

PCR AMPLIFICATION OF CATECHOL 2,3- DIOXYGENASE
GENE FROM OIL DEGRADING BACTERIA

CHIN QING SIEN

FAKULTI SAINS DAN TEKNOLOGI
UNIVERSITI SAINS DAN TEKNOLOGI MALAYSIA
2006

PCR AMPLIFICATION OF CATECHOL 2,3-DIOXYGENASE GENE FROM
OIL DEGRADING BACTERIA

By

Chin Sing Siew

Research Report submitted in partial fulfillment of
the requirements for the degree of
Bachelor of Science (Biological Sciences)

Department of Biological Sciences
Faculty of Science and Technology
KOLEJ UNIVERSITI SAINS DAN TEKNOLOGI MALAYSIA
2006

1100046012

This project should be cited as:

Chin, S.S. 2006. PCR Amplification of Catechol 2,3-Dioxygenase Gene from Oil Degrading Bacteria. Undergraduate thesis, Bachelor of Science in Biological Sciences, Faculty of Science and Technology, Kolej Universiti Sains dan Teknologi Malaysia. Terengganu. 46p.

No part of this project report may be produced by any mechanical, photographic, or electronic process, or in form of phonographic recording, nor may be it be stored in a retrieval system, transmitted, or otherwise copied for public or private use, without written permission from the author and the supervisor (s) of the project.



**JABATAN SAINS BIOLOGI
FAKULTI SAINS DAN TEKNOLOGI
KOLEJ UNIVERSITI SAINS DAN TEKNOLOGI MALAYSIA**

**PENGAKUAN DAN PENGESAHAN LAPORAN
PROJEK PENYELIDIKAN I DAN II**

Adalah ini diakui dan disahkan bahawa laporan penyelidikan bertajuk: PCR AMPLIFICATION OF CATECHOL 2,3-DIOXYGENASE GENE FROM OIL DEGRADING BACTERIA oleh Chin Sing Siew, no. matrik: UK8508 telah diperiksa dan semua pembedaan yang disarankan telah dilakukan. Laporan ini dikemukakan kepada Jabatan Sains Biologi sebagai memenuhi sebahagian daripada keperluan memperolehi Ijazah Sarjana Muda Sains (Sains Biologi), Fakulti Sains dan Teknologi, Kolej Universiti Sains dan Teknologi Malaysia.

Disahkan oleh:

.....
Penyelia Utama

Nama:

Cop Rasmi:

DR. CHA THYE SAN
Pensyarah
Jabatan Sains Biologi
Fakulti Sains dan Teknologi
Kolej Universiti Sains dan Teknologi Malaysia
(KUSTEM)
21030 Kuala Terengganu.

Tarikh: 11/5/2006

.....
Penyelia Kedua (jika ada)

Nama:

Cop Rasmi:

PROF. DR. LAW AN THEEM
PENSYARAH
Jabatan Sains Samudera
Fakulti Sains dan Teknologi
Kolej Universiti Sains dan Teknologi Malaysia
21030 Kuala Terengganu.

Tarikh: 11/5/2006

.....
Ketua Jabatan Sains Biologi

Nama:

Cop Rasmi:

PROF. MADYA DR. NAKISAH BT. MAT AMIN
Ketua
Jabatan Sains Biologi
Fakulti Sains dan Teknologi
Kolej Universiti Sains dan Teknologi Malaysia
(KUSTEM)
21030 Kuala Terengganu.

Tarikh:

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

First and foremost, I would like to express my deep and sincere gratitude to my God for granting me wisdom, knowledge and understanding to finish this research and thesis.

I am deeply indebted to my main supervisor Dr. Cha Thye San whose help, stimulating suggestions and encouragement helped me in all the time of research for and writing of this thesis. He always kept an eye on the progress of my work and always was available when I needed his advises.

I am deeply grateful for my second supervisor Prof. Dr. Law Ah Theem who helped me to understand the oil degrading bacteria and aromatic hydrocarbons as well and provided the facilities and materials for me to conduct this research.

My sincere thanks are due to master student Chuah Lai Fatt and all my friends for giving me untiring help during my difficult moments. I feel a deep sense of gratitude to my family for their loving support. I am glad to be one of them.

