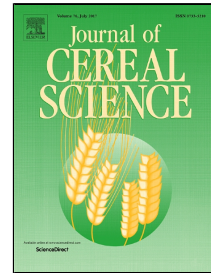


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Influence of ultrasound-assisted alkali treatment on the structural properties and functionalities of rice protein

Longtao Zhang, Zheng Pan, Kaiqing Shen, Xiaohua Cai, Baodong Zheng, Song Miao



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Highlights

1. Ultrasound-assisted alkali (UAA) treatment could improve the solubility of rice protein.
2. UAA treatment seemed to unfold the protein internal structural conformation, which led to the exposure of buried functional groups, **degradation** of protein subunit and reduction of particle size.
3. Functionalities of rice protein, such as emulsifying and foaming properties, were improved by UAA treatment.

1 Influence of ultrasound-assisted alkali treatment on the structural properties and
2 functionalities of rice protein

3 Longtao Zhang^{a,b,c#}, Zheng Pan^{a,c#}, Kaiqing Shen^{a,c}, Xiaohua Cai^{a,c}, Baodong Zheng^{a,c}, Song
4 Miao^{a,b,c*}

5 ^aCollege of Food Science, Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University, Fuzhou, Fujian, P. R.
6 China

7 ^bTeagasc Food Research Centre, Moorepark, Fermoy, Co. Cork, Ireland

8 ^cChina-Ireland International Cooperation Laboratory of Foods Material Science and
9 Structural Design, Fujian Agriculture and Forestry University, Fuzhou, Fujian

10

11 # The authors contribute equally to this work.

12 *Corresponding author:

13 Song Miao, E-mail: song.miao@teagasc.ie

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15

16 **Abstract**

17 The poor solubility of rice protein (RP) limits its applications in food industry. In this study,
18 the effects of ultrasound-assisted alkali (UAA) treatment on the solubility, structure and
19 functional properties of RP were investigated. Using UAA treatment, the solubility of RP
20 increased with increasing alkali concentration, reaching a maximum value of 19.79 mg/mL at
21 an alkali concentration of 0.08 M. The solubility was improved by 230-fold compared to un-
22 treated samples. In addition, a reduction in particle size and degradation of the protein subunit
23 were observed. UAA seemed to unfold the protein internal structural conformation and
24 expose buried functional groups, which are linked to good emulsifying properties and
25 foaming properties. A decrease in zeta potential was also observed after UAA treatment,
26 which could be the reason for the decreased stability of the emulsion. UAA treatment
27 modified the protein structure and significantly improved solubility.

28 **Keywords:** rice protein; ultrasound-assisted alkali treatment; solubility; functional properties

29

30 1. Introduction

31 Rice (*Oryza sativa* L.) is one of the most important crops in developing countries. It can
32 provide 35%–59% of total caloric intake for more than 50% of the world's population
33 (Juliano, 2016). In addition, rice is also an important raw material of the sugar industry
34 because of the high starch content. After processing, about 50% of the raw rice becomes a
35 byproduct called rice residue. In China, 10 million tons of rice residues were produced in the
36 sugar industry every year. After the saccharification of starch, the protein content in the rice
37 residue is increased to more than 50%. Because of the hypoallergenic properties and anti-
38 cancer activity(Helm and Burks, 1996; Shoji et al., 2001), rice protein (RP) has gained
39 increasing attention in the food industry. And the high content (66%–78%, w/w) insoluble
40 glutenin resulted in the low solubility of RP (Wang et al., 2015a), which is a bottleneck for its
41 extensive applications in food industry. Many treatments have been investigated to improve
42 the solubility of RP. Various physical approaches, such as microfluidization (Xia et al.,
43 2012a), hydrothermal cooking (Xia et al., 2012b) and high-pressure treatment (Kato et al.,
44 2000) have been reported. Chemical methods, including enzymatic hydrolysis (Ahmadifard et
45 al., 2016) and phosphorylation (Yi and Yao, 2005), have also been studied. Alkali solution is
46 the most common means of extracting rice proteins, as the proteins show higher solubility in
47 alkali media. However, the effects these treatments on the solubility of rice protein are still
48 not satisfied.

