

Production and Properties of the Insoluble Penicillinase from *Streptomyces*

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放線菌이 分泌하는 不溶性 Penicillinase

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Abstract

A *Streptomyces* sp. strain AS-727 which was capable of producing penicillinase, was isolated from soil. The enzyme production was affected by the carbon and nitrogen sources added. Among them so far tested, glucose (or maltose) and sodium nitrate increased the enzyme production. And the amount of enzyme produced reached maximum in 4 days cultivation.

The optimal pH and temperature of the penicillinase was between pH 6.0 to 8.0 and 40°C respectively. The stable pH range of the enzyme was stable at 40°C, but it lost about 30% and 40% of the activity respectively when it was treated at 60°C and 80°C for 60 minutes.

The activity of the enzyme was inhibited by Zn²⁺, but Ag⁺, Co²⁺, Mn²⁺, Ca²⁺, Pb²⁺ did not affect enzyme activity.

Peculiarly, the enzyme protein precipitated by freezing or addition of ammonium sulfate, urea, sodium chloride and some organic solvents as ethanol, methanol, acetone was not dissolved in deionized water or any buffer solution.

Introduction

Penicillinase (β -lactamase, penicillin amide- β -lactamhydrolase, EC3, 5, 2, 6) has been many investigated. Since Abraham and Chain⁽¹⁾ reported the penicillin-destroying activity in extracts of *Escherichia coli* and the enzyme activity was presumed to have a primary role for the high resistance of

the organisms to penicillins, there have been many reports on the synthesis of penicillinase by many gram-positive^(2,3) and gram-negative bacteria^(4,5,6) and *Actinomyces*^(7,8).

Up to the present, the studies for enzymatic properties, mechanisms for inducible production⁽⁹⁻¹¹⁾, structure and active center^(12,13), immunology of the penicillinase⁽¹⁴⁻¹⁶⁾ have been

carried out.

We obtained insoluble penicillinase of different type from known enzymes. This paper deals with the isolation and culture conditions for producing the penicillinase and some properties of the enzyme.

Materials and Methods

Media; Isolation medium consisted of glucose 1%, pepton 0.2%, agar 1.8%. Culture medium consisted of glucose 1.0%, NaNO_3 0.2%, K_2HPO_4 0.01%, $\text{MgSO}_4 \cdot 7\text{H}_2\text{O}$ 0.01%. After sterilization, pH of the medium was 5.4.

Isolation of the organism; The penicillinase producing *Streptomyces* sp. strains were isolated from soil according to the microiodometric method (17). *Streptomyces* sp. AS-727 was selected as one of the most potential penicillinase producer, and used for the present study.

Culture; Using 1000 ml-Erlenmeyer flask containing 300 ml of medium, the strain AS-727 was stand-cultured at 30°C for 4 days.

Enzyme assay; The penicillinase activity was determined by microiodometric method (17) at 40°C and enzyme activity was described in relative activity. Used buffer was 0.1 M phosphate buffer (pH 7.0). Cell growth was expressed as milligrams of cell dry weight equivalent of organisms per 10 ml of cultured broth.

Chemicals; The crystalline penicilline G (4000 units/mg) was purchased from Hoechst Remedial Ind. Co.. And other chemicals used were of reagent grade.

Preparation of the enzyme solution; To the cultured filtrate, solid ammonium sulfate was added to give a final saturation of 100%. After two hours, the suspension was centrifuged at 12000 rpm for 10 minutes. Obtained precipitates were collected and carried out dialysis against deionized water at 4°C for two days with three changes of water. Then soluble part was discarded and remaining precipitates were homogeneously suspended in 0.1 M phosphate buffer (pH 7.0), and it was used as enzyme solution.

Results and Discussion

Effect of carbon source on enzyme production

Adding various sugar as carbon source in the concentration of 1% to the medium, penicillinase producing strain AS-727 was cultured, and the final pH and the enzyme activity were measured. The results are summarized in Table 1. All sugars so far tested supported the cell growth, however, the most suitable sugar for enzyme production was glucose and maltose but xylose was ill in growth and enzyme production.

Table 1. Effect of Carbon Source on Enzyme Production.

The concentration of various carbon sources was 1% in culture medium and initial pH was 5.4. The activity added glucose was set at 100.

