

NIH Public Access

Author Manuscript

Comput Biol Chem. Author manuscript; available in PMC 2010 October 1.

Published in final edited form as:

Comput Biol Chem. 2009 October; 33(5): 379–385. doi:10.1016/j.compbiolchem.2009.07.006.

Computational analyses of mammalian lactate dehydrogenases: human, mouse, opossum and platypus LDHs

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Abstract

Computational methods were used to predict the amino acid sequences and gene locations for mammalian lactate dehydrogenase (*LDH*) genes and proteins using genome sequence databanks. Human *LDHA*, *LDHC* and *LDH6A* genes were located in tandem on chromosome 11, while *LDH6B* and *LDH6C* genes were on chromosomes 15 and 12, respectively. Opossum *LDHC* and *LDH6B* genes were located in tandem with the opossum *LDHA* gene on chromosome 5 and contained 7 (*LDHA* and *LDHC*) or 8 (*LDH6B*) exons. An amino acid sequence prediction for the opossum LDH6B subunit gave an extended N-terminal sequence, similar to the human and mouse LDH6B sequences, which may support the export of this enzyme into mitochondria. The platypus genome contained at least 3 LDH genes encoding LDHA, LDHB and LDH6B subunits. Phylogenetic studies and sequence analyses indicated that *LDHA*, *LDHB* and *LDH6B* genes are present in all mammalian genomes examined, including a monotreme species (platypus), whereas the *LDHC* gene may have arisen more recently in marsupial mammals.

Keywords

Mammals; amino acid sequence; genomics; lactate dehydrogenase; opossum; platypus; data mining; sequence analyses

1. Introduction

Mammalian lactate dehydrogenase (LDH; E.C.1.1.27) comprises three major families of conserved enzymes that catalyse the reversible interconversion of pyruvate and lactate, a key metabolic step in glycolysis and other metabolic pathways (Everse & Kaplan, 1973) At least five LDH tetrameric isozymes are reported in somatic mammalian tissues, comprising LDHA and LDHB subunits, whereas LDHC₄ is found only in mature testis and spermatozoa (Goldberg & Hawtrey, 1967; Goldberg, 1973; Li et al., 1989), where it is required for male fertility (Odet etal., 2008). The LDHA, LDHB and LDHC families of mammalian LDH genes and subunits have been extensively investigated, with human and mouse LDHA and LDHC genes located

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in tandem on chromosomes 11 and 7 respectively (Edwards et al., 1989), as compared with the *LDHB* gene, on chromosomes 12 (human) and 6 (mouse) (Takeno & Li, 1989a). Phylogenetic studies have indicated that the *LDHC* gene has arisen from independent gene duplication events during vertebrate evolution, including separate *LDHB* gene duplications in fish and birds (pigeon) (Zinkham et al., 1969; Markert et al., 1975; Hiraoka et al., 1990; Quattro et al., 1993; Mannen et al., 1997), and an *LDHA* gene duplication during mammalian evolution (Millan et al., 1987).

Transcription studies have reported two other human *LDHA*-like genes, designated as *LDH6A* and *LDH6B*, which are expressed in brain and testis respectively, and located on chromosome 11 (*LDH6A* in tandem with human *LDHA* and *LDHC* genes) (Ota et al., 2004) and chromosome 15 (*LDH6B*, an intronless gene) (Wang et al., 2005). In this study, we have identified and characterized *in silico* new forms of mammalian LDHs and described predicted amino acid sequences, protein secondary structures, gene locations and exonic structures for human (*LDH6C*), mouse (*LDH6B*), opossum (*LDHA; LDHB; LDHC;* and *LDH6B*) and platypus (*LDHA, LDHB* and *LDH6B*) genes and proteins, as well as the phylogenetic relationships for mammalian *LDH* gene families. Evidence is also presented for N-terminal extensions of LDH6B subunit sequences which may support mitochondrial export and location of human, mouse and opossum LDH6B.

