

Supporting information for

**Enzyme mediated biomass pretreatment and hydrolysis: a biotechnological venture  
towards bioethanol production**

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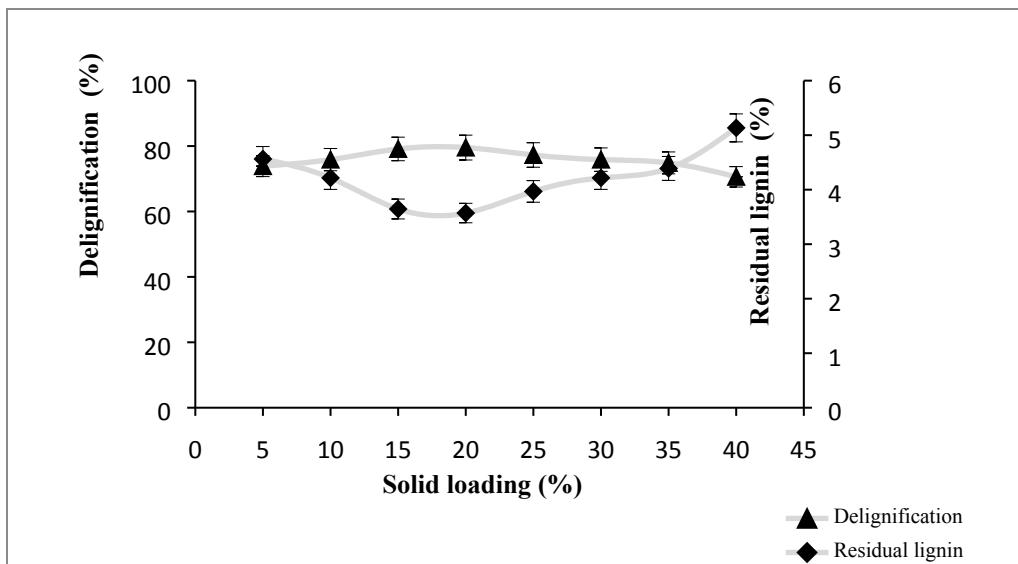


