



## Characterization of Purified Collagen from Marine Squid *Uroteuthis Duvaucleli*

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**Abstract:** Collagen is the essential and most abundant structural protein found in the animal kingdom, involving almost 25-30 % of the entire body protein content. It is normally found in fibrous tissues, for example, skin, tendons, ligaments, skin, corneas, ligament, bones, veins, teeth, and so on. The skin of the squid is rich in collagen and is an excellent source of raw materials that can be used for the development of collagen products. As such, the use of *Uroteuthis duvaucleli* skin is an alternative source of collagen may be an effective way to obtain high-value-added products. In this study, - the isolated Type I collagen was found in *Uroteuthis duvaucleli* (skin and muscle). Additionally, the characterization of the Type I collagen from *Uroteuthis duvaucleli* (skin and muscle) was examined through various techniques such as SEM, FTIR, XRD, TGA. The skin and muscle showed the typical SDS-PAGE pattern of type I collagen with two different  $\alpha$  bands,  $\alpha 1$  and  $\alpha 2$  and also contains  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  chains. The fibrillar structures of collagen samples were observed by SEM. FTIR investigation showed the existence of helical arrangements of the type I collagen from skin and muscle. UV spectrum of Type I collagen from *Uroteuthis duvaucleli* skin and muscle has a maximum absorption peak near 230 nm and a minor absorption peak near 280 nm. In XRD, type I collagen from *Uroteuthis duvaucleli* skin and muscle one wide peak was obtained following with characteristic diffraction peaks of collagen. The results showed that type I collagen from skin and muscle had slight differences in molecular weight, amino acid composition, morphological structures, and thermal stability. The present data on collagens from the marine squid, could help the future endeavors to unwind the therapeutically significant, more secure collagens from marine squid for their utilization in biomedical field.

**Keywords:** Collagen, *Uroteuthis duvaucleli*, Scanning Electron Microscope, Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy, X-ray powder diffraction

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Received On 05 July 2020

Revised On 21 August 2020

Accepted On 27 August 2020

Published On 06 October 2020

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**Funding** This research did not receive any specific grant from any funding agencies in the public, commercial or not for profit sectors.

**Citation** Jency George and Dr. Manjusha W. A. , Characterization of Purified Collagen From Marine Squid *Uroteuthis Duvaucleli*.(2020).Int. J. Life Sci. Pharma Res.10(4), L121-133 <http://dx.doi.org/10.22376/ijpbs/lpr.2020.10.4.L121-133>

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## I. INTRODUCTION

Collagen is the essential and most abundant structural protein found in the animal kingdom, involving almost 25-30% of the entire body protein content<sup>1</sup>. It is normally found in fibrous tissues, for example, skin, tendons, ligaments, skin, corneas, ligament, bones, veins, teeth, and so on. It exists overwhelmingly in the form of a network like structure or as extracellular fibrils. Twenty-eight kinds of collagen have been recognized, each having a unique kind amino acid sequence, structure, and function. Among the collagen types, type I is the most encouraging as far as its attractive possibilities. The structural characteristics of collagen have permitted researchers to seclude it from crude materials with acetic acid, resulting in acid-soluble collagen (ASC). Pepsin is used to digest peptide chains in the telopeptide region of collagen molecules, and the obtained collagen is referred to as pepsin-soluble collagen (PSC)<sup>2</sup>. These two types of collagen have particular physicochemical properties. Due to collagen tensile strength and fibrous structure, collagen gives skin strength and elasticity, besides strengthening blood vessels and playing a major role in tissue development. Such capability of collagen has tremendous bearing on anti-aging treatment, cosmetic surgery, burn surgery, and even in weight management, leaving aside its industrial usages<sup>3,4</sup>. In general, the application of collagen can be classified into biomedical and non-biomedical sections. There is no uncertainty in the way that using collagen as biomaterial is effective. Moreover, collagen has provided relief from long courses of treatment in the clinical circle, where it has significantly reduced the time of healing as well as the severity of pain that is associated with traditional treatment procedures. For example, percutaneous collagen induction, which is an alternative to laser resurfacing, has been gaining popularity due to the advantages like preservation of the epidermis, thicker skin, a short healing phase and usage of only local anesthesia<sup>5</sup>. Altogether it is a safe, non-surgical procedure that softens lines and furrows on the face and acts as an agent of beautification even in older age, besides repairing the scars from the accident and untimely wrinkles. Despite the fact that the collagen has been proved to play an important role as biomaterial, there are disadvantages of its use too. Though it is currently used for cosmetic and burn surgery, people with a high rate of allergic reactions can suffer from a prolonged period of side effects. Also, there is three percent of the population who are sensitive to collagen. As well as, collagen cannot provide a permanent solution to aging, since it breaks down in the human body like any other protein. For instance, a bovine collagen injection to eliminate wrinkles can last from six weeks to a year, after which the patient will need another injection to regenerate its effect. There are several methods for deciding collagen and collagen types. The most widely recognized being founded on the quantitation of hydroxyproline, which represents around 10% of the collagen molecule. The amino acid composition can be recognized by High Performance Liquid Chromatography (HPLC). Determination of the molar proportion of specific collagen types includes separation of the peptide mixture created by enzymatic digestion, utilizing different partition techniques, for example, Sodium dodecyl sulfate Polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) or HPLC and their recognition by Mass Spectrometry (MS), Liquid chromatography/electrospray ionization-mass spectrometers (LC/ESI-MS) and High execution fluid chromatography coupled mass spectrometry (HPLC-MS/MS)<sup>6</sup> which

empower the examination of marker peptides in peptide mixture delivered by cyanogen bromide/trypsin processing. Another scientific technique includes the radioactive naming of proline and protein immunoassay by collagen-specific. The Indian Ocean Squid (*Uroteuthis duvaucelii*), is an Indo-West Pacific species of squid with a wide range through the Indian Ocean to Malaysia and the South China Sea, and is also present in the Red Sea and the Arabian Sea<sup>7</sup>. The skin of the squid is rich in collagen and is an excellent source of raw materials that can be used for the development of collagen products. As such, the use of *Uroteuthis duvaucelii* skin as an alternative source of collagen may be an effective way to obtain high-value-added products. In this study, - the isolated Type I collagen found in *Uroteuthis duvaucelii*. Additionally, the characterization of the Type I collagen was examined through the techniques such as SEM, FTIR, XRD, TGA.

