

# NIST Projects in Human Identity Testing

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# NIST Human Identity Project Team



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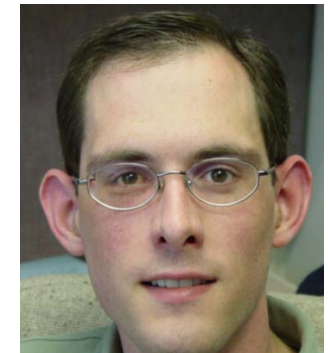
Jan Redman



Amy Decker



Becky Hill



Chris DeAngelis

**Funding: Interagency Agreement 2003-IJ-R-029 between National Institute of Justice (NIJ) and NIST Office of Law Enforcement Standards (OLES)**



# National Institute of Justice

The Research, Development, and Evaluation Agency of the U.S. Department of Justice

## Current Areas of NIST Research Effort

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- **Resources for “Challenging Samples”** ([miniSTRs](#))
- **Information on New Loci** ([SNPs](#), Y-Chromosome, new STRs)
- **Standard Information Resources** (STRBase website, training materials/review articles, validation standardization)
- **Allele Sequencing and Interlaboratory Studies** ([Real-time qPCR](#), mixture interpretation)



Mike  
Coble



Becky  
Hill



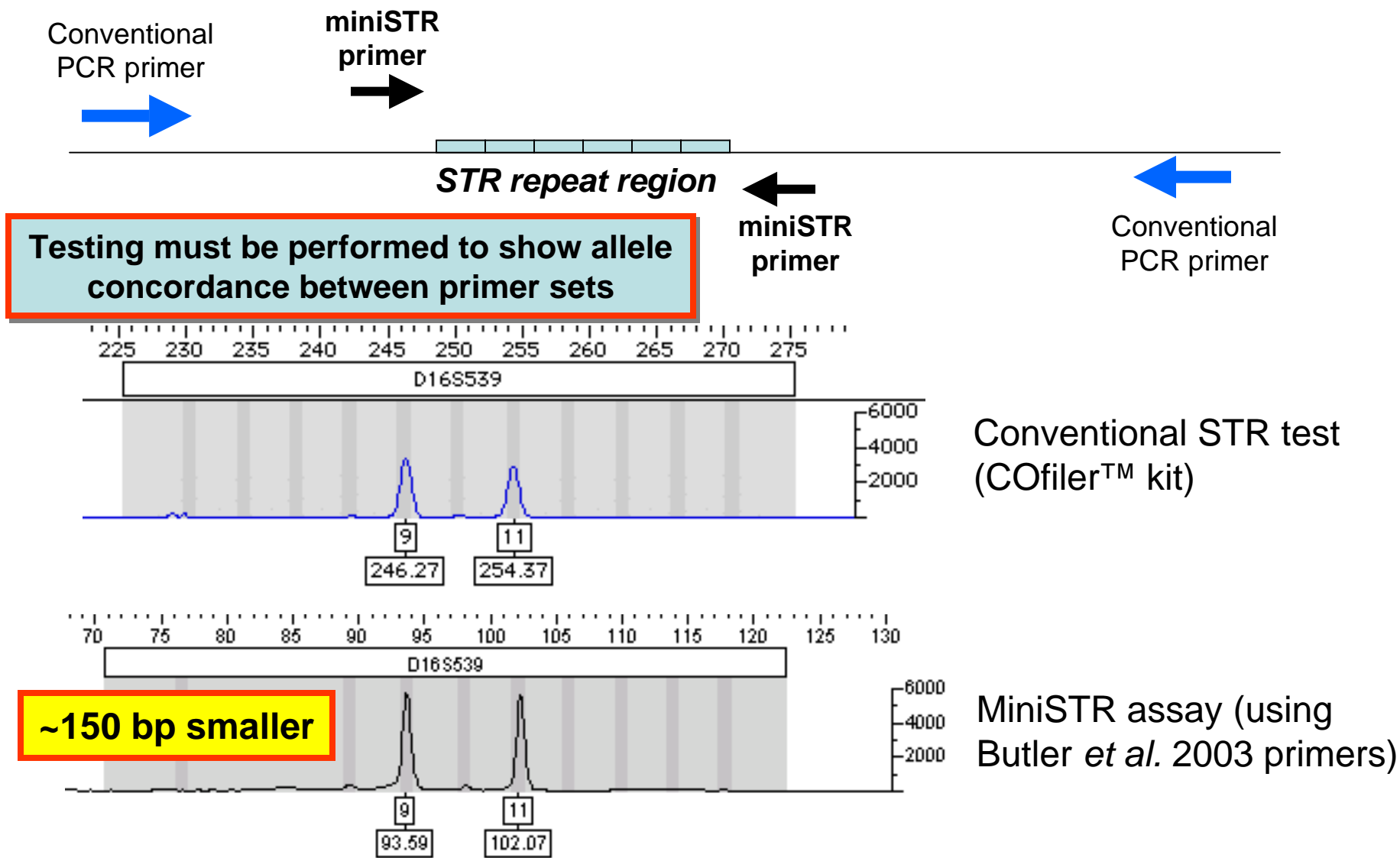
John  
Butler

# miniSTRs for Degraded DNA

- Original miniSTR paper with CODIS loci, D2, D19, Penta D, Penta E
  - [Butler et al. \(2003\) J. Forensic Sci. 48: 1054-1064](#)
- Many CODIS loci are too big and make poor miniSTRs
- New miniSTRs and assays: **NC01, NC02**
  - [Coble, M.D. and Butler, J.M. \(2005\) J. Forensic Sci. 50:43-53](#)
- New miniSGM miniplex: AMEL, TH01, FGA, D18, D16, D2
- Creation of miniSTR information on STRBase

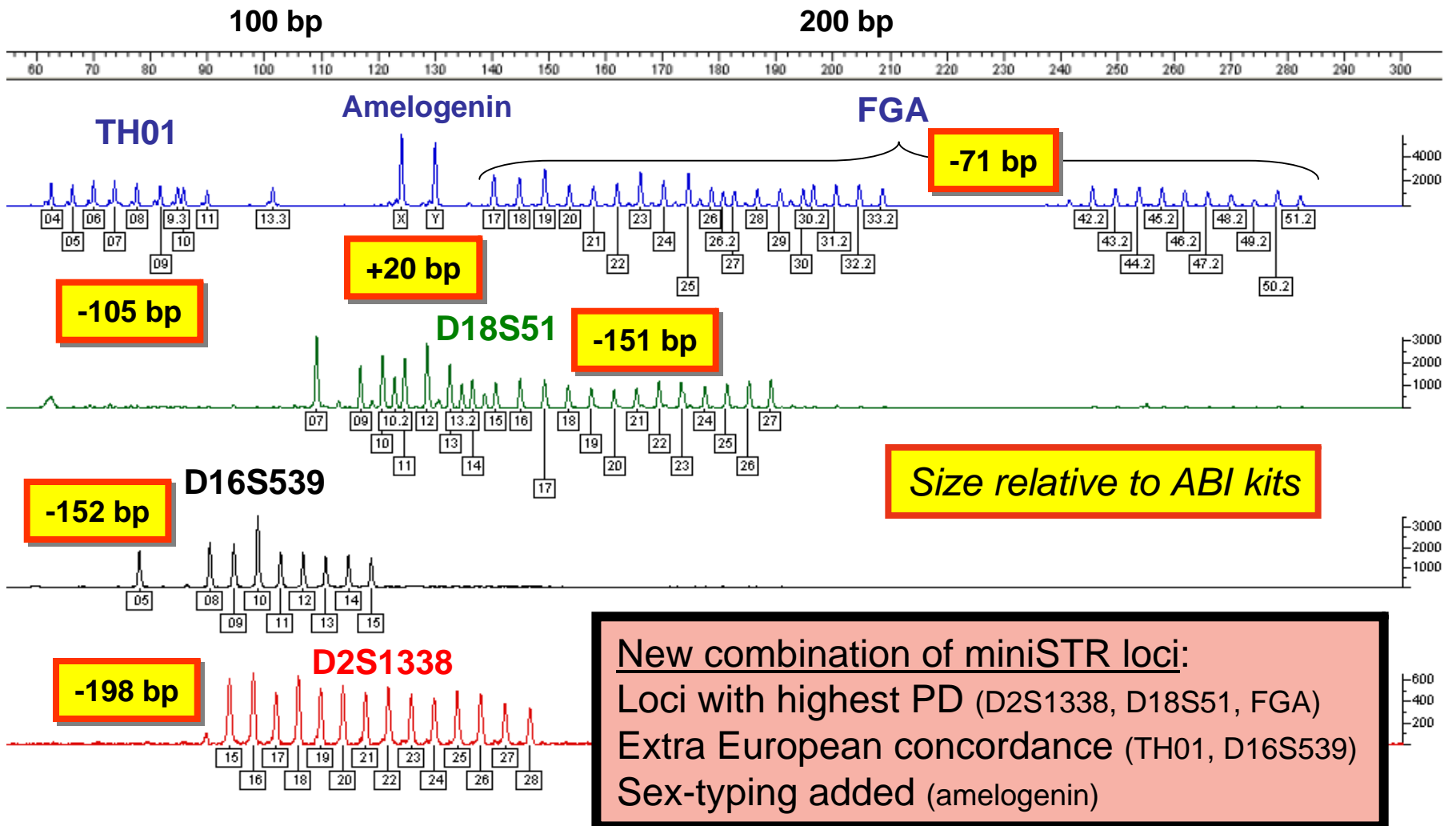
<http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/miniSTR.htm>

A miniSTR is a reduced size STR amplicon that enables higher recovery of information from degraded DNA samples



# New miniSGM miniplex assay

Provided to EDNAP/ENFSI group for degraded DNA study (Fall 2004)



Retains same miniSTR primers from Butler et al. (2003) *J. Forensic Sci* 48(5): 1054-1064

# Many CODIS Loci Make Poor miniSTRs

- Large allele range (e.g., FGA)
- Large alleles (e.g., D21S11 and FGA)
- Poor flanking regions prohibiting reliable primer annealing immediately adjacent to the repeat region (e.g., D7S820)

# Why go beyond CODIS loci

“STRs have proven to be highly successful [for mass disasters] in the past e.g. Waco disaster and various air disasters. However, even if the DNA is high quality there are occasions when there are insufficient family members available to achieve a high level of confidence with an association.”

Gill, P., Werrett, D.J., Budowle, B. and Guerrieri, R. (2004) **An assessment of whether SNPs will replace STRs in national DNA databases-Joint considerations of the DNA working group of the European Network of Forensic Science Institutes (ENFSI) and the Scientific Working Group on DNA Analysis Methods (SWGDM).** *Science&Justice*, 44(1): 51-53.



# Why go beyond CODIS loci

“To achieve this purpose, either new STRs could be developed, or alternatively, existing STRs could be supplemented with a SNP panel.”

“There are also efforts for modifying existing STR panels by decreasing the size amplicons by designing new primers.”

Gill, P., Werrett, D.J., Budowle, B. and Guerrieri, R. (2004) **An assessment of whether SNPs will replace STRs in national DNA databases-Joint considerations of the DNA working group of the European Network of Forensic Science Institutes (ENFSI) and the Scientific Working Group on DNA Analysis Methods (SWGDM).** *Science&Justice*, 44(1): 51-53.

