

1 **Morphological and physicochemical characterization of porous starches obtained**
2 **from different botanical sources and amylolytic enzymes**

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8 **Abstract**

9 Porous starches might offer an attractive alternative as bio-adsorbents of a variety of
10 compounds. However, morphology and physicochemical properties of starches must be
11 understood before exploring their applications. Objective was to study the action of
12 different amylolytic enzymes for producing porous starches. Wheat, rice, potato and
13 cassava starches were treated with Amyloglucosidase (AMG), α -amylase (AM) and
14 cyclodextrin-glycosyltransferase (CGTase). Morphological characteristics, chemical
15 composition, adsorptive capacity and pasting/thermal properties were assessed.
16 Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) showed porous structures with diverse pore size
17 distribution, which was dependent on the enzyme type and starch source, but no
18 differences were observed in the total granule surface occupied by pores. The adsorptive
19 capacity analysis revealed that modified starches had high water absorptive capacity and
20 showed different oil adsorptive capacity depending on the enzyme type. Amylose
21 content analysis revealed different hydrolysis pattern of the amylases, suggesting that
22 AMG mainly affected crystalline region meanwhile AM and CGTase attacked
23 amorphous area. A heatmap illustrated the diverse pasting properties of the different
24 porous starches, which also showed significant different thermal properties, with

25 different behavior between cereal and tuber starches. Therefore, it is possible to
26 modulate the properties of starches through the use of different enzymes.

27 **Keywords:** Porous starch; enzymes; amyloglucosidase; α -amylase; CGTase;
28 microstructure.

29 **1. Introduction**

30 Porous starch granules are becoming of great interest such as non-toxic absorbents,
31 owing to their great absorption capacity derived from the major specific surface area
32 [1]. Pores can protect sensitive elements as oils, minerals, vitamins, bioactive lipids,
33 food pigments such as β -carotene and lycopene that are sensitive to light, oxidation or
34 high temperature [2-4]. In fact, porous starches have been proposed as carriers or
35 vehicles of colorants, spices, flavorings or sweeteners and pharmaceuticals [5].
36 Nevertheless, very scarce information exists regarding the characteristics of the pores
37 and how to modulate them to extend the application of the porous starches [6].

38 Up to now, several enzymes, such as α -amylase (AM), β -amylase, amyloglucosidase
39 (AMG), pullulanase, isoamylase and cyclodextrin-glycosyltransferase (CGTase) have
40 been used for producing porous starches [7-10]. Pin-holes, sponge-like erosion,
41 numerous medium-sized holes, distinct loci leading to single holes in individual
42 granules and surface erosion are being observed after enzymatic action [11], but there is
43 no clear understanding about the role of either the botanical origin of starch or the
44 enzyme used. Aggarwal and Dollimore [12] observed an increase in the size of the
45 pores on corn starch granules, when augmented the AMG concentrations, till the
46 breakdown was so pronounced that walls around pinholes were broken, leading to large
47 irregular holes and a disrupted structure. Recently, Benavent-Gil and Rosell [13]
48 compared the effect of AMG, AM, CGTase and branching enzyme on corn starch
49 properties, taking also into account the impact of enzyme level. Authors concluded that
50 corn starches with varying number and size of pores could be obtained by controlling
51 either the type of amylolytic enzyme or the level of enzyme.

52 In addition, it must be considered the intrinsic structural features of starches from
53 different botanical origin, which might affect the amylolytic action. In fact, when corn,

54 mung bean or sago starches were treated with a mixture of AM and AMG at 35 °C for
55 24 h, porous granules were obtained, whereas only enzymatic erosion occurred on the
56 surface of cassava starch granule [14]. According to Rocha, Carneiro and Franco [15],
57 AM degraded the external part of the granule surface of cassava, sweet potato, and
58 potato starches after hydrolysis at 37 °C for 48 hours; but Peruvian carrot starch showed
59 only some granules with internal degradation.

60 In previous literature, substantial variation was found in terms of hydrolysis time and
61 temperature, and enzyme type, which somewhat impedes the exploitation of porous
62 starches; meanwhile there is no clear knowledge about the role of those factors on the
63 pore development. Likewise, taking into account the variety of compounds to be
64 adsorbed from foodstuffs, pharmaceutical, cosmetic and chemical products, the
65 characterization of those starches would be needed from an industrial point of view.

