

Study on Antioxidant Activity of Peanut Meal using *Bacillus Natto* by Solid State Fermentation

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Abstract: This experiment carried out a preliminary study on solid state fermentation of *Bacillus natto* peanut meal. Determination of the scavenging activities to hydroxyl free radical scavenging rate to determine its antioxidant activity. The optimal fermentation conditions were obtained by single factor and response surface methodology as follows: 38.8 h of Fermentation time, 37 °C of fermentation temperature, material liquid ratio 1:0.44, 6.48% of inoculation amount. Under this condition, the hydroxy free radical, iron reduction capacity and DPPH radical scavenging rate were 87.3%、0.36 (OD value) and 73.4%, respectively.

Keywords: Peanut Meal; *Bacillus Natto*; Response Surface Methodology; Antioxidant Activity

Introduction

Peanut is one of the five major oil-bearing crops in the world. The protein content of peanut is 25% - 30% and it contains 8 necessary amino acid of personal body^[1]. In the markets, the peanut protein product is primarily peanut protein powder, which is used as the main raw material during food processing^[2]. Peanut meal is a by-product of the process of making peanut oil, which is used mainly for feed. However, peanut meal is rich in protein and there are better ways to put this protein resource to use. Utilizing the solid state fermentation to prepare antioxidant peptides would not only make full use of this resource but also enlarge the scope of finely and deeply processed peanuts, which present significant economic and social benefits.

Bacillus subtilis is an important starter culture for

fermented

soybean foods like Japanese natto, Thai thua nao, Indian kinema, and Chinese douchi have reported the antioxidant activity and safety of red bean fermented by *B. subtilis* IMR-NK1^[3-4]. In addition, the characteristics of the starter *B. subtilis* also play an important role in the properties and functionality of the fermented product^[5].

In the present study, the solid state fermentation technology was evaluated and the operational parameters were optimized using single factor-experiments and a response surface methodology (RSM) experimental design in order to increase its antioxidant activities. At the same time, antioxidant activities of the peanut meal fermented liquid were determined. The objective of this work is to

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provide a theoretical basis for the preparing peanut meal fermented liquid in order to improve its antioxidant activities.

Materials and methods

Materials peanut meal was from Qingdao Jiali Group Co., Ltd. bean pulp and wheat bran were purchased from local market. *Bacillus subtilis* was isolated and conserved in this laboratory. H_2O_2 , FeSO_4 , $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{OH})\text{COOH}$, trichloroacetic acid (TCA), FeCl_3 , $\text{K}_3\text{Fe}(\text{CN})_6$, FeCl_2 were analytical reagents produced by Sinopharm Chemical Reagent Co., Ltd. China. 1, 1 - Diphenyl- 2 - picrylhydrazyl (DPPH) was purchased from Sigma.

Technology of *Bacillus subtilis* solid state fermentation. *Bacillus subtilis* seed and sterile water were added to solid state fermentation medium (30g) and cultured at a certain temperature for a certain time. When fermentation was over and sterile 0.9% NaCl was added to fermentation system. The fermentation product was oscillated at constant temperature water bath for a certain time. After centrifugation the supernatant was to be analyzed.

Single factor experiment design. The factors and levels of single-factor experiments are Fermentation time of 24, 30, 36, 25, 42, 48h, fermentation temperature of 29, 33, 37, 41, 45°C, material liquid ratio of 1:0.3, 1:0.4, 1:0.5, 1:0.6, 1:0.7, inoculation amount of 2.2, 4.5, 6.8, 9.1, 11.4%, respectively. The basic fermentation conditions of single factor experiment are 24 h of Fermentation time, the ratio of the substrate for peanut meal, soybean meal, bran = 7:2:1, 37 °C of fermentation temperature, Moisture ratio 1:0.4, 6.8% of inoculation amount.

