

University of North Texas Health Sciences Center (Ft. Worth, TX)  
 April 12, 2012

# NIST Research Projects in Human Identity Testing

**John M. Butler**  
 NIST Applied Genetics Group  
 National Institute of Standards and Technology  
 Gaithersburg, Maryland

## Overview of My Career

B.S. Chemistry 1992

**UVA Grad Student**  
 (Aug 1992- Aug 1995)  
 Research Conducted at FBI

**NIST/NRC Postdoc**  
 (Sept 1995- May 1997)  
 Some Research at AFDIL

**Staff Scientist**  
 (May 1997 - Sept 1999)

**Research Chemist**  
 (Sept 1999 - present)

Since 2008: NIST Fellow and Group Leader of Applied Genetics

## NIST History and Mission

- National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) was created in 1901 as the National Bureau of Standards (NBS). The name was changed to NIST in 1988.
- NIST is a non-regulatory agency within the U.S. Department of Commerce with a mission to develop and promote measurement, standards, and technology to enhance productivity, facilitate trade, and improve the quality of life.
- NIST supplies over 1,300 Standard Reference Materials (SRMs) for industry, academia, and government use in calibration of measurements.
- NIST defines time for the U.S.**

**DNA typing standard**

\$686 for 3 jars

## Standard Reference Materials (SRMs)

<http://www.nist.gov/srm>

Traceable standards to ensure accurate and comparable measurements between laboratories

SRM 2391c – autosomal STRs  
 SRM 2392 &-I – mtDNA sequencing  
 SRM 2395 – Y-STRs  
 SRM 2372 – DNA quantitation  
 SRM 2366 – CMV  
 SRM 2393 – Huntington's Disease  
 SRM 2399 – Fragile X

Calibration with SRMs enables confidence in comparisons of results between laboratories

Helps meet ISO 17025 needs for traceability to a national metrology institute

## Location of NIST

Washington D.C.

Now in Dover, DE

FBI Lab  
 Richmond, VA

Dulles Airport  
 I-66

Reagan National Airport

Capitol Beltway (I-495)

Baltimore, MD  
 BWI Airport  
 I-95

I-270

## NIST Today

### Major Assets

- ~ 2,900 employees
- ~ 2600 associates and facilities users
- ~ 400 NIST staff on about 1,000 national and international standards committees
- 3 Nobel Prizes in Physics in past 15 years**

Work that led to the 2011 Nobel Prize in Chemistry was performed at NBS/NIST

### Major Programs

- NIST Laboratories**
- Baldrige National Quality Program
- Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership
- Technology Innovation Program

### Joint NIST/University Institutes:

- JILA
- Joint Quantum Institute
- Institute for Bioscience & Biotechnology Research
- Hollings Marine Laboratory

**NIST Applied Genetics Group**  
 Group Leader *Bringing traceability and technology to the scales of justice...*

**John Butler**   **Marcia Holden**   **Margaret Kline**   **Pete Vallone**   **Mike Coble**  
**Ross Haynes**   **Becky Hill**   **Erica Butts**   **Kristen O'Connor**   **Kevin Kiesler**

*Left Sept 16, 2011 (completed posting)*

**APPLIED GENETICS Group**  
 Major Programs Currently Underway

- Forensic DNA**
  - STRBase website
  - New loci and assays (26plex)
  - STR kit concordance**
  - Ancestry SNP assays
  - Low-template DNA studies
  - Mixture interpretation research and training**
  - STR nomenclature
  - Variant allele cataloging and sequencing
  - ABI 3500 validation
  - Training workshops to forensic DNA laboratories
  - Validation experiments, information and software tools
  - Textbooks – 3<sup>rd</sup> ed.** (3 volumes)
- Clinical Genetics**
  - Huntington's Disease SRM
  - CMV SRM
  - Exploring future needs
- Ag Biotech**
  - "universal" GMO detection/quantitation (35S promoter)
- DNA Biometrics**
  - Rapid PCR methods**
  - Efforts to standardize testing of future portable DNA systems
  - Kinship analysis
- Cell Line Authentication**
  - ATCC documentary standard

**Aiding Cell Line Authentication**  
 Katsnelson, A. (2010) *Nature News*, 465: 537 (3 June 2010)

**Biologists tackle cells' identity crisis**

DNA fingerprinting scheme aims to make sure researchers are working on the right cells.

