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Mn²⁺-Dependent Thermophilic Protease of *Thermoactinomyces Vulgaris* Tsiklinsky

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Abstract Protease of *Thermoactinomyces vulgaris* was highly thermophilic, as it exhibited its optimal catalytic activity at 65°C, which was much higher than the growth temperature (50°C) of this obligate thermophile. Among the metal ions tested, Mn²⁺ was most stimulatory, enhancing the specific activity of protease by about 4.4-fold over the control, and broadened the range of its temperature optimum (i.e. 60–65°C). A heavy metal (Hg²⁺) inhibited the enzyme activity by about 15%. The increase in slope of Arrhenius plot as well as the energy of activation (E_a) of *T. vulgaris* protease due to Mn²⁺ indicated that this divalent cation enhanced the rate of high-temperature enzyme catalysis at the expense of E_a. The increasing concentration of the substrate (casein) increased the specific activity of protease gradually in a dose-dependent manner, both in the absence as well as in the presence (10 mM) of Mn²⁺. This divalent cation increased the V_{max} of this enzyme without affecting K_m for the substrate. The thermophilic protease of *T. vulgaris* appeared to be a metalloenzyme, in which Mn²⁺ is firmly bound to it, as even 10 mM of EDTA was not able to chelate/remove Mn²⁺ completely to inhibit its activity.

Keywords: Arrhenius energy of activation · Arrhenius plots · Energy of Activation · Extracellular protease · High-temperature catalysis · Protease · *Thermoactinomyces vulgaris* · Thermophilic protease

Introduction

Thermoactinomyces vulgaris has been characterized extensively in our research laboratory with respect to its growth [36], genetics [4, 11, 34] and thermophilic hydrolyses, including acid and alkaline phosphatases [35, 37, 38, 39] and membrane ATPase [5, 33].

A group of hydrolyses, such as proteases are an important class of enzymes which constitute more than 20% of the total industrial enzyme market [25]. Proteases, secreted extracellularly by thermophilic bacteria, can be used in a range of commercial applications such as leather preparation, protein recovery or solubilization, meat tenderization and organic synthesis [6, 20]. Proteases are also used extensively in bread industry, as higher processing temperatures can be employed with faster reaction rates [7, 10, 40]. Thermolysin-like proteases (TLPs) are the best characterized species of proteolytic enzymes secreted by both Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria [43]. They hydrolyze proteins to short peptides or free amino acids and catalyze peptide synthesis in organic solvents or in solvents with low water content. Alkaline proteases, produced by thermophilic and alkaliphilic bacilli, can withstand high temperature, pH, chemical denaturing agents and non-aqueous environments. Alkaline proteases have major application in the detergent industry, as pH of laundry



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Pseudomonas sp.: A promising biocontrol agent against selected phytopathogens

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Abstract: The biological control of plant pathogenic microorganisms by *Pseudomonas* sp. is attracting increasing attention in the agricultural world, since the indiscriminate use of toxic chemicals constitutes a potential threat to both human and animal health, as well as the environment. A total of 27 bacterial strains were isolated from the rhizospheric soil of the tomato (*Solanum lycopersicum*) plant, and their antagonistic activities against a few of the selected pathogenic bacteria and fungi were evaluated using dual-culture assays, biochemical tests for the production of Hydrogen Cyanide (HCN), Indole Acetic Acid (IAA) from Chitinase Agent (chitinase) and phosphate solubilisation. Furthermore, the separated antagonists were examined for the generation of hydrolytic enzymes such as protease, amylase, β -1, 4 glucanase, cellulose chitinase, and pectinase. In all 27 strains isolated, the highest antagonistic activity was shown by only two bacterial strains *Pseudomonas* (VK1 and VK2), against *Methylobacterium*, *Sclerotinia* spp., *Xanthomonas campestris*, *Bacillus* sp., *Alternaria alternata*, *Aspergillus niger*, *A. flavus* and *Fusarium* sp. Both the strains were identified as *Pseudomonas* sp. on the basis of morphological, physiological and biochemical characterization. Comparatively, strain VK1 was more effective against above pathogens than VK2 strain which was confirmed by dual culture assay. Both the strains of *Pseudomonas* sp. further were characterized for their antagonistic traits like production of HCN, IAA, chitinase, insoluble phosphate solubilizing ability and hydrolytic enzymes properties. Similarly, VK1 strain showed positive test for all above biochemical tests, while VK2 strain was not able to produce IAA and showed negative test for phosphate solubilizing activities. So, VK1 strain of *Pseudomonas* was able to produce all above hydrolytic enzymes and found to be efficient antagonistic PGPRs. These findings indicated that isolated *Pseudomonas* sp. has a promising natural, eco-friendly, bio-safe and cost-effective approach to cope against both phytopathogenic bacteria and fungi.

Key words: *Pseudomonas* • Biocontrol • Phytopathogen • Solersphore • IAA • HCN • Phosphate solubilisation • Dual culture

Introduction

Extensive use of hazardous chemicals as fungicide, pesticide and fertilizers causes irreparable loss of our environment. To overcome such type of irreparable harm to our environment, it is necessary to adopt alternatives of chemical agents like, pesticides, herbicides, fungicides etc. for eliminating the phytopathogenic microbes. In the present scenario, it is also mandatory to use eco-friendly methods in the management of agricultural practices. Indiscriminate use of chemicals has deteriorated the environment and destroyed the ecological balance. The biological solution for controlling different phytopathogens is the use of biocontrol plant growth promoting rhizobacteria (PGPR)

which is capable of suppressing or preventing the plant disease causing organism like *Aspergillus*, *Zotobacter*, *Pseudomonas*, *Bacillus*, *Streptomyces*, *Enterobacter*, *Chroocidium*, *Burkholderia* (Devi 2022; Tapia 2020).

Biological control is the practice or process by which plant pathogens are controlled by means of another beneficial microorganisms which are termed as antagonists. It involves the use of an organism or organisms to inhibit the pathogen and reduce disease (Cook and Baker, 1983). The increased interest in bio-control is due to its eco-friendly effect, however some of the antagonists also been found to show direct growth promoting effect on infected plants (Ulrick et al 1995). *Pseudomonas* bacteria are



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Chemical composition and antioxidant activity of *Acorus calamus* L. accessions from different ecological niches

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The essential oil composition of *Acorus calamus* (Araceae) rhizomes, collected from various different ecological niches in Uttarakhand, India, with an oil yield ranging between 0.7–3.4% (w/w), was examined by GC/MS. Among the identified components, β -asarone (52.1–75.9%), α -asarone (2.0–6.1%), 2-isodecylacetic (2.4–6.2%), 2-methyl isoeugenol (2.3–6.8%) and silybinone (1.5–3.3%) were found to be the major ones. The antioxidant activity of different essential oils was compared to that of standard antioxidants to assess their free radical scavenging potential, metal chelating ability, and reducing power. The essential oils exhibited significant or low antioxidant activity. The IC_{50} values for DPPH radical scavenging, metal chelating, and reducing ability exhibited by the rhizomes essential oils were observed between 21.26–61.06 μ g/mL, 29.55–159.26 μ g/mL, and 21.41–61.19 μ g/mL, respectively. Based on the above observations, the chemical diversity of *A. calamus* essential oil can be a good source of herbal nutraceuticals and phytoproducts. The possible mode of action and structure-activity relationship between major compounds of essential oils and proteins of antioxidant activity were studied using *in-silico* molecular docking and were found to support the *in-vitro* results.

Keywords: *Acorus calamus*, Antioxidant, Essential oil, Molecular docking, β -asarone

IPC code: Int. cl. (2021.01)–A61K 36/00; A61K 125/00; A61P 39/00

Introduction

Essential oils, often referred to as essences, volatile oils, or etheric oils, are complex natural concoctions of volatile, lipophilic, and odoriferous chemicals that are commonly found in aromatic plants. Essential oils have been reported as food-preserving agents mainly due to the presence of phenolic compounds as major constituents, which might be due to antioxidant properties¹. *Acorus* is a genus monocot flowering plants found in wetlands, especially marshes, which are native to Northern Asia, Eastern and Southern Asia, North America, as well as Europe. The traditional indigenous plant *Acorus calamus* (sweet flag) is typically used to cure haemorrhoids, cough, gout, bronchitis, tumours, numbness, skin problems, and general weakness². The primary plant antioxidants are polyphenols, which have a variety of biological properties as well as structural and functional qualities. Plant-based antioxidants are mainly phenolic compounds, carotenoids, and vitamins³. In case of essential oils, the antioxidant activity has been associated with compounds like

terpenoids and phenolic, which diffuse and damage cell membrane structures⁴. β -asarone has been reported to be the major bioactive phytoconstituent of the volatile oil. α - and β -asarone are mainly responsible for the biological activity of *A. calamus*. The herb has also been reported to be an integral part of Ayurveda and Unani medicines. The concentration of asarone in *A. calamus* essential oils depends on the parts of the plant used to extract the oil and the ploidy⁵⁻⁷.

The phenolic content of rhizomes has been reported in treating dyspepsia, dysentery, intestinal worms, cough and fever⁸. The sesquiterpenes, monoterpenes, lignans, phenyl propanoids, flavones, steroids, and xanthone glycosides from *A. calamus* have been reported to show insecticidal, antimicrobial, mutagenic, cytotoxic, anticonvulsant, neuroleptic, hepatoprotective, smooth muscle stimulant and relaxant activity⁹. *A. calamus* has also been reported to exhibit significant antioxidant activity. *A. calamus* essential oils from Pakistan, has been reported to exhibit potential pesticidal activity and also found to be effective in wound healing¹⁰.



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aerial parts and roots of *Laportea bulbifera* (Siebold & Zucc.) Wedd. growing in the Central Himalayan region

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Abstract

The GC and GC/MS analysis of the essential oil samples obtained separately from whole aerial parts and the roots of *Laportea bulbifera* resulted in the identification of a total of 40 compounds from the whole aerial parts and 45 compounds from the roots representing 89.7% and 82.9%, respectively, of the total essential oil composition. The essential oil from aerial parts is dominated by oxygenated sesquiterpenes (66.4%) with α -elemol (55.1%), germacrene D-4-ol (4.2%), linalool (3.5%) and phytol (3.4%) as the major constituents while the root essential oil is dominated by oxygenated monoterpenes (30.4%) with *trans*-myrtanol (16.3%), *cis*-myrtanol (11.6%), nopinone (7.8%), cadin-4-en-10-ol (4.7%), and α -elemol (3.4%) as major constituents. The essential oil from whole aerial parts showed bactericidal

activity at 250 μ L/mL concentration (MBC) against *Pasteurella multocida* and *Dickeya* while the root essential oil exhibited bactericidal effect at 125 μ L/mL against *Escherichia coli*, *Enterococcus faecalis*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Monomonas praseoli*, and *Dickeya dadantii*.



Handwritten signatures and dates: "A. Awadhi", "10/12/2023", "Radhey Hari Government P.G. College, Kashipur", "244713".

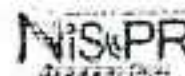


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The essential oil composition, antimicrobial activity and antioxidant assay of the extracts from aerial parts of *Dicliptera roxburghiana* Nees.

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Dicliptera roxburghiana Nees is a shrub belonging to the family *Asteraceae*. The present study was undertaken because of the medicinal importance of this genus and the need for a report on its essential oil composition and antimicrobial activity. Essential oil from the whole aerial parts, including flowers, of the plant was extracted by steam distillation method and analyzed by GC-FID and GC-MS. In all, sixty-six compounds constituting 95.5% of the total oil composition have been identified. The essential oil contained high concentrations of non-terpenic compounds (33.3%), while the terpenic compounds had a higher concentration still (52.0%). The unidentified portion contained several minor constituents with ambiguous Mass Spectra. The major constituents of the essential oil were identified as β -pinene (11.2%), pentalene (10.0%), pentalene (9.6%), cis-cis-cis-7,10,13-hexadecatriene (7.5%), limonene (4.2%) and camphor (4.2%). The antimicrobial activity of four different extracts (whole aerial parts) was performed by two methods, namely, DPPH assay and agar diffusion assay. Significant results were obtained in each case at 100 μ g/mL concentration. For antibacterial screening, the essential oil exhibited the highest activity against Gram-negative *Pseudomonas maltophilia* (12.65 \pm 0.57 mm) and Gram-positive *Bacillus subtilis* (11.00 \pm 1.00 mm). The highest activity of ethyl acetate extract was recorded against Gram-negative *Pseudomonas maltophilia* (11.00 \pm 0.50 mm). The hexane extract of the plant was found to be most active against Gram-positive *Enterococcus faecalis* (13.33 \pm 0.57 mm). The chloroform extract showed the highest activity against Gram-negative *Xanthomonas phaseolicola* (14.31 \pm 1.15 mm) and Gram-positive *Enterococcus faecalis* (11.00 \pm 1.00 mm). For methanol extract, the highest activity was observed against Gram-negative *Agrobacterium tumefaciens* (10.66 \pm 0.57 mm) and Gram-positive *Enterococcus faecalis* (10.33 \pm 0.57 mm). The essential oil exhibited the highest antifungal activity against the fungal strains, namely, *Aspergillus niger* (17.66 \pm 0.57 mm), followed by *Aspergillus flavus* (16.66 \pm 0.57 mm) and *Candida albicans* (16.33 \pm 0.57 mm). The essential oil and extracts from this plant species may be utilized to control various microbial infectious diseases and serve as an antioxidant supplement.

Keywords: Antibacterial, Antifungal, Antioxidant assay, *Dicliptera roxburghiana* Nees, Essential oil composition

IPC code: Int. cl. (2021.01)- A61K 36/00, A61P 31/00, A61P 39/00

Introduction

Dicliptera roxburghiana is a common shrub found to grow wild in the Uttarakhand Himalayan region and is locally known as *Pararu*. There are 150 species of genus *Dicliptera* distributed in warm and tropical areas of the world¹. In India, 21 species and nine varieties of genus *Dicliptera* have been reported², of which one species and one of its varieties are growing wild in Kumaun and Garhwal regions of Uttarakhand, i.e. *D. roxburghiana* Nees and *D. roxburghiana* var. *Bupleuroides*³.

