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DISCOVERING THOUGHTS AND INVENTING FUTURE



HIGHLIGHTS

Pistachio Cultivars

Parasites Cysts

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Acidithiobacillus Ferrooxidans

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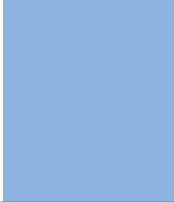
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Studying Genetic Diversity of Pistachio Cultivars in Kerman Province Based on Morphological Traits Using Fourier Series and Cluster Analysis

By Amin Baghizadeh & Reza Haghi

Kerman Graduate University of Technology, IRAN

Abstract - Presentation of results obtained from tests in a diagram is one of the best ways to illustrate laboratory results. Pistachio is one of the most important nuts in the world which has high nutritional and economical values. Iran is the largest pistachio producer in the world and is one of the richest regions regarding pistachio germplasm. Studying genetic diversity is important to protect germplasm storages and also as a prerequisite for breeding. Fourier series can be defined as a function in terms of sin and cosine series. The function can be plotted as a curve in coordinate system. In order to cluster plant genotypes, measured characters of each genotype are replaced with sin and cosine factors of Fourier series so that a function can be determined for it. Plotting all functions in coordinate system and from obtained curves, the genotypes can be clustered. In present study, genetic varieties of some pistachio cultivars in Kerman province have been investigated based on morphological characters. Results obtained from Andrews' plotted curves were similar with those using Fourier series and cluster analysis. Both classified genotypes in 5 groups. It is concluded that using Fourier series and cluster analysis complement each other and it is recommended that in order to choose cultivars, results of both approaches are applied.

Keywords : *Andros's curves; Fourier series; Genetic diversity; Pistachio.*

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Amin Baghizadeh^a & Reza Haghi^σ

Abstract - Presentation of results obtained from tests in a diagram is one of the best ways to illustrate laboratory results. Pistachio is one of the most important nuts in the world which has high nutritional and economical values. Iran is the largest pistachio producer in the world and is one of the richest regions regarding pistachio germplasm. Studying genetic diversity is important to protect germplasm storages and also as a prerequisite for breeding. Fourier series can be defined as a function in terms of sin and cosine series. The function can be plotted as a curve in coordinate system. In order to cluster plant genotypes, measured characters of each genotype are replaced with sin and cosine factors of Fourier series so that a function can be determined for it. Plotting all functions in coordinate system and from obtained curves, the genotypes can be clustered. In present study, genetic varieties of some pistachio cultivars in Kerman province have been investigated based on morphological characters. Results obtained from Andrews' plotted curves were similar with those using Fourier series and cluster analysis. Both classified genotypes in 5 groups. It is concluded that using Fourier series and cluster analysis complement each other and it is recommended that in order to choose cultivars, results of both approaches are applied.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Pistacia sp.L belongs to the Anacardiaceae family and is a dioecious tree (Zohary, 1952; baghizadeh, 2010). In 1952, Zohary et al. identified 11 varieties of pistacia using morphological traits, among which P.Vara variety has an edible fruit. Pistachio fruit (P.Vara) is one of the most important nuts in the world and has high nutritional and economical values (Baninasab, 2008). In breeding, some varieties of pistacia wild type are used as rootstock (Sheibani, 1987; AhmadiAfzadi, 2007).

P.atlanticasub sp.mutica (common name, Baneh) and P.khinjuksub sp.Chatlanqush, Kasor, Golkhunak and khinjuk are grown in Kerman province (Sheibani, 1987).

Chatlanqush and Baneh are accounted as suitable rootstocks for transplanting domestic pistachio

trees (Sheibani, 1987). According to FAO statistics, Iran is the largest pistachio producer in the world (F.A.O, 2005). Kerman province with 270000 acres produces 77 percent of pistachio in Iran and is considered as the most important region for growing pistachio in Iran and in the world (statistic center of Iran; Baninasab et al. 2008). Some genetic studies have been done on Pistacia diversity in the world (Hormoza et al. 1997; Parfiitt-Dan et al. 1997; Caruso et al. 1998; Kafkas et al. 2001; Kafkas et al. 2002; Golan-Goldhirsh et al. 2004). Some researchers have done isozymic studies in order to investigate and identify genetic varieties among pistachio cultivars (Aalami et al. 1996; Barone et al. 1996). Studies showed that using this method to study genetic diversity of similar cultivars is not suitable (Golan-Goldhirsh et al. 2004). Limited studies have been done on pistachio germplasm in Iran. Tajabadi et al. has done morphological and molecular studies on pistachio varieties in Iran. In 2005, Mirzayi et al. studied genetic diversity of some pistachio cultivars using RAPD molecular marker. Arabnejad et al. (2008) studied genetic diversity of some pistachio cultivars using microsatellite markers of Pistaciakhinjuk Stocks. Norouzi et al. (2009) studied genetic diversity of some pistachio cultivars using ISSR molecular marker. Hajirezaee et al. (2009) studied germplasm diversity of pistachio cultivars using RAPD molecular marker. Tagizad et al. (2010) studied genetic diversity in Iranian pistachio cultivars using ISSR and RAPD markers. In 2010, Baghizadeh et al. Studied genetic diversity of some Iranian Pistachio cultivars using RAPD, ISSR and SSR markers.

Studying genetic diversity is important to protect germplasm storages and as a prerequisite for breeding. Presentation of results obtained from tests in a diagram is one of the best ways to illustrate laboratory results so that the reader reaches the results easily and in the shortest time. Andrews (1972) stated that a p-dimensional vector with amounts of $[x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p]$ can be shown by Fourier series in range of $\pi \leq t \leq -\pi$. Fourier series can be defined as a function in terms of sin and cosine as following:

$$f(t) = \frac{x_1}{2} + x_2 \sin t + x_3 \cos t + x_4 \sin 2t + x_5 \cos 2t + \dots \text{ (Arfken et al. 1985)}$$

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This function can be plotted as a curve in coordinate system. Obtained diagram results from fitting sin and cosine waves which exist in the function. Limited morphological studies have been done on pistachio cultivars in Iran. Kerman pistachio cultivars have not been studied that is one of the richest regions regarding germplasm in the world. It is necessary to implement this research considering importance of morphological traits in clustering pistachio genotypes and advantages of using Fourier series and Andrews' plotted curves.

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

In order to choose plant substances, Kerman province is divided into 5 regions for growing pistachio (Rafsanjan, Zarand, Kerman, Ravar and Sirjan) and each region is subdivided into 5 areas. 5 trees were chosen randomly from each cultivar in every area. It is attempted to select trees with same ages from orchards with same conditions. 29 different genotypes include OhadiRafsanjan, OhadiSirjan, OhadiRavar, Ohadi Kerman, OhadiZarand, Fandoghirafrsanjan, AkbariSirjan, Ibrahimababdi, Kaleghochi Kerman, Mohseni, KaleghochiRafsanjan, KaleghochiZarand, BadamiRavar, BadamiSirjan, Italiaei, Baneh, KhanjariRavar, Akbari Kerman, Kasour, R23, N1, BadamiZarand, Shasti, Sirizi, MomtazZarand, gholamrezaii, MomtazSirjan, Amiri and SefidPesteNogh. R23 and N1 cultivars were chosen from collection of Iran pistachio research institute in Rafsanjan. In appropriate time 20 morphological traits were measured including average yield per tree, the 100 grain weight with shell, split pistachio percentage, void pistachio percentage, wet 100 grain weight without shell, day numbers from flowering to harvest, percentage of three leaflet leaves, length of fruit raceme, raceme width, flowering period, tree height, kernel percentage from dry weight of the fruit, leaf length, leaf width, grain numbers per raceme, mixed ounce, dry pistachio length, dry pistachio width, dry pistachio diameter and kernel percentage from dry weight of the fruit. Genotypic Clustering was done by Andrews' plotted curves using Fourier series and cluster analysis. Results obtained from two approaches were compared.

In this research for the first time, Andrew's plotted curves using Fourier series have been used to cluster plant genotypes. In this method a function of Fourier series is defined for each genotype and measured variables for each one are replaced instead of present Xs in this series. So the defined function for each genotype will contain measured characteristics of that genotype in such a way that each trait measured for a special genotype will be the factor of one of sin and cosine terms in defined function for that genotype. Then each function will be plotted as a curve in coordinate system in the range between π and $-\pi$. This curve is the result of fitting sin and cosine terms in functions. Curve coordination depends on sin and cosine factors that are our measured variables. For all studied genotypes a

function will be defined and their curves will be plotted for all functions. Similarities between curves and their positions in coordinate system indicate their close genetic relations. Genotypes curves being away from each other suggest their genetic difference. Genotypes can be simply classified in different groups from mentioned curves. These curves were plotted by MATLAB software. In order to compare results obtained by Fourier series with those of cluster analysis, genotypes were grouped using SPSS software, average connection approach and based on of Euclidian distance similarity coefficient.

III. RESULTS

Results obtained from clustering by Andrew's plotted curves using Fourier series were compared with results obtained from cluster analysis. Both results were the same and genotypes were placed in 5 groups by both approaches (fig 1 & 2). Shasti cultivar made a group by itself. Baneh and Sefidpestenogh cultivars formed another group so that their genetic similarities were identified in molecular studies of Hajirezaee.et.al (2009). Cultivars of MomtazZarand, MomtazSirjan, Amiri and Kasor were placed in one group. Others were placed in two groups that are shown in fig 1 and 2. All Ohadicultivars were placed in one group and their raphs were next to each other that were observed in molecular studies of Hajirezaee.et.al (2009). Graphs of AkbariSirjan and AkbariKerman cultivars overlapped indicating their close similarities in spite of geographical distance. It was also observed in molecular studies of Hajirezaee.et.al (2009). All cultivars of Badamiand Kaleghochiwere placed in one group. According to molecular studies of Hajirezaee.et.al (2009) and Ahmadi.et.al, Shasti and Sirizi cultivars were placed in one group but they were in different groups in this research and studies of Norouzi.et.al (2009) and they need further molecular researches.

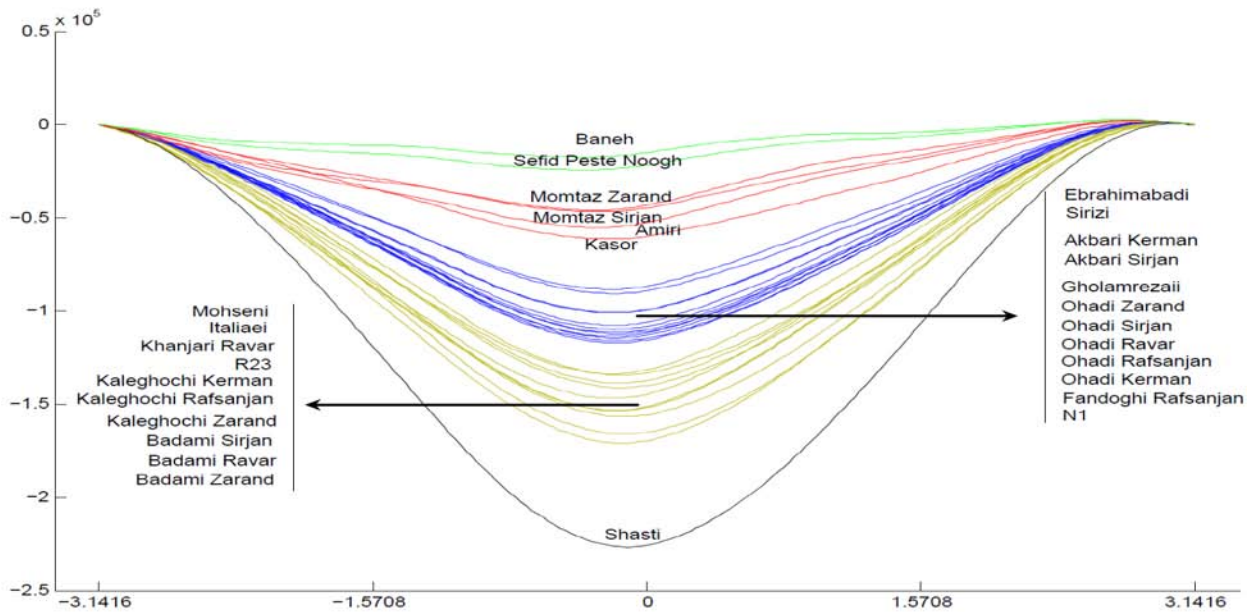


Figure 1 : Andrew's curves plotted by using Fourier series

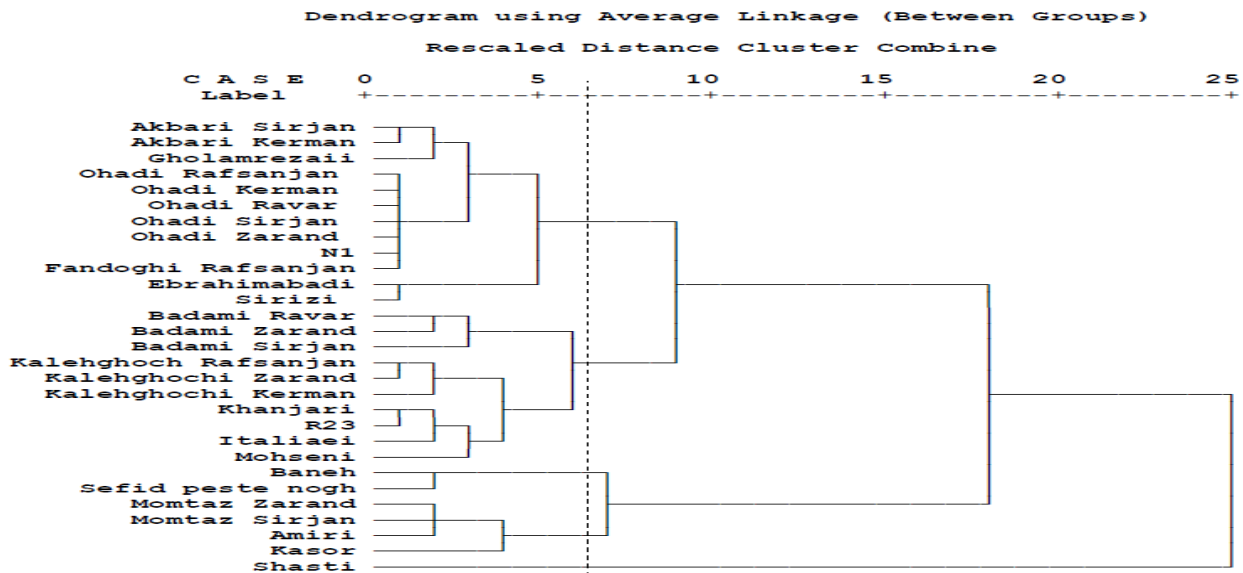


Figure 2: Dendrogram resulted from cluster analysis for studied cultivars

IV. DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

In many aspects, using Fourier series and has more advantages than cluster analysis. In plant breeding, when we want to make a variant population by crossing two cultivars and have the most varieties in segregation generations in order to select them desirably, it is necessary that the parent cultivars have the appropriate genetic difference. From Andrew's curves, genetic difference of cultivars can be observed better than cluster analysis. For example, as it can be seen in the figure 1, Shasti cultivar has the most

distance from Baneh cultivar curve that shows phenotype difference of these cultivars, whereas in the graph obtained from cluster analysis, in addition of *Baneh*, *Shasti* cultivar has the same distance with 9 other cultivars. Thus in addition of clustering genotypes, using Fourier series and Andrew's plotted curves cause the breeder to understand clearly the genotypic differences. It is appropriate for choosing suitable cultivars for plant breeding. In general, the curves obtained from plotting Fourier functions present better differences of genotypes and show all measured

characteristics of a genotype in a curve. Another advantage of this approach is that in cluster analysis, it is possible that some genotypes despite significant difference in some characters are placed in unit groups, while all measured characters are affected by curves obtained from Fourier series and identify more differences and similarities. Considering above explanation, it is concluded that using Fourier series and cluster analysis complement each other and it is recommended that for the purposes of breeding, results obtained from two approaches are used in order to choose the best cultivars.

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EXHAUSTIVE SLIDING-WINDOW SCAN STRATEGY FOR GENOME-WIDE ASSOCIATION STUDY VIA PCA-BASED LOGISTIC MODEL

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Exhaustive Sliding-Window Scan Strategy for Genome-Wide Association Study via Pca-Based Logistic Model

Qingsong Gao ^α, Zhongshang Yuan ^ο, Yungang He ^ρ, Jinghua Zhao ^ω, Xiaoshuai Zhang^{*}, Fangyu Li[§],
Bingbing Zhang ^x & Fuzhong Xue ^v

Abstract - In genome-wide association study (GWAS), various sliding-window scan approaches have been proposed recently. How to determine the optimal window size, which is influenced by the underlying linkage disequilibrium (LD) patterns, minor allele frequency (MAF) of the causal SNP, and others, is crucial for these methods. However, it is difficult to clarify the theoretical relationship between the optimal window size and these factors. In this regard, we proposed exhaustive strategy with ergodic window sizes along the genome matter whatever the relationship is. Simulations are conducted to assess statistical powers under different sample sizes, relative risks, MAF, LD patterns and window sizes, followed by a real data analysis to evaluate its performance. The simulation results suggested that it was difficult to determine the optimal window size because it was influenced by many factors such as MAF and LD pattern. Real data analysis indicated that the p-values with different window sizes were quite different. Furthermore, with the development of multiprocessor computational technique, the proposed exhaustive strategy combined with the cluster computer technique computationally efficient and feasible for analyzing GWAS data. So the exhaustive strategy is a powerful tool for GWAS data analysis regardless of the relationship between the window size and LD.

Keywords : Minor allele frequency; Causal SNP; Cluster computer.

I. INTRODUCTION

With rapid improvements in high-throughput genotyping techniques, the cost of genome-wide association study. In recent years, sliding-window methods, in which (GWAS) has been greatly reduced and a boom of large studies of common diseases is underway, which results in an increasing need for new analytical methods to the

association mapping study several neighboring single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) together included in a 'window', have been a popular strategy of automated GWAS data analysis (Sha et al., 2009, Manentiet al., 2009, Yanget al., 2009, Liet al., 2007, Tanget al., 2009, Browning, 2006, Lin et al., 2004). In these sliding-window approaches, the candidate region or the whole genome is divided into many contiguous overlapping windows, followed by multi-locus association tests in each window. Sliding-window approach is commonly used with the fixed window size. For example, Manenti et al used a three-SNP sliding window (Manentiet al., 2009), while Yang et al applied multiple moving window sizes: 3, 5, 7, 9 (Yanget al., 2009). One major conc often encountered in these methods, i.e. how to determine the optimal window size. A large window may include too many non-informative markers while a small window may ignore informative markers, both of which will lead to a reduction in testing power (Yanget al., 2006). The potential problem of small windows is that they do not model the untyped, potentially causal, markers so well. The optimal window size is always influenced by the underlying linkage disequilibrium (LD) patterns, which are certainly variable across a large genomic region or the whole genome (Liet al., 2007, Tanget al., 2009). Variable-sized sliding-window approaches with variable window sizes determined by the underlying LD pattern have been proposed in large-scale data analysis (Browning, 2006, Liet al., 2007, Tanget al., 2009). However, how to clarify the potential theoretical relationship between the window size and LD remains unsolved. Furthermore, most of the variable-sized methods have to go through some computationally intensive phasing program to account for uncertain haplotype phases (Sha et al., 2009). Lin et al proposed that an exhaustive search of all possible windows of SNPs at the genome level is not only computationally practical but also statistically sufficient to detect common or rare genetic-risk alleles (Lin et al., 2004). With the development as well as the extensive applications of multiprocessor and multithreading computational technique, the 'exhaustive' methods have been more feasible. At present study, based on the above concerns, we proposed an exhaustive strategy

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with ergodic window sizes along the genome no matter whatever the relationship is. Simulations are conducted to assess statistical powers under different window sizes, followed by a real data analysis to evaluate its performance.

Recently, several sliding-window approaches of GWAS have been developed, including PCA-based methods (Shaet al., 2009, Tanget al., 2009, Wanget al., 2009), P-value combination methods (Sun et al., 2009), haplotype-based methods (Trégouët et al., 2009), and data mining methods (Jianget al., 2009). In particular, PCA-based methods have been proved to have better performance (Shaet al., 2009, Tanget al., 2009, Wang et al., 2009). We, therefore, proposed to apply PCA-based logistic model to perform the exhaustive methods.

II. METHODS

a) Exhaustive sliding-window procedure

Consider a case-control study with total M individuals in a data set and assume each individual has been genotyped at N SNPs. Let $G_i = (g_{i1}, g_{i2}, \dots, g_{iN})$ ($i = 1, 2, \dots, M$) denote the N SNP loci of the i^{th} individual, where g_{ij} denote the genotype of the i^{th} individual at j^{th} SNP. Let y_i

$$\text{Logit}[\Pr(D = 1 | PC_1, PC_2, \dots, PC_k)] = \beta_0 + \beta_1 PC_1 + \dots + \beta_k PC_k$$

where $\Pr(D = 1 | PC_1, PC_2, \dots, PC_k)$ denotes the probabilities of disease given the first k PCs.

III. SIMULATION

To assess statistical powers with different window sizes and illustrate the necessity of exhaustive sliding-windows, we conducted a statistical simulation based on HapMap data under the null hypothesis (H_0) and alternative hypothesis (H_1). The corresponding steps for the simulation are as follows:

Step 1: Download the phased haplotype data of a genome region from the HapMap web site (<http://snp.cshl.org>): we selected a region near the Protein tyrosine phosphatase, non-receptor type 22 (PTPN22) gene to generate the simulating genotype data of CEU population using HapMap Phase 1& 2 full dataset. This region is located at Chr 1: 114021124..114291292, including 96 SNPs. Figure 1 shows their pairwise R^2 structure.

