

1 LWT - Food Science and Technology

2 Types of paper: Research paper

3

4 **Thermal isomerization pre-treatment to improve lycopene extraction**  
5 **from tomato pulp**

6

7 Masaki Honda <sup>a,\*</sup>, Yo Watanabe <sup>b</sup>, Kazuya Murakami <sup>b</sup>, Ryota Takemura <sup>c</sup>, Tetsuya

8 Fukaya <sup>c</sup>, Wahyu Diono <sup>b</sup>, Hideki Kanda <sup>b</sup>, Motonobu Goto <sup>b,\*</sup>

9

10 <sup>a</sup> *Graduate School of Bioagricultural Sciences, Nagoya University, Furo-cho,*  
11 *Chikusa-ku, Nagoya 464-8601, Japan*

12 <sup>b</sup> *Department of Materials Process Engineering, Nagoya University, Furo-cho,*  
13 *Chikusa-ku, Nagoya 464-8603, Japan*

14 <sup>c</sup> *Innovation Division, Kagome Company, Limited, Nishitomiyama, Nasushiobara*  
15 *329-2762, Japan*

16

17 <sup>\*</sup> Corresponding author.

18 *E-mail address:* goto.motonobu@material.nagoya-u.ac.jp (M. Goto).

19 *E-mail address:* honda@agr.nagoya-u.ac.jp (M. Honda).

20

21

22

23

24 **Abstract**

25 The effect of thermal *Z*-isomerization pre-treatment on lycopene extraction from dried  
26 tomato pulp by organic solvents and supercritical carbon dioxide (SC-CO<sub>2</sub>) was  
27 evaluated. Although total *Z*-isomer content of lycopene in fresh tomato pulp was only  
28 6.1%, it increased by thermal treatment at 120 and 150 °C for 1 h to 10.0% and 56.2%,  
29 respectively. Furthermore, by adding 1 g/100g of olive oil to the pulp, the thermal  
30 *Z*-isomerization efficiencies of lycopene at 120 and 150 °C for 1 h improved  
31 significantly such that the total *Z*-isomer contents were 30.4% and 75.7%. After  
32 freeze-drying of the thermal treated tomato pulp, lycopene was extracted by ethanol,  
33 ethyl acetate, and SC-CO<sub>2</sub>. When any solvents were used for the extraction, lycopene  
34 recovery increased according to the *Z*-isomer content of dried tomato pulp, e.g. in the  
35 case that ethanol extraction was conducted from the pulp containing 6.1%, 30.4%, and  
36 75.7% *Z*-isomer content of lycopene, lycopene recoveries were 4.3%, 28.1%, and 75.9%,  
37 respectively. These results strongly indicated that *Z*-isomers of lycopene are more  
38 soluble in solvents than the all-*E*-isomer.

39

40 *Keywords:*

41 Carotenoid

42 *E/Z* Isomerization

43 Separation

44 Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub>

45 Solubility

46

## 47 **1. Introduction**

48 Carotenoid-rich foods offer multiple health benefits such as a decreased risk of  
49 cancer and atherosclerosis (Dahan, Fennal, & Kumar, 2008; Palozza, Parrone, Simone,  
50 & Catalano, 2010; Tapiero, Townsend, & Tew, 2004). Lycopene, a carotenoid that  
51 imparts the characteristic deep-red color to ripe tomatoes and tomato products, plays a  
52 major role in these health benefits. Lycopene is often extracted from tomatoes or tomato  
53 byproducts with organic solvents and used as a supplement and dye in food products.  
54 Given its high hydrophobicity and crystallinity, lycopene is insoluble in water and  
55 sparingly soluble in oils and polar solvents. As a result, its extraction efficiency is low  
56 and thus many studies have been conducted to improve lycopene extraction efficiency  
57 from plant materials by optimizing pre-treatment and extraction condition (Borel et al.,  
58 1996; Cadoni, De Giorgi, Medda, & Poma, 2000; Calvo, Dado, & Santa-María, 2007;  
59 Kubola, Meeso, & Siriamornpun, 2013; Strati & Oreopoulou, 2016; Tuyen, Nguyen,  
60 Roach, & Stathopoulos, 2013). In this study, we first focused on “Z-isomerization of  
61 lycopene as pre-treatment” for improving the extraction efficiency.

62 In plants, lycopene predominantly occurs in its (all-*E*) configuration. In the human  
63 body and processed food, on the other hand, it exists mainly as *Z*-isomers. For instance,  
64 more than half of total lycopene in serum and tissues exists as the *Z*-isomers (Clinton et  
65 al., 1996; Schierle et al., 1997; Stahl, Schwarz, Sundquist, & Sies, 1992). *In vitro* and *in*  
66 *vivo* experiments using a Caco-2 human intestinal cell model and lymph cannulated  
67 ferrets, respectively, revealed higher bioavailability for lycopene *Z*-isomers than the  
68 all-*E*-form (Boileau, Merchen, Wasson, Atkinson, & Erdman, 1999; Failla,  
69 Chitchumroonchokchai, & Ishida, 2008). In addition, the oral administration of the  
70 tangerine tomato juice (containing 94% total *Z*-isomer content of lycopene) increased

71 the human plasma lycopene concentration as compared with red tomato juice  
72 (containing 10% total *Z*-isomer content of lycopene) (Cooperstone et al., 2015).  
73 Moreover, studies have reported *Z*-isomers to exhibit higher antioxidant capacity than  
74 the (all-*E*)-isomer (Böhm, Puspitasari-Nienaber, Ferruzzi, & Schwartz, 2002; Müller et  
75 al., 2011). Thus, the dietary intake of *Z*-isomers of lycopene is preferred over that of the  
76 (all-*E*)-isomer for health reasons.

77 Physical characteristics such as crystallinity and solubility differ between the  
78 (all-*E*)-carotenoids and *Z*-isomers (Cooperstone et al., 2015; Gamlieli-Bonshtein, Korin,  
79 & Cohen, 2002; Hempel, Schädle, Leptihn, Carle, & Schweiggert, 2016; Honda et al.,  
80 2017a). For instance, (all-*E*)-carotenoids such as  $\beta$ -carotene and lycopene display  
81 crystalline nature, but the *Z*-isomers exist in an oily aggregate state (Cooperstone et al.,  
82 2015; Hempel, Schädle, Leptihn, Carle, & Schweiggert, 2016). The data available on  
83 the solubility of *Z*-isomers are limited but *Z*-isomers of carotenoids are more soluble  
84 than the all-*E*-isomers, e.g. the solubility of (9*Z*)- $\beta$ -carotene in SC-CO<sub>2</sub> was reported to  
85 be approximately four times higher than that of the (all-*E*)-isomer (Gamlieli-Bonshtein,  
86 Korin, & Cohen, 2002). However, only a few studies have exploited these  
87 characteristics of *Z*-isomers for technological development. Therefore, the aim of this  
88 study was to improve solvent extraction efficiency of lycopene from plant source by  
89 utilizing the higher solubility of the *Z*-isomers than the all-*E*-isomer. Namely, we  
90 investigated whether lycopene extraction efficiency could be improved by increasing  
91 the *Z*-isomer content in extraction material (dried tomato pulp). The *Z*-isomerization of  
92 lycopene in the extraction material was conducted by thermal treatment (Honda et al.,  
93 2017b; Schierle et al., 1997) and ethanol, ethyl acetate, and supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> (SC-CO<sub>2</sub>)  
94 were used as extraction solvents. Ethanol and ethyl acetate were organic solvents

95 approved for using in food processing, and SC-CO<sub>2</sub> is an attractive alternative for the  
96 extraction of natural pigments, attributable to its nontoxicity and easy separation from  
97 the extract (Gomez-Prieto, Caja, & Santa-Maria, 2002; Topal, Sasaki, Goto, &  
98 Hayakawa, 2006; Zuknik, Norulaini, & Omar, 2012).