The genus *Dicliptera* is known for its various medicinal uses, e.g., the leaf infusion of *D. laxata* has

application as a poison antidote and is locally used in Southern Uganda⁴. Similarly, *D. verticillata* is reported to have traditional use to cure diarrhoea and malaria in Burkina Faso. The leaves of the species are used in making various soups in India⁵. The plant species also find applications in flavouring and spicing⁶. It is further reported that the ethanol extract of *D. verticillata* was analysed for its antioxidant assay and antimicrobial assay (broth macro-dilution method). The results showed moderate antioxidant activity (63.9%, IC₅₀ 40.16 μ g/mL) and bactericidal effects against *S. aureus*, *K. pneumoniae* and *E. coli*⁷. *Dicliptera ghatica* Samapau is another important species of this genus that is reported to possess significant antioxidant activity⁸. β -Sitosterol and vanillic acid isolated from *D. bupleuroides* exhibit



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Journal of Essential Oil Bearing Plants | List of Issues | Volume 24, Issue 3 | Chemical Composition and Antimicrobial A

Chemical Composition and Antimicrobial Assay of Essential Oil from Whole Aerial Parts of *Ainsliaea aptera* DC. Collected from two Different Regions of Central Himalaya

Lalit S. Bisht, Anand B. Melkani, Rajendra Prasad, Lalit Mohan, Manisha Palni & Leelawati Nitwal
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Abstract

Ainsliaea aptera DC, a medicinally important aromatic plant of the family Asteraceae grows wild in high altitude regions of Uttarakhand state (India). The essential oil samples obtained by steam distillation of its whole aerial parts collected from two different geographical regions were analyzed by GC and GC-MS. Total forty-five compounds from Tungnath sample and thirty-four compounds from Lohajung sample were identified constituting 95 % and 85.6 %, respectively of total oil composition. The terpenoid profile showed both qualitative as well as quantitative variation with respect to major constituents; E- β -farnesene (9.5 % and nil), germacrene D (14.6 % and 3.2 %), bicylogermacrene (10.2 % and 3.3 %), δ -cadinene (4.2 % and 6.9 %), germacrene D-4-ol (nil and 4.9 %), spathulenol (11.6 % and 3.0 %), epi- α -muurolol (7.6 % and 10.8 %), α -cadinol (13.8 % and 19.5 %) and hexadecanoic acid (nil and 4.8 %). Antimicrobial activity of oil samples assayed against seven animal pathogens, three plant pathogenic bacteria, and three pathogenic fungi using the agar disc diffusion method. Both the oil samples showed moderate to very good antibacterial and antifungal potential. The oil sample from Tungnath was found to have the best activity against *E. coli*, *Enterococcus faecalis*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, and *Shigella enterica* which was comparable to the activity shown by standard



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Haemoglobin/polyindole composites: the novel material for electrochemical supercapacitors

Published: 21 January 2019

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K Khati , I Joshi, A Bisht & M G H Zaidi

Abstract

Conducting polymers have recently been employed with metal derivative macromolecules that have led to great improvement in the field of supercapacitor materials. The current work reports on the synthesis of a novel class of haemoglobin/polyindole composites (HPCs) through doping of haemoglobin (Hb) into a polyindole (PIN) matrix. HPCs with enhanced electrocapacitive performance were prepared through a cationic surfactant-assisted dilute solution polymerization of indole (IN) in the presence of Hb at various concentrations ranging from 10 to 30% (w/w) and ferric chloride (FeCl_3) as an oxidant. The HPCs were characterized through Fourier transform infrared spectra, scanning electron microscopy and simultaneous thermogravimetric analysis. Electrochemical capacitance (C_s , F g^{-1}) of graphite-based electrodes fabricated from HPCs over stainless steel in the presence of sulphonated polysulphone as a binder has been investigated in KOH solution (1.0 M) with reference to Ag/AgCl at a scan rate (V s^{-1}) ranging from 0.001 to 0.2. HPCs with 30% (w/w) of Hb have shown the highest C_s of 294.00 as compared with 112.00 for pure PIN at a scan rate of 0.001 V s^{-1} . Successive scans of HPC electrodes show a capacitive decline of $\sim 2\%$ during the first 1000 cycles at a scan rate of 0.1 V s^{-1} in KOH solution, which indicates the appreciable electrochemical cyclic stability of the HPCs over time. Thus, the fabricated HPCs may serve as potential electrode material for development of electrochemical supercapacitors.

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Haemoglobin graphite electrodes for electrochemical energy storage

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.matpr.2020.12.031>

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Abstract

Haemoglobin (Hb) has been employed as naturally copious metal plagiaristic that attains the material with sustainable supercapacitance. Herein, a fabrication method in the course of interaction between macromolecule compound Hb with graphite has been reported over stainless steel electrode in the presence of sulphonated polysulphone (SPS) as a binder. The microstructure of fabricated Hb graphite stainless steel (SS) electrode has been ascertained through scanning electron microscopy (SEM). Electrochemical capacitance of electrodes has been examined in KOH solution (1.0M) with reference to Ag/AgCl at a scan rate 0.001 to 0.2 Vs⁻¹. Developed electrode has shown highest capacitance of 158.43 at scan rate of 0.001 Vs⁻¹ along with energy and power densities of 3.86 Whkg⁻¹ and 237.92 Whkg⁻¹ respectively. In multiple cycles electrode rendered quite slow decrease in electrocapacitive during the first 1000 cycles (at scan rate of 0.1 Vs⁻¹) indicating good charge–discharge with improved electrochemical cyclic stability.

Introduction

Developing realms are currently ruthless for conservation and storage of energy into electricity through implicating the existing renewable resources such as biomass, animal waste, wind power and solar energy. In this perspective, the



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COMMERCE, ECONOMIC AND MANAGEMENT ISSUES AND CHALLENGES IN DYNAMIC WORLD

Guest Editor in Chief
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Guest Editors
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Dr. Sanjay Kumar

Commerce, Economic and Management Issues and Challenges in Dynamic World

A VIEW ON SKILL DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA

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Abstract
The Indian government's "Make in India" campaign and the accelerated growth in the economy has brought the demand for skilled manpower in the country. The objective of this article is to understand the current status of the demand for skilled manpower and training and to assess the training and management needs of the emerging economies. The article also analyzes the current skill gaps in the country and the areas where there is a huge scope of skill development. It further identifies the challenges faced in development of skills in the country and highlights the policy and opportunities arising in the different sectors with emphasis on the Make in India campaign.

Introduction
The Indian economy grew at an advanced rate of 7.6 percent year in the quarter January - March 2019. Early making it a listed country to grow India's demographic profile is helping the country to realize accelerated economic growth. India is expected about growth in the labor market by having 6.5 percent of the population as the working population. It means a lot of benefits to the country in the labor market. Most of the countries in the world are moving fast their countries are adding to the global workforce will be substantially faster. While India will be an exception to it, with a major dominance in the global workforce in the next few years. India will be enjoying dominance in the global workforce by being the largest provider of skilled labor in the world. Boston Consulting Group, in its study discussed the workforce demand and supply challenges faced in the world. It stated that by 2020 the world may expect a shortage of 41 million people.

India on the other hand will have a surplus of 16 million working people. India will be able to gain along of the increased working population if it is able to equip its workforce with the appropriate skills. In the next skill development emerges as one of the most critical aspect of India's economic policies.

Skill Development in India
India has a massive demographic advantage by having a young workforce, which means a high scope of growth in the labor market. After assessing the high demand for the skilled workforce in the world, the Skill Development and Government has started. The Ministry was announced in June 2014. The Prime Minister India Shri Narendra Modi took the initiative to start skill development considering the changing requirements of the labor market and how the country was established. It focused on working in close collaboration with the ministries to meet the high demand of skilled workforce. It aimed at establishing and tying of vocational courses through training and enhancing the status of the organization aiming at development of skills. The focus is on helping all the other countries to come together and function as a unified manner to establish a network. It has done the training and the expected outcomes and also maintains the different levels of skill development. It has done the training and the expected outcomes and also maintains the different levels of skill development. It has done the training and the expected outcomes and also maintains the different levels of skill development.



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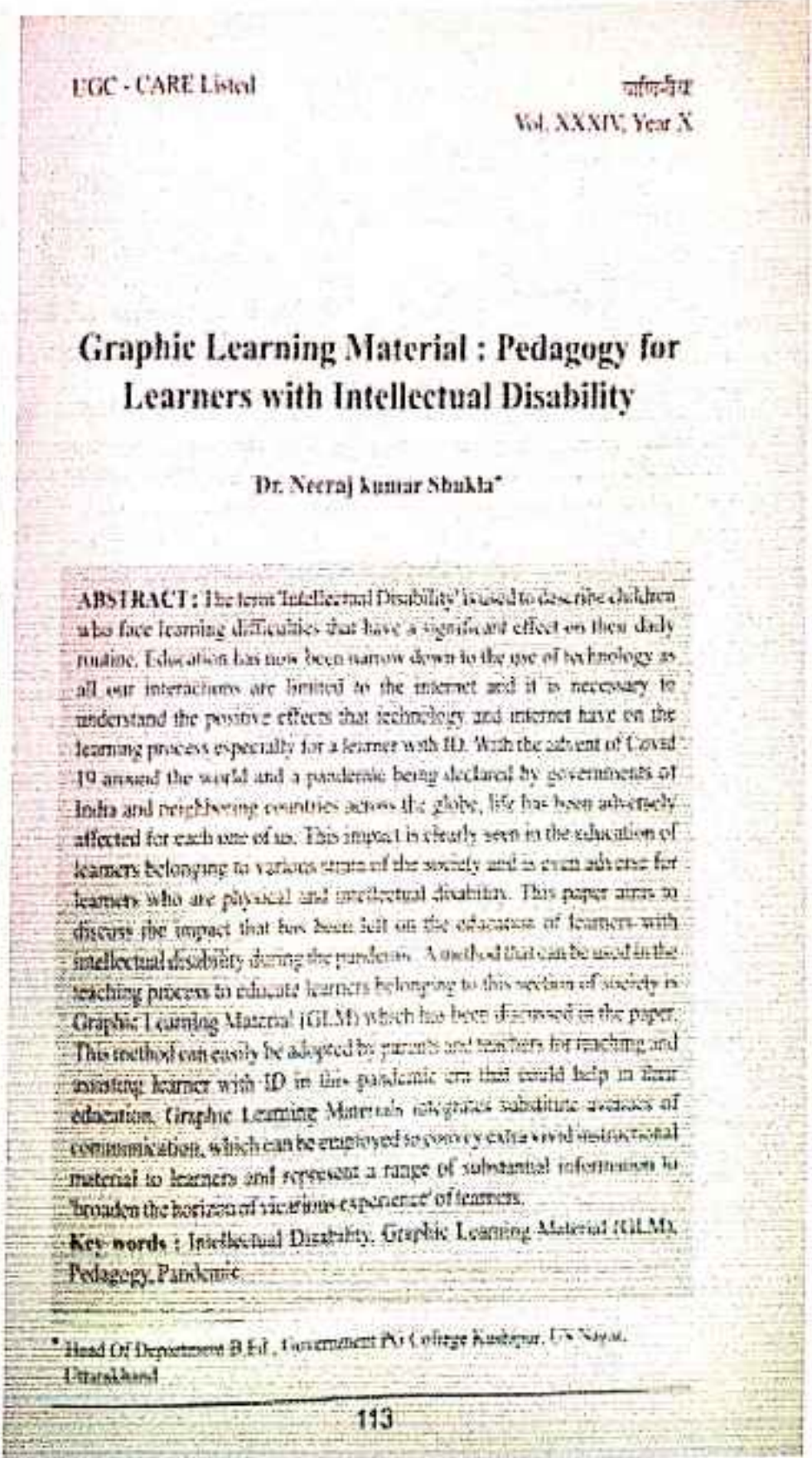
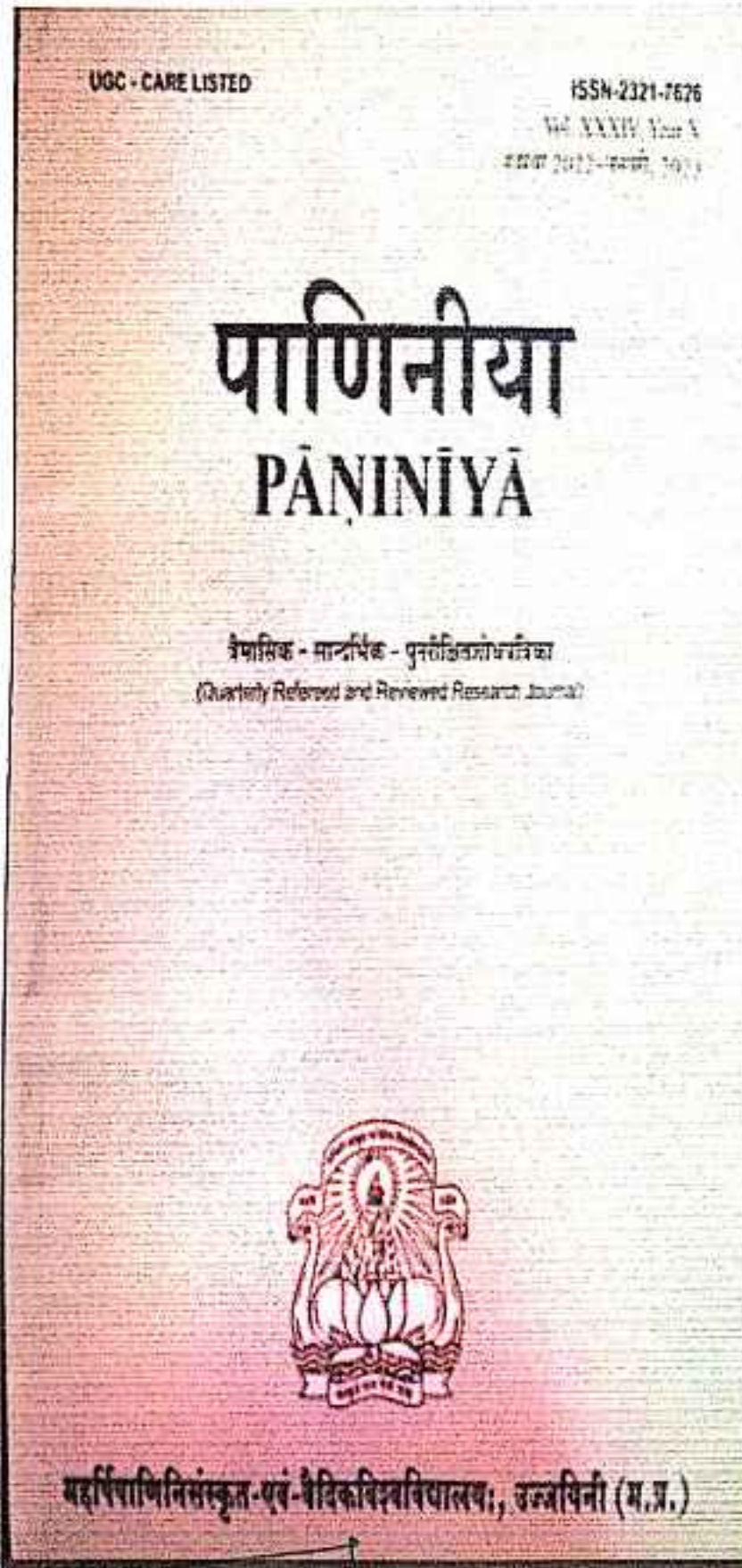
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NIS&PR

The essential oil composition, antimicrobial activity and antioxidant assay of the extracts from aerial parts of *Dichiptera roxburghiana* Nees.

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Dichiptera roxburghiana Nees is a shrub belonging to the family Simarubaceae. The present study was undertaken because of the medicinal importance of this genus and the need for report on its essential oil composition and antioxidant activity. Essential oil from the whole aerial part including flowers of the plant was extracted by steam distillation method and analysed by GC-MS. In all, six volatile compounds comprising 95.5% of the total oil composition have been identified. The essential oil contained high concentrations of non-terpenic compounds (93.5%), while the terpenoid compounds had a higher concentration (61.97%). The unidentified portion contained several minor constituents with ambiguous Mass Spectra. The major constituents of the essential oil were identified as β -pinene (11.2%), phthal diol (10.7%), p-cymene (10.6%), α -pinene (10.1%), β -caryophyllene (7.5%), α -terpinene (4.2%) and camphor (3.2%). The antioxidant activity of four different extracts (aerial part, root, stem and leaf) was performed by two methods namely, DPPH assay and metal chelating assay. Significant results were obtained in each case at 100 μ g/ml concentration. For antimicrobial activity, the essential oil exhibited the highest activity against *Staphylococcus aureus* (12.60 μ g/ml) and *Escherichia coli* (12.60 μ g/ml) and *Enterobacteriaceae* (*Shigella sonnei*) (12.60 μ g/ml). The highest activity of ethyl acetate extract was reported against *Staphylococcus aureus* (12.60 μ g/ml). The hexane extract of the plant was found to be more active against *Enterobacteriaceae* (*Shigella sonnei*) (12.60 μ g/ml). The chloroform extract showed the highest activity against *Staphylococcus aureus* (12.60 μ g/ml) and *Enterobacteriaceae* (*Shigella sonnei*) (12.60 μ g/ml). For antioxidant activity, the highest activity was observed against *Staphylococcus aureus* (12.60 μ g/ml) and *Enterobacteriaceae* (*Shigella sonnei*) (12.60 μ g/ml). The essential oil exhibited the highest antioxidant activity against the fungal strains *Aspergillus niger* (12.60 μ g/ml) followed by *Trichoderma reesei* (12.60 μ g/ml) and *Penicillium chrysogenum* (12.60 μ g/ml). The essential oil and extracts from this plant species can be utilized to control various microbial infectious diseases and serve as an antimicrobial supplement.

Keywords: Antimicrobial, Antioxidant, Anticancer, *Dichiptera roxburghiana* Nees, Essential oil composition.

IPC code: Int. Cl. (2021.01) A61K 3600; A61P 31/00; A61P 33/00

Introduction

Dichiptera roxburghiana is a common shrub found to grow wild in the Uttarakhand Himalayan region and is locally known as *Piarti*. There are 150 species of genus *Dichiptera* distributed in warm and tropical areas of the world¹. In India, 21 species and nine varieties of genus *Dichiptera* have been reported², of which one species and one of its varieties are growing wild in Kumaon and Garhwal regions of Uttarakhand, i.e. *D. roxburghiana* Nees and *D. roxburghiana* var. *Bupleuroides*³.