Box-Behnken Design (BBD). According to the result of single factor experiment, the fermentation temperature remains unchanged. By using Box-Behnken Design (BBD) the three factors including Time (A), Moisture ratio (B), Inoculum size (C), which had significant influence on the hydroxyl free radical scavenging rate were chosen to conduct three factors and three levels response surface methodology (RSM) experiment. The hydroxyl free radical scavenging rate (Y) was as response variables. The design of experimental factors and codes was mentioned in Table 1. The experiment plan was designed and its result was analyzed using Design Expert Software (Statistica Made Easy, Minneapolis, MN, USA. Version 8.0.6).

Table 1 Design of experimental factors and codes

Process variables	Codes	Range and level		
		-1	0	1
Time[h]	A	30	36	42
solid-to-liquid ratio	B	1 : 0.3	1 : 0.4	1 : 0.5
Inoculum size[%]	C	4.5	6.8	9.1

Hydroxyl Free Radical Scavenging Activity

Hydroxyl free radical scavenging activity was determined according to the method of Amarowicz *et al.*,^[6]. 2 mL of sample solution, 2 mL of sample solution, and 2 mL of distilled water were placed in three test tubes, respectively. Then 2 mL of FeSO_4 (6 mmol/L) and H_2O_2 (6 mmol/L) were added to above three tubes, respectively and mixed vigorously. After standing for 10 min at room temperature, three 2 mL of

solutions salicylic acid (6 mmol/L), distilled water and salicylic acid (6 mmol/L) were added to the above three tubes, respectively. After standing for 30 min, the absorbances of the resulting solutions were recorded at 510 nm using a spectrophotometer. The absorption values of tubes 1, 2, and 3 were A_i , A_j , and A_0 , respectively. The hydroxyl free radical scavenging rate can be calculated as follows:

Hydroxyl free radical scavenging rate

$$(\%) = [1 - (A_i - A_j) / A_0] \times 100$$

DPPH Free Radical Scavenging Activity

DPPH free radical scavenging activity was determined according to the method of Khantaphant *et al.*,^[7].

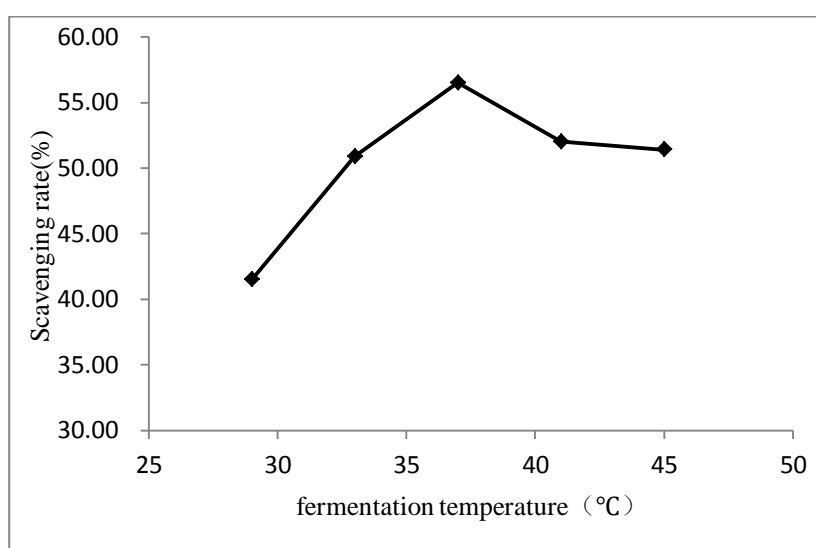
Iron Reduction Capacity

Iron reduction capacity was determined according to the method of You *et al.*,^[8].

