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## Isolation and Identification of Metal Lead (Pb) Resistant Microalgae on Branckish Water at Muaro Panjalinan Tabing, Padang, West Sumatera

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### ABSTRACT

*This research was done to obtain microalgae isolate which comes from West Sumatera that is Metal Lead (Pb) resistant and knowing the efficiency and absorption capacity of Pb Metal from Microalgae Isolate.*

*The microalgae sample was taken from branckish water in Muara Panjalinan, Padang, West Sumatera. Isolation was done by using 25 mg/L Pb metal. The isolate identification was done microscopically and mollecularly. On mollecular identification, 18S rRNA was amplified by using PCR with primary: forward (5'-CCTGGTTGATCCTGCCAG-3') and reverse (5'-TTGATCCTTCTGCAGGTCA-3'). The Pb absorption efficiency and capacity was analyzed by using Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer (AAS). The growth of microalgae base on absorption value from spectrophotometer equipment.*

*Based on the result of this research, can be concluded that in Branckish Water at Muara Panjalinan, Padang, West Sumatera, Ochromonas vasocystis microalgae that is resistant towards heavy metal (Pb 25 mg/L) exists. Based on morphology and mollecular data, the isolate that was isolated can be identified as Ochromonas vasocystis and during the treatment of Pb metal towards microalgae isolated culture, cause the decrease of cell density which inhibit the growth of cell. Beside, absorption capacity and efficiency of metal tends to increase along with the increase of Pb initial concentration. Maximum absorption capacity and efficiency happens at the incubation time of 360 min.*

**Keywords:** Microalgae, Heavy metal, Lead (Pb)

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### INTRODUCTION

The development of Industry and the increase of population lead to the increase of waste. If the waste is not managed properly, this can cause contamination that endangered living creature. One of the wastes that are resulted from Industry is Pb metal. If Pb metal is accumulated inside human body, this can cause intoxication. Because of that, a way to decrease that pollution is needed to be done.

Generally, industrial waste contains heavy metal with different concentration. Low concentration in ion form will be beneficial for living creature. But in high concentration, the metal ion will be dangerous. In high concentration, pollutant in form of metal ion will be difficult to be degraded [1].

Research to deal with pollution that is caused by heavy metal has been done many times and was based on ecofriendly attitude. Some examples that have often been researched and used is bacteria, fungi, and part of plants like skin and fruit also low staged plant such as microalgae [2]. The treatment of metal waste by using microalgae is much needed to avoid the bad impact towards living creature around the metal polluted environment.

Microalgae have a lot of benefit in many sectors, especially in energy, food, and environmental sector. One of the benefits of microalgae that can be used is its ability as biosorbent or metal absorbent. Some species of microalgae that is known as metal absorbent is *Spyrogyra* [3] and [4] *Oudogonium urceolatum* [5], *Dunaliella* [6], *Chlorella marina* [7], *Spirulina* and *Chlorella* [8].

When microalgae absorb the heavy metal, change happens on the whole metabolism system. That is why Microalgae is also often used as biocensor to detect the toxic effect of heavy metal [9]. The toxicity of heavy metal can cause: a) The inhibition of biologically important functional groups; b) The transfer or changing of essential metal ions from functional biomolecules and units of cell and c) Cellular induction from reactive oxygen species (ROS). High level of ROS will cause oxidation of protein, lipid, and nucleic acid. This high concentration level of ROS can trigger modification and deactivation of enzymes along with the breakdown of cell and cell organel membrane [10]. In this case, Kation will interact with residu of organic substance with negative charge to form complex substance as in the Figure 1.

