

## ***In Silico* evaluation of bromelain from stem and fruit of pineapple (*Ananas comosus*)**

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### **ABSTRACT**

Pineapple (*Ananas comosus*) is the leading edible member of the family *Bromeliaceae*, and has been used as a medicinal plant in several native cultures. The medicinal qualities of pineapple are attributed to the enzyme Bromelain which is abundant in the stem and fruit of the pineapple plant and can also be isolated in small amount from pineapple waste such as core, leaves, peel etc. In this study, *in silico* analysis of bromelain from pineapple stem and fruit was done using standard bioinformatics tools such as *Blastp*, *HMMER*, *Clustal O*, *OMA Browser*, *EMBOSS*, *Swiss model*, and *Hex*. The result showed specific protein from *Gossypium raimondii*, *Amborella trichopoda*, *Populus trichocarpa*, *Corchorus olitorius*, *Bromelia fastuosa* as homologs of bromelain present in pineapple. The theoretical isoelectric point of stem bromelain was 8.436, while that of fruit bromelain was 4.726. The phylogenetic analysis shows that fruit bromelain evolved slowly compared to stem bromelain. Heuristic search for distant homologs implicated Asian wild rice. Eudicots and rodent were among orthologs obtained. The modeled structure obtained revealed that both stem and fruit bromelain possessed secondary structures made up of mainly helices, coils and beta strands.

**Keywords:** Bromelain, *In silico*, physicochemical properties, phylogeny, structure.

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### **INTRODUCTION**

Pineapple is the common name of *Ananas comosus* and it is the leading edible member of the family *Bromeliaceae*, grown in several tropical and subtropical countries including Philippines, Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Kenya, India, and China. It has been used as a medicinal plant in several native cultures (Mondal et al., 2011) and these medicinal qualities of pineapple are attributed to the enzyme Bromelain (EC 3.4.22.32). Bromelain has been chemically known since 1875 and is used as a phytomedicinal compound obtained from the crude extract of pineapple and contains among other compounds, different closely related proteinases, exhibiting various fibrinolytic, antiedematous, antithrombotic, and anti-inflammatory activities *in vitro* and *in vivo* (Pavan et al., 2012).

Bromelain although present in all parts of the pineapple, has a high concentration in the pineapple stem which

unlike the pineapple fruit which is normally used as food, the stem is a waste byproduct and thus inexpensive (Pavan et al., 2012). A wide range of therapeutic benefits have been claimed for Bromelain, such as reversible inhibition of platelet aggregation, sinusitis, surgical traumas, thrombophlebitis, pyelonephritis, angina pectoris, bronchitis, and enhanced absorption of drugs, particularly of antibiotics (Maurer, 2001; Pavan et al., 2012). Bromelain acts on fibrinogen giving products that are similar, at least in effect, to those formed by plasmin (Pavan et al., 2012). Experiment in mice showed that antacids such as sodium bicarbonate preserve the proteolytic activity of bromelain in the gastrointestinal tract (Hale, 2004). These and many more studies have been carried out indicating that Bromelain has useful phytomedical application. Existing evidence indicates that Bromelain can be a promising candidate for the

development of future oral enzyme therapies for oncology patients as it can be absorbed in human intestines without degradation and without losing its biological activity (Chobotova et al., 2010). With the knowledge of sequencing, structural biology and bioinformatics revolutionising biomolecular science and millions of sequences in UniProt and tens of thousands of three dimensional (3D) structures in the PDB (Berman et al., 2000; Alderson et al., 2012), the design of enzymes have progressed from site-directed re-engineering of natural proteins towards *de novo* design and assembly of active enzymes. This has been possible over the decades with a plethora of software, much of it freely available, that allows sophisticated computations to be carried out on large datasets. However, good understanding of systems biology and metabolism depends on a detailed knowledge of enzyme function (Bairoch, 2000; Li et al., 2010). In this study, *in silico* analyses of stem bromelain (SB) and fruit bromelain (FB) from pineapple were done using standard bioinformatics tools.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Sequence composition and homology analysis

The stem and fruit bromelain sequences were obtained from *UniprotKB/Swiss-prot* (<http://www.uniprot.org>) with ID: P14518 (BROM2\_ANACO) for stem bromelain; 212 amino acids residues. The fruit bromelain with ID: O23791 (BROM1\_ANACO); 351 amino acids residues. The homologs having minimum 50% identity were extracted by *Blastp* of both sequences from the Uniprot database, and they were stored in FASTA format for further analysis (Sanni et al., 2017).

### Physicochemical analysis

The physicochemical analysis was done according to the method of Sanni et al. (2017). The sequence physicochemical statistics such as theoretical molecular weight, isoelectric point of P14518 and O23791 were obtained using *EMBOSS Pepstat* at default setting ([www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/seqstats/emboss\\_pepstats](http://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/seqstats/emboss_pepstats)), while hydropathy plots for both sequences were obtained using *ProtScale* from ExPASy database using Kyte and Doolittle parameters at default setting ([web.expasy.org/protscale](http://web.expasy.org/protscale)).

### Phylogenetic analysis

The phylogenetic analysis was done according to the method of Sanni et al., (2017). Multiple sequence alignment was carried out on the enzyme and its homologs by using *ClustalO* ([www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/msa/clustalo/](http://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/msa/clustalo/)), at default setting. The phylogenetic tree was obtained in cladogram and the tree data was then used to visualize the real phylogeny at

*phylo.io* (<http://phylo.io>).

### Local alignment analysis

The local alignment was carried out using *EMBOSS matcher* ([www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/psa/emboss\\_matcher](http://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/psa/emboss_matcher)). The FASTA format of the two sequences were run using P14518 and O23791 has query respectively against the sequence of a distant homolog A0A0E0QV61, obtained from interactive database searching of each of P14518 and O23791 sequences using *HMMER* ([www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/hmmer](http://www.ebi.ac.uk/Tools/hmmer)) (Sanni et al., 2017).

