

EXTRACTION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF LOW METHOXYL  
PECTIN FROM DURIAN RIND

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**DEDICATION**

*This thesis is dedicated to my Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ.*

*For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things.*

*May all the glory be to God.*

*I dedicate this thesis to my beloved parents,  
who have been my greatest support.*



PTTA UTHM  
PERPUSTAKAAN TUNKU TUN AMINAH

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## ABSTRACT

Durian is a tropical fruit in Southeast Asia. Durian rind, comprising 65-70% of durian total weight, may serve as a potential source of pectin, a gelling agent commonly used in the food and pharmaceutical industries. This study aims to optimize the pectin extraction from durian rinds and characterize its physicochemical and rheological properties. The factors affecting pectin extraction: durian rind parts and varieties, acid type and concentration, temperature, duration, and solid-to-liquid ratio (S:L) were screened and optimized based on yield, esterification degree (DE), and purity (AUA). Pectin was characterized by intrinsic viscosity, molecular weight, structural, thermal, morphological, and rheological analysis. The durian rind's white part has higher pectin yield than the rind with thorns, while variety D168 has lower yield than other varieties. The parts and varieties did not significantly affect DE and AUA. Pectin yield and DE deteriorated at higher acid concentrations (0.1, 1.0 M). Mineral acids (hydrochloric, sulphuric, and nitric acids) were more effective in extracting pectin of higher purity (AUA > 65%). Organic acids-extracted pectins (citric, acetic, and tartaric acids) had AUA < 65%, indicating poor purity. 0.001M sulphuric acid was selected for extraction optimization due to its good yield (9.13%) and purity (AUA = 66.72%) of low-methoxyl pectin (LMP) (DE = 20.11%). According to response surface methodology, temperature was the most significant variable affecting yield and purity. DE was not pronouncedly affected by temperature (75 – 95 °C), time (30 – 270 minutes), and S:L (1:20 – 1:60 g/mL). The optimal extraction conditions (93.3 °C, S:L 1:50, 185 minutes) yielded 12.12% pectin with AUA = 77.01%, DE = 18.99%, intrinsic viscosity = 148.74 mL/g, and molecular weight = 42.12 kDa. The strongest gel was obtained with 3% (w/v) pectin at pH 3, showing better gel strength than commercial LMP. The gel showed good thermal stability throughout heating and cooling. Therefore, durian rind is a potential LMP source, which could be a gelling and thickening agent for weak-acid-low-calorie food and pharmaceutical applications. Future studies could be done to explore durian rind pectin's applications in the pharmaceutical and food industries.

## ABSTRAK

Durian ialah buah tropika di Asia Tenggara. Kulit durian, terdiri daripada 65 – 70% berat buah durian, berpotensi menjadi sumber pektin, agen pembentuk gel yang biasa dipakai dalam industri makanan dan farmaseutikal. Objektif kajian ini adalah untuk mengoptimalkan pengekstrakan pektin daripada kulit durian dan mencirikan sifat fizikokimia dan reologinya. Faktor-faktor yang mempengaruhi pengekstrakan pektin: bahagian dan varieti kulit durian, jenis dan kepekatan asid, suhu, tempoh dan nisbah pepejal kepada cecair (S:L) telah disaring dan dioptimumkan berdasarkan hasil, darjah pengesteran (DE) dan ketulenan (AUA) pektin. Analisis pektin yang dilakukan adalah termasuk analisis kelikatan intrinsik dan berat molekul, struktur, terma, morfologi dan reologi. Bahagian putih kulit durian mempunyai hasil pektin yang lebih tinggi daripada kulit berduri, manakala varieti D168 mempunyai hasil yang lebih rendah berbanding varieti lain. Bahagian dan varieti tidak mempengaruhi DE dan AUA dengan ketara. Dapatan kajian juga menunjukkan hasil dan DE pektin menurun pada kepekatan asid yang lebih tinggi (0.1, 1.0M). Selain itu, asid mineral (asid hidroklorik, sulfurik dan nitrik) lebih berkesan dalam mengekstrak pektin dengan ketulenan yang lebih tinggi (AUA > 65%). Pektin yang diekstrak oleh asid organik (asid sitrik, asetik dan tartarik) mempunyai AUA < 65%, ini menunjukkan ketulenan yang rendah. Asid sulfurik 0.001M telah dipilih untuk proses pengoptimuman pengekstrakan disebabkan oleh perolehan hasil (9.13%) dan ketulenan (AUA = 66.72%) pektin metoksil rendah (LMP) (DE = 20.11%) yang baik. Menurut kaedah permukaan tindak balas, suhu adalah faktor yang paling ketara dalam mempengaruhi hasil dan ketulenan pektin. DE tidak menunjukkan perubahan yang ketara pada suhu (75 – 95 °C), masa (30 – 270 minit) dan S:L (1:20 – 1:60 g/mL). Keadaan pengekstrakan optimum (93.3 °C, S:L 1:50, 185 minit) memperolehi 12.12% pektin dengan AUA = 77.01%, DE = 18.99%, kelikatan intrinsik = 148.74 mL/g dan berat molekul = 42.12 kDa. Gel yang paling teguh telah diperolehi pada 3% (w/v) pektin dan pH 3 dan gel tersebut mempunyai keteguhan yang lebih baik daripada LMP komersial. Gel ini juga menunjukkan kestabilan haba yang