2. Materials and Methods

2.1 Mammalian LDH gene and protein identification

BLAST (<u>Basic Local Alignment Search Tool</u>) studies were undertaken using web tools from the National Center for Biotechnology Information (NCBI)

(http://blast.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Blast.cgi) (Altschul et al, 1997). Protein BLAST analyses used previously reported human LDHA (Tsujibo et al., 1985), LDHB (Takeno and Li, 1989a), LDHC (Millan et al., 1987) and LDH6B (Ota et al., 2004) amino acid sequences. Nonredundant protein sequence databases for several mammalian genomes were examined using the blastp algorithm, including the human (International Human Genome Sequencing Consortium, 2001); mouse (Mus musculus) (Mouse Sequencing Consortium, 2002); opossum (Mikkelsen et al., 2007); and platypus (Platypus Genome Sequencing Consortium, 2008). This procedure produced multiple BLAST 'hits' for each of the protein databases which were individually examined and retained in FASTA format, and a record kept of the sequences for predicted mRNAs and encoded CES-like proteins. These records were derived from annotated genomic sequences using the gene prediction method: GNOMON and predicted sequences with high similarity scores for mammalian LDH. With some exceptions, predicted LDHA, LDHB, LDHC and LDH6B protein subunit sequences were obtained in each case and subjected to computational analyses of predicted protein and gene structures. Other LDH sequences were obtained following BLAT (BLAST-Like Alignment Tool) analysis using the human LDHA, LDHB, LDHC and LDH6B sequences to interrogate human, mouse, opossum and platypus genome sequences using the UC Santa Cruz gene browser

[http://genome.ucsc.edu/cgi-bin/hgBlat] (Kent *et al.* 2003) with the default settings to obtain Ensembl generated protein sequences by applying the method of Hubbard et al (2007) (http://www.ensembl.org/index.html).

BLAT analyses were subsequently undertaken for each of the predicted LDH amino acid sequences using the UC Santa Cruz gene browser [http://genome.ucsc.edu/cgi-bin/hgBlat] (Kent *et al.* 2003) with the default settings to obtain the predicted locations for each of the mammalian *LDH* genes, including predicted exon boundary locations and gene sizes.

2.2 Predicted Structures and Properties for Mammalian LDH Subunits

Predicted secondary structures for human and other mammalian LDH-like subunits were obtained using the PSIPRED v2.5 web site tools provided by Brunel University [http://bioinf.cs.ucl.ac.uk/psipred/psiform.html] (McGuffin *et al.* 2000).

Theoretical isoelectric points and molecular weights for mammalian LDH subunits were obtained using Expasy web tools (http://au.expasy.org/tools/pi_tool.html). Prediction of an LDH N-terminal protein region that may support a mitochondrial targeting sequence and the identification of a potential cleavage site was conducted using MITOPROT web based methods (Claros and Vincens, 1996) (ftp://ftp.biologie.ens.fr/pub/molbio).

2.3 Phylogenetic Studies and Sequence Divergence

Phylogenetic trees were constructed using an amino acid alignment from a ClustalW-derived alignment of CES protein sequences, obtained with default settings and corrected for multiple substitutions (Chenna *et al* 2003; Larkin *et al*. 2007) [http://www.ebi.ac.uk/clustalw/]. An alignment score was calculated for each aligned sequence by first calculating a pairwise score for every pair of sequences aligned. The alignment ambiguous amino-terminus region was excluded prior to phylogenetic analysis yielding alignments of 332 residues for comparisons of mammalian LDHA, LDHB, LDHC and LDH6B sequences with chicken LDHA and LDHB sequences, which served as 'outgroup' sequences (see Table 1). Sequence identities for mammalian LDH subunits were determined using the SIM-Alignment tool for Protein Sequences [http://au.expasy.org/tools/sim-prot.html] (Schwede *et al*. 2003).

3. Results and Discussion

3.1 Alignments of human LDHA, LDHB, LDHC, LDH6A, LDH6B and LDH6C amino acid sequences

The amino acid sequences for human LDHA (Tsujibo et al., 1985), LDHB (Takeno and Li, 1989a), LDHC (Millan et al., 1987; Takeno and Li, 1989b) and LDH6B (Ota et al., 2004) and the computation derived LDH6A and LDH6C human subunits are aligned in Figure 1 (see Table 1). Human LDH A, B, C and 6B subunits showed 71-75% sequence identities, indicating extensive conservation in amino acid sequences for these enzymes (data not shown). Major differences were observed however at the N-termini for the human LDH6B and LDH6C subunits, which showed an extension of 49 residues. MITOPROT computer based analyses of these sequences predicted a high probability for LDH6B and LDH6C subunit export into mitochondria (0.92 and 0.78, respectively), as well as a potential cleavage site at residue 31, in each case (Table 1; see Figure 1). The predicted mitochondrial N-terminal sequences were positively charged, with excess basic amino acid residues (3 and 2 respectively for LDH6B and LDH6C), contained no acidic residues and revealed a predicted amphiphilic α -helix, which are common features for mitochondrial leader sequences (Hanmen and Weiner, 1998). Key LDH catalytic residues were present in all six human LDH subunits, including the active site proton acceptor (His193), as well as coenzyme (Arg99 and Asn138) and substrate (Arg106; Arg169; Thr248) binding residues (Figure 1) (Read et al., 2001).

