Alcoholic Cosmetic Products Based on The Concept of Halalan Toyyiban: An Analysis of Cleansers Products in Malaysia

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ABSTRACT

Alcohol is widely used as an active ingredient in cosmetics, such as perfumes, skin care products, and lotions. Mixing alcohol with some other chemicals can produce a firmer and smoother skin texture. When Muslims hear the word alcohol, they usually imagine alcohol in drinks. This view is inaccurate, because not all alcohol is actually illegal unless it is extracted from al-khamr. However, the status of alcohol usage in cleanser from Syariah and scientific point of views are limited. Thus, the purpose of this study is to identify the status of alcohol usage in cleanser products. Data collection methods in this study include participatory observations to analyse data and obtain more regular and complete information. Lab experiments are conducted in the laboratory of Halal Products Research Institute Universiti Putra Malaysia to contents the safety and types of alcohol in cosmetics products. Results shown that ten alcohol compounds were identified in the sample cleansers. These alcohols were 1-butanediol, 2-phenoxy ethanol, 3-hexanol, 4-ethanol, and 5-propylene glycol. These alcohols are used as cleaning agents and solvents in cosmetic products and are suitable to be applied to the skin. Among these ten alcohol compounds, three compounds were found with the highest percentages which were 2-phenoxy ethanol (64.39 ± 10.43), 5-propylene glycol (31.96 ± 11.59) and 4-ethanol (1.29±0.06). Furthermore, this study proves that the use of alcohol in cleanser products is permissible in Islam if the alcohol is derived from plants, fruits, and grains. In other word, the status of alcohol usage in cleanser products is permissible according to Syariah based on this study.

Keywords: Alcohol, Cleanser, Syariah, Halal, Al-Khamr

INTRODUCTION

A person's physical appearance has become very important in society nowadays especially for women. In order to achieve a perfect physical appearance, they choose and use various types of beauty products that are believed to help in the maintenance of personal beauty. Generally, before choosing and subscribing to a beauty product, consumers will obtain information about the product through advertisements in the mass media.

This study aims to analyse the cleanser products also known as the alcoholic cosmetic product with research question “What is the halal status in these products?”. Then, it could encourage consumer to understand the concept of halal deeply. According to (Nasruddin Yunos et al. 2018, 124-137) the understanding of the concept of halal and acceptance the concept plays a significant role in enhancing and promoting diversity among various ethnicities in Malaysia. The halal industry is widely accepted by the Malaysian society and keeps on growing day by day. Therefore, halal products are not only meant for Muslims but also the non-Muslim community shows their interest in it for various reasons (Nasruddin Yunos et al. 2018, 124-137).

(Farid Ravi Abdullah 2017) argues that alcohol produced for cosmetic purposes is not alcohol because it is produced by two processes firstly, hydration of alkenes this is chemical process uses materials from kerosene sources that are produced when gasoline or hydrocarbons are broken down, which produces ethene. Ethene combines with water to produce alcohol. Secondly, fermentation process is an anaerobic process and others are reaction without the presence of oxygen. The use of alcohol in medicine has been discussed at length by Islamic scholars (jurists). Most scholars state that the use of alcohol in medicine is 'makruh'. However, the current Islamic scholar Dr. Yusuf Al-Qaradhawi insists that treatment with alcohol should be done on the condition that there is a reasonable reason and is accepted by the Shariah.

According to the study by (Latifah et al. 2018, 98-114), processed alcohol is fermented or fermented by chemical changes caused by the reaction of yeast or bacteria to produce beverages, foods, and cosmetics. However, not all alcohol used in cosmetic products comes from alcohol that undergoes a fermentation process to produce an intoxicating beverage. Even with today's technology, chemical production of alcohol for use in various industries is widespread.

Based on a study by JAKIM's Halal Hub Division, alcohol is an organic series consisting of a sequence of carbon (C), hydrogen (H), and oxygen (O). The general formula for alcohol is R-OH, where R represents a hydrocarbon compound, or an alkyl group (CnH2n+1) and the hydroxyl function (OH) is attached to a carbon atom. There are several types of alcohol that are often used in products such as ethanol, propylene glycol (1,2-propanediol), isopropanol (2-propanol), and so on. Alcohol also has its own role in the food and non-food industries. The production of alcohol in food is through the fermentation of sugar and starch, which involves an advanced process and distillation until it reaches an ethanol concentration of 95–99 percent (Zamri Zainal Abidin, Rosli Mokhtar and Fakhri Sungit 2016).