The genus *Dichiptera* is known for its various medicinal uses, e.g., the leaf infusion of *D. hirsuta* has

application as a potent antidiabetic and is locally used in Southern Uganda⁴. Similarly, *D. verticillata* is reported to have traditional use to cure diarrhoea and malaria in Burkina Faso. The leaves of the species are used in making various soups in India⁵. The plant species also find applications in flavouring and spicing⁶. It is further reported that the ethanol extract of *D. verticillata* was analysed for its antioxidant assay and antimicrobial assay (through macro-dilution method). The results showed moderate antioxidant activity (93.9%, IC₅₀: 4015 μ g/ml) and bactericidal effects against *S. aureus*, *K. pneumoniae* and *E. coli*⁷. *Dichiptera glauca* Santapau is another important species of this genus that is reported to possess significant antioxidant activity⁸. *n*-Stosterol and vanillic acid isolated from *D. bupleuroides* exhibit

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Size impact on Debye temperature of In and Ag spherical nanosolids

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Abstract: The energy of the free surface atoms is completely different as compared to the energy related to the atoms in the bulk. The surplus energy associated with the surface atoms is known as the free surface energy. Though, for the Nano materials, the surface to volume ratio is significant, but in bulk materials, this free energy is neglected since it is associated with only top most layer of atoms on the surface and also the ratio of the total volume of surface atoms and the total volume of the material is extremely small. We have developed a theoretical model free of adjustable parameters, the size dependent Debye temperature of Indium (In) and Silver (Ag) spherical Nanosolids. We adopt an approach using classical thermodynamics by considering Lindeman's criterion to study the size impact.
Keywords: Debye Temperature, Size Impact, Nanosolids

1. Introduction

Nanoscience and Nano technology is the study of matter at atomic molecular scale and developing devices to study the shape and size of material having only few Nano meters (10⁹ meter). Nanoscience and Nano technology began in the early 1980 with the advances in computer power and material modelling. The term Nano technology was coined by Norio Taniguchi in 1974 as follows: "Nanotechnology mainly consist of the processing of ultrathin, consolidated, deformation of materials by one atom or by one molecule". The main link between Nano science and Nano technology is Nano materials. Over the past decade, nanomaterials have gain vast interest among researchers and Scientists. Various progresses like Optic, Electronic, Magnetic, Catalytic, Biomedical and Thermodynamics of the nanomaterial vary noticeably when the particle size of materials becomes nanoscale as compared to those of an isolated atom and bulk materials [1-4]. It is recognized and validated that the size dependence of thermal stability in nanomaterials is extremely become one of the major concerns in upcoming technologies [5,6].

Surface energy, defined as the difference between the average energy of the atoms in a solid and the isolated atoms, is one of the most important physical parameters in quantifying the thermal stability of materials [7]. Many experimental and theoretical procedures have been implemented to investigate the size dependent cohesive energy of nanomaterials [8,9]. Tensile (Chemical and Physical) properties that shows by bulk materials have demonstrated by Ag and Au at nanoscale [10,11]. The shape and size dependent melting thermodynamics of metallic nanoparticles have also been predicted by application of bond theory model, free of any adjustable parameter [12]. In this Paper, we present a theoretical model for studying the particle size on Debye temperature of Indium (In) and Silver (Ag) spherical nanosolids. The decreased Debye temperature of Nano solids are explained through the effect of surface to volume ratio over the bulk materials. The study based on surface effect at decreased particle size, permits interpolation and extrapolation to the region for which adequate experimental data do not exist.

II. Theoretical Formulation

According to Lindeman, crystal will melt when the root mean square displacement of an atom exceeds a certain fraction of the interatomic distance in the crystal [13]. Relating the specific heat theory with the Lindeman's melting formula, the square of characteristic temperature is proportional to the melting point of the crystal. So the Debye temperature for the bulk material is written as [14]

$$T_D^2 \propto \left(\frac{T_m}{M V^{1/3}} \right) \quad (1)$$

Figure 1. Theoretical model



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Prediction of size-dependent melting temperature of metallic nanoparticles

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Abstract: A theoretical model for the study of size-dependent melting temperature of metallic nanoparticles has been developed by considering the surface-to-volume atomic ratio. The surface-to-volume atomic ratio plays a vital role in the study of various properties of nanoparticles. Using this model, size dependent melting temperatures of Al, Ag and Au metallic nanoparticles has been studied. The theoretical results have been compared with other theoretical models and available experimental data. It is observed that the melting temperature of Al, Ag and Au metallic nanoparticles reduces as the size of the particle reduces. The comparison of theoretical findings of the present work indicates that our theoretical predictions agree well with available experimental results, thereby supporting the validity of formulation developed.

Keywords: Melting temperature, Metallic nanoparticles, Particle size

1. Introduction

Nanoparticles are experiencing rapid development in recent years due to their known and potential applications in various areas. In the nanoscience and nanotechnology, the size of materials has reduced at the very low scale nanometer at least one dimension. In this size range, the surface-to-volume ratio is much increased and correspondingly the thermal, physical, chemical and mechanical properties are changed [1, 2]. The properties of materials at nanoscale are different from the corresponding bulk material. The properties of nanomaterials change drastically as the particle size reduces below 10 nanometers. A sample of gold appears red at 10 nanometers. Its melting temperature decreases rapidly as their size is reduced up to the level of nanoscale [3]. A bulk material has specific value of melting temperature. This is due to well defined arrangement of atoms while for nanomaterials arrangement of atoms, number of surface atom and bonding between atoms changes and edge effect comes into play and as a result, these properties vary with shape and size. Melting of a material is a very common and one of the important phase transformations. In recent decades, the researchers have paid more attention to the melting of nanosolids because the melting temperatures of nanosolids are different from that of the corresponding bulk materials [4]. The experimental and theoretical studies of melting temperature of nanoparticles have been conducted by many researchers. Ecker et al. [5] have performed an experiment for studying the melting temperature of Al nanoparticle and observed a reduction in melting temperature with decrease in particle size. Li et al. [6] carried out many experiments for the study of variation of melting temperature of Al metallic nanoparticles with particle size and observed a decrease in melting temperature with decrease in particle size. Bullat et al. [7] studied the melting temperature of Au nanoparticle experimentally and observed that the melting temperature of Au nanoparticle decreases with decrease in particle size. There are some theoretical studies on melting temperature of metallic nanoparticles. Mirjani et al. [8] developed a model based on the cluster mean coordination number calculations and predicted a depression in melting temperature of Al, Ag and Au nanoparticles with decrease in particle size. Recently, Pandey et al. [9] studied the size dependence of melting temperature of Cu, Pd, Pt, Al nanoparticles and reported the decrease in melting temperature of these nanoparticles with their size. Recently, Atoka and Joshi [10] discussed a thermodynamic analytic model to study the size effect on melting temperature of nanometals and found that the melting temperature of nanomaterial shows decreasing trend with decrement in particle size. The melting is initiated from the surface which is a consequence of poor stability of the surface. In this work, we have modified a theoretical model to predict the size-dependent melting temperature of metallic nanoparticles by considering the surface-to-volume atomic ratio. For this purpose, we have considered Al, Ag and Au spherical nanoparticles. We have compared our theoretical results on melting temperature with available experimental and other theoretical data.



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Study of Melting Temperature Depression in Nanoparticles with their Size using Cluster Order Concept

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Abstract: A new model, based on cluster order calculations, has been developed for the study of melting temperature depression in nanoparticles with their size. Cluster order plays a crucial role in determining surface properties of nanoparticles. Using this model, melting temperature of Al, Ag, Au and Sn nanoparticles has been calculated. Melting temperature depression of these nanomaterials has been observed as the particle size increases. Our theoretical predictions agree well with available experimental and other theoretical results which supports the validity of present model.
Keywords: Size effect, Melting temperature, Nanoparticles, Cluster order

1. Introduction

Melting temperature depression is the phenomenon of reduction of the melting temperature of a material with reduction of its size. This phenomenon is very prominent in nanoscale materials which melt at temperatures hundreds of degrees lower than bulk materials. The melting temperature of a bulk material is not dependent on its size but as the dimensions of a material decreases towards the atomic scale, the melting temperature scales with the material dimensions. The decrease in melting temperature can be on the order of tens to hundreds of degrees for metals with nanometer dimensions [1-2]. Melting temperature depression is most evident in nanowires, nanotubes and nanoparticles which all melt at lower temperatures than bulk amounts of the same material. Nanoparticles are easiest to study due to the ease of fabrication and simplified conditions for theoretical modeling.

It has been well established both experimentally and theoretically that the melting temperature of nanoparticles depends on the particle size [3, 4-8]. Wainicki [9] studied the size dependence of the melting temperature of tin nanoparticles by means of transition electron diffraction and microscopy. He found that the melting temperature of a spherical particle of tin (Sn) decreases as the value of the particle decreases. Jiang et al [10] and Chang-dong et al [11] synthesized Sn nanoparticles of various sizes via chemical reduction method and they observed particle size dependent melting temperature. Their results showed that different sized Sn nanoparticles had different melting point depression behavior. Sun et al [12] and Liang et al [13] studied the size dependence of melting temperature of Al nanoparticles. Cotte [14] performed the size dependence of melting temperature of nanocrystalline Au. Eckert et al [15] and Lu et al [16] studied the effect of size on melting temperature of Al nanoparticles experimentally. Harfat and Beerl [17] studied the melting temperature of Au nanoparticle. In all these experiments, the experimentalists observed a depression in melting temperature of these nanoparticles as the particle size decreases. The size- dependent melting properties of Sn [18], Ag [19], Al [20] and Au [21] nanoparticles have been studied both on experiment and theory.

There are some other theoretical work on melting temperature of nanoparticles. Kumar and Kumar [22] used a model to study the size dependence of melting temperature of Au, Al, Ag etc. nanoparticles. They found that the melting temperature of these nanoparticles decreases with decrease in particle size. Arima and Jishi [23] discussed a thermodynamic analytic model to study the size effect on melting temperature of Al, Ag, Au and Sn nanomaterials and found the melting temperature shows decreasing trend with decrease in size of the nanomaterial.

It is very much evident from the above that various experimental and theoretical studies have been performed to study the melting temperature of nanoparticles with particle size but in all these studies the crystal order of the materials has not been considered as it plays very important role in this study. When the concentration of building blocks (atoms or ions) of a solid becomes sufficiently high, they aggregate into small clusters through bonding because nucleation. With continuous supply of the building blocks, these clusters tend to coalesce and grow to form a large cluster assembly. Clusters are structures with a central site around which the cluster is grown. The cluster may be considered as a onion-like structure formed by several concentric shells around the central site. All the surface sites which may be linked to various shells are defined as crusts. The number of crusts (n) defines the order of the cluster [24]. It is, thus, clear, interesting to study the melting temperature of nanoparticles with the inclusion of the effect of the cluster order. This encouraged the author to study the melting temperature depression



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Study of Size Dependent Thermal Conductivity of Gold FCC Nanomaterial

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Abstract: A theoretical model for the study of size dependent thermal conductivity of Gold FCC nanomaterial has been developed by considering the cluster order with particle size of Gold FCC nanomaterial. Using this model, the thermal conductivity of Gold FCC nanomaterial has been calculated and compared with other theoretical models and existing experimental data. It is found that the thermal conductivity of Gold FCC nanomaterial decreases as the size of the nanoparticle decreases. The comparison of theoretical findings of this present work indicates that the developed theoretical model is in good agreement with available experimental data which shows the validity of the present work.

Keywords: size, thermal conductivity, gold, nanomaterial

1. Introduction

The physical properties of nanomaterials have been investigated extensively both theoretically and experimentally due to their scientific and industrial importance [1]. It has been reported that the nanomaterials exhibit interesting physical, chemical, electrical and thermal properties that are significantly different from the corresponding properties of bulk materials [2-4]. Because of the enormous surface area to volume ratio of nanomaterials, the energy associated with the atoms of these nanomaterials will be different in comparison of conventional bulk materials, leading to the size dependent properties of nanomaterials[5]. The energy of the free surface atoms is entirely different as compared to the energy related to the atom of the bulk. The surplus energy associated with the surface atoms is known as the free surface energy. In bulk materials, this free surface energy is neglected because it has associated with only top most layers of the atoms on the surface. Also the ratio of the reduced volume of surface atoms and the total volume of the material is extremely small.

As the size of the low dimensional materials decreases in the nanometer size range, the electronic, magnetic, catalytic, electrical and thermal properties of these materials are significantly altered from those of either the bulk or a single molecule [1]. Among these properties, the thermal conductivity of nanomaterials have received considerable attention because the thermal conductivity is a fundamental property of nanomaterials that directly affects its applications. However, few efforts have been focused on studying thermal conductivity of these materials.

Some experimental studies have been carried out to investigate the effect of nanoparticles on the thermal conductivity of various materials. Katika and Poon [6] have studied the effect of size of nanoparticles on the thermal conductivity of crystalline thin films at low temperatures and reported that the thermal conductivity decreases with decreasing particle radius. There are some theoretical studies on the size effect on the thermal conductivity of nanomaterials. Singh et al. [7] have studied the grain size effect on the thermal conductivity of nanomaterials and found that the thermal conductivity of nanomaterials decreases as the grain size decreases. Bharti et al. [8] have proposed a theoretical model to study the size effects on thermal conductivity of nanomaterials and found a significant reduction in the thermal conductivity of nanomaterials by decreasing the size. Li et al. [9] have reported the decrease in thermal conductivity of nickel nanoparticles with decreasing size. It is found that very few experimental and theoretical works have been done in this field while a lot of work is required in this direction. In all these studies, the crystal order of the materials has not been taken into account as it plays a vital role in the study of thermal conductivity of various nanomaterials. When the preparation of building blocks (atoms or ions) of a solid becomes strong high, they assemble into small molecules and these to form a large cluster assembly. The clusters may be considered as an amorphous-like structure. In such a case, the number of atoms in defines the order of the cluster [9, 10]. It is, therefore, interesting to study and analyze the size effect on thermal conductivity of nanomaterial by considering the effect of cluster. In the present work, we have modified available theoretical model by including cluster order for the study of thermal conductivity of Gold FCC nanomaterials.



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Study of Size Dependent Thermal Conductivity of Gold FCC Nanomaterial

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Abstract: A theoretical model for the study of size dependent thermal conductivity of Gold FCC nanomaterial has been developed by considering the cluster order with particle size of Gold FCC nanomaterial. Using this model, the thermal conductivity of Gold FCC nanomaterial has been calculated and compared with other theoretical models and existing experimental data. It is found that the thermal conductivity of Gold FCC nanomaterial decreases as the size of the nanomaterial decreases. The comparison of theoretical findings of this present work indicates that the developed theoretical model is in good agreement with available experimental data which gives the validity of the present work.

Keywords: size, thermal conductivity, gold, nanomaterial

1. Introduction

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As the size of the low dimensional materials decreases to the nanometer size range, the electronic, magnetic, catalytic, electrical and thermal properties of these materials are significantly altered from those of either the bulk or a single molecule [1]. Among these properties, the thermal conductivity of nanomaterials have received considerable attention because the thermal conductivity is a fundamental property of nanomaterials that directly affects its applications. However, few efforts have been focused on studying thermal conductivity of these materials.

Some experimental studies have been carried out to investigate the effect of nanoparticles on the thermal conductivity of various materials. Kanka and Pilon [6] have studied the effect of size of nanoparticles on the thermal conductivity of crystalline thin films at low temperatures and reported that the thermal conductivity decreases with decreasing particle radius. There are some theoretical studies on the size effect on the thermal conductivity of nanomaterials. Singh et al. [7] have studied the grain size effect on the thermal conductivity of nanowires and found that the thermal conductivity of nanowires decreases as the grain size decreases. Ghaffar et al. [8] have proposed a theoretical model to study the size effects on thermal conductivity of nanomaterials and found a significant reduction in the thermal conductivity of nanomaterials by decreasing the size. Lee et al. [9] have reported the decrease in thermal conductivity of nickel nanoparticles with decreasing size. It is found that very few experimental and theoretical works have been done in this field while the present work is reported in this direction. In all these studies, the crystal order of the materials has not been taken into account. It plays a vital role in the study of thermal conductivity of various nanomaterials. When the concentration of building blocks (atoms or ions) of a solid becomes enough high, they accumulate into small clusters and grow to form a large cluster assembly. The cluster can be considered as an atom-like structure. The primary concentration of the atoms around the central site. All surface sites, which may belong to various shells, are taken into account. The number of atoms in defines the order of the cluster [9, 10]. It is, therefore, interesting to study and analyze the size effect on thermal conductivity of nanomaterial by considering the effect of cluster order. In the present work, we have modified available theoretical model by including cluster order for the study of thermal conductivity of Gold FCC nanomaterials.