Designation: ASN-0002

**Authentication of Human Cell Lines: Standardization of STR Profiling**

<http://www.nature.com/news/2010/100602/pdf/465537a.pdf>

**NIST Human Identity Project Teams**  
 within the Applied Genetics Group

**Forensic DNA Team**   **Guest Researcher**   **DNA Biometrics Team**

Funding from the **National Institute of Justice (NIJ)** through NIST Office of Law Enforcement Standards   **Manuel Fondevilla Alvarez**   Funding from the **FBI S&T Branch** through NIST Information Access Division

**John Butler**   **Mike Coble**   **Becky Hill**   **Margaret Kline**   **Manuel Fondevilla Alvarez**   **Pete Vallone**   **Erica Butts**   **Kevin Kiesler**

STRBase, Workshops & Textbooks   Concordance & LT-DNA   SRM work, variant alleles & Cell Line ID   **Data Analysis Support**   Rapid PCR, Direct PCR & Biometrics   Mixture, mtDNA & Y   PLEX-ID & NGS Exploration

**Office Manager** Patti Rohmiller   **Dave Dwever**

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

**Our FY2011 Group Productivity**  
 (Oct 2010 to Sept 2011)

- 21 publications**
  - 20 articles + 1 book
- 77 presentations**
  - 65 talks (58 invited) + 12 posters (all available on STRBase)
- 10 training workshops**
  - Mixture interpretation (ISHI, AAFS, NFSTC, IN, HI, AZ, MI, Palm Beach, Houston)
  - Capillary electrophoresis (ISFG)
- 3 Standard Reference Materials (SRMs) completed**
  - 2391c (forensic STRs), 2393 (HD), 2366 (CMV)
- 10 committee assignments**
  - VA SAC, DOD DNA oversight, FBI new CODIS core loci, SWGDAM (mixture interpretation, rapid DNA, enhanced detection methods), NIST/NIJ evidence preservation TWG, JCTLM, NIJ DNA TWG, ATCC cell line authentication

**NIST/NRC Postdoc Program**

- Current stipend (2011-2012) is **\$65,600 per year**
  - Currently a limit of 120 slots per year
  - Congressionally-mandated program for NIST
  - Maximum 2-year appointments
- Awardees **must be U.S. citizens**   **Any of the projects our group is doing are open to possibilities**
- Awardees are chosen through a **national competition** administered by the National Research Council of the National Academy of Sciences.
  - Research opportunities include those in chemistry, physics, materials science, mathematics, computer sciences, and engineering.
- Two (four) competitions per year
  - deadlines of February 1 and August 1** (May 1 and November 1)

**Multiplex PCR Assay Development**  
 RO#: 50.63.11.B5906  
 Adviser: Peter Vallone

<http://www.nist.gov/iaao/postdoc.cfm>  
<http://nrc58.nas.edu/RAPLab10/Opportunity/Program.aspx?LabCode=50>


# Current NIST Projects

Short Overviews...

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

## NIST STRBase Website

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



**Forensic STR Information**

- [STRs101: Brief Introduction to STRs](#)
- [Core Loci: FBI CODIS Core STR Loci and European Core Loci](#)
- [STR Fact Sheets \(observed alleles and PCR product sizes\)](#)
- [Multiplex STR kits](#)
- [Sequence Information \(annotated\)](#)
- [Variant Allele Reports](#)
- [Tri-Allelic Patterns](#)
- [Mutation Rates for Common Loci](#)
- [Published PCR primers](#)
- [Y-chromosome STRs](#)
- [Low-template DNA Information](#) *Updated*
- [Mixture Interpretation](#) *AEH*
- [Kinship Analysis](#) *AEH*
- [miniSTRs \(short tandem repeats\)](#)
- [Null Alleles - discordance observed between STR kits](#)
- [STR Reference List - now 2400 references](#)


**Cataloged as of Mar 2012**  
**632 variant alleles**  
**310 tri-allelic patterns**

**We invite labs to supply information on variant and tri-alleles observed**

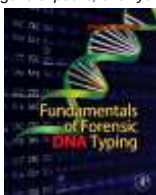
## Forensic DNA Typing Textbook

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition is Three Volumes

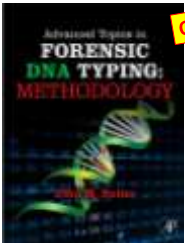
Now part of my job at NIST (no royalties are received)



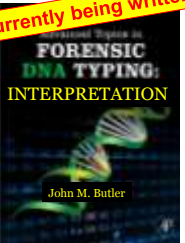
*For beginning students, general public, & lawyers*



