# Physicochemical Properties, Total Phenolic and Antioxidant Activity of Mixed Tropical Fruit Juice, TP 3 in 1<sup>TM</sup>

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# Abstract

This study was carried out on the TP 3 in  $1^{\text{TM}}$  juice formulation, which consisted of pomegranate concentrate with guava and roselle extract. This study aimed to determine its physicochemical properties, proximate content, total phenolic content, antioxidant activity, total sugar, vitamin C and several targeted polyphenol compounds. Total phenol content was determined using Folin-Ciocalteu method while antioxidant activity was determined using DPPH and ABTS methods. The results showed pH and total soluble solid values of the juice were 3.69 and 8.1 °Brix, respectively. The juice has brightness colour of L = 33.25, a = 3.16 and b = -4.63. Every 100 ml juice contained 10.92 g total sugar, 4 mg vitamin C and 0.44% titratable citric acid. Proximate analyses showed TP 3 in  $1^{\text{TM}}$  juice contained 89.38% moisture, 0.15% total ash, 0.16% protein, 0% fat and 10.31% total carbohydrates. The juice was low in calories (42 kcal/100 ml) and contained total phenolic (609 mg GAE/100 ml) and total monomeric anthocyanin (12.94 mg C3G/100 ml). Antioxidant value obtained through DPPH and ABTS test methods were 88.90% and 472.44  $\mu$ M TE/ml, respectively. Eight selected individual polyphenol compounds ranged from 0.13-633.73 mg/100 ml have been identified. TP 3 in  $1^{\text{TM}}$  juice consisting three different tropical fruits can be considered of having high phenolic content and antioxidant activity. Consumption of mixed tropical juices with various polyphenol compositions will protect human body from several diseases attributed to the reactions of free radicals.

Keywords: pomegranate, guava, roselle, physicochemical, antioxidant

# 1. Introduction

Fruit juices are produced from various parts of plants including flowers and fruits. Different types of fruit juices and drink are available globally and there has been an increased on its consumption due to consumer awareness of nutritional and health benefits. It is well known that natural sources of antioxidants from fruits are more advantageous to health than the synthetic counterparts or supplements (Liu, 2003). Antioxidants are known to have beneficial health promoting properties such as strengthening the body immunity system, reducing the risk of metabolism diseases and delaying the aging process. In fact, this potential health benefits are normally linked to polyphenols activity from plant foods. Polyphenols are also known for its antioxidant characteristics and has been abundantly found in fruits, and other plant sources. Polyphenols as antioxidants may improve cell survival and as pro-oxidants, they may induce apoptosis, prevent tumor growth and other oxidative-stress related disease such as diabetes mellitus (Lambert, Hong, G. Yang, Liao, & C. S. Yang, 2005).

Tropical fruits are valuable sources of dietary fiber, vitamins and natural phenolic antioxdant (Mitra, Devi, & Debnath, 2014). One example of tropical fruits is pomegranate (*Punica granatum*) under Punicaceae family, a fruit native to the Middle East (Johanningsmeier & Harris, 2011). Pomegranate is a phytochemical dense fruit containing anthocyanins and hydrolysable tannins (Rasheed et al., 2009). Different parts of this plant are used in indigenous Indian medicine to cure various diseases, particularly diabetes (Jurenka 2008; Medjakovic & Jungbauer, 2013). Guava (Psidium guajava) fruit is considered as highly nutritious since it contains high levels of ascorbic acid that is three to six times higher than orange (Thaipong, Boonprakob, Crosby, Cisneros-Zevallos, & Bryne, 2006; Mittal, Gupta, Kaur, Garg, & Singh, 2010). In another study, it has been reported that guava could be used as a lipid level controller because of its ability to reduce both total cholesterol and low density lipoprotein (LDL) levels in the subjects tested by 18.8% and 19.4%, respectively, compared to their baseline levels upon consumption for 4 weeks (Rokiah, Fadhillah, Zaitun, & Asmah, 2003). In additional of having high amount of vitamin C, Hibiscus sabdariffa (Roselle) is one such plant which flowers are used to prepare juices. The roselle extract has a unique red colour, good flavour, low sugar and high acidic content. The acidity makes the juice sour hence the need for addition of sweetening products. Prasongwatana, Woottisin, Sriboonlue, and Kukongviriyapan (2008) reported that its calvx extract of roselle has also been used as an effective treatment for patients with kidney stones due to its uricosuric effect.

