

# Metabolite Profiling of Endophytic *Streptomyces* spp. and its Antiplasmodial Potential

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**Background:** Antiplasmodial drug discovery is significant especially from natural sources such as plant bacteria. This research aimed to determine antiplasmodial metabolites of *Streptomyces* spp. against *Plasmodium falciparum* 3D7 by using a metabolomics approach. **Methods:** *Streptomyces* strains' growth curves, namely SUK 12 and SUK 48, were measured and *P. falciparum* 3D7 IC<sub>50</sub> values were calculated. Metabolomics analysis was conducted on both strains' mid-exponential and stationary phase extracts. **Results:** The most successful antiplasmodial activity of SUK 12 and SUK 48 extracts shown to be at the stationary phase with IC<sub>50</sub> values of 0.8168 ng/mL and 0.1963 ng/mL, respectively. In contrast, the IC<sub>50</sub> value of chloroquine diphosphate (CQ) for antiplasmodial activity was 0.2812 ng/mL. The univariate analysis revealed that 854 metabolites and 14, 44, and 3 metabolites showed significant differences in terms of strain, fermentation phase, and their interactions. Orthogonal partial least square-discriminant analysis (OPLS-DA), and S-loading plot putatively identified pavettine, aurantioclavine, and 4-butyldiphenylmethane as significant outliers from stationary phase of SUK 48. For potential isolation, metabolomics approach may be used as a preliminary approach to rapidly track and identify the presence of antimalarial metabolites before any isolation and purification can be done.

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31

## 32 **Abstract**

33 **Background:** Antiplasmodial drug discovery is significant especially from natural sources such  
34 as plant bacteria. This research aimed to determine antiplasmodial metabolites of *Streptomyces*  
35 spp. against *Plasmodium falciparum* 3D7 by using a metabolomics approach. **Methods:**  
36 *Streptomyces* strains' growth curves, namely SUK 12 and SUK 48, were measured and *P.*  
37 *falciparum* 3D7 IC<sub>50</sub> values were calculated. Metabolomics analysis was conducted on both  
38 strains' mid-exponential and stationary phase extracts. **Results:** The most successful  
39 antiplasmodial activity of SUK 12 and SUK 48 extracts shown to be at the stationary phase with  
40 IC<sub>50</sub> values of 0.8168 ng/mL and 0.1963 ng/mL, respectively. In contrast, the IC<sub>50</sub> value of  
41 chloroquine diphosphate (CQ) for antiplasmodial activity was 0.2812 ng/mL. The univariate  
42 analysis revealed that 854 metabolites and 14, 44, and 3 metabolites showed significant differences  
43 in terms of strain, fermentation phase, and their interactions. Orthogonal partial least square-  
44 discriminant analysis (OPLS-DA), and S-loading plot putatively identified pavettine,  
45 auranoclavine, and 4-butyldiphenylmethane as significant outliers from stationary phase of SUK  
46 48. For potential isolation, metabolomics approach may be used as a preliminary approach to

47 rapidly track and identify the presence of antimalarial metabolites before any isolation and  
48 purification can be done.

49

## 50 **Introduction**

51 A large number of imported malaria cases from Europe and the Mediterranean have recently been  
52 reported. The increasing number of foreign travelers linked to the hefty inflow of malaria-endemic  
53 immigrants. For instance, anopheline vectors, which act as the parasite reservoir and are present  
54 in Mediterranean regions, can infect the travelers returning from tropical countries (Dominguez  
55 Garcia et al., 2019; Silvia Odolini, 2012). In 2017, World Health Organization (WHO)  
56 documented that the most malaria cases during that year were reported in Africa (with 92% or 200  
57 million), and followed by Southeast Asia (with 5% or 10.8 million) (WHO 2018).

58 Endophytic *Streptomyces* are bacteria within ethnomedicinal plants that have symbiotic  
59 relationships with the host plants. *Streptomyces* is the biggest genus of actinomycetes, consisting  
60 of aerobic Gram-positive bacteria that are capable of generating filamentous branches called  
61 mycelia (Gottlieb 1966). The mycelia secrete antibiotics, that may be anti-fungal, antibacterial,  
62 and anti-viral, when they sporulate in the dormant phase (Alam et al., 2010; Gramajo et al., 1993;  
63 Roszak & Colwell, 1987).

64 Previous studies reported that trioxacarcin A and D, produced by marine *Streptomyces* sp.,  
65 were more effective in producing antiplasmodial activity than artemisinin (Maskey et al., 2004;  
66 Tomita et al., 1981). Furthermore, coronamycin, a novel antiplasmodial agent from *Streptomyces*  
67 sp., reportedly possessed antiplasmodial activity against *Plasmodium falciparum* (Ezra et al.,  
68 2004). Strobel and co-researchers discovered that munumbicin D also had antiplasmodial activity  
69 (Castillo et al., 2002). Kakadumycin A, also identified by the same team, isolated from

70 *Streptomyces* sp. NRRL 30566 compound demonstrated promising antiplasmodial activity on  
71 *Plasmodium falciparum* (Castillo et al. 2003). Furthermore, the isolated gancidin W of  
72 *Streptomyces* sp. SUK 10 inhibited the growth of *Plasmodium berghei* (Zin et al., 2017).

73 This study aims to determine the antiplasmodial activity on metabolites produced from  
74 *Streptomyces* spp. against *Plasmodium falciparum* 3D7 using a metabolomics approach.  
75 Metabolomics is a high throughput method utilized to screen the metabolites in organisms or  
76 tissues by chromatography techniques coupled with mass spectrometry (Rochfort, 2005). Then the  
77 metabolites are depicted into a two-dimensional distribution using multivariate analysis, including  
78 Principal Component Analysis (PCA) and Orthogonal Projections to Latent Structures  
79 Discriminant Analysis (OPLS-DA), and further putatively identified using Dictionary of Natural  
80 Products (DNP). The metabolites include amino acids, carbohydrates, organic acids, vitamins,  
81 antibiotics, and phytochemicals (Wishart 2008). The metabolomics approach uses high analytical  
82 techniques to determine metabolites in the biological samples. In this study, a hybrid chemical  
83 profile using liquid chromatography and mass spectrometry (LC-MS) with multivariate data  
84 analysis (MVA) was used to determine the metabolites present in *Streptomyces kebangsaanensis*  
85 SUK 12 and SUK 48. Moreover, mass spectrometry (MS)-based metabolomics helped to fast-track  
86 the identification of targeted and untargeted metabolites present in complex extracts during  
87 screening.

88

## 89 **Materials & Methods**

### 90 **Culture**

91 *Plasmodium falciparum* 3D7 was obtained from the culture collection of the Parasitological  
92 Department, Faculty of Medicine, Universiti Malaya (UM) while *Streptomyces kebangsaanensis*

93 SUK 12 and SUK 48 were acquired from the Novel Antibiotics Laboratory, Programme of  
94 Biomedical Science, Faculty of Health Sciences, Universiti Kebangsaan Malaysia (UKM).  
95 *Streptomyces kebangsaanensis* SUK 12 was isolated from an ethnomedicinal plant, *Portulaca*  
96 *oleracea* L., which was collected from the Nenasi Reserve Forest, Pahang, Malaysia (Sarmin et  
97 al., 2013). *Streptomyces* sp. SUK 48 was isolated from the fruit of *Brasilia* sp. (Zin, 2015).

