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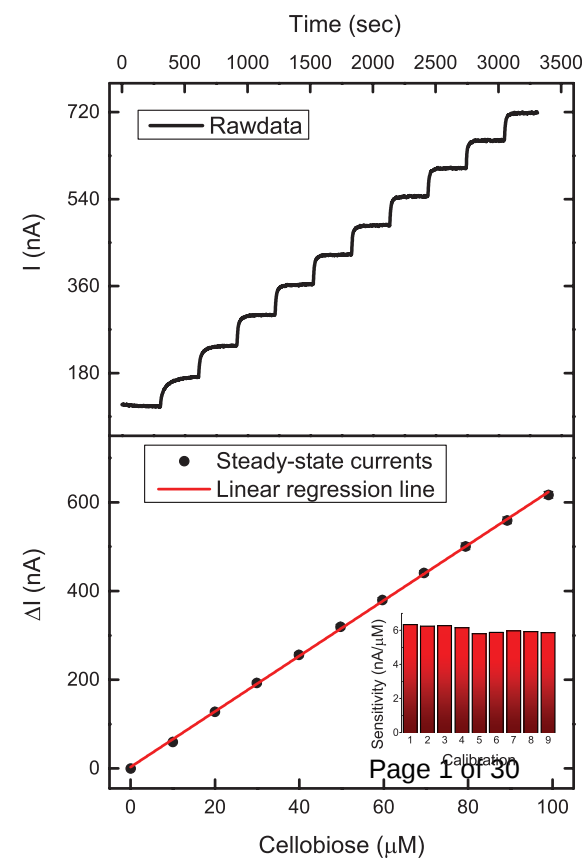
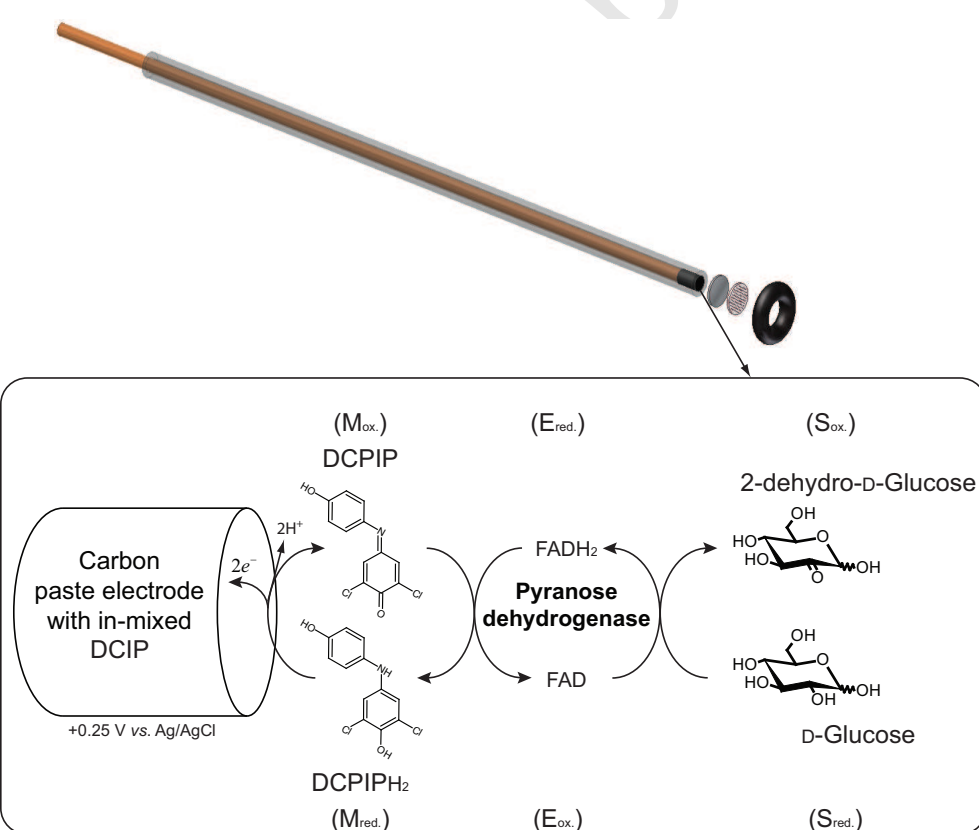
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A pyranose dehydrogenase-based biosensor for kinetic analysis of enzymatic hydrolysis of cellulose by cellulases

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Highlights

- An electrochemical biosensor based on pyranose dehydrogenase was developed.
- The enzyme biosensor is not anomer specific.
- The enzyme biosensor showed high sensitivity and stability.
- The method can be used for real-time monitoring of cellulases activity on cellulose.