66 Therefore, the main objective of this study was to identify the potential of starches from
67 different botanical sources to obtain porous starches with different type of hydrolases.
68 Particularly, to characterize and compare the effect of amyloglucosidase, fungal α -
69 amylase and cyclodextrin-glycosyltransferase on the morphological and
70 physicochemical properties of selected starches from cereals and tubers. In this study,
71 morphological, chemical, thermal and pasting properties of different enzymatically
72 modified starches were studied. Thereby, the granule characteristics as well as the
73 enzyme attack on starch granules were visualized by scanning electron microscopy
74 (SEM) and analyzed by a micrograph processing tool. In order to establish a possible
75 correlation, these values were combined with chemical, pasting and thermal properties.

76 **2. Materials and methods**

77 *2.1. Materials*

78 Potato starch (Tereos Syral, Marckolsheim, France), wheat starch (NATILOR Chamtor
79 company, Pomacle, France), intermediate amylose rice starch (Sigma-Aldrich, Spain)
80 and cassava starch (local market) were used as substrates for enzymatic modification.
81 Amyloglucosidase (EC 3.2.1.3), fungal α -amylase (EC 3.2.1.1) and cyclodextrin-
82 glycosyltransferase (EC 2.4.1.19) activities were provided by commercial food grade
83 preparations (Amyloglucosidase 1100 L declared activity 1100 AGU/g product,
84 Fungamyl® 2500SG declared activity 2500 FAU/g product and Toruzyme® 3.0 L
85 declared activity 3KNU/mL product) supplied by Novozymes (Bagsværd, Denmark).
86 All other reagents were of analytical grade. The water used was deionized.

87 2.2. *Preparation of porous starch*

88 The preparation of porous starch was based on the method of Benavent-Gil and Rosell
89 [13]. The selection of enzyme levels (16.5 AMG U/g, 11 AM U/g and 0.2 CGTase U/g)
90 was based on preliminary experiments, which showed that under the experimental
91 conditions used (50 °C, 2 hours), maximum number of pores were obtained without
92 distorting the granule. Native starches were included for comparison, and starches
93 subjected to treatment conditions in the absence of enzymes were used as controls.

94 2.3. *Scanning electron microscopy (SEM)*

95 The granule morphology of native and modified starches was observed using a JSM
96 5200 scanning electron microscope (SEM) (JEOL, Tokyo, Japan). Samples were coated
97 with gold in a vacuum evaporator (JEE 400, JEOL, Tokyo, Japan) prior to observation.
98 The obtained samples were examined at an accelerating voltage of 10 kV and magnified
99 3,500x times.

100 The microstructure analysis was carried out using the image analysis program (ImageJ,
101 UTHSCSA Image Tool software). The SEM images were saved as 8-bit tiff format.

102 Scale was initially set using the relationship between pixels and known distance.
103 Threshold was assessed applying the default algorithm and then particle analysis was
104 carried out. The following parameters were measured: granule and pore area . The area
105 occupied by pores in a starch granule was calculated as the sum of the areas of all the
106 pores of a starch granule divided by granule area. Values were the average of 20
107 independent measurements.

108 *2.4. High performance anion exchange chromatography (HPAEC)*

109 The hydrolysis compounds (oligosaccharides and cyclodextrins) lixiviated during
110 enzymatic treatment were quantified using HPAEC (Dionex ICS3000, Thermo Fisher
111 Scientific, Waltham, MA, USA) according to the methodology described by Dura and
112 Rosell [16].

113 *2.5. Analysis of chemical and physicochemical properties of modified starches*

114 The amount of amylose/amylopectin in the starches was analyzed using a commercially
115 available kit (Amylose/Amylopectin Assay Kit, Megazyme International Ireland Ltd.,
116 Bray, Co. Wicklow, Ireland) following supplier instructions. This enzymatic method is
117 based on the concanavalin A method [17]. Water and sunflower oil adsorptive
118 capacities of starches were determined following the method described by Yousif,
119 Gadallah and Sorour [18], with slight modifications. Samples ($0.100 \text{ g} \pm 0.005 \text{ g}$) were
120 mixed with distilled water or oil (1 ml) and centrifuged at $3,000 \times g$ for 10 min.
121 Adsorptive capacities were expressed as percent weight of solvent retained by the
122 sample. Each measurement was performed in duplicate.

123 *2.6. Viscosity measurement*

124 The pasting properties of native and enzymatically modified starches were measured
125 using a Rapid Visco Analyzer (RVA-4500, Perten Instruments, Hägersten, Sweden).

