

Glucanase activity produced by rhizospheric *Streptomyces tritolerans* ARJ 32 and *Streptomyces collinus* ARJ 38 and the analysis of their encoding genes

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Abstract. Budiman DZ, Purwaningtyas WE, Priyanto JA, Putra IP, Nawangsih AA, Wahyudi AT. 2023. Glucanase activity produced by rhizospheric *Streptomyces tritolerans* ARJ 32 and *Streptomyces collinus* ARJ 38 and the analysis of their encoding genes. *Biodiversitas* 24: 5831-5837. The enzyme β -1,3-glucanase is capable of breaking down the glucan components in the cell walls of phytopathogenic fungi. *Streptomyces* spp. isolated from the maize rhizosphere, are believed to produce enzymes with glucanolytic activity, making them promising candidates for use as a biological control agent against these fungi. This work aims to quantitatively analyze the enzymatic activity of glucanase in *Streptomyces tritolerans* ARJ 32 and *Streptomyces collinus* ARJ 38 and identify their encoding genes (*bglS*) and the three-dimensional modeling of their protein structures. The dinitrosalicylic acid (DNS) method quantitatively assays the glucanase enzyme. The TA-Cloning of the *bglS* gene was performed using pGEM-T Easy Plasmid Vector, and the three-dimensional protein structure was constructed using the I-TASSER program. According to the findings, both *Streptomyces* isolates exhibited glucanolytic activity. The glucanase enzyme activities of *S. tritolerans* ARJ 32 and *S. collinus* ARJ 38 peaked at eight days of incubation, with values of 31.116 U/mg and 41.599 U/mg, respectively. The partial *bglS* gene was present in both *Streptomyces* and identified as endo- β -1,3-glucanase from the glycoside hydrolase family 16 (GH 16). The deduced partial amino acid sequences were aligned and showed some highly conserved residue in the catalytic domain of GH 16. The three-dimensional structural model built from the partial *bglS* amino acid sequences displayed high-quality parameters and overlapped with the protein model of partial endo- β -1,3-glucanase from *Nocardia* sp. F96 (2HYK). These preliminary results suggest that the two *Streptomyces* isolates had the potential to be used as glucanase enzyme producers.

Keywords: *bglS*, cloning, glucanase activity, protein modeling, *Streptomyces*

INTRODUCTION

Rhizosphere actinomycetes refer to Gram-positive filamentous bacteria belonging to the phylum Actinobacteria. Actinomycetes are commonly found in various environments and are renowned for producing numerous bioactive secondary metabolites, antibiotics, and growth-promoting substances (Elshafie and Camele 2022). These bacteria can inhabit the soil ecosystem surrounding the roots of plants. *Streptomyces* represent a prevalent genus of actinomycetes frequently found in the rhizosphere or soil environment. Several studies have indicated that this particular genus makes up about 95% of the whole actinobacteria population discovered in soil. This group of rhizosphere bacteria is known to be able to form mutualistic interactions with plants that contribute to growth-promoting agents, wherein they act as growth-promoting agents through both direct and indirect processes. These bacteria are called Plant Growth-Promoting Rhizobacteria (PGPR) (Yadav et al. 2018; Saeed et al. 2021). These bacteria play a direct role in PGPR through their ability to synthesize phytohormones, promote nitrogen fixation, and dissolve phosphates

(Wahyudi et al. 2019). Through indirect mechanisms, organisms can engage in biological control by employing various strategies, such as the production of siderophores, antibiotics, and hydrolytic enzymes. Additionally, they can reduce the effects of diseases and minimize competition for nutrients and ecological niches (Goswami et al. 2016; Nozari et al. 2021). Hence, it is important to investigate the utilization of rhizosphere actinomycetes as biofertilizers and agents for controlling phytopathogens. Actinomycetes provide several advantages as biocontrol agents, including their non-toxicity to both humans and plants, their ability to enhance plant productivity, and their potential to reduce reliance on synthetic fungicides (Torres-Rodriguez et al. 2022).