Step 2: Based on the HapMap phased haplotype data, we generated large samples with 100,000 cases and 100,000 controls as CEU populations using the software HAPGEN (Marchini et al., 2007). To investigate the performance of the exhaustive sliding window strategy on different causal SNPs with different minor allele frequencies (MAF), we defined two SNPs as the causal variant respectively: the 45th SNP (rs1746853, MAF=0.433) and the 46th SNP

denote the trait value of the individual i (1 for cases and 0 for controls). In the exhaustive sliding-window frame, we first set the largest window size L . Then, we scan the candidate region or the whole genome from the first SNP with sliding-window of all possible sizes s , ranging from 2 to L . (Notice that sliding-window approach with window size 1 is the same as single-locus association test.)

b) PCA-based logistic regression procedure

Let w_s^b denote the window with s neighboring SNPs $\{b, b+1, \dots, b+s-1\}$ beginning from SNP b . To carry out the PCA in this region, we let Σ_s^b denote the sample variance-covariance matrix of genotypic numerical codes in window w_s^b and λ_j^b denote the j^{th} largest eigenvalue of Σ_s^b . The cumulative contributing proportion of the total variability explained by the first k principal components (PCs) is $C = (\lambda_1^b + \lambda_2^b + \dots + \lambda_k^b) / (\lambda_1^b + \lambda_2^b + \dots + \lambda_s^b)$. The value of k can be chosen such that C exceeds a threshold (80% here). Then we can get our PCA-based logistic model as follows:

(rs2185827, MAF=0.208). To assess the indirect association with disease via correlated markers, we removed the causal SNP in the simulation. The SNPs in the simulated region were coded according to the additive genetic model.

Step 3: For the remained SNPs, we set the window size from 2 to 15 for each sample. Single-locus association test was also performed for comparison (set window size as 1). To perform the exhaustive strategy, for each defined window size, all of the windows covering the causal SNP were considered. Correspondingly, single-locus association test was conducted on each of the SNPs involved in these windows. For example, for the causal SNPs rs1746853 (45th) with window size 4, windows $\{42, 43, 44, 46\}$, $\{43, 44, 46, 47\}$, $\{44, 46, 47, 48\}$ were tested and the corresponding single-locus test was performed on $\{42, 43, 44, 46, 47, 48\}$ respectively.

For the exhaustive strategy, overlapping sliding windows and correlated neighboring SNPs were tested, which might lead to the issue of multiple testing. In present work, we employed simulations under H_0 to construct the null distribution of this strategy, rather than correction methods, to solve the multiple comparison problem. Such simulations have been widely used to

establish significance levels while accounting for multiple tests (Zondervan & Cardon, 2004, Deng et al., 2009). For each set of parameters and a given false-positive error rate ($\alpha = 0.05$), 10000 replications were first generated to construct the null distribution and to determine the critical P value over the simulated region, that is, the smallest P-value of each replication over the simulated region were collected to form the null distribution. Based on the established critical values, we then assessed the power to detect the disease association under different relative risk levels (RR= 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4 and 1.5 per allele).

To investigate how the optimal window size depended on the underlying LD pattern, the density of genotyped SNPs was used as a surrogate for underlying LD of the region (i.e. the higher LD would be where every SNP is counted as a marker, and lower LD could come from only considering every three SNP).

Specifically, we chose the 45th SNP as the causal SNP again, and selected every three SNP of the original data set, i.e. the 3rd, 6th, ..., 96th SNPs. For this particular subset, we conducted the same simulation procedure as above.

Step 4 : For each window, we sampled the simulation data from the population and performed the PCA-based logistic regression under different sample sizes N ($N/2$ cases and $N/2$ controls, $N = 1000, 2000, \dots, 5000$) using the R package *Design* (<http://cran.rproject.org/web/packages/Design/index.html>).

IV. APPLICATION

The proposed method was applied to rheumatoid arthritis (RA) data from GAW16 Problem 1. The data consisted of 2062 Illumina 550k SNP chips from 868 RA patients and 1194 normal controls collected by the North American Rheumatoid Arthritis Consortium (NARAC) (Plenge et al., 2007). At present study, only 1493 females (641 cases and 852 controls) were analyzed to avoid potential bias with the fact that rheumatoid arthritis is two to three times more common in women than in men (Firestein, 2003). We only analyzed chromosome 1 of the data.

Before the sliding-window approach, we excluded data from SNPs that had extensive missingness (missingness > 10%), deviations from Hardy-Weinberg equilibrium (< 0.00001), and low minor allele frequency (< 0.2%) using the software PLINK (Purcell et al., 2007). After this quality control filtering, 38829 SNPs remained. No individuals were excluded for missingness. Then, we applied MACH to impute the missing data (Liet et al., 2009).

V. RESULTS

a) Data Simulation

i. Critical values under null distribution

Table 1, Table S1 and Table S2 display the critical values for the three cases (different MAF or different LD patterns) based on the given significant level of $\alpha = 0.05$ over the simulated region. For different sample sizes, the critical values for the same case and the same window size are almost identical. However, for different cases or different window sizes, the critical values are different.

ii. Power

Under the case of defining the 45th SNP (MAF=0.433) as the causal variant including every SNP in the region, Figure 2 shows the powers with different window sizes under different sample sizes at the given relative risk of 1.3, while Figure 3 shows the powers with different window sizes under different relative risks at the given sample size of 1000. As expected, the powers are monotonically increasing functions of sample sizes and the relative risk levels for each window size. With fixed sample size 2000 and the relative risk 1.3, Figure 4 shows the powers of PCA-based logistic model under different window sizes compared with the corresponding results of single-locus test. Generally, the sliding-window approach is more powerful than the corresponding single-locus test except for window size 11, and the optimal window size is 10.

Under the case of defining the 46th SNP (MAF=0.208) as the causal variant including every SNP in the region, Figure 5 shows the powers of PCA-based logistic model under different window sizes compared with the corresponding result of single-locus test. The optimal window size is 3. Nevertheless, the single-locus tests are more powerful for other window sizes.

Under the case of defining the 45th SNP (MAF=0.433) as the causal variant including every three SNP in the region, which creates different LD pattern between SNPs by adjusting the density of SNPs, Figure 6 shows the powers of PCA-based logistic model under different window sizes compared with the corresponding results of single-locus test. In this case, the sliding-window approach is less powerful than the corresponding single-locus test except for window size 4.

These simulation results indicate that the powers of both sliding-window approach and single-locus test are influenced by the minor allele frequency of the causal SNP as well as the LD pattern between SNPs, and it is difficult to decide the optimal window size.

b) Application

Figure 7 shows the exhaustive results to the chromosome 1 of the RA data with window sizes from 1 to 20. The 'win=1' panel denotes the scan results from single-locus association test, while the other panels (from win=2 to win=20) denote the results from PCA-

based logistic model. It is clear that the rs2476601 SNP within PTPN22 gene region was detected at 10^{-7} level (p -value= 2.30×10^{-8}) by single-locus association test, which has been identified association with RA (Killberget al., 2007, Begovich et al., 2004, Carlton et al., 2005). However, when the sliding window size was from 2 SNPs to 9 SNPs, no region showed significant at 10^{-7} level, while the same significant region with the rs2476601 SNP involved was re-detected when the sliding window size was from 10 SNPs to 20 SNPs at 10^{-8} level. On the other hand, the p -values were similar when window sizes ranged from 10 to 20.

VI. DISCUSSION

As the potential theoretical relationship between the optimal window size and LD is difficult to clarify, and the LD varies across the whole genome, the LD-based sliding-window approaches (Browning, 2006, Li et al., 2007, Tang et al., 2009) may not be always the optimal strategy. We, therefore, proposed an exhaustive strategy with ergodic window sizes along the genome no matter whatever the relationship is. Simulation results suggest that, although the powers are monotonically increasing functions of sample sizes and the relative risk levels for each window size, the powers are also influenced by various factors, including MAF of the causal SNP, LD pattern between the SNPs and window sizes. From Figure 4 and Figure 5, the sliding-window approach seems more powerful than the corresponding single-locus test, but the optimal window sizes are various and heavily depend on the data. Further comparison between Figure 4 and Figure 5 shows that sliding-window approach is generally much more powerful than the corresponding single-locus test when the MAF of the causal SNP is higher. However, this may be attributed to different LD patterns which can be affected by the MAF of causal SNP. To investigate whether the powers are influenced by the LD patterns, we design additional simulations by adjusting the density of SNPs under the same MAF of the causal SNP (0.433). Clearly, the optimal window size changes from 10 to 1 (i.e. single-locus test) when the LD is lower. All the simulation results suggest that it is difficult to determine the optimal window size because it is influenced by so many factors. We, therefore, propose the exhaustive sliding-window strategy to detect various associated genome region with the disease. Real data analysis (Figure 7) results indicate that the p -values with different window sizes are also quite different. In particular, single-locus association test ($win=1$) identifies a significant SNP (rs2476601) at 10^{-7} level (p -value= 2.30×10^{-8}), which has been detected as a RA-associated variation by different methods (Killberget al., 2007, Begovich et al., 2004, Carlton et al., 2005). However, when the sliding window size is from 2 SNPs to 9 SNPs, no region shows significant at 10^{-7} level, while the same significant region with the rs2476601 SNP involved is re-detected when

the sliding window size is from 10 SNPs to 20 SNPs at 10^{-8} level. In practice, it is difficult to capture whole information in genome using the approaches with fixed window size (Yanget al., 2009, Manentiet al., 2009) or with variable window sizes (Liet al., 2007, Tang et al., 2009, Browning, 2006) by the specific algorithms. Our exhaustive strategy does not require a prior knowledge of the optimal window size and genetic factors, such as MAF, LD patterns. On the other hand, both fixed and variable sliding-window approach are just special cases of the exhaustive strategy. Thus, our exhaustive sliding-window strategy is reasonable and essential in GWAS.

Recently, cluster computer, usually known as a multiprocessor based on the chip multithreading architecture, has been widely used for scientific applications. It is very fast because several central processing units (CPUs) inside it can each execute a task's instructions independently of the others. In this article, we used this cluster computer system, and run each sliding-window scan task with one CPU simultaneously. When exhaustively scanning the chromosome 1 of the RA data, it took less than half an hour, so it would only take about 10 hours if scanning the whole genome. Therefore, the proposed exhaustive strategy combined with the cluster computer technique is computationally efficient and feasible for GWAS data analysis.

There are several limitations about the proposed method. First, the proposed exhaustive strategy is still less powerful when the effect of the causal SNP is minor (e.g. relative risk is less than 1.2), and only one causal SNP is considered in present work. Second, the frequencies of both causal SNPs selected are higher than 0.05, so it is hard to decide whether the proposed method is powerful for rare variants. Further work to solve such problems will certainly be warranted.

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Table 1 : Empirical critical values ($\alpha=0.05$) of the exhaustive sliding-window approach for MAF=0.433 including every SNP under different window sizes and their corresponding single locus test.

Window size	Sample size				
	1000	2000	3000	4000	5000
win=2	0.053(0.042)	0.049(0.040)	0.051(0.041)	0.048(0.037)	0.047(0.038)
win=3	0.044(0.018)	0.039(0.015)	0.040(0.016)	0.038(0.016)	0.038(0.015)
win=4	0.039(0.016)	0.036(0.014)	0.039(0.014)	0.038(0.014)	0.037(0.014)
win=5	0.034(0.013)	0.032(0.011)	0.032(0.011)	0.032(0.011)	0.028(0.010)
win=6	0.032(0.013)	0.030(0.011)	0.030(0.011)	0.031(0.011)	0.027(0.011)
win=7	0.031(0.012)	0.028(0.011)	0.028(0.011)	0.028(0.011)	0.024(0.009)
win=8	0.029(0.012)	0.026(0.010)	0.027(0.010)	0.027(0.010)	0.026(0.009)
win=9	0.027 (0.012)	0.025(0.010)	0.024(0.010)	0.024(0.010)	0.025(0.010)
win=10	0.026(0.012)	0.023(0.010)	0.022(0.010)	0.023(0.010)	0.022(0.009)
win=11	0.033(0.011)	0.029(0.009)	0.028(0.009)	0.028(0.009)	0.028(0.010)
win=12	0.033(0.009)	0.029(0.008)	0.029(0.008)	0.029(0.008)	0.028 (0.007)
win=13	0.032(0.009)	0.028(0.008)	0.027(0.007)	0.027(0.007)	0.027(0.007)
win=14	0.031(0.008)	0.027 (0.007)	0.026(0.007)	0.026 (0.007)	0.027(0.007)
win=15	0.033(0.008)	0.028(0.007)	0.029(0.007)	0.028(0.007)	0.028(0.007)

Note: the number in () denotes the results of the corresponding single locus test

Table 2 : Empirical critical values ($\alpha=0.05$) of the exhaustive sliding-window approach for MAF=0.208 including every SNP under different window sizes and their corresponding single locus test.

Window size	Sample size				
	1000	2000	3000	4000	5000
win=2	0.052(0.025)	0.049(0.025)	0.056(0.025)	0.057(0.025)	0.045(0.023)
win=3	0.030(0.014)	0.032(0.014)	0.025(0.012)	0.022(0.012)	0.027(0.015)
win=4	0.036(0.012)	0.035(0.011)	0.035(0.010)	0.032(0.009)	0.034(0.011)
win=5	0.035(0.012)	0.032(0.011)	0.031(0.010)	0.031(0.009)	0.031(0.011)
win=6	0.028(0.012)	0.025(0.011)	0.026(0.010)	0.023(0.009)	0.027(0.010)
win=7	0.030(0.011)	0.027(0.010)	0.027(0.009)	0.025(0.008)	0.026(0.009)
win=8	0.029(0.011)	0.026(0.009)	0.026(0.009)	0.023(0.007)	0.025(0.009)
win=9	0.027 (0.011)	0.025(0.009)	0.025(0.009)	0.021(0.007)	0.022(0.009)
win=10	0.028(0.011)	0.026(0.009)	0.026(0.009)	0.023(0.007)	0.026(0.008)
win=11	0.032(0.009)	0.030(0.008)	0.028(0.007)	0.025(0.006)	0.026(0.006)
win=12	0.032(0.008)	0.029(0.007)	0.028(0.006)	0.025(0.005)	0.024 (0.005)
win=13	0.031(0.007)	0.029(0.006)	0.027(0.006)	0.025(0.005)	0.025(0.005)
win=14	0.027(0.007)	0.026 (0.006)	0.024(0.006)	0.021 (0.005)	0.022(0.005)
win=15	0.031(0.007)	0.029(0.006)	0.026(0.006)	0.022(0.005)	0.022(0.005)

Note: the number in () denotes the results of the corresponding single-locus test.

Table 3 : Empirical critical values ($\alpha=0.05$) of the exhaustive sliding-window approach for MAF=0.433 including every three SNP under different window sizes and their corresponding single locus test.

Window size	1000	2000	3000	4000	5000
win=2	0.041(0.041)	0.035(0.035)	0.027(0.027)	0.023(0.023)	0.021(0.021)
win=3	0.032(0.020)	0.026(0.015)	0.020(0.012)	0.018(0.010)	0.014(0.008)
win=4	0.020(0.009)	0.015(0.006)	0.009(0.004)	0.007(0.003)	0.006(0.002)
win=5	0.024(0.008)	0.017(0.006)	0.011(0.004)	0.009(0.002)	0.007(0.002)
win=6	0.021(0.007)	0.015(0.005)	0.010(0.003)	0.007(0.002)	0.006(0.002)
win=7	0.021(0.007)	0.015(0.005)	0.009(0.003)	0.007(0.002)	0.005(0.002)
win=8	0.019(0.006)	0.013(0.004)	0.008(0.002)	0.006(0.002)	0.004(0.002)
win=9	0.022 (0.005)	0.015(0.003)	0.009(0.002)	0.007(0.002)	0.005(0.001)
win=10	0.019(0.005)	0.013(0.003)	0.008(0.002)	0.006(0.001)	0.005(0.001)
win=11	0.019(0.004)	0.012(0.003)	0.008(0.002)	0.006(0.001)	0.005(0.001)
win=12	0.018(0.004)	0.012(0.003)	0.008(0.002)	0.006(0.001)	0.005 (0.001)
win=13	0.017(0.004)	0.012(0.003)	0.008(0.002)	0.005(0.001)	0.004(0.001)
win=14	0.017(0.004)	0.012 (0.002)	0.008(0.001)	0.006 (0.001)	0.004(0.001)
win=15	0.017(0.003)	0.012(0.002)	0.008(0.001)	0.006(0.001)	0.004(0.001)

Note: the number in () denotes the results of the corresponding single-locus test.

FIGURE LEGENDS

Figure 1. Pairwise R² structure for selected region

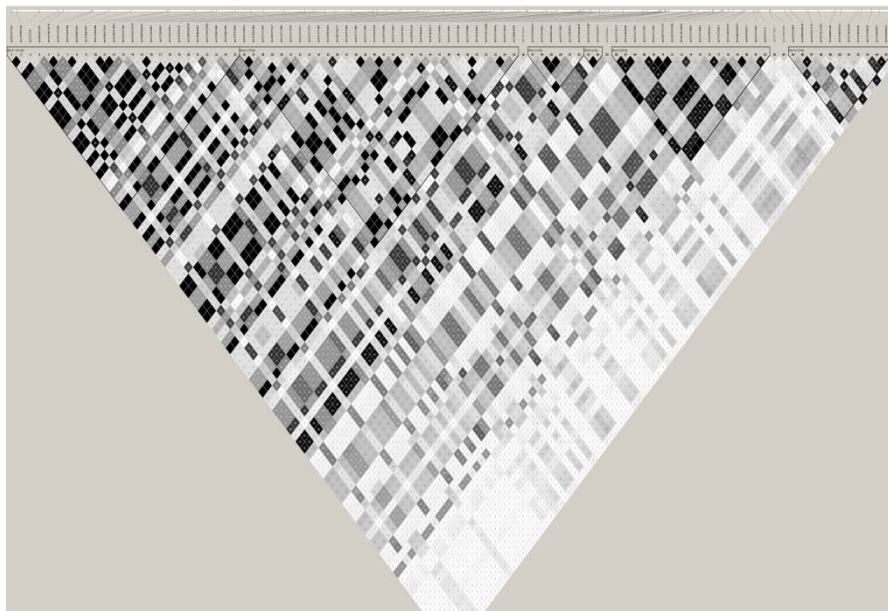


Figure 1 : Pairwise R² among the SNPs in the selected region.

Figure 2. Power for MAF=0.433 and RR=1.3

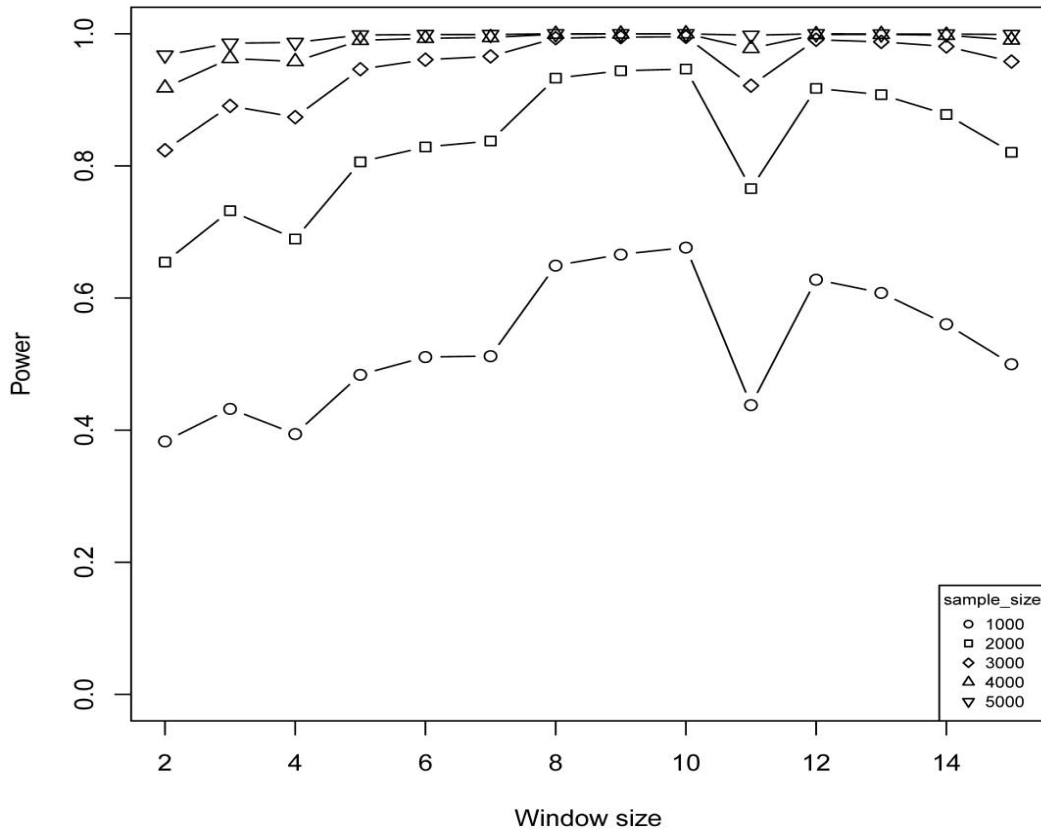


Figure 2 : The powers of the exhaustive sliding-window approach under different window sizes (2-15) and different sample sizes. The horizontal axis denotes the window sizes and the vertical axis denotes the powers of PCA-based logistic regression model with different window sizes.



