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Hereby, we submit an article entitled "Optimization of Condition for Anthocyanins Extraction from Indonesian Varieties Black Rice using Response Surface Model" for possible publication in the Food Research. All authors have read and approved the manuscript and take full responsibility for its content. All authors do not have a conflict of interest regarding this research or its funding.

This article is the product of a research grant funded by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Research, and Technology of the Republic of Indonesia in 2021. This article discusses an effective and economical method of extracting black rice functional compounds. Results were very optimal (109.64 mg/ 100 g anthocyanins, 25.35 mg QE/ 100 g flavonoids, 295.56 mg GAE/100 g total phenolics, and antioxidant activity 61.69% inhibition).

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1 **Optimization of Condition for Anthocyanins Extraction from Indonesian Varieties Black Rice using**
2 **Response Surface Model**

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12
13 **Abstract**

14 This study aims to extract anthocyanin, flavonoid, and total phenol compounds and antioxidant
15 activity of black rice using the heat-assisted maceration method. Extraction parameters were optimized
16 using response surface methodology by studying the concentration of ethanol (50-60%), citric acid (3-
17 5%), and temperature (45-55 °C) factor. The regression model of all variables was very significant ($p <$
18 0.001). The best conditions for the extraction process for all variables included ethanol concentration of
19 56.11%, citric acid concentration of 4.42%, and extraction temperature of 49.29 °C. Under the given
20 solution, the maximum extraction of black rice contained 109.64 mg/100 g of anthocyanins, 25.35 mg
21 QE/100 g of flavonoids, 295.56 mg GAE/100 g total phenols, and antioxidant activity reached 61.69% of
22 inhibition. The overall results show the positive impact of the extraction process of black rice functional
23 compounds using the heat-assisted maceration method.

24 **Keywords:** Black rice, Indonesian varieties, extraction, anthocyanins, response surface methode

25
26 **1. Introduction**

27 Pigmented rice cultivars such as black rice are found and consumed mainly by people in Asian
28 countries. Anthocyanins are the main components of black rice (Nakagawa & Maeda, 2017), and
29 cyanidin-3-glucoside compounds are the largest anthocyanin compounds in black rice which reach 88%
30 (Abdel-Aal et al., 2006). Anthocyanins are responsible for the black color in black rice (Lee, 2010). Other
31 anthocyanin compounds such as cyanidin-3-rutinoside, cyanidin 3,5-glucoside, malvidin 3 glucoside, and
32 peonidin 3 glucoside are also found in black rice and have been confirmed to have several health
33 benefits for the human body (Chen et al., 2012; Hou et al. al., 2013). As a secondary metabolite
34 compound, anthocyanins have a high solubility. This makes the extraction process the ideal method to
35 obtain them.

36 Generally, the anthocyanin extraction process uses methanol, acetone, and ethanol as solvents.
37 Although its effectiveness is not as good as methanol and acetone, ethanol is considered safer because

38 it is less toxic than other solvents. Ethanol concentration is the most important factor in the anthocyanin
39 extraction process, in relation to its molecular solubility (Khazaei et al., 2016). Ethanol acidified with HCl
40 has also been reported to increase the hydrolyzed anthocyanin content of black rice (Bae et al., 2017).
41 However, the use of HCl as an acidification medium remains a concern, given its very high toxicity.

42 Regarding acidified ethanol solvents, citric acid has been widely reported as one of the best ethanol
43 acidification media for anthocyanin extraction, such as anthocyanin extraction in barberry, eggplant, and
44 red cabbage (Hosseini et al., 2016), anthocyanin extraction in blueberries (Xu et al., 2016), purple sweet
45 potato (Ekaputra & Pramitasari, 2020), *Carissa carandas* fruit (Le et al., 2019), black carrot (Espinosa-
46 Acosta et al., 2018), red cabbage (Shiyan et al., 2018), and black rice both in the form of whole-grain and
47 by-products (Halee et al., 2018; Pedro et al., 2016). Citric acid plays a role in lowering the pH value of the
48 solvent, this is related to the stability of the anthocyanin compounds at $\text{pH} < 6$ (Liu et al., 2018). The
49 stability of anthocyanin compounds will increase when the solvent has a pH value of 1-3. Anthocyanins
50 are easier to isolate, characterized by the extract having a red-blue mixed color (do Carmo Brito et al.,
51 2017).

52 In addition to ethanol concentration and pH, temperature level is also the most widely reported
53 contributing factor in the anthocyanin extraction process (Silva et al., 2017). The combination of ethanol
54 concentration, citric acid, and temperature seems to be the most promising approach to obtain
55 functional extracts from black rice. The previous literature only reported the effectiveness of ethanol-
56 citric acid solvent in the black rice anthocyanin extraction process (Pedro et al., 2016). Studies related to
57 the optimization of the extraction process of black rice functional compounds using a combination of
58 ethanol concentration, citric acid concentration, and temperature have not been reported so far. The
59 extraction process uses a response surface model (RSM) approach, which is used to develop and
60 optimize the process and product conditions so that it can be used to determine the best conditions in
61 the extraction process of black rice functional compounds (Granato et al., 2014).

62 This study aims to create an optimal model in the extraction process of functional components of
63 Indonesian varieties of black rice using RSM based on the concentration of ethanol, citric acid, and
64 temperature. The result is black rice extract high in anthocyanin, total phenol, flavonoid, and antioxidant
65 activity.

66 **2. Materials and methods**

67 *2.1 Materials*

68 Black rice was collected from organic rice farmers in the Karanganyar region, Central Java
69 Province, Indonesia. Other materials include food-grade citric acid from PT Gunacipta Multirasa,
70 distilled water, ethanol reagent, $\text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{NaO}_2$, KCl, AlCl_3 , CH_3COOK , $\text{C}_{15}\text{H}_{10}\text{O}_7$ (quercetin), Folin–Ciocalteu
71 Reagent, Na_2CO_3 pro analysis from Merck, 2,2-Diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH), and $\text{C}_7\text{H}_6\text{O}_5$ (gallic
72 acid) pro analysis from Sigma–Aldrich.

73

74 *2.2 Maceration extraction procedure of anthocyanins*

75 Extraction of black rice anthocyanins refers to the study of Pedro et al. (2016) with
76 modifications. Black rice was milled to flour. 100 g of black rice flour was added with 50-60%
77 concentration of ethanol solvent in water, with a ratio of 1:10 (w/v). Then, 3-5% (w/v) of the total
78 solvent was added with citric acid. The extraction process was carried out in a thermostatic water
79 bath at a temperature range of 45-55 °C for 120 minutes with constant stirring at 500 rpm. The

80 solution was then filtered using 400 mesh filter paper. The ethanol in the extract was then
81 evaporated using a rotary vacuum evaporator at 60 °C. The viscous extract was stored in a dark glass
82 bottle at -20 °C until analyzed.

84 *2.3 Experimental design*

85 The Box-Behnken design was used to evaluate the effect from a combination of three
86 independent variables (ethanol concentration, citric acid concentration, and temperature) in the
87 extraction of bioactive compounds from Indonesian black rice varieties. Values for ethanol
88 concentrations of 50, 55, and 60%, citric acid concentrations of 3, 4, and 5%, and extraction
89 temperatures of 45, 50, and 55 °C were studied. The dependent variables are anthocyanins,
90 flavonoids, total phenol, and antioxidant activity. The experimental design is presented in fifteen
91 combinations (Table 1), including three center point replicates to confirm errors and assess the
92 incompatibility of the proposed model. All experiments were carried out by design and triplicated.

94 *2.4 Analyses of anthocyanins*

95 Analysis of the anthocyanin content of the extract was done using the differential pH method
96 (Yamuangmorn et al., 2018). 1 mL of the extract was put into two dark test tubes. The first test tube
97 was added with 1 mL of potassium chloride buffer (pH 1.0), and the second test tube was added
98 with 1 mL of sodium acetate buffer (pH 4.5). Each solution was incubated for 15 minutes at room
99 temperature (25 ± 1 °C) impermeable to light. The absorbance was measured using a UV-Vis
100 spectrophotometer with a wavelength of 520 nm and 700 nm. The absorbance value was obtained
101 by subtracting the difference in absorbance at a wavelength of 520 nm and 700 nm at pH 1 with the
102 difference in absorbance at pH 4.5. Anthocyanin levels were obtained by multiplying the absorbance
103 value by the molecular weight of cyanidin-3-glucoside (448.8 g/mol) and the amount of dilution,
104 then divided by the coefficient of molar absorptivity of cyanidin-3-glucoside (26900 l/mol cm) and
105 the width of the cuvette (1 cm). The anthocyanin content of black rice extract was expressed in
106 mg/100g.