## 2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

### 2.1 Characterization Of Isolated Collagens

#### 2.1.1 Determination of Hydroxyproline:

Hydroxyproline content was determined by the technique for Neuman and Logan method<sup>8</sup>. Collagen samples were taken into a round bottom flask and 100 ml of 6 N HCl solutions was added and boiled at 100 °C for 16 h. The cooled hydrolysate was transferred to a volumetric flask and diluted with distilled water. Hydroxyproline standard solution was prepared by dissolving 100 mg standard of hydroxyproline in distilled water. 4ml of the final dilution was taken in the test tube. Then 2 ml of oxidant solution (Chloramines-T) was added and left to stand for 25 min to the mixture. After that 2 ml of color reagent (4-dimethylaminobenzaldehyde solution) was added and mixed. This mixture was placed in a water bath at 60 °C for 15 min. Hydroxyproline oxidized with chloramine-T to pyrrole and red-purple colour developed after addition of 4-dimethylaminobenzaldehyde, was measured spectrophotometrically at 560 nm (U1800, Shimadzu, Japan, UV-VIS Spectrophotometer), according to Kolar (1990)<sup>9</sup>. Hydroxyproline content in the sample was calculated from the standard curve.

#### 2.1.2 SDS-PAGE:

Sodium dodecyl sulphate - Polyacrylamide Gel Electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) was performed according to the method of Laemmli (1970)<sup>10</sup> using 10 % separation gel and 1 % stacking gel. Collagen (10 mg) was dissolved in 1.0 ml of the sample buffer (Tris-HCl, pH 6.8 containing 2-mercaptoethanol, sucrose, bromophenol blue, 5 % SDS) and heated at 50 °C for 10 min. Then, 20 µl was loaded in each well along with high molecular weight protein markers. Electrophoresis was carried out at 50mA initially and then at 100 mA. Protein bands were stained with Coomassie Brilliant Blue R250 and destained using a solution containing water, methanol and acetic acid (5:4:1, v/v/v). The molecular weights of the collagen α-chains were determined by comparison with standard protein markers.

#### 2.1.3 Effect of pH on solubility:

Four (4) ml of collagen solutions from skin and muscle (3 mg/ml) respectively were transferred to 15 ml centrifuge

tubes and either 6 N NaOH or 6 N HCl added to obtain the final pH, ranging from 1 to 10. The volume of the solution was made up to 10 ml with deionized water previously adjusted to the same pH as the collagen solution. The solutions were centrifuged at 20,000 g for 30 min and the protein content of the supernatant determined. Protein solubility was calculated using the following equation<sup>11</sup>.

Solubility= (protein content of the supernatant)/ (total protein content of the sample)

Relative solubility= (solubility at given pH)/ (highest solubility in the range of pH)

#### 2.1.4 Effect of NaCl on solubility:

Four (4 ml) collagen solutions from skin and muscle (3 mg/ml) respectively were mixed with 1 ml of NaCl in 0.5 M acetic acid to give final concentrations of 0 to 12%. The mixture was stirred for 30 min, followed by centrifugation at 20,000 g for 30 min. Protein content in the supernatant was measured and the relative solubility calculated using the following equation<sup>11</sup>.

Solubility= (protein content of the supernatant)/ (total protein content of the sample)

Relative solubility= (solubility at given pH)/ (highest solubility in the range of pH)

#### 2.1.5 Thermogravimetric Analysis:

The behavior of the samples with temperature was studied using TA Instrument (STA 6000, PerkinElmer) in a nitrogen atmosphere. TGA curves were taken in the range 25–900 °C at a heating rate of 5 °C /min<sup>12</sup>.

#### 2.1.6 Scanning Electron Microscope:

The microstructure of samples was analyzed with a JEOL electron microscope JSM7600F, using the technique of secondary electrons with a voltage of 5 kV. The size of the samples used in SEM was 1 cm × 1 cm × 0.5 cm, and no sample was covered with a conductive material; they were placed directly in the sample holder. EDS technique was also employed for determining the main compounds of different superficial zones<sup>12</sup>.

**Table I: Hydroxyproline content (g/100 g) and collagen content(% of total protein) from squid skin and muscle**

Tissue	Hydroxyproline	Collagen
Skin	0.20 ± 0.060	17.8 ± 0.36
Muscle	0.14 ± 0.048	12.1 ± 0.10

Values are given as mean ± S.D; (n=3) P<0.05, statistically significant

#### 4.1.2 Effect of pH on collagen solubility:

The effect of pH on the solubility of type I collagen from muscle and type I collagen from the skin was studied. The highest solubility of type I collagen from *Urocteuthis duvauceli* skin and muscle was found at pH 3 and pH 4 respectively (Figure 1). In type I collagen from muscle, at above pH 3, there was a sharp decrease in pH. Low solubility was

#### 2.1.7 Fourier Transform Infrared (FTIR) Spectra:

Infrared spectra from 400 to 4000 cm<sup>-1</sup> were obtained with the KBr disc method using an infrared spectrophotometer (IRAffinity-1S, SHIMADZU). The number and location of the amide band were provided by Fourier self-deconvolution<sup>13</sup>, which was conducted using a resolution enhancement factor of 2.1 and half-height bandwidth of 13.5 cm<sup>-1</sup><sup>14</sup>.

#### 2.1.8 X-Ray Diffraction:

The powders of collagens were tested by an X-ray diffractometer D8 Advance of Bruker AXS, with Cu K radiation ( $\lambda = 0.154$  nm) and  $2\theta$  from  $18^0$  to  $80^0$ , to obtain structural information on an atomic scale from both materials (Muscle and skin)<sup>13</sup>.

#### 2.1.9 UV Absorption Measurement:

The ultraviolet absorption spectra of extracted collagens were recorded individually by a UV spectrophotometer (UV 1800, Shimadzu, Japan). The collagen samples were prepared by dissolution in 0.5 M acetic acid solution with a sample/solution ratio of 1:1000 (w/v)<sup>12</sup>.

### 3. STATISTICAL EVALUATION

Data are given as the mean ± standard deviation of at least three independent experiments. Statistical significance was evaluated through one-way analysis of variance (ANOVA). P<0.05 is represented a statistically significant difference. These calculations were performed with MINTAB Release 14 Minitab Inc. software.

