

## **Supplementary Material 1: Infrared spectra and peak assignments for Cladophora aegagropila cellulose fibrils**

### **Spatiotemporal dynamics of cellulose during enzymatic hydrolysis studied by infrared spectromicroscopy**

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The sFTIR spectra of cellulose feature signature absorbance peaks in the hydrogen bonding ( $\sim 3200 - 3500 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ),  $-\text{CH}$  vibration ( $\sim 2800 - 3000$ ), and the fingerprint regions ( $\sim 900 - 1500 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) (Figure S1. 1). Consistent with previous reports, the fingerprint region of the cellulose sFTIR spectrum show strong absorbance peaks due to C-O bond vibrations at the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> carbons of the glucose residues of cellulose (C2, C3 and C6, respectively) centered at  $\sim 1111 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $1124 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $1060 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , and  $1033 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , respectively (Figure S1. 1A). The asymmetric and symmetric stretching of the  $-\text{C}-\text{O}-\text{C}$  ether bond of the glycosidic bond in cellulose absorb maximally near  $1160 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $1205 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , respectively (Marechal & Chanzy, 2000). The asymmetric stretching peak of the glycosidic bond at  $\sim 1160 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  is dominant and commonly used as a diagnostic marker for cellulose. Additionally, a shoulder peak centered at  $\sim 1153 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  attributed to C-O stretching of the anomeric carbon (Nikonenko et al., 2000) can be seen in the spectra. The corresponding identification of the C-O stretch at the 4<sup>th</sup> carbon (i.e. non-reducing ends of cellulose) is not commonly identified in the literature. A minor peak centered at  $\sim 1086 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (peak 7) is a possible candidate for C4-O vibration. The small peak size comparable to the shoulder at  $1153 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  of the reducing-end, and the location between the C3-O and C2-O peaks, where C2-OH, C3-OH, and C4-OH are secondary alcohols, lend support to this hypothetical assignment.

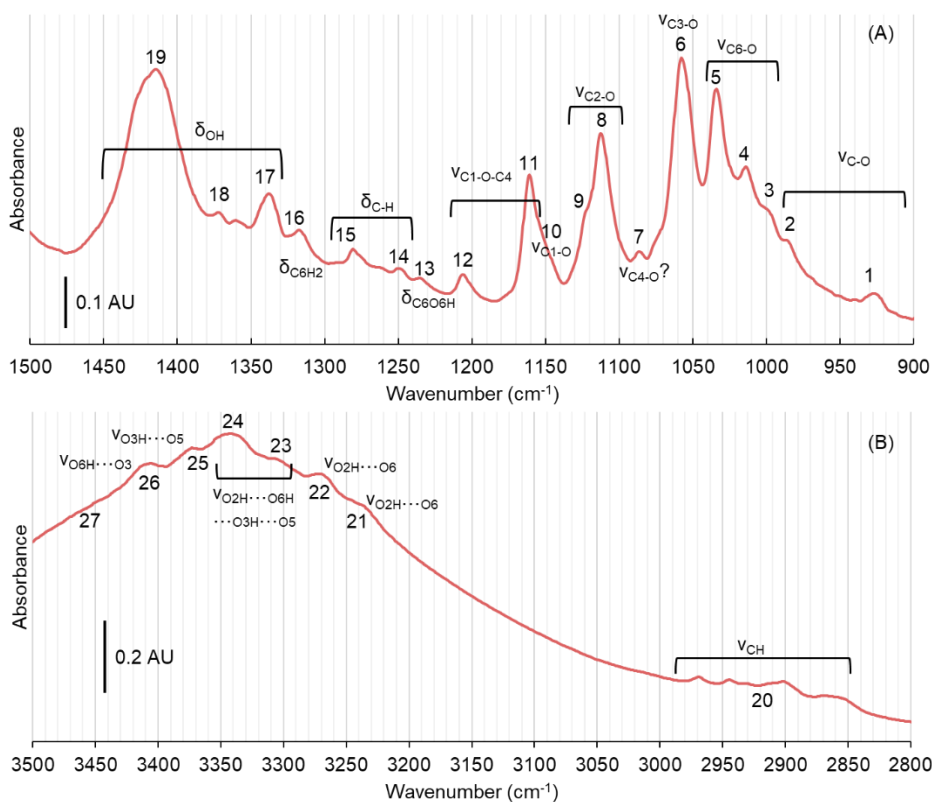


Figure S1. 1: sFTIR spectra of cellulose in sodium acetate buffer A) in the fingerprint region ( $900 - 1500 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) characterized by absorption due to C-O vibration, C-H bending and O-H bending; B) in the  $-\text{CH}$  and  $-\text{OH}$  region ( $2800 - 3500 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) characterized by absorption due to C-H vibration, and  $-\text{OH}$  vibration peaks of cellulose. Numbered peaks are tabulated in Table S1. 1. An illustration of cellulose identifying C-O bonds and hydrogen bonding patterns is shown in Figure S1. 2.

