

Dynamic Mathematical Modelling of Reaction Kinetics for Cyclodextrins Production from Different Starch Sources Using *Bacillus macerans* Cyclodextrin Glucanotransferase

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ABSTRACT

This study relates to the mathematical modelling of enzymatic production of Cyclodextrins (CDs) by Cyclodextrin Glucanotransferase (CGTase) from *Bacillus macerans*. The experiments were carried out in batch mode using different starch sources and the results were used to estimate unknown parameters using linearization and dynamic simulation methods. α - and β -CD produced from tapioca were found to give the highest Michaelis-Menten constant, $K_{M,i}$ of 58.23 and 54.07 g L⁻¹, respectively and maximum velocity, $V_{max,i}$ of 3.45 and 2.76 g L⁻¹.min, respectively, while sago resulted in the highest $K_{M,i}$ and $V_{max,i}$ values of 342.35 g L⁻¹ and 5.97 g L⁻¹.min, respectively, for γ -CD obtained by the linearization method. Value of product inhibition, $K_{I,i}$ and CD degradation coefficient rate, $\delta_{CD,i}$, were estimated using dynamic simulation, indicating that exponential reaction kinetics could be fitted better with the experimental data. Sensitivity analysis revealed that the product inhibition parameter in the exponential reaction kinetic equation is more significant in the process. For validation, the production of CDs by fed batch method was undertaken and starch and enzyme were added into the reaction medium. Then, the predicted profiles generated by simulation were compared with the experimental values. The proposed exponential reaction kinetics shows good fitting with the experimental data.

Keywords: Kinetic Modelling, Cyclodextrin, Cyclodextrin Glucanotransferase, Sago, *Bacillus Macerans*

1. INTRODUCTION

Cyclodextrins (CDs) are non-reducing cyclic oligosaccharides composed mainly of six, seven and eight α -(1,4)-linked glucose units, which are referred to as α -, β - and γ -CDs, respectively (Biwer *et al.*, 2002). CDs possess both hydrophilic and hydrophobic properties that enable them to form specific inclusion complexes with many organic and inorganic compounds

within the cavity of their ring structure (Pedersen *et al.*, 1995; Atasanova *et al.*, 2009). Consequently, the use of CDs increased annually by around 20-30%, of which 80-90% is used in food products (Ivanova, 2010).

CDs can be produced enzymatically from starch and other related carbohydrates using Cyclodextrin Glucanotransferase (CGTase) via intramolecular transglycosylation, called cyclization reaction (Cheirsilp *et al.*, 2010). Several types of starch such as

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potato, tapioca and corn have been widely used as substrates for the production of CDs. CGTase is specifically active on both structures of amylose and amylopectin. However, starch with high amylopectin-to-amylose ratio such as tapioca (5:1) is preferred as the CGTase active site to produce CD compared to potato (3:1) and corn (2.5:1) (Cheirsilp *et al.*, 2010; Mukerjea *et al.*, 2007; Goh *et al.*, 2007; Sian *et al.*, 2005). However, sago starch has attracted interest because of its lower cost and can be converted into CDs in good yield (Charoenlap *et al.*, 2004; Kamaruddin *et al.*, 2005; Muria *et al.*, 2011).

In order to improve the bioprocess design of CD production, a kinetic model of enzymatic reaction studies is required (Vasic-Racki *et al.*, 2003). Mathematical models of enzymatic reaction kinetics, when combined with modern computer techniques, proved to be very effective in finding the most significant factors that affect the enzymatic synthesis. Therefore, the study of theoretical model for the enzyme reaction system is of interest for academic research and industrial application of the biocatalyst. A combination of both experimental work and mathematical modelling provides meaningful interpretations of the experimental results and is very useful for designing new and more focused experiments (Thilakavathi *et al.*, 2007).

Very limited information on reaction kinetic model of CGTase to produce CDs can be found. A mathematical model for the production of CGTase from native and immobilized *Bacillus circulans* strains had been developed by Burhan *et al.* (2005), but the developed mathematical model focuses on the microbial CGTase production. Muria *et al.* (2011) had developed a mathematical model for CD production, but the model only emphasises on β -CD without considering product inhibitor parameters.

In the industrial production of CDs, α -, β - and γ -CD are produced simultaneously. Detailed models that consider all three main types of CDs need to be proposed. Therefore, the aim of this study is to modify the kinetic model that can adequately describe the kinetic behaviour of α -, β - and γ -CD production by CGTase from *B. macerans* using different types of substrates (sago, corn and tapioca starch).

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.1. Materials

Sago was obtained from Nee Seng Ngeng and Sons Industries Sdn. Bhd., Sarawak, Malaysia. Corn and

tapioca starch were purchased from Unilever Holdings (M) Sdn. Bhd. and Thye Huat Chan, Sdn. Bhd., respectively. CGTase (EC 2.4.1.19) from *B. macerans* with specific activity of 600 U mL⁻¹ was purchased from Amano Enzyme, Inc., Nagoya, Japan and was used without further purification. α -, β - and γ -CD were purchased from Sigma Aldrich, Malaysia. All chemicals used were of reagent grade.

2.2. Production of CDs

Starch was suspended in acetate buffer (50 mM) at pH of 5.5 and was gelatinised at 80°C. Then 2 L of gelatinized starch was transferred into Bioreactor LR-2.ST with an inner diameter of 15 cm (IKA, Germany). The temperature of medium was controlled at 60°C and the starch was allowed to react with 1.8 U mL⁻¹ CGTase for 5 h. The experiments were conducted at different initial starch concentrations (1.25, 2.5, 3.75 and 5%).