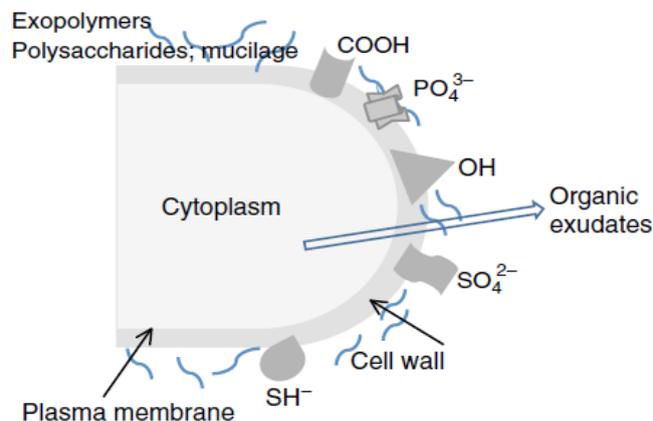


Figure 1: Absorption location of metal on microalgae cell wall [11]

There are a lot of microalgae in Indonesia's water because most of the area of Indonesia consists of water, be it land water or ocean water. Based on that, writer is interested to do the research of microalgae from brackish water at Muaro panjalinan, Tabing, Padang, West Sumatera. The isolated microalgae will be identified morphologically and continued by species determination process by using Polymerase Chain Reaction Methods (PCR).

The goal of this research is to isolate and eliminate microalgae species that is Lead Metal resistant (Pb) with high concentration from brackish water at Muaro Panjalinan, Padang City, identify the microalgae species that is isolated and screened microscopically and molecularly, analyze the influence of metal towards the growth of screened microalgae species and to analyze the absorption efficiency and capacity of Metal Pb from the screened microalgae isolate.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Equipments and materials

Equipments which were Net Planton, Analytic scale, Nikon binocular microscopic E200, incubator, autoclave, test tube, double beam spectrophotometer, Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) tools, Laminar air flow, Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer (AAS), Electrophoresis (BIO – RAD), pipette, and other glass tools.

Material are Bolt Bassal's medium (BBM), which are NaNO<sub>3</sub>, CaCl<sub>2</sub>·2H<sub>2</sub>O, KH<sub>2</sub>PO<sub>4</sub>, MgSO<sub>4</sub>·7H<sub>2</sub>O, NaCl, PCR, Kit, Primary microalgae molecular identification, DNA Purification kit, Pb(NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>, HNO<sub>3</sub>, aquabides.

### Sampling method

Microalgae sample were taken from brackish water at Muaro Panjalinan Tabing, Padang, West Sumatera by using plankton net with the hole sized of 30 micron and were done at good weather situation (not raining). In purpose so the microalgae that was obtained actually belong to that particular brackish water.

### Breeding and observation of microalgae

The brackish water sample that contains microalgae was strained by using plankton net, cultured into a tube that is filled with microalgae vegetation media. The growth media that was used is Bolt Basal Medium (BBM). Microalgae were grown for about 4–7 days on that medium for later be observed by using microscope E200 with magnification up to 100x. The species of microalgae that is contained in the sample were observed and identified.

### Screening and isolation of lead (Pb) resistant microalgae

Microalgae that was grown and observed were screened by using Lead Metal in form of ion with the concentration of 25 mg/L. The goal of this screening is to obtain the microalgae species that can resist Lead Metal. This observation was done for 30 days until the resistant microalgae species were obtained. The resistant microalgae after being screened by lead, later was isolated and transferred to a new without lead growth medium [12].

### Observation and culture process of isolate microalgae species

Lead screened Isolate microalgae species was grown into a tube that contains the BBM growth medium. The microalgae cell growth is observed daily until 5-7 days. After the culture of light green colored microalgae, the isolate was sub-cultured into a new place that is bigger like a glass bottle that is filled with BBM medium growth with the volume of 100 up to 500 mL, with the comparison between microalgae and medium (1:9)

### Identification of microalgae molleculare isolate

The microalgae isolate that was isolated was identified on sequence of 18S rRNA. DNA isolation will be done by using QIAamp DNA Blood Mini Kit (QIA-GEN K.K, Tokyo, Japan). 18S rRNA was amplified using PCR with primary: primary forward (5'-CCTGGTTGATCCTGCCAG-3') and primary reverse (5'-TTGATCCTTCTGCAGGTTCA-3'). The PCR product will be electrophoresified by agarose 1%. The DNA ribbon was extracted by using NucleoSpin® GEL and PCR clean-up kit. Direct sequencing was directly done towards the DNA from electrophoresis result.