99

## 100 **2. Materials and methods**

### 101 *2.1. Materials*

102 Fresh tomato pulp (moisture content, 91.6 g/100g) used in this study was kindly  
103 provided by Kagome Co., Ltd. (Tokyo, Japan). The fresh tomato pulp was a precipitate  
104 obtained by centrifuging tomato juice. (all-*E*)-Lycopene (HPLC, ≥98% purity) for  
105 preparing the calibration curve was isolated from tomato oleoresin (Lyc-O-Mato<sup>®</sup> 15%,  
106 LycoRed Ltd., Beer-Sheva, Israel) according to the previous descriptions (Honda et al.,  
107 2017b; Takehara et al., 2014). Analytical-grade acetone, ethanol, and ethyl acetate as  
108 well as high performance liquid chromatography (HPLC)-grade hexane were purchased  
109 from Wako Pure Chemical Industries, Ltd. (Osaka, Japan). *N,N*-Diisopropylethylamine  
110 (DIPEA) was obtained from Tokyo Chemical Industry Co., Ltd. (Tokyo, Japan). Olive  
111 oil was purchased from the Nisshin OilliO Group Ltd. (Tokyo, Japan). Carbon dioxide  
112 was obtained from Sogo Kariya Sanso, Inc. (Nagoya, Japan).

113

### 114 *2.2. Preparation of extraction material*

115 Olive oil was added to fresh tomato pulp at a final concentration of 1 g/100g and  
116 the mixture was homogenized in a food processor. The sample (approximately 60 g)  
117 was transferred into a 100 mL glass bottle and heated in an oil bath at 120 or 150 °C for  
118 1 h to isomerize the (all-*E*)-lycopene into the *Z*-isomers (Honda et al., 2016). The

119 addition of olive oil to fresh tomato pulp promotes thermal *Z*-isomerization of lycopene  
120 (Honda et al., 2017b; Schierle et al., 1997). The samples were freeze dried to achieve  
121 the final moisture content of less than 10 g/100g and were ground using a laboratory  
122 mill to obtain an average particle size of about 1 mm (corresponding to 18 mesh). Dried  
123 tomato pulp without olive oil and the thermal *Z*-isomerization pre-treatment was also  
124 prepared for comparison. Treatment conditions for each tomato pulp before  
125 freeze-drying are summarized in Table 1.

126

### 127 *2.3. Determination of total lycopene in extraction material*

128 Lycopene content in extraction material was determined as described by Honda et  
129 al. (2017b). Briefly, approximately 50 mg of the material was weighed into a 50 mL  
130 volumetric flask and treated with 30 mL acetone. The mixture was subjected to  
131 ultrasonic treatment for 5 min in ice water (approximately 4 °C) to prevent thermal  
132 *Z*-isomerization of lycopene (Schierle et al., 1997). The mixture was diluted with 50 mL  
133 acetone and the ultrasonic treatment repeated for 10 min in ice water. The solution was  
134 filtered using suction filtration on a Kiriya funnel (number 5B filter paper). The  
135 residual color was rinsed with acetone until the filtrate was colorless. The collected  
136 lycopene solution was evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure at 35 °C and  
137 dissolved in 5 to 10 mL of hexane. The solution was filtered through a 0.2 µm  
138 polytetrafluoroethylene (PTFE) membrane filter (Advantec Co., Ltd., Tokyo, Japan) and  
139 analyzed using HPLC. Lycopene concentration was determined based on the calibration  
140 curve prepared by HPLC analysis as the sum of all lycopene isomers. A calibration  
141 curve was prepared with purified (all-*E*)-lycopene in the range of 25 to 100 µg/ml and it  
142 also applied to the *Z*-isomers.

143

#### 144 *2.4. Organic solvent extraction*

145 The extraction of lycopene from dried tomato pulp was carried out using ethanol  
146 and ethyl acetate by referring to the method described previously (Calvo, Dado, &  
147 Santa-María, 2007; Strati & Oreopoulou, 2016). Briefly, 3 g of extraction material was  
148 treated with 30 mL of ethanol or ethyl acetate in a 100 mL screw-capped tube and then  
149 the tube was tightly capped to prevent solvent evaporation during extraction. The  
150 mixture was agitated using a magnetic stirring bar at 1,000 rpm for 60 min at 20 °C. The  
151 residue was removed by suction filtration on a Kiriya funnel (number 5B filter paper)  
152 and the solution collected was evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure. The  
153 extract was weighed and then dissolved in 5 to 10 mL of hexane and filtered through a  
154 0.2 µm PTFE membrane filter for HPLC analysis. The experiment was independently  
155 performed twice and values are presented as mean ± standard error.

156

#### 157 *2.5. Supercritical fluid extraction*

158 Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> extraction was performed with the apparatus shown in Fig 1. The  
159 apparatus includes a chiller (CCA-1111, Eyela, Tokyo, Japan), high-pressure pump (PU  
160 2086 Plus, Jasco, Tokyo, Japan) for CO<sub>2</sub>, heating chamber (ST-110B1, Tabai Espec,  
161 Osaka, Japan), 10 mL vessel (Thar Tech, Pittsburgh, USA), back-pressure regulator  
162 (Akico, Tokyo, Japan), and wet gas meter (Sinagawa Seiki, Tokyo, Japan). Although the  
163 chiller maintains CO<sub>2</sub> in the liquid state between the CO<sub>2</sub> cylinder and heat chamber,  
164 CO<sub>2</sub> exists in its supercritical state in the heating chamber. The extraction was  
165 performed dynamically from 3 g of sample loaded into the vessel at SC-CO<sub>2</sub> flow rate  
166 of 3 mL/min for 8 h. The extraction temperature and pressure were maintained at 50 °C

167 and 50 MPa, respectively, to avoid decomposition and isomerization of lycopene  
168 (Zuknik, Norulaini, & Omar, 2012). The obtained extract was analyzed by HPLC in the  
169 same procedure as the organic solvent extracts.