KEYWORDS: Pyranose dehydrogenase, biosensor, cellulase kinetics, *Hypocrea jecorina*, cellobiohydrolase, Cel6A

29 **Abstract**

30 A novel electrochemical enzyme biosensor was developed for real-time detection of cellulase activity when
 31 acting on their natural insoluble substrate, cellulose. The enzyme biosensor was constructed with Pyranose
 32 dehydrongease (PDH) from *Agaricus meleagris* that was immobilized on the surface of a carbon paste
 33 electrode, which contained the mediator 2,6-dichlorophenolindophenol (DCIP). An oxidation current of the
 34 reduced form of DCIP, DCIPH₂, produced by the PDH-catalyzed reaction with either glucose or cellobiose,
 35 was recorded under constant-potential amperometry at +0.25 V (vs. Ag/AgCl). The PDH-biosensor was
 36 shown to be anomer unspecific and it can therefore be used in kinetic studies over broad time-scales of
 37 both retaining- and inverting cellulases (in addition to enzyme cocktails). The biosensor was used for real-
 38 time measurements of the activity of the inverting cellobiohydrolase Cel6A from *Hypocrea jecorina*
 39 (*Hj*Cel6A) on cellulosic substrates with different morphology (bacterial microcrystalline cellulose (BMCC)
 40 and Avicel). The steady-state rate of hydrolysis increased towards a saturation plateau with increasing loads
 41 of substrate. The experimental results were rationalized using a steady-state rate equation for processive
 42 cellulases, and it was found that the turnover for *Hj*Cel6A at saturating substrate concentration (*i.e.*
 43 maximal apparent specific activity) was similar (0.39-0.40 s⁻¹) for the two substrates. Conversely, the
 44 substrate load at half-saturation was much lower for BMCC compared to Avicel. Biosensors covered with a
 45 polycarbonate membrane showed high operational stability of several weeks with daily use.

46

47

48 1. Introduction

49 A common observation in the kinetics of enzymatic cellulose degradation is a declining hydrolysis rate with
 50 both time and conversion [1, 2]. The origin of the slowdown remains unclear and both enzyme- and
 51 substrate related properties have been proposed [1, 3] and further progress in this area seems to require
 52 better descriptions of structural and kinetic aspects. Fundamental insights into the complex enzymatic
 53 hydrolysis process can be obtained from kinetic studies, but such work is challenged by the insoluble and
 54 heterogeneous nature of cellulose. Some progress has been obtained using novel real-time experimental
 55 approaches such as quartz crystal microbalance (QCM) measurements [4-8], electrochemical sensors [9]
 56 and isothermal titration calorimetry (ITC) [10-13]. Enzyme biosensors constitute another real-time
 57 approach, which in some cases provides advantageous sensitivity, specificity, and response time. This was
 58 utilized in the development of amperometric enzyme biosensors for cellulase activity based on immobilized
 59 enzymes including glucose oxidase (GOx), pyrroloquinoline quinine-dependent glucose dehydrogenase
 60 (GDH) or cellobiose dehydrogenase (CDH) [14-16]. The CDH biosensor was found to have a particularly high
 61 resolution in time and analyte concentration, and this allowed elucidation of the pre-steady state kinetics
 62 of the cellobiohydrolase Cel7A [17, 18] and endoglucanase Cel7B [16] from *Hypocrea jecorina* (anamorph:
 63 *Trichoderma reesei*) on their insoluble substrates. Sensors based on either GOx, GDH or CDH share the
 64 feature of specifically detecting the β -anomer of their analytes. In some special cases this specificity
 65 provides analytical advantages, but in general activity measurements, it sets up a number of severe
 66 limitations. Hence, these sensors cannot be directly used when the product of the enzymatic reaction is an
 67 α -anomer (*e.g.* for inverting cellulases such as Cel6A). More importantly, anomeric specificity limits the
 68 time-scales over which a biosensor can be used for any hydrolytic enzyme in real-time measurements. This
 69 is because mutarotation (*i.e.* equilibration of the α - β distribution) will occur in parallel with the enzymatic
 70 hydrolysis, and hence impede quantification of the product. In practice this means that the anomer-specific
 71 biosensors can be used over time-scales that are either much faster or much slower than the mutarotation
 72 because under these conditions mutarotation will either be negligible or fully equilibrated and hence easy