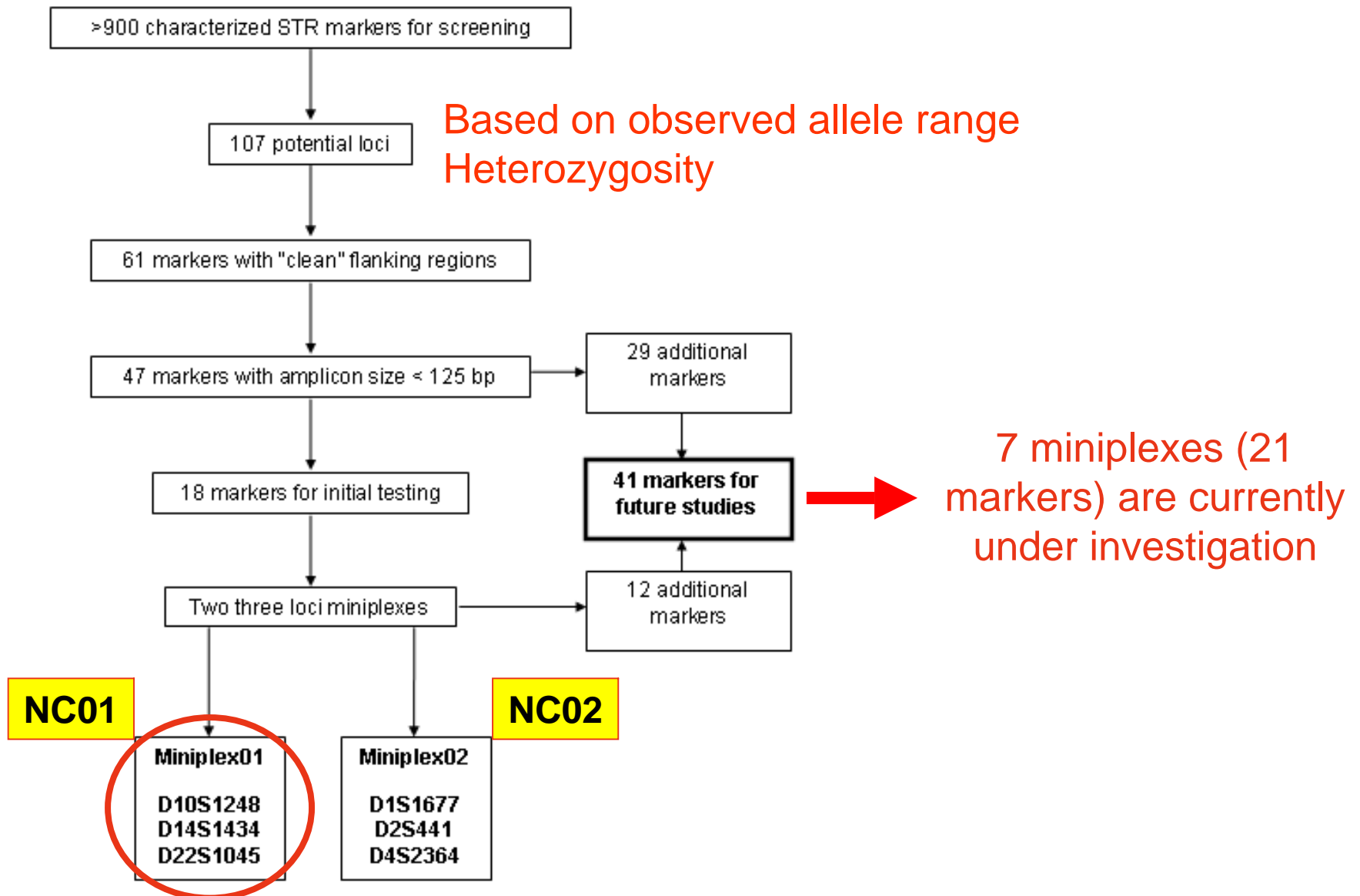
# Why go beyond CODIS loci

- Desirable to have markers unlinked from CODIS loci (different chromosomes) for some applications
- Small size ranges to aid amplification from degraded DNA samples
- **New miniSTR loci will benefit missing persons investigations and paternity testing (and perhaps national databases in the future)**

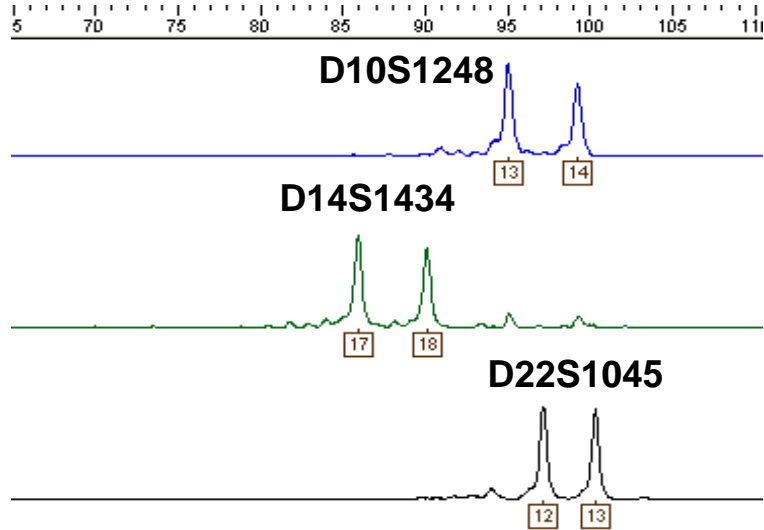
## Characterization of New miniSTR Loci

- Candidate STR marker selection
- Chromosomal locations and marker characteristics
- PCR primer design
- Initial testing results
- Population testing
- Allelic ladder construction
- Miniplex assay performance

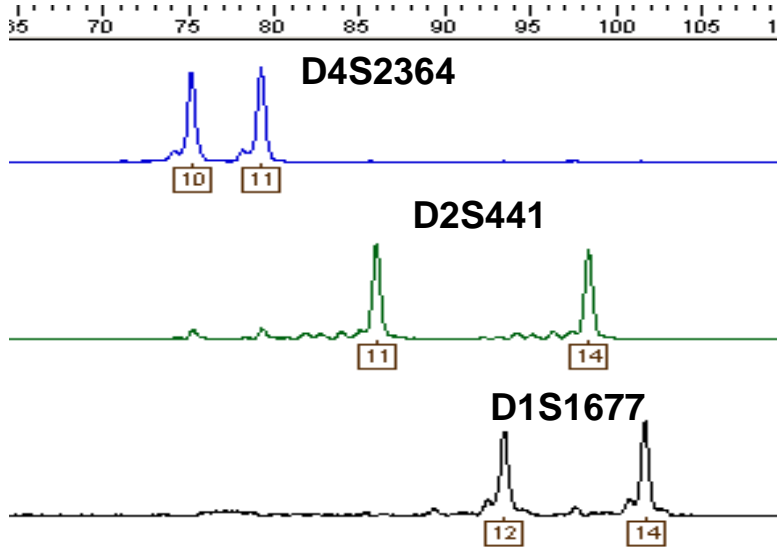
# Initial Testing Results with Potential miniSTR Loci



## Miniplex NC01



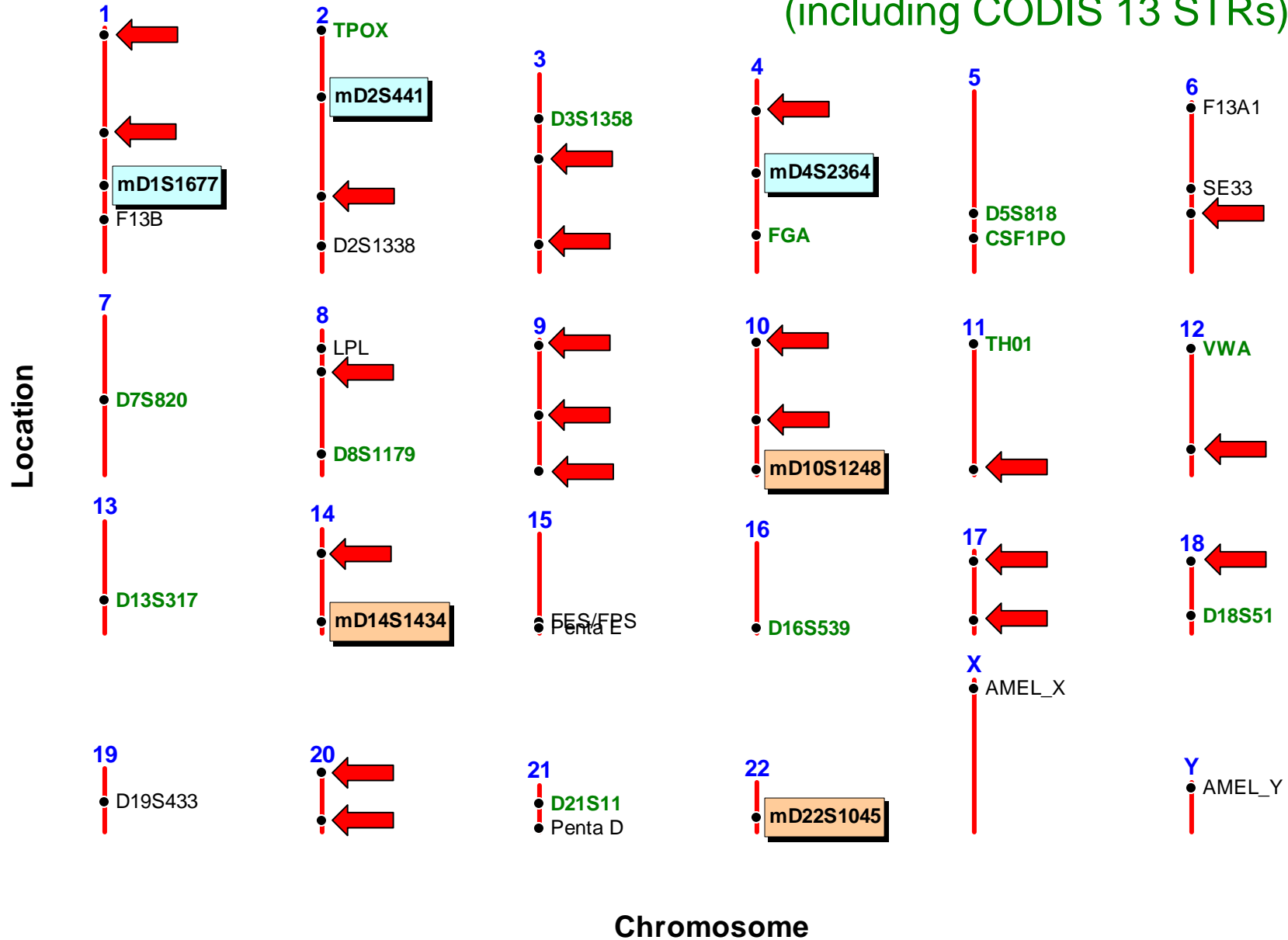
## Miniplex NC02



## Some Marker Characteristics

<u>Chr.</u>	<u>Marker Name</u>	<u>(Motif)</u>	<u>Ref. Repeat</u>	<u>Amplicon Size</u>	<u>Primer distance from repeat</u>
10	D10S1248	TETRA	13	102	1
	GGAA23C05N	GGAA			0
14	D14S1434	TETRA	10	88	1
	GATA168F06	GATA			0
22	D22S1045	TRI	13	105	3
	ATA37D06	ATA			6
1	D1S1677	TETRA	15	103	0
	GGAA22G10N	GGAA			0
2	D2S441	TETRA	12	92	0
	GATA8F03	GATA			0
4	D4S2364	TETRA	7	78	2
	GAAT1F09	GAAT			1

# STR Loci Positions (including CODIS 13 STRs)



Positions determined along May 2004 Human Genome Reference Sequence (NCBI Build 35)

# Standard U.S. Population Dataset

<http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/NISTpop.htm>

260 Caucasians, 260 African Americans, 140 Hispanics, 3 Asians = **663 males**

DNA extracted from whole blood (anonymous; self-identified ethnicities) received from Interstate Blood Bank (Memphis, TN) and Millennium Biotech Inc. (Ft. Lauderdale, FL)



To date: (~95,000 allele calls)

Identifiler (15 autosomal markers + Amelogenin) (10,608)

Roche Linear Arrays (HV1/HV2 10 regions) (6,630)

Y STRs 22 loci—27 amplicons (17,388)

Y STRs 27 new loci (14,535)

Yfiler kit 17 loci (11,237)

Y SNPs 50 markers on sub-set of samples (11,498)

Orchid 70 autosomal SNPs on sub-set (13,230)

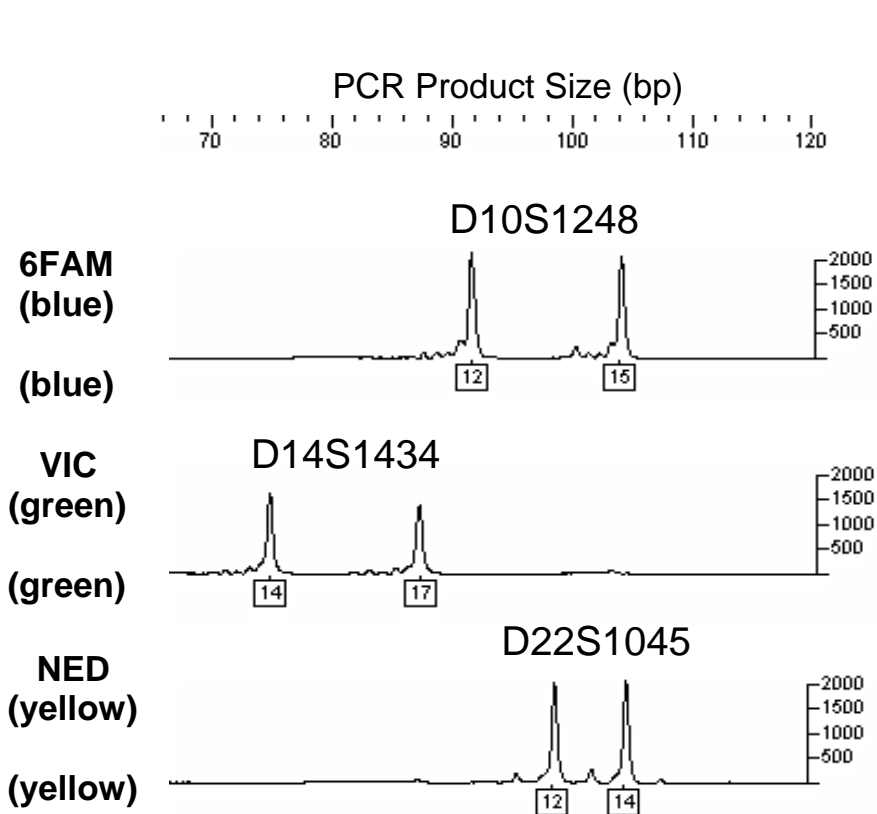
miniSTR testing-new loci and CODIS concordance (9,228)