2.3. Assay of α -, β - and γ -CD

The amount of α -, β - and γ -CD produced from the cyclization reaction of CGTase was determined using colorimetric method described by Makela *et al.* (1988). The sample was taken at certain time intervals and the enzymatic reaction was inactivated by boiling the sample at 100°C for 5 min. Each sample was cooled down and then it was centrifuged for 15 min at 12,000 rpm. The analysis of CDs was performed using UV spectrophotometer, DR 2800 (HACH, United States).

The concentration of α -CD was determined by the decrease in absorbance at 508 nm caused by a formation of methyl orange and α -CD complex (pH 2). The concentration of β -CD was measured based on the decrease in absorbance at 558 nm due to phenolphthalein and β -CD complex formation (pH 10). The γ -CD concentration was analyzed by measuring the absorbance at 616 nm based on the formation of an inclusion complex between γ -CD and bromocresol green (pH 4.3).

2.4. Theory

General mass balance in the bioreactor can be represented as ordinary differential equation (ODE) as shown below Equation 1:

$$\frac{dm_i}{dt} = \sum_j (\dot{V}_{in,j} \cdot c_{in,i,j}) - \dot{V}_{out} \cdot c_i + V_f \cdot v_i \cdot r_i \quad (1)$$

Where:

$C_{in,i,j}$ = The concentration of component i from inlet j (g/L)

- c_i = The concentration of the component i in the bioreactor (g/L)
- m_i = The mass of component i (g)
- r_i = The reaction rate of component i (g/L.min)
- $V_{in,j}$ = The volumetric flow rate of inlet j into the bioreactor (L/min)
- \dot{V}_{out} = The volumetric flow rate of bioreactor outlet (L/min)
- V_f = The working volume in the bioreactor (L)
- v_i = The stoichiometry coefficient of component i

The equation represents each component in an 'array' form in which i is the number of components, where $i = 1, 2, 3$ and 4 represents α -CD, β -CD, γ -CD and starch, respectively. j is the number of inlet of the bioreactor. In this case, $j = 1$ and 2 represent inlet from starch-holding tank and enzyme-holding tank, respectively. The stoichiometry coefficient, v_i , can be set as $[1, 1, 1, -1]$.

The general balance of enzyme activity is explained as Equation 2:

$$\frac{dm_E}{dt} = \sum_j (\dot{V}_{in,j} \cdot c_{in,Ej}) - \dot{V}_{out} \cdot c_E + V_f \cdot r_E \quad (2)$$

Where:

- $c_{in,Ej}$ = The enzyme activity from inlet j (U/L)
- c_E = The enzyme activity in the bioreactor (U/L)
- m_E = The enzyme activity (U)
- r_E = The decay rate of enzyme (U/L.min)

In this study, the enzyme was assumed to be stable and remained constant throughout the process based on preliminary thermostability experiment of CGTase. **Fig. 1** shows that the enzyme is stable throughout the experiment with enzyme activity of $1.8U \text{ mL}^{-1}$ (one unit of enzyme activity refers to the amount of enzyme that catalyzes the production of $1 \mu\text{mol}$ of α -CD per minute under the reaction condition). Therefore, the deactivation rate of enzymatic activity was set as $r_E = 0$. If the system was run in batches, $\dot{V}_{in,j}$ and $V_{out,j}$ were set as 0. In the fed batch system, only $V_{out,j}$ was set as 0, but $\dot{V}_{in,j}$ were employed as manipulated inputs.

The volume of the reaction solution, denoted as V_f , is defined as Equation 3:

$$V_f = \pi \left(\frac{d}{2} \right)^2 \cdot \frac{h_f}{1000} \quad (3)$$

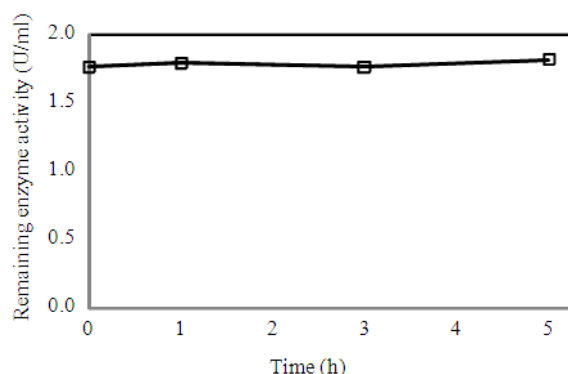


Fig. 1. CGTase *Bacillus macerans* thermostability (T 60°C, pH 5.5)

Where:

- d = The diameter of the bioreactor (cm)
- h_f = The height of the reaction solution in the bioreactor (cm)

The enzymatic kinetics of CD production was obtained by using the Michaelis-Menten model Equation 4:

$$V_{0,i} = \frac{V_{max,i} \cdot c_{i=4}}{K_{M,i} + c_{i=4}} \quad (4)$$

Where:

- $K_{M,i}$ = The Michaelis-Menten constant of component i (g/L)
- $V_{0,i}$ = The initial velocity of enzyme kinetic (g/L.min)
- $V_{max,i}$ = The maximum velocity of enzyme kinetic on component i (g/L.min)

