

DPPH and ABTS Scavenging Activities of Oolong Tea from Three Regions in Indonesia

Irda Fidrianny*, Ananda Fitri, Rika Hartati

¹Pharmaceutical Biology Research Group, School of Pharmacy, Bandung Institute of Technology, Indonesia

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ABSTRACT

The aim of this research were to determine antioxidant activity from various extracts of oolong tea from three different regions using two methods of antioxidant testing which were DPPH (2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl) and ABTS (2,2'-azino-bis (3-ethylbenzthiazoline-6-sulfonic acid) and correlation of total phenolic, flavonoid and carotenoid content in various extracts of oolong tea with IC₅₀ of DPPH and IC₅₀ of ABTS antioxidant activities. Extraction was conducted by reflux using different polarity solvents. The extracts were evaporated using rotary evaporator. Antioxidant activities using DPPH and ABTS assays, determination of total phenolic, flavonoid and carotenoid content were performed by UV-visible spectrophotometry and its correlation with IC₅₀ of DPPH and IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activities were analyzed by Pearson's method. All of extracts of oolong tea from three regions were categorized as very strong antioxidant by DPPH and ABTS methods. Phenolic compounds in all of extracts of oolong tea were the major contributor in IC₅₀ of DPPH and IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activities. All of extracts of oolong tea had linear result in DPPH and ABTS assays.

Keywords: Antioxidant, DPPH, ABTS, oolong tea, phenolic, flavonoid, carotenoid

INTRODUCTION

Oxidative stress can cause many diseases, which can be prevented by antioxidant. Phenolic compounds are commonly found in plants, and they have been revealed to have multiple biological effects, including antibacterial and antioxidant activity¹⁻³. Previous study⁴⁻⁶ demonstrated that phenolic and flavonoid content could be correlated to their antioxidant activities. Plants including tea contained phenolic and polyphenol compounds⁷⁻⁹. DPPH (2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl), FRAP (Ferric Reducing Antioxidant Power) and ABTS (2,2'-azino-bis (3-ethylbenzthiazoline-6-sulfonic acid) can be used to predict antioxidant activity of vegetables, fruits and food⁹⁻¹¹. Previous research^{8,9,11,12} revealed that DPPH, FRAP and ABTS methods could be used to determine antioxidant activity in many plants extracts. The previous study¹²⁻¹⁴ reported that tea had antioxidant activities by using ABTS, DPPH, and FRAP assays. Tea leaves contained many phenolic compound such as epigallocatechin gallate (EGCG), epigallocatechin (EGC), epicatechin gallate (ECG), gallic acid (GC), epicatechin (EC) and catechin, which can act as antioxidant¹². The aim of this research were to determine antioxidant activities of different polarities extracts (n-hexane, ethyl acetate and ethanol) of oolong tea from three different regions in Indonesia using antioxidant testing DPPH and ABTS assays, and correlations of their antioxidant activities with total phenolic, flavonoid and carotenoid content.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Materials

DPPH (2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl), ABTS (2,2'-azino-bis (3-ethylbenzthiazoline-6-sulfonic acid) diammonium salt), gallic acid, quercetin, beta carotene was purchased from Sigma-Aldrich (MO, USA), three organs of oolong tea, ethanol. All other reagents were analytical grades.

Preparation of sample

Oolong tea were collected from three different regions were: Halimun mountain, Bayah-Banten namely as BA, Cigudek- Mas mountain, Bogor –West Java as sample WJ and Kepahiang-Bengkulu as sample BE, were thoroughly washed with tap water, wet sortation, cut, dried and grinded into powder.

Extraction

Three hundred grams of powdered samples were extracted by reflux using different polarity solvents. Extraction using n-hexane was repeated three times. The remaining residue was then extracted three times by using ethyl acetate. Finally the remaining residue was extracted three times using ethanol. So totally there were nine extracts: three n-hexane extracts (namely BA1, WJ1 and BE1), three ethyl acetate extracts (BA2, WJ2 and BE2) and three of ethanolic extracts (BA3, WJ3 and BE3).

