

Assessment of Antibacterial, Phytochemical Properties and GCMS Profiling of Crude *Polyalthia Longifolia* Extract

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Abstract— The purpose of this present study is to determine the antibacterial potency of essential oil of *Polyalthialongifolia*, to determine the presence of phytochemicals and structural determination of bioactive component from the leaf portion using GCMS. In this present study, the antibacterial activity from the essential oils of *Polyalthialongifolia* leaf and stem bark against seven bacteria (gram-positive and gram-negative) which are *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Bacillus subtilis*, *Salmonella typhi*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae*, *Escherichia coli*, *Proteus vulgaris* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* known to be pathogenic to human causing high mortality among human. This study involved the extraction of essential oils from air-dried leaf and stem bark of *Polyalthialongifolia* using soxhlet method with *n*-hexane as the extracting solvent. Antibacterial activity was carried out using agar well diffusion method. Both plants part essential oil showed high antibacterial property. The sensitivity test revealed that *Staphylococcus aureus* has the highest zone of inhibition (18.0mm) to *Polyalthialongifolia* stem bark essential oil at 100mg/ml while the least zone of inhibition (3.0mm) was recorded for *Escherichia coli* at 100mg/ml to the essential oil of *Polyalthialongifolia* leaf. However, phytochemical analysis of the plants revealed the presence of bioactive components such as cardiac glycoside, steroid, anthraquinone, flavonoid, phenol, alkaloid and reducing sugars. The presence of these components enhances the effectiveness of plants essential oil in treating various diseases and helps to act as an effective antimicrobial agent. The essential oil of *Polyalthialongifolia* leaf was further analyzed by gas chromatography–mass spectroscopy (GC–MS), the main constituents were 6-octadecenoic acid (30.75%), Diisooctyl phthalate (3.87%) 1,1,6-trimethyl-3-methylene (17%). The various phytochemical and GC-MS components found in this plant were responsible by and large for the

antibacterial activities exhibited the essential oil of *Polyalthialongifolia* leaf and stem bark in this study.

Keywords—*Polyalthialongifolia*, Essential oils, Antibacterial and Phytochemical activity.

I. INTRODUCTION

Polyalthialongifolia is an evergreen plant commonly used as an ornamental street tree due to its effectiveness in combating noise pollution. It belongs to the kingdom: plantae, division: *Magnoliophyta*, Class: *Magnoliopsida*, Subclass: *Magnoliidae*, Order: *Magnoliids*, Family: *Annonaceae*, Tribe: *Annoneae*, Genus: *Polyalthia*, Species: *Longifolia*. *Polyalthialongifolia* is also known as false Ashoka, Buddha Tree, Green champa, Indian mast tree, and Indian Fire tree. It exhibits symmetrical pyramidal growth with willowy weeping pendulous branches and long narrow lanceolate leaves with undulate margins. The tree is known to grow over 30 ft in height. In traditional medicines various herbal preparations are being used for treating duodenal ulcers (Pradhan *et al.*, 2011).

Evergreen tree can grow up to a height of 15-20 meters tall. Young plants have straight trunks and weeping pendulous branch. The longest branch is seen at the base and shorter at the end of the trunk, giving an appearance of conical crown. Leaves are long, narrow dark green and glossy. Leaf blades are ovate-oblong to ovate-lanceolate with wavy margins. Reticulate veins rise on both surfaces of leaf. Transverse section of the leaf through the midrib showed bowl shaped abaxial parts and straight adaxial side. Both the adaxial and abaxial epidermal layers were single layered thin walled cubical cells. The epidermal cells wide, polygonal, thin walled and the walls were straight or slightly wavy. The epidermal cells followed by four to six layers of angular collenchyma cells on both the sides. In the midrib region, vascular bundle is encircled by a sclerenchymatous ring. Bundle sheath, xylem and phloem are clearly visible

Inflorescences axillary, fasciculate and shortly pedunculate, racemose, or umbelliform and sessile, mostly many flowered. Flowers are delicate pale green with wavy petals. The flowers last for a short period, usually two to three weeks and are not conspicuous due to their color. Sepals are ovate-triangular, outside it is tomentulose but inside glabrous. Petals are greenish yellow, narrowly triangular-lanceolate. Stamens are; connectives apically convex. Carpels are 20-25 in number with one ovule per carpel; stigmas are sessile. Fruits are borne in clusters of 10-20, usually ovoid in shape. Initially fruits are green in color but turns purple or black when ripe. Seeds are pale brown, ovoid, with a longitudinal groove. The stem bark; roots and leaves have been studied for various biological activities, such as antibacterial, antidiabetic, anti-inflammatory, and antioxidant activity. In addition, the bioactive compounds of this plant and its pharmacological activities due to its geographic density are relatively new area for investigation (Ugochiet *et al.*, 2011)

In traditional medicines various herbal preparations are being used for treating duodenal ulcers. *Polyalthialongifolia* is a tall handsome evergreen tree and it is cultivated all over India. The plant has been used in traditional system of medicine for the treatment of fever, skin diseases, diabetes, hypertension and helminthiasis. A number of biologically active compounds have been isolated from this plant. The plant extract and isolated compounds were studied for various biological activities like antibacterial activity, cytotoxicity, antifungal activity. Stem bark, flower, leaf, root and fruit can be used as potential herbal samples in pharmacy as decoction.



Fig.1: Leaf of *Polyalthialongifolia*



Fig.1.1: Stem bark of *Polyalthialongifolia*

II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

Sample Collection

Mature leaf and Stem bark of *Polyalthialongifolia* were collected from the School environment (ETF750), Adekunle Ajasin University Akungba Akoko, Ondo state Nigeria, latitude (7.21692 North) and longitude (5.21561 East) during the harmattan season, October, 2016 and taken to the school plant science and biotechnology lab for proper naming. The leaves were initially rinsed with distilled water and dried on paper towels in the room at room temperature for one week.