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Theoretical Study of Size Dependence Cohesive Energy of Nanoparticles

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Abstract

In the present work a simple method to calculate the cohesive energy of nanoparticles has been discussed. In this context the surface area variation of particle and atoms has been considered. For the purpose of size and of nanoparticles has been taken into account. It has been observed that the cohesive energy of nanoparticles depends on their size and increases with the increase in the particle size. When the particle size is large, the cohesive energy approaches the value of the corresponding bulk material.

Keywords: Size dependence, Cohesive energy, Nanoparticles

1. Introduction

The cohesive energy is an important physical quantity accounting for the bond strength of a solid which equals to the energy to divide the metallic crystal into individual atoms. It also refers to the heat of sublimation which can be determined by experiments [1] or computed theoretically using various methods such as cell-by method [2], density function theory [3], KKR method [4] etc. All these methods are developed for calculating the cohesive energy of bulk material. The cohesive energy is constant for bulk materials but for nanomaterials, the cohesive energy depends upon the size of the nanomaterials which has been showed by coefficients and also explained by different theories such as liquid drop model, surface area difference model and bond energy model[5]. The most important characteristic of a nanoparticle is its size effect i.e. the properties of a nanoparticle are different from the corresponding bulk material [6, 7, 8].

There are some experimental studies of size dependence of cohesive energy of nanoparticles. Kumar [9] carried out experimental study of cohesive energy of W. Xiao et al [10] as well as Hou et al [11] studied the size dependence of cohesive energy of Ag and Co nanoparticles using computer simulations. A theoretical study of size dependence of cohesive energy of Ag, Cu, Al and Au nanoparticles was carried out by Zhu et al [12]. Kumar and Kumar [13] studied the effect of size on cohesive energy of different nanoparticles theoretically. Recently, Singh and Prasad [14] used bond energy theoretical model, free from approximations to calculate cohesive energy of various nanoparticles. In all these studies, the cohesive energy has been found to be dependent on size of nanoparticle. The cohesive energy increases with the increase in the particle size. Moreover the theoretical efforts are lacking in the present work a simple method is discussed to calculate the cohesive energy of nanoparticles. This method shows that the cohesive energy of nanoparticles depends on their size. The cohesive energy increases with increasing the particle size. When particle size is large, the cohesive energy approaches the value of the corresponding bulk material.

2. Theoretical Analysis

In order to determine the cohesive energy of a metallic particle has a diameter of d and n atoms. The surface area S of the particle is given by,

(1)



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The Debye Temperature of Metallic Nanoparticles

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Abstract
Expectations for the variety of actual properties of nanomaterials have involved incredible discussion in last many years. Various specialists have announced anomalous changes in the actual properties of round nano string, nanowire and nanofilm of Aluminum (Al), Copper (Cu), Palladium (Pd) and Platinum (Pt) having their sizes under 10 nm. For calculations, we have thought about the central connection of durable energy with a softening point. During our review, it is found that there is an anomalous change in the Debye temperature of round nano string, nanowire and nanofilm of metals under 20 nm. In this variation, it is additionally seen that there is a greatest variety of Debye temperature in an account of nanofilm while least in account of circular nano solid and moderate change in account of nanowire. Variety in Debye temperature has been deciphered based on the presence of various surface molecules because of the adjustment of surface to volume proportion of metals at the nano level. We have contrasted our processed outcomes and the accessible test information which shows their great understanding.

Keywords: Debye, Nanoparticles

I. Introduction:

In the nanoscience and nanotechnology, the size of materials has diminished at the exceptionally low scope nanometer no less than one aspect. In this size range, the surface to volume proportion is quite expanded and correspondingly the physical, synthetic, and mechanical properties are changed [1-3]. The properties of material at nanoscale are unique in relation to the comparing mass material. The property of nanomaterials change definitely as the size decreases less than 10 nanometers. A test of gold seems red at 10 nanometers. Its softening temperature diminishes quickly as their sizes are decreased up to the degree of nano scale [4-5]. Our motivation is to decide the Debye temperature of the nanomaterials which is firmly identified with the durable energy of the nanomaterials. The durable energy at hotness of sublimation is a significant actual amount to represent the strength of metallic bonds. The firm energy is the energy to partition the metallic atom into individual particles. For the above said reason we concentrated on the situation of state for the size sub-nanometer Debye temperature of the nanoparticles of metals Aluminum (Al), Copper (Cu), Palladium (Pd) and Platinum (Pt). We have processed the Debye temperature of circular nanowire, nanowire and nanofilm of the metals about examples. With the diverse method of variety, it is seen that the Debye temperature of metals at nano level increases with increment of their sizes.

II. Method Of Analysis:

The total cohesive energy of the nano crystalline solid, is given by

$$E_{tot} = E_0(n - N) + \frac{1}{2} E_s N \quad (1)$$

Condition (1) is the amount of energy because of the commitment of the inside molecules per mole of nano crystalline solid. Here E_0 is the durable energy of the mass materials per molecule, it is the amount of energy of nano string and N is the quantity of particles at the surface. [6]

For the cohesive energy per mole, the equation (1) may be written as

$$A \cdot E_{tot} = E_0 A_s (n - N) + \frac{1}{2} A_s E_s N$$

$$\frac{A \cdot E_{tot}}{n} = E_0 A_s \left(1 - \frac{N}{n}\right) + \frac{A_s E_s N}{2n} \quad (2)$$

Where A_s is Avogadro number. The term $\frac{A \cdot E_{tot}}{n}$ represents the cohesive energy per mole of the nano crystalline solid and $E_0 A_s = E_0$ is the cohesive energy per mole of the corresponding bulk material.



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Effects of Grain-Size on Debye Temperature and Thermal Conductivity of Nanomaterials

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Abstract
A hypothetical model is suggested for to compute the warm conductivity of nanomaterials in various shapes, for example, round nanosolids, nano wires and nanowires dependent on size subordinate nuclear strong energy on thinking about the surface impacts. It is seen that the warm conductivity of various shapes nanomaterials diminishes with decline in the grain size. The outcomes acquired are contrasted and the accessible best information. A nearby arrangement among hypothesis and investigation supports the legitimacy of the strategy talked about.

Keywords: grain-size, nanomaterials

1. Introduction

Nanomaterials are establishments of nanoscience and nanotechnology. The possibility of nanotechnology felt without precedent for the required task. There is a lot of room at the base given by the Physicist Richard Feynman at the American Physical Society meeting on December 29, 1959 at Caltech. Nanotechnology science and innovation is a wide and interdisciplinary dynamic space of innovative work interest that has been sustaining worldwide in the beyond couple of years. Nanomaterials are emerging since they show odd shape and size impacts, which can't be clarified by standard hypothesis. Nanocrystals have huge surface-to-volume proportions, and surface impacts take on an importance that is regularly irrelevant for mass materials. At nanoscale Au and Ag have exhibited many intriguing substance and actual properties that can't be seen from their mass partners [1-3]. Liu et al [4] fostered a model to accommodate the noticed size reliance of grid strain, their mass partners [1-3]. Liu et al [4] fostered a model to accommodate the noticed size reliance of grid strain, their mass partners [1-3]. Liu et al [4] fostered a model to accommodate the noticed size reliance of grid strain, their mass partners [1-3]. Liu et al [4] fostered a model to accommodate the noticed size reliance of grid strain, their mass partners [1-3].

Free surface atoms encounters a not at all like nearby climate that 3D particles in the majority of a materials. As an outcome, the energy related with their molecules will be not the same as that of the mass in the mass. The additional energy imparted to surface molecules is known as the surface energy. Surface free energy is typically ignored in regular continuum mechanics, since it is related with a couple of layers of molecules close to the surface and the proportion of the volume involved by the surface atoms and the absolute volume of the material of interest is enormous. The investigation of size and shape consequences for nanomaterials has drawn it specific consideration because of their logical and modern significance. Warm conductivity is the key properties of nanosolids, which is's straightly related to its application. Nonetheless, not many endeavors have been executed for the warm conductivity. In this paper, on considering the surface impacts, we present another model to compute the warm conductivity of nanosized Au, Cu, Ag, and Au and it underlying round nanowires, nanotubes and nanowires nanomaterial depends on size subordinate nuclear strong energy. The model expectations consist well with the accessible trial results.

II. Method Of Analysis

The amount of energy because of the commitments of the inside atoms and the surface molecules of the nanomaterials is characterized as a table energy, which is continuous in [1, 2].

$$E_{total} = E_{volume} + E_{surface} \quad (1)$$

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61 | Page



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Droop reduction in ZnO/GaN Hybrid Light Emitting Diodes

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P-N junction is the basic building block for the fabrication of optoelectronic devices. ZnO shows the n-type behaviour. P-type doping with suitable hole concentration and reduced defects is one of the major challenges in the fabrication of ZnO based devices. Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Arsenic and Bismuth are some of the potential p-type dopants, but none of them have desired electrical properties to fabricate p-n junction from ZnO. In the present work, we proposed a hybrid n-ZnO/p-GaN hetero-structure, in which n-type ZnO film is placed on Mg doped GaN film. Simulation results revealed that the electroluminescence intensity increases in hybrid LED structure and there is a strong sensitivity towards the layer properties in hybrid structure.

Keywords: ZnO, GaN, p-n, Light Emitting Diode, Droop

1. Introduction

Direct band gap materials like GaN, and GaAs are important compound semiconducting materials for the fabrication of optoelectronic devices. All optoelectronic devices require good material quality and ease to fabricate p-n junctions¹. In recent decades, ZnO has attracted considerable attention due to its unique properties, like high electron mobility, wide and direct bandgap, and bandgap tailoring. This has been considered as some promising parameters for fabricating devices like light-emitting diodes, laser diodes, photo detectors, and solar cells. Moreover, hetero-structures are also possible on ZnO materials, which make ZnO ternary alloy-based materials as an alternate to III-Nitride semiconductors for fabricating optoelectronic devices²⁻⁴. ZnO films grown by pulsed laser deposition, vapor phase epitaxy, and sol-gel unintentionally show n-type behaviour due to bulk and deep level defects⁵⁻⁶. Thus, growing good quality p-type material with suitable hole mobility is one of the major challenges faced by researchers in ZnO. Although N, P, As, Sb, and Bi show potential p-type dopants for ZnO, none of them show enough electrical and optical properties, to fabricate a good p-n junction. Saranya et al. deposited p-type ZnO films on a sapphire substrate by Sb doping

with hole concentration and mobility around $6.5 \times 10^{18} \text{ cm}^{-3}$ and $53 \text{ cm}^2/\text{Vs}$ respectively⁷. The sample shows good structural properties but due to low hole mobility was not suitable for optoelectronic applications. Many authors suggest p-type semiconductors as an alternative to p-ZnO for fabricating p-n junctions. p-GaN and p-SiC with similar structural, electronic, and optical properties can be good alternatives. Moreover, their super-lattices and hetero-junctions structures show more electroluminescence due to large charge carrier accumulation at the interface.

In this work, we studied a hybrid GaN/ZnO quantum well structure with p-GaN as p-type material and n-ZnO as n-type material. Our previous study on III-Nitride reveals that GaN-based LEDs show a high reduction in internal quantum efficiency (efficiency droop) at high injection current levels. This may be due to Auger recombination, interface fields, and lattice defects. In another study, we also reveal that quantum well structures have more emission intensity, and the efficiency of LEDs increases with grading⁸. The same methodology has been used here to study the hybrid ZnO/GaN quantum well structure. In the numerical simulations, Poisson's equation, current continuity equations, and carrier drift-diffusion transport equations were solved for self-consistency.

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Magnetic Properties of Nanostructured Material with the Effect of Dimension

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ABSTRACT

In this Study, Qj model, Jang model and Lu model, are used to predict the variation of magnetic properties with size and shape in nanosolids. Magnetic properties of nanosolids such as Curie Temperature (T_c), Magnetization (M_m) and Neel Temperature (T_N) of Cu, Ag are studied. It is predicted that as the size of nanosolids is decreased, all these three properties decrease with decreasing size. These magnetic properties are also studied with different shapes of nanosolids, such as thin films, cylindrical nanowires, spherical, regular tetrahedral nanoparticles and regular triangular cross-section nanowires. The computational results are compared with the available experimental and simulated data to validate our theory.

Keywords: Curie temperature, magnetization, Neel temperature, nanomaterials, shape

1. INTRODUCTION

Unlike bulk material, properties of nanomaterial such as thermodynamic and magnetic properties are affected by the decrease in size and change of shapes in nanomaterials [1-4]. These nanomaterials can be presented in different shapes such as nanorods, thin films, cylindrical nanowires, spherical, rectangular tetrahedral nanoparticles and regular triangular cross-section nanowires. Magnetic and thermodynamic properties of nanomaterials go hand in hand, as we study how they are affected by both decrease in size and the change of shapes of nanomaterials [5-9]. These

properties are the Curie temperature, magnetization and Neel temperature.

Curie temperature (T_c) is the temperature above which, certain materials lose their permanent magnetic properties that can be replaced by induced magnetism. Whilst, Magnetization (M_m) is a measure of density of induced magnetic dipole moments in a magnetic material. In addition, Neel temperature (T_N) is the temperature above which an antiferromagnetic substance loses its antiferromagnetism and becomes paramagnetic.

unpaired electrons, as size decreases, the electronic spin is disturbed by small temperatures, due to the increase of the surface to volume ratio because of their size atom

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RESEARCH ARTICLE - PHYSICS



Boost in the Electromagnetic Shielding Effectiveness of Polystyrene–Polyaniline Composites by Addition of Carbon Nanofibers

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Abstract

In this work, substantial increase in electromagnetic (EM) shielding of polystyrene–polyaniline (PS–PANI) composite by way of addition of carbon nanofibers has been achieved. PANI was synthesized through chemical route using chemical oxidative polymerization method. Copolymer of PS with conducting polymer PANI and carbon nanofiber (CF) were prepared using solution mixing method. The synthesized PS–PANI–CF composites were characterized using X-ray diffraction, scanning electron microscopy, and D-there hardness tester while thermal stability was determined by thermogravimetric analysis. Shielding effectiveness of the composites was investigated in the frequency range of 8.2–12.4 GHz (X-band region) using a vector network analyzer. Synthesized PS–PANI–CF composite exhibits an absorptive dominated EM shielding value of 79 dB at 8.4 GHz frequency.

