

Extraction and Characterization of Water Soluble Chitosan from *Parapeneopsis stylifera* Shrimp Shell Waste and Its Antibacterial Activity

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Abstract- Preparation and characterization of water soluble chitosan was examined for their antibacterial activity from *P. stylifera*. The yield of crude chitosan and water soluble chitosan was 54.3 % and 87.8%. The FT-IR spectrum of chitin, chitosan and water soluble chitosan also determined and characterization was done and compared with standards. Compare to other bacterial strains *S.aureus* (18.3mm) having more potential antibacterial activity in crude chitosan as well as water soluble chitosan. Both chitosans might have the antibacterial activity which would be used in novel drugs from the shrimp shell waste.

Index Terms- Shrimp shell waste, Water soluble chitosan, FT-IR and Antibacterial

I. INTRODUCTION

Chitin is a natural polysaccharide synthesized by a great number of living organisms and functions as a structural polysaccharide¹. Chitosan is the only pseudonatural cationic polymer which has many potential biomedical and other applications. Chitosan has been proved usefully for wound dressing and bone tissue engineering²⁻³. It shows good performance in drug delivery and analgesia⁴. Chitosan has some beneficial properties, such as antimicrobial activity, excellent biocompatibility and low toxicity that promote its applications in many fields including food industry and pharmaceuticals⁵⁻⁷.

Chitosan is natural, non toxic, copolymer of glucosamine and N-acetylglucosamine prepared from chitin by deacetylation, which in turn, is a major component of the shells of crustaceans. It is found commercially in the waste products of the marine food processing industry⁸⁻⁹. Various chemical modifications have been investigated to try and improve chitosan's solubility and thus to increase its range of applications¹⁰⁻¹¹. Recent studies on chitosan depolymerisation have drawn considerable attention, as the products obtained are more water-soluble. Beneficial properties of chitosan and its oligosaccharides include: antitumour¹²; neuroprotective¹³; antifungal and antibacterial¹⁴⁻¹⁵; and anti-inflammatory¹⁶.

The antimicrobial activity of chitin, chitosan and their derivatives against different groups of microorganisms, such as bacteria, yeast, and fungi, has received considerable attention in recent years¹⁷⁻¹⁸. Two main mechanisms have been suggested as the cause of the inhibition of microbial cells by chitosan. One means is that the polycationic nature of chitosan interferes with

bacterial metabolism by electrostatic stacking at the cell surface of bacteria¹⁹⁻²⁰. The other is blocking of transcription of RNA from DNA by adsorption of penetrated chitosan to DNA molecules. In this mechanism the molecular weight of chitosan must be less than some critical value in order to be able to permeate into cell²¹. The antimicrobial activities of chitosan are greatly dependent on its physical characteristics, most notably molecular weight (Mv) and degree of deacetylation (DD). Chitosan with a higher degree of deacetylation tends to have a higher antimicrobial activity²². Chitosan is more effective than chito-oligosaccharides (COS) in inhibiting growth of bacteria; for example, water insoluble chitosans exhibited higher antimicrobial effect against *E. coli* than COS²³. The preparation and characterization of chitosan and its biomedical applications are still limited. In this study, the antibacterial activities of water soluble chitosan against urinary tract infection bacterial suspension (*Escherichia coli*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Klebsiella oxytoca*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Klebsiella Pneumoniae*, *Salmonella typhi*) were compared to chitosan prepared from shrimp shell waste (*Parapeneopsis stylifera*). Hydrogen peroxide was used to degrade the chitosan into water-soluble chitosan. The long term aim of this work is to increase the novel drug application from chitosan and water soluble chitosan in the medical industry.

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

2.1. Chemicals

Hydrogen peroxide, acetic acid, hydro chloric acid and sodium hydroxide and all the other chemicals and reagents are purchased from Sigma Chemical Co.

2.2. Extraction of chitin from shrimp shells:

The *P. stylifera* shrimp shell wastes were collected from the Versova landing centre, Mumbai. Shells are removed and thoroughly washed with running tap water with sample care so as to remove sand adhered to it, the exoskeleton were subjected to shade drying for 2 days and then placed in hot air oven for at 60°C for 24 hours. The preparation of chitin from shrimp shell followed by²⁴ with some modification. Diluted HCl solution was used for demineralization. One hundred grams of shrimp shell powder was immersed in 1000 ml of 7% (w/w) HCl at room temperature (25°C) for 24 h. After filtration with mid speed filter paper, the residue was washed with distilled water to neutral.