170

## 171 *2.6. HPLC analysis*

172 Normal-phase HPLC analysis was performed with four Nucleosil 300-5 columns  
173 connected in tandem (4 × 250 mm length, 4.6 mm inner diameter, 5 μm particle size;  
174 GL Sciences Inc., Tokyo, Japan) according to the method described previously (Honda  
175 et al., 2017b). Briefly, the mobile phase hexane containing 0.75 mL/L DIPEA was used  
176 at a flow rate of 1 mL/min, with the column temperature of 40 °C. The detection  
177 wavelength was set at 460 nm such that the difference in molar extinction coefficients  
178 of the lycopene isomers is relatively small (Hengartner, Bernhard, Meyer, Englert, &  
179 Glinz, 1992; Honda, Kawana, Takehara, & Inoue, 2015; Honda et al., 2017a). Lycopene  
180 isomer peaks were identified according to HPLC retention times, visible spectral data,  
181 and relative intensities of the *Z*-peak (%  $D_B/D_{II}$ ), as described in previous reports  
182 (Fröhlich, Conrad, Schmid, Breithaupt, & Böhm, 2007; Hengartner, Bernhard, Meyer,  
183 Englert, & Glinz, 1992; Honda et al., 2017a). The lycopene recovery (%) with organic  
184 solvents and SC-CO<sub>2</sub> was expressed as the amount of the extracted lycopene to the  
185 amount of lycopene contained in extraction material. The *Z*-isomer content (%) was  
186 estimated from the amount of total *Z*-isomers to the amount of total lycopene isomers,  
187 including the (all-*E*)-isomer.

188

## 189 **3. Results and discussion**

### 190 *3.1. Profile of extraction material*

191 Table 2 summarizes the lycopene and total *Z*-isomer content of each extraction  
192 material (dried tomato pulp). Although almost no decomposition of lycopene in tomato  
193 pulp was observed by heating at 120 °C for 1 h, approximately 20% was decomposed  
194 by heating at 150 °C for 1 h. The total *Z*-isomer content of lycopene increased with an  
195 increase in the heating temperature. In the absence of olive oil, heating at 120 °C for 1 h  
196 yielded *Z*-isomer content of 10.0%; however, the *Z*-isomer content reached 56.2% at  
197 150 °C for 1 h. In the presence of olive oil, heating at 120 and 150 °C resulted in  
198 significant conversion of the (all-*E*)-lycopene to the *Z*-isomers as content of 30.4% and  
199 75.7%, respectively. Typical chromatograms of thermally-treated and non-treated  
200 tomato pulp are shown in Fig. 2. Heat treatment increased the (5*Z*)-, (9*Z*)- and  
201 (13*Z*)-lycopene content, which is consistent with previous reports (Honda et al., 2017b;  
202 Schierle et al., 1997). In addition, heating samples at 150 °C resulted in the formation of  
203 additional *Z*-isomers such as (multi-*Z*)-lycopene. Lycopene was extracted from the  
204 above dried tomato pulp with different content of the *Z*-isomers, and lycopene content  
205 and lycopene recovery of the extracts were compared.

206

### 207 3.2. Profile of extracts obtained with organic solvent extraction

208 The choice of solvent used for the extraction determines the extraction efficiency of the  
209 target compound from the extraction material. In general, nonpolar solvents are shown  
210 to be more suitable for nonpolar solutes as well as more polar solvents for more polar  
211 solutes. As lycopene is made up of hydrogen and carbon atoms (C<sub>40</sub>H<sub>56</sub>), it exhibits  
212 extremely low polarity and is difficult to dissolve in highly polar solvents such as  
213 ethanol (Aizawa et al., 2011; Calvo, Dado, & Santa-María, 2007; Strati & Oreopoulou,  
214 2016). On the other hand, it is easily soluble in nonpolar solvents such as benzene and

215 chloroform (CHCl<sub>3</sub>) (Zuknik, Norulaini, & Omar, 2012). However, these nonpolar  
216 solvents display high toxicity and are deemed unsuitable for food processing.  
217 Commercially available tomato extracts with high lycopene content are generally  
218 extracted with ethyl acetate (Honda, Higashiura, & Fukaya, 2017), however, the  
219 extraction efficiency is low (Calvo, Dado, & Santa-María, 2007; Strati & Oreopoulou,  
220 2016). Therefore, there is still considerable room for the development of a method that  
221 improves lycopene extraction efficiency using solvents widely used for food processing,  
222 such as ethanol and ethyl acetate.

223       The weight, lycopene content, and total *Z*-isomer content of the extract as well as  
224 the lycopene recovery rate with ethanol and ethyl acetate extraction are summarized in  
225 Table 3, and typical chromatograms of the extracts are shown in Supplementary material  
226 Fig. S1 and S2, respectively. With ethanol as the extraction solvent, an increase in the  
227 weight and lycopene and *Z*-isomer contents was observed with an increase in the  
228 processing temperature of samples (Table 3 and Fig. S1). The extract weight increase  
229 may be attributed to the change in the structural integrity of the cellular matrix and/or  
230 disassembling of cell walls by the heating process, thereby improving the extraction  
231 efficiency of membrane-bound lipids such as glycolipid and phospholipid (Murador, da  
232 Cunha, & de Rosso, 2014; Sugawara & Miyazawa, 1999). An extremely strong  
233 correlation was observed between *Z*-isomer content in extraction materials and lycopene  
234 recovery rate. Amount of extracted (all-*E*)-lycopene with ethanol was almost constant  
235 regardless of the thermal pre-treatment and addition of olive oil (Fig. S1). Furthermore,  
236 the extraction residue from the heat-treated tomato pulp showed small *Z*-isomer content  
237 but high (all-*E*)-lycopene content (Fig. 3). These results indicate that the improvement  
238 in lycopene content and recovery was associated with the higher solubility of *Z*-isomers

239 than that of the all-*E*-isomer in ethanol, but not the heat-induced change in the cell wall  
240 structure. Since the solubility of (all-*E*)-lycopene in ethanol is extremely low, the total  
241 *Z*-isomer content was high in ethanol extracts, e.g. tomato pulp heated at 150 °C with or  
242 without 1 g/100g of olive oil before extraction showed the *Z*-isomer content of  $92.3 \pm$   
243  $0.1\%$  and  $93.5 \pm 0.1\%$ , respectively. Thus, the ethanol extraction is effective for the  
244 isolation and concentration of *Z*-isomers of lycopene that display higher bioavailability  
245 (Boileau, Merchen, Wasson, Atkinson, & Erdman, 1999; Failla, Chitchumroonchokchai,  
246 & Ishida, 2008) and antioxidant capacity (Böhm, Puspitasari-Nienaber, Ferruzzi, &  
247 Schwartz, 2002; Müller et al., 2011) than the (all-*E*)-lycopene.

