

Optimization of Extraction of Galangin from Galangal by Response Surface Method

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Abstract. Based on the single-factor experiments of galangin extraction from the galangal, the experimental variables, the ethanol concentration (X_1), extraction temperature (X_2), extraction time (X_3), and ratio of ethanol to raw material (X_4) were estimated and optimized by the response surface methodology (RSM). The statistical analysis indicated that the independent variables X_2 and X_4 had high significant effects on the response values, so are the interaction effects between the variables of X_1X_2 , X_1X_4 , X_2X_3 , X_2X_4 ; the optimum extraction conditions for galangin were ethanol concentration 90%, extraction temperature 80°C, extraction time 3h, and the ratio of ethanol to material 25ml·g⁻¹.

1. Introduction

Galangal is the dry roots of Galangal plants, which belongs to Zingiberaceae, *Alpinia*, it's located in Guangdong, Guangxi, Hainan, Yunnan, Fujian, Taiwan and other places. Galangal has a long history of cultivation, it's kind of famous specialty of Xuwen County in Guangdong Province, it sells good in home and abroad because of its unique medicinal value and health function. Galangal is hot in attribute, spicy in taste. It has function such as warm stomach, expelling wind, and dispelling cold, line gas, digestion and relieve pain^[1]. Modern pharmacological research also shows galangal has pharmacological effects, for antibacterial, anti-viral, anti-oxidation, anti-tumor, anti-gastrointestinal bleeding, etc^[2]. Its chemical composition is complex, as far, dozens of compounds have been found in the medicinal material, mainly includes flavonoids, volatile oil and diaryl heptane compound^[3]. Galangin (3,5,7-trihydroxy flavone) is one of the exclusive components in galangal, it's also the active ingredient to reflect the main function of galangal^[4].

Galangin is a kind of natural flavonols, mainly extracted from the roots of galangal. Galangin has a significant effect in terms of chemical protection^[5], such as anti-oxidation, anti-ulcer, analgesic, antiemetic^[4,6,7], anti-bacterial, anti-inflammatory, inhibiting in vitro bowel movements^[3], and so on, in the process of vitiligo treatment with Galangin, Galangin is one of the active substances, Shixia Huo^[8,9] et al have proved this point in the efficacy experiment of galangin. Further studies have confirmed, galangin also has the function to anticancer^[10,11], induce apoptosis in cancer cells^[12,13], etc. Currently, reports about extraction galangin method is relatively few, so it is necessary to find an economical and high efficient method to extract galangin from the galangal.

Response surface methodology (RSM) is an effective statistical method to solve the problem of multivariable, it's simple, intuitive, less laborious and time-consuming, so it is widely used in optimizing the extraction process variables.

In this study, the main objective was to optimize the extraction process of galangin from galangal. RSM was designed to systematically analyze the effect of extraction parameters on the yields of

galangin from galangal and their interactions .And it may provide theoretical reference for the technology extraction of galangin.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1 Experimental Materials and Chemicals

Galangal was purchased in wholesale market of Xuwen County in Guangdong Province, China. All chemicals used in this investigation were analytical grade and purchased from Guangdong Guanghua Science and Technology Co., Ltd. Instruments were purchased from SHIMADZU, Japan.

2.2 Extraction and Determination Yield of Galangin from Galangal

10g galangal rough powder was putted in 500ml round-bottomed flask, then added ethanol, reflux condensation in a water bath. The extract was suctioned by a vacuum pump, measured and record the volume (V/ml) of filtrate. 50ml filtrate was placed in the 500ml round-bottomed flask, rotary evaporation was adopted under the conditions of 60 °C, until no further distilled droplets. Less than 50ml of methanol ($\geq 99.5\%$) were added to dissolve solids in the round-bottomed flask, galangin was extracted by the ultrasonic treatment, then set the volume to 50ml by methanol, shook the extract well and took a small part of it to the centrifuge tube and saved.

Since a certain concentration gradient of galangin standard solution was prepared, the sample's galangin (C/ $\mu\text{g/ml}$) was determined by HPLC (Chromatographic conditions: DAD detector, C₁₈ column (250 \times 4.6mm), column temperature: 40 °C, Mobile phase: methanol - water (85:15), flow rate: 1ml / min, detection wavelength: 266nm, sample volume: 10 μl). The galangin content was calculated by the following liner equation based on the calibration curve:

$$A = 32350.9C - 35839.1 \quad R^2 = 0.9994$$

Where A is the absorbance, C is the galangin content in $\mu\text{g/ml}$.