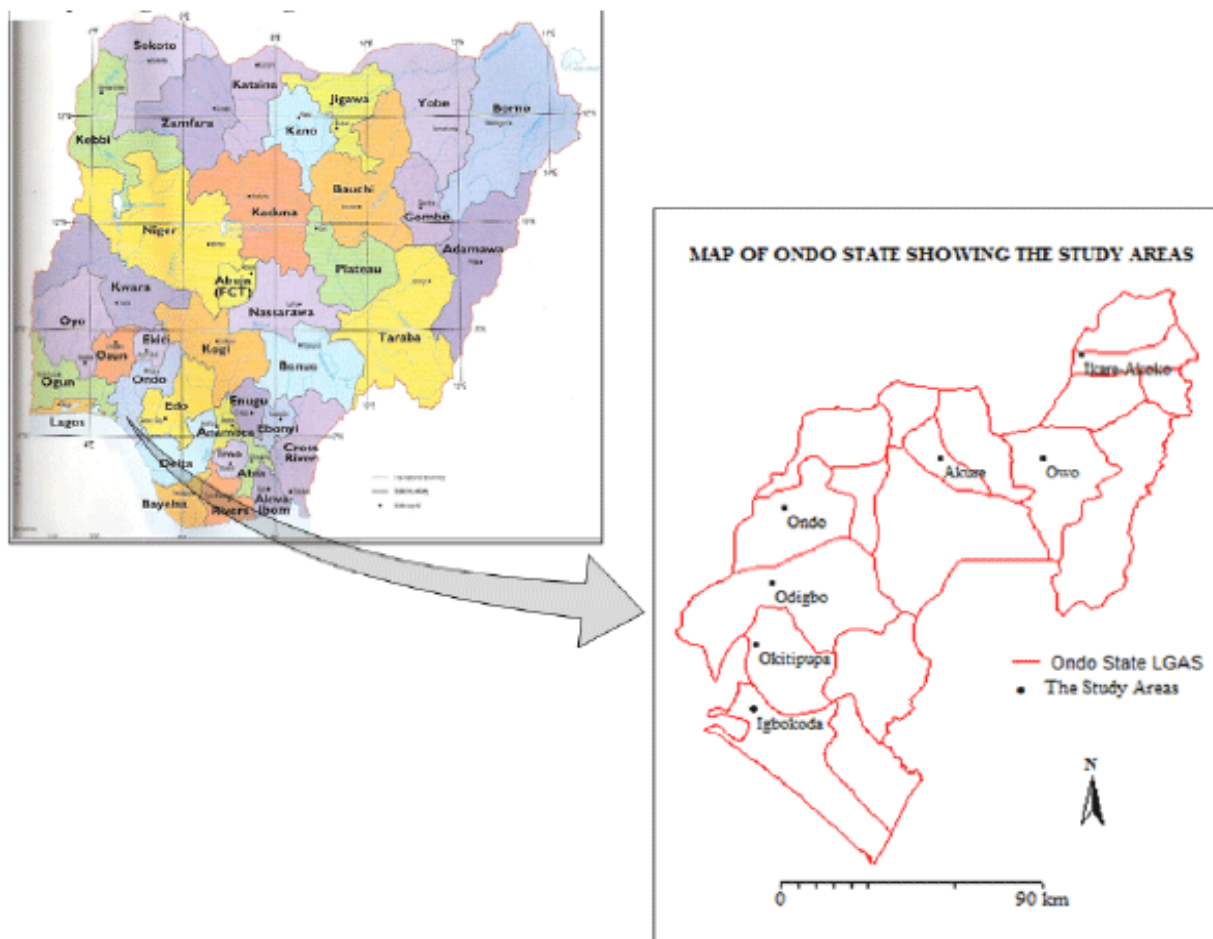


Fig.2.1: Map of Nigeria indicating AdekunleAjasin University AkungbaAkoko, Ondo state Nigeria,

Test Microorganisms

The test organisms used were standard strains of pathogenic bacteria. They include strains of *Staphylococcus aureus* (ATCC 55620), *Salmonella typhi* (ATCC), *Escherichia coli* (ATCC 23922), *Klebsiella pneumoniae* (ATCC 15380), *Bacillus subtilis* (ATCC 11778), *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (ATCC 27853) and *Proteus vulgaris* (ATCC 13325). The bacterial isolates were cultured in slanted Mueller Hinton agar in bijoux bottles and transported at a low temperature to microbiology laboratory AdekunleAjasin University, AkungbaAkoko (AAUA), Ondo state and incubated in an incubator for reactivation of the bacteria. They were then sub-cultured and stored in the refrigerator for further tests (Osuntokun, 2015).

2.4.1 Preparation of test organisms

Slants of the various organisms were reconstituted using aseptic condition, using a sterile wire loop, approximately one isolated colony of each pure culture was transferred into 5ml of sterile nutrient broth and incubated for 24 hours. After incubation, 0.1ml of the isolated colony was

transferred into 9.9ml of sterile distilled water contained in each test tube using a sterile needle and syringe, and then mixed properly. The liquid now serve as a source of inoculum containing approximately 10^6 cfu/ml of bacterial suspension (Osuntokun, 2015).

Extraction Method of *Polyalthialongifolia*

About 250 ml of N-Hexane was poured into a round bottom flask. 10 g of the powdered bark and leaf sample was placed in the thimble and was inserted in the centre of the soxhlet extractor. The extractor was then heated to and held constant at 65°C. As the solvent begins boiling; the vapor rose through the vertical tube of the extractor into the condenser at the top of extractor. The liquid condensate then dripped into the filter paper thimble in the centre which contained the solid sample from which oil is extracted. The extract seeped through the pores of the thimble and filled the siphon tube, where it flowed back down into the round bottom flask. This was allowed to continue for 5 hours. It was then removed from the tube. Afterwards, the solvent was separated from the oil using rotary evaporator. Then

cooled in the desiccators and weighed again to determine the amount of oil extracted. Further extraction was carried out at 30 min intervals until the sample weight at further extraction and the previous weight became equal. At the end of the extraction, the resulting mixture containing the *Polyalthialongifolia* oil was heated to recover solvent from the oil (Musa *et al.*, 2016).