$K_{M,i=1-3}$ and $V_{max,i=1-3}$ parameters for the cyclization reaction of CGTase *B. macerans* cyclization reactions with different substrates was estimated using Lineweaver-Burk plot equation (Equation 5). A graph of $1/V_{0,i=1-3}$ versus $1/c_{i=4}$ was plotted. The gradient and the y -axis intercept were used to obtain $V_{max=1-3}$ and $K_{M,i=1-3}$:

$$\frac{1}{V_{0,i}} = \frac{K_{M,i}}{V_{max,i}} \cdot \frac{1}{c_{i=4}} + \frac{1}{V_{max,i}} \quad (5)$$

In fed batch mode, as the enzyme is fed into the fermentation reactor, $V_{max,i=1-3}$ value will change depending on the amount of enzyme. To consider the variation of $V_{max,i=1-3}$, the catalytic constant $k_{cat,i=1-3}$ was introduced as Equation 6:

$$V_{\max,i} = k_{\text{cat},i} \cdot c_E \quad (6)$$

where, $K_{\text{cat},i}$ is the kinetic constant of component i (g/U.min)

The rate of the CD production, $r_{\text{CD},i} = 1-3$, is considered to be inhibited by CD itself. The product formed by the enzymatic synthesis either attacks and blocks the enzyme active sites or alters the enzyme, which inhibits the enzyme from performing its action (Penninga *et al.*, 1996). Therefore, the production inhibition constant, $K_{1,i} = 1-3$, was considered for reaction kinetics of CD production and was named as Model 1 as described in the following Equation 7:

$$r_{\text{CD},i} = V_{0,i} \cdot \left(\frac{K_{1,i}}{c_i + K_{1,i}} \right) \quad (7)$$

Where:

$K_{1,i}$ = The product inhibition constant of component i (g/L)

$r_{\text{CD},i}$ = The production rate of cyclodextrin i (g/L.min)

Model 2 was proposed by considering the exponential terms Equation 8:

$$r_{\text{CD},i} = V_{0,i} \cdot \exp\left(-\frac{c_i}{K_{1,i}}\right) \quad (8)$$

$V_{0,i=4}$ was set as 0 as it is not related to CD. Thus it leads to $r_{\text{CD},i=4} = 0$.

During the formation of CDs by cyclization, CGTase was also involved in three other reactions mechanisms: coupling, disproportionation and starch hydrolysis, which cause the degradation of CD and affect the ratio and amount of CDs produced (Pedersen *et al.*, 1995). In this study, only coupling reaction occurs simultaneously as cyclization was considered because it is one of the dominant factors limiting the amount of CD besides inhibiting product formation (Zhekova *et al.*, 2008). Thus, the reaction rate of CD formation ($i = 1, 2$ and 3), considering the CD degradation rate constant, $\delta_{\text{CD},i} = 1-3$, becomes Equation 9:

$$r_i = r_{\text{CD},i} - c_i \cdot \delta_{\text{CD},i} \quad (9)$$

Where:

$\delta_{\text{CD},i}$ = The degradation coefficient rate of component i (1/min)

The enzyme CGTase does not only produce CD but also glucose and oligosaccharides with different degrees of polymerization due to the four reaction mechanisms in play simultaneously. The study of reaction kinetics including all the four reaction mechanisms of CGTase will be very complicated due to the presence of many by-products. Thus, it was assumed that starch converted by CGTase can produce α -, β - and γ -CD as the major products. The reaction rate of starch utilization was assumed to be equal to the sum of rate of α -, β - and γ -CD produced and is given by Equation 10:

$$r_{i=4} = \sum_{i=1-3} r_i \quad (10)$$

2.5. Parameter Estimation

The obtained experimental data in batch system was transferred to the 'performed experiments' entity in gPROMs. The initial starch concentrations of 1.25, 2.5, 3.75 and 5% were set for respective data. In the 'parameter estimation' entity, $K_{1,i}$ and $\delta_{\text{CD},i}$ that need to be estimated were set for initial guess, upper and lower values and then linked to the experimental data in 'performed experiment' entity. The parameter estimation activity needs to be executed to fit the model with the experimental data and the final parameter values were obtained.

2.6. Sensitivity Analysis

Sensitivity analysis was carried out to assess the validity of the proposed model and the impact of the product inhibition parameter towards the reaction of CD formation. In this study, the impact of the model on the endpoint CD production was investigated by increasing and decreasing 30% of $K_{1,i}$, which influences the $r_{\text{CD},i}$ value. Simulations were performed with initial starch concentration of 25 g L^{-1} for 300 min. The resulting endpoints were compared with the original case result. Equation 11 was used to determine the Endpoint Deviation (ED) of each CD to verify the influence of $K_{1,i}$ towards CD production:

$$ED = 100 \times \left| \frac{c_{i,\text{end}30\%} - c_{i,\text{endoriginal}}}{c_{i,\text{endoriginal}}} \right| \quad (11)$$

