**Supporting Information**

**Technoeconomic Evaluation of Recent Process Improvements in Production of Sugar and High-Value Lignin Co-products via Two-Stage Cu-Catalyzed Alkaline-Oxidative Pretreatment**

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**Supplementary Tables**

**Table S1** Chemical composition of poplar after alkaline pre-extraction

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Substrate | Original | 90 °C | 120 °C |
| Solid remaining (%)a | N/A | 87.1 ± 0.1 | 78.5 ± 0.1 |
| Glucan (%) | 45.5 | 50.1 (43.6)b ± 0.8 | 54.7 (42.9)b ± 1.2 |
| Xylan (%) | 15.8 | 16.4 (14.3)b ± 0.2 | 15.5 (12.2)b ± 0.2 |
| Klason lignin (%) | 22.3 | 23.3 (20.3)b ± 0.3 | 21.1 (16.6)b ± 0.4 |
| Ash (%) | 0.85 | 0.87 (0.76)b ± 0.1 | 0.86 (0.68)b ± 0.1 |

N/A: Not applicable. Values are expressed as an average ± standard deviation of triplicate experiments.

aWeight percentage (oven-dried weight) of the recovered biomass after alkaline pre-extraction relative to original biomass.

bChemical composition of alkaline pre-extracted biomass relative to original biomass.

**Table S2** Chemical composition of poplar following the two-stage alkaline-oxidative pretreatment process performed under various conditions

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Experimenta | Solid Remaining (%)b | Glucan (%)c | Xylan (%)c | Acid-Insoluble Lignin (%)c |
| Untreated | N/A | 45.5 | 15.8 | 22.3 |
| 120 °C – Cu-AHP 8% H2O2 | 68.6 ± 0.7 | 58.1 ± 0.6 | 14.2 ± 0.5 | 16.1 ± 0.5 |
| 120 °C – Cu(bpy) + O2 | 69.6 ± 0.7 | 56.8 ± 0.8 | 13.6 ± 0.3 | 16.3 ± 0.3 |
| 120 °C – Cu-AHP 8% H2O2 + O2 | 52.2 ± 0.6 | 74.7 ± 1.1 | 12.9 ± 0.6 | 8.2 ± 0.5 |
| 120 °C – Cu-AHP 6% H2O2 + O2 | 52.6 ± 0.6 | 74.4 ± 0.9 | 13.1 ± 0.5 | 8.9 ± 0.4 |
| 120 °C – Cu-AHP 4% H2O2 +O2 | 53.2 ± 0.4 | 73.7 ± 1.2 | 13.0 ± 0.6 | 10.1 ± 0.5 |
| 120 °C – Cu-AHP 2% H2O2 + O2 | 54.1 ± 0.8 | 73.3 ± 1.3 | 12.9 ± 0.5 | 10.8 ± 0.4 |
| 90 °C – Cu-AHP 8% H2O2 | 76.3 ± 0.6 | 54.6 ± 0.9 | 15.1 ± 0.6 | 20.3 ± 0.6 |
| 90 °C – Cu-AHP 4% H2O2 + O2 | 71.4 ± 0.8 | 57.9 ± 1.1 | 13.1 ± 0.3 | 16.7 ± 0.8 |

N/A: Not applicable.

a120 °C and 90 °C: alkaline pre-extraction step conducted at 120 °C and 90 °C, respectively. Cu-AHP H2O2: Cu-AHP pretreatment performed at 80 °C; Cu(bpy) + O2: Cu(bpy)-catalyzed alkaline-oxidative pretreatment with 50 psig O2 as the only oxidant; Cu-AHP H2O2 + O2: O2-enhanced Cu-AHP pretreatment using 50 psig O2. Values are expressed as average ± standard deviation of triplicate experiments.

bWeight percentage (oven-dried weight) of the recovered biomass after two-stage Cu-AHP pretreatment relative to original biomass.

cWeight percentage based on oven-dried weight of two-stage pretreated biomass.

**Table S3** Yields of glucose and xylose following enzymatic hydrolysis of the two-stage pretreated poplar biomass

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Experimenta | Glucose (%)b | Xylose (%)b |
| 120 °C – Cu-AHP 8% H2O2 | 68.9 ± 0.8 | 50.8 ± 0.9 |
| 120 °C – Cu(bpy) + O2 | 66.8 ± 0.9 | 46.2 ± 0.8 |
| 120 °C – Cu-AHP 8% H2O2 + O2 | 83.1 ± 1.1 | 48.3 ± 1.1 |
| 120 °C – Cu-AHP 6% H2O2 + O2 | 82.5 ± 1.1 | 46.5 ± 1.2 |
| 120 °C – Cu-AHP 4% H2O2 +O2 | 81.1 ± 1.3 | 45.8 ± 0.9 |
| 120 °C – Cu-AHP 2% H2O2 + O2 | 80.8 ± 1.1 | 46.2 ± 0.8 |
| 90 °C – Cu-AHP 8% H2O2 | 56.2 ± 0.7 | 44.2 ± 1.0 |
| 90 °C – Cu-AHP 4% H2O2 + O2 | 67.8 ± 1.4 | 39.8 ± 0.7 |

a120 °C and 90 °C: alkaline pre-extraction step conducted at 120 °C and 90 °C, respectively. Cu-AHP H2O2: Cu-AHP pretreatment performed at 80 °C; Cu(bpy) + O2: Cu(bpy)-catalyzed alkaline-oxidative pretreatment with 50 psig O2 as the only oxidant; Cu-AHP H2O2 + O2: O2-enhanced Cu-AHP pretreatment using 50 psig of O2.

bThe sugar yields were calculated based original sugar composition in untreated biomass.

Values are expressed as average ± standard deviation of triplicate experiments.

**Table S4** Operating cost summary for 120 °C alkaline pre-extraction, 2% H2O2 with 50 psig O2 for the second-stage alkaline-oxidative pretreatment (120 °C – Cu-AHP 2% H2O2 + O2)

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Cost Item | Cost ($/liter biofuel) | Assumption |
| Labor | $ 0.008  | 38 Total Employees |
| Maintenance | $ 0.016  | 3% of IBSL |
| Insurance | $ 0.011  | 0.7% of Fixed Capital Investment |
| Hybrid Poplar | $ 0.10  | $50/US ton |
| Sodium Hydroxide | $ 0.04  | $135/US ton |
| Copper Sulfate | $ 0.063  | $1.50/ kg |
| Hydrogen Peroxide | $ 0.037  | $1.00/kg |
| 2,2′-Bipyridine | $ 0.085  | $30/kg |
| Sulfuric Acid | $ 0.04  | $80/US ton |
| Glycoside Hydrolase Enzymes | $ 0.063  | $5.00/kg |
| Hydrogen  | $ 0.21  | $1.50/kg |
| Catalyst | $ 0.029  | From Davis et al. 2015a |
| Catalyst Regeneration Chemicals | $ 0.013  | From Davis et al. 2015a |
| Other Chemicals | $ 0.003  | From Davis et al. 2015a |
| Makeup Water | $ 0.003  | From Davis et al. 2015a |
| Ash Disposal | $ 0.003  | $39/metric ton |
| Electricity | $ 0.034  | 6.5 cents/kWh |
| Lignin Co-product | $ (0.11) | $0.80/kg, soluble lignin not included |
| Total Operating Cost | $ 0.65  |  |
| Income, Taxes, Depreciation | $ 0.20  |  |
| **Minimum Fuel Selling Price (MFSP)** | **$ 0.85**  |  |