2.6 Antibacterial Sensitivity Test of *Polyalthialongifolia*

2.6.1 Preparation and Standardization of Inoculum Suspension

Direct colony suspension technique was used for the standardization and preparation of inoculum. Pure cultures of the test organisms were transferred into sterile screw-capped McCartney bottles containing normal saline (0.90% w/w) using a flamed inoculating loop. A suspension with a turbidity equivalent to 0.5 McFarland standards was also prepared at the same time to serve as a reference for turbidity. To achieve equal turbidity, both the reference and inoculum suspensions were placed against a white card with black stripes. Turbidity was observed with the unaided eye. Standardized inoculums were refrigerated (Osuntokun, 2017).

2.6.2 Preparation of antimicrobial (plant extract) concentrations

Pure N-hexane extracts of both the leaf and bark of *Polyalthialongifolia* were weighed to ascertain total yield after plant extracts. 1000mg (1g) of both plant extracts were dissolved in 10ml of solvent (containing 7.5ml of water and 2.5 ml of DMSO) to achieve a stock concentration of 100mg/ml.

$$\text{Concentration} \left(\frac{\text{mg}}{\text{ml}} \right) = \frac{\text{weight of extract (mg)}}{\text{volume of solvent (ml)}}$$

Six other sterile McCartney bottles (3 for each plant) containing 5ml of water were used to carry out two-fold dilutions (\log_2). To achieve this, 5ml of the stock concentration was dispensed into a sterile McCartney bottle containing 5ml of water. This yielded a concentration of 50mg/ml. This procedure was repeated for each plant until a concentration of 12.5mg/ml was achieved for each plant extract. At the end, concentrations of 100mg/ml, 50mg/ml, 25mg/ml and 12.5mg/ml of both leaf and bark of *Polyalthialongifolia* were obtained. These bottles were stored in the refrigerator at -4°C (El Asta *et al.*, 2005). A standard antibiotic control was also prepared using the broad spectrum antibiotics ciprofloxacin (100 μg).

2.6.3 Antimicrobial assay of *Polyalthialongifolia*

The agar diffusion method was used to screen the antimicrobial activity. In vitro antimicrobial activity was screened by using Mueller Hinton Agar (MHA). The MHA

plates were prepared by pouring 5 ml of molten media into sterile Petri-plates. The plates were allowed to solidify along with a 2.0 McFarland standard suspension of the test organism for 5 minutes. The different concentrations of extracts (12.5, 25, 50 and 100 mg/disc) were loaded onto the agar after boring 6mm holes using a cork borer. The plates were kept for incubation at 37°C for 24 hrs. At the end of incubation, inhibition zones formed around the disc were measured with transparent ruler in millimeter. These studies were performed in duplicates (Osuntokun, 2014).

2.7 Phytochemical Analysis of *Polyalthialongifolia*

2.7.1 Qualitative Phytochemical Analysis

2.7.1.1 Test for Reducing Sugars

1ml of the plant extract was mixed with Fehling A and Fehling B separately; a brown color with Fehling B and a green color with Fehling A indicated the presence of reducing sugars.

Test for Alkaloids

Plant extracts were half diluted with NH_4OH and lixiviated with ethyl acetate for 24 hours at room temperature. The organic phase was separated from the acidified filtrate and was basified with ammonium hydroxide (NH_4OH) at pH 11-12. It was then extracted with chloroform (3X), condensed by evaporation and submitted for chromatographic analysis. Alkaloid spots were separated into the elution phase using the solvent mixture chloroform and methanol (15:1). Appearance of orange spots after spraying with Dragendorff's reagents indicates a positive result (Mallikharjuna *et al.*, 2007).

Test for Anthraquinone (Borntrager's test)

About 50mg of plant extract was heated with 1ml of 10% ferric chloride (FeCl_3) solution and 1ml of concentrated hydrochloric acid, after which the extract was cooled and filtered. The filtrate was shaken with an equal amount of diethyl ether. Further extraction with concentrated ammonia was done to remove ethyl ether. The presence of a pink or deep red coloration of aqueous layer indicates a positive result (Kumar *et al.*, 2007).

Test for Cardiac glycosides (TLC method)

Powdered test samples were extracted with 70% ethanol using a rotary shaker (180 thaws/min) for 10hr. 70% lead acetate was added to the filtrate and centrifuged at 5000rpm for 10 min. Further centrifugation was done for the supernatant by adding 6.3% Na_2CO_3 at 10000 rpm for 10min. The retained supernatant was re-dissolved in chloroform and use for chromatography. Glycosides were eluted out using a solvent system that comprise Ethyl

acetate, Methanol, and water (in the ratio 80:10:10) (Onwukaemeet *et al.*, 2007).

Test for Flavonoid(TLC method)

1g of powdered plant extract was extracted with 10ml methanol on water bath (60°C for 5min). The filtrate was condensed and filtered by evaporation. A mixture of water and Ethyl acetate (10:1 ml) was mixed thoroughly. Retained ethyl acetate phase and use for chromatography. Elution was done by using chloroform and methanol (19:1) solvent mixture to detect flavonoid spot. The colour and hRf values of these spots were recorded under ultraviolet (UV254nm) light (Kumar *et al.*, 2007).

Test for Saponin(TLC method)

Two grams of powdered test samples was added to 10 ml 70% Ethanol by refluxing for 10 min. The filtrate was condensed and enriched with saturated n-Butanol, and mixed thoroughly. With the retained butanol, extract was condensed and used for chromatography. Saponins were separated using chloroform, glacial acetic acid, methanol and water (64:34:12:8) solvent mixture. The colour (yellow) and hRf values of these spots were recorded by exposing eluted chromatogram to the iodine vapours (Mallikharjuna *et al.*, 2007).

