [26] who characterized alkaline protease with optimal temperature at 60°C for hydrolysis the viscera of farmed giant catfish. From the result

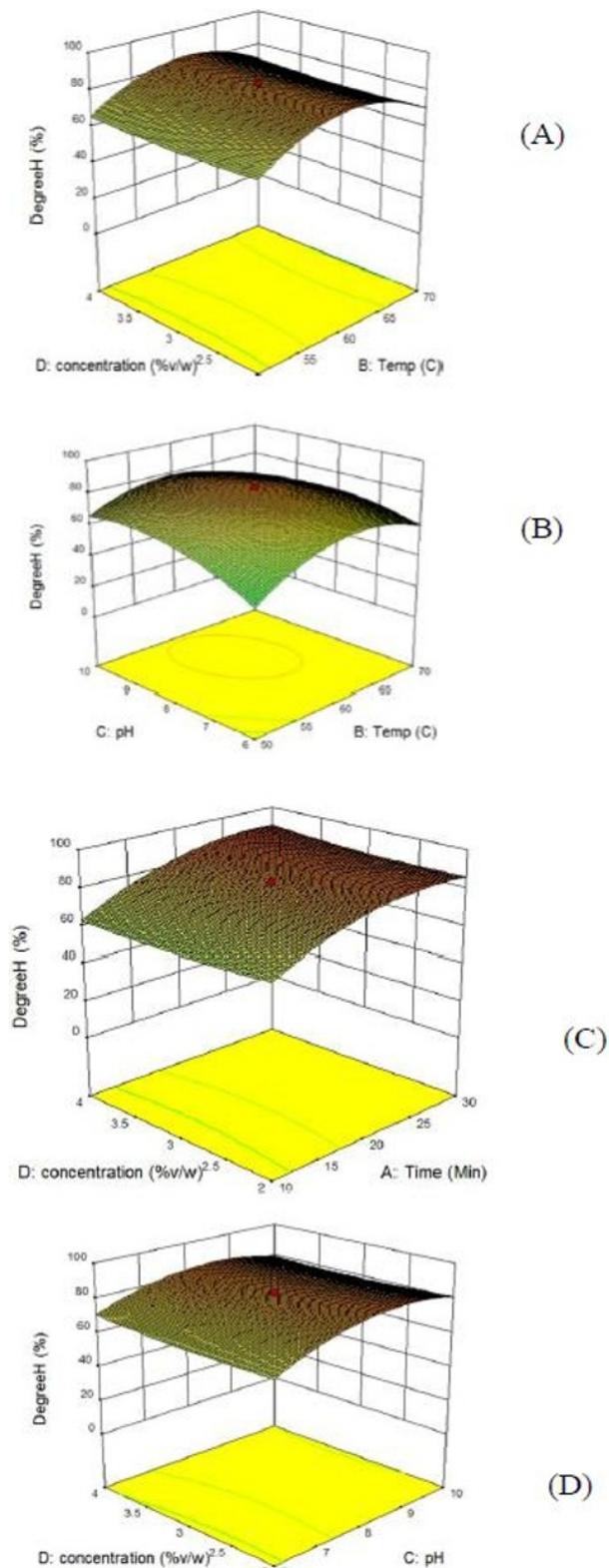
presented in Figure 1B, the DH gradually increased with the increasing pH from 6 to 8.5. The obtained results agreed with the nature of enzyme activity of commercial Alcalase® which normally active between pH 6.5 and 8.5. As a further increase in pH up to 10, the DH gradually decreased within the time range of 10-30 min. However, the DH gradually increased to a plateau between 25 to 30 min reaction time resulting in the DH raised from 60% to 85% as in Fig. 2A. The longer reaction time would allow Alcalase to act more extensively on the fish muscle, thus resulting in an increment in the DH as previously reported by Haslaniza et al., 2010 [27].



**Fig.1.** The 3-D surface plot of interaction between the parameters on degree of hydrolysis, (A) temperature and time, (B) pH and time.

However, the prolonging the reaction time beyond 25 min, no significant increase in DH occurred. Based on the obtained results, 27 min was selected as the suitable reaction time. The effect of pH and hydrolysis temperature on DH was shown in Fig. 2B, the DH was increased 25% to 89% as the pH increased from 6 to 8.5. However, by further increasing pH to 10, an obvious decrease in the DH was detected once temperature exceed to 70 °C. The effect of enzyme concentration on the DH displayed in Fig. 2C. The DH of hydrolysates was insignificantly ( $p=0.7740$ ) increased when enzyme concentration was increased from 2.0% to 4.0% at a fixed temperature. As temperature gradually increased from 50 to 60 °C at 2% enzyme concentration, pH 6.0 resulting in the DH raised from 48% to 73 %. However, by extending the reaction temperature to 70 °C, a decline in the DH was observed. The influence of enzyme concentration and pH change on the DH accessed within the same range as previously discussed and the results

displayed in Fig 2D. Results showed that the DH was slightly increased from 70 to 83% when pH gradually increased from 6 to 8.5 and slightly decreased to 79% when the pH reach to 10.



