

Original Research Article

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## Gas Chromatography Study of Methanolic Leave Extract of *Moringa oleifera* Lam.

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### ABSTRACT

#### Keywords

GC-MS analysis,  
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The present study was done to investigate bioactive compound present in methanolic leaf extract of *Moringa oleifera* through Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrum (GC-MS). The results of the GC-MS analysis revealed the presence of 15 compounds with peak percentage in chromatogram. The major compounds found were n-Hexadecanoic acid (31.82), cis-Vaccenic acid (27.21), 3-Chloro-N-isochroman-1-ylmethyl-propionamide (7.21). The maximum peak area % of 31.82 with retention time 18.62 min was recorded in n-Hexadecanoic acid. The minimum peak area of 1.0 with retention time 23.94 min was recorded in beta.-l-Rhamnofuranoside, thio-octyl. Hence, result shows that *M. oleifera* contains enormous bioactive compounds which have various biological activities. Therefore, it is recommended that newer Moringa extract based modern drug to be formulated and produce on commercial scale.

### Introduction

Nature has been great source of medicinal curatives for thousands of years and an impressive number of modern drugs have been isolated from natural sources. These isolations-based drugs were used in traditional medicines. Medicinal plants are of great importance to the health of human being. About 3.4 billion people in the developing

world depend on plant-based traditional medicine. There is a need to validate the ethnomedicinal use of herbal medicine and subsequently isolate and characterize the compounds which are likely to be added to the potential list of drugs (Okigbo *et al.*, 2008). Over the last few decades, exploration of herbal drugs use has been increased due to their easy availability, therapeutic potential, least side effects and low cost. At present

nearly 80% of the world populations rely on herbal drugs for their health care need (Sermakkani *et al.*, 2012). Gas Chromatography Mass Spectroscopy is instrument used to detect compound which are present in very trace amount in extract. It is best technique to identify bioactive compounds of long chain hydrocarbon, alcohols, acids, esters, alkaloids, steroids, amino acids and nitro compounds etc. The unknown organic compounds in a complex mixture can be determined by interpretation and also by matching the spectra with reference spectra (Balamurugan *et al.*, 2015). *Moringa oleifera* is the most widely cultivated species of the *Moringa* of family Moringaceae. Common names of this plant are Horseradish, Drumstick, Mothers best friend, Sahjan. Moringa is a fast growing, evergreen or deciduous that can grow up to height of 8m to 12m. Its trunk diameter grows up to 1.5 ft. It can be grown in severe drought and mild frost conditions and hence widely cultivated across the world especially in tropical and subtropical areas. Its young seed pods and leaves are used as vegetables (Fuglie, 1999). Different parts of this plant are being employed for the treatment of different ailments in the indigenous system of medicine. The plant is reported to be used in phytomedicine as antioxidant, antimicrobial, anti-inflammatory, antipyretic, antiulcer, anti-diabetic, anti-tumor and as a hypocholesteromic agent (Ijioma *et al.*, 2014). The aim of present study is to investigate phytochemical present in methanolic leaf extract and identification and characterization of bioactive by using GC-MS analysis.

## Materials and Methods

### Collection of plant material:

The *Moringa oleifera* fresh leaves were collected from botanical garden of A.N. College, Boring road, Patna district, Bihar,

India. The plant leaves were identified by Prof. Chandramohan singh at the Taxonomy section of Botany Department of A.N.College, Patna. The plant material was thoroughly washed in running water, air dried under shade and pulverized to powder using mechanical grinder.

### Preparation of Extract:

The leaf powder (50 g) was dissolved in 500ml of Methanol solvent for extraction using Soxhlet apparatus for 24 hrs. The temperature was between 60°C to 65°C. The solvent was evaporated by rotary vacuum evaporator to yield a semi solid mass of 5.46 g. The semi-solid extract stored in refrigerator at 4°C, and used in GC-MS analysis.

### GC-MS (Gas chromatography- Mass Spectrometry) analysis:

The GC – MS analysis was carried out using a Varian 225 – Gas Chromatograph coupled to a mass detector, Turbo mass gold – Varian spectrometer with an Elite- (100% Dimethyl poly siloxane), 30m x 0.25 mm ID x 0.25µm of capillary column. Injection temperature was maintained at 250 °C, Helium flow rate as 1.5 ml/min and ion source temperature at 230 °C. Injection was performed in the split less mode and the volume was 1 µL. The instrument was set to an initial temperature of 70°C, and maintained at this temperature for 3 min. At the end of this period the oven temperature was arisen up to 300°C, at the rate of an increase of 10°C/min, and maintained for 9 min. The mass spectra of compounds in samples were obtained by electron ionization (EI) at 70 eV, and the detector operated in scan mode from 40 – 700 m/z. The MS start time was 3 min; end time was 35 min with solvent cut time was about 3 min. The relative percentage amount of each component was calculated by comparing its average peak area to the total areas.