Actinomycetes have been widely acknowledged as valuable sources of enzymes capable of degrading β -glucan. Among the genera, *Streptomyces* stands out as the predominant producer of enzymes, including *S. siayaensis*, *S. albogriseolus*, *S. rimosus*, *S. murinus*, and *S. angustmyceticus* NR8-2 (Edison and Pradeep 2020). Extensive research has been conducted on the capacity of rhizospheric actinomycetes to regulate the growth and spread of phytopathogenic fungi. Producing the hydrolytic

enzyme β -1,3-glucanase by *Streptomyces* is considered one of the antagonistic mechanisms against phytopathogenic fungi (Torres-Rodriguez et al. 2022). The enzyme can catalyze the hydrolysis of β -1,3-glycosidic linkages in glucan (Kim et al. 2013). The cell wall of fungi is typically comprised of β -glucan, which accounts for approximately 50-60% of its total weight. Beta-1,3-glucanases may be involved in the expansion of cells, the fusion of cells, and the release of spores. The extensive breakdown of glucan polymers by endo-1,3- β -D-glucanases may cause fungal cell lysis (Shi et al. 2009). Consequently, the existence of these polymers within the fungal cell wall presents a promising focus for glucan-degrading enzymes (Free 2013). Based on the hydrolysis mechanism of the β -1,3-glucan substrate, these enzymes can be divided into endo- β -1,3-glucanase and exo- β -1,3-glucanase. The enzyme endo- β -1,3-glucanase (EC 3.2.1.39) catalyzes the hydrolysis of the β -1,3 bond located on the non-specific side of the polysaccharide chain, leading to the formation of oligosaccharides (Mouyna et al. 2013). The β -1,3-glucanase can remarkably break down β -1,3-glucans as a defense mechanism against fungal pathogens in plants and inhibit fungal growth (Wu et al. 2018).

Various recombinant and wild-type enzymes from different sources have been actively studied in bacteria. Bacteria-derived β -1,3-Glucanase enzymes are primarily classified into the glycoside hydrolase family 16 (GH 16) based on their hypothetical amino acid sequences and three-dimensional structures. While those from fungi are grouped into the glycoside hydrolase family 17 (GH 17). In *Streptomyces*, the enzyme endo- β -1,3-glucanase is encoded by the *bglS* gene. This gene has been successfully cloned and expressed in *Escherichia coli* E (Wu et al. 2018; Shi et al. 2010). A prior study has successfully isolated rhizospheric actinomycetes that can promote the sprouting of maize. In addition, these actinomycetes are also capable of producing chitinase enzymes (Wahyudi et al. 2019). Therefore, using β -glucanase enzymes produced by actinomycetes for cell wall degradation in phytopathogenic fungi represents a significant environmentally sustainable option. Hence, undertaking research endeavors to achieve sustainable agriculture by utilizing biological agents, specifically actinomycetes that produce β -glucanase, is imperative. In this research, we analyze the glucanolytic ability of two *Streptomyces* isolates as well as the identification of its encoding gene.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Bacterial strain

This study used two *Streptomyces* isolates, *Streptomyces tritolerans* ARJ 32 and *Streptomyces collinus* ARJ 38, which were isolated from the maize rhizosphere in East Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia, and displayed plant growth-promoting activity (Wahyudi et al. 2019; Deviani 2021).

Extraction of β -glucan from oat

First, 6 g of oat powder was dissolved in 90 mL of distilled water at 55°C. Subsequently, 0.25 N NaOH solution was added to adjust the pH to 8 and stirred for 30 minutes. The solution was centrifuged at 4,000 rpm for 20 minutes at 4°C. The filtrate was added to 1 M HCl to reach pH 6.5 and incubated at 80°C for 1 hour. The filtrate was cooled to \pm 28°C before adding 1 M HCl adjusted to pH 4.5 and then centrifuged at 4,000 rpm for 25 minutes at 4°C. The filtrate was added to absolute ethanol (2:1, v/v), stirred at 10°C, and precipitated overnight. The filtrate was centrifuged again at 4000 rpm for 25 min at 4°C. The pellet was dissolved in 50 mM phosphate buffer with pH 7 at 10°C (Putri et al. 2021).

Quantitative determination of β -1,3-glucanase activity and protein content

The β -1,3-glucanase activity of *Streptomyces* spp. was measured by the dinitrosalicylic acid (DNS) method with slight modifications (Wang et al. 2023). *Streptomyces* isolates were inoculated on liquid International Streptomyces Project (ISP4) medium (10 g soluble starch; 2 g (NH₄)₂SO₄; 2 g CaCO₃; 1 g K₂HPO₄; 1 g MgSO₄•7H₂O; 1 g NaCl; 0,001 FeSO₄•7H₂O; 0,001 g MnCl₂; 0,001 g ZnSO₄•7H₂O) supplemented with 1% of β -glucan (b/v) and incubated on a shaker at 120 rpm at room temperature for 14 days. Cell-free supernatants were collected at every day by centrifugation at 8000 rpm at 4°C for 20 min. A total of 0.5 mL of cell-free supernatant was reacted with 0.5 mL of 3% (w/v) β -glucan as a substrate in 50 mM phosphate buffer pH 7, then incubated at 40°C for 30 min. The mixture of supernatant and substrate was added with 1 mL of DNS reagent and then boiled for 15 minutes. The enzyme unit activity was measured by determining the absorbance value at 540 nm, and the protein concentration was determined using Bradford (1976) with a bovine serum albumin (BSA) standard.

