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# Simultaneous Quantification of Twelve Compounds from Bamboo/Wood Vinegar by Gas Chromatography-Mass Spectrometry

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**Abstract:** Bamboo vinegar is a liquid biomass with a huge yield and complex chemical composition. At present, the relative quantification of bamboo vinegar has been investigated in most studies. To analyze twelve compounds from bamboo vinegar simultaneously, gas chromatography-mass spectrometry and an external standard method were used to develop an analytical method. In this method, chromatographic separations of all compounds were above 1.5. The linear range was between 0.100 and 10.000 mg/L, and the coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ ) was between 0.9981 and 0.9997, indicating a good linear relationship. The limit of detection (LOD) was between 0.004 and 0.780 mg/L; the limit of quantitation (LOQ) was between 0.016 and 3.120 mg/L; the relative standard deviations (RSDs) of instrument precision and method stability were less than 8%; the recovery rate was between 89.25% and 113.77%, and its RSD was between 0.44% and 5.70%. Using this method, fourteen bamboo vinegars and six wood vinegars were analyzed, and it was found that the content of propionic acid, phenol, and 2-methoxyphenol was higher in most samples. In addition, the differences in physicochemical properties between distilled bamboo vinegar and its original solution after atmospheric distillation were investigated.



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**Keywords:** bamboo vinegar; chemical composition; gas chromatography-mass spectrometry; rapid determination; external standard method

## 1. Introduction

China is a major country in the bamboo industry, with a bamboo industry output value exceeding 412 billion yuan in 2022 [1]. However, the comprehensive utilization rate of bamboo processing is less than 50% [2], resulting in a large amount of bamboo processing surplus. The preparation of bamboo charcoal is an effective way to utilize bamboo processing residues. Bamboo charcoal is a loose and porous natural biomass material that can be used as a filler with polylactic acid [3], polypropylene [4], polyurethane [5] and so on to make composites with better flame retardant and mechanical properties. Meanwhile, porous carbon materials with a large specific surface area and total pore volume can be made and applied as electrode materials for supercapacitors [6], with high economic added value. In addition, the pore structure of bamboo charcoal gives it strong adsorption properties, and activated bamboo charcoal modified with metallic copper, strong acids, and strong bases plays an important role in the fields of wastewater treatment [7] and aquaculture [8].

However, the production of bamboo charcoal leads to a large amount of by-products, such as bamboo vinegar. Bamboo vinegar is an acidic, reddish brown, highly oxidized organic aqueous solution that is a smoke condensate during bamboo pyrolysis [9], which is rich in organic acids, phenols, alcohols, ketones, and other organic components. It is due to the thermal conversion of hemicellulose, cellulose, and lignin from bamboo. At present, the annual production of bamboo vinegar in China can reach 200,000 to 250,000 tons. But

currently, it has not been effectively utilized and is mostly discharged as waste after simple treatment [10]. This not only inevitably causes environmental pollution but also a huge waste of bioactive material resources.

The complex components in bamboo vinegar come from the pyrolysis of lignocellulose in bamboo materials and are mainly compounds with good thermal stability and volatility. Phenolic compounds are derived from the decomposition of lignin at 300–700 °C, and organic acids, ketones, alcohols, and ethers come from polysaccharide component pyrolysis at 200–400 °C [11]. Organic acids, especially propionic acid and butyric acid, have antibacterial effects that are used as potential alternatives to antibiotic growth promoters [12–14]. Ketones are an important class of multi-purpose products used for the production of high-value-added chemicals [15]. For example, 1-hydroxy-2-butanone (HB) is a key intermediate in the anti-tuberculosis drug ethambutol [16]. The phenolic compounds in bamboo vinegar are the main active ingredients that exert antibacterial and antioxidant effects [17]. Furfural is an important natural precursor of furan-based chemicals such as furfuryl alcohol, methylfuran, tetrahydrofuran, and so on [18]. Considering the rich content of organic active ingredients in bamboo vinegar, it has great potential for application in multiple fields such as agriculture, food, cosmetics, and hygiene [19].