**mtDNA full control region sequences by AFDIL**

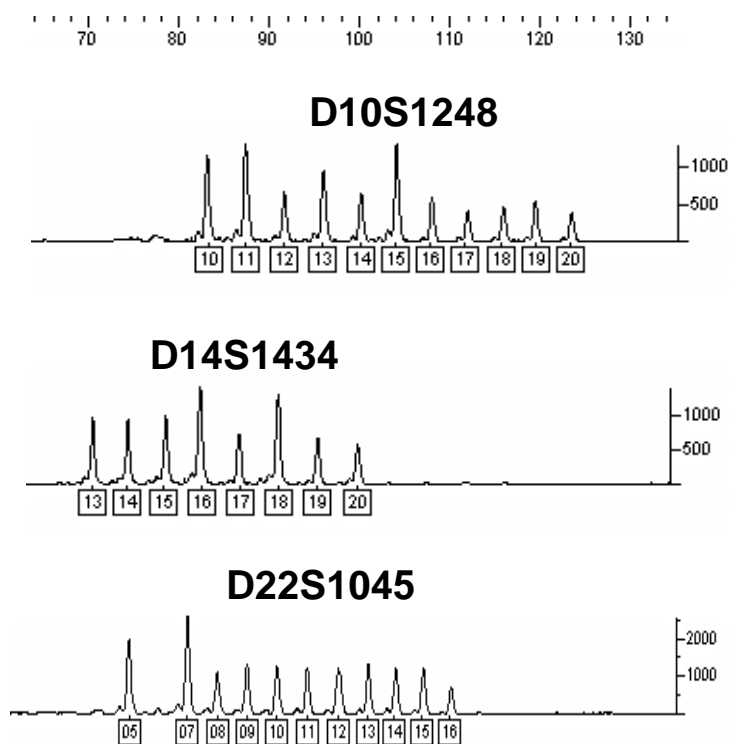


**Genotypes with various human identity testing markers**

# Allele Ladders for Miniplex "NC01"



## NIST Allelic Ladders



<http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/miniSTR.htm>

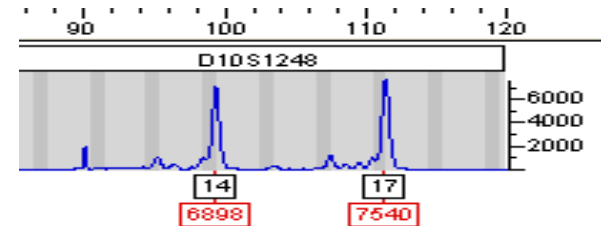
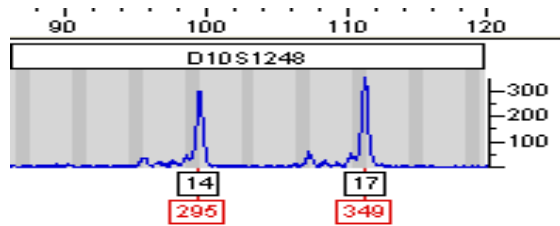


# miniSTR Assay Sensitivity (D10S1248)

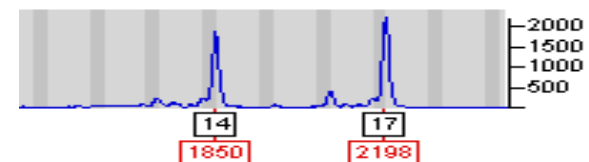
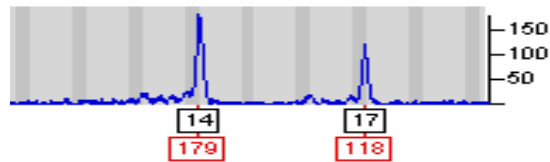
28 cycles – 1U Taq

32 cycles – 2U Taq

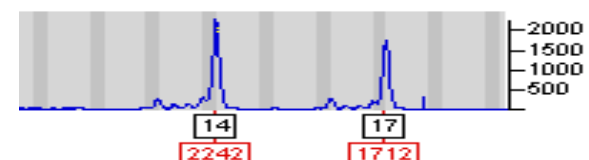
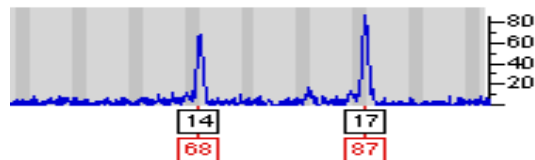
200 pg



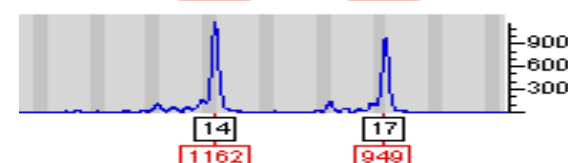
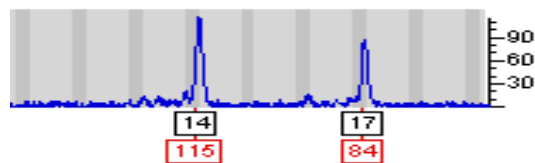
100 pg



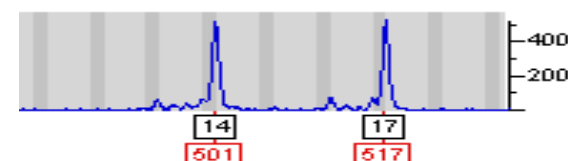
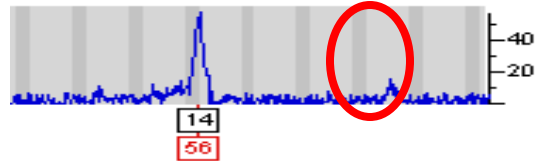
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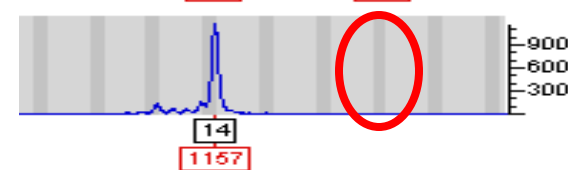
20 pg



10 pg



5 pg



# Protocol for Using the miniSTR System “miniNC01” on the ABI 3100 Instrument

## PCR Conditions

PCR Conditions:

### Preparation of Master Mix:

\_\_\_ (# reactions) x 10.5 µL PCR mix (from an ABI kit) = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ (# reactions) x 0.4 µL Taq Gold = \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ (# reactions) x 5.5 µL primer mix (green-topped tube) = \_\_\_\_\_  
16.4 µL – includes overfill for pipetting

### Preparation of Individual PCR Reactions:

15 µL master mix (from above)

10 µL DNA template (or dI H<sub>2</sub>O to bring up the volume)

### Thermal Cycling

Thermal cycling was performed with the GeneAmp 9700 (Applied Biosystems) using the following conditions in 9600-emulation mode (i.e., ramp speeds of 1 °C/s):

95 °C for 10 minutes

**32 cycles:** 94 °C for 1 minute

55 °C for 1 minute

72 °C for 1 minute

60 °C for 45 minutes

25 °C forever

## Primer Sequences

Primer Sequences (Coble and Butler, JFS, in press)\*

Locus		MiniNC01 Primer Sequences (5'-3')	Distance 3'end from STR repeat
D10S1248	F	6FAM-TTAATGAATTGAACAAATGAGTGAG	1
	R	GCAACTCTGGTTGTATGTCTTCAT	0
D14S1434	F	VIC-TGTAACTACTCTACGA <b>CTGTCTGTCTG</b>	-11
	R	GAATAGGAGGTGGATGGATGG	0
D22S1045	F	NED-ATTTCCCGATGATAGTAGTCT	3
	R	GCGAATGATGATTGGCAATATTTT	6

\*A PDF copy of this paper can be downloaded at the STRBase website:

<http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/miniSTR/CobleandButlerJFS.pdf>

## Pos. Control Results

### Expected Control Results

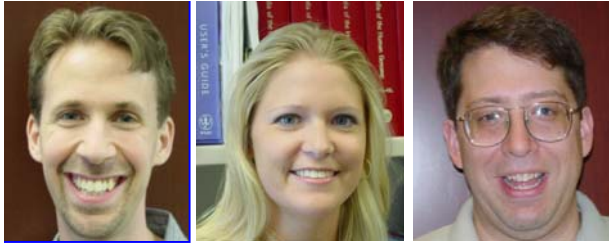
STR Locus	Control DNA 007 Genotype	Control DNA 9947A Genotype
D10S1248	13, 16	14, 16
D14S1434	15, 18	15, 17
D22S1045	8, 13	8, 11

[http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/miniSTR/miniNC01\\_Protocol.pdf](http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/miniSTR/miniNC01_Protocol.pdf)

# New Autosomal miniSTR Loci

- NC01 loci: **D10S1248, D14S1434, D22S1045**
- Peter Gill and the EDNAP/ENFSI group have recommended the NC01 loci as an extension of current European core loci
- Population data, locus characterization, and allelic ladders for **27 new autosomal STRs** under development as new miniSTRs
- All new STR loci are physically unlinked to CODIS core loci

<http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/newSTRs.htm>



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# Work with SNP Loci

- U.S. population frequencies with 70 autosomal SNPs
  - Vallone *et al.* (2005) *Forensic Sci. Int.* 149: 279-286
- U.S. population information with 50 Y-SNPs
  - Vallone *et al.* (2004) *J. Forensic Sci.* 49: 723-732
- Coding Region Mitochondrial SNPs
  - Vallone *et al.*, (2004) *Int. J. Legal Med.* 118: 147-157
- Construction of 12plex autosomal SNP assay

<http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/SNP.htm>

# SNPs

Why are we interested in using SNPs?

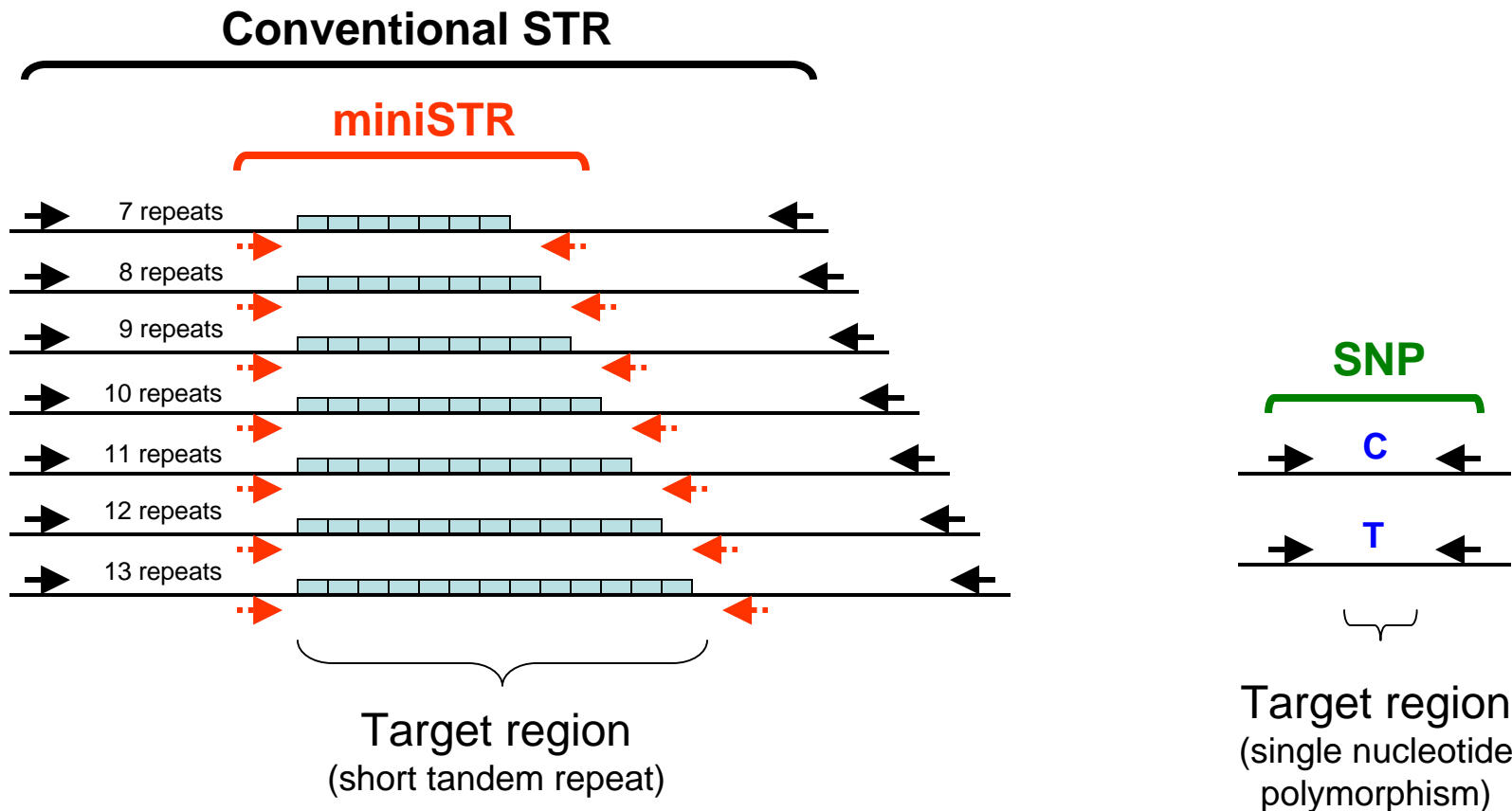
- Use on **degraded samples** (WTC), low copy number, or telogenic (shed) hairs
- Lower mutation rate (Paternity testing)
- Easier data interpretation (no microvariants or stutter)
- Amenable to high throughput analysis