98

### 99 ***Streptomyces* spp. growth condition**

100 The SUK 12 and SUK 48 strains were grown in nutrient broth (pH 7.0) on an orbital shaker at 160  
101 rpm, 28°C for 21 days. The dry weight was collected daily by centrifugation at 4000 rpm for 15  
102 mins at 25°C and dried at 70°C. The growth curves of both strains were plotted using Microsoft  
103 Excel. The growth rate and generation time were estimated by the following calculation:

104

$$105 \text{ Growth rate, } k = \frac{\log(\text{Higher dry weight, } X1) - \log(\text{lower dry weight, } X0)}{0.301t \text{ (time between two intervals)}}$$

$$106 \text{ Generation time} = \frac{1}{k}$$

107

### 108 ***Streptomyces* spp. extracts preparation**

109 The crude extracts prepared in the 14-day culture of both strains' blocks (1 cm<sup>2</sup>) were used to  
110 inoculate in nutrient broth for 5, 12, and 14 days for SUK 12, and 7, 14, and 21 days for SUK 48.  
111 The broth cultures were also incubated on an orbital shaker (Protech, Malaysia) at 160 rpm, 28°C.  
112 Both strains' cultures were extracted using 3-fold ½ volume of ethyl acetate. The organic layer  
113 (ethyl acetate) was discarded and dried under vacuum using a rotary evaporator (Buchii,  
114 Switzerland).

115

**116 *In vitro* antimalarial assay**

117 The 96-well plate *in vitro* antimalarial activity includes a series of extracts dilution (complete  
118 media or CM and extracts), positive drug control (CM and CQ), positive control (CM plus iRBC,  
119 infected red blood cells), and negative control (CM plus fresh RBC). The positive control was the  
120 maximum parasite lactate dehydrogenase (pLDH) enzyme absorbed in cells, and the negative  
121 control was a blank (Lambros & Vanderberg, 1979).

122

**123 *Plasmodium falciparum* 3D7 culture**

124 The volume of iRBC was calculated then a complete media (containing RPMI 1640, 2.3 g/L  
125 sodium bicarbonate, 4 g/L dextrose, 5.957 g/L HEPES, 0.05 g/L hypoxanthine, 5 g/L Albumax II,  
126 0.025 g/L gentamycin sulfate, 0.292 g/L L-glutamine) and fresh red blood cells (RBC) were added  
127 into the culture to make the final values of 1% parasitaemia and 2% hematocrit. The parasitaemia  
128 level was measured using a thin blood film (TBS) that was stained with 10% Giemsa and observed  
129 under a light microscope with 1000x magnification. Next, when the parasitaemia level reached  
130 within 5-7%, iRBC was synchronized with 5% sorbitol to obtain the ring stage of the parasite  
131 (Amir et al., 2016; Lambros & Vanderberg, 1979).

132

**133 Dilution of *Streptomyces* spp. extracts**

134 *Streptomyces* spp. extracts stock solution was prepared using 10 mg/mL dimethyl sulfoxide  
135 (DMSO) and complete medium (CM). The final concentration of the prepared DMSO was less  
136 than 1% to prevent its toxic effect on the parasite. Next, the stock solution of *Streptomyces* spp.  
137 extracts was serially tenfold-diluted eight times (starting at 1000 µg/mL and ending at 0.0001  
138 µg/mL). For the control, the drug chloroquine diphosphate (CQ) was used in various dilutions

139 ranging from 10  $\mu\text{g/mL}$  to  $10^{-6}$   $\mu\text{g/mL}$ . Next, 100  $\mu\text{L}$  of the diluted extracts and CQ were  
140 transferred into a sterile 96-wells plate. For negative and positive control wells, 100  $\mu\text{L}$  of CM  
141 was transferred into this 96-well plate.

142

#### 143 **Incubation of *Streptomyces spp.* extracts with parasite**

144 Parasite culture (iRBC) with 10% parasitaemia was selected and centrifuged at 1800 rpm for 5  
145 mins to obtain the cell pellets. The cell pellets were diluted to 2% parasitaemia with fresh RBC.  
146 Approximately 2  $\mu\text{L}$  iRBC was transferred into every well of diluted extracts, control drug, CQ,  
147 and positive control. Then, 2  $\mu\text{L}$  of fresh RBC was added into negative control, and the 96-well  
148 was incubated at  $37^\circ\text{C}$ , 5% carbon dioxide ( $\text{CO}_2$ ) for 48 hs. The plate was then frozen overnight  
149 at  $-20^\circ\text{C}$  prior the pLDH assay started (Makler et al., 1993).

150

#### 151 **Parasite lactate dehydrogenase (pLDH assay)**

152 Upon overnight freezing at  $-20^\circ\text{C}$ , the 96-well plate was defrosted at  $37^\circ\text{C}$  for 20 mins and re-  
153 frozen at  $-20^\circ\text{C}$  for 30 mins. This step was repeated 3 times to break the parasite cells. At the same  
154 time, Malstat reagent and NBT-PES (nitroblue tetrazolium-phenazine ethosulfate) were also  
155 prepared in the dark. About 100  $\mu\text{L}$  of Malstat reagent and 25  $\mu\text{L}$  of NBT-PES were added to a  
156 new 96-well plate. After the freezing and defrosting processes finished, 15  $\mu\text{L}$  of each defrost  
157 culture well plate was transferred into the wells of a new plate that contained Malstat reagent and  
158 NBT-PES. The 96-well plate was then incubated for 1 h at room temperature in the dark.  
159 Absorbance readings at the wavelength of 650 nm ( $A_{650}$ ) were measured for the 96-well plate using  
160 a spectrophotometer (Tecan M200, Switzerland). The positive control was assumed to be the

161 maximum level of lactate dehydrogenase enzyme production. The negative control was the blank  
162 (Makler et al. 1993; Trager & Jensen 1976). Inhibition of parasite (%) was calculated as follows:

$$163 \quad \frac{(A650 \text{ average for diluted sample} - A650 \text{ average negative control})}{(A650 \text{ average positive control} - A650 \text{ average negative control})} \times 100$$

165 A sigmoid graph was plotted using Graphpad PRISM version 7. The value of parasite inhibition  
166 50% (IC<sub>50</sub>) was determined from the graph.