The main components of bamboo vinegar are organic acids and phenolic compounds, which can improve the stability of pesticides, enhance the efficacy of pesticides, weeding, insecticides, antibacterials, etc., and have important application value and great application potential. Studies have shown that bamboo vinegar can improve the photostability of the broad-spectrum insecticides thiamethoxam, azadirachtin A, and the broad-spectrum fungicide prochloraz, which may be the result of the photoquenching of phenolic compounds in bamboo vinegar [20,21]. The combination of copper and silicon with bamboo vinegar has synergistic effects such as promoting the growth of tobacco seedlings, inhibiting the growth of green algae, and preventing the occurrence of tomato leaf mildew [22,23]. The combination of bamboo vinegar with the existing pesticides Sclerotinia and Bordeaux liquid can play a synergistic role in inhibiting tobacco red star disease and promoting the growth of tobacco seedlings [24]. In animal husbandry, animal production performance, utilization rate of animal feed, immune function, and intestinal environment were optimized through adding bamboo vinegar [25–27]. In the field of healthcare, Lin HC et al. [28] explored the inhibitory effect of bamboo vinegar collected at different temperatures on harmful fungi. They found that phenolic substances such as phenol, which has a higher content in bamboo vinegar, have strong antifungal properties. In summary, bamboo vinegar with abundant organic acids, phenols, and other active compounds has wide effects in many fields.

However, the chemical properties of bamboo vinegar are unstable, and the composition of bamboo vinegar from different sources varies greatly [29]. In most existing studies, the relative content of each component in the bamboo vinegar sample was determined using gas chromatography-mass spectrometry (GC-MS) [30]. In order to have a clearer understanding of the absolute content of the main chemical components in bamboo vinegar to guide the utilization of bamboo/wood vinegar, there is an urgent need for a detection method that can simultaneously detect the content of multiple compounds in bamboo vinegar. Among short-chain fatty acids, propionic acid and butyric acid have a better inhibitory effect on *Salmonella* [31]. Hydroxyacetone, 1-hydroxy-2-butanone and methylcyclopentenone ketone are the main ketones in bamboo vinegar [4,29,30], and methylcyclopentenone ketone is a good flavor enhancer and low-heat sweetener widely used in food, tobacco essence, and baked food [32]. In addition, phenol, 2-methoxyphenol, 2-methoxy-4-cresol, 4-methylphenol, 2,3-dimethylphenol, furfural, and furfuryl alcohol are widely contained in bamboo vinegar [4,29,30,33]. Therefore, based on GC-MS, a rapid detection method for the twelve organic compounds above in bamboo vinegar was established using an external standard method for quantification.

## 2. Materials and Methods

### 2.1. Materials

Twenty commercial bamboo/wood vinegar samples were collected from Zhejiang, Fujian, Guangxi, Anhui, Jiangxi, Shandong, Hebei provinces, and Beijing in China from October to November 2023 (Table S1). Twelve reference standards are shown in Table 1. Chromatographic-grade ethyl acetate was purchased by Shanghai McLean Biochemical Technology Co., Ltd. (Shanghai, China). The relevant reagents for the determination of physicochemical properties shall refer to [34].

**Table 1.** Basic information about twelve standard reference materials.

No.	Compound	CAS Number	Manufacturer	Standard Liquor Concentration (mg/L)
1	Hydroxyacetone	116-09-6	Shanghai Yien Chemical Technology Co., Ltd. (Shanghai, China)	3789
2	1-Hydroxy-2-butanone	5077-67-8	Guangzhou Jiayu Technology Co., Ltd. (Guangzhou, China)	351
3	Furfural	98-01-1	Sigma Aldrich (Shanghai) Trading Co., Ltd. (Shanghai, China)	2032
4	Propionic acid	79-09-4	Shanghai Aladdin Biochemical Technology Co., Ltd. (Shanghai, China)	1813
5	Butyric acid	107-92-6	Shanghai Aladdin Biochemical Technology Co., Ltd.	3183
6	Furfuryl alcohol	98-00-0	Shanghai Aladdin Biochemical Technology Co., Ltd.	2497
7	Methylcyclopentenone ketone	80-71-7	Shanghai Yuanye Biotechnology Co., Ltd. (Shanghai, China)	2185
8	2-Methoxyphenol	90-05-1	Tixi Ai (Shanghai) Chemical Industry Development Co., Ltd. (Shanghai, China)	5534
9	2-Methoxy-4-cresol	93-51-6	Shanghai Aladdin Biochemical Technology Co., Ltd.	1548
10	Phenol	108-95-2	Shanghai Aladdin Biochemical Technology Co., Ltd.	2148
11	4-Methylphenol	106-44-5	Tanmo Quality Inspection Technology Co., Ltd. (Changzhou, China)	1248
12	2,3-Dimethylphenol	526-75-0	Tanmo Quality Inspection Technology Co., Ltd.	1605