3.2 Alignments of mammalian LDHA, LDHB, LDHC and LDH6B amino acid sequences

The amino acid sequences for predicted mouse LDH6B, opossum LDHA, LDHB, LDHC and LDH6B, and platypus LDHA, LDHB and LDH6B subunits are aligned with previously reported sequences for the corresponding human and mouse subunits (Tsujibo et al., 1985; Takeno and Li, 1989a; Millan et al., 1987; Fukasawa and Li, 1987; Sakai et al., 1987; Hiraoka et al., 1990) (Figure 2; see Table 1). The predicted opossum and platypus LDH sequences showed higher levels of identity with homologue sequences from human and mouse sources,

particularly for the LDHA and LDHB sequences, which were 89-93% identical and 80-97% identical, respectively. Mammalian LDHC and LDH6B sequences, however, exhibited lower levels of identity, showing 65–74% identity for human, mouse and opossum LDHC sequences and 59–75% for human, mouse and platypus LDH6B sequences, respectively (data not shown). Mammalian LDH6B sequences showed evidence of N-terminus extensions for the predicted mouse, opossum and platypus subunits in comparison with LDHA, LDHB and LDHC sequences for all species examined (Figure 2). MITOPROT computer based analyses of these sequences predicted high probabilities for mouse and opossum LDH6B subunit export into mitochondria (0.98 and 0.79, respectively), as well as potential cleavage sites at residues 36 (mouse LDH6B) and 49 (opossum LDH6B) (Table 1; Figure 2). The platypus LDH6B sequence, however, differed significantly in this property, with the 53 residue N-terminus extension showing a lower probability as a mitochondrial signal peptide (0.27) (Table 1; Figure 2). Mitochondrial LDH (Brooks et al, 1999) has been previously proposed to play a role in the intracellular lactate shuttle and in lactate clearance by mitochondria, however the responsible LDH isozyme(s) have not been conclusively identified. The identification of a mitochondrial leader sequence for human, mouse and opossum LDH6B subunits may assist further investigations concerning a potential role for mammalian LDH in mitochondrial lactate clearance.

Each of the predicted mouse (LDH6B), opossum (LDHA; LDHB; LDHC; and LDH6B) and platypus (LDHA; LDHB; and LDH6B) sequences aligned closely with the corresponding human and mouse sequences, and all subunits (with one exception), showed sequence identity for the key active site residues previously described for human LDH subunits (see Read et al., 2001). The predicted platypus LDH6B sequence, however, contained an Arg residue in place of the key LDHA coenzyme binding residue (Asn138), which may significantly alter the kinetic properties for this enzyme.

Differences in the theoretical isoelectric points (pI) for opossum and platypus LDHA and LDHB subunits were observed, with LDHA showing higher pI values (7.1 and 8.2) than for the LDHB subunits (5.7 and 7.1), which is consistent with pI differences observed for other mammalian LDHs (Table 1). LDH6B subunits showed higher pI values than for the LDHA and LDHB subunits, which may be explained by the high basic amino acid content for the N-terminus peptide extensions, whereas theoretical pI values for mammalian LDHC subunits were intermediate between LDHB (lower pI) and LDHA/LDH6B (higher pI). Human, mouse and opossum LDHA, LDHB and LDHC subunits examined contained 331–334 amino acid sequence residues, whereas LDH6B subunits contained 381–385 amino acids due to the N-terminus extensions in each case.

3.3 Comparative Mammalian LDH Genomics

Figure 1 shows the locations of the intron-exon boundaries for the mammalian *LDH* gene products examined, and compares them with previously reported human and mouse *LDH* gene structures (Chung et al., 1985;Fusakawa and Li, 1987;Takeno and Li, 1989a,b) and their positioning within the aligned amino acid sequences. The mammalian *LDHA*, *LDHB* and *LDHC* genes examined, and the predicted human *LDH6A* gene, contained 7 exons in each case, with intron-exon boundaries in identical or comparable positions. In contrast, the human and mouse LDH6B genes were without intronic sequences, confirming a report for the human LDH6B gene (Wang et al., 2005), for which expression was observed in human testis. The predicted *LDH6B* genes in the opossum and platypus genomes, however, contained 8 exons, with the first exon encoding the predicted N-terminus extensions for these gene products, whereas the other 7 exons were localized in similar or identical positions to other mammalian *LDH* genes.

