

Ultrasonic Pre-treatment and Optimization of Shaker Assisted Hexane Extraction kinetics and activation energy on Second Generation Biofuel Sources

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Abstract

Aging of the world and depletion of all resources probes a path for discovering alternate energy sources. These concerns on the search of bio fuels to replace the decaying fossil fuels. Identification of sustainable substitutes such as bio fuels (biodiesel, bio alcohol and biogas) from this study. The use of food crops may compete with the food chain, so non-edible crops are making an alternate for biodiesel production. As a result, scientists are now probing on the utilization of non-edible feedstock for biodiesel production.

*In this study moisture content of certain seeds was analyzed by oven dry method. Moisture content of seeds less than 8% shows maximum oil yield as 23%, 32% and 34.54% for *Caesalpinia sappan*, *Cleome gynandra* and *Cleome viscosa* respectively. Ultrasonic Pretreatment was carried out on seed sources such as *Caesalpinia sappan*, *Cleome gynandra* and *Cleome viscosa*. Optimization of oil extraction were carried out on *Cleome viscosa* by Shaker Assisted Hexane Extraction and the variables for optimization are Seed to solvent ratio, Rpm, Temperature, Time respectively effect the oil extraction. The optimized parameters are seed to solvent ratio as 1:12, 125 Rpm, 67°C temperature and time 66 mins. After optimization, the yield of oil extracted from *Caesalpinia sappan*, *Cleome gynandra* and *Cleome viscosa* respectively were 25%, 32%, 34%.*

The extraction kinetics determine the rate constant by applying Differential method. The reaction follows first order kinetics and the activation energy was interpreted as 7.1KJ and the Arrhenius constant was $3.77 \times 10^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$. The physiochemical properties of the seed oil were analyzed by AOCS methods. This biofuel second generation source was proved to be a suitable feedstock for biodiesel production.

Keywords: Biofuel, *Caesalpinia sappan*, *Cleome gynandra*, *Cleome viscosa*, Shaker, Ultrasonication, Extraction kinetics, Activation energy.

Introduction

Biodiesel biorefinery facilitates and integrates biomass conversion process produces biofuel etc. Due to the drastic

squandering of fossil fuels and to prevent green house gas emissions, foreign petroleum, air pollution and public health related risks biofuel production was probed over two decades¹. Now, the third generation (algae) is encompassed hence forth the fourth generation (genetically modified crops) is on its development, even still broad area has to be explored on second generation (non edible seeds) was an alternate for first generation sources (edible seeds)²

Second generation sources offers fillip to convert wide range of ligninocellulosic feedstock to biofuel and other value added products compared to other generation sources. The truce we insist upon the barriers on the second generation sources yet another decade was required to make commercially viable³. The moisture content of the non edible seeds were determined by oven dry method because heat content calculated on a dry mass basis must be altered for the natural water content that can reduce by 20% to the net heat available⁴.

Ultrasonic waves are generated by a transducer made out of a piezoelectric material⁵. In response to an alternating current piezoelectric material produces characteristic mechanical vibration of ultrasonic frequency was higher than 20 kHz. These ultrasonic waves produce pressure differences that enhances chemical and physical processes in the solution medium⁶. The ultrasonic pretreatment was a powerful technique causes the ultrasonic waves through the vibrations that severely damage the biomass structure which will subsequently increase the yield of the oil content⁷. Ultrasound- pretreated was a low-cost technology that assists in the significant reduction of extraction time and temperature results in a higher yield⁸.

The shaker extraction with hexane as a conventional solvent showed the highest yield when compared to other non conventional solvents (acetone, ethanol, isopropanol)⁹. The Extraction kinetic of the solvent depends on the rate of formation of products and rate of dissociation of reactants¹⁰.¹¹ studied the extraction kinetics that determining the rate of the reaction that demonstrates the reaction mechanism. Extraction kinetics also integrates the rate laws, and the reaction expressed in terms of Yield and Time¹².