CAS means Chemical Abstracts Service.

### 2.2. Standard Solution Preparation

Accurately weigh twelve standard samples into 10 mL volumetric flasks, dissolve them in ethyl acetate, and make up the volume to prepare standard mother liquor (Table 1). Place them in brown sample bottles, seal them, and store at 4 °C.

Preparation of a mixed standard solution I: Use a pipette to pipette a certain amount of each standard mother liquor into a 10 mL volumetric flask, dilute to the mark with ethyl acetate, and prepare a 10 mg/L mixed standard solution. Store it in a brown sample bottle at 4 °C.

Preparation of mixed standard solution II: Dilute mixed standard solution I step by step with ethyl acetate to prepare a 1 mg/L mixed standard solution II. Store it in a brown sample bottle at 4 °C for precision and stability experiments.

Preparation of a working solution: Dilute the mixed standard solution I step by step with ethyl acetate to prepare mixed standard solutions with different concentration gradients (0.1, 0.2, 0.5, 1, 2, 4, 6, 8, 10 mg/L) and store them in brown sample bottles at 4 °C for standard curve plotting.

### 2.3. Preparation of Test Samples

Extraction: Take 10 mL of the sample to be tested and place it in a 25 mL separating funnel. Extract three times using ethyl acetate [35,36] in the extraction ratios of 10:3, 10:3, and 10:4 (*v:v*). Combine the ethyl acetate phases and add anhydrous sodium sulfate for dehydration. Take 1 mL of the collected ethyl acetate phase, dilute it 100 times with ethyl acetate, seal it in a brown sample bottle, and store it at 4 °C for testing.

Collection of atmospheric distillation fractions: Three types of bamboo vinegar raw materials were selected and subjected to atmospheric distillation at 100–110 °C to collect both primary and secondary distillation fractions.

#### 2.4. GC-MS Analysis Method

Given that twelve target compounds in this method were strong polar compounds containing hydroxyl groups, a DB-WAX capillary chromatography column (30 m × 0.250 mm × 0.25 μm) composed of polyethylene glycol (PEG) stationary phases, which was commonly used for analyzing compounds with polar functional groups, was used for earlier retention time and better peak shape. The heating program was set according to the boiling points of twelve target compounds. In addition, the heating rate was adjusted in order to achieve effective separation with a resolution greater than 1.5. The heating program validated was as follows: initial temperature of 60 °C, constant temperature for 1 min; heat up at a rate of 10 °C/min to 170 °C and maintain a constant temperature for 4.5 min; heat up at a rate of 15 °C/min to 200 °C. In order to maintain a high vacuum state and an inert environment, 99.999% helium was applied as a carrier gas. A non-split injection was set to improve the accuracy and stability of trace compound detection. The inlet temperature was 260 °C, which was higher than the boiling point of each tested compound. The injection volume was 1 μL.

Mass spectrometry conditions: ionization mode: electron bombardment (EI), bombardment energy: 70 eV; ion source temperature: 230 °C; quadrupole temperature: 150 °C; solvent delay time: 4.0 min; Full scan (SCAN) was used for qualitative analysis of target compounds, and ion detection (SIM) was selected for quantification. The qualitative and quantitative ions of each target compound were shown in Table 2, where the peak intensity of the quantitative ion, which was the fragment with the highest abundance, was applied to calculating the concentration of the compound and qualitative ions were used to determine the specific compound.