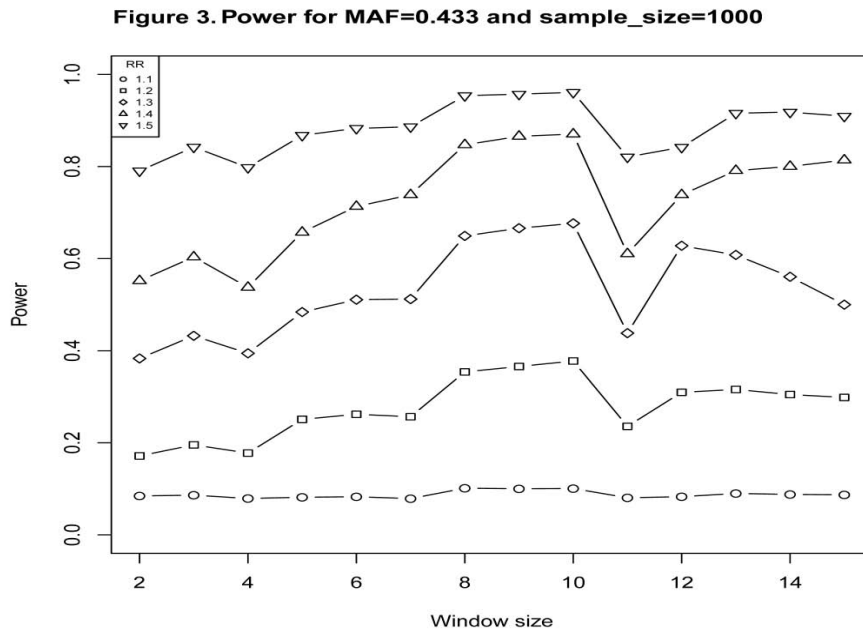


Figure 3: The powers of the exhaustive sliding-window approach under different window sizes (2-15) and different relative risks. See Figure 2 for the figure legends.

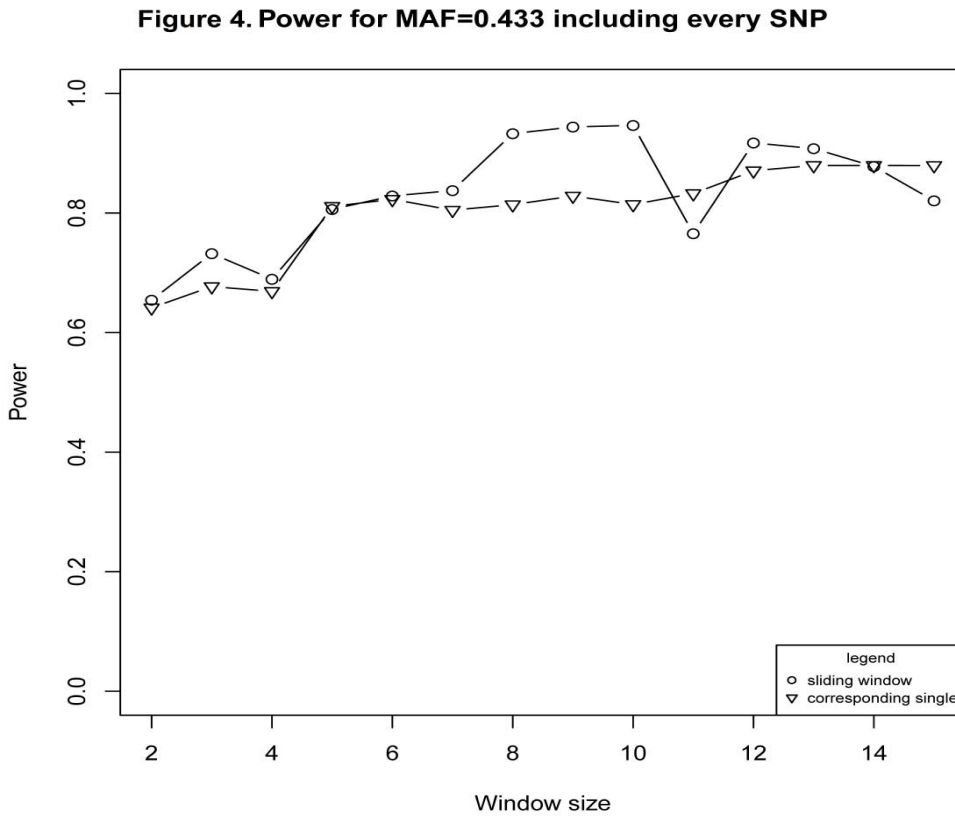


Figure 4: The powers of the exhaustive sliding-window approach for MAF=0.433 including every SNP under different window sizes and their corresponding single locus test. See Figure 2 for the figure legends.

Figure 5. Power for MAF=0.208 including every SNP

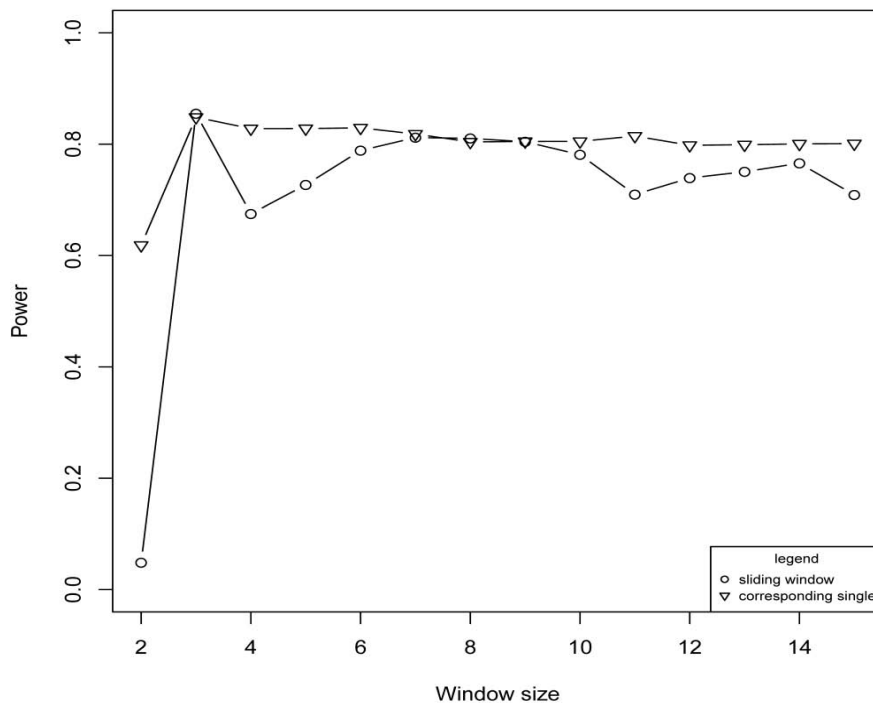


Figure 5 : The powers of the exhaustive sliding-window approach for MAF=0.208 including every SNP under different window sizes and their corresponding single locus test. See Figure 2 for the figure legends.

Figure 6. Power for MAF=0.433 including every three SNP

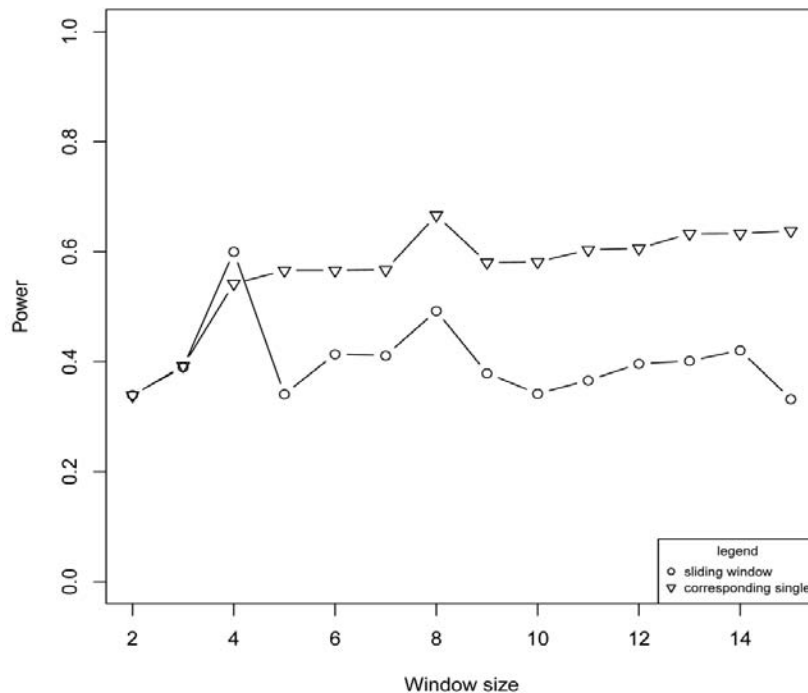


Figure 6 : The powers of the exhaustive sliding-window approach for MAF=0.433 including every three SNP under different window sizes and their corresponding single locus test. See Figure 2 for the figure legends.

Figure 7. Manhattan plot

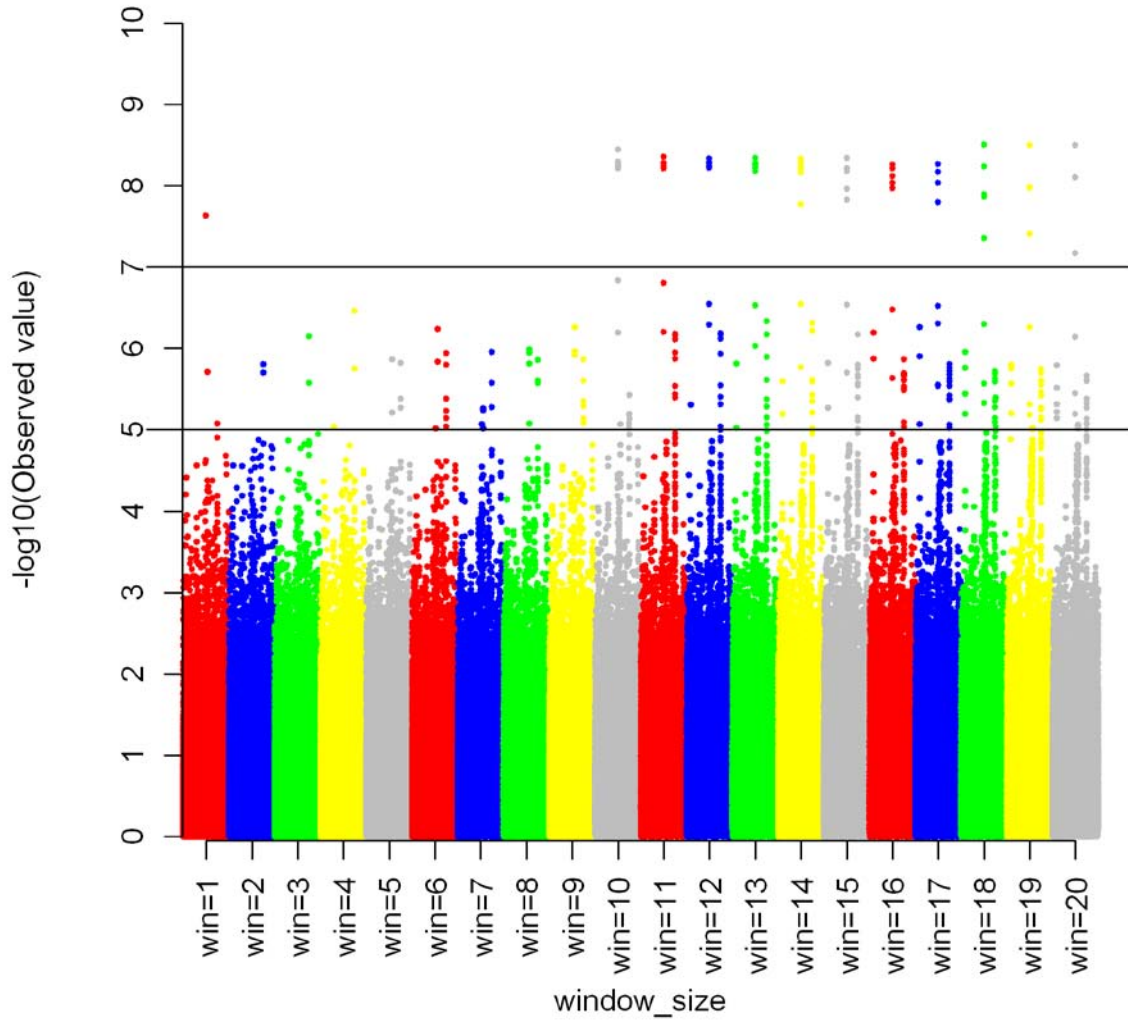


Figure 7: The results for chromosome 1 of the RA data using single-locus association test (the 'win=1' panel) and exhaustive sliding-windows (from panel 'win=2' to panel 'win=20'.)



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Bioleaching of Copper Concentrate and Pyrite by Using Native Bacterium Acidithiobacillus Ferrooxidans IRL.8F and Evaluating the LPS Role in Bioleaching Process

By Dr. Ali Mohammad Latifi , Ahmadi . M & Olad .G
Baqiyatallah Medical Sciences University

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Keywords : Bioleaching, LPS, Ore, Copper, Pyrite.

GJSFR-G Classification : FOR Code: 060501



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Bioleaching of Copper Concentrate and Pyrite by Using Native Bacterium *Acidithiobacillus Ferrooxidans* IRL.8F and Evaluating the LPS Role in Bioleaching Process

Dr. Ali Mohammad Latifi^α, Ahmadi . M^σ & Olad .G^ρ

Abstract - This study was performed to evaluate the ability of native bacterium to extract copper and iron from their ores. This bacterium was isolated from iron mineral springs in Iran's Larzan region and was named *Acidithiobacillus ferrooxidans* IRL.8F based on morphological and physiological characteristics and 16S rRNA molecular analyses. The results from bioleaching of copper concentrate showed that the amount of extracted copper and iron was 71.4% and 29.3%, respectively. Furthermore, in comparison with control samples, these amounts increased by 93.5% and 92%, respectively. In the control samples minor amount of metals were extracted due to spontaneous leaching. To assess the importance of bacterial lipopolysaccharides(LPS) role, LPS of bacterium was removed. When ethylenediaminetetraacetic acid (EDTA) in concentrations of 5 and 10% was used during the bioleaching process of pyrite, process efficiency decreased to 61 and 70%, respectively. The cells lacking LPS were led to 59.4 % decrease in the amount of bacterial leaching, in contrast to whole cells. Therefore, it can be concluded that: 1. EDTA causes a drastic reduction in the efficiency of leaching process, 2. Bacterial LPS have a key role in attachment to particles of ore and 3.This bacterium is capable of leaching metals through the direct mechanism.

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I. INTRODUCTION

Bioleaching is a general term used to refer to the conversion of insoluble to soluble metals (usually in sulfated form) through biological oxidation by using microorganisms (Rawlings., 2002; Makita et al., 2004).

Bacteria of the genus *Thiobacillus*, like *Thiobacillus ferrooxidans* retrieve the energy from ores via enzymatic oxidation. Biological oxidation of sulfide ores and the electron transport occur in three forms, including direct (or enzymatic or contact), indirect (mediated by compounds such as Fe³⁺ ions) and cooperative (which includes both direct and indirect) mechanisms. In the indirect mechanism, Fe³⁺ iron plays major role, while in the direct mechanism, the

bacterium should have access to the ore, bind it and then the reaction will occur at the ore-water interface (Donati and Sand, 2007; Wolfgang and Edgardo, 2007). In this mechanism, the microbial attachment to the ore surface is necessary for the bioleaching process. As the micro-organism approaches.

The mineral, the cell surface changes and this accompanies with expression of extracellular polymeric substances (EPS) which lead to the attachment (Scobar et al., 1997; Clausen, 2003). EPS forms chemical bonds with the surface and mediates or promotes respiration and nutritional chemical reactions (Scobar et al., 1997). These bonds are made stronger with the attachment of microorganism to the ore and the reactions are followed by oxidation of reduced mineral compounds or reduced Fe²⁺ or sulfate ions. Attaching to the ores may be mediated by forming EPS on the surface of solid particles such as lipopolysaccharide (LPS), phospholipids or other macromolecules like the polypeptides in the outer membrane of the bacterium. These compounds are released by the organism when it is in contact with the ores (Donati and Sand., 2007; Scobar et al., 1997). The Mechanism of the electron transport from pyrite to molecular oxygen has been identified in detail. The primary stages occur in the EPS, in which electrons are extracted by means of the Fe³⁺ ion in complex with glucuronic acid (Rangin and Basu., 2004). Attachment to hydrophobic substrates such as sulfur is mediated by van der Waals forces, while for binding to charged substrates like pyrite, cations or molecules which act as Lewis acids accept the uncharged electron pair of the pyrite sulfur, followed by formation of a complex between different iron species and the exopolysaccharide and finally the attachment of the bacterium to the substrate (Gehrke et al., 1998)

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

a) Media

Types and compositions of the media used for culturing, isolating and screening included: (1)SF or T.F.

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medium containing: Solution A: K_2HPO_4 (0.5g/l), $(NH_4)_2SO_4$ (0.5g/l), $MgSO_4$ (0.5g/l), H_2SO_4 0.5M (5 ml/l) and D.W (1000ml); Solution B: $FeSO_4 \cdot 7H_2O$ (167g/l), H_2SO_4 . 0.5M (50 ml) and D.W (1000ml). One unit volume of solution B is mixed with four unit volumes of solution A and the pH is adjusted on 2-2.5 by using H_2SO_4 . 0.5M. (2) TSB medium containing: KH_2PO_4 (3g/l), $(NH_4)_2SO_4 \cdot 7H_2O$ (0.4 g/l), $MgSO_4 \cdot 7H_2O$ (0.5 g/l), $CaCl_2 \cdot 2H_2O$ (0.25 g/l), $FeSO_4 \cdot 7H_2O$ (0.01g/l), $Na_2S_2O_3 \cdot 5H_2O$ (5 g/l), Agar powder (16g/l) and D.W (1000 ml). (3) TTB medium which contains (g/l) : ($(NH_4)_2SO_4$ 0.3; K_2HPO_4 , 0.5; $MgSO_4 \cdot 7H_2O$, 0.5; and 0.5M H_2SO_4 . After autoclaving, sterilizing and cooling the medium, 5% sulfur powder separately sterilized in an aluminum foil, was added (Chen and Lin, 2000; Sasaki et al., 2009). During the preparation of these media, the iron sulfate was sterilized with a (0.22 μ) filter and added to the solution. The cells were collected from 10-day media centrifuged in 50 ml falcon tubes at 15000 rpm for 20 min. (Elzekey an

III. THE BACTERIUM

The bacterium used in this study was isolated from mineral springs in Larzan, Qazvin province, Iran. With this purpose, the mixed samples of water and precipitations deposited at the bottom of the spring were collected, transferred to the laboratory and incubated into 250 ml Erlenmeyer flasks containing 50 ml of broth TF and TT media (respectively containing elemental iron and sulfur as the sole sources of electron and energy). The samples were placed in shaker incubator at 30°C and in 200 rpm for 7 days, and then recultured in fresh media. The oxidation power of Fe and S elements were evaluated. During the cell culture period, essential parameters including the daily measure of pH, titration of produced acid, solution rate of elemental sulfur in medium, the amount of oxidized Fe, macroscopic and microscopic study of samples and counting and calculating the cell concentration were also considered or evaluated.

IV. OXIDATION OF Fe^{2+} TO Fe^{3+}

The oxidation of Fe^{2+} by the bacterium was investigated in a 250 ml Erlenmeyer flask containing 50 ml SFB medium. With this purpose, 5 ml of 14-day bacterium culture (comprising $\sim 9 \times 10^8$ cells) was inoculated into the medium and incubated at 30°C at 200 rpm. The control was without bacterium inoculation. The initial pH was adjusted to 2.5 using 0.5M sulfuric acid. As Fe^{2+} is oxidized to Fe^{3+} iron, the medium turns from lime green to yellow, brown and brick red. Orthophenanthroline method and atomic adsorption spectroscopy analysis systems were used to analyze the iron. The total iron content ($Fe^{2+} + Fe^{3+}$), the converted Fe^{2+} iron to Fe^{3+} and the Fe^{3+} content of the medium were measured.

V. SULFUR OXIDATION AND SULFURIC ACID PRODUCTION

The medium in this study was TTB. The inoculation and growth conditions were similar to those of iron oxidation. The initial pH was adjusted to 4.5. Sulfur oxidation, pH reduction and sulfuric acid production were measured. The control was prepared in a similar way without bacterium inoculation. The sulfuric acid content of the medium was measured after the drastic decrease of pH by titration using 0.1 M NaOH.

VI. BACTERIA IDENTIFICATION BY 16S RRNA

To identify the bacteria, the sequencing of 16S rRNA gene fragments was applied. Considering that these bacteria have a slow growth rate and are extremophilic species, the alkaline lysis and lysosyme methods were used in hybrid to extract their genomes. At first, the bacterial genomes were purified. With this purpose, 500 ml of 7-day culture of bacteria was prepared in TTB medium. The sample was centrifuged at 15000 rpm and the bacterial biomass was obtained. One hundred microliter of the SET cold buffer was added to the bacteria and 100 μ l of lysosyme was added to the above mixture and it was vortexed thoroughly. The mixture was incubated at 37°C for 30 min, and then, 200 μ l of lysis buffer (NaOH (5M), SDS (10%), H_2O) was added to the mixture and placed in ice for 10 min. In the next stage, as much phenol as the volume of the solution in the tube was added. The mixture was blended thoroughly and centrifuged at 10000 rpm and 4°C for 3 min. Furthermore, the supernatant was transferred to another tube and as much as its volume, phenol-chloroform (1:1) was added. The mixture was centrifuged again in a similar way as mentioned above. The supernatant was transferred to another tube, chloroform was added as much as its volume and the sample was again centrifuged as above. The supernatant was removed and isopropanol stored at -20°C was added as much as 0.6 of volume of the supernatant. This solution was stored at -20°C for 1 h. In the next stage, the sample was centrifuged at 14000 rpm in 4°C for 15 min. Isopropanol was immediately removed and 1 ml of 70% alcohol was added and then the sample was centrifuged at 14000 rpm at 4°C for 10 min. The sample was drought at room temperature and 20 to 30 μ l of TE buffer or distilled water and 3 to 5 μ l of RNase A was added. The tube containing the sample was stored at 37°C for 1 h and the sample was then stored at 4°C (Ohba and Owa., 2005). After electrophoresis, the PCR was performed. The primers required to identify the bacteria were universal primers with the following sequences (Hong et al., 2006 ; Yeats et al 1998): Forward: FORB: 5' AGAGTTTGATCCTGGCTCAG3'

reverse : REVB: 5' GGTACCTTGTTACGACT3'. Using the purified genome as the template and the *Taq* polymerase, the 16S rRNA gene fragment was amplified as the defined program and the final product was investigated on agarose 1% gel. After confirming the quality of the PCR product, the samples were sequenced using Genetic analyzer 31030 - Accessories Applied Biosystem.

