



Zavod za zaštitu prirode Crne Gore



Ministarstvo održivog razvoja i turizma

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IMMOBILIZATION OF HORSE RADISH PEROXIDASE ON DIFFERENT MACROPOROUS GLYCIDYL METHACRYLATES FOR WASTEWATER TREATMENT

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Abstract

Removal of phenolic compounds from wastewaters has been investigated by many researchers and it has been shown that horse radish peroxidase can react with aqueous phenolic compound in the presence of hydrogen peroxide and form non-soluble materials that could be easily removed from the aqueous phase. Main disadvantage of this process is enzyme inactivation. In order to increase stability of enzyme and yield of biocatalytic reaction peroxidases were immobilized on different materials. The aim of this study was to test different macroporous glycidyl methacrylates as carriers for enzyme immobilization.

Immobilization was performed using carriers with different pore sizes (40, 50, 120 and 200 nm) and glutaraldehyde as activation method. All immobilized enzymes were characterized using pyrogallol and H₂O₂ as substrates (13 mM and 10 mM, respectively), and specific activity and immobilization yield were determined.

Our data demonstrate that the best carrier for immobilization of horse radish peroxidase was SGE EDA 20/12 with pore size of 120 nm.

Key words: horse radish peroxidase, glycidyl methacrylate, immobilization, pyrogallol, glutaraldehyde.

Introduction

High concentration of pollutants generated through various industrial activities like manufacturing of resins, plastics, textiles, pulp and paper, coal conversion, etc. are contaminating aquatic environment. Among them, phenolic compounds like phenol and chlorogenic derivatives are one of the major pollutants of industrial wastewaters. Hence phenolic compounds removal is of great importance NEJATI & ALEMZADEH (2009).

In recent years enzyme catalyzed polymerization and precipitation process has been explored as a new method for treatment of phenol solutions. Among these methods, various peroxidases are used as polymerization agents like horse-radish peroxidase, soybean peroxidase, tomato peroxidase etc. HUSAIN (2010).

However due to the high cost of the enzyme and instability in the presence of peroxide and side reactions much effort has been devoted to stabilization of peroxidases by adding additives like PEG and to reuse enzyme by immobilization ARUCA & BAYRAMOGLU (2008).

Macroporous copolymer of ethylene glycol dimethacrylate and glycidyl methacrylate, poly(GMA-co-EGDMA) has been previously used for immobilization of enzymes PRODANOVIĆ et al (2006). It has a large surface area, hydrophilic microenvironment, a number of active epoxide groups that could be easily modified to amino groups and an ability for obtaining targeted porous structure JOVANOVIĆ et al (1996). These variety of porous structures that could be obtained offer a possibility to find a copolymer with suitable surface characteristics for high activity of investigated enzyme.

In this work we tested different macroporous glycidyl methacrylates for HRP immobilization by glutaraldehyde and optimized immobilization conditions.

Materials and methods

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Material

Horseradish Peroxidase, glutaraldehyde and pyrogallol were from Sigma-Aldrich. Macroporous glycidyl methacrylate with different pore sizes was obtained by suspension polymerization as previously described by JOVANOVIĆ et al. (1996). Polymer was modified by ethylene diamine as was previously described by PRODANOVIĆ et al (2006).

Immobilization

0.50 g of the dry copolymer was rinsed and deaerated in water, activated with 2.5 % glutaraldehyde in 50 mM sodium phosphate buffer pH 7.0 for 2 hours. After that the copolymer was rinsed with water and incubated with different amounts of horse radish peroxidase (HRP) in sodium phosphate buffer pH 7.0 over the night at 4 °C. The immobilized enzyme was then rinsed several times with 1 M NaCl in 50 mM sodium phosphate buffer pH 7.0 (washings are combined and stored for activity measurements) and stored at 4 °C in 50 mM sodium phosphate buffer pH 7.0 till use.

Enzyme Activity

Peroxidase activity was measured in 3 mL of 13 mM pyrogallol in 0.1 M sodium phosphate buffer pH 7.0 using 3-10 mg of immobilized enzyme. Reaction was started by adding 30 µl 0.97 M hydrogen peroxide. During first 3 minutes, reaction was monitored spectrophotometrically at 420 nm. 1 IU of enzymatic activity was amount of enzyme that can oxidize 1 µmol of pyrogallol in 1 min at 25°C and pH 7.

Results and Discussion

In order to have immobilized enzyme with high activity and stability it is necessary to use suitable carrier and to optimize immobilization conditions like amount of added enzyme and time of immobilization. That's why we used macroporous glycidyl methacrylate with different macroporous structure and pore characteristics (Table 1).

Table 1: Surface characteristics of glycidyl methacrylate.

	Pore size
MP3 150-300	40 nm
EDA 10/12	50 nm
EDA 20/12	120 nm
SGE 15/16	200 nm

In order to optimize amount of enzyme used in immobilization, we applied 1, 5, 25 and 50 mg per 1 g of dried polymer and measured specific activity of obtained immobilized HRP (Table 2).

Table 2: Dependence of specific activity of the immobilized HRP [IU/g] on the amount of added enzyme (mg) per gram of dry polymer and type of used polymer.

	1 mg/g	5 mg/g	25 mg/g	50 mg/g
EDA 20/12	2.92	8.59	23.6	25.9
EDA 10/12	2.75	7.86	11.6	14.3
SGE 15/16	2.39	8.11	16.0	27.6
MP3 150-300	0.12	1.41	6.33	10.8

From obtained results it could be seen that type of the used polymer was very important for activity of immobilized enzyme. This could be explained by different pore structure of used polymers that was influencing diffusion of substrate and product through polymer beads. Also amount of applied enzyme was critical for successful immobilization. By applying more enzyme, higher activity was usually obtained. At the end highest specific activity (25.9 IU/g) of

immobilized HRP was obtained using batch of polymer named EDA 20/12 with pore size of 120 nm and by applying 50 mg of enzyme per 1 g of dry polymer.

In order to check if activity of immobilized enzyme can be further increased we tried to optimized incubation time used in HRP immobilization by increasing it more than 2 h (Table 3).

Table 3: Dependence of specific activity of the immobilized HRP [IU/g] on the incubation time during immobilization.

t (h)	2	6	24	48
EDA 10/12	15.1	16.9	20.1	32.0

By increasing the time of incubation from 2 h that is usually used during glutaraldehyde immobilization, we managed to double specific activity of immobilized enzyme after 48 h of incubation.

Conclusion

We tested different macroporous glycidyl methacrylates for HRP glutaraldehyde immobilization and optimized immobilization conditions with respect to enzyme amount and time of incubation. Highest activity of immobilized enzyme was obtained using polymer named EDA 20/12 and 50 mg of enzyme per 1 g of dry polymer. By further increasing time of incubation specific activity could be doubled. High activity of immobilized enzyme that was obtained is very important for succesful long term use of obtained immobilized HRP in continuous phenol removal from wastewater.

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