Pomegranate is one of the fruit which always mentioned in many health related study while guava and roselle seems to be popular tropical juice enjoyed nowadays. Thus, this study aimed to determine the nutrient compositions in this mixed fruit juices. The synergistic effect from mixing two or more of such fruit juices cannot be over emphasized. The increase or decrease in the content of bioactive compounds or antioxidant activity can be related to chemical reactions that can occur among the fruits, which should be better studied. Thus, the mixture was expected to have acceptable physicochemical quality and have higher phenolic content compared to its single juice. TP 3 in 1<sup>TM</sup> fruit juice has been patented under UKM Intelectual Property Division and the juice has been used for animal and human studies.

# 2. Materials and Methods

# 2.1 Materials

Chemicals used were comprised of Folin-Ciocalteu's phenol reagent (Switzerland), ( $\pm$ )-6-Hydroxy-2,5,7,8-tetramethylchromane-2-carboxylic acid also known as Trolox (Russian), 2,2-azinobis-3-ethyl-benzothiazoline-6-sulfonic acid (ABTS) (Canada), potassium persulfate, 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH), gallic acid (China), ellagic acid (UK), chlorogenic acid (Germany), *p*-coumaric acid, (+)-catechin (France), (-)-epicatechin (France), and procyanidin B2 (France). All chemicals used were Sigma brand.

# 2.2 TP 3 in 1<sup>TM</sup> Fruit Juice Preparation

Pomegranate and guava fruits were cleaned using tap water followed by extraction of juice using heavy duty electric juicer (*Breville, Australia*) while calyx of the seedless roselle was extracted in hot water for 15 minutes. All fruit extract were mixed and filtered with muslin cloth before it went through low temperature long time (LTLT) pasteurisation process. Finished product were kept in high-density barrier type of bottle and stored in 4-8 °C prior to analyses. The results for nutrient contents were expressed as the average±standard deviation of the two replicates from six batches of finished product.

## 2.3 Physicochemical Analysis of Juice

## 2.3.1 pH Value

Determination of pH value for juice was carried out using digital pH meter. About 15 ml sample was used for the test for each of these samples. The pH meter (Mettler Toledo, Switzerland) was calibrated before use.

# 2.3.2 Total Soluble Solid (TSS)

Brix value (°Brix) or TSS for all samples has been determined using table-top refractometer (*Abbe, Germany*) and the lens is adjusted to be midway between the bright and dark side lines.

#### 2.3.3 Colour Intensitiy

Approximately 30 ml of homogenized samples was poured into a test tube for measurement using hand-held chromameter (*Minolta, Japan*). The chromameter was calibrated prior to samples measurement. The test tube has been placed into a special hollow holder in front of the chromameter and the reading was taken for three times to get average value.

# 2.3.4 Vitamin C Content

Determination of vitamin C using titration method from the Association of Analytical Communities (AOAC, 2000) was done in this study. Approximately 0.1% ascorbic acid solution was titrated with 1 ml of 0.01% DCPIP solution until the original blue color of the DCPIP solution faded. The steps were repeated three times for each sample to get average reading.

# 2.3.5 Total Sugar

Total sugar analysis was done according to International Commision for Uniform Methods of Sugar Analysis (ICUMSA, 2015) method. About 1 ml of 5% phenol reagent solution was added to 1 ml juice sample which has been diluted for 1000 times. About 5 ml of concentrated  $H_2SO_4$  was added slowly into the mixture and was incubated for 30 minutes at room temperature. The mixture absorption was measured at 490 nm using UV-visible spectrophotometer (*Secomam, France*). Absorbance of samples was compared with glucose serial dilution (0.02-0.1 mg/ml) by using standard curve. The amount of total sugar content was reported in g/100 ml.

