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GC-MS analysis of *Majidea zanquebarica J.Krikex Oliv*. (Sapindaceae) seed extract

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Abstract

Introduction: To identify the various phyto constituents present in the unexplored plant *Majidea zanquebarica* by using gas chromatography and mass spectrometry.

Methods: Hexane seed extract of this plant was analyzed using Gas Chromatography–Mass Spectrometry, while the mass spectra of the compounds found in the extract was matched with the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) library.

Result: Gas chromatography mass spectrometry (GC-MS) analysis revealed the presence of eight compounds. In GC-MS analysis, some of the phytocomponents screened were 10- Undecanal, 2-methyl-2, 2,6,10,15,19,23-Hexamethyl, 2,6,10,14,18,22-Tetracosa, 9,12- Octadecadienoic acid, Methylester, Hexadecanoic acid, ethylesters Ethylpalm. The compounds were identified by comparing their retention time and peak area with that of literature and by interpretation of mass spectra. Many of them are used in industry for various applications like flavor, antioxidant, anti-inflammatory, antimicrobial, pesticide and cancer preventive.

Keywords: Majidea zanquebarica, GC-MS, Hexadecanoic acid and various applications

INTRODUCTION

Presences of bioactive secondary metabolites in the medicinal plants are more responsible to cure several diseases in mankind¹. Plants are described as "nature's chemical factories" which may contain natural substances that exhibit bioactive properties by producing a definite physiological action on the human body when administered².

Herbal medicine, based on their traditional uses in the form of powders, liquids or mixtures, has been the basis of treatment for various ailments in India since ancient times³. The medicinal plants are reliable sources for the treatment of many health problems. Man has depended a lot on herbs in the past, and even at the present. For future health challenges, plants are reasonably prepared to serve man. The only need is to develop the isolation and purification techniques. The medicinal value of plants is due to the phytochemical constituents they produce. Several studies have reported elemental contents in plant extracts, which are consumed by us either as an herbal health drink or medicine⁴. In general, these secondary metabolites are an important source with a variety of structural arrangements and properties⁵.

A knowledge of the chemical constituents of plants is desirable not only for the discovery of therapeutic agents, but also because such information may be of great value in disclosing new sources of economic phytocompounds for the synthesis of complex chemical substances and for discovering the actual significance of folkloric remedies⁶. Hence a thorough validation of the herbal drugs has emerged as a new branch of science emphasizing and prioritizing the standardization of the natural drugs and products because several of the phytochemicals have complementary and overlapping mechanism of action. Chromatography is the term used to describe a separation technique in which a mobile phase carrying a mixture is caused to move in contact with a selectively absorbent stationary phase. It also plays a fundamental role as an

analytical technique for quality control and standardization of phyto therapeuticals⁷.

In recent years GC-MS studies have been increasingly applied for the analysis of medicinal plants as this technique has proved to be a valuable method for the analysis of non polar components and volatile essential oil, fatty acids, lipids⁸ and alkaloids⁹.

(GC-MS) has been applied unambiguously to identify the structures of different phytoconstituents from plant extracts and biological samples with great success¹¹⁻¹² Gas chromatography and mass spectrum is a reliable technique to identify the phytoconstituents of volatile matter, long chain branched hydrocarbons, alcohols, acids and esters¹³. The Sapindaceae family is known for its traditional medicinal uses as a diuretic, stimulant, expectorant, natural surfactant, sedative, vermifuge and against stomachache and dermatitis in many parts of the world. Chemical investigations of this family have led to the isolation of saponins, diterpenes and flavonoids, among other secondary metabolites. Several saponins and acyclic sesquiterpene and diterpene oligoglycosides have been isolated as main secondary metabolites of several Sapindaceae species used in traditional oriental medicine¹⁴. One such tree Majidea zanquebarica J.Krikex Oliv (Sapindaceae)Syn. Harpullia zanquebarica is a medicinal tree, Harpullia species are used as hair wash and excellent source of leech repellent, fish poison, as antirheumatic and to prevent leech bites¹⁵. However, there is no report regarding this plant. Therefore, the aim of the present work was to analysis the bioactive compound from extract of *M. zanquebarica* seed hexane by Gas chromatography and mass spectrum.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

Plant material

The healthy and matured seeds of *M. zanquebarica* were collected From Coimbatore district Tamil Nadu and identified by Botanical Survey of India, Tamil Nadu.

Extraction of plant material

Plant materials thoroughly washed and shade dried at room temperature after that grind into powder was packed with No.1 Whatman filter paper and placed in soxhlet apparatus along with hexane. The crude extract were collected and dried at room temperature, 30°C after which yield was weighed and then performed.