The objective of this paper were to determine the moisture content of certain seeds (*Caesalpinia sappan*, *Cleome gynandra* and *Cleome viscosa*), ultrasonic pretreatment enhances the disruption of seed biomass and optimization of shaker assisted hexane extraction to recover the optimized parameters for extraction. The kinetics of extraction were

determined by Differential method and rate equation, activation energy and Arrhenius constant also calculated. The physiochemical properties of the seeds were analyzed by AOCS methods. These study focuses on the non-edible seeds were the suitable Feedstock's for Biorefinery.

Material and Methods

Seed characterization: The Indigenous seeds (*Caesalpinia sappan*, *Cleome gynandra* and *Cleome viscosa*) were collected from Anna University, Chennai, India. The damaged seeds and dirt were removed and good seeds were washed with distilled water. The seeds were sundried and dehulled to separate the kernels. The hulls and kernel weight were determined on weight basis. All chemicals used in this study were purchased from sigma Aldrich (India) is of analytical grade.

Moisture content determination: The moisture content of the seeds was removed by hot air oven at 105°C for 16 hrs by AOCS Ba 2b-82 method^{13, 14}. The samples were dried and weighed. Formula 1 was used to calculate the moisture content. The loss in weight is found to be loss of moisture. The moisture content of seeds can be determined with respect to oil yield and time.

$$\%MC = \frac{\text{Original weight} - \text{Oven dry weight}}{\text{Oven dry weight}} * 100 \quad \rightarrow 1$$

Ultrasonic pre-treatment: Preliminary calibration of amplitude, frequency, pulse on and pulse off are made. Ultrasonic processor of model VC505 with power supply 500 watts used for pretreatment of seed biomass, 50 g of crushed and sieved seeds were probed separately at 24 kHz with constant temperature (50 ± 2 °C). Pretreatment for 5 min was processed on seed biomass along with distilled water (3:1 water to seed ratio). After destruction of cell wall of seeds, the biomass was dried in shade conditions and in oven at (60 ± 1 °C) as per method of¹⁵. The pretreated *Caesalpinia sappan*, *Cleome gynandra* and *Cleome viscosa* seed biomass was loaded on shaker assisted hexane extraction.

Shaker Optimization: The shaker assisted hexane extraction was performed in Erlenmeyer flasks with rubber corks containing the ultrasonic pretreated *C.viscosa* seeds and hexane was used as the solvent for extraction. The factors that has to be optimized are seed-to-solvent (w/v) ratios, rpm, temperature, time, respectively are the factors that affect the oil extraction. These assays were done separately on the *cleome viscosa* seeds⁹. The oil yield was calculated from formula 2 and oil content was determined by AOCS Ba 3 –38 method¹⁴.

$$\text{Yield} = \frac{\text{Weight of oil extracted}}{\text{Weight of oil meal taken}} * 100 \quad \rightarrow 2$$

Extraction kinetics: Kinetics of extraction depends on the various chemical reactions that diffuses and control the chemistry of the extraction process. Extraction kinetics study was carried on the cleome viscosa seeds.

The kinetics of the reaction rate depends on the time and the temperature factors that have to be optimized to calculate the formation of products (oil yield)¹⁰. The temperature ranges were conducted at 27, 37, 47, 57, 67 degree celsius and the time ranges at 16, 26, 36, 46, 56, 66 minutes was used to carry out the kinetic study on cleome viscosa seeds.

Physiochemical properties: These seed oil were characterized for physiochemical analysis by AOAC methods. Seed oil was subjected to physical characterization. The colour and state of the oil at room temperature were not by visual inspection. While the refractive index was determined at room temperature using the Abbe refractometer (NAR-1T; Atago Co., Ltd., Tokyo, Japan).

The procedures for determination of chemical indices, such as the acid value (AOAC 969.17), peroxide value (AOAC 965.33), saponification number (AOAC 920.160), non saponification matter (AOAC 933.08), iodine value (AOAC 993.20), insoluble impurities (AOCS Ca 3a-46) and moist and volatile matter (AOAC 926.12), were carried out following the official method by¹⁶.