Test for Steroid(TLC method)

Two grams of powdered test samples was dissolved in 10ml methanol in water bath (80°C for 15 min). The condensed filtrate was used for chromatography. The sterols were eluted using a solvent system of chloroform, glacial acetic acid, methanol and water (64:34:12:8) solvent mixture. The colour and hRf values of these spots were recorded under visible light after spraying the plates with anisaldehyde-sulphuric acid reagent and heating (100°C for 6 min) (Mallikharjuna *et al.*, 2007).

Test for Tannin (Braemer's test)

To 10% alcoholic ferric chloride, 2-3ml of methanolic extract (1:1) was added. The appearance of a dark blue or greenish grey coloration of the solution indicates a positive result (Parekh and Chanda, 2007)

Quantitative phytochemical analysis of *Polyalthialongifolia*

Saponins

About 20grams each of dried plant samples were ground and, put into a conical flask after which 100 ml of 20 % aqueous ethanol were added. The mixtures were heated using a hot water bath. At about 55°C, for 4 hour with continuous stirring, after which the mixture were filtered and the residue re-extracted with 200 ml of 20% ethanol.

The combined extracts were reduced to 40 ml over a water bath at about 90°C. The concentrate was transferred into a 250 ml separating funnel and 20 ml of diethyl ether were added and then shaken vigorously. The aqueous layers were recovered while the ether layer was discarded. The purification process was repeated three times. 60 ml of n-butanol was added. The combined n-butanol extracts were washed twice with 10 ml of 5% aqueous sodium chloride. The remaining solution was heated in a water bath. After evaporation, the samples were dried in the oven to a constant weight; the saponin content was calculated as percentage of the starting material. (Obadoni *et al.*, 2001)

Flavonoids

About 10 g of the plant sample were extracted repeatedly with 100 ml of 80% aqueous methanol, at room temperature. The whole solution were filtered through Whatman filter paper No 1. The filtrates were later transferred into a crucible and evaporated into dryness over a water bath; the dry content were weighed to a constant weigh. (Krishnaiah *et al.*, 2009)

Tannins

About 500 mg of the plant sample were weighed into a 50 ml plastic bottle. 50 ml of distilled water was added and shaken for 1 hour on a mechanical shaker. This was filtered into a 50 ml volumetric flask and made up to the marked level. Then, 5 ml of the filtrate was transferred into a test tube and mixed with 2 ml of 0.1 M FeCl in 0.1 M HCl and 0.008 M potassium ferrocyanide. The absorbances were measured at 120 nm within 10 minutes. The tannins content was calculated using a standard curve of extract. (Harbourne, 2005).

Alkaloids

Five grams of the plant sample were weighed into a 250 ml beaker and 200ml of 10% acetic acid in ethanol was then added, the reaction mixture were covered and allowed to stand for 4 hour. These were filtered and the extract will be concentrated on a water bath to one-quarter of the original volume. Concentrated ammonium hydroxide was added drop-wise to the extract until the precipitation is complete. The whole solution were allowed to settle and the precipitate was collected, washed with dilute ammonium hydroxide and then filtered; the residue being the alkaloid, which was dried and weighed to a constant mass. (Harbourne, 2005).

GC-MS Analysis of *Polyalthialongifolia*

Polyalthialongifolia oil was analyzed using GC/MS (Shimadzu capillary GC-quadrupole MS system QP 5000) with two fused silica capillary column DB-5 (30 µm, 0.25 mm i.d, film thickness 0.25 µm) and a flame ionization

detector (FID) which was operated in EI mode at 70 eV. Injector and detector temperatures were set at 220°C and 250°C, respectively. One micro-liter essential oil solution in hexane was injected and analyzed with the column held initially at 60°C for 2 min and then increased by 3°C/min up to 300°C. Helium was employed as carrier gas (1 ml/min). The relative amount of individual components of the total oil is expressed as percentage peak area relative to total peak area. Qualitative identification of the different constituents was performed by comparison of their relative retention times and mass spectra with those of authentic reference compounds, or by retention indices (RI) and mass spectra (He, 2002).

III. RESULTS

Table 3.1 Shows the diameter of zone of inhibition of the extract oil of the stem bark of *Polyalthialongifolia*. The highest zone of inhibition was recorded on the plate containing *Staphylococcus aureus* at 100mg/ml concentration with 18mm zone of inhibition and 10mm zone of inhibition at 12.5mg/ml, followed by *Bacillus subtilis* with 14mm zone of inhibition at a concentration of 100mg/ml and 8mm zone of inhibition at 12.5mg/ml. it was

observed that *Escherichia coli* and *Proteus vulgaris* have intermediate susceptibility with 10mm and 8mm respectively at 100mg/ml and 3mm and 2mm zone of inhibition respectively at a concentration of 12.5mg/ml. The least susceptible organism was found to be *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* with 5mm zone of inhibition at 100mg/ml and 3mm zone of inhibition at 50mg/ml concentration. The table also showed the positive control used in the study, which was 50mg/ml Ofloxacin.

Table 3.2 shows the diameter of zone of inhibition of the leaf extract of *Polyalthialongifolia* leaf against the test organisms used in the study. It was observed from this table that *Staphylococcus aureus* was the most susceptible organism with 14mm zone of inhibition at a concentration of 100mg/ml, and 7mm zone of inhibition at a concentration of 6.25mg/ml. this was followed by *Bacillus subtilis* with 12mm zone of inhibition at a concentration 100mg/ml and 5mm zone of inhibition at 6.25mg/ml. *Salmonella typhi* has intermediate value, with 7mm zone of inhibition at 100mg/ml and 3mm zone of inhibition at 25mg/ml. the least susceptible organism to the leaf extract was observed to be *Escherichia coli* with 3mm zone of inhibition at 100mg/ml and 1mm zone of inhibition at 6.25mg/ml.

