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Evaluation of bio-oil compounds of catalytic fast pyrolysis by multivariate analysis

Çokdeğişkenli analiz ile katalitik hızlı pirolizin biyoyağ bileşenlerinin değerlendirilmesi

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Abstract

The presence and amounts of chemicals introduced by catalytic fast pyrolysis are affected by the process parameters, and relationships between the chemicals and process parameters investigated in detail by multivariate analysis techniques. The present work classifies the most available 11 chemicals based on the 24 samples (treatments) of catalytic fast pyrolysis experimental municipal solid wastes by using principle components analysis and hierarchical cluster analysis (HCA). There were 3 principal components (PCs), but the first 2 PCs explained 74% of variance. The samples and variables (chemicals) were clustered and 2 different groups, respectively, in PCA. The samples and were clustered in 2 main groups and a few subgroups in HCA. PCA and HCA results showed that there was a clear grouping in both and variables

Keywords: Biomass, Fast pyrolysis, Catalyst, Principal components analysis, Hierarchical cluster analysis

Özet

Zincirleme kimyasal maddelerin katalitik hızlı piroliz tarafından üretilmesi, süreç parametreleri tarafından etkilenmektedir ve kimyasal maddeler ile süreç parametreleri arasındaki ilişkiler detaylı olarak çok değişkenli analiz teknikleri kullanılarak araştırılmıştır. Mevcut çalışmada, 24 örnek (tedavi) katalitik hızlı piroliz deneysel belediye katı atıklarından elde edilen 11 kimyasal maddenin, bileşimlerini ve miktarlarını belirlemek için bileşim analizleri ve hiyerarşik kümeleme analizi (HKA) kullanılmıştır. Üç ana bileşen (AB) bulunmuştur, ancak ilk iki AB toplam varyansın %74'ünü açıklar. Örnekler ve değişkenler (kimyasal maddeler) kümeleştirilmiştir ve PCA'da iki farklı grup oluşturulmuştur. Örnekler ve değişkenler HKA'da iki ana grup ve birkaç alt gruba ayrılmıştır. PCA ve HKA sonuçları, örnekler ve değişkenler arasında net bir gruplama olduğunu göstermiştir.

Anahtar kelimeler: Biyokütle, Hızlı piroliz, Katalizör, Ana bileşenler analizi, Hiyerarşik kümeleme analizi

1 Introduction

The concerns related to the availability, distribution, and environmental issues of fossil fuels [1] motivate researchers to conduct studies on bioenergy, a renewable energy produced from biomass resources, in all over the world. Biomass, an organic or biological materials originated from plants or animals, is mainly composed of cellulose, hemicelluloses, lignin, extractives (lipids, proteins, simple sugars, starches, and water), and ash [2]. Bulky and solid raw biomass with relatively low energy density can be converted to more usable liquid or gaseous biofuels [3].

Pyrolysis, a thermal chemical conversion technology, is the conversion of biomass into solid (biochar), liquid (bio-oil), and gaseous products around 500°C in the absence of oxygened atmospheric condition [4]. The distribution of the pyrolysis products depends on the process parameters such as pyrolysis temperature, heating rate, residence time, reactor type, catalyst type and amount, and carrier gas flow rate [5]. Fast pyrolysis is a type of pyrolysis in which the main products are up to 75% under the specific process conditions such as fine biomass particle size (<1 mm); a carefully controlled temperature (~500°C), high heating rate (>200 s⁻¹), short hot vapor residence time (<2 s), and rapid cooling of the vapors [3].

Bio-oil may contain over 300 chemicals, mainly acids, aldehydes, alcohols, sugars, esters, ketones, and aromatics [6]. Catalytic fast pyrolysis is applied to improve the quality of bio-oil and therefore affects the distribution of chemicals [7],[8]. Biooil can be used as combustion source for electricity generation and heat production in boilers, furnaces, and combustors [9],[10], diesel engines [11] and gas turbines [12]. In addition, bio-oil can be used as a feedstock for production of chemicals, such as phenols for resin production, additives for fertilizing and pharmaceutical industries, flavoring agents in food industries and other special chemicals [13].