DPPH scavenging activity

Preparation of DPPH solution was adopted from Blois¹⁵ with minor modification. Various concentration of each extract were pipetted into DPPH solution 50 µg/ml (volume 1:1) to initiate the reaction for obtaining a calibration curve. The absorbance was measured after 30 minutes incubation at wavelength 515 nm by using

spectrophotometer UV-Vis Beckman Coulter DU 720. Methanol was used as a blank. DPPH solution 50 µg/ml was used as control. Ascorbic acid was used as standard. Analysis was done in triplicate for standard and each extract. Antioxidant activity of each extract by DPPH method was determined by calculating percentage of antioxidant activity using reduction of DPPH absorbance¹⁶. IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging activity of each extract can be calculated using its calibration curve.

ABTS scavenging activity

Preparation of ABTS solution was adopted from Li *et al.*¹⁷ method with minor modification. ABTS diammonium salt solution 7.6 mM in aquadest and potassium persulfate solution 2.5 mM in aquadest were prepared. Each solution was left in dark room for 12 hours. The two solutions were mixed with 30 minutes incubation, left the mixture in refrigerator for 24 hours, then diluted in ethanol. Various concentration of each extract were pipetted into ABTS solution 50 µg/ml (volume 1:1) to initiate the reaction for obtaining a calibration curve. The absorbance was read at wavelength 734 nm using spectrophotometer UV-Vis Beckman Coulter DU 720. Ethanol (95%) was used as a blank, ABTS solution 50 µg/ml as control and ascorbic acid as standard. Analysis was done in triplicate for standard and each extract. Antioxidant capacity of each extract by ABTS method was determined by calculating percentage of antioxidant activity using reduction of ABTS absorbance¹⁶. IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activity of each extract can be calculated using its calibration curve.

Total phenolic content (TPC)

Total phenolic content were adapted from Pourmorad⁴ using the modified Folin-Ciocalteu method. The absorbance was read at wavelength 765 nm. Analysis was done in triplicate for each extract. Gallic acid standard solution (40-165 µg/ml) was used to obtain a calibration curve. Total phenolic content was reported as percentage of total gallic acid equivalent per 100 g extract (g GAE/100 g).

Total flavonoid content (TFC)

Total flavonoid content was measured using modified method from Chang *et al.*¹⁸. The absorbance was read at wavelength 415 nm. Analysis was done in triplicate for each extract. Quercetin standard solution (36-120 µg/ml) was used to obtain a calibration curve. The total flavonoid content was reported as percentage of total quercetin equivalent per 100 g extract (g QE/100 g).

Total carotenoid content (TCC)

Total carotenoid content was measured using the modified carotene method adapted from Thaipong *et al.*¹⁰. Each extract was diluted in n-hexane. The absorbance was read at wavelength 470 nm. Analysis was done in triplicate for each extract. Beta carotene standard solution (15-55 µg/ml) was used to obtain a calibration curve. The total carotenoid content was reported as percentage of total beta carotene equivalent per 100 g extract (g BE/100 g).

Statistical Analysis

Each sample analysis was performed in triplicate. All results presented are means (± standard deviation) of at

least three independent experiments. Statistical analysis using ANOVA with a statistical significance level set at $p < 0.05$ and post-hoc Tukey procedure was carried out with SPSS 16 for Windows. Correlation between the total phenolic, flavonoid, carotenoid content and antioxidant activities, and correlation between two antioxidant activity methods were performed using the Pearson's method.

RESULTS

IC₅₀ of DPPH and IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activity

The IC₅₀ of DPPH and IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activities in various extracts from three different regions of oolong tea using DPPH and ABTS assays were shown in Fig 1 and Fig 2. IC₅₀ of DPPH and IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activities of each extract were compared to IC₅₀ ascorbic acid as standard. The lowest value of IC₅₀ means had the highest antioxidant activity.

TPC in various extracts of oolong tea

TPC among the various extracts were exposed in term of gallic acid equivalent using the standard curve equation $y = 0.0048x + 0.00257$, $R^2 = 0.9989$. The TPC in various extracts from three different regions of oolong tea exposed different result in the range of 2.10 – 83.06 g GAE/100 g. Ethanolic extract of oolong tea from Bengkulu (BE3) expressed the highest phenolic content (83.06 g GAE/100 g) (Fig 3) and the lowest was given by n-hexane extract of oolong tea from Banten (BA1).