## Identification of phytochemical components

Identifications of compounds were based on mass spectral matching with standard compounds in National Institute of Standard and Technology (NIST) having more than 62000 patterns. The essential chemical constituents were identified by matching mass spectra with spectra of reference compounds in mass spectral library of the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST 11). The relative amounts of individual components were expressed as percent peak areas relative to the total peak area.

## Results and Discussion

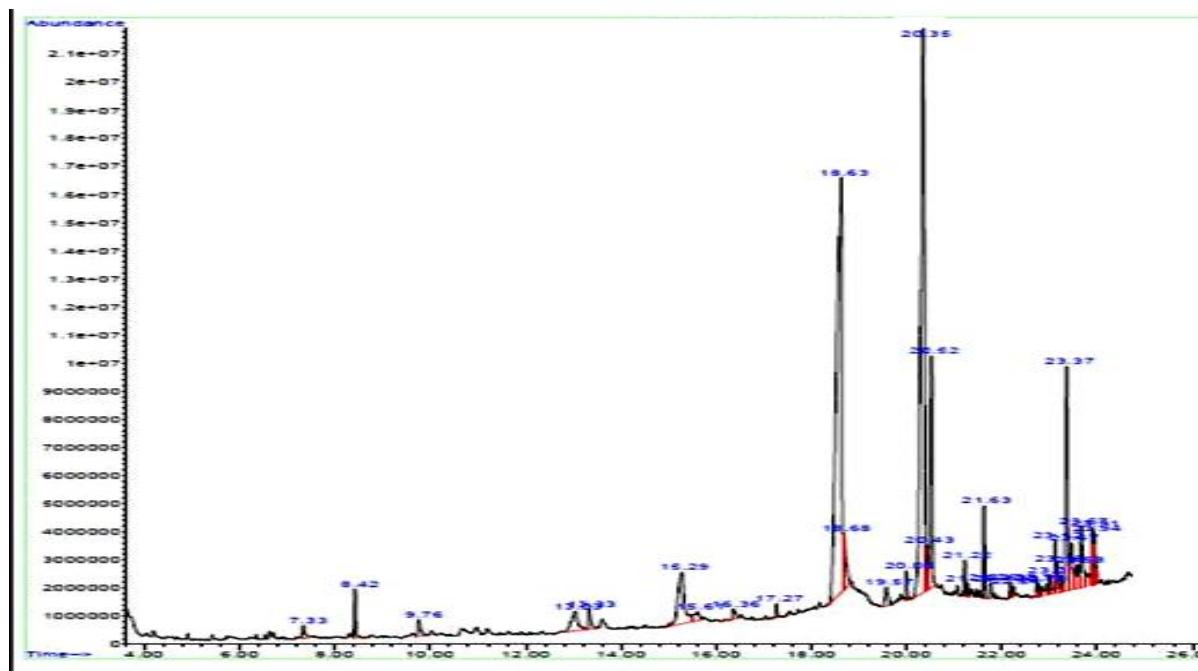
The results of the GC-MS analysis of the methanolic extract of the leaf of *M. oleifera* reveals the presences of 15 phytochemical which are shown in Figure 1. The various bioactive compounds of the Methanolic extract were identified by GC-MS technique were listed in Table 1. The major components with retention time are n-Hexadecanoic acid (18.62), 1,2,3-Cyclopentanetriol (13.03), Tetradecanoic acid(2.18), Octadecanoic acid (20.52), cis-Vaccenic acid (20.35), 3-Chloro-N-isochroman-1-ylmethyl-propionamide (23.36). Maximum 31.82 peak area % was recorded for fatty acid & minimum 1.0 peak area % was recorded for glycoside. The retention time for steroids were 29.16 and 29.26 recorded. The maximum 13.03 retention time was recorded for fatty acid ester. GC-MS result analysis includes the active principles with their retention time, peak area and nature of compounds in the methanol extracts of leaf of *Moringa oleifera*. The GC-MS spectrum confirmed the presence of various components with different retention times as illustrated in Figure 1. The GC-MS analysis study of the methanolic leaf extract of

*Moringa oleifera* had shown the presence of lots of phytochemicals having medicinal bioactive compound, strengths contribution to develop new drug.