248 With ethyl acetate as the extraction solvent, an increase in the extract weight, total  
249 *Z*-isomer content, and lycopene recovery was observed with an increase in the thermal  
250 pre-treatment temperature (Table 3 and Fig. S2). However, the lycopene content  
251 decreased in the extract treated at 150 °C compared to that treated at 120 °C. This may  
252 be attributed to the generation of compounds soluble in ethyl acetate and decomposition  
253 of lycopene at high temperature. In comparison to ethanol extraction, ethyl acetate  
254 extraction decreased the total *Z*-isomer content in the extracts and increased the  
255 lycopene recovery, indicative of the higher solubility of the (all-*E*)-lycopene in ethyl  
256 acetate than ethanol. In their study using tomato peel powder rich in the (all-*E*)-isomer,  
257 Calvo, Dado, & Santa-María (2007) reported higher extraction efficiency of lycopene  
258 with ethyl acetate than with ethanol. As lycopene recovery increased with an increase in  
259 the *Z*-isomer content of extraction materials, *Z*-isomers of lycopene are thought to be  
260 more soluble than the all-*E*-form in ethyl acetate. Thus, thermal pre-treatment is also  
261 effective for extraction with ethyl acetate. Most of the commercially available tomato  
262 oleoresins are obtained with ethyl acetate extraction and most lycopene contained is

263 present in the all-*E*-configuration (Honda, Higashiura, & Fukaya, 2017). Therefore, our  
264 finding may help improve not only lycopene productivity in the actual production  
265 process but also the bioavailability and antioxidant capacity of the product.

266

### 267 3.3. Profile of extracts obtained with SC-CO<sub>2</sub> extraction

268 Organic solvents such as benzene and CHCl<sub>3</sub> are widely used for the extraction of  
269 carotenoids from plant source (Kaur, Wani, Oberoi, & Sogi, 2008; Kubola, Meeso, &  
270 Siriamornpun, 2013). However, these solvents display several disadvantages such as  
271 toxicity, presence of solvent traces in the final product, and danger in handling. On the  
272 contrary, SC-CO<sub>2</sub> is non-toxic, easily separated from the extract, and therefore thought  
273 to be a suitable alternative in food processing (Sun, & Temelli, 2006; Zuknik, Norulaini,  
274 & Omar, 2012). Several studies have demonstrated SC-CO<sub>2</sub> for the extraction of  
275 lycopene from tomato materials (Gomez-Prieto, Caja, & Santa-Maria, 2002; Topal,  
276 Sasaki, Goto, & Hayakawa, 2006; Zuknik, Norulaini, & Omar, 2012). However, the  
277 relatively low solubility of lycopene in SC-CO<sub>2</sub> attributed to its large molecular weight  
278 and high crystallinity decreases the extraction efficiency (Reverchon & De Marco,  
279 2006; Zuknik, Norulaini, & Omar, 2012). The extraction efficiency of lycopene from  
280 plant sources can be improved by the optimization of extraction conditions such as  
281 extraction temperature and pressure as well as the addition of co-solvents (Shi et al.,  
282 2009; Yi, Shi, Xue, Jiang, & Li, 2009; Zuknik, Norulaini, & Omar, 2012). Furthermore,  
283 addition of lipid co-matrix and digestion with cell-wall by hydrolytic enzymes have  
284 recently attracted attention as pre-treatment techniques (Lenucci et al., 2010 and 2015).  
285 However, no reports focused on the increase of the *Z*-isomer content of extraction  
286 material to improve lycopene extraction efficiency were found.

287 Figure 4A shows the time course of lycopene recovery from dried tomato pulp with  
288 SC-CO<sub>2</sub> extraction at 50 °C and 50 MPa for 8 h. Despite of the *Z*-isomer content of  
289 extraction material, lycopene recovery was approximately 1% in the absence of olive oil.  
290 On the other hand, the addition of olive oil to the tomato pulp before the extraction  
291 significantly improved the lycopene recovery based on the *Z*-isomer content of the  
292 material. The recovery rates were 6.5%, 15.5%, and 27.6% for pre-treatment with no  
293 heating, heating at 120 °C, and at 50 °C using 8h SC-CO<sub>2</sub> extraction, respectively.  
294 Cadoni, De Giorgi, Medda, & Poma (2000) reported negligible lycopene extraction  
295 from fresh and dried tomatoes at 40 °C and 27.6 MPa; however, the addition of a small  
296 amount of organic solvents to extraction material significantly improved its recovery.  
297 Vasapollo, Longo, Rescio, & Ciurlia (2004) found that lycopene extraction efficiency  
298 from dried tomatoes was greatly enhanced with the addition of 10 g/100g hazelnut oil to  
299 extraction material. Such organic solvents and vegetable oils directly added to  
300 extraction material to improve the SC-CO<sub>2</sub> extraction efficiency of target compounds  
301 are called modifiers (Rozzi, Singh, Vierling, & Watkins, 2002; Zuknik, Norulaini, &  
302 Omar, 2012). In the SC-CO<sub>2</sub> extraction, the *Z*-isomerization pre-treatment is thought to  
303 be extremely effective in the presence of modifiers. The improvement in lycopene  
304 recovery is attributed to the increased solubility of *Z*-isomers as compared to the  
305 all-*E*-isomer in SC-CO<sub>2</sub>. This is supported by the result of time courses of total  
306 *Z*-isomer content of lycopene in the extract (Fig. 4B). The ratio of lycopene *Z*-isomers  
307 decreased with an increase in the extraction time for all samples. Thus, it is suggested  
308 that the *Z*-isomers are preferentially extracted owing to their high solubility in SC-CO<sub>2</sub>  
309 as compared to the (all-*E*)-isomer. The recovery rate observed for the individual  
310 mono-*Z*-isomer was as follows: (13*Z*)-lycopene > (9*Z*)-lycopene > (5*Z*)-lycopene (Fig.

311 4C), suggestive of the varying solubility among the *Z*-isomers in SC-CO<sub>2</sub>. The relatively  
312 high (5*Z*)-lycopene content in the ethanol extraction residue (Fig. 3) may be associated  
313 with its low solubility in organic solvents as compared to (13*Z*)- and (9*Z*)-lycopene.

314 The *Z*-isomerization–induced change in the solubility of the (all-*E*)-lycopene may  
315 be attributed to the change in the physical properties of lycopene. Although carotenoid  
316 aggregation can be stabilized via  $\pi$ – $\pi$ -stacking interactions of conjugated polyene chains,  
317 *Z*-isomerization would result in enormous steric hindrance, thereby diminishing the  
318 potential attractive  $\pi$ – $\pi$  forces (Hempel, Schädle, Leptihn, Carle, & Schweiggert, 2016).  
319 As a result, it would become impossible to arrange regularly between compounds, and  
320 physical properties change. Lycopene exists in an oily aggregated state in the globular  
321 chromoplast of tangerine tomato, which is rich in *Z*-isomers (Cooperstone et al., 2015).  
322 The solubility order of lycopene isomers in SC-CO<sub>2</sub> (Fig. 4C) strongly supported this  
323 suggestion: as the steric hindrance of the *Z*-isomers was large, i.e. the *Z*-part was near  
324 the central part of the conjugated chain of lycopene, the solubility became higher.  
325 Differences in the physical properties of the all-*E*- and *Z*-form of carotenoids were  
326 revealed in recent years, which should be exploited for the development of new  
327 technologies in the future.