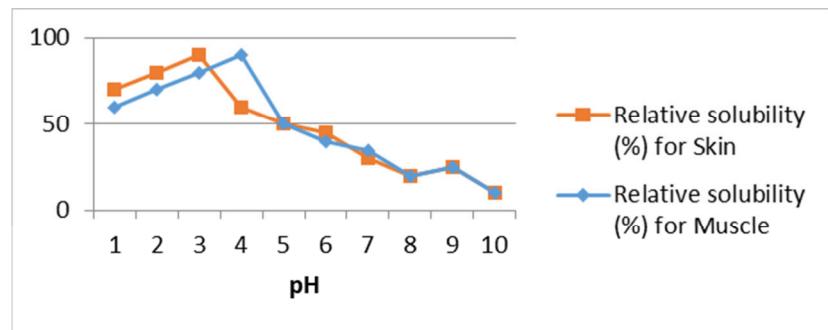
### 4. RESULTS

#### 4.1 Characterization Of Isolated Collagens

##### 4.1.1 Hydroxyproline content:

The assessment of hydroxyproline and the collagen content in skin and muscle are shown in Table I. All results were subjected to analysis of variance (ANOVA) and are given as mean ± S.D. from triplicate determinations. Hydroxyproline and collagen content were significantly higher in skin tissue (P < 0.05) than muscle (Table I).

observed at pH 7-10. In type I collagen from skin, at above pH 4, there was a sharp decrease in pH. Low solubility was observed at pH 8-10. There was no major difference in solubility between type I collagen from *Urocteuthis duvauceli* skin and muscle at various pH. The result suggested that both type I collagen from *Urocteuthis duvauceli* skin and muscle showed higher solubility in acidic conditions than the alkaline condition (Figure 1).

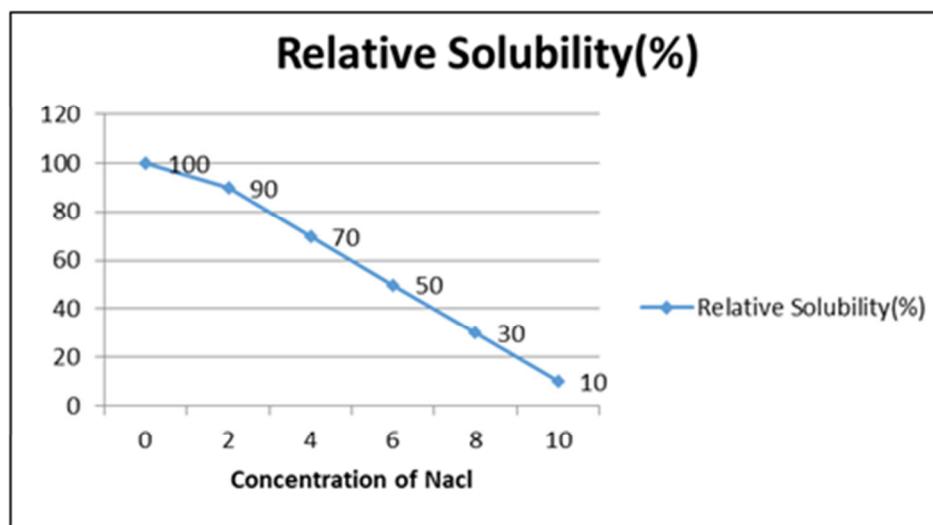


**Fig 1: Effect of pH: Relative solubility of collagen type I from skin and muscle of *Uroteuthis duvauceli***

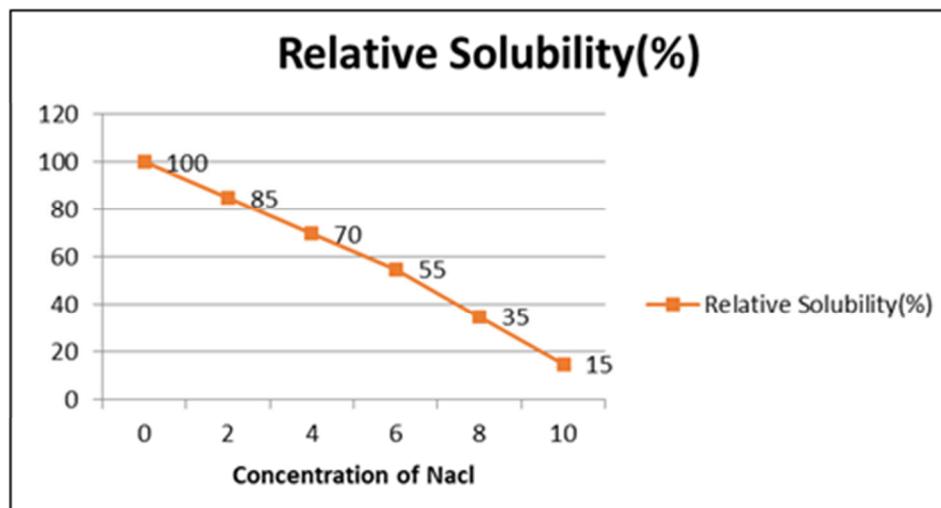
#### 4.1.3 Effect of NaCl on collagen solubility:

Solubility of Type I collagen from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* skin and muscle at different NaCl concentrations are shown in Figures 2a and 2b, respectively. The highest solubility of type I collagen from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* skin and muscle was found at 2 % NaCl concentration. There was decrease in solubility observed for collagen type I (Muscle) and collagen

type I (Skin) in 0.5 M acetic acid with an increase in NaCl concentration. There was a sharp decrease in solubility above 4 % NaCl concentration in both Type I collagen from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* skin and muscle. The decrease of collagen solubility at high NaCl concentration was thought to be mainly due to the phenomenon of salting out (Figure 2a and 2b).



**Fig 2a: Relative Solubility of Type I collagen from skin of *Uroteuthis duvauceli***

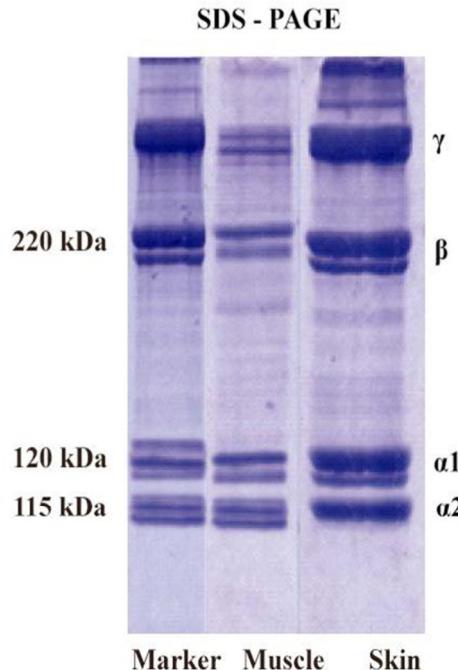


**Fig 2b: Relative Solubility of Type I collagen from muscle of *Uroteuthis duvauceli***

#### 4.1.4 Molecular weight analysis by SDS-PAGE:

SDS-PAGE band is usually applied to determine the type and constituents of collagen on the subunit composition, electrophoretic mobility and potency of the band. The presence of  $\alpha 1$  and  $\alpha 2$  chains in muscle and skin collagens were a typical pattern of Type I collagen (Figure 11). The  $\alpha 2$  unit was the minor component in muscle and skin and it seems that the collagen exists as trimers consisting of two  $\alpha 1$  and one  $\alpha 2$  chains. There were no significant differences

among the molecular weights of these two subunits of skin and muscle collagens. The molecular weights of skin and muscle subunits were about 120 KDa for  $\alpha 1$  and 115 KDa for  $\alpha 2$ . Nevertheless, the band intensity of  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$ -chains from type I collagen in skin was higher than that of type I collagen in muscle. Therefore, it could be concluded that the intra and inter- molecular cross links of collagens were higher in type I collagen in skin than in type I collagen in muscle (Figure 3).

