

Characteristics of recombinant maltogenic amylase from *Geobacillus* sp. SK70

ABSTRACT

A thermostable maltogenic amylase producing-bacterium was isolated from a 70°C hot spring at Sungai Klah, Perak, Malaysia and was designated as *Geobacillus* sp. SK70 based on the 16S rRNA gene analysis. The gene encoding a thermostable maltogenic amylase was expressed in *Escherichia coli* using pET102 Directional TOPO expression vector, and it is the first ever report on using such expression vector. The highest enzyme activity was obtained after 12 h of post-induction time using 0.02 mM isopropyl β -D-thiogalactopyranoside (IPTG). The enzyme was purified to homogeneity with 8.2-fold and 41% recovery through a single-step using His-Trap HP affinity column chromatography. The optimum temperature and pH of the purified enzyme was at 55°C and pH 7.0, respectively, and showed broad pH stability ranging from pH 5.0 to 10.0. The activity of the purified enzyme was stable in the presence of 1 mM Ca^{2+} ; stimulated by 1 mM Mn^{2+} and Zn^{2+} , and 0.1 % (v/v) Tween-20; and inhibited by 1% (v/v) of 2-mercaptoethanol, EDTA and SDS. Thus the enzyme could be considered Ca^{2+} -independent, which demonstrated characteristic unlike other reported maltogenic amylases, and offered good characteristics for industrial applications.

Keyword: Ca^{2+} -independent; *Geobacillus* sp.; Maltogenic amylase; thermostable; Zn activated