Then the residue was immersed in 1000 ml of 10% (w/w) NaOH at 60°C for 24 h for deproteination. The proteins were removed by filtration. Distilled water was used to wash the residue to neutral. Then the shrimp shell residue was subjected to the above program for two times. 250 ml of 95% and absolute ethanol were sequentially used to remove ethanol-soluble substances from the obtained crude chitin and to dehydrate. An air oven was taken to dry the chitin at 50°C overnight.

2.3. Preparation of chitosan and water soluble chitosan:

The preparation of chitosan and water soluble chitosan followed by²⁴ with some modification. The chitin (10g) was put into 50% NaOH at 60°C for 8h to prepare crude chitosan. After filtration, the residue was washed with hot distilled water at 60°C for three times. The crude chitosan (4.1g) was obtained by drying in an air oven at 50°C overnight. One gram of crude chitosan was added into 20 ml of 2% (w/w) acetic acid in a water-bath shaker. The conditions were set as follows: H₂O₂ level (4%), time (4 h) and temperature (60°C). After reaction, 10% NaOH was used to adjust the solution to neutrality. The residue was removed by filtration, while twofold volumes of ethanol were added to the filtrate. The crystal of water-soluble chitosan was liberated after incubation at ambient condition overnight and dried in an air oven at 50°C. The recovery (%) was calculated as (the weight of water-soluble chitosan/the weight of crude chitosan) ×100.

2.4. Fourier Transform - Infra Red spectroscopy (FT-IR):

The chitin, chitosan, water soluble chitosan, standard chitin and chitosan were determined using FT-IR spectrometer (Bio-Rad FTIS-40 model, USA). Sample (10 µg) was mixed with 100 µg of dried Potassium Bromide (KBr) and compressed to prepare a salt (10 mm diameter).

2.5. Assay of antibacterial activity of crude and water-soluble chitosan:

This assay was done according to the method of²⁵ with some modifications. 50 µl of urinary tract infection bacterial suspension (*Escherichia coli*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Klebsiella oxytoca*, *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Streptococcus pneumoniae*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, and *Salmonella typhi*) was inoculated in a petri dish with Muller Hinton agar medium. After incubation at 37°C for 24h, the diameters of inhibition zones (in mm) were measured. Sterilized distilled water was used for control. All the Pathogenic bacterial strains were obtained from Raja Muthiah Medical College, Annamalai University. The concentrations of crude chitosan and water-soluble chitosan used in this assay were 500µg and 1mg respectively. The positive control was used as streptomycin and negative control was sterile double distilled water.

III. RESULTS

The yield of chitin and chitosan from *P. styliifera* shrimp shell waste was 32% and 54.31%, respectively. Chitin was prepared by using acid and alkaline treatments; the yield of chitin was 32% in the total weight of the dried *P. styliifera* shells, after N- acetylation, the yield of chitosans were in the range of 54.31%. Whereas in the case of water soluble chitosan obtained from the chitosan of *P. styliifera* was 87.8%.

Infrared spectroscopy of the structure changes of initial chitin, chitosan and water soluble chitosan were confirmed by FTIR spectroscopy with standard chitin and chitosan (Fig: 1-5). The FT-IR spectrum of chitin revealed that the peak 3293 cm⁻¹ indicates the presence of OH stretching coupled and 2961 cm⁻¹ indicates the presence of NH stretching. Compare to standard chitin this stretching wave number was more or less same. The wave number 2933 cm⁻¹ characteristic of asymmetrical stretching of CH₂, whereas 1214 cm⁻¹, 1138 cm⁻¹, 933 cm⁻¹ and 743 cm⁻¹ positions of the spectrums are the characteristic C=O stretching, CN₃H₅⁺, COH, CH, C-O and Skeletal stretch respectively (Table-1). These asymmetrical stretching, bending and skeletal stretch indicated that the presence of the chitin.