The percentage galangin yield (%) of the sample is calculated as follows:

$$\text{Yield} = C \times 50 \times 50 \times (V/50) / 10 / 1000000 \times 100\%$$

2.3 The Response Surface Experimental Design

Based on the single factor tests, a three level, four variable Box-Behnken factorial design (BBD) was applied to determine the best combination of extraction variables for the yields of galangin. Four extraction variables for this research were X₁ (ethanol concentration), X₂ (extraction temperature), X₃ (extraction time) and X₄ (ratio of 60% ethanol to raw material), and -1, 0, +1 represent the independent variable's low, medium and high levels respectively. Factors' coding and level can be seen in Table 1, 29 group tests were performed at all design points in randomized order, the design and the results shown in Table 2.

2.4 Statistical Analyses

Data were expressed as average of three replicated determinations. The responses obtained from each set of experimental design (Table 2) were subjected to multiple non-linear regressions using the Design Expert software. The quality of the fit of the polynomial model equation was expressed by the coefficient of determination R², and the significances of the regression coefficient were checked by F-test and p-value.

Table 1 Level and code of independent variable for response surface analysis

lever	-1	0	1
X ₁ : ethanol concentration/%	60	80	100
X ₂ : extraction temperature/°C	60	70	80
X ₃ : extraction time/h	3	3.5	4
X ₄ : ratio of ethanol to materia/ml·g ⁻¹	15	20	25

Table 2 Box-Behnken experimental design with the independent variables.

Run	Coded variable levels				Yield of galangin (%)	
	X ₁	X ₂	X ₃	X ₄	Actual values	Predicted values
1	-1	1	0	0	1.34	1.34
2	0	-1	0	-1	1.41	1.43
3	0	0	1	1	1.39	1.39
4	1	0	0	1	1.32	1.33
5	-1	0	0	1	1.41	1.4
6	0	0	0	0	1.34	1.36
7	-1	0	-1	0	1.33	1.34
8	-1	0	1	0	1.37	1.38
9	0	1	1	0	1.36	1.36
10	0	1	0	1	1.57	1.58
11	1	0	0	-1	1.28	1.29
12	0	0	0	0	1.34	1.36
13	0	-1	0	1	1.21	1.21
14	0	0	1	-1	1.33	1.31
15	0	1	0	-1	1.15	1.17
16	0	1	-1	0	1.48	1.47
17	0	0	-1	1	1.39	1.39
18	-1	0	0	-1	1.26	1.25
19	1	0	1	0	1.34	1.35
20	0	0	0	0	1.38	1.36
21	0	-1	-1	0	1.28	1.28
22	0	0	0	0	1.39	1.36
23	0	-1	1	0	1.42	1.43
24	1	0	-1	0	1.32	1.34
25	0	0	0	0	1.34	1.36
26	-1	-1	0	0	1.39	1.39
27	1	-1	0	0	1.29	1.27
28	1	1	0	0	1.45	1.43
29	0	0	-1	-1	1.29	1.27

3.Results and Discussion

3.1 Regression Model and Significance Test

A regression analysis (Table 2) was carried out by Design-Expert software. The predicted response Y for the yield of galangin could be expressed by the following second order polynomial equation in terms of actual values: $Y=3.21-4.734 \times 10^{-3} X_1-0.055 X_2+0.785 X_3-0.132 X_4+2.564 \times 10^{-4} X_1 X_2-5.475 \times 10^{-4} X_1 X_3-2.633 \times 10^{-4} X_1 X_4-0.013 X_2 X_3+3.12 \times 10^{-3} X_2 X_4-3.93 \times 10^{-3} X_3 X_4-4.005 \times 10^{-5} X_1^2+1.434 \times 10^{-4} X_2^2+0.036 X_3^2-1.057 \times 10^{-3} X_4^2$

Table 3 listed the analysis of variance (ANOVA) for the fitted quadratic polynomial model of extraction yields of galangin. A high model F-value (F = 28.10) and a low p-value (p < 0 .0001), indicated that this model was highly significant. As showed in Table3, F-value and p-value of the lack of fit were 0.52 and 0.8155, respectively, which implied it was not significant relative to the pure error and indicated that the model equation was adequate for predicting the yield of galangin under any combination of values of the variables. The higher the R²_{Adj} is, the better degree of correlation between the observed and predicted values^[14]. R²_{Adj}=0.9313 in Table 3 implied that only less 7.0% of the total variations were not explained by model. A relatively low value of CV (1.57) in Table 3 showed a better precision and reliability of the experiments carried out.