49 Ultrasound has been used both to analyze food structure and composition at low ultrasonic
50 intensities and high frequencies and to modify ingredients at high ultrasonic intensities and

51 low frequencies. In the food industry, power ultrasound has proved to be a highly effective
52 food processing and preservation technology, and use of high-intensity ultrasound with or
53 without heat may be used, for example, to homogenize or disperse two-phase systems such as
54 emulsions or suspensions(Mason et al., 1996). Ultrasound has also been tested for improving
55 solubility and modifying the functional properties of proteins, which is considered an
56 environmentally friendly and innovative technology. Ultrasound treatment damages the
57 protein quaternary structure through cavitations, producing a small molecular subunit and
58 increasing solubility of RP (Gulseren et al., 2007). Jambrak et al. (2008) reported ultrasound
59 frequency of 20 kHz, power of 600 W and 30 min duration can improve solubility of protein.
60 Ultrasound assisted alkali treatment has also been reported in the modification of protein.
61 According to the reported studies, in the ultrasound assisted alkali treatment, the protein
62 solution's pH shifting to 12 or higher, compact structure of protein is getting loose, and the
63 simultaneous ultrasound treatment damaged protein's structure easier and increased protein's
64 solubility (Jiang et al., 2017; Lee et al., 2016; Yildiz et al., 2017).

65 To date, improving the solubility of RP via ultrasound assisted alkali treatment has not yet
66 been investigated. In this study, rice protein powder with 90 wt% protein content extracted
67 from rice residue was used as a raw material, and the effects of UAA treatment on the
68 solubility as well as structural and functionalities of RP were investigated. Through these
69 experiments, we aimed to evaluate the potential of UAA treatment for improving the
70 application of RP in food industry.

71 **2. Materials and method**

72 **2.1 Materials**

73 RP (90 ± 1.13 wt% protein content, wet basis) were purchased from Jinnong Biotechnology
74 Co. (Wuxi, Jiangsu, China). SDS-PAGE kit was purchased from Solarbio Co. (Beijing,
75 China) and used without further purification. All of the other chemicals were of analytical
76 grade and purchased from Sigma-Aldrich Co. LLC (Beijing, China).

77 **2.2 Ultrasound assisted alkali treatment of rice protein**

78 RP was dispersed in NaOH solutions with the following concentrations: 0.02, 0.04, 0.06,
79 0.08, and 0.1 M. The final protein concentration was 50 g/L (w/v) in each solution. A 100 mL
80 aliquot of RP solution was transferred to a jacket beaker(250 mL) and treated by ultrasound at
81 50°C for 60 min. The ultrasound experiments were carried out at 20 kHz using an ultrasound
82 generator (Scientz Biotechnology Co., Ltd, Ningbo, China, Model: Scientz-950E) with a 12
83 mm vibrating titanium tip probe. The probe was immersed 2 cm into the liquid. The solution
84 temperature was measured by the ultrasound generator built-in temperature sensors. The
85 rating power of the ultrasound generator was 600 W and the ultrasound intensity was 19.3
86 W/cm² calculated as follows (Cárcel et al., 2007; Raso et al., 1999):

$$87 \quad I_a = P_a/S_A, \text{ where } P = m \cdot c_p(dT/dt) \quad (1)$$

88 where P_a (W) is the acoustic power, S_A is the surface area of the ultrasound emitting surface
89 (1.13 cm²), m is the mass of ultrasound treated solution (g), c_p is the specific heat of the

90 medium (4.18 kJ/gK) and dT/dt is the rate of temperature change with respect to time, starting
91 at $t = 0$ ($^{\circ}\text{C/s}$).

92 After the UAA treatment, the samples were readjusted to pH 7.5, and centrifuged at 10,000 g
93 for 15 min. Supernatants were collected and freeze-dried for 12 h.

94 **2.3 Solubility measurements**

95 Soluble protein in the supernatants was measured via the Bradford assay. Samples not
96 subjected to ultrasound treatment served as the control. The effectiveness of the treatment was
97 expressed as the accumulated concentration of the soluble protein content. Bovine serum
98 albumin (BSA) was used as a standard for the Bradford assay. Absorbance at 595 nm was
99 measured using a UV spectrophotometer (T6, Purkinje General Instrument Co. Ltd, Beijing,
100 China). Protein solubility was expressed as the concentration of water-soluble proteins.