### Measuring of optic density of microalgae velocity growth

Pb metal solution that were measured with concentration of 0,5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 mg/L was provided about 100 ml. 25 mL of microalgae culture were added to metal solution that had been provided. The solution was incubated and the growth velocity was measured by using optic denisity method. Growth velocity was measured by using spectrophotometer UV-VIS tools. To measure the growth velocity through optic density method, optimization of microalgae sample absorbant is needed to use as the basic to determine the wave length that will be used. The measurement was done every day until the growth of microalgae reached the stationer or death phase.

### Microalgae isolate biosorption towards metal Pb ion

Pb metal solution that were measured with concentration of 0, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 mg/L was provided about 100 ml. 25 mL of microalgae culture were added to metal solution that had been provided. Each solution was incubated for 30 min, 60 min, 120 min and 6 hours. After being incubated, the suspension was strained and the filtrate was taken to measure the absorption capacity using Atomic Absorption Spectrophotometer (AAS) tools. To count the absorption of metal and the metal absorption efficiency of Microalgae, we use the formula:

- a. Metal absorption capacity

$$qt \left( \frac{mg}{g} \right) = \frac{Co - Ct}{W} \times V$$

- b. Metal absorption Efficiency

$$Metal\ absorption\ Efficiency\ (\%) = \frac{Co - Ct}{Co} \times 100\%$$

Explanation:

qt=Metal absorption capacity

W=Biosorbent mass ( g)

Co=Initial metal concentration (mg/L)

Ct=Residual metal concentration (mg/L)

V=Volume (L)

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Sample

Sample was taken at Muara penjalinan that was located at Pasi Nan Tigo Regional, Koto Tengah, Tabing, Padang, West Sumatera. That harbour is the direct meeting point between Batang Air Dingin River with Indian Ocean. There were 3 points of sample taking location which each was at the coordinate of (S 00°51'51,9" E100°20'00.6"), (S 00°51'52,3" E100°20'05.5") dan (S 00°51'41,6" E100°20'20.2"). One sample taking location point was near the meeting point of river water with sea water, second point is exactly at the downstream of the river, and the third point was a little bit inside the river body.

### Microalgae observation on sample

From the morphology observation by using Nikon E200 microscope, 10 kinds of microalgae were obtained. The microalgae that were obtained was *Oscillatoria formosa*, *Chroococcus dispersus*, *Achnanthes munitissima*, *Scenedesmus*, *Cyanobacteria*, *Spirulina*, *Chlorella sorokiniana*, *Cryptomonas*, *Pediastrum* sp., *Ochromonas* sp. [13-16].

### Microalgae screening by using Pb metal and isolation of Pb resistant species

The screening of microalgae species on Branckish water sample by using titrisol Pb 25 mg/L solution shows that after 30 days of treatment, there were thwo species of algae that can survive the 25 mg/L Pb. Morphology identification was done by using Nikon E200 Microscope, by comparing cell shape with literature. Where both isolate is round shaped, these two species can be identified as *Chlorella* sp. and *Ochromonas* sp. Because there were two species, therefore we take the dominant resistant species to isolate and culture to observe its absorbing ability, which is *Ochromonas* sp.

### Mollecular identification of species

Mollecular identification was done towards one kind of species, which is a species that can be isolated and can resist Pb 25 mg/L. This identification was done to compare the sequence that was obtained by gened data on NCBU species identification. Alignment was done by using software program of Geneious R7. The result of species identification shows that the microalgae is *Ochromonas vasocystis*. Sequence 18s rRNA of those microalgae can be seen on this Figure 2.

