

Original Research Article

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## Optimization of Bacteria Amylase Activity from *Bacillus licheniformis* Strain SEM11

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### ABSTRACT

Amylase produced by bacteria or bacteria amylase is an enzyme that can hydrolyze starch to sugar. Bacteria amylase is successfully replaced chemical hydrolysis in starch processing industries. Bacteria amylases are commercially important selectively hydrolyze the  $\alpha$ -1,4 sugar linkage in polysaccharides. Bacteria amylase is used commercially in many industries such as textile, pharmaceutical, food, glucose syrup, and detergent additive. Bacteria amylases are traded as much as 25% of the total another enzyme. Bacteria amylase from thermo-alkaliphile bacteria more attractive to use in industry because it is resistant to high temperature and pH. *Bacillus licheniformis* strain SEM11 is an amylase-producing bacteria that has been isolated from Semurup hot spring. Semurup hot spring, Kerinci district, Jambi province, Indonesia has the temperature 80°C dan pH 8.4. Bacteria amylase activity of *Bacillus licheniformis* strain SEM11 still low is 68, 52 U/ml because it's wild-type bacteria. The purpose of this study was to increase bacteria amylase activity of *Bacillus licheniformis* strain SEM11 through optimization of bacteria amylase activity. The results showed that bacteria amylase activity increased by using 1.5% rice substrate, at temperature 55°C, pH 8.0, fructose as the carbon source, and soybean as a source of nitrogen. Bacteria amylase from thermo-alkaliphilic *Bacillus licheniformis* strain SEM11 potentially in various industries because it has a high bacteria amylase activity.

#### Keywords

Bacteria amylase,  
Optimum condition,  
Optimization,  
Amylase activity,  
*Bacillus licheniformis*  
strain SEM11.

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### Introduction

Bacteria is one of the microbes producing various enzymes, such as protease, lipase, xylanase, and amylase. Amylase produced by bacteria or bacteria amylase is an enzyme that can hydrolyze starch to sugar. Bacteria amylase is successfully replaced chemical hydrolysis in starch processing industries. Bacteria amylases are commercially important selectively hydrolyze the  $\alpha$ -1,4 sugar linkage in polysaccharides. Amylase hydrolyzes polysaccharide such as starch,

glycogen into simple sugar constituents (Babu *et al.*, 2014). Bacteria amylase is used commercially in many industries such as textile, pharmaceutical, food, glucose syrup, and detergent additive. Amylases are traded as much as 25% of the total another enzyme (Souza and Magalhaes, 2010).

Bacteria amylase from thermo-alkaliphilic bacteria is more attractive for industries use because it is resistant to high temperature and

pH. One of the hot springs in Indonesia which has high temperature and pH is Semurup hot spring, Kerinci district, Jambi province, Indonesia, ie 80°C and pH 8.4 or almost similar to hot spring in Zimbabwe Africa with pH 9.3 (Remigio *et al.*, 2012). *Bacillus licheniformis* strain SEM11 has been successfully isolated from Semurup hot spring. Bacteria amylase activity of *Bacillus licheniformis* strain SEM11 still low is 68,52 U/ml because it's wild-type bacterial. Therefore it is necessary to increase bacteria amylase activity through optimization of bacteria amylase activity and production medium, such as optimization of substrates, substrates concentration, inoculum concentration, agitation speed, and nutritional factors, especially carbon and nitrogen sources. Bacteria amylases have a broad application in industries due to their stability, high enzyme activity at various parameters and cost-effective production (Khusro *et al.*, 2017). The production of enzymes by microorganisms as well as the enzyme yield depends on the nutritional factors especially carbon and nitrogen sources (Kumar *et al.*, 2012). The purpose of this study was to increase bacteria amylase activity of *Bacillus licheniformis* strain SEM11 through optimization of bacteria amylase activity and production medium. Amylase which could be a potential in various industries because it has a high bacteria amylase activity.

## Materials and Methods

### The sample collection

The sample of *Bacillus licheniformis* strain SEM11 was collected from Semurup hot spring located in Kerinci district, Jambi province, Indonesia.