101 **2.4 Emulsifying activity and emulsion stability**

102 Emulsifying activity (EA) and emulsion stability (ES) were determined via turbidity
103 measurements. A 1% (w/v) aqueous protein suspension was adjusted to pH 7.5 using 1 M
104 hydrochloric acid. To 6 mL of the protein solution, 2 mL olive oil was added, and the mixture
105 was homogenized in a mechanical superfine homogenizer (FA25, Fluko Equipment Shanghai
106 Co., Ltd, China) at 10,000 r/min for 1 min to produce a full emulsion. After homogenizing, 50
107 μL aliquots of the emulsion were pipette at 0 min and 15 min and then mixed with 5 mL of
108 0.1% SDS solution respectively. The absorbance of the emulsion was measured at 500 nm
109 with a UV spectrophotometer. The absorbance that was measured at time 0 min (T_0) was

129 gel for approximately 2 h. The gels were stained with Coomassie Brilliant Blue R 250. The
130 protein marker was purchased from Solarbio Co. (Beijing, China).

131 **2.7 Sulphydryl and disulfide bond contents**

132 The free sulfhydryl group (SH_F), total sulfhydryl group (SH_T), and disulfide bond (S–S)
133 content of the protein samples were determined according to the method described by
134 Beveridge et al.(1974) with some modifications. RP (15 mg) was dissolved in 10 mL Tris–
135 Gly buffer (pH 8.0) containing 0.086 M Tris, 0.09 M glycine, 0.004 M EDTA, and 8 M urea.
136 The mixture was centrifuged at 10000 g for 10 min. For SH_F content determination, 50 μL of
137 Ellman's reagent (DTNB in Tris–Gly buffer, 4 mg/mL) was added to 1 mL of protein
138 supernatant, and the solution was mixed. After reacting for 5 min, the absorbance at 412 nm
139 was measured. For SH_T content determination, 1 mL of the supernatant was treated with 4 mL
140 of 15 g/L β -ME (β -ME in Tris–Gly buffer containing 8 M urea and 5 M GdnHCl) for 1 h, and
141 then the protein was separated by precipitation with 12% TCA for 1 h. After centrifugation at
142 10,000 g for 10 min, the precipitate was collected and washed three times with 5 mL of 12%
143 TCA, and dissolved in 10 mL of Tris–Gly buffer containing 8 M urea. To 4 mL of the protein
144 solution, 40 μL of Ellman's reagent was added, and the absorbance was measured at 412 nm.
145 The SH_F and SH_T content were determined by a standard curve, using cysteine hydrochloride
146 monohydrate.

147 **2.8 FTIR**

148 Spectrum analyses were carried out using a Vertex 70 FTIR spectrometer (Bruker Co.,
149 Germany). Approximately 1 mg of lyophilized protein powder was mixed with KBr, ground,
150 and pressed into a pellet. The absorbance intensity was obtained at 2 cm^{-1} resolution in the
151 wave number range of $4000\text{--}400\text{ cm}^{-1}$. A total of 32 scans were measured and averaged. The
152 KBr spectrum was taken as background. After background correction, all spectra were
153 baseline corrected after analysis.

154 PeakFit 4.12 (SeaSolve Software Inc., USA) was used to deconvolve the amide I region
155 ($1700\text{--}1600\text{ cm}^{-1}$) of the spectra. The deconvolved spectrum was iteratively fitted with
156 Gaussian band shapes. The corresponding peaks of the fitted bands were assigned based on
157 the results of a previous study (Byler and Susi, 1986). Peaks at $1640\text{--}1600\text{ cm}^{-1}$, $1650\text{--}1640$
158 cm^{-1} , $1658\text{--}1650\text{ cm}^{-1}$, and $1700\text{--}1660\text{ cm}^{-1}$ were assigned to β -sheet, random coil, α -helix,
159 and β -turn protein structures, respectively.

160 **2.9 Microstructure characterization**

161 The size and polydispersity index (PDI) of untreated and ultrasound treated rice proteins was
162 measured by dynamic light scattering (DLS) with a Zetasizer Nano ZS90 (Malvern
163 Instruments, UK). All measurements were carried out at $25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$ and at a scattering angle of
164 90° . The protein size values were reported as the average particle size and the standard
165 deviation of three repeat measurements.