PCR amplification of *bglS*

The PCR amplification of *bglS* gene was conducted based on Shi et al. (2010). The genomic DNA of *S. tritolerans* ARJ 32 and *S. collinus* ARJ 38 were extracted using Zymo Research Quick-DNA™ Fungal/Bacterial Miniprep Kit (CA, US), following the manufacturer's protocols. The gene encoding endo- β -1,3-glucanase (*bglS*) was amplified by PCR using the degenerative primers Bgl16F (5'-GGG ATC TGG CCS GCN TTY TGG ATG-3') and Bgl16R (5'-CCG CCG GAG TAN CCS GGS CCR TG-3'). The total PCR reaction components in a volume of 50 μ L consist of 25 μ L of MyTaq™ HS Red Mix 2x (Bioline, UK); 5 μ L of each forward and reverse primer (10 pmol); 5 μ L of template DNA (10 ng); and 10 μ L of nuclease-free water. The gene was amplified in 35 cycles with the condition: pre-denaturation at 94°C for 5 min, denaturation at 94°C for 30 s, annealing at 63°C for 30 s, elongation at 72°C for 30 s, and final elongation at 72°C for 10 min. The amplicons were visualized using 1% (b/v) gel agarose electrophoresis. The targeted DNA fragment (\pm 160 bp) was purified following the GenepHlow™ Gel/PCR Kit (Geneaid, Taiwan).

TA-cloning of endo- β -1,3-glucanase encoding gene

The TA-Cloning of the *bglS* gene was performed using pGEM®-T Easy Plasmid Vector (Promega, USA). The recombinant plasmid was transformed into *Escherichia coli* DH5 α using the TransformAid Bacterial Transformation Kit (Thermo Scientific, USA). Transformed *E. coli* DH5 α bacteria were grown on LA (Luria Bertani Agar) medium supplemented with 100 μ g/mL ampicillin and 20 μ g/mL X-Gal. Furthermore, PCR colony using SP6/T7 primers and *Eco*RI (Thermo Scientific, USA) digestion was used to verify the cloned gene. The recombinant plasmids were extracted using the GeneJET™ Plasmid Miniprep Kit protocol (Thermo Scientific, USA). The target genes were sequenced at First Base (Selangor, Malaysia).

Amino acid sequences alignment and phenetic tree construction

The nucleotide sequences were then aligned with the BlastX program at the National Centre for Biotechnology Information (NCBI). The amino acid sequence inferred from the partial *bglS* nucleotide sequences was deduced using ExPasy and aligned using the ClustalW method. The reference sequences used in this analysis were partial endo- β -1,3-Glucanase (Table 1). The phenetic tree of the actinomycetes was constructed in the MEGA 11 program according to the Best Fit Model results in Whelan and Goldman (WAG+I) with 1000x bootstraps (Whelan and Goldman 2001).

Domain prediction and three-dimensional structure modeling

The *Streptomyces* isolate with the higher glucanase activity was subjected to domain prediction and the construction of a 3D protein structure model. Domain prediction of *bglS* of the *Streptomyces* isolates and the position of deduced amino acid is within complete *Streptomyces* endo- β -1,3-glucanase from *Streptomyces* sp. S27 (Shi et al. 2010) was predicted and carried out using the InterPro classification of protein (Paysan-Lafosse et al. 2022). A three-dimensional protein structural model was constructed using the I-TASSER website, as described by Zhou et al. (2022). The I-TASSER algorithm was employed to generate a structural model of the *bglS* protein by comparing it to the most closely matching protein structure available in the Protein Data Bank (PDB) Library. The visualization and analysis of a generated three-dimensional model were conducted using UCSF ChimeraX to observe and evaluate the overlap region and the positioning of important residues to the reference structure of partial endo- β -1,3-glucanase from *Nocardiopsis* sp. F96 (Pettersen et al. 2021).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Glucanase activity of two *Streptomyces* isolates

Both *Streptomyces* isolates could grow in ISP 4 medium supplemented with 1% of oat glucan. The glucanase production started within 5 days and gradually increased until reaching its maximum on the 7th and 8th-day

incubation for *S. tritolerans* ARJ 32 (31.116 U/mg) and *S. collinus* ARJ 38 (41.599 U/mg), respectively (Figure 1). The glucanase production generally decreased after 10 days of incubation. The enzyme-specific activity of *S. collinus* ARJ 38 was higher than *S. tritolerans* ARJ 32.