Source	Final pH	Growth	Relative activity
s-Starch	6.2	###	44
Lactose	6.2	##	56
Maltose	6.8	++	108
Sucrose	6.6	###	44
Fructose	6.0	++	33
Glucose	6.2	###	100
Xylose	5.9	+	1
Lycerin	6.2	###	74

Effect of Nitrogen Source on the Enzyme Production

Effects of organic as well as inorganic nitrogen sources were examined (Table 2) using at the concentration of 0.2%. It was found that only sodium nitrate appeared best for the production of penicillinase from the strain of AS-727, also urea and peptone enhanced considerably the enzyme production, whereas in the sodium nitrite containing medium the organism was not grown.

Time Course of Enzyme Production

We examined time dependent changes of the enzyme production, growth of cell mass, changes of pH of the medium with culturing the strain of AS-727 in 100 ml Erlenmeyer flask containing 20 ml of medium. After inoculation, the culture flasks were incubated at 30°C. As shown in Fig. 1, the

Table 2. Effect of Nitrogen Source on Enzyme Production.

The concentration of various N-sources was 0.2 %, and initial pH was 5.4. The activity added peptone was set at 100.

N-source	Final pH	Growth	Relative activity
peptone	7.2	###	100
yeast ext.	6.0	##	85
asparagine	6.2	++	19
(NH ₄) ₂ HPO ₄	6.0	++	15
(NH ₄) ₂ SO ₄	5.4	++	19
NH ₄ Cl	5.4	++	15
(NH ₂) ₂ CO	7.4	+	120
NaNO ₃	6.6	##	145
NaNO ₂	6.4	-	0

productivity of the enzyme reached to a maximum level after four days the incubation was started. Cell growth gained maximum stationary level after seven days cultivation followed by a slight decrease. The pH of medium raised slowly after two days.

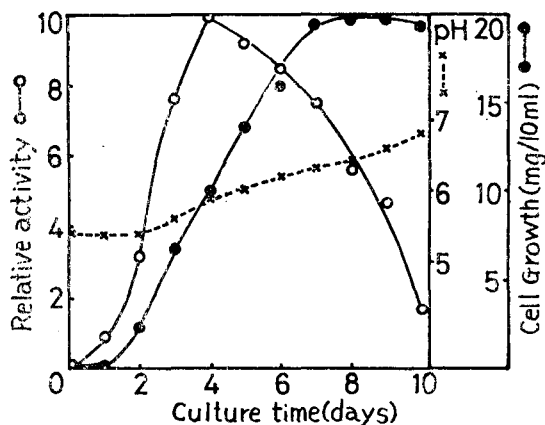


Fig. 1 Time Course of Enzyme Production.

The composition of the medium is described in "Materials and Methods" and the cultivation process was carried out under the following conditions: 30°C, stationary, 20 ml medium in 100 ml-Erlenmeyer flask.

Effect of pH

The penicillinase produced by the strain of AS-727 hydrolyzed penicillin G to penicilloic acid. The

activity of aqueous suspension of the enzyme was assayed at different pH, using following buffer systems; McIlvaine buffer (0.1 M citrate~0.2 M Na₂HPO₄, pH 2.0 to 8.0), Clark and Lube buffer (0.1N NaOH~0.1N Borate KCl, pH 8.0 to 10.0).

Other conditions were the same as those of standard assay method. As shown in Fig. 2, the optimal pH range was between 6.0 to 8.0. But below pH 3.0 and above pH 10.0, the enzyme showed no activity.

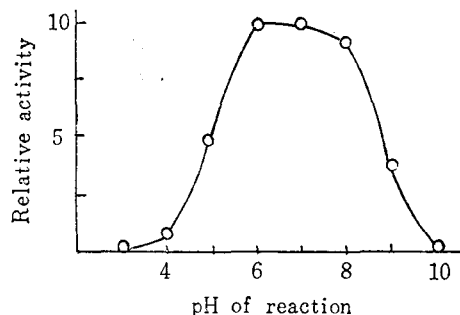


Fig. 2 Effect of pH on Enzyme Reaction.

The enzyme activity was assayed in the buffer of various pH values at 40 °C. pH 2.0~8.0: McIlvaine buffer 8.0~10.0: Clark and Lube buffer. The activity at pH 6.0 was set at 10.