### Evolution distance by orthologous and paralogous analysis

The sequence of P14518 and O23791 was independently retrieved from Uniprot, and entered to Blast of NCBI (Altschul, 1993). The query was first run against SWISS-PROT database to obtain the orthologs, while it was run against the non-redundant database to obtain the paralogs of the sequences. The BLAST Tree view for Fast Minimum Evolution was obtained.

### Structural analysis

The tertiary structure of P14518 and O23791 were modeled separately using *Swiss Model* (<https://swissmodel.expasy.org>). The template with the highest quality and identity was selected for model building (Sanni et al., 2017).

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Sequence composition and homology analysis

Bromelain is a group of sulfhydryl proteolytic enzymes (Marshall and Golden, 2012) and encompasses variety of cysteine proteases (Tochi et al. 2008) when extracted from the stem and fruit of pineapple plant (Neta et al., 2012). The result from the Uniprot database and physicochemical statistics from pepstat showed that the two Bromelain sequences: P14518 (Stem Bromelain) and O23791 (Fruit Bromelain) had differences in amount of amino acid residues and molecular weight. Stem Bromelain has 212 residues with a molecular weight of 22.83 kDa which is consistent with findings of (Ritonja et al., 1989). Fruit bromelain having 351 residues and a molecular weight of 39.05 kDa, this molecular is higher than 31kDa reported by Yamada et al. (1976) and a range of 24.5-32 kDa (Grzonka et al., 2007; Lopes et al., 2009; Gautam et al., 2010). This difference may be because of post-translation modification within the cell after protein synthesis.

The FASTA format of the sequences of stem Bromelain with ID: P14518 (BROM2\_ANACO) and fruit Bromelain

**Table 1.** Theoretical physicochemical properties of P14518 and O23791.

| Theoretical physicochemical property                                      | P14518      | O23791      |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| Amino acid Residues   | 212         | 351         |
| Molecular weight  | 22830.93    | 39054.78    |
| Average Residue Weight  | 107.693     | 111.267     |
| Net Charge  | 4.5         | -7.0        |
| Isoelectric Point   | 8.4361      | 4.7261      |
| A <sub>280</sub> Molar Extinction Coefficients (reduced/cystine bridges)  | 48360/48735 | 75290/75790 |
| A <sub>280</sub> Extinction Coefficients 1mg/ml (reduced/cystine bridges) | 2.118/2.135 | 1.928/1.941 |
| Improbability of expression in inclusion bodies                           | 0.923       | 0.778       |

with ID: O23791 (BROM1\_ANACO) retrieved from the Uniprot database. The homologs of P14518 (BROM2\_ANACO) and O23791 (BROM1\_ANACO) having minimum of 50% identity include the following proteins; *Ananas comosus* (A0A199VSS3, A0A199V231, A0A199UL32, A0A199UKV8, A0A199W8N4, F1KD58, P80884, A0A199W9F2), *Gossypium raimondii* (A0A0D2UND8), *Amborella trichopoda* (U5D9T6), *Populus trichocarpa* (B9H2I7), *Corchorus olitorius* (A0A1R3KH25), *Bromelia fastuosa* (Q6Q2T4), *Ananas macrodentes* (P83443), *Erythranthe guttata* (A0A022QAF9).

Fastuosain is a novel cysteine proteinase from *Bromelia fastuosa* with an estimated molecular mass of 25 kDa. It has been purified from the “gravatá” fruit from south-eastern Brazil. The fruit is edible, and its juice is popularly used in the treatment of bronchitis and asthma. It has been functionally characterized, cloned, and sequenced by Cabral et al. (2006). Fastuosain, in a protocol of intraperitoneal injections along with the tumor cell challenge in C57Bl/6 mice, largely inhibited lung colonization, and this effect matched that of bromelain. *Amborella* is a monotypic genus of understory shrubs or small trees endemic to the main island, Grande Terre, of New Caledonia (Jérémie, 1982). The genus is the only member of the family *Amborellaceae* and the order *Amborellales* and contains a single species, *Amborella trichopoda* (Große-Veldmann et al., 2011).

### Physicochemical analysis

Theoretical physicochemical properties of P14518 and O23791 are shown in (Table 1), while the hydropathy plots of the bromelain were shown in (Figures 1a and b). Furthermore, the result from *pepstat* showed the isoelectric point of SB to be 8.4361 while that of FB was 4.7261 respectively. This result is close to experimental data on isoelectric point of SB and FB with 9.55 and 4.6 respectively as reported earlier (Murachi et al., 1964 and Yamada et al., 1976). In proteins the isoelectric point (pI) is defined as the pH at which a protein has no net charge. When the pH > pI, a protein has a net negative charge and when the pH < pI, a protein has a net positive charge. The pI varies for different proteins. The negative net charge on Fruit Bromelain shows an excess of

negatively charged amino acids in its sequence, while a positive net charge on SB shows an excess of positively charged residues in its sequence as shown from the *pepstats* results. The combination from the effect of the isoelectric point and net charge suggests that SB is a basic protein while FB is an acidic protein, and this aligned with the findings of Omotoyinbo and Sanni, (2017).