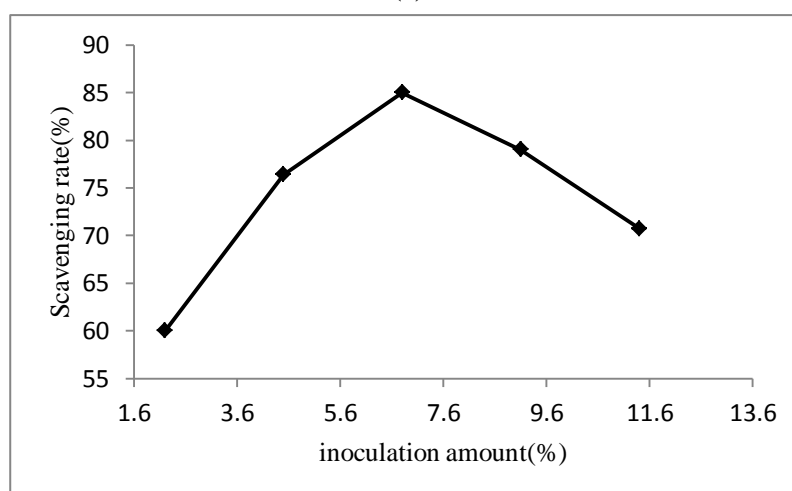
Results and discussion

Effect of fermentation temperature on fermentation

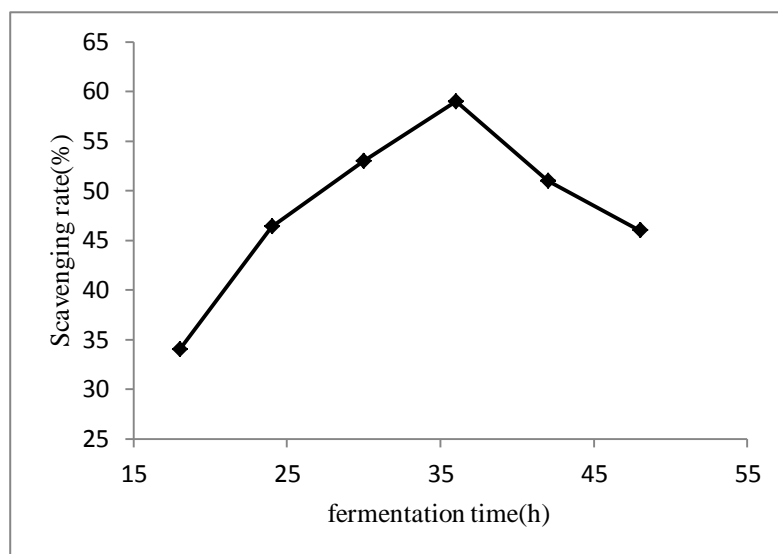
results. The effect of fermentation temperature on fermentation results is shown in Fig.1 (a). It was found that the higher the fermentation reaction temperature is, not the better is. *Bacillus subtilis* has suitable temperature range. Beyond a certain temperature, *Bacillus subtilis* become inactivity. In the range of 29°C -37°C, the hydroxyl free radical scavenging rate presents the trend of increasing and then decreasing, which is max at 37°C. Therefore, the temperature of 37°C acts as invariable factor of the response surface method experiment.



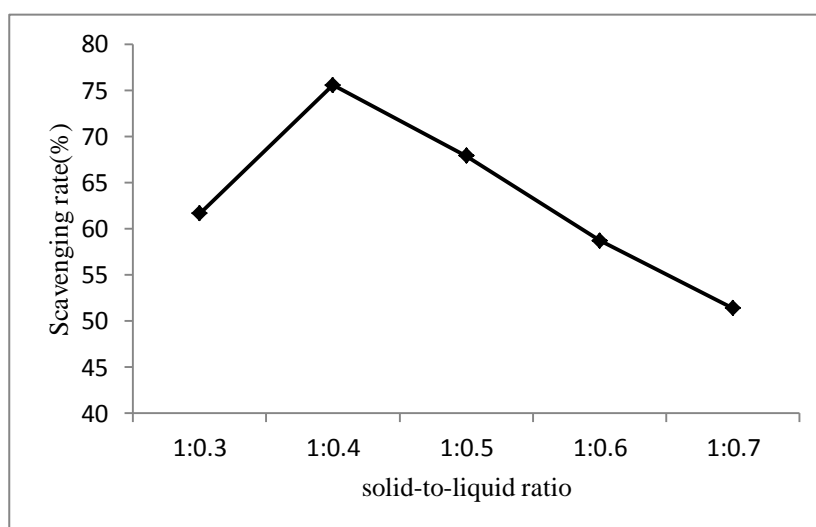
(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