126 Starch ($2.00 \text{ g} \pm 0.01 \text{ g}$ based on 14% moisture content) was added to 20 mL of distilled
127 water placed into the aluminum RVA canister. Slurries underwent a controlled heating
128 and cooling cycle, from 50 to 95 °C in 282 s, holding at 95 °C for 150 s and then cooling
129 to 50 °C. The initial speed for mixing was 960 rpm for 10 s, followed by a 160 rpm
130 paddle speed that was maintained for the rest of assay. Peak viscosity, final viscosity,
131 breakdown (peak viscosity-through), setback (final viscosity-through) and onset
132 temperature for pasting formation were determined from the viscosity plot and recorded
133 using Thermocline software for Windows (Perten Instruments, Hägersten, Sweden).
134 The level of hydrolysis at 95 °C and 50 °C was defined as the %-change in paste
135 viscosity recorded in the RVA at 50 °C and 95 °C.

136 2.7. *DSC thermal analysis*

137 Gelatinization properties of modified starches were measured using a differential
138 scanning calorimeter (DSC) from Perkin–Elmer (DSC 7, Perkin–Elmer Instruments,
139 Norwalk,CT). The slurry of starch and water (1:3) was placed into stainless steel
140 capsules. The sealed capsules were equilibrated at room temperature for one hour before
141 analysis. The samples were then heated from 30 to 120 °C at a heating rate of 10 °C/min
142 under nitrogen atmosphere, using an empty stainless steel capsule as reference. The
143 onset (T_o), peak (T_p) and conclusion (T_c) temperatures were determined from the
144 thermogram. The enthalpy of gelatinization (ΔH) was estimated based on the area of the
145 main endothermic peak, expressed as joule per gram sample (J/g).

146 2.8. *Statistical analysis*

147 The data reported are the mean of replicates and expressed as a mean \pm standard
148 deviation. Statistical analyses were carried out with Fisher's least significant differences
149 test with a significance level of 0.05. Pearson correlation coefficient (r) and P -value

150 were used to indicate correlations and their significance using Statgraphics Centurion
151 XV software (Bitstream, Cambridge, N). The correlation coefficient was classified in
152 different levels of correlation: perfect ($|r| = 1.0$), strong ($0.80 \leq |r| \leq 1.0$), moderate (0.50
153 $\leq |r| \leq 0.80$), weak ($0.10 \leq |r| \leq 0.50$), and very weak (almost none) correlation ($|r| \leq$
154 0.10).

155 **3. Results**

156 *3.1. Microstructure of modified starches*

157 Fig. 1 shows SEM micrographs of native, references and modified starches. As
158 expected, SEM micrographs revealed the broad variation in shape and area among
159 native starches from different sources (Fig. 1, A1, B1, C1 and D1). Granules from
160 wheat were composed of two different populations. The large A-type granules exhibited
161 lenticular or disk shapes, while the small B-type granules exhibited principally spherical
162 or ellipsoidal shape. The granules average area was $242.90 \mu\text{m}^2$ and $13.11 \mu\text{m}^2$ for A-
163 type and B-type granules, respectively (Fig. 1, A1). Rice starch granules displayed
164 polygonal shapes and $17.53 \mu\text{m}^2$ in granules average area (Fig. 1, B1). Potato starch was
165 composed of large granules and similar to wheat, two different populations were
166 observed (Fig. 1, C1). The largest granule fraction was ellipsoid in shape with a
167 granules average area of $1098.04 \mu\text{m}^2$, and the smallest fraction was basically spherical
168 in shape and average area of $291.95 \mu\text{m}^2$. Cassava starch granules showed many
169 truncated granules and with several grooves on the surface and average area of granules
170 was $117.99 \mu\text{m}^2$ (Fig. 1, D1). The observed microscopic appearances are in agreement
171 with literature [19]. The reference starch granules, subjected to treatment in the absence
172 of enzymes at pH 4.5 (Fig. 1, A2, B2, C2 and D2) and pH 6.0 (Fig. 1, A3, B3, C3 and
173 D3), kept their integrity, and there was not significant difference observed in rupture,

174 breakage or pores due to the incubation with buffer (Fig. 1 A2-3, B2-3, C2-3 and D2-3)
175 as has been previously reported [7, 16].

176 **Fig. 1.** Scanning electron micrograph (wheat: A; rice: B; potato: C; cassava: D) of
177 native starches (1), starches treated enzymatically (AMG: 4; AM: 5; CGTase: 6) and
178 their counterparts subjected to treatment conditions without the presence of enzymes (2-
179 3). Magnification 2,000 \times .