Fig. S1 (a) Effect of solid loading on enzymatic delignification

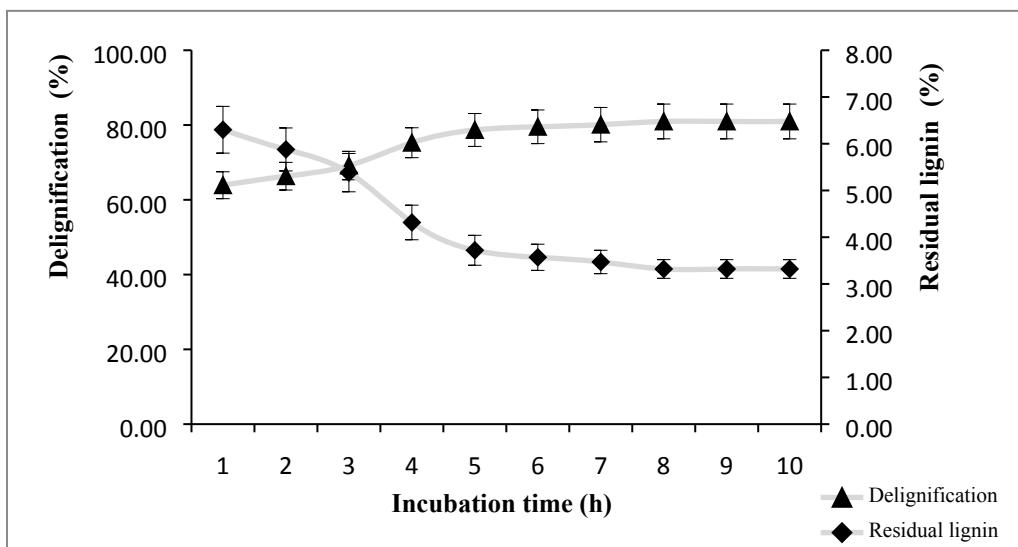


Fig. S1 (b) Effect of incubation time on enzymatic delignification

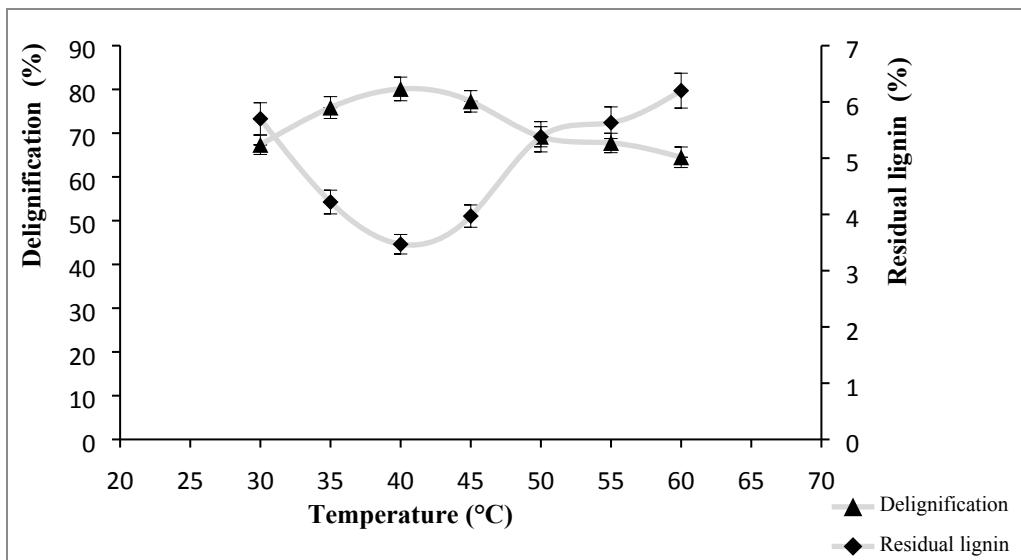


Fig. S1 (c) Effect of temperature on enzymatic delignification

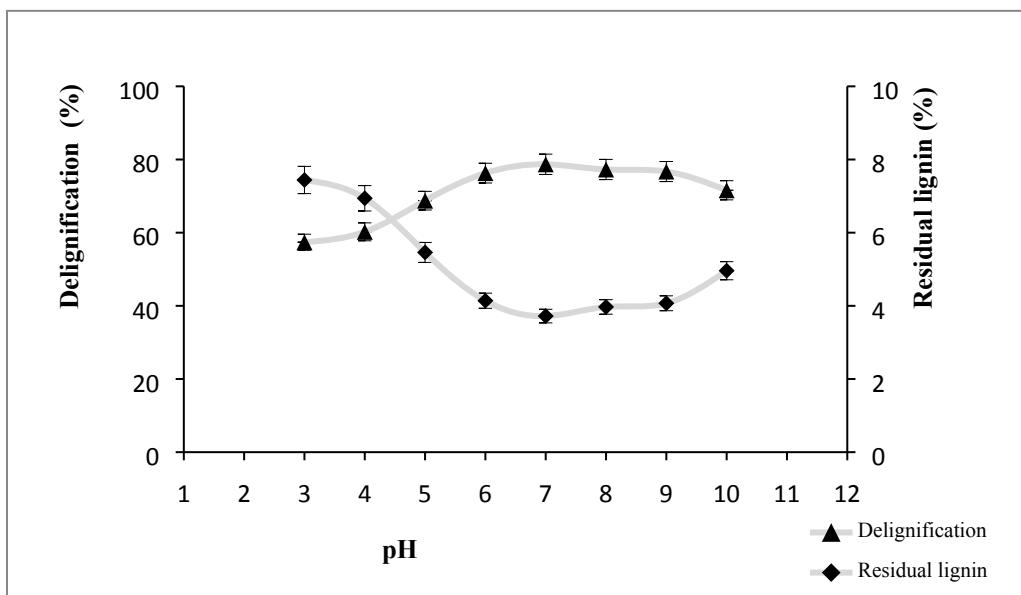


Fig. S1 (d) Effect of pH on enzymatic delignification

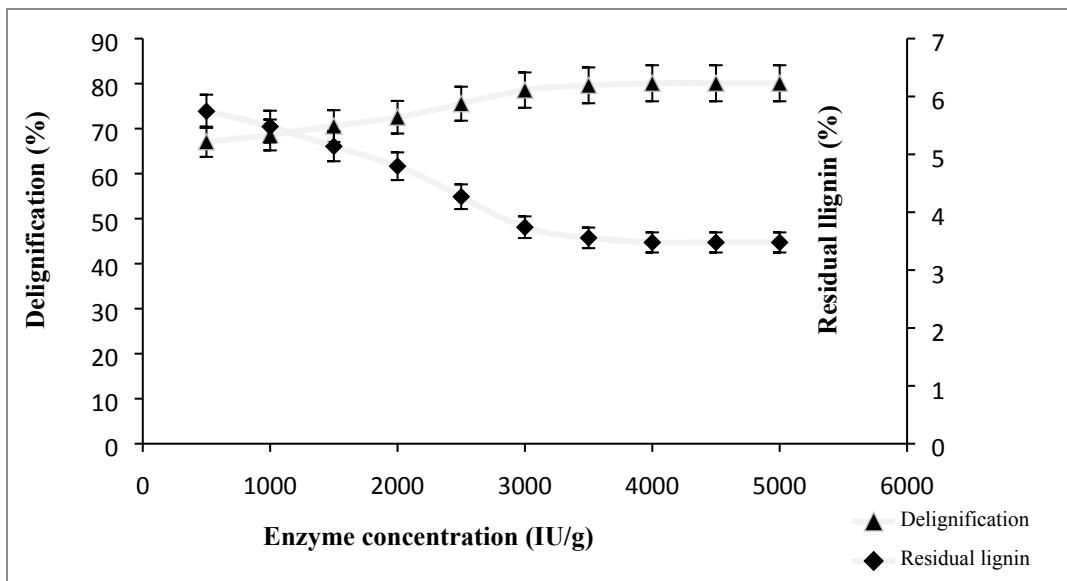


Fig. S1 (e) Effect of enzyme concentration on enzymatic delignification

**(B) One variable at a time approach (OVAT) for enzymatic hydrolysis**

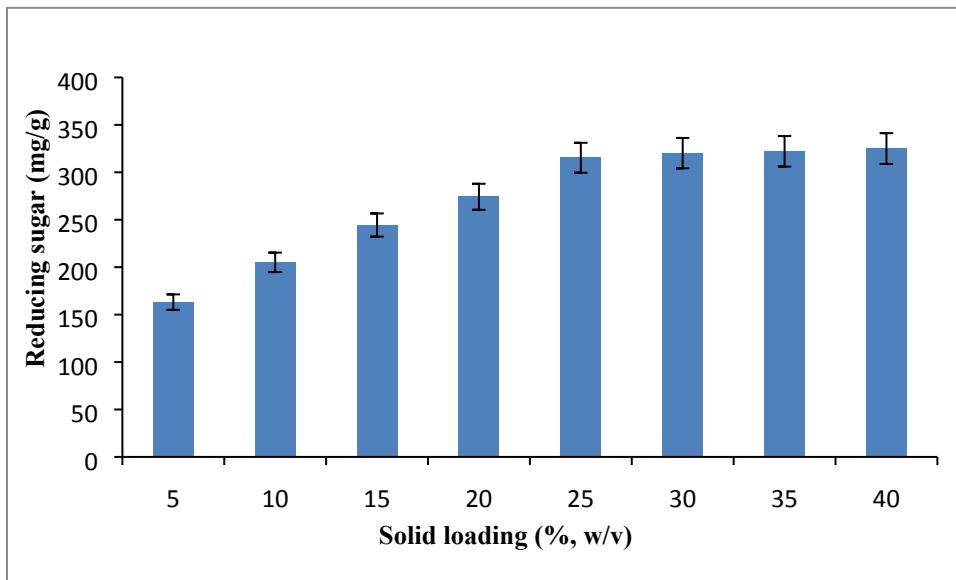


Fig. S2 (a) Effect of solid loading on enzymatic hydrolysis

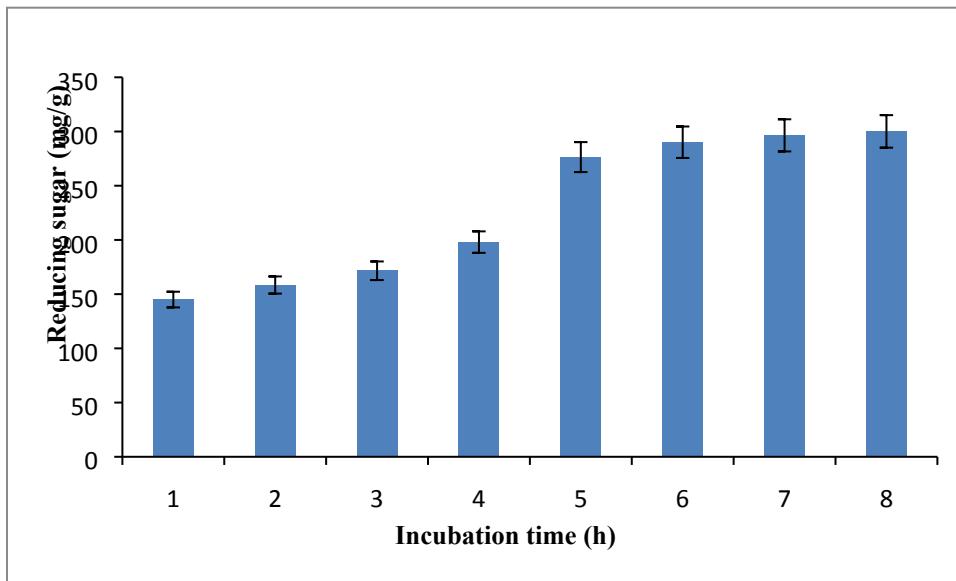


Fig. S2 (b) Effect of incubation time on enzymatic hydrolysis

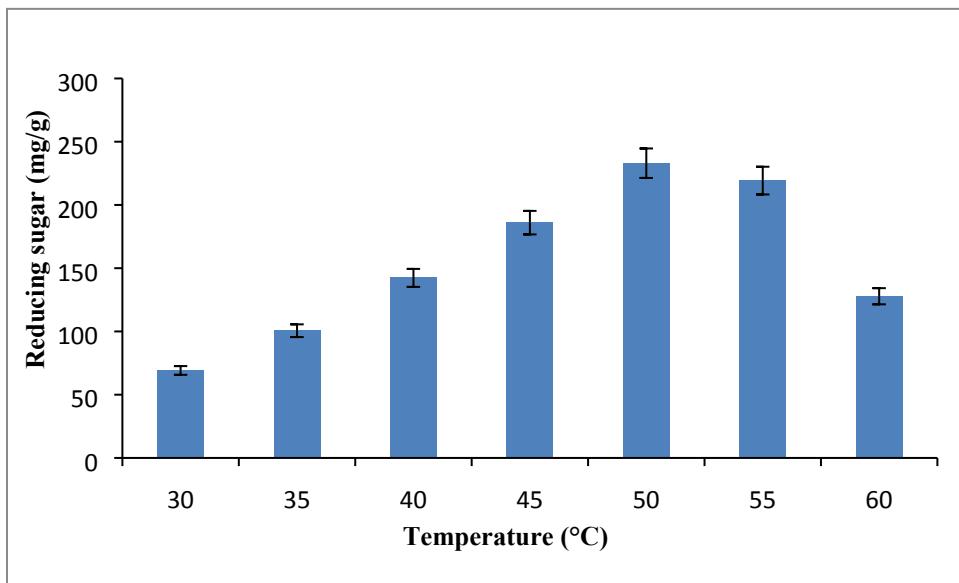


Fig. S2 (c) Effect of temperature on enzymatic hydrolysis

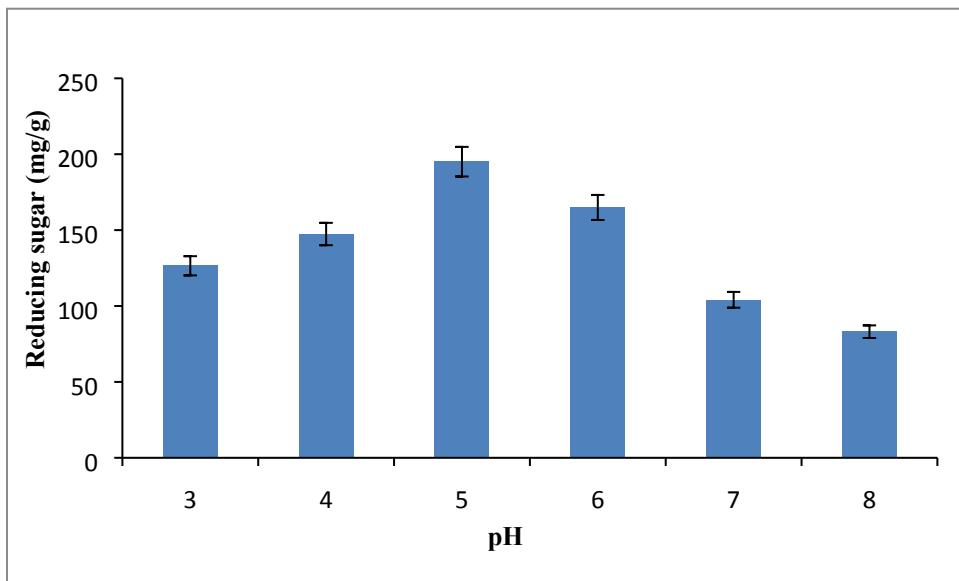


Fig. S2 (d) Effect of pH on enzymatic hydrolysis

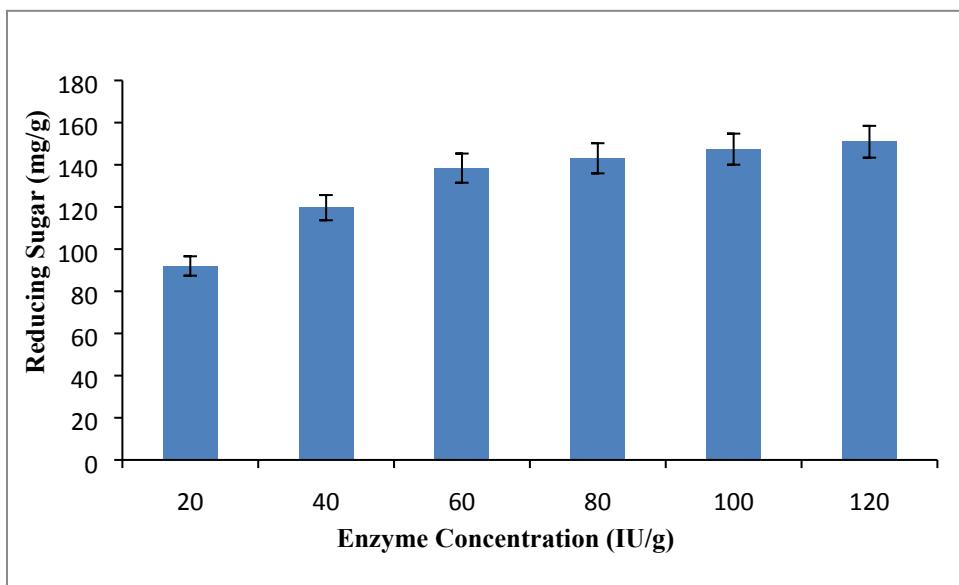


Fig. S2 (E) Effect of enzyme concentration on enzymatic hydrolysis

**Table S1** Central composite design based experimental designs (variables and responses) for enzymatic pretreatment of Kans grass in terms of coded level of variables

| Run Order | Solid Loading (%) | Incubation Time (h) | Temperature (° C) | pH | Enzyme Concentration (IU/g) | Delignification (%) |              |
|-----------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----|-----------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