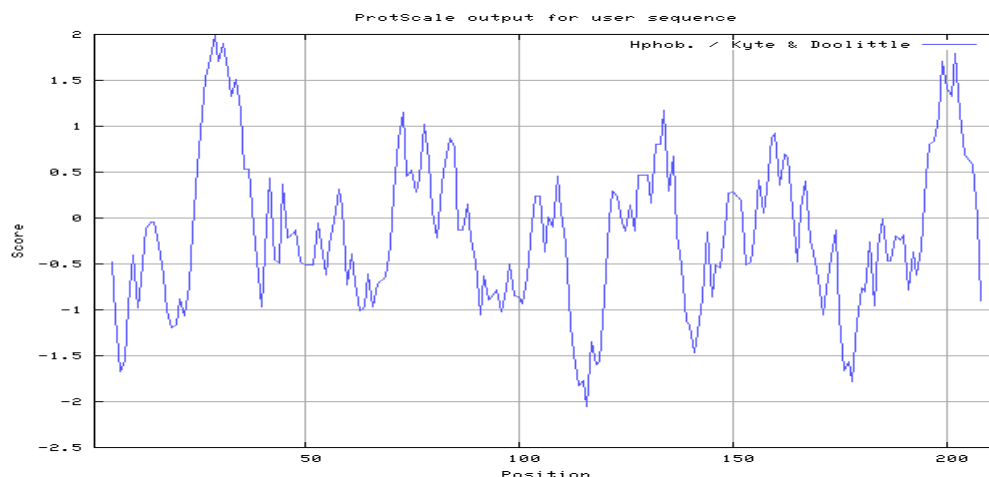
It has been shown that protein family can indicate a region of parameter space in which a protein is likely to crystallize (Hennessy et al., 2000) and that properties such as amino acid frequency, sequence length, grand average of hydrophobicity (GRAVY) (Kyte and Doolittle, 1982) and isoelectric point (pI) as well as other properties can determine a protein's propensity to crystallize (Smialowski et al., 2006; Chen et al., 2007).

These properties help in the preparation of buffer of appropriate pH during protein extraction, isolation and characterization. Investigations have also indicated that the isoelectric point could be used to determine the pH at which a protein with an acidic isoelectric point is likely to crystallize (Kantardjieff and Rupp, 2004; Charles et al., 2006). The isoelectric point determines a protein's minimum solubility level due to protein-protein interactions being favoured over protein-water interactions (Gilliland, 1988; Luft et al., 2011).

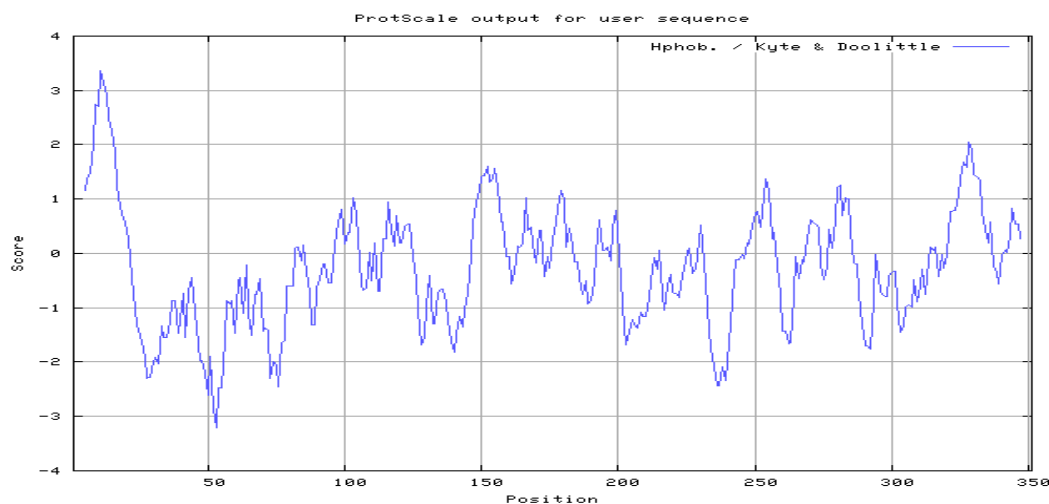
The result from the hydropathy plots (Kyte and Doolittle, 1982), shows that SB contains a higher proportion of hydrophobic/non-polar amino acids compared to FB. This indicates that SB might be a membrane protein or a protein that interacts well with membrane lipid bilayer compared to FB. One may also suggest that Stem Bromelain may be glycosylated, this is correct according to findings by Khan et al., (2003). This results also shows that FB by having more hydrophilic residues may be more water soluble than SB. It can also be inferred that SB would also have more hydrophobic residues in the interior of its 3D structure than FB.

### Phylogenetics analysis

The results for the multiple sequence alignment (MSA) revealed different of amino acid residues that were conserved during evolution of bromelain. In lane 1 of (Figure 2), it shows conserved D, E, D and W residues. In



**Figure 1a.** Hydropathy plot for P14518. It shows that there is presence of many hydrophobic amino acid residues depicted by the peaks of the plot.



**Figure 1b.** Hydropathy plot for O23791. It shows that the hydrophobic regions are lesser than those found in P14518 above.

lane 2, it shows conserved C, V, Q, W, E, I, E, Q, D, G, and G residues. In lane 3 it shows conserved F, I, I, I, P, N, E, and A residues. The result also shows some semi-conserved residues in all the three lanes. Amino acids that are conserved are those most critical to the function of the protein. Thus, looking for evolutionarily conserved patches of amino acids in a 3D protein structure is a good way to locate functional sites (Pettit et al., 2007). The phylogeny of bromelain from P14518 and O23791 and their homologs is shown in (Figure 3). A phylogenetic tree, also known as a phylogeny, is a diagram that depicts the lines of evolutionary descent of different species, organisms, or genes from a common ancestor (Baum, 2008). The result from phylogenetic analysis shows that FB has evolved slowly compared to SB. This

may be due to modifications, mutations or generally consequences of evolution.