Principal component analysis (PCA) and hierarchical cluster analysis (HCA) are the two most common multivariate statistical methods in multivariable data analyses [15]. PCA is commonly used to reduce data [16] and to extract a small number of latent factors (principal components) for analyzing relationships among samples or variables. HCA helps someone to gather objects into groups based on their characteristics, where elements in the same group are similar to each other while elements in different groups are heterogeneous. Multivariate analysis techniques, PCA and/or HCA, have been utilized in different biomass energy or bioenergy studies to evaluate their potentials. The effects of different factors on the chemical composition of switchgrass and the generation of biofuels [17], the effects of various

catalysts on the distribution of pyrolysis products [18], the effects of different growing places and species of the biomass on the distribution of pyrolysis products [19] and the effects of pyrolysis temperature on the distribution of pyrolysis products [20]. In general, the potential of different biomasses is limited and, more importantly, the effects of catalyst properties (amount and particle size) on the distribution of pyrolysis products have not been studied.

Therefore, the objective of this study was to assess the distribution of chemicals in biomass based on the experimental conditions or treatment. Firstly, bio-oil samples were obtained by catalytic fast pyrolysis experiments of municipal solid wastes (MSW). Then, bio-oil samples were analyzed in gas chromatography-mass spectroscopy (GC-MS) to determine the distributions of chemicals. Finally, the chemicals were classified based on samples/treatment by using chemometric approaches on the basis of PCA and HCA.

2 Materials and methods

2.1 Catalytic fast pyrolysis experiments

The most common organic materials in municipal solid wastes (MSW) in Antalya Province of Turkey were paper, cardboard, yard wastes, and food wastes. Yard wastes were dried for two weeks. Food wastes were cut smaller pieces by a mixer. After food wastes were dried in an oven for 24 hours under 105°C temperature to lower the moisture level around 30%, they were further dried for two weeks. The dried yard and food wastes were milled and sieved to get the desired biomass particle size (0.5, 1.0, 1.5, and 2.0 mm). Biomass samples were kept in a 1-l proof glass cups for experiments.

Catalyst is generally used to improve bio-oil which has unwanted properties such as high nitrogen content, low calorific value, high viscosity, and instability. Natural catalyst dolomite, was used in this study to improve bio-oil quality. Before using in experiments catalyst samples were calcinated in a vacuumed oven for 2 hrs at 600°C, 1 h at 1200°C, and 2 hrs at 500°C.

Fast pyrolysis experiments were conducted in a specially designed laboratory scale drop reactor experimental system (Figure 1). Biomass sample (a mixture of yard wastes and food wastes (7.5 g each)) was placed into biomass bed, then the reactor temperature was set to the desired value, finally biomass sample was dropped into the reactor.

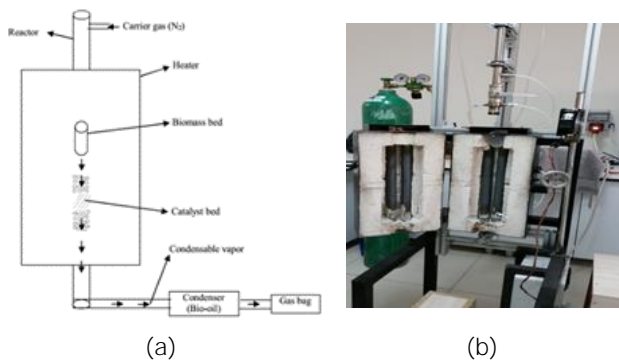


Figure 1 (a): 2D view of fast pyrolysis experimental system and (b): Picture of fast pyrolysis experimental system.