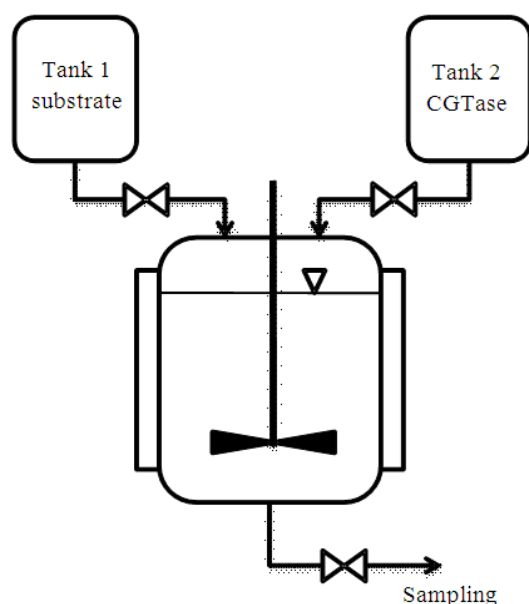


Fig. 2. Schematic diagram of fed batch enzymatic process

2.7. Validation

Fed batch enzymatic production of α -, β - and γ -CD, shown in **Fig. 2**, was carried out using 3.5% of homogenized sago starch as an initial substrate concentration and 1.8 U mL^{-1} CGTase *B. macerans* enzyme. The preliminary treatment of starch and reaction conditions followed the same procedure as mentioned previously. Samples were withdrawn at certain time intervals. At 200 min, 6.6 mL of 600 U mL^{-1} enzyme was fed into the reaction solution and followed by an addition of 65 g L^{-1} starch at 400 min with a flow rate of 0.02 L min^{-1} for 5 min. The reaction was continued until 600 min, after which another 6.6 mL of the enzyme was added into the reaction. The enzymatic reaction was extended up to 800 min. All the manipulated inlets were set accordingly in gPROMS ModelBuilder 3.2.0 and the predicted dynamic profile of CDs were generated and finally compared with experimental data.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1. Effect of Substrate Sources on CD Production

The effect of substrate sources on production of α -, β - and γ -CD production was investigated using three types of starch (sago, corn and tapioca). The optimum temperature and pH were selected based on previous

research done by Kobayashi (1996), indicating that the optimum temperature and pH were 60°C and 5.2-5.7, respectively, when using CGTase *B. macerans*. Enzymatic synthesis was conducted for each starch with CGTase as previously described and results obtained are presented in **Fig. 3**. It is observed that all three types of starch employed in this study produced α -CD as a major product in which α -, β - and γ -CD ratio was 3.6:2.0:1.0, 2.9:2.1:1.0 and 2.4:1.8:1.0 using tapioca, sago and corn, respectively.

Besides that, by using tapioca starch, the highest amount of α -CD (12.5 g L^{-1}) could be obtained, followed by sago starch (10.9 g L^{-1}) and corn starch (8.8 g L^{-1}). In the case of β -CD, sago starch produced a slightly higher amount (7.9 g L^{-1}) compared to tapioca (6.8 g L^{-1}) and corn (6.5 g L^{-1}). For γ -CD, the amount is not significantly different and it was produced as the minor CD product. The total CD yield for sago and tapioca is almost similar (**Fig. 4**) at higher initial starch concentration of 5-6%, but at lower starch concentrations, sago produced a higher CD yield. The total yield for corn is the lowest compared to tapioca and sago starches. This might be due to high amylopectin content in tapioca (83% amylopectin, 17% amylose) compared to corn (72% amylopectin, 28% amylose) as stated by Mukerjea *et al.* (2007). Both amylopectin and amylase can be converted to CD, but amylopectin produces higher conversion rate than amylose (Biwer *et al.*, 2002). This is because reaction with CGTase begins at the non-reducing sugar end of the starch molecules. Since amylopectin has considerably more non-reducing ends due to branch structure (Pishtiyski and Zhekova, 2006), the level of conversion is higher for amylopectin.

The influence of substrate concentration on CD production was examined by varying starch concentrations in the range of 1.25-5%. From the results displayed in **Fig. 3**, there is a proportional relationship between substrate concentration and CD production for all cases investigated. When substrate concentration increases within the range of this study, the amount of CD produced also increases due to the increase in collision frequency between the enzyme and the substrate (Muria *et al.*, 2011). **Figure 4** shows that total CD yield for $>5\%$ initial starch concentration is marginally the same. This is due to highly viscous nature of the high-concentration gelatinised starch solution compared to lower starch concentration. Charoenlap *et al.* (2004) limited the Sago concentration up to 6 g L^{-1} for the reaction with CGTase, due to high viscosity of sago starch.