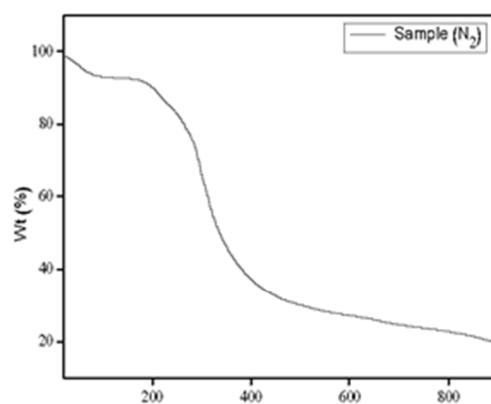


**Fig 3: SDS-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) pattern of muscle and skin collagen from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* on 7.5% gel under reducing condition.**

#### 4.1.5 Thermogravimetric Analysis:

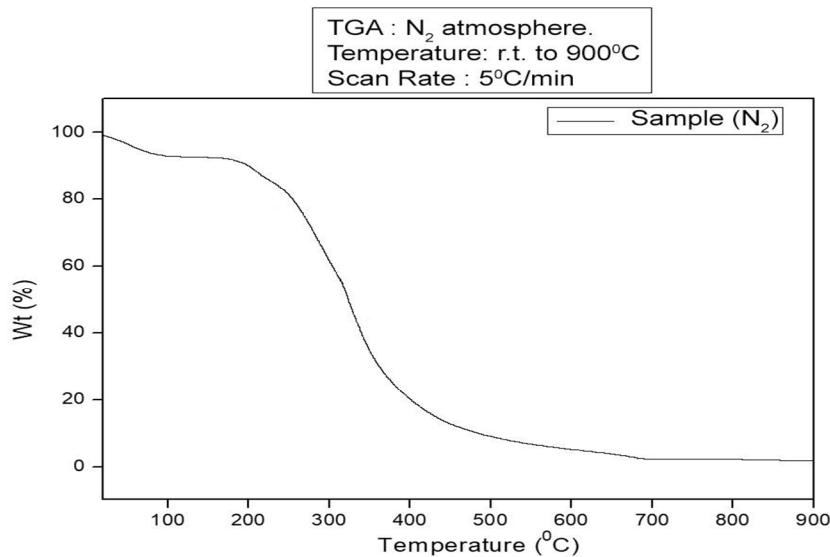
Thermal properties of the Type I collagen from skin and muscle were studied using thermogravimetry analysis (TGA). TGA curves indicate the weight loss evolution of collagen

with increasing temperature were presented in Figure 4a and 4b. The collagen type I from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* skin and muscle degradation occurs in the range of 370-400 °C and 360-400 °C, respectively (Figure 4a and 4b).



TGA :  $N_2$  atmosphere.  
Temperature: r.t. to 900 °C  
Scan Rate : 5 °C/min

**Fig 4a: The Collagen type I from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* (skin) degradation occurs in the range of 370-400 °C**

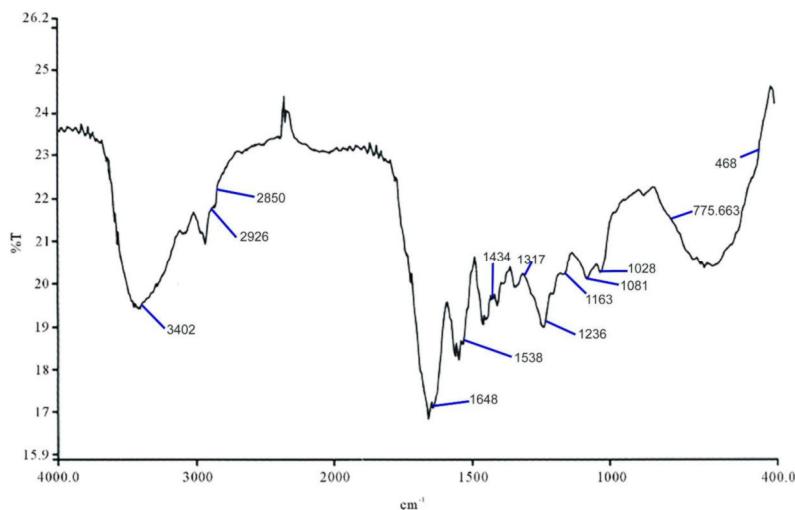


**Fig 4b: The collagen type I from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* (muscle) degradation occurs in the range of 360-400 °C**

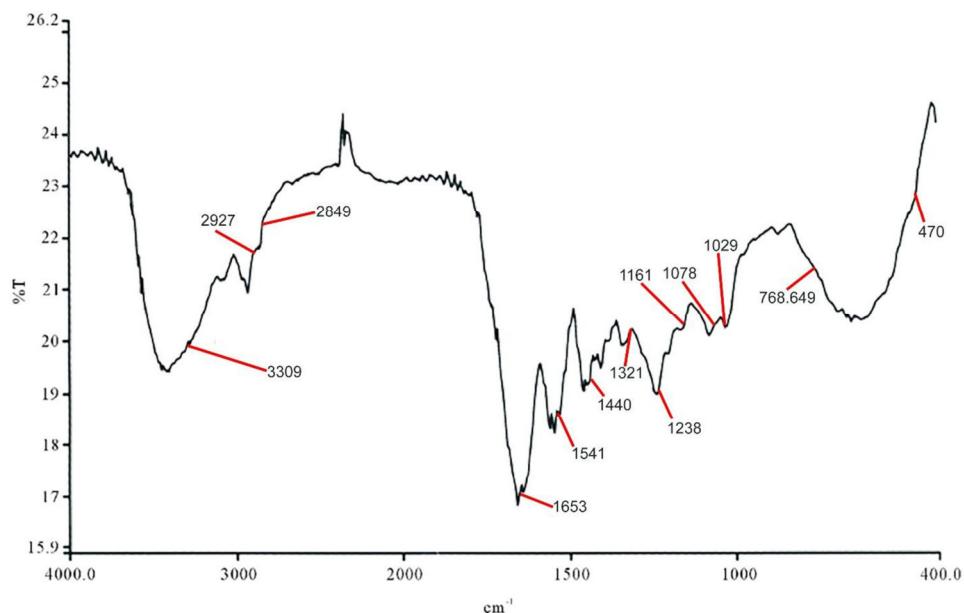
#### 4.1.6 FTIR-Type I collagen from the Muscle of *Uroteuthis duvauceli*