Results and Discussion

Moisture content determination: Figure 1(a,b,c) of this study depicts that the moisture content of *caesalpinia sappan* at 26% yields 8% oil content when the moisture content decreases to 8.3% then the oil content was 23%, for *Cleome gynandra* the highest oil yield at 8.1% moisture content was 32%, *Cleome viscosa* seeds shows the oil yield at 8% of moisture content was 34% a gradual decrease in moisture content when time elapses, the oil yield also simultaneously increases, Adegmo et al. (2013) confirms this in his investigation on *Moringa oleifera* seeds.

According to¹⁷, higher moisture content of seeds will disrupt the yield of oil so moisture content has to be reduced. Their report says maximum oil content obtained at 6% for sunflower seeds and decreased further increase in moisture content.¹⁸, discuss the maximum oil recovery obtained at 8.1% for neem seed oil and minimum oil recovery at 16.1%.

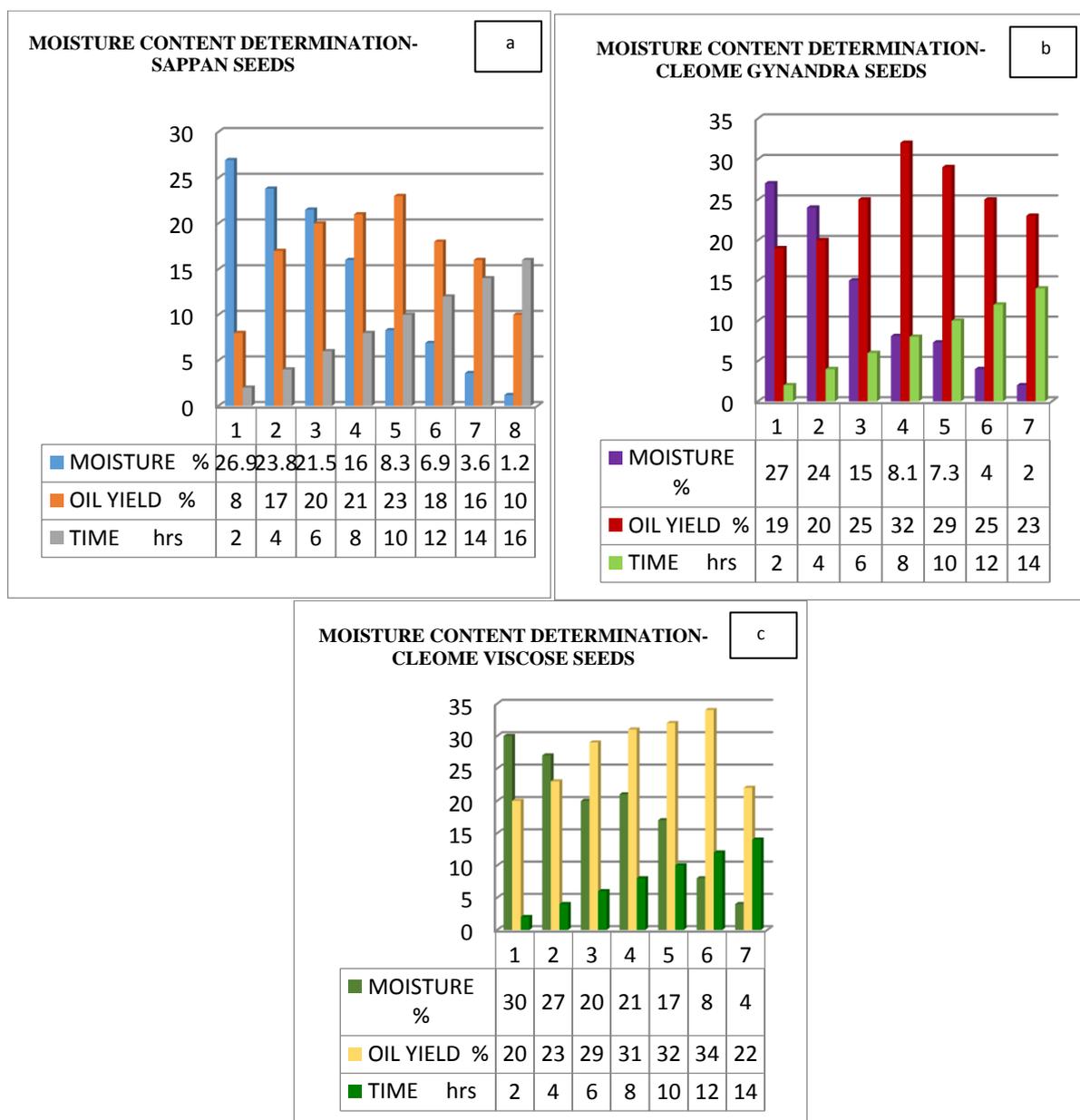


Figure 1: Moisture Content determination with respect to oil yield and time for (a) *Caesalpinia sappan*, (b) *Cleome gynandra*, (c) *Cleome viscosa* seeds.

Shaker optimization:

Effect of polar and non polar solvents oil yield: The effects of the solvation nature determine the solubility of the desired products, ¹⁰. In this experiment various polar solvents and non polar solvents were used to extract on the cleome viscosa seeds. The oil was extracted by ultrasonic pretreated shaker extraction to maximize the yield. The solvation nature of the solvents depends on the yield and the unsaponifiable matter, ¹⁹.