108 *2.5 Analyses of flavonoids*

109 Determination of the flavonoid content was done with the modified method of Cai et al. (2016).
110 A 0.5 ml extract sample was prepared in a dark tube, to which 1.5 ml of ethanol, 0.1 ml of 10% AlCl₃,
111 0.1 ml of 1 M CH₃COOK, and 2.8 ml of distilled water were added. The solution was homogenized
112 and incubated at room temperature (25 ± 1 °C) for 30 minutes. The absorbance of the sample was
113 measured using a UV-Vis spectrophotometer with a wavelength of 415 nm. Distilled water are used
114 as blank solution. The standard curve uses a solution of quercetin in distilled water with a
115 concentration range of 20-100 ppm. The flavonoid content of black rice extract was expressed as mg
116 QE/100 g.

118 *2.6 Analyses of total phenolics*

119 The Folin-Ciocalteu method (Pedro et al., 2016), with slight modifications, was used in the
120 analysis of total phenol. 0.5 ml of black rice extract was prepared in a dark tube then 5 ml of Folin
121 Ciolcaleu 10% (v/v) reagent was added. The solution was homogenized for 5 minutes and added 4
122 ml of 7.5% Na₂CO₃ (w/v). The mixture was incubated for 60 minutes at room temperature (25 ± 1
123 °C). Ethanol are used as blank solution. Gallic acid in ethanol with a concentration of 100-500 ppm

124 are used as standard solution. Next, the absorbance was measured using a UV-Vis
125 spectrophotometer with a wavelength of 765 nm. The total phenol content of black rice extract was
126 expressed as mg GAE/100g.

127 128 *2.7 Determination of free-radical scavenging activity*

129 Antioxidant activity was determined using Pedro et al. (2016) method, with a few modifications.
130 1.5 ml of 0.2 mM DPPH ethanol was mixed with 0.2 ml of the sample into a test tube, and ethanol
131 was added to a final volume of 3.5 ml. The tubes were tightly closed, homogenized, and incubated
132 at room temperature (25 ± 1 °C) for 60 minutes. The absorbance was measured at a wavelength of
133 517 nm. The ability of the extract to scavenge DPPH was obtained by subtracting the absorbance of
134 the blank with the sample. The result was then compared with the absorbance of the blank and
135 expressed in % of inhibition.

136 137 *2.8 Statistical analyses*

138 Design-Expert (version 11.1.2.0) was used in determining the experimental design and data
139 analysis. Prediction model using statistical analysis and analysis of variance (ANOVA). The suitability
140 of the polynomial model equation is expressed by the coefficient of determination (R^2).

141 142 **3. Results and discussion**

143 *3.1 Optimization and modeling of the extraction process from black rice*

144 Optimization of the extraction process refers to the components of anthocyanins, flavonoids,
145 total phenol, and antioxidant activity of black rice extract. The experimental design used the Box-
146 Behnken design to identify different independent variables. In general, the ANOVA test (Table 2)
147 from fifteen trials produced significant linear and quadratic effects ($p < 0.05$). The R^2 values of the
148 levels of anthocyanins, flavonoids, total phenol, and antioxidant activity of the extracts were 0.921,
149 0.987, 0.978, and 0.962, respectively. Thus, the model is very significant and suitable as
150 experimental data. The regression coefficient data can be used to obtain predictions of polynomial
151 equations. The three-dimensional surface plot refers to the obtained model and is used to assess
152 the relationship between the dependent and independent factors.

153 154 *3.2 Effect of independent variables on anthocyanin contents*

155 The anthocyanin content of the extract was significantly influenced by the linear effect of the
156 concentration of ethanol and citric acid ($p < 0.01$). The effect from the temperature level was not
157 significant ($p > 0.05$), although the trend was positive. This condition is believed to be related to the
158 extraction temperature range being in the optimal range. The same condition was also reported by
159 Ryu & Koh (2018), the extraction temperature of 50 - 60°C had no significant effect on the
160 anthocyanin content of black soybean extract, although there was a tendency to increase. Jha et al.
161 (2017) more specifically reported that the optimal anthocyanin extraction temperature was 49.46
162 °C, while the optimal extraction temperature in this study was 51.45 °C to produce the best
163 anthocyanins.

164 Figure 1A-1C is the three-dimensional plot of the three variables on the anthocyanin content of
165 the extract (44.05 – 108.61 mg/100 g). Citric acid plays an important role in triggering the release of
166 anthocyanins from the material, followed by the concentration of ethanol. Citric acid is a weak acid,
167 the addition of an ethanol-water solvent generally results in a solution pH of about 2-3. It is not

168 possible to adjust the pH of the extract to a lower level even if the concentration is increased. Under
169 these conditions, anthocyanins will maintain the form of flavylium that has good stability (Le et al.,
170 2019; Yang et al., 2010). Citric acid is also easier to diffuse into the plant matrix, which makes
171 anthocyanin hydrolysis process easier (Kurtulbaş et al., 2020).

172 The role of ethanol in increasing the anthocyanin extract was quite significant. However, when
173 the ethanol concentration reached 57%, the anthocyanin extract decreased drastically. This is
174 related to the higher solubility of anthocyanin molecules in a moderate ethanol medium ($\pm 55\%$). In
175 addition, the decrease in anthocyanin levels as the ethanol concentration increases is also caused by
176 the presence of unwanted impurities being isolated from the material, which will affect the quality
177 of anthocyanins (Jha et al., 2017; Le et al., 2019). However, the anthocyanin content at the highest
178 ethanol concentration (60%), was still better than at the lowest ethanol concentration (50%). Based
179 on these data, the prediction of the polynomial equation for the anthocyanin content of black rice
180 extract is:

$$181$$
$$182 Y (\text{anthocyanin}) = 106.78 + 10.57X_1 + 16.52X_2 + 3.82X_3 - 5.13X_1X_2 + 5.51X_1X_3 - 2.38X_2X_3 - 18.10X_1^2 -$$
$$183 20.23X_2^2 - 14.35X_3^2$$
$$184$$

185 3.3 Effect of independent variables on flavonoids

186 Extraction temperature had the strongest positive linear effect among other variables which
187 makes the flavonoid content of black rice extract increased significantly. Many researchers reported
188 the effect of temperature on flavonoid extraction. Rajha et al. (2014) obtained the optimal
189 temperature for solid-liquid extraction of flavonoids from grape by-products at 93 °C. Meanwhile,
190 the temperature of 94.66 °C was the most optimal to obtain high flavonoid Flos populi extract
191 (Sheng et al., 2013). Increasing the extraction temperature causes a decrease in solvent viscosity,
192 which is followed by an increase in molecular movement that cause optimal release of bioactive
193 compounds from black rice.

194 A high concentration of citric acid generally causes the pH of the solvent to decrease. Here, the
195 concentration of citric acid is positively correlated with flavonoids, although the increase tends to be
196 stable (Figures 3A and 3B). In previous studies, flavonoids are easier to extract at a high pH. The
197 polarity of bioactive compounds at high pH will result in higher dissociation of -OH groups so that
198 the solubility of bioactive compounds increases. Flavonoids will be optimal when the pH of the
199 solvent is between 4.5 – 6 (Karvela et al., 2009). Recent reports support this study, flavonoids are
200 more easily hydrolyzed at an acidic pH of 3.24 (Soquetta et al., 2019). Mai et al., (2020) also
201 investigated the effect of solvent pH on the recovery of *Euonymus alatus* and suggested using a low
202 pH (2.5 – 3.5). Each type of plant has a different amount and type of flavonoid. The position of the -
203 OH group of each compound also affects the flavonoid content of the extract.

204 Different results were shown by the ethanol factor. Flavonoids increased until the ethanol
205 concentration reached 55%, then began to slope and decrease rapidly when the ethanol
206 concentration was increased further. Ethanol is known to be very efficient in the extraction of
207 flavonoids and their glycosides (Sheng et al., 2013). The presence of water in the ethanol solvent has
208 a positive impact on the extraction process, water will facilitate mass transfer between solids and
209 liquids by increasing the permeability of the plant matrix so that the extraction efficiency is better.
210 The type of flavonoid also affects the extraction process. Less polar flavonoids such as flavonols,
211 aglycones, and flavanones generally will optimally decompose in chloroform, acetone, ethyl acetate,

212 and hexane solvents (Chaves et al., 2020). After applying the response surface regression method to
213 black rice extract flavonoids, the polynomial equations were as follows:

214
215
$$Y (\text{flavonoids}) = 24.23 + 0.28X_1 + 0.29X_2 + 2.23X_3 - 0.04X_1X_2 + 0.20X_1X_3 - 0.25X_2X_3 - 1.63X_1^2 - 0.26X_2^2$$

216
$$+ 0.76X_3^2$$

217 218 *3.4 Effect of independent variables on total phenolic compounds*

219 The three independent variables had a very significant positive linear effect ($p < 0.01$) on the
220 total phenol extract. Temperature is the main factor that affects the total phenol extract. Increasing
221 the temperature increased the total phenol extract by 37 mg GAE/ 100g (13.69%). Wang et al.
222 (2016) also reported that increasing the extraction temperature from 50 – 70 °C, succeeded in
223 increasing the total phenolic extract of blueberries by 14.48% (43 mg GAE/ 100 g), and red pear
224 peels by 23.33% (42 mg GAE/ 100 g). Higher temperature can separate the phenolic components
225 into smaller structures which cause the viscosity and surface tension to decrease, thereby increasing
226 the solubility in solvents. This condition does not apply when the extraction time is increased. Long
227 extraction time in high temperatures cause degradation of phenolic compounds (Yilmaz & Toledo,
228 2006).