Table 1 describes the predicted locations for the mammalian *LDH* genes examined which showed that human, mouse and opossum *LDHA* and *LDHC* genes are located together within respective genomes on chromosomes 11, 7 and 5, respectively. The human and mouse LDHA and LDHC genes are very closely located together being separated by < 7 kilobases of DNA. The predicted human *LDH6A* gene is also part of this gene cluster on chromosome 11, as is the opossum *LDH6B* gene on chromosome 5 of the opossum genome. In addition, the platypus *LDHA* and *LDH6B* genes are apparently located on or near the same contiguous piece of DNA (Contig3116) suggesting that these genes are also closely located on the platypus genome. In contrast, the human, mouse and opossum *LDHB* genes are on a separate chromosome to that of the *LDHA*-like gene cluster (Table 1).

3.4 Predicted Secondary Structures for Mammalian (and Chicken) LDH Sequences

Figure 1 and Figure 2 show the secondary structures previously reported for human LDHA and LDHB (Read et al., 2001) and for mouse LDHC (Hogrefe et al., 1987) or predicted for mammalian LDHA, LDHB, LDHC and LDH6B subunit sequences, together with human LDH6A and LDH6C sequences. Predicted secondary structures for chicken LDHA and LDHB sequences were also examined as these were used as 'outgroup' LDH sequences for comparative analyses of mammalian *LDH* gene and protein structures. Similar α -helix β -sheet structures were observed for all mammalian and chicken LDH subunits examined, particularly near key residues or functional domains, including active site residues such as the active site proton acceptor (His193), as well as coenzyme (Arg99 and Asn138) and substrate (Arg106; Arg169; Thr248) binding residues (Read et al., 2001; Hogrefe et al., 1987). The obvious major difference in mammalian LDH secondary structure related to the N-terminus extensions for human LDH6B and LDH6C, and for mouse and opossum LDH6B, which contained an additional amphiphilic α -helix at the amino terminus, which may support being exported into mitochondria via these potential mitochondrial leader sequences (see Table 1). Although the platypus LDH6C N-terminal sequence contained a predicted α -helix, this did not extend into regions containing basic amino acid residues which may explain the lower probability for this sequence as a mitochondrial signal peptide (Table 1; Figure 2). It is apparent from these predictions that LDHA, LDHB, LDHC and LDH6B subunits are highly conserved in mammals, and it is likely that LDH subunits in the opossum will resemble the corresponding LDHs in human.

3.5 Evolution of Mammalian LDH Genes and Proteins

A phylogenetic tree (Figure 3) was calculated by the progressive alignment of human LDHA, LDHB, LDHC and LDH6B amino acid sequences with the corresponding LDH sequences from mouse, opossum and the platypus. Chicken LDHA and LDHB sequences were also included and served as an 'outgroup' for this analysis of mammalian LDHs. Four major clusters of mammalian and chicken LDHs were observed: the mammalian (and chicken) LDHA and LDHB gene clusters; the LDHC gene cluster of human, mouse and opossum; and the LDH6B cluster of human, mouse, opossum and platypus. This is consistent with the existence of four distinct mammalian LDH gene families: LDHA, encoding the major skeletal muscle isozyme; LDHB, encoding the major heart isozyme (Markert et al., 1975); LDHC, encoding the testis and sperm specific isozyme (Millan et al., 1987); and LDH6B, which awaits more detailed investigation. LDHA and LDHB have been described in all vertebrates examined and may be considered as the 'ancestral' genes for this enzyme (Holmes, 1972;Markert et al., 1975). In contrast, the LDHC gene has arisen independently from the LDHB gene in both teleost fish (Quattro et al., 1993) and in some birds (eg. pigeon) (Zinkham et al., 1969; Mannen et al., 1997), while in mammals, the LDHC gene has been apparently formed from an LDHA gene duplication event (Millan et al., 1987; Mannen et al., 1997). Biochemical studies have previously shown that LDHA, LDHB and LDHC isozymes are present in several Australian marsupials examined, including the pretty-faced wallaby (Macropus parryi), the koala

(Phascolarctos cincereus) and the brush-tailed possum (Trichosurus vulpecula) (Holmes et al., 1973) whereas LDHC is apparently absent in monotreme mammals, the echidna (Tachyglossus aculeatus) and the platypus (Ornithorhynchus anatinus) (Baldwin and Temple-Smith, 1973). This study of LDH genes and proteins predicted from the South American gray short-tailed opossum (Monodelphis domestica) genome lends support to the distribution of LDHA, LDHB and LDHC genes and proteins among marsupials from both Australia and South America. The absence of an LDHC-like gene in the monotreme (platypus) genome, however, suggests that the proposed LDH-A gene duplication event leading to the appearance of the marsupial LDHC gene may have occurred following the separation of marsupial and monotreme common ancestors. In contrast, the mammalian LDH6B gene is apparently present throughout eutherian, marsupial and monotreme mammalian evolution but is apparently absent in the chicken genome (Table 1; Figure 3). A further LDHA gene duplication event is proposed forming the ancestral LDH6B gene at an earlier stage of mammalian evolution, prior to the separation of monotremes from the marsupial and eutherian mammalian common ancestors. This is supported by the higher levels of sequence identities observed for LDHA and LDH6B subunits (65–71%) as compared with LDHB and LDH6B subunits (57–62%), and the close locations observed for LDHA and LDH6B genes for the mammalian genomes examined.