Cloning of *bglS* gene and DNA sequence analysis

The *bglS* gene was observed in both *Streptomyces* as a specific band of approximately 160 bp after the recombinant plasmids pGEM-T carrying the *bglS* gene were digested with *Eco*RI (Figure 2). The partial nucleotide sequences of *bglS* genes were subsequently deduced into 45 amino acids. Following the alignment to the NCBI database, the *bglS* gene of the *Streptomyces* isolates belonged to the glycoside hydrolase family 16 protein (Table 2). The amino acid sequences were aligned with reference sequences of *bglS* from *Streptomyces* spp., *Nocardiopsis* sp. (2HYK), and *Cellulosimicrobium cellulans* (3ATG) (Figure 3). Fifteen amino acid residues were conserved in *Streptomyces* spp., *Nocardiopsis* sp., and *C. cellulans*. The conserved amino acid residue is dominated by glycine (G), tryptophan (W), proline (P), and glutamic acid (E); the domain prediction of the complete *bglS* gene of *Streptomyces* sp. S27 consisted of three domains: TAT-signal, glycoside hydrolase family 16 (GH16), and carbohydrate-binding molecule family 13 (CBM13) (Figure 4). While the partial amino acid sequences of *S. collinus* ARJ 38 are located in the GH16 domain.

Table 1. The reference amino acid sequences used in this study

Strain name	Accession number / pdb code
<i>Nocardiopsis</i> sp. F96	2HYK
<i>Streptomyces</i> sp. S27	ACO94508.1
<i>Streptomyces plumbidurans</i>	WP_222812332.1
<i>Streptomyces murinus</i>	WP_085568052.1
<i>Streptomyces malaysiense</i>	WP_046426660.1
<i>Streptomyces musisoli</i>	WP_201814453.1
<i>Streptomyces hygrosopicus</i>	WP_058083161.1
<i>Streptomyces olivaceoviridis</i>	WP_189816684.1
<i>Streptomyces collinus</i>	WP_020943690.1
<i>Streptomyces diastatochromogenes</i>	WP_094218957.1
<i>Cellulosimicrobium cellulans</i>	3ATG

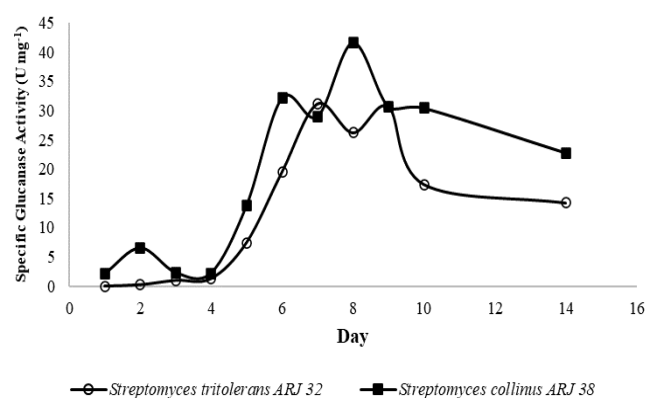


Figure 1. Activity of β -1,3-glucanase produced by *S. tritolerans* ARJ 32 and *S. collinus* ARJ 38

Phenetic tree analysis

Based on the *bglS* amino acid sequences of *S. tritolerans* ARJ 32, *S. collinus* ARJ 38, and reference strains, a phenetic tree was constructed (Figure 5). The two *Streptomyces* isolates found to be homologous to glycoside hydrolase family 16 were grouped within glycoside hydrolase family cluster 16 and exhibited a close relationship with other *Streptomyces* spp. This correlation is further supported by the Whalen and Goldman model (WAG+I) bootstrap value of the tree, which had more than 50 bootstrap values in 1000 replicates. The bootstrap values of between *S. tritolerans* ARJ 32 and *S. collinus* ARJ 38 were 94, while both isolates had 66 bootstrap values to the GH 16 protein from the reference isolate. Bootstrap values are shown at the nodes to assess the robustness of the tree topology.