229 The interaction of ethanol concentration with temperature gave the greatest contribution (F-
230 value 2.24). However, the total phenol decreased when the ethanol concentration reached more
231 than 55%. Ethanol concentration was reported to reduce the boiling point and polarity of the
232 solution, resulting in a decrease in the isolation of phenolic compounds. This makes a balanced
233 ethanol-water mixture to give a positive contribution to the total phenol extract. Ethanol plays a
234 role in increasing the solubility of solutes, and the role of water is very important in the desorption
235 process of the material matrix so that the extraction will be optimal (Mustafa & Turner, 2011).

236 Total phenol increased when the solvent medium became more acidic, this can be seen in
237 Figures 3A and 3B. The addition of citric acid causes the pH of the solution to become acidic, this
238 condition will support the separation of phenolic bound to protein and carbohydrate polymers. The
239 solubility of hydrophobic phenolic compounds in micelles will increase, due to decreased proton
240 activity in deprotonated phenols and their ionic characteristics. Thus, the amount of phenol
241 extracted increased with the addition of citric acid (El-Abbassi et al., 2014; İlbay et al., 2014). The
242 polynomial equation of the total phenol extract is predicted as follows:

243
244
$$Y (\text{phenolics}) = 287.81 + 1.87X_1 + 1.72X_2 + 12.85X_3 + 0.20X_1X_2 - 1.05X_1X_3 - 0.05X_2X_3 - 6.82X_1^2 +$$

245
$$1.78X_2^2 + 4.03X_3^2$$

246 247 *3.5 Effect of independent variables on antioxidant activity*

248 The concentration of ethanol and citric acid had a very significant ($p < 0.001$) positive linear effect on
249 the antioxidant activity of the extract, while the extraction temperature factor had a positive linear
250 effect with a weak significance ($p < 0.05$). The main factors affecting the antioxidant activity of the
251 extract were the concentration of citric acid, then the concentration of ethanol, and finally the
252 temperature. The interaction of ethanol with citric acid and citric acid with temperature is
253 negatively correlated, while the interaction of ethanol - temperature produces a positive
254 correlation. Based on a statistical analysis of the data obtained, the polynomial equation of
255 antioxidant activity of the extract is predicted according to the following equation:

256
257 $Y (\text{antioxidant activity}) = 61.90 + 1.19X_1 + 1.63X_2 + 0.41X_3 - 0.90X_1X_2 + 0.90X_1X_3 - 0.13X_2X_3 - 2.64X_1^2 -$
258 $2.56X_2^2 - 1.81X_3^2$

259
260 The antioxidant activity of black rice extract ranged from 53.18 – 62.20% inhibition, higher than that
261 reported by Pedro et al. (2016), namely 29.13 – 51.78% inhibition. The main antioxidant in black rice
262 comes from anthocyanin compounds. Zhang et al. (2006) stated that the cyanidin-3-glucoside
263 compound in black rice acts as an antioxidant hydrogen donor (AH₄). Its presence can disrupt the
264 lipid autoxidation chain reaction so that further adipose oxidation can be stopped. The mechanism is
265 by supplying hydrogen atoms four times (AH₄), offering H to (R-) and then returning R- to the
266 original lipid (RH).

267 268 *3.6 Optimization of the parameters*

269 Table 3 shows the optimum maceration conditions for the extraction process using RSM. Ethanol
270 with a concentration of 56.11% as a solvent, added with 4.42% citric acid as a medium for reducing
271 pH and the maceration process at 49.29 °C can produce a functional extract of black rice which is
272 rich in anthocyanins (109.64 mg/100 g), high in flavonoids (25.35 mg QE/100 g), total phenol (295.56
273 mg GAE/100 g), and antioxidant activity (61.96% of inhibition). The hypothesis fit the experimental
274 results obtained based on the optimum conditions using RSM model.

275 276 **4. Conclusion**

277 The extraction process of functional compounds of Indonesian varieties of black rice using the Box-
278 Behnken design revealed a significant effect of ethanol concentration, citric acid concentration, and
279 extraction temperature on the yield. Furthermore, the interaction between treatments showed good
280 optimization results. The results support black rice as an important source of anthocyanin compounds,
281 which can be extracted well using a simple method using a combination of ethanol-water solvents, citric
282 acid with the help of controlled heat. This can provide new opportunities, especially for the beverage
283 industry to develop functional drinks.

284 285 **Conflict of interest - Disclose any potential conflict of interest appropriately.**

286 The authors declare no conflict of interest.

287 288 **Acknowledgments**

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420 Table 1. The Box–Behnken design and experiment data

No	Independent variables and coded			Response variables			
	Ethanol (%)	CA* (%)	T** (°C)	Anthocyanin (a)	Flavonoids (b)	Phenolics (c)	AA*** (d)
1	50 (-1)	3 (-1)	50 (0)	44.05 ± 1.42	21.60 ± 0.14	277.48 ± 0.85	53.48 ± 0.41
2	50 (-1)	4 (0)	55 (1)	65.57 ± 2.12	25.43 ± 0.19	270.28 ± 0.85	56.16 ± 0.25
3	50 (-1)	4 (0)	45 (-1)	59.06 ± 0.00	21.13 ± 0.24	299.08 ± 0.85	56.10 ± 0.16
4	50 (-1)	5 (1)	50 (0)	74.58 ± 0.71	22.13 ± 0.14	281.28 ± 1.13	57.84 ± 0.16
5	55 (0)	3 (-1)	45 (-1)	48.05 ± 1.42	22.03 ± 0.28	279.88 ± 0.85	55.52 ± 0.16
6	55 (0)	3 (-1)	55 (1)	50.55 ± 0.71	26.73 ± 0.05	304.68 ± 1.41	55.57 ± 0.25
7	55 (0)	5 (1)	45 (-1)	98.60 ± 0.71	23.23 ± 0.00	282.68 ± 1.41	59.76 ± 0.08
8	55 (0)	5 (1)	55 (1)	91.60 ± 0.71	26.93 ± 0.14	307.28 ± 1.13	59.29 ± 0.08
9	60 (1)	3 (-1)	50 (0)	72.58 ± 0.71	22.63 ± 0.09	283.88 ± 0.28	57.38 ± 0.33
10	60 (1)	4 (0)	45 (-1)	72.07 ± 1.42	20.90 ± 0.38	273.08 ± 1.41	56.97 ± 0.08
11	60 (1)	4 (0)	55 (1)	100.60 ± 0.71	26.00 ± 0.05	297.68 ± 1.13	60.63 ± 0.00
12	60 (1)	5 (1)	50 (0)	82.59 ± 0.71	23.00 ± 0.14	288.48 ± 0.57	58.13 ± 0.08
13	55 (0)	4 (0)	50 (0)	105.61 ± 0.71	24.27 ± 0.24	288.08 ± 1.70	61.79 ± 0.33
14	55 (0)	4 (0)	50 (0)	108.61 ± 0.71	24.37 ± 0.09	287.68 ± 3.96	62.20 ± 0.08
15	55 (0)	4 (0)	50 (0)	106.11 ± 1.42	24.07 ± 0.14	287.68 ± 0.00	61.73 ± 0.08

421 (*) Citric Acid; (**) Temperature; (***) Antioxidant Activities; (a) mg/100 g; (b) mg QE/100 g; (c) mg GAE/100 g; (d) % of Inhibition

422

423 Table 2. Significance level of ANOVA and regression coefficient value of quadratic model

Coefficients		Estimated coefficients			
		Anthocyanins	Flavonoids	Phenolics	AA
Intercept		106.78	24.23	287.81	61.90
Linear	X ₁ ethanol (%)	10.57**	0.28**	1.87**	1.19**
	X ₂ Citric acid (%)	16.52**	0.29**	1.72**	1.63**
	X ₃ Temperature (°C)	3.82	2.23**	12.85**	0.41*
Interactions	X ₁ X ₂	-5.13	-0.04	0.20	-0.90**
	X ₁ X ₃	5.51	0.20*	-1.05	0.90**
	X ₂ X ₃	-2.38	-0.25*	-0.05	-0.13
Quadratic	X ₁ ²	-18.10**	-1.63**	-6.82**	-2.64**
	X ₂ ²	-20.23**	-0.26*	1.78*	-2.56**
	X ₃ ²	-14.35**	0.76**	4.03**	-1.81**
R ²		0.921	0.987	0.978	0.962
F-value		24.78**	165.07**	92.60**	53.33**

(model)

424 *significant at 0.05 level; **significant at 0.01 level.