The Various phytochemical compounds identified in this study have great biological potential and can be used in pharmaceutical product. Now a day's use of herbal medicine is increasing due to elevation in scientific research and awareness of bioactive compounds obtained from plants for medicinal use. Similar study by Rukshana (2017), the GC-MS analysis of *Pergularia daemia* leaves reveals the presence of seventeen compounds. GC-MS analysis result of the bioactive compounds of leaves ethanolic extract of the *Psidium guajava* indicated the existence of Alpha - bisabolol, 1, 2- Benzene dicarboxylic acid, buty, Hexadeca-2, 6, 10, 14-tetraen, Caryophyllene, Bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate, Nerolidol and Germacrene (Thenmozhi *et al.*, 2015). 18 compounds identified by LC/MS of moringa, two compounds, i.e. isoquercetin and cryptochlorogenic acid, were well known for their anti-inflammatory and antioxidant activity (Sudha *et al.*, 2010). Aja *et al.*, on GC/MS analysis of *Moringa oleifera* leaf and seed which revealed that 9 - octadecenoic acid (20.89%) constitutes the major constituent of the leaf extract while oleic acid (84%) is the major component of the seed extract. 15 compounds have been identified from the ethanol extract of leaf and 16 from bark of *Moringa concanensis* by GC - MS analysis by Balamurugan, *et.al.*, 2015. The main compounds were methyl (11E)-11-octadecanoate, 30.15% and cis octadecanoic acid, 19.16% with bioactivities of antimetabolic syndrome and anticardiovascular risk factor acting by decreasing cholesterol and triglyceride (Gillingham *et al.*, 2011).

**Table.1** GC- MS analysis of *Moringa oleifera* leaves extract

Sl.No.	Retention Time (Min)	Name of the Compound	Peak Area (%)	Nature of Compound
1.	13.03	1,2,3-Cyclopentanetriol	1.68	Fatty acid ester
2.	15.28	L-Galactose, 6-deoxy-	4.94	Sugar
3.	18.62	n-Hexadecanoic acid	31.82	Saturated Fatty Acid
4.	18.67	Tetradecanoic acid	2.18	Saturated Fatty Acid
5.	20.35	cis-Vaccenic acid	27.21	Fatty Acid
6.	20.52	Octadecanoic acid	4.82	Fatty Acid
7.	21.62	Palmitoyl chloride	1.51	Fatty Acid Chloride
8.	23.36	3-Chloro-N-isochroman-1-ylmethyl- propionamide	7.21	Amide
9.	23.46	2-Butenoic acid, 2-methoxy-3-methyl-, methyl ester	1.70	Ester
10.	23.67	3,4-Dichlorobenzonitrile	2.28	Aromatic Compound
11.	23.90	Mannitol,1,4-di-O-methyl-, tetraacetate	1.72	Alcohol ester
12.	23.94	beta.-l-Rhamnofuranoside, thio-octyl-	1.0	Glycoside
13.	27.85	Vitamin E	2.24	Alcoholic Compound
14.	29.16	gamma.-Sitosterol	2.82	Steroid
15.	29.26	Pregn-5,7-diene-3-ol-20-one	1.42	Steroid

**Fig.1** Chromatogram obtained from the GC-MS with the extract of *Moringa oleifera* leaves

From GC-MS result *Moringa oleifera* contains octadecanoic acid (stearic acid)  $C_{18}H_{36}O_2$  and cis octadecenoic acid (cis oleic acid)  $C_{18}H_{34}O_2$  which had hypolipidemic activity may be because it contains 5-alpha reductase inhibitor which may have blocked HMG-CoA reductase which is a major enzyme in the cholesterol biosynthetic pathway (Gapalakrishnan and Vadivel 2011). Hemalatha *et.al.*, (2016) studied phytochemical composition, GC-MS analysis, in vitro antioxidant and antibacterial potential of clove flower bud (*Eugenia caryophyllus*) methanolic extract. GC-MS results indicate the presence of aromatic compounds and major constituents were found to be eugenol and eugenyl acetate.

Hence concluded, from the GC-MS analysis of *Moringa oleifera* leaf extract shows various bioactive compounds with therapeutic potentials. The presence of bioactive compounds in the leaf of this plant becomes scientific base for the use as medicine in various alignments. The present study was conducted to identifying the nature of the components responsible for their antibacterial and antioxidant activity. This study clearly shows that GC-MS is a very important technique for isolation and characterization of bioactive metabolites. Further research is required to identify the role of bioactive compounds in antibacterial and antioxidant.

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