In summary, computer based predictions are presented of amino acid sequences, structures and gene locations for *LDH* genes and proteins of four mammalian species, the human, mouse, opossum (a South American marsupial) and platypus (an Australian monotreme). Opossum *LDHC* and *LDH6B* genes were located in tandem with the opossum *LDHA* gene on chromosome 5 and contained 7 (*LDHA* and *LDHC*) or 8 (*LDH6B*) exons. The predicted amino acid sequence for the opossum LDH6B subunit yielded an extended N-terminal sequence, similar to the human and mouse LDH6B sequences, which are proposed to support the export of these enzymes into mitochondria. The platypus genome contained at least 3 *LDH* genes encoding LDHA, LDHB and LDH6B subunits. Phylogenetic studies analyses indicated that *LDHA*, *LDHB* and *LDH6B* genes are present in all mammalian genomes examined, including a monotreme (platypus), whereas the *LDHC* gene may have arisen more recently in marsupial mammals prior to the appearance of eutherian mammals.

Acknowledgments

This project was supported in part by NIH HD05863 to E.G.

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Figure 1. Amino acid sequence alignments for human LDHA, LDHB, LDHC, LDH6A, LDH6B and LDH6C sequences

See Table 1 for sources of LDH sequences; * shows identical residues; Residues identified by MITOPROT as high probability mitochondrial leader sequences; conserved active site residues Arg99 and 106; Asn138; Arg169; His193; and Thr248 Helix (Human LDHA and LDHB or predicted helix); Sheet (Human LDHA and LDHB or predicted sheet). **Bold <u>underlined</u> font** shows known or predicted exon junctions (|). A, B, C, 6A, 6B and 6C refer to the corresponding human LDH subunits.