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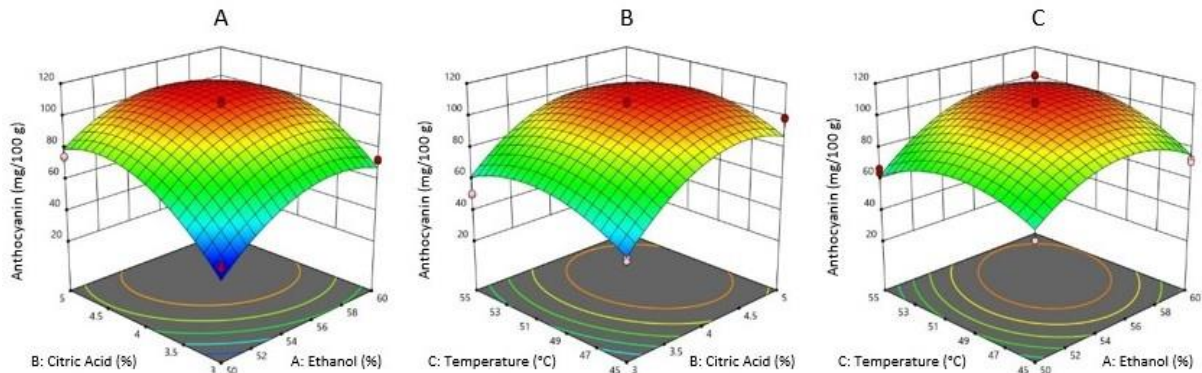
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430 Table 3. Optimum conditions of extraction for black rice

Factor	Optimal Condition	
Ethanol (%)	56.11 (%)	
Citric Acid (%)	4.42 (%)	
Temperature (°C)	49.29 (°C)	
Respos	Prediction value	Experimental value
Anthocyanins (mg/100 g)	109.64	112.10
Flavonoids (mgQE/100 g)	25.35	25.43
Phenolics (mgGAE/100 g)	295.56	296.95
Antioxidant Activity (% of Inhibition)	61.96	61.24

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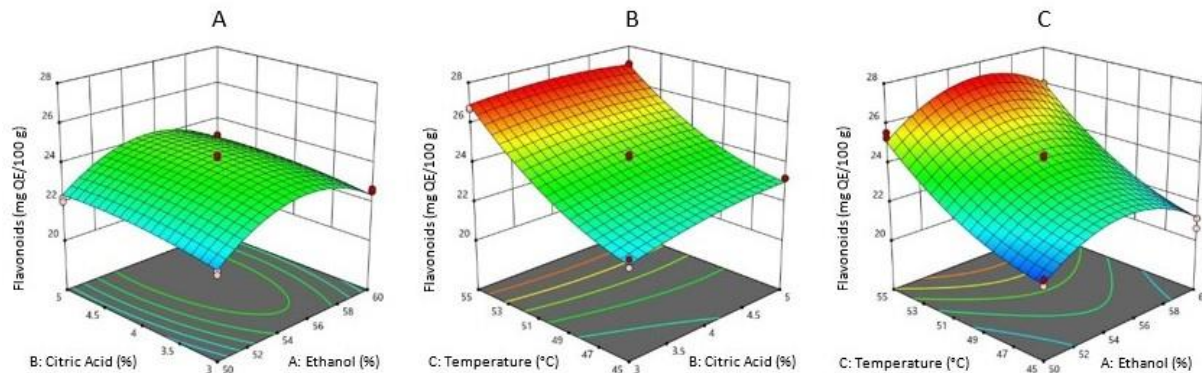


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433 Figure 1. Response surface graphs and contour plots for the effects of ethanol concentration, citric acid

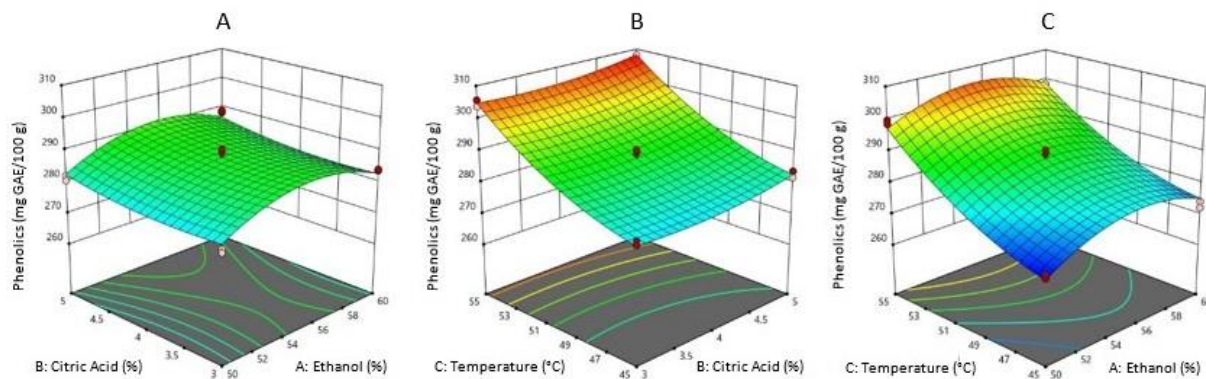
434 concentration, and temperature on anthocyanin content of black rice extract

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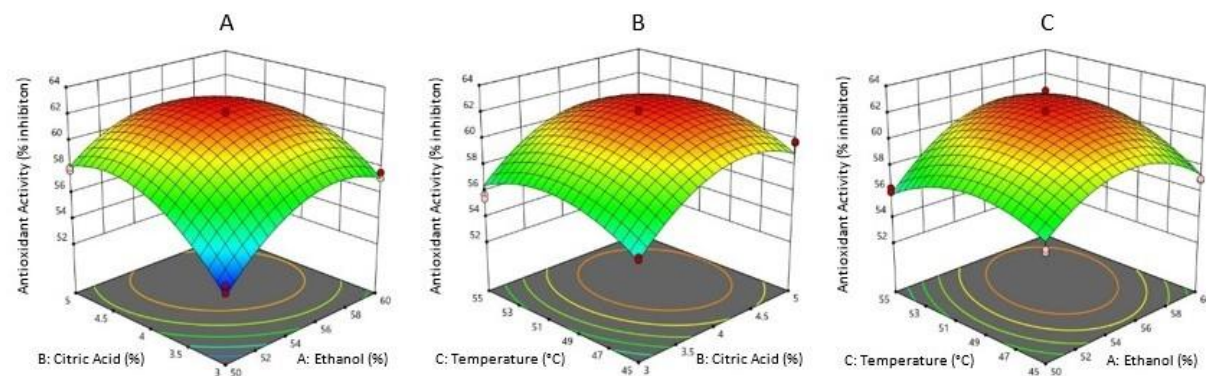


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437 Figure 2. Response surface graphs and contour plots for the effects of ethanol concentration, citric acid
438 concentration, and temperature on flavonoid content of black rice extract
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441 Figure 3. Response surface graphs and contour plots for the effects of ethanol concentration, citric acid
442 concentration, and temperature on phenolics content of black rice
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446 Figure 4. Response surface graphs and contour plots for the effects of ethanol concentration, citric acid
447 concentration, and temperature on antioxidant activity of black rice extract

MANUSCRIPT EVALUATION FORM

Date : 15th September 2021

Manuscript ID : FR-2021-732

Please return by : 15th October 2021

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<p>1.</p>	<p>Title <i>It should reflect the article</i></p>	<p>How many varieties of black rice that use in this study? If only one please delete the word 'Indonesia Varieties'. The author didn't how many varieties of black rice that use in this study. Please change the word 'optimazing' to 'optimizing'.</p>
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<p>4.</p>	<p>Introduction <i>Concise with sufficient background</i></p>	<p>1. Line 18, I don't think that black rice consumed mainly, actually polished rice (white rice) as main rice for consume. Please change the sentence. 2. The author didn't write novelty of the study</p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Research design/Methodology <i>Clearly described and reproducible</i></p>	<p>1. Line 76, Please change this expression. How many varieties that used in this study? If only one variety, I don't think this expression is needed (please see also comment on the title) 2. Please check the correct form of total phenolic content (TPC). This is not total phenol. Please consider in all manuscript. 3. Line 106, total phenolic content</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Data Analysis <i>Results well presented and discussed</i></p>	<p>Data analysis and result are good presentation.</p>
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Optimizing Extraction of Anthocyanins from Indonesian Varieties Black Rice using Response Surface Model

Abstract

This study aimed to extract anthocyanin, flavonoid, and total phenol compounds and antioxidant activity of black rice using the heat-assisted maceration method. Extraction parameters were optimized using response surface methodology by studying the concentration of ethanol (50-60%), citric acid (3-5%), and temperature (45-55°C) factor. The regression model of all variables was very significant ($p < 0.001$). The best conditions for the extraction process for all variables included ethanol concentration of 56.11%, citric acid concentration of 4.42%, and extraction temperature of 49.29°C. Under the given solution best conditions, the maximum extraction of black rice contained 109.64 mg/100 g of anthocyanins, 25.35 mg QE/100 g of flavonoids, 295.56 mg GAE/100 g of total phenols, and antioxidant activity reached 61.69% of inhibition. The overall results show the positive impact of the extraction process of black rice functional compounds using the heat-assisted maceration method.