Table1: Effect of different non polar solvents on oil extraction from cleome viscosa seeds

Solvent	Yield (wt %)	Unsaponifiable matter (wt %)
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(non polar)

n-Heptane	30	5
Benzene	31.54	9
Petroleum ether	32.59	4
Hexane	34.54	2
	33.89	8

Table 1 depicts the solvation nature of the polar and non polar solvents with respect to oil yield and unsaponifiable matter. In this study the order of solvation power of non polar solvents with respect to oil yield goes from high to low such as hexane, chloroform, petroleum ether, benzene, and n-heptane was compared with results of ²⁰. The order of unsaponifiable matter in this study goes from low to high given as hexane, petroleum ether, heptane, chloroform,

benzene.¹⁹ expound in his study the lowest unsaponifiable matter yields higher oil yield.²¹ decipher that unsaponifiable matter are the substances that should be less for determining the solvation nature of nonpolar solvents.

Effect of Seed to Solvent ratio: The optimization reaction was carried out on *cleome viscose* seeds. The ultrasonic pretreated sample for optimizing the seed to solvent ratio undergoes shaker extraction that ranges from 1:2, 1:4, 1:6, 1:8, 1:10, 1:12, 1:14 and 1:16. Figure 2 interpret the maximum oil yield of extraction was 34.54% at 1:12 seed to solvent ratio was the maximum yield manifested by¹⁹. The further rise in the solvent ratio from 1:14 and 1:16 decreased the yield of oil extraction that was published by¹⁹.

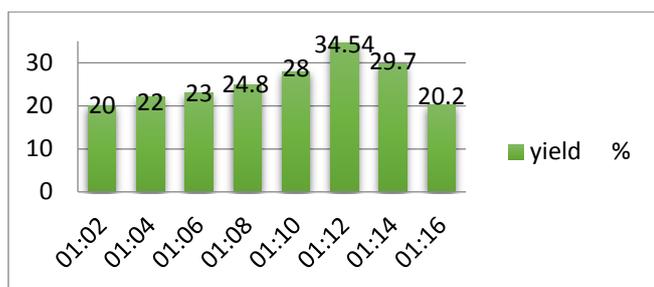


Figure 2: Effect of seed to solvent ratio on cleome viscose.