# SNPs

General issues that need to be addressed

- How many SNPs = STR
- Multiplexing (50-plex < 1ng DNA)
- Databases
- Platform for SNP typing?
- Unique interpretation issues – mixtures
- Validation
- **Sensitivity**
- Cost

# Comparison of STRs and SNPs



**Larger target region (miniSTR targets same region)**  
**More possible variants than SNPs**  
**Only need a moderate number of STR markers**  
**Range of sizes examined (e.g., 28 bp spread if 4 bp/repeat)**

**Smaller target region**  
**Fewer possible variants**  
**Need more SNP markers**  
**Constant size examined**

# SNP Typing Instrumentation

PCR & primer extension



**Multi-Color Capillary Electrophoresis  
(ABI 310 or 3100)**

Luminex Beads  
hybridization



**Luminex 100 Flow Cytometer**



Primer Extension

**Time-of-Flight Mass Spectrometer**

TaqMan



**ABI 7000 SDS**

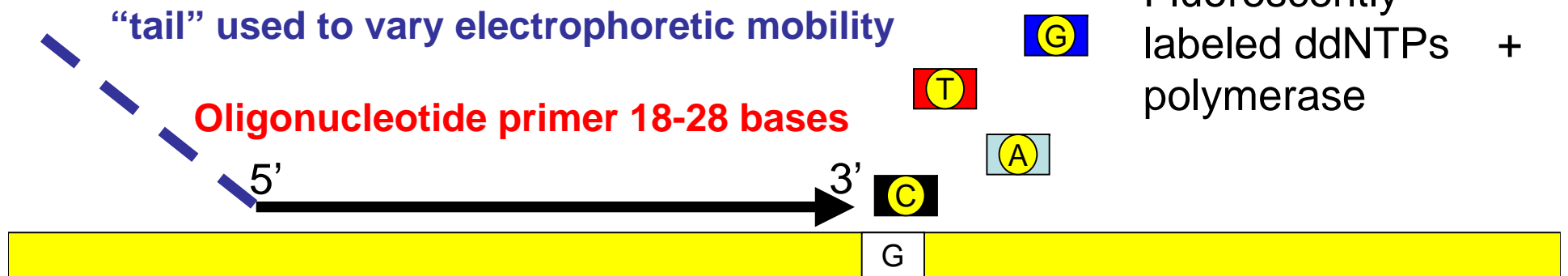


# Allele-Specific Primer Extension

SNP Primer is extended by one base unit

ABI PRISM® SNaPshot™  
Multiplex System

Fluorescently  
labeled ddNTPs +  
polymerase



PCR Amplified DNA Template

ddNTP	Dye label	Color
A	dR6G	Green
C	dTAMRA	Black
G	dR110	Blue
T	dROX	Red

25 Cycles

96°C 10s

50°C 5s

60°C 30s

# Utility of SNP Markers

## Replace Autosomal STRs?

*“It is unlikely that SNPs will replace STRs as the preferred method of testing of forensic samples in the near to medium future.”*

## Specialized applications

mtDNA – coding region and linear arrays

Y-SNPs – lineage, population study, sample discrimination

Autosomal SNPs – highly degraded samples, shed hairs, physical characteristics, ethnic/geographical determination

*Gill, P., Werret, D.J., Budowle, B., and Guerreri, R. Science and Justice 2004 44: 51-53*

# SNP Assay Results

70 were typed for 189 U.S. samples (self identified ethnicities)  
74 Caucasians + 71 African Americans AA + 44 Hispanics

Total of 13,230 possible genotypes

42 Samples were re-injected to confirm ambiguous results  
(99.7 %) success rate on first pass

Allele distribution ranged from (0.25 – 0.74)

P-value was < 5% for 10 loci

Results described in manuscript (*Vallone, P.M., Decker, A.E.,  
Butler, J.M. (2005) Forensic Sci. Int., 2005*)

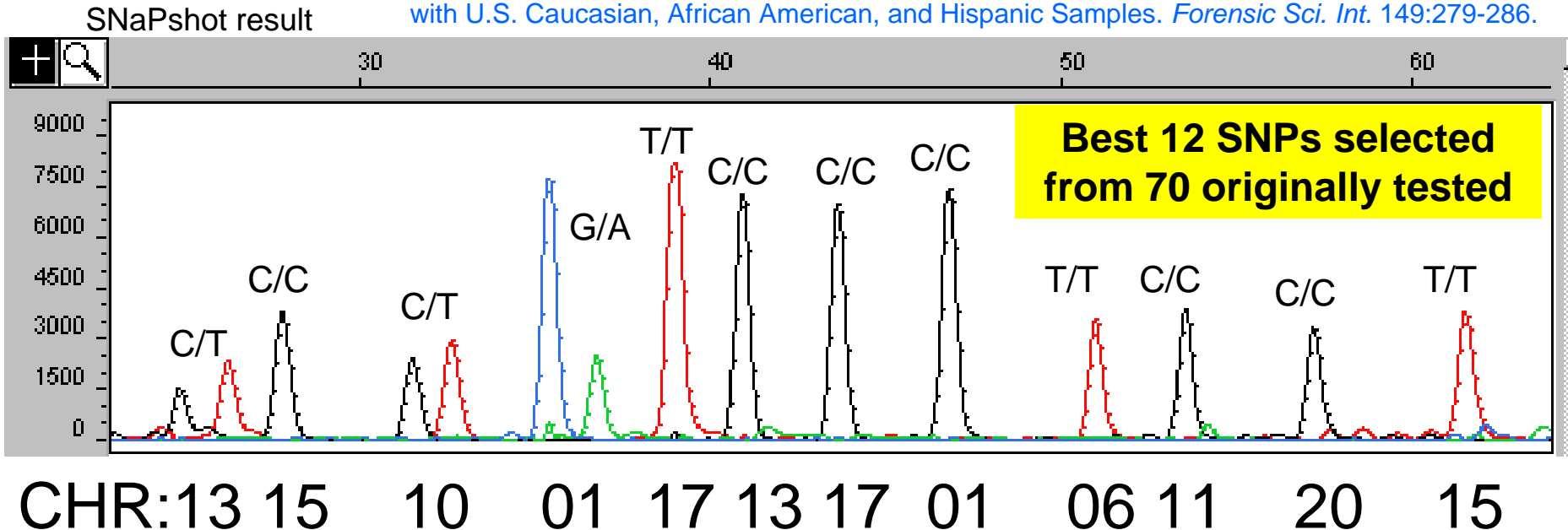
Results on a 12-plex panel of SNPs to follow...

# Allele Frequencies for 70 SNP Loci in U.S. Populations

Hispanic		African American		Caucasian													
N = 44	1	N = 71	1	N = 74	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
CC	0.455	CC	0.648	CC	0.243	0.405	0.068	0.581	0.311	0.149	0.486	0.108	0.203	0.068	0.257	0.054	
TT	0.068	TT	0.070	TT	0.243	0.135	0.514	0.135	0.189	0.338	0.122	0.378	0.284	0.459	0.216	0.365	
CT	0.477	CT	0.282	CT	0.514	0.459	0.419	0.284	0.500	0.514	0.392	0.514	0.473	0.473	0.527	0.581	
He	0.425	He	0.333	He	0.500	0.463	0.401	0.401	0.493	0.482	0.433	0.463	0.497	0.423	0.499	0.452	
p	0.723	p	0.278	p	0.816	1.000	1.000	<b>0.008</b>	0.816	0.475	0.413	0.305	1.000	0.269	0.818	<b>0.021</b>	
	13		13														
CC	0.068	CC	0.141	CC	0.068	0.243	0.392	0.446	0.243	0.162	0.473	0.365	0.270	0.108	0.270	0.203	
TT	0.568	TT	0.451	TT	0.514	0.311	0.122	0.149	0.284	0.324	0.054	0.203	0.189	0.432	0.176	0.270	
CT	0.364	CT	0.408	CT	0.419	0.446	0.486	0.405	0.473	0.514	0.473	0.432	0.541	0.459	0.554	0.527	
He	0.375	He	0.452	He	0.401	0.498	0.463	0.456	0.499	0.487	0.412	0.487	0.497	0.447	0.496	0.498	
p	1.000	p	0.298	p	1.000	0.220	0.805	0.183	0.663	0.818	0.163	0.348	0.485	1.000	0.362	0.650	
	25		25														
CC	0.318	CC	0.099	CC	0.243	0.176	0.162	0.068	0.257	0.432	0.419	0.527	0.122	0.581	0.257	0.108	
TT	0.114	TT	0.394	TT	0.203	0.446	0.432	0.689	0.284	0.149	0.122	0.122	0.311	0.068	0.203	0.243	
CT	0.568	CT	0.507	CT	0.554	0.378	0.405	0.243	0.459	0.419	0.459	0.351	0.568	0.351	0.541	0.649	
He	0.479	He	0.456	He	0.499	0.463	0.463	0.307	0.500	0.460	0.456	0.418	0.482	0.368	0.499	0.491	
p	0.326	p	0.310	p	0.480	0.135	0.327	0.119	0.350	0.302	0.797	0.092	0.088	0.538	0.642	<b>0.008</b>	
	37		37														
CC	0.523	CC	0.324	CC	0.378	0.095	0.378	0.149	0.297	0.311	0.257	0.473	0.122	0.189	0.162	0.351	
TT	0.045	TT	0.183	TT	0.122	0.473	0.149	0.514	0.216	0.149	0.216	0.095	0.446	0.284	0.351	0.162	
CT	0.432	CT	0.493	CT	0.500	0.432	0.473	0.338	0.486	0.541	0.527	0.432	0.432	0.527	0.486	0.486	
He	0.386	He	0.490	He	0.467	0.428	0.474	0.433	0.497	0.487	0.499	0.428	0.447	0.496	0.482	0.482	
p	0.694	p	1.000	p	0.444	0.790	0.806	0.060	0.827	0.491	0.822	0.791	0.790	0.635	0.803	0.802	
	49		49														
CC	0.068	CC	0.085	CC	0.137	0.205	0.178	0.356	0.096	0.288	0.446	0.419	0.149	0.081	0.081	0.351	
TT	0.636	TT	0.549	TT	0.562	0.370	0.247	0.178	0.534	0.192	0.135	0.108	0.392	0.662	0.527	0.203	
CT	0.295	CT	0.366	CT	0.301	0.425	0.575	0.466	0.370	0.521	0.419	0.473	0.459	0.257	0.392	0.446	
He	0.339	He	0.392	He	0.410	0.486	0.498	0.484	0.404	0.495	0.452	0.452	0.470	0.331	0.401	0.489	
p	0.381	p	0.369	p	<b>0.040</b>	0.230	0.226	0.630	0.401	0.639	0.472	0.612	0.618	0.068	0.785	0.331	
	61		61														
CC	0.068	CC	0.310	CC	0.068	0.473	0.189	0.162	0.233	0.378	0.486	0.324	0.216	0.284			
TT	0.455	TT	0.225	TT	0.608	0.027	0.486	0.284	0.219	0.162	0.054	0.108	0.351	0.149			
CT	0.477	CT	0.465	CT	0.324	0.500	0.324	0.554	0.548	0.459	0.459	0.568	0.432	0.568			
He	0.425	He	0.496	He	0.354	0.401	0.456	0.493	0.500	0.477	0.407	0.477	0.491	0.491			
p	0.721	p	0.634	p	0.326	<b>0.043</b>	<b>0.011</b>	0.232	0.500	0.805	0.401	0.142	0.346	0.263			

