

## INVESTIGATION AND CHARACTERIZATION OF THE GROWTH HORMONE TYPE 1 (GH1) GENE HOMOLOGUE IN THE *SALMO TRUTTA CASPIUS*

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**Abstract.** *Salmo trutta caspius* growth hormone genes (GH) homologue are used as models for studies in comparative variation breeding, transgenic and growth body weight. Hence variation genetic was studied between the *salmo trutta caspius* growth hormone gene1 (GH1) and *Salmo salar*. In this study, isolation and characterization of growth hormone of gene type 1 (GH1) in the *salmo trutta caspius*, recognizing full length DNA GH1 in strain *salmo trutta caspius* on the gel electrophoresis. First, DNA genomic extracted from blood samples of adult *salmo trutta caspius* and from places north of Iran was done. The method of DNA extraction (absorption on the fiber glass (kit) were used. One pair of primers was designed towards GH1 gene homologue. DNA template concentration, annealing temperature and extension time was monitored to optimize them. PCR products have been compared between strains on the gel electrophoresis. Four fragments from nucleotide of 1 to 2541 were sequenced. The PCR products were analyzed by BLASTn. Results are shown; there were high homology within strains, *salmo trutta caspius* and *salmo salar* 96% approximately. Moreover, our discussion are shown about sequencing homologue GH1 of *salmo trutta caspius* populations possible have been common ancestor with different species *salmo trutta*.

**Key words:** *Salmo salar*, *Salmo trutta caspius*, Growth hormone gene type 1, Sequencing, DNA

### Introduction

The *Salmo trutta caspius* is one of the nine subspecies of Brown trout (*Salmo trutta*) in the world [QUILLET *et al.*, 1992], and is endemic to the Southern Caspian Sea and its tributaries [QUILLET *et al.*, 1992]. This species is critically endangered anandaromous.

Hence, *salmo trutta caspius* has become one of the most important farmed species in aquaculture. In related to, we studied about growth hormone (GH) gene.

Growth hormone is a pituitary–secreted polypeptide hormone that in vertebrate is responsible for stimulating growth which has been shown to regulate and is involved in many other metabolic functions [PETER *et al.*, 1995].

Also, directly or indirectly, growth hormone is the main regulator of postnatal somatic growth and stimulates anabolic processes such as cell division, skeletal growth and protein synthesis [GROSS *et al.*, 1996].

From other target, the GH gene is a potential target for studies of genetic variation in connection with studies of growth traits [NILSSON *et al.*, 1995; GROSS *et al.*, 1995; GROSS *et al.*, 1996; RAYMOND *et al.*, 1995a, b].

*Salmonid* fishes have two type GH genes (type 1 and type 2) [AGELLON *et al.*, 1988;

RENTIER *et al.*, 1989. FORBES *et al.*, 1994]. These two type genes is common ancestor that double its entire genome through tetraploidy an estimated 25 – 50 million years ago.

We studied about GH type 1 for finding polymorphism in *salmo trutta caspius* and in related to, first, were designed one pair of primers from full length of the GH1 gene's *salmo salar* (Accession nos. AY614010 [RYNNANEN *et al.*, 2004] and X61938 [MALE *et al.*, 1992]), for the sequencing.

So, we found full length polymorphism in amplification products of the GH1 gene homologue in the *salmo trutta caspius* detected polymorphism within a full length of approximately 3 kb on the gel electrophoresis.

These results showed that there were high similarities within population's *salmo trutta caspius* and *salmo salar*.

### Materials and Methods:

**A. Samples:** The adults' *salmon* (three age years) average 500 gram, in November 2010 was collected from International Research center fishery of Tonekabon–Iran. These samples, first, were anaesthetized with MS222 and sample bloods taken from the caudal vein and transformed to



heparinized tube 1 ml for extraction DNA.

**B. Extraction of DNA:** Total genomic DNA was extracted from the blood samples according to absorption on fiber glass (Roche company kit) method.

**C. Primers:** We designed one pair of primers for amplification DNA of Growth hormone gene with the BLASTn on the NCBI Network service. This pair of primer including,

Forward Primer: 5'-ACCTACTCAACCGACCACCGCACTTTCAAG-3'

Reverse Primer: 5'-TCAATGCAGGGCAAGGCCTAATCTG-3'

These primers could amplify full length of almost 3 kb. To amplify and sequence homologous growth hormone gene from *Salmo trutta caspius*. Also we designed four primers for synthesis of fragments and sequencing it.