**Sept 2009**  
~500 pages



**August 2011**  
~700 pages



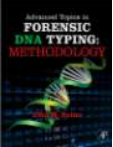
**Fall 2012**  
~500 pages

Currently being written

## New Material in *Advanced Topics: Methodology*


Released August 2011

**>50% new material from previous editions**



- Cites >1500 new references (>2800 ref. total)
- **New chapter** on legal aspects (Ch. 18)
  - expert witness prep, perspectives from lawyers
  - App. 4 (interviews): experts, prosecutors, & defense
- **New chapter** on X-chromosome markers (Ch. 15)
- **Extensive updates** on CE (Ch. 6), validation (Ch. 7), database issues (Ch. 8), disaster victim identification (Ch. 9), miniSTRs (Ch. 10), LTDNA (Ch. 11), SNPs (Ch. 12), Y-STRs (Ch. 13), mtDNA (Ch. 14), non-human DNA (Ch. 16), and new technology (Ch. 17)
- Coverage of all the new STR kits (Ch. 5)
- Listing of all known STR alleles for all 23 kit loci (App. 1)
- Most detail to-date on the Grim Sleeper case (D.N.A. Box 8.5)

## NIST SRM 2391c

**Main Points:**

- Traceable physical reference materials to ensure accurate and comparable measurements between laboratories
- Helps meet ISO 17025 needs for traceability to a national metrology institute

• <http://www.nist.gov/srm>

• **SRM 2391c released Aug 2011**

<http://www.promega.com/resources/articles/profiles-in-dna>

The Latest and Greatest NIST PCR-Based DNA Profiling Standard: Updates and Status of...

**Presentations/Publications:**

- *Profiles in DNA* article (Sept 2011)
- ISFG 2011 and ISHI 2011 posters
- Forensic Sci. Int. Genet. Suppl. Ser. (2011)

## NIST Standard Reference Material (SRM) for Forensic DNA Testing

**SRM 2391b (2003-2011)**

- **48 autosomal STR loci** with certified values
- **10 liquid genomic DNA** components + **2 punches** (cells on 903 paper)
- All single source samples
- 4 males + 6 females
- 9947A & 9948 included

**SRM 2391c (2011-future)**

- **23 autosomal STR loci and 17 Y-STRs** certified
- **4 liquid genomic DNA** components + **2 punches** (cells on FTA & 903 paper)
- 5 single source + 1 mixture
- 3 males + 2 females (unique)
- All new samples
  - no 9947A or 9948

**SRM 2391c to replace SRM 2391b and SRM 2395 (for Y-STRs)**

**Selling since Aug 16, 2011  
Current price: \$626**

## NIST SRM 2391c



**Produced with an entirely new set of genomic DNA samples.**

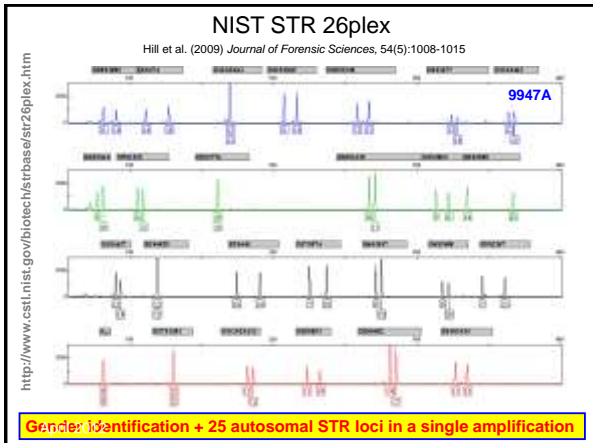
**9947A & 9948 are NOT included.**

[https://www-s.nist.gov/srmors/view\\_detail.cfm?srm=2391c](https://www-s.nist.gov/srmors/view_detail.cfm?srm=2391c)

### STR Genotyping kits and primer mixes used at NIST to certify SRM 2391c

Kit Provider	Primer Mixes
<i>Life Technologies</i>	
Identifiler	26plex
Identifiler Plus	miniSTRs
NGM	
NGM Select	
COfiler	
Profiler	
Profiler Plus	
Profiler Plus ID	
SGM Plus	
SEfiler	<b>All results are concordant across all kits.</b>
MiniFiler	
<b>Yfiler</b>	