Pyrolysis vapor passing through the catalyst bed was condensed in a condenser and non-condensable gases were collected in a gas bag. In fast pyrolysis experiments, the effects of carrier gas (flow rate, catalyst amount, and catalyst particle size) on the yield and quality of bio-oil were investigated. Fast pyrolysis process parameters (carrier gas flow rate and amount and particle size) with three different levels of each parameter resulted in 27 experimental treatments as in Table 1. A 15 g biomass sample, pyrolysis temperature of 500°C and pyrolysis (reaction) time of 5 min were used in all fast pyrolysis experiments. The yield of bio-oil collected in condenser and biochar remained in reactor after the experiment were determined by mass balance. GC-MS analyses were made by Agilent 6890 GC and 5973 inert MS brand GC-MS system in the Scientific and Technological Research Center (X^o^a^)^a^ ¥^2^ i^ ®^ ¥^°^ μ^ .^ .^ a^ s^ >^ μ^ ±^ ¥^ a^ E^ .^ .^ z^ .^ .^ s^ ©^ .^ .^ i^ .^ .^ ±^ a^ Y^ i^ ®^ .^ .^ a^ i^ .^ .^ 350°C for 98 minutes. Capiler Agilent 19091N column separation. After the GC furnace waited 10 minutes at the 60°C initial temperature, the temperature reached 350°C with a heating rate of 5°C/min. Helium was used as a carrier gas with a constant flow rate of 1.7 mL/min in the GC analysis. The names retention times, and relative abundance (area) of chemical compounds in bio-oil samples were determined by GC-MS. The results of the experiment which has the highest bio-oil yield are tabulated in Table 2 and the corresponding chromatogram is presented in Figure 2.

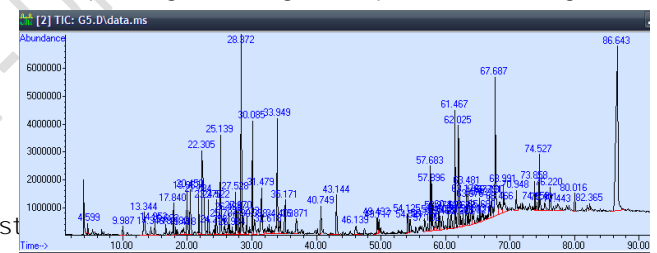


Figure 2 GC-MS chromatogram of bio-oil obtained from the experiment #5 (peak numbers refer to tentative identification of the compounds listed in Table 2).

The chemicals with %area >0.80 were used in Table 2. However, the number of chemicals in bio-oil samples with the highest %area were selected to use in PCA and HCA analyses. The names and codes of chemicals used in this study is illustrated in Table 3.

2.2 Principle component analysis (PCA) and hierarchical cluster analysis (HCA)

PCA is a powerful chemometrics technique to reduce high dimensional data sets to lower dimensions by means of PCs [21]. PCA is a method to determine the samples and variables which are close to each other. A PCA model for a given multidimensional data set can be expressed as below.

$$A = T \times B + E \quad (1)$$

Where, A is n x m matrix of original data, n is the number of samples, m is the number of variables, T is n x h matrix of score vectors or principal component (PC) scores, h is the number of PCs that must be equal or less than the smallest of n or m, B is h x m matrix of loading vectors which relates the PC scores to the original data, E is n x m matrix of residuals.

Table 1 Fast pyrolysis experimental treatments.

Experiment No	Carrier Gas (N ₂) Flow (mL/min)	Catalyst Amount (g)	Catalyst Particle Size (mm)
1	500	3.75	0.501.00
2	500	3.75	1.001.50
3	500	3.75	1.502.00
4	500	5.00	0.501.00
5	500	5.00	1.001.50
6	500	5.00	1.502.00
7	500	7.50	0.501.00
8	500	7.50	1.001.50
9	500	7.50	1.502.00
10	1000	3.75	0.501.00
11	1000	3.75	1.001.50
12	1000	3.75	1.502.00
13	1000	5.00	0.501.00
14	1000	5.00	1.001.50
15	1000	5.00	1.502.00
16	1000	7.50	0.501.00
17	1000	7.50	1.001.50
18	1000	7.50	1.502.00
19	1500	3.75	0.501.00
20	1500	3.75	1.001.50
21	1500	3.75	1.502.00
22	1500	5.00	0.501.00
23	1500	5.00	1.001.50
24	1500	5.00	1.502.00
25	1500	7.50	0.501.00
26	1500	7.50	1.001.50
27	1500	7.50	1.502.00

Table 2 Main chemical compounds present in bio identified by GCMS obtained through the experiment #5.