FTIR spectra of Type I collagen from the skin and muscle of squid are depicted in Figure 5a and 5b: Table 2. In FTIR spectra the amide A bands were observed at a wavenumber of 3402 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 3309 cm<sup>-1</sup> in type I collagen from skin and muscle respectively. A free N-H stretching coupled with hydrogen bond occurs in this range of 3400–3440 cm<sup>-1</sup>. This result indicated that the N-H groups of this collagen were involved in hydrogen bonding. The amide B band positions of Type I collagen from the skin and muscle were found at wavenumbers of 2926 and 2927 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively, representing the CH<sub>2</sub>- asymmetric stretching. The amide I band was observed at wave numbers of 1648 to 1653 cm<sup>-1</sup>,

mainly coupled with the stretching vibrations of the carbonyl group. The amide II band of Type I collagen from the skin and muscle was situated at a wavenumber of 1538 and 1541 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively, while the amide III band of Type I collagen from the muscle and skin was located at wavenumbers of 1236 and 1238 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively. The amide II and amide III bands represent N-H bending vibrations coupled with C-N stretching vibration and C-H stretching, respectively. The absorption 1236 and 1238 cm<sup>-1</sup> bands (amide III) of Type I collagen from the skin and muscle demonstrated the presence of a helical structure. In addition, the absorption peaks around 1434–1440 cm<sup>-1</sup> were also observed in Type I collagen from the skin and muscle. This corresponded well to the CH<sub>2</sub> bending vibration (Figure 5a ad 5b) (Table 2).



**Fig 5a: Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR) spectra of Type I collagen from the skin of squid *Uroteuthis duvauceli***



**Fig 5b: Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR) spectra of Type I collagen from the muscle of squid *Uroteuthis duvauceli***

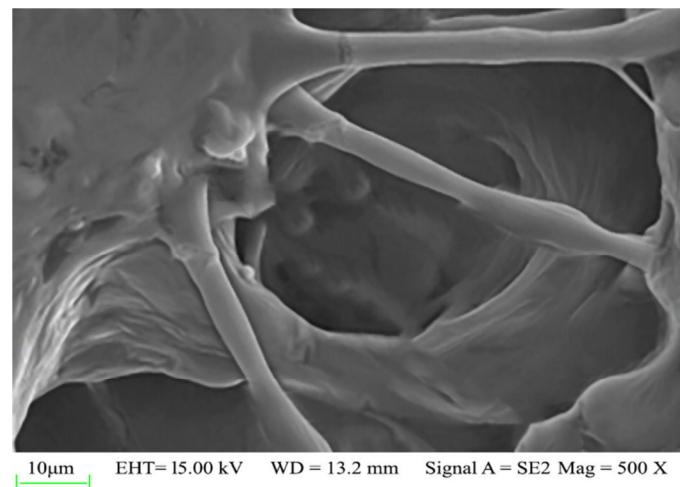
**Table 2: General peak assignment of the FTIR spectra consist of type I collagen from skin and muscle of *Uroteuthis duvauceli*.**

Type I Collagen	Skin	Muscle	Peak Assignments
3420	3402	3309	Amide A: mainly N-H stretching coupled with hydrogen bond
2928	2926	2927	Amide B: CH <sub>2</sub> -asymmetric stretching
2853	2850	2849	CH <sub>3</sub> -asymmetric stretching mainly protein
1646	1648	1653	Amide I: C=O stretching/ hydrogen bond coupled with COO <sup>-</sup>
1536	1538	1541	Amide II: N-H bond coupled with C-N stretching
1436	1434	1440	CH <sub>2</sub> bending vibration
1319	1317	1321	CH <sub>2</sub> wagging of proline
1236	1236	1238	Amide III: N-H Bend coupled with C-N stretching
1160	1163	1161	COO-C asymmetric stretching
1079	1081	1078	PO <sub>2</sub> -symmetric stretching
1032	1028	1029	C-O stretching/C-O band
779,667	775, 663	768, 649	Skeletal stretching
473	468	470	Out of plane band

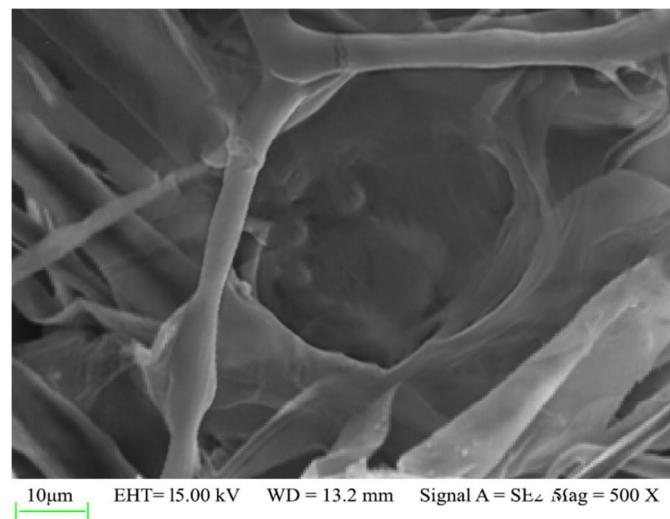
#### 4.1.1.7 Scanning Electron microscopy:

Scanning electron microscopy (SEM) images of Type I collagen from the squid *Uroteuthis duvauceli* (skin and muscle) were shown in Figures 6a and 6b, respectively. Type I collagen in skin, the fibrillar structures of collagen were observed. The irregular, wavy collagen fibers were found to be arranged in single. The porous structure of collagen was

clearly visible and the collagen surface was viewed as rough and uneven. Whilst, Type I collagen from muscle was found to have a composite mesh work form and contact with some fibrils. Such collagen fibrils formed bundles which diversified in width, thickness and twisted with each other. The figure showed a porous matrix with good interconnectivity in Type I collagen from skin and muscle (Figure 6a and 6b).