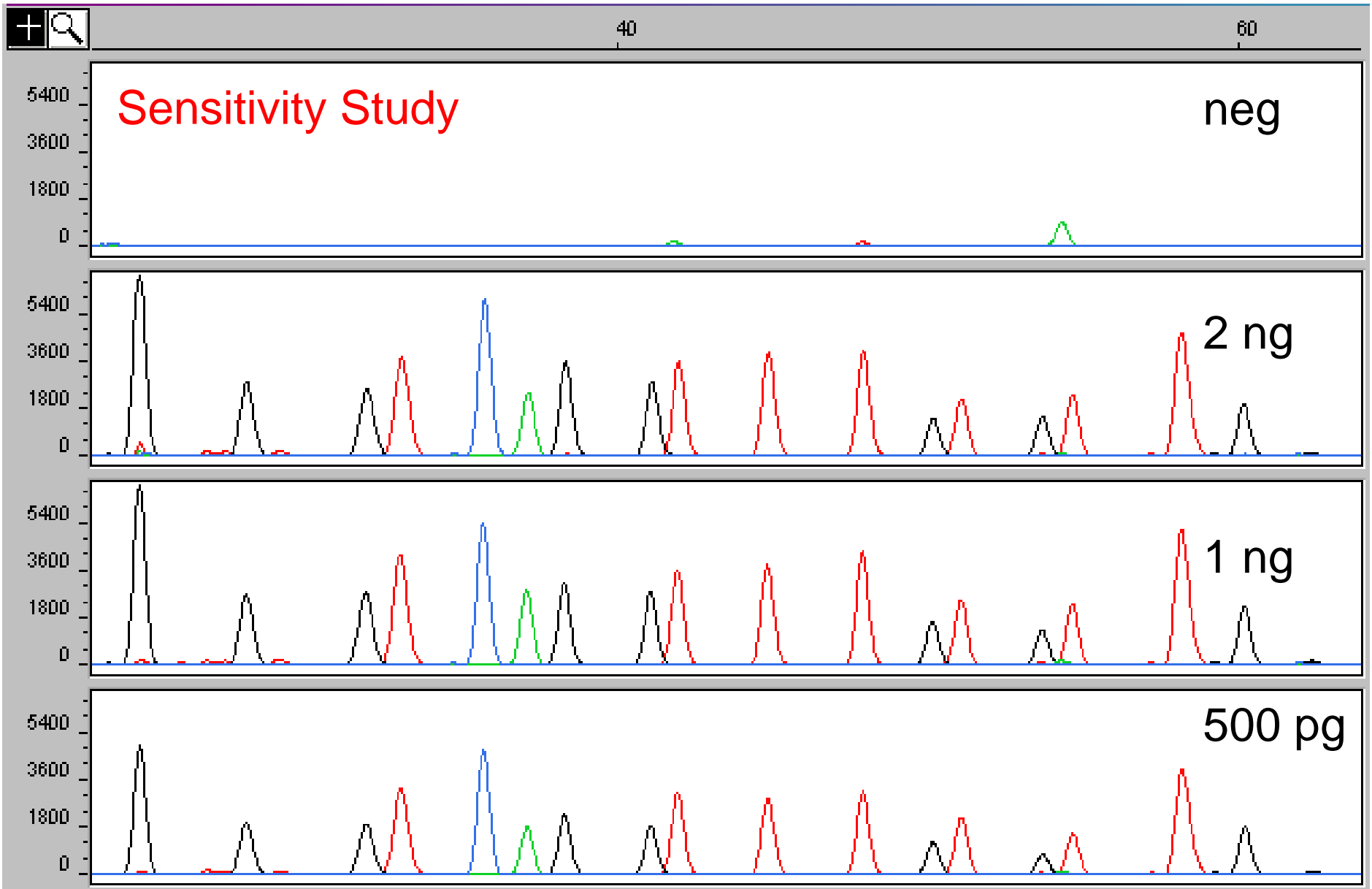
# NIST Autosomal 12plex SNP Assay

Vallone, P.M., Decker, A.E., Butler, J.M. (2005) Allele frequencies for 70 autosomal SNP loci with U.S. Caucasian, African American, and Hispanic Samples. *Forensic Sci. Int.* 149:279-286.



12plex PCR followed by 12-plex ASPE  
 Fragments separated on a ABI 3100 in 35 minutes  
 A Genotyper macro has been developed to type data  
 The 12plex assay has been run on over 600 samples  
 Works well on 0.5 to 1 ng of template  
 Sensitivity studies are underway

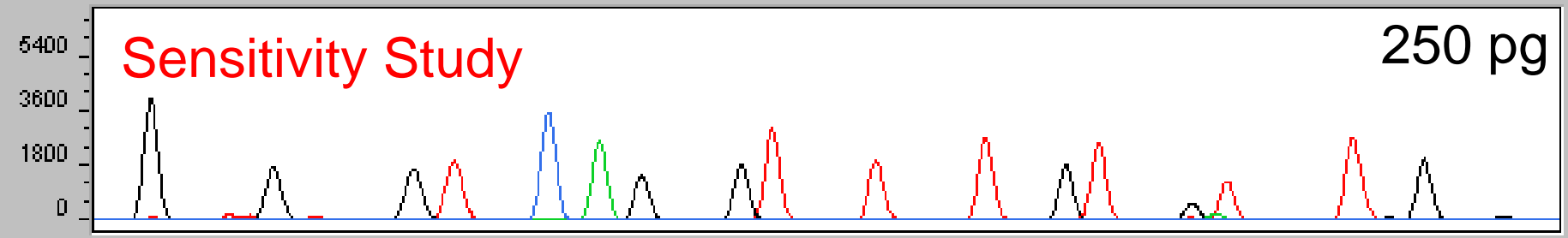
# of SNPs	# of Genotypes
1	3
2	9
3	27
4	64
5	107
6	145
7	160
8	175
9	182
10	186
11	188
12	189