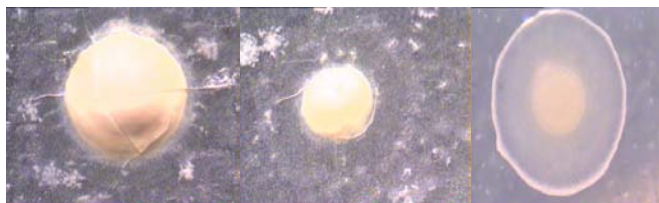


Figure 1 : A. ferrooxidans IRL.8F micro-colony and production of exopolysaccharide (white corona) on TSA medium (magnified $\times 100$ – by A.M. Latifi). From right to left: fresh colony, semi- dried colony, dried colony.

The ore

The pyrite and copper ore were used in this study. The ore was powdered using the crusher or mortar-and-pestle, and the samples were prepared using special sieves with appropriate gridding. The elemental and compositional analysis of the ore powder

VII . BIOLEACHING MEDIA AND CONDITIONS

To measure the metal produced from ore, 10 g of ore powder in flasks containing 250ml medium without any of energy resources (iron, sulfur, etc) was used. The base medium for all samples was 100ml water. The gridding of the particles was 200 and their

VIII . STUDY OF THE EFFECT OF EDTA ON BIOLEACHING PROCESS

To study the effect of EDTA on bioleaching process, four samples were prepared as followed: Sample 1: leaching medium without bacterium inoculation (as control), Sample 2: leaching medium inoculated with bacterium without EDTA, Sample 3: leaching medium inoculated with bacterium and EDTA (5%) and Sample 4: leaching medium inoculated with bacterium and EDTA (10%) test samples, the 0.2M EDTA solution was used.

All samples were placed in a shaker-incubator at 28°C and 200 rpm. Bacterium compatibility with new media was investigated by measuring pH of media during the bioleaching process. The initial pH at the start time of the process was also recorded. During its growth period, the bacterium reduces the pH and produces sulfuric acid through oxidation of the sulfur ore.

IX . LPS REMOVAL IN ACIDITHIOBACILLUS FERROOXIDANS IRL.8F

To remove the bacterial LPS, 0.2M EDTA and Tris-HCl at pH4.5 were used. (Ramadas et al., 1991; Scoabar et al.,1997). Bacterial biomass was collected from 50 ml of bacterial suspension comprising a 10-day culture. The biomass was converted to a homogenous suspension in the EDTA and Tris-HCl solution and incubated at 37°C for 1 h. The tube containing the sample was then centrifuged at 11000 rpm and the supernatant containing EDTA, Tris-HCl and lipopolysaccharide (LPS) was removed. Bacterial cells lacking LPS were extracted from the solution containing EDTA and LPS by centrifugation at 11000 rpm for 10 min, and were inoculated with the bioleaching medium previously prepared .

X. ASSESSING THE ACTIVITY OF LPS-LACKING BACTERIA IN OXIDATION OF Fe^{2+}

Two samples containing TF medium with Fe^{2+} as the source of energy, were inoculated as follows: (1) The control in which the normal *A. ferrooxidans* IRL.8F was inoculated into the medium without any treatment, and (2) The test sample with LPS-lacking *A. ferrooxidans* IRL.8F inoculated into the medium.

To investigate the restoring of LPS production ability of the bacteria, they were collected from 10-day culture of the second sample and inoculated into the fresh TF medium.

XI. ASSESSING THE ACTIVITY OF LPS-LACKING BACTERIA IN BIOLEACHING OF THE IRON FROM PYRITE SOIL

To assess such an activity, the pyrite ore with mesh of 200 and mesh size of 0.074mm was used and 10g/l of the ore was added to each of Erlenmeyer flasks. The base medium of all samples was water. pH of all samples was adjusted on 4.5. Prepared samples included: leaching medium inoculated with normal bacteria (having LPS), leaching medium inoculated with LPS-lacking bacteria and leaching medium without any bacterium.

The samples were placed in a shaker-incubator at 200 rpm, and 25°C for 14 days, and after precipitation the supernatant was used to analyze the amount of

XII . RESULTS

During screening stage, we could isolate a bacterial strain with remarkable enzymatic ability to oxidize the iron and sulfur as its sole energy and electron source. It is noteworthy that the mineral spring

from where the bacterium was isolated have a brick-red solution and fawn deposits. This results from the natural activity of the bacterium in oxidation of Fe^{2+} iron in the nearby soils to Fe^{3+} , leading to color change and generation of jarosite (iron hydroxide) deposits. The isolated bacterium produces small colonies similar to fried egg in TSA agar medium which are hardly visible with naked eyes. Applying an innovative method using optical microscope and simultaneous lighting from up and down in this study, we could produce high-quality pictures of bacterial colonies (Fig. 1).

Results obtained from morphological, physiologic and molecular identification based on 16S rRNA revealed that this bacterium is mostly similar to *A. ferrooxidans* strain. Therefore, the bacterial strain was named *A. ferrooxidans* IRL.8F. It is chemautotroph and uses CO_2 in the air as its carbon source. Fig 2 shows what was obtained from extraction of bacterial genome.

XIII . FE OXIDATION

The medium was observed to turn from lime green to brick red (confirming the conversion of Fe^{2+} to Fe^{3+}) (Fig. 3). After 18 h, the medium turns to yellow as a result of bacterial activity and the brick red color observed within 48 to 72 h represents complete oxidation of Fe^{2+} to Fe^{3+} . Results of cell counting showed that bacterial cell concentration has begun to increase when the color changes started and it increased from 9×10^8 cells per ml in the first 24-h period to 18×10^8 in the second day. Within this period, pH of the medium decreased from 2.5 to 2. Deposits in fawn color were observed on the wall of flask, which increased in amount daily. . They can trap the leached metals in the solution in their lattices and thereby disturb the bioleaching process. Meanwhile, this problem can be overcome by retaining the low pH.

This experiment demonstrates the bacterial capability to leaching the minerals containing iron compounds.

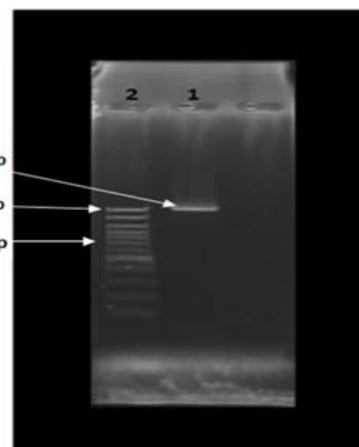


Figure 2: Electrophoresis of the PCR product of IRL.8F bacterium on 1% agarose gel. 1. PCR product, 2. DNA Ladder.



Figure 3: Oxidation of Fe^{2+} to Fe^{3+} in SF broth medium and iron oxide particles formed on the colonies surface in the solid TSA medium (magnified $\times 100$ – by A.M. Latifi).

XIV . OXIDATION OF SULFUR AND PRODUCTION OF SULFURIC ACID

Results obtained from this experiment (Figure 4) revealed the high capability of the bacterium to produce acid, reduce the pH and make strong acidic conditions in TTB medium, such that in the third day the pH reached 1.5, in tenth day it decreased below 1 and in the 18th day it was 0.75. As the pH decreases, the number of bacterial cells progressively increased, such that it doubled (to 6.13×10^8) with pH decrease from 4 to 1.6 and it triples with pH decrease from 1.6 to 0.9. For the fact that the most populated cell colony is observed in 14th day, we used the 14-day suspension to produce the bacterial seed. The maximum acid production rate in 25th day is 20 g/l. The pH changes and the sulfuric acid production are shown in the plot(Figure 4) .

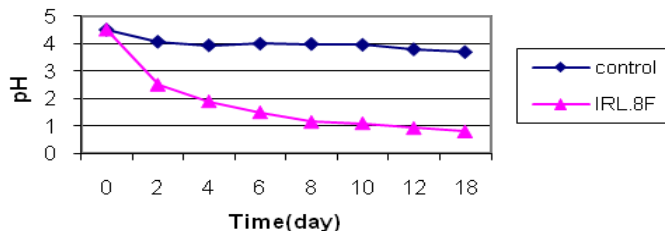


Figure 4: Decrease of pH by the bacterium in TT broth medium.

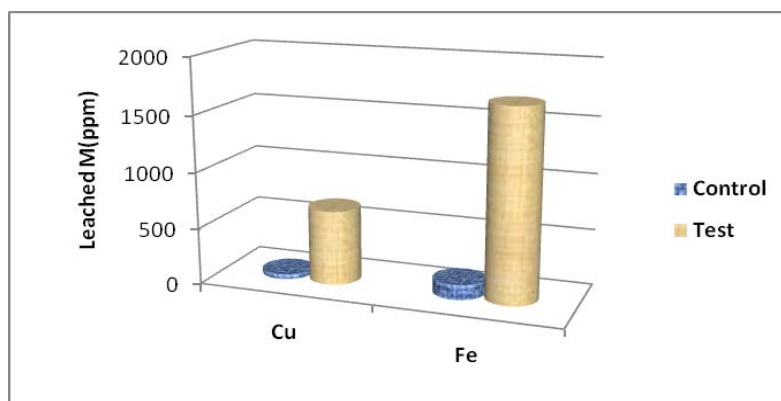


Figure 5: Bioleaching of Cu and Fe from Copper concentrate.

XV. BIOLEACHING OF IRON AND COPPER FROM ITS CONCENTRATE

X-ray fluorescence (XRF) and X-ray diffraction (XRD) analyses of pyrite ore showed that it contains 23.91% iron, 23.11% copper, 0.052% manganese, 0.001% nickel, 5.55% gold, 0.014% molybdenum, 22.79% sulfur.

Bioleaching of this ore for copper and iron elements showed that this mine is a highly appropriate medium for growth and activity of this bacterium. The bacterial cells consume and oxidize the sulfur element available in the mineral soil to sulfuric acid and drastically decrease the pH to as low as 1.98; thereby they provide.

Appropriate conditions for extraction of insoluble metals in the mineral soil. Analysis of the leaching solution showed 1690 and 663ppm rates of iron and copper extraction, which equal 29.3 and 71.4%, respectively. The values showed 92 and 93.5% increase in comparison with control samples, respectively (Fig.5).

The small amounts of extracted metals in control samples have resulted from spontaneous leaching. Note that in comparison with control samples (without inoculated bacteria), bioleaching medium of copper concentrate came in green and with development process the intensity of color was increased (Fig.6).



Figure 6: Color change due to bacterial activity and extraction of Cu in medium.

Bioleaching of pyrite ore

XRF and XRD analyses of pyrite ore showed that it contains iron and 25% sulfur. The mineralogical analysis showed its composition as CaCO_3 (Calcite), FeS_2 (Pyrite), ZnS (Sphalerite) and $\text{CaMg}(\text{CO}_3)_2$ (dolomite). Bioleaching of this type of ore demonstrated the decrease of pH as a consequence of sulfur consumption, resulting in the efficient metal extraction. The amount of metal extracted from the test sample showed a 60 to 70% increase in comparison with control sample (without bacterium).

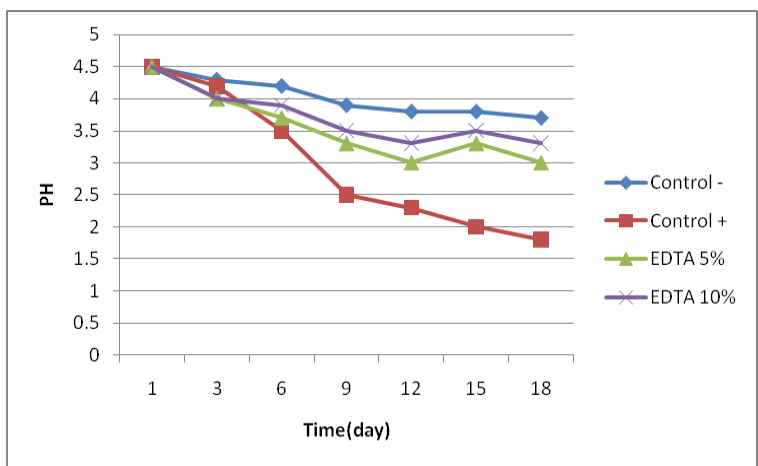


Figure 7: pH changes in the investigation of EDTA effect on bacterial activity of *A. ferrooxidans* IRL.8F and rate of Fe³⁺ extraction from pyrite ore.

XVI . STUDY OF EDTA EFFECT ON LPS IN THE OUTER MEMBRANE OF *A. FERROOXIDANS* IRL.8F AND ON RATE OF Fe³⁺ EXTRACTION FROM THE PYRITE ORE

To investigate the effect of EDTA on bioleaching through damaging the bacterial cell membrane, 5 and 10% concentrations of EDTA were simultaneously added to the leaching medium (the

base medium of water). Decrease of pH in the sample without EDTA was observed to follow a slower slope and it directly depends on rate of bioleaching process (Fig.7). The results also confirm the severe reductive effect of EDTA on efficiency of the bioleaching process, such that the bioleaching rate in 5 and 10% concentrations of EDTA decreased by 61 and 70%, respectively in comparison with the sample without EDTA (Fig.8).

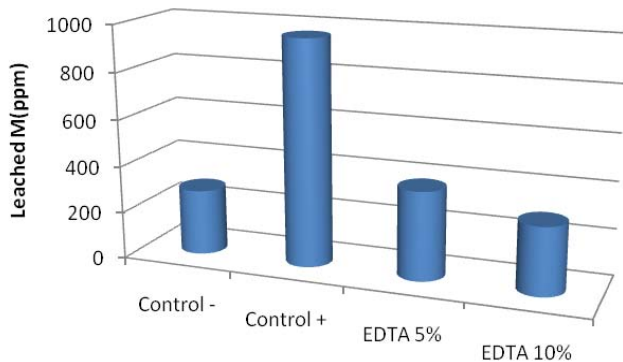


Figure 8: EDTA effect on extraction of iron from pyrite ore Control - = leaching medium without bacterium and EDTA Control + = leaching medium + bacterium without EDTA.

XVII . STUDY OF THE ACTIVITY OF LPS-LACKING BACTERIA AND OXIDATION OF Fe^{2+} IRON IN TF MEDIUM

For this purpose, the bacterial LPS was first removed and the LPS-lacking bacteria were inoculated into the TFB medium. No color change was observed after 10 days, which represents the inability of the bacteria in the oxidation of Fe^{2+} to Fe^{3+} , whilst in the control sample with normal bacterium, the color began

to change in the 5 day and it remarkably turned from green to red after the 10th day (Fig.9, right). To ensure that the EDTA + Tris-HCl treatment has not killed the bacteria and the cells just have lost their LPS, in the second stage, the LPS-lacking bacteria used in this experiment were transferred to a fresh TF medium. After 10 days, the bacterium turned the medium from lime green to red, indicating that the bacteria have restored the ability of LPS synthesis and have oxidized Fe^{2+} to Fe^{3+} (Fig.9, left).

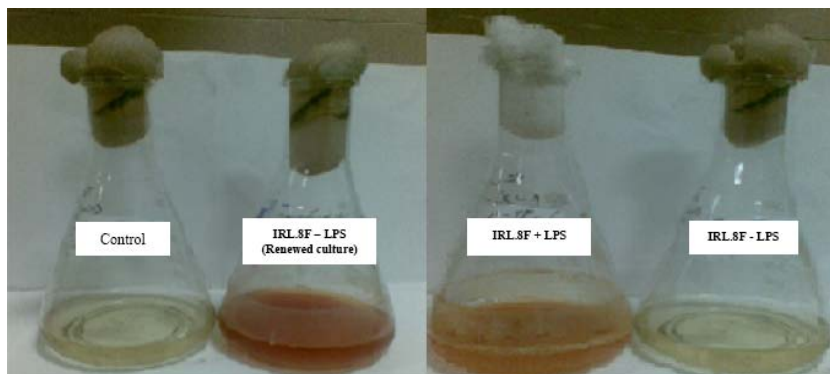


Figure 9 : Two stages of bacterial cell culture in TF medium. Right: the initial culture of LPS-lacking bacteria in TF medium, Left: re-culturing the LPS-lacking bacteria in the fresh TF medium.

XVIII . STUDY OF THE CAPABILITY OF LPS-LACKING BACTERIA IN LEACHING OF Fe^{3+} FROM PYRITE OR

The samples were analyzed after 14 day from beginning of the process and the amount of

leached iron was obtained as shown in Figure 10. As it can be observed from the figure, LPS-lacking bacteria have remarkably lost their ability to leaching the iron.

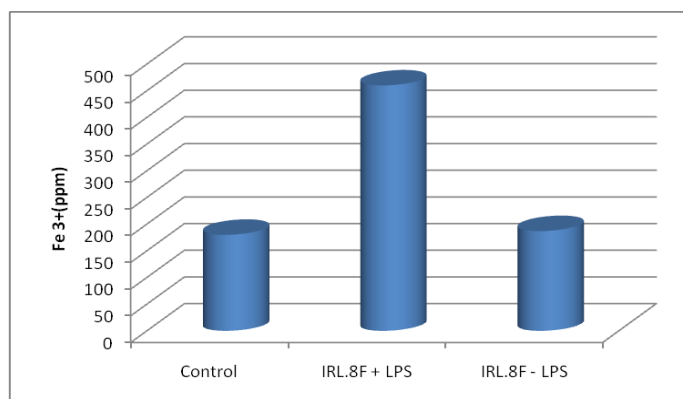


Figure 10 : Concentration of extracted Fe^{3+} from pyrite ore, in presence of LPS-lacking *A. ferrooxidans* IRL.8F.

XIX . DISCUSSION

In the present study with the aim of evaluating the ability of native bacterium to extract copper and iron from their ores, an acidophilic strain was isolated from an iron mineral spring in Larzan, Iran. The isolated strain shows a remarkable enzymatic activity in Fe and S oxidation and is highly capable with bioleaching the copper and pyrite.

The results from bioleaching of copper concentrate showed that the amount of extracted copper and iron was 71.4 and 29.3%, respectively. Furthermore, in comparison with control samples, without bacteria, these amounts increased by 93.5 and 92%, respectively. In the control samples, however, a minor amount of metals were extracted due to spontaneous leaching.

One of the factors influencing the quality and quantity of the bioleaching process is the bacterial ability to attach to the mineral surface. The microbial contact with the ore surface stimulates the expression and production of extracellular polymers which entrap the bacterium at the side of the ore and attach it to the mineral surface (Dispirito et al., 1983; Bagdigian and Meyerson, 1986).

In addition, EPS can form chemical bonds with the mineral surface and mediate or promote respiration and nutritional reactions (Scobar., 1997; Ehrlich and Brierley., 1990). The molecules constituting the EPS can be made of LPS, phospholipids or other macromolecules such as poly-peptides. These compounds are released by the organism when it is attached to the mineral (Scobar, 1997).

There are various techniques to isolation of LPS from bacteria, Such as phenol-water method or by the phenol-chloroform-petroleum ether extraction methods, but these methods usually cause cellular damage or death. (Ramadas et al., 1991). The purpose of this study was to isolate and remove bacterium LPS without causing bacterial cell damage or death. Studies show that EDTA treatment negatively affects the adherence of the cell to mineral by the loss of part of LPS, without cell lysis. (Arredondo et al., 1994; Scobar et al 1997).

Scobar et al (1997) investigated the effect of EDTA on iron extraction from the pyrite ore. They believed that this substance removes the LPS from bacterial outer membrane and this leads to a remarkable decrease in the attachment of bacterium to its substrate. In the investigation of chalcopyrite and pyrite ores, they observed 85 and 77% decrease in attachment, respectively for bacterial cells treated with EDTA (Scobar, 1997). Such substances as EDTA absorb bivalent cations attached to phosphate groups in LPS and transform it from natural form to aggregated form, which obstruct the subsequent reactions (Rangin and Basu, 2004). Results of the

present study revealed that samples with EDTA treatments show a remarkable decrease in bioleaching rate of the metal of interest. In direct mechanism where contact and attachment of the bacterium to the mineral surface is mediated by releasing exopolymers (Vandevivere and Kirchman., 1993) , EDTA removes part of this exopolymer and thereby, to a great extent decreases the efficiency of iron extraction from pyrite ore (Arredondo et al., 1994; Scobar et al 1997).

Since the bioleaching drastically decreased with LPS removal, in the present study, it can be concluded that the most amount of metal has been extracted through direct mechanism. The bacterium secretes such substances as LPS when approaching the mineral surface in order to be able to attach to the mineral surface; however, when LPS is removed the attachment cannot occur and the leaching by the bacterium will decrease (Pogliani and Donati., 1999; Arredondo et al., 1994; Scobar et al 1997). In the next experiments, to ensure that the decrease in bioleaching has resulted from LPS removal by EDTA, the bacterial LPS was removed by use of EDTA treatment and LPS-lacking bacteria were transferred to the leaching medium. Cultures of these bacteria in leaching media containing pyrite soil also significantly showed the decrease in extraction of Fe^{3+} . These bacterial cells were also cultured in iron-containing TF medium. As it was expected, the treated bacteria with EDTA could not oxidize the iron, whereas the iron oxidation was observed in the Erlenmeyer flask containing non-treated bacteria.