Effect of agitation speed (rpm): The agitation speed is also one of the parameter that affects the oil yield of *cleome viscose* seeds. Optimization of mixing intensity was carried out with different rate of mixing intensity ranging from 25 to 175 ppm. During optimization, other reaction parameters were kept constant at 37°C temperature, seed to solvent ratio 1:12(g/ml), 66 min reaction time. From figure 3 the maximum oil yield was attained at 125 rpm further increase in rpm does not increase the yield of oil. Suganya et al. (2012) studied the maximum oil yield was obtained at 500 rpm from marine microalgae.²¹ get across in his investigation that the maximum yield of oil from Linn seed was obtained at 100 rpm.

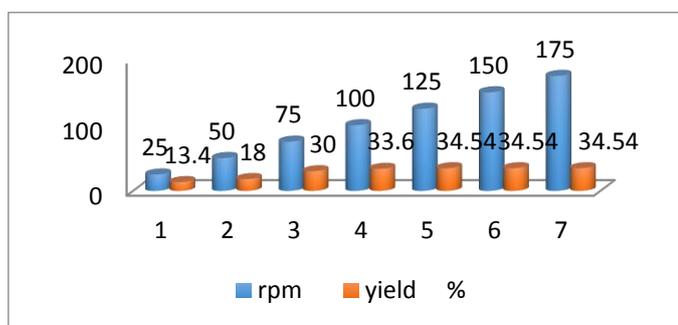


Figure 3: Effect of rpm on cleome viscose.

Effect of reaction temperature: The variation of temperature was considered as the parameter of study. The seed to solvent ratio 1:12, 125 rpm are kept constant on the ultrasonic pretreated shaker extraction. As the temperature increases from 27°C to 67°C, further increase in temperature

abruptly does not increase the oil yield because the boiling point of hexane was 68°C. Figure 4 bring out the maximum temperature attained was 67°C and the yield obtained at 34.54 %.²² in his findings the maximum temperature attained was 80°C optimizing the Linn seeds. Suganya et al. (2012) depicts the maximum temperature in her study on marine microalgae was 55°C.²³ in his paper reported the maximum temperature was 70°C.

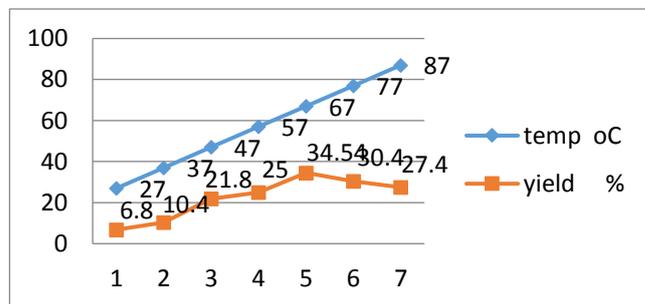


Figure4: Effect of reaction temperature on cleome viscose.

Effect of reaction time: The reaction time was also one of the important factors for extraction. Optimizing reaction time of the extraction process is much important as prolonged exposure of seed to the solvent can result in poor yield of the oil. In order to optimize the reaction time, the extraction process was allowed to execute from 16 to 76 min. The maximum time of extraction analyzed from this study was 66 min showed clearly in the figure 5. Further increase in the time will decrease in oil yield.²⁴ in his study justifies the maximum reaction time was 70 min extracts the maximum oil. Suganya et al. (2012) in her findings the maximum oil yield was obtained at 120 min.

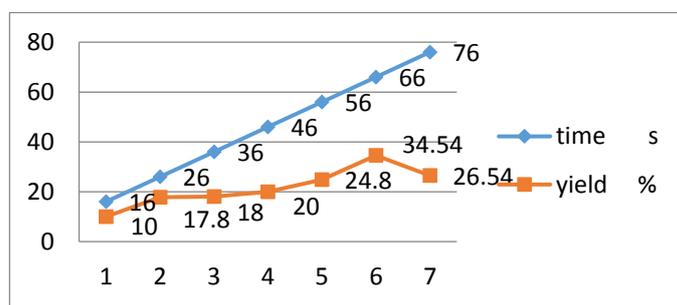


Figure 5: Effect of reaction time on cleome viscose.