The standard chitosan peaks, six were found to be prominent and were representing chitosan (Structural unit - 3436cm⁻¹, (-NH₂) Amide II 1636cm⁻¹, PO₃ 4⁻ 1322cm⁻¹, (NH) Amide III 894cm⁻¹ and NH-out of plane bending 778cm⁻¹. The peak of crude chitosan and water soluble chitosan peak stretching was near by the standard chitosan wave number absorption only. This wave number absorption implies the substantiation of the chitosan and water soluble chitosan from the *P. styliifera* shrimp shell waste (Table 2).

In-vitro antibacterial screening of chitosan and water soluble chitosan from *P. styliifera* against selected clinical isolates were performed and zone of inhibition were given in Table 3. The concentration of chitosan and water soluble chitosan were 500µg and 1mg/ml respectively. All the experiment was done as a triplicate. The maximum inhibition zone (18.3 mm) was observed against the *S. aureus* in water soluble chitosan (1mg/ml). Compare to positive control streptomycin (11.6 mm), water soluble chitosan zone of inhibition was high. The range of inhibition in crude chitosan 1.4 mm to 8.9 mm. highest zone of inhibition was observed in *S.aureus* followed by *E.coli*, and *P.aeuroginosa*. The water soluble chitosan zone of inhibition range was high compare to crude chitosan as well as concentration wise also higher activity observed from the water soluble chitosan. Both crude and water-soluble chitosan showed higher inhibition activity against *S. aureus*, compared with the other bacteria tested. This indicated that both chitosans might have the antibacterial inhibition mechanism.

IV. DISCUSSION

The yield of chitin was 32% in the total weight of the dried *P. styliifera* shells, after N- acetylation, the yield of chitosans were in the range of 54.31%.²⁶ reported that, the crude polysaccharide was obtained as a water soluble dust-coloured powder from plant root of *B. chinense* by hot water extraction. The total yield of crude water-soluble polysaccharides was 6.5% of the dried material. The cuttlebone of *Sanguisorba officinalis* was found to be 20% of chitin²⁷⁻²⁸, whereas in general, the squid/cuttlefish reported 3-20% of chitin²⁹. One of the major problems related to the preparation of pure chitins is keeping a structure as close as possible than the native form is to minimize the partial deacetylation and chain degradation caused by demineralization and deproteinization applied during process of the raw materials. Shrimp chitin showed no color and odor. Chitin occurs naturally partially deacetylated (with a low content of glucosamine units),

depending on the source³⁰; nevertheless, both α - and β - forms are insoluble in all the usual solvent, despite natural variation in crystallinity. The insolubility is a major problem that confronts the development mechanisms and uses of chitin. But present study in the case of water soluble chitosan we obtained 87.8%. The β - chitin is more reactive than the α - form, an important property with regard to enzymatic and chemical transformations of chitin³¹.

³²observed that IR spectrum of chitosan oligomers showed peaks assigned to the polysaccharide structure at 1155, 1078, 1032, and 899 cm^{-1} , and a strong amino characteristic peak at around 3425, 1651, and 1321 cm^{-1} were assigned to amide I and III bands, respectively. The peak at 1418 cm^{-1} is the joint contribution of bend vibration of OH and CH. ³³ reported that IR spectrum of water soluble polysaccharide from *Bupleurum chinense* revealed a typical major broad stretching peak at 3411 cm^{-1} for the hydroxyl group, and a weak band at 2919 cm^{-1} showed C-H stretching vibration. The broad band at 1610 cm^{-1} was due to the bound water. The band at 842 cm^{-1} and 877 cm^{-1} indicated a- and b-configurations of the sugar units simultaneously existing in the polysaccharide. In the present study crude chitosan and water soluble chitosan observation band also similar to the following wave number such as chitosan 3429 cm^{-1} , 1568 cm^{-1} , 1559 cm^{-1} , 1405 cm^{-1} , 1105 cm^{-1} and 929 cm^{-1} . The water soluble chitosan stretching peak at 3399 cm^{-1} and 1654 cm^{-1} , 1647 cm^{-1} , 1078 cm^{-1} and 644 cm^{-1} .