73 to account for. Between these extremes there will be a broad interval where biosensor measurements will
74 be either unfeasible or dependent on extensive and error-prone corrections [14]. In the light of this, a
75 biosensor without anomeric specificity appears useful in attempts to elucidate cellulolytic enzymes and
76 their ubiquitous activity loss.

77 Pyranose dehydrogenase (PDH, pyranose:acceptor oxidoreductase, EC 1.1.99.29) (PDH) is a glycosylated,
78 extracellular, monomeric flavin-dependent sugar oxidoreductase secreted by several wood degrading fungi
79 and a member of the glucose-methanol-choline oxidoreductase family [19, 20]. PDH from *Agaricus*
80 *meleagris* (*AmPDH*) appears promising for biosensor-based cellulase activity studies because it shows a
81 broad electron-donor substrate specificity which includes both mono-, di- and oligosaccharides, is inert
82 towards oxygen, shows broad optimal pH range (pH 4-10) and is stable for months when stored at 4 °C [19,
83 21]. *AmPDH* can perform both single oxidizations on the C-1, C-2 or C-3 position or double oxidation (C-1,2
84 or C-3,4 positions) depending on the substrate and it is not specific to one of the anomeric forms [21].
85 *AmPDH* has been successfully “wired” with Osmium redox polymers and immobilized on electrodes both
86 for detection of sugars [22, 23] and as anode in enzymatic biofuel cells [24-26].

87 In the present work a mediated amperometric biosensor based on immobilized *AmPDH* was developed and
88 the biosensor was applied for real-time activity measurements of a cellulase hydrolyzing insoluble cellulose.
89 The experimental results were analyzed with respect to a recent published steady-state rate equation for
90 processive cellulases [27].

91

92

2. Methods and materials

2.1 Chemicals

Unless otherwise stated, all chemicals were of HPLC grade (> 99% purity) and supplied by Sigma-Aldrich (St. Louis, USA). α -D-(+)-glucose (> 99.0%) was supplied by Acros Organics (New Jersey, USA), β -D-(+)-glucose (> 99.0%) was from ChromaDex™ (Irvine, USA) and Cellotriose (Fine grade, >95%) was purchased from Seikagaku Biobusiness Corporation (Tokyo, Japan). All solutions were prepared with 50 mM sodium acetate and 2 mM CaCl_2 buffer adjusted to pH 5.0. Stock solutions of sugars were prepared at least 24 hrs before use to achieve mutarotative equilibrium except in the mutarotation test experiments where the solutions were prepared immediately before use.

2.2 Cellulose substrate preparations

Avicel PH-101 was from Fluka (Biochemika, Ireland). Avicel consists of aggregates of microcrystalline cellulose with a crystallinity index of 0.55-0.70 [28, 29] and an average particle size (reported by the manufacturer) of 50 μm . Bacterial cellulose (BC) was prepared by laboratory fermentation of *Gluconobacter xylinum* as described in detail elsewhere [30]. BC consists of long, thin ribbons that are around 50 nm wide [31] that both have crystalline- and some less ordered amorphous regions. Bacterial microcrystalline cellulose (BMCC) was prepared by treatment of the BC with hydrochloric acid which hydrolyses the amorphous regions. This leads to a large reduction in the degree of polymerization and gives a cellulose substrate with a crystallinity index above 0.90 [32]. The cellulose suspensions were prepared in 50mM acetate buffer, pH 5.0 and added 0.01% sodium azide to prevent bacterial growth.