TFC in various extracts of oolong tea

TFC among the various extracts were demonstrated in term of quercetin equivalent using the standard curve equation $y = 0.0069x - 0.019$, $R^2 = 0.9983$. The TFC in various extracts from three different regions of oolong tea showed different result ranged from 2.22 to 8.13 g QE/100 g (Fig 4). Ethyl acetate extract of oolong tea from Banten (BA2) had the highest total flavonoid content (8.13 g QE/100 g).

TCC in various extracts of oolong tea

TCC among the various extracts were expressed in term of beta carotene equivalent using the standard curve equation $y = 0.0121x - 0.0084$, $R^2 = 0.9998$. The TCC in various extracts from three different regions of oolong tea gave different result in the range of 0.20 – 32.14 g BE/100 g (Fig 5). The highest carotenoid content (32.14 g BE/100 g) was given by n-hexane extract of oolong tea from Banten (BA1), while the lowest carotenoid (0.20 g BE/100 g) for ethanolic extract of oolong tea from Bengkulu (BE3).

Correlations between total phenolic, flavonoid, carotenoid content in various extracts of oolong tea and IC₅₀ of DPPH, IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activities

Pearson's correlation coefficient between TPC in various extracts of oolong tea and their antioxidant activities exposed that TPC in all of extracts (BA, WJ and BE) had negative and high significant correlation with IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging activities ($r = -0.857$; $r = -0.850$; $r = -0.832$, $p < 0.01$) and IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activities ($r = -0.850$; $r = -0.880$; $r = -0.809$, $p < 0.01$). TFC in all of extracts had no significant correlation with their IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging activities and IC₅₀ of ABTS

scavenging activities and TCC in all of extracts had positive correlation with their IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging activities and IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activities (Table 1).

DISCUSSION

The previous research^{19,22} reported that tea leaves had antioxidant capacity. Some research showed that antioxidant activity of green tea > oolong tea > black tea^{22,23}, but other research demonstrated that oolong tea had higher antioxidant activity than the green ones¹¹. There were no study regarding antioxidant activity of various extracts (which were n-hexane, ethyl acetate and ethanol) of oolong tea from three different regions in Indonesia using DPPH and ABTS assays.

DPPH free radicals dissolve in methanol give characteristic absorption at wavelength 516 nm and ABTS free radicals dissolve in ethanol have absorption at λ 734 nm. Colors of DPPH and ABTS would be changed when the free radicals were scavenged by antioxidant¹⁷. DPPH would be changed from purple to yellow color, while ABTS changed from turquoise to white color. The IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging activities and IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activities in various extracts of oolong tea from three regions using DPPH and ABTS assays were shown in Fig 1 and Fig 2. The IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging activities and IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activities in various extracts compared to IC₅₀ of ascorbic acid standard. The lowest value of IC₅₀ means had the highest antioxidant activity. IC₅₀ were used to determine antioxidant capacity of sample was compared to standard. Sample which had IC₅₀ lower than 50 μ g/ml was a very strong antioxidant, 50-100 μ g/ml was a strong antioxidant, 101-150 μ g/ml was a medium antioxidant, while a weak antioxidant with IC₅₀ greater than 150 μ g/ml¹⁵. In the present study demonstrated that IC₅₀ of DPPH and IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activities of various extracts of oolong tea from three different regions ranged from 0.31 to 14.27 μ g/ml and 0.02 to 5.29 μ g/ml, respectively. Based on value of IC₅₀ of DPPH and IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging capacity it can be concluded that all of extracts of oolong tea from three regions (Banten, West Java and Bengkulu) can be classified as very strong antioxidant. The lowest IC₅₀ of DPPH was given by ethyl acetate extract of oolong tea from West Java (WJ2) 0.31 μ g/ml, while IC₅₀ of DPPH of ascorbic acid was 0.11 μ g/ml. It exposed that potency of ascorbic acid was around three times potency of WJ2 using DPPH method. Ethanolic extract of oolong tea from Banten (BA3) had the lowest IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activities (0.02 μ g/ml) while ascorbic acid standard showed IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activity 0.09 μ g/ml. It demonstrated that antioxidant potency of BA3 was around four times of potency of ascorbic acid using ABTS assay. In the present study exposed that IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging activity of ethanolic extract of oolong tea from Banten, West Java and Bengkulu were 0.87, 0.37, 1.37 μ g/ml, respectively, while their IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activity were 0.02, 0.14, 0.09 μ g/ml, respectively. Previous research revealed that antioxidant activity of