Prediction of 3D protein model and superposition analysis

I-Tasser successfully generated the three-dimensional structural protein model of the partial *bglS* amino acid sequences with quality parameters including C-score 0.30, TM-score 0.75±0.10, and RMSD 1.9±1.6 Å (Figure 6). The value demonstrated a high similarity structure with the original protein. The protein model of *S. collinus* ARJ 38 exhibited a notable topological similarity with the structure of the endo-β-1,3-glucanase protein (EC 3.2.1.39)

from *Nocardiopsis* sp. F96 (2HYK) with TM-score 0.91 and RMSD 0.77 Å. Superposition analysis demonstrated the presence of overlapping structural parts between the model and the endo-β-1,3-glucanase protein from *Nocardiopsis* sp. F96.

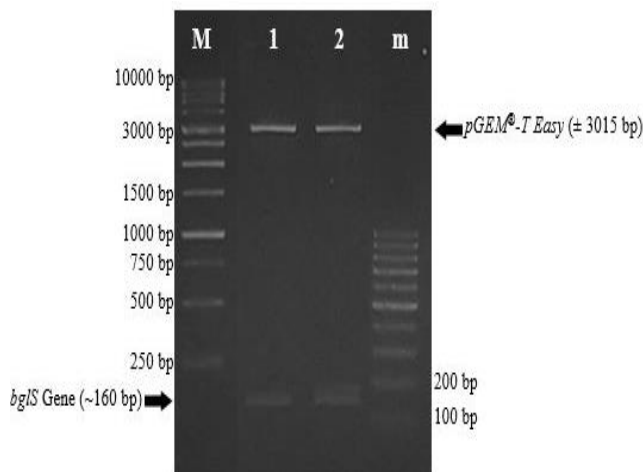


Figure 2. Agarose gel electrophoresis of the recombinant plasmid pGEMT-Easy carrying *bglS* gene from *S. tritolerans* ARJ 32 (1) dan *S. collinus* ARJ 38 (2), digested with *EcoRI*. M : 1 kb DNA ladder, and m : 100 bp DNA ladder

Table 2. Homology analysis of partial endo-β-1,3-glucanase (*bglS*) encoding genes from two *Streptomyces*

Isolate code	Homologous sequence	Query cover (%)	Similarity (%)	E-value	Accession number
<i>S. tritolerans</i> ARJ 32	Glycoside hydrolase family 16 protein (<i>Streptomyces plumbidurans</i>)	95	95	6e-23	WP_222812332.1
<i>S. collinus</i> ARJ 38	Glycoside hydrolase family 16 protein (<i>Streptomyces plumbidurans</i>)	95	97	1e-23	WP_222812332.1

<i>S. tritolerans</i> ARJ_32	1	-----G-IWPAF	6
<i>S. collinus</i> ARJ_38	1	-----G-IWPAF	6
AC094508.1	121	GNGNLVITARKENPAGYQCWYGRCEYTSARMNTAGKFTTTYGHIEARMKLPKRGQGMWPAF	180
WP222812332.1	33	GQGHVITARKENPAGYQCWYGTCTQYTSARLNTSGKFNAQYGHVEARMKIPKRGQGMWPAF	92
WP085568052.1	89	GQGHVITAKKENPAGYQCWYGTCTQYTSARLNTAGKFNAQYGHVEARMKIPKRGQGMWPAF	148
WP046426660.1	90	GQGHVITARKENPAGYQCWYGTCTQYTSARLNTAGKFEARYGHVEARMKVPKRGQGMWPAF	149
WP201814453.1	87	GQGHVITARKENPAGYQCWYGTCTQYTSARLNTAGKFDARYGHVEARMKIPKRGQGMWPAF	146
WP058083161.1	87	GQGHVITARKENPAGYQCWYGTCTQYTSARLNTAGKFNAQYGHVEARMKIPKRGQGMWPAF	146
WP189816684.1	87	GQGHVITARKENPAGYQCWYGTCTQYTSARLNTAGKFNAQYGHVEARMKIPKRGQGMWPAF	146
WP020943690.1	87	GQGHVITARKENPAGYQCWYGTCTQYTSARLNTAGRFDAQYGHVEARMKIPKRGQGMWPAF	146
WP094218957.1	87	GQGHVITARKENPAGYQCWYGTCTQYTSARMNTAGKFNAQYGHVEARMKIPKRGQGMWPAF	146
2HYK	56	GNGNLVITARQADGG-----YTSARLTQNKVQPPQYGRVEASQIPKRGQGMWPAF	106
3ATG_A	52	GQGNLVITARREGDGS-----YTSARMTTQKGYQPPQYGRVEASQIPKRGQGMWPAF	102
		*:****	
<i>S. tritolerans</i> ARJ_32	7	WMLGT---PVNWPDSGSEIDAMENVGFEPSTVHGTHGPGYS	45
<i>S. collinus</i> ARJ_38	7	WMLGT---PVNWPDSGSEIDAMENVGFEPSTVHGTHGPGYS	45
AC094508.1	181	WMLGHDIGSVGWINSSEIDIMENVGYEPSTVHGTHGPGYS	240
WP222812332.1	93	WMLGT---PVNWPDSGSEIDAMENVGFEPSTVHGTHGPGYS	141
WP085568052.1	149	WMLGT---PVNWPDSGSEIDAMENVGFEPSTVHGTHGPGYS	205
WP046426660.1	150	WMLGT---PVNWPDSGSEIDAMENVGFEPSTVHGTHGPGYS	206
WP201814453.1	147	WMLGT---PVNWPDSGSEIDAMENVGFEPSTVHGTHGPGYS	203
WP058083161.1	147	WMLGT---PVNWPDSGSEIDAMENVGFEPSTVHGTHGPGYS	203
WP189816684.1	147	WMLGT---PVNWPDSGSEIDAMENVGFEPSTVHGTHGPGYS	203
WP020943690.1	147	WMLGT---PVNWPDSGSEIDAMENVGFEPSTVHGTHGPGYS	203
WP094218957.1	147	WMLGT---PVNWPDSGSEIDAMENVGFEPSTVHGTHGPGYS	203
2HYK	107	WMLGADFPNTWPDSGSEIDIMENIGREPHLVHSLHGPGYFG	166
3ATG_A	103	WMLGGSFPGTWPDSGSEIDIMENVGFEPSTVHGTHGPGYS	162