166 **2.10 Zeta potential**

167 Changes in surface potential of RP over time were measured by Doppler velocimeter and
168 phase analysis of light scattering technology. Zeta potential was measured by ZetasizerNano
169 ZS90. The refractive index and absorption parameters are 1.330 and 0.001 respectively. All
170 the measurements were taken in triplicate.

171 **2.11 Statistical analysis**

172 Statistical analysis of data was performed using Statistical Analysis System IBM SPSS and
173 Microsoft Excel. Student's t-test with a 95% confidence interval was used to assess the
174 significance of the results obtained. Data with $P < 0.05$ were considered statistically
175 significant.

176 **3. Results and Discussion**

177 **3.1 Solubility**

178 As shown in Fig. 1, the solubility of rice protein in the ultrasound treatment decreased after an
179 initial increase, with a maximum solubility at 19.3 W/cm². Therefore, a follow-up experiment
180 was conducted using the optimal solubility conditions. Alkali treatment considerably extends
181 the protein tertiary structures (Jiang et al., 2009). After the alkali treatment, the solubility of
182 RP increased gradually for concentrations of NaOH between 0.02 and 0.08 M. When NaOH
183 concentrations were higher than 0.08 M, a slight decrease in protein solubility was observed.
184 This was similar to the results reported by Wang et al. (2015a). Furthermore, RP's structure
185 was more prone to getting loose and unfolding at high pH than at low pH, which explains the
186 accelerated solubility after high pH treatment (Wang et al., 2015a). Ultrasound-assisted alkali

187 (UAA) treatment showed similar trends to the alkali treatment, but it improved the solubility
188 of rice proteins more significantly. This might be attributed to that the unfolding or loose
189 protein structure is easier to be damaged by the violent agitation and acoustic cavitations
190 caused by ultrasound, which could cause chemical and physical changes in a viscous medium
191 by cyclic generation and collapse of cavities, thereby the increased pressure in the vicinity of
192 these cavities is the basis to cause physical damage contributing to increasing protein
193 solubility and transforming the insoluble proteins into soluble proteins and enhance the
194 impact of alkali treatment (Yildiz et al., 2017).

195 **3.2 Emulsion characteristics**

196 Emulsion characteristics are important functional properties of protein. Due to the
197 amphipathic nature of protein, RP can spontaneously migrate to an oil-water interface,
198 forming a high viscosity membrane that is conducive to the stability of an emulsion system.
199 As shown in Table 1, after treatment, the emulsifying activity (EA) of rice proteins was
200 markedly enhanced and significantly higher than the control. With increasing alkali
201 concentration, EA of rice proteins increased greatly, peaking at 0.08 M. The same trend was
202 observed for solubility. The peak value of EA (1363.81 m²/g) was significantly higher than
203 that of BSA (396.11 m²/g). In addition, BSA has better emulsifying properties, and it is the
204 most commonly used standard material for comparing protein emulsifying properties.
205 Solubility of protein is an important factor that affects the EA. The results indicate that the
206 hydrophilic and lipophilic abilities of modified rice proteins were improved with increasing
207 solubility. However, each treatment showed declining emulsion stability. Improvement of

208 emulsifying properties may be due to the unfolding protein structure during alkali and heat
209 treatment, exposing more hydrophobic regions and enhancing protein adsorption to the water-
210 oil interface (Dickinson, 1997; Dickinson, 1999).

211 **3.3 Foaming characteristics**

212 Foaming ability (FA) and foaming stability (FS) of the protein are associated with the ability
213 to reduce surface tension at the water-air interface and closely related to the protein structure.
214 As shown in Table 1, the FA and FS values of treated samples were significantly increased by
215 UAA. HEA is the most ubiquitous standard for comparing foaming properties of proteins
216 (Symes, 1980). The FA and FS values of RP treated by ultrasound with a NaOH
217 concentration of 0.08 M (56.33 mL and 67.1%, respectively) were significantly higher than
218 that of HEA (28.5 mL and 22%, respectively). Wang et al. (2015a) observed an increase in
219 FA and FS of protein after freeze-milling and alkali treatment. This result is similar to our
220 study. The variation in foaming characteristics may be due to an increase in protein solubility
221 and rapid unfolding into a cohesive layer around gas/air droplets (Tang et al., 2003). On the
222 other hand, treated protein was easy to adsorb on the gas-water interface, forming three
223 dimensional network structures. The treatment increased film thickness and mechanical
224 strength, which improve the FA.

