



Review article

Biodelignification of lignocellulose using ligninolytic enzymes from white-rot fungi

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ABSTRACT

Lignocellulose is the most abundant biomass available on earth, including wood and agricultural wastes such as rice straw, corn cobs, and oil palm empty bunches. The biopolymer content in lignocellulose has a great potential as feedstock for producing industrial raw materials such as glucose, sorbitol, xylose, xylitol, and other pharmaceutical excipients. Currently, scientists and governments agree that the enzymatic delignification method is an environmentally friendly green method to be applied. This review attempts to explain the proper preparation of the enzymes laccase, lignin peroxidase, and manganese peroxidase, as well as the important factors influencing their activity. The recent applications of the enzymes for detoxification of hazardous substances, proper enzyme immobilization technique, and future prospect combination with DESs extraction of lignin are also discussed.

1. Introduction

Lignocellulose is the most abundant biomass on earth as the main component of wood and various agricultural residues (such as rice straw, wheat straw, and corn cobs) [1, 2, 3]. Biological deconstruction of plant cell walls is becoming an increasingly important research topic related to future bioeconomics that depends on the supply of biomass raw materials to produce various bioproducts and bioenergy [4].

Lignocellulose is a raw material that has many benefits where the main constituents are biopolymers of cellulose, hemicellulose, and lignin, which form complex structures that are resistant to decomposition [3, 5]. Cellulose is the main structural polysaccharide of plant cell walls weighing up to 30–50% of the dry weight of lignocellulose [6, 7]. Cellulose has unique optical, mechanical, and rheological properties and is easily chemically reconfigured as a natural polymer. Modifying cellulose by chemical processes can form cellulose esters and ethers commonly used as pharmaceutical excipients [8]. The presence of cellulose in plants binds closely to lignin, while lignin in the structure of lignocellulose is difficult to destroy. Therefore, it is necessary to carry out a delignification process (pretreatment) to obtain cellulose with high purity [9].

Lignocellulosic biomass is a raw material that is cheap, abundant, renewable and is widely produced by various industries [5]. In Indonesia, lignocellulosic materials can be obtained from various sources, both as a byproduct and as wastes, including agricultural industry waste (such as

straw, rice husks, corn cobs, grass), plantations waste (such as oil palm empty bunches, bagasse, sugarcane pruning, cocoa pod husks, coffee pod skins), wood and forestry waste (wood stalks, saws leftovers, paper mill waste), and post-harvest processing, as well as organic waste (market and household waste) [9]. The main constituent structures of lignocellulose are cellulose, hemicellulose, and lignin. The exact composition of the constituents depends on the origin of the plant and its species. In general, lignocellulosic materials from hardwood sticks contain 40–55% cellulose, 24–40% hemicellulose, and 18–25% lignin, while softwood stick-based materials contain 45–50% cellulose, 25–35% hemicellulose, and 25–35% lignin [10].

So far, the existing pretreatment methods are physical, chemical, physicochemical, and biological pretreatment [5]. Today's leading pre-treatment methods are based on physicochemical processes (steam-explosion, ammonia fiber explosion, and wet oxidation) which in most cases involve high energy requirements and high capital investment. There are some degradations of sugars and also the formation of inhibitor compounds that affect subsequent processes. In addition, the use of chemicals in this process is expensive and also contributes to environmental problems due to toxic waste produced [11, 12].

Therefore, the biological pretreatment method was chosen as a solution to the above problems and is often known as biodelignification. Biodelignification can be done using microbes and enzymes. Many microorganisms in nature that can degrade lignin include fungi and

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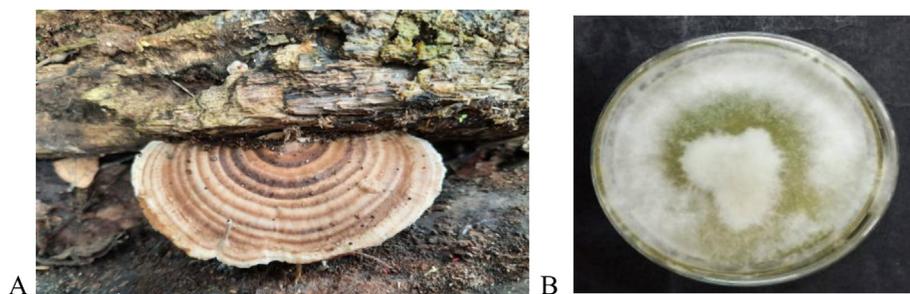


Figure 1. White rot fungi at its natural habitat (A), and in PDA medium (B). (Source: personal documentation)

bacteria. These microorganisms produce enzymes to attack, depolymerize, and degrade polymers in lignocellulosic substrates [13]. The microorganisms that have been reported as the most effective decomposers of lignin are white-rot fungi [14, 15].

The white-rot fungi (WRF, see Figure 1) basidiomycetes are able to degrade lignin efficiently [16]. They produce various extracellular ligninolytic enzymes, such as laccase, manganese peroxidase, and lignin peroxidase [17]. The degree of delignification of white-rot fungi varies greatly, depending on the type of fungi and the carbohydrate content in the lignocellulose raw material. Some white-rot fungi have been reported to have the potential to produce all cell wall components, while others are more selective [18]. Several types of white-rot fungi are *Phanerochaete chrysosporium*, *Pleurotus ostreatus*, *Trametes versicolor*, *Cyathus stercoreus*, and *Ceriporiopsis subvermispora* [19].

In biodelignification, the study on the optimal production process for each enzyme is essential to know and needs to explore [20, 21]. In this review article, the discussion focuses on a good preparation and optimum utilization of ligninolytic enzymes produced by white-rot fungi.

2. Main text

2.1. Cellulose, hemicellulose, and lignin

Cellulose is the most abundant renewable organic material on earth and is widely distributed in plants, bacteria, marine algae, and other biomass. Cellulose is rarely found in a pure state in nature. It permanently binds to other polymers such as lignin and hemicellulose [22]. Cellulose is a linear polymer of glucose units connected via 1,4- β -glucoside bonds and is insoluble in water, dilute acid solutions, and dilute alkaline solutions at room temperature. This poor solubility property is due to the solid intramolecular and intermolecular hydrogen bonds between the individual chains [23]. Although the structure and composition of plant cell walls vary widely, cellulose content usually makes up to 35–50% of the dry weight of biomass and, in particular, almost 100% for cotton [24]. Its linear structure causes cellulose to be crystalline and not easily degraded chemically or mechanically and is resistant to enzymatic decomposition [25].

The varying chemical structure of cellulose (α , β , γ) has a big influence on its reactivity. The hydroxyl groups contained in amorphous regions are very easy to reach and easy to react, while the hydroxyl groups that are present in crystalline regions with dense beams and strong inter-chain bonds may not be achieved at all [26]. Based on the degree of polymerization (DP) and solubility in the 17.5% sodium hydroxide (NaOH), there are three types of cellulose [30], namely alpha, beta, and gamma cellulose. Alpha cellulose is a long chain cellulose, insoluble in 17.5% NaOH solution or a strong alkaline solution with a DP of 600–1500. Alpha cellulose is used to determine the level of purity of cellulose. Alpha cellulose is the highest quality (pure) cellulose. The higher the alpha cellulose content, the better the quality of the cellulose. Beta cellulose is short-chain cellulose, dissolves in 17.5% NaOH or a strong base with a polymerization degree of 15–90, and can precipitate when neutralized. Gamma cellulose is the same as beta cellulose, but the

degree of polymerization is less than 15 with the main content being hemicellulose [27].