167

### 168 **Liquid Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry (LC-MS) analysis**

169 Approximately 3 mg/mL extracts of S12D5 (SUK 12 day to harvest fermented broth is 5), S12D12,  
170 S48D7, and S48D14 were sent for LC-MS analysis (Rosli et al., 2017). Scientific C-18 column  
171 Thermo was chromatographically separated by an UltiMate 3000 UHPLC (Dionex) system  
172 (Acclaim™ Polar Advantage II, 3 mm to 150 mm, 3 μm particle size). A flow rate of 0.4 mL/min  
173 at 40°C was maintained with water that contained 0.1% formic acid and 100% acetonitrile with a  
174 total operating time of 22 mins. The gradient started for 3 mins at 5% of solvent B, then grew to  
175 80% of solvent B for 7 mins and stayed at 80% of solvent B for 5, or 10-15 mins. At last, the  
176 gradient turned to 5% of solvent B in 7 mins (15-22 mins). The ESI-positive ionization was  
177 performed with the use of MicroTOF-Q III (Bruker Daltonic) with the settings: capillary voltage  
178 4500 V; pressure of 1.2 bar, and dry gas flow 8 L/min at 200°C; 50-1000 Da m/z, respectively.

179

### 180 **Mass spectrometry data handling**

181 Raw material in “d format” was supplied to Bruker Compass Data Analysis Viewer version 4.2  
182 (Bruker Daltonics, Germany) and imported into the Profile Analysis 2.0 data bucketing software  
183 (Bruker Daltonics, Germany) (Mamat et al. 2018; Veeramohan et al. 2018). The parameters for

184 compound detecting were: signal/noise threshold: 5; correlation coefficient: 0.7; minimum  
185 compound length: 8; smoothing width: 2. Compound detection was done using Find Molecular  
186 Features (FMF). The composite bucket table was calculated using advanced bucketing features as  
187 time alignment parameters. The time interval was between 0.00 mins and 22.04 mins, and the mass  
188 range was between 49 m/z and 1001 m/z. For standardized settings, the data was uploaded to the  
189 MetaboAnalyst 3.0 server ([www.metaboanalyst.ca](http://www.metaboanalyst.ca)). The normalizing features used were: internal  
190 standard caffeine: 195.088 m/z, RT: 7.98 mins; transformation: log; scaling: pareto. (Xia et al.  
191 2015). Normalized and validated data tables were exported to SIMCA P+ version 15 from  
192 Umetrics AB, Umea, Sweden. The PCA, the examination of fundamental variations in samples,  
193 and the presentation of outliers were conducted prior to the sample classification of Model OPLS-  
194 DA. With 100 random permutations using cross-validations and responsive permutation tests, the  
195 robustness of OPLS-DA was validated. The two-way ANOVA type was "ANOVA" in subjects.  
196 The significance threshold was set as the  $p$ -value of correction lower than 0.05. The false discovery  
197 rate was less than 0.05.

198

### 199 **Metabolite identification**

200 The search and manual verification of secondary metabolites in the LC–MS analyses were done.  
201 Online databases, namely METLIN and Dictionary of Natural Products (DNP), were examined for  
202 the value of a molecular ion of interest (Mazlan et al., 2019; Smith et al., 2005). The databases  
203 were used to identify molecular weight metabolites within a specified m/z value query tolerance  
204 range.

205

### 206 **DNA extraction**

207 First, neutral lysis of genome DNA was done for isolation, followed by extraction, then  
208 precipitation of phenol chloroforms and isopropanol. The protocol was used to extract the DNA  
209 (Kieser 1984). For several changes, *Streptomyces* mycelium, in a 1.5 mL of Eppendorf tube was  
210 interrupted by vortexing with 500  $\mu$ L of lysozyme. The samples were then added with 25  $\mu$ L of 50  
211 mg/mL of lysozyme and 3  $\mu$ L of 10 mg/mL of RNase. Finally, the purity and concentration of the  
212 DNA were determined on a Thermo Scientific nano-drop 2000C machine. SUK 12 DNA sequence  
213 was obtained from the previous study (Sarmin et al., 2013).

214

### 215 **16S rRNA molecular identification and phylogenetic tree analysis**

216 Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) amplified the 16S rRNA gene sequence using universal  
217 16SrRNA bacterial gene primers as described earlier (Coombs & Franco, 2003). For SUK 12 and  
218 SUK 48, 1416 and 1463 nucleotides respectively, were near full-length 16S rRNA gene sequences.  
219 The sequences were compared using BLAST and EzTaxon e-databases with the GenBank database  
220 (Altschul et al., 1997). The comprehensive sequence similarity calculation was based on the  
221 EzTaxon server's global alignment algorithm (Kim et al., 2012). The sequence was also matched  
222 several times with 16S rRNA gene sequences, which are available in GenBank/EMBL with the  
223 CLUSTAL W programme, for closely related species of *Streptomyces* (Thompson et al., 1994).  
224 The neighbour-joining (NJ) approach (Saitou & Nei, 1987), available in MEGA software package  
225 7 version, used the reconstructions of the phylogenetic trees (Tamura et al., 2013). In accordance  
226 with the two-parameter Kimura model, the matrices of distance were calculated (Kimura, 1980).  
227 Moreover, the tree was made with the maximum likelihood (ML) (Kimura, 1980). By conducting  
228 a bootstrap analysis-based of 1000 replicates, the topology of the trees was evaluated (Felsenstein,  
229 1985).

230

231 **Results**

232

233 **Growth curve and effectiveness of antiplasmodial activity of *Streptomyces* spp.**

234 The growth curve showed that the generation time of *Streptomyces* sp. SUK 12 was faster than  
235 SUK 48's with 1.16 h/generation and 4.56 h/generation, respectively (Figure 1 A and B).  
236 Meanwhile, the antiplasmodial activity revealed that the crude extract of *Streptomyces* sp. SUK  
237 48 on day 14 was more potent (with an  $IC_{50}$  value of 0.1963 ng/mL) than that of SUK 48 on day  
238 7 and SUK 12 on day 5 and day 10 (Table 1).

239

240 **Metabolomics approach**

241 The metabolite profiles in extracts using two-way ANOVA (univariate analysis) were compared  
242 to those using PCA, OPLS-DA, and S-Plot (multivariate analysis). Two-way ANOVA summarizes  
243 and simplifies each sample metabolites (Figure 2). Approximately, 96 metabolites were common  
244 in the type of strain, fermentation time, and interaction between both (time and strain type). While  
245 44 metabolites were significant in strain type, 14 metabolites were significant in fermentation time,  
246 and three metabolites were significant in the interaction between both (Supplementary Table 1).  
247 The variation and diversity of the extracts were examined in a PCA model (Figure 3A). The PCA  
248 model, however, gave a low  $Q^2 = 0.271$  preview. *Streptomyces* sp. extracts cannot be  
249 distinguished by any significant variation. The OPLS-DA scores scatter plot of the crude extracts  
250 SUK 48 showed distinct separation between day 7 and day 14 (Figure 3B). Nevertheless, the crude  
251 extract of SUK 12 on day 5 and day 12 was not well distributed. Meanwhile, the OPLS-DA scores  
252 scatter plot (Figure 3C) and S-loadings plot (Figure 3D) of SUK 48 crude extracts between day 7