180 Enzymatic treatments modified the surface of starches and the extent of the effect was
181 highly dependent on the source of starch. Differences in the enzymatic action could be
182 related to the starches susceptibility to be attacked (Fig. 1 A4-6, B4-6, C4-6 and D4-6).
183 Generally, the enzymatic action on the starches provoked the formation of deep holes in
184 cereal starches, while more superficial attacks were observed in the tuber starches [20].
185 In order to quantitatively establish possible differences associated to enzyme type and
186 starch botanical origin, the pore size and the ratio pore area to starch granule area
187 (related to the abundance of pores per granule) were assessed (Fig. 2). Enzyme type and
188 starch source significantly affected the pore size distribution (Fig. 2A). Nevertheless,
189 the ratio pore area to granule area (Fig. 2B) was similar regardless starch source and
190 enzyme type, with the exception of wheat starch treated with AMG that showed sponge-
191 like erosion structures. Specifically, AMG treated wheat starch showed the formation of
192 holes along the equatorial groove, suggesting main hydrolysis at these points, and in
193 some cases leading to rupture of the granules. Rice, potato and cassava starches also
194 showed pores on the surfaces of granules after AMG treatment, but in rice seems to be
195 deeper than in cassava and potato starches. Aggarwal and Dollimore [21] observed that
196 potato starch offers greater resistance to AMG attack than wheat, rice, and corn
197 starches. Image analysis did not reveal significant changes in the pore size distribution

198 among starch types, but an increase in the abundance of pore per granule in treated
199 wheat starch was observed.

200 The action of AM led to similar pore size distribution on the granules surface,
201 independently on the starch source, with the exception of potato starch that displayed
202 bigger holes and wider distribution. In the case of treatment by CGTase, cereal starches
203 exhibited wider distribution of pore sizes than tuber starches (Fig. 2A). Overall, SEM
204 suggested that enzymatic hydrolysis of cereal starches was initiated from granule
205 surfaces and then spread toward the granule interior, producing deeper holes compared
206 to tuber starches. Possibly the presence of pores and channels in cereal starches allowed
207 enzymes to penetrate towards the granule interior, while the rigid and smooth surface of
208 tuber starches acted as a barrier to enzymes [20, 22]. Moreover, tuber starches are more
209 resistant to the enzymatic hydrolysis than cereal starches, due to a high number of
210 branch points in non-crystalline regions, which lead to high density amorphous regions
211 and stable crystallites [23], yielding less deep holes.

212 **Fig. 2.** Pore size (A) and pore surface area distribution (B) obtained for each enzymatic
213 treatment of starches from different origins. Notations are referred to the starch
214 botanical source (Wheat, Rice, Potato, Cassava) followed by the abbreviations of the
215 enzyme used (AM, AMG, CGT).

216 3.2. *Cyclodextrins and oligosaccharides released during enzymatic treatment of* 217 *starches*

218 Enzymes acted differently on the starch granules as indicated by the compounds
219 released (glucose, oligosaccharides and cyclodextrins) during enzymatic treatment, and
220 also depending on the botanical origin of starch (Table 1). In the absence of enzymes,
221 no hydrolysis products were released (data not shown). In line with other reports, the

222 only product of hydrolysis after AMG treatment was glucose. AMG is a well-known
223 exo-amylase, releasing only glucose residues from amylose or amylopectin chains [24].
224 Regardless of starch source, the amount of glucose seemed constant, likely due to
225 glucoamylase level was enough to produce saturation of the non-reducing-ends of starch
226 chains [9]. AM and CGTase are known to cleave α -1–4 glycosidic bonds existing in the
227 internal part (endo-) of a polysaccharide chain. The main compounds produced during
228 AM treatment differed between cereal and tuber starches. The products of hydrolysis
229 were mainly maltose followed by glucose and oligosaccharides with a DP of 3–4.
230 Conversely, the glucose was predominantly released from potato, whereas maltotetraose
231 was the major hydrolysis product from cassava. CGTase treatment converted starch into
232 a mixture of α -, β - and γ -CD and smaller amounts of oligosaccharides with a DP of 1–4,
233 regardless starch source. Nevertheless, α -, β - and γ -CD contents varied between
234 starches depending on the enzyme specificity [25] but also on the substrate [26].

235 *3.3. Amylose content and adsorptive capacity*

236 In agreement with data reported in the literature [27], significant differences in amylose
237 contents were detected among the starches from different sources (Table 2). The cereal
238 starches (wheat and rice) contained lower average amylose content compared to the
239 tuber starches.

240 Enzymatic treatment for obtaining porous starches affected amylose contents and the
241 effect was significantly dependent on the starch origin and the enzyme type (Table 2).