baik sepanjang pemanasan dan penyejukan berterusan. Oleh itu, kulit durian merupakan sumber LMP yang berpotensi dan boleh dipakai sebagai agen pembentuk gel dan pemekat produk makanan dan farmaseutik yang berciri asid lemah-rendah kalori. Kajian masa depan boleh dilakukan untuk meneroka aplikasi pektin kulit durian dalam industri farmaseutikal dan makanan.



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## LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

%	-	Percentage
°C	-	Celsius
AA	-	Acetic acid
ADI	-	Acceptance daily intake
AGA	-	Apiogalacturonan
AIR	-	Alcohol insoluble residue
ANOVA	-	Analysis of variance
AUA	-	Anhydrouronic acid
CA	-	Citric acid
Ca <sup>2+</sup>	-	Calcium ion
CAGR	-	Compound annual growth rate
CCRD	-	Central composite rotatable design
CeDS	-	Centre for Diploma Studies
CLMP	-	Commerical low methoxyl pectin
D	-	Desirability function
DE	-	Degree of esterification
DOA	-	Department of Agriculture of Malaysia
DP	-	Durian rind pectin
DTG <sub>max</sub>	-	Maximum decomposition rate temperature
EtOH	-	Ethanol
FAST	-	Faculty of Applied Sciences and Technology
FCC	-	Food Chemical Codex 1996
FT-IR	-	Fourier Transform Infrared spectroscopy
FTK	-	Faculty of Engineering Technology
g	-	gram
G'	-	Storage modulus
G''	-	Loss modulus

GalA	-	Galacturonic acid
GRAS	-	Generally recognized as safe
GTMP	-	Green Technology Master Plan
H <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>4</sub>	-	Sulphuric acid
H <sub>3</sub> PO <sub>4</sub>	-	Phosphoric acid
HCl	-	Hydrochloric acid
HG	-	Homogalacturonan
HMP	-	High methoxyl pectin
HNO <sub>3</sub>	-	Nitric acid
INS	-	International Numbering System
IV	-	Intrinsic viscosity
LA	-	Lactic acid
LMP	-	Low methoxyl pectin
LVR	-	Linear viscoelastic region
M	-	Molarity
mg	-	milligram
MHDP	-	Metahydroxyldiphenyl
min	-	Minutes
Mt	-	Metric tonnes
MW	-	Molecular weight
N	-	Normality
NaOH	-	Sodium hydroxide
pKa	-	Acid dissociation constant
rad/s	-	Radian per second
RM	-	Ringgit Malaysia
RGI	-	Rhamnogalacturonan I
RGII	-	Rhamnogalacturonan II
Rha	-	Rhamnose
RSM	-	Response surface methodology
s <sup>-1</sup>	-	Per second
S:L	-	Solid to liquid ratio
SEM	-	Scanning electron microscopy
T <sub>50%</sub>	-	Temperature at which 50% mass loss

TA	-	Tartaric acid
TGA	-	Thermogravimetric analysis
USD	-	United States Dollar
UTHM	-	Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia
VMW	-	Viscosity-average molecular weight
w/w	-	Weight/weight
w/v	-	Weight/volume
XGA	-	Xylogalacturonan



PTTA UTHM  
PERPUSTAKAAN TUNKU TUN AMINAH

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PTFA  
PERPUSTAKAAN FUNGSIONAL AMINAH

## VITA

Jong Sze Hui was born in Kuching, Sarawak, Malaysia on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 1993. She attended Universiti Tun Hussein Onn Malaysia (UTHM) in 2013 and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Science (Food Technology) with honours in 2017 with a good CGPA. In the same year, she was offered a fast-track course for a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Science (research mode) by the same university. Her research interest falls in the fields of biopolymer and rheology, which has led her to her current research topic regarding the fundamental studies of pectin extraction and characterization of physicochemical and rheological properties. Throughout her doctorate studies, she had involved, assisted, and participated in a few other research, for example, the development of starch-based edible coating using modified tapioca starch for mushroom shelf-life extension and the product development of a healthy snack, bitter melon pudding. The fields covered were food science, food preservation, food processing, and food product development. She was also a teaching assistant for the laboratory works of food technology-related subjects in UTHM, for example, Food Technology Unit Process, Food Engineering, Food Processing Technology, and Physical Properties of Food.