The second polysaccharide component of lignocellulose is hemicellulose, which makes up to 15–30% of the plant cell wall. Hemicellulose is embedded in the plant cell walls, and its main function is to bind between cellulose and lignin. Hemicellulose with lignin forms covalent bonds between ether and ester, forming a carbohydrate-lignin complex. Hemicellulose also works by binding to cellulose microfibrils to strengthen the cell walls. Unlike cellulose, hemicellulose has an amorphous structure, consisting of several heteropolymers including polyxylose, glucomannan (Glu-Man), and galactoglucomannan (Gal-Glu-Man). Hemicellulose, as already mentioned has a low degree of polymerization, therefore it can be hydrolyzed with a dilute base or acid [15, 24].

The main hemicelluloses in softwood are galactoglucomannan, glucomannan, and arabinoglukuronoxo, while the main hemicellulose in hardwood is xylan (3). In general, they fall into four classes: (i) unbranched chains such as (1–4) xylan and mannan; (ii) helical chains such as (1–3) xylan; (iii) branched chains such as (1–4) -Galactoglucomannans; and (iv) pectic substances such as poly-rhamnoglacturonans [27].

Lignin is the third most abundant polymer in nature. These substances are present in plant cell walls and provide strong resistance to microbial attack and oxidative stress. The composition of lignin varies among plant species. Hardwood has a higher lignin content (>30%) when compared to softwood or herbaceous plants [15, 28]. Compared with other constituents of the cell wall, lignin is hydrophobic and prevents water penetration into the cell wall. Lignin provides strength to the cell walls of cellulosic materials as well as protects the cell walls from biochemical stresses by inhibiting the enzymatic degradation of other components.

Lignin strengthens plant cell walls through the adhesion of cellulosic microfibrils which allows plants to significantly grow in size, improves water transport, resistance to pathogens, and slows down wood degradation by microorganisms [29]. Lignin has several benefits such as being antioxidant and antimicrobial. Lignin is often available in large quantities as a byproduct of industrial waste and is environmentally friendly [10]. In nature, lignin is broken down through the action of peroxidases, laccases, and additional oxidative enzymes from fungi and bacteria.

Lignin consists of three distinct phenylpropane units, namely, p-coumaryl, coniferyl, and synapyl alcohol. Lignin molecules are arranged in three-dimensional forms and cross-linked to each of the constituent molecules with different types of chemical bonds [30]. These monomers are linked by ether bonds (C = O) or bonds between carbons (C–C) which are connected randomly and non-linearly to form very complex polymers. The complex structure causes lignin to be recalcitrant to be degraded by chemical exposure and organisms [15, 28]. Lignin also contains various secondary metabolites such as hydroxycinnamyl alcohols (or monolignols), coniferyl alcohol, and synapyl alcohol with small amounts of p-coumaryl alcohol [31].

The constituents of lignin and hemicellulose are different so that the cross-linking between these polymers differs from plant to plant and from tissue to tissue [32]. Based on its chemical composition, the structure of lignin varies depending on the type and species of biomass [22]. For

example, softwood mainly contains guaiacyl (G) type lignin, while hardwood contains glucuronosilan type and guaiacyl-syrup (GS) lignin [4]. Wood from gymnosperms has a greater lignin concentration than wood from angiosperms and is generally composed of propyl guaiacyl units. Therefore, lignin biodegradation can be significantly influenced by, the amount and type of lignin present in lignocellulose [4]. Lignin is the most abundant renewable raw material, apart from cellulose, and plays an important role in the biosphere carbon cycle, namely by preventing the degradation of accessible carbohydrate microbes within the cell walls [31]. Lignin degrades poorly under anaerobic conditions but is extensively degraded by white-rot fungi under conditions of availability of oxygen & moisture [27].

2.2. Delignification method of lignocellulose

In order to obtain cellulose, the first step in utilizing lignocellulosic biomass is lignin degradation through a process known as pretreatment so that cellulose polymers can be exposed to further hydrolysis [1, 4, 33]. The four main objectives of pretreatment are (1) modifying the crystalline index of cellulose and degree of polymerisation (2), disrupting the lignin-carbohydrate bond (3), removal of lignin and/or hemicellulose and (4) increasing in porosity [34]. Delignification can be carried out by physical, chemical, physicochemical, and biological methods [35, 36]. The four methods have their respective advantages and disadvantages. Physical treatment has the advantage of being environmentally friendly by not producing toxic compounds, but the main disadvantage is that this method does not remove or release lignin, so it is necessary to further treat the mass with other methods afterward [11, 36].

Next, chemical treatment has the advantage that this method is very effective in degrading lignin and the chemical solution used can be recovered for use in the next delignification process. However, the disadvantage of this method is that the chemical solution used in some processes is very expensive, the recovery of the solution needs to be done as much as possible which takes a long time and energy, and not all solutions can be recovered, where the chemical solution is toxic and wastes contribute to environmental pollution. The flammability and high volatility of organic solvents as chemical solutions make pre-treatment carried out under controlled conditions, which require more costs to maintain these conditions [35, 36].

Physicochemical treatment is the most commonly used method for delignifying lignocellulosic biomass. The advantages of this method are the effectiveness of high lignin degradation and time efficiency, but the disadvantages are high energy consumption, cellulose degradation, and the formation of inhibitor compounds in the process which can be detrimental in the next cellulose processing stage [11, 12].

Biological pretreatment or biodelignification can reduce those disadvantages of chemical and physicochemical treatments. It can be categorized into pretreatment that utilizes microorganisms, such as filamentous fungi and certain bacteria directly on the raw material, and enzymatic pretreatment that uses enzymes excreted by these lignin-decomposing microorganisms [22, 40, 41, 42]. Many microorganisms play a role in lignin degradation but only the white-rot fungi (WRF) are capable of depolymerizing lignin effectively [11, 18]. But despite its various advantages, biological pretreatment still faces several obstacles such as long processing times, large space requirements, and the need for continuous monitoring of microorganism growth [40].

Several parameters for comparison of the biodelignification method compared to the chemical delignification method are listed in the following table.

The main advantage of biological delignification is the technology that is safe and environmentally friendly by using no chemicals, does not involve acids, alkalis, or any reactive substances thus reducing the output of waste streams and reducing downstream processing costs. Minimum inhibitor formation, as well as byproducts that will not inhibit or hinder the hydrolysis process, are also advantages of biological pretreatment (37,38, see Table 1). Then, the use of microbial enzymes for hydrolysis

Table 1. Comparison of delignification methods and some criteria/condition.

Type of Delignification	Parameter	Used Agent or Condition	References
Biodelignification	Active agent	microbial cell (mold or bacteria) or enzymes	[22]
	Temperature/Pressure	Low/light,	[5]
	Energy used	Lower	[5]
	Cost/value of process	Cheap/safe and environmentally friendly	[37]
	Inhibitor formation	Low	[38, 39]
Chemical Delignification-	Active agent	Basic and Acid chemicals agent & hazardous waste	[1, 40]
	Temperature/Pressure	High	[3]
	Inhibitor/waste formation	High	[19]

causes high specificity of enzyme reactions and the absence of lost substrates or toxicity due to chemical modification [38, 39]. The opposite occurs in chemical delignification, which requires high energy costs, high chemical requirements, and the eluent used is classified as hazardous waste due to its toxicity [40].