328

#### 329 **4. Conclusions**

330 Our study clearly showed that lycopene extraction efficiency using organic  
331 solvents and SC-CO<sub>2</sub> from dried tomato pulp improved by the increase in the *Z*-isomer  
332 content. It indicated that the *Z*-isomers are more soluble in organic solvents and SC-CO<sub>2</sub>  
333 than the all-*E*-isomer. Although the thermal *Z*-isomerization of lycopene and drying of  
334 tomato pulp were separately performed in this study, simultaneous implementation of

335 these steps is preferable in practical application. While drying at high temperature is  
336 preferred to induce isomerization of the (all-*E*)-lycopene to *Z*-isomers, care must be  
337 taken to minimise lycopene decomposition. In addition, the thermal *Z*-isomerization  
338 pre-treatment increased the content of *Z*-isomers, which exhibit higher bioavailability  
339 and antioxidant capacity than the all-*E*-isomer, in the extract. These findings will  
340 improve lycopene productivity as well as functionality of the obtained extract.

341

### 342 **Acknowledgements**

343 The authors are grateful to Dr. Chitoshi Kitamura, Dr. Yoshinori Inoue, and Dr.  
344 Munenori Takehara (Department of Materials Science, The University of Shiga  
345 Prefecture) for their kind help and provision of analysis device.

346

### 347 **References**

- 348 Aizawa, K., Iwasaki, Y., Ouchi, A., Inakuma, T., Nagaoka, S. I., Terao, J., et al. (2011).  
349 Development of singlet oxygen absorption capacity (SOAC) assay method. 2.  
350 Measurements of the SOAC values for carotenoids and food extracts. *Journal of*  
351 *Agricultural and Food Chemistry*, *59*, 3717–3729.
- 352 Boileau, A. C., Merchen, N. R., Wasson, K., Atkinson, C. A., & Erdman, J. W. Jr.,  
353 (1999). *Cis*-lycopene is more bioavailable than *trans*-lycopene in vitro and in vivo  
354 in lymph-cannulated ferrets. *The Journal of Nutrition*, *129*, 1176–1181.
- 355 Böhm, V., Puspitasari-Nienaber, N. L., Ferruzzi, M. G., & Schwartz, S. J. (2002).  
356 Trolox equivalent antioxidant capacity of different geometrical isomers of  
357  $\alpha$ -carotene,  $\beta$ -carotene, lycopene, and zeaxanthin. *Journal of Agricultural and*  
358 *Food Chemistry*, *50*, 221–226.

359 Borel, P., Grolier, P., Armand, M., Partier, A., Lafont, H., Lairon, D., et al. (1996).  
360 Carotenoids in biological emulsions: solubility, surface-to-core distribution, and  
361 release from lipid droplets. *Journal of Lipid Research*, 37, 250–261.

362 Cadoni, E., De Giorgi, M. R., Medda, E., & Poma, G. (2000). Supercritical CO<sub>2</sub>  
363 extraction of lycopene and  $\beta$ -carotene from ripe tomatoes. *Dyes and Pigments*, 44,  
364 27–32.

365 Calvo, M. M., Dado, D., & Santa-María, G. (2007). Influence of extraction with ethanol  
366 or ethyl acetate on the yield of lycopene,  $\beta$ -carotene, phytoene and phytofluene  
367 from tomato peel powder. *European Food Research and Technology*, 224,  
368 567–571.

369 Clinton, S. K., Emenhiser, C., Schwartz, S. J., Bostwick, D. G., Williams, A. W., Moore,  
370 B. J., et al. (1996). *Cis-trans* lycopene isomers, carotenoids, and retinol in the  
371 human prostate. *Cancer Epidemiology Biomarkers & Prevention*, 5, 823–833.

372 Cooperstone, J. L., Ralston, R. A., Riedl, K. M., Haufe, T. C., Schweiggert, R. M., King,  
373 S. A., et al. (2015). Enhanced bioavailability of lycopene when consumed as  
374 *cis*-isomers from tangerine compared to red tomato juice, a randomized, cross-over  
375 clinical trial. *Molecular Nutrition & Food Research*, 59, 658–669.

376 Dahan, K., Fennal, M., & Kumar, N. B. (2008). Lycopene in the prevention of prostate  
377 cancer. *Journal of the Society for Integrative Oncology*, 6, 29–36.

378 Failla, M. L., Chitchumroonchokchai, C., & Ishida, B. K. (2008). In vitro  
379 micellarization and intestinal cell uptake of *cis* isomers of lycopene exceed those of  
380 all-*trans* lycopene. *The Journal of Nutrition*, 138, 482–486.

381 Fröhlich, K., Conrad, J., Schmid, A., Breithaupt, D. E., & Bohm, V. (2007). Isolation  
382 and structural elucidation of different geometrical isomers of lycopene.

383 *International Journal for Vitamin and Nutrition Research*, 77, 369–375.

384 Gamlieli-Bonshtein, I., Korin, E., & Cohen, S. (2002). Selective separation of *cis-trans*  
385 geometrical isomers of  $\beta$ -carotene via CO<sub>2</sub> supercritical fluid extraction.  
386 *Biotechnology and Bioengineering*, 80, 169–174.

387 Gomez-Prieto, M. S., Caja, M. M., & Santa-Maria, G. (2002). Solubility in supercritical  
388 carbon dioxide of the predominant carotenes of tomato skin. *Journal of the*  
389 *American Oil Chemists' Society*, 79, 897–902.

390 Hempel, J., Schädle, C. N., Leptihn, S., Carle, R., & Schweiggert, R. M. (2016).  
391 Structure related aggregation behavior of carotenoids and carotenoid esters.  
392 *Journal of Photochemistry and Photobiology A: Chemistry*, 317, 161–174.

393 Hengartner, U., Bernhard, K., Meyer, K., Englert, G., & Glinz, E. (1992). Synthesis,  
394 isolation, and NMR-spectroscopic characterization of fourteen (*Z*)-isomers of  
395 lycopene and of some acetylenic didehydro- and tetrahydrolycopenes. *Helvetica*  
396 *Chimica Acta*, 75, 1848–1865.

397 Honda, M., Higashiura, T., & Fukaya, T. (2017). Safety assessment of a natural tomato  
398 oleoresin containing high amounts of *Z*-isomers of lycopene prepared with  
399 supercritical carbon dioxide. *Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture*, 97,  
400 1027–1033.

401 Honda, M., Horiuchi, I., Hiramatsu, H., Inoue, Y., Kitamura, C., Fukaya, T., et al.  
402 (2016). Vegetable oil-mediated thermal isomerization of (all-*E*)-lycopene: Facile  
403 and efficient production of *Z*-isomers. *European Journal of Lipid Science and*  
404 *Technology*, 118, 1588–1592.

405 Honda, M., Kawana, T., Takehara, M., & Inoue, Y. (2015). Enhanced *E/Z* isomerization  
406 of (all-*E*)-lycopene by employing iron(III) chloride as a catalyst. *Journal of Food*  
407 *Science*, *80*, C1453–C1459.

408 Honda, M., Kudo, T., Kuwa, T., Higashiura, T., Fukaya, T., Inoue, Y., et al. (2017a).  
409 Isolation and spectral characterization of thermally generated multi-*Z*-isomers of  
410 lycopene and the theoretically preferred pathway to di-*Z*-isomers. *Bioscience,*  
411 *Biotechnology, and Biochemistry*, *81*, 365–371.