**In total there is data for 51 autosomal STRs and 17 Y-STRs**



### Commercially Available STR Kits

Applied Biosystems (17)	Promega Corporation (15)	Qiagen (2010)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- AmpFISTR Blue (1996)</li> <li>- AmpFISTR Green+ (1997)</li> <li>• Profiler (1997)</li> <li>• Profiler Plus (1997)</li> <li>• COfiler (1998)</li> <li>• SGM Plus (1999)</li> <li>• Identifiler (2001)</li> <li>• Profiler Plus ID (2001)</li> <li>• SEfiler (2002)</li> <li>• Yfiler (2004)</li> <li>• MiniFiler (2007)</li> <li>• SEfiler Plus (2007)</li> <li>• Sinofiler (2008) - China only</li> <li>• Identifiler Direct (2009)</li> <li>• NGM (2009)</li> <li>• Identifiler Plus (2010)</li> <li>• NGM Select (2010)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PowerPlex 1.1 (1997)</li> <li>• PowerPlex 1.2 (1998)</li> <li>• PowerPlex 2.1 (1999)</li> <li>• PowerPlex 16 (2000)</li> <li>• PowerPlex ES (2002)</li> <li>• PowerPlex Y (2003)</li> <li>• PowerPlex S5 (2007)</li> <li>• PowerPlex 16 HS (2009)</li> <li>• PowerPlex ESX 16 (2009)</li> <li>• PowerPlex ESX 17 (2009)</li> <li>• PowerPlex ESI 16 (2009)</li> <li>• PowerPlex ESI 17 (2009)</li> <li>• PowerPlex 18D (2011)</li> <li>• PowerPlex 21 (2012)</li> <li>• PowerPlex ESI 17 Pro (2012)</li> </ul>	<p><i>Primarily selling kits in Europe Due to patent restrictions cannot sell in U.S.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ESSplex</li> <li>• ESSplex SE</li> <li>• Decaplex SE</li> <li>• IDplex</li> <li>• Nonaplex ESS</li> <li>• Hexaplex ESS</li> <li>• HD (Chimera)</li> <li>• Argus X-12</li> <li>• Argus Y-12</li> <li>• DIPlex (30 InDels)</li> </ul>

**~1/3 of all STR kits were released in the last three years**


### STR Kit Concordance Testing

Becky Hill

**Main Points:**


- When different primer sets are utilized, there is a concern that allele dropout may occur due to primer binding site mutations that impact one set of primers but not another
- To test SRM 2391b/2391c (PCR-based DNA Profiling Standard) components with all new STR multiplex kits and verify results against certified reference values
- To gain a better understanding of primer binding site mutations that cause null alleles

**If no primer binding site mutations**



Set 1 Amplicons = Set 2 Amplicons

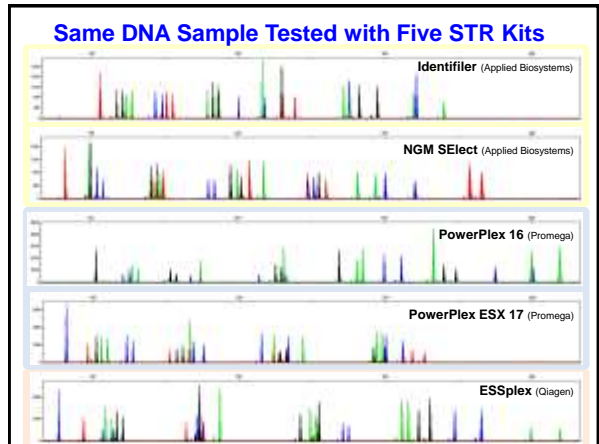
**If a primer binding site mutation exists**



Set 1 Amplicons ≠ Set 2 Amplicons

**Presentations/Publications:**

- Profiles in DNA article (Hill et al. 2010)
- ISFG 2011 and ISHI 2011 posters (Hill et al.)






### NIST Standard Sample Sets

- U.S. Population Samples (663 samples)**
  - Previously studied with Identifiler, MiniFiler, Yfiler, PP16, PP ESX/ESI 17, NGM, miniSTRs, and 23plex (>200,000 allele calls)
  - 260 African Americans, 260 Caucasians, 140 Hispanics, and 3 Asians
- U.S. Father/Son pairs (800 samples)**
  - Previously studied with Identifiler, MiniFiler, Yfiler, PP ESX/ESI 17, NGM, 23plex
  - ~100 fathers/100 sons for each group: African Americans, Caucasians, Hispanics, and Asians
- NIST SRM 2391b PCR DNA Profiling Standard (12 samples)**
  - Components 1-10 (includes 9947A and 9948): well characterized
  - ABI 007 and K562