# 2.3.6 Titratable Acidity (TTA)

Titratable acidity of the juice was determined according to Fabro et al. (2006) with some modification. About 10 ml of the sample was transfered into volumetric flask (100 ml) which was then topped up with distilled water until it reached the volume. About 10 ml solution from the flask was placed into a conical flask and three drops of 2% phenolphthalein were added into the sample. The sample was then titrated with 0.1N NaOH until the pink color appeared for 30 seconds. The volume of NaOH used was recorded and this step was repeated for three times for each sample. The content of the TTA in the sample was determined based on the following equation:

$$TTA (\%) = (V_{NaOH} \times N_{NaOH} \times 0.064 \times 100)/V_{sample}$$
(1)

# 2.4 Proximate Analysis of Juice

Analyses method for determination of moisture, ash, protein, fat and carbohydate content are based on AOAC (2000).

#### 2.4.1 Moisture Content

About 1.5 g sample was weighed using analytical balance (*Mettler Toledo, Switzerland*) prior to drying the samples in the oven at 105 °C for overnight. Samples were then left to cool in the desiccator and the samples were reweighed until it reached a consistent weight. Moisture content was calculated in percentage based on wet weight basis.

#### 2.4.2 Ash Content

About 5 g sample was placed in crucibles and the sample was ashed in a furnace (*Carbolite, UK*) at 550 °C for overnight. Samples were then left to cool in the desiccator and the samples were reweighed until reached a consistent weight. Total ash content was calculated in percentage based on initial sample weight.

#### 2.4.3 Protein Content

About 4 g sample was weighed and placed in the digestive tube. About 7 g  $K_2SO_4$ , 0.8 g  $CuSO_4$  and 12 ml  $H_2SO_4$  (catalyst) were added into the sample as well. The sample was then heated at 420 °C for 60 minutes in the digestive unit (*Foss, Sweeden*). Sample mixture was left to cool and 75 ml of distilled water were added into the digestive tube prior to the distillation process. A total of 25 ml of boric acid (4%) was added into the conical flask. The distillation process started with the addition of 50 ml NaOH into the distillation unit (*Foss, Sweeden*). The boric acid was then titrated with 0.2 N HCl until the the original color of boric acid was obtained. The percentage of protein content was determined based on following equation:

$$Protein (\%) = [(Volume_{blank} \times Weight_{sample} \times 14.007)/Volume_{HCl} \times 10] \times 6.25$$
(2)

# 2.4.4 Fat Content

About 5 g of sample was placed into the ceramic cup and weighed using analytical balance. About 2-3 spatulas of Celite  $545^{\text{(B)}}$  were added into samples and were dried over hot water bath for two hours. Samples were then mixed with 2-3 spatulas of Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> before been transferred into the thimbles. The thimbles were placed in the fat extractor system (*Foss, Sweeden*) and 70 ml petroleum ether (40%-60%) was added into the extraction cups before they were placed in the fat extractor system. When the extraction process finished, extraction cups were dried in the oven at 100 °C for 15 minutes. The extraction cups were left to cool in the desiccator and they were reweighed until consistent weight has been reached. The fat content was calculated in percentage based on initial sample weight.

# 2.4.5 Carbohydrate and Calorie Content

Differential method has been used to determine the carbohydrate content in the sample while calorie content was determined according to Recommended Dietary Allowance (RDA) calculation:

$$Total \ carbohydrate = 100\% - (Moisture \ \% + Ash \ \% + Protein \ \% + fat \ \%)$$
(3)

Calorie (kcal/100 g) = (Protein 
$$\% \times 4$$
) + (Fat  $\% \times 9$ ) + (Carbohydrate  $\% \times 4$ ) (4)

#### 2.5 Determination of Juice Antioxidant Content

#### 2.5.1 Total Polyphenol Content (TPC) Analysis

TPC value of the juice was determined using spectrophotometer (*Secomam, France*) based on method by Singleton, Orthofer and Lamuela-Raventos (1999) with a slight modification. About 0.5 ml of diluted sample was mixed with 2.5 ml diluted Folin-Ciocalteu reagent (1:10). In interval time of 4-8 minutes, 2 ml saturated NaCO<sub>2</sub> solution (75 g/L) was added into the mixture prior to 2 hours of incubation in the dark at room temperature. The absorbance of the sample was measured at 760 nm and was compared to gallic acid serial dilution (0.2-1 mM) by using standard curve. The value was calculated in mg of gallic acid equivalents (GAEs)/100 ml.