The strategy of using enzymes in lignocellulosic biomass degradation is considered more beneficial because it can overcome problems arising from the direct use of fungi, such as difficulties in meeting growth requirements on a large scale, long incubation processes, penetration of mycelia into the substrate, excessive consumption of polysaccharides by fungi that cause excessive degradation of carbohydrates, and contamination problems [1]. The use of ligninolytic enzymes for direct lignocellulose treatment minimizes the problems encountered in fungal pretreatment and represents a simpler and more effective method. Therefore, this method is an interesting topic for further exploration because of its ability to operate in a relatively short reaction time, only requires a few hours, and requires lower nutrient requirements for enzymatic reactions [19, 39]. The effect of enzymes on lignocellulosic biomass depends on the type of enzyme and the composition of the biomass itself. This is due to the specificity of the enzyme related to the type of reaction being catalyzed [43, 44].

However, there is a drawback to using enzymes compared to the direct use of fungal biomass, namely that enzymes are still more expensive to produce on an industrial scale. This may be overcome by the advances in enzyme immobilization technology that increase the efficiency in reusing enzymes both in quantity and activity may be greater than that of fungal biomass [18].

2.3. White-rot fungi as source of ligninolytic enzymes

White-rot fungi (WRF) are classified into the Agaricomycetes class. This type of fungi can be found growing on live trees that are still growing well or dead wood from temperate to tropical environments. The term white-rot is associated with the whitish (white) appearance often observed in wood overgrown by this type of fungi. The general characteristics of white-rot fungi include being able to degrade all the main components of plant cell walls: cellulose, hemicellulose, and lignin. Lignocellulose decomposition is carried out through a series of enzymatic processes (hydrolase and oxidoreductase) and non-enzymatic mechanisms [45].

There are about 10,000 species of white-rot fungi, with varying capacities to degrade lignin, cellulose, and hemicellulose. However, only a few types have been carried out further research. The most studied species of white-rot fungi are divided into six families: *Phanerochaetaceae* (*Phanerochaete chrysosporium*), *Polyporaceae* (*Trametes versicolor* and *Pycnoporus sanguineus*), *Ganodermataceae* (*Ganoderma lucidum* and *Ganoderma applanatum*) *Marasmiaceae* (*Lentinula edodes*), *Pleurotus mushrooms*,

Hymenochaetaceae (*Inonotus hispidus* and *Phellinus igniarius*), Meruliaceae (*Bjerkandera adusta*, *Irpex lacteus*, and *Phlebia radiata*) [45].

Some white-rot fungi are able to degrade lignin selectively and some are non-selective. Examples of selective white-rot fungi are *Ceriporiopsis subvermispora*, *Dichomitus squalens*, *Phanerochaete chrysosporium*, *Phlebia radiata* whose mechanisms degrade lignin and hemicellulose more than cellulose, while examples of non-selective white-rot fungi are *Trametes versicolor* and *Fomes fomentarius* which can degrade all components. in the same amount. White-rot fungi are the only organisms that are believed to be able to completely degrade lignin into water-soluble products and CO₂ [46]. The carbon source of white-rot fungi comes from lignin. Lignin is degraded by white-rot fungi into carbon dioxide as a whole to enter wood polysaccharides which are protected by lignin-carbohydrate complexes [47].

White-rot fungi produce extracellular oxidative enzymes during the lignin degradation process. These microorganisms produce enzyme secretions that function as biodegradation agents to break down lignocellulosic materials into simpler molecules. The secretion of enzymes produced by white-rot fungi is also able to degrade pesticide compounds and toxic waste. This is because white-rot fungi have a non-specific oxidative system to depolymerize and mineralize lignin, including some extracellular oxidoreductases, low molecular weight metabolites, and very effective oxygen action. In addition, white-rot fungi can depolymerize lignin and metabolize lignin into CO₂ and H₂O [46].

2.4. Ligninolytic enzymes

Ligninolytic enzymes are enzyme complexes that produce delignification abilities in various types of organisms such as bacteria, insects, and fungi. However, the most effective lignin-decomposing organisms are fungi, especially white-rot fungi. This enzyme is produced by white-rot fungi as a secondary metabolic product because lignin degradation does not produce energy in mushrooms [48]. The ligninolytic enzymes known so far are extracellular, not specific, and break down the aromatic structure of lignin and the bonds between lignocellulosic units through different oxidative reactions [45].

Ligninolytic enzymes are categorized into two major groups, namely heme peroxidase and phenol oxidase [14, 18]. Enzymes included in phenol oxidase are laccase (benzenediol: oxygen oxidoreductase; EC 1.10.3.2) while those included in heme peroxidase are lignin peroxidase (LiP, diarylpropane: oxygen oxidoreductase and hydrogen peroxide; EC 1.11.1.14), and manganese peroxidase (MnP), Mn (II): hydrogen peroxide oxidoreductase; EC 1.11.1.13) [18,41,145]. These three enzymes form an enzymatic system that can degrade lignin effectively.

2.4.1. Laccase

The first laccase identified and reported came from the Japanese lacquer tree *Toxicodendron vernicifluum* (*Rhus vernicifera*). In general, the laccase produced from these plants has lower laccase. Plant lacquer is concerned with lignin biosynthesis and polymerization, elongation, and stress response in plants. In fungi, laccase appears more than plants, such as in Basidiomycetes such as *Phanerochaete chrysosporium*, *Theiophora terrestris*, and *Lenzites true* [49] and other white-rot fungi such as *Phlebia radiata*, *Pleurotus ostreatus*, and *Trametes versicolor* [50]. Many Trichoderma species such as *T. atroviridae*, *T. harzianum*, and *T. longibrachiatum* are sources of laccase [51].

In plants, laccase plays a role in the lignification process only, while in fungi it plays a role in delignification, sporulation, pigment production, fruit body formation, and plant pathogenesis [52]. Although most of the purified laccase is extracellular enzymes, white-rot fungi also contain intracellular laccase. Laccase exists in a variety of structures, the majority consisting of monomeric structures, but some in homodimeric, heterodimeric, and multimeric forms.

The molecular mass of laccase produced by fungi ranges from 50 to 140 kDa, depending on the type of fungi [53]. Laccase from fungi usually undergoes a glycosylation reaction, with a mass increase of 10–25%. The

carbohydrate portion of the laccase has been shown to maintain conformational stability and to protect the enzyme from proteolysis and inactivation by radicals [54].

The redox potential (E°) of the laccase is the energy required to remove electrons from the reducing substrate. Laccase from fungi can oxidize substrates with high E° (E° > 400 mV) [55]. Filamentous fungi are usually more attractive hosts for heterologous protein production because of their faster microbial growth, ease of gene manipulation, their ability to excrete large amounts of protein into the growth medium, and the ability to carry out post-translational modifications [56].

Laccase from bacteria has shown greater tolerability from neutral to alkaline pH, and high concentrations of sodium chloride. It was still active in concentrations of 1 M or higher, as in the laccase produced by *Marinomonas mediterranea* and *Bacillus halodurans* [57]. Some of the laccase produced by bacteria shows a high tolerance to different solvents, including ethanol, methanol, dimethylformamide, acetonitrile, acetone, and dimethylsulfoxide, as observed in the laccase produced by *Bacillus pumilus*, which generally retains more than 50% of its activity in a mixture of water and water solvent [58]. Although the laccase from bacteria is generally more stable than the fungal laccase, the laccase from bacteria has a low redox potential (E° T1 < +460 mV) so it is less suitable to be applied as a lignin-degrading lignocellulose [59].