Figure 3. Deduced amino acid alignment of partial *bglS* gene of the *S. tritolerans* ARJ 32, *S. collinus* ARJ 38, the references *Streptomyces* spp., *Nocardiopsis* sp. (2HYK), and *C. cellulans* (3ATG). Red: conserved residues in the catalytic domain of the *bglS* gene. Yellow highlight: conserved residues among the isolates, references *Streptomyces* spp., *Nocardiopsis* sp. (2HYK), and *C. cellulans* (3ATG)

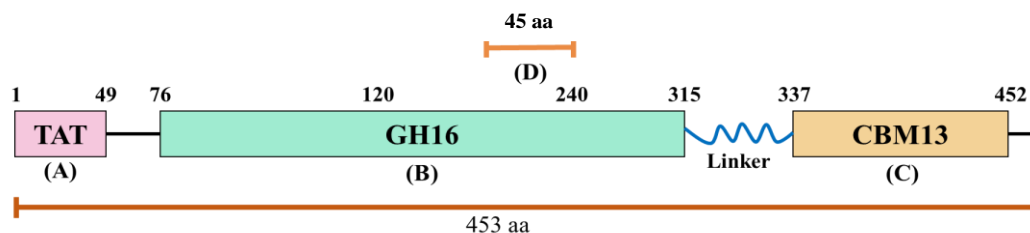


Figure 4. The complete *Streptomyces bglS* gene domain prediction (453 residues) (ACO94508) and the position of deduced amino acid of *S. collinus* ARJ 38. A. TAT-signal peptide, B. GH16 domain (IPR000757/cd08023), C. CBM13 domain (IPR000772/cd00161), and D. partial 45 deduced amino acid of *S. collinus* ARJ 38