### Local alignment analysis

A distant homolog with Uniprot/Swissprot ID: A0A0E0QV61, an uncharacterized protein from *Oryza rufipogon* (Brown beard rice) (Asian wild rice), which has 1,893 amino acid residues, was obtained by HMMER, a hidden markov model algorithm which has great predictive power. The extent of similarity and identity of this distant homolog with P14518 and O23791 are shown in (Table 2). The result from Uniprot shows that the both Bromelain sequences have a taxonomical lineage as follows: cellular organisms › Eukaryota › Viridiplantae ›

## Lane 1

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tr|A0A199W9F2|A0A199W9F2_ANACO      N-GNSYTLGNTQFADMTDFEFLSKYTS-ASIPLNKQEAPLTSFEDVNMSAVPNSIDWRD      1375
sp|P80884|ANAN_ANACO                  N-GNSYTLGINQFTDMTNNEFVAQYTG-LSLPLNKR-EPVVSFDDVDISAVPQSIDWRD      131
tr|A0A199UKV8|A0A199UKV8_ANACO        N-ENSYTLGINQFTDMTNNEFVAQYTGGRSRLNIEG-EQVVSFDDVDISAVPQSIDWRN      132
tr|A0A199W8N4|A0A199W8N4_ANACO        S-GNSYTLGINQFTDMTNNEFVAQYTG-VSLPLNIEP-EPVVSFDDVDISAVPQSIDWRN      131
tr|A0A199UL32|A0A199UL32_ANACO        N-GNSYTLGINQFTDMTNNEFVAQYTGGRSRLNIEP-EPVVSFDDVDISTVPQSIDWRN      132
sp|P14518|BROM2_ANACO                  -----AVPQSIDWRD      10
tr|A0A199V231|A0A199V231_ANACO        N-GNSYTLGINQFTDMTNNEFVAQYTGGRSRLNIEP-EPVVSFDDVDISAVPQSIDWRD      132
tr|O23799|O23799_ANACO                  N-ENSYTLGINQFTDMTNNEFVAQYTGGRSRLNIEP-EPVVSFDDVDISAVPQSIDWRD      132
tr|A0A199V5S3|A0A199V5S3_ANACO        N-ENSYTLGINQFTDMTNNEFVAQYTGGRSRLNIEP-EPVVSFDDVDISAVPQSIDWRD      132
tr|A0A199UDM2|A0A199UDM2_ANACO        S-RNSYTLGNTQFTDLTNNEFVAQYTG--ALPLNKR-EPVVSFDDVDISAVPQSIDWRN      130
tr|Q6Q2T4|Q6Q2T4_9POAL                 S-GNSYTLGVNQFTDMTNNEFLARYTG-ASLPLNIEP-EPVVSFDDVDISAVPQSIDWRD      104
tr|F1KD58|F1KD58_ANACO                  N-GNSYTLGINKFTDMTNNEFVAQYTGGRSRLNIEP-EPVVSFDDVDISAVPQSIDWRD      132
tr|A0A199W9E5|A0A199W9E5_ANACO        N-GNSYTLGINKFTDMTNNEFVAQYTG-VSLPLNKR-EPVVSFDDVDISAVPQSIDWRD      131
sp|P83443|MD01_ANAMC                    -----AVPQSIDWRD      10
tr|A0A199V5B5|A0A199V5B5_ANACO        N-GNSYTLGINQFTDMTKSEFVAQYTG-VSLPLNIEP-EPVVSFDDVDISAVPQSIDWRD      131
sp|O23791|BROM1_ANACO                  N-ENSYTLGINQFTDMTKSEFVAQYTG-VSLPLNIEP-EPVVSFDDVDISAVPQSIDWRD      131
tr|A0A199W8R4|A0A199W8R4_ANACO        N-GNSYTLGINQFTDMTKSEFVAQYTG-VSLPLNIEP-EPVVSFDDVDISAVPQSIDWRD      131
tr|A0A199UUF1|A0A199UUF1_ANACO        N-GNSYTLGINQFTDMTKSEFVAQYTG-VSLPLNIEP-EPVVSFDDVDISAVPQSIDWRD      99
tr|B9H2I7|B9H2I7_POPTTR                S-DRGYKLGKFNKADLTNEEFRAHYHGYKQSSKL----MSSSFYENLSDIPTSMWRN      132
tr|U5D9T6|U5D9T6_AMBTC                  G--RPYKLSANKFADLTNDEFRAMHGVFKGHECP--TRADAPFMYANV-APASMDWRK      137
tr|A0A1R3KH25|A0A1R3KH25_9ROSI         G-NQPYKLGKFNKADLTNEEFRAHYHGYKQSSKL----MSSSFYENLSDIPTSMWRN      139
tr|A0A022QAF9|A0A022QAF9_ERYGU        E-TRTYKLGKFNKADLTNEEFRAHYHGYKQSSKL----MSSSFYENLSDIPTSMWRN      134
tr|A0A0D2UND8|A0A0D2UND8_GOSRA        HTAKKYKLGKFNKADLTNEEFRAHYHGYKQSSKL----MSSSFYENLSDIPTSMWRN      131