methanol –water infusion of white tea, green tea, black tea orthodox, black tea CTC from Malawi - Africa, by ABTS assay were 38.4, 55.0, 34.0, 25.5 mM TE (mM Trolox equivalents) respectively, while by ORAC assays were 47, 61, 62 and 32 mM TE, respectively¹⁹. Study by Lee²⁰ expressed that tetraglycosides of quercetin and tetraglycosides of kaempferol had EC₅₀ of DPPH 30.5 and 487.2 μ M. Venditti¹¹ stated that oolong tea, green tea and black tea in hot water had antioxidant activity 17.5, 12.5, 7.5 mM TEAC by using ABTS method, while in cold water gave 12, 10, 5 mM TEAC. This result exposed that green tea was not always have higher antioxidant activity compared to oolong tea. ABTS scavenging activity of white tea in cold water was significantly higher than the hot ones ($p < 0.05$). Black tea had no significant different between in hot water and cold water, while oolong tea demonstrated that ABTS scavenging activity of hot water was significantly higher than the cold ones. Previous study by Zielinski¹⁴ exhibited that infusion of four clusters of Brazilian teas had percentage of DPPH scavenging activities of cluster 1, 2, 3 and 4 were 16.29, 46.52, 72.36, 46.91 %, respectively, while by FRAP method showed 1023, 4999, 11537, 4463 μ mol TE/l, respectively. Evans²² stated that FRAP capacity of green tea infusion was 2.5 fold greater than black tea. Extraction was performed by preparation infusion water in the ranged of 20 -90°C. Increasing in temperature could increase antioxidant potential 4 to 9.5 fold by FRAP assay. Previous research exposed that antioxidant activity of water extract of green tea higher than oolong tea and black tea by DPPH method²¹. Methanol extract of tea leaves from lowland which was classified as shoots, young leaves and mature leaves, had IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging activity 26, 30, 37 μ g/ml respectively, while their FRAP capacity 55.6, 54.5, 21.3 mg GAE/g, respectively. IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging activity of methanol extract of young leaves form lowland 30 μ g/ml which was lower than from highland 35 μ g/ml. Methanol extract of microwaved young leaves had IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging activity 13 μ g/ml which was lower than its hot water extract, while its FRAP capacity 126 mg GAE/g was higher than hot water extract 123 mg GAE/g¹². Yang¹³ revealed that ethanol-water (7:3) extract of tea flower showed IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging activity 47.6 μ g/ml, while IC₅₀ of DPPH of chloroform fraction, ethyl acetate fraction, n-butanol fraction and water fraction were 59.6, 11.1, 45.9, 183.6 μ g/ml, while ascorbic acid had 8.8 μ g/ml. Methanol extract of freeze dried leaves of twelve tea clones of Iran were studied by Gonbad²⁴ and the result reported that tea clone Iran 100 gave the lowest IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging activity (218 μ g/ml). Total phenolic content (TPC) and Total flavonoid content (TFC) might be related with antioxidant activity. Study by Satoh²¹ exposed that TPC in water extract of green tea was higher than oolong tea and black tea, it was similar with previous research by Roginsky²³. TPC in water extract of black tea 80.5-134.9 mg/g of dry matter and TFC in water extract of green tea 87.5-106.2 mg/g of dry matter⁷. Hot water and cold water extracts of oolong tea had TPC 6 mM GAE and 5.7 mM GAE which was