|           |                   |                     |                   |    |                             | Predicted           | Experimental |
| 1         | 20                | 6                   | 40                | 7  | 3000                        | 75.01               | 79.80        |
| 2         | 20                | 6                   | 35                | 6  | 3500                        | 72.23               | 72.83        |
| 3         | 20                | 5                   | 40                | 7  | 3000                        | 73.80               | 73.59        |
| 4         | 15                | 6                   | 40                | 7  | 3000                        | 72.20               | 72.83        |
| 5         | 20                | 6                   | 40                | 7  | 3000                        | 75.01               | 79.80        |
| 6         | 15                | 5                   | 35                | 8  | 3000                        | 71.75               | 72.83        |
| 7         | 20                | 6                   | 40                | 7  | 3000                        | 75.01               | 79.80        |
| 8         | 25                | 7                   | 35                | 7  | 3000                        | 72.04               | 70.48        |
| 9         | 20                | 6                   | 40                | 8  | 3500                        | 59.34               | 59.28        |
| 10        | 15                | 7                   | 45                | 7  | 3000                        | 80.09               | 80.02        |
| 11        | 25                | 6                   | 40                | 6  | 3500                        | 59.98               | 60.24        |
| 12        | 25                | 5                   | 35                | 7  | 3000                        | 71.04               | 70.18        |
| 13        | 15                | 7                   | 45                | 8  | 2500                        | 70.46               | 70.26        |
| 14        | 25                | 5                   | 35                | 6  | 2500                        | 73.02               | 73.10        |
| 15        | 15                | 5                   | 35                | 8  | 3000                        | 63.03               | 63.18        |
| 16        | 20                | 7                   | 40                | 7  | 3500                        | 73.65               | 72.18        |
| 17        | 20                | 6                   | 40                | 8  | 3500                        | 79.50               | 79.28        |
| 18        | 25                | 7                   | 35                | 8  | 3500                        | 71.86               | 71.98        |
| 19        | 20                | 6                   | 40                | 8  | 2500                        | 74.62               | 74.58        |
| 20        | 15                | 7                   | 35                | 8  | 2500                        | 63.55               | 63.18        |