Furthermore, EDTA in the leaching medium may act as a chelator absorbing the iron cations and decrease the oxidation of iron from Fe^{2+} to Fe^{3+} ; therefore, the bacterial LPS may be of no role in decrease of leaching. LPS removal and inoculation of LPS-lacking bacteria into the leaching medium led to a 60.1% decrease in extracted metal. The less decrease in metal in comparison with when EDTA was used can be attributed to three possible reasons: 1) Some bacterial cells have restored their ability to produce LPS, 2) EDTA has acted as an iron chelator, or 3) EDTA has decreased the enzymatic oxidation of the iron.

In bacterial bioleaching, Thiobacillus Thiooxidans is used together with T. ferrooxidans, for the following reasons: It can release metallic elements by oxidation of reduced and semi-reduced sulfur compounds of the minerals and can promote the leaching of metals by producing the sulfuric acid as an oxidant. In addition, it provides the optimal acidic conditions for growth and activity of T. ferrooxidans. In bioleaching processes, that bacterial strain is of the greater importance which produces more amount of acid (Qiu et al., 2005).

In conclusion, results obtained from the present study indicate that: 1) EDTA drastically

decreases the efficiency of the bioleaching process, 2) LPS in the isolated bacterial strain in this study has a key role in bacterial attachment to mineral particles, and 3) the bioleaching process in this case promotes through the direct mechanism.

In Fe oxidation in TFB, pH of the medium decreased from 2.5 to 2, Probably because of consumption of sulfur compounds in the medium. Deposits in fawn color were observed on the wall of flask, which increased in amount daily; probably the iron hydroxide(jarosite) appeared in pH<2 (Qiu et al., 2005).

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Prevalence of Parasitic Eggs and Parasites Cysts on Computer Mouse and Keyboard in School of Science and Computer Studies of Federal Polytechnic, Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria

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Abstract - The prevalence of parasitic eggs and parasite cysts on computer mouse and keyboard in School of Science and Computer Studies, Federal Polytechnic, Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria was investigated. The total number of samples examined was one hundred and eighty (180) of which twenty nine (29) were positive. The result showed that the samples collected during the first, second, and third weeks had 13, 10, and 6 numbers of cysts and ova respectively. The highest incidence was observed during the first week. Some bacteria such as *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Streptococcus pyogenes*, *Pseudomonas aureginosa* and *Enterococcus faecalis* were also isolated from the sample with the highest incidence found in *Staphylococcus aureus*. It was concluded that the mouse and keyboards could be a source of disease transmission and should be disinfected appropriately and often.

Keywords : Parasitic eggs, Parasite cysts, *Staphylococcus aureus*, Computer keyboard and mouse.

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Prevalence of Parasitic Eggs and Parasites Cysts on Computer Mouse and Keyboard in School of Science and Computer Studies of Federal Polytechnic, Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria

Ajenifuja, Oluwafemi A^α & Ajibade, V.A^ο

Abstract – The prevalence of parasitic eggs and parasite cysts on computer mouse and keyboard in School of Science and Computer Studies, Federal Polytechnic, Ado-Ekiti, Nigeria was investigated. The total number of samples examined was one hundred and eighty (180) of which twenty nine (29) were positive. The result showed that the samples collected during the first, second, and third weeks had 13, 10, and 6 numbers of cysts and ova respectively. The highest incidence was observed during the first week. Some bacteria such as *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Streptococcus pyogenes*, *Pseudomonas aureginosa* and *Enterococcus faecalis* were also isolated from the sample with the highest incidence found in *Staphylococcus aureus*. It was concluded that the mouse and keyboards could be a source of disease transmission and should be disinfected appropriately and often.

Keyword : Parasitic eggs, Parasite cysts, *Staphylococcus aureus*, Computer keyboard and mouse.

I. INTRODUCTION

Parasite is an organism that lives in or on a second organism, called a host, usually causing it some harms. It is generally smaller than the host and of different species (Yusuf, 1990). Parasites are dependent on the host for some or all of their nourishment (Martins *et al*, 1980). Parasite can also be seen as an organism that has a deleterious symbiotics relationship with another organism or host species. A flea or tick is a parasite, bacteria can be parasitic, mistletoe is a parasite (Tanko *et al*, 1999). Parasite sometimes cause the eventual death of the host although not always and this can lead to the parasites demise if it cannot leave or find a new host (Kramer, 2006). Parasites are just about everywhere in our environment, so it's easy to become infected (World Health Organization).

In the 1993, world development report intestinal helminthes rank first as the main cause of disease burden in children aged 5 – 4 years and also rank highly as the disease that can be efficiently control by cost

effective intervention (Lawande, 1983). Multiple infectious with several different parasites e.g. hookworms, roundworms and amoebae are common, and their harmful effects are often aggravated by co-existence malnutrition or micronutrient deficiencies (Akogun, 1989).

In America, parasitic infections are not as widespread but these infections are on the rise for various reasons. For example people bring parasites with them when they migrate to the U.S and soldiers often return to the U.S bringing parasites with them from overseas (Kucik *et al*, 2006). Parasitic infections are common in rural or developing areas of Africa, Asia, and Latin America and less common in developed areas. A person who visits such an area can unknowingly acquire a parasitic infection when the person returns home. In developed areas, parasite infections may also affect immigrants and people with a weakened immune system (such as those who have AIDS or who take drugs that suppress the immune system).

The infections may occur in places with poor sanitation and unhygienic practices. Parasites increase their fitness by exploiting host for resources necessary for the parasites survival i.e. food, water, heat, habitat, soil and dispersal. Parasites reduce host fitness in many ways, ranging from general or specialization pathology such as parasitic castration, impairment of secondary sex characteristic, to the modification of host behaviour (Rufala, 2006).

The Nigeria environment has been described as poor, based on personal, community and environmental hygiene (Akogun *et al*, 1989). This poor state of hygiene is accounted for by the presence of immature stages of parasite (egg and cysts) in the soil (Ali, 1993), in the air (Lawande, 1983) on toilet door handles, on water closet handles (Nock and Geneve, 2003), on becks and legs of domestic chicken (Abuja, 1997) and on the sole of shoes (Tanko, 1999) demonstrating the indiscriminate nature of faecal disposal system. As these show the dynamic transmission network that exist in the Nigeria

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environment, through which parasites infect human and animal hosts; because once they are introduced into the soil, parasites eggs and cysts can be transported on contact with any subject. This accounted for the high prevalence and incidence of parasitic infection in both humans and animals (Hopkins, 1992).

The internet is progressively becoming an effective means of communication in Nigeria, thus there is an upsurge of people visiting the internet cafes, some reason to browse. During the use of the computer, the keyboard and mouse are used for input of commands with the fingers and palms of the hands, thus acting as points of contact between the internet and its users. The internet café is proposed, as a suitable model to test the role it plays in the transmission of parasite cysts and eggs in Federal Polytechnic, ADO-EKITI, Nigeria.

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

a) Collection of Samples

A total number of 180 samples were collected from keyboard and mouse in School of Science and Computer Studies of Federal Polytechnic, ADO-EKITI, Nigeria, over a period of three weeks. Sixty (60) samples were collected in each of the three weeks, 10 samples in the morning and 10 samples in the afternoon, which made up of 20 samples for each week.

b) Preparation of Culture Medium

2.8g of Nutrient Agar was dissolved in 100ml of distilled water and heat to melt. The conical flask was plugged with cotton wool and it was wrapped with foil paper and autoclave for 15mins. It was allowed to cool to between 45°C – 50°C after autoclaving it was poured into sterile Petri dishes and allowed to solidify. It was also poured into McCartney bottles which was half filled and the bottles were placed slantingly on the bench tops to allow the agar to set in form of slopes. The plates were labeled with Date and Name of the organisms to be inoculated. The swab samples collected from computer accessories were inoculated into the various grow media by streaking each nutrient agar plate and the plate were incubated at 30°C for 2 days. The plates were observed after incubation.

c) Preparation of Unstained Wet Mount

A sterile swab stick moistened with normal saline solution was moved over the keyboard and the buttons of computer mouse. Special attention was given to the swabbing of the most commonly used keys for examples 'Enter', 'Spacebar', 'Delete', 'Shift key', etc. These swabs were taken to laboratory in sterile test tube containing 10ml of normal saline and each samples were labeled Day 1, 2, 3, etc. Each sample was further centrifuged at 2000rpm for 3 minutes. The supernatant was discarded and the sediment re-suspended. Little quantity was taken with a Pasteur pipette and placed on a clean microscope glass slide. A drop of lugol's iodine

solution was added and a clean cover slip was placed on the surface and examined under fluorescent microscope x400 magnification.

d) The Gram Staining

The bacterial smear was taken from the prepared Nutrient agar plates into the slide. The slide was placed on the staining rack and a drop of distilled water was added and mixed with the bacterial smear. The smear was flooded with crystal violet stain and left for 60secs. The smear was flooded again with Gram iodine and left for 60secs, after which the iodine was washed off with distilled water. Acetone-alcohol was added until no more colouration is seen to come up; it was washed immediately with distilled water and left for 10 – 15secs. The slides were flooded with carbol fuchsin and left for 1 minute, it was then washed off. It was gently dried between sheets of clean blotting paper and allowed to air-dry. It was examined under the fluorescent microscope x100 oil immersion.

Organisms isolated are;

- Staphylococcus aureus
- Streptococcus pyogenes
- Pseudomonas aeruginosa
- Enterococcus faecalis

e) Catalase test

A loopful of the isolate was placed on a clean sterile slide and a drop of hydrogen peroxides was added. The effervescence of gas is shown by bubbling.

f) Oxidase test

An oxidase strip (i.e. a strip that has been impregnated in the reagent) was smeared with the test organism and left for 10 seconds. Purple colouration is a sign of oxidase.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1 : Prevalence of parasite eggs and cysts on keyboard, and mouse for three days per week in the first week

Days	Number of samples	Positive No.
1	20	6
2	20	3
3	20	4
Total	60	13

Table 2 : Parasite eggs and cysts on keyboard, and mouse for three days per week in the second week.

Days	Number of samples	Positive No.
1	20	4
2	20	3
3	20	3
Total	60	10

Table 3 : Parasite eggs and cysts on keyboard, and mouse for three days per week in the third week.

Days	Number of samples	Positive No.
1	20	3
2	20	3
3	20	0
Total	60	6

Table 4 : Bacterial encountered during the study.

Bacterial isolated	No (%)
Staphylococcus aureus	8 (57)
Streptococcus pryogenes	2 (14)
Pseudomonas aeruginosa	3 (21)
Enterococcus feacalis	1 (7)

Table 5 : Characteristic of the test bacteria.

Test bacteria	Shape	Size (µm)	Motility	Gram reaction	Appearance	Temperature (°C)	Characteristic
S. aureus	Cocci	0.7-1.0	+ve	+ve	White, yellow	37	Anaerobic
Str. pryogenes	Cocci	0.6-1.0	-ve	+ve	Greenish	37	Anaerobic
P. aeruginosa	Rod shape	0.6-1.0	+ve	-ve	Pink-red	37	Aerobic
Ent. feacalis	cocci	1 – 2	-ve	+ve	Yellow pigment	37	Aerobic

IV. DISCUSSION

Overall samples examined were one hundred and eighty (180) and twenty nine (29) of the samples were positive. The results show that first week samples had (13) highest occurrence number of positive samples having eggs and cysts, then followed by second week samples has (10), followed by third week samples which had (6) with the lowest prevalence. Bacteria encountered during the study are; Staphylococcus aureus (08) with the highest occurrence number, then followed by Pseudomonas aeruginosa (3), followed by Streptococcus pryogenes (2) and Enterococcus feacalis (1) with the lowest occurrence number.

Computer technology for the management of individual has become an essential part in all aspect of modern medicine (Fukatat *et al*, 2008). Consequently, the computer keyboard and mouse in the Departments of School of Science and Computer Studies' laboratory in Federal Polytechnic may act as a reservoir for microorganisms. And contribute to the transfer of pathogens from one individual to the other unknowingly. (Hartman *et al*, 2004).

Most of the keyboards examined in the study were contaminated with non pathogenic microorganisms such resident skin flora or environmental bacteria. Long survival time of potentially pathogenic microorganism, particularly on desks, contribute to the hypothesis of computers acting as reservoir of pathogenic (Kassem, 2007). Hence, the process of correct hand disinfection is still the main stay of any preventive measure for the reduction of infections. Hand disinfection policy should not be reserved to student or internet users (Nock and Geneve, 2002). Beside to improve hand hygiene compliance, improvement of cleaning service could admonished as an infective infection control measure (Nock and Brown, 1994). Disinfectant including chlorine, alcohol, phenol

and quarternary ammonium are all effective against Staph. aureus and Enterococcus spp. Species on keyboards of computers and even sterile water is effective to remove more than 95% bacteria (Rutala, 2006). Although keyboard can be safety and successfully disinfected, the need to clean computer interface surface as routine practice is generally accepted, no specific cleaning and disinfection frequency and procedure for computer accessories has been defined. Daily cleaning and hygiene regularly for using computer is of great significance and could help in the reduction of parasite eggs/cysts and pathogenic bacteria and also reduce keyboard contamination (Williams, 2006).

Computer should be disinfected daily and well visibly soiled, Health care workers should not touch computer keyboard and mouse with contaminated hands. Preventive measure should be adopted particularly when the number of people visiting the operating room daily are considered.

The isolation cysts from samples collected on keyboard is an indication that it could be source of transmission of pathogens Krammer *et al*, 2006). These findings correlate with that of (Hartman *et al*, 2004) where it was observed that keyboard houses a lot of parasites.

Staphylococcus aureus which are antibiotic-resistant are found to be predominance bacteria found on keyboard and mouse because they are normal floral of humans found on nasal passage, skin and mucurs membrane, pathogen of humans, causes a wider range of superlative infections, as well as food poisoning and toxic shock syndrome.

The isolation of some bacteria from the keyboard and mouse is an indication that they could be a source of the transmission of diseases. The predominance of Staphylococcus aureus explains the

long standing believe that the skin houses Staphylococcus aureus. The isolation of Streptococcus pyogens which is found in nasal passages is an indication that the bacteria could have been dispersed through droplets from the mouth.

V. CONCLUSION

This study showed that a fairly large number (i.e. 95%) of the computer keyboard and mouse devices which are in use in various areas of the school is contaminated and the discovery of Staphylococci on computer keyboards draw much needed attention to good sanitary habit after utilizing the keyboard and mouse. Additionally, touch of the mouth or the nose while operating the keyboard could have contributed to the contamination because humans can transport staphylococci from the nasal passage.

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Crystal Structure and Kinetic Studies on Met244Ala Variant of KatG from *HALOARCULA MARISMORTUI*

By Takao SATO, Wataru Higuchi, Katsuhiko Yoshimatsu & Taketomo Fujiwara

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Abstract - KatG from *HALOARCULA MARISMORTUI* (*Hm*), used concomitantly with initiator (H_2O_2), exhibits high *catalase* and *peroxidase* activities with substrate (*ODA*). The distal side M244–Y218–W95 covalent adduct and M244 centered octahedral coordination complexes in the active site are essential for the *catalase* activity. Mass spectroscopic analysis of the M244A shows cleavage of the covalent adduct between Y214–W95 and M244 without its sulfur atom. Crystal structure of M244A variant in *Hm*KatG has the geometrically dimeric subunits that disrupted or not a π -interaction which is linked between heme edge (C1C) to the adduct end W95 (Nε1). The isoenzyme pattern of *peroxidase* was determined by fitting the kinetic data to non-linear (mixed) Michaelis-Menten equation and then governed by the hetero-dimeric characters. Respective *peroxidase* catalytic efficiency for two subunits was 2.5 and 4.8 -fold increased with higher binding affinity for *ODA*. It was enhanced by rotating the dihedral angle χ_2 of D125.

Keywords : *Structural and Functional heterodimers/Kinetics on isoenzyme pattern of peroxidase activity / X-ray Crystallography / mass spectrometry.*

GJSFR-G Classification : FOR Code: 060107



CRYSTAL STRUCTURE AND KINETIC STUDIES ON MET244ALA VARIANT OF KATG FROM HALOARCULA MARISMORTUI

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Crystal Structure and Kinetic Studies on Met244Ala Variant of KatG from *HALOARCULA MARISMORTUI*

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Abstract - KatG from *HALOARCULA MARISMORTUI* (*Hm*), used concomitantly with initiator (H₂O₂), exhibits high *catalase* and *peroxidase* activities with substrate (*ODA*). The distal side M244–Y218–W95 covalent adduct and M244 centered octahedral coordination complexes in the active site are essential for the *catalase* activity. Mass spectroscopic analysis of the M244A shows cleavage of the covalent adduct between Y214–W95 and M244 without its sulfur atom. Crystal structure of M244A variant in *Hm*KatG has the geometrically dimeric subunits that disrupted or not a π -interaction which is linked between heme edge (C1C) to the adduct end W95 (N ϵ 1). The isoenzyme pattern of *peroxidase* was determined by fitting the kinetic data to non-linear (mixed) Michaelis-Menten equation and then governed by the hetero-dimeric characters. Respective *peroxidase* catalytic efficiency for two subunits was 2.5 and 4.8 -fold increased with higher binding affinity for *ODA*. It was enhanced by rotating the dihedral angle χ 2 of D125.

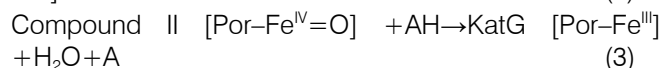
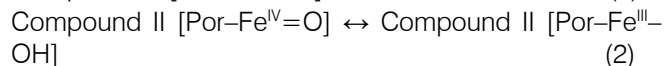
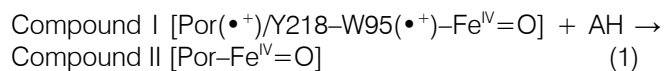
Keywords : Structural and Functional heterodimers / Kinetics on isoenzyme pattern of peroxidase activity / X-ray Crystallography / mass spectrometry.

I. INTRODUCTION

KatG is a bifurcation enzymes that catalysis *catalase* and *peroxidase*, despite differing from mammalian liver *catalase*. It, indeed, belong to a member of the class I of the plant *peroxidase* superfamily (Welinder, 1992) including the heme-containing active sites which consists of *peroxidase*-conserved amino acids at almost identical positions as in class I *peroxidase*. In *peroxidase*, compound I is reduced in two sequential one-electron transfers, usually from donor (AH) (eq. 4) and involve an intermediate called compound II (eqs. 1 and 3). Two resonance structures for compound II could coexist (eq. 2). By first one electron-transfer (ET), the donor (AH, *ODA*; *o*-dianisidine) at nitrogen atom of quinoneimine groups was excited to the *ODA* cation radical (*ODA*(^{•+})) and then by second one ET oxidation from its intermediate can be completed to the product (A, *ODA*_{red}; *o*-dianisidine quinoneimine) (eq. 4).

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Haloarcula marismortui (*Hm*) naturally lives in salt lake and uses sunlight as an energy source. *Hm*KatG shares 55% identity and 69% similarity in its sequence with KatG from *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* (*Mt*) as homologous protein. *Mt*KatG is interesting in its involvement of the activation of *antituberculous* pro-drug isonicotinic acid hydrazide (isoniazide, INH) (Bertrand *et al.*, 2004). INH is activated as its *peroxidase* substrate by *Mt*KatG (Zhang *et al.*, 1992; Johnsson *et al.*, 1995). Resulting radical *via* oxidation prevents growth of the pathogenic microorganism by inhibiting the synthesis of mycolic acid component of the *mycobacterial* cell wall (Heym *et al.*, 1993). Structural and functional information is available for the crystallographic, kinetics and site-directed mutagenesis studies on KatGs (Donald *et al.*, 2003; Jakopitsch *et al.*, 2004; Singh *et al.*, 2004). These structures in combination with the biochemical characterization of variants lead to identify a few of KatG-specific residues (all numbering is for *Hm*KatG), including the cross-linkage covalent adduct among W95, Y218 and M244, unique to KatGs, to coordinate G99 and Y101, D125 and E194, which is known to be mobile in KatG and which is conserved across all KatGs. It is required for [M244A] equivalent variant from *Mt*KatG to be susceptible to INH and known for *peroxidase* reaction. Hence, the M244A mutation in KatGs from *Synechococcus* PCC7942 (*Sy*) and *Bulkholderia pseudomallei* (*Bp*) expected to be one of the commonest causes of increasing sensitivity to *ODA* and, activating significant *peroxidase* while may be remaining slightly *catalase* activities. Therefore, *Hm*KatG [M244A] variant is also expressed with an attempt at rational catalytic redesign, to elucidate *peroxidase* reaction mechanism, because this variant is expected to exhibit the equal to or higher *peroxidase* efficiency than that of Wild-type (WT) KatG. Substitution for M244A induced the significant change in the active site that

would trigger a loss of *catalase* activity and a high enhancement of *peroxidase* activity.

In this paper, *HmKatG* [M244A] variant loses *catalase* but, indeed, reveals the higher *peroxidase* property with isoenzyme pattern that each of subunits exhibits differences between the two kinetic parameters for *ODA* (Ten-I, *et al.*, 2007). This mutation also affected the structure of the access channel and therefore the enzymatic parameters for the *peroxidase* activity. The crystal structure of *HmKatG* [M244A] variant is reported here. Remarkably, each structure of subunits was not entirely identical. Atypical correlation between the reaction rate of turnover and the substrate affinity was properly and accurately described in terms of its heterodimeric character that can be performed separately from two identical subunits (designated A and B) of heterogeneous structural and functional dimer of *HmKatG*.