**PCR amplification:**

PCR was performed using primers (PCR cycle conditions are given below), including:

Template DNA: 1.0 µl;

Forward primer (100ng/ ml) 2.0 µl PCR Cycle condition:

Reverse primer (100ng/ ml) 2.0 µl;  
dNTP mix (2.5mM each) 2.0 µl;  
10X ChromTaq Assay buffer 5.0 µl;  
ChromTaq enzyme (3U/ ml) 0.5 µl;  
Water: 37.5 µl;

Total Reaction volume: 50.0 µl;

94°C	94°C	55°C	72°C	94°C
5 min	30 sec	30 sec	1 min	5 min
35 cycles				

**Electrophoresis:** Amplified GH1 gene full length was separated by one percent agarose gel electrophoresis.

Gels were loaded at approximately 100 V until the bromophenol blue dye front reached the end of the gel. After electrophoresis, the DNA full length was visualized ethidium bromide and then was taken photos by gel DOC Bio RAD Company.

**GEL Extraction and PCR purification by the kit SPIN-50 (RKT33):**

The kit is designed for rapid purification of plasmid DNA from standard or low-melt agarose in TAE or TBE. Features of the kit: High quality DNA and no phenol chloroform required. PCR products were gel eluted and sequenced using Gene specific forward and reverse primer. Finally, the PCR products

were sent to the Choromous Geni Company-India for doing sequence.

**Results**

Study variations at DNA level contribute to the genetic characterization of *Salmons* we used GH of gene.

According to the annotation GH genes, these are genes linked to economic traits and polymorphism genetics which are governed by many genes, following to the sequences of the *salmon* GH1 gene were published in the BLASTn on the National centre for biotechnology information (NCBI) network service, was designed a fragment of almost 3kb.

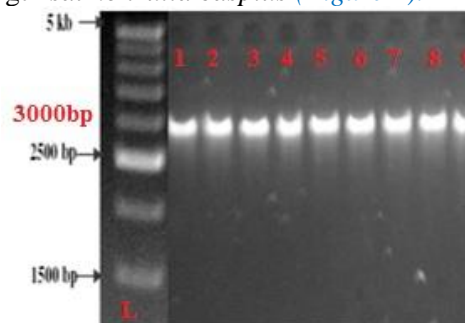
Hence, genomic DNA was extracted from blood samples *salmo trutta caspius* (Figure 1).



**Figure 1.** Genomic DNA was extracted from blood sample *Salmo trutta caspius* was loaded on 1% agarose gel.

**PCR amplification gel photo:**

According to reported sequences about GH1 genes at NCBI network, we have expected full length almost 3.5 kb from PCR products but are shown approximately 3 kb from full length *salmo trutta caspius* (Figure 2).



**Figure 2.** PCR amplification of Growth hormone gene (~ 3 kb) *Salmo trutta caspius* from samples 1 to 9. PCR Products were loaded on 1% agarose gel. L: 500bp DNA ladder.

**Sequencing:** For doing sequence from PCR products, we designed gene

specific forward and reverse primers for synthesis of fragments GH1 gene. In related to were sequenced four fragments (*Figure 3*) and other PCR products were failed.

These fragments were named: *SS1FP-SS1RP-SS2FP-SS2RP*. That including:

**SS1FP**

CAAAAAATCATCCCTTGCGCAATTAAGAGTAAAAATGGGACAAGGTAAGCCTGCTTTTC  
TGCTATTCTTTTTTAGTGGGAAGTCAGTGACCATTAGTACAGTTAACTTACACA  
TTAATCACTGAGGCAGGGCCAACACGGCAGAGAAAAGTGAACAAGTATTCTACTACTA  
TGAGGTTATAATCTATTGACACAGAACCACCTGCTTAAACAACCTAACTATGTGATCTAT  
AACATTTACATTTGAGTCAATTAGCAGACACTCTTATCCAAAAGCGACTTACAGGAGCCAT  
TAGGGTTAAGTGCCTTGCTCAAGGGCACATCGACAGATTTCTCACCTAGTCAGCTCAGGG  
ATTGAAACCGGTAACCTTTCAATTACTTACCCAACGCTCTTAAACGCTGGGCTATTGGTG  
TACAATGGCTGAGAATATCTAACTAATGTATCTCACCCATAATTTCGACTTACTCGTTTTAT  
ACATTTCTATTTTATTTAATCTCTTTTTAGTGTCTGCTGATGCCAGTCTTACTGGT  
CAGTTGTTTTCTGAGCCAAGGGGCAGCGATGGAAAACCAACGGCTCTTCAACATCGCGGT  
GAACCGGGTGCAACATCTCCACCTAATGGCTCAGAAGATGTTCAATGACTTTGTAAAGACA  
GTTTTGAATCTTCTTTGACATATCAAATAATGTATTAATGATTGTTCTTCTTCTTGTA  
GACAGTATCCTCTTTACACAACCCCTCGCGGCTAAAAAAAACAACAGAAAATCTCTCTC  
CCTTCTTTGTGATTTGTGCAGGAAGGCACCCTGTTGCCTGATGAACGCAGACAGCTGA  
AACAAGATATTCTGCTGGAACCTTCTGTTACCTCTGACTCTATCGTGAGCCCAATCGAA  
CAGCTGAGACTCAGAGAGAGTCAGTAGGTAACCTTGCTGGAAACCATTTCACGCTCTGT  
TTACGCCCCCTCT

**SS1RP**

CCAACCCGCCAAATTTAAAGGGGTTTTAAAGGGCGTCCATGCGTATTGTCTCAGCCAGGTTA  
CTTACTGAACTCTTCTGAGTCTCAAGCTTGTGCGATTGGGCTCACGATGGAGTCAGAGTTA  
CAGAAGTCCAGCAGGAATATCTTGTTCAGCTGTCTGCGTTCATCAGGCAACAGGGTGCCT  
TCCTGCACAAAATCACAAGAAGGGAGAGAGATTTTCTGTTGTTTTTTTTAGCCGCGAG  
GGTTGTGTAAGAGGATACTGTCTACAAAAAACAATCATTAAATACATTATTTGAT  
ATGTCAAAAAAATTCAAAAGCTGTCTTACAAAGTCATTGAACATCTTGAACCCATTA  
GGTGGAGATGTTGCACCCGTTACCCGCGATGTTGAAAAGCCGTTGGTTTTCCATCGCTG  
CCCCTGGCTCAAAAAACAACCTGACCAGTAAGACTGGCATCAGCAAAAAACACTAAAAGAG  
AGATTAATAAAAAAAGAAATGTATAAACGAGTAAGTCGAATTATGGTGAGATACATTA  
GTTAGATATTCTCAGCCATTGTACACCAATAGCCCAGCGGTTAAAAGCGTTGGGTAAGTA  
ATTGAAAGGTTACCGTTTTCAATCCCTGAGCTGACTAGGTGAGAAATCTGTGCGATGTGCC  
CTTGAGCAAGGCACCTAACCCTAATGGCTCCTGTAAGTCGCTTTGGATAAGAGTGTCTGC  
TAAATGACTCAAATGTAATGTTATAGATCACATAGTTAGGTTGTTAAAGCAAGTGGCT  
CTGTGCAATAGATTATAACCTCATAGTAGTAGAATACTGTTACCTTTTCTCTGCGG  
TGTGGGCCCTGCCTCAGTGAATTAATGTGTAAGTTAACTGTAATAATTGGTTACCTTGA  
ACTCCACTAAAAAGAATAGGAACGAAAAGCGGCTACTGTTCCATTTTTTAGCTTCTCAA  
TAGC

**SS2FP**

ACCGAAACTTATTTTCCATAATCTGTGGTTTTCTCTACACACACAGGTCCTGAAGCTGCTC  
CATATCTCTTTCCGCTGATTGAATCCTGGGAGTACCCTAGCCAGACCCTGACCATCTCC  
AAACAGCCTAATGGTCAGAAAACCTCAACACAGACTCTGAGAAGCTCAGCGACCTCAAAGTG  
GGCATCAACCTGCTCATCAAGGTAAAGAAAAGGAGGGAGAACAATGACCATTTGTGGTGCC  
ACACTTTGTGCACTGTAAACCCCAAGGCATTTTTAACTCAAATACTTCTAGTAAGTTGAA  
GTTG