*	Huff	MATLKDQLIYNLLKEEQ-TPQNKITVVGVGAVGMACAISIIMKDLADELALVDVIEDKLKGEMMDLQHGSLFLKIPK 76
A .	800	,MATLKDQLIVNLLKEEQ-APONKITVVGVG <mark>AVGMACAISIIM</mark> KDLADELALVDVMED <mark>KLKGEMMDLQH</mark> GSLFLKTPK 76
	889	MGTVKDQLILNVLKEEQ-TPHNKITVVGVGAVGMACAISILMKDLADELALVDVIEDKLKGEMMDLQHGSLFLKTPK 76
A .	233	,MAGVKEQLIQNLLKEEY-APONKITVVGVGAVGMACAISILMKDLADELALVDVIEDKLKGEMMDLQHGSLFLRIPK 76
A	Chi	
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	000	
63	URR.	MCCPLALIASRAVCPCCVALISCOTALSPRANCCPSHWAW-LAVSWOOSINDJIMKNILERET-IDENKISIVCVCSVCMACAVSIVMALUDELALIDVDCNAVKCEMMDLJHCSGFINMPN 125
68	<b>6</b>	. WRWVLESVOTGRRVEAMAVAVGLGPPRPAPSSRAPRPARSPLAGAWP-RAPYSMATIKSOLIOTFVKED-VVPONKITIVGVGSVGMACAVSIIMKGLTDELALVDAMENKLKGEMMDLOHGSLFLKMPK 125
7	Hun	IV9GKDYNVTANSKLVIITAGAROOEGES <mark>RLNLVORNVNIFKFIIPNVVKY</mark> SPNCKLLIVSNP- <u>VDILTYVAWKIS</u> GFP <mark>KNR</mark> VIGSGCNLDSAAFRYLMGERLGVR <mark>PLS</mark> CHGWVLGEHGDSSVPV <mark>WSG</mark> 203
A .	800	IVSSKDYCVTANSKLVIITAGAROOEGES <mark>RLNLVORNVNIFKFIIPNIVKY</mark> SPHCKLLIVSNP-VOILTYVAWKISGFPKNRVIGSGC <mark>NLDSARFRYLMGERL</mark> GVHALSCHGWVLGEHGDSSVPVWSG203
2	889.	IVSSKDYAVTANSKLVVITAGAROOEGES <mark>klnlvOrnvnifkfiipnivky</mark> spyckllvysp- <mark>vdiltyvawkls</mark> gfpxnrvigsgc <mark>nldsarfrylmgekl</mark> gih <mark>sss</mark> chgwilgehgdssvpvwsg203
A	233	IVSGKD <mark>YSVT</mark> ANSKLVIITAGAROOEGES <mark>RLNLVORNVNIFKFIIPNVVKY</mark> SPNCKLLVVSNP- <mark>VDILTYVAWKIS</mark> GFPKNRVIGSGC <mark>NLDSARFRYLMGERL</mark> GIHSTSCHGWVIGEHGDSS <mark>V</mark> PVWSG 203
A	Chi	IISGKD <mark>YSVT</mark> ARSKLVIVTAGAROOEGES <mark>RLNLVORNVNIFKFIIPNVVKY</mark> SPDCKLLIVSNP- <mark>VDILTYVAWKIS</mark> GFPKHRVIGSGC <mark>NLDSARFRHLMGERL</mark> GIHPLSCHGWIVGEHGDSSVPVWSG 203
в	Butt	IVADKDYSVTANSKIVVVTAGVRQQEGES <mark>RLNLVQRNVNVFKFIIPQIVKY</mark> SPDCIIIVVSNP- <mark>V</mark> DILTYVTWKLSGLP <mark>KHRVIGSGCNLDSARFRYLMAEKL</mark> GIH <mark>PSS</mark> CHGWILGEHGDSSVAV <mark>WSG</mark> 204
в	Max.	IVADRDYSVTANSKIVVVTAGVRODEGES <mark>RLNLVORNVNVFKFIIPOIVKY</mark> SPDCTIIVVSNP- <mark>VDILTYVTWKLS</mark> GLPKHRVIGSGCNLDSARFRYLMAEKLGIH <b>PSS</b> CHGWILGEHGDSSVAVWSG 204
в	000	IVADKDYSVTAGSKIVVVTAGVRQOEGES <mark>ALNLVORNVNVFKFIIPOIVKY</mark> SPDCTIIVVSNP- <mark>VDILTYVTWKLS</mark> GLPKHRVIGSGC <mark>NLDSARFRYLMSEKL</mark> GIHPSSCHGWILGEHGDSEVAVWSG 204
в	P1a	IVADKDYSVTANSKIVVVTAGVRODEGES <mark>RLNLVORNVNVFKFIVPOIVKH</mark> SPDCTIIVVSNPAVDILTYVTWKLSGLPKHRVIGSGCNLDSARFRFLMSEKLGVHPSSCHGWILGEHGDSSVAVWSG 205
в	čhi	IVADKDYAVTANSKIVVVTAGVRODEGES <mark>ELNLVORNVNVFKFIIPOIVKY</mark> SPNCTILVVSNP-VDILTYVTWKLSGLPKHRVIGSGCNLDTARFRYLMAERLGIHPTSCHGWILGEHGDSSVÄVWSG 203