Table.1: Antimicrobial assay of the stem bark of *Polyalthialongifolia* extract on selected clinical organisms

Concentrations (mg/ml)

ORGANISM	100	50	25	12.5	CTR (50mg/ml)
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	18.0	15.0	12.0	10.0	28.0
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	5.0	3.0	0.00	0.00	0.00
<i>Proteus vulgaris</i>	10.0	7.0	5.0	0.00	28.0
<i>Klebsiella pneumonia</i>	8.0	6.0	4.0	2.0	19.0
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	10.0	7.0	5.0	3.0	24.0
<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	14.0	12.0	10.0	8.0	22.0
<i>Salmonella typhi</i>	9.0	6.0	3.0	0.00	27.0

NOTE: CTR= Positive Control (50mg/ml Ofloxacin) **Diameter of zone of inhibition -mm**

Table.2: Antimicrobial assay of the leaf of *Polyalthialongifolia* extract on selected clinical organisms

ORGANISM	100	50	25m	12.5	CTR(50mg/ml)
<i>Salmonella typhi</i>	7.0	5.0	3.0	0.0	27.0
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	5.0	4.0	2.0	0.00	0.00
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	14.0	12.0	10.0	0.00	28.0
<i>Klebsiella pneumonia</i>	5.0	3.0	1.0	0.00	19.0
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	3.0	1.0	0.00	0.00	24.0
<i>Proteus vulgaris</i>	5.0	2.0	0.00	0.00	0.00
<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	12.0	10.0	8.0	5.0	22.0

NOTE: CTR= Positive Control, Control (50mg/ml Ofloxacin)



Plate.1: Diameter of zone of inhibition of the leaf extract of *Polyalthialongifolia*



Plate.2: Antibacterial activity of *Polyalthialongifolia* leaf against *Staphylococcus aureus*

Table 3.3 shows the qualitative analysis of *Polyalthialongifolia* stem bark and leaf using methanol as solvent. The table revealed that alkaloids, tannins, saponin,

and reducing sugar is positive in both bark and leaf of *Polyalthialongifolia* while cardiac glycoside is negative in both bark and leaf, steroids, phenol, and flavonoids is

present in bark but absent in leaf while anthraquinone is present in leaf and not detected in bark.

Table 3.4 Shows the qualitative phytochemical analysis of *Polyalthialongifolia* bark and leaf using ethyl acetate as solvent. It was revealed that cardiac glycoside, anthraquinone, phenol, tannins, and saponins are present in both bark and leaf of *Polyalthialongifolia* while alkaloids, steroids, and reducing sugar are present in bark but absent in leaf while flavonoids is absent in both bark and leaf.

Table 3.5 shows the qualitative phytochemical analysis of *Polyalthialongifolia* bark and leaf using dichloromethane as solvent. This revealed that cardiac glycoside, steroids, tannins, and saponins, is present in both bark and leaf of *Polyalthialongifolia* while alkaloids, phenol, and reducing sugar is present in bark but absent in leaf while anthraquinone and flavonoids is absent in both bark and leaf of *Polyalthialongifolia*

Table 3.6 shows the qualitative phytochemical analysis of *Polyalthialongifolia* bark and leaf using n-hexane as solvent presented in revealed that cardiac glycoside, anthraquinone, phenol, tannins and saponins are present in both bark and leaf of *Polyalthialongifolia* while alkaloids, steroids, flavonoids and reducing sugar are absent in bark but present in leaf of *Polyalthialongifolia*.

Table.3.3: Qualitative phytochemical analysis of *Polyalthialongifolia* (Methanol)

Sample	Alkaloid	Cardiac Glycoside	Steroids	Anthraquinone	Phenol	Tannins	Saponin	Flavonoids	Reducing sugar
Bark	+ ve	-ve	+ ve	ND	+ ve	+ ve	+ ve	+ ve	+ve
Leaf	+ ve	- ve	- ve	+ ve	- ve	+ ve	+ ve	- ve	+ve

NOTE: +ve = positive, -ve = Negative, ND = Not Detected

Table.3.4: Qualitative phytochemical analysis of *Polyalthialongifolia*(Ethyl acetate)

Sample	Alkaloid	Cardiac Glycoside	Steroids	Anthraquinone	Phenol	Tannins	Saponin	Flavonoids	Reducing sugar
Bark	+ ve	+ ve	+ ve	+ ve	+ ve	+ ve	+ ve	- ve	+ ve
Leaf	- ve	+ ve	-ve	+ ve	+ ve	+ ve	+ ve	- ve	- ve

NOTE: +ve = positive, -ve = Negative

Table.3.5: Qualitative phytochemical analysis of *Polyalthialongifolia* (Dichloromethane)

Sample	Alkaloid	Cardiac Glycoside	Steroids	Antraquinone	Phenol	Tannins	Saponin	Flavonoids	Reducing sugar
Bark	+ ve	+ ve	+ ve	- ve	+ ve	+ ve	+ ve	-ve	+ ve
Leaf	- ve	+ ve	+ ve	- ve	- ve	+ ve	+ ve	-ve	- ve

NOTE: +ve = positive, -ve = Negative

Table.3.6: Qualitative phytochemical analysis of *Polyalthialongifolia* (N- hexane)

Sample	Alkaloid	Cardiac Glycoside	Steroids	Antraquinone	Phenol	Tannins	Saponin	Flavonoids	Reducing sugar
Bark	- ve	+ ve	-ve	+ ve	+ ve	+ ve	+ ve	- ve	- ve
Leaf	++ve	+ ve	+ve	+ ve	+ ve	+ ve	+ ve	+ ve	++ve

NOTE: +ve = positive, -ve = Negative

Table 3.7 Shows the quantitative phytochemical analysis of *Polyalthialongifolia* leaf and stem bark in percentage using methanol as the solvent. It was observed from the table that phytate has the highest value for both the leaf and stem bark with 6.49% and tannins was found to have and high value of 5.32 in the stem bark. Alkaloid was found to be the least compound in the stem bark with a value of 1.23%. it was observed that tannins has the second highest value in the leaf extract with 2.64%. the least phytoconstituent in the leaf was discovered to be oxalate, with a value of 2.10%, while saponin was not detected in the stem bark.