The antimicrobial activity of chitin, chitosan, and their derivatives against different groups of microorganisms, such as bacteria, yeast, and fungi, has received considerable attention in recent years. Two main mechanisms have been suggested as the cause of the inhibition of microbial cells by chitosan. The interaction with anionic groups on the cell surface, due to its polycationic nature, causes the formation of an impermeable layer around the cell, which prevents the transport of essential solutes. It has been demonstrated by electron microscopy that the site of action is the outer membrane of gram negative bacteria. The permeabilizing effect has been observed at slightly acidic a condition in which chitosan is protonated, but this permeabilizing effect of chitosan is reversible³⁴.

Chitosan has been confirmed to possess a broad spectrum of antimicrobial activities³⁵. However, the low solubility of chitosan at neutral pH limits its application. In this study H_2O_2 was taken to degrade the chitosan into water soluble chitosan. Several studies prove that an increase in the positive charge of chitosan makes it bind to bacterial cell walls more strongly³⁶⁻³⁷.

³⁸have mentioned that molecular weight is the main factor affecting the antibacterial activity of chitosan, from the results obtained. In contrast, some authors have not found a clear relationship between the degree of deacetylation and antimicrobial activity. These authors suggest that the antimicrobial activity of chitosan is dependent on both the chitosan and the microorganism used³⁹⁻⁴⁰. ⁴¹ studied the antimicrobial activity of hetero-chitosans with different degrees of deacetylation and Molecular weight against three Gram negative bacteria and five Gram-positive bacteria and found that the 75% deacetylated chitosan showed more effective antimicrobial activity compared with that of 90% and 50% deacetylated chitosan. In the present study 87.8% deacetylated water soluble chitosan showed higher antibacterial activity

against *S.aureus* than crude chitosan. This indicated that both chitosans might have the antibacterial activity which could be used in pharmacological research.

V. CONCLUSION

We deduce that, the continuing and overwhelming contribution of water soluble chitosan to the development of new pharmaceuticals are clearly evident and need to be explored. After taking in to consideration the immense side effects of synthetic drugs, great attention has to be paid for the discovery of novel drugs from marine crustaceans waste.

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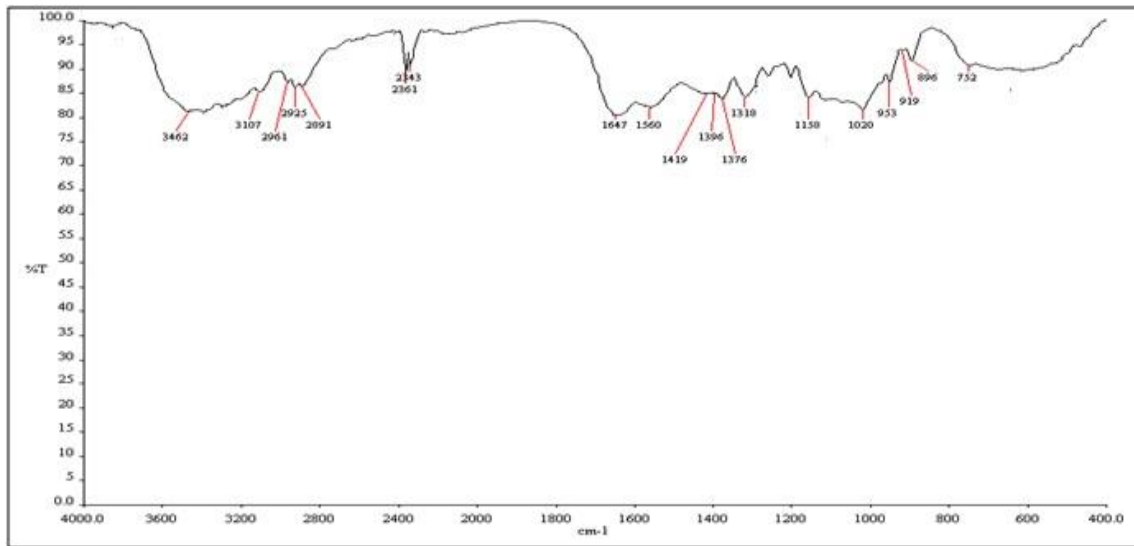