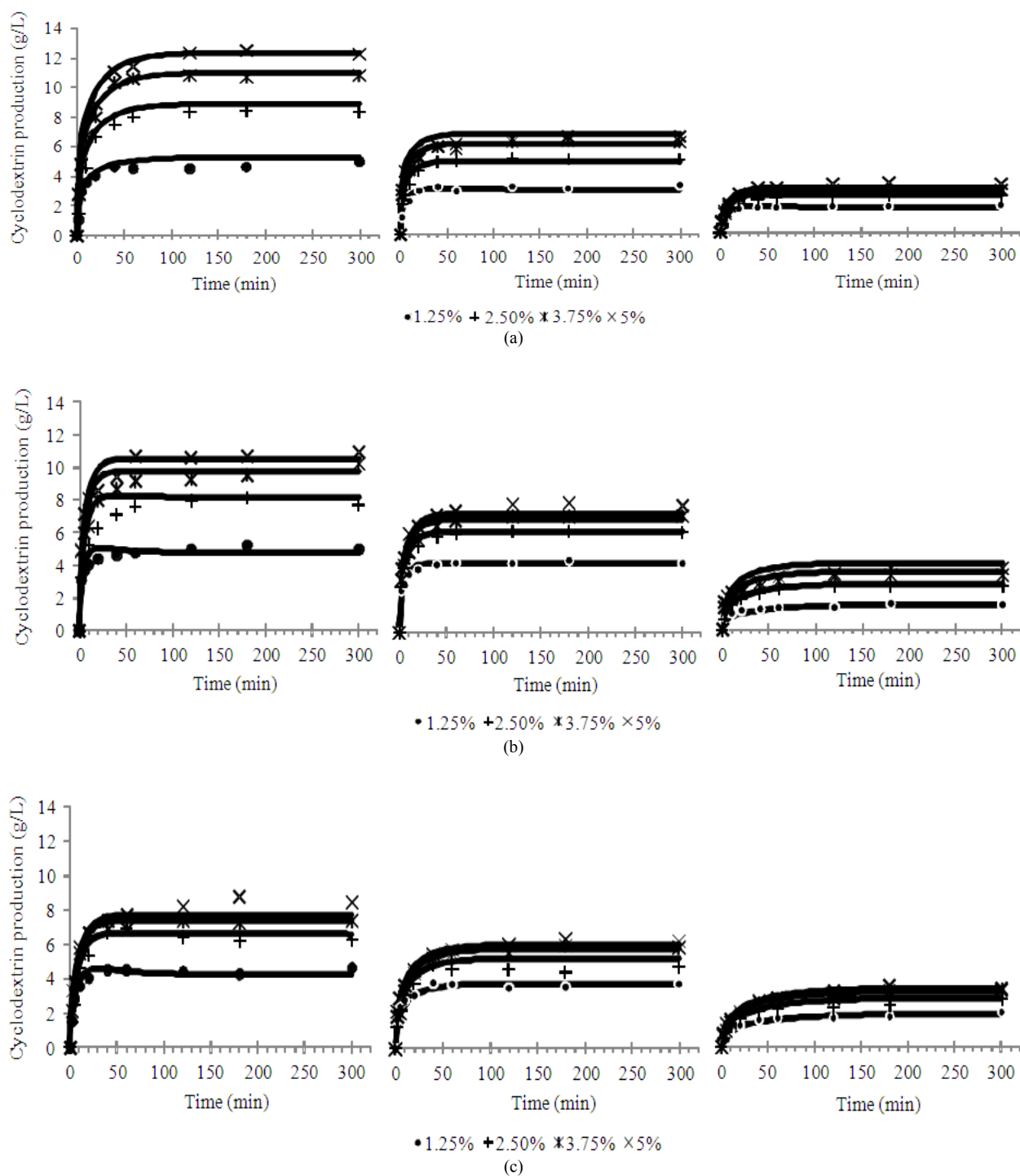


Fig. 3. Experimental data (points) and model (lines) of production of CDs (i) α -CD, (ii) β -CD and (iii) γ -CD, under different substrate concentration (1.25, 2.5, 3.75 and 5%) by using (a) tapioca, (b) sago and (c) corn starch as substrate by CGTase from *B. macerans* (T 60°C, pH 5.5)

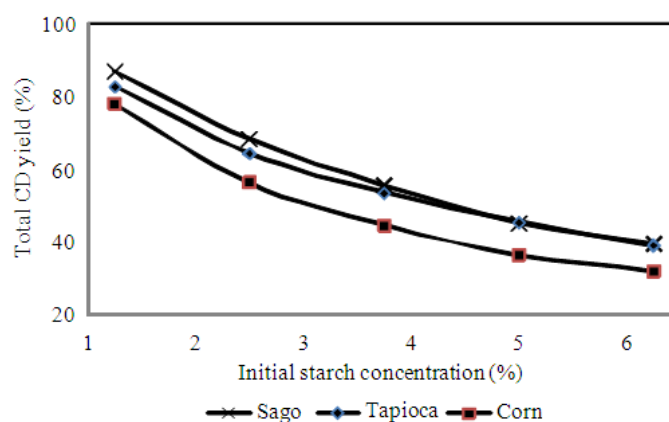


Fig. 4. Effect of initial starch concentration on total CDs yield by CGTase from *B. macerans* (T 60°C, pH 5.5)

Besides that, at high substrate concentration, water content for starch swelling and gelatinization is insufficient (Tester and Somerville, 2000). The results obtained exhibited a similar pattern as reported by previous researchers (Muria *et al.*, 2011; Szerman *et al.*, 2007; Zhekova *et al.*, 2008). In this study, >5% of initial starch concentration did not result in significant increase in CD production.

3.2. Estimation of $K_{M,i}$ and $V_{max,i}$

The $K_{M,i}$ and $V_{max,i}$ values for each starch was obtained from experimental data of CD production (**Fig. 3**) using Lineweaver-Burk plot (Equation 5). The initial velocity, $V_{0,i}$, of the specific CD production was obtained by calculating a tangent at the first 2 min of the reaction. Referring to **Table 1**, corn has the lowest $K_{M,i}$ value for α -CD (7.12 g L^{-1}) while sago produces a $K_{M,i}$ value of 10.32 g L^{-1} for β -CD, which is almost similar to the value reported by Muria *et al.* (2011). Muria *et al.* (2011) obtained a value of 11.9 g L^{-1} by combining *Bacillus* sp. C26 CGTase with sago starch as a substrate at a temperature of 60°C. $K_{M,i}$ value for γ -CD is the lowest for tapioca (7.52 g L^{-1}). A low value of $K_{M,i}$ indicates that starch has higher affinity towards the enzyme (Moriwaki *et al.*, 2009). Higher $K_{M,i}$ value means that the limitation effect of the substrate towards the enzyme is high, which leads to low CD formation. The rate of CD formation will slow down and remain constant when substrate limitation condition is achieved.