2.4.1.1. Factors affecting the production and activity of laccase.

1. Temperature

The temperature effect is limited in terms of laccase production. The optimal temperature of lacquer differs greatly from one type to another. It has been found that 25 °C is the optimal temperature for the production of laccase with light but in the dark, the optimal temperature is 30 °C [52]. The optimal temperature range for laccase production is between 25 °C and 30 °C [60]. In a study conducted by Farnet et al., it was found that the enzyme preincubation at 40 °C and 50 °C was able to increase laccase activity drastically [61]. Laccase is almost completely active in the temperature range 40 °C – 60 °C, with maximum activity at 50 °C. Activity remained unchanged after prolonged incubation at 40 °C for more than 4 h [62].

2. pH

The optimal pH varies according to the field because different media causes different reactions to laccase. Cordi et al. using syringaldazine as a substrate and determining the effect of pH on enzyme activity in the range of pH 3.0–8.0 [63]. Laccase was extracted from *Trametes versicolor* which showed high enzyme activity over a wide pH range and temperature range but optimal activity was found at pH 3.0 and 50 °C. Laccase extracted from *Stereum ostrea* showed the highest activity at pH 6.0 and temperature 40 °C [64]. When fungi are grown in pH 5.0 media, laccase is overproduced and most studies have shown that a pH between 4.5 and 6.0 is suitable for enzyme production [52].

3. Inducer

Laccase production has been shown to be highly dependent on the cultivation of the fungi. During the secondary metabolic phase, the ligninolytic system is activated and triggered by nitrogen concentration [65]. Laccase is generally produced in low concentrations by laccase-producing fungi, but higher concentrations can be obtained by adding various supplements such as xenobiotic compounds to the media [66]. The addition of aromatic compounds such as 2,5-xylidine, lignin, and veratril alcohol is known to increase and induce laccase activity [67]. Veratril alcohol is an aromatic compound, its addition to the culture medium resulted in increasing laccase production.

The addition of 2,5-xylidine after 24 h of cultivation gave the highest induction of laccase activity and increased laccase activity ninefold.

Table 2. Laccase activity in several species of white-rot fungi using different media inducers.

Inducer medium	Laccase activity of few species of white-rot fungi (U/mL)			
	<i>D. flavida</i> [73]	<i>P. brevispora</i> [74, 75]	<i>P. radiata</i> [72, 76]	<i>P. sanguineus</i> [60, 64]
Mineral salt broth (MSB), rice straw	9.25	8.90	9.120	2.740
Malt Extract, rice straw	8.49	5.885	5.320	8.330
MSB, malt extract, guaiacol	1.24	5.700	11.590	1.617
Malt Extract, sugarcane residues	3.30	8.560	8.90	8.99
MSB	0.060	0.350	0.045	0.130
Malt Extract	0.050	1.370	0.415	0.672
MSB, Malt Extract	0.660	4.045	6.180	0.502
Malt Extract	0.150	0.165	9.470	0.055
Malt Extract	0.332	2.835	0.045	1.745
MSB, Malt Extract, veratril alcohol	0.64	4.175	11.185	0.235
MSB, guaiacol	0.217	0.605	10.475	0.647
Malt Extract, guaiacol	1.042	5.695	2.490	4.765

(Source: listed in the table).

Higher concentrations of 2,5-xylidine has a reducing effect due to toxicity [68]. The addition of an inducer increases the concentration of the specific laccase enzyme [69]. The supply of nutrients such as carbon and nitrogen affects the synthesis of laccase by fungi, but copper and other metal ions are also important laccase inducers. Fungal species influence the choice of metal inducers. Laccase activity was achieved by adding different metal ions (Cu^{2+} , Mn^{2+} , Cd^{2+} , and Fe^{2+}) to the *Pleurotus ostreatus* and found that Cu^{2+} stimulated the production of the laccase enzyme from fungi most strongly. New Basidiomycetes, *Trametes sp.* 420, producing laccase in glucose medium and cellobiose medium with induction of 0.5 mM and 6 mM o-toluidine [70]. Five mM EDTA is known to be able to inhibit total laccase activity [71].

In a study conducted by Arora and Gill (2001), better enzyme production was obtained in media containing a mixture of salt broth (MSB) and malt extract compared to MSB alone. Malt extract contains a lot of the aromatic amino acids tryptophan and tyrosine. The tryptophan-derived metabolite (3-hydroxy-2-aminobenzoate) acts as a mediator in laccase-catalyzed oxidation reactions in the white-rot fungi *Pycnoporus cinnabarinus*. Additionally, laccase is known to react with 4-hydroxyindole, a tryptophan derivative. *P. radiata* is known to provide maximum laccase production (6.18 U/mL) in MSB-malt extract which is the best nutritional medium for high laccase producers [72]. The difference in laccase enzyme activity produced by several inducers on the media can be seen in Table 2.

Induction of ligninolytic activity can be triggered by high levels of lignin from natural lignocellulosic substrates which function as a natural inducer and a source of carbon for the enzyme production process. In the research conducted by Ningrum (2018), it can be seen that a significant increase in the activity of the laccase enzyme produced by the white-rot fungi, *Cerrena sp.* The highest laccase enzyme activity was obtained from corncob media on the 7th day after incubation, which was 24,237 U/mL. Whereas in the media of sago pile, rice husks and oil palm empty bunches also showed high activity, those respectively were 18,743 U/mL (day 6), 20,227 U/mL (day 5), and 16,274 U/mL (day 3). The substrate of corncob produced the highest enzyme activity even though it had lower lignin levels than rice husk. It means that the

Table 3. Laccase activity of few species of rot fungi in lignocellulose substrate.

Species rot fungi	Substrate	Laccase Activity	Reference
<i>Cerrena unicolor</i> Han 849	<i>Populus beijingensis</i>	295.96 ± 4.85 U/L	[78]
	<i>Firmiana platanifolia</i>	625.98 ± 24.08 U/L	
	<i>Sorghum bicolor</i>	371.71 ± 5.69 U/L	
	<i>Oryza sativa</i>	102.17 ± 3.55 U/L	
<i>Ganoderma lucidum</i>	Pineapple leaves	472.31 + 41.2 IU/mL	[79]
	Wheat straw	100.4 IU/mL	[80]
	Banana stalk	249.7 IU/mL	
	Sugarcane bagasse	192.1 IU/mL	
<i>Trametes versicolor</i>	Rice straw	338.4 ± 2.8 IU/mL	
	Corn stalk	1241.07 U/g	[81]
	Steam-explode corn stalk	2600.33 U/g	
<i>Coriopsis caperata</i>	Olive leaves	276.62 U/g	[82]
	Wheat bran	1623.55 U/g	[83]
<i>Pleurotus ostreatus</i>	ABTS	774 U/L	[84]
<i>Schizophyllum commune</i> NI-07	Polyurethane foam cubes (PUF)	7307 U/mL	[85]
<i>Coriopsis gallica</i>	Sawdust	1480 U/L	[86]
	Filter paper	1300 U/L	
<i>Pleurotus ostreatus</i>	Peel of mandarin Orange	4,8 ± 0,08 U/L	[87]
	Wood powder	19,42 ± 0,14 U/g	
		26 ± 0,98 U/g	
	Wood powder of grape tree	6,9 ± 0,4 U/L	
	Sugarcane waste	151,6 U/g	
	9,942 U/g		
	1079,8–1139,8 U/L		

(Source: listed in the table).

activity of the laccase enzyme produced is not only influenced by the amount of lignin present in the substrate, but also by the type of lignin. The three monolignol monomer structures (coniferyl, p-cumaryl alcohol, and synapyl alcohol) are the main constituents of lignin found in monocotyl plants such as corncob. It is different with the structure of lignin in grasses such as rice husks which only contain guaiacil, a derivative of coniferyl alcohol [77].