Keywords: Black rice, Indonesian varieties, Extraction, Anthocyanins, Response surface methodology

1. Introduction

Pigmented rice cultivars such as black rice are found and consumed mainly by people in Asian countries. Anthocyanins are the main components of black rice (Nakagawa and Maeda, 2017), and cyanidin-3-glucoside compounds are the largest anthocyanin compounds in black rice, around which reach 88% (Abdel-Aal *et al.*, 2006). Anthocyanins are responsible for the black color in black rice (Lee, 2010). Other anthocyanin compounds such as cyanidin-3-rutinoside, cyanidin 3,5-glucoside, malvidin 3-glucoside, and peonidin 3-glucoside are also found in black rice and have been confirmed to have several health benefits for the human body (Chen *et al.*, 2012; Hou *et al.*, 2013). As a secondary metabolite compound, anthocyanins have a high solubility. This makes the extraction process the ideal method to obtain them.

Generally, the anthocyanin extraction process uses methanol, acetone, and ethanol as solvents. Although its effectiveness is not as good as methanol and acetone, ethanol is considered safer-more safe because it is less toxic than other solvents. Ethanol concentration is the most important factor in the anthocyanin extraction process, in relation to its molecular solubility (Khazaei *et al.*, 2016). Ethanol acidified with HCl has also been reported to increase the hydrolyzed anthocyanin content of black rice (Bae *et al.*, 2017). However, the use of HCl as an acidification medium remains a concern, given its very high toxicity.

Regarding acidified ethanol solvents, citric acid has been widely reported as one of the best ethanol acidification media for anthocyanin extraction, such as anthocyanin extraction in barberry, eggplant, and red cabbage (Hosseini *et al.*, 2016), anthocyanin extraction in blueberries (Xu *et al.*, 2016), purple sweet potato (Ekaputra and Pramitasari, 2020), *Carissa carandas* fruit (Le *et al.*, 2019), black carrot (Espinosa-Acosta *et al.*, 2018), red cabbage (Shiyan *et al.*, 2018), and black rice both in the form of whole-grain and by-products (Pedro *et al.*, 2016; Halee *et al.*, 2018;). Citric acid plays a role in lowering the pH value of the

Commented [A1]: Please revise the title.

Suggested title:
The extraction optimization of anthocyanin from Indonesian black rice using response surface methodology

Commented [A2]: Please revise an abstract according to my suggestions

Commented [A3]: Please explain the background of this research before the objective statement.

Commented [A4]: Please change this statement with the statement of recommendation of this research.

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Cyanidin-3-glucoside and peonidin-3-glucoside are the main anthocyanins in black rice, not other anthocyanin compounds in black rice.
Please refer the recent publication of anthocyanins in black rice.

Commented [A6]: Please clarify two statements.

Why do anthocyanins as secondary metabolites have high solubility?
High solubility in any solvents?
What are the anthocyanin extraction methods?

Commented [A7]: Please refer the recent publication.

40 solvent, this is related to the stability of the anthocyanin compounds at pH < 6 (Liu *et al.*, 2018). The
41 stability of anthocyanin compounds will increase when the solvent has a at pH value of solvent around 1-
42 3. Anthocyanins are so they are easier to isolate, characterized by the extract having a red-blue mixed
43 color (do Carmo Brito *et al.*, 2017).

44 In addition to ethanol concentration and pH, temperature level is also the most widely reported
45 contributing factor in the anthocyanin extraction process (Silva *et al.*, 2017). The combination of ethanol
46 concentration, citric acid, and temperature seems to be the most promising approach to obtain functional
47 extracts from black rice. The previous literature only reported the effectiveness of ethanol-citric acid
48 solvent in the black rice anthocyanin extraction process (Pedro *et al.*, 2016). Studies related to the
49 optimization of the extraction process of black rice functional compounds using a combination of ethanol
50 concentration, citric acid concentration, and temperature have not been reported so far. The extraction
51 process uses a response surface model (RSM) approach, which is used to develop and optimize the process
52 and product conditions so that it can be used to determine the best conditions in the extraction process
53 of black rice functional compounds (Granato *et al.*, 2014).

54 This study aims to create an optimal model in the extraction process of functional components of
55 Indonesian varieties of black rice using RSM based on the concentration of ethanol, citric acid, and
56 temperature. The result is black rice extract high in anthocyanin, total phenol, flavonoid, and antioxidant
57 activity.

58 2. Materials and methods

59 2.1 Materials

60 Black rice was collected from organic rice farmers in the Karanganyar region, Central Java
61 Province, Indonesia. Other materials include food-grade citric acid from PT Gunacipta Multirasa,
62 distilled water, ethanol reagent, C₂H₃NaO₂, KCl, AlCl₃, CH₃COOK, C₁₅H₁₀O₇ (quercetin), Folin-Ciocalteu
63 Reagent, Na₂CO₃ pro analysis from Merck, 2,2-Diphenyl-1-picrylhydrazyl (DPPH), and C₇H₆O₅ (gallic
64 acid) pro analysis from Sigma-Aldrich.

66 2.2 Maceration extraction procedure of anthocyanins

67 Extraction of black rice anthocyanins refers to the study of Pedro *et al.* (2016) with modifications.
68 Black rice was milled to flour. 100 g of black rice flour (100 g) was added with 50-60% concentration
69 of ethanol solvent in distilled water, with a ratio of 1:10 (w/v). Then, 3-5% (w/v) of the total solvent
70 was added with citric acid. The extraction process was carried out in a thermostatic water bath at a
71 temperature range of 45-55°C for 120 minutes with constant stirring at 500 rpm. The solution was
72 then filtered using 400 mesh filter paper. The ethanol in the extract was then evaporated using a
73 rotary vacuum evaporator at 60°C. The viscous extract was stored in a dark glass bottle at -20°C until
74 analyzed.

76 2.3 Experimental design

77 The Box-Behnken design was used to evaluate the effect from a combination of three
78 independent variables (ethanol concentration, citric acid concentration, and temperature) in the
79 extraction of bioactive compounds from Indonesian black rice varieties. Values for ethanol
80 concentrations of 50, 55, and 60%, citric acid concentrations of 3, 4, and 5%, and extraction
81 temperatures of 45, 50, and 55°C were studied. The dependent variables are anthocyanins,
82 flavonoids, total phenol, and antioxidant activity. The experimental design is presented in fifteen

Commented [A8]: Please elaborate the factors affecting in the extraction process of anthocyanins according to the previous studies.

Commented [A9]: Please clarify this statement according to the previous studies.

Commented [A10]: Please elaborate the various extraction methods of anthocyanin according to the previous studies.

Please refer to Penjumras et al (2020) entitled RSM for the extraction of bioactive compound from black glutinous rice.

Commented [A11]: What are the goals of research? For producing natural colorants, bioactive compounds, antioxidants, or others?
Please state the goal of this research clearly.

Commented [A12]: The last paragraph in introduction describes the main problems, objective, and contribution of the research.

What are the main problems in the extraction of anthocyanins from black rice?
What are the novelties of this research?
What are the contributions of this research?

Commented [A13]: Please state the concentration of ethanol used in this research.

Commented [A14]: Please explain the modification made by the researchers.

Commented [A15]: Please describe in detail the specification of black rice flour, such as the sieve size and moisture content.

Commented [A16]: Please explain the reason of the duration of extraction process in this research (120 minutes).

Commented [A17]: Please explain briefly the Box-Behnken design used in this research.

83 combinations (Table 1), including three center point replicates to confirm errors and assess the
84 incompatibility of the proposed model. All experiments were carried out by design and triplicated.

