

Fractionation and Characterization of Lignin from Sugarcane Bagasse Using a Sulfuric Acid Catalyzed Solvothermal Process

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Electronic Supplementary Information

Table S1 Product profile in liquid fraction during solvothermal fractionation process

| Run No. | Response | Concentration of product in hydrolysate (g/L) | | | | | | | |
|---------|---------------------------|---|--------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------|----------|
| | Hemicellulose removal (%) | Glucose | Xylose | Arabinose | Acetic acid | Formic acid | Lactic acid | HMF | Furfural |
| 1 | 94.3 | 2.32 | 10.61 | 1.12 | 0.21 | 0.17 | 0.13 | 0.11 | 0.32 |
| 2 | 89.6 | 2.13 | 12.31 | 0.65 | 0.13 | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.04 | 0.25 |
| 3 | 96.7 | 3.56 | 9.83 | 1.57 | 0.41 | 0.25 | 0.16 | 0.12 | 0.38 |
| 4 | 89.1 | 1.75 | 11.15 | 2.22 | 0.24 | 0.12 | 0.05 | 0.05 | 0.14 |
| 5 | 97.2 | 3.78 | 10.23 | 1.51 | 0.18 | 0.32 | 0.22 | 0.27 | 0.42 |
| 6 | 95.9 | 3.21 | 9.97 | 1.86 | 0.27 | 0.17 | 0.11 | 0.16 | 0.29 |
| 7 | 93.1 | 2.83 | 10.72 | 1.22 | 0.26 | 0.26 | 0.18 | 0.15 | 0.32 |
| 8 | 98.6 | 3.96 | 8.66 | 0.91 | 0.35 | 0.25 | 0.16 | 0.24 | 0.41 |
| 9 | 89.8 | 1.19 | 12.17 | 1.55 | 0.13 | 0.14 | 0.06 | 0.08 | 0.12 |
| 10 | 93.3 | 2.45 | 11.48 | 2.64 | 0.37 | 0.15 | 0.09 | 0.09 | 0.26 |
| 11 | 92.7 | 2.75 | 11.28 | 2.76 | 0.19 | 0.24 | 0.05 | 0.14 | 0.19 |
| 12 | 94.1 | 2.13 | 10.97 | 1.64 | 0.22 | 0.22 | 0.12 | 0.15 | 0.25 |
| 13 | 95.6 | 2.56 | 11.32 | 2.89 | 0.29 | 0.19 | 0.23 | 0.17 | 0.21 |
| 14 | 96.4 | 2.51 | 9.43 | 3.16 | 0.31 | 0.33 | 0.18 | 0.26 | 0.17 |
| 15 | 88.4 | 1.22 | 12.51 | 1.59 | 0.11 | 0.05 | 0.07 | 0.04 | 0.07 |

Table S2 Assignment of FT-IR spectra of native sugarcane bagasse and remaining pulp

| Assignment | Wavenumber (cm ⁻¹) | |
|---|--------------------------------|----------------|
| | Native sugarcane bagasse | Remaining pulp |
| O-H stretching vibrations of the -OH groups | 3338 | 3332 |
| C-H stretching vibrations | 2916 | 2902 |
| C=O ester group vibration of the acetyl and uronic ester groups | 1734 | N/A |
| O-H bending vibrations of absorbed water | 1637 | 1637 |
| Aromatic C=C in plane stretching of the aromatic ring | 1514 | N/A |
| C=C stretching vibration of the aromatic rings | 1462 | N/A |
| Acetyl groups present as branched groups | 1232 | N/A |
| C-O-H, stretching of alcohols | N/A | 1053 |
| C-O-C pyranose ring skeleton | 1031 | 1029 |
| Glycosidic C-H stretching vibration out of the plane of the aromatic ring | N/A | 898 |

Table S3 Assignment of FT-IR spectra of commercial organosolv lignin and lignin recovery

| Assignment | Wavenumber (cm ⁻¹) | |
|---|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| | Commercial organosolv lignin | Lignin recovery |
| O-H stretching | 3410 | 3406 |
| C-H stretching in CH ₂ and CH ₃ groups | 2935, 2845 | 2935, 2845 |
| C=O stretching, unconjugated | 1699 | 1704 |
| Aromatic skeletal vibrations (S > G) | 1602 | 1605 |
| Aromatic skeletal vibrations (G > S) | 1514 | 1514 |
| C-H deformations in -CH ₂ - and -CH ₃ | 1459 | 1463 |
| Aromatic skeletal vibrations | 1422 | 1427 |
| Aliphatic C-H stretch in CH ₃ , not in OCH ₃ | 1362 | 1367 |
| S ring breathing | 1330 | 1325 |
| G ring breathing | 1261 | 1265 |
| C-C and C-O stretch, G condensed > G | 1224 | 1219 |
| C-O stretch in ester groups (HGS) | 1173 | 1168 |
| Aromatic C-H in plane deformation (S) | 1127 | 1121 |
| Aromatic C-H in plane deformation (G > S) | 1030 | 1035 |
| CH=CH- out-of-plane deformation (trans) | 984 | 984 |
| Aromatic C-H out-of-plane deformation (G) | N/A | N/A |
| Aromatic C-H out-of-plane deformation (S + H) | 835 | 836 |
| C-H bond in the aromatic ring from G | N/A | N/A |