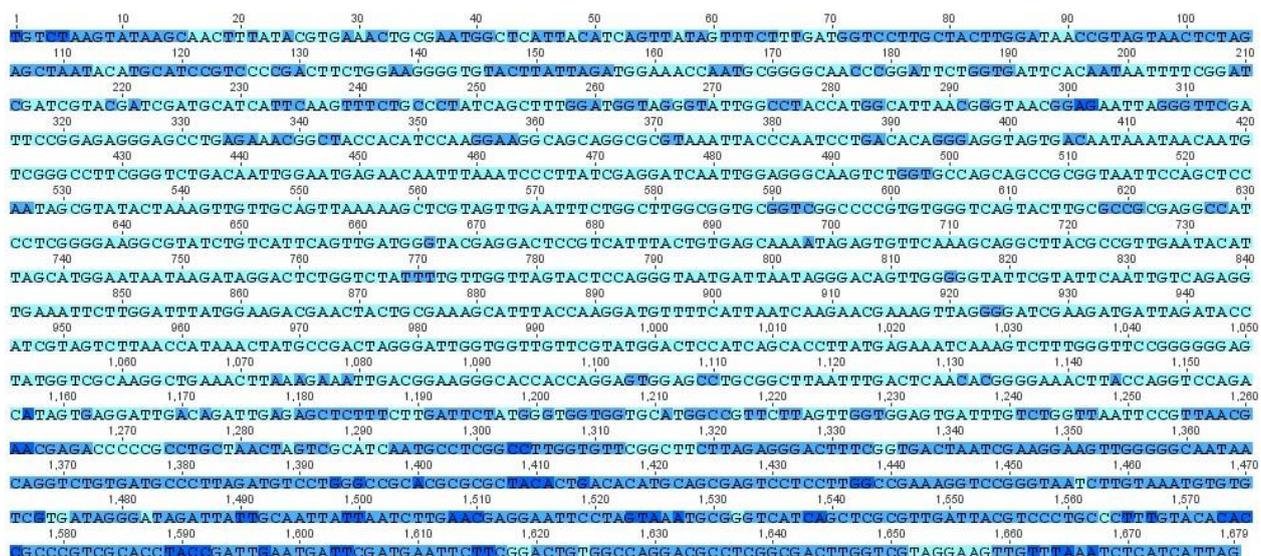


Figure 2: Sequence 18s RNA of Microalgae *Ochromonas vasocystis* (isolation result)

The determination of microalgae species which is *Ochromonas vasocystis* was based on distance analysis by using software program of Geneious 7.0.6 (Figure 3) seen from difference distance between species that has the closest relation, where the black colored abd the one nearest to 0, is the species result of isolation which the distance of 0.025 is *Ochromonas vasocystis*.

	M3b	M1b	Ochromonas...	Poterioochro...	Spumella-like...	Spumella sp....	Uncultured f...	Uroglena sp...
M3b		0.161	0.163	0.170	0.165	0.161	0.165	0.169
M1b	0.161		0.025	0.055	0.027	0.047	0.027	0.054
Ochromonas vasocystis str...	0.163	0.025		0.057	0.011	0.049	0.002	0.056
Poterioochromonas malha...	0.170	0.055	0.057		0.060	0.040	0.059	0.031
Spumella-like flagellate JBC...	0.165	0.027	0.011	0.060		0.051	0.013	0.059
Spumella sp. OF-40 KF651...	0.161	0.047	0.049	0.040	0.051		0.051	0.039
Uncultured freshwater euk...	0.165	0.027	0.002	0.059	0.013	0.051		0.058
Uroglena sp. CCMP2768 E...	0.169	0.054	0.056	0.031	0.059	0.039	0.058	

Figure 3: Matrix distance

The phylogenetic tree that was created by using Geneious Tree builder software with Neighbor-Joining method (Figure 4) can be seen as follows:

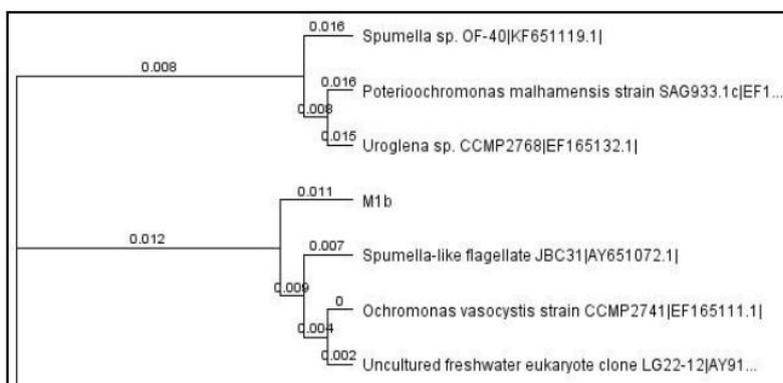


Figure 4: Phylogenetic tree of microalgae isolate from isolation result

**Microalgae growth**

Microalgae that was isolated (*Ochromonas vasocystis*) was grown on BBM medium, cell growth was observed by using density optic method which is by looking at cell density on growth medium by using double beam spectrophotometer with the wave length of 570 nm which is the wave with optimum absorption. This measurement was done for 18 days to see the growth of microalgae reaches its stationer phase or death. It can be seen on Figure 5 as follow:

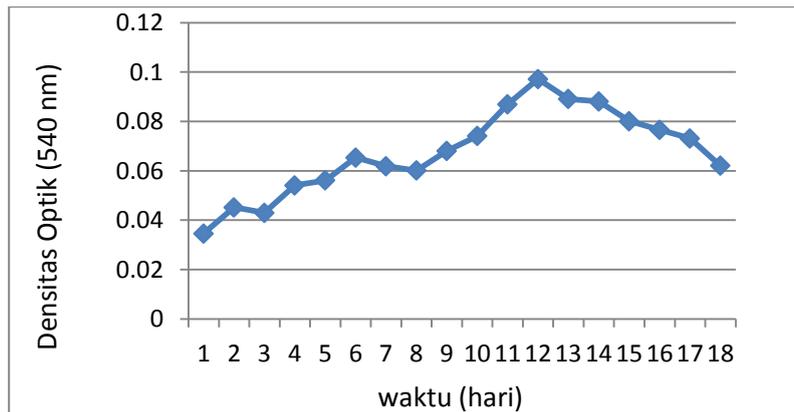


Figure 5: Growth velocity of microalgae isolate cell on BBM medium

**Metal absorption influence towards the growth of microalgae**

The data of comparison result of cell growth based on cell density between cell that was grown on BBM medium with Pb ion concentration of 0, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, and 30 mg/L can be seen on Figure 6.