|    |    |   |    |   |      |       |       |
|----|----|---|----|---|------|-------|-------|
| 21 | 15 | 5 | 45 | 7 | 3000 | 75.01 | 73.46 |
| 22 | 20 | 6 | 40 | 7 | 3000 | 75.01 | 79.80 |
| 23 | 20 | 6 | 45 | 6 | 3500 | 73.28 | 73.72 |
| 24 | 20 | 6 | 40 | 6 | 2500 | 62.14 | 62.42 |
| 25 | 20 | 6 | 40 | 6 | 3500 | 75.85 | 76.10 |
| 26 | 25 | 7 | 45 | 6 | 3000 | 74.27 | 72.26 |
| 27 | 25 | 5 | 45 | 6 | 3000 | 77.71 | 77.62 |
| 28 | 15 | 7 | 35 | 7 | 3000 | 75.01 | 73.68 |
| 29 | 20 | 6 | 40 | 6 | 2500 | 79.93 | 80.16 |
| 30 | 15 | 5 | 45 | 8 | 2500 | 71.67 | 71.26 |
| 31 | 25 | 5 | 45 | 7 | 2500 | 74.88 | 75.42 |
| 32 | 25 | 7 | 45 | 7 | 2500 | 77.41 | 76.68 |

**Table S2** Central composite design based experimental designs (variables and responses) for enzymatic hydrolysis of Kans grass in terms of coded level of variables

| Run Order | Solid Loading (%) | Incubation Time (h) | Temperature (° C) | pH | Enzyme Concentration (IU/g) | Reducing Sugar Predicted (mg/g of substrate) | Experimental |
|-----------|-------------------|---------------------|-------------------|----|-----------------------------|--|--------------|
| 1         | 25                | 5                   | 50                | 5  | 60                          | 461.44                                       | 479.89       |
| 2         | 30                | 4                   | 55                | 6  | 40                          | 187.63                                       | 190.48       |
| 3         | 30                | 4                   | 45                | 6  | 80                          | 152.54                                       | 155.87       |
| 4         | 25                | 6                   | 50                | 5  | 60                          | 380.55                                       | 377.60       |
| 5         | 20                | 6                   | 55                | 6  | 40                          | 104.56                                       | 105.83       |
| 6         | 20                | 6                   | 45                | 6  | 80                          | 97.279                                       | 103.02       |
| 7         | 25                | 5                   | 50                | 5  | 40                          | 280.53                                       | 278.10       |
| 8         | 25                | 5                   | 50                | 5  | 60                          | 461.44                                       | 479.89       |
| 9         | 20                | 4                   | 45                | 4  | 80                          | 353.26                                       | 358.10       |
| 10        | 20                | 4                   | 55                | 6  | 80                          | 396.84                                       | 401.68       |
| 11        | 30                | 6                   | 45                | 4  | 80                          | 97.52  | 101.25       |
| 12        | 25                | 5                   | 50                | 5  | 80                          | 341.08                                       | 336.85       |
| 13        | 25                | 5                   | 50                | 5  | 60                          | 461.44                                       | 479.89       |
| 14        | 20                | 4                   | 45                | 6  | 40                          | 103.94                                       | 108.81       |
| 15        | 20                | 5                   | 50                | 5  | 60                          | 322.72                                       | 320.32       |
| 16        | 30                | 6                   | 55                | 4  | 40                          | 296.58                                       | 299.83       |
| 17        | 30                | 4                   | 55                | 4  | 80                          | 109.20                                       | 112.02       |
| 18        | 25                | 5                   | 50                | 6  | 60                          | 416.57                                       | 412.23       |
| 19        | 30                | 5                   | 50                | 5  | 60                          | 316.71                                       | 310.45       |
| 20        | 25                | 5                   | 50                | 5  | 60                          | 461.44                                       | 479.896      |
| 21        | 25                | 5                   | 55                | 5  | 60                          | 334.74                                       | 332.42       |
| 22        | 25                | 5                   | 50                | 5  | 60                          | 461.44                                       | 479.896      |

|    |    |   |    |   |    |        |         |
|----|----|---|----|---|----|--------|---------|
| 23 | 20 | 4 | 55 | 4 | 40 | 151.26 | 155.62  |
| 24 | 30 | 6 | 55 | 6 | 80 | 407.16 | 410.89  |
| 25 | 20 | 6 | 55 | 4 | 80 | 432.94 | 438.18  |
| 26 | 25 | 5 | 45 | 5 | 60 | 265.33 | 260.99  |
| 27 | 25 | 5 | 50 | 5 | 60 | 461.44 | 479.896 |
| 28 | 30 | 6 | 45 | 6 | 40 | 202.62 | 206.37  |
| 29 | 25 | 4 | 50 | 5 | 60 | 360.90 | 359.18  |
| 30 | 30 | 4 | 45 | 4 | 40 | 255.27 | 258.12  |
| 31 | 25 | 5 | 50 | 4 | 60 | 455.56 | 453.24  |
| 32 | 20 | 6 | 45 | 4 | 40 | 264.48 | 269.75  |

**Table S3** The DSC-thermoporometry temperature program and the corresponding pore diameters.

| Step (i) | Temperature (°C) | Pore diameter (nm) |
|----------|------------------|--------------------|
| 0        | -30              | Estimating $C_0$   |
| 1        | -15              | 2.6                |
| 2        | -13              | 3.04               |
| 3        | -7               | 5.65               |
| 4        | -6               | 4.84               |
| 5        | -5.19            | 12.85              |
| 6        | -2               | 19.8               |
| 7        | -1.5             | 26.4               |
| 8        | -1.3             | 30.4               |
| 9        | -0.8             | 49.5               |
| 10       | -0.2             | 198                |
| 11       | -0.1             | 396                |