Fig.1 Effect of influencing factors, fermentation temperature (a), inoculation amount(b), fermentation time(c), solid-to-liquid ratio(d) on fermentation results

Effect of inoculation amount on fermentation results. The effect of inoculation amount on fermentation results is shown in Fig.1 (b). The inoculation amount may be one of important factors responsible for the effect of results. The hydroxyl free radical scavenging rate increased rapidly when inoculation amount from 2.2% to 6.8% and then decreased. The result indicates that the maximum hydroxyl free radical scavenging rate was obtained at the substrate mass fraction of 6.8%. Therefore, the inoculation amount range of 4.5 - 9.1% is chosen to be

the response surface method experiment levels.

Effect of fermentation time on fermentation results.

The effect of fermentation time on fermentation results is shown in Fig.1 (c). Fermentation time can also influence the effect of results. The fermentation product would be dependent on length of reaction time. When the fermentation time was 36h, the maximum antioxidant activity was obtained. Consequently, the hydrolysis time range of 30 - 42h is chosen to be the response surface method experiment levels.

Effect of solid-to-liquid ratio on fermentation

results. The effect of solid-to-liquid ratio on fermentation results is shown in Fig.1 (d). The hydroxyl free radical scavenging rate increased rapidly when solid-to-liquid ratio from 1:0.3 to 1:0.4 and then decreased when solid-to-liquid ratio was up to 1:0.4. The result indicates that the maximum hydroxyl free radical scavenging rate was obtained at the substrate mass fraction of 1:0.4. So, solid-to-liquid ratio 1:0.3-1:0.5 are used as response surface method experiment levels.

Table 2 BBD and results

Number	A	B	C	Y(actual values)(%)	Y'(predicted values)(%)
1	-1	-1	0	57.80	59.65
2	1	-1	0	60.50	58.95
3	-1	1	0	48.10	49.65
4	1	1	0	82.70	80.85
5	-1	0	-1	38.60	34.73
6	1	0	-1	75.30	74.83
7	-1	0	1	65.70	66.18
8	1	0	1	52.70	56.58
9	0	-1	-1	53.60	55.63
10	0	1	-1	63.60	65.93
11	0	-1	1	68.90	66.58
12	0	1	1	70.20	68.18
13	0	0	0	81.00	84.10
14	0	0	0	79.00	84.10
15	0	0	0	85.30	84.10
16	1	0	-1	91.20	84.10
17	0	0	0	84.00	84.10

According to the data from experiment (Table 2), the regression analysis was carried out by using Design-Expert software, taking Y as the dependent variable, and each factor and their interactions as the independent variable. The regression equation was established as formula

$$Y = 84.1 + 7.63A + 2.98B + 3.30C + 7.97AB - 12.43AC - 2.18BC - 13.91A^2 - 7.91B^2 - 12.11C^2$$

The variance analysis results of this regression equation see Table 3. The regression equation agrees

Design of RSM experiment and results. The solid state fermentation technology for producing antioxidant peptides was optimized by BBD of three factors and three levels, and the effects of these variables and their interactions, Time(A), Moisture ratio(B), Inoculum size(C) on the hydroxyl free radical scavenging rate of fermentation liquid were investigated. There are 17 experimental points. Design and results see Table 2.