225 **3.4 SDS-PAGE**

226 According to the molecular weight of protein, the SDS-PAGE gel was divided into three
227 regions (Fig. 2), mainly 43–97.4 KDa, 20.1–43 KDa and < 20.1 KDa, called band I, band II

228 and band III, respectively. The protein bands of the control sample were distributed in band II
229 and band III. As shown in Fig. 2, three bands were observed, which were mainly distributed
230 in the 35 KDa, 19 KDa and 13 KDa, respectively. In a study published by O'Sullivan et al.
231 (2016), SDS-PAGE of rice protein also contains the same band distribution. Glutenin
232 fractions mainly consist of acid subunits (Glutenin-AS 30-39 KDa) and basic subunits
233 (Glutenin-BS 19-25 KDa) (Anne et al., 2006). The band at 13 KDa may be alcohol soluble
234 glutenin. Compared with the control, the concentration of each band decreased gradually with
235 an increase in alkali concentration. This indicates that UAA causes some insoluble protein
236 aggregates to dissolve. UAA treatment generates some soluble protein aggregates and breaks
237 down the protein subunits, in some cases. This may be the mechanism of improved solubility.

238 ***3.5 Sulfhydryl and disulfide bond contents***

239 SH_F, SH_T and S-S represent the free sulfhydryl group, the total sulfhydryl group and the
240 disulfide bond, respectively. The total sulfhydryl contains sulfhydryl groups exposed to the
241 molecular surface and entrapped inside the molecule. SH_F, SH_T and S-S content of the control
242 were 17.11 μmol/g, 1.09 μmol/g and 8.01 μmol/g, respectively. As listed in Table 2, SH_F, SH_T
243 and S-S content of rice proteins by UAA were markedly higher than those of control. This
244 result can be attributed to the exposure of buried groups during protein unfolding (Wang et
245 al., 2015a). It could be inferred that UAA treatment exposed hydrophilic groups of the
246 protein, which led to increased solubility.

247 ***3.6 FTIR***

248 Changes to the secondary structures of the denatured protein were more precisely observed
249 with FTIR. Fig. 3 shows the FTIR spectra of RP after treatment with different NaOH
250 concentrations and ultrasound treatment. As shown in Fig. 3, band width, intensity and the
251 peak position change to some degree after treatment. We speculated the secondary structures
252 of RP were changed by UAA treatment. A similar result was found in the study of Wang et al.
253 (2015b), in which alkali and freeze-milling treatment led to a more polar surface of RP,
254 resulting in improved solubility.

255 FTIR data were analyzed by PeakFit 4.12, and the content of the secondary structure was
256 obtained. As shown in Table 3, the β -sheet and random coil of RP decreased after treatment.
257 Both the α -sheet and the β -turns increased. This indicates that the ordered structure of the
258 protein increased, and the disordered structure decreased. These structural changes are related
259 to the degradation of the protein to small molecular peptides after the alkali treatment.

260 **3.7 Microstructure characterization**

261 After UAA treatment, RP particle size ranged from 219 to 249 nm (Table 4). According to
262 Fig. 4, protein size distribution of the control was shifted to the left region, which indicates
263 that the particle size of treated samples became smaller. As shown in Fig. 4, with increasing
264 NaOH concentration, the degree of shift in peak II initially increased and then decreased. For
265 peak I, the peak position was also shifted to a smaller size value. This indicates that the total
266 number of soluble particles increased. Moreover, the changes in protein particles may also be
267 the reason for increased protein solubility.

268 The PDI value of treated samples is smaller, which indicates that the particle size distribution
269 range of protein dispersion system is smaller than that of the control and the particle
270 dispersion is better (Gulseren et al., 2007). As listed in Table 4, UAA treatment led to PDI
271 values of RP between 0.3 and 0.39, which are lower than the control (0.508). PDI of
272 dispersion system initially decreased and then increased slightly with increasing NaOH
273 concentration. This indicates that UAA treatment alters the dispersion range of particle size in
274 the RP dispersion system. Overall, the range of particle size distribution was reduced, which
275 enhanced protein particles disperse in water solution. When the NaOH concentration reached
276 a certain value, the concentration of particles in the solution increased, and the dispersion of
277 protein particles decreased slightly.