In fact, the alcoholic cosmetic products have been a wide use with its benefit to our skin. Alcohol is used as one of the ingredients in daily care products such as perfumes and skincare products to help other ingredients penetrate better into the skin and act as a preservative. Nevertheless, alcohol is always mistaken with khamr, which is in alcoholic beverage prohibited in hadith the Prophet of Muhammad (peace be upon him [PBUH]) said, 'Every intoxicant is khamr and very intoxicant is haram (forbidden)' (Riwayat Muslim and Ad-Daruquthuny). Based on Yusof Al-Qaradhawi (2016), khamr is the intoxicating substance of alcohol. Its means that the meaning of alcohol is broader than Al-khamr and there is the alcohol is not prohibited (haram) in Islam, if the process is not for making al-Khamr.

Alcohol is also known as ethanol or ethyl alcohol and can be found in various cosmetic products. According to (Mohd Hapiz Mahaiyadin, Muhammad Rahimi Osman 2017, 101–119) alcohol is a type of chemical that has many uses. Alcohol such as methanol and ethanol are derived from wood and cereal, respectively. The alcohol used in cosmetic products is volatile, flammable, colourless, and has a distinctive aroma (Mulaina 2014, 1-13). However, the status of alcohol found in cosmetics needs to be determined profoundly and accurately by Islamic scholars and scientists.

The objective of this article aims to identify type of alcohol in cleanser products. This study also will discuss the status of alcohol in cleanser products from cosmetic products according to Syariah. the below discussion is the methodology of this study.

LITERATURES REVIEW

Linguistically, khamr means to cover or keep the mind from reason. Conceptually, khamr is an intoxicating drink consisting of elements of wine and others, as reported by Muslim (182/13), namely that Prophet Muhammad SAW said, "All that is intoxicating is khamr, and all khamr is haram" (Dr. Wahab Zuhaili 2011). Alcohol is called 'al-ghol' in Arabic, which means to intoxicate or harm the mind (Sulaiman 2013). From the perspective of Arabic usage, alcohol or wine has various meanings, including closure (taghtiyah), mixing (mukhalatah), change (taghayyur), enough time (idra'k wa bulu'gh al-awan), and abandonment (tark) (Ibn Manzoor 1993). Therefore, the same meaning as khamr according to (Al-Hasiri and Sabib Ali n.d, 31.) is closure and mixing, which is able to close the function of the mind and mix the human thoughts until they lose their reason.

According to the study of (Saad Al-Murazi 2018), khamr linguistically means to intoxicate the mind, while conceptually anything that is intoxicating is called khamr. It is made from grapes, dates, wheat, corn and others and it is forbidden to drink it according to the Quran, Sunnah, and consensus of scholars. (Yusuf Qaradhawi 1998) defines alcohol as any intoxicating beverage made from grains or fruits by processing until it reaches an intoxicating alcohol content.

There are several schools of thought that have defined the meaning of khamr. According to Imam Hanafi school of thought, khamr is a type of drink made from grape juice that is boiled until it boils and foams and then becomes clean again. For the scholars who compare alcohol to khamr, then the rule of using it is the same as the rule of using khamr while the person who compares it to nabīz, then the rule is that you can drink it until the limit does not intoxicate. Although Imam Shafie forbids it, he does not completely equate alcohol with wine. He thinks that using it will not result in legal sanctions such as being whipped or losing evidence, but it is unclean and illegal (Hamidullah Mahmud 2020).

Alcohol is the common name that has always been a conversation between current and earlier scholars. The use of alcohol is not only found in certain food and beverage product, but also most widely used in cosmetics such as perfume, skin care products, and other. If the use of alcohol in foods and beverages describe as not permissible, there are some disputes over the use of alcohol in cosmetics products. Therefore, this study will share many studies that have discussed using alcohol regarding halal status.

According to (Hashim et al. 2013, 281–292), the sources of ingredients of halal cosmetic products can include halal animals (land and aquatic), plants, microorganism, alcohol, chemicals, soil, and water as long as they are not hazardous and najs. But the presence of alcohol, specifically, ethanol in cosmetics caused great concern among Muslim consumers. Furthermore, (Swidi et al. 2010, 1–20) explained that the Muslim consumers globally have the right to know about the ingredients of the cosmetics, personal care products, and the 'halalness' of these products to avoid using products with alcohol, pork fat, and non-halal animal ingredients.

(Phuah Kit Teng 2013, 367–376) stated that halal products must not contain ingredients that are not permissible or questionable such as alcohol, toxic chemicals, fats, placenta, and gelatine from swine or animals that are not slaughtered according to the Islamic rules. Furthermore, most of the cosmetics and other personal care products are made by manufactures in non-Muslim countries and are considered suspicious in terms of their halal status. Many international brands could be using enzymes extracted from pork or alcohol as a preservative. This view generates a lot of cynicism about these brands among Muslim consumers who are seeking halal products for purchase (Vita Briliana and Nurwanti Mursito. 2017, 176–184).