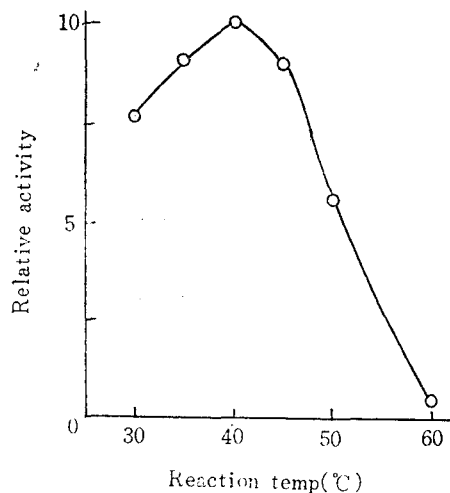


Fig. 3. Effect of Temperature on Enzyme Reaction.

Activities of the penicillinase were measured in M/10 phosphate buffer (pH 7.0) at various temperature. The activity at 40°C was set at 10.

Effect of Temperature

The penicillinase activity of suspension was assayed at different temperature range from 30°C to 60°C. The assay was carried out by the standard method at pH 7.0. As shown in Fig. 3, the maximum penicillinase activity was revealed at around 40°C.

Effect of pH on stability of Penillinase

The enzyme suspension was incubated in buffer (systems were the same as those described in the test of optimal pH) of different pH at 37°C for 60 minutes and at 4°C for days, and then residual activity was measured by standard assay method. As illustrated in Fig. 4, the enzyme was stable in wide ranges between pH 4.0 to 9.0.

As a result of this test, we found that this enzyme was very stable in pH variation.

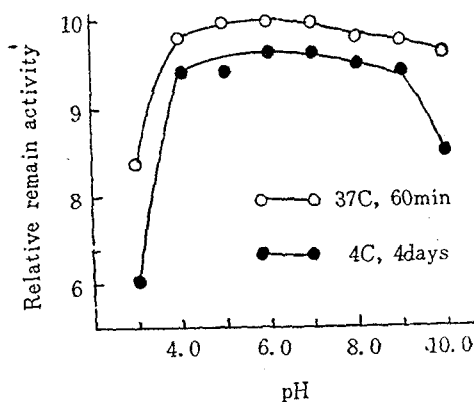


Fig. 4. Effect of pH on Stability of Enzyme.

Suspended enzyme was treated in the various pH values at 30°C for 60 minutes and 4°C, for 4 days. pH 3.0-8.0: McIlvain, pH 8.0-10.0: Clark and Lube buffer. The activity remaining after treatment at pH 6.0 was set at 10.

Thermostability of Ensyne

Aqueous suspension of the enzyme (pH 5.6) was treated at 40, 60 and 80°C for various time 0 to 60 minutes and residual activity was assayed at pH 7.0. As illustrated in Fig. 5, the enzyme was stable at 40°C. And when it was incubated at 60°C and 80°C for 60 minutes, the enzyme lost its activity about about 30% and 40% respectively.

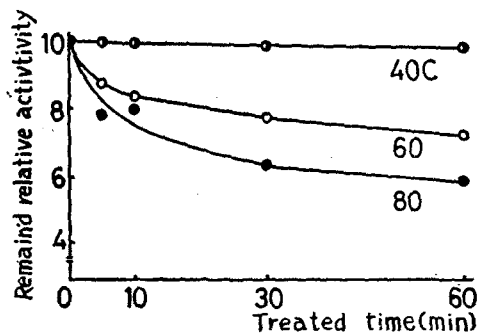


Fig. 5. Effect of Temperature on Stability of Enzyme.

Suspension of the enzyme was treated at 40, 60, 80°C for various time. The remaining activity was assayed at 40°C and pH 7.0. And the activity not treated was set at 10.

Therefore the enzyme was stable against heating compared with the *Streptomyces albus* G penicillinase⁽⁸⁾ which was completely inactivated by heating at 60°C for 5 minutes.

Effect of Metal Salts on Activity of Penicillinase

To investigate the effect of metal salt on the enzyme activity, various metal salts, AgNO₃, PbNO₃, ZnCl₂, CoCl₂·6H₂O, MnCl₂·4H₂O, MgSO₄·7H₂O and CaCl₂ were added to the reaction mixture at the final concentration of 1 mM. As shown in Table 3, no significant effect can be realized with any of the metal salts tested but considerable inhibition of the enzyme was seen in the presence of ZnCl₂.