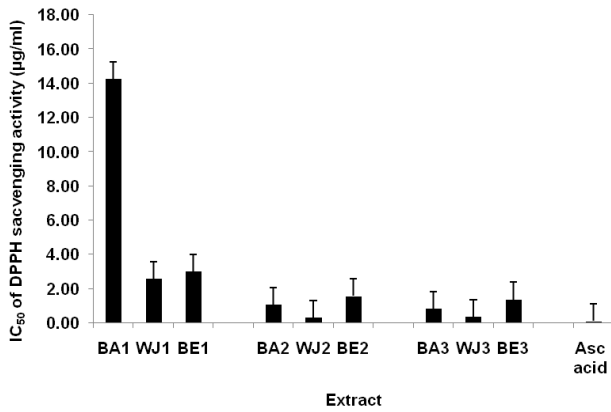


Fig 1: IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging activities in various extracts of oolong tea from three regions

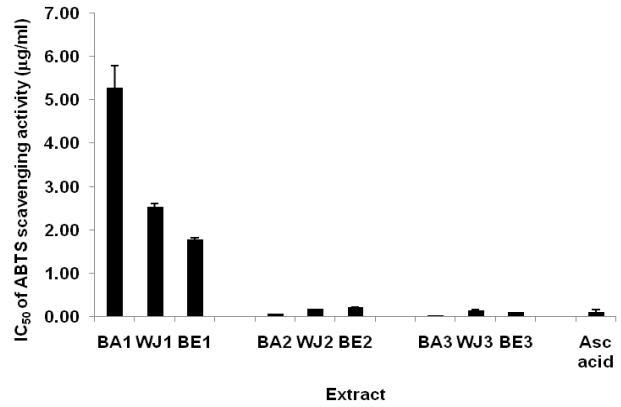


Fig 2: IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activities in various extracts of oolong tea from three regions