Corresponding to the C-O stretches are –OH vibration peaks that occur in the 3200 – 3500  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  frequency range (Figure S1. 1B). Peak assignment in this range has undergone considerable refinement over the years as new information on the crystalline morphology and hydrogen bonding patterns in cellulose come to light (Lee et al., 2015; Liang & Marchessault, 1959; Marechal & Chanzy, 2000; Schwanninger et al., 2004). While some uncertainty remains, this work uses peak assignments with general and broad consensus. The lowest frequency peaks in the spectra of hydrated cellulose centered at  $\sim 3240$  and  $3270 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (Figure S1. 1B) are assigned to intramolecular hydrogen bonds formed by O2H of one glucose residue and O6 of the neighboring glucose residue (Figure S1. 2). Lee et al. (Lee et al., 2015) suggest that the  $\text{O2H}\cdots\text{O6}$  hydrogen bonds of cellulose I $\alpha$  absorbs maximally near  $3240 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , while those of cellulose I $\beta$  absorbs maximally near  $3270 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ . The cellulose used in this study, isolated from the cell walls of the macroalgae, *Cladophora aegagropila*, is predominantly cellulose I $\alpha$  (O’Dell et al., 2015). Contrary to Lee et al.’s rationale, the  $3240 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  peak is of lower intensity than at  $3270 \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , suggesting a lower abundance of the cellulose I $\alpha$  morphology. An alternate explanation is that the two O2H-O6 hydrogen bonding peaks correspond to the two C2-O peaks observed  $\sim 1111 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $1124 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  in the fingerprint region. The  $\text{O2H}\cdots\text{O6}$  hydrogen bonds are the strongest in the cellulose fibrils, as evidenced by the lowest frequency absorption of these peaks. Along with the  $\text{O3H}\cdots\text{O5}$  hydrogen bonds, the  $\text{O2H}\cdots\text{O6}$  hydrogen bonds flank on either side of the glycosidic bond (Figure S1. 2), which increases the stiffness of the glucan chain (Nishiyama, 2009). Moreover, the  $\text{O2H}\cdots\text{O6}$  hydrogen bonds are proposed to be the origin on the right-handed twisting of cellulose I (Bu et al., 2015).

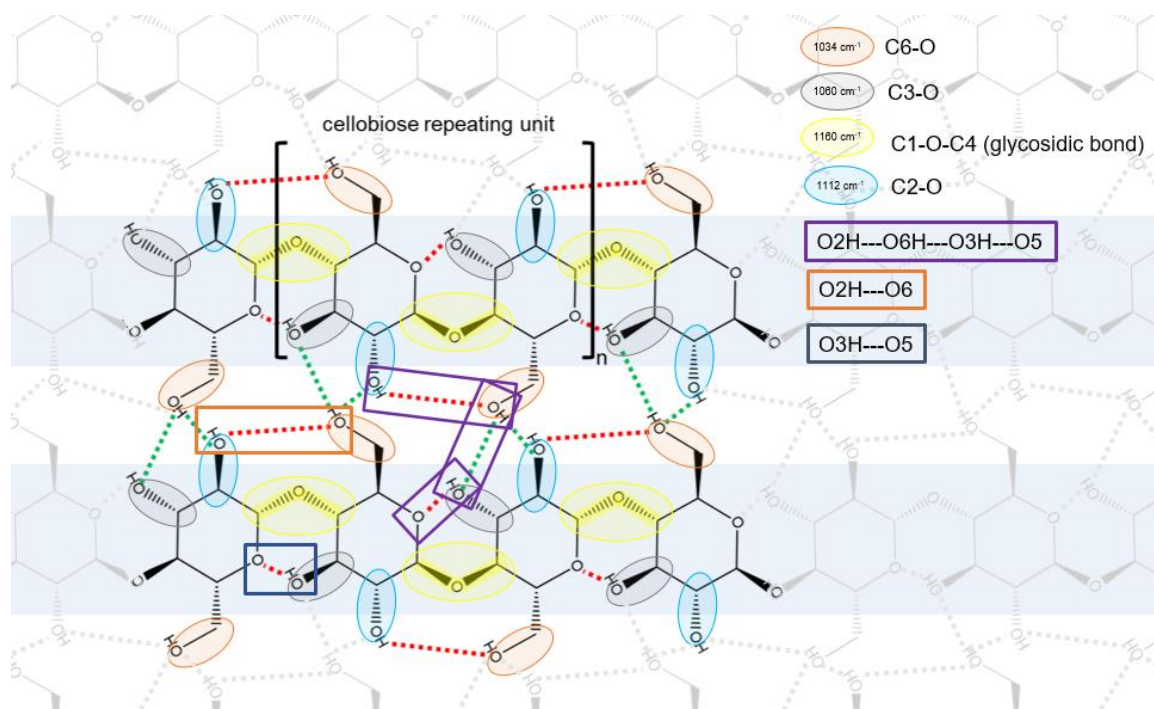


Figure S1. 2: Illustration of the C-O bonds and hydrogen bonding patterns characteristic of cellulose I. Red dotted lines indicate intramolecular hydrogen bonds; Green dotted lines indicate intermolecular hydrogen bonds.