Gas chromatography and mass spectrum analysis

Gas chromatography (GC) analysis was carried out at South Indian Textile Research Institute (SITRA), Coimbatore. It is one of the key techniques generally used for screening/ identification of many groups of plant phytochemicals. The high attainable separation power in combination with wide range of the detectors that are employed in various detection principles can be coupled. Gas chromatography is an important, often irreplaceable tool in the phytochemical analysis even at trace level of plant chemical compounds. Gas chromatography study includes the important optimization process such as i) introduction of sample extract onto the GC column, ii)separation of its components on an analytical column and iii) detection of target analysis by using mass spectrometric(MS) detector. The extracts were then into GC-MS analysis. Chromatographic subjected separation was carried out with CE GC 8000 top MSMD8000 Fyson instrument with Db 35 mr column (10 m x 0.5mm, 0.25 µm film thicknesses). Heating programs were executed from 100 - 250 ^oC at 3 minutes by using the helium gas as a carrier gas with a flow rate of 1ml/minute in the split mode (1:50). An aliquot (2 µl) of oil was injected into the column with the injector heater at 250° C. Injection temperature at 250°C, interface temperature at200°C, quadruple temperature at 150°C and ion source temperature at 230°C were maintained. Injection was performed in split less mode. The mass spectra of compounds in samples were obtained by electron ionization(EI) at 70 eV and the detector operated in scan mode from 20 to 600 atomic mass units (amu). Identifications were based on the molecular structure, molecular mass and calculated fragmentations. Resolved spectra were identified for phytochemicals by using the standard mass spectral database of WILEY and NIST.

Identification of components

Identification was based on the molecular structure, molecular mass and calculated fragments. Interpretation on mass spectrum GC-MS was conducted using the database of National Institute Standard and Technology (NIST) having more than 62,000 patterns. The name, molecular weight and structure of the components of the test materials were ascertained. The relative percentage amount of each component was calculated by comparing its average peak area to the total areas. The spectrum of the unknown component was compared with the spectrum of the component stored in the NIST library version (2005), software, Turbomas 5.2.

This is done in order to determine whether this plant species contains any individual compound or group of compounds, which may substantiate its current commercial and traditional use as an herbal medicine. Further it helps to determine the most appropriate methods of extracting these compounds. These results will consequently be discussed in the light of their putative biological or therapeutic relevance.

RESULT

The gas chromatograms of seed hexane extract of M. zanquebarica confirmed the presence of various interesting compounds with different retention times as illustrated in Figures 1, 2, and 3. These compounds were identified through mass spectrometry attached with GC. The identified compounds and their retention time, molecular formula, molecular weight, peak area (%), structure, category of the compound, and activities related with medicinal uses are given in Tables 1. The compound prediction is based on Dr. Duke's Phytochemical and Ethnobotanical Databases. Eight compounds were detected in the methanolic leaf extract of *M. zanquebarica*. Among them, the most prevailing major compounds were 10- Undecanal, 2-Buten-1-ol,3-Methyl(cas) Prenol, 2methyl-2, 2,6,10,15,19,23-Hexamethyl, 2,6,10,14,18,22-Tetracosa, Eicosane(cas) N-Eicosane, Nonadecane N-Nonadecane, 1-Tetradecanol-Alfol 14, Tetradecanol, 9,12-Octadecadienoic acid, Methylester, Hexadecanoic acid, ethylesters Ethylpalm.

DISCUSSION

The gas chromatogram shows that the relative concentrations of various compounds are getting eluted as a function of retention time. The height of the peaks indicates the relative concentrations of the compounds present in the plant. The mass spectrometer analyzes of the compounds eluted at different times to identify the nature and structure of the compounds. The conversion of larger compound fragments into smaller compounds gives rise to appearance of peaks at different m/z ratios. These mass spectra are fingerprint of that compound which can be identified from the data library. Generally, the reliability of medicinal plant for its usage is evaluated by correlating the phytochemical compounds with their biological activities ^[14]. In the present study, the GCMS analysis of the seed hexane extract of Majidea zhanquebarica altogether showed the presence of 8 compounds. 10undecenal also posses antimicrobial, antifungal, antiinflammatory and anticancer activity¹⁶.

Octadecanoic acid which is regarded as linolic acid in nature, posses antioxidant, antimicrobial, antiinflammentory, nematicide, insectifuge, hypocholesteromic, cancer preventive, hepatoprotective, antiacne, antihistaminic and antiarthritic¹⁷.

The compounds identified possess many biological properties for instance, 9,12-Octadecadienoic acid (Z,Z) – Linolenic acid (R/T 20.19) is an essential fatty acid so called because they are necessary for health, and they cannot be produced within the human body. They must be acquired through diet¹⁸ and 9-Octadecenoic acid (Z)-, methyl ester, a fatty acid ester (R/T 17.07) both possess Antiinflammatory, Nematicide, Insectifuge, Hypocholesterolemic, Cancer preventive, Hepatoprotective, Antihistaminic, Antiacne, Antiarthritic, Antieczemic, 5-Alpha reductase inhibitor, Antiandrogenic,

Anticoronary properties. n-Hexadecanoic acid – palmitic acid (R/T 15.83) can be an Antioxidant, Hypocholesterolemic, Nematicide, Pesticide, Lubricant, Antiandrogenic, Flavor, Hemolytic, 5-Alpha reductase inhibitors. n-Hexadecanoic acid or Palmitic acid is used to produce soaps, cosmetics, and release agents¹⁹. Hydrogenation of palmitic acid yields acetyl alcohol, which is used to produce detergents and cosmetics. Sodium palmitate is permitted as a natural additive in organic products²⁰. Hexadenoic acid has earlier been reported as a component in alcohol extract of the leaves of *Kigelia pinnata*²¹. Octanoic acid tridec-2eny ester also called Caprylic acid. is used commercially in the production of perfumes and also in the manufacture of dyes²².

 Table 1: GC-MS analysis revealed the presence of phytochemical components in hexane seed extract of M.

 zanquebarica







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