**Fig.2.** The 3-D surface plot (A) enzyme concentration and time, (B) pH and hydrolysis temperature, (C) enzyme concentration and temperature and (D) enzyme concentration and pH.

### 3.3 Validation the CCD model of FPH

In order to validate the statistical optimization of hydrolysis conditions of Alcalase on mixed fish towards degree of hydrolysis using response surface design. The validation experiments for confirming the adequacy of model was attempted for the accuracy of the model. The validation of the model performed under the optimum conditions in triplicate and found good agreement of DH as 78.27% obtained from the model prediction value of 89.42%. The difference between the predicted and experimental value was 11.16%. The difference of DH was a little higher than 10% enough to justify the validity of the response model with the high degree of accuracy leading to the hydrolysis yield.

### 3.4 Criteria of bioprocess operation

FSH production in this study can be manipulated the condition according to the criteria of process in terms of reaction speed, operation temperature, pH and enzyme concentration in order to obtain the desired product under the constrain condition or lowest operation cost [28]. We would suggest the following conditions to produce the FPH to make the hydrolysis process more controllable as the following four conditions. Firstly, in order to minimize the hydrolysis time and maximize degree of hydrolysis while temperature, pH and enzyme concentration kept in range of this experiment, the FPH production could be carried out at 65.58% DH using 3.74% v/w of enzyme concentration at 59.72°C, pH 8.72 for 10 min. Secondly, an alternative process can be done if the consideration focus on minimizing the hydrolysis temperature and maximization of degree of hydrolysis while pH, enzyme concentration and time were kept in range of this study. FSH can be produced with 71.73% DH by using 2.38% v/w of enzyme concentration at 50 °C, pH 9.08 for 25.86 min. Thirdly, to minimize the pH and maximize DH with maintaining time, temperature and enzyme concentration in range of this study, the FPH production could run to obtain 75.53% DH using 2.90% v/w of enzyme at 62.88 °C, pH 6.00 for 28.09 min. For final option of operation process, it required 3.15% v/w of enzyme loading at 60.83 °C, pH 8.49 for 27.18 min of operation time. This option would resulting in the DH of 89.42 %.

### 3.5 Proximate composition

Result of proximate analysis revealed that protein content was relatively the same between FSH (87.11%) and dry weight powder of mixed fish raw material (87.11%) as depicted in Table 5. The freeze-dried FSH produced from this experiment was a brownish powder with fishy smell. The hydrolytic process of minced fish raw material by enzyme could generate molecules ranging from smaller proteins, peptides and individual amino acid. This FSH was then characterized molecular distribution through the sequential membrane filtration. Result showed the smaller size proteins in range of 30–100, 10–30, 5–10, 3–5, 1–3 and <1 kDa of 7.35, 10.36, 10.24, 25.62 and 46.43%, respectively. Fractionation of

FSH especially <1 kDa has a great potential to explore for bioactive peptides such as antioxidant activity, Angiotensin-Converting Enzyme inhibitor activity and hypocholesterolemic activity. However, the higher sizes of FSH are also attract the interest to find the capacity of food and feed application in terms of emulsifying properties, water-holding capacity and foaming capacity.

**Table 5.** Proximate chemical composition of mixed fish raw material and freeze-dried fish protein hydrolysate.

Components (%)	Wet weight	Dry weight	FPH
Moisture	77.92 ± 0.95	-	5.03 ± 0.78
Protein	15.70 ± 0.47	87.11 ± 2.28	88.61 ± 2.81
Lipid	2.56 ± 0.07	8.83 ± 0.65	1.30 ± 0.05
Ash	2.74 ± 0.11	3.06 ± 0.15	5.06 ± 0.15

### 3.5 Amino acid composition

The composition of amino acid in freeze dried FPH is presented in Table 6. The major amino acids in FPH were glutamine, asparagine and lysine, respectively. To evaluate the nutritional properties of FPH, the chemical score was calculated in comparison with FAO/WHO and NRC standard protein [29,30]. The results indicated that the nutritional value of FPH are less than both standard almost all amino acid except histidine and lysine in reference protein 1. However, a large proportion of total amino acid normally occurs in short chain peptides proven to benefit for FPH production in aquafeed. The essential amino acid makes up 30.84 % of all amino acids. The hydrolysates contain enough content of the flavor enhancers, glutamic acid, asparagine, alanine by 24.56% of the total amino acids, which account for the good taste.