412 Honda, M., Murakami, K., Watanabe, Y., Higashiura, T., Fukaya, T., Wahyudiono, et al.  
413 (2017b). The *E/Z* isomer ratio of lycopene in foods and effect of heating with  
414 edible oils and fats on isomerization of (all-*E*)-lycopene. *European Journal of*  
415 *Lipid Science and Technology*, In press. doi: 10.1002/ejlt.201600389

416 Honda, M., Takahashi, N., Kuwa, T., Takehara, M., Inoue, Y., & Kumagai, T. (2015).  
417 Spectral characterisation of *Z*-isomers of lycopene formed during heat treatment  
418 and solvent effects on the *E/Z* isomerisation process. *Food Chemistry*, *171*,  
419 323–329.

420 Kaur, D., Wani, A. A., Oberoi, D. P. S., & Sogi, D. S. (2008). Effect of extraction  
421 conditions on lycopene extractions from tomato processing waste skin using  
422 response surface methodology. *Food Chemistry*, *108*, 711–718.

423 Kubola, J., Meeso, N., & Siriamornpun, S. (2013). Lycopene and beta carotene  
424 concentration in aril oil of gac (*Momordica cochinchinensis* Spreng) as influenced  
425 by aril-drying process and solvents extraction. *Food Research International*, *50*,  
426 664–669.

427 Lenucci, M. S., Caccioppola, A., Durante, M., Serrone, L., Leonardo, R., Piro, G., et al  
428 (2010). Optimisation of biological and physical parameters for lycopene

429 supercritical CO<sub>2</sub> extraction from ordinary and high-pigment tomato cultivars.  
430 *Journal of the Science of Food and Agriculture*, 90, 1709–1718.

431 Lenucci, M. S., De Caroli, M., Marrese, P. P., Iurlaro, A., Rescio, L., Böhm, V., et al.  
432 (2015). Enzyme-aided extraction of lycopene from high-pigment tomato cultivars  
433 by supercritical carbon dioxide. *Food Chemistry*, 170, 193–202.

434 Müller, L., Goupy, P., Fröhlich, K., Dangles, O., Caris-Veyrat, C., & Böhm, V. (2011).  
435 Comparative study on antioxidant activity of lycopene (*Z*)-isomers in different  
436 assays. *Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry*, 59, 4504–4511.

437 Murador, D. C., da Cunha, D. T., & de Rosso, V. V. (2014). Effects of cooking  
438 techniques on vegetable pigments: A meta-analytic approach to carotenoid and  
439 anthocyanin levels. *Food Research International*, 65, 177–183.

440 Palozza, P., Parrone, N., Simone, R. E., & Catalano, A. (2010). Lycopene in  
441 atherosclerosis prevention: an integrated scheme of the potential mechanisms of  
442 action from cell culture studies. *Archives of Biochemistry and Biophysics*, 504,  
443 26–33.

444 Reverchon, E., & De Marco, I. (2006). Supercritical fluid extraction and fractionation of  
445 natural matter. *The Journal of Supercritical Fluids*, 38, 146–166.

446 Rozzi, N. L., Singh, R. K., Vierling, R. A., & Watkins, B. A. (2002). Supercritical fluid  
447 extraction of lycopene from tomato processing byproducts. *Journal of Agricultural  
448 and Food Chemistry*, 50, 2638–2643.

449 Schierle, J., Bretzel, W., Buhler, I., Faccin, N., Hess, D., Steiner, K., et al. (1997).  
450 Content and isomeric ratio of lycopene in food and human blood plasma. *Food  
451 Chemistry*, 59, 459–465.

452 Shi, J., Yi, C., Xue, S. J., Jiang, Y., Ma, Y., & Li, D. (2009). Effects of modifiers on the  
453 profile of lycopene extracted from tomato skins by supercritical CO<sub>2</sub>. *Journal of*  
454 *Food Engineering*, *93*, 431–436.

455 Stahl, W., Schwarz, W., Sundquist, A. R., & Sies, H. (1992). *Cis-trans* isomers of  
456 lycopene and  $\beta$ -carotene in human serum and tissues. *Archives of Biochemistry and*  
457 *Biophysics*, *294*, 173–177.

458 Strati, I. F., & Oreopoulou, V. (2016). Recovery and isomerization of carotenoids from  
459 tomato processing by-products. *Waste and Biomass Valorization*, *7*, 843–850.

460 Sugawara, T., & Miyazawa, T. (1999). Separation and determination of glycolipids from  
461 edible plant sources by high-performance liquid chromatography and evaporative  
462 light-scattering detection. *Lipids*, *34*, 1231–1237.

463 Sun, M., & Temelli, F. (2006). Supercritical carbon dioxide extraction of carotenoids  
464 from carrot using canola oil as a continuous co-solvent. *The Journal of*  
465 *Supercritical Fluids*, *37*, 397–408.

466 Takehara, M., Nishimura, M., Kuwa, T., Inoue, Y., Kitamura, C., Kumagai, T., et al.  
467 (2014). Characterization and thermal isomerization of (all-*E*)-lycopene. *Journal of*  
468 *Agricultural and Food Chemistry*, *62*, 264–269.

469 Tapiero, H., Townsend, D. M., & Tew, K. D. (2004). The role of carotenoids in the  
470 prevention of human pathologies. *Biomedicine & Pharmacotherapy*, *58*, 100–110.

471 Topal, U., Sasaki, M., Goto, M., & Hayakawa, K. (2006). Extraction of lycopene from  
472 tomato skin with supercritical carbon dioxide: effect of operating conditions and  
473 solubility analysis. *Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry*, *54*, 5604–5610.

- 474 Tuyen, C. K., Nguyen, M. H., Roach, P. D., & Stathopoulos, C. E. (2013). Effects of  
475 Gac aril microwave processing conditions on oil extraction efficiency, and  
476  $\beta$ -carotene and lycopene contents. *Journal of Food Engineering*, *117*, 486–491.
- 477 Vasapollo, G., Longo, L., Rescio, L., & Ciurlia, L. (2004). Innovative supercritical CO<sub>2</sub>  
478 extraction of lycopene from tomato in the presence of vegetable oil as co-solvent.  
479 *The Journal of Supercritical Fluids*, *29*, 87–96.
- 480 Yi, C., Shi, J., Xue, S. J., Jiang, Y., & Li, D. (2009). Effects of supercritical fluid  
481 extraction parameters on lycopene yield and antioxidant activity. *Food Chemistry*,  
482 *113*, 1088–1094.
- 483 Zuknik, M. H., Norulaini, N. N., & Omar, A. M. (2012). Supercritical carbon dioxide  
484 extraction of lycopene: A review. *Journal of Food Engineering*, *112*, 253–262.

485 **Figure Captions**

486

487 **Fig. 1.** Scheme diagram of the SC-CO<sub>2</sub> extraction apparatus.