85 86 2.4 Analyses of anthocyanins

87 Analysis of the anthocyanin content of the extract was done using the differential pH method
88 (Yamuangmorn *et al.*, 2018). ~~1 mL of the Black rice extract (1 mL)~~ was put into two dark test tubes.
89 The first test tube was added with 1 mL of potassium chloride buffer (pH 1.0), and the second test
90 tube was added with 1 mL of sodium acetate buffer (pH 4.5). Each solution was incubated for 15
91 minutes at room temperature ($25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$) impermeable to light. The absorbance was measured using
92 a UV-Vis spectrophotometer with a wavelength of 520 nm and 700 nm. The absorbance value was
93 obtained by subtracting the difference in absorbance at a wavelength of 520 nm and 700 nm at pH 1
94 with the difference in absorbance at pH 4.5. Anthocyanin levels were obtained by multiplying the
95 absorbance value by the molecular weight of cyanidin-3-glucoside (448.8 g/mol) and the amount of
96 dilution, then divided by the coefficient of molar absorptivity of cyanidin-3-glucoside (26900 l/mol
97 cm) and the width of the cuvette (1 cm). The anthocyanin content of black rice extract was expressed
98 in mg/100g.

99 100 2.5 Analyses of flavonoids

101 Determination of the flavonoid content was done with the modified method of Cai *et al.* (2016).
102 A 0.5 mL extract sample was prepared in a dark tube, to which 1.5 mL of ethanol, 0.1 mL of 10%
103 AlCl_3 , 0.1 mL of 1 M CH_3COOK , and 2.8 mL of distilled water were added. The solution was
104 homogenized and incubated at room temperature ($25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$) for 30 minutes. The absorbance of the
105 sample was measured using a UV-Vis spectrophotometer with a wavelength of 415 nm. Distilled water
106 is used as a blank solution. The standard curve used is a solution of quercetin in distilled water with a
107 concentration range of 20-100 ppm. The flavonoid content of black rice extract was expressed as mg
108 QE/100 g.

109 110 2.6 Analyses of total phenolics

111 The Folin-Ciocalteu method (Pedro *et al.*, 2016), with slight modifications, was used in the analysis
112 of total phenol. ~~0.5 mL of black rice extract (0.5 mL)~~ was prepared in a dark tube then 5 mL of Folin-
113 Ciocalteu 10% (v/v) reagent was added. The solution was homogenized for 5 minutes and added 4
114 mL of 7.5% Na_2CO_3 (w/v). The mixture was incubated for 60 minutes at room temperature ($25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$).
115 Ethanol is used as a blank solution. Gallic acid in ethanol with a concentration of 100-500 ppm are
116 used as standard solution. Next, the absorbance was measured using a UV-Vis spectrophotometer
117 with a wavelength of 765 nm. The total phenol content of black rice extract was expressed as mg
118 GAE/100g.

119 120 2.7 Determination of free-radical scavenging activity

121 Antioxidant activity was determined using Pedro *et al.* (2016) method, with a few modifications.
122 ~~A 1.5 mL of 0.2 mM DPPH ethanol was mixed with 0.2 mL of the sample into a test tube, and ethanol~~
123 ~~was added to a final volume of 3.5 mL. The tubes were tightly closed, homogenized, and incubated~~
124 ~~at room temperature ($25 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$) for 60 minutes. The absorbance was measured at a wavelength of~~
125 ~~517 nm. The ability of the extract to scavenge DPPH was obtained by subtracting the absorbance of~~

126 the blank with the sample. The result was then compared with the absorbance of the blank and
127 expressed in % of inhibition.

128

129

2.8 Statistical analyses

130

Design-Expert (version 11.1.2.0) was used in determining the experimental design and data
131 analysis. Prediction model using statistical analysis and analysis of variance (ANOVA). The suitability
132 of the polynomial model equation is expressed by the coefficient of determination (R^2).

133

3. Results and discussion

134

3.1 Optimization and modeling of the extraction process from black rice

135

Optimization of the extraction process refers to the components of anthocyanins, flavonoids, total
137 phenol, and antioxidant activity of black rice extract. The experimental design used the Box-Behnken
138 design to identify different independent variables. In general, the ANOVA test (Table 2) from fifteen
139 trials produced significant linear and quadratic effects ($p < 0.05$). The R^2 values of the levels of
140 anthocyanins, flavonoids, total phenol, and antioxidant activity of the extracts were 0.921, 0.987,
141 0.978, and 0.962, respectively. Thus, the model is very significant and suitable as experimental data.
142 The regression coefficient data can be used to obtain predictions of polynomial equations. The three-
143 dimensional surface plot refers to the obtained model and is used to assess the relationship between
144 the dependent and independent factors.

145

146

3.2 Effect of independent variables on anthocyanin contents

147

The anthocyanin content of the extract was significantly influenced by the linear effect of the
148 concentration of ethanol and citric acid ($p < 0.01$). The effect from the temperature level was not
149 significant ($p > 0.05$), although the trend was positive. This condition is believed to be related to the
150 extraction temperature range being in the optimal range. The same condition was also reported by
151 Ryu and Koh (2018), the extraction temperature of 50 - 60°C had no significant effect on the
152 anthocyanin content of black soybean extract, although there was a tendency to increase. Jha *et al.*
153 (2017) more specifically reported that the optimal anthocyanin extraction temperature was 49.46°C,
154 while the optimal extraction temperature in this study was 51.45°C to produce the best anthocyanins.

155

Figure 1A-1C is the three-dimensional plot of the three variables on the anthocyanin content of
156 the extract (44.05 – 108.61 mg/100 g). Citric acid plays an important role in triggering the release of
157 anthocyanins from the material, followed by the concentration of ethanol. Citric acid is a weak acid,
158 the addition of an ethanol-water solvent generally results in a solution pH of about 2-3. It is not
159 possible to adjust the pH of the extract to a lower level even if the concentration is increased. Under
160 these conditions, anthocyanins will maintain the form of flavylium that has good stability (Yang *et al.*,
161 2010; Le *et al.*, 2019). Citric acid is also easier to diffuse into the plant matrix, which makes
162 anthocyanin hydrolysis process easier (Kurtulbaş *et al.*, 2020).

163

The role of ethanol in increasing the anthocyanin extract was quite significant. However, when
164 the ethanol concentration reached 57%, the anthocyanin extract decreased drastically. This is related
165 to the higher solubility of anthocyanin molecules in a moderate ethanol medium ($\pm 55\%$). In addition,
166 the decrease in anthocyanin levels as the ethanol concentration increases is also caused by the
167 presence of unwanted impurities being isolated from the material, which will affect the quality of
168 anthocyanins (Jha *et al.*, 2017; Le *et al.*, 2019). However, the anthocyanin content at the highest
169 ethanol concentration (60%), was still better than at the lowest ethanol concentration (50%). Based

Commented [A18]: Please discuss this result according to the previous studies regarding the optimization of extraction process of anthocyanins from pigmented cereals.

Commented [A19]: Please refer to Arruda et al (2021) entitled "Anthocyanins recovered from agri-food by products using innovative processes" for discussion.

Commented [A20]: Please explain the unwanted impurities in black rice extract.

Commented [A21]: This statement contradicts the previous statement stated "the ethanol concentration reached 57%, the anthocyanin extract decreased drastically". Please elaborate this statement according to the previous studies.

170 on these data, the prediction of the polynomial equation for the anthocyanin content of black rice
171 extract is:

172
173
$$Y (\text{anthocyanin}) = 106.78 + 10.57X_1 + 16.52X_2 + 3.82X_3 - 5.13X_1X_2 + 5.51X_1X_3 - 2.38X_2X_3 - 18.10X_1^2 -$$

174
$$20.23X_2^2 - 14.35X_3^2$$

175

176 3.3 Effect of independent variables on flavonoids

177 Extraction temperature had the strongest positive linear effect among other variables which
178 makes the flavonoid content of black rice extract increased significantly. Many researchers reported
179 the effect of temperature on flavonoid extraction. Rajha *et al.* (2014) obtained the optimal
180 temperature for solid-liquid extraction of flavonoids from grape by-products at 93°C. Meanwhile, the
181 temperature of 94.66°C was the most optimal to obtain high flavonoid Flos populi extract (Sheng *et*
182 *al.*, 2013). Increasing the extraction temperature causes a decrease in solvent viscosity, which is
183 followed by an increase in molecular movement that cause optimal release of bioactive compounds
184 from black rice.