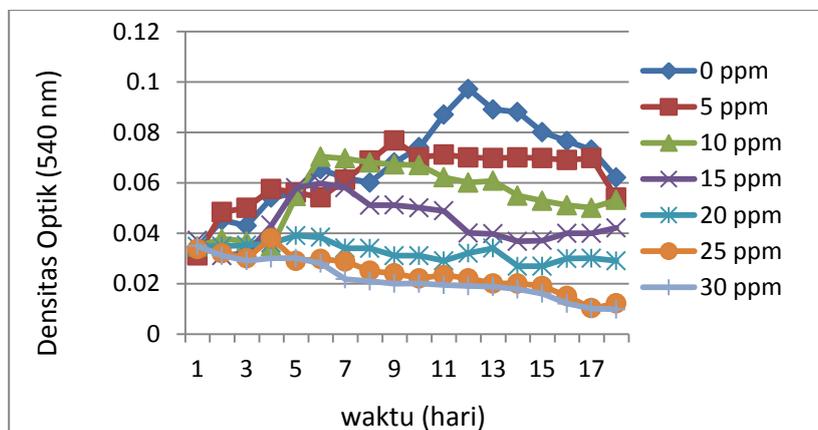


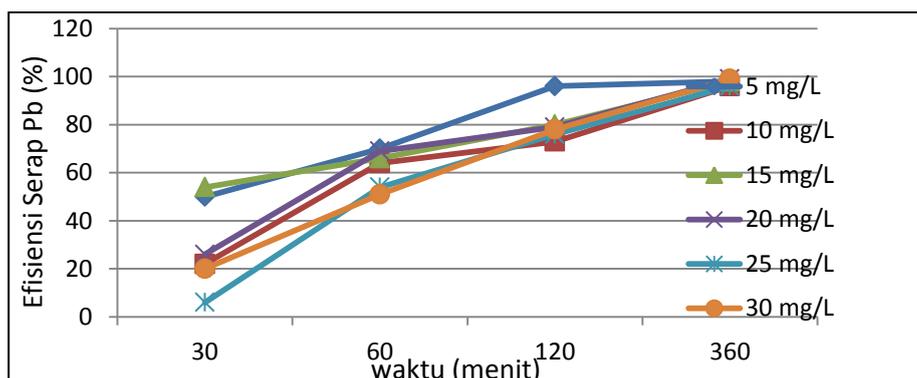
Figure 6: Cell growth of microalgae that was grown on BBM medium containing Pb ion of 0, 5, 10, 15, 20, 25, ad 30 mg/L

Cell growth from control that reached stationer phase on the 12<sup>th</sup> day. While, cell growth from microalgae that was grown on medium that contains 5 mg/L of ion Pb reach the stationer phase on the 9<sup>th</sup> day. So does, the one which contains 10 mg/L ion Pb which reached the stationer phase on the 6<sup>th</sup> day, and for media that contains ion Pb of 15, 20, 25 and 30 mg/L reached its station phase faster, after that the growth decreased. It can be mentioned that the cell growth of microalgae cell that was grown on medium with Pb was inhibited, but that microalgae can still live up to 18 days. The higher the Pb concentration will decrease the growth level of microalgae, This can be seen from the graphic of Pb concentration of 15, 20, 25 and 30 mg/L.

The inhibition of cell growth that was grown on medium that contains Pb perhaps happened because of the absorption of metalion by microalgae cell which influence the metabolism of the cell itself.

**Microalgae isolate biosorption towards Pb metal ion**

Microalgae isolate biosorption towards Pb metal ion can be seen on Figure 7.



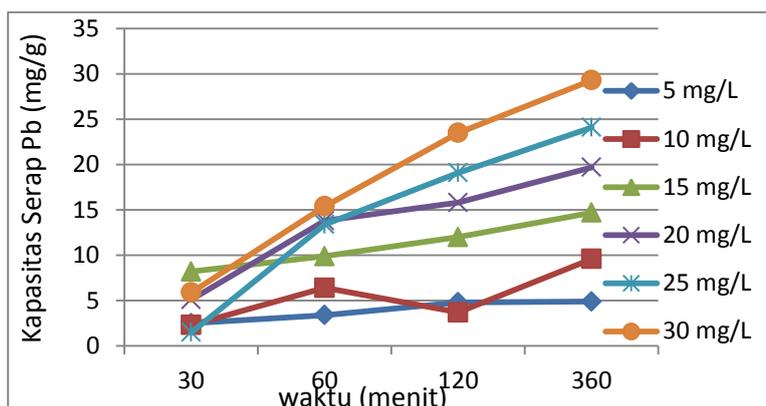


Figure 7: The absorption capacity of Pb mg/L. b) Absorption efficiency of Pb by microalgae isolate of *Ochromonas vasocystis*

Figure 7 can be seen that the capacity and efficiency of metal absorption tends to increase along the increase of initial Pb concentration. The maximum capacity and efficiency absorption of Pb happened on the incubation time of 360 min.

### CONCLUSION

From the research that was conducted, can be concluded that 1). at the brackish water at muara panjalinan padang city west sumatera, exists microalgae that can survive the heavy metal treatment (Pb 25 mg/L), 2). Morphologically and molecularly, the isolate that was isolated can be identified as *Ochromonas vasocystis*, 3). The Pb treatment towards microalgae isolate culture causes Pb to inhibit the growth of microalgae and the low density of cell, which cause the inhibition of cell growth, 4). The capacity and efficiency absorption tends to increase along the increase of Pb initial concentration. The maximum capacity and efficiency absorption of Pb happened during the incubation time of 360 min.

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