**Fig 6a: Scanning electron microscopy images of Type I Collagen from the skin of *Uroteuthis duvauceli***



**Fig 6b: Scanning electron microscopy images of Type I collagen from muscle of *Uroteuthis duvauceli***

#### 4.1.8 X-Ray Diffraction Analysis:

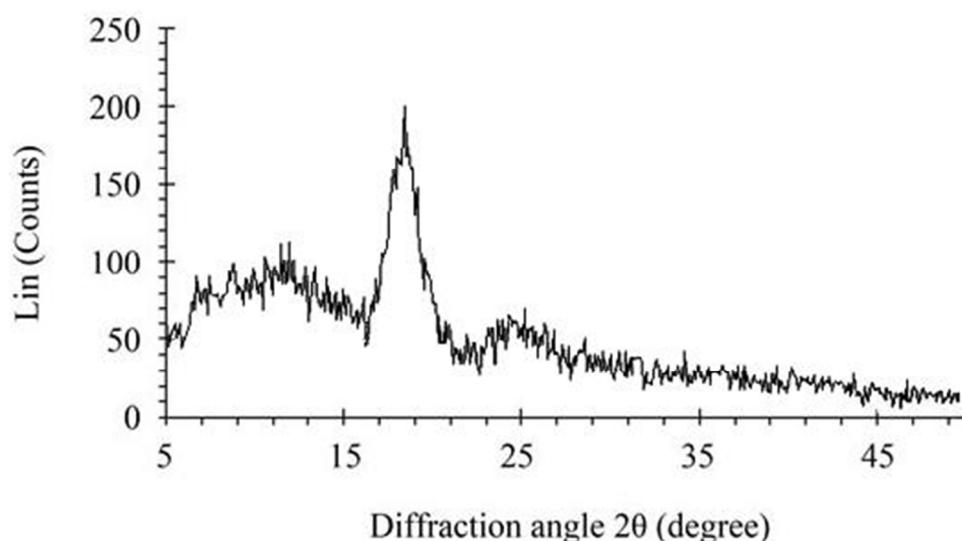
The X-ray diffraction spectra of type I collagen from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* skin and muscle are shown in Figures 7a and 7b, respectively and their peak values are presented in Table 3. In type I collagen from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* skin and muscle one sharp peak was obtained which was found to be in accordance with characteristic diffraction peak of collagen.

From Bragg's equation,  $d (\text{\AA}) = \lambda/2\sin\theta$ , ( $\lambda = 1.54 \text{\AA}$ ), the minimum values (d) of the repeat spacing was calculated. 'd' is the interplanar distance. The d of the wide peak type I collagen from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* skin was 4.8  $\text{\AA}$  and that of the type I collagen from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* muscle was 4.16  $\text{\AA}$  (Table 3), (Figure 7a and 7b).

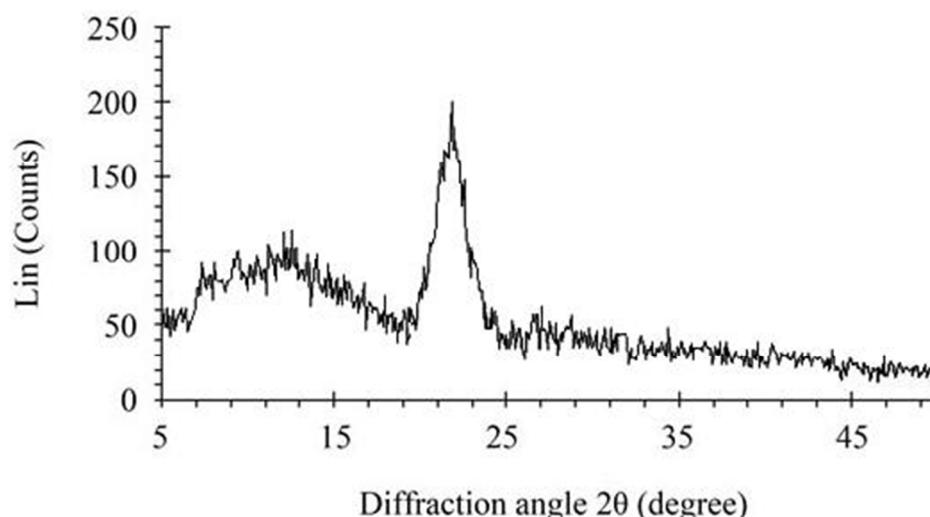
**Table 3: Peak assignments type I collagen from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* skin and muscle**

Samples	Diffraction angle ( $2\theta$ )	d ( $\text{\AA}$ )
Type I collagen from <i>Uroteuthis duvauceli</i> skin	18.7	4.8
Type I collagen from <i>Uroteuthis duvauceli</i> muscle	21.6	4.16

$$d(\text{\AA}) = \lambda/2\sin\theta (\lambda = 1.54 \text{\AA})$$



**Fig 7a: X-Ray Diffraction Analysis of Type I collagen from the skin of *Uroteuthis duvauceli***



**Fig 7b: X-Ray Diffraction Analysis of Type I collagen from the muscle of *Uroteuthis duvauceli***

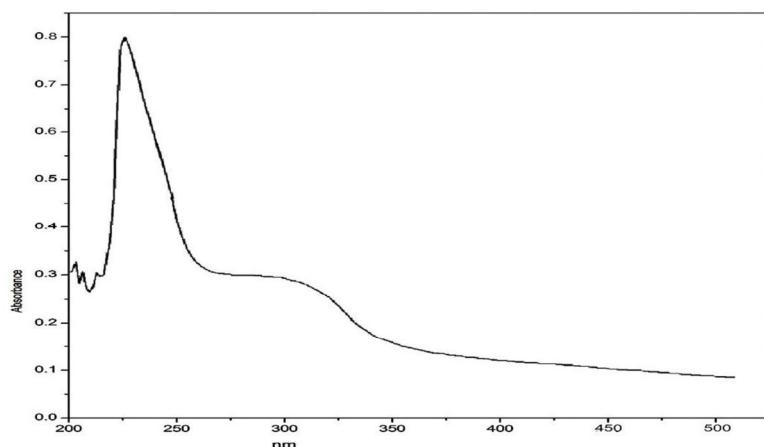
#### 4.1.9 UV absorption spectrum:

The UV absorption spectrums of type I collagen from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* skin and muscle at the wavelengths between 200–400 nm were presented in Figure 8a and 8b: Table 4 and 5. The maximum absorptions of type I collagen

from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* skin and muscle, were determined at the wavelengths of 220 - 240 nm region. Type I collagen from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* skin and muscle has a maximum absorption peak near 230 nm and a minor absorption peak near 280 nm. The triple helical collagen has a maximum absorbance peak near 230 nm (Table 4,5), (Figure 8a ad 8b).