**Table 2.** Retention time, qualitative and quantitative ions, and resolutions of twelve compounds.

No.	Compound	CAS Number	Retention Time (min)	Quantitative Ion (m/z)	Qualitative Ions (m/z)
1	Hydroxyacetone	116-09-6	6.00	43	73, 74, 75
2	1-Hydroxy-2-butanone	5077-67-8	6.95	57	86, 88, 89
3	Furfural	98-01-1	8.04	96	95, 96, 97
4	Propionic acid	79-09-4	8.94	74	61, 71, 73
5	Butyric acid	107-92-6	10.03	60	73, 87, 88
6	Furfuryl alcohol	98-00-0	10.42	98	95, 97, 98
7	Methylcyclopentenone ketone	80-71-7	12.40	112	111, 112, 113
8	2-Methoxyphenol	90-05-1	12.75	109	121, 124, 125
9	2-Methoxy-4-cresol	93-51-6	14.08	138	137, 138, 139
10	Phenol	108-95-2	14.83	94	92, 94, 95
11	4-Methylphenol	106-44-5	16.34	107	105, 108, 109
12	2,3-Dimethylphenol	526-75-0	17.63	107	121, 122, 123

#### 2.5. Determination of Dissolved Tar Content, pH Value, and Total Organic Acid Content

Dissolved tar content was determined using the DHG-9140A electric blast drying oven (Shanghai Yiheng Scientific Instrument Co., Ltd., Shanghai, China). The pH value was detected by a PH meter (Mettler Toledo Technology Co., Ltd., Hong Kong, China). And the total organic acid content was determined by a titration experiment. All determinations above were carried out according to [34].

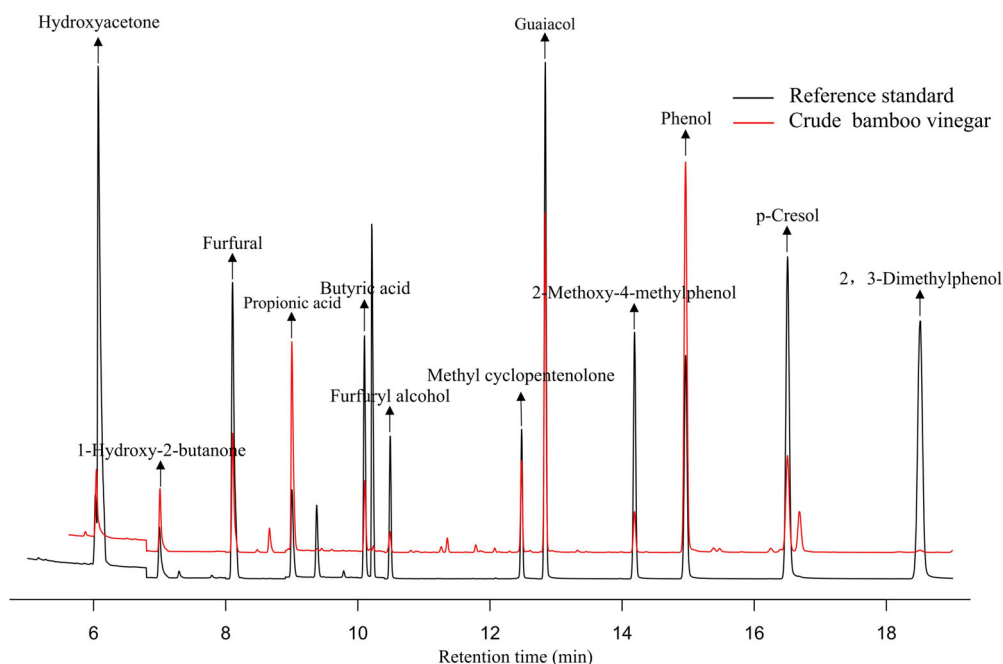
#### 2.6. Data Statistics and Analysis

The experimental data were analyzed using MSD ChemStation Data Analysis software, organized and tabulated by WPS Office, and mapped by Origin 2021.

### 3. Results

#### 3.1. Retention Time and Qualitative and Quantitative Ions of Twelve Organic Compounds

Perform GC-MS analysis on mixed standard solution I in SCAN mode with a scanning range of 30–500 m/z to determine the retention time and qualitative and quantitative ions of twelve organic compounds (Table 2). The total ion chromatogram is shown in Figure 1, which meets the requirements of chromatographic analysis.