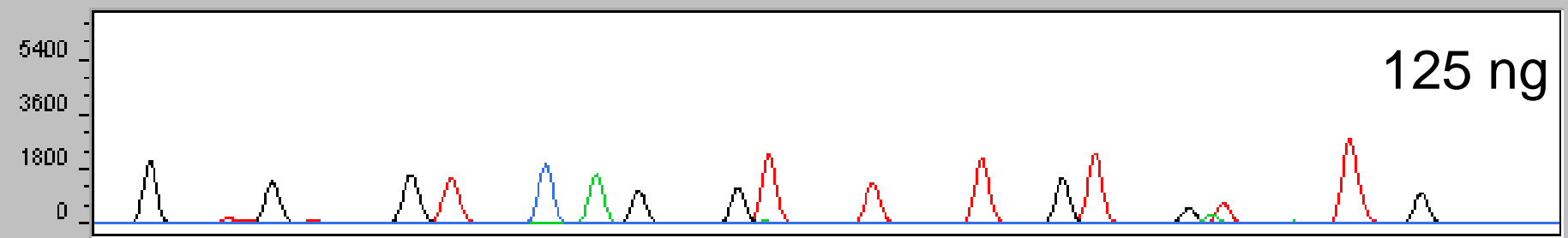
32 cycles PCR; 1.5 U Taq Gold

# Sensitivity Study

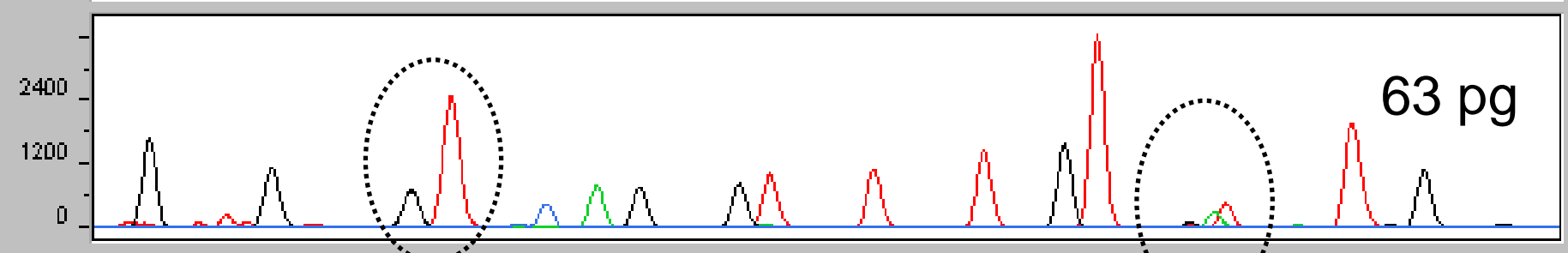
250 pg



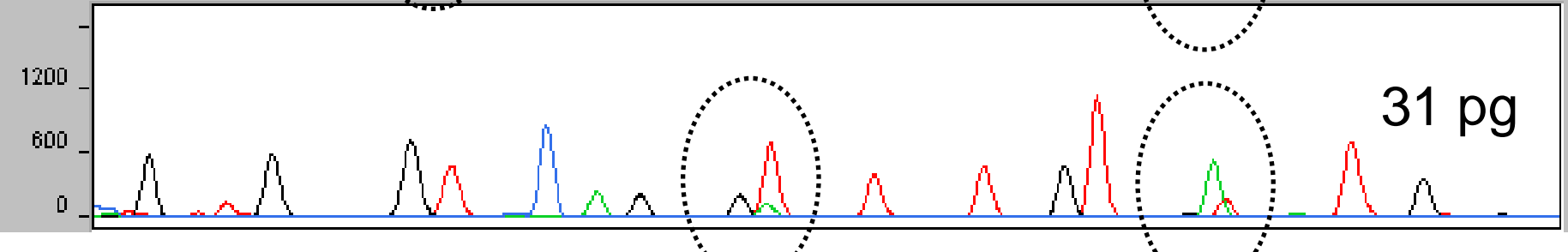
125 ng

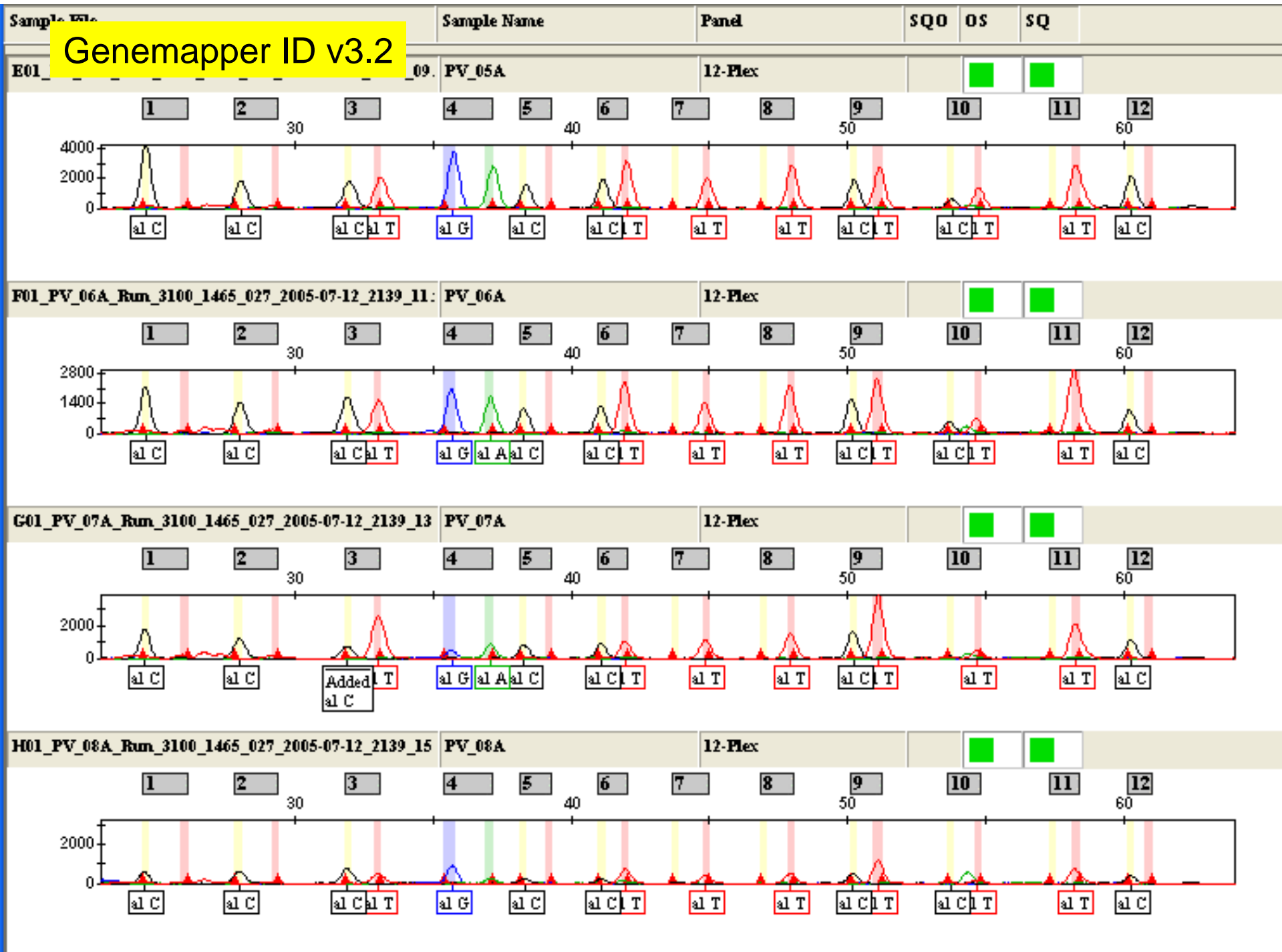


63 pg

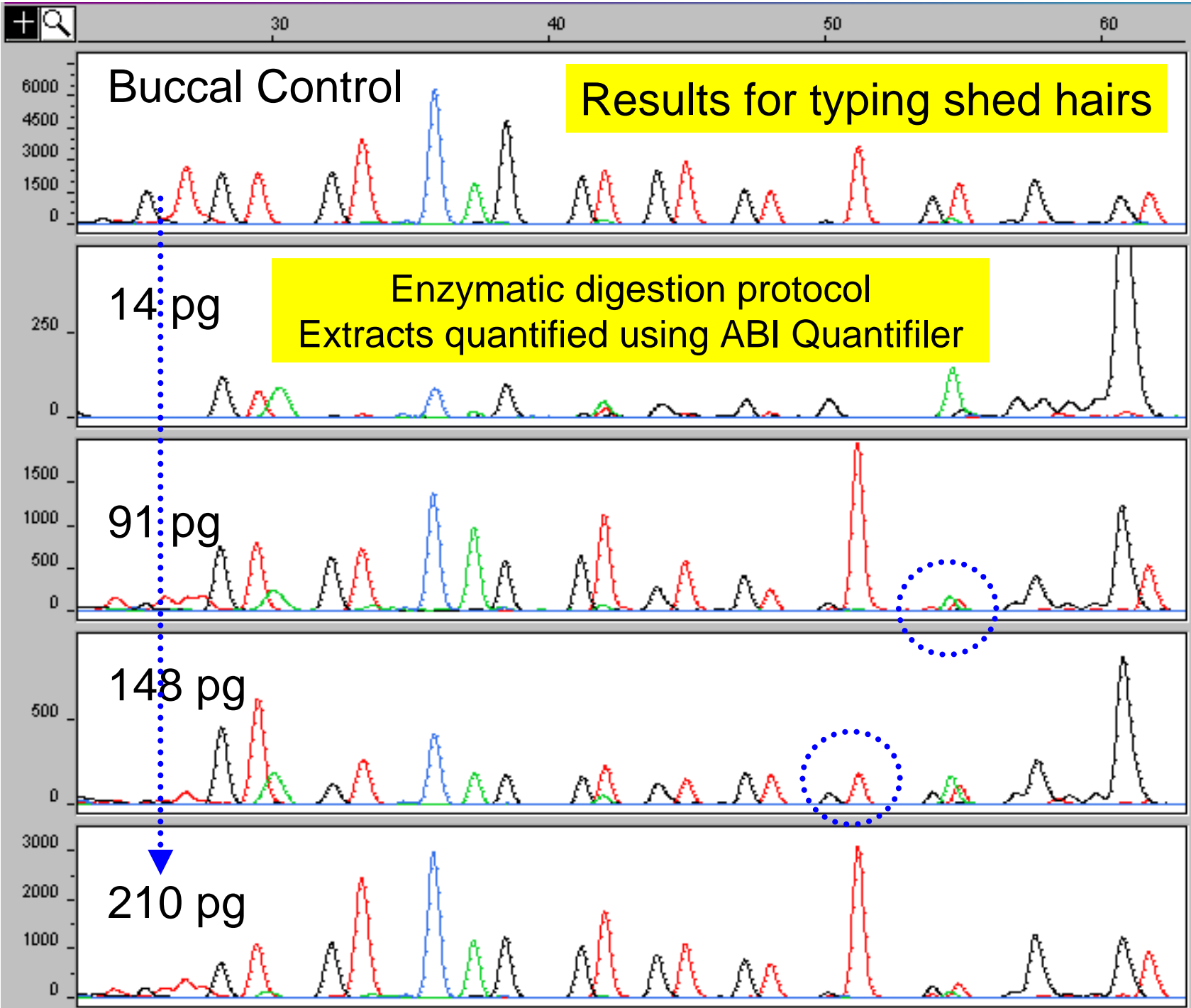


31 pg

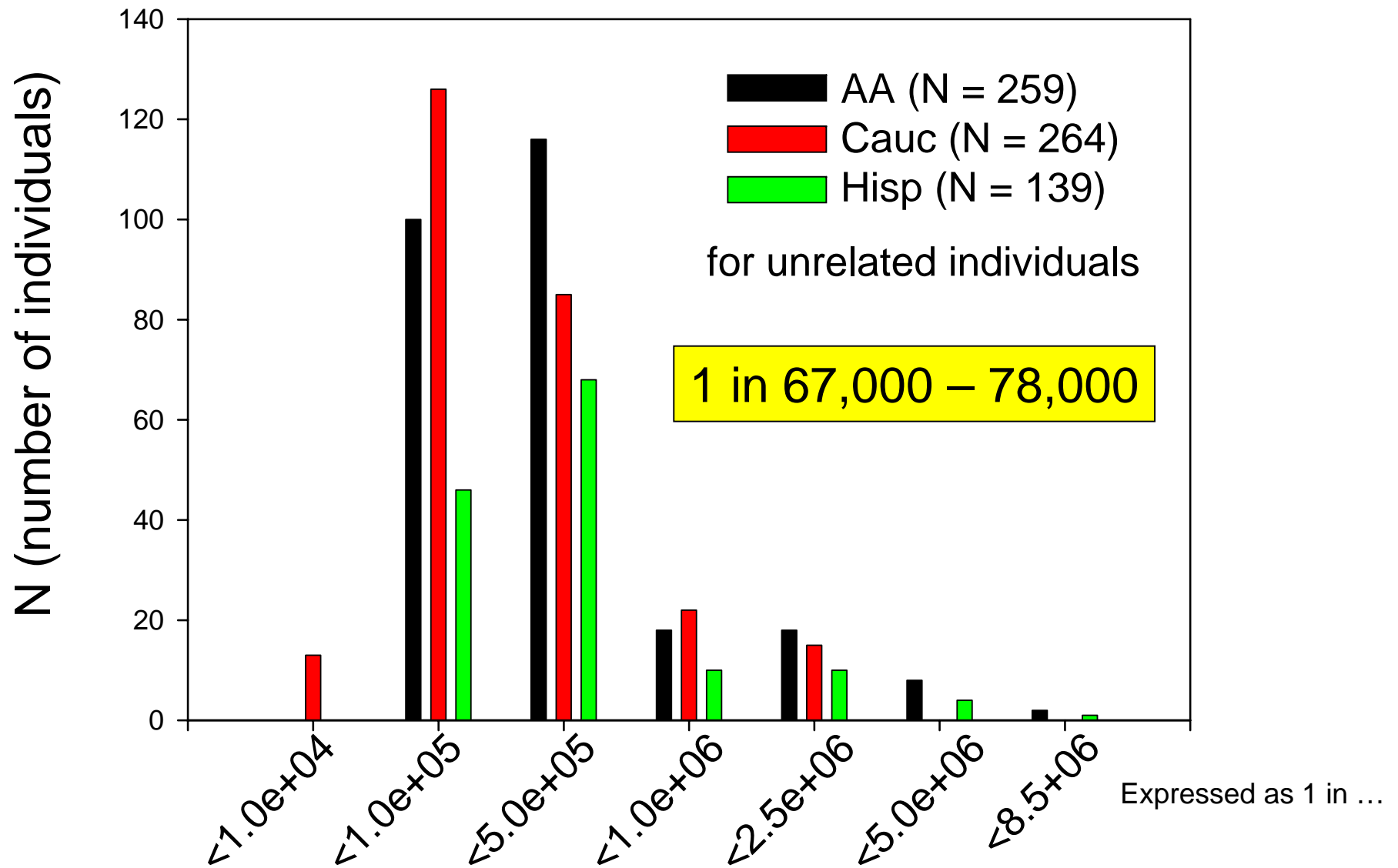




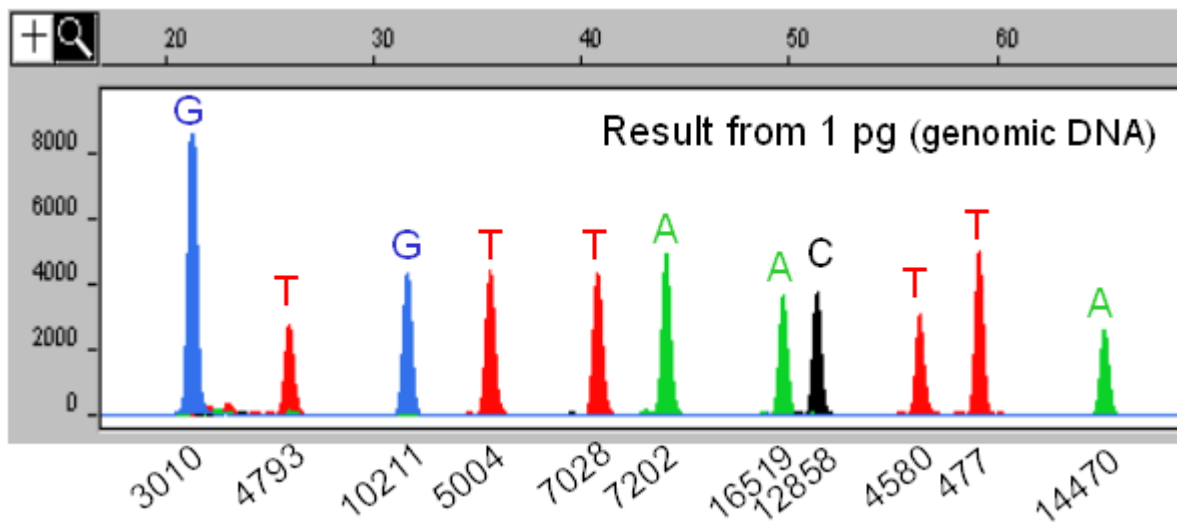




# Probability of a Random Match using 12-plex



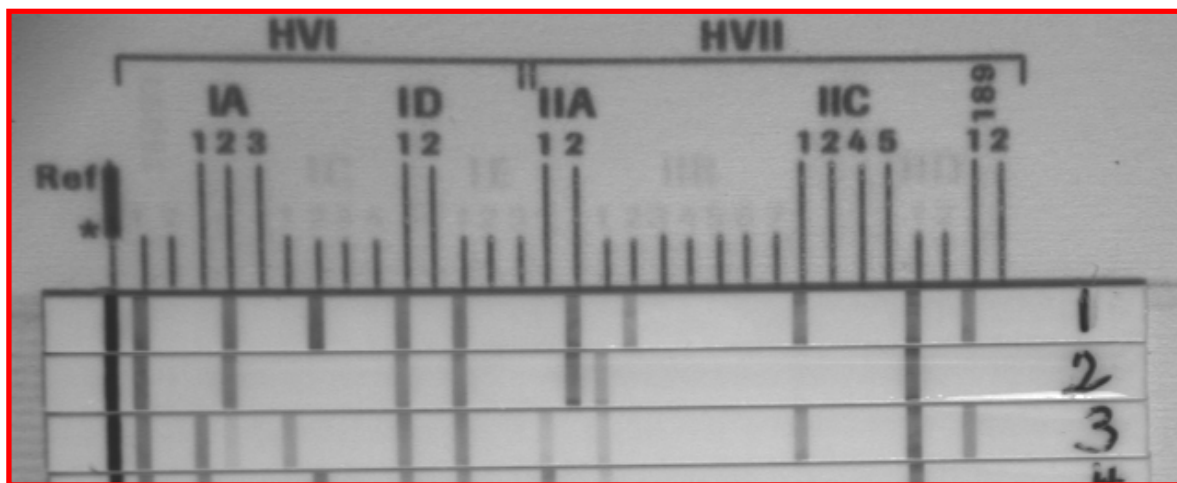
# NIST mtDNA Work



Coding Region  
mtSNP 11plex  
(minisequencing assay)