488

489 **Fig. 2.** Normal-phase HPLC chromatograms of extraction materials (dried tomato pulp):  
490 (A) non-heated; (B) heated at 120 °C; (C) heated at 150 °C; (D) non-heated with olive  
491 oil; (E) heated at 120 °C with olive oil; (F) heated at 150 °C with olive oil. Lycopene  
492 isomers were eluted with the retention time ranging from 24 to 47 min. (5Z)-, (9Z)-, and  
493 (13Z)-lycopene were identified according to previous studies (Fröhlich, Conrad, Schmid,  
494 Breithaupt, & Böhm, 2007; Hengartner, Bernhard, Meyer, Englert, & Glinz, 1992;  
495 Honda et al., 2017b).

496

497 **Fig. 3.** Normal-phase HPLC chromatograms of ethanol extraction residue. Lycopene  
498 isomers were eluted with the retention time ranging from 24 to 47 min. Samples  
499 subjected to thermal treatment at 150 °C in the (A) absence or (B) presence of olive oil  
500 (1 g/100g fresh weight) before the extraction.

501

502 **Fig. 4.** Time course of (A) lycopene recovery and (B) total Z-isomer content of  
503 lycopene in extract from dried tomato pulp by SC-CO<sub>2</sub> extraction at 50 °C and 50 MPa:  
504 (○) non-heated; (●) heated at 120 °C; (Δ) heated at 150 °C; (▲) non-heated with olive  
505 oil; (□) heated at 120 °C with olive oil; (■) heated at 150 °C with olive oil, and (C)  
506 recovery of each lycopene isomer from dried tomato pulp heated at 150 °C with olive  
507 oil: (–) (all-*E*)-lycopene; (×) (5*Z*)-lycopene; (\*) (9*Z*)-lycopene; (+) (13*Z*)-lycopene.

**Tables****Table 1**

Summary of treatments of tomato pulp before drying.

Sample number	Amount of oil added (wt%)	Heating temperature (°C)
1	–	–
2	–	120
3	–	150
4	1	–
5	1	120
6	1	150

–, No treatment.

**Table 2**Profiles of extraction materials.<sup>a</sup>

Sample number <sup>b</sup>	Profiles	
	Lycopene content (mg/100 g)	Total Z-isomer content (%)
1	814.4	6.1
2	797.4	10.0
3	646.9	56.2
4	710.7	8.8
5	710.1	30.4
6	595.5	75.7

<sup>a</sup>Extraction materials mean freeze-dried tomato pulp which are pre-treated by the conditions described in Table 1.<sup>b</sup>Sample numbers are corresponding to Table 1.

**Table 3**Extracts profile with ethanol and ethyl acetate.<sup>a</sup>

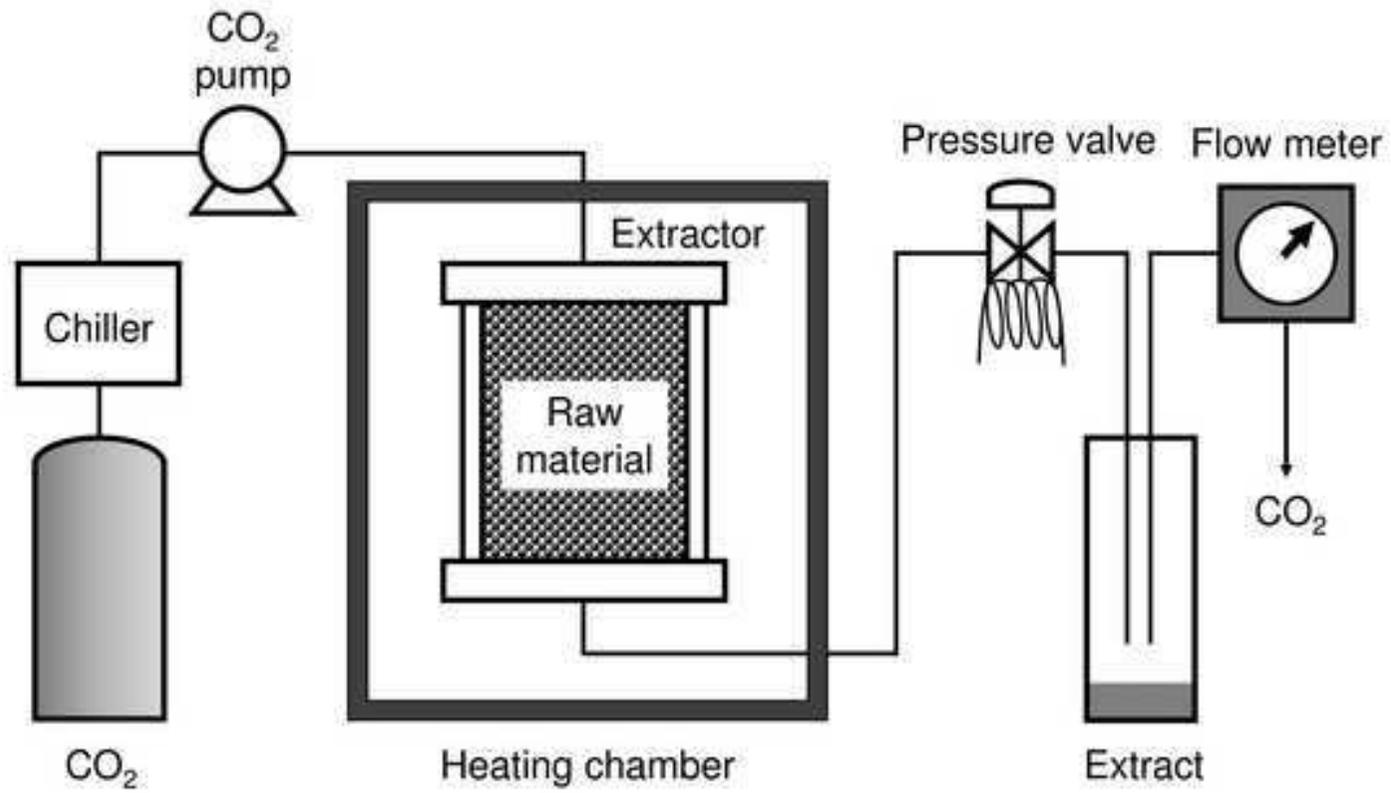
Extraction solvent	Sample number <sup>b</sup>	Extract weight (mg)	Lycopene content (mg/100 g)	Total Z-isomer content (%)	Lycopene recovery (%) <sup>c</sup>
Ethanol	1	98 ± 4 A	1114.5 ± 86.4 B	77.4 ± 0.4 A	4.3 ± 0.4 A
	2	105 ± 2 A	2170.9 ± 16.7 C	84.9 ± 0.2 B	9.5 ± 0.3 A
	3	139 ± 0 B	9571.3 ± 142.5 E	92.3 ± 0.1 C	59.7 ± 0.9 C
	4	437 ± 4 C	307.6 ± 16.9 A	76.3 ± 2.1 A	6.3 ± 0.4 A
	5	427 ± 4 C	1398.8 ± 11.2 B	91.7 ± 0.1 C	28.1 ± 0.0 B
	6	487 ± 11 D	2783.8 ± 15.7 D	93.5 ± 0.1 C	75.9 ± 2.1 D
Ethyl acetate	1	62 ± 3 A	15529.2 ± 103.3 D	10.9 ± 0.3 A	39.1 ± 1.8 A
	2	68 ± 1 A	18013.8 ± 420.9 E	14.5 ± 0.6 A	51.2 ± 2.1 A
	3	129 ± 3 B	12831.7 ± 124.6 F	60.2 ± 0.2 C	85.0 ± 2.5 B
	4	422 ± 9 C	2648.2 ± 407.5 A	12.2 ± 2.0 A	48.5 ± 8.1 A
	5	402 ± 9 C	4235.3 ± 54.2 B	39.0 ± 0.1 B	79.5 ± 1.0 B
	6	488 ± 3 D	3524.8 ± 89.8 C	76.3 ± 0.2 D	96.3 ± 1.5 B

<sup>a</sup>Values are presented as mean ± standard error ( $n = 2$ ). For each sample number and for each column, values followed by different letters are significantly different at  $P < 0.05$  (ANOVA, Tukey's test).