242 The ratio amylose/amylopectin remained unchanged in the case of wheat starch,
243 whereas in the other starches the enzymatic treatment led to a decrease in the amylose
244 content, with the exception of AMG modification. Specifically, AMG treatment
245 increased the amylose content of rice starch, and no significant effect was detected in

246 the other starches. Taking into account that a decrease in starch crystallinity has been
247 correlated with an increase in amylose content [28], it seems that amylopectin of rice
248 starch was preferentially hydrolyzed by AMG, since amylopectin has many more non-
249 reducing ends. AM and CGTase preferentially hydrolyzed the amylose chains in rice
250 and potato starches resulting in a decrease of this polymer, because the amylose is
251 located in the amorphous regions. This observations agrees with the inverse relationship
252 between the amylose content and the amount of hydrolyzed starch previously reported
253 [29]. However, no significant effect was observed in the amylose content when cassava
254 starch was treated with AM. It seems that AM and CGTase attacked amorphous
255 domains, where the majority of the amylose is located [30], leading an increase in the
256 amount of amylopectin. [Therefore, results on amylose content revealed that depending](#)
257 [on enzymatic treatment amylose or amylopectin are primarily hydrolyzed.](#)

258 The water adsorptive capacity (WAC) of starches was significantly dependent on the
259 starch source, being higher for cereal starches; whereas no trend was observed for
260 adsorptive oil capacity (OAC) (Table 2). Enzymatic treatment significantly affected the
261 WAC and OAC (Table 2). All enzymatic treatments increased the ability of starch to
262 bind water molecules, which suggested that hydrophilic tendency of starch increased
263 after enzymatic treatment. Among them, wheat starch treated with AMG showed the
264 greatest absorption. Likely, the pore surface area originated by AMG was responsible of
265 this behavior due to the increase of the surface area. It is generally assumed that the
266 holes created in the starch surface after enzymatic treatment increase the surface area,
267 having significant influence on starch water retention [9].

268 Nevertheless, no clear tendency was observed for the OAC. AMG treatment did not
269 significantly affect that property in rice and potato starch, while this enzyme enhanced
270 and reduced the OAC of wheat and cassava starches, respectively. The addition of AM

271 to rice and cassava starches resulted in lower values for their OAC, but no change was
272 induced in wheat and potato starch. Conversely, the treatment of wheat and rice starches
273 with CGTase led to porous starches with higher OAC, but this enzyme reduced this
274 parameter in cassava starch and there is no change observed in potato starch. These
275 observations suggested that rice after AM treatment and cassava porous starch, obtained
276 with any of the tested enzymes, had more lipophilic surface. A significant negative and
277 moderate correlation was identified between the OAC and the amylose content ($r=-$
278 0.684 , $P<0.000$). Therefore, the ratio amylose/amylopectin must play an essential role
279 in the OAC, being responsible of the different trend observed with each enzymatic
280 treatment.

281 *3.4. Pasting and thermal starch properties of porous starches*

282 A heatmap was constructed (Fig. 3) to visualize differences between pasting
283 characteristics of the porous starches from different sources. The heatmap of the
284 hierarchical clustering of the RVA properties was analyzed on the basis of similarities
285 and differences in starch pasting properties, including onset, peak viscosity, through,
286 breakdown, final viscosity, setback, hydrolysis percentage at 95°C and 50°C. In line
287 with previous studies [19], the tuber starches displayed different paste viscosity patterns
288 compared to their cereal counterparts. Starches from cereals showed lower peak
289 viscosity, breakdown and final viscosity compared to tuber starches. The resulting
290 dendrogram differentiated three different clusters. First cluster only contained cereal
291 starches, whereas second and third essentially comprised porous starches from cassava
292 and potato, respectively. It was evident from the dendrogram that amylolysis changed
293 the pasting performance of starch suspensions and the effect was highly dependent on
294 the starch source. Nevertheless, there was more similarity among porous starches from
295 same botanical source than among starches from different botanical origin treated with

296 the same enzyme. This effect was more pronounced in the case of tuber starches than in
297 cereal starches, which showed greater similarities between them. It has been reported
298 that the enzymatic susceptibilities of starches varied depending on factors such as
299 granule area, strength of association between starch components, ratio of amylose and
300 amylopectin, crystallinity, polymorphic type (A, B, C), amylose-lipid complex, type of
301 enzyme, and hydrolysis conditions [6, 7, 16]. Significant correlations were found
302 between pasting parameters and OAC of the starches. Particularly, OAC was
303 significantly positive correlated with pasting temperature and setback ($r=0.827$,
304 $P<0.000$; $r=0.617$, $P<0.000$), but showed a negative correlation with peak viscosity,
305 through and breakdown ($r=-0.665$, $P<0.000$; $r=-0.463$, $P<0.008$; $r=-0.633$, $P<0.000$).
306 The onset temperature or temperature where viscosity started to increase was
307 significantly ($P < 0.05$) augmented in cereal starches and decreased in tuber starches by
308 AMG. Wheat and potato starches treated with AM had higher and lower onset
309 temperature, respectively; while rice and cassava starches remained unchanged after
310 hydrolysis. The CGTase action induced an enhancement of this parameter in all starches
311 studied, except when added to cassava starch, which showed opposite behavior.

