



**UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA**

***APPLICATION OF GAS CHROMATOGRAPHY-MASS SPECTROMETRY  
AND ELEMENTAL ANALYZER-ISOTOPE RATIO MASS  
SPECTROMETRY TECHNIQUES TO DISTINGUISH LARD FROM  
SELECTED ANIMAL FATS BEFORE AND AFTER CHEMICAL  
GLYCEROLYSIS***

**NINA NAQUIAH BINTI AHMAD NIZAR**

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**UPM**  
UNIVERSITI PUTRA MALAYSIA  
BERILMU BERBAKTI

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AND ELEMENTAL ANALYZER-ISOTOPE RATIO  
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TO DISTINGUISH LARD FROM SELECTED ANIMAL FATS  
BEFORE AND AFTER CHEMICAL GLYCEROLYSIS**

By

**NINA NAQUIAH BINTI AHMAD NIZAR**

**Thesis Submitted to the School of Graduate Studies,  
Universiti Putra Malaysia,  
In Fulfillment of the Requirements for the Degree of Master of Science**

**July 2013**

## Appendix B3

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## DEDICATION

In the Name of Allah

Especially for:

Abah and Ibu,

Shahid, Hanis, Syahirah, Sharaf,

All my friends and relatives,

For the never ending love and support...

I love you Lillahitaala!

Abstract of thesis presented to the Senate of Universiti Putra Malaysia in fulfillment of the requirement for the degree of Master of Science

**APPLICATION OF GAS CHROMATOGRAPHY MASS SPECTROMETRY  
AND ELEMENTAL ANALYZER-ISOTOPE RATIO  
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By

**NINA NAQUIAH BINTI AHMAD NIZAR**

**July 2013**

**Chair: Ir. Dzulkifly Bin Mat Hashim, MSc**

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A study was conducted to differentiate lard from selected animal fats namely chicken fat, beef fat and mutton fat, before and after chemical glycerolysis. It was carried out using Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometry (GCMS) and Elemental Analyzer-Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry (EA-IRMS) techniques. The comparison of overall fatty acid data obtained by Gas Chromatography analysis before and after chemical glycerolysis showed that lard and chicken fats shared common characteristics by having palmitic, oleic and linoleic acids as major fatty acids. On the other hand, beef and mutton fats shared common characteristics by possessing palmitic, stearic and oleic acid as major fatty

acids. Direct comparisons among the fatty acid data therefore may not be suitable for differentiation of animal fats. When the fatty acid distributional data of the animal fats was subjected to Principle Component Analysis (PCA), it was demonstrated that stearic, oleic and linoleic acids were the most discriminating parameters in the clustering of animal fats to four subclasses. The stable isotope analysis of lard and selected animal fats before chemical glycerolysis using EA-IRMS showed significant difference in the carbon isotope ratios ( $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ ). The same finding was observed after chemical glycerolysis. This would be a good indicator in discrimination of lard, chicken, beef and mutton fats. The current finding leads to a more efficient method, to screen and ascertain the source of origin of fats used in food products.

Abstrak tesis yang dikemukakan kepada Senat Universiti Putra Malaysia  
sebagai memenuhi keperluan untuk Ijazah Master Sains

**APLIKASI TEKNIK KROMATOGRAFI GAS SPEKTROMETRI JISIM DAN  
ANALISIS ELEMEN NISBAH ISOTOP SPEKTROMETRI JISIM BAGI  
PEMBEZAAN LEMAK BABI DARIPADA LELEMAK HAIWAN LAIN  
SEBELUM DAN SELEPAS GLISEROLISIS KIMIA**