278 **3.8 Zeta potential**

279 For systems with higher zeta potential, the repulsive force between particles was larger, and
280 aggregation did not readily occur. These systems were considered to be relatively stable.
281 However, for systems with lower zeta potential, the repulsive force between particles was
282 smaller, and the systems were unstable. The zeta potential of RP formed by UAA is listed in
283 Table 5. RP has a negative charge at pH 7.5, and with increasing alkali concentration, the
284 absolute zeta potential in RP decreased gradually. The absolute zeta potential in modified
285 protein was lower compared to untreated protein (40.4 mV), which did not agree with the
286 findings of previous studies by Shigeru et al. (1985). Hayakawa and Nakai (1985) observed
287 that, with increasing deamidation, the surface charge of soy protein increased accordingly.
288 Additionally, the result further proves the reasons for decreased ES in UAA treated RP. The

289 zeta potential of the protein emulsion after UAA treatment decreased, indicating lower
290 electrostatic repulsion between the oil droplets leads to lower stability of the emulsion.

291 **4. Conclusions**

292 UAA treatment can damage protein subunits and extend the tertiary structure, reducing the
293 compactness of protein. It can also cause degradation of the secondary structure, exposing
294 more polar groups and increasing the number of soluble protein particles significantly. As a
295 result, the interaction between water and protein as well as the solubility of RP was enhanced.
296 In addition, the emulsifying properties and foaming properties were remarkably improved and
297 were much higher than those of BSA and HEA, respectively. Therefore, UAA is a potential
298 treatment of insoluble protein with high quality and processing efficiency. This study also
299 provided valuable insights into the mechanism of accelerated solubility of insoluble protein
300 by UAA. Such information may benefit the processed food industry for developing an
301 economically feasible solubility system that results in high quality food products.

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305

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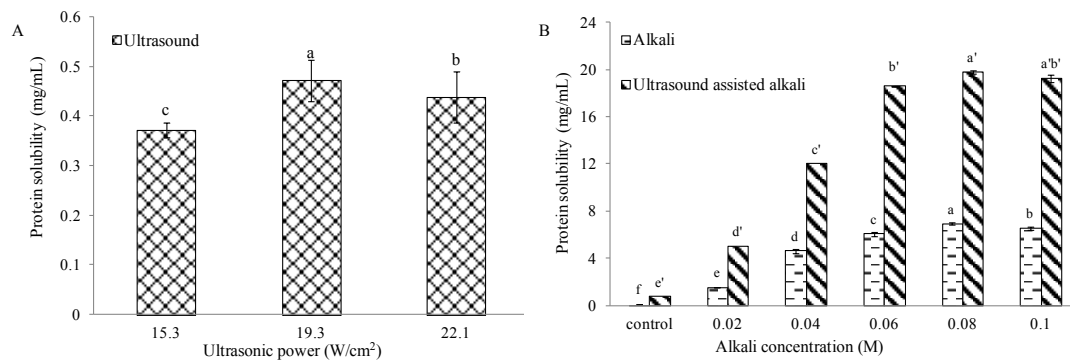


Fig. 1 Influence of different treatments on protein solubility. A: alkali and ultrasound assisted alkali treatment. B: ultrasound treatment. Different superscripts (a, b, c; a', b', c') in the same factor bar indicate significant difference ($P < 0.05$).