II. RESOURCE AND TECHNIQUES

a) Experimental Procedures

i. Protein Expression, Purification, Crystallization and Kinetics of the [M244A] Variant of *HmKatG* –

The plasmid pHKH6 *katG* gene was used as the source of *catalase-peroxidase* from *Haloarcula marismortui* (ATCC43049) with a C-terminal poly-His tag. From producing the M244A substitution in *KatG* to yield pHKM244AH6, [M244A] variant of *HmKatG* was prepared, purified and crystallized, as described previously (Ten-I, *et al.*, 2007). Protein concentration was determined by a modified Lowry method (Dulley & Grieve, 1975) using bovine serum albumin as the standard. SDS-PAGE was carried out using the method of Schagger and von Jagow (1987). Spectroscopic measurements in the UV-visible regions were performed using a spectrophotometer model MPS2000 (Shimadzu Co., Kyoto, Japan) with a 1 cm light path cuvette. The level of heme *b* was calculated on the basis of the pyridine ferroheme spectrum using a millimolar extinction coefficient of 34.4 mM⁻¹cm⁻¹ at 557 nm (Falk, 1964). *Catalase* activity of the purified recombinants was measured spectrophotometrically. A broad-range buffer, which was composed of 33 mM each of Na-citrate, Na-phosphate and Tris base, was used for pH adjustment of the reaction mixture at 6. The activity was determined using the reaction mixture containing 2.0 M NaCl, 10 mM H₂O₂. The reaction was started by an addition of the enzyme to the reaction mixture, decay of the absorbance at 240 nm was measured. Millimolar extinction coefficient of H₂O₂ was 0.0436 mM⁻¹cm⁻¹ at 240 nm (Wei *et al.*, 2003). *Peroxidase* activity was measured as the reduction rate of *o*-dianisidine (*ODA*) in the presence of *tert-butyl*peroxide (*t-BuOOH*) by monitoring increase of absorbance at 460 nm. Millimolar extinction coefficient of *ODA* was 11.3 mM⁻¹cm⁻¹ at 460 nm (Worthington, 1988). The *peroxidase* activity was determined using the reaction mixture containing 2.0 M

NaCl, 20 μM *ODA*, 100 mM *t-BuOOH* at pH8. Estimation of kinetic parameters, velocity constant (k_{cat}) and affinity constant (K_m) for *ODA*, were performed by a fit of the 22 data at each concentration to the mixed Michaelis-Menten equation (eq.5) using nonlinear regression analysis program (Sigmaplot 2000 and systat 7.0, www.systat.com, Systat Software Inc.)

$$[V] = 0.5(k_{cat}^A \times [S]) / (K_m^A + [S]) + k_{cat}^B \times [S] / (K_m^B + [S]) \quad (5)$$

In this equation, 0.5 is coefficient constant per number heme *b* in *KatG*, $[V]$ and $[S]$ are the maximal velocity and H₂O₂ or *ODA* concentrations. The *peroxidase* isoenzyme patterns were independent of each subunit. Each of catalytic centers has significantly different kinetic parameters between subunit A (k_{cat}^A and K_m^A) and B (k_{cat}^B and K_m^B), respectively.

ii. Digestion, Fractionation, and Sequence and Mass-Analysis of the Polypeptide –

Endopeptidase digestion of the two *KatG* recombinants was performed as follows: the purified sample (0.2 mg protein) was denatured and precipitated by treating with 5 % (w/v) trichloroacetate. The pellet that obtained centrifugally was dissolved in 100 mM Tris-HCl buffer (pH 9.0) containing 2 M urea to become 0.2 ml in volume. Enzymatic digestion of the polypeptide was performed by treating with *lysyl-endopeptidase* (20 units, Wako Pure Chemical Industries Inc., Osaka, Japan) for 12 hr at 37 °C. Digested peptides thus obtained were fractionated by reverse-phase HPLC in 0.1% tetrafluoroacetate (TFA) with a linear gradient from 0 to 60 % (v/v) acetonitrile over 1 h at 1.0 ml/min with using cosmosil 5C18 packed column (4.6 x 250 mm, Tosoh Co.) equipped with the HPLC system (Shimadzu). N-terminal amino acid sequences of the fractionated peptides were determined by a protein sequencer model PPSQ-21A (Shimadzu). Molecular weight of the fragment was determined by ion spray ionization mass spectrometry using a single quadrupole mass spectrometer (API-150EX, Perkin-Elmer Sciex Instruments, Foster City, CA).

iii. Structure Determination of [M244A] Variant of *HmKatG* –

The crystal structure of [M244A] variant was solved by native model (PDB code 1ITK) for MOLREP (Vagin & Teplyakov, 1997). Rigid-body refinement in REFMAC5 was performed before any refinement or model building. Several rounds of positional and isotropic B-factor refinement using REFMAC5 (Vagin & Teplyakov, 1997; Murshudov *et al.*, 1997), solvent molecules were added to well defined peaks with ARP/warp (Perrakis *et al.*, 1999) and manual modification were performed for the molecular model, using Xfit of XtalView (McRee, 1999). The quality of the models was analyzed using PROCHECK (Laskowski, 1993). Molecular-graphics figures were produced using PyMOL (DeLano, 2002).

iv. Structure Based Substrate Docking and ET Pathway Analyses –

The substrate docking and semi-empirical molecular orbital calculations were carried out with using a MOPAC2002 program (Stewart, 2002) / AM1 wavefunction (Dewar *et al.*, 1985) in BioMedCACHe ver6.1.12.34 (Fujitsu, Tokyo).

Substrate affinity was quantified by binding energy calculated from the docking study. The binding energy for a given ligand (ΔE_{ligand}) can be expressed in (eq.6) as the difference in the energy between complex and components (Fukuzawa *et al.*, 2003).

$$\Delta E_{\text{ligand}} = E_{\text{complex}} - (E_{\text{enzyme}} + E_{\text{ligand}}) \quad (6)$$

, where are the heat of formation energy of each of three systems, i.e., E_{ligand} of H_2O_2 , ODA (or ODA_{red}) and, E_{enzyme} , of the variant, and E_{complex} of the variant complexes with H_2O_2 , ODA (or ODA_{red}). The binding energy can be estimated to subtract the sum of heat of formation energies of each system from that of pair (of the dipartite) system, exhibiting the value of attractive interaction which is negative for MOPAC-specific calculation and can be discussed by the magnitude of its absolute value.

In addition, the ET pathway from the HOMO (the highest occupied molecular orbital; electrophilic reactivity) to the LUMO (the lowest unoccupied molecular orbital; electron affinity) were searched for the crystal structure-based analysis on the frontier electron theory (Fukui *et al.*, 1954; Fukui *et al.*, 1957) that substrate can approach to active site within 3.4 Å (of van der Waals contact), when there is the energy gap within 6eV (Pearson, 1986) and the bonding orbital between HOMO of substrate with electrophilic superdelocalizability (Sr) and LOMO of reactive residue atom with nucleophilic Sr. Starting structure contained for 364 atoms of [M244A], after hydrogen addition to its crystal structure. Geometries were determined by Mechanics optimization using Augmented MM3. All the sets of molecular orbitals (HOMO to LUMO) are generated on the docking model of ligand-protein complexes which involved in the covalent adduct and heme *in vacuo*, to which ligate H_2O_2 as an initiator, ODA as a *peroxidatic* substrate and ODA_{red} as *peroxidase* product were bound.

v. Fragment Analysis -

Fragment approaches were investigated for non-covalent interactions (π -complexes) between fragment 1 (W95 or Y218-W95 adduct) and fragment 2 (heme), using the term “DFT-D3” employing BJ-damping as “DFT-D3 (BJ)” level of theory (Grimme, *et al.*, 2010; 2011). In order to estimate the hole (or electron) mobility calculation between W95 and heme, the electronic coupling term, V (eV), is defined in (eq.7) as follows:

$$V = \{J_{\text{RP}} - S_{\text{RP}}^* (H_{\text{RR}} + H_{\text{PP}}) * 0.5\} / (1 - S_{\text{RP}}^2) \quad (7)$$

, where are charge transfer intergral (hole) HOMO fragment 1-HOMO fragment 2 for J_{RP} , overlap integral (hole) HOMO fragment 1-HOMO fragment 2 for S_{RP} , site energy (hole) HOMO fragment 1 for H_{RR} and HOMO fragment 2 for H_{PP} . The term of charge transfer can be discussed by the magnitude of its square value (V^2). These calculations for charge transfer integral between WT and [M244A] were performed using the ADF2012.01 program package (Scientific Computing & Modelling)(Baerends *et al.*, 2007).

III. RESULTS

a) [M244A] variant exhibits only peroxidase activity with isoenzyme pattern–

Steady state kinetic analyses of the activities of the two recombinants were performed by using a nonlinear regression analysis. In the two subunits of WT enzyme, velocity constant (k_{cat}) of *catalase* activity revealed maximum values ($4.48 \times 10^2 \pm 54.8 \text{ sec}^{-1}$; $7.75 \times 10^3 \pm 2.31 \times 10^3 \text{ sec}^{-1}$) at pH 6.0. Affinity constants (K_m) for H_2O_2 were also determined as $0.130 \pm 0.054 \text{ mM}$; $37.9 \pm 15.4 \text{ mM}$. The *catalase* activity was completely lost by substitution of M244A; no remaining activity can be detected in this measurement system. Kinetics for *peroxidase* activity was also affected drastically by this mutation. *Peroxidase* activity of the WT enzyme showed its maximum at around pH 6.0. On the other hand, *peroxidase* activity of the [M244A] variant also revealed maximum at pH 8.0. *Peroxidase* catalytic efficiency (k_{cat}/K_m for ODA) for two subunits of WT enzyme was calculated as $0.650 \times 10^6 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$ and $0.0196 \times 10^6 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$, respectively, with the coefficient of determination $R^2 = 0.999$ using 8 data points as shown in Table 1. Interestingly, in the *peroxidase* activity of [M244A] variant, relationship between the substrate concentration [S] and the rate of turnover [v] could not be interpreted by a simple Michaelis-Menten's equation. However, according to the mixed Michaelis-Menten equation (eq.5), which was derived from the model, kinetic parameters for subunit A ($k_{\text{cat}}^{\text{A}}$ and K_m^{A}) and for subunit B ($k_{\text{cat}}^{\text{B}}$ and K_m^{B}) were estimated by nonlinear regression analysis program. As shown in Fig. 1, the [v] is the rate of turnover and [S] are the concentration of ODA. [S]– [v] correlation of the *peroxidase* activity in the [M244A] variant at pH 8.0 was reproduced by using the estimated kinetic parameters for subunit A ($k_{\text{cat}}^{\text{A}} = 1.6 \pm 0.27 \text{ sec}^{-1}$ and $K_m^{\text{A}} = 0.97 \pm 0.78 \text{ }\mu\text{M}$) and for center B ($k_{\text{cat}}^{\text{B}} = 4.73 \pm 0.20 \text{ sec}^{-1}$ and $K_m^{\text{B}} = 50.8 \pm 7.8 \text{ }\mu\text{M}$) which is in good agreement with $R^2 = 0.998$. Atypical [S]–[v] curve which was explainable according to the two catalytic center model was also observed. The results indicated the enzymatic feature of the two catalytic centers in *KatG*, one (subunit A) showed low-activity and high-affinity for substrate, while the other (subunit B) is highly active but showed low-affinity.

As shown in Table 1, the substrate affinity constant of subunit B in [M244A] variant was about 7 fold higher affinity of that in the WT enzyme, whereas that of subunit A was comparable with that in the WT enzyme subunit A ($k_{cat}^A = 0.528 \text{ sec}^{-1}$ and $K_m^A = 0.814 \mu\text{M}$) and for subunit B ($k_{cat}^B = 6.92 \text{ sec}^{-1}$ and $K_m^B = 352 \mu\text{M}$). Each subunit A and B for the *peroxidase* activity is of 0.84 and 6.9-fold lower K_m value for [M244A] which is reflected in the 3.0 and 0.7-fold higher k_{cat} value as compared with those of WT. Therefore, the catalytic efficiency (k_{cat}/K_m) for ODA was 2.5 and 4.7-fold increase in *peroxidase* activity, respectively. It was suggested that this site mutation of [M244A] variant is fast rate of turnover for ODA compared with WT, by the cleavage adduct between M244-Y218-W95.

b) Identification of the Covalent-adduct and Partial Cleavage Lysyl endopeptidase-digestion and Mass-spectrometry with Reverse-phase HPLC –

To confirm with or without only a covalent link between side W95 (C η) and Y218 (C ϵ 2) in two subunits, *Lysyl endopeptidase* digestion studies were performed for each of KatG recombinants, WT and [M244A] variant. Following proteolytic digestion, the peptide fragments were separated using reverse-phase HPLC. Fractions were collected, concentrated and submitted for Mass-spectrometry (MS) analysis. Both digests exhibit peptide elution patterns that are very similar, with notable exceptions as indicated in panel A of Fig. 2: the presence of a large peptide cluster in the retention time (r.t.) region of ~45 min in WT KatG is absent in M244A. This difference was highly suggestive of the presence of a M244–Y218–W95 covalent adduct peptide fragment in WT, predicted (from *Lysyl endopeptidase* cleavage sites) to incorporate S66–K131, A184–K235, and N 236–K249, which would be unable to form in [M244A] due to the Met→Ala mutation. Second, several additional peaks, which were not further characterized, were also observed in [M244A] but were absent in WT KatG, and may represent the above uncross-linked peptides. As the HPLC chromatograms were monitored at $\lambda=220\text{nm}$ (peptide backbone), covalent adduct assignments were performed with using the characteristic spectral features and r.t. for either the M244–Y218–W95 or Y218–W95 covalent adducts. The presence of each covalent adducts were confirmed by mass spectrometry for both the M244–Y218–W95 ([S66–K131], [A184–K235], and [N236–K249]) and Y218–W95 ([S66–K131], and [A184–K235]). The M244–Y218–W95 covalent adduct that located on the distal side of the heme, is a structural characteristic common to all the KatGs. *Lyzyl endopeptidase*-digestion and fractionation by HPLC of the two recombinants, both WT KatG and [M244A] variant were performed. The polypeptide in the fraction prepared from the WT exhibited five peaks that include ions at mass/charge (m/z) for the +10 (m/z = 1474.0), +9 (1637.8), +8 (1840.1), +7 (2103.2) and +6 (2453.0)

charged states by electrospray mass spectroscopic analysis (Schnölzer *et al.* 1992). Molecular weight of WT was determined as 14681.4 Da by Mass spectroscopy (MS) (upper panel B in Fig. 2). In this structure, demethylation (C ϵ) in the side-chain of M244 was expected; that is because the electrophilic attack of proton to the S δ of methionine should dominate in the acidic denaturation of the enzyme by TFA. The value of mass 14681.7 Da calculated for the M244–Y218–W95 covalent adduct that combines three polypeptides ([S66–K131], [A184–K235], and [N236–K249]) is in good agreement with the experimentally determined mass of 14681.4 Da, or a mass 0.3 Da lower than the calculated value. It was indicative of the expected covalent-modification among W95, Y218, and M244 side-chains (left in panel C of Fig. 2). In case of M244A (lower panel B in Fig. 3), there are six peaks for the +10 (m/z = 1305.2), +9 (1450.0), +8 (1629.2), +7 (1863.5), +6 (2173.9) and +5 (2608.7) charged states, corresponding to that of the covalent-adduct composed of two polypeptides ([S66–K131] and [A184–K235]). We attribute this mass to a specific cleavage occurring at position M244A (i.e. loss of residues [N236–K249]) of the M244–Y218–W95 covalent adduct, whose calculated value (12958.8 Da) is also consistent with an experiment based on a mass of 12960.0 Da, or a mass 2 Da more than that calculated for the Tyr–Trp adduct. This profile indicates the presence of the Y218–W95 covalent adduct in [M244A] predicted from *endopeptidase* digest and the combination of Y218–W95 dipeptides are most likely (right in panel C of Fig. 2).

c) N-terminal sequence analysis –

The preparation for this analysis obtained from the two enzymes was shown in Fig. 3. In the sample from the WT enzyme, three amino acid residues appeared in each cycles with almost equimolar ratio, demonstrating that the sample would contain three polypeptides ([S66–K131], [A184–K235], and [N236–K249]), as predicted from *lysyl - endopeptidase* cleavage site. In case of the [M244A] variant, two residues appeared in each cycles, suggesting the presence of two polypeptides ([S66–K131] and [A184–K235]). The result also evidenced the presence of [M244–Y218–W95] covalent adduct in the WT enzyme, and the presence of [Y218–W95] adduct in the [M244A] variant.

In the M244I variant from *MtKatG* (Ghiladi *et al.*, 2005b; Ghiladi *et al.*, 2005c) and *SjKatG* (Jakopitsch *et al.*, 2004), analysis of MS data has demonstrated the presence of the covalent adduct between Y218 and W95, corresponding to the result of *HmM244A* variant. The formation of the dipeptide [Y218–W95] covalent bond has been proposed to occur upon the simultaneous on electron oxidation of both the phenol of Y218 and indole rings of W95, respectively, by KatG Compound I formation. Thus it is suggested that the

absence of a coordinate centered sulfur atom in position 244 is most likely the reason as to why the *HmKatG* [M244A] variant did not exhibit a tripeptide [M244–Y218–W95] covalent adduct, in spite of the presence of a redox active side-chain (indole group) of N ϵ 1 atom in position 95 adjacent to heme. As only one of the INH - resistance conferring *MKatG* variants has been found to conclusively cause a complete lack of *catalase* activity ([R409L], Ghiladi *et al.*, 2004), the result is in good agreement with study previously reported which noted any correction between drug susceptibility and the absence of the tri-peptide [M244–Y218–W95] covalent adduct.

d) Heterologously-Structured Dimer Subunits in [M244A] Variant –

The crystal structure of *HmKatG* [M244A] variant was determined by using Molecular replacement method with WT (PDB code 1ITK) as probe molecule. Structural refinement statistics are shown in Table 2. The overall structure is similar to that of the WT. The average r.m.s. deviation between each subunit are 0.67 Å for the backbone C α atoms, respectively. For [M244A] variant, the electron density maps defined backbone and side-chain atoms of 1380 amino acid residues, two iron atoms, two heme groups and 306 water molecules in two subunits. Residues 1–29, 295–301 and 727–731 of both subunits are not included in the final model because they are invisible or suspense in the electron density map. The model has crystallographic agreement R and R_{free} factors of 28.3% and 32.5% for 71879 reflections in the resolution limit of 2.33Å. On the other hand, an asymmetric unit of [M244A] variant crystal contains two subunits A and B related by non-crystallographic two-fold symmetry. The comparison of the dimer structures in [M244A] reveals remarkable few changes, which are the relative displacement of W95, H96, D125, E194 and E222 for 1.5 Å, 0.82 Å, 0.81 Å, 0.87 Å, 0.814Å and 0.824Å significant for overall 0.49 Å r.m.s. displacement in backbone atoms.

e) Covalent-adduct, Heme Distal Side of the Active Center and Substrate Access Channel –

The electron density maps corresponding to the active centers in subunit A and B of [M244A] variant are clearly evident to be in the different state as shown in Fig. 4. In subunit A, there is no continuous electron density and a link between distal side tryptophane and tyrosine could not be found but distance between Y218 C ϵ 1 and W95 C η is 2.42Å, suggesting the presence of covalent adduct between the Y218 and W95. By contrast, in subunit B, the distance between Y218 C ϵ 1 and W95 C η is 1.76Å, strongly demonstrating the covalent-linkage between Y218 and W95. The lower electron density was caused by the disorder effect of mobile Y218 on the flexible LL1 loop which formed the substrate access channel into the cavity as shown in Fig.6. Such flexibility may be observed in subunit A.

Moreover, A244 C β moves away from Y218 C ϵ 2 at 0.95Å and 0.824Å, respectively. By substitution of Met244 to Ala, the covalent adduct between M244 and Y218 was disrupted. This clearly rules out the hypothesis that M244 takes part in the integrity and/or formation of the covalent bond between Y218 and W95. Structural information obtained from X-ray crystallography on the [M244A] variants can confirm these results from MS. In this work, we have demonstrated that M244 variants affect the linkage between W95 and Y218.

f) Mobile D125

Side-chain of D125, which located at the bottom of the channel, showed remarkable structural change in the [M244A] variant. In subunit A, the side-chain D125 is hydrogen (H-) bond interaction with the backbone amino nitrogen of I217, resulted perpendicular rotation of χ 2 of D125 side-chain to face the imidazole of H96 (Fig. 5). D125 in subunit B was still fixed as well as the original architecture observed in the WT enzyme by H-bonding with backbone of I217 in the LL1 loop. D125 has been known to be important in the H₂O₂ oxidation to date (Jakopitsch *et al.*, 2003a; Singh *et al.*, 2004). However, there is a dramatic reversal of the side chain dihedral angle χ 2 of D125 without backbone distortion with respect to that of the WT structure. In subunit A, the larger dihedral angle χ 2 of D125 than that in subunit B, which the side-chain of D125 is reoriented to bind *peroxidase* substrate as ODA or water molecule as deriving from H₂O₂, respectively. Hence, the mobile D125 residue will also be suggestive of utilizing as both initiator H₂O₂ and substrate recognition, making it effective in binding substrate, though disruption of π -complexes with heme and W95 known to act on as molecular switch from the *catalase* to the *peroxidase* (Carpena *et al.*, 2005). Also the backbone amino N of I217, a proton donor, forms an H-bond to the oxygen O δ 1 of the side-chain carbonyl group of D125 with displacement from at a distance of 2.69Å toward 2.80 Å, rotating by 63.8° with respect to the O δ 1–C γ –O δ 1 (I217) angle. Thus it can be concluded that no H-atom is seen in the C=O δ 1 group (D125). When O δ 2 in the side chain of the D125 can be an ionized carboxyl group at optimum pH6 near pKa value of 4.0, it is implying that O δ 2 is the –OH position and that an ionized carboxyl group of D125 cannot be proton acceptor but may be a powerful proton donor for *peroxidase* substrate. Because of possible function of D125 for binding the *peroxidase* substrate, one of two catalytic centers with extremely high affinity ($K_m^A = 0.974 \mu\text{M}$) for ODA in M244A variant would be attributed to rotate the side-chain dihedral angle χ 2 by 61.3° of the mobile D125 in the subunit A.

g) Access Channel –

While the WT exhibits *catalase* activity that can detoxify oxidative radicals, stabilizing LL1 loop by covalent adduct linkage between Y218 and M244 on

helix E, the [M244A] variant lost *catalase* activity due to the cleavage of the linkage and then the mobile upstream residues of LL1 (accompanied by the mobile D125). When the displacement of E194 and E222 was endured by the flexible response of the downstream portion of LL1 loop, it allows the mouth of the channel to open and to facilitate adequate uptake of substrate into the heme cavity. Side-chain of E194 on LL1 loop locates at the entrance of the channel and was also affected by this mutation.

h) π -complexes between W95 and Heme –

The Structural architecture of the distal residues shows significant differences between the subunit A and B. As shown in Fig.6, the distance between indole nitrogen atom of W95 (N ϵ 1) and carbon atom (C1C) in heme pyrrole ring C is 3.87Å and 3.25Å, respectively, on the vicinity of γ meso heme edge in subunits A and B. It is suggested that the space of heme pocket was extended in subunit A and indole ring of W95 could not form π -complexes with the porphyrin. The π interaction between the distal W95 and heme can stack and may form the ET complex, since resulting from π interaction distance that is slightly shorter 3.25Å in subunit B than the 3.3 Å distance observed in WT enzyme. According to Marcus theory, the electronic coupling term, V, depends on the distance between the electron donor (heme) and electron acceptor (W95). The electronic coupling term of WT is of high square value of 0.06836 eV² and 0.79315 eV² for subunit A and B, respectively. M244A exhibits 0.00241 eV² and 0.04082 eV² during *peroxidase* cycle, which would not almost transfer electron from Heme to W95. It is strongly sensitive to the electronic coupling term that the rate of ET in protein controls the *catalase* function.