Name of Chemical Compound	RT* (min)	RA (%Area)
pyridine	12.34	1.20
nitroso dimethylamine	17.84	1.02
2-cyclopenten-1-one	19.96	2.05
3-hepten-1-ol, acetate	20.45	1.73
acetic acid	22.30	7.97
2-propanone, 1-(acetyloxy)	23.27	0.90
2-furylmethylketone	24.52	0.92
propanoic acid	25.14	3.90
2-furancarboxaldehyde, 5-methyl	26.46	0.89
butanoic acid	27.53	1.52
furfuryl alcohol	28.38	3.87
mepivacaine metabolite	30.09	2.83
3-methyl-2(5h)furanone	30.40	0.87
2(5h)furanone	31.48	2.10
3,4-dimethyl-1,2-cyclopentanedione	32.62	0.93
1,2-cyclopentanedione, 1-methyl	33.95	3.84
guaiacol	35.17	1.06
2-cyclopenten-1-one, 3-ethyl-2-hydroxy	36.87	0.95
maltol	40.75	0.99
phenol	43.14	2.03
p-cresol	49.43	0.81
2,3-anhydro-d-mannosan	57.68	2.11
2,6-dimethoxyphenol	57.90	1.34
3-pyridinol, 2-methyl	58.98	1.04
1,4:3,6-dianhydro.alpha.-d-glucopyranose	61.47	2.87
4-pyridinol	62.03	2.52
2,5-pyrrolidinedione	63.18	0.80
5-hydroxymethyl-dihydrofuran-2-one	63.48	0.94
1,2-benzenediol, 3-methoxy	63.98	0.95
phenol, 2,6-dimethoxy	65.82	0.80
1,2-benzenediol, 3-methyl	67.13	1.86
1,2-benzenediol	67.69	4.67
5,8-dicyano-2-naphthol	68.47	1.40
1,2-benzenediol, 4-methyl	68.99	1.77
1,4-benzenediol	74.53	1.54
1h-tetrazole	76.22	1.25
levoglucosan	86.64	17.23

*RT: Retention time. RA: Relative Abundance.

Table 3 Chemical compounds in bio and their codes.

Code for Chemicals	Chemicals in bio
A	Acetic acid, urea, thiirane
B	Propanoic acid
C	Furfuryl alcohol
D	Mepivacaine metabolite
E	1,2-Cyclopentanedione, 1-methyl
F	Phenol compounds
G	2,3-Anhydro-d-mannosan
H	D-glucopyranose compounds
J	3-Pyridinol
K	1,2-Benzenediol
L	Levoglucosan

Actually, PCA is a decomposition of original data matrix into two smaller matrices, scores and loadings. In Equation 1, each column of T matrix is a PC and the first PC represents the maximum variance and the second one maximum residual variance and so on till the total variance is explained. Previous investigations demonstrated that the first two PCs normally explain most of the total variance of the data [22].

The main goal of the PCA was to identify the factors affecting the distribution of pyrolysis products. PCA was used to identify the pyrolysis process parameters affecting the yields of chemicals in bio samples obtained by fast pyrolysis experiments and then GCMS analyses. PCA was conducted for 24 experimental conditions/cases (missing GCMS analysis results) as in Table 1. Since the number of PCs must be equal or less than the smallest number of samples or variables, it was set as 10 as a common rule to determine the main PCs is that the PCs with eigenvalues above one should be included in the analysis. There were three PCs with eigenvalues above one, but the first two PCs were used in the analyses and they explained 74% of the total variance.

HCA is a method to classify samples or variable groups by measuring their similarities [23]. There are a number of linkage method such as average, centroid, complete, median, single, and ward. Similarly, there are a number of distance measuring method such as euclidean, manhattan, person, and euclidean and pearson. The Ward and Euclidean Methods, which are the most commonly used in cluster analysis [24],

were used as the linkage and distance measures, respectively, in this study. Since the variables had large differences in scaling, standardization was performed before computing proximities, which can be performed automatically by the HCA procedure. Percentage values of GC peak areas were set as variables, after which 24 experimental runs were set as samples in PCA and HCA. Both PCA and HCA were carried out using statistical software. The software produces score and loading plots, which are the maps of samples and variables, respectively, and a plot which is the combination of the two (score and loading) in PCA. A dendrogram is produced to visually see the correlations or similarity among elements or clusters in HCA.