Many thanks to lab assistants and officers that have provided guidance and cooperation during the laboratory work.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

	Page
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	ii
LIST OF TABLES	vi
LIST OF FIGURES	vii
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	viii
LIST OF APPENDICES	ix
ABSTRACT	x
ABSTRAK	xi
CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Objectives of Study	2
CHAPTER 2 LITERATURE REVIEW	3
2.1 Oil Spills	3
2.1.1 Aromatic hydrocarbons	4
2.1.2 Removal of aromatic compounds	4
2.2 Biodegradation of Aromatic Hydrocarbons	5
2.3 <i>Meta</i> -cleavage Pathway	6
2.4 Catechol 2,3-Dioxygenase (C23DO) Enzyme	6
2.5 Aromatic Hydrocarbons Degrading Bacteria	8

CHAPTER 3	METHODS AND MATERIALS	9
3.1	Materials	9
3.1.1	Source of sample	9
3.1.2	Chemical reagents	9
3.1.3	Kits and enzyme	9
3.2	Methods	10
3.2.1	Bacterial cultivation	10
3.2.2	Plasmid extraction	10
3.2.3	Genomic DNA extraction	11
3.2.4	Primer design for Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) amplification of catechol 2,3-Dioxygenase gene	12
3.2.5	Amplification of catechol 2,3-Dioxygenase gene with PCR technique	13
3.2.6	Purification of DNA fragments	15
3.2.7	Reamplification of purified DNA fragments with PCR technique	16
CHAPTER 4	RESULTS	17
4.1	Bacterial Cultivation	17
4.2	Plasmid and Genomic DNA Extraction	17
4.3	Primer Design for PCR Amplification of C23DO Gene	22
4.4	Amplification of C23DO Gene with PCR Technique	25
4.5	Purification of DNA Fragments	29
4.6	Reamplification of Purified DNA Fragments with PCR Technique	31
CHAPTER 5	DISCUSSION	34
CHAPTER 6	CONCLUSION	39

REFERENCES	40
APPENDICES	43
A. Culture Medium	43
B. Buffer Solution	44
CURRICULUM VITAE	46

LIST OF TABLES

Table Number		Page
3.1	The gene sequences of different bacteria species used in primer design of catechol 2,3-dioxygenase gene.	14
4.1	The purity and quantity of the extracted plasmid and genomic DNA isolated from <i>Pseudomonas</i> sp. strain AR3	19
4.2	The nucleotide sequences of heterologous degenerate forward and reverse primers designed for catechol 2,3-dioxygenase gene	24
4.3	The characteristics of heterologous degenerate forward and reverse primers	24
4.4	Putative DNA fragments obtained from PCR amplification by using primer combination	26

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure Number		Page
2.1	<i>Meta</i> -cleavage pathway for catechol catabolism	7
4.1	The culture of <i>Pseudomonas</i> sp. strain AR3 in Marine Broth 2216 medium (DIFCO) at 28°C for plasmid and genomic DNA extraction	18
4.2	Agarose gel (1%) electrophoresis of the plasmid isolated from <i>Pseudomonas</i> sp. strain AR3	20
4.3	Agarose gel (0.8%) electrophoresis of the genomic DNA isolated from <i>Pseudomonas</i> sp. strain AR3	21
4.4	Multiple sequences alignments of catechol 2,3-dioxygenase gene sequences derived from the Gene Bank Database	23
4.5	Agarose gel electrophoresis of the putative PCR products (640 bp) obtained from genomic DNA of <i>Pseudomonas</i> sp. strain AR3 with the primer combination CDO-F1+CDO-R1	27
4.6	Agarose gel electrophoresis of the putative PCR products (460 bp) obtained from genomic DNA and plasmid of <i>Pseudomonas</i> sp. strain AR3 for primer combination CDO-F2+CDO-R2 at 61°C of annealing temperature	28
4.7	Agarose gel electrophoresis of the purified CDO1 (a) and CDO2 (b)	30
4.8	Agarose gel electrophoresis shows PCR reamplification of purified DNA, CDO1 by primer CDO-F1 and CDO-R1	32
4.9	Agarose gel electrophoresis shows PCR reamplification of purified DNA, CDO2 by primer CDO-F2 and CDO-R2	33