185 A high concentration of citric acid generally causes the pH of the solvent to decrease. Here, the
186 concentration of citric acid is positively correlated with flavonoids, although the increase tends to be
187 stable (Figures 3A and 3B). In previous studies, flavonoids are easier to extract at a high pH. The
188 polarity of bioactive compounds at high pH will result in higher dissociation of -OH groups so that the
189 solubility of bioactive compounds increases. Flavonoids will be optimal when the pH of the solvent is
190 between 4.5 – 6 (Karvela *et al.*, 2009). Recent reports support this study, flavonoids are more easily
191 hydrolyzed at an acidic pH of 3.24 (Soquetta *et al.*, 2019). Mai *et al.*, (2020) also investigated the effect
192 of solvent pH on the recovery of *Euonymus alatus* and suggested using a low pH (2.5 – 3.5). Each type
193 of plant has a different amount and type of flavonoid. The position of the -OH group of each
194 compound also affects the flavonoid content of the extract.

195 Different results were shown by the ethanol factor. Flavonoids increased until the ethanol
196 concentration reached 55%, then began to slope and decrease rapidly when the ethanol
197 concentration was increased further. Ethanol is known to be very efficient in the extraction of
198 flavonoids and their glycosides (Sheng *et al.*, 2013). The presence of water in the ethanol solvent has
199 a positive impact on the extraction process, water will facilitate mass transfer between solids and
200 liquids by increasing the permeability of the plant matrix so that the extraction efficiency is better.
201 The type of flavonoid also affects the extraction process. Less polar flavonoids such as flavonols,
202 aglycones, and flavanones generally will optimally decompose in chloroform, acetone, ethyl acetate,
203 and hexane solvents (Chaves *et al.*, 2020). After applying the response surface regression method to
204 black rice extract flavonoids, the polynomial equations were as follows:

205
206
$$Y (\text{flavonoids}) = 24.23 + 0.28X_1 + 0.29X_2 + 2.23X_3 - 0.04X_1X_2 + 0.20X_1X_3 - 0.25X_2X_3 - 1.63X_1^2 - 0.26X_2^2 +$$

207
$$0.76X_3^2$$

208

209 3.4 Effect of independent variables on total phenolic compounds

210 The three independent variables had a very significant positive linear effect ($p < 0.01$) on the total
211 phenol extract. Temperature is the main factor that affects the total phenol extract. Increasing the
212 temperature could increase the total phenol extract by 37 mg GAE/ 100g (13.69%). Wang *et al.*
213 (2016) also reported that increasing the extraction temperature from 50 – 70°C, succeeded in

Commented [A22]: Please use the recent publication (last 5 years).

Commented [A23]: Please elaborate the relationship between the increasing of extraction temperature with the stability of flavonoid and its antioxidant activity according to the previous studies.

Commented [A24]: I think the extraction of flavonoids is determined by type of flavonoid of plant. Flavonoids of black rice were dominated by anthocyanins which have the optimal extraction of pH is < 3 according to Arruda *et al.* (2021) entitled "Anthocyanins recovered from agri-food by products using innovative processes".

Commented [A25]: Please elaborate this result according to the previous studies.

214 increasing the total phenolic extract of blueberries by 14.48% (43 mg GAE/ 100 g), and red pear peels
215 by 23.33% (42 mg GAE/ 100 g). Higher temperature can separate the phenolic components into
216 smaller structures which cause the viscosity and surface tension to decrease, thereby increasing the
217 solubility in solvents. This condition does not apply when the extraction time is increased. Long
218 extraction time in high temperatures cause degradation of phenolic compounds (Yilmaz and Toledo,
219 2006).

220 The interaction of ethanol concentration with temperature gave the greatest contribution (F-
221 value 2.24). However, the total phenol decreased when the ethanol concentration reached more than
222 55%. Ethanol concentration was reported to reduce the boiling point and polarity of the solution,
223 resulting in a decrease in the isolation of phenolic compounds. This makes a balanced ethanol-water
224 mixture to give a positive contribution to the total phenol extract. Ethanol plays a role in increasing
225 the solubility of solutes, and the role of water is very important in the desorption process of the
226 material matrix so that the extraction will be optimal (Mustafa and Turner, 2011).

227 Total phenol increased when the solvent medium became more acidic, this can be seen in Figures
228 3A and 3B. The addition of citric acid causes the pH of the solution to become acidic, this condition
229 will support the separation of phenolic bound to protein and carbohydrate polymers. The solubility of
230 hydrophobic phenolic compounds in micelles will increase, due to decreased proton activity in
231 deprotonated phenols and their ionic characteristics. Thus, the amount of phenol extracted increased
232 with the addition of citric acid (El-Abbassi *et al.*, 2014; İlbay *et al.*, 2014). The polynomial equation of
233 the total phenol extract is predicted as follows:

234
235
$$Y(\text{phenolics}) = 287.81 + 1.87X_1 + 1.72X_2 + 12.85X_3 + 0.20X_1X_2 - 1.05X_2X_3 - 0.05X_2X_3 - 6.82X_1^2 + 1.78X_2^2$$

236
$$+ 4.03X_3^2$$

237

238 3.5 Effect of independent variables on antioxidant activity

239 The concentration of ethanol and citric acid had a very significant ($p < 0.001$) positive linear effect on
240 the antioxidant activity of the extract, while the extraction temperature factor had a positive linear
241 effect with a weak significance ($p < 0.05$). The main factors affecting the antioxidant activity of the
242 extract were the concentration of citric acid, then the concentration of ethanol, and finally the
243 temperature. The interaction of ethanol with citric acid and citric acid with temperature is negatively
244 correlated, while the interaction of ethanol - temperature produces a positive correlation. Based on
245 a statistical analysis of the data obtained, the polynomial equation of antioxidant activity of the
246 extract is predicted according to the following equation:

247
248
$$Y(\text{antioxidant activity}) = 61.90 + 1.19X_1 + 1.63X_2 + 0.41X_3 - 0.90X_1X_2 + 0.90X_1X_3 - 0.13X_2X_3 - 2.64X_1^2 -$$

249
$$2.56X_2^2 - 1.81X_3^2$$

250

251 The antioxidant activity of black rice extract ranged from 53.18 – 62.20% inhibition, higher than that
252 reported by Pedro *et al.* (2016), namely 29.13 – 51.78% inhibition. The main antioxidant in black rice
253 comes from anthocyanin compounds. Zhang *et al.* (2006) stated that the cyanidin-3-glucoside
254 compound in black rice acts as an antioxidant hydrogen donor (AH₄). Its presence can disrupt the lipid
255 autoxidation chain reaction so that further adipose oxidation can be stopped. The mechanism is by
256 supplying hydrogen atoms four times (AH₄), offering H to (R-) and then returning R- to the original
257 lipid (RH).

Commented [A26]: Please elaborate this result and discuss the extraction time used in this research. Why the authors conducted the extraction process for 120 minutes?

Commented [A27]: What is the meaning of this statement? Please elaborate this result.

Commented [A28]: Please elaborate this result according to the previous studies. Why the antioxidant activity of black rice extract in this research showed higher than the result of Pedro et al (2016)?

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3.6 Optimization of the parameters

260

Table 3 shows the optimum maceration conditions for the extraction process using RSM. Ethanol with a concentration of 56.11% as a solvent, added with 4.42% citric acid as a medium for reducing pH and the maceration process at 49.29°C can produce a functional extract of black rice which is rich in anthocyanins (109.64 mg/100 g), high in flavonoids (25.35 mg QE/100 g), total phenol (295.56 mg GAE/100 g), and antioxidant activity (61.96% of inhibition). The hypothesis fit the experimental results obtained based on the optimum conditions using RSM model.

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4. Conclusion

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The extraction process of functional compounds of Indonesian varieties of black rice using the Box-Behnken design revealed a significant effect of ethanol concentration, citric acid concentration, and extraction temperature on the yield. Furthermore, the interaction between treatments showed good optimization results. The results support black rice as an important source of anthocyanin compounds, which can be extracted well using a simple method using a combination of ethanol-water solvents, citric acid with the help of controlled heat. This can provide new opportunities, especially for the beverage industry to develop functional drinks.

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Conflict of interest - Disclose any potential conflict of interest appropriately.

277

The authors declare no conflict of interest.

278

279

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280

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283

Commented [A29]: Please elaborate this result based on the recent studies, such as from Penjumras et al (2020) entitled RSM for the extraction of bioactive compound from black glutinous rice.

Commented [A30]: Please revise the conclusion.

Good conclusion consists of main conclusion, key findings, implication, and future directions.

Commented [A31]: Why the authors give the future directions like this?
How about the halal issues in relation to use of ethanol for extraction of anthocyanin?

Commented [A32]: Please state in detail for funding source.