3 Results and discussion

Descriptive statistics of variables used in this study is tabulated in Table 4. Since biooil samples of three experimental treatments (experiments 11, 21, and 22) could not be analyzed by GGMS, 24 samples/observations of each variable were used in the study. The vast majority of peak areas of chemicals were over 2, where 2, 2, 6, 2, 2, 12, 3, and 4 samples out of 24 had peak areas lower than 2 for chemicals B, C, D, E, F, G, H, and J, respectively. The chemicals L, A, and K were in the highest amount with the mean peak areas of 15.54, 7.41, and 5.13%, respectively. On the other hand, the remaining chemicals had the mean peak areas with the range 2.09 and 3.76%. The maximum peak areas of the chemicals changed between 2.60 and 19.56% and SD changed between 0.36 and 3.24%, indicating relatively homogeneous distribution of chemicals. The distributions of the most of the chemicals (8 out of 11) were skewed, where the values of skewness are negative.

Table 4 Descriptive statistics of variables (biocompounds) used in the study (n = 24 each).

Variables*	Min	Mean	Max	SD	Skewness
A	2.87	7.41	10.00	1.58	-1.76
B	1.68	3.76	5.11	0.79	-1.37
C	1.54	3.48	4.66	0.83	-0.97
D	0.59	2.46	4.31	0.87	-0.56
E	1.22	3.15	4.07	0.73	-1.42
F	1.88	2.52	3.52	0.39	0.71
G	0.81	2.09	3.34	0.66	0.32
H	1.39	2.58	3.10	0.45	-1.48
J	1.22	2.19	2.60	0.36	-1.68
K	4.24	5.13	6.13	0.48	0.18
L	7.18	15.54	19.56	3.24	-1.42

*: Variables are defined in Table 5. SD: Standard deviation.

Eigen values and individual and cumulative variance of PCs are tabulated in Table 5.

Table 5 Variances of principal components.

Principal Component	Eigenvalue	Individual % Variance	Cumulative % Variance
PC1	6.7342	61	61
PC2	1.4352	13	74
PC3	1.1387	10	85
PC4	0.6210	6	90
PC5	0.4621	4	95
PC6	0.3337	3	98
PC7	0.1156	1	99
PC8	0.0978	1	99
PC9	0.0356	0	100
PC10	0.0196	0	100

Very large eigenvalue (6.7342) of PC1 compared to that of other PCs as shown in eigen plot of chemicals (Figure 3) corresponded to explaining variance in Table 4. PC1 alone

explained 61% of the total variance, but together with PC2 explained 74% of the total variance. The first three PCs had significant contribution to explain variance, where eigenvalues were over one, but the change in eigenvalues was very small after the first three PCs (Figure 3 and Table 5).

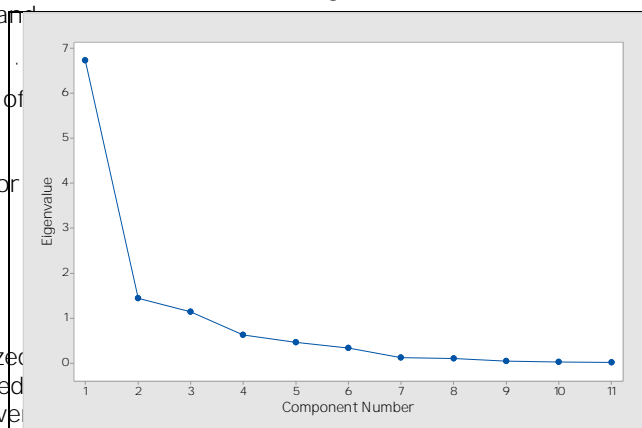


Figure 3 Scree plot of PCA of chemicals in biooil

Eigen vectors in PCs, expressing correlations among variables (chemicals) and PCs (PC1 through PC10), are presented in Table 6. The higher the eigenvector magnitude, the more the correlation between the original variable and the PC. The correlations may be either directly (positive sign) or inversely (negative sign) proportional. There were significant positive correlations between variable F and PC2, variable D and PC4, variable E and PC8, variable C and PC9, and variable H and PC10 but negative correlation between variable K and PC3. An improvement in the value of PC2 resulted in an increment in the value of variable F and a decrement in the value of variable D, whereas a reduction in this principle component implied an improvement in the variable D value and a decrease in the value of variable F (Table 6).