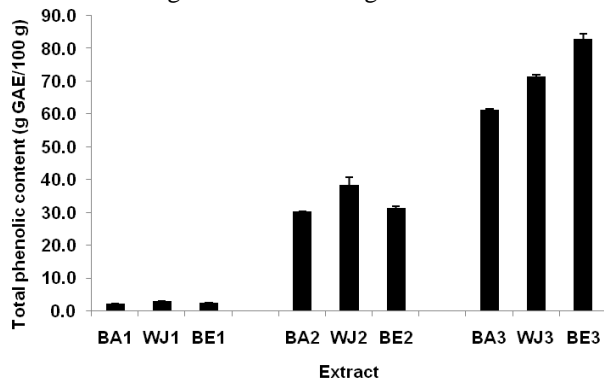


Fig 3: Total phenolic content in various extracts of oolong tea

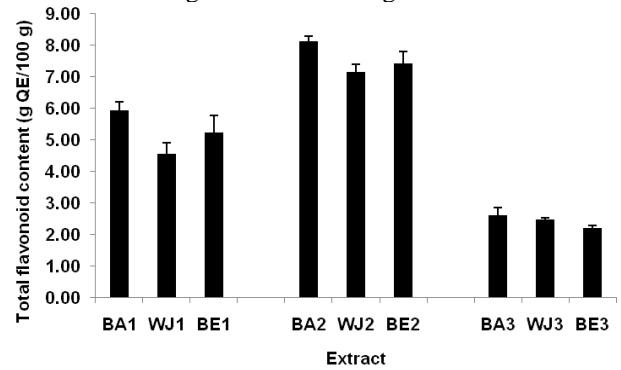


Fig 4: Total flavonoid content in various extracts of oolong tea

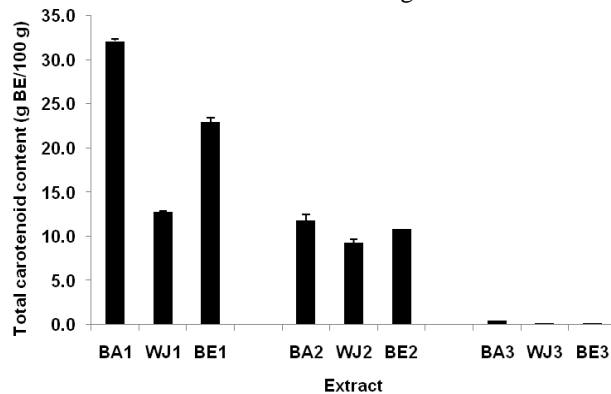


Fig 5: Total carotenoid content in various extracts of oolong tea

higher than green tea and black tea, but it was lower than white tea 6.3 mM GAE and 7.9 mM GAE¹¹. Previous research by Chan¹² reported that TPC in methanol extract of microwaved young leaves 20.55 mg GAE/100 g was higher than TPC in hot water extract 19.12 mg GAE/100 g. The methanol extract of young leaves from lowland had TPC 7280 mg GAE/100 g which was lower than highland 7586 mg GAE/100 g, while TPC in methanolic extract of shoots, young leaves and mature leaves from lowland were 7666, 7280 and 5836 mg GAE/100 g. Research by Gonbad²⁴ demonstrated that methanol extract of freeze dried leaves of tea clone Iran 100 gave the highest TPC 8.44 mg GAE/g and TFC 5.40 mg RE/g compared to the other clones. Carloni¹⁹ revealed that TPC in methanol –water infusion of white tea, green tea, black

tea orthodox, black tea CTC were 18.1, 23.6, 14.9, 10.7 mM GAE, respectively, and TFC in white tea 4.75 mM CE was lower than black tea orthodox 6.60 mM CE. Infusion of four clusters of Brazilian teas showed that TPC (1157 mg GAE/l) and TFC (187 mg CE/l) in cluster 3 were higher than the other clusters¹⁴. Pearson's correlation coefficient was positively high if $0.61 \leq r \leq 0.97$ ¹⁰ and negatively high if $-0.61 \leq r \leq -0.97$. Sample which had the lowest IC₅₀ of DPPH and IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activity had the highest antioxidant activity. So negatively and high correlation will be given in good correlation between IC₅₀ of DPPH or IC₅₀ of ABTS with TPC, TFC and TCC. It means increasing in TFC, TPC and TCC caused increasing in antioxidant activities, which was expressed by lower IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging

Table 1. Pearson's correlation coefficient of IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging activities, IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activities and total phenolic, flavonoid, carotenoid content in various extracts of oolong tea

	TPC	TFC	TCC	IC ₅₀ ABTS BA	IC ₅₀ ABTS WJ	IC ₅₀ ABTS BE
IC ₅₀ DPPH BA	-0.857**	0.134 ns	0.938**	0.992**		
IC ₅₀ DPPH WJ	-0.850**	-0.084 ns	0.685*		0.983**	
IC ₅₀ DPPH BE	-0.832**	0.202 ns	0.917**			0.981**
IC ₅₀ ABTS BA	-0.850**	0.119 ns	0.933**			
IC ₅₀ ABTS WJ	-0.880**	-0.570 ns	0.720*			
IC ₅₀ ABTS BE	-0.809**	0.150 ns	0.911**			

IC₅₀ DPPH = IC₅₀ DPPH scavenging activity, IC₅₀ ABTS = IC₅₀ ABTS scavenging activity, BA = oolong tea from Banten, WJ = oolong tea from West Java, BE = oolong tea from Bengkulu, ns = not significant, * = significant at $p < 0.05$, ** = significant at $p < 0.01$

activity and or IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activity. The data in Table 1 exhibited that TPC in all of oolong tea extracts (Banten, West Java and Bengkulu) had negative and high correlation with IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging activities ($r = -0.857$; $r = -0.850$; $r = -0.832$, $p < 0.01$) and IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activities ($r = -0.850$; $r = -0.880$; $r = -0.809$, $p < 0.01$), TCC in all of extracts had positive and high correlation with their IC₅₀ of DPPH and IC₅₀ of ABTS, while TFC in all of extracts had no correlation with IC₅₀ of DPPH and IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activities. It was similar with the previous study by Venditti¹¹ which exposed that TPC in water extract of oolong tea had good correlation with their ABTS scavenging activities ($r^2 = 0.8487$, $p < 0.01$) and DMPD (N,N-dimethyl-p-phenylenediamine dihydrochloride) scavenging activities ($r^2 = 0.9807$, $p < 0.01$).