Fig: 1 FT-IR spectrum of standard chitin

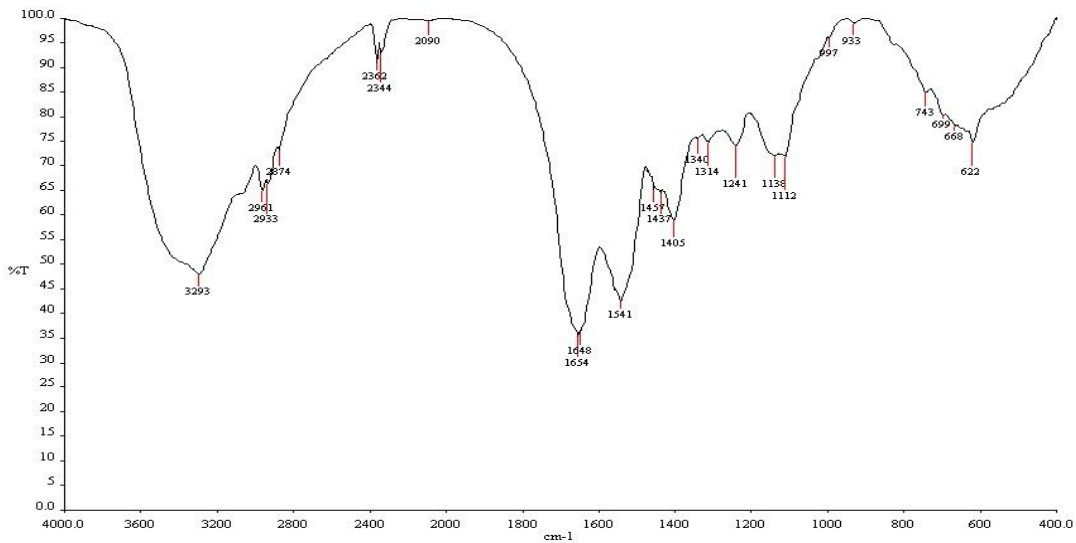


Fig: 2 FT-IR spectrum of chitin from *P. stylifera* shrimp shell waste

Table-1: Main bands observed in the FT IR spectra of standard chitin and *P. stylifera* shrimp shell waste

Vibration mode (Pearson et al., 1960)	Std. Chitin (α -chitin) (cm ⁻¹)	Chitin from <i>P. stylifera</i> (cm ⁻¹)
OH stretching	3462	3293
NH stretching	3107	2961
Symmetric CH ₃ stretching and asymmetric CH ₂ stretching	2925	2933
Amide I band	1647	1654 and 1648
Amide II band	1560	1541

CH2 bending and CH3 deformation	1419	1437 and 1405
Amide III band and CH2 wagging	1318	1314
Asymmetric bridge O2 stretching	1150	1214
CO-stretching	1020	1138
CH3 wagging alone chain	953	933
NH-out of plane bending	752	743