**>1450 total samples**



extracted genomic DNA  
Stock tubes

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

### Kit Concordance Comparisons







  
 Becky Hill

Kits compared	Samples	Loci compared	Comparisons	# Differences	Concordance (%)
SGM-ID	1436	11	15,796	1	99.994
ID-ProPlus	1427	10	14,270	1	99.993
ID-IDplex	669	16	10,704	19	99.822
ID-PP16	662	14	9,268	4	99.957
ID-MiniFiler	1308	9	11,772	27	99.771
SGM-NGM	1436	11	15,796	4	99.975
ID-NGM	1449				
ProPlus-NGM	1427				
SGM-ESI	1436				
ProPlus-ESX	1427				
ESI-ESX	1455				
ESI-ESSplex	1445				
ESX-ESSplex	1445				
ESI-NGMSelect	715				


**128 kit-to-kit comparisons**  
**1,104,031 allele comparisons**  
**1224 differences observed**  
**~99.9% concordance**  
*(many corrected now)*

Kits (except Identifiler) were kindly provided by **Applied Biosystems, Promega, and Qiagen** for concordance testing performed at NIST

### Extra (Degenerate) Primers Added with NGM Select


	NGM (original)	NGM Select and NGM'
<b>D2S441</b> 9.1 allele missing in 7 Asians	 11,11	 9.1,11
<b>D2S1045</b> 15 allele missing in 4 samples	 17,17	 15,17
<b>Amelogenin</b> X allele missing in 3 samples	 Y,Y	 X,Y

### Variant STR Allele Sequencing

  
 Margaret Kline

**Main Points:**


- STR allele sequencing has been provided free to the community** for the past ten years thanks to NIJ-funding
- Article provides primer sequences (outside of all known kit primers) for 23 autosomal STRs & 17 Y-STRs and full protocol for gel separations and sequencing reactions
  - 111 normal and variant alleles sequenced (at 19 STR & 4 Y-STRs)
  - 17 null alleles sequenced (with impact on various STR kit primers)




**Presentations/Publications:**

- FSI Genetics article (Aug 2011) and numerous talks

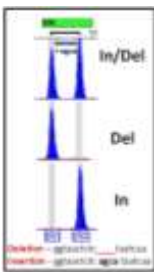
### Insertion/Deletion (InDel) Markers



  
 Manuel Fondeville Alvarez  
 Guest Researcher from Spain

**Main Points:**

- InDels (insertion-deletion) or DIPs (deletion-insertion polymorphisms) are short length polymorphisms, consisting of the presence or absence of a short (typically 1-50 bp) sequence
- Like SNPs, InDels have low mutation rate (valuable to kinship analysis), small amplicon target sizes (valuable with degraded DNA), and can be highly multiplexed
- Can be analyzed on CE instruments like STRs
- Studied **commercial 30plex** (Qiagen DIPlex) and a **home-brew 38plex** in U.S. population samples



**Presentations/Publications:**

- FSI Genetics Suppl. Series 2011 article
- ISFG 2011 poster and ISHI 2011 presentation

### SWGDM Website and Resources Available



  
<http://www.swgdam.org/resources.html>



**Link to** <http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/mixture/SWGDM-mixture-info.htm>

## Mixture Training Materials

Reviewed by SWGDAM Mixture Committee

**SWGDAM Mixture Committee Resource Page**

The following information resources have been produced and reviewed by members of the Mixture Committee of the Scientific Working Group on DNA Analysis Methods (SWG2AM) - see <http://www.swgdam.org/resources.htm> for additional information.

### Mixture Training Examples

- Download "Mixture 6" PowerPoint show (56 Mb)
  - with voice-over by Brian Holdbrooks (Maryland State Police), may work best if file is first saved to your computer
- Download "Mixture IQAS2904" PowerPoint show (35 Mb)
  - with voice-over by Brian Holdbrooks (Maryland State Police), may work best if file is first saved to your computer

<http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/mixture/SWGDAM-mixture-info.htm>

## Recent Training Workshops



John Butler Mike Coble


- AAFS (February 22, 2011)
  - Mixture Interpretation (with 6 other speakers)
- ISFG (August 30, 2011)
  - CE Fundamentals and Troubleshooting
- Int. Symp. Human Ident. (October 3, 2011)
  - Mixture Interpretation (with Boston University)
- Int. Symp. Human Ident. (October 6, 2011)
  - Troubleshooting Laboratory Systems

Slide handouts available at  
<http://www.cstl.nist.gov/strbase/training.htm>

## Mixture Workshop (Promega ISHI 2010)

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

**October 11, 2010**



*Handout >200 pages*  
*Literature list of >100 articles*

**13 Modules Presented**

Introduction - SWGDAM (John)

SWGDAM Mixture Guidelines (Catherine)

Stochastic effects (Robin)

Peak height ratios (Charlotte)

Number of contributors (John)

Mixture ratios (John)

Mixture principles (Charlotte)

Statistics (Mike)

Case Example 1 (Robin)

Case Example 2 (Charlotte)

Case Example 3 (John)

Regional workshops presented in FL, TX, MI, and AZ (April - June 2011)  
 Updated mixture workshop presented at ISHI 2011 (October 3, 2011)

Catherine Grgicak Boston U.