#### 2.5.2 Total Monomeric Antocyanin (TMA) Analysis

The method was based on Lee, Durst, and Wrolstad (2005). About 1 ml of liquid sample (1:10) was poured into a flask containing 25 ml pH 4.5 buffer solution (this mixture was stable for 4 hours at room temperature). Same thing was done on a flask containing pH 1.0 buffer solution and absorbance for both pH solutions was taken at 510 nm and 700 nm. The value of TMA was determined by using below calculation:

$$TMA \text{ (mg C3G/L)} = (\Delta A/\varepsilon L) \times MW \times 10^3 \times DF$$
(5)

Where, A is absorbance difference,  $\mathcal{E}$  is cyanidine-3-glucoside molar absorbance, L is cell path length MW is anthocyanin molecular weight, and DF is dilution factor.

#### 2.5.3 Antioxidant Capacity by Trolox Equivalents (TEAC) Analysis

The TEAC value was estimated using 2,2-azinobis-3-ethyl-benzothiazoline-6-sulfonic acid (ABTS) reagent assay, based on method by Thaipong et al. (2006). 7 mM ABTS radical cation stock solution (solution A) and 2.45 mM potassium persulfate ( $K_8S_2O_8$ ) stock solution (solution B) were prepared and then were mixed based on 1:1 ratio to be used as working solution. The working solution was allowed to stand in the dark at room temperature for 12-16 hours before it was diluted to an absorbance of 1.1 [A] at 734 nm. About 0.2 ml sample aliquot was diluted with 3.8 ml ABTS radical cation working solution prior to 2 hours incubation in the dark. Absorbance of the sample mixture was measured and was compared with Trolox serial dilution (0-300  $\mu$ M) standard curve. Result was reported in  $\mu$ M Trolox Equivalent (TE)/g.

## 2.5.4 Antioxidant Capacity by 2,2-Diphenyl-1-Picrylhydrazyl Assay (DPPH) Analysis

Another antioxidant capacity value was estimated by 2,2-diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazylassay (DPPH) assay. About 200  $\mu$ l sample was mixed with 0.1 mM DPPH stock solution which was previously prepared by dissolving the DPPH powder in methanol to an absorbance 0.70±0.01 at 516 nm. The absorption of the mixture was measured after 30 minutes against blank solution (Thaipong et al., 2006). Percentage of antiradical action toward DPPH was estimated by the difference in absorbance with or without the sample (control).

#### 2.6 Polyphenols Compounds Determination by High-Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC)

Reverse phase HPLC with photodiode array detection (DAD) was used to characterize the polyphenols compounds based on their Ultra-violet (UV) spectra. This method was based on Abad-Garc'ia et al. (2007) with some modification. Eight polyphenols compounds analyzed were consisted of hydroxybenzoic acid (gallic acid and ellagic acid), hyroxycinnamic acid (chlorogenic acid and p-coumaric acid), flavan-3-ol (catechin, epicatechin, and procyanidin B2) and antocyanidin (kuromanin chloride). All polyphenol standard solutions (ranging from 25 to 250  $\mu$ g/ml) were prepared in methanol and all were stored at 4 °C in darkness. Chromatographic analysis was performed by HPLC (*Waters, USA*), equipped with a DAD detector, and controlled by Empower software. An Atlantis C18 (150 × 4.6 mm, i.d., 5  $\mu$ m) column with mobile phase A (acetic acid-water, 0.5:99.5, v/v) and B (methanol) were used. The applied elution conditions was in gradient mode, with flow rate of 1.0 ml/min and injection volume of 10  $\mu$ l. Hydroxybenzoic acids were monitored and 320 nm, respectively.