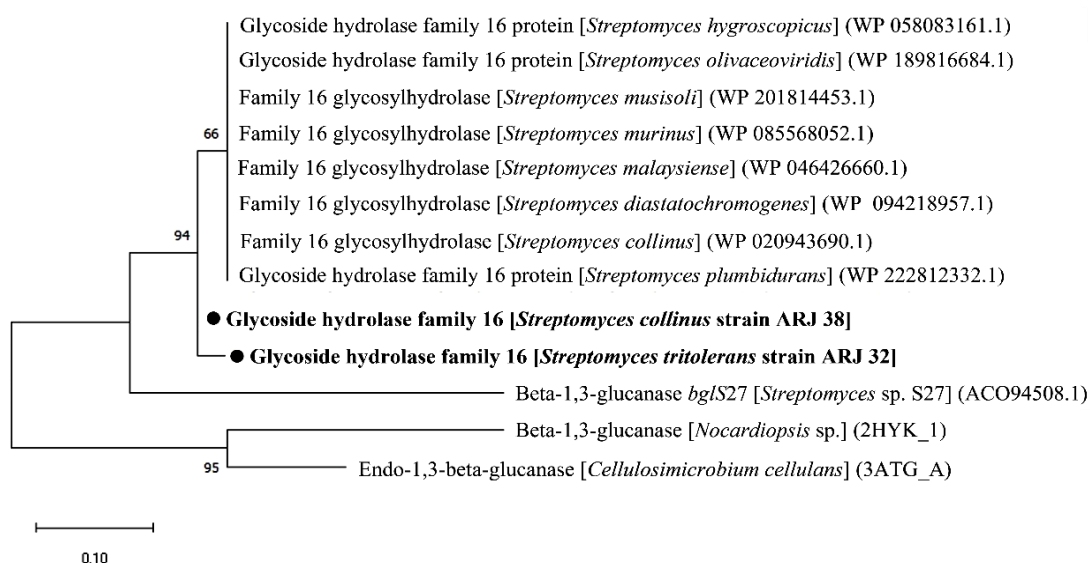


Figure 5. Phenetic tree based on partial *bglS* amino acid sequences of *S. tritolerans* ARJ 32 and *S. collinus* ARJ 38

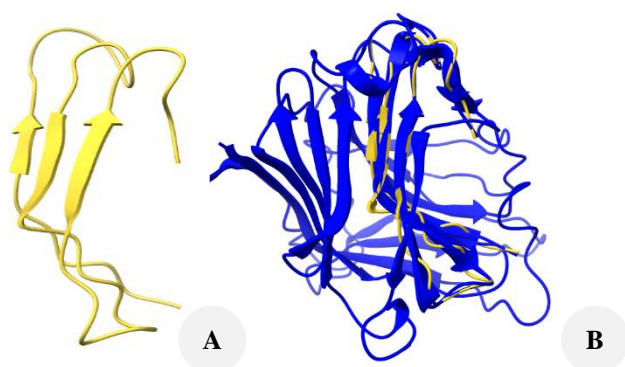


Figure 6. Three-dimensional structure prediction of the *S. collinus* ARJ 38 and the superposition to *bglS* *Nocardioopsis* sp. F96 (2HYK). A. Partial *bglS* of *S. collinus* ARJ 38 and B. Superposition of the partial *bglS* of *S. collinus* ARJ 38 (yellow) and *bglS* of *Nocardioopsis* sp. F96 (2HYK) (blue)

Discussion

The maize rhizospheric *S. collinus* ARJ 38 and *S. tritolerans* ARJ 32 isolates were tested for β -1,3-glucanase enzyme activity. In this research, the medium was supplemented with oat β -glucan to stimulate the production of β -1,3-glucanase by the *Streptomyces* isolates. The β -1,3-

glucanase, produced by *Streptomyces* isolates, exhibited peak production at 7 and 8 days post-inoculation, followed by a decline at 10-day incubation. The results of the enzyme quantitative test showed that the specific activity of the enzyme in the *S. collinus* ARJ 38 and *S. tritolerans* ARJ 32 isolates were higher when compared with the specific activity of the enzyme from the isolate of *S. hygroscopicus* of 0.67 U/mg on the second day of incubation (Prapagdee et al. 2008) and *S. torulosus* PCPOK 0324 at 1.71 U/mg on the third day incubation time (Park et al. 2012). However, the time required to achieve optimum enzyme-specific activity in *S. collinus* ARJ 32 and *S. tritolerans* ARJ 38 isolates was longer when compared to *S. hygroscopicus* and *S. torulosus* PCPOK 0324. This difference in growth time between the isolates may be due to *S. collinus* ARJ 32 and *S. tritolerans* ARJ 38 requiring a longer duration for growth. Actinomycetes can exhibit antagonistic behavior by producing β -1,3-glucanase, which hydrolyzes the cell wall. The production of hydrolytic enzymes can also significantly impact the control of phytopathogenic fungi. Glucanase, a type of cell wall lytic enzyme, contributes to the degradation of fungal cell wall components by being embedded inside its protein matrix (Abdelgawad et al. 2020; Wang et al. 2021).