**Figure 1.** Total ion chromatograms (TIC) of twelve compounds.

#### 3.2. Linear Equations and Detection Limits for Twelve Compounds

The linear equations, detection limits, and quantification limits of twelve compounds were determined using SIM mode with a working standard solution of 0.1–10 mg/L. The results are shown in Table 3. The linear range of twelve compounds is between 0.100 and 10.000 mg/L, with a coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ )  $\geq 0.9981$ . The linear relationship is good, with a detection limit between 0.004 and 0.780 mg/L and a quantification limit between 0.016 and 3.120 mg/L.

**Table 3.** Linear equations, limits of detection, and limits of quantitation for twelve compounds.

Compound	Linear Equation	Linearity ( $R^2$ )	Linear Range (mg/L)	LOD (mg/L)	LOQ (mg/L)
Hydroxyacetone	$y = 909,735 x - 91155$	0.9988	1.632~10.000	0.408	1.632
1-Hydroxy-2-butanone	$y = 684,410 x - 134149$	0.9981	0.100~10.000	0.015	0.060
Furfural	$y = 3,269,146 x - 333190$	0.9997	0.100~10.000	0.005	0.020
Propionic acid	$y = 1,050,840 x - 60886$	0.9995	0.100~10.000	0.019	0.076
Butyric acid	$y = 1,897,762 x - 237665$	0.9993	3.120~10.000	0.780	3.120
Furfuryl alcohol	$y = 1,249,834 x - 131052$	0.9996	0.100~10.000	0.006	0.024
Methylcyclopentenone ketone	$y = 1,423,255 x - 218810$	0.9990	0.100~10.000	0.018	0.072
2-Methoxyphenol	$y = 4,579,382 x - 465742$	0.9997	0.100~10.000	0.004	0.016
2-Methoxy-4-cresol	$y = 2,509,010 x - 317716$	0.9994	0.100~10.000	0.004	0.016
Phenol	$y = 2,768,645 x - 313421$	0.9995	0.100~10.000	0.006	0.024
4-Methylphenol	$y = 4,953,782 x - 653676$	0.9995	0.100~10.000	0.006	0.024
2,3-Dimethylphenol	$y = 5,029,518 x - 676423$	0.9994	0.100~10.000	0.008	0.032

$R^2$  is the abbreviation of coefficient of determination. LOD is the abbreviation of limit of detection. LOQ is the abbreviation of limit of quantitation.

### 3.3. Instrument Precision and Method Stability of Twelve Compounds

The mixed standard solution II was injected continuously for six times, and the relative standard deviation (RSD,  $n = 6$ ) of the compound peak area was calculated to characterize the precision of the instrument. The mixed standard solution II and sample were prepared and tested at the same time in 3 d and the relative standard deviation ( $n = 3$ ) of the compound was calculated to characterize the interday stability of the method. As shown in Table 4, the relative standard deviation of instrument precision and method interday stability for the twelve compounds is less than 8%, which meets the requirements of the 9101 analytical method validation guidelines in Pharmacopoeia 2020.

**Table 4.** Instrument precision and method stability of twelve compounds.

Compound	Precision (RSD, %, $n = 6$ )	Interday Stability (RSD, %, $n = 3$ )	
		Standard	Sample
Hydroxyacetone	6.47	5.49	5.48
1-Hydroxy-2-butanone	4.62	3.35	3.87
Furfural	5.10	4.06	3.15
Propionic acid	3.92	3.97	1.78
Butyric acid	5.32	3.38	1.02
Furfuryl alcohol	3.08	2.95	1.57
Methylcyclopentenone ketone	5.18	1.92	1.20
2-Methoxyphenol	5.16	4.76	4.32
2-Methoxy-4-cresol	5.18	2.54	3.41
Phenol	5.10	3.51	4.02
4-Methylphenol	4.96	2.81	3.64
2,3-Dimethylphenol	5.36	5.27	4.13

RSD is the abbreviation of relative standard deviation.