Kinetics of Extraction: Table 2 depicts the oil yield of ultrasonic pretreated shaker extraction with respect to time and temperature was obtained from the *cleome viscose* seeds.

The reaction rate equation for extraction from *cleome viscose* seeds can be written as

$$dY/dt = kY^n \tag{3}$$

Y is the percent of oil yield, t is the time of extraction (min), k is the extraction constant, and n is the reaction order. The oil yield percentage increased with respect to time, the terms dY/dt have a positive sign. Applying differential method on Table 2, the graph was plotted between $\ln dY/dt$ vs $\ln Y$ and

linear graph was obtained and the reaction follows First-order kinetics and the average of regression coefficient was 0.580. The slope and the values of n also reported from Figure 5b. Table 3 gives the values of reaction rate constant, 11, 21-23.

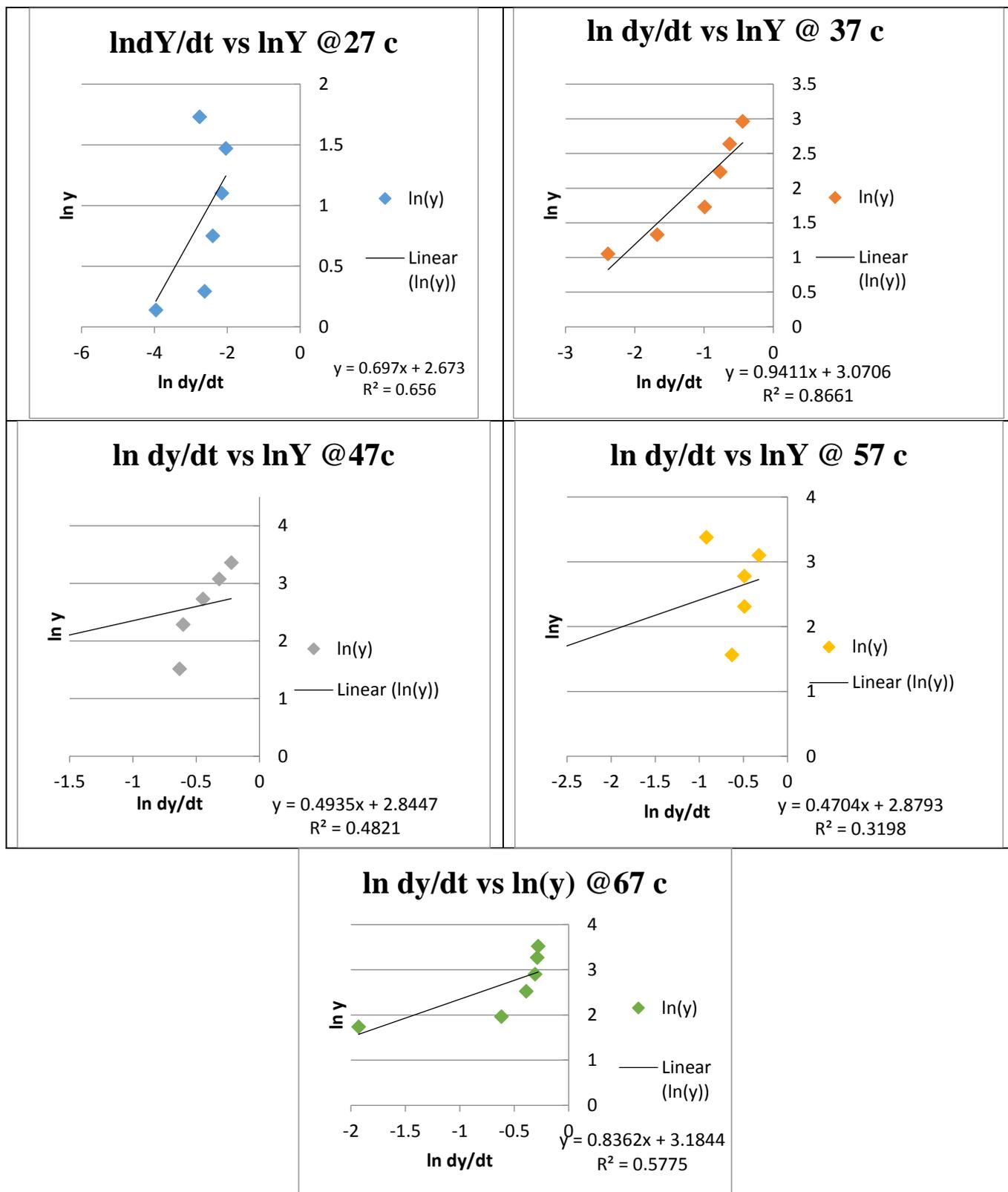


Figure 5b: A plot on $\ln dY/dt$ vs. $\ln Y$ at varying temperatures with respect to time has been plotted on cleome viscose seeds

Table 2
Oil yield percent of cleome viscose seeds with respect to temperature and time.

			Yield %			
Temp\Time	16	26	36	46	56	66
27	1.15	1.34	2.12	3.05	4.35	5.65
37	2.86	3.78	5.65	9.35	14	19.35
47	4.15	4.56	9.87	15.34	21.73	29
57	4.23	4.79	10.12	16.25	22.34	29.56
67	5.68	7.12	12.5	19.25	26.53	34.04