For nutritional applications, it is important to gain a high DH in protein hydrolysates to boost the absorption in digestive tract of animal digestion. The nutritional quality in terms of amino acid composition comparison between the experiments and the report values of fish meal and soy bean meal as previously investigation by Swanepoel and Goosen [31] shown in Table 7. Results showed the amount of EAA in the FSH was 292.6 g/kg total amino acid which was lower than those of fish and soybean meal by 1.62 and 1.48 times. All EAA were present in FPH with the leading amount amino acids as lysine, leucine and threonine except for tryptophan. Tryptophan is an acid labile amino acid destroyed during acid hydrolysis for sample preparation [31]. For non-essential amino acid (NEAA) results was found that glutamic acid was the most abundant amino acid present in freeze died FSH followed by aspartic acid as shown in Table 7.

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**Table 6.** Composition of amino acids and chemical score.

Amino acids	Amount (g/100g proteins)	Ref. Protein 1 <sup>a</sup>	Ref. Protein 2 <sup>b</sup>	Chemical score	
				RP-1	RP-2
Essential amino acids					
Histidine	2.25	2.00	2.10	1.13	1.07
Threonine	3.15	4.00	3.90	0.79	0.81
Arginine	4.27	5.00	1.31	0.85	3.26
Tyrosine	1.58	-	-	-	-
Valine	2.66	5.42	3.60	0.49	0.74
Methionine	1.95	3.50	3.10	0.56	0.63
Phenylalanine	2.47	4.29	6.50	0.58	0.38
Isoleucine	2.24	4.00	2.50	0.56	0.90
Leucine	4.72	7.00	3.30	0.67	1.43
Lysine	5.55	5.50	5.70	1.01	0.97
Non-Essential amino acids					
Asparagine	6.21				
Glutamine	10.26				
Serine	2.71				
Glycine	3.74				
Alanine	4.35				
Cysteine	0.41				
Proline	2.56				
ΣAAs	61.08				
ΣEAAs	30.84				
ΣN-ΣAAs	30.24				
ΣEAAs/ΣAAs (%)	50.49				
ΣEAAs/ΣN-ΣAAs	1.02				

<sup>a</sup>Reference protein 1: Essential amino acid reference protein according to FAO/WHO (1985) [28]

<sup>b</sup>Reference protein 2: Essential amino acid requirement of common carp according to NRC (1993) [29]

For non-essential amino acid (NEAA) results was found that glutamic acid was the most abundant amino acid present in freeze died FSH followed by aspartic acid as shown in Table 7. This results of high levels of nonessential amino acid as glutamic and aspartic acid was similar to several reports from previous study [4, 33-37]. Chemical composition of FPH is important in both nutrition perspective of human health. Our amino acid profile results are in the same range of several reports on the chemical composition of FPH that are prepared from various fish protein sources [33-37]. Chemical composition of FPH is important in both nutrition perspective of human health. Our amino acid profile results are in the same range of several research documents have been reported the chemical composition of FPH that are prepared from various fish protein sources. These reports included catfish (*Clarias gariepinus*) [31], bluewing searobin (*Prionotus punctatus*) [36] and *Misgurnus anguilliacaudatus* [37]. According to Watford report [38], some non-essential amino acids (like glutamic acid), presented an important role in the maintaining optimal health and growth levels.

### 4 Conclusion

Alcalase concentration at 2.85% (v/w), pH 8.45 for 27 min. incubation time as 61°C were the potential optimum conditions that gave the highest DH of 78.27% to produce FSH. The experimental data obtained based on the optimized conditions was in close agreement with

the RSM model prediction. Four alternative conditions through RSM approach of optimization have a promising for FPH production in the future. In addition, the potential of this improved approach in the present study is affording a method for the efficiency of production process, which may be beneficial for reducing enzymatic loading and hydrolysis temperature leading to reduction of raw material for production and energy costs. The implementation of optimization report is appropriate for FPH in pilot scale and further study of bioactive compounds in feed and nutraceutical application.

**Table 7.** Amino acid composition comparison

Amino acid	Feed ingredients (g/kg total amino acids)		
	Fish protein hydrolysate	Fish meal <sup>a</sup>	Soybean meal <sup>b</sup>
Arginine	42.7	65.4	81.3
Histidine	22.5	19.5	33.7
Isoleucine	22.4	34.6	39.7
Leucine	47.2	77.7	75.9
Lysine	55.5	101.7	30.5
Methionine	19.5	44.6	8.6
Phenylalanine	24.7	39.8	79.2
Threonine	31.5	44.4	40.4
Tryptophan <sup>1</sup>	ND	ND	ND
Valine	26.6	46.6	43.6
∑EAA	292.6	474.3	432.9
Alanine	43.5	65.2	43.6
Aspartic acid	62.1	103.9	109.7
Glutamic acid	102.6	154.2	182.5
Glycine	37.4	66	57.9
Proline	0	50.4	64
Serine	27.1	48.5	52.4
Tyrosine	0	37.6	57
∑NEAA	15.8	525.8	567.1

<sup>a,b</sup> Amino acid composition of principle protein ingredients in the diets from Swanepoel and Goosen, 2011[30]

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