Oleh

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Satu kajian telah dijalankan untuk membezakan lemak babi daripada lemak haiwan lain iaitu lemak ayam, lemak lembu dan lemak kambing, sebelum dan selepas gliserolisis kimia. Kajian ini telah dijalankan dengan menggunakan Teknik Kromatografi Gas Spektrometri Jisim (GCMS) dan Analisis Elemen Nisbah Isotop Spektrometri Jisim (EA-IRMS). Perbandingan keseluruhan data asid lemak yang diperolehi daripada analisis Kromatografi Gas sebelum dan selepas gliserolisis kimia menunjukkan lemak babi dan lemak ayam mempunyai ciri-ciri yang sama iaitu mempunyai asid palmitik, asid oleic dan asid linoleik sebagai komponen asid lemak yang utama. Sementara itu, lemak lembu dan kambing pula berkongsi ciri-ciri yang sama dengan memiliki asid palmitik, asid stearik dan asid oleik sebagai asid lemak utama. Walau

bagaimanapun, perbandingan taburan data asid lemak sahaja tidak dapat membezakan lemak haiwan. Oleh itu, taburan data asid lemak tersebut diproses menggunakan Analisis Prinsip Komponen (PCA). Analisis tersebut telah menunjukkan bahawa asid stearik, oleic dan linoleik adalah parameter yang paling utama dalam membezakan lemak haiwan kepada empat kumpulan berasingan. Analisis isotop stabil lemak babi dan lemak haiwan sebelum gliserolisis kimia menggunakan EA-IRMS menunjukkan perbezaan yang signifikan dalam nilai isotop karbon ( $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ ). Pemerhatian yang sama turut didapati selepas proses gliserolisis kimia dijalankan. Ini dapat dijadikan asas dalam pembezaan lemak babi, ayam, lembu dan kambing. Penemuan ini akan membawa kepada kaedah yang lebih cekap untuk tujuan saringan (*screening*) makanan, selain dapat memastikan sumber lemak yang digunakan dalam produk makanan.



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Thank you so much!

## APPROVAL SHEET 1

I certify that a Thesis Examination Committee has met on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2013 to conduct the final examination of Nina Naquiah binti Ahmad Nizar on her thesis entitled “**Application Of Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometry and Elemental Analyzer-Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry Techniques to Distinguish Lard from Selected Animal Fats Before and After Chemical Glycerolysis**” in accordance with the Universities and University Colleges Act 1971 and the Constitution of the Universiti Putra Malaysia [P.U.(A) 106] 15 March 1998. The Committee recommends that the student be awarded the Masters of Science degree.

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## DECLARATION

I declare that the thesis is my original work except for quotations and citations which have been duly acknowledged. I also declare that it has not been previously, and is not concurrently, submitted for any other degree at Universiti Putra Malaysia or at any other institution.



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**NINA NAQUIAH BINTI AHMAD NIZAR**

Date: 11<sup>th</sup> July 2013

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## LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AOAC	Association of Analytical Chemist
AOCS	American oil Chemist Society
BF	Beef fat
ANOVA	Analysis of Variance
$\delta^{13}\text{C}$	Carbon Isotope Value
DSC	Differential Scanning Calorimetry
FA	Fatty Acid
FAME	Fatty Acid Methyl Esters
GC	Gas Chromatography
GCxGC-TOF-MS	Gas Chromatography x Gas Chromatography- Time of Flight- Mass Spectrometer
MF	Mutton fat
IUPAC	International Union of Pure and Applied Chemistry
LD	Lard
MAG	Monocylglycerol
DAG	Diacylglycerol
EA-IRMS	Elemental Analyzer-Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometer
PCA	Principal Component Analysis
TAG	Triacylglycerol

## CHAPTER 1

### GENERAL INTRODUCTION

Lard is one of the important products traded worldwide. In 2010, the annual production of lard is 109.9 million tonnes (Food Outlook, 2012), wherein the highest production was from China (51.7 mt), followed by European Union (22.5 mt) and USA (9.9 mt) (FAO, 2010). For certain segments of the society, consumption of lard is not desirable due to religious restriction (Al-Taher, 2004) and various health reasons (Wang and Lin, 1995). According to past studies, lard is reported to be mixed with other fat species such as beef, mutton, and chicken in different food products (Anna, 2006; Saeed *et al.*, 1989; Saeed *et al.*, 1986). Hence, various efforts have been made to develop analytical approaches to differentiate lard from other animal and plant species. A considerable amount of literature on lipid-based methodologies for such purpose have been published (Sawaya *et al.*, 1990; Marikkar *et al.*, 2005a; Marikkar *et al.*, 2005b; Rohman and Che Man, 2010; Rohman *et al.*, 2011; Che Man *et al.*, 2011; Nurjuliana *et al.*, 2010).