253 and day 14 gave a good distribution. Overall, the metabolites separation from SUK 48 day 14  
254 extracts could be seen as in Figure 4. The secondary metabolite at m/z 195.092 was putatively  
255 identified as 1-Vinyl- $\beta$ -carboline (pavettine) whereas metabolites at m/z 225.163 and 225.153  
256 were putatively identified as 4-butyldiphenylmethane. Metabolites presence at m/z 227.135,  
257 227.145, and 227.153 were putatively identified as aurantioclavine; (-)-form. All the outliers in  
258 the crude extracts of SUK 48 day 14 mentioned as above are known metabolites in Table 2. Then,  
259 metabolites at m/z 211.135 and 211.123 were putatively identified as 2,5-Dimethyl-3-(2-  
260 phenylethenyl)pyrazine, while metabolites at m/z 245.117 and 245.137 were 3,3-Bis(4-  
261 hydroxyphenyl)-1-propanol. The secondary metabolite at m/z 195.149 was represented as 6-(1-  
262 Methylethyl)-3-(2-methylpropyl)-2(1H)-pyrazinone, while at m/z 155.078 was trifluoromethyl  
263 piperazine. These metabolites were the outliers in SUK 48 day 7 (Table 3).

264

#### 265 ***Streptomyces* spp. identification using molecular analysis.**

266 Phylogenetic tree analysis of both SUKs showed that SUK 48 and SUK 12, using the NJ tree,  
267 belonged to different clades (Figure 5) where the bootstrap value was 98%. Moreover, the ML tree  
268 (supplement Figure 1) supported this report with a bootstrap value of 95%.

269

270

#### 271 **Discussion**

272 There are four stages of bacteria growth: lag, log, stationary, and death. The crucial phase for  
273 producing antibiotics is the stationary phase in *Streptomyces* spp. (Chandrakar & Gupta, 2019;  
274 Chen et al., 2020). *Streptomyces lactamdurans* that produces the antibiotic cephamycin C has a  
275 generation time of 7.5 hs (Ginther, 1979). Furthermore, faster growth is potentially essential in the

276 enzyme production of actinomycetes. The effective mycelial fragmentation by the enhanced  
277 expression SsgA has significant consequences for antibiotic production, with increasing  
278 undecylprodigiosin, but a complete block in the production of actinorhodin (van Wezel et al.,  
279 2009). SUK 48 could therefore be a potential antibiotic producer as its ability as slow-growing  
280 capacity. The stationary phase of bacterial growth is the survival phase in which they actively  
281 secrete secondary metabolites to combat oxidative stress and malnutrition for survival purposes  
282 (Banchio & Gramajo, 2002; Undabarrena et al., 2017).

283 Chemometrics is a chemical discipline that uses mathematical and statistical logic-based  
284 methods to design optimal measurement procedures and tests, and provide maximum chemical  
285 information through the analysis of chemical data (Massart & Buydens, 1988). From a  
286 metabolomics perspective, the univariate analysis is a statistical test used to independently measure  
287 metabolites that have significantly increased or decreased between different groups. This test is  
288 important for significance testing of the tens to hundreds of metabolites to reduce the probability  
289 of false positives caused by multiple tests. Of the 854 metabolites analyzed in two-way ANOVA,  
290 14 were significant in the fermentation time (mid-exponential and stationary phase), whereas, 44  
291 and 14 metabolites were significant in strain and time respectively, and interaction between the  
292 both were three metabolites were significant. In addition, there were 96 metabolites significant in  
293 strain, time, and interaction of both. There were two antimalarials identified in the list of 96  
294 metabolites, anisomycin, and hydroquinine. Anisomycin was first isolated from *Streptomyces*  
295 *griseolus* and *Streptomyces roseochromogenes* by Sobin and Tanner (Sobin, 1954) in 1954 and it  
296 was reported to possess antimalarial activity against *Plasmodium falciparum* (Ekong et al., 1990),  
297 while hydroquinine was first isolated from the reduction of quinine and was determined as an  
298 antimalarial agent (Buttle et al., 1938; Griffin et al., 2012). Pavettine is an alkaloid compound

299 which found in SUK 48 on day 14, was reported to have anti-cancer where  $IC_{50}$  was 100 ng/mL  
300 against leukemic cell lines (Figuerola & Avila, 2019).

301 Furthermore, the antimicrobial activity of pavettine against *Bacillus subtilis* and *Candida*  
302 *albicans* reported minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) values from 1.9  $\mu$ g/disc to 3.8  $\mu$ g/disc  
303 (Sudha & Masilamani, 2012). Pavettine was previously mainly found in *Pavetta lanceolata*,  
304 *Cribricellina cribraria*, *Costaticella hastata*, and *Soulamea raxinifolia* (Blackman & Walls, 1995;  
305 Jordaan, 1968). Aurantioclavine (-)-form was reported to produce similar functions as  
306 benzodiazepines drugs that can treat anxiety, sleep deprivation, and panic disorder (Griffin, et al.  
307 2013; Selala et al., 1989). In addition, it was used as a precursor of communesin B (coumarins,  
308 which had anticancer properties) (Trost & Osipov, 2015). Moreover, it was reportedly found in  
309 *Penicillium aurantiovirens* as well (Selala et al., 1989). No biological activity was documented by  
310 the compounds listed in SUK 48 on day 7 and 4-butyldiphenylmethane in SUK 48 on day 14. The  
311 2,5-Dimethyl-3-(2-phenylethenyl)pyrazine metabolites of secretion of ant *Iridomyrmex humilis*  
312 (John Buckingham et al., 2010). While metabolites at m/z 245.117 and 245.137 were putatively  
313 identified as 3,3-Bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)-1-propanol which has been isolated from *Streptomyces*  
314 *albospinus* strain 15-4-2 (Chapman & Hall, 2007). Meanwhile, the metabolite at m/z 195.149 was  
315 represented as 6-(1-Methylethyl)-3-(2-methylpropyl)-2(1H)-pyrazinone, has been mainly found in  
316 *Aspergillus flavus* (Chapman & Hall, 2007). Further isolation and purification of putative  
317 metabolites and identification and elucidation of molecule structure is required by using MS/MS,  
318 1D- and 2D-NMR.

319 Phylogenetic tree analysis of both SUKs showed that SUK 48 and SUK 12 belonged to  
320 different clades. The reliability test was over 70%, which was 98% at nodes between SUK 12 and  
321 SUK 48. This result suggested that both SUKs were different subspecies. Distance matrices of the

322 neighbouring tree construction were calculated using Kimura, the two-parameter correction model  
323 (Kimura, 1980), and a bootstrap analysis based on 1000 replications was performed to evaluate  
324 the topology of the neighbouring joining trees (Felsenstein, 1985). SUK 12 was a novel species  
325 (Sarmin et al., 2013) with the antiplasmodial agent (Remali, 2016). We believe SUK 48 is  
326 presumably a novel species (data not published). The selected outgroup, *Kitasatospora setae* KM-  
327 6054<sup>T</sup> was used based on the previous study (Sarmin et al., 2013).