(Kamaljeet Kaur, Osman S, and Maziha S 2014, 1–7) has explained that halal cosmetic products must not contain any human part or ingredients from any forbidden animal to Muslims or slaughtered animal against Syariah law, genetically modified organism (GMO) which are decreed as najs, alcoholic drinks (khamr), contamination from najs during preparation processing, manufacturing, and storage, and must be safe for consumers. (Siti Nor Bayaah Ahmad, Shaharudin Yunus and Roslan Rose 2015, 112-123) stated that it is difficult to find ethical cosmetic products that are halal and merely free from animal by-products, harmful chemicals, or alcohol.

(Asa et al. 2017, 38-50) stated that the usage of alcohol in food, drinks, perfumes, and medicine in a special discussion of the Fatwa Committee of the National Council for Islamic Religious Affairs Malaysia on 2011 was decided as follows: alcohol derived from the brewing process is haram and considered as filth, but alcohol derived from non-liquor production processes is not filth but haram to drink because it is poisonous and harmful. Besides that, according to (Hussein Elasrag 2016), alcohol which is used in various forms, both for the maintenance of machinery and in the products themselves, is one of the aspects in halal standard guidelines that differ between countries.

(Yarkhan 2018) explained all the products with names ending in alcohol are not products to be consumed orally. They are not related to khamr, the common intoxicating alcoholic drink, and hence they are halal for use in skincare products only. In general, (Suhana Mohezar, Suhaiza Zailani and Zainorfarah Zainuddin 2016, 47–59) explained that this differs from the conventional product lines. The halal cosmetic brands do not

contain alcohol and porcine by-products and their derivatives. It should be manufactured, stored, packaged, and distributed according to the Islamic teachings. The halal beauty products are also recognised as clean, safe, and of high quality.

On the other hand, (Dr Baker Ahmad Alserhan 2015,1-29) stated that the type of alcohol used in cosmetic products is ethyl alcohol. It is used in many cosmetic agents both for men's (such as aftershave lotion) and women's (in perfumes) products. Ethyl alcohol is absorbed through the skin and flesh into the blood vessels and finally mixes with the blood and circulates throughout the body. Therefore, all cosmetic products containing ethyl alcohol are prohibited and haram. In addition, according to (Tajamul Islam and Uma Chandrasekaran 2013, 3938–3948.), cosmetic products are considered halal when all ingredients comply with halal and Syariah requirements as the product must be produce without haram ingredients such as alcohol and pigs are prohibited to be used.

(Mohammad Aizat Jamaludin and Mohd Anuar Ramli 2011) stated that there are several views issued by Nadwah Fiqh Medical that alcohol is not impure in terms of Sharia. Therefore, the use of alcohol as a skin and wound cleanser, medicine, and disinfectant is not a problem. Similarly, the use of alcohol in perfumes is required for certain reasons, as alcohol does not necessarily come from substances that are prohibited in Islam. Alcohol is used internally or as unrefined alcohol, such as in carbonated beverages or as an ingredient in foods. In addition, it is also used externally or denatured alcohol as in perfumes, deodorants, and sprays. The determination of Islamic law on current issues is based on the discipline of usul-al-fiqh, considering the scientific value to further strengthen the previous determination of fiqh law. The law is determined more precisely by ijtihad, ijmak or muzakarah together.

Presently, several halal standards exist in different countries globally that include standards of Malaysia, Indonesia, Brunei, Singapore, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Pakistan, UAE, Standards and Metrology Institute for Islamic Countries (SMIIC), Organizations of the Islamic Cooperation (OIC), and some other countries. The rest of the countries on different continents like Europe and America use these existing standards as references for halal certification which is done by the Halal Certifying Bodies (HCBs) accredited by one or more than one internationally accrediting body for halal standard (Md Siddique and Moha Asri 2021). The Standards and Metrology Institute for the Islamic Countries (SMIIC) is an intergovernmental regional standardization organization headquartered in Turkey. The halal standard by SMIIC is the only initiative that aims to establish a universal standardization and accreditation system in halal certification so that halal products can move freely across different countries globally based on OIC/SMIIC standards and reference documents (Md Siddique and Moha Asri 2021).

METHODOLOGY

This study applied data analysis of cosmetic products to identify the information of alcohol contained in the tested cleanser products. Laboratory research can help researchers gain a deeper understanding of the types of alcohol compounds. During the laboratory research, the researchers interviewed researcher Syariena Arshad in the laboratory of the Institute of Halal Products (IPPH) at Universiti Putra Malaysia, to explain alcohol compounds and their effects on the skin. In addition, this research also used a high-tech, systematic tool, namely GC-MS. Gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) to use in this study to identify alcohol substance in the cosmetic products. GC-MS s a hyphenated analytical technique that combines the separation properties of gas-liquid chromatography with the detection feature of mass spectrometry to identify different substances. All samples were studied and listed to summarize the analysis using the best method. This method can help researchers obtain information more quickly and easily. The use of this method is intended to obtain supplementary data. This analysis has conducted at Halal Products Research Institute in Universiti Putra Malaysia. Secondary data from academic materials which were consisted of various source of journal, articles, website, and other reading materials were also referred to determine the statute of alcohol within the products according to the Syariah law.