Table 3.8 Shows the quantitative phytochemical analysis of *Polyalthialongifolia* leaf and stem bark in percentage using ethyl acetate as the solvent. It was observed from the table that Alkaloid, oxalate, saponin and flavonoid all have the

highest value the stem bark with 9.53% respectively and phytate was found to have the least value in the stem bark with 8.53%. Alkaloid and saponin were found to be the highest compounds in the leaf with value of 1.29% respectively. While phytate was observed to have the least value in the leaf, with a value of 1.23%.

Table 3.9 Shows the quantitative phytochemical analysis of *Polyalthialongifolia* leaf and stem bark in percentage using ethyl acetate as the solvent. It was observed from the table that Alkaloid, oxalate, saponin and flavonoid all have the highest value the stem bark with 9.53% respectively and phytate was found to have the least value in the stem bark with 8.53%. Alkaloid and saponin were found to be the highest compounds in the leaf with value of 1.29% respectively. While phytate was observed to have the least value in the leaf, with a value of 1.23%.

Table.3.7: Quantitative phytochemical analysis of Polyalthialongifolia(Methanol) %

Sample	Alkaloid	Oxalate	Phytate	Phenol	Tannins	Saponin	Flavonoids
Bark	1.23	1.25	6.49	4.31	5.32	ND	1.87
Leaf	2.20	2.10	6.49	2.37	2.64	2.62	2.34

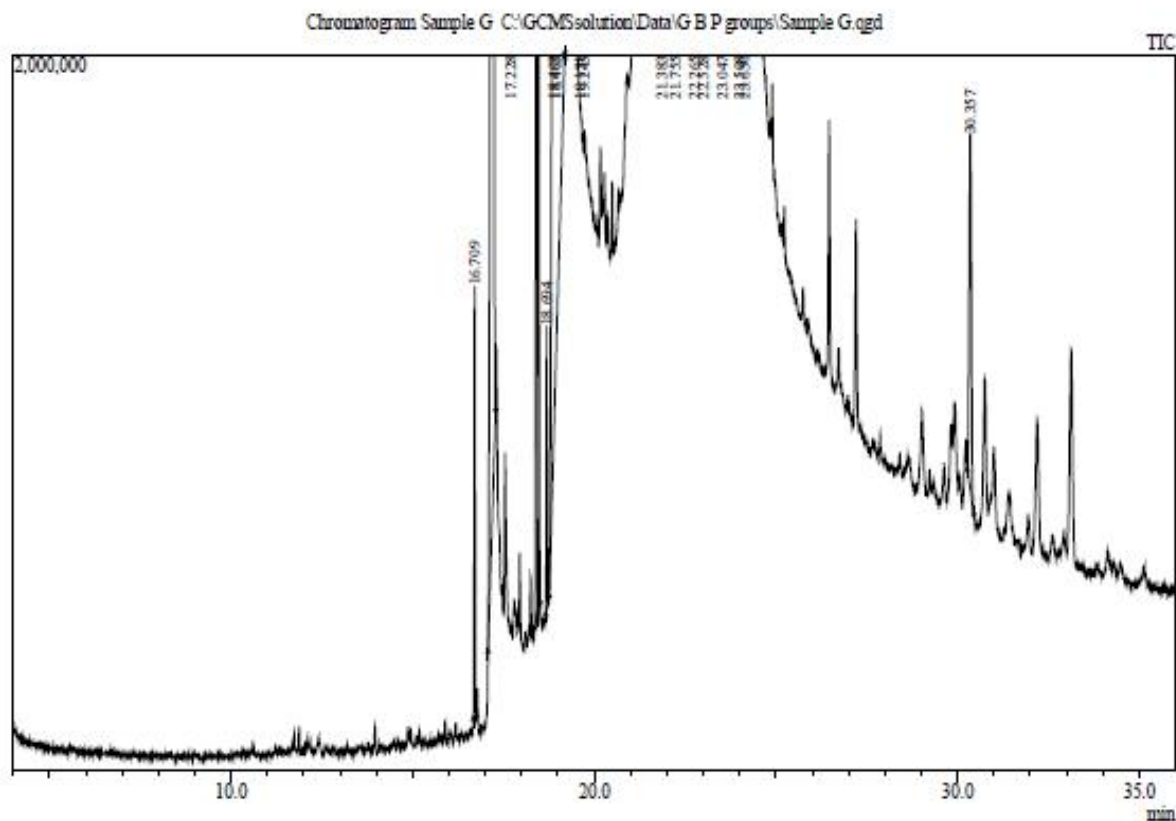
NOTE: ND = Not Detected

Table.3.8: Quantitative phytochemical analysis of Polyalthialongifolia(Ethyl acetate) %

Sample	Alkaloid	Oxalate	Phytate	Phenol	Tannins	Saponin	Flavonoids
Bark	9.53	9.53	8.53	8.55	9.23	9.53	9.53
Leaf	1.29	1.28	1.23	2.25	1.26	1.29	1.28

Table.3.9: Quantitative phytochemical analysis of Polyalthialongifolia(N- hexane) %

Sample	Alkaloid	Oxalate	Phytate	Phenol	Tannins	Saponin	Flavonoids
Bark	9.53	9.53	8.53	8.55	9.23	9.53	9.53
Leaf	1.29	1.28	1.23	2.25	1.26	1.29	1.28



Spectra.3.1: Mass Spectra of GCMS Analysis of *Polyalthialongifolia*

Table 3.10 shows the result of Fifteen volatile phytoconstituents which were found to be the most abundant in the n-hexane extract of the stem bark of *Polyalthialongifolia*. These constituents and their calculated percentage peak area compositions include hexadecanoic acid(1.18%) with a low retention time of 16.709, followed by pentadecanoic acid (7.455%) with retention time of 17.228, 9,12-octadecadienoic acid(z,z)(3.09%) at retention time of 18.402, 9-octadecenoic acid (z)-(4.26%) at retention time of 18.694, Methyl stearate(0.76%) at retention time of 18.694, 6-octadecenoic acid(30.75%) at retention time of 19.131, Octadecanoic acid(9.64%) at retention time of

19.245, 1,1,6-trimethyl-3-methylene-2-(3,6,9,13-tetra(17.00%) at retention time of 21.383, azulene(1.30%) at retention time of 21.755, Diisooctyl phthalate(3.87%) at retention time of 22.265, But-3-enal(9.57%) at retention time of 22.528, 6.beta.Bicyclo[4.3.0]nonane(1.46%) at retention time of 23.047, (7a-Isopropenyl-4,5-dimethyloctahydroinden(4.52%) at retention time of 23.508, Guaia-1(10), 11-diene(4.19%) at retention time of 23.650, and lastly the target compound 7,22-Ergostadienone(0.97%) at retention time of 30.275 was isolated after several chromatographic separation techniques, identified through GC-MS analysis.

