

IN SILICO DESIGN OF LAMP PRIMERS FOR THE IDENTIFICATION OF Pongo abelii AND Pongo tapanuliensis

GAETANIA FAZA ADHARA



DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL SCIENCES **IPB UNIVERSITY BOGOR** 2025



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ABSTRAK

GAETANIA FAZA ADHARA. In Silico Design of LAMP Primers for the Identification of *Pongo abelii* and *Pongo tapanuliensis*. Dibimbing oleh PUJI RIANTI dan ASADATUN ABDULLAH.

Orangutan Sumatra (*Pongo abelii*) dan orangutan Tapanuli (*Pongo tapanuliensis*) termasuk primata yang terancam punah akibat degradasi habitat dan kegiatan antropogenik. Identifikasi spesies yang akurat penting untuk konservasi, namun metode berbasis PCR kurang praktis untuk diterapkan di lapangan. Penelitian ini bertujuan merancang primer LAMP (*loop-mediated isothermal amplification*) yang menargetkan gen mitokondria *cytochrome b* (*cyt b*), dengan pendekatan in silico. Data sekuens *cyt b* dari GenBank disejajarkan untuk menemukan daerah konservatif sebagai lokasi penempelan primer. Primer dirancang menggunakan NEB LAMP Primer Design Tool dan dievaluasi berdasarkan karakteristik fisikokimia dan termodinamika. Hasil BLASTn menunjukkan spesifisitas tinggi terhadap spesies target. Pemetaan struktur juga menunjukkan jarak antar primer dan ukuran amplicon sesuai untuk amplifikasi LAMP. Temuan ini mendukung potensi penggunaan primer LAMP sebagai alat identifikasi spesies orangutan yang cepat dan dapat diterapkan di lapangan. Validasi laboratorium tetap diperlukan untuk memastikan efektivitasnya.

Kata kunci: DNA mitokondria, identifikasi genetik, orangutan sumatera, orangutan tapanuli.

ABSTRACT

GAETANIA FAZA ADHARA. In Silico Design of LAMP Primers for the Identification of *Pongo abelii* and *Pongo tapanuliensis*. Supervised by PUJI RIANTI and ASADATUN ABDULLAH.

Orangutans, especially the Sumatran (*Pongo abelii*) and Tapanuli (*Pongo tapanuliensis*) orangutans, are critically endangered due to habitat loss and other human-induced threats. Reliable species identification is crucial for conservation, but the limitations of PCR-based methods in field settings often hamper it. This study aimed to develop species-specific primers for loop-mediated isothermal amplification (LAMP) targeting the mitochondrial cytochrome b (cyt b) gene to distinguish between the two species using an in silico approach. *Cyt b* sequences from GenBank were aligned to identify conserved regions for primer binding. Candidate primers were designed using the NEB LAMP Primer Design Tool and evaluated based on physicochemical and thermodynamic characteristics. BLASTn analyses confirmed high sequence specificity. Structural mapping also indicated suitable inter-primer spacing and amplicon sizes compatible with LAMP reaction. These results support the potential of LAMP primers for rapid, field-deployable identification of orangutan species. Further laboratory validation is recommended to confirm their effectiveness in conservation efforts.

Keywords: genetic identification, mitochondrial DNA, Sumatran orangutans, Tapanuli orangutans.



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GAETANIA FAZA ADHARA

An Undergraduate Thesis Intended to Acquire Bachelor Degree in **Biology Study Program**

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY FACULTY OF MATHEMATICS AND NATURAL SCIENCES **IPB UNIVERSITY BOGOR** 2025



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FOREWORDS

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I hope this study will benefit the reader and scientific progress.

Bogor, August 2025

Gaetania Faza Adhara



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