### Chemicals

Na<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, KNA tartarat, NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, CuSO<sub>4</sub>·5H<sub>2</sub>O, H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>, amonium molibdat,

disodium arsenat, KNO<sub>3</sub>, NaNO<sub>3</sub>, fructose, sucrose, lactose, and glucose.

### Media and Buffers

Basal media, buffer potassium phosphate (pH 6.5-8.5).

### Substrates

Various substrates were used to determine bacteria amylase optimum activity such as rice, wheat, sago, and potato. Bacteria amylase activities using various substrates were assayed by using Samogy-Nelson method (Nelson, 1944).

### Substrates concentrations

Bacteria amylase activity with various substrates showed that rice had the highest activity. Bacteria amylase activities of rice substrate was tested at various concentrations, i.e: 0.5, 1.0, 1.5 and 2.0 % (w/v).

### Temperature

The optimum temperature for amylase activities was determined by incubating amylase at different temperature (45-60°C) using the substrate with 1.5% concentration and amylase activities were tested.

### pH

Amylase activities of the substrate were tested at concentration 1.5% in buffer potassium phosphate (pH 6.5-8.5).

### Carbon and nitrogen sources

The nutritional factors especially carbon and nitrogen sources were adding into basal medium 1.5% carbon sources (fructose, sucrose, lactose, and glucose) and 1% nitrogen sources (soybean flour and urea), and 0.2% (KNO<sub>3</sub>, and NaNO<sub>3</sub>). The basal medium

was shaken with speed 150 rpm at temperature 55°C for 24 hours. 10% of culturing was moved into a new basal medium and then shaken with agitation speed 150 rpm for 24 hours. The culturing bacteria was centrifuged with speed 5.000 rpm for 5 minutes. The supernatant that produced was moved into a new microcentrifuge tube for bacteria amylase assay.

### **Bacteria amylase assay**

0.5 ml substrate 1.5% (w/v) in buffer potassium phosphate pH 8.0 was incubated at temperature 55°C for 5 minutes, then added 0.5 ml bacteria amylase and incubated for 1 hour at temperature 55°C. Substrate-bacteria amylase solution was heated with boiling water for 20 minutes and then added 1ml Samogy-Nelson solution then heated with boiling water for 20 minutes (Nelson, 1944). The solution was cooled using running water for 1 minute and added 1 ml Arsenomolibdat solution and then was vortexed and the absorbance was measured at wavelength 540 nm using a spectrophotometer.

### **Results and Discussion**

*Bacillus licheniformis* strain SEM11 has been successfully isolated from the Semurup hot spring. Many micro-organisms especially several species belonging to *Bacillus* are known to produce a variety of extracellular enzymes and they have a wide range of industries applications (Annamalai *et al.*, 2011). Optimization of bacteria amylase activity and production medium is done through optimization of substrates, substrates concentration, temperature, pH, nutrition factor, especially carbon and nitrogen sources.

The use of various substrates such as rice, wheat, potato, and sago was done to determine the optimum activity of amylase

from *Bacillus licheniformis* strain SEM11 (Figure 1). The highest amylase activity was obtained by using rice as a substrate when compared to wheat, potatoes, and sago. This is caused the nutritional content of each starch is different. According to Simanjuntak (2006), the nutritional composition of rice consists of carbohydrates 767 g, 75 g protein, 18 g of fat, 130 g of water, 14 mg Fe, 150 mg Ca, 3.30 mg thiamine, 46 mg niacin and 4.5 mg riboflavin. The nutritional composition of wheat, potatoes, and sago has nutrients smaller than rice. Optimum activity of bacteria amylase from *Bacillus tequilensis* RG-01 was obtained by wheat (Tiwari *et al.*, 2014). In contrast to *Bacillus licheniformis* optimum activity of bacteria amylase obtained by using starch as a substrate (Divakaran *et al.*, 2011). Rice, wheat, sago, and potato were the natural substrate that can be used to produce bacteria amylase so as to reduce production costs.