Table 3 Variance analysis of regression model

Source	SS	DF	MS	F-value	Prob>F
Model	0.18	14	0.013	28.10	< 0.0001
Residual	6.269×10 ⁻³	14	4.478×10 ⁻⁴		
Lack of Fit	3.55×10 ⁻³	10	3.55×10 ⁻⁴	0.52	0.8155
Pure Error	2.719×10 ⁻³	4	6.798×10 ⁻⁴		
Cor Total	0.18	28			
	R ² =0.9656	R ² _{Adj} =0.9313	CV=1.57		

Table 4 showed the significant test results of regression coefficients, the results indicated that the independent variables X_2, X_4 and two quadratic terms X_4^2 significantly affected the yield of galangin ($P < 0.05$), interaction term $X_1X_2, X_1X_4, X_2X_3, X_2X_4$ were significant, indicated there was a significant interaction between these variables. Meanwhile, the ratio of ethanol to raw material (X_4) was the major factor affecting the yield of galangin, then was the extraction temperature (X_2).

Table 4 Significance test of regression coefficient

Variables	DF	SS	MS	F-value	P-value
X_1	1	6.855×10 ⁻⁴	6.855×10 ⁻⁴	1.53	0.2363
X_2	1	0.011	0.011	24.58	0.0002
X_3	1	1.222×10 ⁻³	1.222×10 ⁻³	2.73	0.1208
X_4	1	0.026	0.026	58.69	< 0.0001
X_1X_2	1	0.011	0.011	23.48	0.0003
X_1X_3	1	1.199×10 ⁻⁴	1.199×10 ⁻⁴	0.27	0.6129
X_1X_4	1	2.772×10 ⁻³	2.772×10 ⁻³	6.19	0.0261
X_2X_3	1	0.016	0.016	36.33	< 0.0001
X_2X_4	1	0.097	0.097	217.38	< 0.0001
X_3X_4	1	3.861×10 ⁻⁴	3.861×10 ⁻⁴	0.86	0.3688
X_1^2	1	1.665×10 ⁻³	1.665×10 ⁻³	3.72	0.0744
X_2^2	1	1.334×10 ⁻³	1.334×10 ⁻³	2.98	0.1063
X_3^2	1	5.2×10 ⁻⁴	5.2×10 ⁻⁴	1.16	0.2994
X_4^2	1	4.533×10 ⁻³	4.533×10 ⁻³	10.12	0.0067

3.2 Analysis of Response Surface

Figs 1 to Figs 6 are tri-dimensional response surfaces and two-dimensional contour plots obtained from the multiple regression equation for yield of galangin, two variables were depicted in one tri-dimensional surface plots while the other variable kept at level zero. It is clear that the interaction relationships of extraction temperature (X_2) with the ethanol concentration (X_1), the retraction time (X_3) and the ratio of ethanol to raw materia (X_4), also between the ethanol concentration (X_1) and the ratio of ethanol to raw materia on the yield (X_4) were significant, they were shown in Figs. 1, 3, 4 and 5, respectively, which indicated these three variables all had significant effect on the yield of galangin.

Fig. 1 is the response surface plot and contour plots of X_1 and X_2 and their interaction on the yield of galangin. As shown in the Fig, the curve in the figure shows gentle, the higher the ethanol concentration (X_1) and the extraction temperature (X_2) are, the higher the yield of galangin is. The response surface in Fig. 2 is flat, which indicated that the interaction between the ethanol concentration and the extraction time is not significant. From Fig. 3, it can be clear seen that, with the increase of ethanol concentration, the yield of galangin increase, so is the ratio of ethanol to materia, and the latter is more obvious. From Fig. 4, we can see that when the temperature at a lower level, with the extension of the extraction time, the yield of galangin grows very fast; however, when the temperature is high, the yield decrease. When the extraction time is short, the yield of galangin increase with the increase of temperature, this trend becomes weaker with the temperature increasing. From Fig. 5 we can know that both the extraction temperature and the ratio of ethanol to materia have significant effect on the yield of galangin, so is their interaction, when the extraction time is short, the yield of galangin fall with the ratio of ethanol to materia increase, but with the extension of the extraction time, galangin yield increase rapidly at a higher liquid ratio. As can be seen from Figure 6, the interaction between the extraction time and the liquid ratio has little effect

on the yield of galangin.