### 3.4. Recovery Rates of Twelve Compounds

Twelve standard reference compounds of different concentrations in the original solution of bamboo vinegar were added for detection. The results of the recycling experiment show that the recovery rate is between 89.25% and 113.77%, and the RSD is between 0.44% and 5.70%, which meets the requirements of the method (Table S2).

### 3.5. Content of Twelve Compounds in Twenty Samples

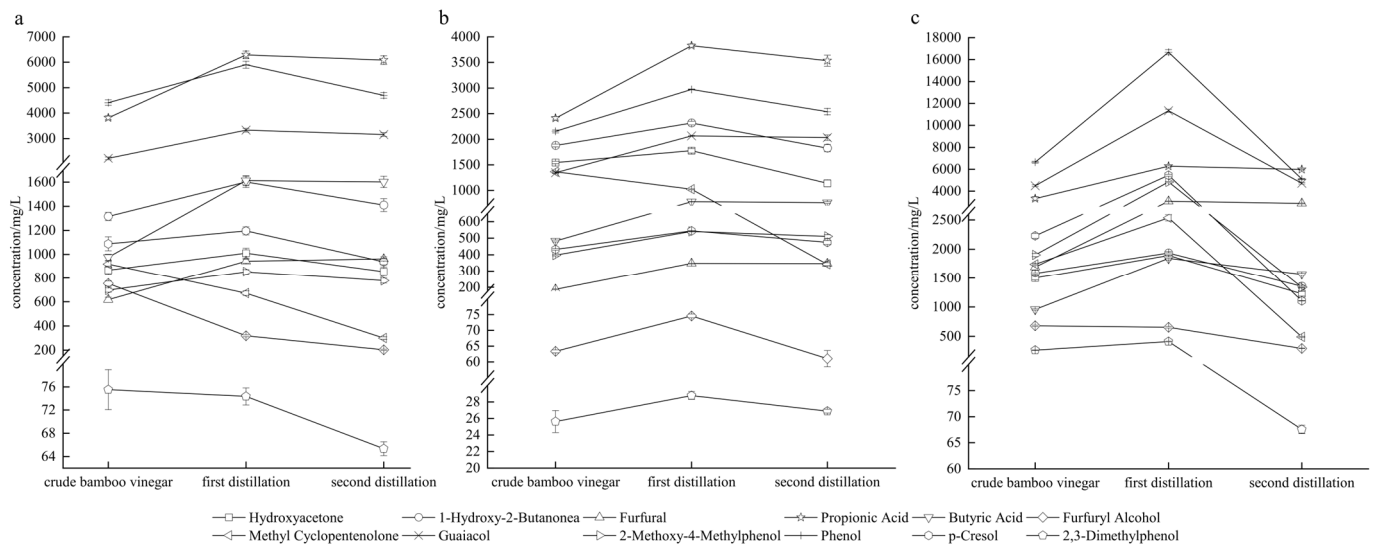
Twenty bamboo/wood vinegar samples were collected using the established detection method (Table S3). The results showed that there were significant differences in the content of various compounds in twenty bamboo/wood vinegar samples (Table 5). The content of propionic acid, phenol, and 2-methoxyphenol is relatively high.

**Table 5.** Concentration range of twelve compounds in twenty samples.

Compound	Concentration Range in Twenty Samples (mg/L)
Hydroxyacetone	47.63–4382.84
1-Hydroxy-2-butanone	45.38–2584.33
Furfural	10.93–1691.19
Propionic acid	732.29–4221.88
Butyric acid	70.75–1125.54
Furfuryl alcohol	11.43–2150.21
Methylcyclopentenone ketone	15.56–2032.02
2-Methoxyphenol	11.31–4501.88
2-Methoxy-4-cresol	12.66–1902.00
Phenol	22.00–6650.86
4-Methylphenol	13.39–2228.33
2,3-Dimethylphenol	13.45–264.78