Table.3.10a: Result showing the chemical constituent present in oil of *Polyalthialongifolia* using GC-MS analysis


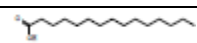
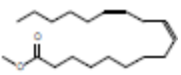
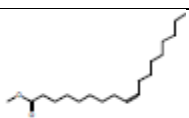

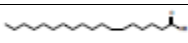
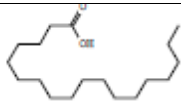
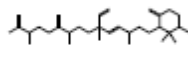
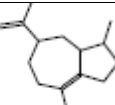
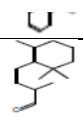
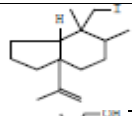
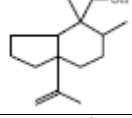
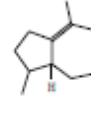
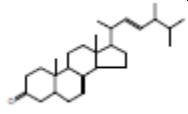
COMPOUND NAME	RETENTION TIME	MOLECULAR WEIGHT	BASE PEAK	HEIGHT(%)	STRUCTURE
Hexadecanoic acid	16.709	270	74.05	1.18	
Pentadecanoic acid	17.228	242	73.05	7.45	
9,12-octadecadienoic acid(z,z)	18.402	294	67.05	3.09	
9-octadecenoic acid (z)-	18.465	296	55.05	4.26	
Methyl stearate	18.694	298	74.05	0.76	
6-octadecenoic acid	19.131	282	55.05	30.75	
Octadecanoic acid	19.245	284	73.05	9.64	
1,1,6-trimethyl-3-methylene-2-(3,6,9,13-tetra	21.383	452	95.10	17.00	
Azulene	21.755	204	107.10	1.30	

Table 3.10b: Result showing the chemical constituent present in oil of *Polyalthialongifolia* using GC-MS analysis

But-3-enal	22.528	206	123.15	9.57	
6.beta.Bicyclo[4.3.0]nonane	23.047	332	95.10	1.46	
(7a-Isopropenyl-4,5-dimethyloctahydroinden	23.508	222	111.05	4.52	
Guaia-1(10), 11-diene	23.650	204	107.10	4.19	
7,22-Ergostadienone	30.275	396	269.15	0.97	

NOTE: See Appendix for other information on the identified compounds and the library.

IV. DISCUSSION

Herbal medicine in developing countries is commonly used for the traditional treatment of health problems. In recent years multiple drug resistance in human pathogenic microorganisms has developed due to the indiscriminate use of commercial antimicrobial drugs commonly used in the treatment of infectious diseases, making it a global growing problem (Davis, 1994). Therefore there is a need to develop alternative antimicrobial drugs for the treatment of infections obtained from various sources such as medicinal plants. (Ahmmad, 1998).

Essential Oils are slightly more active against gram-positive than gram-negative bacteria (Delaquis *et al.*, 2002; Pintore *et al.*, 2002; Harpaz *et al.*, 2003). It was observed from this study that the essential oil of *Polyalthialongifolia* stem bark showed antibacterial activity against all the test bacteria used in the study. *Staphylococcus aureus* was observed to be the most susceptible organism to the essential oil extract of the stem bark having 18mm zone of inhibition at 100mg/ml and 10mm zone of inhibition at 12.5mg/ml. This was followed by *Bacillus subtilis* with 14mm zone of inhibition at 100mg/ml and 8mm zone of inhibition at 12.5mg/ml. *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* was observed to have the least susceptibility to the essential oil extract of this plant with 5mm zone of inhibition at 100mg/ml and 3mm zone of inhibition at 50mg/ml. This goes in line with the finding of Parekh, 2007, who reported susceptibility of *staphylococcus aureus* to the essential oil extract of *Polyalthialongifolia*.

It was observed from the essential oil extract of the leaf of *Polyalthialongifolia* that *Staphylococcus aureus* was the most susceptible organism with 14mm zone of inhibition at 100mg/ml and 7mm zone of inhibition at 12.5mg/ml. The least susceptible organism to the essential oil extract of the leaf was *Escherichia coli* with 3mm zone of inhibition at 100mg/ml and 1mm zone of inhibition at 50mg/ml. This goes in line with the observation of Harpaz *et al.*, 2003 who also reported the antimicrobial activity of the essential oil of *Polyalthialongifolia* against some pathogens.

The antimicrobial activity of this *Polyalthialongifolia* could be attributed to the presence of certain bioactive components such as alkaloid, tannins and flavonoid. It could also be due to the fact that the solvent (N-Hexane) used in the study was able to extract the active bio constituents present in *Polyalthialongifolia*, and which is able to exert antimicrobial effect against the tested bacteria. Also, the antibacterial property could be because of the concentration used in the study, i.e. 100mg/ml

concentration was enough to exert antibacterial effect against the test bacteria

The phytochemicals tested are known to exhibit medicinal activity and physiological activity. Alkaloids are an important drug source and have been reported to possess antimicrobial, antioxidant, and cytotoxic activity (Rahman *et al.*, 2009). Medicinally, tannins are used in antidiarrhoeal, haemostatic, and antihemorrhoidal preparation. Saponins are glycosides of triterpenes, steroids or steroidal alkaloids found in plants. They are useful in lowering cholesterol (hypocholesterolemic property), as antioxidants, and as antidiabetic and anti-inflammatory agent.