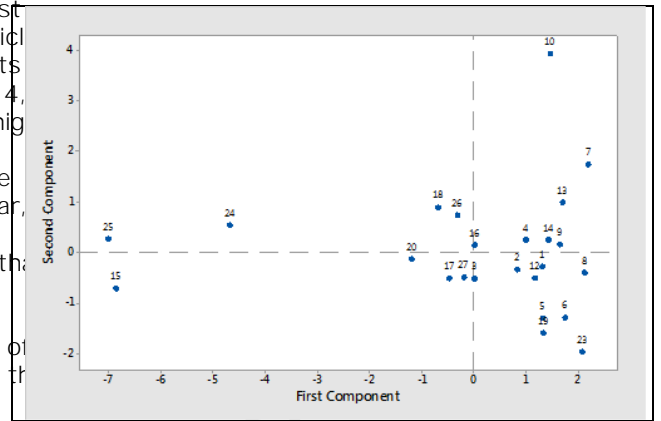
Table 6 Eigenanalysis of the correlation matrix.

Variable	PC1	PC2	PC3	PC4	PC5
A	0.359	0.198	0.059	0.067	0.136
B	0.357	0.287	0.050	0.061	0.053
C	0.356	0.063	0.168	0.109	-0.248
D	0.225	-0.446	0.085	0.645	-0.368
E	0.358	-0.038	0.124	0.055	-0.160
F	0.181	0.652	-0.071	-0.114	-0.340
G	0.197	-0.375	-0.436	-0.574	-0.489
H	0.367	-0.003	-0.090	-0.089	0.152
J	0.363	-0.109	-0.041	-0.123	0.241
K	-0.008	0.158	-0.856	0.428	0.107
L	0.316	-0.267	-0.072	-0.111	0.556

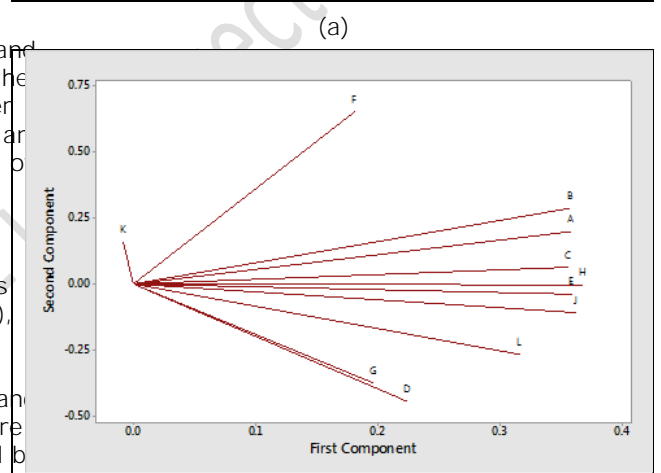
Variable	PC6	PC7	PC8	PC9	PC10
A	-0.359	-0.012	-0.308	-0.459	0.177
B	-0.125	0.045	-0.090	-0.253	0.327
C	-0.338	-0.238	-0.363	0.629	-0.259
D	0.360	-0.042	-0.091	-0.229	0.019
E	-0.269	0.587	0.619	0.099	-0.089
F	0.543	0.112	-0.046	-0.066	-0.286
G	-0.086	0.036	-0.156	-0.143	0.080
H	0.349	-0.241	0.230	0.393	0.628
J	0.012	-0.571	0.394	-0.252	-0.482
K	-0.165	0.023	0.055	0.109	-0.068
L	0.297	0.443	-0.370	0.109	-0.258

The results of PCA are presented in Figure 4. The samples were clustered into four different groups: samples 3, 16, 17, 18, 20, 26, and 27 were in group 1; samples 1, 2, 4, 7, 9, 12, 13, and 14 were in group 2; samples 5, 6, 8, 19, and 23 were in group 3;

and samples 15, 24 and 25 were in group 4. Most of the samples (102 different chemicals in total) in group 1 with intermediate and high carrier gas flows (1000 and 1500 mL/min) and intermediate catalyst amounts (7.5 g) had similar effects on chemicals production. In group 2, most of the samples with low carrier gas flows (500 mL/min) and half of the samples with small catalyst particle sizes (0.50-1.00 mm) produced similar amounts of chemicals. Most of the samples in group 3 with intermediate catalyst particle sizes (1.00-1.50 mm), carrier gas flows and catalyst amounts had similar effects on chemicals productions. In group 4, samples 15 and 24 had intermediate catalyst amounts and high catalyst particle sizes (1.500 mm). Sample 10 alone seems to be an outlier, may be because of experimental errors or some other unknown reasons. The first three groups were similar, therefore, in the score plot of PCs (Figure 4a) these groups were close to each other but distant from group 4. This implies that there may not be a significant change in the bio-oil quality if these process parameters are used. There were two main groups of chemicals separated by PC1 which explains 61% of the total variance: one on the left side of the origin, and the other on the right side of the origin.