328

### 329 **Conclusion**

330 SUK 48 at the stationary phase produced more metabolites with antimicrobial and  
331 anticancer properties than SUK 48 at the mid-exponential phase. Therefore, SUK 48 at the  
332 stationary phase was the potential antimalarial extract candidate for the further purification  
333 process. The metabolomics approach is a rapid tool that dereplicated known antimalarial  
334 metabolites and determined those at specific fermentation time. Further study will focus on the  
335 fractionation and purification of possible antimalarial compounds from *Streptomyces* spp. SUK  
336 48. Meanwhile, an *in silico* study using molecular docking (MD) will be conducted to verify the  
337 potential interaction between complex protein-ligands in developing a potential new  
338 antiplasmodial agent.

339

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349

350

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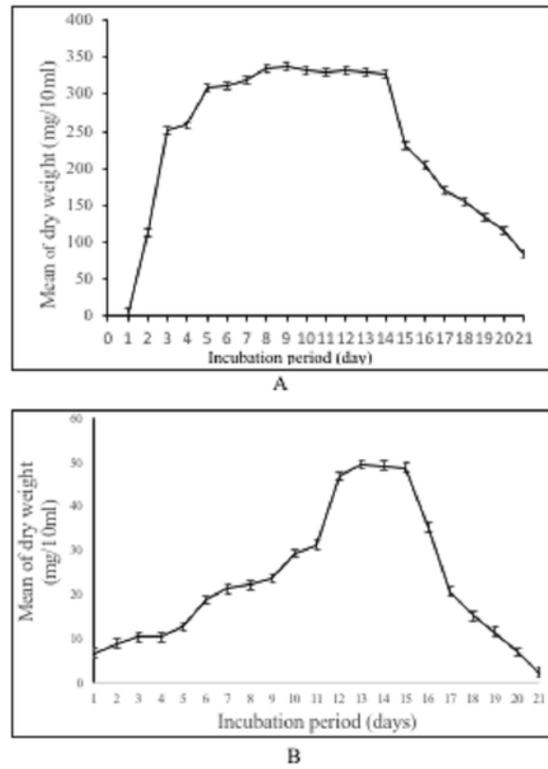
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# Figure 1

Growth curve of *Streptomyces* spp.

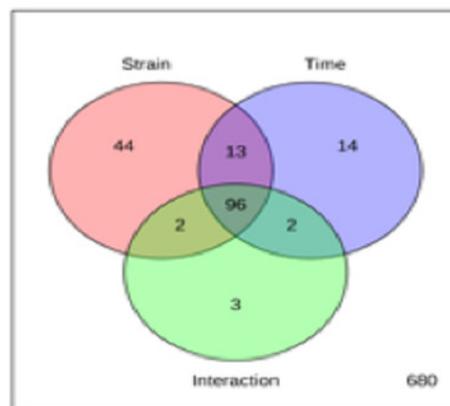
**Figure 1.** (A) The growth curve of *Streptomyces* sp. SUK 12 and (B) SUK 48.



## Figure 2

Two-way ANOVA (Analysis of Variance)

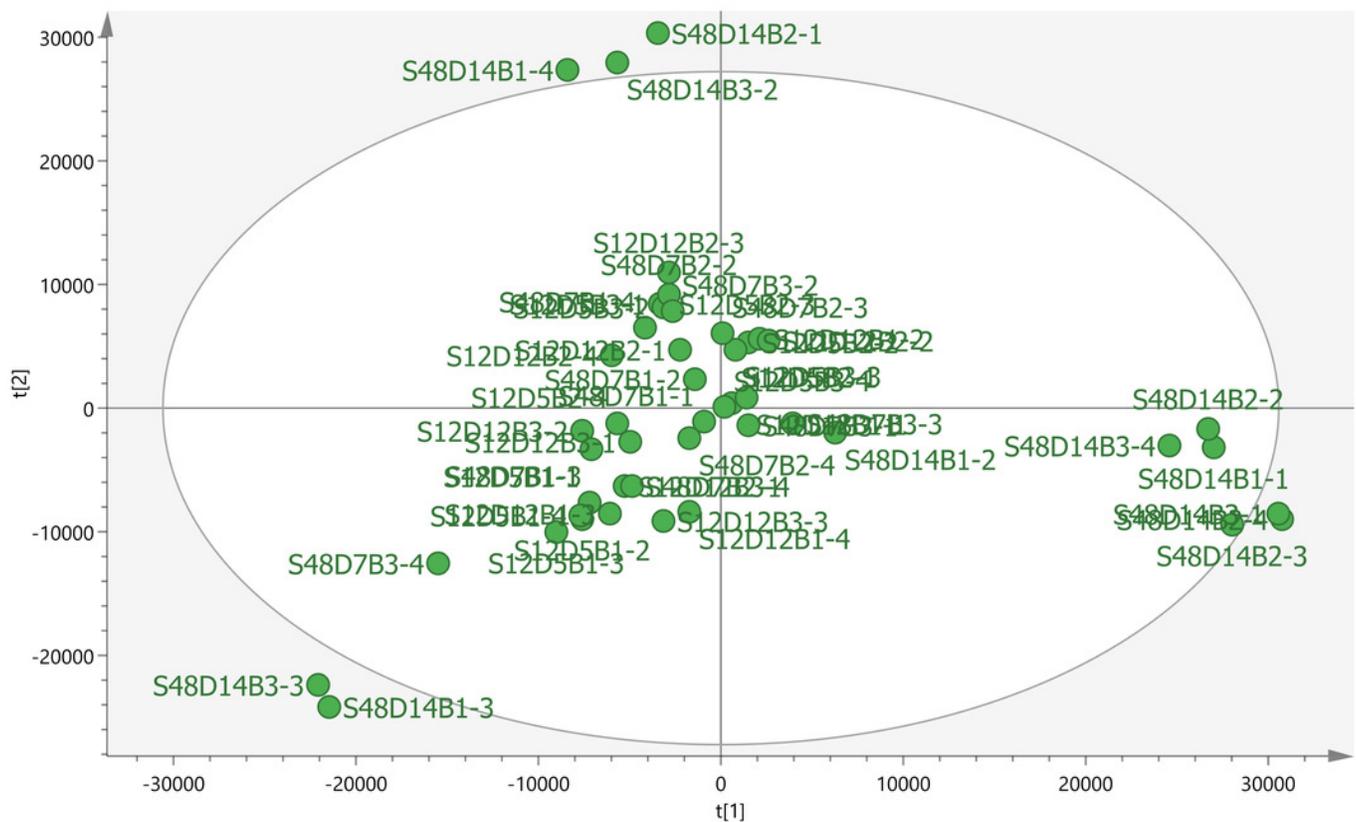
Two-way ANOVA (Analysis of Variance). The red circle with 155 metabolites represents type of strain, SUK 12 and SUK 48, whereas blue circle with 125 metabolites represents fermentation time and green circle with 103 metabolites represents interaction between both (time and strain type).