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

bp	Basepair
CaCl ₂	Calcium Chloride
C23DO	Catechol 2,3-Dioxygenase
cDNA	Complementary Deoxyribonucleic Acid
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic Acid
dNTP	Deoxynucleotide Triphosphate
EDTA	Ethylene Diamide Tetra-Acetate
G+C	Guanine and Cytosine Content
Kb	Kilo Base
MgCl ₂	Magnesium Chloride
NaCl	Sodium Chloride
NaOH	Sodium Hydroxide
T _m	Melting Temperature
ηg	Nano gram
NCBI	National Centre for Biotechnology Information
nt	Nucleotide
OD	Optical Density
TAE	Tris-Acetate-EDTA
U	Unit

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix		Page
A	Culture Medium	43
B	Buffer Solution	44

ABSTRACT

Aromatic ring destabilized via oxidation by multicomponent enzyme system to produce catechol follows either *ortho*-cleavage pathway or *meta*-cleavage pathway. *Meta*-cleavage dioxygenase or catechol 2,3-dioxygenase is more capable than *ortho*-cleavage dioxygenase in degrading aromatic hydrocarbons. The Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) method was used to amplify catechol 2,3-dioxygenase gene (C23DO) from extracted genomic DNA and plasmid of *Pseudomonas* sp. strain AR3. Four sets of primer combinations (CDO-F1+CDO-R1, CDO-F2+CDO-R2, 23CAT-F+23CAT-R and DEG-F+DEG-R) were used to amplify the C23DO gene. The primer combinations 23CAT-F+23CAT-R and DEG-F+DEG-R were unable to produce the expected product of 238 bp from *Pseudomonas* sp. strain AR3. This could be either be due to high variation existed in C23DO gene sequences from *Pseudomonas* sp. strain AR3 compare to C23DO gene sequences of other oil degrading species or C23DO gene was not present in *Pseudomonas* sp. strain AR3. Two putative bands of 640 bp (CDO1) and 460 bp (CDO2) were obtained from PCR products with primer combinations CDO-F1+CDO-R1 and CDO-F2+CDO-R2 respectively. These putative bands were excised from gel and recovered with purification kits. Both of the putative bands were determined as self-amplified products through PCR reamplification.

PCR AMPLIFIKASI GEN CATECHOL 2,3-DIOXYGENASE DARIPADA BAKTERIA DEGRADASI MINYAK

ABSTRAK

Cincin aromatik dinyahstabil melalui pengoksidaan oleh sistem pelbagai komponen enzim untuk menghasilkan catechol dan seterusnya menjalani laluan tindakbalas *ortho*- atau *meta*-pemisahan. *Meta*-pemisahan dioksigenase atau catechol 2,3-dioksigenase lebih berkeupayaan mendegradasi hidrokarbon aromatik daripada *ortho*-pemisahan dioksigenase. Teknik Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) digunakan untuk mengamplifikasi gen catechol 2,3-dioksigenase (C23DO) dalam genomik DNA dan plasmid yang diekstrak daripada *Pseudomonas* sp. strain AR3. Gen tersebut diamplifikasi dengan menggunakan empat kombinasi primer (CDO-F1+CDO-R1, CDO-F2+CDO-R2, 23CAT-F+23CAT-R dan DEG-F+DEG-R). Kombinasi primer 23CAT-F+23CAT-R dan DEG-F+DEG-R gagal mengamplifikasi serpihan bersaiz 238 bp daripada *Pseudomonas* sp. strain AR3. Ini kemungkinan disebabkan oleh variasi yang ketara wujud antara jujukan gen C23DO *Pseudomonas* sp. strain AR3 dengan bacteria degradasi minyak yang lain atau *Pseudomonas* sp. strain AR3 tidak mempunyai gen C23DO. Dua putatif jalur serpihan yang bersaiz 640 bp (CDO1) dan 460 bp (CDO2) diperolehi dengan gabungan pencetus CDO-F1+CDO-R1 dan CDO-F2+CDO-R2 masing-masing daripada PCR. Jalur putatif tersebut ditulen dengan menggunakan kit penulenan. Kedua-dua jalur putatif tersebut disahkan sebagai produk amplifikasi sendirian dalam PCR.