The production of the laccase enzyme from the species *Pleurotus ostreatus* has also been widely studied. Agricultural waste can also be used as an inducer in the laccase enzyme production process. The differences in the activity of the laccase from various agricultural wastes and various carbon/nitrogen sources can be seen in Table 3.

2.4.2. Lignin peroxidase (LiP)

Lignin peroxidase (LiP) was first discovered in 1983 in the ligninolytic culture of *P. chrysosporium* where it is one of the main components of the ligninolytic system. After further investigation, only about 40% of white-rot fungi produce Lignin Peroxidase, some other examples of microorganisms are *T. versicolor*, *Phanerochaete sordida*, *Phlebia radiata*, *Pleurotus ostreatus*, and *Phlebia tremellosa*. In most fungi, lignin peroxidase is present as a series of isoenzymes encoded by different genes [88].

Lignin peroxidase is a heme-containing enzyme that catalyzes the hydrogen peroxide-dependent oxidative degradation of lignin. LiP is a glycoprotein with an average molecular weight of 38–46 kDa. Lignin peroxidase purified from *T.versicolor* was found as a homogeneous monomer protein with a molecular weight of 30 kDa [89]. Lignin peroxidase also has high redox potential (700–1,400 mV), an optimum pH of 3–4.5, and the ability to catalyze the degradation of a large number of aromatic structures such as veratryl alcohol (3,4-dimethoxybenzyl) and methoxybenzenes.

2.4.2.1. Factors affecting LiP enzyme production and activity.

1. Substrate Selection

Several compounds were tested as potential substrates for lignin peroxidase at a concentration of 100 mM. The rate of substrate oxidation is measured by determining the increase in absorbance at the respective wavelengths. These substrates include veratryl alcohol (310 nm), guaiacol (436 nm), catechol (392 nm), butyl alcohol (310 nm), vanillic acid (390 nm), amyl alcohol (310 nm), and pyrogallol (450 nm). Lignin peroxidase can oxidize a number of aromatic phenolic compounds. Among all the mediator compounds tested, veratryl alcohol, which is known to act as an inducer in most white-rot fungi, causes increased lignin peroxidase activity. While other compounds tested failed to influence lignin peroxidase activity [31].

Another experiment by Parshetti (2011) used substrates commonly used for lignin peroxidase activity tests, namely L-Dopa, 8-hydroxyquinone, mimosine, veratryl alcohol, and xyloidine. Of the various substrates tested, veratryl alcohol produced the highest activity compared to other substrates, followed by 8-hydroxyquinone, L-Dopa, mimosine, and the last one, xyloidine [90]. Lignin peroxidase activity was measured using n-propanol as a substrate. The reaction mixture contains 40 mM n-propanol, 2 mM hydrogen peroxide, and 50 mM tartaric acid. One unit of enzyme activity is defined as the amount of enzyme required to oxidize 1 μ mol of substrate per minute. This was measured by reading the absorbance at 310 nm for 1 min. The activity was found to be maximum with n-propanol followed by guaiacol, catechol, and veratryl alcohol. No activity was detected with the hydroxyquinone substrate [91].

2. pH

Vandana et al (2019) tested lignin peroxidase activity using 100 mM veratryl alcohol at different pH values ranging from 3 to 10 with intervals of 0.5 using the appropriate buffer. Buffers include citric acid sodium phosphate buffer with a pH of 5–6.5, a sodium phosphate buffer with a pH of 7–8.5, a sodium tartrate buffer with a pH of 3–4.5, and a carbonate buffer with a pH of 9–10, all of which are prepared at a concentration of 0.5 M. The pH stability of pure lignin peroxidase was determined by exposing the enzymes to pH values ranging from 3 to 10 at intervals of 0.5 and estimating activity after 30 s and 15 min. In this study, lignin peroxidase activity with veratryl alcohol substrate had an optimal pH of 5.5 with lignin peroxidase activity of 400u/ml. Most activity was then followed by pH 5 (360u/ml); 4.5 (355 u/ml); 4 (350 u/ml); 3.5 (340u/ml); and 3 (310u/ml). At pH 6, the lignin peroxidase activity decreased significantly (280u/ml), then a drastic decrease starting from pH 6.5 to 10 where the lignin peroxidase activity was only in the range of 50u/ml to 150u/ml [31].

In Nature's research (2009), the method used to test lignin peroxidase activity was the same, but the results obtained were slightly different from those done by Vandana et al (2019). After 30 min of incubation, Lignin peroxidase activity was found to be stable at pH 5.0. Lignin peroxidase activity is lower at pH below 3 and higher below pH 7. More than 70% of enzyme activity is lost at pH 7–11 [16]. While in this research, Hariharan and Nambisan (2013), tested lignin peroxidase activity at pH 3–8. The highest activity reached 1300 IU/ml at pH 5. While the lowest activity occurred at pH 8, followed by pH 3, 7, 4, and 6 [79].

3. Temperature

Lignin peroxidase was incubated with 100 mM veratryl alcohol in 0.5 M sodium tartrate buffer with a pH of 5.5. The temperature ranges from 25 °C to 40 °C with intervals of 0.5 °C, then the optimal temperature is determined. Subsequently, the enzymes were incubated for various time intervals ranging from 0 min to 10 min with 2-minute intervals at temperatures ranging from 25 °C to 85 °C with 10 °C intervals to test the effect of incubation temperature on temperature. enzyme activity.

Enzyme thermostability is determined by incubating the enzymes at 60 °C, 65 °C, 70 °C, 75 °C, and 80 °C for periods ranging from 20 min to 120 min with 20-minute intervals. The tube is then immediately cooled in an ice bath and the activity is determined [31].

From this experiment, lignin peroxidase in *P. chrysosporium* had optimal activity at 30 °C. In contrast to the research of Vandana et al (2019), in a study conducted by Zeng et al (2010), it was found that the optimal culture temperature of *P. chrysosporium* is around 35 °C, where at this temperature microorganisms are more conducive to degrade lignin than inoculation at other times [31, 92]. In both studies, it was found that lignin peroxidase activity with temperatures above 60 °C was drastically lost after 10 min of exposure. As for the research conducted by Padma (2013), it was found that the activity of ligninolytic enzymes was highest at 27 °C, while at temperatures above that the activity decreased significantly [79]. Alam (2009), tested the effect of temperature on enzyme stability from 25 °C to 75 °C at pH 5. The results showed that lignin peroxidase activity was still 100% up to 55 °C. Lignin peroxidase activity decreased to more than 75% at temperatures above 55 °C and activity was lost by 66% at 75 °C [93]. Hariharan and Nambisan (2013) tested the activity of the lignin peroxidase enzyme in a temperature range of 23–33 °C. The highest activity occurs at 27 °C while the lowest occurs at 33 °C [79].