**SS2RP**

TCATTGCGGGTTAAGTGCACAAAGTGTGGCACCACAAATGGTCATTGTTCTCCCTCCTTT  
CTTTACCTTGATGAGCAGGTTGATGCCACTTTGAGGTCGCTGAGCTTCTCAGAGATCTG  
GTTGGAGTTTCTGACCATTAGGCTGTTGGAGATGGTCAGGGTCTGGCTAGGGTACTCCA  
GGATTCAATCAGACGGAAAAGAGATATGGAGCAGCTTCAGGACCTGTGTGTGTAGAGAAAC  
CACAGATTATTGAAAATGAAGTTGCGTTGTATTGTACAGCTTGAGATTCCCTATTTACA

**Figure 3.** *Salmo trutta caspius* DNA sequencing from 1 to 2541 nucleotides. Major fragment was sequenced to four segments. Segments including A–T–C richness regions.

**Discussion**

In recent decade, have been more studies about economic traits and polymorphism genetics in *salmonids* in world.

The *Salmo trutta caspius* is one of the unique fishes in the Caspian Sea.

These fishes prefer to live in south, west and southwest of the Caspian Sea that which is the related to deeper [Berg, 1962].

These fishes has well growth, body weight and specific growth rate were significantly is high, has been reported until





|||||  
 Sbjct 1146 ACAACTGACCAGTAAGACTGGCATCAGCAGAAACACTAAAAGAAAGAG-AAA-A—TAA 1092  
 Query 1470 GAAATGTATAAAAACGAGTAAGTCGAATTATGGTGAGATACATTAGTTAGATATTCTCAGC 1529  
 |||||  
 Sbjct 1091 CAAATGTATAAAAACGAGTAAGTCGAATTATGGTGAGATACATTAGTTAGATATTCTCAGC 1032  
 Query 1530 CATTGTACACCAATAGCCACGCGTTAAAAGCGTTGGGTAAGTAATTGAAAGGTTACCGG 1589  
 |||||  
 Sbjct 1031 CATCGAACACCAATAGCCTAGCGGTTAAGAGCGTTGGGTAAGTAATTGAAAGGTTACTGG 972  
 Query 1590 TTCAATCCCCTGAGCTGACTAGGTGAGAAATCTGTGCGATGTGCCCTGAGCAAGGCACTT 1649  
 |||||  
 Sbjct 971 TTCAATCCCCTGAGCTGACTAGGTGAGAAAATCTGTGACGTTGCCCTTGGCAAGGCACTT 912  
 Query 1650 AACCTAATGGCTCCTGTAAGTCGCTTTGGATAAGAGTGTCTGCTAAATGACTCAAATGT 1709  
 |||||  
 Sbjct 911 AACCTAATTGCTCCTGTAAGTCGCTCTGGATAAGAGCGTCTGCTAAACGACTCAAATGT 852  
 Query 1710 AAATTGTTATAGATCACATAGTTAGGTTGTTAAAGCAAGTGGTCTGTGCAATAGATT-1768  
 |||||  
 Sbjct 851 AAAT-GTTATAGATCACATAGTTAGGTTGTTAAAGCAGGTGGTTCTGTGTCAATAGATT 793  
 Query 1769 ATAACCTCATAGTAGTAGAATACTTGTTCACCTTTTCTCTGCCGTGTGGGCC-TCCT 1827  
 |||||  
 Sbjct 792 ATAACCTCATAGTAGTAGAATACTTGTTCAC-TTTTC-TCTGCCGTGTGGGCCCTGCCT 735  
 Query 1828 CAGTGAATTAATGTGTAAGTTAACT-GTACTAATTGGTTAC-CTGAACT-CC-ACT-A 1882  
 |||||  
 Sbjct 734 CAGTGA-TTAAATGTGTAAGTTAAATGTACTAAATGGT-ACACT-GA-CTTCCCCTGA 679  
 Query 1883 AAAAAGAA-TAGGA-ACGAAAA-GC-GGCT-AC-T-GTTCCATTTTT 1922  
 |||||  