Analysis On Cleanser Products:

In medieval times, the most important chemical discovery was the alcohol and mineral acids through the

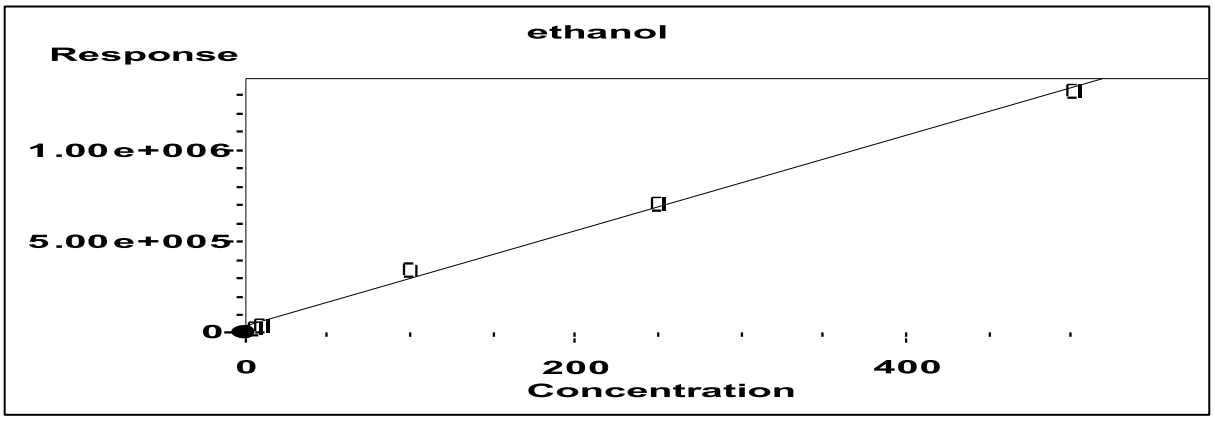
distillation process developed and controlled by the Arabs. Distillation was one of the most important processes in Islamic chemical technology and was employed for both medicinal preparations and a variety of other technological and industrial uses, including the preparation of acids, the distillation of perfume, rosewater, and essential oils (Rachel Hajar 2000, 341–344.). Therefore, this study has conducted through lab methodology which to confirm the alcohol is permissible and not najs and its purpose as a chemical for cosmetic products accordingly.

Gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS)

In this study, GC-MS was used to identify and compare the alcoholic compound in cosmetic products recorded through the spectrum mass with the standard spectrum mass from the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). The cosmetic products were cleanser products from different brands available in Malaysia. Meanwhile, the alcohol standards used in this GC-MS were pure ethanol and pure acetonitrile (ACN). These standards were used as references in calculating the concentration of alcohol detected in the analyses samples. Chauhan et al. (2014) explained that GC-MS is a hyphenated analytical technique that combines the spectrum properties of gas-liquid chromatography with the detection feature of mass spectrometry detection to identify difference compounds.

Figure 1 shows the calibration curve of pure ethanol and acetonitrile (ACN) used as reference standards.

Figure 1: the calibration curve of pure ethanol and acetonitrile (ACN)



Chromatogram of Pure Ethanol and Pure Acetonitrile (ACN)

Figure 2 shows the chromatogram of pure ethanol and pure ACN. The peak area of pure ethanol was 10.43% and pure acetonitrile (ACN) was 89.66%. The retention time of ethanol and ACN were identified at minutes 2.874 and 3.646, respectively.

