In Silico Genome Analysis of Gammaproteobacteria with Reference to Metal Binding Sites*

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Abstract: Identification of functional residues in proteins and their functional annotation has been addressed by several workers. However, proteome and genome analysis of proteobacteria involved in metal resistance is not yet explored. Genome analysis and study of metal binding proteins from Gamma-proteobacteria give us opportunities to understand the role of Gamma-proteobacteria in Bioremediation. In this study we analyze the genes containing metal-binding proteins and peptides pattern using appropriate tools. We have found the protein family of *C. sakazakii* BAA-894 (Class:Gammaproteobacteria) chromosomal genome encoded proteins and involvement of these families in metal interaction by specific pattern search.

Keyword: Metal Resistance, Gamma-proteobacteria, Cronobacter sakazakii

1. Introduction

Recently it is proved that many heavy metals constitute a global environmental hazard. Microorganisms especially bacteria could be used to clean up metal contaminations by removing metals from contaminated water and waste streams, sequestering metals to facilitate their extraction. Basically bacteria from class gammaproteobacteria and higher organisms have developed resistance mechanisms to toxic metals to make them innocuous. Cronobacter sakazakii (previously known as Enterobacter gram negative proteobacteria, sakazakii) is rods shaped from Enterobacteriaceae family. Cronobacter is widespread in both the environment and in plant material, including water, soil and a variety of processed foods and fresh produce^{1, 2}. Cronobacter sakazakii BAA-894 is

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well known as food pathogen and for neonatal infection but recent research has been reported about its some sort of metal resistive nature and the signal of the identification of metal binding nature². Earlier many workers had studied reports on the significant importance of cadmium (Cd) and arsenic (As) heavy metals. Even though Cd is frequently recruited by many agricultural crops and fruits and because of its presence in many food substances, the cadmium metal was mainly concerned with bioremediation and phytoremediation studies³. Moreover, the metabolism of heavy metals has been reported too and the direction of transport of heavy metals in bacteria has been suggested, like efflux direction, uptake direction and both side direction⁴. Therefore several bacteria have exhibited mechanism to tolerate the toxicity of heavy metal ions. One of the study on direction of transport include efflux of metal ions outside the cell, uptake or both phenomenon of the metal ions inside the cell and reduction of heavy metal ions to a less toxic state⁵. For the proper bioremediation, the metal resistant bacteria have been shown to have great potential to resist the toxicity. The study of plasmid metal resistance operand flanked by mobile genetic elements and the identification of these plasmid genomic islands has been reported as well⁶. Most resistance systems are based on the energydependent efflux of toxic metal ions⁷.

Previously there is couple of study have addressed by several workers about the metal resistive capacity of *Enterobacterales* family⁸. In this work it was found that the several protein classes of *Cronobacter sakazakii* BAA-894 strain have involved in metal binding. The chromosomal genome *Cronobacter sakazakii* BAA-894 was taken as the study of interest.

2. Material and Method

The chromosomal genome sequences of *C. sakazakii* BAA-894 were downloaded from Genbank genome database of NCBI⁹ and in addition the protein table was considered for classifying the similar protein class by text search. Mostly proteins sequences are characterized as hypothetical proteins. BLASTp¹⁰ was applied to know the similar protein sequence for selected hypothetical protein sequences of corresponding genes. Metal binding residues were obtained from metal mine database¹¹. The entire binding pattern was identified by pattern search method. *C. sakazakii* BAA-894 protein family have identified by the searching of the specific residue pattern for corresponding metals. The related protein crystal structure (pdb-id) of corresponding metal was also taken into account. 17 different protein families were identified as a metal binding interaction.

3. Results and Discussion

The protein table (Accession number NC_009778) was recruited as chromosomal genome encoded proteome and on the basis of text search 17 protein families were identified. Table1 shows the name of several protein classes of *C. sakazakii* BAA-894. Additionally these families were contained different protein. The metalmine is a database for metal ion binding proteins, was helpful for obtaining amino acids binding pattern for different metal ions. The table 2 shows name of metals and its interaction with corresponding protein. The binding pattern was considered from metalmine databases.

| Serial | Proteins Family/Class | No. of |
|--------|-------------------------------|----------|
| no. | | Proteins |
| 1 | 50S ribosomal proteins | 27 |
| 2 | 30S ribosomal proteins | 16 |
| 3 | hypothetical proteins | 71 |
| 4 | Translocase proteins | 11 |
| 5 | Repressor proteins | 18 |
| 6 | Transcription Regulator | 52 |
| | proteins | |
| 7 | Glutathion proteins | 12 |
| 8 | RNA polymerase proteins | 11 |
| 9 | Membrane proteins | 18 |
| 10 | Transcription factor proteins | 09 |
| 11 | Synthetase proteins | 46 |
| 12 | Oxidoreductase proteins | 08 |
| 13 | Reductase proteins | 42 |
| 14 | Dehydrogenase proteins | 15 |
| 15 | transporting ATPase proteins | 06 |
| 16 | Binding proteins | 33 |
| 17 | Regulatory proteins | 10 |

Table 1: Identified Protein classes of chromosomal genome of C. sakazakii BAA-894