Table 3. Effect of Metal Salts on the Enzyme Activity.

The concentration of metal salts in the reaction mixture was 1 mM, and the activity not added was set at 100.

Metal salt*	Relative activity
None	100
AgNO ₃	83
Pb-acetate	89
CoCl ₂ ·6H ₂ O	112
MnCl ₂ ·4H ₂ O	94
ZnCl ₂	77
MgSO ₄ ·7H ₂ O	98
CaCl ₂	100

* : Concentration of metal = 1 mM

Effect of Concentration of ZnCl₂ on Activity

The reaction mixtures containing various concentration from 10⁻¹M to 10⁻⁷M were incubated at 40 °C for 10 minutes. As illustrated in Fig. 6, the enzyme was inhibited about 20 % by addition of zinc chloride in the concentration of 10⁻³ and inhibited more than about 95 % in the high concentration above 10⁻²M.

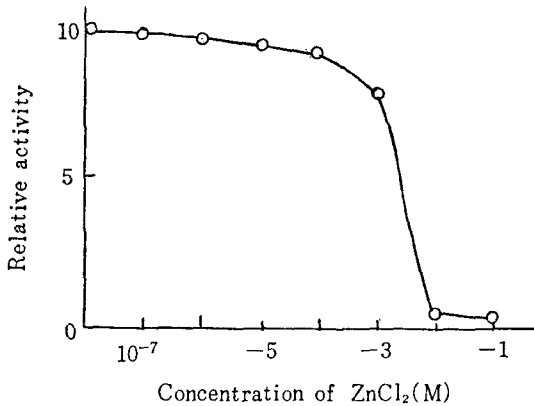


Fig. 6. Effect of Concentration of ZnCl₂ on Activity.

The concentration of ZnCl₂ in the reaction mixture was 10⁻¹M to 10⁻⁷M. And the enzyme activity was assayed at 40°C for 10 minutes. The activity not added was set at 10.

Denaturing to Insoluble Enzyme:

Once the enzyme protein in the cultured broth was precipitated by freezing, addition of ammonium sulfate, urea, sodium chloride or some orga-

Table 4. Denaturing to Insoluble Enzyme.

Once the enzyme protein in cultured broth was precipitated with freezing, (NH₄)₂SO₄, urea, NaCl, MeOH, EtOH, acetone, the formed precipitate was insoluble.

solution	→	ppt	→	insoluble
		↑		
		factor		
freezing				+
ammoniumsulfate				+
urea				+
sodiumchloride				+
org. solvent				+
(MeOH, EtOH, acetone)				

nic solvents as methanol, ethanol and acetone, it did not dissolved again as shown in Table 4. This property of the enzyme was different from the other penicillinase reported earlier.

要約

特異하게도 일단 어떤 原因으로든지 變性이 일어나서 沈澱이 形成되고 난 後에는 그 變性으로 因하여 다시 溶解되지 않는 penicillinase 를 生成分泌하는 *Streptomyces* 屬 菌株 AS-727 을 토양으로부터 얻었으며, 이 菌의 酵素生産성과 이 酵素의 一般의 性質을 檢討한 結果는 다음과 같다.

1) 本 酵素의 生産을 爲해서는 窒素源으로서 sodium nitrate, 炭素源으로서 glucose 나 maltose 를 使用하여 4日間 培養하는 것이 바람직했으며

2) 精製는 ammonium sulfate 로 完全飽和시켜 生成된 沈澱을 遠心分離로 모아 그것을 透析해서 粗精製酵素를 얻는데, 이때 透析할 때 沈澱은 溶解되지 않는다.

3) 本 酵素의 最適 pH 는 中性附近 (6.0~8.0) 이며 最適溫度는 40°C 近處이고,

4) 安定 pH 範圍는 4.0~9.0으로서 比較的 넓었으며 熱에 對해서는 40°C 에서는 安定했으며 60°C와 80°C 에서 60分間 處理하면 각각 約 30% 와 40%가 失活되었다.

5) 本 酵素의 活性에 있어서 zinc chloride 가 10⁻³M 濃度에서 約 20%, 10⁻²M 以上の 高濃度에서는 95% 以上을 阻害하였다.

6) 그리고 凍結이나 各種 鹽類 또는 有機溶媒로 일단 形成된 酵素蛋白沈澱은 다시 溶解되지 않는 특異한 性質을 가졌다.

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