Developed with AFDIL  
to resolve mtDNA most  
common types

*Int. J. Legal Med.*, 2004;  
118: 147-157



Roche Linear Arrays  
(probes for HVI/HVII)

*J. Forensic Sci.* 2005,  
50(2): 377-385

Automated washing/  
Population Study

Typing frequencies for 666  
NIST population samples

#*	Freq	% Types	% People
1	185	65.6	27.8
2	46	16.3	13.8
3	18	6.4	8.1
4	4	1.4	2.4
5	3	1.1	2.3
6	4	1.4	3.6
7	1	0.4	1.1
8	9	3.2	10.8
9	2	0.7	2.7
10	4	1.4	6.0
11	1	0.4	1.7
12	1	0.4	1.8
18	1	0.4	2.7
23	1	0.4	3.5
28	1	0.4	4.2
51	1	0.4	7.7

## Summary of Our Population Typing with Roche mtDNA LINEAR ARRAYS

- 282 different types
- 185 were unique  
(occurred only once)
- 51 samples had “Most  
Common Type”

“Most Common Type” evaluated further  
with mtDNA coding region SNP assay

# Affymetrix Genechip Mitochondrial Resequencing Array (2<sup>nd</sup> gen)



Interrogates >12,000 bases (coding region)  
Less than 48h  
3 long PCR amplicons  
Detection of heteroplasmy

We will be testing 3 - 4 NIST population samples that have been sequenced by AFDIL

Address  http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/ 





## Short Tandem Repeat DNA Internet DataBase



These data are intended to benefit research and application of short tandem repeat DNA markers to human identity testing. The authors are solely responsible for the information herein. [[Purpose of Database](#)]

This database has been accessed **117970** times since 10/02/97. (Counter courtesy [www.digits.com](http://www.digits.com) - see [disclaimer](#).)

Created by [John M. Butler](#) and [Dennis J. Reeder](#) ([NIST Biotechnology Division](#)), with invaluable help from Jan Redmar, Christian Ruitberg and Michael Tung

Site creators' curriculum vitae  http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/SNP.htm  Link

\*Partial support for the design and maintenance through the NIST Office of Science and Technology Administration

[Publications and Presentations from NIST Human Identity Laboratory](#)

[Forensic SNP Information](#)

NEW

- o [STRs101: Brief Introduction to STRs](#)
- o [STR Fact Sheets \(observed alleles and PCR primers\)](#)
- o [Sequence Information \(annotated\)](#)

## Forensic SNP Information



This site is intended to provide general information on single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) markers that may be of interest in human identification applications. Many of these markers come from [The SNP Consortium](#) (TSC) efforts or are already present in the [NCBI dbSNP database](#). To submit a SNP marker for inclusion on this forensic SNP site, please provide the requested information on a standardized SNP fact sheet ([click here to download](#)) to John Butler via email: [john.butler@nist.gov](mailto:john.butler@nist.gov).

[[Markers](#)] [[Assays](#)] [[SNP Typing Technologies](#)]

See Gill, P., Werrett, D.J., Budowle, B. and Gueneri, R. (2004) **An assessment of whether SNPs will replace STRs in national DNA databases- Joint considerations of the DNA working group of the European Network of Forensic Science Institutes (ENFSI) and the Scientific Working Group on DNA Analysis Methods (SWGAM)**, *Science & Justice*, 44(1): 51-53.

Last Updated: 04/21/04

Forensic SNP Site  
*now a part of*  
STRBase



John  
Butler

Margaret  
Kline

Pete  
Vallone

Amy  
Decker

# Work with Y-STRs

- Beta-testing of all commercial Y-STR kits
- Population data supplied to Yfiler haplotype database
- **49 Y-STR loci evaluated with ~650 U.S. samples**
- New Y-chromosome information on STRBase linking to all available haplotype databases
- Nomenclature defined for new loci
- Human Y-Chromosome DNA Profiling Standard Reference Material (SRM 2395) – updates with DYS635 for Yfiler
- **Separation of two brothers with 47 Y-STRs**

[http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/y\\_strs.htm](http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/y_strs.htm)

# Y-Chromosome Standard NIST SRM 2395



## Human Y-Chromosome DNA Profiling Standard

- **5 male samples** + 1 female sample (neg. control)
- **100 ng of each** (50 µL at ~2 ng/µL)
- **22 Y STR markers sequenced**
- **9 additional Y STR markers typed**
- **42 Y SNPs typed** with Marligen kit

## Certified for all loci in commercial Y-STR kits:

Y-PLEX 6  
Y-PLEX 5  
Y-PLEX 12  
PowerPlex Y

*SWGDM recommended loci:*  
DYS19, *DYS385 a/b*, *DYS389I/II*,  
DYS390, *DYS391*, *DYS392*,  
*DYS393*, *DYS438*, *DYS439*

**Y-filer** - adds *DYS635 (C4)*; now sequenced

**Helps meet FBI Standard 9.5 (and ISO 17025)...traceability to a national standard**





Margaret  
Kline

Pete  
Vallone

Amy  
Decker

# Evaluation of qPCR Assays

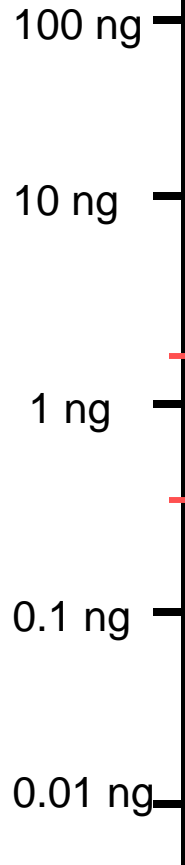
- Evaluation of published assays on same samples
- Characterization of DNA Standard lot-to-lot performance
- Additional studies under way utilizing qPCR:
  - Examining the challenge of multiplexing qPCR assays
  - Studies to track DNA recovery from various types of tubes
  - Characterizing potential SRM 2372 components (Human DNA Quantitation Standard)

<http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/DNAquant.htm>

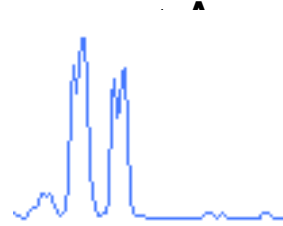
# Importance of DNA Quantitation

(prior to multiplex PCR)

**DNA amount**  
(log scale)



High levels of DNA create interpretation challenges (more artifacts to review)



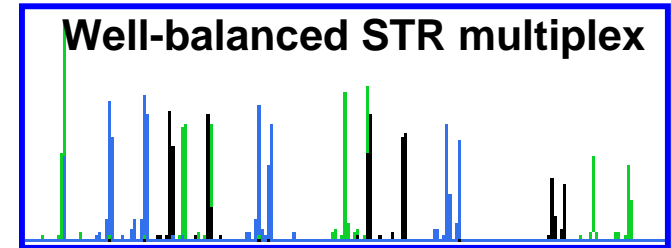
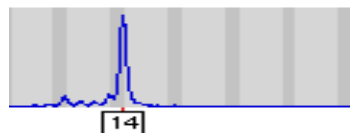
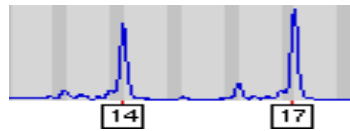
### Too much DNA

- Off-scale peaks
- Split peaks (+/-A)
- Locus-to-locus imbalance

STR Kits Work Best in This Range

2.0 ng

0.5 ng



### Too little DNA

- Heterozygote peak imbalance
- Allele drop-out
- Locus-to-locus imbalance

Stochastic effect when amplifying low levels of DNA produces allele drop-out



# ABI 7500 Real-Time PCR System

We also have access  
to ABI 7000 and 7900  
instruments

- 96-well format thermal cycler
- five-color detection system with CCD camera
- Real-time monitoring of amplification growth curves enabling viewing of runs in progress

# Studies Performed

## Human ID methods SYBR Green-based

- Alu (high copy #)
  - Nicklas & Buel (2003) J Forensic Sci 48 (5):936-944

## Human ID methods Probe based

- CFS-HumRT
  - Richard et al. (2003) J Forensic Sci 48(5):1041-1046
- Quantifiler™ Human DNA Quantification Kit
- Quantifiler™ Y Human Male Quantification Kit
  - ABI Quantifiler Kits User's Manual PN4344790
- CA DOJ Duplex
  - Timken et al., *in press*

# Assays Examined

<b>Assay</b>	<b>amplicon</b>	<b>GeneTarget</b>	<b>probe</b>	<b>#Cycles</b>
Alu	124 bp	Alu , Ya5 Subfamilygene	NA	28-35
CFS- HUMRT 11p15.5	62 bp	Human tyrosine hydroxylase	TH01	40
Qfiler Human	62 bp	Human telomerase reverse transcriptase gene (hTERT), 5p15.33	TaqMan MGB	40
Qfiler Y Male	64 bp	Sex determining region Y gene (SRY)	TaqMan MGB	40
CA DOJ nuclear	170-190 bp	TH01	TaqManM GB	45
CA DOJ mito	69 bp	ND1 gene	TaqManM GB	45

# Experimental Design

Assay	Std1	Std2	Std3	Std4	Std5	Std6
Quantifiler	1.5	2.3	1.0	1.2	1.0	0.9
Quantifiler Y	1.7	2.0	1.3	f	1.3	1.2
CFS	1.6	1.8	1.3	1.5	1.2	1.1
CA DOJ	1.5	2.0	1.6	2.0	1.6	1.5
ALU	1.7	3.1	1.9	2.0	2.0	1.8

Target concentration 1.6 ng/uL

# Experimental Design

Assay	Std1	Std2	Std3	Std4	Std5	Std6
Quantifiler	<p>Do the different methods agree for a single genomic DNA standard? (Assay bias)</p> <p>How do different genomic DNA standards compare? (Standard bias)</p> <p>Do observed concentration differences translate into significant signal variation in a human ID test? (RFUs)</p>					
Quantifiler Y						
CFS						
CA DOJ						
ALU						

Target concentration 1.6 ng/uL

# SRM 2372

Human DNA Quantitation Standard  
(Tentative Information)

3 Samples Male, Female, Mixture

50 ng/ $\mu$ L

50  $\mu$ L total volume

Available in 2006





Margaret  
Kline

John  
Butler

# STR Allele Sequencing and Characterization

- Variant characterization
  - TPOX 10.3 (Maryland State Police)
  - D18S51 null alleles (FSS and Kuwait govt)
  - D18S51 allele 40 (Nebraska State Crime Lab)
  - D18S51 allele 5.3 (DNA Solutions)
  - FGA allele 46.2 (Denver Crime Lab)
  - DYS392 allele “10.3” (AFDIL)
- Locus duplication or deletion
  - DYS390 (CFS Toronto)
  - DYS392 (MN BCA)
- **Forensic labs are sending us unusual STR alleles for sequence characterization**