Previous research²⁴ stated that IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging activities in methanol extract of freeze dried leaves of twelve tea clones of Iran had good correlation with their TPC ($r = 0.85$, $p < 0.01$) and TFC ($r = 0.88$, $p < 0.01$). Research by Carloni¹⁹ reported that TPC in methanol-water infusion of white tea, green tea, black tea orthodox, black tea CTC had good correlation with their ABTS scavenging activities ($r^2 = 0.871$, $p < 0.01$). Phenolic groups were included flavonoid, phenolic acid, tannins, coumarin and quinone. Flavonoid compound will be included in phenolic groups if have OH in A ring and or B ring. Flavonoid had greater antioxidant activity than phenolic acid²⁵. Flavonoid which had OH in ortho C 3',4', OH in C3, oxo function in C4, double bond at C2 and C3 have high antioxidant activity. The OH with ortho position in C3'-C4' had the highest influence to antioxidant activity of flavonoid. The flavonoid aglycones would give higher antioxidant activity than flavonoid glycosides²⁵. It could be seen in Fig 4 that TFC in ethyl acetate extract of oolong tea from West Java (WJ2) 7.16 g QE/100 g was similar with TFC in ethyl acetate extract of oolong tea from Bengkulu (BE2) 7.43 g QE/100 g, but IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging activity of WJ2 (0.31 $\mu\text{g/ml}$) was smaller than BE2 (1.58 $\mu\text{g/ml}$). Based on this data it can be supposed that many flavonoids in BE2 had OH in C5, C7, or C3' only, or C4' only, or C3 only without oxo function in C4, that had no and low influence in antioxidant activities. In contrast, almost all of flavonoid in WJ2 were flavonoid that had OH in position which can influence high antioxidant capacities.

TPC in ethyl acetate extract of oolong tea from Bengkulu (BE2) 31.31 g GAE/100 g was smaller than with its ethanol extract (BE3) 83.06 g GAE/100 g, but IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging activity of BE2 (1.58 $\mu\text{g/ml}$) was similar with IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging activity of BE3 (1.37 $\mu\text{g/ml}$). It can be supposed that many phenolic compounds in BE2 which had influence high antioxidant capacities, whereas in BE3 only a little phenolic compounds with high antioxidant activities. Carotenoid have antioxidant capacity by scavenging free radical. Higher scavenging free radical capacity will be given by more double bonds in carotenoid²⁶. Carotenoid which contained more than 7 double bonds would have higher scavenging radical capacity²⁷. Beta carotene was used as standard because of it had conjugation double bonds which had ability to scavenge free radicals²⁸. Study by Kobayashi²⁹ expressed that increasing in lipophilicity of carotenoid would increase scavenging radical capacity, it means give the lower IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging capacity. TCC in ethyl acetate extract of oolong tea from West Java (WJ2) 9.30 g BE/100 g was higher than TCC in ethanolic extract of oolong tea from West Java (WJ3) 0.24 g BE/100 g, but IC₅₀ of DPPH and IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activities of WJ2 similar with WJ3 (0.31 and 0.37 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ respectively, and 0.16 and 0.14 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ respectively). It might be predicted that many carotenoid in WJ2 contained maximum 7 double bonds, whereas many carotenoid in WJ3 consisted of more than 7 double bonds which had high antioxidant activities. ABTS and DPPH methods had the same mechanism reactions, which was electron transfer assays³⁰. In previous study¹¹ stated that ABTS scavenging activities of water extract of oolong tea had positive correlation with its DMPD scavenging activities ($r^2 = 0.8487$, $p < 0.01$). It was similar with the present study which all of extracts of oolong tea from three regions had positively high correlation between IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging activities and IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activities. So the results showed that IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging activities in all of extracts sample were linear with their IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activities.

CONCLUSION

Antioxidant activity of sample should be measured by different methods in parallel, because various methods could give different results. All of extracts of oolong tea

from three regions (Banten, West Java and Bengkulu) were very strong antioxidant, using DPPH and ABTS assays. TPC in all of extracts had negative and high correlation with IC₅₀ of DPPH and IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activities. Phenolic compounds in oolong tea extracts from three regions were the major contributor in IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging activity and IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activity. There were linear correlation between IC₅₀ of DPPH scavenging activities and IC₅₀ of ABTS scavenging activities of all of extracts sample. Oolong tea from Banten, West Java and Bengkulu may be exploited as natural antioxidant sources to alleviate oxidative stress.

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