**Table S4** ANOVA analysis for regression coefficients and corresponding  $F$ - and  $P$ - values for enzymatic pretreatment

| Source         | DF <sup>a</sup> | Seq SS <sup>b</sup> | Adj SS <sup>b</sup> | Adj MS <sup>c</sup> | F     | p       |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-------|---------|
| Regression     | 20              | 894.844             | 894.844             | 44.742              | 10.04 | < 0.001 |
| Linear         | 5               | 462.17              | 22.387              | 4.4774              | 1.00  | 0.459   |
| Square         | 5               | 146.30              | 146.30              | 29.261              | 6.56  | < 0.005 |
| Interaction    | 10              | 286.36              | 286.36              | 28.636              | 6.42  | 0.002   |
| Residual error | 11              | 49.038              | 49.038              | 4.4580              |       |         |
| Lack-of-fit    | 6               | 15.471              | 15.471              | 2.5785              | 0.38  | 0.862   |
| Pure error     | 5               | 33.567              | 33.567              | 6.7134              |       |         |
| Total          | 31              | 943.882             |                     |                     |       |         |

$R^2 = 94.80\%$ ,  $R^2(\text{adj}) = 85.36\%$

a Degrees of Freedom.

b Sum of Squares.

c Mean Squares.

**Table S5** ANOVA analysis for regression coefficients and corresponding *F*- and *P*- values for enzymatic hydrolysis

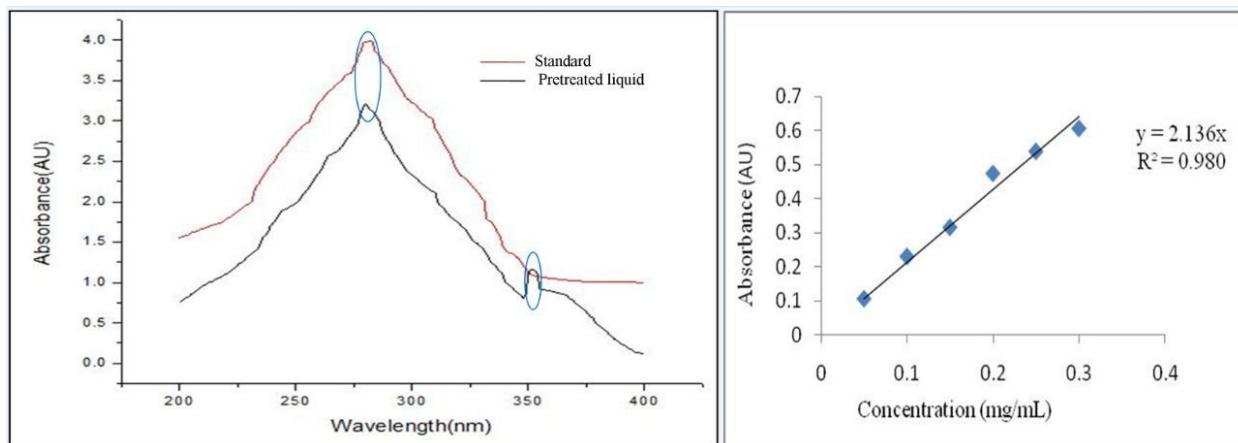
| Source         | DF <sup>a</sup> | Seq SS <sup>b</sup> | Adj SS <sup>b</sup> | Adj MS <sup>c</sup> | <i>F</i> | <i>p</i> |
|----------------|-----------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------|----------|
| Regression     | 20              | 476212              | 476212.6            | 23810.6             | 11.20    | <0.001   |
| Linear         | 5               | 50128               | 50104               | 10025.6             | 4.72     | 0.015    |
| Square         | 5               | 251949              | 241946              | 50389.7             | 23.71    | <0.001   |
| Interaction    | 10              | 174136              | 174139              | 17413.6             | 8.19     | 0.001    |
| Residual error | 11              | 23378               | 23378.1             | 2125.3              |          |          |
| Lack-of-fit    | 6               | 13378               | 13378.1             | 3896.3              |          | 0.031    |
| Pure error     | 5               |                     |                     |                     |          |          |
| Total          | 31              | 499590              |                     |                     |          |          |