Effect of substrates concentration in Figure 2 shows the bacteria amylase optimum activity was at rice substrate concentration 1.5%. Above and below the concentration bacteria amylase activity decreased. The same results on the amylase optimum activity of *Bacillus* sp SMIA-2 strain with 1.5% substrate concentration (Carvalho *et al.*, 2008). Different from *Bacillus cereus* strain BRSC-S-A26MB, bacteria amylase optimum activity was obtained at substrate concentration 0.5%. The increase of substrates concentration did not affect the increase of enzyme activity (Halder *et al.*, 2014). The mechanism of action of the enzyme is determined by the available substrate concentration.

If the substrate concentration is low, the enzyme's working speed is also low. Conversely, if substrate concentrations are available a lot, enzyme work is also fast. In the state of the excess substrate, enzyme work is not decreased but constant.

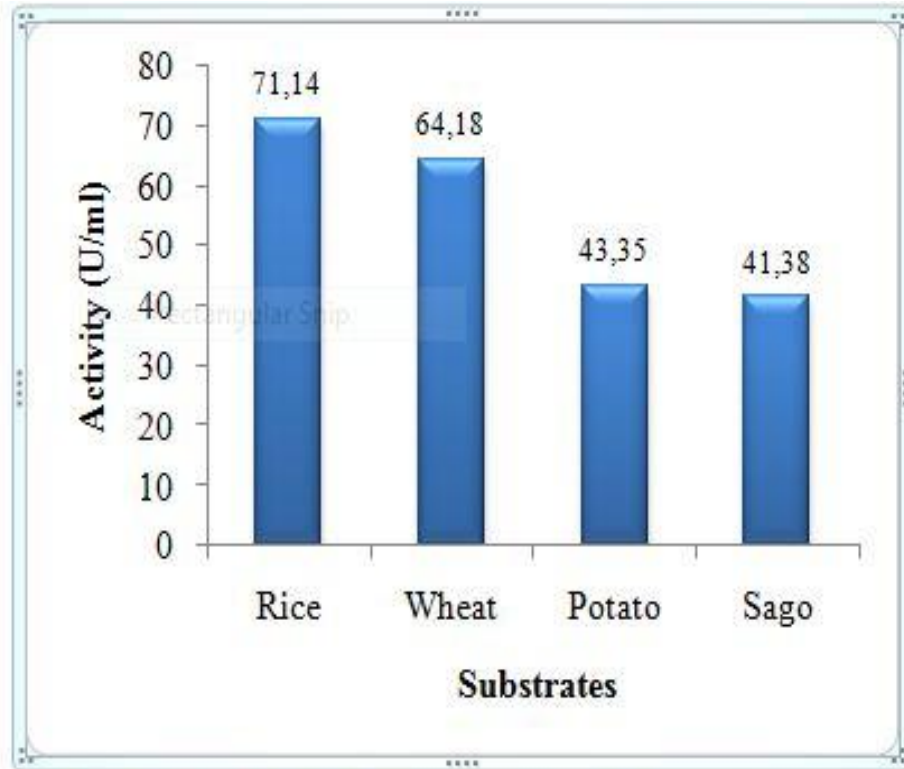


Figure 1. The effect of substrates on bacteria amylase activity

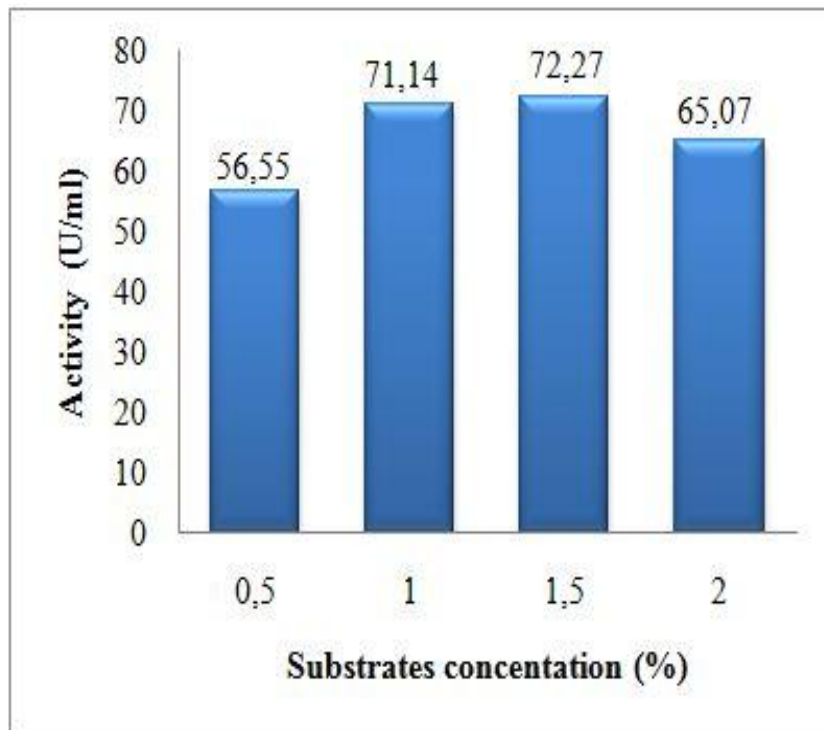


Figure 2. The effect of substrates concentration on bacteria amylase activity

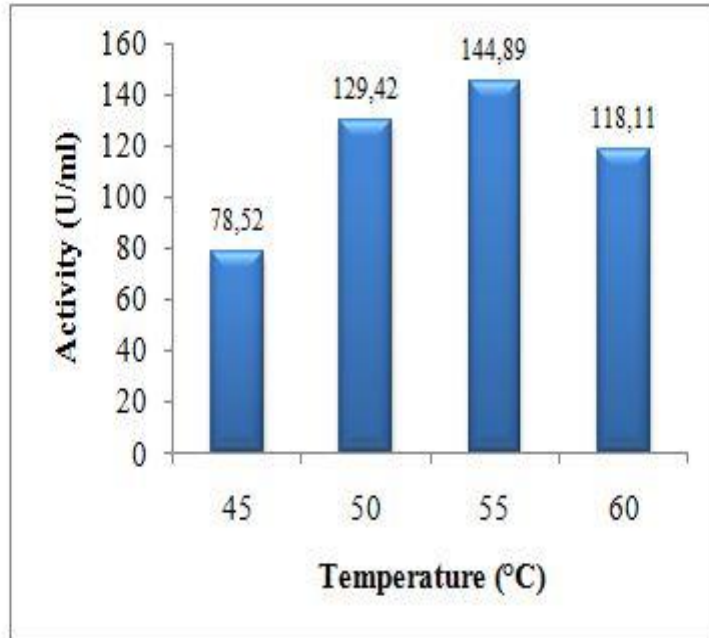


Figure 3. The effect of temperature concentration on bacteria amylase activity

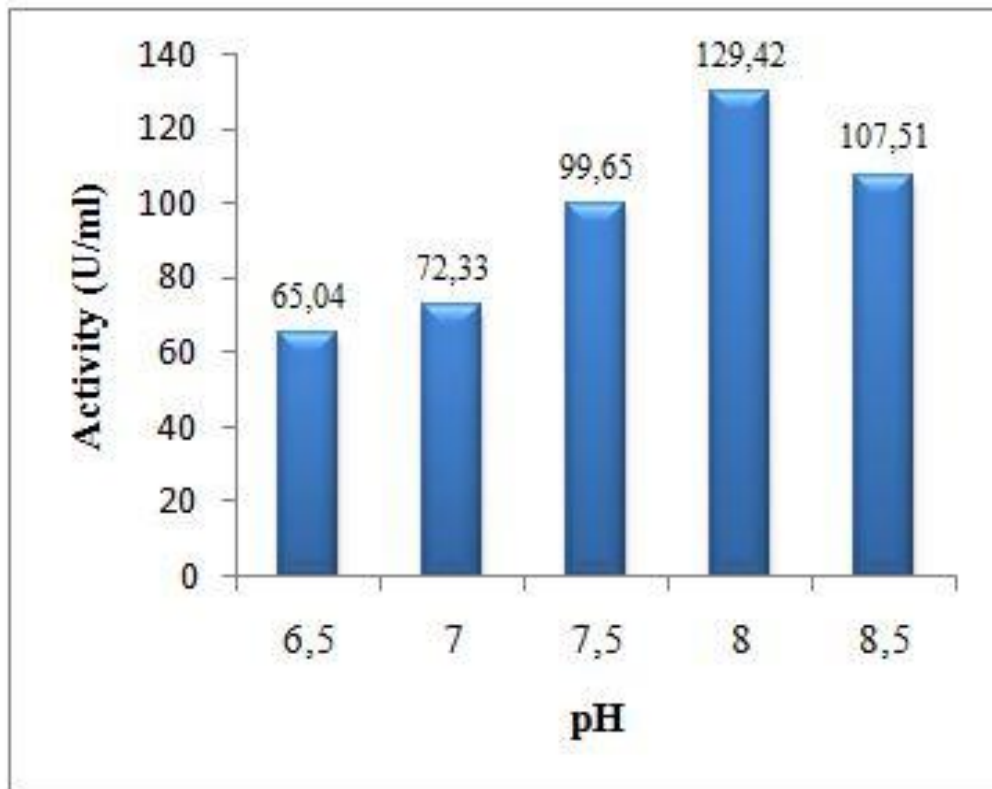


Figure 4. The effect of pH on bacteria amylase activity

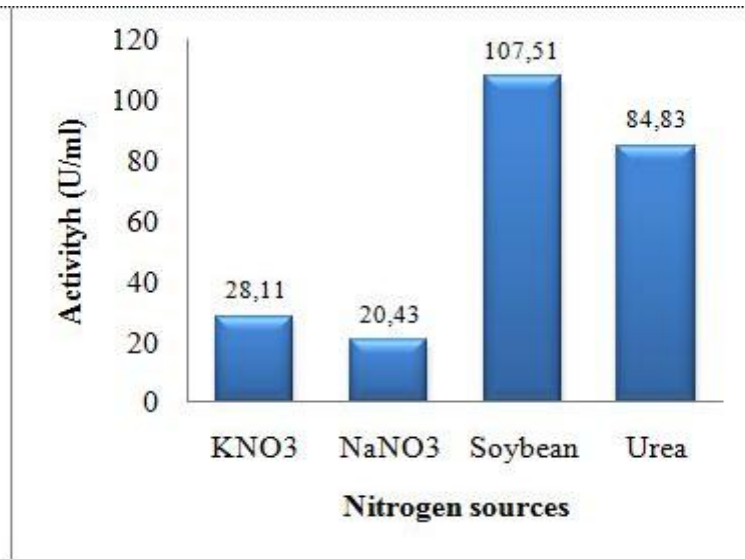


