

## **ABSTRACT**

A  $\beta$ -glucosidase has been purified from culture filtrates of the mutant fungus *Trichoderma viride* UVNG4 grown on wheat bran. An extracellular  $\beta$ -glucosidase with 14.75 specific activity was purified 1.5-fold, 3.0-fold and 2.2-fold to homogeneity from the culture supernatant by salting out with ammonium sulphate, acetone precipitation and with freeze drying respectively.  $\beta$ -glucosidase catalyzed the hydrolysis of p-nitrophenyl-beta-D-glucoside (pNPG). The  $K_m$  and  $V_{max}$  values for p-nitrophenyl-beta-D-glucoside were 35.73 and 7.156 mM respectively. It was optimally active at pH 4.5 and 50-55°C.  $\beta$ -glucosidase was stable up to 50°C and retained 90 % of its activity, when stored at different temperature for 72 hours. It was also stable at vast range of pH (5-10), when incubated at 30°C for 24 hours.