4. Incubation time

The effect of contact time (incubation) was tested on the stability of LiP which was carried out together with the optimum pH and temperature. The enzymes were incubated in 1 ml 50 mM sodium acetate buffer (pH 5.0) at 55 °C for 1, 3, 6, 12, 24, 48, 72, 96, and 120 h. After each incubation period, the enzymes were immediately cooled in an ice bath and the residual activity was determined. Enzyme activity is expressed as the percentage with the highest activity recorded as 100%. LiP activity was maintained at 100% for the first 3 h of the incubation period. Activity decreased to less than 80% after 12 h of incubation. After 48 h, LiP activity remained stable at around 60% and remained constant for up to 120 h of incubation time. The effect of the incubation period on the activity of the enzyme lignin peroxidase was examined by incubating the inoculum at a temperature range of 24–192 h with an inoculum volume of 4 ml. Maximum ligninase production was obtained after 120 h of incubation, with LiP activity of 1203.7 IU/mL [79].

2.4.2.2. Screening method of LiP enzyme activity. To test the presence of lignin-degrading enzymes (ligninase), previously a spot test can be performed by dropping a 1.0% pyrogallol solution mixed with 0.4% H₂O₂ (composition 1:1) on the edge of the microbial culture being tested (which is still actively growing). The culture was then observed for 3 h, 24 h, and 72 h after dropping. The brownish-yellow color on the area where the pyrogallol reagent drops indicate the activity of the lignin peroxidase enzyme.

Lignin peroxidase activity was then determined spectrophotometrically (Shimadzu UV 1800 spectrophotometer) by measuring the oxidation rate of veratryl alcohol to veratraldehyde in the presence of H₂O₂ [94]. The veratryl alcohol test contains 0.8 mM veratryl alcohol in 0.1 M sodium tartrate buffer (pH = 3.0). 1 mL of culture buffer filtrate was added at 150 mM H₂O₂. The absorbance was determined at 310 nm for 1 min at 30 °C. One unit of lignin peroxidase activity is defined as 1 μ mol veratraldehyde formed/minute and expressed as U/mL (molar extinction coefficient, ϵ max = 9300 M⁻¹ cm⁻¹) [31].

The second method is based on the oxidation of azure B dye. The reaction mixture contains 1 ml of 125 mM sodium tartrate buffer (pH 3.0), 500 μ l 0.160 mM azure B, 500 μ l culture filtrate and 500 μ l 2 mM hydrogen peroxide. The reaction begins by adding hydrogen peroxide and one unit of enzyme activity has been denoted as OD. reduction of 0.1 units per minute per ml of culture filtrate [75].

Table 4. Comparison of lignin peroxidase activity from several studies.

Species	Temp (°C)	pH	Substrate	Activity (U/ml)	Reference
<i>Phanerochaete chrysosporium</i>	30	5.5	Veratryl Alcohol	417	[31]
<i>Phlebia chrysosporium</i>	30	4.5	Veratryl Alcohol	45	[95]
<i>Ganoderma lucidum</i>	27	5	Veratryl Alcohol	1263	[79]
<i>Phanerochaete chrysosporium</i>	35	5	Veratryl Alcohol	744	[93]
<i>Ganoderma lucidum</i>	40	3	Veratryl Alcohol	766	[96]
<i>Schizophyllum Commune</i>	35	4	Veratryl Alcohol	468	[97]
<i>Kocuria rosea</i>	50	3	Veratryl Alcohol	64	[90]
<i>Phanerochaete chrysosporium</i>	40	2	n-propanol	1571	[98]
<i>Phlebia radiate</i>	35	4	Veratryl Alcohol	260	[99]
<i>Phanerochaete chrysosporium</i>	30	4.5	Veratryl Alcohol	370	[100]
<i>Phanerochaete chrysosporium</i>	35	5	Veratryl Alcohol	798	[92]

(Source: listed in the table)

Enzyme activity is measured by the following equation:

$$\text{Enzyme Activity (U/ml)} = \frac{A_t - A_0 \times V_{\text{tot}} \times 10^9}{\epsilon_{\text{maks}} \times d \times V_{\text{enzim}} \times t}$$

where:

- A_t = Absorbance at the 30th minutes
- A_0 = Absorbance at zero minute
- ϵ_{maks} = Molar absorptivity of veratryl alcohol (9300 M⁻¹ cm⁻¹)
- d = Cuvet width (cm)
- t = Time (30 min)
- V_{tot} = Total volume of solution (ml)
- V_{enzyme} = Volume of enzyme solution (ml)

The level of activity of lignin peroxidase can be influenced by several things such as the influence of the substrate, pH, temperature, and incubation time. These can be seen from the following Table 4.

Table 5. Sources and characteristics of MnP from several fungi and bacteria.

Species	MW (kDa)/A (U/L)	Substrate Of Cultivation	Method	Optimum Temp. (°C)	Stability Temp. (°C)	Optimum pH	Reference
<i>Ganoderma lucidum</i> IBL-05	43	Wheat husk	SSF	40	<45	5.0	[106]
<i>Echinodontium taxodii</i> 2538	53.4	Moso bamboo	SSF	55	<45	3.5	[107]
<i>Trametes polyzona</i> MnP1 dan MnP2	44 42	Remazol brilliant red F3B gran	SmF agitation 130 rpm	90 70	20–37 20–50	4.5 4.5	[108]
<i>Fusarium sp.</i>	-	Rice straw, wood	SmF agitation 180 rpm	30	20–50	4.0	[101]
<i>Cerrena unicolor</i> BBP6	45		SmF agitation 150 rpm	60	20–50	4.5	[109]
<i>Bjerkanderia adusta</i> CX-9	30	o-dianisidine	SmF agitation 150 rpm	70	-	3.0	[110]
<i>Trametes versicolor</i> IBL-04	43	Corn cob	SSF	50	≤65	5.0	[111]
<i>Irpex lacteus</i> CD2	42	-	SmF agitation 150 rpm	70	40–60	4.5	[112]
<i>Bacillus pumilus</i>							[113]
<i>Lysinibacillus sp.</i>	-/76,4		SmF		30	7	[114]

2.4.3. Manganese peroxidase (MnP)

The enzyme manganese peroxidase (MnP, or Mn (II): H₂O₂ oxidoreductase, EC 1.11.1.13) is an extracellular glycoprotein containing heme as a prosthetic group [101]. MnP has a molecular weight ranging from 32 kDa - 75 kDa [102] and shows different characteristics depending on the source and isoform. MnP together with the H₂O₂ generating system are the main components of the lignin degradation system [103].

2.4.3.1. Sources of MnP. MnP is included in the heme peroxidase or non-animal peroxidase enzyme, namely peroxidase enzymes produced by microorganisms, and/or plants. The non-animal peroxidase enzyme group has three classes/subdivisions based on localization and cellular function, where MnP is included in class II, namely the peroxidase enzyme group secreted in the extracellular tissue of fungi [103, 104]. Fungi, especially white-rot fungi (WRF), are the largest producers of ligninase, precisely 90% of all wood-degrading species [29].

Apart from fungi, lignin-degrading enzymes can also be found in bacteria and algae [28, 97]. The first MnP was discovered by Glenn & Gold and Paszcznski et al., (1986) on *Phanerochaete chrysosporium* which then attracted researchers to study MnP further to date [15, 29].