312 **Fig. 3.** Hierarchical clustering of RVA profiles. A heat map representing the
313 hierarchical clustering of the Z-scores of the enzyme activities related to viscoelastic
314 properties, when compared starches from different sources obtained from AMG, AM
315 and CGTase enzymatic treatment. The Z-scores represent the dispersion around the
316 overall mean of the viscoelastic properties and weighted by their standard errors. The
317 scale of the intensity is shown in the top corner. Row represents samples and column
318 represents viscoelastic properties. Notations are referred to the starch botanical source
319 (Wheat, Rice, Potato, Cassava) followed by the abbreviations of the enzyme used.

320 Porous starches obtained with AMG showed low peak viscosity compared to their
321 native counterpart, particularly rice starch displayed the lowest peak viscosity, likely
322 due to its large amylose contents after enzymatic hydrolysis as suggested Chung, Liu,
323 Lee and Wei [31]. Porous starches from cereals also showed a reduction of through and
324 final viscosity values, but only low setback was observed on rice starch after AMG
325 action. Besides, it was observed the presence of an additional peak viscosity (Pv1)
326 during heating, prior to the common peak viscosity at 95 °C, in the case of wheat starch
327 treated with AMG. A similar result was recently reported by Benavent-Gil and Rosell
328 [13] when studying the addition of different AMG levels to corn starches, observing a
329 progressive increase of that peak with the level of AMG added, and a simultaneous
330 decrease of the maximum peak viscosity. *Pertaining to enzymatic treatment, diverse
331 effect was promoted. Specifically, tuber starches showed a significant ($P < 0.05$)
332 decrease of the peak viscosity, breakdown and setback after AM action. Moreover, only
333 cassava starch decreased through and final viscosity, while potato starch enhanced these
334 parameters after AMG treatment.* It seems that AM preferentially disrupted the
335 amorphous growth rings of cereal starches, but the amorphous and crystalline regions in
336 tuber starches [8]. CGTase attack produced a significant ($P < 0.05$) decrease in pasting
337 parameters of potato starch. In the case of wheat and cassava starches, CGTase
338 treatment resulted in a low peak viscosity, through, final viscosity and setback, but a
339 high breakdown. Similar effects were reported when wheat starch was treated with
340 CGTase [32]. Conversely, rice starch modified by CGTase showed an increase in
341 breakdown and setback, but showed a decrease in through and final viscosity.

342 The gelatinization temperatures (T_o , T_p and T_c) as well as the enthalpy changes (ΔH) of
343 native and modified starches are summarized in Table 3. A significant difference in
344 gelatinization temperature was observed between cereal and tuber starches. The highest

345 To, Tp and Tc values were found for rice starch followed by cassava, potato and wheat
346 starches. Enzymatic treatment only promoted significant ($P < 0.05$) differences on the
347 Tc (Table 3). Taking into account the interaction between botanical source and
348 enzymatic treatment, it was observed that main differences were detected on To and Tc.
349 Porous starches from cereals (wheat and rice) showed higher To, with the exception of
350 rice starch treated with AM; whereas porous starches from tubers exhibited lower Tp
351 and Tc. Similar results were obtained after partial hydrolysis using glucoamylases of
352 wheat, corn and rice starches, which showed a high To [21]. The different behavior of
353 the AM treated rice starch might be related to degradation of amorphous areas, as
354 suggested the amylose content analysis. Therefore, enzymatic treatment of cereal
355 starches affected mainly the beginning of the gelatinization, in opposition to tuber
356 starches where the last part of the gelatinization was more affected. Likely, factors such
357 as granular pores and channels and length of amylopectin spacers and branches could be
358 responsible of that behavior [8].

359 Regarding the gelatinization enthalpy, no relationship was found neither with the
360 botanical origin of the starches or the enzyme type. The highest ΔH values were noted
361 in the potato starches followed by the cassava, wheat and rice starch. After the
362 enzymatic treatment, porous starches showed lower ΔH compared to their native
363 starches, except porous starches from rice that showed higher ΔH . Again, this result
364 suggested that the state of the crystalline and amorphous regions of porous rice starches
365 differed from the others. ΔH has been related to the amount of ordered carbohydrate
366 structure in the granule that is disrupted during gelatinization [33]. Therefore, the low
367 ΔH values indicated that porous starches from wheat, potato and cassava required less
368 energy to promote starch gelatinization, thus less energy was needed to uncoiling and
369 melt the unstable double helices during gelatinization [34].