 Sbjct 678 AAAAAGAAATAG-ACA-GAAAAAGCAGGCTTACCTTGTCCCATTTTT 634  
 Identities=265/265 (100%), Gaps = 0/265 (0%)  
 Query 1973 ACACACACAGGTCCTGAAGCTGCTCCATATCTTTTCCGTCTGATTGAATCCTGGGAGTA 2032  
 |||||  
 Sbjct 2324 ACACACACAGGTCCTGAAGCTGCTCCATATCTCTTTCCGTCTGATTGAATCCTGGGAGTA 2383  
 Query 2033 CCCTAGCCAGACCCTGACCATCTCCAACAGCCTAATGGTCAGAACTCCAACCAGATCTC 2092  
 |||||  
 Sbjct 2384 CCCTAGCCAGACCCTGACCATCTCCAACAGCCTAATGGTCAGAACTCCAACCAGATCTC 2443  
 Query 2093 TGAGAAGCTCAGCGACCTCAAAGTGGGCATCAACCTGCTCATCAAGGTAAGAAAGGAGG 2152  
 |||||  
 Sbjct 2444 TGAGAAGCTCAGCGACCTCAAAGTGGGCATCAACCTGCTCATCAAGGTAAGAAAGGAGG 2503  
 Query 2153 GAGAACAATGACCATTTGTGGTGCCACACTTTGTGCACTGTAACCCCAAGGCATTTTTA 2212  
 |||||  
 Sbjct 2504 GAGAACAATGACCATTTGTGGTGCCACACTTTGTGCACTGTAACCCCAAGGCATTTTTA 2563  
 Query 2213 ACTCAAATACTTCTAGTAAGTTGAA 2237  
 |||||  
 Sbjct 2564 ACTCAAATACTTCTAGTAAGTTGAA 2588  
 Identities=296/311 (95%), Gaps = 15/311 (5%)  
 Query 2245 TTGCGGG-TTA-AGTGCACAAAGTGGCACCACAAATGGTCATTGTTCTCCCTCCTTC 2302  
 |||||  
 Sbjct 2553 TTG-GGGTTTACAGTGACAAAAGTGGCACCACAAATGGTCATTGTTCTCCCTCCTTC 2495  
 Query 2303 TTTACCTTGATGAGCAGGTTGATGCCACTTTGAGGTGCTGAGCTTCTCAGAGATCTGG 2362  
 |||||  
 Sbjct 2494 TTTACCTTGATGAGCAGGTTGATGCCACTTTGAGGTGCTGAGCTTCTCAGAGATCTGG 2435  
 Query 2363 TTGGAGTTTCTGACCATTAGGCTGTTGGAGATGGTCAGGGTCTGGCTAGGGTACTCCAG 2422  
 |||||  
 Sbjct 2434 TTGGAGTTTCTGACCATTAGGCTGTTGGAGATGGTCAGGGTCTGGCTAGGGTACTCCAG 2375  
 Query 2423 GATTCAATCAGACGGAAAGAGATATGGAGCAGCTTCAGACCTGTGTGTGT—AGA 2476  
 |||||  
 Sbjct 2374 GATTCAATCAGACGGAAAGAGATATGGAGCAGCTTCAGACCTGTGTGTGTGTGTGAGA 2315  
 Query 2477-G-A-A-A—CCACAGATTATTGAAAAATGAAGTTGCGTTGATTGTACAGCTTGAGATT 2530  
 |||||  
 Sbjct 2314 TGTAGAGAAACCACAGATTATTGAAAAATGAAGTTGCGTTGATTGTACAGCTTGAGATT 2255  
 Query 2531 CCCTATTTACA 2541  
 |||||  
 Subject 2254 CCCTATTTACA 2244

Figure 4. GH1 gene *salmo trutta caspius* fragments aligned with the *salmo salar* by NCBI program. Fragments including the four primers as started from first of length.

Growth hormone (GH) plays a very important role in many regulatory, metabolic and developmental processes in *salmonids*. GH in *salmonids* is represented by duplicated, non-allelic isoforms designated as GH1 and GH2.

At previous studies, used GH1 gene for the analysis of the genetic diversity among differences of species *salmo salar*.