well with the experimental data because the RSM model is statistically highly significant ($P < 0.01$). As a result, the regression equation can analyze and predict actual experimental values. There are high relationships between the predicted and actual values and only about 4.19% data cannot be explained by this model due to the coefficient of correlation $R = 0.9581$. Meanwhile, the insignificant Lack of fit ($P > 0.05$) indicated that there are not abnormal values in experimental data. In addition, the smaller coefficient of variation also proved that the regression equation has good fitness. The effect of A on the hydroxyl free radical scavenging

rates at 0.01 significant levels and the effect of A^2 , B^2 , C^2 on the hydroxyl free radical scavenging rate were significant. The influencing sequence for hydroxyl free radical scavenging rate is $A > C > B$, that is, fermentation time > Inoculum size > solid-to-liquid ratio. The prediction about each experimental value is performed by using the regression equation and the

results see Table 2. The model calculation and prediction show good agreement with the experimental results and it also accounts for the preferable fitness between the regression equation and actual experimental values. However, individual experiment error is great based on the influence of the instrumental error and the human factor in the course of the experiment. On the whole, the model performs well in experimental data.

Table 3 Variance analysis of RSM model for hydroxyl free radical scavenging rate

Source	Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F Value	p-value(Prob>F)
Model	3396.41	9	377.38	17.77	0.0005
A	465.13	1	465.13	21.91	0.0023
B	70.81	1	70.81	3.33	0.1106
C	87.12	1	87.12	4.10	0.0824
AB	254.40	1	254.40	11.98	0.0105
AC	617.52	1	617.52	29.08	0.0010
BC	18.92	1	18.92	0.89	0.3766
A^2	814.98	1	814.98	38.38	0.0004
B^2	263.61	1	263.61	12.42	0.0097
C^2	617.74	1	617.74	29.09	0.0010
Residual	148.63	7	21.23		
Lack of Fit	61.15	3	20.38	0.93	0.5031
Pure Error	87.48	4	21.87		
Cor Total	3545.04	16			

$R^2=95.81\%$; $R_{adj}^2=90.42\%$; Coefficient of variation (C.V., %)=6.76

The trend graphs of the three factors interaction on hydroxyl free radical scavenging rate are given in Fig. 2. The effect of fermentation time on hydroxyl free radical scavenging rate was significant. Moreover, this effect was not only one-dimensional but also quadratic. The hydroxyl free radical scavenging rate increased with the increasing of fermentation time, but the variable trend was relatively uniform. The fermented action might best strengthened and product might increase when fermentation time increased under the condition of fixed solid-to-liquid ratio and inoculum size. Therefore, the hydroxyl free radical scavenging rate of fermented liquid increased. As inoculum size increased, hydroxyl free radical scavenging rate

increased with it. However, they cannot beyond the optimum range. More inoculum size would bind to protease active sites so as to strengthen the protease effect and increase the amount of product under the situation of suitable solid-to-liquid ratio. At the optimum reaction temperature, fermented reaction rate reached the maximum value and the maximum fermented product was also obtained. The hydroxyl free radical scavenging rate increased continually with the increase of fermentation time. Under the condition of fixed solid-to-liquid ratio, the more the inoculum size was, the better the effect action of fermentation was and the more the antioxidant product was.