IV. DISCUSSION

a) Functional Prediction guided by Docking Study with H₂O₂, ODA (or ODA_{red}) molecule based on the structure of [M244A] –

Though K_m values (affinity) for H₂O₂ to [M244A] cannot be detected from kinetic study, the structure-based docking calculation is useful in distinguishing subunit A from B, in [M244A] variant that has binding H₂O₂ affinity. It cannot estimate only H₂O₂ affinity but can also predict the proposal space among three target residues as W95, H96 and D125. The docking energies defined as the negative value of attractive binding energy, which each subunit A and B is of (-30.3kcal/mol; -23.9kcal/mol) for W95, (-29.9 kcal/mol; -18.2 kcal/mol) for H96 and (-32.1 kcal/mol; -30.3kcal/mol) for D125 as shown in Table 3.

A calculated binding energy in the [M244A] variant (-76.5 kcal/mol for subunit A; -30.9 kcal/mol for B) also reveals to have significantly high affinity for ODA and a possible site has been proposed in a cavity on the distal side of the heme. Consequently, the porphyrin

carbon atom (CHB) of δ -meso heme edge, which is in the position to make a 90-degree turn to the right from γ - meso edge of the heme plane (in Fig.6), may serve as a docking site for substrate as ODA or ODA_{red} (ODA cation radical; ODA (\cdot^+)). However, the specific enhancements in *peroxidase* can be influenced by the ODA affinity difference between each subunit. The 2-fold higher energy for subunit A than that of subunit B has been predicted from docking with *peroxidase* substrate as ODA. The binding site of ODA_{red} had been estimated with -46.6 kcal/mol from docking calculations against D125 for subunit A but repulsion energy for subunit B in Table 3. Thus the active site of subunit A exhibits the higher affinity for the imino (>C=NH) group of ODA_{red} and deprotonate the amino (-NH₂) group of ODA more efficiently than that of the subunit B. The difference of catalytic efficiency in M244A here is of the 18 fold higher subunit A than that of B. Arising from the H-bonding interaction with either ODA or ODA_{red}, the promising *peroxidase* in [M244A] variant may result from lost *catalase* activity by a change in the localized electronic state between C1C and CHB in the heme edge.

b) Reasonableness of peroxidatic expression evaluated by [M244A] Structure- based Frontier Orbital Calculations

While the difference between WT KatG and [M244A] variant structures are very subtle changes and the structural integrity is highly maintained, the HOMO/LUMO orbital calculation appears to functioning of the enzyme. When the ODA binds to δ -edge of the heme estimated as of LUMO and then W95 cleavage from the γ -heme edge, KatG appears to convert from *catalase* into *peroxidase* function. As shown in Table 4, indeed, it is supported that *catalase* activity lost when ET cannot complete between C1C carbon Heme and N ϵ 1 nitrogen atom W95. Though the C1C carbon atoms [for subunit A of -0.96eV and B of -1.27eV] of the heme is mix of LUMO orbital with nucleophilic Sr of (0.523, 0.771) and temporary HOMO with electrophilic Sr of (0.510, 0.437), the C1C can either less than 3.3 Å or always link the π - π interaction to W95, if W95 N ϵ 1 (\cdot^+) cation radical show usually HOMO with electrophilic Sr of (0.462, 0.518) and transient LUMO orbital with nucleophilic Sr of (0.487, 0.355) on the covalent adduct of Y218–W95 [-7.57eV, respectively, and -7.62eV], since both energy gaps exceed the capacity of ET over 6 eV, having no *catalase* activity for [M244A]. Having electron-withdrawing (proton donor) group, CHB carbon atoms of heme are of LUMO in subunit A [-1.87eV] and B [-1.39eV] and also exhibit most active due to nucleophilic Sr of (1.113, 0.924). The most likely site of binding *peroxidase* substrate would be the CHB atom in the δ -meso heme edge. The *peroxidase* substrate acts as the electron donor in the *peroxidase* reaction. It is possible to recognize as the *peroxidase* substrate with the presence of the ODA. However, without the ODA in

especially subunit B of M244A, Compound I and W95 were elaborated by ET to W95 (\bullet^+) cation radical from Por(\bullet^+) via π -complex between them. When electron donation to the W95(\bullet^+) cation radical from C1C atom on Por (\bullet^+), compound II reverts to compound I. The working hypothesis of the present study therefore includes the assumption that expression of *catalase* function may be converted by ET pathway for ODA into *peroxidase* which is inherent in KatG. In subunit B, the orbital between C1C Heme and N ϵ 1 W95 become the binding orbital (in green and yellow) and promotes the bonding of π -system of between indole rings of Trp and pyrrole ring of heme, which may be reclaiming compound I. In subunit A, there is no π -bonding interaction between N ϵ 1 W95 and C1C Heme. There would not be ET at all. The two electrons normally occupy in each orbital (in red and blue) are produced by the excitation of photoreaction using sunlight as energy source and therefore Heme edge become of LUMO and may have reduction of compound II when ODA(\bullet^+) radical cation bound to CHB.

Kinetic parameters in the *HmKatG* [M244A] variant are determined by fitting the kinetic data to non-linear (mixed) Michaelis-Menten equation and show that isoenzyme pattern of active two catalytic center motifs typical of *peroxidases*. For crystallographic analysis of *HmKatG* [M244A] variant indicated that KatG is a functional heterodimer in governing KatG dimeric subunits structure. Despite of missing *peroxidase* substrate, no *catalase* reactivity against the second H₂O₂ exhibits at all so that the electron cannot transfer from M244 to the covalent adducts W95 via Y218. In spite of a π - π^* electron interaction of the heme with the covalent adduct W95, the ability to transfer electron between an electrophile of tyrosinate of Y218 and the nucleophile of sulfur cation was lost by the deletion mutation at the position 244. Therefore KatG is considered the *catalase* function to use a methionine nucleophile intramolecularly- and octahedrally-coordinated complex with the carbonyl O atoms of Y101 and G99. [M244A] was of not identical electron pathway in two subunits. The phenolic group of Y218 could move its side chain closer to the indole group of W95 in subunit B than that of subunit A. Subunit A disrupted a possible π - π^* interaction between W95 and heme. Including the differences in active site geometry, it would be sufficiently stronger to facilitate the oxoferryl (Fe (IV) =O) reduction in the *peroxidase* reaction. And back donation of electron from heme edge to W95 would suffice for compound I revitalization.

ODA binding affinity for subunit A was enhanced by χ^2 of 61.3° in the carboxyl side chain of D125. On the contrary, in subunit B, the consequent ET from heme to W95 could explain the enhancement of *peroxidase* and iteratively-generated compound I intermediate. The isoenzyme pattern of *peroxidase* was discussed in terms of its hetero-dimeric character of

peroxidatic subunit A for reduction of compound II and subunit B for reclaiming compound I. The value of catalytic efficiency (k_{cat}/K_m) for the *peroxidatic* reaction catalyzed by the *HmKatG* [M244A] variant falls within the expected range for an efficient enzyme (Albery & Knowles, 1976).

The M244–Y218–W95 covalent adduct confirms to be essential for the *catalase* activity. It was also constructed to explore the effect of successive triple base substitutes for Met244 to Ala and to cleavage the covalent bond amongst the tri-peptide. The [M244A] variant that coupled with the structure based-evolution within laboratory time scale is not biochemically associated with INH susceptibility. *Catalase* activity of KatG prevents INH oxidation to the active form. Despite of INH resistance-conferring variants, this “unnatural” protein engineering for *HmKatG*, can confirm the inherent *catalase* functional capability for M244 of capping the C-terminal ends of E-helix in KatG. Perhaps the most intriguing feature of the *MKatG* is its ability to mediate INH susceptibility. In the closing discussion, lastly the kinetic characterization of KatG enzyme in this bacterial has been detected isoenzyme pattern of *peroxidases*. For a better understanding of the complex interrelations between *catalase* and *peroxidase* and the oxidation of phenols, *peroxidases* are highly polymorphic enzymes, and the functionality of each isoenzyme depends on its (acidic) nature and its persistent growth phase of the *Mt* clinical strains. In order to facilitate the *peroxidase* activity and to understand the metabolic functions that are needed for the persistence of *Mt*, the structure based compounds can be useful in the design of HIV/anti-tuberculosis drugs that could eradicate persists effectively.

V. CONCLUSION

KatG exhibits *catalase* and *peroxidase* Sulfer-centered M244 coordinated complexes with carbonyl oxygens of G99 or Y101, the covalent adduct, and π -conjugated complexes interacted with heme facilitate *catalase* reaction. It is crucial for understanding INH-sensitivity process how KatG functional groups participate in *peroxidase* catalysis.

VI. ABBREVIATIONS

INH, isoniazide, isonicotinic acid hydrazide; H₂O₂, hydrogen peroxide; *t*-BuOOH, *tert*-butylperoxide; ODA, *o*-dianisidine, 4-(4-amino-3-methoxyphenyl)-2-methoxyaniline; ODA (\bullet^+), ODA cation radical; ODA_{red}, *o*-dianisidine, quinoneimine, 4-(4-imino-3-methoxycyclohexa-2,5-dien-1-ylidene)-2-methoxycyclohexa-2,5-dien-1-imine; HOMO, the highest occupied molecular orbital (electrophilic reactivity); LUMO, the lowest unoccupied molecular orbital (electron affinity); Sr, superdelocalizability.

VII. DATA DEPOSITION:

The atomic coordinates and structure factors have been deposited in the Protein Data Bank, www.rcsb.org (PDB ID codes 3VLM for M244A)

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Table 1 : Kinetic Constants for *peroxidase* activity associated WT *HmKatG* and M244A variant.

All the kinetic constants was measured at Optimum pH. The averages and standard deviations were obtained from 8 individual data.

Subunit	WT		M244A	
	A	B	A	B
pH	6		8	
k_{cat} (s^{-1})	$0.528 \pm 5.53 \times 10^{-2}$	6.92 ± 0.641	1.60 ± 0.27	4.73 ± 0.20
K_m (μM)	0.814 ± 0.686	$3.52 \times 10^2 \pm 58.6$	0.974 ± 0.782	50.76 ± 7.76
k_{cat} / K_m ($\times 10^6 M^{-1} s^{-1}$)	0.650	0.0196	1.645	0.092
R^2	0.999		0.998	

Table 2: Structural refinement statistics

	M244A
Refinement	25.0-2.33
Number of reflections	71879
$\dagger R_{work}(\%)$	28.3
$\ddagger R_{free}(\%)$	32.5
Number of residues	1325
Number of water molecules	151
R.m.s.d.bond length (Å)	0.019
R.m.s.d.angle(°)	1.796
Average B-factor (Å ²)	
Protein atoms	39.79
Water molecules	32.5

$\ddagger R_{free}$ was calculated using a set of reflections where 10% of the total reflections had been randomly omitted the refinement and used to calculate R_{work} .

40

Table 3: Binding Energies for [M244A] Variant Associated with Initiator H₂O₂ and Substrates ODA.

It is suggested as binding affinity that the value of ΔE_{ligand} is negative to be predicted by docking calculation with the initiator H₂O₂ and the *Peroxidase* substrate ODA and ODA_{red}, according to eq.6.

M244A variant	A		B		A		B	
	initiator		Substrate for Compound I		substrate for Compound II			
Ligand	H ₂ O ₂		ODA		ODA _{red}			
Target residue								
W95 (kcal/mol)	-30.3	-23.9						
H96 (kcal/mol)	-29.9	-18.2						
D125 (kcal/mol)	-32.1	-30.3	-46.6	repulsive	-76.5		-30.9	
E194 (kcal/mol)	-22.5	-23.7	-70.0	-71.4	-67.9		-66.1	
E222 (kcal/mol)	-21.2	-20.1	repulsive	-32.8	-21.2		-44.8	
S305 (kcal/mol)	repulsive	-17.7	repulsive	-8.4	repulsive		-9.5	
Heme (kcal/mol)	-26.6	-23.9	repulsive	repulsive	-69.3		-26.9	

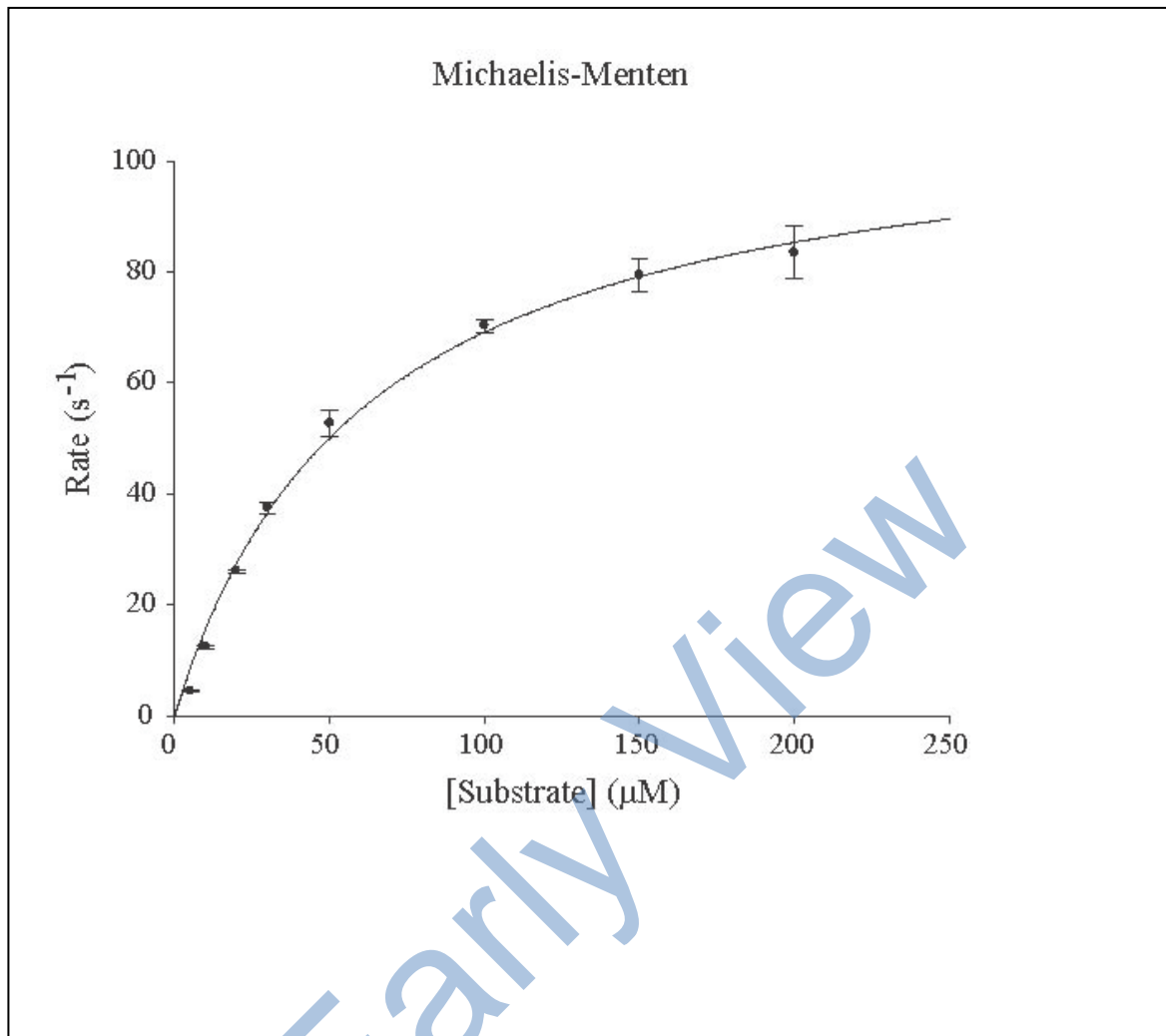
Table 4: Each Subunit of MO Energy in the π -complexes with Y218-W95 covalent adduct of *Hrr*KatG [M244A] Variant.

The frontier molecular orbital of (a) HOMO and (b) LUMO Energies for active site model, [M244A] variant associated with *peroxidase* reaction.

reaction	Subunit	M244A		ODA		ODA _{red}	
		A	B	A	B	A	B
<i>catalase</i>							
HOMO(cation radical) (eV)	Y218-W95 Nε1(• ⁺)	-7.57	-7.62				
LUMO(eV)	Heme C1C	-0.96	-1.27				
The energy gap (eV)		6.61	6.35				
Distance (Å)		3.9	3.3				
Phase & orbital		matching	matching				
ET		impossible	possible				
<i>peroxidase</i>							
HOMO(cation radical) (eV)				-7.522	-7.400	-7.468	
LUMO(nucleophilic) (eV)	Heme CHB	-1.87	-1.39	-1.759	-1.288	-1.639	
The energy gap (eV)				5.76	6.11	5.83	
Distance (Å)				3.16	3.06	3.40	
orbital				bonding	bonding	bonding	
ET				possible	possible	possible	

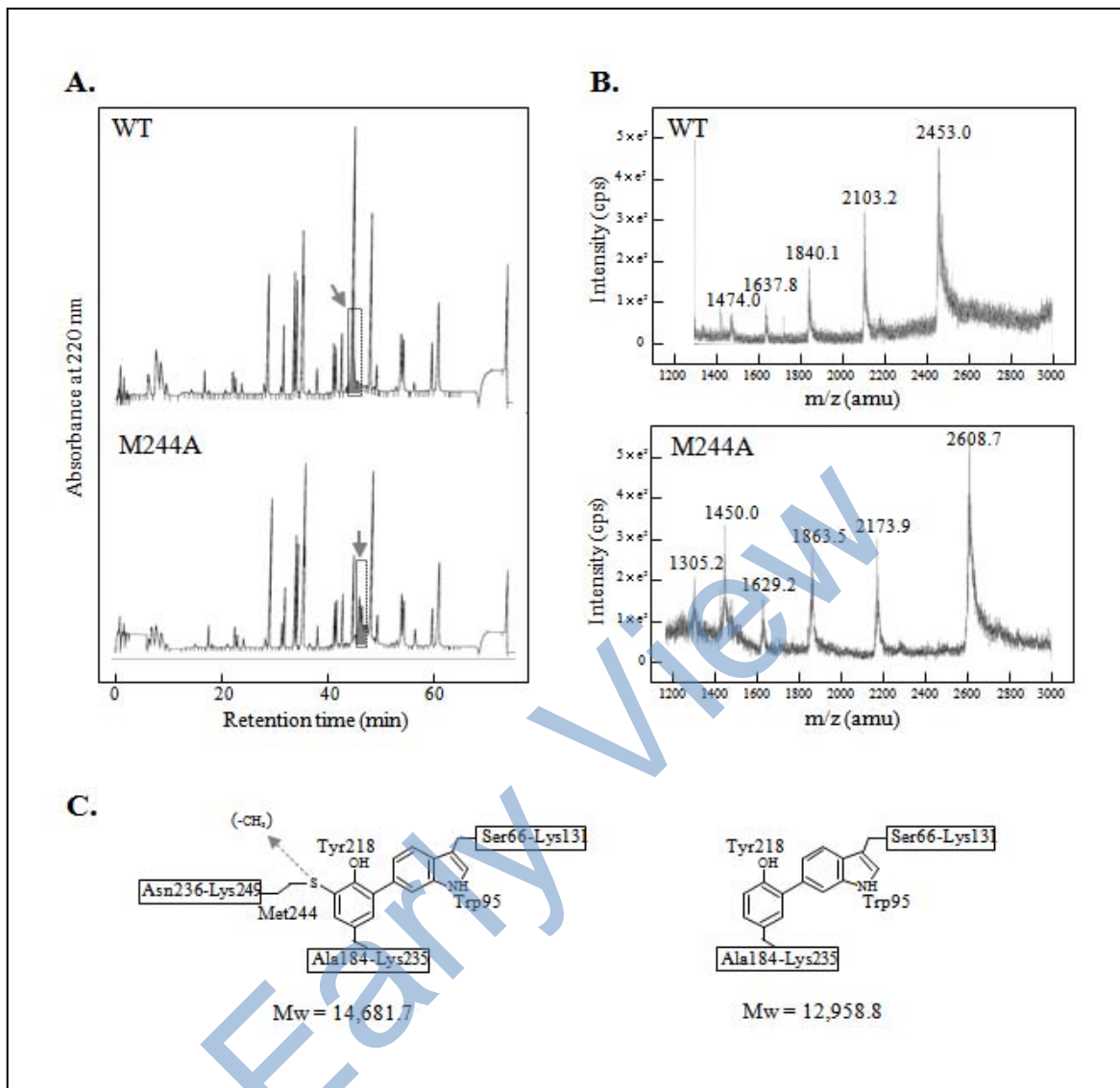
FIGURE LEGENDS

Figure 1 : Mixture Michaelis-Menten Plotting of *Peroxidase* activity of *HmkatG* [M244A] variant.