# Figure 3

## Principal component analysis

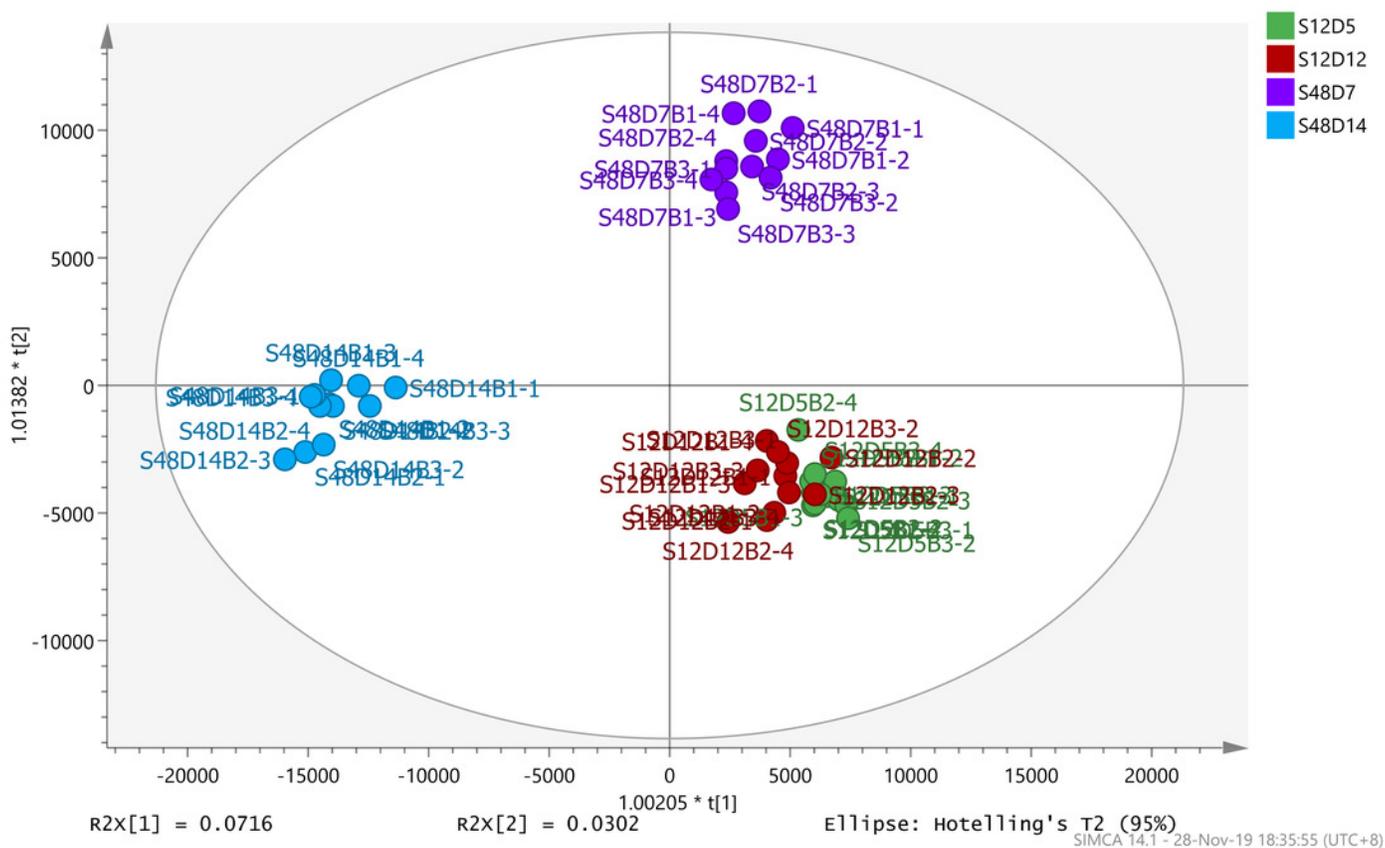
(A) PCA scores scatter plot of SUK 12 (day 5 and 12) and SUK 48 (day 7 and 14) crude extracts ( $R^2 = 0.47$ ; and  $Q^2 = 0.271$ )



# Figure 4

OPLS-DA scores scatter plot

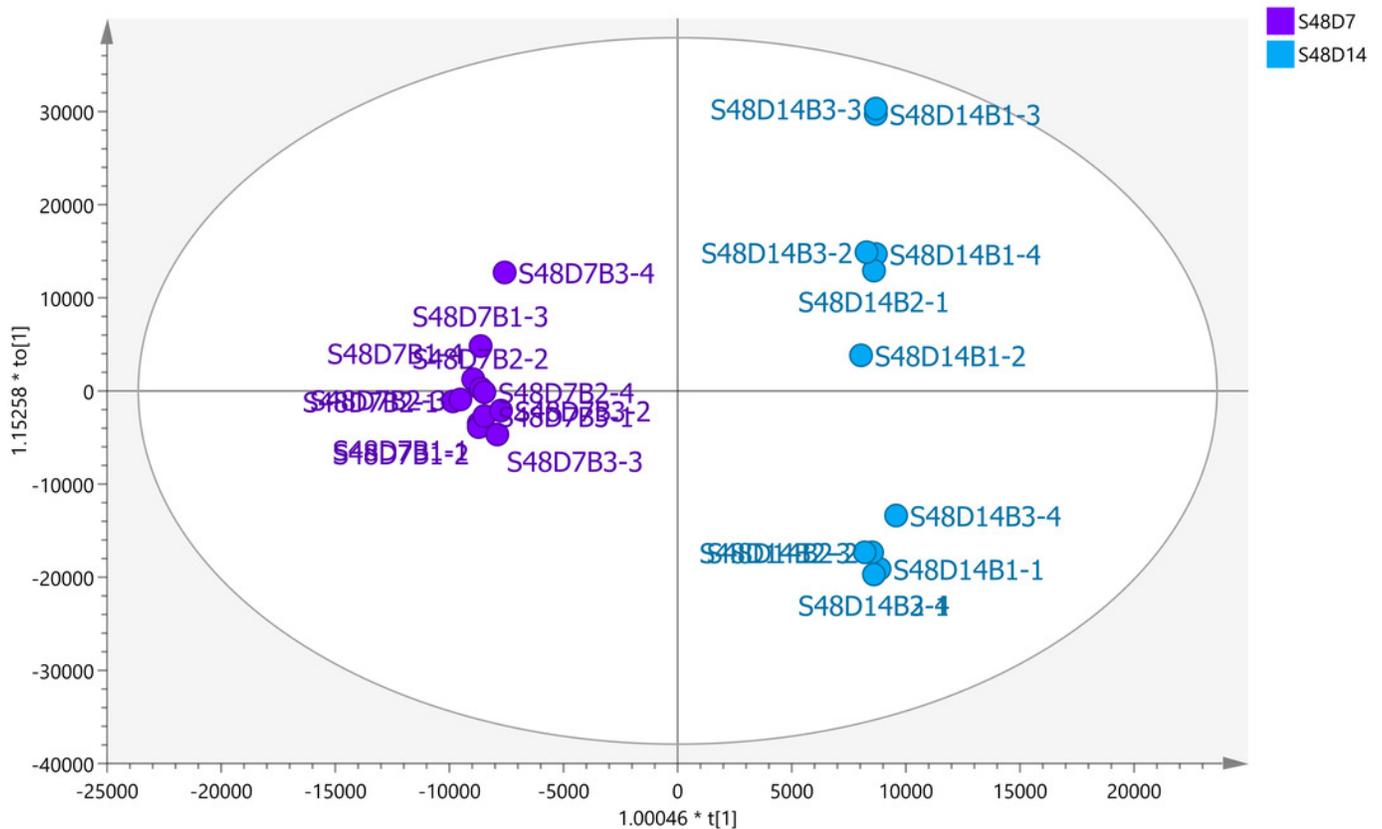
(B) OPLS-DA scores scatter plot between SUK 12 and SUK 48 crude extracts ( $R^2(Y) = 0.651$ ;  $Q^2 = 0.395$ )