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405 [2927\(06\)60073-4](https://doi.org/10.1016/S1671-2927(06)60073-4)

406 Table 1. The Box–Behnken design and experiment data

No	Independent variables and coded			Response variables			
	Ethanol (%)	CA* (%)	T** (°C)	Anthocyanin ^(a)	Flavonoids ^(b)	Phenolics ^(c)	AA*** ^(d)
1	50 (-1)	3 (-1)	50 (0)	44.05 ± 1.42	21.60 ± 0.14	277.48 ± 0.85	53.48 ± 0.41
2	50 (-1)	4 (0)	55 (1)	65.57 ± 2.12	25.43 ± 0.19	270.28 ± 0.85	56.16 ± 0.25
3	50 (-1)	4 (0)	45 (-1)	59.06 ± 0.00	21.13 ± 0.24	299.08 ± 0.85	56.10 ± 0.16
4	50 (-1)	5 (1)	50 (0)	74.58 ± 0.71	22.13 ± 0.14	281.28 ± 1.13	57.84 ± 0.16
5	55 (0)	3 (-1)	45 (-1)	48.05 ± 1.42	22.03 ± 0.28	279.88 ± 0.85	55.52 ± 0.16
6	55 (0)	3 (-1)	55 (1)	50.55 ± 0.71	26.73 ± 0.05	304.68 ± 1.41	55.57 ± 0.25
7	55 (0)	5 (1)	45 (-1)	98.60 ± 0.71	23.23 ± 0.00	282.68 ± 1.41	59.76 ± 0.08
8	55 (0)	5 (1)	55 (1)	91.60 ± 0.71	26.93 ± 0.14	307.28 ± 1.13	59.29 ± 0.08
9	60 (1)	3 (-1)	50 (0)	72.58 ± 0.71	22.63 ± 0.09	283.88 ± 0.28	57.38 ± 0.33
10	60 (1)	4 (0)	45 (-1)	72.07 ± 1.42	20.90 ± 0.38	273.08 ± 1.41	56.97 ± 0.08
11	60 (1)	4 (0)	55 (1)	100.60 ± 0.71	26.00 ± 0.05	297.68 ± 1.13	60.63 ± 0.00
12	60 (1)	5 (1)	50 (0)	82.59 ± 0.71	23.00 ± 0.14	288.48 ± 0.57	58.13 ± 0.08
13	55 (0)	4 (0)	50 (0)	105.61 ± 0.71	24.27 ± 0.24	288.08 ± 1.70	61.79 ± 0.33
14	55 (0)	4 (0)	50 (0)	108.61 ± 0.71	24.37 ± 0.09	287.68 ± 3.96	62.20 ± 0.08
15	55 (0)	4 (0)	50 (0)	106.11 ± 1.42	24.07 ± 0.14	287.68 ± 0.00	61.73 ± 0.08

407 (*) Citric Acid; (**) Temperature; (***) Antioxidant Activities; ^(a) mg/100 g; ^(b) mg QE/100 g; ^(c) mg GAE/100 g; ^(d) % of Inhibition

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410 Table 2. Significance level of ANOVA and regression coefficient value of quadratic model

Coefficients		Estimated coefficients			
		Anthocyanins	Flavonoids	Phenolics	AA
Intercept		106.78	24.23	287.81	61.90
Linear	X ₁ ethanol (%)	10.57**	0.28**	1.87**	1.19**
	X ₂ Citric acid (%)	16.52**	0.29**	1.72**	1.63**
	X ₃ Temperature (°C)	3.82	2.23**	12.85**	0.41*
Interactions	X ₁ X ₂	-5.13	-0.04	0.20	-0.90**
	X ₁ X ₃	5.51	0.20*	-1.05	0.90**
	X ₂ X ₃	-2.38	-0.25*	-0.05	-0.13
Quadratic	X ₁ ²	-18.10**	-1.63**	-6.82**	-2.64**
	X ₂ ²	-20.23**	-0.26*	1.78*	-2.56**
	X ₃ ²	-14.35**	0.76**	4.03**	-1.81**
R ²		0.921	0.987	0.978	0.962
F-value (model)		24.78**	165.07**	92.60**	53.33**

411 *significant at 0.05 level; **significant at 0.01 level.

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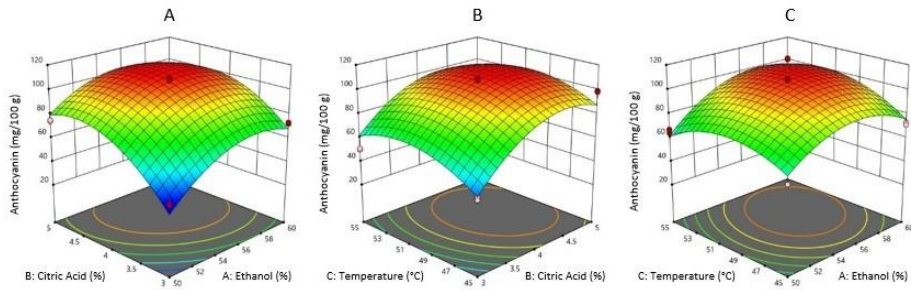
418 Table 3. Optimum conditions of [anthocyanins, flavonoids, and phenolics](#) extraction [and antioxidant](#)
419 [activity for of Indonesian](#) black rice

Factor	Optimal Condition	
Ethanol (%)	56.11 (%)	
Citric Acid (%)	4.42 (%)	
Temperature (°C)	49.29 (°C)	
Respon	Prediction value	Experimental value
Anthocyanins (mg/100 g)	109.64	112.10
Flavonoids (mgQE/100 g)	25.35	25.43
Phenolics (mgGAE/100 g)	295.56	296.95
Antioxidant Activity (% of Inhibition)	61.96	61.24

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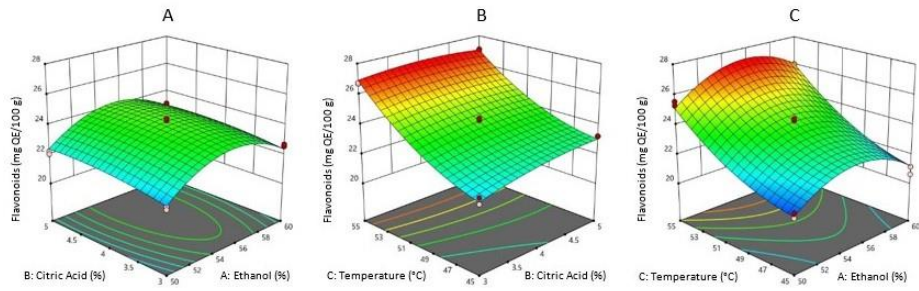
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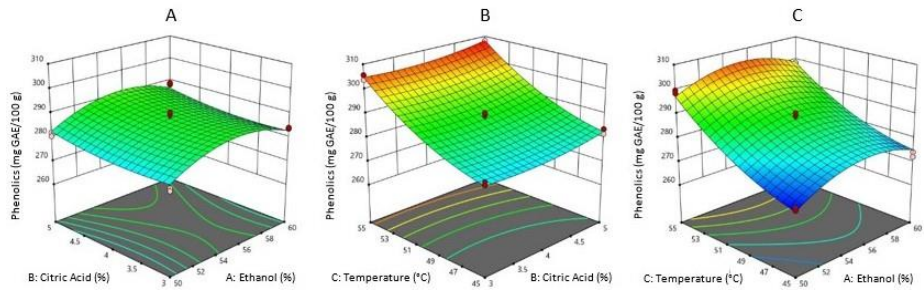
423
424 Figure 1. Response surface graphs and contour plots for the effects of ethanol concentration, citric acid
425 concentration, and temperature on anthocyanin content of black rice extract
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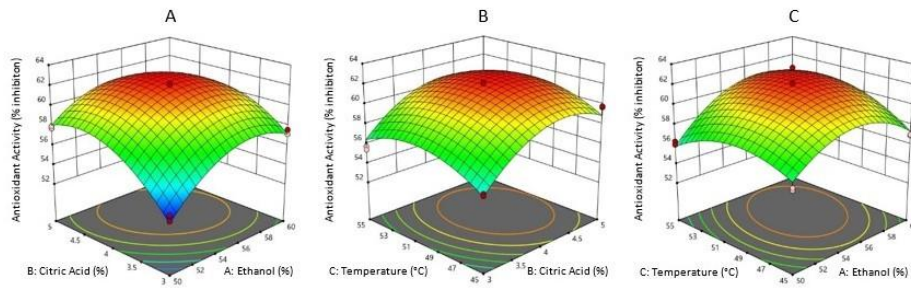
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430 Figure 2. Response surface graphs and contour plots for the effects of ethanol concentration, citric acid
431 concentration, and temperature on flavonoid content of black rice extract
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436 Figure 3. Response surface graphs and contour plots for the effects of ethanol concentration, citric acid
437 concentration, and temperature on phenolics content of black rice
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Figure 4. Response surface graphs and contour plots for the effects of ethanol concentration, citric acid concentration, and temperature on antioxidant activity of black rice extract