Figure 2: Peak area and retention time of pure ethanol and pure ACN

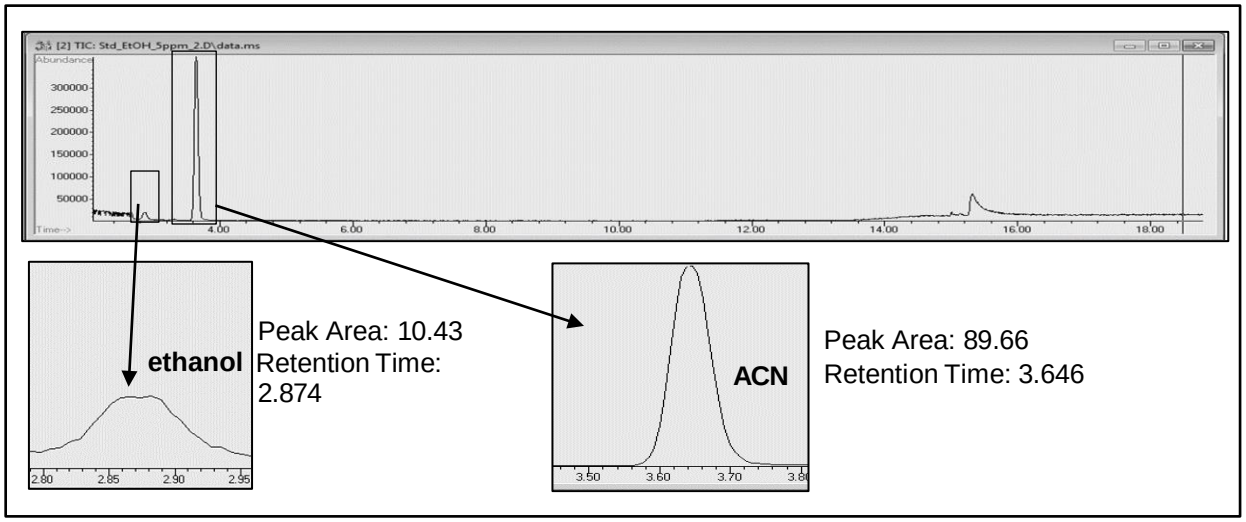


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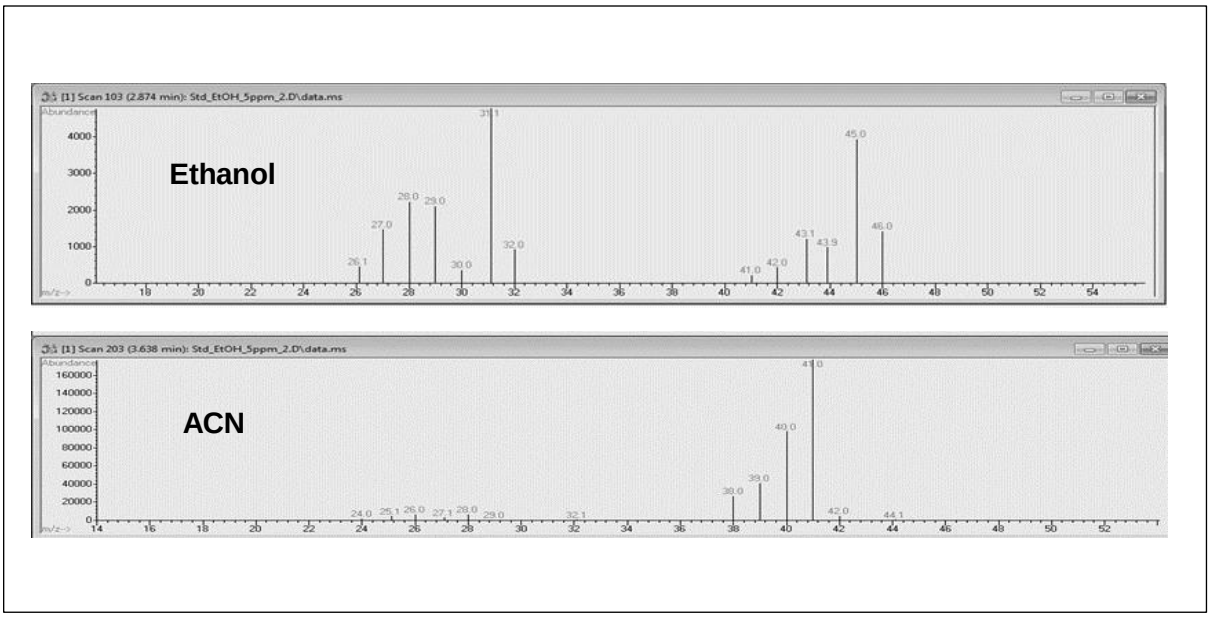
Figure 3 shows the fragmented ions of ethanol using mass-to-charge ratio (m/z). The three highest values of m/z were 41.0, 40.0, and 39.0. Each molecule has a specific ion fragmentation that allows detection of ethanol in each sample.

Figure 3: Fragmented ions of pure ethanol and pure ACN



Figures 4, 5, 6, 7, and 8 show the chromatogram of samples of cleansers from different brands available in Malaysia. The retention time (Rt) was labelled for each peak in the chromatogram.