The WRF group of fungi is a group of fungi under the Basidiomycota division that can completely degrade the lignin component of the lignocellulosic substrate. This group of fungi degrades lignin by producing extracellular ligninases, namely laccase, LiP, MnP, and VP [105]. Members of the order Polyporales and Agaricales, such as *Ganoderma sp.*, *Phlebia radiate*, *Lentinula edodes*, and *Pleurotus sp.*, Mostly represent the WRF group [29]. Table 5 shows several MnP sources that have been isolated and characterized from fungi.

In addition to fungi, soil bacteria and lumen bacterial of termite are composting microorganisms that also work in the process of lignin degradation [29, 115]. Study on bacterial-MnP has been published recently, such as using *Bacillus pumilus*, *Paenibacillus sp.* [113], *Azospirillum brasilense* [116]. The activity of MnP in those studies was performed with and without the addition of an inducer. A recent study reporting activity of MnP from bacterial isolated from the digestive tract of *Coprotormes curgnathus*, especially *Bacillus sp.*, *Lysinibacillus sp.*, and *Acinetobacter sp.* Lysinibacillus showed the highest MnP activity after 7 days of cultivation [114], and followed by *Bacillus aryabhatai* that isolated from a liquid waste of pulp and paper fabrics.

2.4.3.2. Screening methods of MnP activity. In conducting in vitro MnP enzyme activity assays, various phenolic and non-phenolic substrates can be used. MnP can oxidize phenolic substrates (ex. ABTS, DMP,

vanililasetone, ferulic acid, syringol, guaiacol, isoeugenol, p-metoxyphe-
nol, phenol red, catechol, hydroquinone, etc.) and non-phenolic (eg
vanilyl alcohol, veratryl alcohol, and benzyl alcohol) in the presence of
H₂O₂. Guaiacol is the most commonly used substrate [35]. Just like
other parameters, each MnP has a different level of substrate specificity
such as MnP from *B. adusta* has the highest substrate specificity with 2,
6-DMP while from *T. polyzone* with ABTS [108, 110].

2.4.3.3. Factors affecting MnP production and activity. In the process of
enzyme production from microorganisms, special production conditions
need to be put in place so that they can grow and the enzymes are pro-
duced optimally. Factors that influence the production and activity of
ligninolytic enzymes include cultivation methods, sources and ratios of
carbon and nitrogen, pH, temperature, and metal ion inducers.

1. Cultivation methods

The method of cultivating microorganisms plays an important role in
the production of ligninolytic enzymes. The cultivation of microorgan-
isms can be carried out using the Solid-State Fermentation (SSF) and
Submerged Fermentation (SmF) methods. SSF is defined as fermentation
involving solids in the absence of free water, but the substrate must have
sufficient moisture to support the growth and metabolism of microor-
ganisms [117]. SmF is a fermentation that is carried out in the presence of
excess free water, a more conventional method, and is commonly
involved with agitation during production [118].

There are four main ways to grow microorganisms in SmF, namely
batch culture, fed-batch culture, perfusion batch culture, and continuous
culture. In batch culture, the microorganisms are inoculated in a fixed
volume medium. In the case of fed-batch culture, the concentrated
nutritional component is gradually added to the batch culture. In a
perfusion batch culture, the culture was added and the same volume was
withdrawn from the cell-free media that had been used. In continuous
culture, fresh media is added to the batch system in an exponential phase
of microorganism growth by withdrawing the media containing the
product. Sustainable cultivation provides nearly balanced growth, with
little fluctuation in nutrients, metabolites, cell count, or biomass [119].
Table 5 shows some of the microorganisms and cultivation methods that
have been applied.

2. Source of Carbon and Nitrogen

Carbon and nitrogen play an important role in the growth of micro-
organisms and enzyme production [97]. Carbon acts as a building block
for organic matter in cells of all organisms, and also serves as a source of
energy. As a result, most of this carbon enters energy-producing meta-
bolic pathways and is eventually secreted from cells as CO₂. Carbohy-
drates are an excellent source of carbon, oxygen, hydrogen, and
metabolic energy. The availability of carbohydrates for microorganisms
usually depends on the complexity of the molecules. In general, they can
be ranked as follows:

Hexose > Disaccharides > Pentose > Polysaccharides (94)

Lignocellulosic substrates are also often used as a carbon source in the
form of polysaccharides [120]. Akpinar & Urek (2012) used grape stalks,
skins, and seeds from the waste of grape juice production, which car-
bohydrate content was analyzed and used as a carbon source in the
production of ligninase from *Pleurotus eryngii*. Nitrogen can be obtained
from various sources with the commonly used extracts of yeast or
peptone [26, 121].

Nitrogen is the second most abundant compound in the fermentation
medium. Nitrogen is used for the anabolic synthesis of nitrogen-
containing cellular compounds, such as amino acids, purines, DNA, and
RNA. Many algae and fungi use ammonium nitrate and sodium nitrate as
nitrogen sources, but yeast and bacteria have problems utilizing nitrogen
in these forms due to decreasing pH soon after growing. Some organisms

are capable of assimilating nitrites. Sources of organic nitrogen in syn-
thetic media are specific amino acids, purines, pyrimidines, and urea.
Urea, depending on the buffer capacity of the system, will increase the pH
value of the medium. Ammonium sulfate produces acidic conditions
because ammonia is quickly used and free acids are then released [120].
Some complex organic nitrogen sources such as corn, dry distillate, yeast,
fish or bone meal, cottonseed, milk protein, are often used in commercial
fermentation. These nitrogen sources provide carbon and many other
nutrients and are quite cheap and affordable [94].

The ratio of carbon to nitrogen (C: N) plays an important role because
microorganisms need a good balance of carbon and nitrogen to remain
active [122]. A good balance of carbon and nitrogen needs to be main-
tained in the cells and it has been stated that a C: N ratio of 20–30 with an
optimal ratio of 24 in the "diet" can maintain this balance [123].

3. Temperature, pH, and metal ions

The effect of temperature and pH affects the activity and stability of
the MnP enzyme. MnP from each species and strain of microorganisms
gave varying reactions concerning temperature and pH. Adjustment to
the pH of the growth medium can be done by adding a strong acid/base
and then stabilizing it using a pH buffer.

Metal ions essential for fungal growth include Cu²⁺, Fe²⁺, Mn²⁺,
Mo²⁺, Zn²⁺, Ni²⁺ and common non-essential metals including Cr³⁺, Cd²⁺,
Pb²⁺, Hg²⁺, and Ag⁺. Essential metals are relatively less toxic than
heavy metals and increase the growth rate of fungi when present at low
concentrations [124]. However, although these metal ions are important
for fungal growth, not all of them have a significant or positive effect on
MnP activity.

2.5. Application of ligninolytic enzymes

Neither laccase nor peroxidases (LiP and MnP) are strongly selective
of substrates. The characteristics are advantageous for industrial appli-
cation due to the wide range of substrates they can work. Laccase will act
on the removal of the phenolic compound of wine, development of fuel
cell and biosensor, and also be used for bioremediation processes of dyes
and effluents in the pharmaceutical industry, as well as chemical, cos-
metics, and textile industries. Laccase and both peroxidase enzymes have
been applied in few delignification processes, such as fungal (biomass)
delignification, enzymatic delignification [125, 126, 137, 138].