In the case of $V_{max,i}$, tapioca shows the highest values of 3.45 and $2.76 \text{ g L}^{-1} \cdot \text{min}$ for α - and β -CD, respectively, which indicate that tapioca starch has the maximum reaction rate for α - and β -CD formation followed by sago [$3.31 \text{ (}\alpha\text{-CD)}$ and $2.28 \text{ g L}^{-1} \cdot \text{min}$ (β -CD)] and finally

corn [$1.22 \text{ (}\alpha\text{-CD)}$ and $1.72 \text{ g L}^{-1} \cdot \text{min}$ (β -CD)]. Since $V_{max,i}$ values of tapioca and sago are slightly different, the total CD yield as shown in **Fig. 4** is similar, especially when >5% initial starch concentration is used. Reaction rate using sago starch shows that γ -CD can reach the highest value of $5.97 \text{ g L}^{-1} \cdot \text{min}$ compared to corn and tapioca (0.64 and $0.45 \text{ g L}^{-1} \cdot \text{min}$, respectively).

Parameter $k_{cat,i}$ is a constant that is an indicator of enzyme activity. For batch process, $V_{max,i}$ values do not change since the amount of enzyme was assumed to be constant throughout the enzymatic process. However, for fed batch reaction process, as the enzyme was fed at a certain time, the amount of enzyme available increases, which leads to the incremental increase in the value of $V_{max,i}$. The enzyme activity, c_E , therefore influences the value of $V_{max,i}$. Tapioca gives the highest $k_{cat,i}$ for α -CD compared to β -CD ($0.0014 \text{ g U}^{-1} \cdot \text{min}$) and γ -CD ($0.0002 \text{ g U}^{-1} \cdot \text{min}$) with value of $0.0017 \text{ g U}^{-1} \cdot \text{min}$, which is similar to $k_{cat,i}$ (α -CD) for sago. However, $k_{cat,i}$ of γ -CD for sago shows the highest value of $0.003 \text{ g U}^{-1} \cdot \text{min}$ since its $V_{max,i}$ is the highest. The value of $k_{cat,i}$ increases proportionally with $V_{max,i}$. Corn has small $k_{cat,i}$ values of 0.0006, 0.0009 and $0.0003 \text{ g U}^{-1} \cdot \text{min}$ for α -, β - and γ -CD, respectively.

3.3. Estimation of $K_{i,i}$ and $\delta_{CD,i}$

The experimental data obtained from the batch enzymatic synthesis studies were employed to estimate the unknown parameters for the proposed mathematical model. The value of estimated parameters was obtained using gPROMS software by fitting the mathematical models with the experimental data and they are summarized in **Table 2**.

Table 1. $K_{M,i}$ and $V_{max,i}$ values obtained from Lineweaver Burk equation

| Parameter | Units | Sago | | | Tapioca | | | Corn | | |
|-------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|--------|--------|---------|---------|
| | | i = 1 | i = 2 | i = 3 | i = 1 | i = 2 | i = 3 | i = 1 | i = 2 | i = 3 |
| $K_{M,i}$ | g/L | 15.9700 | 10.3000 | 342.300 | 58.2300 | 54.0700 | 7.5200 | 7.1200 | 17.6900 | 26.5100 |
| $V_{max,i}$ | g/L.min | 3.3100 | 2.2800 | 5.970 | 3.4500 | 2.7600 | 0.4500 | 1.2100 | 1.7200 | 0.6400 |
| $K_{cat,i}$ | g/U.min | 0.0017 | 0.0012 | 0.003 | 0.0017 | 0.0014 | 0.0002 | 0.0006 | 0.0009 | 0.0003 |

Table 2. Parameter estimation of different model using sago, tapioca and corn starch as substrate

| Parameter | Units | Model 1 | | | Model 2 | | |
|-------------------|-------|---------|---------|--------|---------|---------|--------|
| | | sago | tapioca | corn | sago | tapioca | corn |
| $K_{i=1}$ | g/L | 2.9600 | 4.3600 | 8.9600 | 5.8500 | 5.7900 | 6.5400 |
| $K_{i=2}$ | g/L | 1.9200 | 2.8300 | 1.2400 | 3.1300 | 3.2700 | 2.0400 |
| $K_{i=3}$ | g/L | 0.8700 | 3.2800 | 3.4700 | 1.5400 | 2.5300 | 1.1400 |
| $\delta_{CD,i=1}$ | 1/min | 0.0424 | 0.0235 | 0.0658 | 0.0339 | 0.0105 | 0.0387 |
| $\delta_{CD,i=2}$ | 1/min | 0.0505 | 0.0400 | 0.0295 | 0.0223 | 0.0159 | 0.0087 |
| $\delta_{CD,i=3}$ | 1/min | 0.0155 | 0.0510 | 0.0497 | 0.0079 | 0.0299 | 0.0046 |
| R^2 | | 0.8800 | 0.9100 | 0.9100 | 0.8700 | 0.9400 | 0.9500 |

Throughout the enzymatic synthesis, glucose, maltose and other lower molecular weight maltodextrin were produced simultaneously (Kim *et al.*, 1995). These by-products act as acceptors to the enzyme, allowing CD to inhibit the active site of CGTase. As CDs increase in the production broth, they act as inhibitors to CGTase activity (Penninga *et al.*, 1996). As a consequence, the cyclization reaction reduces. To determine the rate of CD production, this product inhibition effect should be taken into account and is denoted as $K_{i,i}$.