The hydroxymethyl group at C6 along the cellulose backbone can rotate about the C5-C6 bond in each glucose residue and occupy three dominant rotameric forms (Matthews et al., 2006). The ratio of the three rotamers at the cellulose surfaces strongly depends on the nature of the solvent, while the trans-gauche (*tg*) rotameric form facilitating intramolecular hydrogen bonds between C6O6 and O2H dominate within the fibril structures of cellulose I (Matthews et al., 2006; Shen & Gnanakaran, 2009). The *tg* rotamer also facilitates intermolecular hydrogen bonding between O6H of one cellulose molecule and O3 of the adjacent molecule. In the IR spectra, the coordination of hydrogen bonds across O2H...O6H...O3H...O5 (Figure S1. 2) contribute to maximum absorption in the range of  $\sim 3300 - 3350 \text{ cm}^{-1}$  (Lee et al., 2015). In this work, peaks centered near 3305 and 3345  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  were observed and assigned to the O2H...O6H...O3H...O5 hydrogen bonds (Figure S1. 1B and Table S1. 1).

Peaks at around 3375  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  and 3405  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  are assigned to the O3H...O5 and O6H...O3 hydrogen bonds, respectively. As mentioned, the O3H...O5 hydrogen bonds brace the glycosidic bonds along with the O2H...O6 hydrogen bonds. The higher frequency absorption of the O3H...O5 hydrogen bonds indicate that these are weaker than the O2H...O6 hydrogen bonds, lending support to Bu et al.'s (Bu et al., 2015) proposal that the O2H...O6 hydrogen bonds, rather than the O3H...O5 hydrogen bonds are responsible for the twist in cellulose I. Peak assignments are summarized in Table S1. 1.

Table S1. 1: Peak assignment in the FTIR spectra of dry and hydrated cellulose.

Peak # <sup>1</sup>	Peak Center <sup>2</sup> ( $\text{cm}^{-1}$ )	Bond Assignment	Cellulose Structural Feature <sup>3</sup>	Intra-fibril hydrogen bonding <sup>4</sup>
-	895 – 896	$\gamma$ COC at $\beta$ -glycosidic linkage	Amorphous region	
1	924	$\gamma$ ring vibration		
2	984 – 985	$\nu$ C-O		
3	998	$\nu$ C-O	C6-O6	
4	1012	$\nu$ C-O	<i>gt</i> -rotamer (minor) C6-O6	
5	1034	$\nu$ C-O	<i>gg</i> -rotamer (secondary) C6-O6	Intra: O6-HO2
6	1059	$\nu$ C-O	<i>tg</i> -rotamer (primary) C3-O3	Inter: O6H-O3, O6H-O2 Intra: O3H-O5 Inter: O3-HO6
7	1086	$\nu$ C-O	C4-O4? Non-reducing end?	
8	1112	$\nu$ C-O	C2-O2	Weak/no H-bond
9	1124	$\nu$ C-O	C2-O2	Inter: O6-HO2
10	1153	$\nu$ C-O	C1-O1 Anomeric carbon	
11	1161	$\nu$ <sub>S</sub> C-O-C	Glycosidic bond	
12	1206	$\nu$ <sub>AS</sub> C-O-C	Glycosidic bond	
13	1236	$\delta$ C-O-H	C6-O6	Intra: O6-HO2 Inter: O6H-O3, O6H-O2
14	1250	$\delta$ C-H		
15	1281	$\delta$ C-H		
16	1315	$\delta$ CH <sub>2</sub>	H-C6-H	
17	1340	$\delta$ OH	O2H and O3H	

18	1372	$\delta$ OH		
19	1429	$\delta$ OH	crystalline region C6-O6H	
20	~2840~ 2980	$\nu$ CH		
21	~3230	$\nu$ O-H	O2-H Cellulose I $\alpha$ <sup>5</sup>	Intra: C2O2H-O6
22	~3268	$\nu$ O-H	O2-H Cellulose I $\beta$ <sup>5</sup>	Intra: C2O2H-O6
23	3305	$\nu$ O-H	Coupled inter and intra hydrogen bonds	O2H-O6H-O3H-O5
24	3345	$\nu$ O-H	Coupled inter and intra hydrogen bonds	O2H-O6H-O3H-O5
25	3375	$\nu$ O-H		Intra: O3H-O5
26	3405	$\nu$ O-H		Inter: O6H-O3
27	3450	$\nu$ O-H		Weak or no H-bonds (TG>GT>GG) <sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Peak numbering in the hydrated cellulose spectra shown in Figure S1. 1.

<sup>2</sup> Hydrated in sodium acetate buffer.

<sup>3</sup> Peak assignments based on previous work (Fan et al., 2012; Kondo & Sawatari, 1996; Lee et al., 2015; Marechal & Chanzy, 2000; Nikonenko et al., 2000; R. Stuart Tipson, 1968)

<sup>4</sup> Intramolecular (Intra) and intermolecular (Inter) molecular hydrogen bonding in crystalline cellulose I (Nishiyama et al., 2002, 2003).

<sup>5</sup> As proposed by Lee et al. (Lee et al., 2015).

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