$R^2 = 95.32\%$ ,  $R^2(\text{adj}) = 86.81\%$

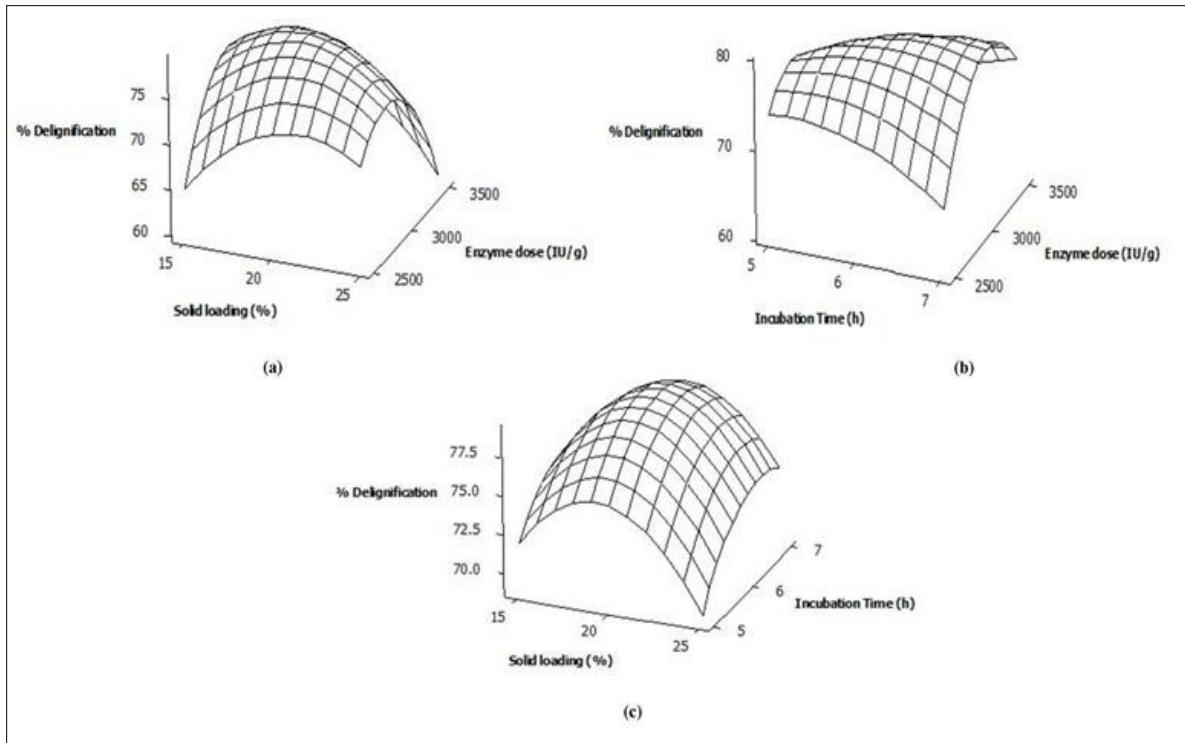
a Degrees of Freedom.

b Sum of Squares.

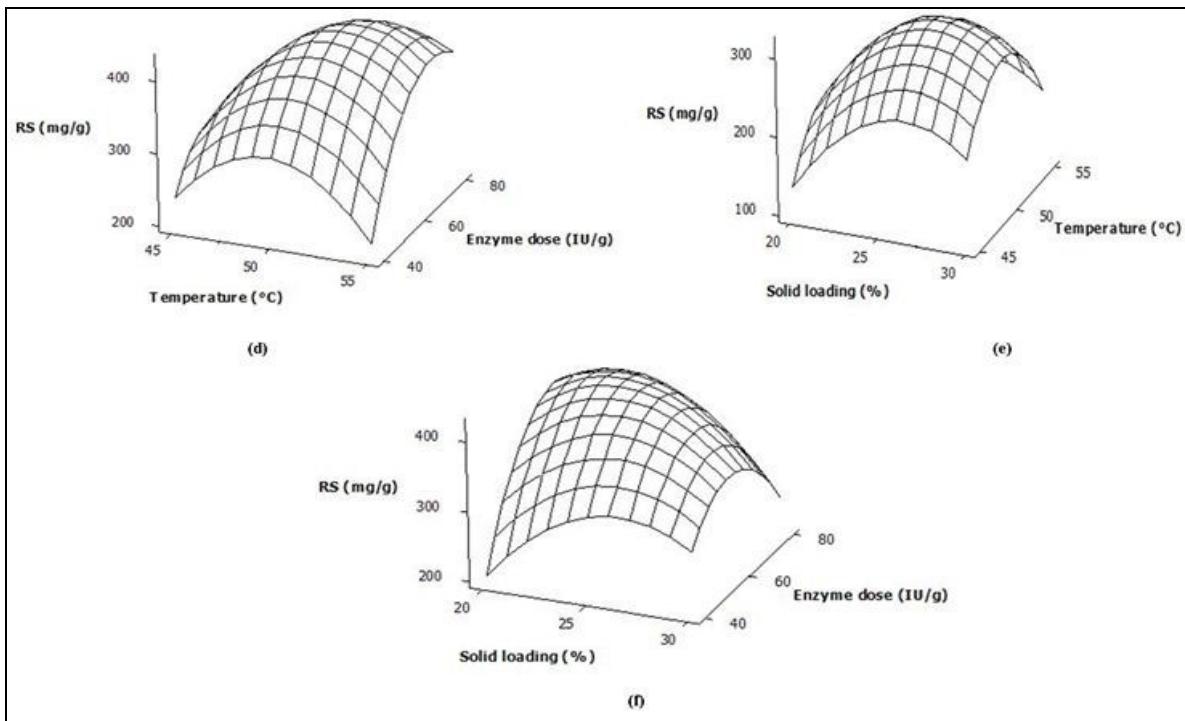
c Mean Squares.



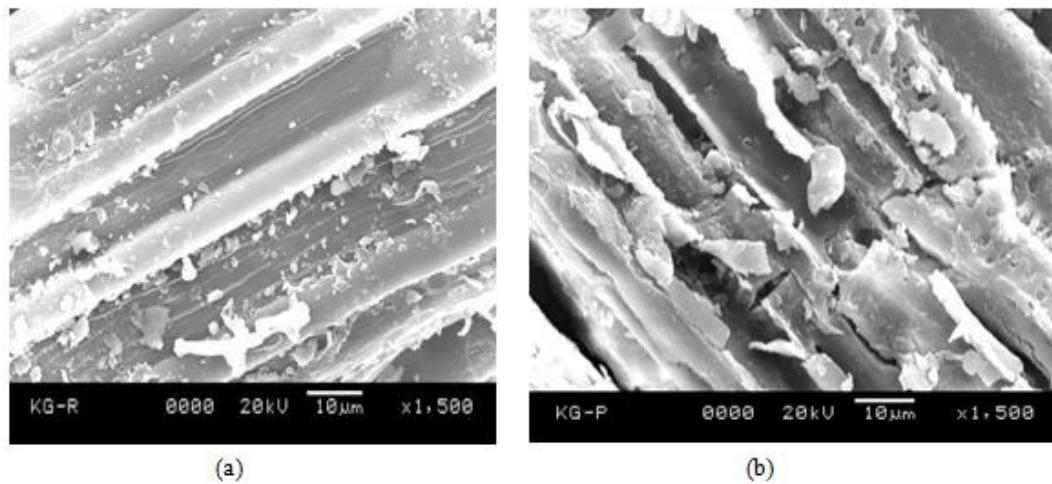
**Fig. S3** (a) UV-spectra of pretreated liquid and standard at various concentrations (b) shows the standard Kraft lignin concentrations against absorbance 280 nm.