Activation energy: As the temperature of the reaction increases simultaneously, the rate of the reaction increases. The temperature changes affecting the reaction can be interpreted by the Arrhenius equation given below.

$$k = Ae^{-E_a/RT} \tag{4}$$

k is the reaction rate constant, A is the Arrhenius constant or frequency factor, E_a is the activation energy, R is the universal gas constant, and T is the absolute temperature. From table 3 the graph should be plotted between ln k vs 1/T gives the slope as -E_a/R and intercept as ln A (figure 6). Thus the Activation energy was interpreted as 7.1kJ and Arrhenius constant as 3.77*10⁻³ s⁻¹, confirmed by the studies of ¹¹.

Table 3
Reaction rate constants from the slope at various temperatures

T	K min ⁻¹
27	6.98*10 ⁻²
37	4.60*10 ⁻²
47	5.8*10 ⁻²
57	5.6*10 ⁻²
67	4.1*10 ⁻²

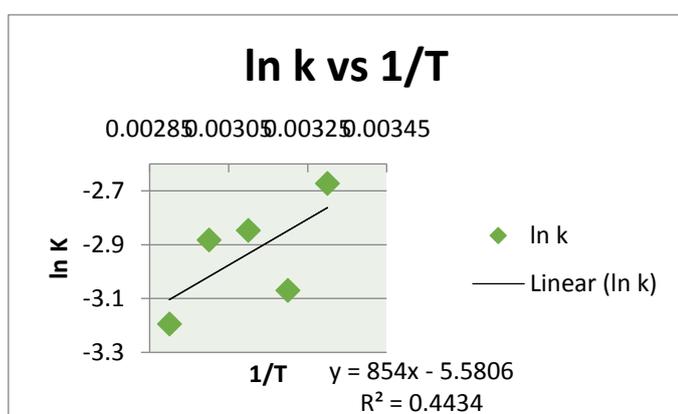


Figure 6: A plot on ln k vs. 1/T has been plotted on cleome viscose seeds.

Oil yield: Table 4 put in detail on the yield of oil by ultrasonic pretreated shaker assisted extraction on certain seeds such as *Caesalpinia sappan*, *Cleome gynandra* and *Cleome viscose*. ²⁵ demonstrate in his studies on citrullus lanatus yields 35%. Suganya et al. (2012) on her research

describes the maximum oil yield was 10.88%. Extraction on white pitaya seeds shows maximum yield was 7.78% by ²⁶.