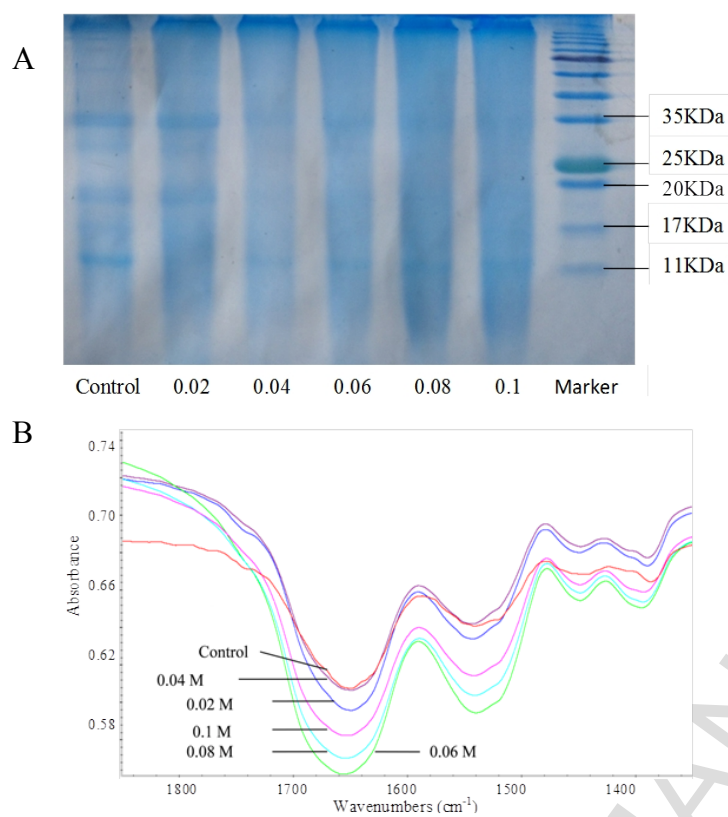


Fig. 2 SDS-PAGE profiles (A) and FTIR spectra (B) of ultrasound-assisted alkali-treated rice protein using different NaOH concentration

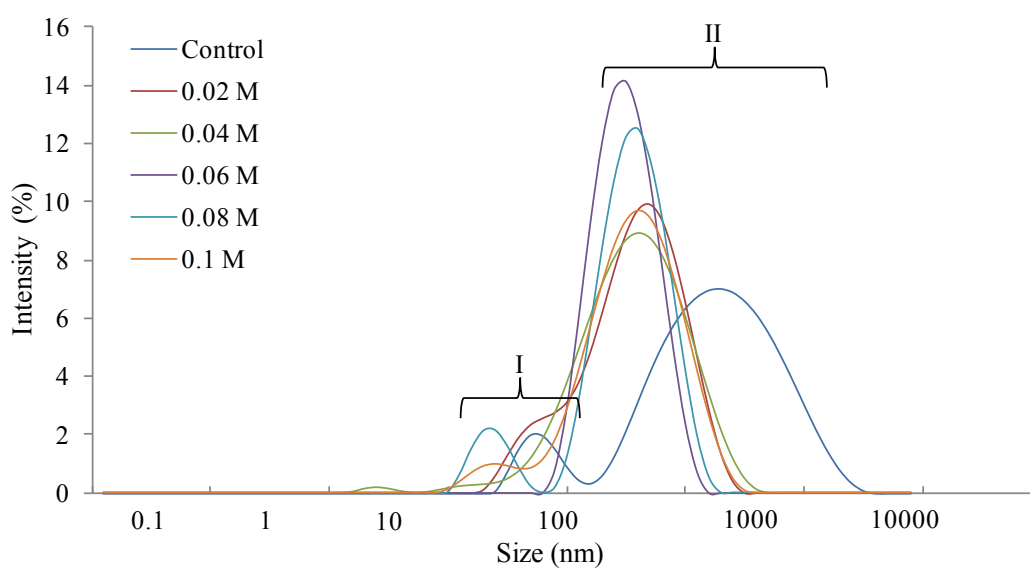


Fig. 3 Effects of NaOH concentration on particle size and intensity of RP dispersion system

Figure captions

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Fig. 2 SDS-PAGE profiles (A) and FTIR spectra (B) of ultrasound-assisted alkali-treated rice protein using different NaOH concentration

Fig. 3 Effects of NaOH concentration on particle size and intensity of rice protein dispersion system

Table 3. Effect of ultrasound-assisted alkali treatment on the size, polydispersity index (PDI) and the zeta potential of soluble rice protein aggregates.

