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氏 名 Md.Saiful Islam

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学位論文題目 Development of micro-droplet hydrodynamic

voltammetric techniques based on enzyme inhibition and its application for the toxicity assessment of

environmental water pollutants

(液滴対流ボルタンメトリーによる酵素反応阻害の検出

と水環境汚染物質の毒性評価への応用)

論文審查委員

(委員長) 田中 大祐

倉光 英樹

鈴木 正康

波多 宣子

学位論文内容の要旨

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申請者名

Md Saiful Islam

世話専攻

地球生命環境科学専攻

世話教員

倉光英樹



Environmental water pollution has gained global attention because of the hostile effects it made toward the ecological balance and human health. There are varieties of toxicants, including chemicals, detergents, coloring agents, heavy metals, pesticides, endocrine disruptors, antibiotics, carcinogens, and toxins are releasing to the environmental water through various natural and anthropogenic processes which poses serious threats to the survival of aquatic plants and animals. Contaminated water contains a mixture of pollutants that together create a complex toxicity which is difficult to assess using conventional chemical analysis techniques. Most of the current monitoring levels are articulated on the basis of single pollutants which might lead to under or over estimation of toxicities. Therefore, it is essential to study the toxicity of these pollutants with toxicological studies.

The main objectives of this study evaluate the rightness of electrochemical hydrodynamic rotating disk electrode (RDE) techniques for the determination of aquatic toxicity arising from heavy metals and microcystins. We have developed electrochemical enzyme inhibition assay for the toxicity determination of heavy metals, a representative of inorganic pollutants and microcystin, a toxin produced by cyanobacteria. The RDE can effectively mix the enzyme-substrate mixture and at the same time performs as electrochemical detection device. The rapid determination of enzymatic activity was achieved using hydrodynamic voltammetry in a 50 µL micro-droplet with a rotating disk electrode. In both case, *p*-aminophenyl phosphate (PAPP) has been used as a substrate. The chronoamperometric response were obtained from the electrochemical oxidation of *p*-aminophenol (PAP) following the enzymatic conversion of *p*-aminophenyl phosphate (PAPP). Enzymatic activity over a PAPP substrate is affected by these toxicants, and this phenomenon decreases the chronoamperometric current signal.

For the determination of heavy metal toxicity in water, we developed microalgal bioassay on the basis of the alkaline phosphatase (ALP) enzyme inhibition of *Chlamydomonas reinhardtii*. The induced ALP activity of *C. reinhardtii* was inhibited using the phosphate starvation method. Five heavy metals were chosen as toxicants: Hg, Cd, Pb, Zn, and Cu. The concentrations of Hg, Cd, Pb, Zn, and Cu in which the ALP activity was half that of the control (EC₅₀) were found to be 0.017, 0.021, 0.27, 1.30, and 1.36 μ M, respectively. The system was demonstrated to be capable of detecting enzymatic activity by using a small amount of regent, and a detection limit of 5.4 × 10⁻⁷ U. The results were compared with those from a micro-scaled AGI (μ -AGI) test and an electrochemical enzyme inhibition test using purified ALP on the basis of micro-droplet hydrodynamic voltammetry.

Protein phosphatase 2A (PP2A) inhibition has been used for the determination of microcystin-LR (MC-LR), one of the most frequent and most lethal cyanobacterial toxins and a vital environmental pollutant due to its toxicity and persistence. It is hepatotoxins and have been shown to be potent tumor-promoters which pose a serious threat to human health in the form of chronic exposure through drinking water. The parameters for measurement of PP2A inhibition by MC-LR were optimized in this study. The results were compared with other electrochemical and colorimetric measurements. Comparison among these studies revealed that the PP2A inhibition assay has a sensitive response to MC-LR. The IC50 value was calculated as $0.08~\mu g/L$ which is well below the World Health Organization (WHO) provisional guideline value for total MC-LR of $1~\mu g/L$ in drinking water.

We have studied the effectiveness of RDE for the electrochemical determination of enzyme activity inhibition to determine the toxicity of heavy metals and microcystin using ALP and PP2A, respectively. Both the assays were discovered as sensitive in comparison with other electrochemical and spectrophotometric methods in terms of EC50 and IC50 values. This is due to the effective mixing of enzymes and substrates by RDE which decreases the incubation time and reduces the nonenzymatic hydrolysis of the enzyme substrate. The microdroplet reaction vessel reduces diffusional distance, resulting faster detection. It also reduces the dilution of enzymatic product which results in lower detection limits. The use of enzyme inhibition with minimum instrumentation requirements make these essays really convenient. Thus, it can be suggested that enzyme inhibition assay using RDE is a suitable candidate for measuring the toxicity of aquatic environmental pollutants using fewer chemicals in a rapid manner.

【論文審査の結果の要旨】

本学位審査委員会は当該学位論文を詳細に査読・審査し、かつ学位論文発表会を 平成31年1月23日に公開で開催し、その発表と質疑応答についても審査した。当 該学位論文の内容と審査の結果を以下に要約する。

当該学位論文では、水環境汚染の評価に資する新しい分析手法が提案されている。 具体的には、対流ボルタンメトリーによる酵素反応阻害の検出法を利用した、重金 属類の藻類に対する毒性試験、および、ミクロシスチンの新規分析法の開発に関す る研究が記載されている。対流ボルタンメトリーは数十マイクロリットルの液滴試 料を疎水性基板と回転ディスク電極で挟み込むことで行われた。

第 1 章では、本論文に記載されている研究内容の背景として、世界の水環境汚染の現状と汚染の評価法に関して、化学分析法とバイオアッセイ双方の特徴を論じ、様々なバイオアッセイ、特に酵素反応阻害を利用した手法を中心に概説している。また、対流ボルタンメトリーに関して、これまでに報告されている回転ディスク電極を利用した分析法を解説している。さらに、それらの環境分野への応用などに関して、より詳細な説明が記載されている。

第3章では、シアノバクテリアが産生する毒素であるミクロシスチンの分析法の開発を論じている。前述した対流ボルタンメトリーに基づく酵素活性測定法を利用し、ミクロシスチンによるプロテインホスファターゼ活性阻害の程度からミクロシスチンの間接的定量を試みたところ、WHOが勧告している飲料水の規制値を下回る濃度も検出可能であったことが述べられている。さらに、既存の論文で報告されている結果と本法で得られた結果を比較しており、開発した手法の有用性が論じられている。

第4章では、本研究で得られた成果が総括されており、当該研究の今後の展開を 論じている。学位申請者は、本研究で開発した酵素活性の定量法を適切な前処理法 と組み合わせることで、実用性の向上と分析対象物質の拡大を図ることに期待を寄 せている。

以上,学位論文に記述されている研究成果を鑑み,当審査委員会は本論文が博士(理学)の学位を授与するに値するものと認め,学位申請者を合格と判定した。