Figure 4: Chromatogram of Refreshing Facial Wash Simple ®

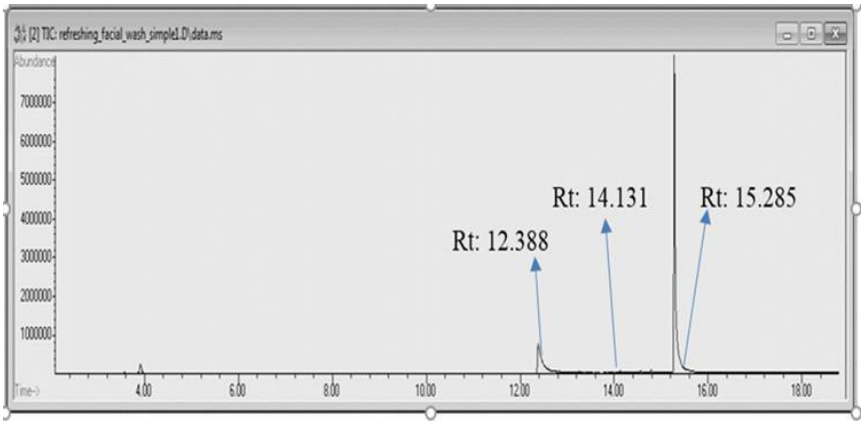


Figure 5: Chromatogram of Facial Cleanser Syahirah ®

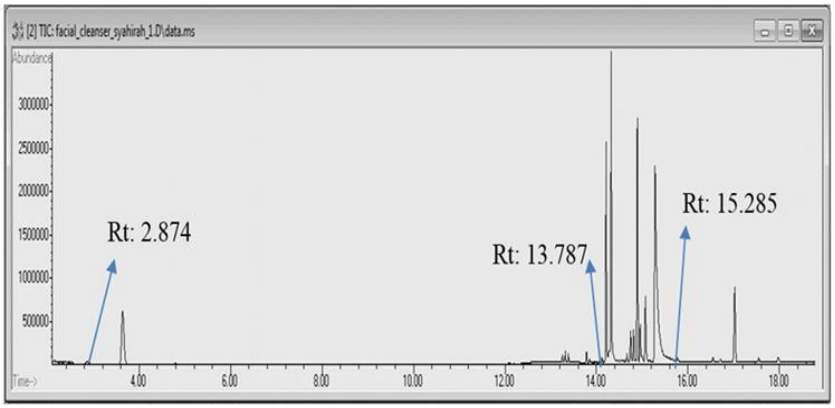


Figure 6: Chromatogram of Pembersih Muka Alia®

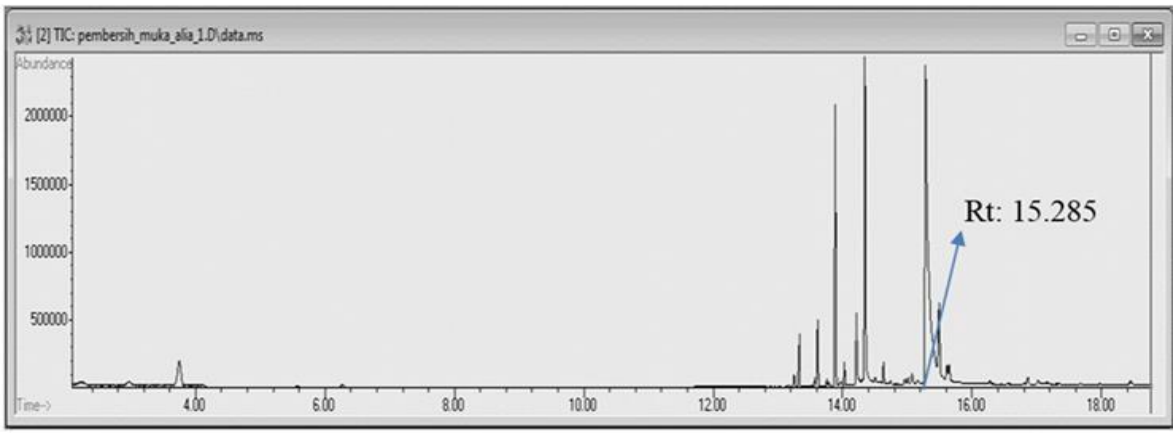


Figure 7: Chromatogram of Pore Care Cleansing Alia ®

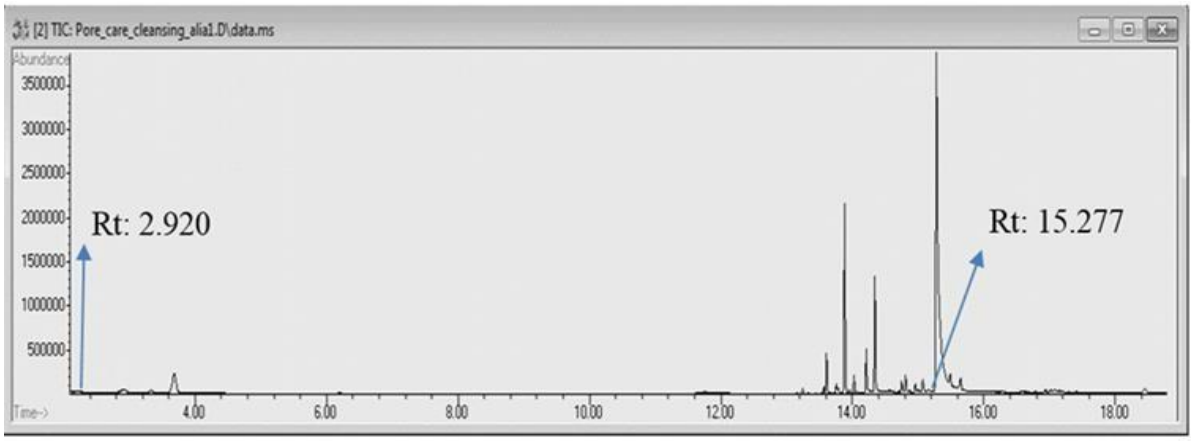
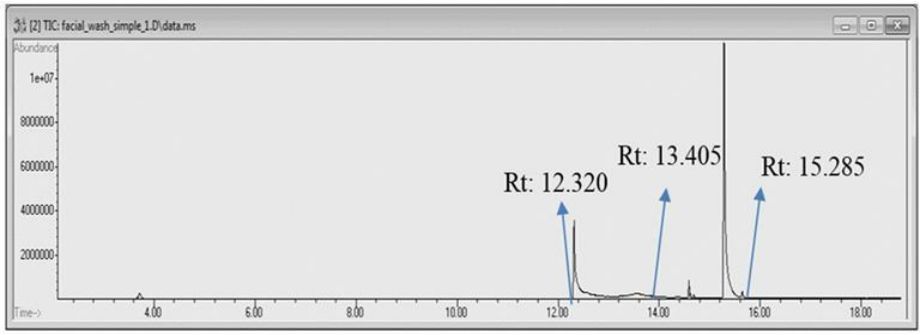


Figure 8: Chromatogram of Facial Wash Simple ®



Result of Analysis Cleanser Products:

Table 1 shows the types of alcohol found in the samples of cleansers.

Table 1: The types of alcohol in Cleansers.

No.	Types of Alcohol	Retention Time	Mass-to-charge ratio (m/z)	Peak Area	Quality (%)
Sample of Refreshing Facial Wash Simple ®					
1	2-Phenoxy ethanol	15.285	94.1, 138.1, 77.1	64.39 ± 10.43	95
2	Propylene glycol	12.388	45.1, 43.0, 29.1	31.96 ± 11.59	91
Sample of Facial Cleanser Syahirah ®					

1	2-Phenoxy ethanol	15.285	94.1, 138.1, 77.1	29.97 ± 2.59	94
2	Ethanol	2.874	31.1, 45.1, 28.1	0.47 ± 0.06	86
3	4- Hexanol	13.787	45.0, 43.0, 28.0	0.35 ± 0.16	86
Sample of Pembersih Muka Alia ®					
1	2-Phenoxy ethanol	15.285	94.1, 138.1, 77.1	45.49 ± 2.29	94
Sample of Pore Care Cleansing Alia ®					
1	2-Phenoxy ethanol	15.277	94.1, 77.1, 138.1	55.73 ± 2.18	91
2	Ethanol	2.920	31.1, 20.1, 45.0	1.29±0.06	68