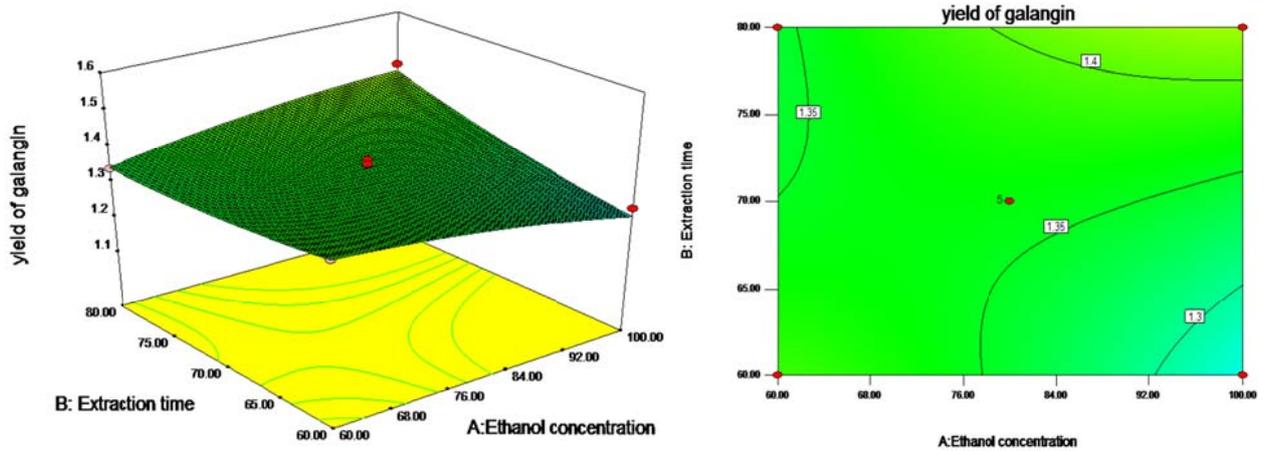


Fig.1. Response surface plot and contour plot of ethanol concentration and extraction temperature and their mutual interactions on the yield of galangin.

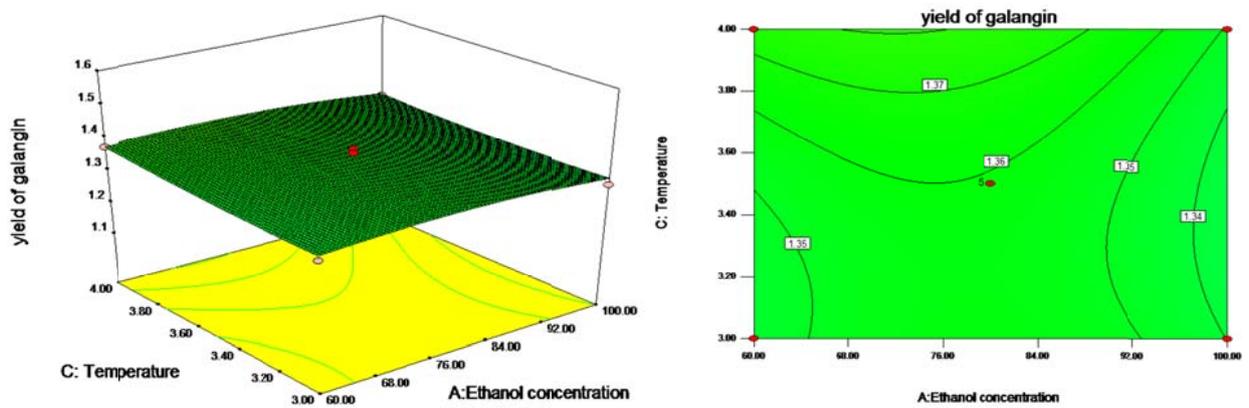


Fig.2. Response surface plot and contour plot of ethanol concentration and extraction time and their mutual interactions on the yield of galangin.