# Figure 5

OPLS-DA scores scatter plot

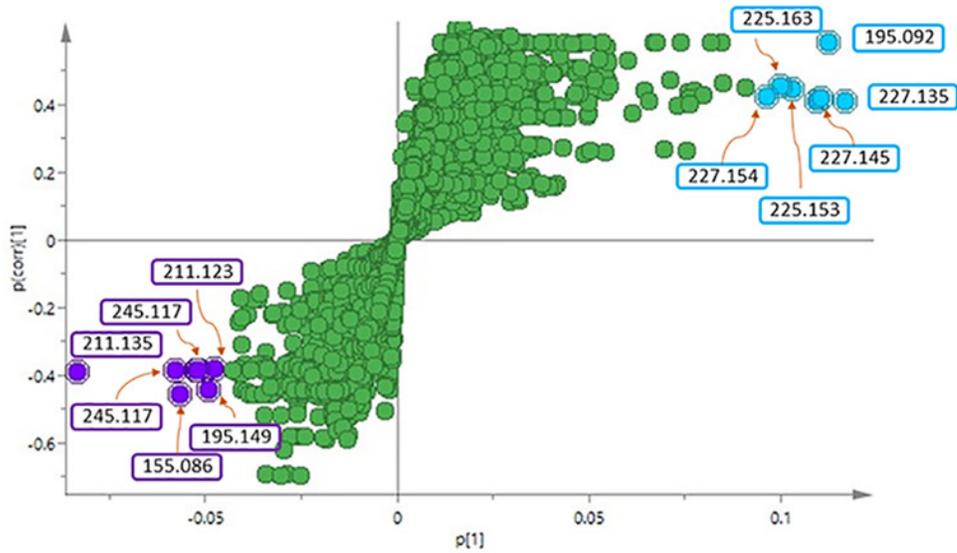
OPLS-DA scores scatter plot between S48D7 and S48D14, ( $R^2(Y) = 0.996$ ;  $Q^2 = 0.61$ )



# Figure 6

## S-Plot

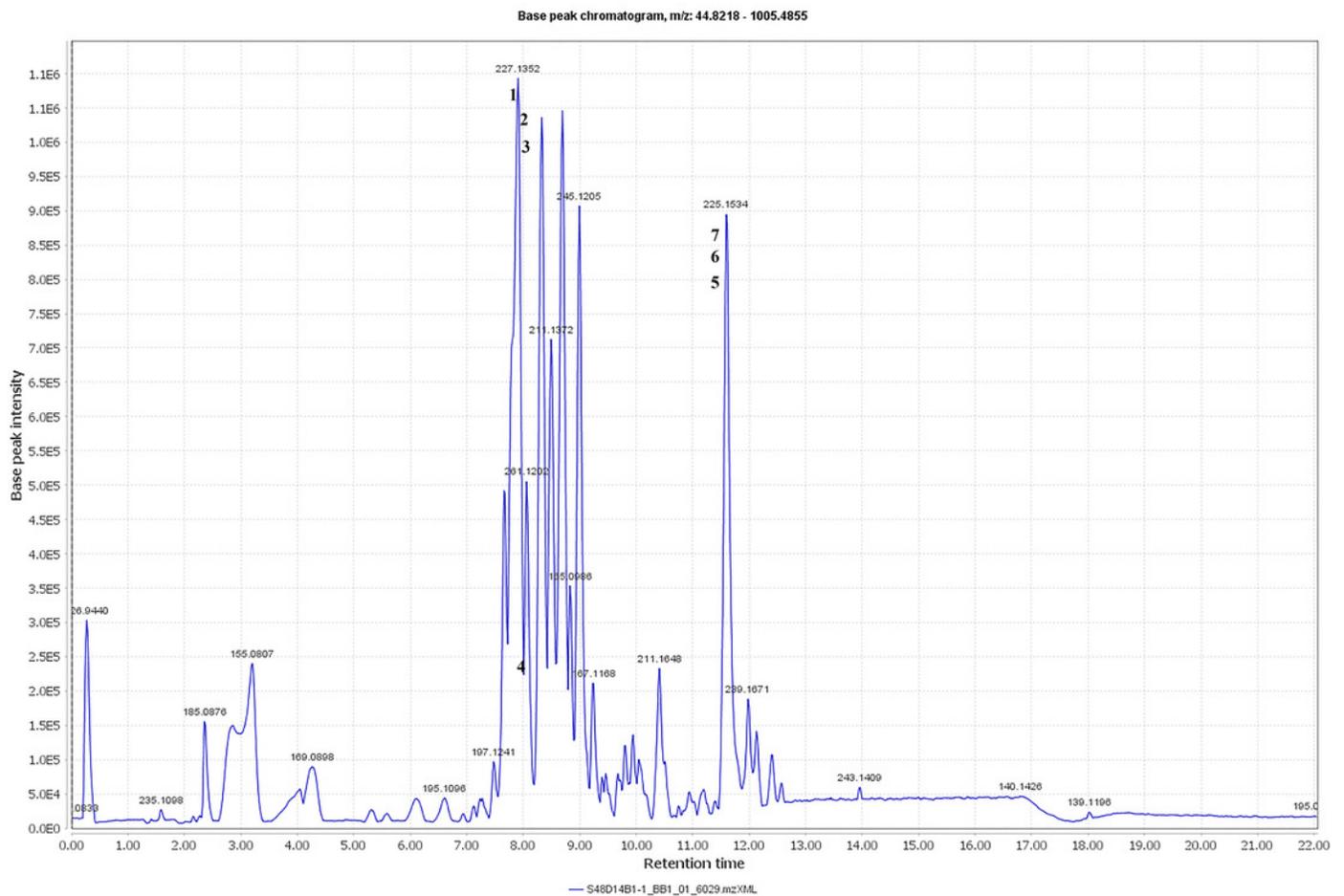
S-plot of SUK48 day 7 vs day 14 metabolites.