2.3 Enzyme production and purification

2.3.1 Pyranose dehydrogenase

Pyranose dehydrogenase from *Agaricus meleagris* was expressed, fermented and purified as described in the Supporting Information. The protein concentration was determined from absorbance measurement at

119 280 nm with the theoretical molar extinction coefficient ($\epsilon_{280} = 67840 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$) derived from the amino
120 acid sequence. The thermal stability was tested by differential scanning calorimetry (VP-DSC, MicroCal,
121 USA) and a transition mid-point of 75.9 °C was measured.

122 2.2.3 Cel6A from *Hypocrea jecorina*

123 The inverting cellobiohydrolase, Cel6A, from *Hypocrea jecorina* (HjCel6A) was expressed, fermented and
124 purified as described in the Supporting Information. The absence of cellobiose activity in the purified
125 product was confirmed as lack of detectable activity against the chromogenic substrate analogue *p*-
126 nitrophenyl- β -D- glucopyranoside (*p*NPG). The protein concentration was determined from absorbance
127 measurement at 280 nm with the theoretical molar extinction coefficient ($\epsilon_{280} = 96600 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$) derived
128 from the amino acid sequence.

129

130 2.4 Preparation of enzyme-modified electrodes

131 Mediator-mixed carbon paste electrodes were prepared as described elsewhere [14, 17]. Four different
132 mediators (1,4-benzoquinone (BQ), 2,6-dichloroindophenol (DCIP), ferricenium cation (Fc^+) as the salt
133 composed with hexafluorophosphate (PF_6^-) or ferrocene (Fc)) was tested by adding a weighed amount (5-
134 25 mg) of one mediator to graphite powder (100 mg) and liquid paraffin (35 μL). The mixture was
135 thoroughly hand-mixed in an agate mortar until a homogenized paste was obtained. A portion of the
136 resulting mediator-carbon paste was packed into carbon paste holders (Bioanalytical Systems, United
137 Kingdom) with a working geometric area of 0.071 cm^2 and the surface was polished using waxed weighing-
138 paper. The enzyme modification of the electrode surface was carried out by adding a 10- μL aliquot of a
139 freshly prepared solution of a 1:1 mixture of *Am*PDH stock and 1% glutaraldehyde (glutaraldehyde solution,
140 25 % in H_2O) onto the polished electrode surface. The enzyme droplet was carefully smeared-out and
141 allowed to evaporate at room temperature for 30 min. The electrodes were then stored at 4 °C in an
142 inverted position in a closed vessel under humid condition. Enzyme cross-linking and immobilization was

143 allowed to proceed overnight. The electrode surface was thoroughly rinsed with MQ-water and the PDH-
 144 biosensor was allowed to stabilize in the buffer between two to four hours and then in 1 mM glucose
 145 overnight at an applied potential sufficient to oxidize the mediator. Some PDH-biosensors were covered
 146 with a polycarbonate membrane with a pore-size of either 15 or 100 nm (Nuclepore polycarbonate Track
 147 Etch membrane Whatmann®, USA) and a nylon mesh with a Teflon-tube fitted over the membrane
 148 assembly to fixate them. Some of these were further drop-coated with 10 μ L Nafion (0.5% v/v diluted in
 149 buffer) that was allowed to air dry for 30 min and stabilized in the buffer overnight before use.

150 A GOx-benzoquinone-carbon paste electrode was also prepared [33]. The procedure followed that
 151 described above with 10 mg benzoquinone mixed in the graphite paste and then glucose oxidase as the
 152 sensing enzyme. The glucose oxidase-biosensor was covered with a polycarbonate membrane with a pore-
 153 size of 15nm.