## 3. Results and Discussions

# 3.1 Physicochemical Characteristic of TP 3 in $1^{TM}$ Fruit Juice

The pH value of the juice is important to be measured. It represents the degree of acidity and alkalinity of a substance. TP 3 in  $1^{TM}$  juice has low pH value of 3.69 (Table 1). This indicated that the juice was in acidic condition and suitable to be served as ready-to-drink (RTD) beverages (Malaysian Food Act 1983 and Food Regulations 1985). In beverage industry, the addition of organic acid into commercial juice was intended to lower the original pH of the juices (McLellan & Padilla-Zakour, 2007). However, in preparation of TP 3 in  $1^{TM}$  juice there was no addition of organic acid into it. Despite of that, pathogens such as *Escherichia coli* (O157: H7), *Salmonella* sp., and parasitic protozoa such as *Cryptosporidium parvum* can still reproduce in juices having pH less than 4.6 (FDA, 2016). They are not only shortening product shelf life but also can cause food-borne illnesses and death (Ashurst & Hargitt, 2009). Therefore, pasteurisation treatment process is a must to be carried out properly in all beverages produced. Recent studies have found that, the lower the pH of fruit juices, the greater the heat effect given to the microorganisms, especially in terms of pressure and radiation levels (Roller, 2003).

Parameters	Value
pH	3.69±0.01
Total soluble solid (°Brix)	8.1±0.00
Colour (L)	33.25±0.03
(a)	3.16±0.02
(b)	-4.63±0.02
Vitamin C (mg/100 ml)	$4.0 \pm 0.00$
Total sugar (g/100 ml)	$10.92 \pm 1.31$
Titratable acidity (%)	$0.44{\pm}0.02$

Table 1. Physicochemical characteristics of TP 3 in 1<sup>TM</sup> juice

Note. Results were reported in average±standard deviation of 6 replicates.

Measurement of food color is usually performed for quality control purposes. The value L of TP 3 in 1<sup>TM</sup> juice was 33.25 while a and b values were 3.16 and -4.63, respectively. Colour of the juice was highly depending on the types of the fruit that contained in the mixture. Manach, Scalbert, Morand, Remesy, and Jimenez (2004) has reported that the value of polyphenol content was in line with the colour brightness and polyphenol content will increase when the fruit is matured or cooked. Storage condition and time can also cause colour changes on food product. At the beginning of the storage period, the brightness color of the juice will increases but then decreases over the period of storage. This condition was normally caused by non enzymatic browning reaction (Bhattacherjee, Tandon, Dikshit, & Kumar, 2011).

The main soluble solid in fruit juices normally consisted of sugar. Other than that, organic compounds, amino acids and pectin that are present in fruit juice also can be considered as soluble solids (Garner, Crisosto, Wiley, & Crisosto, 2013). In this study, corresponding value for total soluble solids (TSS) of TP 3 in  $1^{TM}$  juice was 8.1 °Brix. According to Malaysian Food Act 1983 and Food Regulations 1985, the amount of soluble solids for fruit juices shall not be less than 8 g/100 ml at 20 °C. At 20 °C, 1 °Brix usually coincides with 1 g of sucrose in every 100 ml of solution (ICUMSA, 2015). This mean TP 3 in  $1^{TM}$  juice can still be consider as fruit juice because it contained 8.1 g/100 ml of TSS at 20°C.

Each 100 ml of the juice also contained 10.92% total sugar, 4.0 mg vitamin C and 0.44% titratable citric acid. This value complies with the Malaysian Food Act 1983 and Food Regulations 1985, which outlines that the acidity of fruit juices should be lower than 3.5% citric acid. The value of titratable acidity (TTA) was measured to determine the degree of acidity of fruit juices caused by acid production by polysaccharides, pectic materials, and uric acid (Durrani, Ayub, Muhammad, & Ali, 2010; Yadav, Tripathi, & Jha, 2013). According to Hussain, Zeb, Shakir, and Sattar Shah (2008), oxidation of reducing sugar during maturity process can contribute to the increase of fruit acidity. In food analysis, the value of TTA has an indirect relationship with the pH value (AOAC, 2007). Each of these values was determined separately in different ways and each has its own effect on the quality of the food where TTA can describe the effect of acid on taste of the food better than pH (Gardner, 1996). However, correlation analysis of pH and TTA values obtained in this study showed no significant

correlation (r = -0.210) (p > 0.01) between them. TTA value can also be used to determine the rate of ripening of fruit (Perkins-Veazie & Collins, 2002).