Table S4 Glass transition temperature of commercial organosolv lignin and lignin recovery

| Sample | T _g onset (°C) | T _g (°C) |
|--------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| COL | 145.7 | 154.1 |
| BGL | 102.5 | 111.6 |

Table S5 Summary of lignin properties from various biomass resource during solvothermal process.

| Raw materials | Extraction process | Lignin yield (%) | M _w ^a | M _n ^b | PDI ^c | DTG _{max} (°C) ^d | T _g (°C) ^e | S:G:H ^f | Lignin substructures ^g | References |
|-------------------|--|------------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------|---|------------|
| Sugarcane bagasse | One-step fractionation MIBK:methanol:water | 87.1 | 1374 | 785 | 1.75 | 291 and 437 | 111.6 | 25.1:42.1:32.6 | β-O-4' linkages, resinol structures formed by β-β, syringyl unit, guaiacyl unit, p-hydroxyphenyl unit, p-coumarate, and ferrulate | This study |
| Sugarcane bagasse | Ethanol pretreatment | N/A | 6441 | 4181 | 1.51 | 355 | N/A | 25.32:58.23:16.46 | β-O-4, C _v -acetylated β-O-4, phenylcoumaran, resinol, β-D-Xylopyranoside | [35] |
| Sugarcane bagasse | Glycerol pretreatment | 60.4 | 4288 | 1958 | 2.2 | N/A | N/A | 51:43:5 | β-aryl ether, phenylcoumaran, resinol, guaiacyl, p-hydroxyphenyl, syringyl, p-coumarate, ferulate, feruloyl glycerol | [41] |
| Sugarcane bagasse | Acid-catalysed crude glycerol pretreatment | 85.2 | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 46:45:9 | Guaiacyl, p-hydroxyphenyl, syringyl, cinnamate, β-O-4, β-5, β-β, cinnamoyl glycerol | [42] |
| Sugarcane bagasse | Acetosolv extraction | 55.6 | 2480 | 248 | 10 | >500 | 46-60 | N/A | Syringyl, oxidized syringyl, guaiacyl, p-hydroxyphenyl, p-coumarate, cinnamic aldehyde, aryl ether with A-α, β-O-4, ferulate, phenylcoumaran | [43] |
| Sugarcane bagasse | Acidified ethylene glycol | 35.8 | 6518 | 3821 | 1.7 | 380 | N/A | | b-O-4 alkylaryl ethers, b-O-4' aryl ethers linkages with and p-hydroxybenzoated -OH at g-carbon, resinol, phenylcoumarane formed by b-5' and a-O-4', spirodienones formed by b-1' and a-O-a', p-hydroxyphenyl, syringyl, oxidised syringyl, guaiacyl, oxidised guaiacyl, p-hydroxybenzoate, p-coumaric acid | [37] |
| Aleppo | Ethanol/water | N/A | N/A | N/A | N/A | 344 and 96.5 | N/A | | Syringyl, guaiacyl, methoxyl | [22] |

| pine | pretreatment | | | | | 388 | | | groups, etherified syringyl, etherified guaiacyl | |
|----------------|--|-------|-----------|-----------|-------|-----|-----|-----------------------------------|--|------|
| Chinese quince | Ethanol organosolv pretreatment | 14.4 | 5636 | 2255 | 2.5 | 374 | N/A | 59.72:40.21:0.07 | β -O-4' linkage, C _α -ethoxylation- β -O-4' linkage, resinol structures formed by β - β , phenylcoumaran formed by β -5' linkage, spirodienone formed by β -1' linkage, guaiacyl, p-hydroxyphenyl, cinnamyl alcohol end-groups, syringyl, oxidized syringyl units linked a carbonyl at C _α | [44] |
| Miscanthus | Organosolv pulping (Ethanol:water) | 77.86 | 1261-1921 | 1066-1365 | 1-1.5 | N/A | N/A | 0.95-4.05: 8.61-22.23:36.72-39.60 | N/A | [45] |
| Eucalyptus | One-step fractionation MIBK:methanol:water | N/A | 10940 | 5163 | 2.1 | 351 | N/A | 62.5:30.3:0.9 | β -O-4' alkyl-aryl ethers, β - β resinols, β -5' phenylcoumarans, syringyl, C _α -oxidized syringyl, guaiacyl | [46] |

^aMolecular weight according to GPC analysis

^bNumber-average molecular weight according to GPC analysis

^cPolydispersity index (Mw/Mn) according to GPC analysis

^dDerivative thermogravimetric curve according to TGA analysis

^eGlass transition temperature according to DSC analysis

^fRatio of syringyl, guaiacyl, and p-hydroxyphenyl according to Py-GCMS analysis

^gLignin substructures according to NMR analysis