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

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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-CO₂) 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-CO₂. 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 CO₂

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 β -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*)- β -carotene in SC-CO₂ 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 CO₂ (SC-CO₂)
94 were used as extraction solvents. Ethanol and ethyl acetate were organic solvents

95 approved for using in food processing, and SC-CO₂ 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[®] 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 CO₂ 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 CO₂, 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 CO₂ in the liquid state between the CO₂ cylinder and heat chamber,
164 CO₂ 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-CO₂ 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-CO₂ 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 (C₄₀H₅₆), 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 (CHCl₃) (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-CO₂ extraction

268 Organic solvents such as benzene and CHCl₃ 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-CO₂ 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-CO₂ 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-CO₂ 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-CO₂ 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-CO₂ 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-CO₂ extraction efficiency of target compounds
301 are called modifiers (Rozzi, Singh, Vierling, & Watkins, 2002; Zuknik, Norulaini, &
302 Omar, 2012). In the SC-CO₂ 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-CO₂. 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-CO₂
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-CO₂. 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 π – π -stacking interactions of conjugated polyene chains,
317 *Z*-isomerization would result in enormous steric hindrance, thereby diminishing the
318 potential attractive π – π 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-CO₂ (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-CO₂ 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-CO₂
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

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346

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485 **Figure Captions**

486

487 **Fig. 1.** Scheme diagram of the SC-CO₂ 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-CO₂ 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; (×) (5Z)-lycopene; (*) (9Z)-lycopene; (+) (13Z)-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 2Profiles of extraction materials.^a

Sample number ^b	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

^aExtraction materials mean freeze-dried tomato pulp which are pre-treated by the conditions described in Table 1.^bSample numbers are corresponding to Table 1.

Table 3Extracts profile with ethanol and ethyl acetate.^a

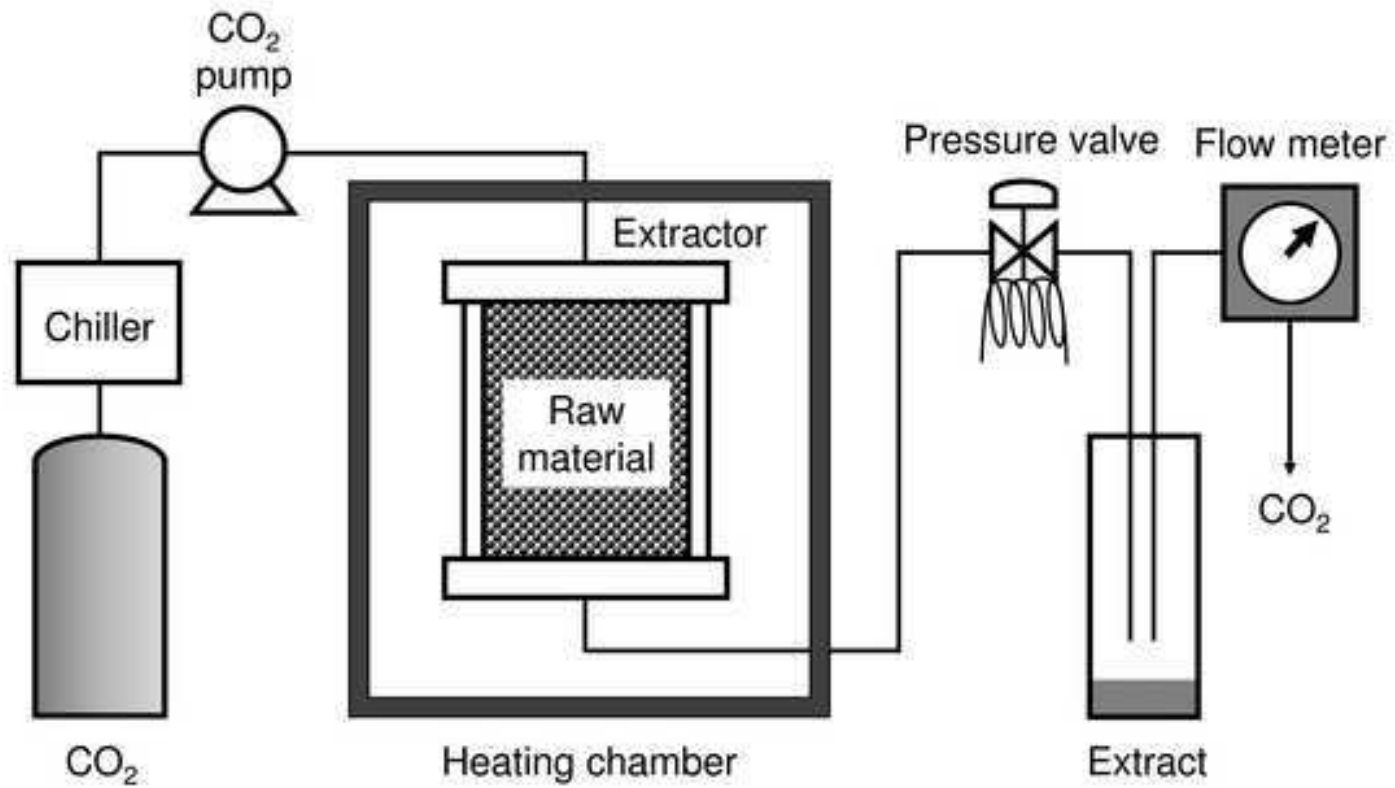
Extraction solvent	Sample number ^b	Extract weight (mg)	Lycopene content (mg/100 g)	Total Z-isomer content (%)	Lycopene recovery (%) ^c
Ethanol	1	98 ± 4 A	1114.5 ± 86.4 B	77.4 ± 0.4 A	4.3 ± 0.4 A
	2	105 ± 2 A	2170.9 ± 16.7 C	84.9 ± 0.2 B	9.5 ± 0.3 A
	3	139 ± 0 B	9571.3 ± 142.5 E	92.3 ± 0.1 C	59.7 ± 0.9 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