Figure 5. The effect of nitrogen sources on bacteria amylase activity

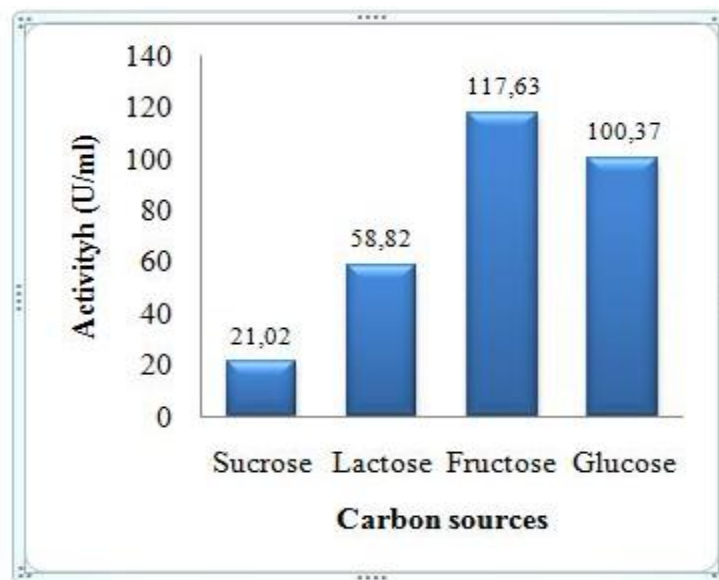


Figure 6. The effect of carbon sources on bacteria amylase activity

The optimum temperature of amylase activity was obtained at 55 °C and at 60 °C the activity of amylase decreased (Figure 3). The increased temperature did not affect the activity of amylase from *Bacillus licheniformis* strain SEM11. Similar studies reported optimum amylase activity of *Bacillus* sp WA21 at 55 °C (Asad *et al.*, 2011). Likewise with the optimum activity of amylase from *Bacillus strearothermophilus* at

55 °C (Cakraborty *et al.*, 2000). Similar studies reported optimum amylase activity of *Bacillus* sp WA21 at 55 °C (Asad *et al.*, 2011). Likewise with the optimum activity of amylase from *Bacillus strearothermophilus* at 55 °C (Cakraborty *et al.*, 2000). The decrease in the enzymatic rate will decrease at high temperatures this is due to the enzyme denaturation resulting in conformation changes at too high temperatures so that the

substrate is inhibited in entering the active side of the enzyme. While at very low incubation temperature can result in the small amount of kinetic energy produced so that it can decrease the intensity between enzyme and substrate.