Treatment	Size (nm)	PDI	Zeta potential
control	486.4±7.1 ^a	0.508±0 ^a	-40.4±1.31 ^a
0.02	248.8±4.05 ^b	0.385±0.01 ^b	-28.7±0.67 ^b
0.04	231.1±14.2 ^{bc}	0.376±0.02 ^{bc}	-25.4±0.6 ^c
0.06	219.8±15.9 ^c	0.361±0.01 ^c	-15±0.21 ^d
0.08	223.3±2.85 ^c	0.309±0.01 ^d	-13.3±0.15 ^e
0.1	227.3±8.4 ^{bc}	0.313±0.01 ^d	-13.8±0.2 ^e

*Means ± standard deviation; values followed by a different superscript lower case letter on the same parameter in the same column are significantly different at $P < 0.05$.

Table 1. Effect of ultrasound-assisted alkali treatment on emulsifying properties and foaming properties of rice protein.

Methods	Emulsion capacity		Foaming capacity	
	Emulsion activity (m ² ·g ⁻¹)	Emulsion stability (min)	Foaming activity (mL)	Foaming stability (%)
control	225.16±16.38 ^g	92.38±27.07 ^a	43.33±6.11 ^c	32.99±0.96 ^b
0.02	590±43.38 ^e	47.28±14.56 ^b	41±4.58 ^c	64.67±5.03 ^a
0.04	720.3±8.53 ^d	45.62±10.43 ^b	49.33±2.08 ^b	56.39±3.76 ^a
0.06	1005.22±59.43 ^b	29.02±1.16 ^b	54.67±3.18 ^a	60.18±7.27 ^a
0.08	1363.81±59.28 ^a	34.06±1.84 ^b	56.33±1.53 ^a	67.1±4.26 ^a
0.1	799.17±16.56 ^c	31.29±7.41 ^b	53.33±2.37 ^a	64.7±18.41 ^a
BSA	396.11±17.16 ^f	29.10±0.44 ^b	—	—
HEA	—	—	28.50±0.96 ^d	22±2.9 ^c

*Means ± standard deviation; values followed by a different superscript lower case letter on the same parameter in the same column are significantly different at P < 0.05.

Table 2. Effect of ultrasound-assisted alkali treatment on the sulfhydryl (SH), disulfide bond (S-S) content and the secondary structure of rice protein.

Treatment	SH and S-S content ($\mu\text{mol/g}$ protein)			Secondary structure (%)			
	SH _T	SH _F	S-S	α -sheet	β -sheet	β -turns	random coil
control	17.11 \pm 0.09 ^e	1.09 \pm 0.09 ^d	8.01 \pm 0.00 ^d	7.31 \pm 0.2 ^c	29.12 \pm 0.32 ^a	60.2 \pm 0.61 ^b	3.37 \pm 0.05 ^a
0.02	23.95 \pm 0.28 ^d	1.47 \pm 0.33 ^d	11.24 \pm 0.05 ^{bc}	15.68 \pm 0.09 ^a	18.1 \pm 0.11 ^d	66.21 \pm 0.15 ^{ab}	0 ^c
0.04	28.27 \pm 1.16 ^c	6.91 \pm 0.81 ^c	10.68 \pm 0.46 ^c	15.01 \pm 0.23 ^a	18.54 \pm 0.05 ^d	65.22 \pm 0.01 ^{ab}	1.24 \pm 0.02 ^b
0.06	31.05 \pm 0.40 ^b	8.09 \pm 0.58 ^b	11.48 \pm 0.46 ^b	14.02 \pm 0.08 ^{ab}	21.55 \pm 0.15 ^c	64.08 \pm 0.17 ^{ab}	0.35 \pm 0.01 ^c
0.08	33.99 \pm 0.67 ^a	9.42 \pm 0.67 ^a	12.28 \pm 0.46 ^a	12.17 \pm 0.12 ^{ab}	18.05 \pm 0.08 ^d	69.53 \pm 0.03 ^a	0.25 ^c
0.1	29.98 \pm 0.51 ^b	8.62 \pm 0.72 ^{ab}	10.68 \pm 0.46 ^c	10.51 \pm 0.15 ^{bc}	24.83 \pm 0.04 ^b	64.1 \pm 0.04 ^{ab}	0.57 \pm 0.01 ^c

*Mean \pm standard deviation; values followed by a different superscript lower case letter on the same parameter in the same column are significantly different at $P < 0.05$.