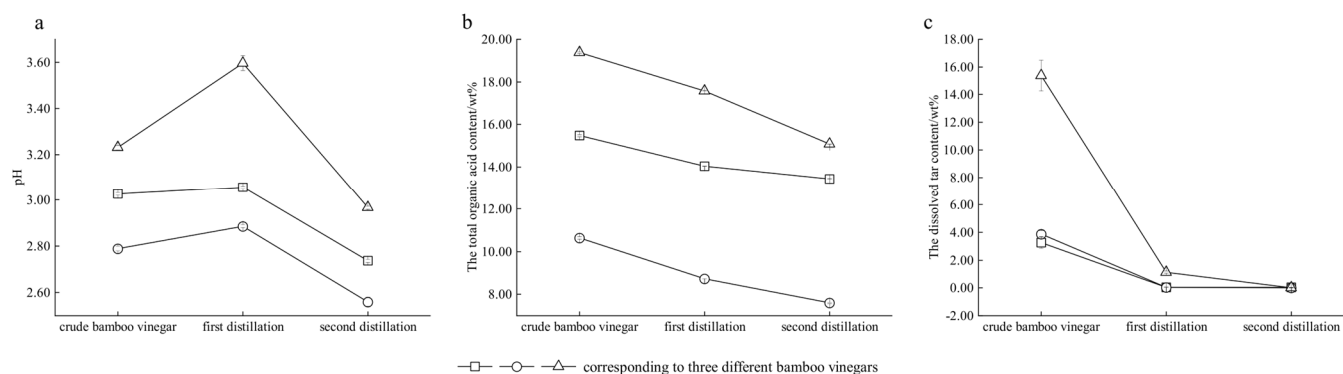
### 3.6. The Effect of Distillation on the Content and Physicochemical Properties of Twelve Compounds in Bamboo Vinegar

Three types of crude bamboo vinegar samples were selected from the twenty samples above to compare the differences in their main physicochemical properties and the content of twelve compounds before and after distillation. The results showed that the content of nine compounds increased in the first distillation fraction; the content of methylcyclopentenone decreased in the first distillation fraction of samples 15 and 16 and increased in the first distillation fraction of sample 17; the content of furfuryl alcohol decreased in the first distillation fraction of samples 15 and 17 and increased in the first distillation fraction of sample 16, which may be related to the lower content of furyl alcohol in sample 16; the content of 2,3-dimethylphenol increased in the first distillation fraction of samples 16 and 17, and decreased in the first distillation fraction of sample 15. Except for sample 15, where the content of furfural in the second distillation fraction increased compared to the first distillation fraction, the content of twelve compounds in the second distillation fraction decreased compared to the first distillation fraction (Figure 2).



**Figure 2.** The effect of distillation on the content of twelve compounds in crude bamboo vinegar samples 15 (a), 16 (b), 17 (c). Represent the content of twelve compounds in three bamboo vinegars and their fractions, respectively. Error bars are represented in the form of standard deviation (SD,  $n = 3$ ).

As shown in Figure 3, the total amount of organic acids in the first distillation fraction of three crude bamboo vinegar samples decreased and the pH value increased, but the content of propionic acid and butyric acid in the first distillation fraction increased (Figure 2), indicating that the main organic acids in the first distillation fraction were not propionic acid and butyric acid. According to existing research, the main organic acid component of bamboo vinegar is acetic acid [37–39]. The total organic acid content and pH value of the secondary distillation fraction decrease. In addition, atmospheric distillation can effectively reduce the dissolved tar content of bamboo vinegar stock solution, and a single distillation can reduce the dissolved tar by 92.59% to 98.97% [40].



**Figure 3.** The effect of distillation on the pH of bamboo vinegar (a); The effect of distillation on the total organic acid content of bamboo vinegar (b); The effect of distillation on the dissolved tar content of bamboo vinegar (c). Represent the content of twelve compounds in three bamboo vinegars and their fractions, respectively. Error bars are represented in the form of standard deviation (SD,  $n = 3$ ).