**Table 4: UV absorption spectrum of Type I collagen from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* skin**

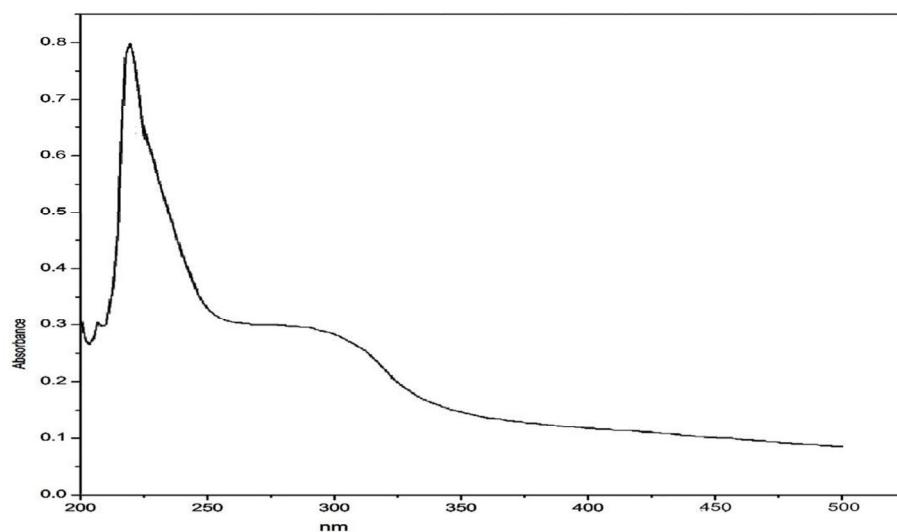
No.	Wavelength nm.	Absorbance	Description
1	227	0.8	Associated with the groups C=O, -COOH, CONH <sub>2</sub> in polypeptide chains of Type I collagen
2	274	0.3	Presence of aromatic (tyrosine and phenylalanine) and tryptophan amino acids



**Fig 8a: UV absorption spectrum of Type I collagen from the skin of *Uroteuthis duvauceli***

**Table 5: UV absorption spectrum of Type I collagen from the skin of *Uroteuthis duvauceli***

No.	Wavelength nm.	Absorbance	Description
1	220	0.8	Associated with the groups C=O, -COOH, CONH <sub>2</sub> in polypeptide chains of Type I collagen
2	270	0.3	Presence of aromatic (tyrosine and phenylalanine) and tryptophan amino acids



**Fig 8b: UV absorption spectrum of Type I collagen from the muscle of *Uroteuthis duvauceli***

## 5. DISCUSSION

Squid contains an abundant source of protein in its skin and muscle. The chemical composition and evaluation of collagen from skin and muscle (*Uroteuthis duvauceli*) is investigated in this current study. The extracted type I collagen from skin was found to contain  $6.4 \pm 0.08$  percent moisture,  $90.2 \pm 0.1$  percent protein,  $0.8 \pm 0.08$  percent fat and  $0.85 \pm 0.04$  percent ash contents and the results extracted type I collagen from muscle was found to contain  $5.7 \pm 0.1$  percent moisture,  $92.5 \pm 0.1$  percent protein,  $0.84 \pm 0.03$  percent fat and  $0.7 \pm 0.08$  percent ash contents. Suyama Kobayashi (1980)<sup>13</sup> analyzed eight species of squid and observed that moisture varied from 75–80 %, crude protein 16–21 % and ash from 1–2 % with 1 % crude fat. The chemical constituents of cephalopods are dependent upon the factors such as species, growth stage, habitat, season and the anatomical location of the cephalopod<sup>14,15,16</sup>. In this study, hydroxyproline content in collagen was significantly higher in skin tissue ( $P < 0.05$ )

than muscle of *Uroteuthis duvauceli*. The strength of collagen is dependent upon the number of amino acid residues<sup>17</sup> and it plays an important role in stabilizing the triple helical structure of collagen<sup>18</sup>. Nagai et al. (2008)<sup>19</sup> reported that lower the imino acid content lower denaturation temperature than their hydroxylation. The molecular structure of collagen is conserved by the restrictions on the modifications of the secondary structure of the polypeptide chain, crosslinked by pyridine rings of proline and hydroxyproline. The highest solubility for both skin and muscle type I collagen obtained from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* were found to be at pH 3 and pH 4 respectively. In type I collagen from muscle, at above pH 3, there was a sharp decrease in pH and low solubility was observed at pH 7–10. In type I collagen from skin, at above pH 4, there was a sharp decrease in pH and low solubility was observed at pH 8–10. These results showed that both skin and muscle type I collagen reached the pI in range (7–10), which results in protein precipitation and the net charge on protein becomes

zero<sup>20</sup>. There was a decrease in solubility observed for collagen type I (Muscle) and collagen type I (Skin) in 0.5 M acetic acid with an increase in NaCl concentration. There was a sharp decrease in solubility above 4% NaCl concentration in both Type I collagen from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* skin and muscle. This can be explained as; the decrease of collagen solubility at high NaCl concentration was thought to be mainly due to the phenomenon of salting out<sup>21</sup>. An ionic strength increase has the ability can intensify the hydrophobic-hydrophobic interactions of protein chains and increase the competition for water with the ionic salts and to form protein precipitation<sup>22</sup>. Molecular structure of collagen consists of three polypeptide  $\alpha$ -chains which are twisted together to form a triple helix. In this case of squid, the skin and muscle showed the typical SDS-PAGE pattern of type I collagen with two different  $\alpha$  bands,  $\alpha 1$  and  $\alpha 2$  and also contains  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  chains. The  $\alpha 2$  unit was the minor component in muscle and skin and it found that the collagen appeared as trimers having two  $\alpha 1$  and one  $\alpha 2$  chains. Collagen from the skin of ocellate puffer fish<sup>23</sup>, striped catfish<sup>24</sup>, Nile perch<sup>25</sup> and outer skin of *Sepia pharaonis* (Jayalekhshmi et al, 2017)<sup>26</sup> have also been classified as type I collagen. They all consisted of two  $\alpha$  chains ( $\alpha 1$  and  $\alpha 2$ ),  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  components. The  $\gamma$  chain had a high molecular weight of approximately 220 kDa, whereas the  $\beta$  and  $\alpha$  chain had molecular weights below 200 kDa. In addition, the presence of  $\beta$  components affirmed that the collagen contains more intermolecular cross-links. The  $\gamma$  chain had the ability to renature the collagen and their presence represented the three chains of collagen are intramolecularly crosslinked<sup>27</sup>. Other than the cross-linked chains, the collagen contained two  $\alpha$  bands-  $\alpha 1$  and  $\alpha 2$  segments, representing the typical of Type I collagen. Collagen isolated from the skin of Baltic cod had  $\alpha$  chains with molecular weight below 116 kDa<sup>28</sup>. Muyonga et al. (2004)<sup>29</sup> isolated the Type I skin collagen from Nile perch and characterized the collagen as containing two  $\alpha 1$  and one  $\alpha 2$  chains. In addition, observed the molecular weights of  $\alpha$  subunits of  $\alpha 1$  and  $\alpha 2$  were 115 KDa and 120 KDa respectively. Ogawa et al. 2004<sup>30</sup>, isolated the skin and bone collagen from the marine fish, dark drum and sheepshead. Whereas found out both had resemblance in electrophoretic band with molecular weights of  $\alpha 1$  fractions as 130 kDa and  $\alpha 2$  fractions as 110 kD. This could be concluded that the molecular weights for  $\alpha 1$  and  $\alpha 2$  subunits that the skin and muscle collagens of *Uroteuthis duvauceli* were typical of Type I collagen. Determination of the thermal stability of collagen by using TGA, is an important characteristic to deal with as it will influence the temperature that can be used in collagen processing into structures and its biomedical applications. In this work, the collagen type I from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* skin and muscle degradation occurs in the range of 370-400 °C and 360-390 °C, respectively. The curve lies in the 370 °C to 390 °C range, corresponding to collagen degradation, as identified by Horn et al (2009)<sup>31</sup> Su Jin Yang et al (2012)<sup>32</sup> extracted the collagens from squid (*Todarodes pacificus*) skin and Alaska pollack (*Theragra chalcogramma*) skin and found out the decomposition rate of temperature for the collagen was in the range of 300 °C and showed adequate for their thermal stabilities.