Keywords EMI shielding · Chemical oxidative polymerization · Solution mixing method · X-band · Polystyrene–polyaniline composite

1 Introduction

Electromagnetic wave interference (EMI) or EM pollution has become a major problem due to the fast growth of sensitive electronic equipment in commercial, civic, and military operations [1]. The search for lightweight, feasible, and cost-effective EMI screening materials has increased in recent years [2]. The immense rise of compact electronic equipment containing large number of integrated circuits at communication devices, battery-powered devices/micro-numbers, etc. emit unwanted electromagnetic waves, which may result in electromagnetic interference with the nearby sophisticated electronic paraphernalia besides EMI pollution. The

extensive uses of wireless and telecommunications systems in the radio and microwave areas are now progressively more. Undesirable EM waves are a serious concern since it influences the functional characteristics, reliability, and performance of equipment/appliances besides posing serious problems for human health [3]. The use of ordinary metals and metal hybrids as EMI shield material is restricted because of their high density, chemical reactivity, and complex fabrication process that involves high costs and time restraints [4]. In this sense, intrinsically conducting polymer (ICP) and conductive polymer composites (CPC) and insulating polymers with conducting fillers have an essential role in the development of commercially viable EMI shielding materials. EMI shielding materials based on ICP and CPC are chemically stable, lightweight, and electrically conductive along with outstanding capabilities for electromagnetic radiation absorption, reflection or both over a wide spectrum of frequencies. The nanostructured polymer composites have further fortified their material characteristics with more efficacy of EMI shielding. Among ICPs, PANI possesses a diverse physicochemical properties in addition to high degree of stability and minimal cost [4, 5]. This allows its application in wide range of modern industries

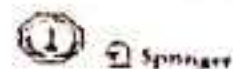
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Electromagnetic shielding effectiveness and dielectric study of polystyrene/aluminum composite by addition of graphite and carbon nanofiber powder

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ABSTRACT

The adoption of 5G mobile technology has the potential of revolutionary enhancement in connectivity and communication that will revolutionize many sectors and improve user experiences. A large demand for smart electronic devices and GHz range communication have led to the technical advancements in this field, however, this is affecting the environment by causing electromagnetic interference (EMI) or electromagnetic (EM) pollution. To prevent from electromagnetic pollution, in the present study, composites of polystyrene were synthesized using a solution mixing process with the inclusion of aluminum metal dust, graphite, and carbon nanofibers. The efficiency of composite shielding was evaluated in the X-band (8.2–12.4 GHz) frequency range using a vector network analyzer (VNA). At 12.3 GHz, the overall shielding efficiency of polystyrene–aluminum metal dust and carbon nanofibers was measured to be -23.53 dB, whereas at 8.2 GHz, it was observed to be -6.64 dB for polystyrene–aluminum composites and -14.43 dB for polystyrene–aluminum–graphite composites. Thickness for all the samples was taken as 2 mm. Synthetic composites were characterized by XRD, SEM, and TGA. D Shore hardness tester was employed to gauge the hardness. The fabricated composites are supposed to be a good alternative for applications requiring EMI pollution suppression or radar absorption.

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Alien Species of Family Asteraceae and their Indigenous Uses in Tarai and Bhabar Region of Uttarakhand

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Abstract: Uttarakhand with degraded lands, diverse topography and climatic variations is a treasure of non-native i.e., exotic or alien plants. Asteraceae represents a dominant family having a large number of alien plants. During the present study, frequent regular field visits were organized and a total of 51 alien plant species belonging to 37 genera and 10 tribes of Asteraceae family were collected from different sites. There were 88% (45 species) herbs, 4% (02 species) shrubs, 4% (02 species) undershrubs, 2% (01 species) climber and 2% (01 species) tree. A comparison of present data with previous literature revealed that Jaccard index ranges between 3.92% to 22.38%. Local people were interviewed and discussed to record their indigenous uses for medicine, food, oil, fodder, compost etc. Majority of plant species were useful as medicine (23 species) in different diseases e.g., cut and wounds (15 species), diabetes (2 species), earache (2 species), jaundice (1 species), toothache (2 species) etc. Two species were noted to be harmful and one species play both harmful and beneficial roles.

Keywords: alien • Asteraceae • indigenous uses • Tarai and bhabar • Uttarakhand.

Introduction

India is the most diversified country and known amongst one of the 17 mega diversity centers of the world. Due to its diverse climatic and environment conditions, it is highly susceptible to biotic invasion (Kohli et al., 2012). Out of the world's 36 biodiversity hotspots, four are found in India and the Himalaya region is one of them. The state Uttarakhand lies in the Northern part of the country between 28°43'-31°28' N latitude and 77°34'- 81°03' E longitude and it sprawls over 53483 km² area. It is bounded by two international boundaries i.e., China in North and Nepal in the East and also shares the state boundaries i.e., Himachal Pradesh in West and Uttar Pradesh in South. On the basis of geological and historical history, Uttarakhand is divided into four geographical zones i.e. The Trans

Himalaya, The Greater Himalaya, The Lesser Himalaya, The Siwalik ranges. Tarai and Bhabar is a part of the foothills which lies in the southern part of the state (Uniyal et al., 2007). The state with diverse topography and varied climate is a treasure of rich flora. Asteraceae, the most diversified family among dicot, is represented by 370 species under 134 genera in Uttarakhand (Pushalkar and Srivastava, 2018). It occurs in various life forms such as herb, shrub, undershrub, climber and tree. Family Asteraceae produces a special type of seed called cypsel, which is very adaptive in nature, so these plant species have high potential to reproduce and disperse minute seeds through air and water into the new area. Due to its advanced characteristics, it can adopt all types of environment and climatic changes.



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Alien Species of Family Asteraceae and their Indigenous Uses in Tarai and Bhabar Region of Uttarakhand

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Abstract: Uttarakhand with degraded lands, diverse topography and climatic variations is a treasure of non-native i.e., exotic or alien plants. Asteraceae represents a dominant family having a large number of alien plants. During the present study, frequent regular field visits were organized and a total of 51 alien plant species belonging to 37 genera and 10 tribes of Asteraceae family were collected from different sites. There were 58% (15 species) herbs, 4% (02 species) shrubs, 4% (02 species) undershrubs, 2% (01 species) climber and 2% (01 species) tree. A comparison of present data with previous literature revealed that Jaccard index ranges between 3.92% to 22.38%. Local people were interviewed and discussed to record their indigenous uses for medicine, food, oil, fodder, compost etc. Majority of plant species were useful as medicine (23 species) in different diseases e.g. cut and wounds (15 species), diabetes (2 species), earache (2 species), jaundice (1 species), toothache (2 species) etc. Two species were noted to be harmful and one species play both harmful and beneficial roles.

Keywords: alien • Asteraceae • Indigenous uses • Tarai and Bhabar • Uttarakhand.

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Traditional uses of Asteraceous plants among *Buxa* tribe for skin disorders in Udham Singh Nagar, Uttarakhand, India

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Abstract

The present paper deals with traditional uses of asteraceous plants among *Buxa* tribe for skin disorders. The study was conducted during 2017-20 in Udham Singh Nagar district of Uttarakhand. *Buxa*, the second largest tribe in this district is mainly concentrated in Kashipur, Bazpur, Gadarpur and Rudrapur. During field work, it was observed that a total of 13 plant species belonging to 11 genera and 66 tribes of this family are being used by *Buxa* people for various skin ailments such as cuts and wounds, burns, fungal infections, boils and pustules, pus oozing, etc. It was concluded that *Eclipta prostrata* (L.) L. is the most prominently used plant species followed by *Ageratum hortoniense* Mill. and *Taraxacum officinale* L. The paper also reveals some lesser known uses of these three plants.

Keywords: Asteraceae, *Buxa* tribe, Skin disorders, Udham Singh Nagar

1. Introduction

Asteraceae Berchtold & Presl. (Compositae Giseke nom. alt.) commonly called daisy, sunflower or thistle family, is well known for its advanced and special taxonomic characteristics, i.e., flower head is composed of minute flowers called florets, surrounded by bracts. It is worldwide in distribution and exhibits various habit and habitats. It is well known for medicine, food, fodder and other purposes. It plays an important role in the treatment of dermatological problems. Various species of asteraceae, e.g., *Calendula*, *Helianthus*, *Taraxacum*, etc., are commercially used in skin ailments. The family has great ethnomedicinal value throughout the world. Several workers (Heinrich *et al.*, 1998; Jan *et al.*, 2009; Bisht and Purohit, 2010; Hurrell and Puentes, 2013; Rahman, 2013; Lakshman *et al.*, 2014; Sutar, 2014; Das *et al.*, 2015; Roy and Kanungo, 2016) have reported various medicinal uses of asteraceous plants. Achika *et al.* (2014) have reviewed on the phytoconstituents and related medicinal properties of plants in the asteraceae family.

Uttarakhand is a reservoir of rich plant diversity, tribal population and consequently ethnobotanical heritage. The state represents 4800 taxa of flowering plants belonging to 1400 genera of 215 families. Among dicots, asteraceae has the largest number of genera, i.e., 134 genera belonging to 370 species (Puralkar and Srivastava, 2018). The state is inhabited by 291903 tribal people (Census, 2011) including five scheduled tribes viz. Tharu, *Buxa*, Bhotia, Jainsari and Raji. The main concentration of tribal population is in the rural areas. As per records, 94.50% of tribal population resides in rural areas and the remaining ones live in urban centers of Uttarakhand (Farswan, 2017). The study area, Udham Singh Nagar is one of the 13 districts of the state lies in the Terai belt where *Tharu* and *Buxa* are the main tribes inhabiting this area. The present study is based on *Buxa* tribe and their traditional phytotherapy. They have vast and unique indigenous knowledge about traditional phytotherapy and earn their livelihood mainly from animal husbandry.



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ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE



Cumulative functional responses of larvae and adults of two aphidophagous ladybirds

Ahmad Parvez¹ · Rajesh Kumar² · Satish Chandra²

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Abstract

The functional responses of two coccinellid predators, i.e. *Propylaea dimorpha* (Mulsant) and *Menochilus sexmaculatus* (Fabricius) sharing common aphid-prey, *Aphis gossypii* (Glover) were investigated in various heterospecific and conspecific combinations in laboratory conditions. The third and fourth instar larvae, along with adults (males and females) of the above coccinellids were fed on increasing densities (from 25 to 600) of *A. gossypii*, after releasing a couple of conspecific or heterospecific coccinellids of the same stage in a microhabitat. Their cumulative prey consumption was quantified at predator species, predatory stage and prey densities levels. Despite a Type II response by predators in each combination, high proportion of prey was consumed at low and middle densities. Heterospecific females consumed prey with a maximum attack rate (0.0024) with the least handling time (0.1831 hour) than conspecific ones. Adult female *P. dimorpha* was smaller than *M. sexmaculatus* but together they consumed more aphids than the two females of *M. sexmaculatus* due to the least interference, which supports releases of dual predators for aphid biocontrol. Amongst larvae, dual fourth instars *M. sexmaculatus* had an attack rate of 0.0015 and handling time of 0.1879 hour. We conclude that dual release of adult *M. sexmaculatus* and *P. dimorpha* benefits more than their single releases for the biocontrol of *A. gossypii*. In addition, conspecific fourth instars *M. sexmaculatus* were better predators in various larval combinations.

Keywords: Aphid · *Aphis gossypii* · Biocontrol · Coccinellidae · *Propylaea dimorpha* · *Menochilus sexmaculatus*

Introduction

Cotton or melon aphid *Aphis gossypii* (Glover) (Homoptera: Aphididae) is a major pest of several crops causing a decline in productivity (Rahman et al. 2010; Singh et al. 2014). It is a cosmopolitan, polyphagous species, a vector of numerous viruses (Carmo-Sousa et al. 2016), and widely distributed in various temperate, tropical, and subtropical regions

(Dehkordi et al. 2012). Predaceous coccinellids, popularly known as ladybirds (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae) are known to be effective for aphid management (Hodek et al. 2012; Parvez et al. 2020). The release of single ladybird species for aphid biocontrol is often a failure due to mutual interference between conspecifics (Bajoumy et al. 2014) and their spatial-temporal limitations (Omkar and Parvez 2011). This interference between predators could be highly effective in the fields (Siddiqui et al. 1999) and semi-field conditions (Khalid et al. 2020). However, little is known how the ladybirds will mutually interact in the fields. Other factors, like dispersion, plant architecture, heterospecific predators, and climate are seemingly more operational. Omkar and Parvez (2011) released two ladybird species of contrasting characters in terms of their spatial-temporal availability and found synergistic influence on prey mortality.

Functional response analyses may help to understand the success of a predator and the outcome of aphid biocontrol could be better understood using functional response analyses (Holling 1959). Functional response, which evaluates the predator's response to the varying prey density and its

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Research Note

Kin recognition by the adults of a biological control agent, *Propylea dissecta* (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae)

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ABSTRACT: The ability to recognize kin is a well-established behavior across several animal phyla including insects. A laboratory experiment was designed to find out whether adults of an aphid biocontrol agent, *Propylea dissecta* (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae) may avoid consuming their own eggs in prey scarcity in the presence of unrelated conspecific eggs. For the purpose, starved parent ladybirds were provided with their eggs and unrelated conspecific (alien) eggs in the absence of their natural prey (aphids). The predatory avoidance behavior of the parents towards alien eggs and their eggs was recorded. The adult male of *P. dissecta* had lesser food demand than the female and consumed significantly lesser (0.7±0.20) kin eggs than the alien eggs (2.8±1.49). Similarly, the adult female cannibalized significantly lesser number of kin eggs (1.6±0.20) than the alien eggs (1.5±0.15). Seemingly, both the parents had recognized their eggs and refrained from consuming them. This could be a strategy adopted by the parents to conserve their gene pool and to further protect it by consuming the heterospecific eggs of potential enemies (alien eggs) in prey scarcity. This insurance of their gene pool could benefit these parents by conserving their genetic lines.

KEY WORDS: Egg cannibalism, kin recognition, *Propylea dissecta*

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Kin recognition is the process of assessing genetic relatedness using certain cues and preferentially providing benefits to the relatives (Schaubergan, 2007; Bos et al., 2011). Several behavioural patterns like colonization plans, mating, cannibalism, defense, etc. are probably influenced by this ability. This behavior is seemingly triggered through the chemical label(s) on the body and a template in the brain of an individual. Chemical cues in the form of colony specific odours are known to exist among social insects, such as ants and bees (Bos et al., 2011). Kin-recognition is advantageous, as it provides numerous benefits, viz. resource exploitation, sex allocation, avoidance of kin cannibalism and avoidance of inbreeding depression (Fellowes, 1998; Saxena et al., 2016, 2018). Thus, an individual may increase its inclusive fitness and aid to ensure the survival of a specific gene group increasing genetic representation of a species. For the augmentation of predatory insects, particularly biocontrol agents, this aspect of kin recognition may be exploited in augmentative rearing and to utilize them as biological control agents against numerous phytophagous insect pests (Omkar and Pervez, 2020).

Propylea dissecta (Mulsant) (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae) is an aphidophagous ladybird from the Oriental region, which preys upon numerous aphid species (Pervez and Omkar, 2004, 2005; Pervez and Kumar, 2017) and has immense aphid-biocontrol potential (Pervez and Omkar, 2011). Endogenous cues, like relatedness, seem to be the driving force for the avoidance of cannibalizing inferior and immature conspecifics (Joseph et al., 1999; Pervez et al., 2005). The success of this species in the Oriental region may depend on its ability to recognize its kin. The Kin recognition in this species was thus tested among the adults to find out whether males could also recognize the eggs and deter to cannibalize them. Keeping in view, we attempted to address the question, whether both the adult parents recognize their offspring and avoid consuming them in prey scarcity.

Maintenance of stock culture

Adults of *P. dissecta* were collected from cowpea (*Dolichos lablab* L.) fields near the suburbs of Kashipur, India (29°21'04"N, 78°56'19"E) preying on aphid, *Aphis craccivora* (Koch). These adults were brought to the laboratory and



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MATING BEHAVIOUR OF THE PREDACEOUS LADYBIRD, *HARMONIA DIMIDIATA*

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ABSTRACT

We studied the mating behaviour of the predaceous ladybird beetle, *Harmonia dimidiata* (Fabricius) (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae). The courtship behaviour of the male involves the secretion from the tibia-femoral joints of its hind legs of yellow coloured reflex blood containing the alkaloid harmonine, which is usually the first line of defence of the ladybird. In this case, the reflex blood also functions as a nuptial gift from the male, which is ectoga and facilitates mating. The amount of reflex blood offered as a nuptial gift decreases with each subsequent mating. Mating in *H. dimidiata* was prolonged and initially increased before subsequently decreasing with each subsequent mating. This information could be useful for the mass rearing of this species in the laboratory.