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## Lane 2

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tr|A0A199W9F2|A0A199W9F2_ANACO      YDAVTEVKQQTCTCWAFAAATATVEGIYKIKKGLISLSEQVMDCSV--GSGCIGGG      1432
sp|P80884|ANAN_ANACO                  SGAVTSVKKNQGRGSCWAFASATATVEGIYKIKKGNLVLSLEQQVLDCAV--SYGCK--GG      187
tr|A0A199UKV8|A0A199UKV8_ANACO        HGAVTSVKKNQGRGSCWAFASATATVEGIYKIKKGNLVLSLEQQVLDCAV--SYGCK--GG      188
tr|A0A199W8N4|A0A199W8N4_ANACO        YGAVTSVKKNQNPCGSCWAFASATATVEGIYKIKKGNLVLSLEQQVLDCAV--SYGCK--GG      187
tr|A0A199UL32|A0A199UL32_ANACO        YGAVTSVKKNQNPCGSCWAFASATATVEGIYKIKKGNLVLSLEQQVLDCAV--SYGCK--GG      188
sp|P14518|BROM2_ANACO                  YGAVTSVKKNQNPCGSCWAFASATATVEGIYKIKKGNLVLSLEQQVLDCAV--SYGCK--GG      66
tr|A0A199V231|A0A199V231_ANACO        YGAVTSVKKNQNPCGSCWAFASATATVEGIYKIKKGNLVLSLEQQVLDCAV--SYGCK--GG      188
tr|O23799|O23799_ANACO                  YGAVTSVKKNQNPCGSCWAFASATATVEGIYKIKKGNLVLSLEQQVLDCAV--SYGCK--GG      188
tr|A0A199V5S3|A0A199V5S3_ANACO        YGAVTSVKKNQNPCGSCWAFASATATVEGIYKIKKGNLVLSLEQQVLDCAV--SYGCK--GG      188
tr|A0A199UDM2|A0A199UDM2_ANACO        YGAVTSVKKNQNPCGSCWAFASATATVEGIYKIKKGNLVLSLEQQVLDCAV--SYGCK--GG      186
tr|Q6Q2T4|Q6Q2T4_9POAL                 YGAVTSVKKNQNPCGSCWAFASATATVEGIYKIKKGNLVLSLEQQVLDCAV--SYGCK--GG      160
tr|F1KD58|F1KD58_ANACO                  YGAVTEVKQDNPCGSCWAFASATATVEGIYKIKKGNLVLSLEQQVLDCAV--SYGCK--GG      188
tr|A0A199W9E5|A0A199W9E5_ANACO        YGAVTEVKQDNPCGSCWAFASATATVEGIYKIKKGNLVLSLEQQVLDCAV--SYGCK--GG      187
sp|P83443|MD01_ANAMC                    YGAVNEVKKNQGPCGSCWAFASATATVEGIYKIKKGNLVLSLEQQVLDCAV--SYGCK--GG      66
tr|A0A199V5B5|A0A199V5B5_ANACO        YGAVNEVKKNQNPCGSCWAFASATATVEGIYKIKKGNLVLSLEQQVLDCAV--SYGCK--GG      187
sp|O23791|BROM1_ANACO                  YGAVNEVKKNQNPCGSCWAFASATATVEGIYKIKKGNLVLSLEQQVLDCAV--SYGCK--GG      187
tr|A0A199W8R4|A0A199W8R4_ANACO        YGAVNEVKKNQNPCGSCWAFASATATVEGIYKIKKGNLVLSLEQQVLDCAV--SYGCK--GG      187
tr|A0A199UUF1|A0A199UUF1_ANACO        YGAVNEVKKNQNPCGSCWAFASATATVEGIYKIKKGNLVLSLEQQVLDCAV--SYGCK--GG      155
tr|B9H2I7|B9H2I7_POPTTR                DGAVTPVKQDGTGCGCWFASATATVEGIYKIKKGNLVLSLEQQVLDCAV--SYGCK--GG      189
tr|U5D9T6|U5D9T6_AMBTC                  KGAVTPVKQDGTGCGCWFASATATVEGIYKIKKGNLVLSLEQQVLDCAV--SYGCK--GG      196
tr|A0A1R3KH25|A0A1R3KH25_9ROSI         KGAVTPVKQDGTGCGCWFASATATVEGIYKIKKGNLVLSLEQQVLDCAV--SYGCK--GG      197
tr|A0A022QAF9|A0A022QAF9_ERYGU        KGAVTPVKQDGTGCGCWFASATATVEGIYKIKKGNLVLSLEQQVLDCAV--SYGCK--GG      192
tr|A0A0D2UND8|A0A0D2UND8_GOSRA        KGAVTPVKQDGTGCGCWFASATATVEGIYKIKKGNLVLSLEQQVLDCAV--SYGCK--GG      190