^aValues 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).

^bSample numbers are corresponding to Table 1.

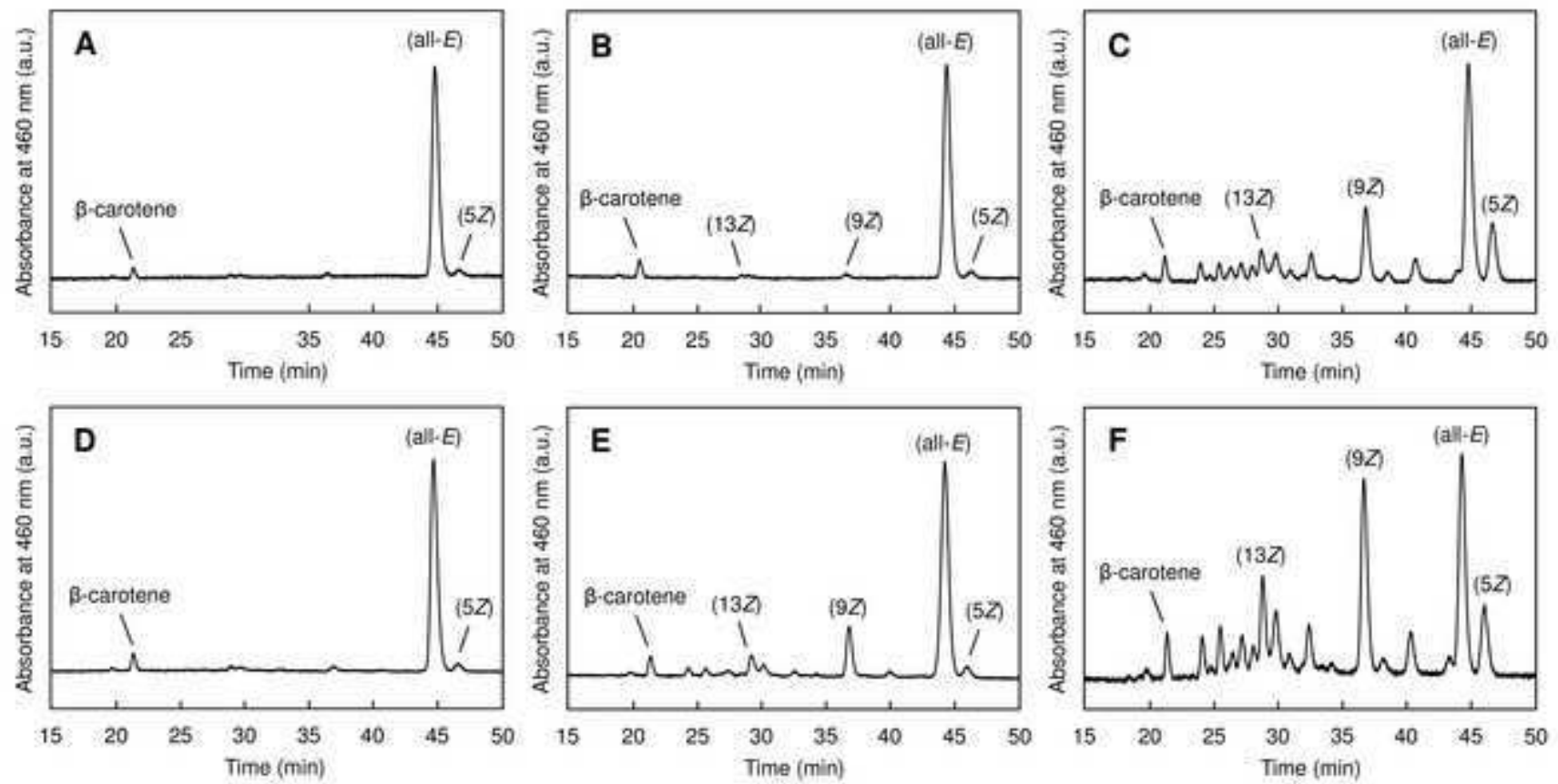
^cThe recovery expressed as a percentage of the amount of ethanol- or ethyl acetate-extracted lycopene to the amount of acetone-extracted lycopene as previous work (Honda et al., 2017b; Schierle et al., 1997).

Figure
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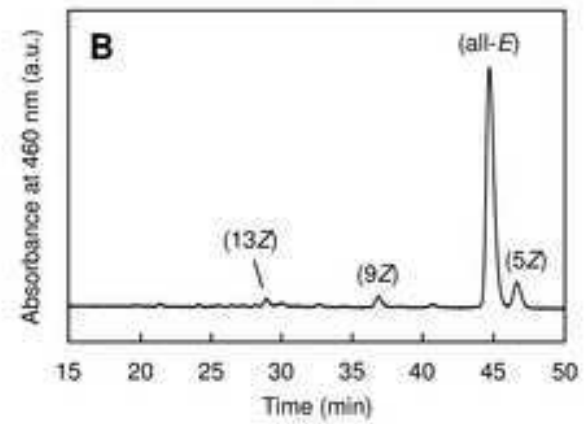
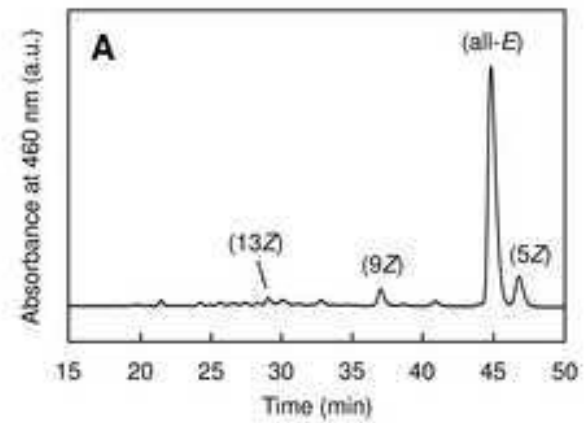


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