Keywords: *Harmonia dimidiata*; harmonine; mating; mating duration; tibia-femoral joint; reflex blood

Introduction

Harmonia (*-Leis*) *dimidiata* (Fabricius) is a thirteen-spot, multivoltine predaceous ladybird beetle (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae) that occurs in North America, India, Pakistan, Nepal, Bhutan, China, Taiwan and Japan (Yu et al. 2018). It was introduced into Far Eastern Russia from China. It is very effective in the biocontrol of aphids infesting melon, cucumber and peppers in greenhouses (Kuznetsov and Pang Hong 2002). It can be easily reared on the aphid species *Myzus persicae* (Sulzer) and *Schizaphis graminum* (Rondani) throughout the year, as the adults do not undergo diapause or migrate (Kuznetsov and Pang Hong 2002). It is an important predator of the apple aphid, *Aphis pomi* de Geer (Kumari 2014), mustard aphid, *Lipaphis erysimi* (Kalt) (Singh and Singh 1986) and cotton aphid, *Aphis gossypii* (Clerke) (Yu et al. 2018) and can consume more than 200 cotton aphids per day (Yu et al. 2013). The high net and daily consumption of *A. gossypii* of 13,050 and 200 aphids, respectively, reported for *H. dimidiata* (Yu et al. 2013) indicate its high foraging ability (Pervez and Yadav 2018). Female *H. dimidiata* mature earlier and tend to produce more eggs for longer when aphids are abundant (Agarwala et al. 2009). Thus, its high functional and numerical responses indicate its great aphid biocontrol potential (Pervez et al. 2018).

Despite its biocontrol potential, little is known about its reproduction, which is a prerequisite for mass rearing. Mating in ladybirds starts with a brief courtship by the male (Omkar and Pervez 2005). Behavioural studies on mating reveal that males spend most of their time searching for potential mates and on encountering a female they court her before copulating (Ogata 1957; Omkar and Srivastava 2002; Omkar 2004; Pervez and Singh 2013).

Preliminary experiments revealed that males secrete reflex blood when courting (authors' personal observation). It is widely held that adult ladybirds release a yellowish orange liquid known as reflex blood as a defense when attacked (Zvereva and Kozlov 2016; Krupp et al. 2018). This reflex blood consists of haemolymph, which is exuded through joints in the exoskeleton in response to an attack by a predator (Majerus and Majerus 1997; Hodek et al. 2012; Krupp et al. 2018). In the present study, the possible role of this defensive exudate as a lure/nuptial gift in the mating behaviour of *H. dimidiata* is examined. Due to the paucity of literature on mating in *H. dimidiata*, laboratory experiments were designed to investigate the details of the courtship and mating behaviour in *H. dimidiata* and the effect of multiple mating on mating duration. The results increase our understanding of mating behaviour in *H. dimidiata* and help in mass rearing of this species.

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Materials and Methods

Stock culture

Adults of *Harmonia dimidiata* occur in low numbers in local agricultural fields. These were collected and brought to the laboratory from an orchard at Kashipur, India, where they were feeding on the aphid, *Aphis gossypii* (Clerke) infesting common wireweed, *Sida acuta* Burm. We cultured them in the laboratory by keeping pairs of adults in Petri dishes (9.0 cm diameter × 2.0 cm height) containing an *ad libitum* supply of the aphid, *A. gossypii* along with pieces of its host plant under constant conditions (27 ± 1 °C; 65 ± 5% RH; 14L:10D) in an Environmental Test Chamber (Remi, Remi Instruments). The adults were allowed to mate and the eggs they laid were reared from egg-hatch to adult emergence in 500 ml glass beakers (11.0 cm high and 9.0 cm in diameter, prey as above). Newly emerged adults were isolated in Petri dishes (size and host as above) and reared until they attained sexual maturity. The F₁ generation adults were used in the mating experiments.



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ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE



Effect of dietary history on intraguild predation and cannibalism of ladybirds' eggs

Ahmad Parvez¹✉ · Sattish Chandra¹ · Rajesh Kumar¹

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Abstract

Dietary history during immature development has a major influence on the evolution of food choices of aphidophagous ladybirds. We designed laboratory experiments to investigate the influence of consuming conspecific eggs or heterospecific eggs as the only food during larval development on the food choice of adult aphidophagous ladybirds, viz. *Propylaea diversata* (Mulsant) (Pd), *Coccinella septempunctata* L. (C7) and *Monoctonus scutellaris* (Fabricius) (M). We provided conspecific eggs and heterospecific eggs in presence of lower aphids, *Aphis craccivora* (Koch) for 24 h to the adult males of the three ladybird species that were previously reared on monotypic conspecific or heterospecific egg diet to determine their food choice. All ladybirds preferably consume aphids. However, amongst different egg diets, mostly ladybirds prefer to feed on the same egg diet, which they had consumed during the larval stage. Contrarily, C7 reared on conspecific eggs preferred different egg diet (Pd eggs) than the same one. Furthermore, C7 reared on heterospecific eggs consumed the same eggs more readily during adulthood than the conspecific eggs. This explains why C7 dominates coccinellid fauna, as an invader and an intraguild predator, in various geographical habitats. We concluded that prolonged exposure to unnatural diets, such as coccinellids' eggs during immature development, tend to develop a craving for such diets during adulthood of ladybirds.

Keywords Aphids · *Propylaea diversata* · *Monoctonus scutellaris* · *Coccinella septempunctata* · *Aphis craccivora* · *Coccinellidae*

Introduction

Predatory ladybirds (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae) are potential biological control agents of several insect pests, including aphids (Aphididae), scale insects (Diaspididae and Coccidae), whiteflies (Aleyrodidae), and other small soft-bodied insects attacking crops (Hodek et al. 2012; Parvez et al. 2020). However, their biocontrol potential has been largely affected by the multitrophic intraguild interactions occurring in the prey habitat (Polis et al. 1989; Polis and Holt 1992; Rosenheim et al. 1995). These interactions involve competition between the intraguild predators for the common food source affecting their biocontrol efficiency (Noya et al. 2008; Michaud et al. 2016; Castro-Guedes et al. 2020). Usually, in such interactions smaller sized

and fewer mobile predators are victimized (Fanchette et al. 2008; Ingleis and DeClercq 2011; Rondani et al. 2014). Adults and larvae of ladybirds attack weaker and immobile immature stages of conspecific or heterospecific ladybirds (Turnipseed et al. 2013). Aphidophagous ladybird larvae attack other ladybirds' eggs and pupae if prey is scarce to get nourishment and to eliminate potential competitors (Roccaet al. 2017; Devic et al. 2018). Egg-cannibalism and intraguild predation by aphidophagous larvae are largely prevalent when aphid colonies are declining (Parvez et al. 2005).

Seven-spot ladybird, *Coccinella septempunctata* L. (C7) is a cosmopolitan ladybird with a vast prey-range dominating the coccinellid fauna in the agricultural fields of India (Omkar and Parvez 2004). Little is known about its intraguild interactions despite it being successfully established in various global zoogeographical habitats (Omkar and Parvez 2002). Adults and larvae of C7 resort to cannibalism and intraguild predation of eggs at low aphid densities and prefer conspecific eggs over *Hippodamia variegata* (Goere) eggs (Khun and Yoidas 2018). C7

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ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE



Cumulative functional responses of larvae and adults of two aphidophagous ladybirds

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Abstract

The functional responses of two coccinellid-predators, viz. *Propylaea dimorpha* (Mulsant) and *Monoctonus saxatilis* (Fabricius) sharing common aphid-prey, *Aphis gossypii* (Glover) were investigated in various heterospecific and conspecific combinations in laboratory conditions. The third and fourth instar larvae, along with adults (males and females) of the above coccinellids were fed on increasing densities (from 25 to 600) of *A. gossypii*, after releasing a couple of conspecifics or heterospecific coccinellids of the same stage in a mesh-habitat. Their cumulative prey consumption was quantified at predator species, predatory stage and prey densities levels. Despite a Type II response by predators in each combination, high proportion of prey was consumed at low and middle densities. Heterospecific females consumed prey with a maximum attack rate (0.0024) with the least handling time (0.1831 hour) than conspecific ones. Adult female *P. dimorpha* was smaller than *M. saxatilis* but together they consumed more aphids than the two females of *M. saxatilis* due to the least interference, which supports releases of dual predators for aphid biocontrol. Amongst larvae, duo fourth instars *M. saxatilis* had an attack rate of 0.0015 and handling time of 0.1879 hour. We conclude that duo release of adult *M. saxatilis* and *P. dimorpha* benefits more than their single releases for the biocontrol of *A. gossypii*. In addition, conspecific fourth instars *M. saxatilis* were better predators in various larval combinations.

Keywords Aphid · *Aphis gossypii* · Biocontrol · Coccinellidae · *Propylaea dimorpha* · *Monoctonus saxatilis*

Introduction

Cotton or meadow aphid, *Aphis gossypii* (Glover) (Homoptera: Aphididae) is a major pest of several crops causing a decline in productivity (Rahman et al. 2010; Singh et al. 2014). It is a cosmopolitan, polyphagous species, a vector of numerous viruses (Carmona-Sousa et al. 2016), and widely distributed in various temperate, tropical, and subtropical regions

(Dehghani et al. 2012). Predaceous coccinellids, popularly known as ladybirds (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae) are known to be effective for aphid management (Hodek et al. 2012; Parvez et al. 2020). The release of single ladybird species for aphid biocontrol is often a failure due to mutual interference between conspecifics (Bayoumy et al. 2014) and their spatial-temporal limitations (Omkar and Parvez 2011). This interference between predators could be highly effective in the fields (Siddiqui et al. 1999) and semi-field conditions (Khaki et al. 2020). However, little is known how the ladybirds will mutually interact in the fields. Other factors, like dispersion, plant architecture, heterospecific predators, and climate are seemingly more operational. Omkar and Parvez (2011) released two ladybird species of contrasting characters in terms of their spatial-temporal availability and found synergistic influence on prey mortality.

Functional response analyses may help to understand the success of a predator and the outcome of aphid biocontrol could be better understood using functional response analyses (Hotelling 1929). Functional response, which evaluates the predator's response to the varying prey density and its

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INFLUENCE OF INTRASPECIFIC COMPETITION FOR FOOD ON THE BODYWEIGHT OF THE ADULT APHIDOPHAGOUS LADYBIRD, *COCCINELLA TRANSVERSALIS*

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ABSTRACT

Aggregation of conspecific predators sharing a common prey, influences their bodyweights. We investigated the influence of intraspecific competition of adult ladybirds of *Coccinella transversalis* Fabricius, on their bodyweight feeding on mung bean aphid, *Acyrthosiphon pisum* (Thomas). Adult male and female consumed a significantly greater number of aphids with increase in predator density, however, the aphid consumption per predator decreased with the increase. The weight gain per predator also decreased linearly with increase in the density of both male and female predators. This indicates that the weight gain of the predator is a function of the prey consumed. The searching efficiency decreased with increase in predator density due to mutual interference. The mutual interference constants for adult male and female ladybirds were -0.412 and -0.548, respectively. The females consumed a greater number of aphids than males. The killing power of the ladybird denoted by the k value increased linearly with increase in predator density. We conclude that prey consumption is a function of body size and that the offspring of those that aggregate at low densities in prey rich habitats develop into large adults.

Keywords: conspecific predator; *Coccinella transversalis*; intraspecific competition; ladybirds; numerical response

Introduction

Knowledge of the predator-prey interactions of predatory ladybirds (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae) is important for understanding their effectiveness in the biocontrol of aphids. Quantitative estimates of ladybirds' searching efficiency and prey consumption at varying prey densities indicate their potential as biocontrol agents (Bayoumy 2011; Bayoumy and Michael 2012). This predator's functional response to the changes in prey density indicates density-dependent prey consumption (Holling 1959). However, the effect of predator density on prey density may also help predict biocontrol outcomes, estimate the effect of intraspecific competition and interferences among ladybirds. The density-dependent predator-prey dynamics is described by numerous models (Pervez et al. 2018), of which the classical Nicholson and Bailey (1935) model defines "area of discovery" as a crucial parameter determining the searching efficiency of a predator. An inductive model (Hassell and Varley 1969) including the mutual interference constant (Gassell 1971; Bayoumy et al. 2014), further simplifies this model and indicates that the predator's searching efficiency declines with increase in its density. These models advocate predation to be a function of both prey- and predator- dependent processes and account for the effect of mutual interference on prey consumption. This interference alters ladybird's foraging success or may compensate for the decline in foraging activity due to the time required for digestion at high prey densities (Papanikolaou et al. 2016). Kindlmann and Dixon (1993) questioned the biocontrol potential of aphidophagous ladybirds stating that even optimal foraging and laying of eggs may only result in a slight reduction of aphid abundance. Furthermore, the adults

should maximize their fitness by deciding whether to stay in or leave an aphid patch (Kindlmann and Dixon 2010). In addition, greater generation-time ratio of ladybirds makes them slow developers, thereby impeding the top-down regulation of aphid abundance (Kindlmann and Dixon 1999, 2001, 2015). Kindlmann et al. (2020) further concluded that it is generation-time ratio rather than voracity that drives the dynamics of insect-natural enemy systems, particularly aphid-ladybird system.

Predaceous ladybirds (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae) are potential biological control agents, as they prey upon numerous wood and aphid pests (Honek et al. 2012; Omkar and Pervez 2016; Pervez et al. 2020). They switch from extensive search to intensive search after capturing a prey (Pervez and Yadav 2018). Complex plant morphology further modifies intensive search (Legend and Barbosa 2003). Mutual interactions impede their consumption of prey and searching efficiency (Omkar and Pervez 2004a; Bayoumy and Michael 2012). Their searching efficiency and the degree of mutual interference might be dependent on the type of prey (Al-Daghairi et al. 2014). These coccinellid predators may switch from a rate stage of prey to an abundant stage of prey (Hathipour et al. 2020) thereby suppressing prey abundance and increasing their body size. Dixon (2000) opined that variation in body size within the species and gender might be associated with the relative effects of food quality and quantity. Furthermore, smaller-sized ladybirds may exploit the aphid colonies earlier, which may later be overtaken by the large ladybirds when aphid densities increase (Dixon 2007). Slaggett (2008) argued that ladybirds' body size might not be just a function of aphid density, but other complex interactions between density and prey size are also operational. This further raises the question of whether con-

Pervez, A., Sharma, R. Influence of intraspecific competition for food on the bodyweight of the adult aphidophagous ladybird, *Coccinella transversalis* Fabricius. European Journal of Interferential Sciences, Vol. 5, No. 1, pp. 5-11

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ANTENNAL MORPHOLOGY AND SENSILLA OF THE PREDACEOUS LADYBIRDS, *MENOCHILUS SEXMACULATUS* AND *PROPYLEA DISSECTA*

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ABSTRACT

Menochilus sexmaculatus and *Propylea dissecta* (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae) are predaceous ladybird beetles, with immense biological control potential. The morphology of the antennae of the adults along with the diversity and distribution of sensilla were investigated using a scanning electron microscope as they are the main sensory organs involved in chemical communication, thermo-ecception, mate-recognition, gustation, etc. The antennae of males and females in both species were dissected and consisted of three parts: scape, pedicel and a 9-segmented flagellum. The antennae of male and female *P. dissecta* were significantly longer than those of *M. sexmaculatus* despite their overall body size being smaller, probably due to the much longer 9th flagellomere in *P. dissecta*. Antennae of female ladybirds of both species exhibited sexual dimorphism in being longer than those of males. Scape was longer than other antennal parts in both species of ladybirds. There was a great diversity of sensilla with most of them on the ninth flagellomere. We identified nine types of sensilla: chaetika, trichoida, basiconica, Böhm bristles, campaniformia, placoida, trichomyria, spicula and scoli-conica. Chaeticonica were restricted to flagellomere 4th in male *P. dissecta* and female *M. sexmaculatus*, respectively, indicating sexual dimorphism and male-related functions of this sensillum.

Keywords: antennae, aphid, Coccinellidae, ladybird, morphology, sensilla

Introduction

Majority of predaceous ladybirds (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae) can be utilized for the biological control of numerous phytophagous insect-pests: aphids, scale-insects, mealybugs and whiteflies (Hosok et al. 2012; Omkar and Pervez 2016) infesting several economically important crops (Pervez et al. 2020). The optimization of their predation potential (Pervez and Yadav 2018; Pervez et al. 2018), prey consumption (Pervez and Kumar 2017) and mating behaviour (Pervez and Singh 2015) may enhance the biocontrol potential of ladybirds.