Mike Coble NIST


Robin Cotton Boston U.

John Butler NIST

Charlotte Word Consultant

NIJ Grant to Boston University funded ~150 state & local lab analysts to attend

## TrueAllele Mixture Software Evaluation



Mike Coble

**Main Points:**

- Exploring the capabilities and limitations of a probabilistic genotyping approach
- Studying TrueAllele software with a number of different types of mixtures (including low-level and 3-4 person mixtures)
- Work being performed at NIST independently of Cybergenetics

D19S433 result from one replicate of 50,000 simulations

3 person mixture conditioning on the victim

Genotype Probability


Genotypes

**Presentations/Publications:**

- ISFG 2011 presentation
- ISHI 2011 mixture workshop

See also: Petlin et al. (2011) Validating TrueAllele DNA mixture interpretation. J. Forensic Sci. 56(6):1430-1447

## Rapid PCR and Rapid DNA Testing



Pete Vallone

**Main Points:**

- Performing research on reducing the total time required for STR typing
  - Focusing on the multiplex amplification of commercial STR kits with faster polymerases and thermal cyclers
  - Single-source reference samples (sensitivity > 200 pg)
- Designing testing plans for rapid DNA typing devices
  - NIST will be examining rapid DNA instruments with FBI collaboration
- Exploring direct PCR protocols with FTA and 903 papers

**Presentations/Publications:**

- Vallone et al. (2008) FSI Genetics - on rapid PCR
- ISFG 2011 and ISHI 2011 presentations by Tom Callaghan (FBI)
- ISFG 2011 presentation and poster on direct PCR

## Common Thermal Cycling Times

Can we reduce PCR cycling times? What are the effects or limitations?

Thermal Cycling Times for Current STR Typing Kits						
Year	Run on a 9700 thermal cycler	Hot start	Time per cycle	Cycles	Post soak	Total time
1997/98	Profiler Plus/Cofiler	11 min	3 min	28	60 min	2:52
1999	SGM Plus	11 min	3 min	28	45 min	2:53
2000	PowerPlex 16	12 min	1 min 45 s	32	30 min	3:00
2001	Identifiler	11 min	3 min	28	60 min	2:58
2003	PowerPlex Y	12 min	1 min 45 s	32	30 min	3:18
2004	Yfiler	11 min	3 min	30	80 min	2:45
2007	PowerPlex S5	2 min	4 min	30	45 min	3:21
2007	minifiler	11 min	3 min 20 s	30	45 min	3:16
2009	ESI 16, 17 ESX 16,17	2 min	4 min	30	45 min	3:22
2009	PowerPlex 16 HS	2 min	1 min 45 s	32	30 min	2:42
2009	NGM	11 min	3 min 20 s	29	10 min	2:33
2009	Identifiler Direct	11 min	3 min	26	25 min	2:34
2010	Identifiler Plus	11 min	3 min 20 s	28	10 min	2:18
2011	PowerPlex 18D	2 min	1 min 10s	27	20 min	1:25


### Thermal Cyclers

1. GeneAmp 9700 (Applied Biosystems)
2. Mastercycler Pro S (Eppendorf)
  - Peltier based
3. Rotor-Gene Q (Qiagen)
  - Air heated and cooled
4. SmartCycler (Cepheid)
  - Hot plates for heating, fans for cooling

Intended for real-time PCR

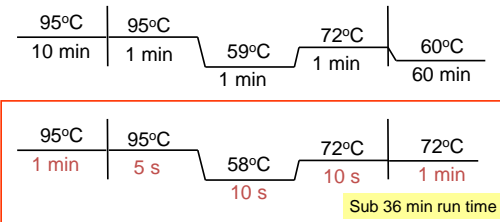
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- Cycling for most STR kits is run in the
- '9600 emulation mode' (1°C/s)