For α -CD production from sago and tapioca, comparing model 1, model 2 gives a higher value ($K_{i,i}$) of 5.85 and 5.79 g L⁻¹, respectively. On the contrary, for corn starch, model 1 gives a higher value (8.96 g L⁻¹) compared to model 2 (6.54 g L⁻¹). $K_{i,i}$ value of more than 5 g L⁻¹ is preferable for α -CD, indicating that the corn gives the highest value for both models. A higher $K_{i,i}$ value means less inhibition effect. This situation leads to higher rate of CD production compared to a smaller $K_{i,i}$ value. Overall, tapioca has the highest $K_{i,i}$ value for β - and γ -CD using both the models. Thus, the product inhibition effect is the lowest, resulting in a high yield of CD. Using model 2, sago gives higher $K_{i,i}$ for all the three CDs when compared to model 1, which only gives almost half the value.

Coupling effect is one of the major factors that also affect the bioconversion of starch into CDs besides the product inhibition (Zhekova *et al.*, 2008). Model 2 has lower degradation rate constant ($\delta_{CD,i}$) for all starches. For sago starch, model 2 resulted in 0.0339, 0.0223 and 0.0079 min⁻¹ for α -, β - and γ -CD, respectively.

The $\delta_{CD,i}$ value using model 2 gave 0.0105 (α -CD), 0.0159 (β -CD) and 0.0299 min⁻¹ (γ -CD) for tapioca starch and for corn starch, in the values are 0.0387 (α -CD), 0.0087 (β -CD) and 0.0046 min⁻¹ (γ -CD). Comparing the sago, corn and tapioca starch used by using model 2, corn has the highest $\delta_{CD,i}$ for α -CD with a value of 0.0387 min⁻¹ followed by sago and tapioca. Sago gives the highest $\delta_{CD,i}$ for β -CD with a value of 0.0223 min⁻¹ compared to using tapioca and corn. Tapioca has the highest degradation for γ -CD of 0.0299 min⁻¹.

Using Equation 9, results show that, as $\delta_{CD,i}$ value increases, the degradation rate of CD increases. A decrease in CD production can be observed when the reaction time was extended. Pishtiyski and Zhekova (2006) mentioned that the CDs yield at longer duration is lower by 2-4% from the yields at the optimum time. According to Kim and Robyt (2000), they found that the reaction up to 140 h will give significant decrease of approximately 50% in the amount of CD produced.

The degradation of CD is normally due to coupling of CD during the enzymatic synthesis process. The coupling activity of CGTase limits the amount of final CD produced (Zhekova *et al.*, 2008). The CD cyclization slow down and reduced by the coupling reaction. In this study, the maximum product was obtained after 5 h. Charoenlap *et al.* (2004) select 6 h as the reaction time of the CGTase *B. circulan* with amylose.

Experimental data and simulation results are in good agreement for all starch based on R^2 values. This confirms that both models proposed were capable of

predicting the experimental results with an adequate accuracy. R^2 for sago using models 1 and 2 are almost similar (0.88 and 0.87, respectively). For tapioca and corn, compared to model 1, model 2 has slightly higher R^2 value (0.94 and 0.95, respectively). Based on average R^2 , model 2 is likely to fit the experimental data better than model 1. The fitting between experimental data and simulated model 2 is depicted in **Fig. 3**.

3.4. Sensitivity Analysis

The sensitivity analysis was carried out to assess the impact of selected parameters on the amount of ED of CD production when increasing and reducing the $K_{i,i}$ parameter by 30% for α -, β - and γ -CD. The sensitivity of the production towards product inhibition $K_{i,i}$ for model 1 shows that an increase of $K_{i,i}$ by 30% increases the production of α -CD by 6% and a decrease in $K_{i,i}$ by 30% reduces α -CD production with ED of 9%. By increasing the $K_{i,i}$ to 30%, the production of β -CD increases with ED of 7% and that of γ -CD by 4%. While decreasing the $K_{i,i}$ value to 30%, of the production of β -CD and γ -CD is reduced to 10 and 7%,

respectively. Comparing models 1 and 2, model 2 shows higher sensitivity with $K_{i,i}$ increase, showing a nearly 8% increase of α - and γ -CD and a 13% increase of β -CD. Reducing $K_{i,i}$ by 30%, results in a decrease of 14% of α - and γ -CD and ED of 18% for β -CD. Higher sensitivity of $K_{i,i}$ value in model 2 is more favoured because it supports the previous research works (Zhekova *et al.*, 2008; Kim *et al.*, 1995; Veen *et al.*, 2000) which claim that CGTase activity is sensitive towards the product inhibition effect.

3.5. Validation Using Fed Batch Mode

Fed batch experiment was conducted to further evaluate the effect of product inhibition and substrate limitation by adding starch and enzyme at certain intervals of time. As shown in **Fig. 6**, the enzymatic reaction was carried out using initial sago starch concentration of 35 g L^{-1} with 1.8 U mL^{-1} of enzyme. Due to coupling and degradation activity, the production of CDs reduced and remained constant. Thus, at min 200, 6.6 mL of 600 U mL^{-1} enzyme was added and drastic increases the reaction rate of CDs were observed.