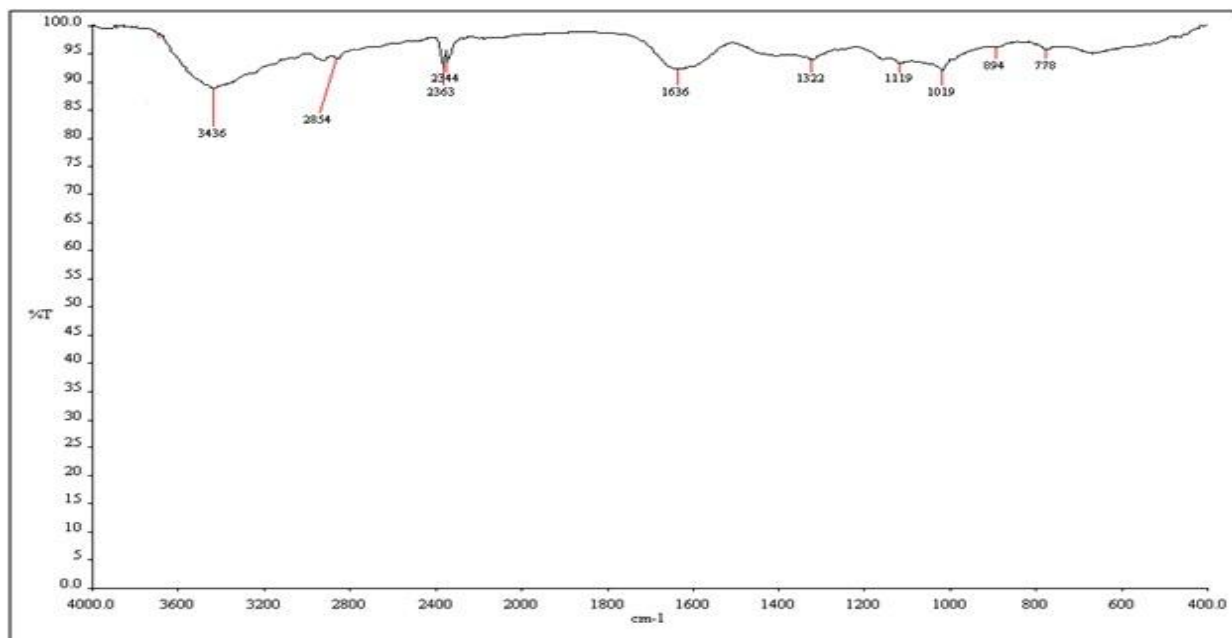


Fig: 3 FT-IR spectrum of standard chitosan

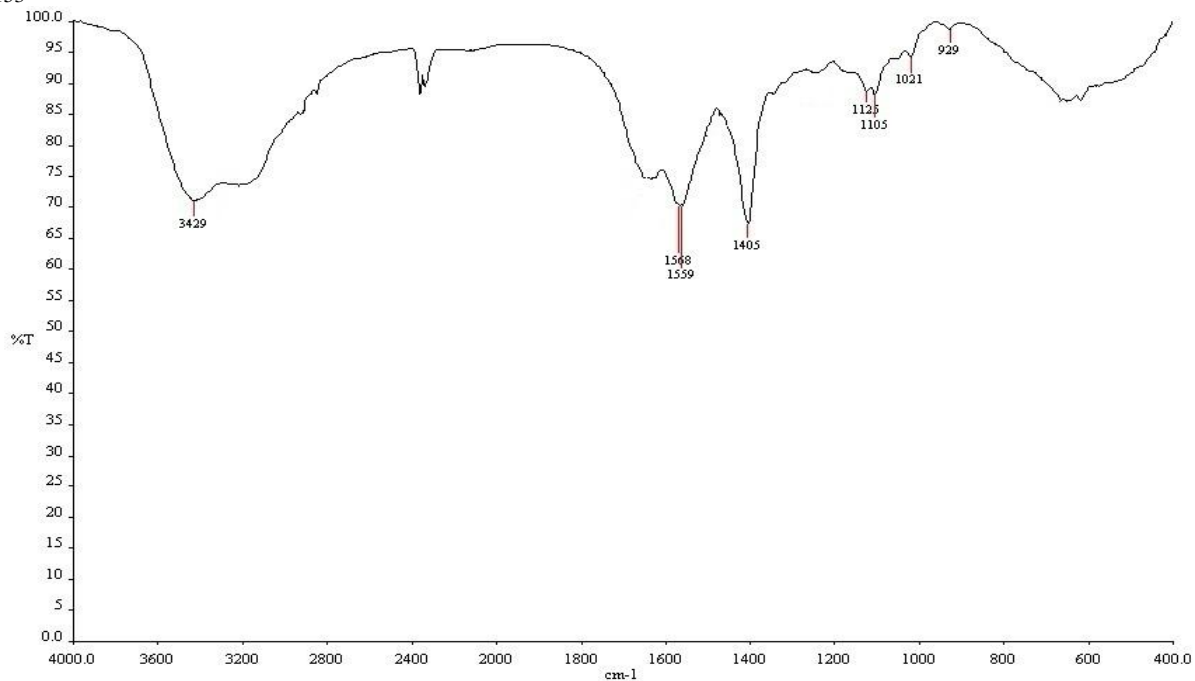


Fig: 4 FT-IR spectrum of crude chitosan from *P. stylifera* shrimp shell waste

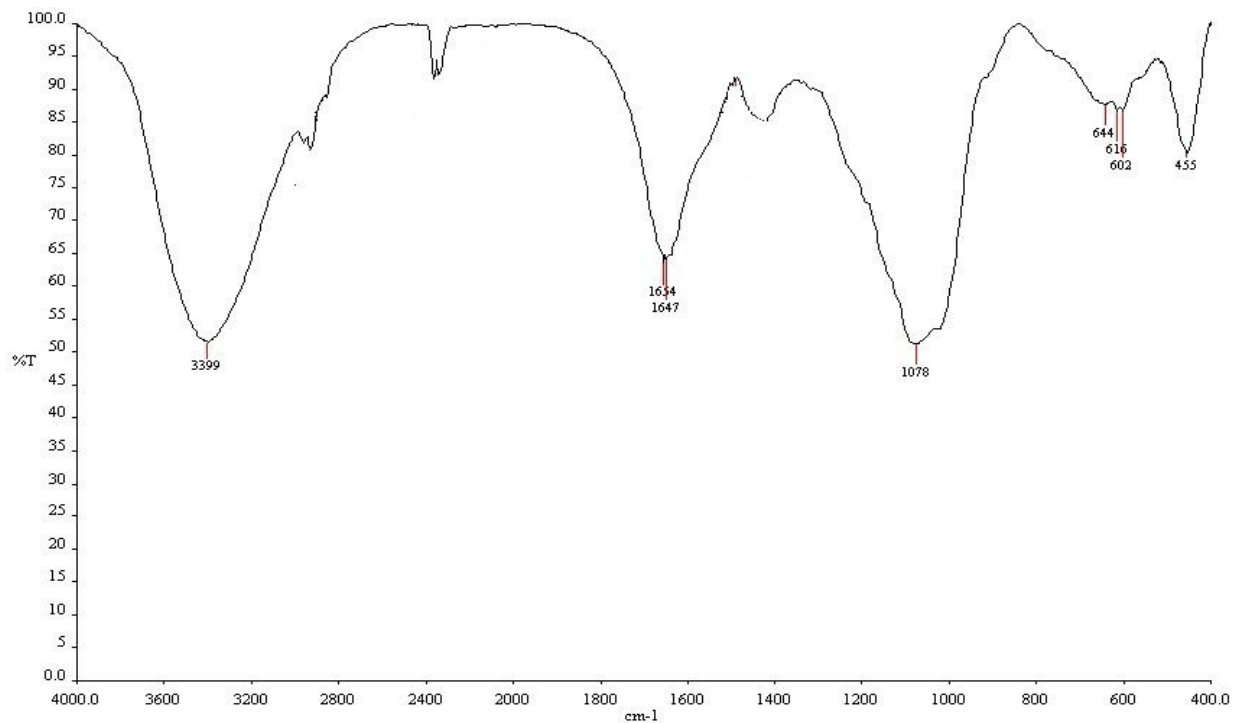


Fig: 5 FT-IR spectrum of water soluble chitosan from *P. stylifera* shrimp shell waste

Table-2: Wave length of the main bands obtained from the standard chitosan and Water soluble chitosan from *P. styliifera* shrimp shell waste

Vibration mode Chitosan Shell	Std. chitosan	Crude Chitosan	Water soluble chitosan
Structural unit	3436	3429	3399
(-NH ₂) Amide II	1636	1568 and 1559	1654 and 1647
PO ₃ 4 ⁻	1322	1405	---
PO ₄ 3 ⁻	1019	1105 and 1021	1078
(NH) Amide III	894	929	-
NH-out of plane bending	778	--	644

Table-3: Antibacterial activity of the crude chitosan and water soluble chitosan from *P. styliifera* shrimp shell waste:

Microorganisms	Inhibition Zone (mm)				Positive control	Negative control
	Crude chitosan		Water soluble chitosan			
	500µg/ml	1mg/ml	500µg/ml	1mg/ml		
<i>E. coli</i>	5.2	8.4	7.3	10.4	10	-
<i>P. aeruginosa</i>	4.3	6.1	7.5	8.4	6	-
<i>K. oxytoca</i>	-	3.2	4.0	7.3	5	-
<i>S. aureus</i>	6.4	8.9	10.2	18.3	17.6	-
<i>S. pneumoniae</i>	2	4.3	5.1	6.2	6	-
<i>K. pneumonia</i>	-	-	-	4.4	4.5	-
<i>S. typhi</i>	1.4	4.2	4.7	6.6	6.8	-

-, No activity was observed