Menochilus sexmaculatus (Fabricius) is an Oriental generalist aphidophagous ladybird, which occurs abundantly in agricultural and horticultural fields on the Indian subcontinent (Hosok 2002; Omkar and Pervez 2016). Its reproductive and mating behaviour was recently studied by Chaudhary et al. (2016) and Dubey et al. (2018). Similarly, *Propylea dissecta* (Mulsant) is also an important Oriental aphidophagous ladybird (Omkar and Pervez 2011) with marked sexual dimorphism (Omkar and Pervez 2000), which have facilitated mating studies on this species (Pervez et al. 2004; Omkar and Pervez 2005). These species of ladybirds coexist in most agro-ecosystems. Scanning electron microscopy of the antennal sensilla may help in achieving a better understanding of the ecological interactions between prey-predator and predator sharing a common prey resource. It may also help in behavioural studies on mate recognition, courtship and mating. Evidence indicates that adult males use their antennae to examine females, which may indicate that

antennae are important in mate recognition (Srivastava and Omkar 2003; Omkar and Pervez 2005). In addition, there is a marked sexual dimorphism in the shape and size of their antennae and diversity of antennal sensilla (Jordan et al. 1995; Srivastava and Omkar 2003; Omkar and Pervez 2008). Therefore, a scanning electron microscopy study of the antennal sensilla of two aphidophagous ladybirds, *M. sexmaculatus* and *P. dissecta*, was carried out in order to (i) determine the morphological differences in the male and female antennal sensilla (ii) identify the sensilla on the terminal segments that are involved in mate recognition, and (iii) to identify the similarities and differences in the types and distribution of antennal sensilla in these two similar-sized, polymorphic and co-existing species of ladybird.

Materials and Methods

Insect culture

We collected adults of *M. sexmaculatus* and *P. dissecta* from agricultural fields near the city of Kashipur, India (29°21'04 N, 78°9'19 E) and in the laboratory they were sexually identified based on their genitalia viewed under a stereoscopic binocular (Jyoti) at 40x and 100x magnifications, which was connected to a personal computer (DELL). Conspecific male and female beetles were paired in plastic Petri dishes (9.6 cm diameter x 2.0 cm deep) containing an *ad libitum* supply of the aphid *Aphis craccivora* (Koch) as food. Then, these Petri dishes were kept under constant conditions (27 ± 2 °C; 65 ± 5% RH;

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ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE



Food preference, growth and development of three aphidophagous ladybirds preying on conspecific and heterospecific eggs

Ahmad Parvez¹ · Rajesh Kumar¹ · Satish Chandra¹

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Abstract

Larvae of aphidophagous ladybirds attack vulnerable stages, such as eggs of conspecific and heterospecific species during prey scarcity, especially when the aphid colony is declining. We investigated food-preference of all four larval instars of ladybirds, viz. *Propylea dissecta* (Mulsant), *Menechilus sexmaculatus* (Fabricius) and *Coccinella septempunctata* Linnaeus, towards various egg-diets and the influence of different monotypic egg-diets on the consumption rate, growth-rate, conversion efficiency, mortality, bodyweight and development. All larval instars of *P. dissecta* and *M. sexmaculatus* preferred egg-cannibalism over IGP, while lower instars of *C. septempunctata* showed no preference and its higher instars preferred vice-versa. The three species developed successfully on monotypic conspecific and heterospecific eggs. The fourth instars of the three ladybird species had higher consumption rates and conversion efficiencies, while the first instars had higher growth rates than other instars. These parameters were optimal when instars fed on aphids, while conspecific eggs were better diets than heterospecific eggs. The consumption rates of *C. septempunctata* were higher than the other two ladybird species, however it lagged behind the two in terms of growth rates and conversion efficiencies. The overall mortality was lowest when instars of three ladybirds were fed on aphids followed by conspecific eggs and heterospecific eggs. We also conclude that *C. septempunctata* eggs may be less palatable to both conspecific and heterospecific predators and later ensure survival by refraining intraguild predation and not risking their fitness.

Keywords Aphids · *Propylea dissecta* · *Menechilus sexmaculatus* · *Coccinella septempunctata* · Conversion efficiency · Development · Weight

Introduction

Aphidophagous ladybirds (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae) resort to cannibalism and intraguild predation (IGP) during prey scarcity for survival (Gleznik et al. 2017), nutritional gain (Bayoumy et al. 2016), and elimination of potential enemies and competitors (Getto et al. 2005). Cannibalism is a function of density, life stages and food supply (Bayoumy and Michael 2015a) and such events prevail in the aphid declining colonies, where, older coccinellid larvae attack the vulnerable conspecific and heterospecific eggs and pupae (Rondoni et al. 2012; Rocco et al. 2017). Eggs are more vulnerable to larval instars and adults

(Omkar et al. 2003, 2009; Parvez et al. 2005), as eggs contain protein and other nutrients. Neonates get instant nutritional gain enabling faster development and increased body growth (Bayoumy and Michael 2015b). The predation of conspecific and heterospecific eggs could have costs related to growth and development. Diets that are mixed with conspecific eggs and aphids seemed advantageous to the larvae for developing into heavier adults (Martini et al. 2015). However, this diet mixing may also lead to delayed development and smaller adults in certain ladybirds (Ware et al. 2009). Furthermore, the naive larvae refrain from attacking the eggs, as surface egg hydrocarbons indicate the presence of both eggs and conspecific larvae (Hempeinne et al. 2000; Martini et al. 2015). Developing ladybird larvae consume inferior or immobile life con- or heterospecific life stages during prey scarcity for instant survival and nutritional demands (Rondoni et al. 2012).

Seven-spot ladybird, *Coccinella septempunctata* L., is a generalist ladybird with a vast prey range, dominating the

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ORIGINAL RESEARCH ARTICLE



Variation in reproductive attributes and diapause behaviour among six populations of *Zygogramma bicolorata* Pallister

Kamlesh Bali¹ · Rakesh Kumar Gupta² · Ahmad Parvez² · Mushtaq Ahmad Guroo² · Ajay Gupta³ · Mudasir Gani²

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Abstract

Zygogramma bicolorata Pallister is an effective biocontrol agent of *Parthenium hysterophorus* L. We evaluated the variability in reproductive attributes and diapause behaviour among populations of *Z. bicolorata* from six geographical locations of India, viz. Jammu, Poonch, Rajouri, Almora, Jabalpur and Coimbatore. This was done to optimize its augmentative rearing. We collected the adult insects from these locations and reared them in the laboratory. The eggs obtained from these adults were reared from egg-hatch to adult emergence to determine the development, reproduction, diapause and the influence of extremes of temperature on survival. The percentage of pupation ($84.30 \pm 1.41\%$), adult emergence ($86.75 \pm 1.11\%$), egg viability ($77.30 \pm 2.02\%$), fecundity (2159.5 ± 8.45 eggs), and longevities of males and females (86.5 ± 4.8 and 146.9 ± 6.1 days) were greater in the Coimbatore population of South India experiencing tropical climatic conditions than the other populations. In addition, this population had the lowest incidence of diapause in adult males ($26.1 \pm 1.0\%$) and females ($26.1 \pm 1.0\%$), and shortest mean diapause durations. The Coimbatore population had the highest survival when adult females were exposed to three suboptimal temperatures with the highest survival at 35°C , followed by 45°C and -5°C , while the Jabalpur and the Almora populations survival was the lowest. The adult survival percentage of this tropical population declined with an increase in the duration of exposure to the temperature extremes. We conclude that tropical climatic conditions favour development and reproduction, and minimize the prevalence of diapause in *Z. bicolorata* than the colder habitats of northern India. The findings may help mass rearing of parthenium beetle under controlled conditions and to manage parthenium across various geographical habitats.

Keywords Biocontrol · Fecundity · Longevity · Weeds · Parthenium · Climate

Introduction

Zygogramma bicolorata Pallister (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae), commonly known as Mexican parthenium beetle, is a potential global biocontrol agent against parthenium weed, *Parthenium hysterophorus* L. (Gupta et al. 2007; Bajracharya

et al. 2021). It is native to Mexico and has been introduced in various countries including Australia (McFadyen and McClay 1981), India (Jayanthi 1987), and South Africa (Stratton et al. 2013) for the management of *Parthenium*. Thereafter, it successfully suppressed *Parthenium* in India (Jayanthi and Vinayakthy 1996), Australia (Dhikrapan et al. 2000; Dhikrapan 2009), South Asia (Dhikrapan and Senarathne 2009) and Africa (Kunugwa et al. 2020). The knowledge of its reproductive attributes is essential for its application as a biocontrol agent (McFadyen 1988). Reproductive attributes, viz. oviposition, fecundity, egg viability, longevity, and survival (Omkar and Afiaq 2011, 2013) are influenced by environmental factors, particularly temperature (Omkar et al. 2008, 2009a), photoperiod (Omkar et al. 2013) and relative humidity (Gillespie et al. 2000; Mishra and Omkar 2005). These factors influence its ecological adaptability by affecting its development, survival and reproduction and indirectly the life cycle synchrony of natural enemy and host.

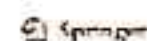
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COVID-19 AND ECONOMIC GROWTH IN INDIA: A TREND ANALYSIS

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Abstract

Economic growth is a concept that shows an increase in the production of economic goods and services in an economy. If the national product, GDP and per capita income are increasing, then it is predicted that the economic growth is also increasing. Many Economists, like Simon Kuznetz, Meier and Baldwin believe that the Net National Income is the most appropriate indicator for an economic growth. Professor Simon Kuznetz has accepted this method as the basis of measurement of an economic growth. Net National Product (NNP) is given more priority over the Gross National Product (GNP), as it provides better information about the growth of the nation. To bring the Indian economy back on track, our Prime Minister has announced a special economic package towards building a self-reliant India.

Keywords: Gross Domestic Product, COVID-19, V-shape recovery, Unemployment rate.

1. Introduction

Economic growth is a concept that shows an increase in the production of economic goods and services in an economy. Generally, aggregate economic growth is measured in terms of Gross National Product or Gross Domestic Product, although alternative metrics are also used for measuring an economic growth. Since India is lagging behind on several social parameters, henceforth the real progress of a country cannot be measured by only the GDP figure. However, for the real progress of a country, we have to take the help of Human Development Index (HDI). This index is a composite estimate based on per capita GDP, literacy and life expectancy. In the history of the world, year 2020 will be remembered as a very shocking time period of 'Corona Pandemic' or 'COVID-19'. Many Economies around the world were badly affected by this pandemic. The Indian economy also witnessed a negative growth rate during this period. The growth rate for the first June, a quarter of the financial year 2020-21 was negative 24%. The main reason for this was the COVID-19 lockdown and the closing of all the economic activities due to the pandemic. Although, in the midst of the pandemic, many transformations were observed globally, the positive effects of which are likely to be visible in the coming years. Foreign direct investment (FDI), Portfolio flows investment (PFI) and Forex reserves strengthened during this period. However, imports declined as compared to exports in the first half of 2019-20.

2. Literature Review

The relationship between economic growth and other macro-economic factors, such as inflationary status, market interest rates, industrial development, employment generation rates etc. are well documented in numerous previous studies. Aravind Veeramani (2019) found in his study that the GDP growth rate in India has acquired an inverted U-shaped curve, i.e. accelerating from a low of 5.5% growth rate in 2012-13 to a peak of growth rate 8.2% in 2016-17, and thereafter decelerating to 5.3% growth rate in 2018-19. The growth rate of GDP is also declining due to the progress in the real interest rates, enforcement of rigid norms on Bank NPAs and implementation of Indian Monetary Code rule, decline in Gross fixed capital formation and other associated factors. Friedman (1957), Mallik & Chowdhury (2001), and Behera (2014) have conducted their research in the area of economic growth and its relation with inflation. They found a long run positive correlation between inflation variables, viz inflation and economic growth. Gallin et al. (2002) discussed that the



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Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana: An Initiative under Financial Inclusion

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Abstract:

Indian Government consistently makes its efforts towards inclusion of vulnerable section in organized financial system. This system might not only provide huge amount of cash flow to boost Indian economy but it could also help the government to facilitate inclusive growth through offering different services scheme like ANAREGA payment, pension, various subsidies etc. For the inclusive growth of the Indian economy, the GOI started Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana in 2014. Financial inclusion is an innovative idea in India, which empowers the alternative new techniques to encourage the banking traditions and acts for reducing the poverty. Household coverage of this scheme is better in the district wise account opening report of Uttarakhand state. We can say that PMJDY is playing a significant role in creating a universal platform for inclusive growth in India.

Keywords: Financial Inclusion; Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY); Inclusive Growth.

Introduction:

Financial Inclusion is delivery of banking services at an affordable cost to the vast sections of vulnerable groups in India. The aims of this scheme are to providing easy access to financial services to those sections. It will enable the Government to provide social development benefits and subsidies directly to the beneficiary bank accounts, so that drastically reducing leakages and pilferages in social welfare schemes. Thus, financial inclusion could be an instrument to provide monetary fuel for economic growth and is critical for achieving inclusive growth.

Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY), one of the biggest financial inclusion initiatives in the world, was introduced by Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi on 15th August 2014, and a National Mission on Financial Inclusion which has an integrated approach to bring

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CONTENTS		Vidyavarta [®]	
		ISSN: 2219-5119	Vol. 19, No. 01
1. A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF SPATIAL PATTERNS OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT OF KASHIPUR	1-14	1. विश्व का मानचित्र	11207
2. A STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT OF KASHIPUR	15-24	2. विश्व का मानचित्र	11210
3. A STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT OF KASHIPUR	25-34	3. विश्व का मानचित्र	11213
4. A STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT OF KASHIPUR	35-44	4. विश्व का मानचित्र	11216
5. A STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT OF KASHIPUR	45-54	5. विश्व का मानचित्र	11219
6. A STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT OF KASHIPUR	55-64	6. विश्व का मानचित्र	11222
7. A STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT OF KASHIPUR	65-74	7. विश्व का मानचित्र	11225
8. A STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT OF KASHIPUR	75-84	8. विश्व का मानचित्र	11228
9. A STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT OF KASHIPUR	85-94	9. विश्व का मानचित्र	11231
10. A STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT OF KASHIPUR	95-104	10. विश्व का मानचित्र	11234
11. A STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT OF KASHIPUR	105-114	11. विश्व का मानचित्र	11237
12. A STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT OF KASHIPUR	115-124	12. विश्व का मानचित्र	11240
13. A STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT OF KASHIPUR	125-134	13. विश्व का मानचित्र	11243
14. A STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT OF KASHIPUR	135-144	14. विश्व का मानचित्र	11246
15. A STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT OF KASHIPUR	145-154	15. विश्व का मानचित्र	11249
16. A STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT OF KASHIPUR	155-164	16. विश्व का मानचित्र	11252
17. A STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT OF KASHIPUR	165-174	17. विश्व का मानचित्र	11255
18. A STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT OF KASHIPUR	175-184	18. विश्व का मानचित्र	11258
19. A STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT OF KASHIPUR	185-194	19. विश्व का मानचित्र	11261
20. A STUDY OF THE ECONOMIC ACTIVITIES IN THE DISTRICT OF KASHIPUR	195-204	20. विश्व का मानचित्र	11264



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175

डॉ० भीमराव रामजी अम्बेडकर का सामाजिक चिंतन

डॉ० उदय कुमार

अतिरिक्त, इतिहास विभाग

राधेहरि राजकीय स्नातकोत्तर महाविद्यालय, काशीपुर, (उधमसिंहनगर)।

डॉ० भीमराव रामजी अम्बेडकर के बहुमुखी चिंतन, अनुसंधान एवं शोध का स्वरूप तब ही आदर्श समाज की पुनर्जीवित करने के लिए वे जीवनमार्ग संशोधन करते रहे। वे यह मानते थे कि भारतीय समाज यदि अपने को बचाए रखना चाहता है और अपने धीरे धीरे गीरे को फिर से हारि करना चाहता है तो इसके लिए जरूरी है कि वह अतीत में की गई अपनी गलतियों को ठीक से समझ और उन्हें सुधारने के लिए ईमानदारी से काम करे। उनका मानना था कि जो समाज अपने अतीत की इतिहास को नहीं समझता वह किसी नए इतिहास की रचना नहीं कर सकता (मूल, 1981) कहते वक्त तात्पर्य यह है कि भारतीय समाज अपनी अम्बेडकर की जो अतिकल्पना थी उसमें न केवल एक आदर्श समाज का संरक्षण समाहित थी अपितु अतीत की दिशाओं के रूप में समाज में जो दुर्लक्ष्य और विनाशिताएँ आ गई थी उनका चर्चायें बीच भी का और उनके निदान का उपायकारण भी।