#### 4. Discussion

In recent years, the management of waste has absorbed increasing attention with rapid industrialization and urbanization [41]. Furthermore, biowaste is an excellent material that can be used for the production of energy and chemicals [42]. Bamboo vinegar is a typical biowaste produced in the process of bamboo pyrolysis. It has complex components and is difficult to selectively transform into a single component for high-value utilization. Over the years, research on the components of bamboo vinegar has mostly focused on relative quantification [43–49]. Relative quantification can only explore the content relationship of various compounds in bamboo vinegar and cannot provide absolute values for specific compound content. The content of a single compound is easily influenced by other components, making it difficult to accurately evaluate the application potential and principle of action of specific components in bamboo vinegar. In this study, twelve target compounds in bamboo vinegar were quantified accurately by an external standard method, which provided an analytical method for further effective utilization of bamboo vinegar. In addition, there have been many studies on the analysis of compound content using internal/external standard methods based on GC-MS technology, including food packaging [50,51], cigarette smoke [52], plastic runway [53], etc. However, there have been no reports on quantitative methods for bamboo vinegar. Therefore, this study takes bamboo vinegar as the research object and develops a GC-MS detection method that can quickly quantify twelve organic compounds within 18 min. However, considering that the compounds in bamboo vinegar are not limited to the twelve ones above, more compounds in bamboo vinegar need to be contained in the analytical method. This will face more challenges in parameter settings and compound selection.

Another challenging issue in the application of bamboo vinegar is the removal of toxic components. Dissolved tar in crude bamboo vinegar contains a large amount of toxic components, which can be removed by distillation [54]. The same conclusion was obtained in this study. In addition, the contents of active compounds in distilled bamboo vinegar increased. This indicates that distillation is an effective means of refining crude bamboo vinegar. Research has shown that distilled wood vinegar has better preservation and antibacterial effects owing to its higher content of organic acids and phenols [55]. This has been verified by this study. Refining crude bamboo vinegar through distillation and other processes can remove toxic and harmful substances from dissolved tar and increase the content of organic acids, phenols, ketones, and other organic components [39]. This provides a safe guarantee for the comprehensive utilization of bamboo vinegar in multiple fields.

Given that a huge variation in compound content was discovered in different source samples, the standardization of bamboo/wood vinegar production is necessary for its effective utilization. In addition, more innovative separation techniques, such as molec-



ular distillation [56] and membrane separation technology [57], should be utilized in the extraction and isolation of active components from bamboo vinegar. It is worth noting that most small molecular compounds are unstable in bamboo/wood vinegar, so the way to effectively retain active components is worthy of consideration.

## 5. Conclusions

This study established a GC-MS detection method for simultaneous analysis of twelve organic compounds in bamboo/wood vinegar, and applied this method to the qualitative and quantitative analysis of twenty bamboo/wood vinegar samples from different sources. It was found that the content of the twelve compounds varied greatly among these samples, with propionic acid, phenol, and 2-methoxyphenol having higher content. The propionic acid content ranged from 732.29 to 4221.88 mg/L, the phenol content ranged from 22.00 to 6650.86 mg/L, and the 2-methoxyphenol content ranged from 11.31 to 4501.88 mg/L. By analyzing the changes in the content and physicochemical properties of various compounds in the three types of bamboo vinegar before and after atmospheric distillation, it was found that one distillation would lead to an increase in the content of nine specific compounds. In addition, the detection results of dissolved tar content indicate that the main components of dissolved tar in bamboo vinegar stock solution do not include the nine compounds with increased content in a single distillation fraction. In summary, the quantitative method established based on GC-MS in this study is suitable for the qualitative and quantitative analysis of twelve specific organic compounds in natural products such as bamboo/wood vinegar from different sources.

**Supplementary Materials:** The following supporting information can be downloaded at: <https://www.mdpi.com/article/10.3390/separations11060168/s1>, Table S1: Basic information of twenty commercial bamboo/wood vinegar samples. Table S2: Recovery rates and its relative standard deviations of 12 compounds. Table S3: Content of 12 compounds in 20 samples.

**Author Contributions:** Conceptualization, resources, supervision, project administration, and funding acquisition, F.T.; methodology and software, J.W., B.Z. and F.T.; validation, F.T.; formal analysis, J.W., B.Z. and X.Y.; investigation, J.W., B.Z., H.X., X.Y. and F.T.; data curation, J.W.; writing—original draft preparation, J.W. and H.X.; writing—review and editing, H.X. and F.T.; visualization, J.W. All authors have read and agreed to the published version of the manuscript.

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**Data Availability Statement:** Data are contained within the article and the Supplementary Materials.

**Conflicts of Interest:** The authors declare no conflicts of interest.

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