370 4. Conclusions

371 Starches from cereal and tuber sources could be used to obtain porous starches with
372 different structural and functional features, which also depended on the enzyme used to
373 produce the surface pores or cavities. Cereal starches were more susceptible to
374 enzymatic hydrolysis than tuber starches, presenting deep holes with some degradation
375 of its internal part. The size distribution of the pores was dependent on the type of
376 enzyme and botanical source of starch, but the number of pores per granule was
377 independent of the above. [The right combination of type of starch and enzyme could](#)
378 [provide porous starches with different degree of porosity, as well as varied pasting](#)
379 [performance, thermal properties, WAC and OAC.](#)

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- 479

480 **Table 1.** Oligosaccharides and cyclodextrins released after starch hydrolysis by AMG, AM and CGTase. Results are expressed in mg 100 g⁻¹ of starch.

Starch source	Enzyme type	Glucose	Maltose	Maltotriose	Maltotetraose	Maltopentaose	α -CD	β -CD	γ -CD
Wheat	AMG	23.94±0.71 ^c	n.d	n.d	n.d	n.d	n.d	n.d	n.d
	AM	8.46±0.33 ^c	18.88±0.30 ^c	2.07±0.17 ^c	5.98±0.38 ^f	n.d	n.d	n.d	n.d
	CGTase	0.86±0.02 ^a	1.38±0.00 ^b	1.09±0.09 ^c	1.33±0.05 ^c	0.02±0.00 ^b	2.81±0.04 ^b	0.56±0.01 ^a	1.57±0.00 ^a
Rice	AMG	25.42±0.72 ^f	n.d	n.d	n.d	n.d	n.d	n.d	n.d
	AM	7.04±0.29 ^b	20.04±0.34 ^f	1.59±0.15 ^d	4.99±0.38 ^c	0.04±0.00 ^c	n.d	n.d	n.d
	CGTase	0.21±0.02 ^a	0.38±0.00 ^a	0.34±0.04 ^a	0.28±0.01 ^a	n.d	3.00±0.05 ^d	1.11±0.01 ^c	3.32±0.00 ^d
Potato	AMG	24.03±1.18 ^c	n.d	n.d	n.d	n.d	n.d	n.d	n.d
	AM	10.12±0.29 ^d	6.12±0.41 ^c	5.83±0.13 ^g	2.22±0.20 ^d	0.01±0.00 ^a	n.d	n.d	n.d
	CGTase	0.39±0.03 ^a	0.64±0.01 ^a	0.57±0.04 ^b	0.67±0.01 ^b	n.d	2.55±0.04 ^a	1.84±0.01 ^d	2.32±0.00 ^b
Cassava	AMG	25.67±0.72 ^f	n.d	n.d	n.d	n.d	n.d	n.d	n.d
	AM	8.48±0.29 ^c	6.61±0.34 ^d	3.15±0.17 ^f	13.05±0.38 ^g	n.d	n.d	n.d	n.d
	CGTase	0.92±0.03 ^a	1.39±0.1 ^b	1.01±0.09 ^c	1.16±0.06 ^c	n.d	2.88±0.01 ^c	0.88±0.01 ^b	2.94±0.00 ^c
<i>P</i>-value	Enzyme type	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.021	0.000	0.000	0.000
	Starch source	0.250	0,008	0.009	0.003	0.064	0.008	0.006	0.006

481 n.d. non detected

482 Values followed by different letters within a column denote significant differences ($P < 0.05$) (n = 3).

483

484 **Table 2.** Effect of enzymatic treatment on amylose content and the water and oil adsorption capacity of the resulting porous starches