Sample of Facial Wash Simple ®					
1	1,3-Butanediol	13.405	55.1, 43.1, 45.0	0.83 ± 0.29	64
2	2-Phenoxy ethanol	15.285	94.1, 95.1, 77.1	54.08 ± 2.22	95
3	Propylene glycol	12.320	45.1, 43.0, 29.1	25.74 ± 4.29	91

Five compounds (1,3-butanediol, 2-phenoxy ethanol, 4-hexanol, ethanol, and propylene glycol) were detected in the samples of cleansers using GC-MS as shown in Table 1.

This study has also been conducted with the lab researcher namely Miss Syariena. She has explained that all of these alcohols act as cleansing agents and solvents suitable for use on the skin. It has also confirmed that the alcohol is the synthetic alcohol through GC-MS. Table 1 in 4.0 shows the types of cleansers where alcohol is detected. The schedule also indicates the retention time, mass-to-charge ratio, peak area, and each alcohol molecule of each alcohol molecule based on the database obtained from the NIST library. As mentioned above, the value criteria and the selection of alcohol compounds are based on quality with the value of 60% and above. Therefore, in this study, the NIST library has accumulated data on mass spectra, chemical structures, and related information, which all show that the quality reaches 60% and above. The data results show that the mass percentage varies from 64% to 95%, but most of them are above 91%.

