Quantitative enzymatic production of sialylated galactooligosaccharides with an engineered sialidase from Trypanosoma rangeli - DTU Orbit (19/10/2019)

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Sialylated galactooligosaccharides (GOS) represent a potential infant formula ingredient, which is believed to contribute with a combination of the beneficial properties of the prebiotic GOS as well as of sialylated human milk oligosaccharides. Sialylated GOS do not exist in natural milk, but can be produced from κ(kappa)-casein glycomacropeptide (CGMP), a sialylated side stream component from cheese-making, by sialidase-catalyzed transsialylation. Using a rationally designed mutant of the sialidase from Trypanosoma rangeli, Tr13, with enhanced transsialylation activity, six different GOS preparations with a varying degree of polymerization (DP) were effectively sialylated with molar yields of 20-30% on the CGMP sialyl in batch reactions. The rate of sialylation of the individual DPs was largely dependent on the DP distribution in each GOS preparation, and Tr13 catalysis did not discriminate against large GOS molecules, providing the novelty point that GOS molecules are sialylated independently of their size by Tr13. Using CGMP, GOS, and Tr13, the production of gram-scale quantities of sialyl-GOS was achieved in 20L volume reactions. Compared to the benchmark transsialidase from pathogenic Trypanosoma cruzi, the Tr13 was significantly more thermostable. By employing an enzymatic membrane reactor, Tr13 could be recycled and after seven consecutive 1-h reaction cycles, the biocatalytic productivity of the enzyme was increased 7-fold compared to the batch reaction. Assuming that the enzyme may be specific for α-2,3-bound sialyl moieties only, and that only 50% of sialyl linkages in CGMP are α-2,3-linked, the molar yield of sialyl-GOS on the available α-2,3-bound sialyl moieties in CGMP reached 80% in the enzymatic membrane reactor system.

General information
Publication status: Published
Organisations: Department of Chemical and Biochemical Engineering, Center for BioProcess Engineering
Contributors: Zeuner, B., Holck, J., Perna, V., Mikkelsen, J. D., Meyer, A. S.
Pages: 42-50
Publication date: 2016
Peer-reviewed: Yes

Publication information
Journal: Enzyme and Microbial Technology
Volume: 82
ISSN (Print): 0141-0229
Ratings:
BFI (2016): BFI-level 1
Scopus rating (2016): CiteScore 2.83 SJR 0.774 SNIP 1.019
Web of Science (2016): Impact factor 2.502
Web of Science (2016): Indexed yes
Original language: English
Keywords: Enzymatic membrane reactor, Sialylated galactooligosaccharides, Transsialylation, Trypanosoma rangeli
DOIs: 10.1016/j.enzmictec.2015.08.010
Source: FindIt
Source ID: 2280666905
Research output: Contribution to journal › Journal article – Annual report year: 2015 › Research › peer-review