The metal binding pattern residues of specific metal, shown in table2, were taken from metalmine database. Computational pattern search was applied to know the particular identified protein family and scripting on program on MATLAB¹² was also applied to search these specific patterns for a particular metal. It was made to know the location of these patterns in sequences of *C. sakazakii* BAA-894 for every identified classes of protein (Table 1). The table 2 was drawn to show the detail of particular metals have potentially able to bind the sequence of specific identified family of chromosomal genome of *C. sakazakii* BAA-894. The related crystal

structure of proteins was also used to validate the study. Metals ion, like Co, Ni, Mn, Fe, Mo and Cu were involved to interact with sequences. The identified protein families like, reductase, regulatory, repressor and dehydrogenase, were mostly involved in metal binding.

| S.No. | Metal Name | Binding Pattern | Proteins name | Family | Realated pdb-id |
|-------|------------|-----------------|---|-----------------|--------------------|
| 1 | Co | QHH | Transcriptional repressor MprA | Repressor | 1h41 |
| | | QHH | transcriptional regulator MalT | Regulatory | 1kej |
| | | DHH | peptidoglycan synthetase | Synthetase | lrqb |
| | | DHH | Ribonucleotide-diphosphate reductase subunit alpha | Reductase | lrqb |
| 2 | Ni | HEHH | Glutamyl-tRNA synthetase | Synthetase | 1j5y |
| | | HHC | Transcriptional repressor MprA | Repressor | 2bj8 |
| | | HHHHD | hydroxyacylglutathione hydrolase | Hydrolase | la5n |
| | | СНН | NADH dehydrogenase subunit L | Dehydrogenase | 1bs6 |
| 3 | Mn | HHDH | hydroxyacylglutathione hydrolase | Glutathion | lap5 |
| | | EHS | phenylalanyl-tRNA synthetase subunit beta | Synthetase | lepo |
| | | EHS | putative transcriptional regulator | Regulatory | - |
| | | AEEE | phosphoadenosine phosphosulfate reductase | Reductase | lmqw |
| | | AEEE | succinyl-CoA synthetase subunit alpha | Synthetase | 1mqw |
| | | QEMN | hypothetical protein ESA_00230 (putative methyl-accepting chemotaxis protein II) | Hypothetical | 1a9x |
| | | GDDD | dihydrofolate reductase | Reductase | 1a6q |
| | | | hypothetical protein ESA_03724 (Sec-independent protein translocase protein tatA) | Hypothetical | |
| 1 | Fe | HH | 30S ribosomal protein S15 | 30S ribosomal | 1a00 |
| | | | RNA-binding protein Hfq | Binding protein | 1a00 |
| | | | GTP-binding protein Era | Binding protein | 2gtl |
| | | | ESA_00380 (putative quinol monooxygenase ygiN) | Hypothetical | lew6 |
| | | | dihydrodipicolinate reductase | Reductase | 1d8u |
| | | HM | aspartate-semialdehyde dehydrogenase | Dehydrogenase | ldw1 |
| | | | aspartate-semialdehyde dehydrogenase | Dehydrogenase | letp |
| | | | putative inner membrane protein | Membranous | 1dw1 |
| | | | outer membrane protein | Membranous | 1jju |
| | | | ribonucleotide-diphosphate reductase subunit beta | Reductase | 1bcc |
| | | | N-ethylmaleimide reductase | Reductase | 1kv9 |
| | | | DNA-binding transcriptional repressor FabR | Repressor | 1h31 |
| 5 | Мо | HC | NAD(P)H-dependent glycerol-3- phosphate dehydrogenase | Dehydrogenase | 1g20 |
| | | | hypothetical protein ESA_00345 (Putative zeaxanthin glucosyl transferase CRTX) | Hypothetical | 1g20 |

 Table 2: Identified C. sakazakii BAA-894 protein family having pattern for corresponding metal

| | | | hypothetical protein ESA_00507 (Puataive L-serine deaminase II) | Hypothetical | - |
|---|-------|------|--|--------------|------|
| | | | fumarate reductase flavoprotein subunit | Reductase | - |
| | | | chemotaxis regulatory protein CheY | Regulatory | - |
| ~ | | | PTS system transporter subunit IIA-like nitrogen-regulatory protein PtsN | Regulatory | |
| | MoSO2 | | transcriptional repressor MprA | Repressor | 1t3q |
| 6 | Cu | HCHM | glutamine synthetase | Synthetase | 2hx7 |
| | - | HDH | hydroxyacylglutathione hydrolase | Glutathion | 1s4c |
| | | | zinc uptake transcriptional repressor | Repressor | |

4. Conclusion

C. sakazakii is a well known food pathogen bacteria but most of the protein family were taken part in metal binding. All metal binding sequences were accessed from protein table of Genbank database, indicated that they are all specific to the protein family. Specific heavy metal binding interaction with protein sequences is helpful for protein annotation on the functional basis. Therefore we have concluded the insight about the *C. sakazakii* bacteria that it could also be advantageous for the environmental care and for bioremediation strategy. Moreover the detailed metal binding affinities with given proteins will also be beneficial for the further study and the predicted putative metals are yet to be confirmed at a laboratory scale.

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