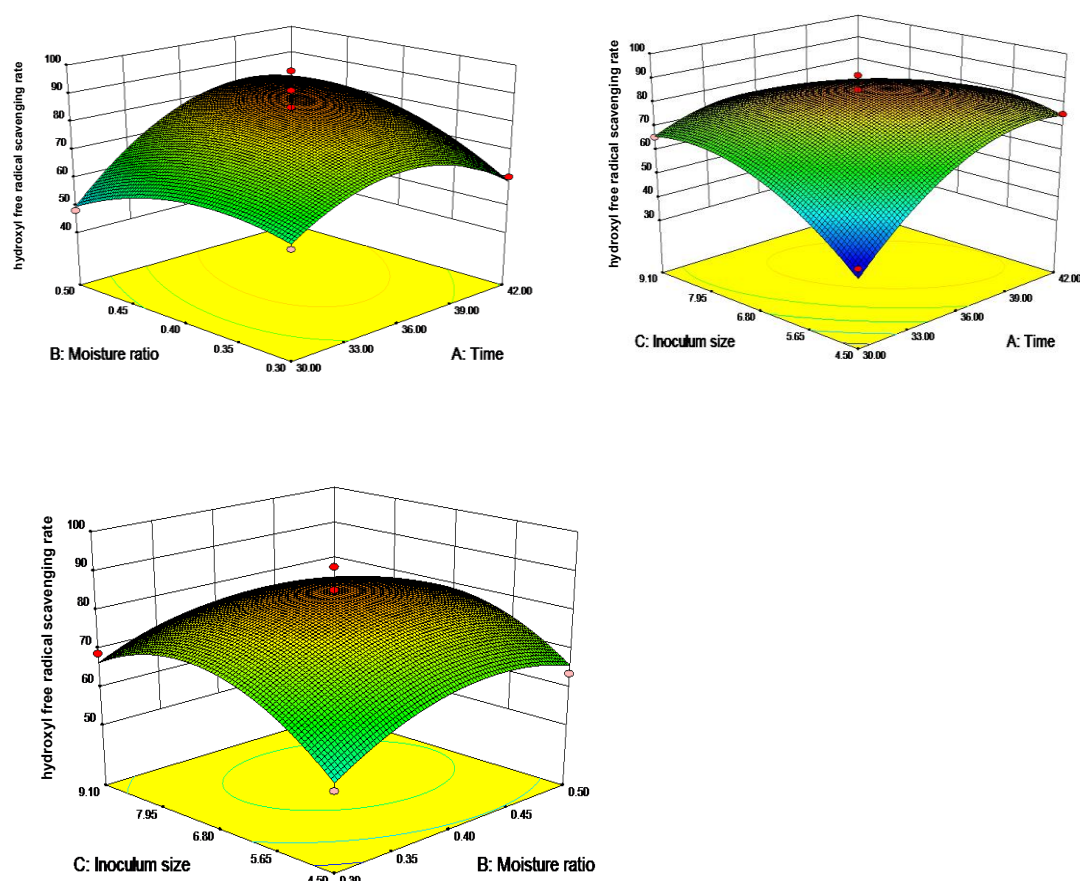


Fig.2 Trend graphs of effect of various factors on fermentation results

The optimum fermented conditions were obtained by using Design-Expert software design and analysis of RSM model as follows: A=38.8, B=1:0.44, C=6.48%, that is 38.8 h of fermentation time, material liquid ratio 1:0.44, 6.48% of inoculation amount. The theoretical maximum of hydroxyl free radical scavenging rate is 86.28%. Nevertheless, under the optimum conditions, verifying test result showed that the hydroxyl free radical scavenging rate could reach 87.3%. The relative error of the difference of the result obtained by predicted and actual soluble nitrogen mass concentration is less than 2%. Therefore, result of validate experiment proved that there are good fitness between the predicted and actual value.

Conclusions

The purpose of this research is to study the optimum

fermentation technological condition. According to the single factor experiment and the RSM (BBD) experiment, it was found that the optimum fermentation is: 38.8 h of Fermentation time, 37 °C of fermentation temperature, material liquid ratio 1:0.44, 6.48% of inoculation amount. Under this condition, the hydroxy free radical, iron reduction capacity and DPPH radical scavenging rate were 87.3%、0.36 (OD value) and 73.4%, respectively. Fermented liquid has effectively antioxidant activity, and using solid state fermentation technology is an effective approach to achieving comprehensive profit of processing peanut meal. Therefore, the in-depth research of the fermentation technology can play very good improvement function on the development of profoundly processed peanut meal protein.

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