डॉ० अम्बेडकर एक विद्वान विचारक और बुद्धिवादी लेखक थे। वे एक निर्भीक व्यक्ति, कुशल लेखक व याचक एवं उच्च स्तर के लेखक थे। उनके जीवन का एकमात्र लक्ष्य संस्कृति और परम्परा के नाम पर अमानवीयता को प्रोत्साहन देने वाले तत्वों को संपूर्ण नष्ट करना था। इस सदर्भ में उन्होंने कहा, "मैं भूषण करता हूँ अन्धकार से अत्याचार से, अमानवीय शोषण और वैभय से, अज्ञान से और जाति के विचार से और मेरी चुप्पा की लपेट में से सभी दूरित आते हैं जो इन से बचाओ से बचते हैं।" उन्होंने स्पष्ट किया कि वे समाज के चरम वर्ग द्वारा दमित वर्ग के प्रति किसे जा रहे अत्याचारों को समाप्त कराने के लिए दृढ़ संकल्प थे। अन्धकार से समाज को दूरित और सर्वत्र समाज को हानि के सामने है, यदि मनुष्य को एक साथ दूरित करने से तो यह सच ही जाएगा, इसी प्रकार दमित वर्ग का लोकहित की अपेक्षा होने पर समाज की व्यवस्था सधु हो जाएगी। आत समाज में वर्ण भेद नहीं होना चाहिए। साथ ही यह है कि दलितों और सर्वत्रों के परस्पर सहयोग से ही देश की प्रगति संभव है। अन्धकार से अपने जीवन की रक्षा करना सच ही है। अन्धकार को समाप्त कर भगवान बुद्ध की शरण ली तथा जो मात को पूरे नहीं हो पाए थे कि मानवता का यह सपना प्रवृत्ति 06दिसम्बर 1956 को इस समाज से चल गया। दलितों और अहिंसकों के लिए उनके अख्यान एवं संशोधन के लिए उन्हें "भारत रत्न" के सर्वोच्च सम्मान से अलक्षित किया गया है जो उनकी जन्म शताब्दी के अवसर पर उनके प्रति सभी श्रद्धांजलि है। इसमें शक नहीं कि सामाजिक जाति के प्रतिक के रूप में डॉ० अम्बेडकर का नाम भारत की इतिहास में सदैव अमर रहेगा।

उत्तर भारत में बुद्धिवादी मीर, संशोधित गौरव काशीराम और भावाचारों जैसे नेताओं ने युवा, अन्धकार से ही सामाजिक-परिवर्तन और दलित जाति का फल पड़ा। फलपी इन नेताओं के विचार और कार्य यहाँ अलग-अलग रहे। मीर और गौरव क्रमशः आरक्षित आरक्षण के माध्यम से रहे। काशीराम ने जीएआरएफ एवं बाद में बहुजन समाज पार्टी की संघटित की और सुभी भावाचारों को समाज की कुली पर आरक्षण किया। उनके योगदान की सम्पूर्ण इतिहासकार का काम है।

दुनिया की सुरक्षा रोशनी देता है। चाँकि वे अम्बेडकर मिटाने में सक्षम का भी योगदान है। पर चमकते हुए सतारे भी हमे भाते हैं। समाज में एक दीपक भी अंधेरा मिटाता है। नेता होता या ब्रह्म यदि वह सचरिप है और लोगों के हित की बात सोचता है अपनी क्षमता और योग्यता के अनुसार जिाना की योगदान करता है वही बरन्य है। अधुनिकता के युग में सामाजिक परिवर्तन को अर्थों को रचना समाज के लिए घातक हो सकता है जो कि लक्ष्यकित समाज की रचनाओं द्वारा ही इसका अपघ्न किया जा रहा है एवं सामाजिक उन्नति के नाम पर समाज के बने कुशल लोगों का और अधिक शोषण किया जा रहा है। सामाजिक परिवर्तन और जाति का निर्माण समय समय सिद्ध कर देगा। सामाजिक-अर्थिक जाति भारत की राष्ट्रीय पर दरतक वे रही है, जिसे अब रचना जिसे के वश की बात नहीं।

हमें गैर-आदान आदान और दलित आदान को शीर्ष पर ले जाने वाले सभी छोटे-बड़े कार्यकर्ताओं-नेताओं का फलदा होना चाहिए जो अपने समय में रक्षा के लिए अंधेरे से लड़े। सामाजिक-न्याय, समता, सामाजिक परिवर्तन के लिए अभी-सर्वको एक जुट होकर एक लंबी लड़ाई लड़नी होगी।

समाज के विकास के रूप में जो समाज आज की के समय लोगों को मिला वह अस्मानत और भेदभाव पर आधारित था। अन्धकार के कारण कि असमानता और भेदभाव दुनिया के दूसरे समाजों में भी थे लेकिन वहाँ ये लोगों पर लगे नहीं गए थे जबकि समाज में कुछ लोगों द्वारा दूसरे लोगों पर जन्म-जन्मांतर के लिए शोष दिए गये थे। इसलिए भारत में समाज अन्धकार का भी। अम्बेडकर की विभिन्न रचनाओं विशेष रूप से "कान्टन इन इतिहास (1977)", "इतिहास और कायदा



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मध्यकालीन आयुर्विज्ञान में आयुर्वेद

राशी कुमार केसरी* व डॉ० उदय कुमार**

प्राचीन कालीन भारतीय संस्कृति में एक सम्पूर्ण प्रणाली के रूप में आयुर्वेद का विकास भारतीय समाज में कार्यान्वित एवं विकसित हुआ। आयुर्वेद विविधता की एक प्रणाली है, जो न केवल भारत में विकसित एवं परवर्धित हुई, वरन् विश्व के एक बड़े क्षेत्र को व्यापक स्तर पर प्रभावित किया। प्राचीन काल से लेकर वर्तमान काल तक अपने सतत एवं विशिष्ट धर्मार्थ के रूप में अस्तित्व में है। आयुर्वेद के इतिहास का अध्ययन एवं अन्य भारतीय विज्ञान प्रणालियों की तुलना तथा विश्व विविधता क्षेत्र में इसके स्थान का निर्धारण करने के लिए इसका विस्तृत विश्लेषण आवश्यक हो जाता है। किसी भी विज्ञान में विकास की उत्पत्ति एवं विकास का अध्ययन सदैव शिक्षा का क्षेत्र है। आयुर्वेद विविधता द्वारा माना जाए हुए सामाजिक परिस्थितियों के अंत में प्राकृतिक विज्ञान के माध्यम से लोगों के विशाल क्षेत्र में ज्ञानकार उपलब्धि प्राप्त की जा सकती है। आयुर्वेद विविधता की एक प्रणाली के रूप में समय की कसौटी पर खरा उतरता है। यह मानव पीढ़ा के समय उपलब्ध में अनेक उपयोगी योगदान देने में सक्षम है।

मध्यकाल के पूर्व युग में अनेक एक सुशुद्ध जैसे विद्वानों द्वारा विविध सांस्कृतिक दृष्टि एक साथ एक साथ लेते आ रहे थे। बाद के कालों में मानव, मध्यम तथा बहुधापि को महत्वपूर्ण माना जाता है, जिसके व्यावसायिक सम्मान की दृष्टि से उच्च स्थान प्रदान किया जाता है। मध्यकाल में आयुर्वेद के विकास की स्थिति देखने को मिलती है, जिसका मुख्य कारण राजनीतिक दृष्टि का अभाव माना जा सकता है। इसके पूर्वकाल की तरह इसका विकास विश्व के व्यापक क्षेत्रों में देखने को मिलता है। इस प्रकार आयुर्वेद की प्रवृत्ति भारत तक ही सीमित नहीं थी। निरन्तरियों, भारत आने पहले विदेशी विद्वानों तथा विविधता से जुड़े हुए प्रवृत्तियों के माध्यम से यह ज्ञान दुनिया के सुदूर कोनों तक प्रवर्धित होता रहा। उत्तर में सनातनियों से लेकर दक्षिण में बौद्धों तक तथा अरबों में मुस्लिमों तक प्रवृत्तियों से इसे में इंडीयन देशों तक इसका विस्तार देखा जा सकता है। इन देशों के द्वारा भारतीय विद्वानों, विविधता प्रवृत्तियों तथा विद्वानों का अपनाथा तथा भारतीय विविधता का ही कई माफकों में अनुवाद किया। (विश्व, 1982, 1990)23 सभी इस बात का प्रमाण है कि आयुर्वेद भारत में प्रवर्धित विविधता प्रवृत्ति का सबसे महत्वपूर्ण भाग था।

1200 ई० तक आयुर्वेद अपने चरम पर पहुँचा हुआ था। यद्यपि वैदिक काली एवं सामाजिक अनुसंधान, जिसने इसके विकास एवं प्रवृत्ति में महत्वपूर्ण योगदान दिया था। अब अतीत की बातें ही बुझी थी। अतीत के वैदिक एवं हिन्दू कालों के द्वारा राजकीय स्तर पर औपचारिक उपस्थापना एवं विविधता से अर्थ का रथ चलाया गया जाता था। विविधता छात्रों को नवीन पीढ़ी को व्यावहारिक एवं सैद्धांतिक प्रवृत्ति के लिए यह पीढ़ी पर अपने निष्पक्ष शिक्षकों पर निर्भर रहना पड़ता था। राजनीतिक रूप से स्थिर एवं प्रवृत्तियों समाज में वैदिक एवं व्यावसायिक वर्गों की प्रवृत्ति तथा मुख्य रूप से वैदिक विकास की मुख्य आवश्यकता के रूप में सम्पन्न हो चुकी थी। दृग्गम्य कारण यह था कि भारत लगातार विदेशी आक्रमणों में प्रवृत्त हो रहा। इन आक्रमणकारियों ने न केवल युधि पर आक्रमण किया वरन् सामाजिक पदानुक्रम में दुर्बलियों को प्रमुख वर्ग के रूप में प्रतिस्थापित कर दिया। (विश्व, रोम एंड सुकरास, 2009, 484)

यद्यपि इस अवस्था में आयुर्वेद के महत्त्व एवं अर्थ के लिए केवल राजनीतिक अर्थों को ही महत्वपूर्ण नहीं माना जा सकता। इसके बीच भारतीय शिक्षा, पारिभाषिक विविधता तथा सामाजिक व्यवस्था में विविधता थी, जिसने भारतीय विद्वानों को महसूस से प्रभावित किया था। विविधता विज्ञान को भी इसका अवसर नहीं माना जा सकता। प्रायोगिक अनुसंधान के लिए वैदिक विविधता जो तांत्रिक एवं स्वीकार्य आवश्यकताओं से जुड़ी हुई थी, वह भी विविधता में मिले कारणों के कारण सम्पन्न हो गए थे।

भारतीय इतिहास के इस व्यापक अवधि के दौरान पहले के युगों में महत्वपूर्ण विविधता प्रवृत्तियों के अतिरिक्त अनेक ने पहले से मुख्यमान न्यायिक कर्मों की एक प्रभावशाली संरक्षी के निर्माण का भी



*श्री० एन० इतिहास विभाग, को० एच० एन० मण्डलान्, कशीपुर, उत्तरांचल प्रदेश, उत्तरांचल प्रदेश, इन्डिया, विश्वविद्यालय, उत्तरांचल प्रदेश
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74
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डॉ० उदय कुमार

अध्यक्ष, इतिहास, राजी हरि राजकीय महाविद्यालय, कशीपुर, उत्तराखण्ड

डॉ० लखन कुमार सिंह

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सारांश

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डॉ० उदय कुमार

अध्यापक, इतिहास, श्री हरी परकीय शास्त्रीय पब्लिशिंग कॉलेज, कशीपुर, उधमसिंह नगर, उत्तराखण्ड

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शैक्षिक समानता और सामाजिक न्याय: एक राजनीतिक अध्ययन।
यह लेख शिक्षण और अध्यापन के क्षेत्र में न्याय और समता के अभाव के कारण शैक्षिक असमानता के कारणों को देखता है। यह लेख सामाजिक न्याय और समता के अभाव के कारण शैक्षिक असमानता के कारणों को देखता है। यह लेख सामाजिक न्याय और समता के अभाव के कारण शैक्षिक असमानता के कारणों को देखता है।

शुद्धी सूचना:-
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परिचय
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के एमओ विभाग के अनुसार:-
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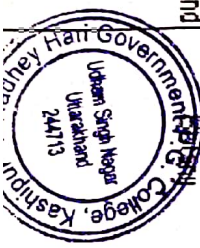
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<p>importance of Asteraceae plants among Tribes in Udhampur Nagar, Uttarakhand.</p> <p>Alien species of family Asteraceae and their indigenous uses in Tarai and Bhabar region of Uttarakhand</p>	<p>Sneha Sharma & Sneha Lata</p>	<p>Botany</p>	<p>J. Mountain Res. 19(1) 329-343</p>	<p>2024</p>	<p>P-ISSN: 0974-3030, E-ISSN: 2582-5011</p>	<p>https://www.scopus.com/journals/index.php/jmr</p>	<p>1126</p>
<p>A View on Skill Dev</p> <p>A study of Inclusive Pr</p>	<p>Dr. Neeraj Kumar Shukla Dr. Neeraj Kumar Shukla</p>	<p>Teacher Education Teacher Education</p>	<p>Shodh Manthan International Journal of Critical Reviews (SCOPUS), Open Access, Education and Society</p>	<p>2019 2020</p>	<p>0976-5255 2394-5125</p>	<p>http://www.scopus.com/journals/index.php/jcr</p>	<p>www.scopus.com/journals/index.php/jcr</p>
<p>The Knowledge of Elementary School Children about the Environment in the Kumaon Region of Uttarakhand</p>	<p>Mandeep Kaur, Mamta Belwal, Aakriti Sharma, Ashish Kumar* and Venkataraman Vishwanathan</p>	<p>Department of B.Ed.</p>	<p>Education and Society</p>	<p>2023</p>	<p>2278-6864</p>	<p>https://www.scopus.com/journals/index.php/jes</p>	<p>chrome-extension://elaidnbmnjjlpgcjolefhfjdnmkajfkhpssh/www.opas publishers.com/top-en-access-articles/efficient-removal-of-organic-pollutants-in-wastewater-using-tin-oxide-nanospheres-under-photoirradiation.pdf</p>
<p>Efficient removal of organic pollutants in wastewater using tin oxide nanospheres under photo irradiation</p>	<p>Mandeep Kaur, Mamta Belwal, Aakriti Sharma, Ashish Kumar* and Venkataraman Vishwanathan</p>	<p>Department of B.Ed.</p>	<p>Education and Society</p>	<p>2020</p>	<p>ISSN: 2589-1204</p>	<p>chrome-extension://elaidnbmnjjlpgcjolefhfjdnmkajfkhpssh/www.opas publishers.com/top-en-access-articles/efficient-removal-of-organic-pollutants-in-wastewater-using-tin-oxide-nanospheres-under-photoirradiation.pdf</p>	<p>chrome-extension://elaidnbmnjjlpgcjolefhfjdnmkajfkhpssh/www.opas publishers.com/top-en-access-articles/efficient-removal-of-organic-pollutants-in-wastewater-using-tin-oxide-nanospheres-under-photoirradiation.pdf</p>
<p>Catalytic vapor phase oxidation of glycerol to glyceric acid over activated carbon supported gold</p>	<p>Ashish Kumar*, Mamta Belwal, Yarun Mehan, Radha Praman Mauya, Venkataram</p>	<p>Department of B.Ed.</p>	<p>International Journal of Nanoscience, (World Scientific)</p>	<p>2020</p>	<p>ISSN: 1793-5350</p>	<p>https://www.worldscientific.com/doi/10.1142/S0219581220500026</p>	<p>https://www.worldscientific.com/doi/10.1142/S0219581220500026</p>
<p>Heterogeneous catalytic reduction of anthropogenic pollutant, 4-nitrophenol by Au/A-C nanocatalysts</p>	<p>Ashish Kumar*, Mamta Belwal, Radha Praman Mauya, Yarun Mohan,</p>	<p>Department of B.Ed.</p>	<p>Journal of Applied Material Science & Engineering Research</p>	<p>2019</p>	<p>ISSN: 2589-2991</p>	<p>https://www.scopus.com/journals/index.php/jmr</p>	<p>https://www.scopus.com/journals/index.php/jmr</p>