The *bglS* gene encodes an endo- β -1,3-glucanase enzyme that belongs to the protein glycoside hydrolase family 16 (GH16) group previously identified as belonging to *Streptomyces* sp. S27 by Shi et al. (2010). The partial sequences of the *bglS* gene from *S. tritolerans* ARJ 32 and *S. collinus* ARJ 38 were identified as highly similar to glycoside hydrolase family 16 from *Streptomyces plumbidurans* ($\geq 95\%$). Both isolates also showed a closer relation to the *Streptomyces* spp. family 16 glycosylhydrolase (Figure 5). The enzyme β -1,3-glucanase, especially endo- β -1,3-glucanase, is part of the GH 16 family protein (Mouyna et al. 2013; Li et al. 2023). Several studies have reported that this enzyme can be produced by several bacteria from the *Streptomyces* group, such as *S. corchorusii* UCR3-16 (Tamreihao et al. 2016), *S. philanthi* RM-1-1-38 (Boukaew et al. 2016), *S. goshikiensis* YCXU (Faheem et al. 2015), *S. violaceusniger* MTCC 3959 (Nagpure et al. 2014), and *S. hygrosopicus* subs. *hygrosopicus* 5-4 (Yun et al. 2022). Moreover, Based on the alignment results, 15 essential amino acid residues are conserved. Some conserved residues are dominated by glycine (G), tryptophan (W), proline (P), and glutamic acid (E). Three essential residues in the partial amino acid sequences of *S. tritolerans* ARJ 32 and *S. collinus* ARJ 38, which are Glu²⁰, Asp²², and Glu²⁵, are thought to be catalytic residues involved in the hydrolysis of β -1,3-glycosidic bonds (Fibriansah 2007; Nan-Hill et al. 2023). The three residues were also found to be in *Streptomyces* spp. *Nocardiopsis* sp. and *Cellulosimicrobium cellulans*.

The complete structure of the *Streptomyces bglS* protein on the reference isolates *Streptomyces* sp. S27, based on research by Shi et al. (2010) is predicted to consist of 3 domains that are twin-arginine translocation (TAT) signal, glycoside hydrolase family 16 (GH16), and carbohydrate-binding molecule family 13 (CBM13). The GH16 is a domain that plays a role in the process of hydrolyzing glycosidic bonds in complex sugars, one of which is glucan, while the CBM13 domain plays a role in substrate attachment during the catalysis process by glucanase (Lombard et al. 2014; Edison et al. 2020). A three-dimensional protein structure model of the amino acid sequence of *S. collinus* ARJ 38 isolate has been successfully constructed. The 3D structural model of *S. collinus* ARJ 38 endo- β -1,3-glucanase protein constructed on the I-TASSER has high-quality parameter values: C-score 0.30, TM-score 0.75 ± 0.10 , and RMSD 1.9 ± 1.6 . The quality parameters evaluated are TM-score, C-score, and RMSD. The TM-score values lie within the interval of 0 to 1, indicating the structural fit of the constructed model. The C-score, on a scale from -5 to 2, evaluates the accuracy of the protein structure, with higher values suggesting a higher-quality model. Furthermore, a C-score greater than or equal to -1.5 indicates that the protein has a correct fold and structure. Higher TM-score and C-score values indicate a high structural fit (Saepuloh et al. 2020). RMSD values below 2 Å also indicate a high topological structure similarity between the predicted model and the original protein (Mafakher et al. 2022). Superposition analysis of the 3D model of the endo- β -1,3-glucanase protein of *S. collinus* ARJ 38 has a high similarity with the structure of

the endo- β -1,3-glucanase protein (EC 3.2.1.39) from *Nocardiopsis* sp. F96 (2HYK) indicated from the TM-score value of 0.91 and RMSD of 0.77 Å. Therefore, the partial amino acid sequence of the endo- β -1,3-glucanase of *S. collinus* ARJ 38 is predicted to have similar properties and functions to the experimental protein endo- β -1,3-glucanase from *Nocardiopsis* sp. F96.

In conclusion, maize rhizosphere *S. tritolerans* ARJ 32 and *S. collinus* ARJ 38 exhibited β -1,3-glucanase enzyme activity, which can degrade β -glucan substrate extracted from oats. The highest specific enzyme activity was obtained on the 7th and 8th day of incubation. The glucanolytic enzyme activity was supported by the presence of an endo- β -1,3-glucanase encoding gene (*bglS*) in both isolates identified as glycoside hydrolase family 16, and the deduced partial amino acid sequences showed some conserved residue in the catalytic domain of GH16. The three-dimensional model of the deduced amino acid sequence of the partial endo- β -1,3-glucanase was highly similar to the endo- β -1,3-glucanase protein model of the GH16 domain in *Nocardiopsis* sp. F96 (2HYK) and is supported by overlapping superposition analysis. Further investigation into the comprehensive characterization of the complete *Streptomyces bglS* gene and structure is necessary as there is currently a lack of recorded data related to this particular enzyme in the protein data bank.

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