The data of scientific analysis show that the type of alcohol used in the samples are type of synthetic alcohol and not for drinking purpose. According to (Ministry of Health Malaysia 2005), synthetic alcohol is a substance produced through a chemical reaction, or a substance extracted from natural sources, which has been chemically modified. In addition, synthetic or man-made alcohol has very harmful properties because it is toxic when consumed in its natural form but is purely for external use. The result of this analysis indicated that the alcohol is permissible and coincides with Malaysia Fatwa has decided in the Muzakarah of the Fatwa Committee of the National Council for Islamic Religious Affairs on 11–12 April 1984 by JAKIM where the discussion on the issue of alcohol use in perfumes, medicines, and other sectors is as solvent and clean, if the alcohol is not derived from khamr process which means that not all alcohol has khamr. The Fatwa also mentioned the permissible including soft drinks that are not made into khamr or intoxicating, Tapai (a local fermented food) is halal to eat and alcohol that are produced as by-products of the process of making food and alcohol in medicine and fragrance. From the Fatwa, it could be understood that the alcohol substances used in the cosmetic products are similar to perfumes' because they are used externally as solvents.

The second evidence is the view of Islamic physicians and scholars in the 8th Nadwah Fiqh of Islamic Medicine that the alcohol is not najs in terms of Syariah and the use of alcohol in skin cleanser, creams, medicines, and other non-drinking products are permissible from the Islamic medical point of view (Dr. Muhamad Rafiqi Hehsan 2015). Both evidences are the underlying of the method of fiqh as term as "the origin of any act is permissible". In fact, a very important understanding of alcohol is permissible in Islam if the alcohol is not produced through the process of making liquor or Khamr since the alcohol obtained from the process of making liquor is forbidden in Islam.

The halalness has also been strengthened by the safety factor where the type of alcohol used in the sample indicates that it is for external use only, not for drinking. The compounds obtained in the research show that

this liquid is suitable and safe for use on the skin. In other words, the results of this study also found that none of the ten compounds produced can cause side effects to the health of consumers such as damaging the skin and harmful such as alcohol alkyne and 4-tert-butylphenol (National Pharmaceutical Regulatory Agency 2020). According to (Zoe Diana Draelos 2010,8-10), cleanser also contain simple alcohol and stearyl alcohol are applied to dry or moistened skin as functions an emollient, emulsifier, thickener and surfactant in a variety of cleanser products.

Synthetic alcohol also fulfills the meaning of Toyyiban because its function is to protect the skin. Phenoxy ethanol works as a stabilizer, an antibacterial and a preservative to prevent products from losing their potency. Chemically phenoxy ethanol is known as a solvent is used in cosmetic products such as cleansers (Cammy Pedroja 2018). The study shown that phenoxy ethanol can be safely used in cosmetics, such as cleansers, at a concentration of 1%. In addition, the study of (Arshiya Syeda 2016) explained that several types of alcohol are used in cosmetics, including 1,3-butanediol. Butylene glycol can reduce the viscosity of product while preventing them from drying out and crystallizing. In addition, butanediol serves as a humectant, solvent and emollient used as formulations in cosmetics.

However, there is fatwa of permissible of alcohol in cosmetics product but the Muslim researchers must continue conducting the research of cosmetic product to confirm the halalness of them. This spirit is expressed by (Kunthira et al, 2018,1-7), to assure the Muslim consumers for the Halalness of the cosmetic products, the ingredients or materials used in the production processes must be free from any doubtful (Syubhah) or prohibited (Haram) substances. Besides that, according to (Abu Bakar et al. 2010,21-35), halal elements of the products need to comply with the principles of halalan toyyiban including cosmetic and personal care.

CONCLUSION:

The study has concluded that not all alcohol is najs or unclean in Islam. The prohibition of alcohol is only if the alcohol is derived from the Liquor or Khamr process which it is made for drinking purpose and and consequently intoxicating. The results of laboratory testing revealed that the samples of branded cosmetic products in this study, consisting of toners, facial cleansers, creams, and makeup removers, contained alcohol compounds (GC-MS). A total of 13 alcohol compounds were identified in the study sample, namely 1,3-butanediol, 2-phenoxyethanol, 1,2-pentanediol, octanol, ethanol, phenylethyl alcohol, benzyl alcohol, 2-propanol, benzene methanol, 1-hexanol, propylene glycol, isopropyl alcohol and citronellol. This study has identified the alcohol in these cleanser products are solvents suitable for use on skin and not considered najs. The alcohol compounds used in each of the samples in this study are alcohols that are safe for use on the skin and do not cause adverse health effects. This is according to the information provided by the research officer of the Halal Product Research Institute (IPPH) of Universiti Putra Malayisa. The type of alcohol used in the sample studied shows that it is only used for external purposes and not for drinking. From an Islamic point of view, the use of alcohol as an ingredient in cosmetic products is highly underlying on its source and level of safety. Islam emphasizes the purity of a product must be halal in both aspects tangibly and intangibly. Meanwhile, scientific analysis shows that the alcohol found in cleanser is not harmful to Muslim consumers because it is an organic compound that is safe to use on the skin or that is its use externally only. In fact, almost researchers agreed that the alcohol found in cleanser is safe. This study has concluded this alcoholic cleanser was considered halal for use because it was harmless and safe to use and not Khamr.

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