In the beginning, only the Laccase enzyme has been thoroughly
studied for its singular ability. Hattaka et al. (2003) have reported several
studies regarding the single ability of MnP to delignify lignocellulose,
including writing that pure MnP from *P. radiata* has been reported to
convert pine wood chips into small molecular weight fragments in the
presence of Tween 80 and glucose-glucose oxidase complexes. Another
study by Masarin, et al. (2016) carried out the delignification process of
Eucalyptus grandis wood chips using the partially purified MnP enzyme
from *C. subvermispora*, showing that MnP was able to degrade lignin as
much as 23.44%. The reaction conditions contained the equivalent of
200 IU MnP, Tween 60, MnSO₄, and glucose - glucose oxidase complex at
pH 4.5, temperature 27 °C for 72 h, and agitated at 120 rpm [127].

Recently, ligninolytic enzymes especially MnP and LiP have been
used singularly for the detoxification function of hazardous compounds
[128]. MnP can degrade and detoxify aflatoxin B1 [129], persistent
organic pollutants (PAHs) [130], and many toxic synthetic dyes, such as
Poly R-478, Reactive Red 195A, Reactive Blue 21, Reactive Yellow 145A
[131], Indigo carmine, Remazol Brilliant Blue R, Remazol Brilliant Violet
5R, and Methyl Green [132]. LiP has the ability to degrade and detoxify
halogenated phenol [133], endocrine-disrupting pollutants like bisphenol
A, estrone, ethinylestradiol [134], and also synthetic dyes [135, 136].

In its application, MnP is frequently present together with other lig-
ninolytic enzymes in the form of crude enzyme extracts. However,
research by Zeng et al. (2013) who compared the treatment of rice straw
with crude extract and a pure mixture of MnP and LiP from

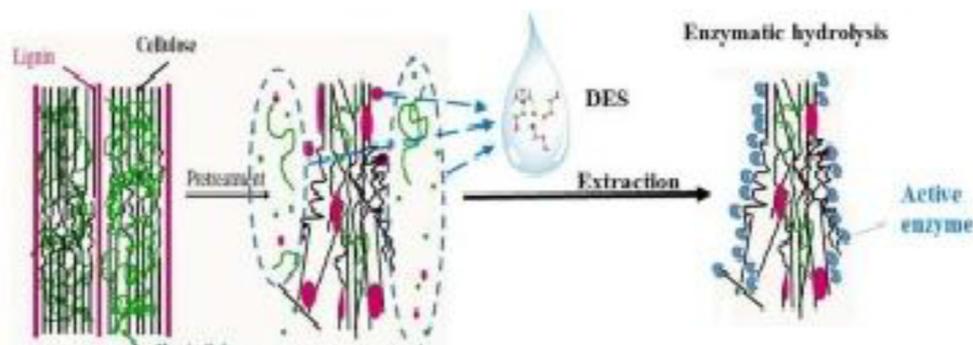


Figure 2. Pretreatment of lignocellulosic biomass with DESs [142]. (Reprinted with permission from Ref. 142, Fang C. et al.,(2017), ACS).

P. chrysosporium showed that the pure mixture of enzymes provided an almost higher rate of lignin degradation (33%) compared to crude extract (17%) [21]. Ahmad et al., (2016) then deepened research on pure enzyme mixtures by testing the effect of the ratio of the LiP, MnP, and Lac enzymes on the effectiveness of lignin degradation in wheat straw, rice straw, and bagasse. It was found that wheat straw and bagasse were delignified optimally with a 2: 1: 2 MnP: LiP: Lac ratio, with 58.5% and 55% degradation rate respectively [20]. Meanwhile, rice straw was optimally delignified at a ratio of 1: 2: 2 with a degradation rate of 52%. Although the use of pure enzymes shows higher effectiveness (almost 2 times), the use of pure enzymes is not cost-effective and not economical, especially when using commercial enzymes for large processes with lignocellulosic substrates from nature [20].

Solution for more cost-effective and economical use of enzyme was possibly by technique of enzyme immobilization, as well as an answer for better performance. Immobilization can be performed by using suitable supports, such as mesoporous silica, hydrogel, and smart polymer. There are several techniques of enzymes immobilization onto supports which range from reversible physical adsorption and ionic linkages, to the irreversible stable covalent bonds. Such techniques produce immobilized enzymes with different varying stability [140, 141].

Another study by Kong et al., (2016) isolated MnP from *E. taxodii* and tested the ability of purified MnP and Lac in oxidizing 3 models of phenolic lignin compounds and 3 models of non-phenolic compounds. It was found that MnP was able to degrade the lignin phenolic compound model; 4-Hydroxy-3-methoxy cinnamic acid, 4-Hydroxy cinnamic acid, and 4-Hydroxy-3,5-dimethoxy cinnamic acid as much as 97.79%, 28.35%, and 99.92%, respectively. MnP was also able to degrade the model compounds of the lignin non-phenolic model; cinnamic acid, 3-Methoxy cinnamic acid, and 3,5-Dimethoxy cinnamic acid as much as 26.19%, 30.03%, and 44.84%. Compared to Lac, the ability of MnP to degrade phenolic compounds was lower but for non-phenolic compounds, Lac was not able to degrade it at all [107]. Although the effectiveness of MnP looks very good on phenolic lignin but overall the delignification process has not been completed. Most likely the delignification process can be completed with the help of hydrolytic enzymes/non-oxidative enzyme system [146].

On the other hand, there has been an encouraging development of lignin extraction using DESs (deep eutectic solvents). Natural DESs or DESs are eutectic mixture of liquid solvent between hydrogen-bond acceptors (HBA) and hydrogen bond donors (HBD). These solvents gained much interest due to its ultimate capability of solubilizing lignin from lignocellulosic-biomass, as illustrated in Figure 2 [142,143]. Chen et al. (2020) reported that DESs also have favorable features such as easy synthesis, low vapor pressure, tunable physicochemical properties, lignin depolymerization and functionalization reaction, and biodegradability or green solvents [144]. These features open the way for combination with enzymatic methods, especially to separate non-phenolic lignin that difficult to remove by enzymatic method.

3. Conclusion

The high activity of ligninolytic enzymes can result in a high level of delignification, and white-rot fungi *Pleurotus ostreatus* and *Cerrena sp.* are potential to produce high laccase activity compared to others, while *Phanerochaete chrysosporium* and *Trametes versicolor* are potential to produce lignin peroxidase and manganese peroxidase with high activity.

Some Factors and conditions can affect the optimal activity and production of ligninolytic enzymes including substrate, temperature, pH, incubation time, carbon and nitrogen sources, the addition of surfactants, mediators, and certain ions. Therefore, it is important to optimize each factors and conditions of cultivation before a large scale enzyme production.

The use of the two or three ligninolytic enzyme in a combination is the most effective way of biodelignification of lignocellulose biomass rather than microbial cell biodelignification or individual enzymatic biodelignification. However further studies need to be made to find the optimal ratio of the enzymes to be able to produces the highest lignin degradation, and the use of enzyme immobilization technique has to be considered for a more economical method.

Recent development in lignin extraction by DES solvent paving the way and a promising prospects for the combination of both methods, enzymatic delignification and DESs-extraction of lignin for complete delignification and better utilization of lignin.

Declarations

Author contribution statement

All authors listed have significantly contributed to the development and the writing of this article.

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The authors declare no conflict of interest.

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