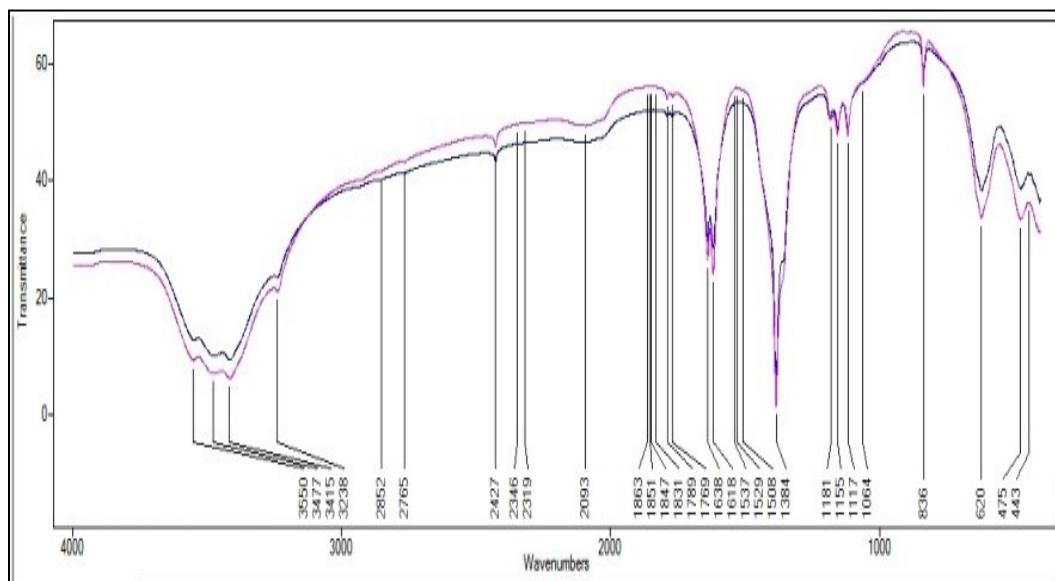
**Fig. S4** Response surface plots for (a) solid loading and enzyme dose (b) incubation time and enzyme dose (c) solid loading and incubation time. % delignification represents amount of lignin degraded and horizontal axis represents different process variables.



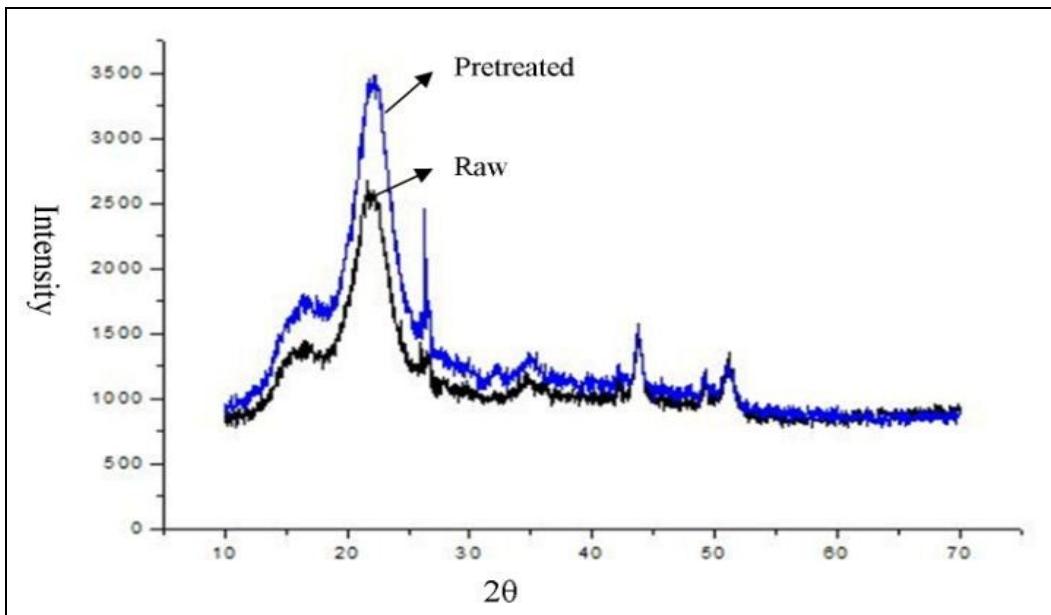
**Fig. S5** Response surface plots for (d) temperature and enzyme dose (e) solid loading and temperature (f) solid loading and enzyme dose. RS represents reducing sugar concentration and horizontal axis represents different process variables.



**Fig. S6** SEM images for (a) raw substrate (b) pretreated substrate.



**Fig. S6 (c)** FT-IR spectra for raw and pretreated substrate.



**Fig. S7** XRD for raw and pretreated substrate.