154

155 *2.5 Electrochemical instrumentation and measurements*

156 A conventional electrochemical setup employed the PDH-biosensor as the working electrode, an
 157 Ag|AgCl|3M NaCl electrode as the reference electrode (Bioanalytical Systems, United Kingdom) and a
 158 platinum coiled wire as auxiliary electrode. Cyclic voltammetry was carried out using a VersaSTAT 3F
 159 (Princeton Applied Research, Princeton, NJ). Amperometric measurements were carried out with type-1112
 160 potentiostats from Husou Seisakusyo Co. (Kawasaki, Japan) which were connected to a computer via an
 161 Agilent 34401A DMM and a LabVIEW 2012 data acquisition software (National Instruments, Austin, Texas,
 162 USA). In the amperometric measurements calibrant- and enzyme solutions were delivered through a FEP
 163 tube (ID 0.15 mm) from a syringe (SGE Analytical Science) mounted in a syringe pump (Fusion 100, Chemyx,
 164 Stafford, USA). The syringe pump was controlled via the LabVIEW program . Calibrations were conducted by
 165 consecutive titrations of 5-20 μ L aliquots of degassed cellobiose solution into buffer. All electrochemical

166 measurements were performed in a water-jacketed glass-cell connected to a water bath (Julabo F12,
167 Seelbach, Germany).

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170 *2.5.2 Test of mutarotation effect on PDH-biosensor response*

171 The absence of a preference for one anomeric form was confirmed in trials on respectively α -glucose, β -
172 glucose and β -cellobiose. Specifically the sugar solutions were freshly prepared in cold buffer, mixed for 60
173 sec and an aliquot titrated to the electrochemical cell with either the PDH- or GOx-biosensor. The response
174 from the enzyme biosensors to an equilibrated glucose solution before and after the measurement was
175 used to check the sensitivity of the sensors.

176

177 *2.5.3 Enzymatic cellulose hydrolysis experiments*

178 An AmPDH biosensor with the DCIP mediator covered with a 15nm pore-size polycarbonate membrane and
179 used for detection of cellobiose released during enzymatic cellulose hydrolysis experiments. An applied
180 potential of +0.25V was used as this was found to be the optimal detection potential for the PDH-DCIP-
181 biosensor (see Results and discussion). Measurements were made on 5-mL degassed samples of the
182 cellulose suspensions.

183

184 All experiments were conducted at 25.0 ± 0.1 °C and a magnetic stirrer at 500 rpm provided convective
185 transport during the amperometric measurements. Data were collected at 1 s^{-1} .

186

187

188 **3. Results and discussion**

189 *3.1. Mediator selection for PDH-biosensor*

190 From the steady-state kinetic parameters of *Am*PDH with various electron acceptors reported by Sygmund
191 *et al.* [19] Fc^+ , BQ and DCIP were tested for the development of a *Am*PDH biosensor. BQ and Ferrocene
192 have been used as electron mediators in second-generation enzyme biosensors [14-17, 33-38]. DCIP is
193 frequently used in enzyme assays in solution and as a pH/redox indicator. It is electrochemically active and
194 has been used as a redox coupling agent in detection of NADH [39, 40] and in enzyme immunoassays [41-
195 43]. DCIP has also successfully been used as mediator in enzyme biosensors with glucose dehydrogenase
196 [44] and lactate oxidase [45]. Preliminary experiments showed that PDH-biosensors prepared with DCIP
197 showed the best performance and this mediator was therefore selected for further biosensor optimization.
198 Variations of DCIP dosage in the carbon paste showed that the optimal amount was between 10 and 20 mg
199 to 100 mg graphite powder (data not shown).

200

201

202 3.2 Cyclic and hydrodynamic voltammetry of the PDH-DCIP-biosensor

203 **Fig. 1**

204 Cyclic voltammetry (CV) of DCIP shows two oxidation peaks at respectively +0.05-0.01V and +0.5V (vs.
205 Ag/AgCl) [39, 46]. The two oxidizable groups are the 2,6-dichloro-4-hydroxyphenyl-imino group and the
206 phenolic group (the structure of DCIP can be seen in Fig. 3). The cyclic voltammogram shows well-defined
207 reduction and oxidation waves of the 2,6-dichloro-4-(hydroxyphenyl-imino/-quinone) group if the scan is
208 stopped before +0.4V (pH 7.8)[47]. Oxidation of the phenolic ring occurs at a potential higher than +0.5 V
209 and is irreversible. It has been suggested that the product of the second oxidation can lead to
210 electropolymerization on the electrode surface, and hence cause electrode fouling [39]. CV was performed
211 to characterize the bioelectrocatalysis properties of the PDH-DCIP-biosensor (non-membrane covered) in
212 the potential range +0.05 to +0.4V. Results in Fig. 1 show that the PDH-DCIP-biosensor produces an anodic
213 wave for the electrode reaction of reduced DCIP (DCIPH₂) when glucose is added to the buffer solution. This
214 reflects the production of DCIPH₂ by the PDH-catalyzed reaction.