FTIR is used to identify the different types of collagen and is also used to compare the collagen composition<sup>33</sup>. In this case of *Uroteuthis duvauceli*, FTIR spectra the amide A bands were observed at wavenumber of 3402 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 3309 cm<sup>-1</sup> in type I collagen from muscle and skin respectively. The amide A

band is generally associated with N-H stretching vibration and it occurs in the wavenumber range 3,400-3,440 cm<sup>-1</sup>. The amide B band positions of Type I collagen from the muscle and skin of *Uroteuthis duvauceli* were found at wavenumbers of 2926 and 2927 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively, amide B band represents the asymmetrical stretch of CH<sub>2</sub><sup>34</sup>. The amide I band of *Uroteuthis duvauceli* (skin and muscle) were found at wavenumbers of 1648 cm<sup>-1</sup> to 1653 cm<sup>-1</sup>. Payne and Veis, 1988<sup>35</sup> reported that the amide I band showed the frequencies in the range from 1600-1700 cm<sup>-1</sup>, which is mainly coupled with stretching vibrations of the carbonyl groups (C=O bond) coupled with polypeptide backbone and is an important factor in determining the peptide secondary structure<sup>36</sup>. The amide II band of Type I collagen from the muscle and skin was situated at a wavenumber of 1538 and 1541 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively, while the amide III band of Type I collagen from the muscle and skin was located at wavenumbers of 1236 and 1238 cm<sup>-1</sup>, respectively, associated with N-H bending vibration coupled with CN stretching vibration<sup>37</sup>. The absorption 1236 and 1238 cm<sup>-1</sup> bands (amide III) of Type I collagen from the muscle and skin of *Uroteuthis duvauceli* demonstrated the presence of a helical structure. The fibrillar structures of collagen samples were observed by SEM<sup>38</sup>. *Uroteuthis duvauceli* muscle, the fibrillar structure of type I collagen was observed. The irregular, wavy collagen fibers were found to be arranged in single. The normal porous structure of collagen was distinctly visible and the collagen surface was found to be irregular and unequal. Whilst, Type I collagen from skin was determined to have a complicated meshwork form and interacted with some fibrils. Such collagen fibrils are formed as bundles as well as they vary in width, thickness and also cross-linked with each other. In addition, both showed a porous matrix with good interconnectivity. Vairamani Shanmugam<sup>39</sup> et al, 2012, that the SEM ultrastructure of the resultant fibrils was similar with those of collagens from the outer skin of *Sepiella inermis*. In XRD, type I collagen from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* skin and muscle one wide peak was obtained which was found to be in accordance with characteristic diffraction peak of collagen. The  $d$  of the wide peak type I collagen from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* skin was 4.8 Å and that of the type I collagen from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* muscle was 4.16 Å. which were related to the single left-hand helix chain. The collagen extracted had a tri-helix structure<sup>40</sup>. UV spectrum of Type I collagen from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* skin and muscle has a maximum absorption peak near 230 nm and a minor absorption peak near 280 nm. Kittiphattanabawon<sup>41</sup> et al, 2015 reported that the collagen from the skin of Splendid squid (*Loligo formosana*) has a UV absorption peak at 232 nm. The maximum absorbance at 220-240 nm is related with the groups C=O, -COOH, CO-NH<sub>2</sub> along with polypeptide chains of collagen<sup>42</sup>. The maximum absorption wavelength of protein in the near ultraviolet region is 280 nm because of the absorbance (280 nm) of aromatic amino acids such as Phe, Trp and Tyr<sup>43</sup>. The numbers of aromatic (tyrosine and phenylalanine) and tryptophan amino acids contribute to the ultraviolet absorption at 280 nm<sup>43</sup>.

## 5. CONCLUSION

In summary, Type I collagens were successfully isolated from the skin and muscle of *Uroteuthis duvauceli*. The highest solubility for both skin and muscle type I collagen obtained from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* were found to be at pH 3 and pH 4

respectively. The skin and muscle showed the typical SDS-PAGE pattern of type I collagen with two different  $\alpha$  bands,  $\alpha 1$  and  $\alpha 2$  and also contains  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  chains. The fibrillar structures of collagen samples were observed by SEM. FTIR investigations showed the existence of helical arrangements of the type I collagen from skin and muscle. UV spectrum of Type I collagen from *Uroteuthis duvauceli* skin and muscle has a maximum absorption peak near 230 nm and a minor absorption peak near 280 nm. The results showed that type I collagen from skin and muscle had slight differences in molecular weights, amino acid composition, morphological structures, and thermal stability. From this study, these results could provide a valuable scientific basis for the study of the texture and development of squid. The results suggested that the marine squid collagen is an alternative source of collagen for further application in food, pharmaceutical industries, cosmetic, suitable biomaterial, and other applications.

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## 6. ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We would like to extend our thanks and gratitude to the Malankara Catholic College, Department of Biotechnology, Manonmaniam Sundaranar University for providing all the research requirements and harnessing all laboratory capabilities to support scientific research.

## 7. AUTHORS CONTRIBUTION STATEMENT

Ms. Jency George performed the experiments, conceptualized, gathered and analyzed the data. Dr. W.A Manjusha has given necessary inputs in designing the manuscript. Both the authors discussed the methodology and results and contributed to the final manuscript.

## 8. CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Conflicts of interest declared none.

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