The previous study found that vitamin C or ascorbic acid content decreased when there was a change in temperature during process of pasteurisation and the amount of sugar increased during the storage period of the juice (Mgaya-Kilima, Remberg, Chove, & Wicklund, 2014). It cannot be denied that there was a change in temperature throughout the processing and storing of the juice even though the precaution measures have been taken. The results for total sugar and soluble solids content of TP 3 in 1<sup>TM</sup> juice showed a strong and significant positive correlation (p < 0.01). This clearly indicated that the amount of soluble solids in the juice of the juice was contributed by the sugar content. The correlation value between total sugar and soluble solids was r = 0.892.

# 3.2 Proximate Composition of TP 3 in 1<sup>TM</sup> Fruit Juice

The moisture content in food or drink is the same as the water content, where water is one of the important macronutrients in the daily diet. According to FDA (2016), high water content food or drink normally contains 85% or more moisture value. Table 2 showed TP 3 in  $1^{TM}$  juice contained 89.38% water. This moisture value is normal and within the same range of most freshly made mixed juice product (Mgaya-Kilima et al., 2014; Akusu, Kiin-Kibari, & Ebere, 2016). The total ash content of this juice was 0.15%. Ash content in food can be referring to the residue of inorganic substances such as minerals in a food (Pomeranz & Meloan, 1994). The higher ash content indicates higher mineral content (Monti, Virgilio, & Venturi, 2008).

Table 2. Proximate	proportion	of TP 3 in	$1^{\text{TM}}$ juice
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Parameters	Value
Moisture (%)	89.38±0.35
Total ash (%)	0.15±0.02
Protein (%)	0.16±0.02
Fat (%)	n/a
Total carbohydrate (%)	10.31±0.36
Calorie (kcal)	41.86±1.50

Note. Results were reported in average±standard deviation of 6 replicates.

Result showed that fat content was absence in this juice. This may be due to the type of fruits used in the juice formulation, when there was absolutely no fat or the content was not significant to be detected by the Soxhlet method. The Soxhlet method has a lower limit detection of 0.1%, in which food samples that have lower than 0.1% fat cannot be determined by this tool (Murray-Brown Laboratories, 2014). This also indicated that the combination of these fruit juices was very healthy because it has very low fat content. TP 3 in 1<sup>TM</sup> juice has 0.16% protein and 10.31% of total carbohydrates. The juice was also low in calories, which contained only 42 kcal per 100 ml and suitable to be included in a daily diet. Calories in TP 3 in 1<sup>TM</sup> juice was mainly contributed by carbohydrate and protein contents. O. K. Ahmed and S. E. D. Ahmed (2014) reported that matured fruits were usually sweeter. Therefore, the level of fruit sweetness can be measured based on the content of sugar or the amount of carbohydrate. The value of carbohydrates in a diet usually not only consisted of sugar content but also dietary fiber. Natural sugar in fresh fruits is commonly known as fructose, a type of simple sugar monosaccharide (Rippe & Angelopoulos, 2015) while dietary fibers can also be categorized as complex polysaccharides (Eastwood & Kritchevsky, 2005). Generally, some nutrients such as protein, fat and fiber will be slightly lower in fruit juice compared to its fresh fruit because these nutrients were reduced during the processing of the fruit juice (Mercola 2014). Fortification and enrichment of any nutrient can be carried out if needed.