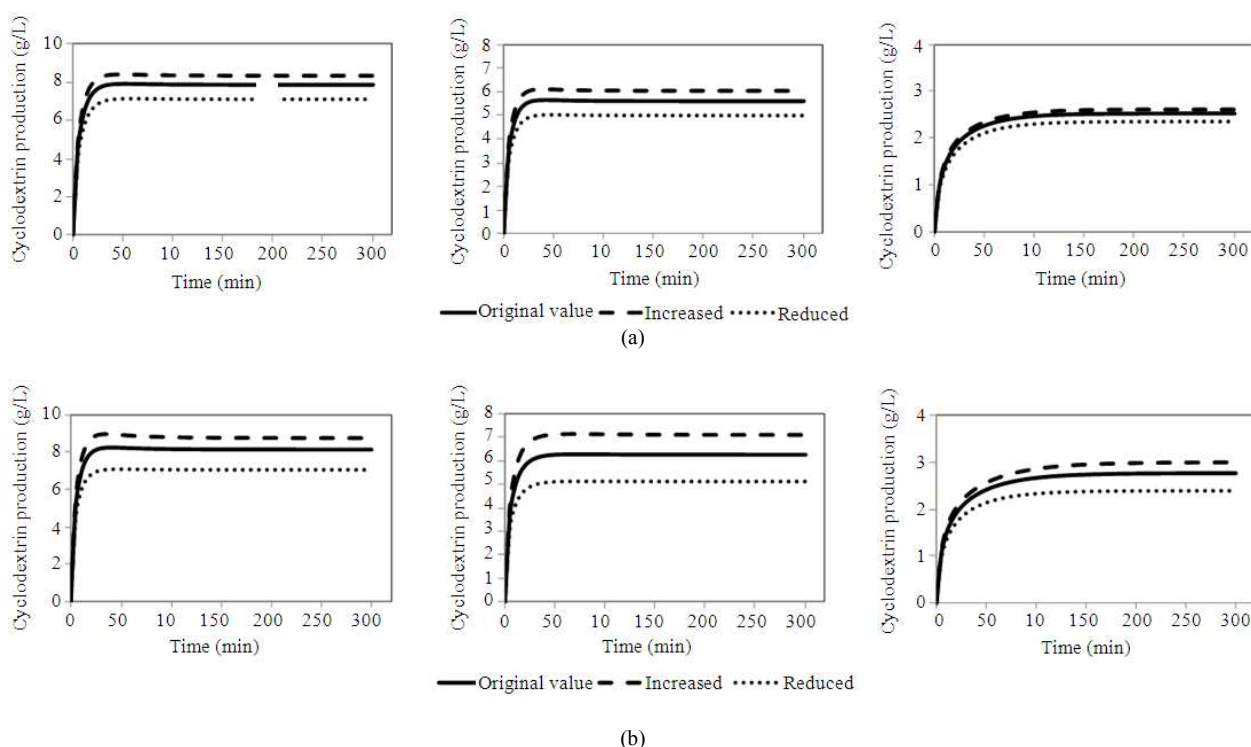


Fig. 5. Sensitivity analysis of (a) model 1 and (b) model 2 for (i) α -CD, (ii) β -CD and (iii) γ -CD, beta production by manipulating $K_{i,i}$ value ($\pm 30\%$)

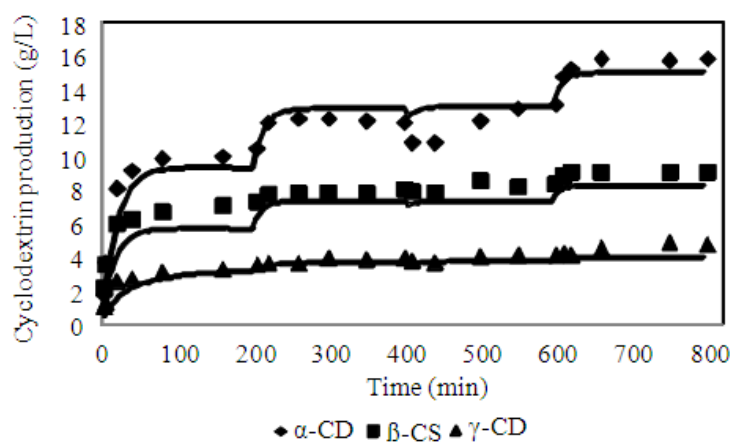


Fig. 6. Validation of the experimental data (points) with model (lines) for the production of CDs using 35 g L⁻¹ sago starch using model 2 for CGTase from *B. macerans* (T 60°C, pH 5.5)

This result indicates that there was substrate remaining that was available for reaction with the new enzyme, which was still free from any inhibitors. In other words, this is due to inhibition effect of the old enzyme by the products throughout the reaction. At min 400, 65 g L⁻¹ (0.1 L) sago starch was fed into the reactor. Initially, the amount of CDs decreased because of the dilution of the reaction medium. After some time, the amount of CDs increased but until the same amount as before the starch feeding. It shows that the reaction stopping at min 250-400 was not because of limitation of the substrate. When another 6.6 ml of the enzyme at min 600 was added, the amount of CDs increased drastically.

α - and β -CDs show noticeable increase during each cycle of enzyme feeding, while γ -CD increases only slightly as enzyme and starch were fed into the reaction medium. **Figure 6** shows the comparison between selected model (model 2) and experimental data. It indicates good similarity and an R² value of 0.932.

4. CONCLUSION

The proposed model 2 was chosen as an appropriate model to describe the reaction kinetics of cyclodextrin production using CGTase *B. macerans* at different starch concentrations. The results show that the production of CDs was affected by maximum velocity, $V_{max,i}$, substrate limitation, $K_{M,i}$, product inhibition, $K_{i,i}$ and coupling effect, $\delta_{CD,i}$ with tapioca giving the highest total CD production of 23 g L⁻¹, followed by sago (22 g L⁻¹) and corn (19 g L⁻¹) using 5% initial starch concentration.

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