# Figure 7

Total ion chromatogram

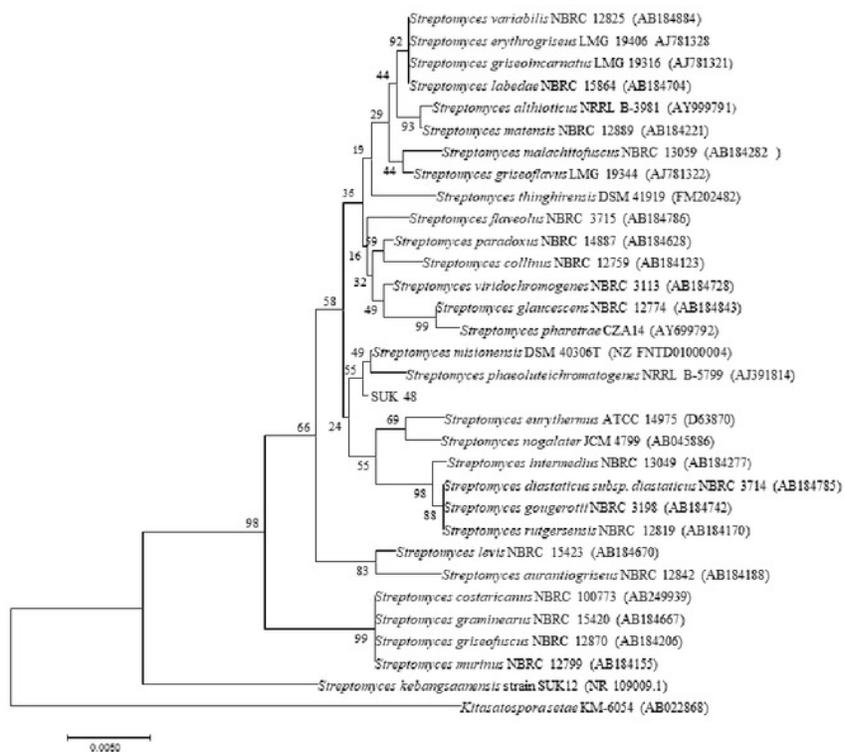
Total ion chromatogram of the crude extract of SUK48 on day 14 with labelled of significant peaks of outliers (1-6).



## Figure 8

### Phylogenetic tree

Phylogenetic tree of full length 16S rRNA nucleotide sequences using Neighbour Joining method showing the relationship of strain SUK12 and SUK 48 with closely related members of the genus *Streptomyces* and *Kitasatospora setae* KM-6054<sup>T</sup> as the outgroup. Numbers at the nodes indicate levels of bootstrap support based on 1000 replication. Bar, 0.005 changes per nucleotide.



**Table 1** (on next page)

Anti-plasmodial activity

Anti-plasmodial activity of *Streptomyces* spp. extracts

1 Table 1: Anti-plasmodial activity of *Streptomyces* spp. extracts

Sample (Growth phase)	Inhibitory concentration ( IC <sub>50</sub> in ng/mL ± SEM)
S12D5 (mid exponential phase)	18.62 ± 0.00
S12D12 (stationary phase)	0.8168 ± 0.174
S12D14 (death phase)	62.29 ± 0.00
S48D7 (mid exponential phase)	0.1980 ± 0.099
S48D14 (stationary phase)	0.1963 ± 0.17
S48D21 (death phase)	527.4 ± 0.00
Chloroquine diphosphate (control drug)	0.2821 ± 0.00

2

**Table 2** (on next page)

Identification of significant metabolites of SUK48 day 14 extracts

Putatively identified metabolites using DNP and METLIN that presence in the crude extracts of SUK48 day 14 highlighted S-Plot.

1 Table 2: Putatively identified metabolites using DNP and METLIN that presence in the crude extracts of SUK48 day 14 highlighted S-  
 2 Plot.  
 3

No	m/z value	Retention time (minutes)	Molecular Weight	Monoisotopic mass	Compound Name	Tolerance (ppm)	Chemical Formula	Sources
1	227.154	7.91	226.1457	226.1470	Aurantioclavine; (-)-form	-0.3401	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>2</sub>	<i>Penicillium aurantiovirens</i>
2	227.145	7.91	226.1377	226.1470	Aurantioclavine; (-)-form	-0.3401	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>2</sub>	<i>Penicillium aurantiovirens</i>
3	227.135	7.91	226.1277	226.1470	Aurantioclavine; (-)-form	-0.3401	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>2</sub>	<i>Penicillium aurantiovirens</i>
4	195.092	7.94	194.0844	194.0844	1-Vinyl-β-carboline (pavettine)	0.02	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>2</sub>	<i>Pavetta lanceolata</i> , <i>Cribricellina cribraria</i> , <i>Costaticella hastata</i> and <i>Soulamea raxinifolia</i>
5	225.163	11.60	224.1565	224.1565	4-Butyldiphenylmethane	3	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>20</sub>	Chemically synthesized
6	225.153	11.60	224.1460	224.1460	4-Butyldiphenylmethane	3	C <sub>17</sub> H <sub>20</sub>	Chemically synthesized

4  
 5  
 6

**Table 3** (on next page)

Identification of significant outliers from SUK48 day 7 extracts

Putatively identified metabolites using DNP and METLIN that presence in the crude extracts of SUK48 day 7 highlighted S-Plot

1 Table 3: Putatively identified metabolites using DNP and METLIN that presence in the crude extracts of SUK48 day 7 highlighted S-  
 2 Plot  
 3

No	m/z value	Retention time	Molecular Weight	Monoisotopic mass	Compound Name	Tolerance (ppm)	Chemical Formula	Sources
1.	211.135	8.68	210.1353	210.1157	2,5-Dimethyl-3-(2-phenylethenyl)pyrazine	-1.7585	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>14</sub> N <sub>2</sub>	<i>Iridomyrma humilis</i>
2.	211.123	8.68	210.1153	210.1157	2,5-Dimethyl-3-(2-phenylethenyl)pyrazine	-1.7585	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>14</sub> N <sub>2</sub>	<i>Iridomyrma humilis</i>
3.	245.117	8.98	244.1099	244.1099	3,3-Bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)-1-propanol	-0.1998	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	<i>Streptomyces albospinus</i> 15-4-2
4.	245.137	8.98	244.1298	244.1099	3,3-Bis(4-hydroxyphenyl)-1-propanol	-0.1998	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	<i>Streptomyces albospinus</i> 15-4-2
5.	195.149	10.47	194.1415	194.1419	6-(1-Methylethyl)-3-(2-methylpropyl)-2(1H)-pyrazinone	-2.1236	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O	<i>Aspergillus flavus</i>
6.	155.078	3.20	154.0718	154.0718	2-(Trifluoromethyl)pyrazine	6	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>9</sub> F <sub>3</sub> N <sub>2</sub>	Chemically synthesized

4