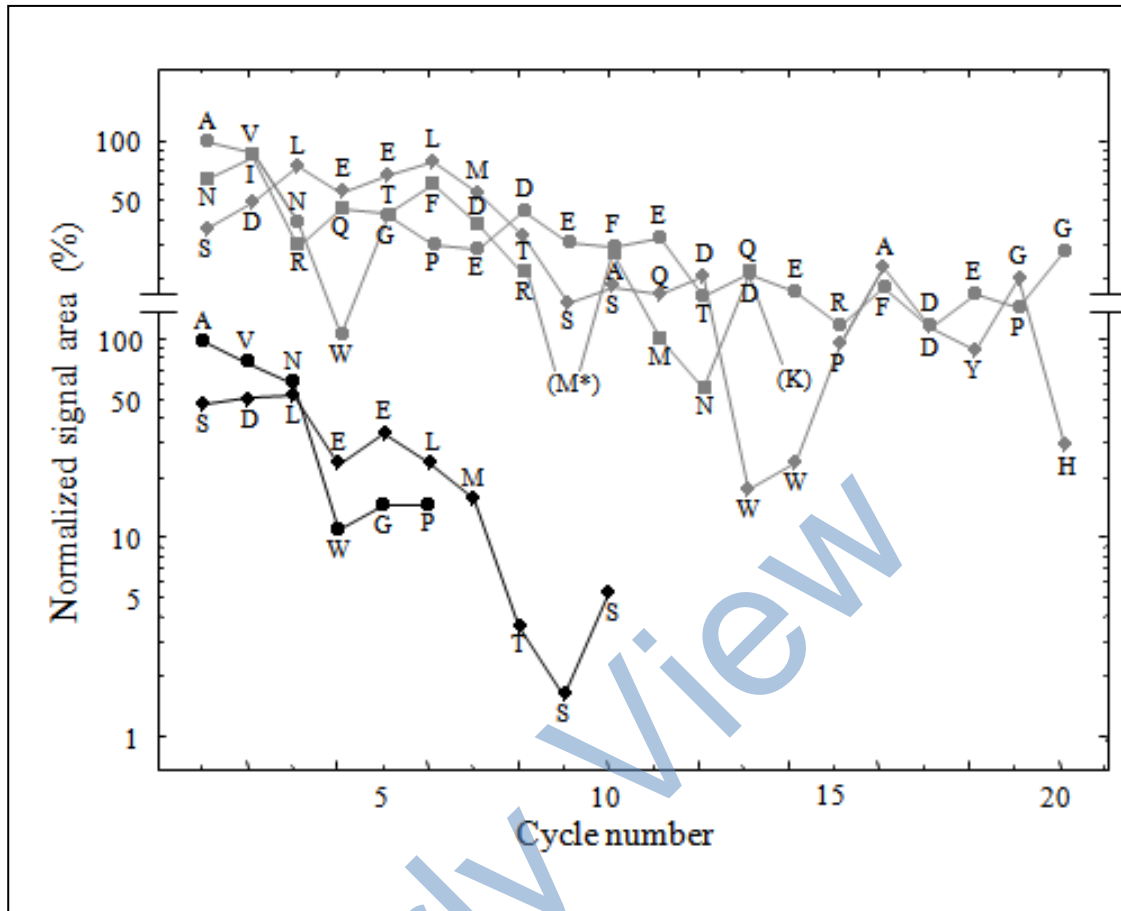
The reaction velocity [Rate, v] was plotted against the initial ODA concentration [Substrate, S]. Data were fitted to the Mixture Michaelis-Menten equation, yielding the kinetic parameters for the two catalytic center models (eq.5).

Figure 2 : Fractionation and Mass spectroscopic Analysis of Polypeptides Obtained by *Lysyl-endopeptidase* Digestion of WT and [M244A] variant of *HmKatG*.



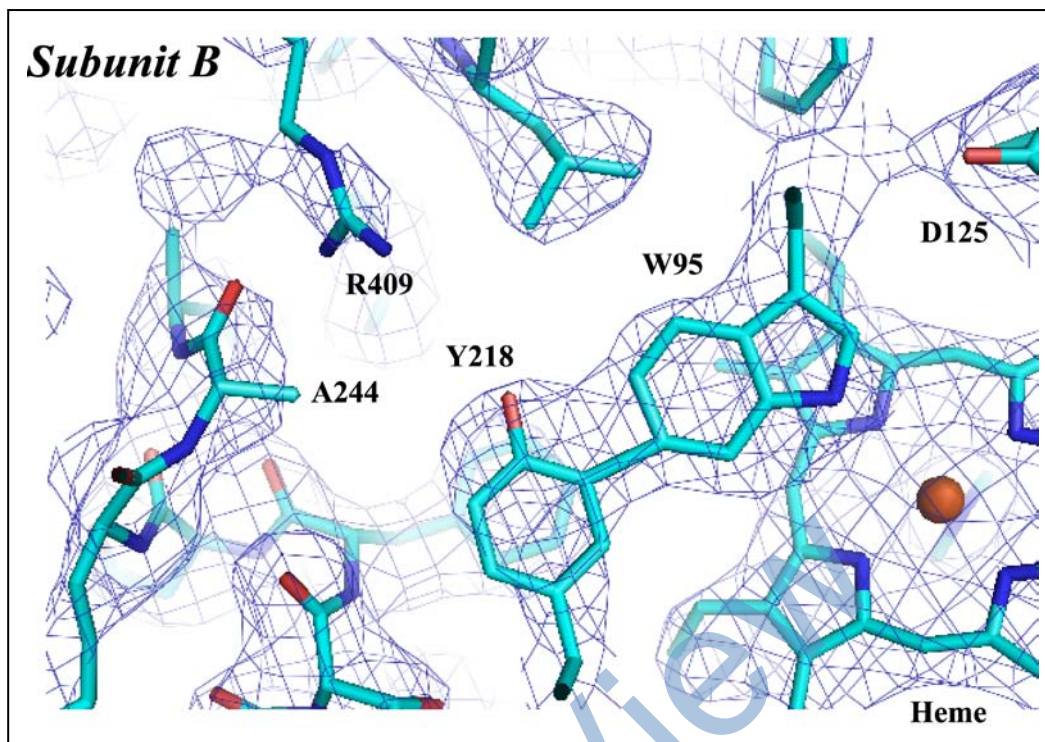
(A) HPLC chromatograms (0–75 min region) of the *lysyl-endopeptidase* digests for WT (top) and [M244A] (bottom) monitored at $\lambda=220$ nm. The region (r.t. ~ 45 min), corresponding to the covalent adducts, is highlighted (Fig.3, boxed area). Their fractions were corrected with the broad signals appeared at the different positions. (B) Mass spectrum (in the m/z range of 1200–3000 Da) of the covalent adducts. The polypeptide prepared for both WT (upper panel) and [M244A] (lower) and was shown. (C) Fragment assignment from M244–Y218–W95 covalent adduct (left) and Y218–W95 (right). The cleavage that produced the base peak and the ion at m/z 1305.2 Da is shown in C (right).

Figure 3: N-terminal Amino Acid Sequence of the *Endopeptidase*-digested Fragment Containing the Covalent-adduct.



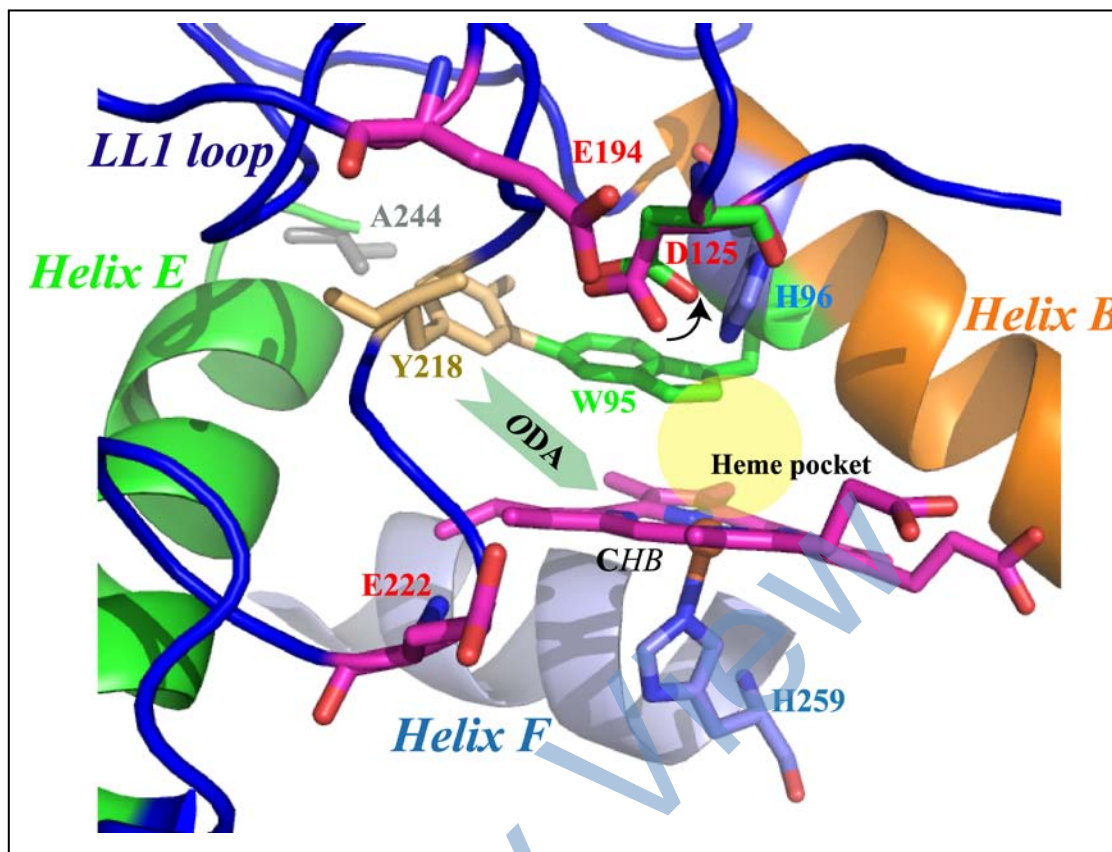
N-terminal amino acid sequence of the fragments purified from the WT (gray line) and [M244A]-variant (black line) of *HmKatG* were analyzed. Signal areas of each residue were normalized by that of Alanine appeared at the first cycle (corresponding to A184). The signal that corresponded to M244 (M* in the figure) was not observed.

Figure 4 : The $2|F_o|-|F_c|$ electron density map around the covalent adduct in [M244A].



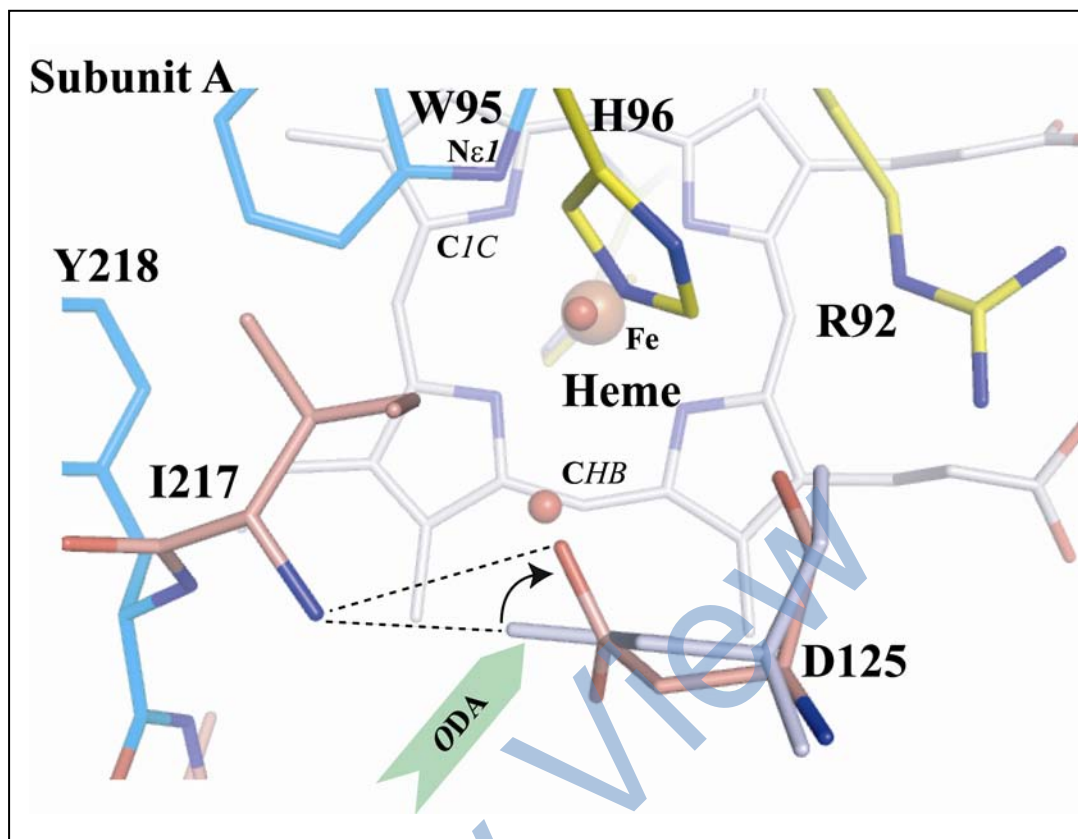
The electron density map in the vicinity of A244, Y218, W95 and heme is shown in subunit B and is contoured at 1σ (pale blue). The atom color is cyan for carbon, dark blue for nitrogen, red for oxygen and orange for heme iron. The figure was constructed using Pymol (DeLano, 2002).

Figure 5 : Mobile D125 relevant to Active Site Involving LL1 loop and Helices B, E and F in the Subunit B of [M244A] variant.



The distal H96 (on helix B; orange) and proximal H259 (on helix F; pale blue) are shown in blue. The W95 (on helix B), Y218 (on LL1 loop; cyan) and A 244 (on helix E; green) residues in green, orange, and gray. The porphyrin and its iron atom of Subunit B are represented in magenta sticks and orange sphere. The latent access channel residues of D125, E194 and E222 locate on LL1 loop, showing in red. The mobile D125 superposed that of Subunit A in WT.

Figure 6 : π -complex cleavage between W95 and Heme in subunit A of [M244A] to form ODA binding site.



The cleavage of π -complex to W95 (N ϵ 1) and γ -meso heme edge (C1C) convert from *catalase* into *peroxidase* function due to arise from the H-bonding interaction with ODA near the porphyrin carbon atom (CHB) of δ -meso heme edge, accompanied by mobility of D215. The distal R92 and H96 are presented in yellow, the Y218 and W95 covalent adduct in cyan, and D125 and I217 in pink, showing in subunit A. The nitrogen, oxygen and heme iron atoms are colored for dark blue, red, and orange. D125 in subunit B is colored blue-white and water molecule is shown as red spheres. The figure is view from the distal side of Fig 5.

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31. Adding unnecessary information: Do not add unnecessary information, like, I have used MS Excel to draw graph. Do not add irrelevant and inappropriate material. These all will create superfluous. Foreign terminology and phrases are not apropos. One should NEVER take a broad view. Analogy in script is like feathers on a snake. Not at all use a large word when a very small one would be



sufficient. Use words properly, regardless of how others use them. Remove quotations. Puns are for kids, not grunt readers. Amplification is a billion times of inferior quality than sarcasm.

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33. Report concluded results: Use concluded results. From raw data, filter the results and then conclude your studies based on measurements and observations taken. Significant figures and appropriate number of decimal places should be used. Parenthetical remarks are prohibitive. Proofread carefully at final stage. In the end give outline to your arguments. Spot out perspectives of further study of this subject. Justify your conclusion by at the bottom of them with sufficient justifications and examples.

34. After conclusion: Once you have concluded your research, the next most important step is to present your findings. Presentation is extremely important as it is the definite medium through which your research is going to be in print to the rest of the crowd. Care should be taken to categorize your thoughts well and present them in a logical and neat manner. A good quality research paper format is essential because it serves to highlight your research paper and bring to light all necessary aspects in your research.

INFORMAL GUIDELINES OF RESEARCH PAPER WRITING

Key points to remember:

- Submit all work in its final form.
- Write your paper in the form, which is presented in the guidelines using the template.
- Please note the criterion for grading the final paper by peer-reviewers.

Final Points:

A purpose of organizing a research paper is to let people to interpret your effort selectively. The journal requires the following sections, submitted in the order listed, each section to start on a new page.

The introduction will be compiled from reference matter and will reflect the design processes or outline of basis that direct you to make study. As you will carry out the process of study, the method and process section will be constructed as like that. The result segment will show related statistics in nearly sequential order and will direct the reviewers next to the similar intellectual paths throughout the data that you took to carry out your study. The discussion section will provide understanding of the data and projections as to the implication of the results. The use of good quality references all through the paper will give the effort trustworthiness by representing an alertness of prior workings.

Writing a research paper is not an easy job no matter how trouble-free the actual research or concept. Practice, excellent preparation, and controlled record keeping are the only means to make straightforward the progression.

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· Adhere to recommended page limits

Mistakes to evade

Insertion a title at the foot of a page with the subsequent text on the next page

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- Separating a table/chart or figure - impound each figure/table to a single page
- Submitting a manuscript with pages out of sequence

In every sections of your document

- Use standard writing style including articles ("a", "the," etc.)
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- Use paragraphs to split each significant point (excluding for the abstract)
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- Present your points in sound order
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The summary should be two hundred words or less. It should briefly and clearly explain the key findings reported in the manuscript-- must have precise statistics. It should not have abnormal acronyms or abbreviations. It should be logical in itself. Shun citing references at this point.

An abstract is a brief distinct paragraph summary of finished work or work in development. In a minute or less a reviewer can be taught the foundation behind the study, common approach to the problem, relevant results, and significant conclusions or new questions.

Write your summary when your paper is completed because how can you write the summary of anything which is not yet written? Wealth of terminology is very essential in abstract. Yet, use comprehensive sentences and do not let go readability for briefness. You can maintain it succinct by phrasing sentences so that they provide more than lone rationale. The author can at this moment go straight to



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- Fundamental goal
- To the point depiction of the research
- Consequences, including definite statistics - if the consequences are quantitative in nature, account quantitative data; results of any numerical analysis should be reported
- Significant conclusions or questions that track from the research(es)

Approach:

- Single section, and succinct
- As a outline of job done, it is always written in past tense
- A conceptual should situate on its own, and not submit to any other part of the paper such as a form or table
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Approach:

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- Explain materials individually only if the study is so complex that it saves liberty this way.
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- Do not take in frequently found.
- If use of a definite type of tools.
- Materials may be reported in a part section or else they may be recognized along with your measures.

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- Report the method (not particulars of each process that engaged the same methodology)
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- Simplify - details how procedures were completed not how they were exclusively performed on a particular day.
- If well known procedures were used, account the procedure by name, possibly with reference, and that's all.

Approach:

- It is embarrassed or not possible to use vigorous voice when documenting methods with no using first person, which would focus the reviewer's interest on the researcher rather than the job. As a result when script up the methods most authors use third person passive voice.
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What to keep away from

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The principle of a results segment is to present and demonstrate your conclusion. Create this part a entirely objective details of the outcome, and save all understanding for the discussion.

The page length of this segment is set by the sum and types of data to be reported. Carry on to be to the point, by means of statistics and tables, if suitable, to present consequences most efficiently. You must obviously differentiate material that would usually be incorporated in a study editorial from any unprocessed data or additional appendix matter that would not be available. In fact, such matter should not be submitted at all except requested by the instructor.

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- Sum up your conclusion in text and demonstrate them, if suitable, with figures and tables.
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- Present a background, such as by describing the question that was addressed by creation an exacting study.
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What to stay away from

- Do not discuss or infer your outcome, report surroundings information, or try to explain anything.
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- Never confuse figures with tables - there is a difference.

Approach

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- Put figures and tables, appropriately numbered, in order at the end of the report
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Figures and tables

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- Give details all of your remarks as much as possible, focus on mechanisms.
- Make a decision if the tentative design sufficiently addressed the theory, and whether or not it was correctly restricted.
- Try to present substitute explanations if sensible alternatives be present.
- One research will not counter an overall question, so maintain the large picture in mind, where do you go next? The best studies unlock new avenues of study. What questions remain?
- Recommendations for detailed papers will offer supplementary suggestions.

Approach:

- When you refer to information, differentiate data generated by your own studies from available information
- Submit to work done by specific persons (including you) in past tense.
- Submit to generally acknowledged facts and main beliefs in present tense.

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<i>Introduction</i>	Containing all background details with clear goal and appropriate details, flow specification, no grammar and spelling mistake, well organized sentence and paragraph, reference cited	Unclear and confusing data, appropriate format, grammar and spelling errors with unorganized matter	Out of place depth and content, hazy format
<i>Methods and Procedures</i>	Clear and to the point with well arranged paragraph, precision and accuracy of facts and figures, well organized subheads	Difficult to comprehend with embarrassed text, too much explanation but completed	Incorrect and unorganized structure with hazy meaning
<i>Result</i>	Well organized, Clear and specific, Correct units with precision, correct data, well structuring of paragraph, no grammar and spelling mistake	Complete and embarrassed text, difficult to comprehend	Irregular format with wrong facts and figures
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<i>References</i>	Complete and correct format, well organized	Beside the point, Incomplete	Wrong format and structuring

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