The plot of loading factors is shown in Figure 4(b). This plot can be used to visualize the relationship between PC1 and PC2 and the pyrolytic chemicals formed. The capital letters inside the graph correspond to chemicals (Table 3). The chemicals were found to group in two major clusters: chemicals A, B, C, E, H and J and chemicals D, G and L. There was no clear grouping of chemicals F and K.



Two PC plots were combined into one plot of scores (Figure 4a) and loadings (Figure 4b) as shown in Figure 4(c). Figure 4(c) shows an identifiable cluster between samples (pyrolysis process parameters) and variables (chemicals), where samples (1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 12, 13, and 16) and all variables were clustered on the right of Figure 4(b). This showed that there were close relationships between samples in group 2 and all variables, indicating that the yields of chemicals were affected by these pyrolysis process parameters represented by samples in group 2. Even though there is no substantial difference between PCA and HCA, HCA can be used as an alternative method to confirm the results. The HCA results are represented as a dendrogram and shown in Figure 5. The classification of samples and variables was made using the + \$ @ Y - © j ° « Ye axis (y-axis) of dendrogram represents the degree of association between groups of samples or variables, i.e. the lower the value on the axis, the more significant the association. Samples or pyrolysis process parameters or experimental treatments clustered in two main groups (Figure 5). Samples 14, 21, and 22 were clustered as in one group with similar patterns, whereas the remaining samples were clustered as another group. In terms of subclustering, samples 7 and 10 showed some difference from the group of other samples. On the other hand, variables were clustered in two main groups (Figure 5). Variables F and K were clustered as in one group with similar patterns whereas the remaining variables were clustered as another group. In terms of subclustering, variables D and G showed some difference from the group of other variables.

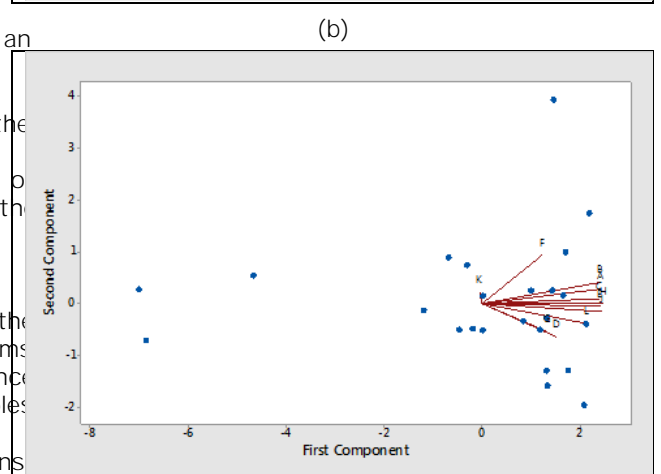
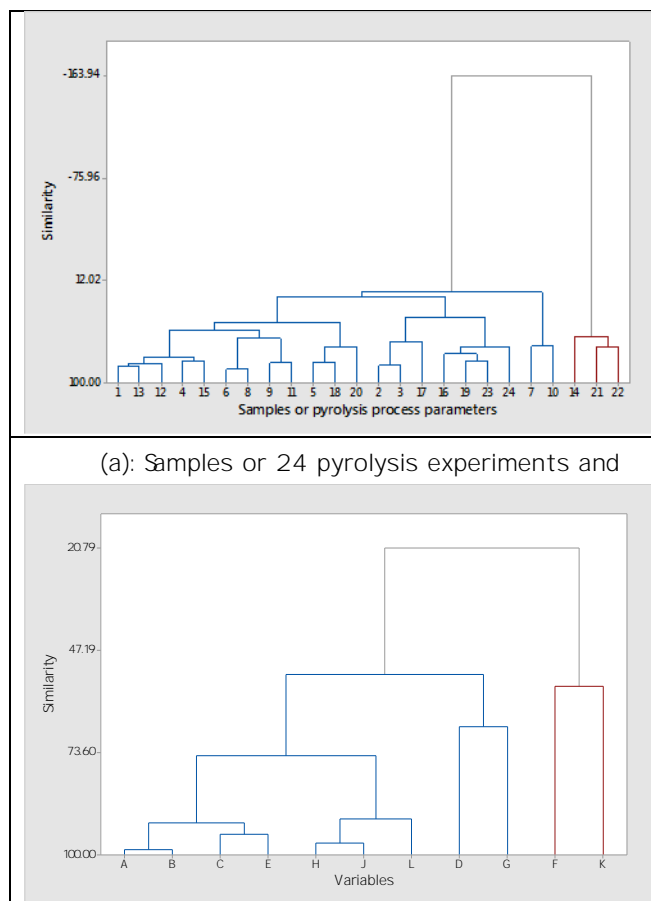