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## Lane 3

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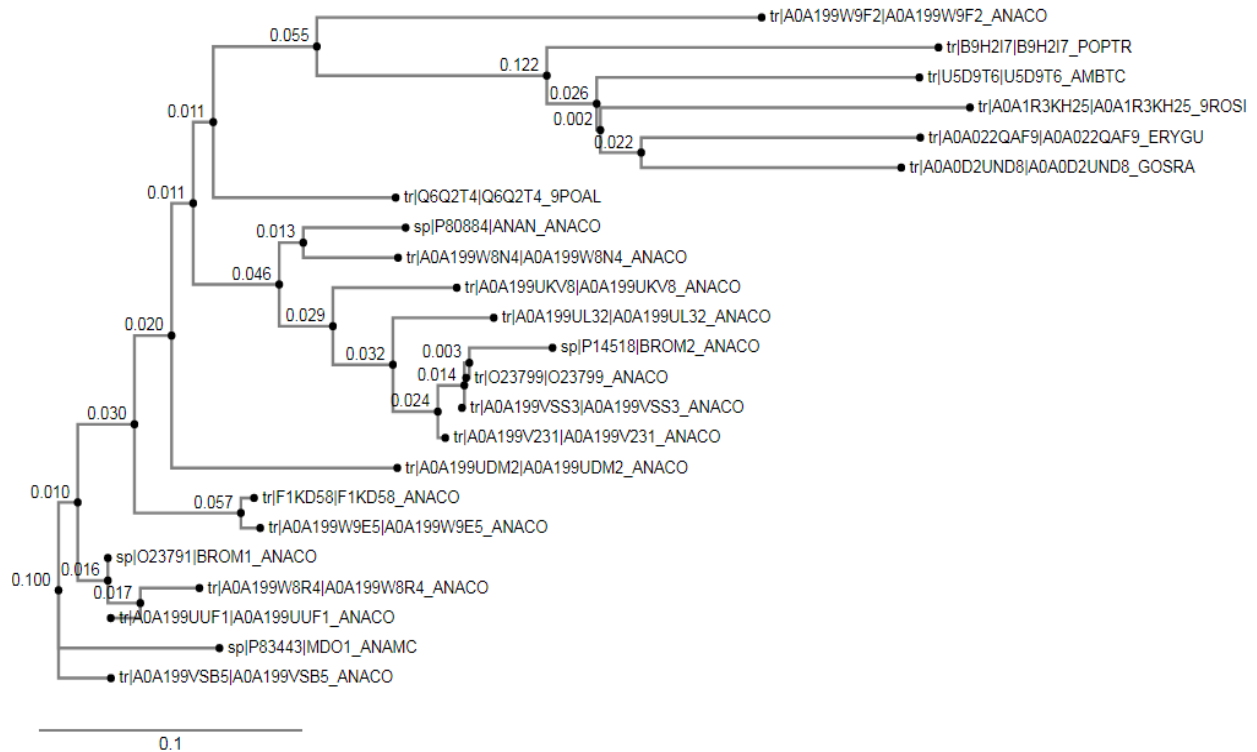
tr|A0A199W9F2|A0A199W9F2_ANACO      WAHQAYKFIIRNGGVATESSYPYTGVRNCSNIV-PNAAIDAYQHLPRNNETSLKVAV      1491
sp|P80884|ANAN_ANACO                  WINKAYSFIIISNKGVASAAIYPYKAAKGTCTNGV-PNSAYITRYTVQRNNESSMMYAV      246
tr|A0A199UKV8|A0A199UKV8_ANACO        WEFRAFEFIISNKGVASAAIYPYKAAKGTCTNGV-PNSAYITRYTVQRNNESSMMYAV      247
tr|A0A199W8N4|A0A199W8N4_ANACO        WVNKAYDFIISNKGVASAAIYPYKAAKGTCTNGV-PNSAYITRYTVQRNNESSMMYAV      245
tr|A0A199UL32|A0A199UL32_ANACO        WEFRAFEFIISNKGVASAAIYPYKAAKGTCTNGV-PNSAYITRYTVQRNNESSMMYAV      247
sp|P14518|BROM2_ANACO                  WEFRAFEFIISNKGVASAAIYPYKAAKGTCTNGV-PNSAYITRYTVQRNNESSMMYAV      125
tr|A0A199V231|A0A199V231_ANACO        WEFRAFEFIISNKGVASAAIYPYKAAKGTCTNGV-PNSAYITRYTVQRNNESSMMYAV      247
tr|O23799|O23799_ANACO                  WEFRAFEFIISNKGVASAAIYPYKAAKGTCTNGV-PNSAYITRYTVQRNNESSMMYAV      247
tr|A0A199V5S3|A0A199V5S3_ANACO        WEFRAFEFIISNKGVASAAIYPYKAAKGTCTNGV-PNSAYITRYTVQRNNESSMMYAV      247
tr|A0A199UDM2|A0A199UDM2_ANACO        QVNKAYDFIISNNGVTSTVFYPYKGNQGTCAANRV-PNSAYITGYSVVRRNDESSMMYAA      245
tr|Q6Q2T4|Q6Q2T4_9POAL                 WVNKAYDFIISNNGVTSTVFYPYKGNQGTCAANRV-PNSAYITGYSVVRRNDESSMMYAA      219
tr|F1KD58|F1KD58_ANACO                  FVDNAYDFIISNNGVASEADYPYQYQGDCAANSW-PNSAYITGYSVVRRNDESSMMYAV      247
tr|A0A199W9E5|A0A199W9E5_ANACO        FVDNAYDFIISNNGVASEADYPYQYQGDCAANSW-PNSAYITGYSVVRRNDESSMMYAV      246
sp|P83443|MD01_ANAMC                    WVNKAYDFIISNNGVTSTVFYPYKGNQGTCAANRV-PNSAYITGYSVVRRNDESSMMYAV      125
tr|A0A199V5B5|A0A199V5B5_ANACO        WVNKAYDFIISNNGVTSTVFYPYKGNQGTCAANRV-PNSAYITGYSVVRRNDESSMMYAV      246
sp|O23791|BROM1_ANACO                  WVNKAYDFIISNNGVTSTVFYPYKGNQGTCAANRV-PNSAYITGYSVVRRNDESSMMYAV      246
tr|A0A199W8R4|A0A199W8R4_ANACO        WVNKAYDFIISNNGVTSTVFYPYKGNQGTCAANRV-PNSAYITGYSVVRRNDESSMMYAV      246
tr|A0A199UUF1|A0A199UUF1_ANACO        WVNKAYDFIISNNGVTSTVFYPYKGNQGTCAANRV-PNSAYITGYSVVRRNDESSMMYAV      214
tr|B9H2I7|B9H2I7_POPTTR                HMDTAFQYIRNGGLTSEDNYPYQYQGDCAANSW-PNSAYITGYSVVRRNDESSMMYAV      249
tr|U5D9T6|U5D9T6_AMBTC                  FMDDAFEFIIRNNGHGLTTEAKYPYKAVDGTCTNKKASSGAAKITGYEDVPTNNEKALVKAV      256
tr|A0A1R3KH25|A0A1R3KH25_9ROSI         FMDDAFEFIIRNNGHGLTTEAKYPYKAVDGTCTNKKASSGAAKITGYEDVPTNNEKALVKAV      257
tr|A0A022QAF9|A0A022QAF9_ERYGU        LMDNAFEFIISNNGHGLTTEAKYPYKAVDGTCTNKKASSGAAKITGYEDVPTNNEKALVKAV      252
tr|A0A0D2UND8|A0A0D2UND8_GOSRA        LMDNAFEFIISNNGHGLTTEAKYPYKAVDGTCTNKKASSGAAKITGYEDVPTNNEKALVKAV      250

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**Figure 2.** Segments of multiple sequence alignment of P14518, O23791 and their homologs. (Red= small, hydrophobic, aromatic, not Y. Blue= acidic. Magenta= basic. Green= hydroxyl, amine, amide, basic. Gray= others) “\*”= identical, “.”= conserved substitutions (same color group), “-”= semi-conserved substitution (similar shapes).

Streptophyta > Streptophytina > Embryophyta > Bromelioideae > Ananas. The taxonomical lineage of Tracheophyta > Euphyllophyta > Spermatophyta > Oryza rufipogon (Brownbeard rice) (Asian wild rice) is as Magnoliophyta > Mesangiospermae > Liliopsida > follows: Eukaryota > Viridiplantae > Streptophyta Petrosaviidae > commelinids > Poales > Bromeliaceae > Embryophyta > Tracheophyta > Spermatophyta >





**Figure 3.** Phylogeny visualized at Phylo.io. It shows the degree of divergence of P14518, O23791, and their homologs from ancestors.