<sup>b</sup>Sample numbers are corresponding to Table 1.

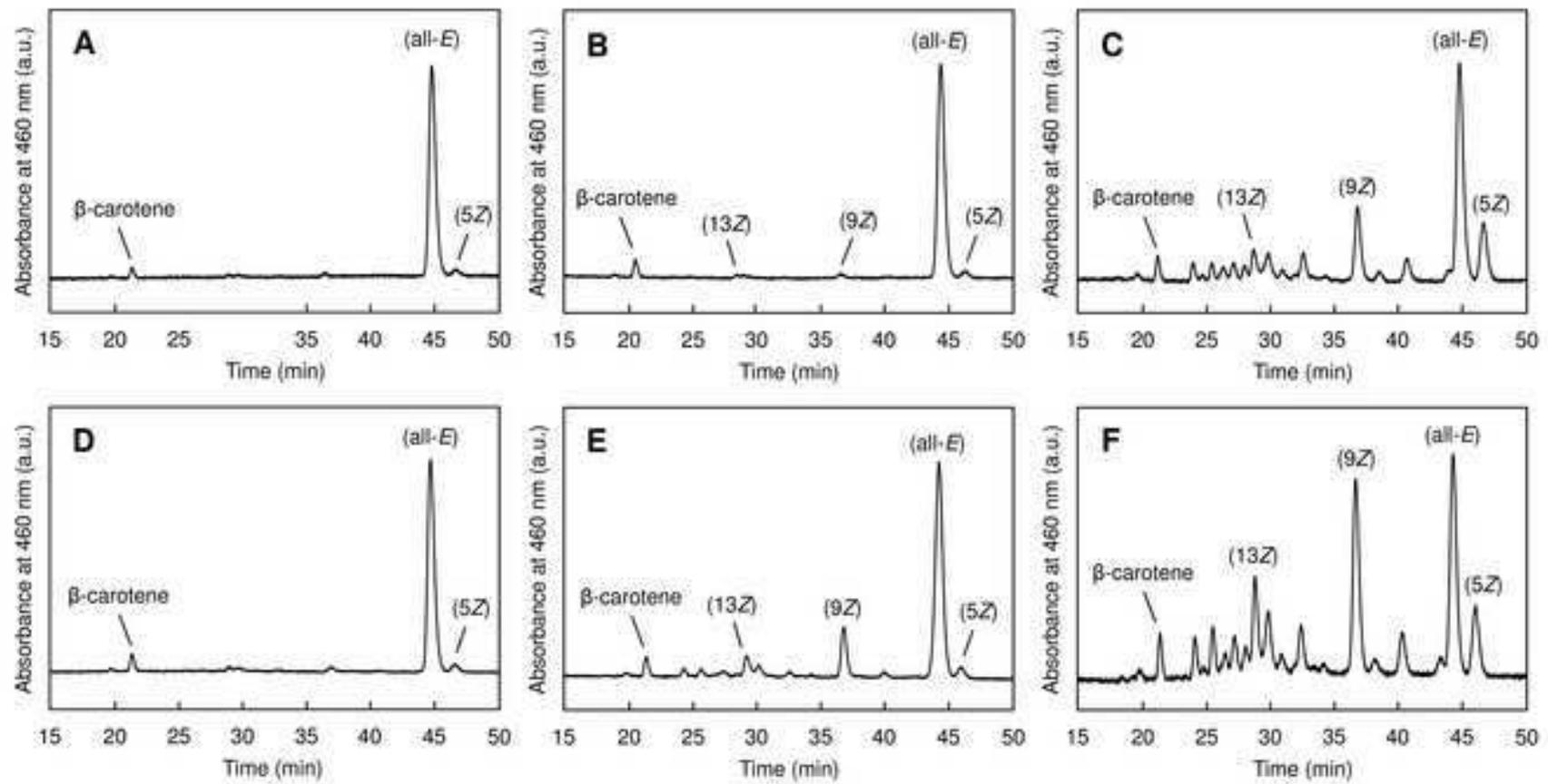
<sup>c</sup>The recovery expressed as a percentage of the amount of ethanol- or ethyl acetate-extracted lycopene to the amount of acetone-extracted lycopene as previous work (Honda et al., 2017b; Schierle et al., 1997).

Figure  
Click here to download high resolution image



**Figure**

[Click here to download high resolution image](#)



# Figure

[Click here to download high resolution image](#)

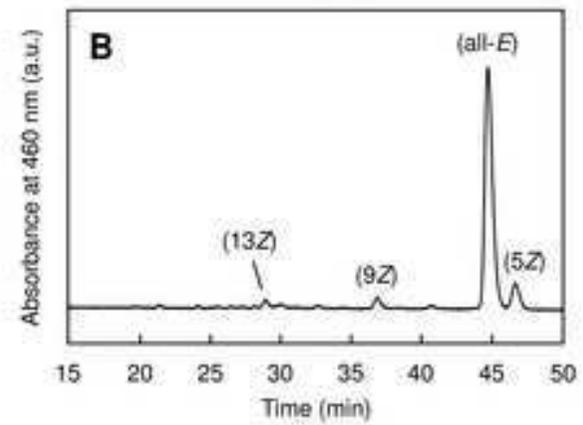
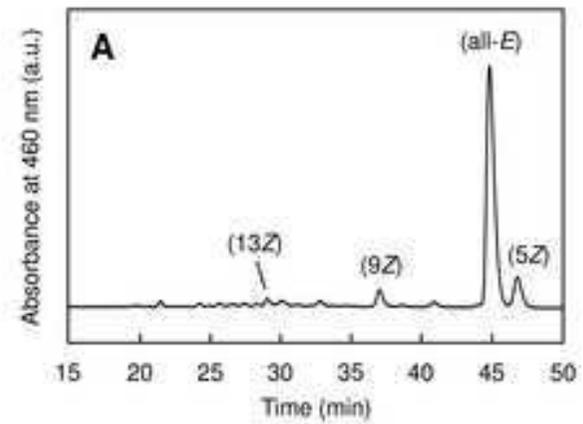


Figure  
Click here to download high resolution image