In the last 40 years, extensive works on modification of fat, cholesterol content and fatty acid composition of animal products were done, in requirement of producing high quality food products, that meet the optimum dietary recommendations for human diet as well as enhancing the versatility of fats and

oils in different industrial applications (Jakobsen, 1999). The two most common methods used to modify the physico-chemical properties of the original fats and oil are chemical glycerolysis and fractionation. The products of the former are partial acylglycerols (MAG and DAG). In this research, fractionation of lard that yields lard stearin and lard olein would be investigated. Since modifications affect the composition and physical-chemical properties of the original oil, therefore, a proper basis for differentiation of lard and selected animal fats in its modified forms is timely.

Another new and interesting field of research that could be explored for differentiation or detection of this kind is the carbon isotope ratio analysis by using Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry (IRMS). Already there are some reports to illustrate the use of stable isotope ratio analysis of light elements such as carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, and oxygen to verify authenticity and geographical origin of some food samples (Jochmann, 2009). Most of the past researches, however, were mainly focused on honey (Chesson *et al.*, 2011; Simsek *et al.*, 2012), fish oil (Aursand *et al.*, 2000), vegetable oils such as olive oil, sunflower oil, groundnut oil, palm oil, rapeseed oil and corn oil (Angerosa *et al.*, 1999; Kelly *et al.*, 1997; Bianchi *et al.*, 1993), and essential oils (Schipilliti *et al.*, 2010). As of date, very few studies have been reported on the use of IRMS to investigate animal fats. It was reported by Hamilton, (1998) that non-maize oils (animal fats included) are clearly differentiated from maize oils. To the best of our

knowledge, there is hardly any studies to show the potential application of IRMS in Halal authentication purposes, thus establishing their isotope ratios for detection purposes has become important. The information of this kind would be greatly helpful as a basis for food control authorities who are required to carry out routine tests on commercial products that are suspected to contain lard (Yantyet *et al.*, 2011) other than to ensure food safety and to protect the consumers from fraud and deception.

The application of chromatographic analysis in the earlier studies on characterization and comparison of edible oils have shown to give accurate and consistent results (Aparicio and Aparicio-Ruíz, 2000). Animal oils from different species, brands and grades can be discriminated conveniently using Gas Chromatography (GC) (Araujo *et al.*, 2010). However, there may be difficulties in sorting or differentiating the animal fats solely based on fatty acid distributional pattern. Thus, Principle Component Analysis (PCA) may be effectively applied in chromatography for the purpose of measuring similarity and dissimilarity among calculated data. Owing to the high occurrence of components in oils, the evaluation and comparison of the chromatographic profiles by visual methods may be enhanced by the usage of PCA (Cserhádi, 2010). Therefore, in this work, a study to evaluate the potential of GC combined with PCA for the differentiation of lard and selected animal fats and its derivatives is important. As the fatty acid distributional data from gas chromatography techniques are

well established, it would be interesting to see its correlation with carbon isotope values acquired from IRMS.

Hence, the objectives of the present study are:

1. To distinguish lard from selected animal fats namely chicken, beef and mutton fats in terms of fatty acid components using Elemental Analyzer-Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry (EA-IRMS) and Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometry (GCMS)
2. To determine whether chemical glycerolysis of lard and the selected animal fats namely chicken, beef and mutton fats would affect the ability to distinguish them using Elemental Analyzer-Isotope Ratio Mass Spectrometry (EA-IRMS) and Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometry (GCMS)

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