c	Hum	ITSGKDYSVSANSRIVIVTAGAROOEGETRIALVORNVAIMKSIIPAIVHYSPDCKILVVSNP-VDILTYIVWKISGLPVIRVIGSGCNLDSARFRYLIGEKLGVHPTSCHGWIIGEHGDSSVPLWSG 203
c	Mon	IVFGKDVNVSANSKLVI I TAGARMUSGET BLDLLORNVA I MKA I VPGI VON SPDCKI I IVTNP-VDI LTVVVKI SGPPUGRUI GSGCNLDSAS FRYLIGEKLGUNDTSCHGWULGEHGDS SVPIWSG 203
c	000	TTSSKDSKISANSOLVVVTAGAROOEGESRLNLVORNVDILKAIIPDVIKESPDCKLLVVSNP-VDILTYVAWKLSGLPKHRIIGSGTNLDSAAFRFLIGNKLDVNPTSCHGWIIGEHGDSSVAVWSG 202
68	Rom	TVCSK VEVTANSNEVE FTAGAROFEKET BENEVAR FKEMESSIVOVSPHCKLETVSNP-VDTLTVVSWKESEFENRETCSGCNEDTAFFFELGONLGINSFSCHGNEGESSVPUNSG252
63	Mon	TWOSK PRUTANSPUT ITACASO KNOT SI NI WORNUT PRAWAFTI KESPECKT I WOND- UDI LTPUTWKI SCPANELICSCON DIA PRVILOPIC I HERSCHOWL CHEORSUPWSC 253
63	866	TVSGID FXVTANSKLVIVTAGABOXEGED ALDLVYBNVE I FKLFI PELIOYSPNCI I LVVTNP-VDIMSYVAWKLSGES SYRVFCSGC SLDTSBECFFI GEBLGINTBSCHOWI JGEBGDS SVPTWNG 252
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8	<u>0</u> 00	WWAGVSLOELNPEMGTDNDSENWREVHEMVVDEAYEVIKLKGYTNAAIGLSVADLIESMLKNLSRIHPVSTMVKGMYGIENEVFLSLPCILNARGITSVINGKLKDDEVAGLERSADTLWDIGKDLKDL 334
-	666	VNVACVSLOELNPEWSTDNDSENWREVRELVTESATEVIKLKSITINAAIGLEVADLETMANLSKIHPVSINVACMIGIENEVFLSDCILKARGITSVINOKLKDDEVAOLKKSADITWDIOKDLKDL 334
в	ωü.	VNVAGVSLOELNPAMSSEGDDENWKEVHKMVVDAIIVSVKRLWQKTGGSGENIASIKKRLVASAARLVEGSAREQCMYGIDNEVFLSLPCVLNARGLTSVINQKLKDEEVAQLRKSAETLWAIQKDLHDL 335
в	Chi	VNVAGVSLOELNPAMGTDKDSENWKEVHKQVVESAYEVIRLKGYTNWAIGLSVAELCETMLKNLYRVHSVSTLVKGTYGIENDVFLSLPCVLSASGLTSVINGKLKDDEVAQLKKSADTLWSIGKDLKDL 333
c	Hun	VWVAGVALKTLDPXLGTDSD <mark>KEHWKNIHKQVIQ<u>B</u>AYEIIK</mark> LKGYT <mark>SWAIGLSVMDLVGSIL</mark> KNLRRVHPVSTMVKGLYGIKEELPLSIPCVLGRMGVSDVVKINLN <mark>SEEEALPKKSAETLWNIQ</mark> KDLIP-332
c	800	VNVAGVT <mark>LKSINP</mark> AIGTDSD <mark>KEHWKNVHKQVVE</mark> GCYEVLNMKGYTSWAIGLSVTDLARSILKNLKRVHPVTTLVKGFHGIKEEVFLSIPCVLGQSGITDFVKVNMT <mark>AEEEGLLKKSADTLWNMQKD</mark> LGL-332
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63	Hum	VNIAGVP <mark>LKDLNSD</mark> IGTDKD <mark>PEQWKNVHKEVTATAYEII</mark> KMKGYT <mark>SWAIGLSVADLTESILK</mark> NLRRIHPVSTIIKGLYGIDEEVFLSIPCILGENCITNLIKIKLT <mark>PEEEAHLKKSAKTLWEIQNK</mark> LKL-381
63	NO.X	VNIAGVPLRELNSAIGTSKDPEKWGDVHKEVIASAYNIIKMKGYTSWAIGLSVTDIAESILKNLRKTHPVTTKIQGLYGIKEEVPLSVPCILGESGISDIKVKLSPTEEAQMVKSAETIWKIQKDIKF-382
63	889	VNIACFPLKILNPDIGTSKD <mark>OEQWETIHKAVVASAYEVIK</mark> KKGYTS <mark>WAIGLCVADLTLSIM</mark> RNIKKVHPVSTLIKGFYGIKEEIFLSLPCVVGKDGITDILKITLS <mark>PLEESRLKKSADTLLQVQK</mark> DLKL-381
63	P1a	VNVAGVSLKGLYPEFGSDADKERWADVHKEVVDČAYEVIRAKGYTCWAIGFSVADLAESVMKNLRRVHPISTMIKGLYGIQDEVFLSVPCVLGQNGILEVVKIPLMPEEEAQLKKSADTLWGIQKDLRF-385
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Figure 2. Amino acid sequence alignments for human, mouse, opossum, platypus and chicken LDH sequences