Figure 4(a): Score plot of PC1 and PC2 for chemicals in bio-pyrolyzed at different process conditions.

[17] presented the effects different factors such as storage days, biomass particle size, wrap type, and weight of the bale on the chemical composition of switchgrass and the generation of biofuels by PCA. PC1 and PC2 explained approximately 80% of the total variance. [18] investigated the effects of various catalysts on the distribution of pyrolysis products. [20] conducted a study to investigate the effects of pyrolysis temperature on the distribution of pyrolysis products derived from different biomass materials. The products were clustered into five groups based on biomass materials. The first two PCs represented 72.52% of the total variance. Biomass materials

formed four different clusters in terms of effects on chemical distribution. The results of this study were similar to the studies in the literature in respect to the number of clusters groups. And also, the first two PCs of this study explained a significant amount of the total variance (74%) as in the literature, indicating a high performance clustering through PCA.



(b): Variables of chemical compounds.

Figure 5 Dendrogram of HCA performed using Euclidian distance

MSW (paper waste, yard waste, construction and demolition waste) were used in bench scale fast micro-pyrolysis system to investigate the potential yields of bio-oil. Construction and demolition materials had the highest bioyield, but paper had the lowest yield. Chemical compounds derived from different MSW were also different. A total of 26 kinds of MSW components were classified by cluster analysis technique based on the proximate and ultimate analysis, heating value and thermogravimetric (TG) data. The classification groups were vegetables, starch food, orange peel, wood waste, printing paper, cellulose, PVC, PET, PE/PP, PS, and rubber. MSW components have different classification groups based on their characteristics, chemicals in bio-oils are also expected to be different. The effects of different catalysts on the yield and composition of bio-oil produced from MSW by pyrolysis were investigated and the results showed that different catalyst configuration produced bio-oils with various quantity and quality. [27][28] investigated the conversion of MSW into fuels and chemicals by pyrolysis. The analysis of bio-oil samples revealed bio-oils with different physical and chemical properties. All the results of these studies from the literature

with different process conditions illustrate that different MSW components produce bio-oils with different yields and chemicals as in this study, indicating that further studies need to be conducted for better understanding of the interactions of the input (MSW), process conditions, and output (bio-oil yield and composition).

4 Conclusion

In this study, chemicals in bio-oil produced from municipal solid wastes were classified based on the elements/pyrolysis process parameters by using multivariate analysis techniques (PCA and HCA). PCA compressed different characteristics into major PCs and the first two PCs explained 74% of the total variance. The samples and variables were clustered into 4 and 2 different groups, respectively, and close relationships between samples in group 2 and whole variables were observed in PCA. On the other hand, in HCA, samples variables were clustered into 4 main groups and some subgroups.

PCA and HCA illustrate that the pyrolysis products can be divided into groups and their behaviors are strongly affected by the process parameters. Another way to say is that it is found that the yields of chemical compounds have a response to the process parameters. Both techniques are proved to be a powerful tool to discriminate the formation of the pyrolytic chemicals as a function of pyrolysis process parameters. Further studies may be conducted with different configurations of the process parameters and products since both techniques are promising in multivariable data analysis.

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