The optimum activity of amylase from *Bacillus licheniformis* SEM11 strain was obtained at pH 8,0 while at pH 8,5 decreased amylase activity (Figure 4). This means that the amylase produced by *Bacillus licheniformis* SEM11 strain can be used commercially in various industries because it is thermostable (55 °C) and alkaline (pH 8.0). The thermostable and alkaline amylases are also produced by *Bacillus cereus* with a temperature of 65 °C and pH 8.0 (Annamalai *et al.*, 2011). In contrast to SS1, SS2, and SS3 isolates having an optimum pH of amylase activity at pH 7.0 (Kumar *et al.*, 2012). pH affects the velocity of enzyme activity in catalyzing a reaction. Each enzyme has an optimum pH wherein the pH is three-dimensional structure most conducive to binding to the substrate. Likewise, according to Lehninger (2005), pH greatly affects enzymatic reactions where pH changes directly affect enzyme ionic groups, thus affecting enzyme activity and enzyme conformation. In addition, the pH change is too large above the optimum pH to cause enzyme denaturation. Winarno, 1995 states that the enzyme exhibits maximum activity in a range called optimum pH which is generally between pH 4.5-8.

Sources of nitrogen and carbon added to the basal medium can increase or decrease the activity and production of bacteria amylase. Nitrogen source of soybean can increase the activity and production of bacteria amylase compared with urea, KNO<sub>3</sub>, and NaNO<sub>3</sub> (Figure 5). In accordance with the results of research Francois *et al.*, (2014), bacteria amylase activity is increased by using soybean as a source of nitrogen. Soybean

flour is a good source of organic nitrogen used for the production of bacteria amylase and cheaper so it can save production costs than inorganic nitrogen sources. In contrast to Halder *et al.*, (2014), Casein is the best source of nitrogen in the production of bacteria amylase. Nitrogen source served as a secondary energy source for growth and enzyme secretion (Kumar *et al.*, 2012).

The carbon source (fructose) can increase the activity and production of bacterial amylase compared to other carbon sources (Figure 6). Fructose was the most effective in stimulation and growth of bacteria May and Chen, (1997) for this amylase formation and Ashraf *et al.*, (2005). In contrast to research Nwagu and Okolo, (2011); Sreekant *et al.*, (2013) glucose is a good source of carbon in increasing the activity and production of bacteria amylase. In contrast to Sudharhsan *et al.*, (2007), lactose can increase the activity and production of bacteria amylase compared to glucose, fructose, and sucrose. Molasses was found to be the best carbon source for microbial growth and amylase fermentation. This occurred probably due to the presence of growth promoters and other nutrients in molasses (Simair *et al.*, 2017). Carbon sources have two important roles as raw materials for the structure and act as an energy source (Hasan and Hameed, 2001).

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