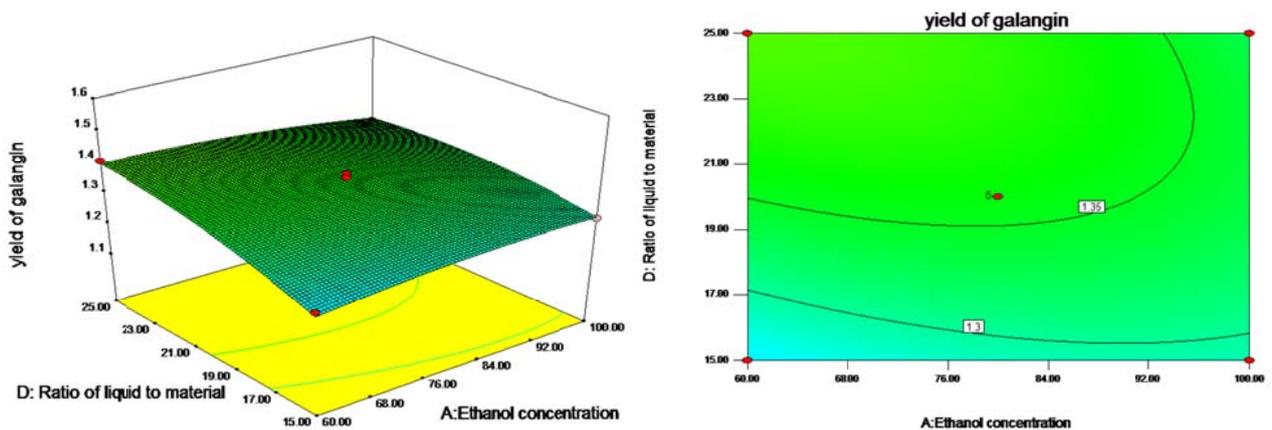


Fig.3. Response surface plot and contour plot of ethanol concentration and the ratio of ethanol to materia and their mutual interactions on the yield of galangin.

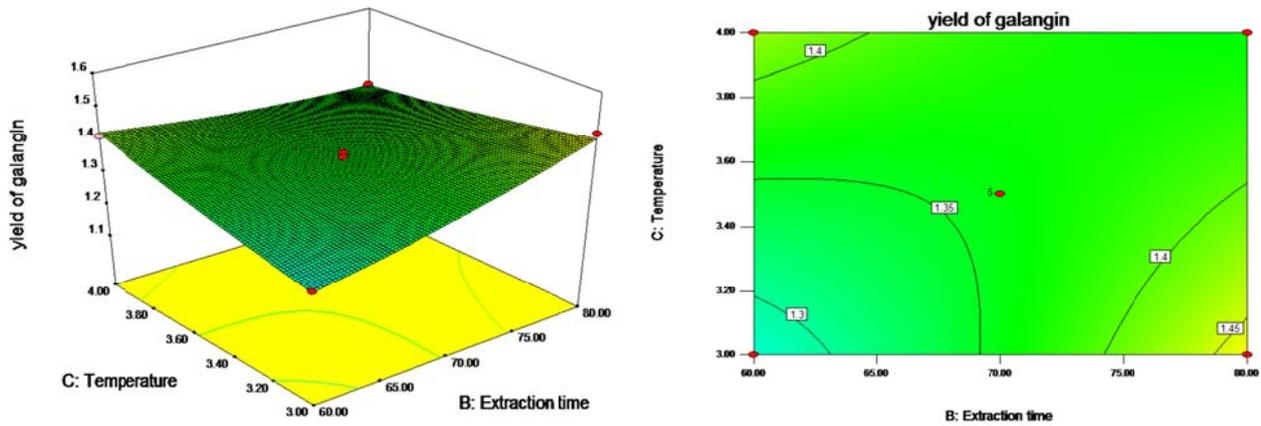


Fig.4. Response surface plot and contour plot of extraction temperature and textraction time and their mutual interactions on the yield of galangin.