See Table 1 for sources of LDH sequences; * shows identical residues; Residues identified by MITOPROT as high probability mitochondrial leader sequences; conserved active site residues Arg99 and 106; Asn138; Arg169; His193; and Thr248 Helix (Human LDHA and LDHB or predicted helix); Sheet (Human LDHA and LDHB or predicted sheet). **Bold <u>underlined</u> font** shows known or predicted exon junctions (|). **LDHs examined included human (hu); mouse (mo); opossum (op); platypus (pl); and chicken (ch)**.A, B, C and 6B refer to the corresponding LDH subunits.

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Figure 3. Phylogenetic tree of mammalian CES6 and of human CES1, CES2, CES3 and CES5 sequences

The tree is labeled with the LDH gene family number and the species name. Note the separation of the *LDH* genes into four *LDH* family clusters: LDHA; LDHB; LDHC; and LDH6B.

# Table 1 Mammalian and chicken lactate dehydrogenase (LDH) genes and enzymes examined

GenBank mRNA (or cDNA) IDs identify previously reported sequences (see http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Genbank/); ¹N-scan and ²SGP IDs identify gene probabilities and predicted signal peptides were based on MITOPROT web based tools (see Methods); Contig ID for platypus genome sequences; Prediction predictions using gene structure prediction software provided by the Computational Genomics Lab at Washington University in St. Louis, MO, USA (se e http://genome.ucsc.edu); UNIPROT refers to UniprotKB/Swiss-Prot IDs for individual LDH subunits (see http://kr.expasy.org); ³Mitochondrial export software based ENSOANT IDs: Sources for UDH sequences were provided by the above sources

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	tochondrial Export bability (Residues)	0.04 (Nil) 0.05 (Nil)	0.07 (Nil)	0.14 (Nil)	0.92 (1-33)	0.78 (1-33)	0.02 (Nil)	(IiN) 60.0	0.1 (Nil)	0.98 (1-37)	0.02 (Nil)	0.06 (Nil)	0.1 (Nil)	0.79 (1-50)	0.04 (Nil)		0.08 (Nil)		0.27 (Nil)	0.01 (Nil)	0.08 (Nil)	
	Subunit ³ Mi MW Pro	36,689 36,638	36,311	36,507	41,943	41,157	36,499	36,572	35,912	42,049	36,358	36,537	36,303	41,871	36,451		36,525		41,920	36,514	36,318	
	pI	8.4 5.7	7.1	6.5	8.9	8.6	7.6	5.7	8.4	9.3	7.1	5.7	6.8	8.7	8.2		7.1		8.8	7.8	7.1	
	Exons	7	L	Г			7	7	L	1	L	٢	7	~	7		L		×	7	٢	
	Gene size kbs	10,436 19.127	38,407	22,187	1,143	1,124	7,519	15,101	16,105	1,146	8,690	22,936	24,549	36,581	6,377		22,305		17,338	4,373	9,059	
	Amino Acids	332 334	332	332	381	373	332	334	332	382	332	334	331	381	332		335		385	332	333	
nog 21 00m	Strand	positive negative	positive	positive	positive	positive	positive	negative	positive	negative	negative	positive	negative	negative	negative		positive		positive	positive	positive	
an to provide a large	Chromosome location	11: 18,374,966-18,385,401 12: 21.679.746-21.698.872	11: 18,390,841-18,429,247	11: 18, 434, 804 - 18, 456, 990	15: 57,286,432-57,287,574	12: 61, 683, 600-61, 684, 723	7:54,102,990-54,110,508	6: 142,438,960-142,454,060	7:54,117,140-54,133,244	17: 5,417,512-5,418,657	5: 242,665,392-242,674,081	8: 93,264,241-93,287,176	5: 242,633,611-242,658,159	5: 242,565,407-242,601,987	$^{4}11958$ : 1024-4697; $^{4}3118$ :	2244-4946	⁴ 59108: 2671-2799; ⁴ 8353:	5168-27343	$^{4}3118: 2264-26601$	5: 13,645,367-13,649,740	1: 69, 204, 825 - 69, 213, 883	
	NCBI RefSeq ID	NP005557 NP002291	NM002301	NP659409	NP149972	¹ SGP.12.853.1	NP034829	NP032518	NP038608	NP780558	NP1028147	² chr8.557.a	XP1378365	XP1378357						NP990615	NP989508	
1 101 600 100	UNIPROT ID	P00338 P07195	P07864		Q9BYZ2		P06151	P16125	Q548Z6		Q9XT87	Q9XT86								P00340	P00337	
	GenBank ID	BC067223 BC071860	BC064388	BC014340	BC022034		BC004639	BC046755	BC049602	BC019420	AF070996	AF070997	² chr5.25.018	² chr5.25.016	AF545182		⁵ ENSOANT16632	L.	² ENSOANT13298			
TT DOGDO	LDH Gene	LDHA LDHB	LDHC	LDH6A	LDH6B	LDH6C	LDHA	LDHB	LDHC	LDH6B	LDHA	LDHB	LDHC	LDH6B	LDHA		LDHB		LDH6B	LDHA	LDHB	
<b>2</b> m m 1 0 g	Species	Human					Mouse				Opossum				Platypus					Chicken		