### PCR Thermal Cycling Profile

Identifiler STR kit  
28 cycles of PCR



Maximum heating/cooling rate of ~2 to 6°C/s (cycler dependent)

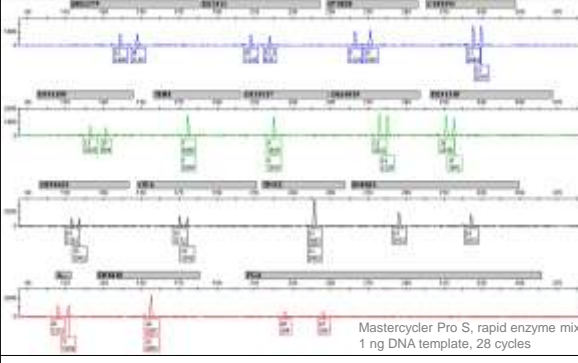
### Rapid PCR Conditions

- 1 X Takara PCR mastermix, 1 U SpeedStar polymerase
  - Premix Ex Taq™ (Perfect Real Time)
- 10 µL total reaction in a thin walled tube (8-strip)
- 2 µL of Identifiler PCR primer mix
- ~1 ng of template DNA


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- Utilize maximum ramp rate on thermal cyclers
  - GeneAmp 9700 = 1.6°C/s (36 min)
  - Rotor-Gene Q = 1.6°C/s (36 min) Effective heating/cooling rates
  - SmartCycler = 5.8°C/s (20 min)
  - Mastercycler Pro S = 6.8°C/s (19 min)

### Full Identifiler STR Profile with 19 min PCR



### ABI 3500 Validation Studies




Erica Butts

**Main Points:**

- The 3500 has proven to be reliable, reproducible and robust in our hands – we have provided feedback to ABI to improve use
- Produces excellent DNA sequencing results
- Signal strength is different compared to ABI 3130xl and requires studies to set analytical and stochastic thresholds
- **Dye-specific analytical thresholds** resulted in less allelic and full locus dropout than applying one analytical threshold to all dyes
- RFID tracking decreases flexibility in our research experience

**Presentations/Publications:**

- MAAFS talk (May 2011)
- ABI road show talks (July & Aug 2011)
- ISFG presentation (Sept 2011)
- Forensic News (Spring 2012)




3500 Genetic Analyzer: Validation Studies

2011 Annual Meeting of the International Society for Forensic Genetics (ISFG)

http://marketing.appliedbiosystems.com/nki/getFORENSICNEWS\_HIDINACTIONarticle6

### ABI 3500 Open Letter Update



John Butler

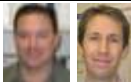
**Concerns Expressed in 3/31/11 Open Letter**

1. RFID tags
2. New .hid file structure requires new software
3. Short shelf life of reagents – would like to see data for expiration times


At the Promega ISHI meeting (Oct 2011), ABI described data for studies around reagent expiration through a poster at their booth. Sallus, Wheaton, Fisher, Calandro. "Understanding the Consumables on the 3500 Genetic Analyzers in the context of a Human Identification (HID) Laboratory"

They have promised that **polymer and buffer expiration dates will no longer be a hard stop** but only a warning with the future Windows 7 software upgrade (3500 Data Collection v1.3).

### Performance Assessment of PlexID



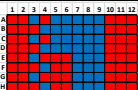
Abbott Ibis Biosciences  
PLEX-ID System



- In collaboration with FBI**
- Evaluating ESI-TOF mass spectrometer for mtDNA**
- Base composition of the control region determined from 8 triplex PCRs
- Started running the PlexID platform mid-October 2011
- Have examined >100 plates of data → report for FBI**

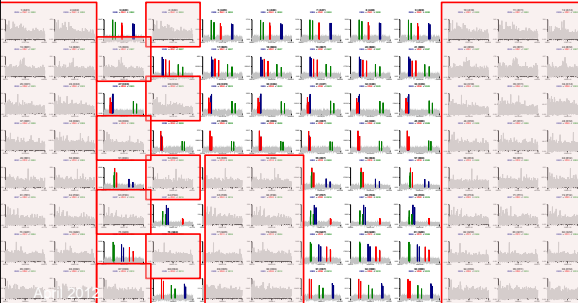
### Contamination Check

Checks run weekly on the PlexID to monitor baseline noise and potential contamination



