
#### Abstract

$\beta$-N-acetylhexosaminidase from tobacco leaves (Nicotiana tabacum L.) was partially purified to final specific activity $1,72 \mu \mathrm{~mol} \cdot \mathrm{~min}^{-1} \cdot \mathrm{mg}^{-1}$ using p-nitrofenyl- $\beta$-N-acetyl-D-glucosaminide as substrate. The enzyme exhibited one band after both isoelectric focusing and native electrophoresis. Molecular mass of native enzyme was determined by gel chromatography ( $\mathrm{M}_{\mathrm{R}}$ 275000) and native electrophoresis ( $\mathrm{M}_{\mathrm{R}}$ 285000). Isoelectric point pI 5.4 was determined by isoelectric focusing. Activity of $\beta$ - N -acetylhexosaminidase was measured using substrates p -nitrofenyl- $\beta$-N-acetyl-D-galactosaminide, p-nitrofenyl- $\beta$ -N-acetyl-D-glucosaminide, $\quad \mathrm{N}, \mathrm{N}$ '-diacetylchitobiose, p-nitrofenyl-N, $\mathrm{N}^{\prime}$ diacetylchitobioside and $\mathrm{N}, \mathrm{N}^{\prime}, \mathrm{N}$ "-triacetylchitotriose. For substrates $\mathrm{N}, \mathrm{N}^{\prime}$ diacetylchitobiose, p-nitrofenyl-N,N'-diacetylchitobioside and $\mathrm{N}, \mathrm{N}, \mathrm{N}$ "-triacetylchitotriose an enzyme assay of $\beta-\mathrm{N}$-acetylhexosaminidase using capillary zone electrophoresis was developed. Optimal pH and temperature of $\beta-\mathrm{N}$-acetylhexosaminidase were determined with individual substrates, as well as products of hydrolysis. Activity of $\beta-\mathrm{N}$ acetylhexosaminidase was highest using p-nitrofenyl- $\beta$-N-acetyl-D-glucosaminide as substrate and lowest using $\mathrm{N}, \mathrm{N}$ ', N "-triacetylchitotriose ( $35 \%$ in relative comparison). Maximum velocity and Michaelis constant of $\beta-\mathrm{N}$-acetylhexosaminidase were determined with substrates N -acetyl-D-galactosaminide, p-nitrofenyl- $\beta$-N-acetyl-D-glucosaminide and $\mathrm{N}, \mathrm{N}$-diacetylchitobiose. Substrate inhibition of $\beta-\mathrm{N}$-acetylhexosaminidase by p -nitrofenyl- $\beta$-N-acetyl-D-glucosaminide was observed, for the first time in plant $\beta-\mathrm{N}$ acetylhexosaminidase studies. The inhibition effects of D-galactosamine, D-glucosamine, N -acetyl-D-galactosamine and N -acetyl-D-glucosamine on the activity of $\beta$ - N acetylhexosaminidase were determined.


## Keywords:

$\beta$-N-acetylhexosaminidase, capillary zone electrophoresis, substrate inhibition, N,N'-diacetylchitobiose, p-NP-N,N'-diacetylchitobioside, N,N',N"-triacetylchitotriose