215 **Fig. 2**

216 Hydrodynamic voltammetry was performed to find the optimal detection potential of the PDH-DCIP-
217 biosensor. This was performed with a PDH-biosensor that was covered with a 15 nm pore-size
218 polycarbonate membrane and drop-coated with a layer of Nafion. The hydrodynamic voltammogram of the
219 PDH-DCIP-biosensor can be seen in Fig. 2 and it appears that that the anodic current increase from +0.05V
220 to +0.25V, where a plateau was observed with only a small increase up to +0.45V. At still higher potentials
221 (> +0.5V) the current response dropped. This was expected due to fouling of the electrode surface from
222 electropolymerization of DCIP at high potentials as discussed above. The detection potential was therefore
223 set to +0.25V in all subsequent measurements. This value is in line with the detection potentials of reduced
224 DCIP used earlier [39, 42, 45]. The measuring principle of the PDH-biosensor with DCIP serving as mediator
225 can be seen in Fig.3. As a control a DCIP- sensor without PDH immobilized was calibrated at +0.25V and did
226 not give any anodic current response in the range 0.01 to 1 mM glucose (data not shown). It should be

noted that reduced DCIP (DCIPH₂) can be re-oxidized by oxygen dissolved in the solution [39]. This reaction is slow, but in experiments running over long time, it could potentially influence the current response.

Fig. 3

3.3 Calibration and analytical performance of the PDH-DCIP-biosensor

The current response of a polycarbonate-covered (100nm pore size) PDH-biosensor during successive additions of cellobiose at an applied potential of +0.25V (vs. Ag/AgCl) is shown in Fig. 4. Upon injection the anodic current reached a steady state response within 30 s. The amperometric current response for cellobiose was linear in the range from 10 to 100 μ M (Fig. 4) with a sensitivity around 6 nA/ μ M (correlation coefficient of >0.999, $n = 9$). The detection limit was 0.3 μ M (S/N=3). The PDH-biosensors that were not covered with a membrane had a reduced upper limit of the linear range (< 10 μ M cellobiose). Sensors with a 15nm pore-size polycarbonate membrane showed a linear range up to 4 mM cellobiose with a sensitivity of 0.54 nA/ μ M and a response time of 45 sec. The PDH-DCIP-biosensors that were both covered with 15nm pore-size polycarbonate membrane and drop-coated with Nafion also gave highly stable responses with a lower detection limit around 12 μ M glucose. However, these biosensors had a much slower response-time (> 120-150 sec) and also required longer time to give a stable background current (> 1 hr). The sensitivity, linear range and lifetime of the PDH-biosensor can hence be modulated with membrane coverage. The effect of membrane coverage on the response from enzyme biosensors based on carbon paste electrodes with incorporated mediator is discussed in [48] and references within.

Fig. 4

249 3.4 Mutarotation effect on PDH-biosensor response

250 Enzymatic hydrolysis of β -glycosidic bonds may proceed via two different acid/base-catalyzed mechanisms
 251 that results in either retention or inversion of the anomeric configuration of the product [49-51].
 252 Subsequently, so-called mutarotation will shift the population of product towards the equilibrium
 253 distribution of the α - and β anomer at a rate that depends strongly on temperature and pH [52, 53]. One of
 254 the main purposes of the current work was to design a biosensor that was unaffected by this and to test if
 255 the PDH-DCIP response was indeed insensitive to mutarotation the temporal development in the signals
 256 from solutions that were initially 1 mM with respect to either α - D-glucose, β - D-glucose or β - D-cellobiose
 257 was measured. The results are shown in Fig. 5, together with a control experiment where 5 mM solutions
 258 of the α and β forms of glucose are monitored over time with a GOx-based electrode (see Methods and
 259 materials). It is clear that the PDH-DCIP sensor generates a time-independent signal in these tests while the
 260 GOx-sensor, which specifically senses the β -anomer, shows a gradual change towards a constant value.
 261 This provides strong experimental evidence that the PDH-biosensor exhibits the expected non-specificity
 262 (unlike the GOx-sensor) and hence that the new sensor can be used directly to monitor cellulase activity
 263 without any interference from mutarotation. This conclusion was further supported by comparisons with
 264 the signal from a CDH-sensor [14].