Starch source	Enzyme type	Amylose content (%)			Adsorptive water capacity (g/g)			Adsorptive oil capacity (g/g)					
Wheat	Native	21.20	±	0.16	d-f	0.77	±	0.03	b	0.65	±	0.01	c-c
	AMG	24.39	±	1.34	f-g	1.37	±	0.04	h	0.86	±	0.09	gh
	AM	19.98	±	2.60	de	1.13	±	0.02	ef	0.74	±	0.04	c-g
	CGTase	19.93	±	0.14	de	1.10	±	0.02	ef	0.81	±	0.06	f-h
Rice	Native	13.88	±	0.98	c	1.04	±	0.06	d	1.10	±	0.05	j
	AMG	23.67	±	3.94	e-g	1.15	±	0.02	e-g	0.98	±	0.01	ij
	AM	9.49	±	1.61	b	1.16	±	0.02	fg	0.92	±	0.01	hi
	CGTase	3.02	±	0.69	a	1.14	±	0.00	e-g	1.37	±	0.12	k
Potato	Native	26.53	±	1.19	g	0.62	±	0.02	a	0.50	±	0.01	ab
	AMG	22.81	±	3.22	e-g	1.09	±	0.05	de	0.55	±	0.08	a-c
	AM	21.81	±	1.69	d-f	1.20	±	0.01	g	0.48	±	0.03	a
	CGTase	18.89	±	1.20	d	1.20	±	0.01	g	0.61	±	0.04	b-d
Cassava	Native	24.66	±	1.18	fg	0.67	±	0.01	a	0.87	±	0.08	g-i
	AMG	24.63	±	0.05	fg	1.13	±	0.02	ef	0.72	±	0.03	d-f
	AM	22.70	±	2.07	d-g	0.91	±	0.02	c	0.67	±	0.08	de
	CGTase	20.09	±	2.22	de	0.91	±	0.04	c	0.63	±	0.04	c-c
P-value	Enzyme type	0.000			0.000			0.039					
	Starch source	0.000			0.000			0.099					

485 Values followed by different letters within a column denote significant differences ($P < 0.05$) (n = 3)

486

487 **Table 3.** Thermal properties of enzymatically modified starches from different botanical sources

Starch source	Enzyme type	T _o (°C)			T _p (°C)			T _c (°C)			ΔH (J/g)						
Wheat	Native	53.16	±	1.74	^b	58.45	±	1.06	^{bc}	64.66	±	0.93	^b	20.88	±	1.05	^{ef}
	AMG	58.58	±	0.10	^{ef}	60.78	±	0.12	^{de}	64.93	±	0.32	^b	19.33	±	0.83	^{cd}
	AM	57.51	±	0.11	^{c-e}	60.37	±	0.24	^d	64.48	±	0.37	^b	18.99	±	0.45	^c
	CGTase	56.68	±	0.12	^{cd}	59.62	±	0.12	^{cd}	63.49	±	0.16	^b	18.18	±	0.59	^{bc}
Rice	Native	58.84	±	1.05	^{ef}	66.62	±	0.83	^h	75.22	±	0.28	^{ef}	14.84	±	0.17	^a
	AMG	60.83	±	0.38	^g	66.78	±	0.12	^h	75.53	±	0.49	^f	20.62	±	0.42	^{de}
	AM	59.37	±	0.52	^f	67.20	±	1.18	^h	74.68	±	1.19	^{ef}	19.50	±	0.53	^{c-e}
	CGTase	61.74	±	1.59	^g	64.45	±	0.35	^g	73.78	±	0.47	^{de}	19.34	±	0.84	^{cd}
Potato	Native	56.35	±	0.19	^c	61.79	±	0.12	^{ef}	69.12	±	0.56	^c	27.59	±	0.54	ⁱ
	AMG	52.60	±	1.70	^{ab}	56.20	±	0.47	^a	61.91	±	0.51	^a	22.55	±	0.63	^g
	AM	50.88	±	0.18	^a	55.37	±	1.41	^a	61.15	±	1.71	^a	15.64	±	0.36	^a
	CGTase	51.03	±	0.11	^a	57.78	±	1.06	^a	64.29	±	0.73	^b	22.22	±	0.00	^{fg}
Cassava	Native	57.40	±	0.02	^{c-e}	65.85	±	0.21	^{gh}	75.26	±	0.18	^{ef}	24.04	±	1.04	^h
	AMG	58.38	±	0.32	^{d-f}	62.53	±	0.47	^f	72.32	±	0.68	^d	17.18	±	0.57	^b
	AM	57.49	±	0.14	^{c-e}	62.70	±	0.00	^f	72.53	±	0.32	^d	18.98	±	1.11	^c
	CGTase	57.82	±	0.19	^{c-f}	63.03	±	0.00	^f	72.86	±	0.70	^d	18,85	±	0.59	^c
P-value	Enzyme type	0.4431			0.1021			0.0051			0.1191						
	Starch source	0.0000			0.0000			0.0000			0.1167						

488 To = onset temperature, T_p = peak temperature, T_c = conclusion temperature, ΔH = enthalpy change. Values followed by different letters within a column denote significant
489 differences ($P < 0.05$) (n = 3).