Table 4
Oil Yield of *Caesalpinia sappan*, *Cleome Gynandra*, *Cleome viscose* seeds

Source	Yield %
Cleome gynandra	34.54
Cleome viscose	32
Caesalpinia sappan	23

Physiochemical Analysis Table 5 depicts the Physiochemical analysis of certain seeds such as cleome viscose seeds oil analyzed by the AOCS standard methods. The colour of *c.sappan* was dark brown and for *cleome gynandra* and *cleome viscose* was dark green and yellowish green. The moisture content of the sappan, gynandra, viscose seeds was reduced to 3.48%, 7.70% and 5.40% respectively, this value was lower than *Jatropha* 5.54% and *Parkia biglobbossa* was 10.18% was reported by ²⁷. The yield of oil from sappan and gynandra seeds was 23% and 32% which is lower than the yield of oil reported by ²⁸, but viscose seeds oil yield value was higher than reported. The Sappan oil Acid value is 5.04 mg KOH/g which was slightly higher, but for the cleome viscose and cleome gynandra was much higher than 3 mg KOH/g ²⁹. AOCS official Method Cd 3d-63 that makes the oil suitable for two step process for Biodiesel production i.e. esterification followed by transesterification.

The Saponification value describes the suitability of this oil for processing in soap manufacturing industries is 238 mg of KOH /g, 196 mg of KOH/g and 210 mg of KOH /g for sappan, gynandra and viscose seed oil compared with results of ³⁰. The Iodine value measures the degree of Unsaturation. The iodine value of these seeds from this study were compared with the results of ^{30,31}. The sappan fruit seed oil is placed in the semi-drying group of oils, gynandra and viscose seeds belong to non drying group of oils. From the above results, the sappan, gynandra, viscose seed oil by ultrasonic pretreated shaker extraction can be suitable second generation feed stocks for biodiesel production (Table 2).

Table 5
Physiochemical analysis of *Caesalpinia sappan*, *Cleome Gynandra*, *Cleome viscosa* seeds

S.N.	Method	Units	AOCS number	Sappan seeds	Cleome gynandra	Cleme viscosa
1	Moisture and volatile matter in the seed	g	Ba 2b-82	3.48%	7.70%	5.40%
2	Oil content	g	Ba 2 –38	23%	32%	34.54%
3	Average molecular weight of oil	MW		709.2	862	806.45
4	Oil colour			Dark brown	Dark green	Yellowish green
5	Odour		Cg 2-83	Mild pungent	Oily	Oily
6	Specific gravity @ 40°C		Cc10a –25	0.933	0.8433	0.8949
7	Density @ 40°C	g/cm ³		0.926	0.867	0.92
8	Refractive index	nD	Cc 7 –25	1.479	1.475	1.47
9	Viscosity @ 40°C	Cst	Cc 13j-97	43.28	30	31
10	Physical state at room temperature	-		Liquid	Liquid	Liquid
11	Acid value	mg of KOH/g of oil	Cd 3d –63	5.04	44.31	35.34
12	Free fatty acid	%	Ca 5a –40	2.53	22.2	17.7
13	Saponification value	mg of KOH/g of oil	Cd 3a –94	238	196	210
14	Ester value	mg of KOH/g of oil		232.96	151.69	174.66
15	Iodine value	g I ₂ /0.1g of oil	Cd 1 –25	123.09	118.1	116.3
16	Peroxide value	mEq/Kg	Cd 8-53	2	1	1

Conclusion

This research throws light upon moisture content determination of non edible seeds to determine the amount of free moisture. Ultrasonic pretreatment was carried out to enhance the oil recovery on seeds. The pretreated samples were optimized by shaker extraction method, were the optimum conditions attained at 66 min, 67°C, 125 rpm, 1:12 seed to solvent ratio with hexane as a suitable solvent compared with polar and nonpolar solvents. The extraction kinetic data reveals that extraction follows first order mechanism.

The rate constant, activation energy and Arrhenius constant were calculated. The Physiochemical analysis was determined by AOCS Methods. This proves the three seeds *Caesalpinia sappan*, *Cleome gynandra*, *Cleome viscosa* second generation seeds are the suitable feedstock for biodiesel production.

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