265 **Fig. 5**

266

267

268 3.5 Application of the PDH-biosensor to real-time measurements of enzymatic hydrolysis of cellulose

269 A PDH-DCIP-biosensor covered with a 100 nm pore-size polycarbonate membrane was used for real-time
 270 measurements of the initial kinetics of the inverting cellobiohydrolase, *HjCel6A*. The sensor was calibrated
 271 against cellobiose, which is the major product of *HjCel6A* [54] . The results can be seen in Fig. 6. The left
 272 panels show the release of cellobiose from two different cellulosic substrates, BMCC and Avicel, when the
 273 dosage of cellulose is increased and the enzyme load is kept constant. The right panels in Fig. 6 show the
 274 steady state hydrolysis rate (the slope between 500 and 600 sec in the left panels) plotted as function of
 275 the substrate dosage. Results of a Michaelis-Menten-type analysis [27] of this data are shown in Tab.1. The
 276 two substrates differ in physical properties [2, 55] and this translates into the kinetic constants. Thus, while
 277 the turnover at saturating substrate load ($k_{cat,app}$) is similar for the two substrates, pK_M was lower for BMCC.
 278 This implies that the affinity of *HjCel6A* is higher for BMCC than for Avicel, and this observation may simply
 279 reflect that the accessible area per mass unit (and hence probably the number of binding sites) is much
 280 higher for BMCC compared to Avicel [56, 57].

281 **Fig. 6**

282 **Tab.1**

283 3.6 Operational stability and reproducibility of preparing the PDH-biosensors

284 The PDH-biosensors generally showed very good operational stability. The sensor covered with a 100nm
 285 pore-size polycarbonate membrane, for example, had a RSD% of 3.4 for the sensitivity over two days while
 286 in continuous use (insert in the lower panel in Fig. 4). Such a slow drop can readily be handled through
 287 regular calibrations. PDH-DCIP sensors could be produced quite uniformly, and the sensitivity for three
 288 sensors prepared in the same way varied 10 % (see Fig. 7). These PDH- biosensors had a RSD% of 17.4, 3.9
 289 and 9.3 for the sensitivity over two-week period while in continuous use in enzymatic hydrolysis
 290 experiments.

291 Fig. 7

293 5. Conclusion

294 In conclusion, it has been shown that a mediated amperometric biosensor using immobilized pyranose
 295 dehydrogenase from *Agaricus meleagris* on a carbon paste electrode and DCIP as mediator provides an
 296 advantageous approach to kinetic studies of cellulases. The PDH-biosensor is anomer unspecific and can
 297 therefore be used in continuous studies of both retaining- and inverting cellulases over different time-
 298 scales. The PDH-DCIP-biosensor showed high sensitivity and when covered with a polycarbonate
 299 membrane the stability was several weeks with daily use. The new sensor had a reasonable time resolution,
 300 which allowed steady-state recordings within tens of seconds, but it did not respond fast enough to capture
 301 transient enzyme kinetics as in the case of some CDH-sensors [14, 17]. The PDH-biosensor was used to
 302 measure the initial activity of the inverting cellobiohydrolase *HjCel6A* acting on its natural insoluble
 303 substrate, cellulose. For *HjCel6A* acting on substrates with different morphology the dependence of the
 304 steady-state rate on the amount of substrate could be rationalized by a steady-state equation for
 305 processive cellulases.