# 3.3 Total Phenolic Content and Antioxidant Capacity of TP 3 in 1<sup>TM</sup> Fruit Juice

Generally, it was known that total phenolic content are highly correlated with antioxidant activity and bioavailability of polyphenols (Manach, Williamson, Morad, Scalbert, & Remesy, 2005). In this study, two phenolic tests were carried out on the juice which were total phenolic content (TPC) and total monomeric anthocyanin (TMA). In general, TPC quantifies total amount phenol group including mono-phenol, phenol, tri-phenol and polyphenol compounds (Rana, 2014) while anthocyanin only quantities polyphenols under the subgroups of flavonoids. Therefore, both tests were done to get extra information about the possible difference between phenolic and anthocyanin value. Table 3 shows TMA value for TP 3 in 1<sup>TM</sup> juice was 12.94 mg cyanidin-3-glucoside (C3G)/100 ml. This present study have the same outcome with study by Burin et al. (2010)

who reported that the intensity of the red color (a) in the fruit juice indicated of higher anthocyanin content in it. TPC values in fruit juices can be divided into several groups according to certain values. TPC values less than 500 mg GAE/100 ml can be categorized as low while moderate TPC values range were ranging from 500 to 2000 mg GAE/100 ml. The TPC value is considered high if the content exceeds 2000 mg GAE/100 ml (Ikram et al., 2009). Table 3 shows TPC value of TP 3 in 1<sup>TM</sup> juice, which was 609 mg gallic acid equivalent (GAE)/100 ml. Reddy, Gupta, Jacob, Khan, and Ferreira (2007) found that TPC value of single fruit was much more lower compared to mixed juice in this study. The latter study reported that Indian pomegranate and roselle contained 219 mg GAE/100 g and 374 mg GAE/100 g, respectively. However, previous study (Ikram et al., 2009) reported that Malaysian guava fruit has much higher TPC value, which is 1394.94 mg GAE/100 g. Manach et al. (2004) reported there were many factors that were likely influenced the phenolic content. Some of the factors were the time of fruit was harvested, the fruit ripening state, the environmental factor and the physical factors during the processing and storage operation. Environmental factors such as soil and weather conditions have the most significant effect on polyphenol content. Ghasemzadeh, Jaafar, Rahmat, Megat Wahab, and Abd Halim (2010) found that exposure to sunlight affects almost all types of flavonoids. Price, Breen, Valladao, and Watson (1995) reported that differences in flavonol concentration exist among several fruit seeds on the same tree. This was due to exposure to unbalanced sunlight on all part of the tree which showed a variance in their polyphenol content. The total antioxidant (free radical scavenging) activity of fruits was mainly attributed to the additive and synergistic effects of inherent phytochemicals notably, the phenolic compounds (Liu, 2003; Cartea, Francisco, Soengas, & Velasco, 2011).

Table 3. Antioxidant activity of TP 3 in 1<sup>TM</sup> juice

Assays	Value
Total phenolic content (mg GAE/100 ml)	609.00±22.63
Total monomer anthocyanin (mg C3G/100 ml)	12.94±0.82
DPPH (%)	88.90±0.72
ABTS (µM TE/ml)	472.44±11.09

Note. Results were reported in average±standard deviation of 6 replicates.