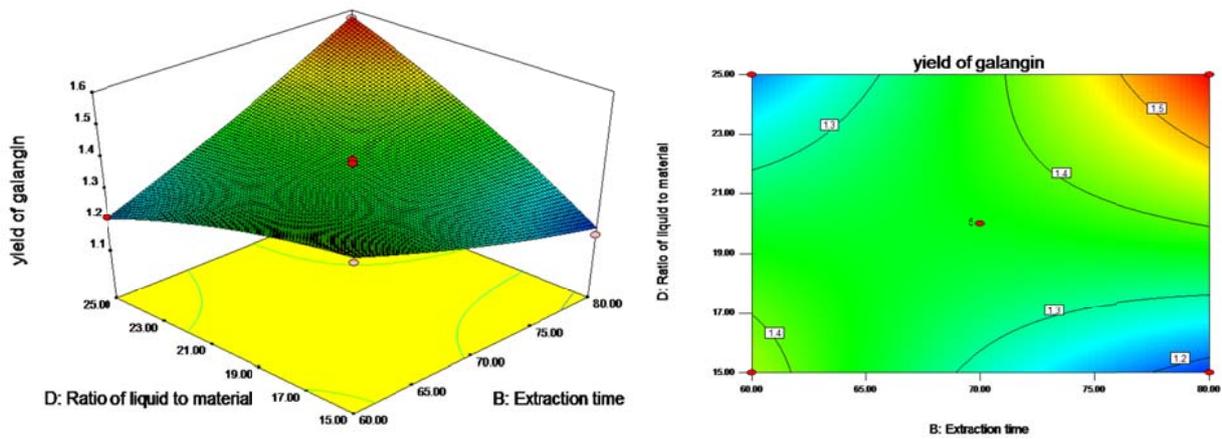


Fig.5. Response surface plot and contour plot of extraction temperature and the ratio of ethanol to materia and their mutual interactions on the yield of galangin.

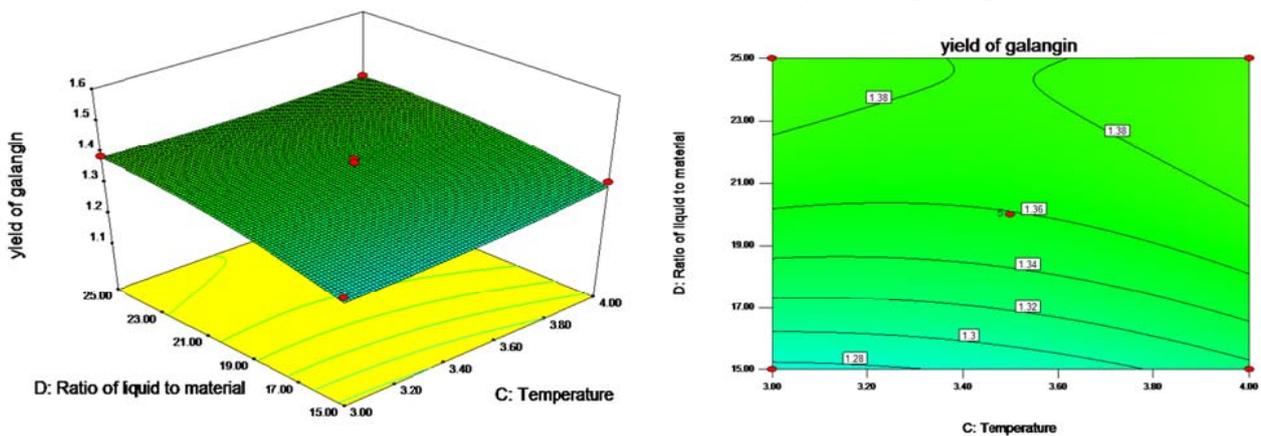


Fig.6. Response surface plot and contour plot of extraction temperature and the ratio of ethanol to materia and their mutual interactions on the yield of galangin.

3.3 Optimization of Extracting Parameters and Validation of the Model

The optimum response value predicted by the model equation was 1.66066%, and the optimal conditions were the ethanol concentration of 93.9%, the extraction temperature of 80 °C, the extraction time of 3h, and the ratio of ethanol to materia 25ml·g⁻¹. To test the reliability of results, experiment rechecking was performed using this modified optimal conditions: the ethanol concentration of 90%, the extraction temperature of 80 °C, the extraction time of 3h, and the ratio of ethanol to materia 25ml·g⁻¹. Experiment was repeated 3 times, a mean value was 1.6543%, it's close to the predicted value. The results of analysis confirmed that the response model was adequate, and the extraction process parameters has practical value.

4. Conclusion

Based on the single-factor experiments of galangin extraction from the galangal, Response surface methodology (RSM) was used to estimate and optimize the experimental variables, the ethanol concentration(%), extraction temperature($^{\circ}\text{C}$), extraction time(h), and ratio of ethanol to raw materia($\text{ml}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}$). The independent variables extraction temperature and liquid ratio had high significant effects on the response values, the interaction effects between extraction temperature and the ethanol concentration, the reextraction time, the ratio of ethanol to materia were significant, so are the ethanol concentration and the ratio of ethanol to raw materia. A high correlation of the quadratic polynomial mathematical model was gained and could be great employed to optimize galangin extraction from galangal. The optimal extraction conditions for the galangin were determined as follows: ethanol concentration 90%, extraction temperature 80°C , extraction time 3h, and the ratio of ethanol to materia $25\text{ml}\cdot\text{g}^{-1}$. Under these conditions, the experimental yield of galangin was agreed closely with the predicted yield value.

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