306 **Abbreviations**

307 *AmPDH*: Pyranose dehydrogenase from *Agaricus meleagris*

308 BQ: 1,4-Benzoquinone

309 Fc: Ferrocene

310 Fc^+ : Ferricenium ion

311 Fc^+PF_6^- : ferricenium hexafluorophosphate

312 DCIP: 2,6-dichloroindophenol

313

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319

320 **Conflict of interest statement**

321 Novozymes is a enzyme producing company.

322

323 **Appendix. Supplementary Information**

324 Supplementary data associated with this article can be found in the online version.

325

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461 **Legends for Tables**

462 **Table 1.** Kinetic parameters for *HjCel6A* acting on bacterial microcrystalline cellulose (BMCC) and Avicel.
463 The parameters were found from analysis of the data in the right panels in Fig. 6 with respect to a
464 Michaelis-Menten type equation for processive cellulases.

466 **Legends for Figures**

467 **Figure 1.** Cyclic voltammogram obtained with the PDH-DCIP-biosensor (no membrane) at 25 °C in buffer
468 (black line) and buffer containing 25 mM glucose (red line). Scan rate: 1 mV s⁻¹. The potential was scanned
469 from negative to positive. Buffer solution: 50mM sodium acetate, pH 5.0.

471 **Figure 2.** Hydrodynamic voltammogram of a Nafion-polycarbonate (15nm pore size) covered PDH-DCIP-
472 biosensor. The amperometric response towards 1 mM glucose was recorded after a baseline was obtained.
473 The applied potential was varied from +0.05 to 0.45 V (vs. Ag/AgCl) in steps of 0.05 V.

475 **Figure 3.** Schematic illustration of the mediated bioelectrocatalytic measuring principle for the
476 amperometric pyranose dehydrogenase-biosensor with DCIP serving as mediator.

478 **Figure 4.** The upper panel shows the amperometric response of the polycarbonate(100nm) covered PDH-
479 DCIP-biosensor to successive additions of cellobiose at 25 °C in 50 mM sodium acetate buffer, pH 5 (stirring
480 rate 500 rpm). The applied potential was +0.25 V (vs. Ag/AgCl). The lower panel shows the calibration plot
481 of the steady-state currents vs. the cellobiose concentration for a single experiment. The steady-state
482 currents were corrected for the background current so the point of zero current at zero substrate
483 concentration could be included in the linear regression. The insert shows the performance stability in the

484 form of the change in the sensitivity as a function of the calibration number. Single calibration experiments
485 performed between some of the enzymatic cellulose hydrolyses experiments are shown in Fig. 6.

486

487 **Figure 5.** Mutarotation effect on the current response of the PDH-DCIP-biosensor. The normalized current
488 response of 1 mM of β -D-glucose, α -D-glucose and β -D-cellobiose are shown. For comparison the last panel
489 shows the normalized current response for a glucose oxidase-benzoquinone-carbon paste electrode to
490 either 5 mM α -D-glucose or β -D-glucose (applied potential +0.6 V).

491

492 **Figure 6.** *HjCel6A* (0.1 μ M) activity on cellulosic substrates with different surface morphology and
493 crystallinity. The steady state rate was found by linear regression between 500-600 sec and plotted as
494 function of the substrate load. The red line is the nonlinear regression to $V_{ss}/E_0 = k_{cat,app} * S / (K_M + S)$.

495

496 **Figure 7.** Change in the sensitivity for three Nafion-polycarbonate(15nm)-PDH-DCIP-biosensors over a two-
497 week period with continuous use.

Table 1

	$k_{\text{cat,app}} \text{ (s}^{-1}\text{)}^\dagger$	${}_pK_M \text{ (g/L)}^\#$	$k_{\text{cat,app}} / {}_pK_M \text{ ((g/L)}^{-1}\text{ s}^{-1}\text{)}^\ddagger$	R^2
BMCC	0.386	0.74	0.52	0.9892
Avicel	0.404	5.0	0.081	0.9891

$^\dagger k_{\text{cat,app}}$ is the maximal apparent specific activity; *i.e.* the asymptotic value in the right panels in Fig. 6.

$^\# {}_pK_M$ is the processive dissociation-constants

‡ substrate specificity