Hence this gene is important for the understanding of the evolutionary process occurring in *salmo trutta caspius* after of



biogeographic separation and its relevance for the design and implementation of effective control measures.

#### **Primers and DNA sequencing**

GH1 gene has full length almost 4700 bp from seven different salmon populations (GenBank Accession nos AY614002–AY614008) were aligned [RYYNANEN, *et al.*,2004 MALE *et al.*,1992].

In *salmo trutta caspius* were designed a pair of primers for amplify of full length, polymorphism was assessed at 9 samples and was observed on the gel a fragment of almost 3kb, were purified PCR products and designed primers for the sequencing.

These primers is expected to amplify four fragments almost, 940bp, 900bp, 310bp and 300bp (positions 1 to 2540).

In related to, encompassing the fragments, positions of richness A–T–C, these characters are indicate unique at *salmo trutta caspius* which almost like nucleotides situation in the *salmo salar*.

This resulted also in higher frequency of the nucleotides AA, AT and AC compared to the lower frequency of the nucleotides GG

and GC.

These are fragments aligned with other sequences, especially *salmo salar* (accession no. X61938.1), these results are shown, there is high homology 95%, in first fragment (900bp F), 92%, in second fragment (900bp R), 100% first fragment (300bp F) and 95% second fragment (300bp R) (*Figure 4*). Identities=880/934 (94%), Gaps=29/934 (3%).

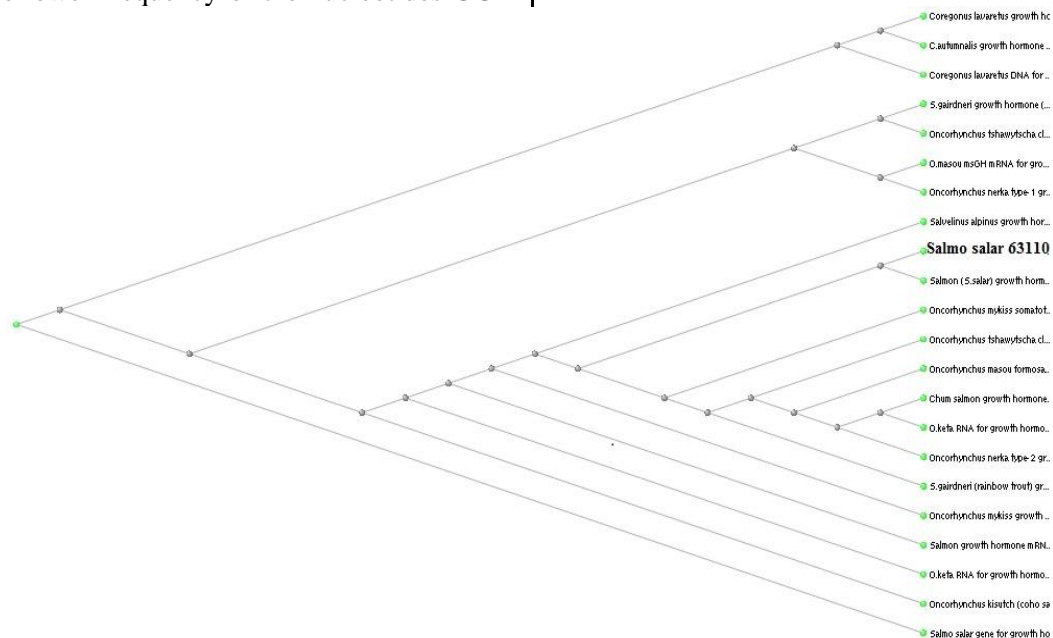
#### **Conclusion:**

We were sequenced a segment of 2541 bp, from first of the gene GH1.

At this study describes variation at *salmo trutta caspius* GH1 gene detected by NCBI tree aligning (*figure 5*)

Results are shown, *salmo trutta caspius* possible has been ancestral with *salmo salar*, *salmo trutta* (has been Bolded) and homology with *onchorhyncus mykiss* and *chun salmon*.

Also, we assumed this gene is candidate for evolutionary polymorphism in *salmons*.



**Figure 5.** The feature of tree alignment by NCBI program in *salmo trutta caspius* and different population's *salmon*, results are shown; *salmo trutta caspius* and other *salmons*. Scores denote conserved direct row.

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