Generally, majority of the secondary metabolites studies and flavonoid in leaf and stem bark parts of *Polyalthialongifolia* have present with higher amount in methanolic extract than that of the other solvents. However, flavonoids and saponins were rich in ethyl acetate extracts. It is explained that the polarity level and species nature are playing major role in extracting the secondary secondary metabolites (Ghasemzadeh *et al.*, 2011).

The qualitative phytochemical screening of *Polyalthialongifolia* extracts of bark and leaf using methanol (Table 3.3) revealed that the crude extracts contains alkaloids, phenol, tannis, saponins and reducing sugar. Anthraquinone is not detected in the bark but present in the leaf extract, while flavonoids is present in the bark but absent in the leaf, steroids is present in the bark of the plant but absent in leaf. In Table 3.4, the qualitative phytochemical analysis of *Polyalthialongifolia* leaf and stem bark using ethyl acetate, from this table, it was observed that cardiac glycosides, anthraquinones, phenol, tannins, saponins are present in both bark and leaf extract. Alkaloids is present in bark but absent in leaf extract, steroids is present in bark but absent in leaf. Also reducing sugar is present in bark but absent in leaf. Dichloromethane was also used as solvent and this revealed that cardiac glycoside, steroids, tannins, saponins are present in both the bark and the leaf extract while alkaloids is present in bark but absent in leaf and reducing sugar is present in bark and absent in leaf this goes in line with the observation of Singh *et al.*, 2002.

These secondary metabolites are reported to have many biological and therapeutic uses, so this plant is expected to have many medicinal uses. Phytochemical screening in using n-hexane as the solvent revealed the presence of cardiac glycosides, anthraquinone, phenol, tannins, saponins. While alkaloids is absent in bark but present in leaf, flavonoids is present in leaf but absent in bark.

Reducing sugar is absent in bark but present in leaf (Harbourne, 2005).

Quantitative phytochemical screening shows that phytate is higher in methanolic extract of bark and leaf of *Polyalthialongifolia* while the lowest is alkaloid of bark extract and saponin is not detected in the stem bark of the plant. It was observed that methanol extract registered the higher percentage of yield. It may be due to high polarity of methanolic solvent which can draw high variety of plant constituents than the other solvents did (Pulsamy *et al.*, 2011).

Steroids display analgesic properties (Rupasinghe *et al.*, 2003; Sayyahet *et al.*, 2004, Malairajan *et al.*, 2006; Tamil Selvan *et al.*, 2012). Glycosides are drugs used in the treatment of congestive heart failure and cardiac arrhythmia and are found as secondary metabolites in medicinal plants. Some anthraquinones have been reported to possess antiosteoporotic activity (Li *et al.*, 2009).

This study revealed that the extract of *Polyalthialongifolia* contained many important phytochemical constituents with various medicinal properties. The presence of biologically important phytochemicals in the *Polyalthialongifolia* extracts may contribute to their reported medicinal values and indicates that it is a potential source of the development of drugs (Edeoga *et al.*, 2005). The potential for developing antimicrobials from higher plants appears rewarding, as it will lead to the development of a phytomedicine to act against microbes.

Many plants have been used because of their antimicrobial traits, which are due to compounds synthesized in the secondary metabolism of the plant; such as phenols (Kazmi *et al.*, 1994), essential oils (Cosentino *et al.*, 1999), terpenoids (Habtariam *et al.*, 1993; Taylor *et al.*, 1996), alkaloids (Omulokolie *et al.*, 1997) and flavonoids (Batista *et al.*, 1994). Preliminary phytochemical analysis during the present study also ascertains the presence of some potential group of bioactive substances (Daferera *et al.*, 2003).

Compounds present in oil of *Polyalthialongifolia* include long chain polyunsaturated fatty acids (hexadecanoic acid) are attracting attention as potential new topical treatments for gram-positive infections due to their antimicrobial potency and anti-inflammatory properties. The compounds are bactericidal. Fatty acids are attracting attention as potential therapeutic antimicrobial agents due to their potency, broad spectrum of activity and the lack of classical resistance mechanisms against the actions of these compounds (Desbois, 2010). In particular, various long-chain polyunsaturated fatty acids (LC-PUFAs), which are

found naturally at high levels in many marine organisms (Berge *et al.*, 2005).

Fifteen peaks were detected in the GC-MS Chromatograms of *Polyalthialongifolia* bark extract. There were two antimicrobial compounds that were present in considerable amount (47.75%) and another thirteen antimicrobial compounds comprised of (52.05%). A component hexadecanoic acid present in the oil has antimicrobial properties. Other minor compounds such as pentadecenoic acid, methyl stearate, diisooctyl phthalate has anti oxidant activity. Azulene has antifungal activity.

6- octadecenoic acid which is the most abundant has antimicrobial activity possess antibacterial, antifungal and antioxidant activity, anticarcinogenic-exist in human blood and urine and sense as endogenous peroxisome proliferator as also reported by Kumar *et al.*, 2010. Hexadecanoic acid as reported by Mahmood *et al.*, 2009 revealed that it possesses antifungal, antioxidant, hypocholesterolemic nematocide, pesticide, haemolytic, 5-Alpha reductase inhibitor, potent antimicrobial activity. Diisooctyl phthalate also as reported by Kumar *et al.*, 2010 revealed that it possesses antifungal, antibacterial, antiviral, and antioxidant activities. The medicinal activity of *Polyalthialongifolia* bark is attributed to the antimicrobial compounds present in the bark extract (Desbois, 2010).

V. CONCLUSION

In conclusion, *Polyalthialongifolia* possess phytochemicals which offers potential antibacterial property against the selected clinical isolates. The study ascertains the presence of some potential group of bioactive substance. *Polyalthialongifolia* is more so a medicinally important herb used in the traditional system of medicine and an ancient remedy to be explored for novel therapeutic uses. *Polyalthialongifolia* also contains essential oil which is useful in treatment of some infections. Therefore it is concluded that *Polyalthialongifolia* oil should be further studied phytochemically to elucidate the active principle in the bark and leaf in which can be used as a leading antibacterial agent.

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