<http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/STRseq.htm>

AT

# Steps in STR Allele Sequencing

Samples provided by collaborators or forensic practitioners

**DNA Extraction**

**Amplification with primers external to kit primers**

**Gel Cutouts with Heterozygotes**

**Re-Amplification**

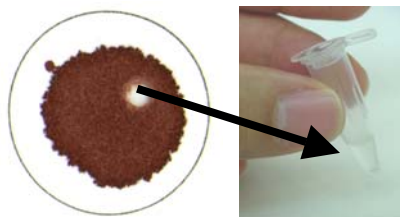
**Amplicon Quantitation**

**ExoSAP**

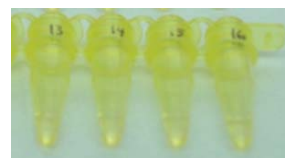
**Cycle Sequencing**

**Dye Terminator Removal**

**F/R Sequence Alignment to Reference Sequence**



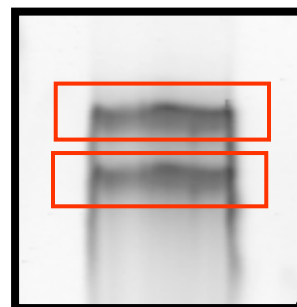
DNA Extraction



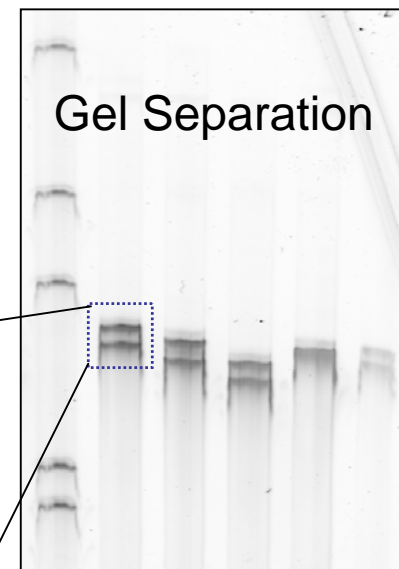
PCR Amplification



Amplicon Quantitation



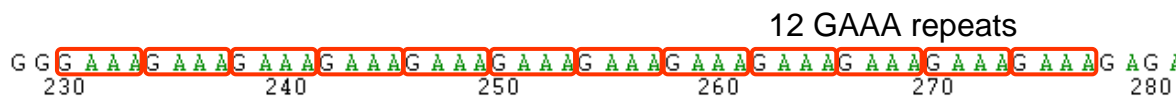
Allele Isolation with gel cutouts



Gel Separation



Re-Amplification



DNA sequence analysis

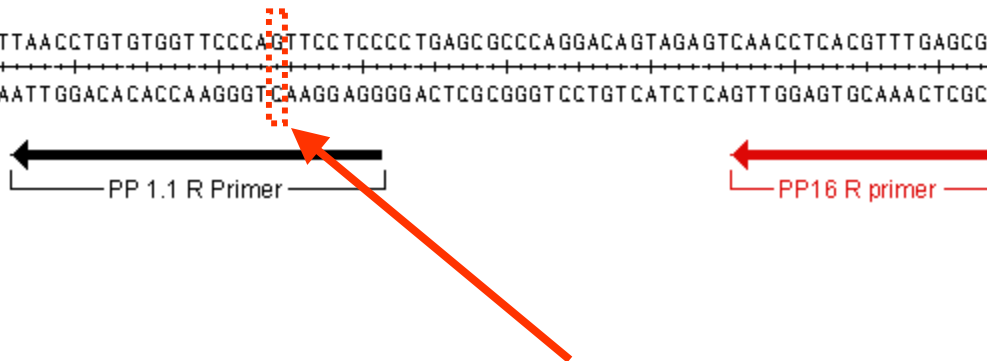
# TPOX Flanking Region Deletion Impacting Calls with Different Kits

GTTTCAGGGCTGTGATCACTAGCACCCAGAACCCTCGACTGGCACAGAACAGGGCACTTAGGGAAACCCTCACTGAATGAATGAAATGAATGAATGAATGAATGAATGAATGAATGAATGAATGTTT  
 CAAAGTCCCGACACTAGTGATCGTGGGTCTTGGCAGCTGACCGTGTCTTGTCCTGGAATCCCTTGGGAGTGACTTACTTACTTACTTACTTACTTACTTACTTACTTACTTACTTACTTACAAA 1920



GGGCAAATAAACGCTGACAAGGACAGAAGGGCCTAGCGGGAAGGGAACAGGAGTAAGACCAGCGCACAGCCCGACTTGTGTTCAAGAAGACCTGGGATTGGACCTGAGGAGTTC AATTTTGG  
 CCCGTTTATTTGCGACTGTTCCCTGTCTTCCCAGATCGCCCTTCCCTTGTCCTCATTCTGGTCGCGTGTGGGGTGAACACAAGTCTTCGGACCTAACCTGGACTCCTCAAGTTAAAAAC 2040

GATGAATCTCTTAATTAACCTGTGTGGTTCCCACTTCCCTCCCTGAGCGCCAGGACAGTAGAGTCAACCTCACGTTTGAGCGTTGGGGACGCAAAACGAGAGTGCTTGGTGTGAGCAC  
 CTACTTAGAGAATTAATTGGACACACCAAGGGTCAAGGAGGGGACTCGCGGGTCTGT CATCTCAGTTGGAGTGCAAACTCGCAACCCCTGCGTTTGTGCTCTCACGAACCACACTCGTG 2160

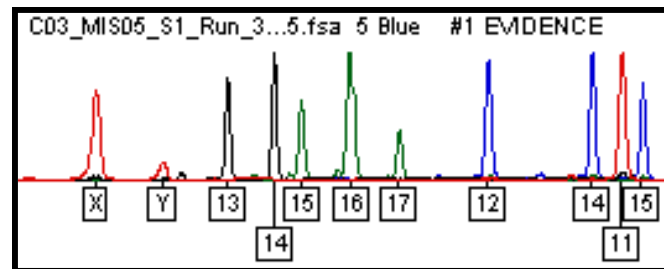
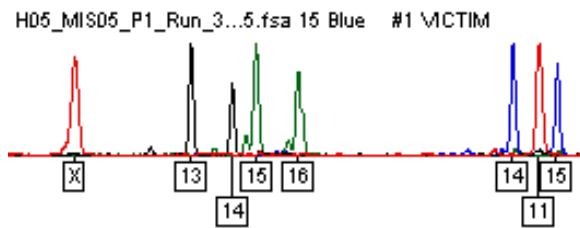


Deletion results in a 10.3 allele call with PP 16 but an allele 11 call with COfiler/Identifiler/PP1.1.



# Mixture Interpretation Interlab Study (MIX05)

- **Only involves interpretation of data**
- **91 labs enrolled** for participation (20 from overseas)
- **64 labs have returned results**
- Four mock cases supplied with “victim” and “evidence” electropherograms (GeneScan .fsa files – that can be converted for Mac or GeneMapper; gel files made available to FMBIO labs)
- Data available with Profiler Plus, COfiler, SGM Plus, PowerPlex 16, Identifiler, PowerPlex 16 BIO (FMBIO) kits
- Summary of results with involve training materials to illustrate various approaches to solving mixtures



Perpetrator  
Profile(s) ??

Along with reasons for  
making calls and any stats  
that would be reported

# Plans for Dissemination of MIX05 Results

- Data shipped in mid-January 2005
- Responses due before March 15, 2005 (but still open)
- **Goal is to understand the “lay of the land” regarding mixture analysis across the DNA typing community**
- Results to be discussed at NIJ DNA Grantees Meeting (June 2005), SWGDAM (June 2005), and ISFG (Sept 2005)
- We plan to develop training materials to aid in mixture interpretation with available software tools and to help in standardizing reports involving mixture analysis



Pete  
Vallone

Dave  
Duewer

Chris  
DeAngelis

# Software Tools

- AutoDimer – multiplex PCR primer screening tool

<http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/AutoDimerHomepage/AutoDimerProgramHomepage.htm>

- mixSTR – mixture component resolution tool

- Multiplex\_QA – quality assessment tool for monitoring instrument performance over time

- NIST U.S. population database (internal Access database)

<http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/software.htm>

# AutoDimer Primer Screening Program

## SHORT TECHNICAL REPORTS

Vallone, P.M. and Butler, J.M. (2004) *BioTechniques* 37:226-231

### AutoDimer: a screening tool for primer-dimer and hairpin structures

Peter M. Vallone and John M. Butler

National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD, USA

*BioTechniques* 37:226-231 (August 2004)

Available for download from STRBase:  
<http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase>

A web-based interface is in development (similar to Primer3)

## Download Page

[Home](#)

[Download](#)

[Tips for running](#)

[Example Input](#)

[Referencing AutoDimer](#)

[FAQ](#)

[Support](#)

AutoDimer was packaged for installation using Visual Basic 6.0. I have tested the installation on PCs running Win98, 2000, XP and NT. However, I cannot guarantee installation success for each user's specific computer configuration.

By clicking the link below you will be downloading the file AutoDimer.zip. Once extracted ([www.winzip.com](http://www.winzip.com)), the files can be used to install the AutoDimer program (click setup.exe).

The end user is responsible for the installation and running of the program (this is done at your own risk). The author will not be held responsible for any subsequent computer/operating system issues due to conflicts with the AutoDimer software. AutoDimer is a **general tool** for screening sequences, we do not guarantee the success of your PCR/assay.

[Please click here to download AutoDimer \(~5 MB\).](#)





John  
Butler

Jan  
Redman

# STRBase Updates

## Primary updates performed monthly

- Summary of variant alleles and tri-allelic patterns
- List of STR references (Reference Manager database)
- NIST publications and presentations
  
- New content is being added regularly to aid training and to support forensic DNA laboratories

<http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/>

<http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/NISTpub.htm>

[http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/var\\_tab.htm](http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/var_tab.htm)

# Content of STRBase Website

<http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase>

- [.../str\\_fact.htm](#) STR Fact Sheets on Core Loci
- [.../multiplx.htm](#) Multiplex STR Kit Information
- [.../y\\_strs.htm](#) Y-Chromosome Information
- [.../var\\_tab.htm](#) Variant Alleles Reported
- [.../mutation.htm](#) Mutation Rates for Common STRs
- [.../str\\_ref.htm](#) Reference List with ~2,300 Papers
- [.../training.htm](#) Downloadable PowerPoints for Training
- [.../validation.htm](#) Validation Information
- [.../miniSTR.htm](#) miniSTR Information
- [.../address.htm](#) Addresses for Scientists
- [.../NISTpub.htm](#) Publications & Presentations from NIST



John  
Butler

# Training Materials and Review Articles

- Workshops on STRs and CE (ABI 310/3100)
  - Taught with Bruce McCord (Florida Int. Univ.)
  - NEAFS (Sept 29-30, 2004)
  - U. Albany DNA Academy (June 13-14, 2005)
- PowerPoint slides from *Forensic DNA Typing*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition
- Review articles
  - ABI 310 and 3100 chemistry – *Electrophoresis* 2004, 25, 1397-1412
  - Forensic DNA analysis – *Anal. Chem.* 2005, 77, 3839-3860
  - STR core loci – *J. Forensic Sci.*, *in press* (Nov 2005)

<http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/training.htm>

<http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/NISTpub.htm>



Margaret  
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# Interlaboratory Studies

- DNA Quantitation Study (QS04)
  - 8 DNA samples supplied
  - 84 laboratories signed up (80 labs returned results)
  - 287 data sets using 19 different methods
  - 60 data sets with real-time qPCR (37 Quantifiler data sets)
  - Publication in May 2005: *J. Forensic Sci.* 50(3): 571-578
- Mixture Interpretation Study (MIX05)
  - 91 labs signed up (64 labs returned data)
  - Interpretation requested of provided e-grams for 4 mock sexual assault cases
  - Data analysis is still on-going...

<http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/interlab.htm>

# Team Impact on Forensic Community

- **27 publications** since June 2004 (61 since 2000)
- **31 presentations** to the community since June 2004
- All NIST publications and presentations available on STRBase:  
<http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/NISTpub.htm>
- Training materials: 2 workshops conducted with Bruce McCord
  - NEAFS (Sept 29-30, 2004)
  - Albany DNA Academy (June 13-14, 2005)
  - **AAFS Workshop Seattle 2006**  
**(Advanced Topics in STR DNA Analysis)**
- *Forensic DNA Typing: Biology, Technology, and Genetics of STR Markers*, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition (John Butler)

# Acknowledgments

Funding from interagency agreement 2003-IJ-R-029 between NIJ and the NIST Office of Law Enforcement Standards



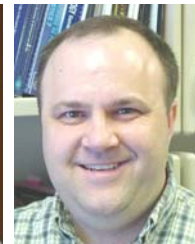
John  
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Margaret  
Kline



Pete  
Vallone



Mike  
Coble



Jan  
Redman



Amy  
Decker



Becky  
Hill



Chris  
DeAngelis



Dave  
Duewer

Past and Present Collaborators (also funded by NIJ):

[Mike Hammer](#) and [Alan Redd](#) (U. AZ) for Y-chromosome studies

[Tom Parsons](#), [Rebecca Just](#), [Jodi Irwin](#) (AFDIL) for mtDNA coding SNP work

[Sandy Calloway](#) (Roche) for mtDNA LINEAR ARRAYS

[Bruce McCord](#) and students (FL Int. U.) for miniSTR work

[Marilyn Raymond](#) and [Victor David](#) (NCI-Frederick) for cat STR work

[Artie Eisenberg](#) and [John Planz](#) (U. North Texas)

# Disclaimers and Collaborations

**Funding: Interagency Agreement 2003-IJ-R-029 between the [National Institute of Justice](#) and NIST Office of Law Enforcement Standards**

Points of view are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the US Department of Justice. Certain commercial equipment, instruments and materials are identified in order to specify experimental procedures as completely as possible. In no case does such identification imply a recommendation or endorsement by the National Institute of Standards and Technology nor does it imply that any of the materials, instruments or equipment identified are necessarily the best available for the purpose.

**Our publications and presentations are made available at:  
<http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/NISTpub.htm>**