The First International Congress on Antioxidant Method, in June 2004, has recommended TPC test and at least two different antioxidant tests to be carried out in order to confirm the final results of antioxidant activity in the food samples (Prior, Wu, & Schaich, 2005). Antioxidant value obtained through DPPH and ABTS tests in TP 3 in  $1^{\text{TM}}$  juice were 88.90% and 472.44  $\mu$ M Trolox equivalent (TE) per ml, respectively. Fruit juices normally have medium antioxidant capacity but have higher value for phenolic compounds, carotenoids and vitamin C (Ramadan-Hassanein, 2008). Yang et al. (2012) also used the same test (DPPH and ABTS) in their study because both tests had a good correlation with TPC. The present study also reported positive correlation between TPC and both reported antioxidant assays (r = 0.808 and r = 0.826, respectively). The DPPH test was easy to use and widely used to determine the activity of phenolic and antioxidant of pigmented compounds (Cai, Sun, & Corke, 2003) while ABTS tests were found to be suitable for samples in acidic condition and contained hydrophilic components (Fu et al., 2011). However, these antioxidant tests are very sensitive and need to be carried out with care. Precautions should be taken such as not exposing reagents and samples to direct lights as well as using fresh solutions each time during the analysis. It is important to run multiple antioxidant test in order to get better estimation of antioxidant capacity and to substantiate in vitro results with clinical studies (Seeram et al., 2008). A slight difference in the method of antioxidant used may have caused variability in the results. Factor such as pasteurisation condition used in preparing juice may also affect the changes of the antioxidant capacity of juice. Other than that, temperature variation during sample incubation and different specification of spectrophotometer used can also leads to significant internal variability (Hernández, Fraga, A. I. Jimenez, F. Jimenez, & Arias, 1999). Keisha and Jose (2009) suggested that the value of plant antioxidant activity could be increased by delaying the harvesting process at maturity level. This was due to their study showed linear relationship between antioxidant activity and maturity stage (r = 0.59) of the fruits.

# 3.4 Polyphenol Compounds in TP 3 in $1^{TM}$ Fruit Juice

Several polyphenol compounds which were present in pomegranate, guava and roselle calyx juice extract from previous research were studied. Eight types of polyphenols were selected to be determined in TP 3 in  $1^{TM}$  juice. In this study, ellagic acid (EA) was the highest component in the juice with a value of 633.73 mg/100 ml (Table

4). The results also indicated that individual polyphenol such as procyanidin B2 (375.99 mg), chlorogenic acid (327.59 mg), epicatechin (291.10 mg), gallic acid (195.39 mg) and catechin (117.22 mg) were abundantly found in each 100 ml juice. In addition, p-coumaric acid (0.13 mg) and kuromanin chloride (15.19 mg) were also present in every 100 ml TP 3 in 1<sup>TM</sup> juice. EA and chlorogenic acid was found to be the most predominant and common polyphenol in this fruit juice. EA is a main component of plant cell wall. It is a dimeric derivative of gallic acid, occurs in fruits (fresh and processed) and nuts in either its free form, as EA-glycosides, or bound as ellagitannins (Amakura, Okada, Tsuji, & Tonogai, 2000; Clifford & Scalbert, 2000). Medicinally, EA was used to prevent cancer, treat viral and bacterial infections (WebMD, 2017). Previous study (Seeram et al., 2005), has used pomegranate juice as the main supplement for EA in his human study. Chlorogenic acid was found abundantly in fruit cultivar of western countries but not in tropical fruit cultivar. It has been reported to exist in varieties of apples and berries (Svedstrom, Vuorela, Kostiainen, Laakso, & Hiltunen, 2006; Ceymann et al., 2012). The wide range of potential health benefits of chlorogenic acid has been reported including its anti-diabetic, anti-carcinogenic, anti-inflammatory and anti-obesity impacts (N. Tajik, M. Tajik, Mack, & Enck, 2017). Procyanidin B2 was normally found in red color juices such as pomegranate and roselle juices. As such procyanidin B2 is normally a reference compound for anthocyanidin.

Table 4. Targeted polyohenol compounds in TP 3 in $1^{TM}$ juice	
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Compounds	Value (mg/100 ml)
Gallic acid (GA)	195.39±13.35
Ellagic acid (EA)	633.73±80.44
Catechin	117.22±57.22
Epicatechin	291.10±70.63
P-coumaric acid	0.13±0.01
Chlorogenic acid	327.59±73.43
Procyanidin B2	375.99±99.44
Kuromanin chloride	15.19±6.55

Note. Results were reported in average±standard deviation of 6 replicates.

# 4. Conclusion

In conclusion, this present study reported that TP 3 in  $1^{\text{TM}}$  fruit juice have acceptable physical properties and contained significant amount of phenolic and antioxidant content. Pomegranate, guava and roselle juice individually contained various nutrient and a combination of these three fruit juices may provide beneficial activity towards health. The juice is expected to be commercialized to be one of the healthy choice drinks that everyone can enjoy.

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