**Table 2.** Local alignment of P14518 and O23791 against A0A0E0QV61, using EMBOSS Matcher.

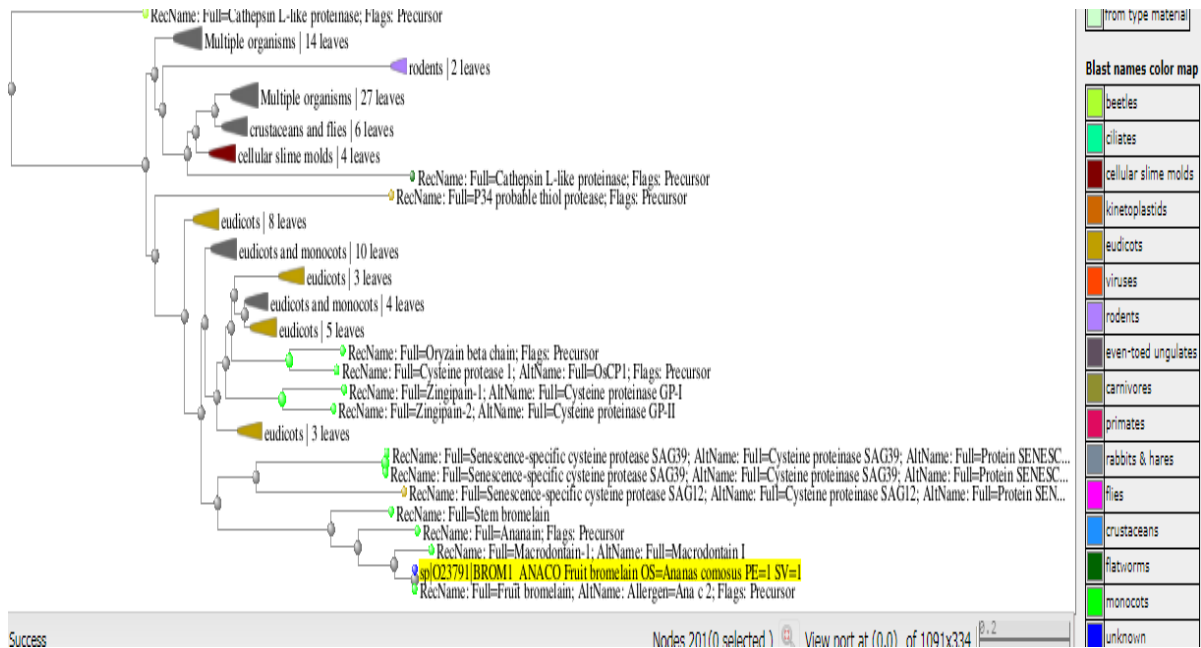
| Parameters     | P14518          | O23791          |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Matrix         | EBLOSUM62       | EBLOSUM62       |
| Gap penalty    | 14              | 14              |
| Extend penalty | 4               | 4               |
| Length         | 208             | 318             |
| Identity       | 102/208 (49.0%) | 140/318 (44.0%) |
| Similarity     | 137/208 (65.9%) | 192/318 (60.4%) |
| Gaps           | 6/208 (2.9%)    | 12/318 (3.8%)   |
| Score          | 524             | 665             |

Magnoliophyta › Liliopsida › Poales › Poaceae › BOP clade › Oryzoideae › Oryzeae › Oryzinae › Oryza. From the above it can be inferred that both are related and have same ancestors only diverging at the “Poales” stage/level. Rice is an angiosperm (flowering plant), with respect to the characteristics that it shares with all other angiosperms it thus can serve as a model for all flowering plants. Within the angiosperms, rice belongs to the large group known as the monocotyledons; rice thus provides a model for investigating characteristics that appear in monocots. Within the monocots, rice falls within the group known informally as the commelinidclade. Other members of this large group are palms (Arecaceae), pineapples (Bromeliaceae), gingers, and bananas (Zingiberales), as well as grasses, sedges, and rushes. Within the commelinids, rice falls in the order Poales, a

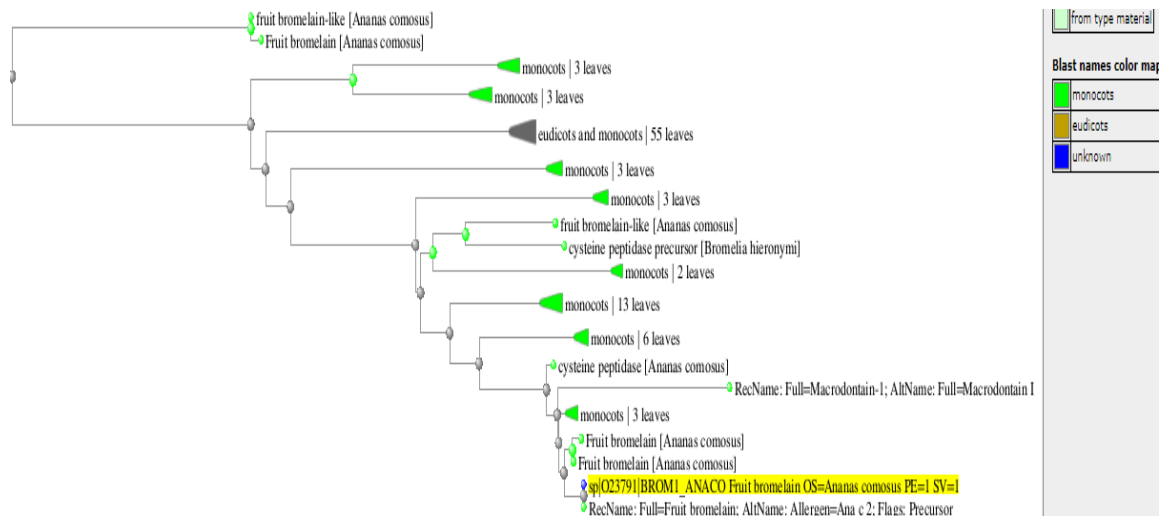
member of the Poaceae, the grass family, while pineapple is a member of the Bromeliaceae, the Bromeliads, they are the only family within the Poales that has septal nectaries and inferior ovaries (Kellogg, 2009).

### Evolution distance by orthologous and paralogous analysis

The tree view for fast minimum evolution obtained for the orthologous and paralogous analysis of O23791 is shown in (Figures 4a and b). The results of evolutionary distance show orthologs of fruit bromelain, which consists of enzymes present in other species that arose from the same ancestor that show the same function as itself. Results show that it is genetically similar to SB, and



**Figure 4a.** BLAST Tree View of O23791 Orthologs which are similar enzymes in other species that arose by speciation from a common ancestor.

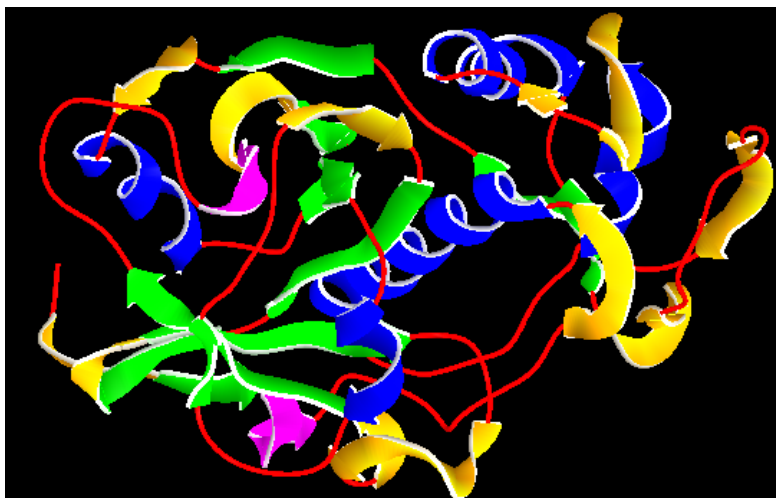


**Figure 4b.** BLAST Tree View of O23791 Paralogs which are similar enzymes that resulted from gene duplication events in evolution.

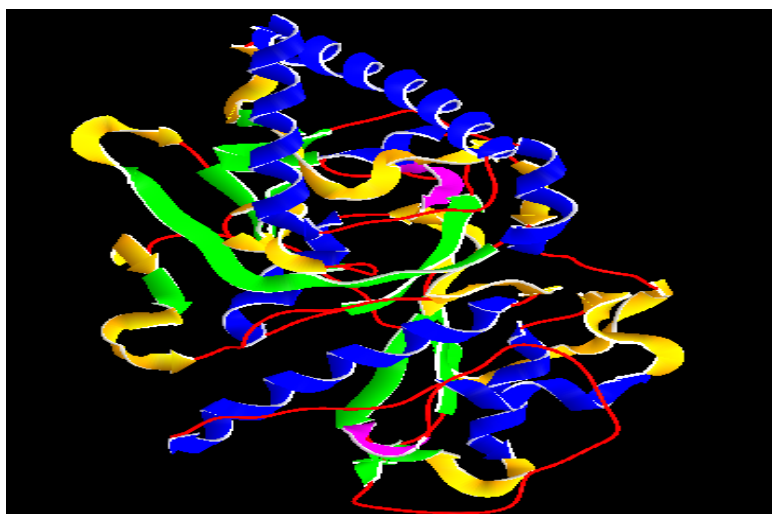
macrodontain-1, an enzyme from *Pseudananas macrodotes* (false pineapple). It seems clear that the *Bromeliaceae* endopeptidases are more closely related to each other than to other members of the papain family, suggesting relatively recent divergence (López et al., 2000). Orthologs, or orthologous genes, are genes in different species that originated by vertical descent from a single gene of the last common ancestor (Fitch, 1970). The result also shows paralogs of FB, which are homologous sequences that were produced by gene-duplication events (paralogs) (Koonin, 2005).

### Structural analysis

The structure of P14518 used in this study was obtained from homology modelling of the 3D structure of Chymopapain (PDB ID: 1yal.1.A) retrieved from the Protein Data Bank (PDB) which had 52.15% identity with P14518, 218 amino acid residues, and was resolved at 1.7 Å using X-ray Crystallography. The structure of O23791 used in this study was obtained from homology modelling of the 3D structure of Procaricain (PDB ID: 1pci.1.A) retrieved from the Protein Data Bank



**Figure 5a.** Structure of stem bromelain (P14518) modeled from Swiss Model and viewed by Hex Software.



**Figure 5b.** Structure of fruit bromelain (O23791) modeled from Swiss Model and viewed and viewed by Hex software.

which had 41.21 % identity with O23791, with 325 amino acid residues, and was resolved at 3.2 Å using X-ray Crystallography. The modelling was done using Swiss Model database, and the modelled structure were viewed using Hex Software version 8.0.0, as shown in (Figures 5a and b). The secondary structure of bromelain enzyme was made up mostly of helices (40 %), coils (39 %) and beta-strands (11 %) (Fatahiya et al., 2016). This is also evident in the modelled structures obtained from Swiss Model.

## Conclusion

Stem and fruit Bromelain were analysed *in silico* by using different bioinformatics tools and databases described above. It has been shown that Stem Bromelain is a

glycoprotein while fruit Bromelain is not. Bromelain and pineapple in general has been shown to have a common ancestry with the Asian wild rice, and with the rice family. The phylogenetic analysis has shown that the amino sequences between the two enzymes are almost similar showing that they are closely related. Structural analysis revealed the fact that the Stem Bromelain is showing more similarity with chymopapain, while Fruit Bromelain shows similarity with Procaricain, molecular visualization of which has been represented.

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