**No signal detected in 'red' wells**

Reagents Well-to-well Injector Desalter Carousel




Red = empty well  
Blue = positive control

### Recent Next-Generation Sequencing (NGS) Meeting Held at NIST

- Interagency Workshop on the use of Next-Generation DNA Sequencing for Human Identification and Characterization**
- Held January 31, 2012 at NIST
- Presentations by MIT/Lincoln Labs and NIST scientists to government agency representatives
- Minutes of meeting and presentations available at [http://www.nist.gov/mml/biochemical/genetics/ngs\\_hid\\_workshop.cfm](http://www.nist.gov/mml/biochemical/genetics/ngs_hid_workshop.cfm)

### Characterizing New STR Loci



**Main Points:**

- In April 2011, the FBI announced plans to expand the core loci for the U.S. beyond the current 13 CODIS STRs
- Our group is collecting U.S. population data on new loci and characterizing them to aid understanding of various marker combinations
- We are collecting all available information from the literature on the 24 commonly used autosomal STR loci

**Presentations/Publications:**

- AAFS 2011 presentation
- Hill et al (2011) *FSI Genetics* 5(4): 269-275
- Hares (2012) Expanding the U.S. core loci... *FSI Genetics* 6(1): e52-e54
- Butler & Hill (2012) *Forensic Sci Rev* 24(1): 15-26

### Article in the January 2012 issue of *Forensic Science Review*

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

#### Biological and Genetics of New Autosomal STR Loci Useful for Forensic DNA Analysis

REFERENCE: Butler JM, Hill CP. Biology and genetics of new autosomal STR loci useful for forensic DNA analysis. *Forensic Sci Rev* 24(1): 2012.

ABSTRACT: Short tandem repeats (STRs) are regions of tandemly repeated DNA segments found throughout the human genome that vary in length through insertion, deletion, or mutation with a core repeated DNA sequence. Forensic laboratories consistently use tetranucleotide repeats, containing a four base pair (4-bp) repeat structure such as GATA. In 1997, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Laboratory selected 13 STR loci that form the backbone of the U.S. national DNA database. Building on the European expansion in 2009, the FBI announced plans in April 2011 to expand the U.S. core loci to as many as 20 STRs to enable more global DNA data sharing. Commercial STR kits enable consistency in marker use and allele nomenclature between laboratories and help improve quality control. The STRBase website, maintained by the U.S. National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), contains helpful information on STR markers used in human identity testing.

Key Words: Autosomal genetic markers, CODIS STRs, core loci, DNA typing, European Standard Set, expanded U.S. core loci, short tandem repeat (STR), STR kits.

**Discusses the 24 autosomal STR loci available in commercial kits**

### International Comparability

U.S. Europe *Currently there are 24 autosomal STR markers present in commercial kits*

13 CODIS loci

ESS = European Standard Set

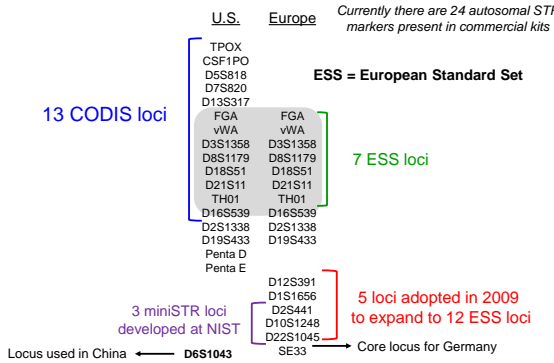
7 ESS loci

3 miniSTR loci developed at NIST

5 loci adopted in 2009 to expand to 12 ESS loci

Core locus for Germany

Locus used in China ← D6S1043





### The 11 STR Loci Beyond the CODIS 13

STR Locus	Location	Repeat Motif	Allele Range*	# Alleles*
<b>D2S1338</b>	2q35	TGCC/TTCC	10 to 31	40
<b>D19S433</b>	19q12	AAGG/TAGG	5.2 to 20	36
<b>Penta D</b>	21q22.3	AAAGA	1.1 to 19	50
<b>Penta E</b>	15q26.2	AAAGA	5 to 32	53
<b>D1S1656</b>	1q42	TAGA	8 to 20.3	25
<b>D12S391</b>	12p13.2	AGAT/AGAC	13 to 27.2	52
<b>D2S441</b>	2p14	TCTA/TCAA	8 to 17	22
<b>D10S1248</b>	10q26.3	GGAA	7 to 19	13
<b>D22S1045</b>	22q12.3	ATT	7 to 20	14
<b>SE33</b>	6q14	AAAG <sup>†</sup>	3 to 49	<b>178</b>
<b>D6S1043</b>	6q15	AGAT/AGAC	8 to 25	25

\*Allele range and number of observed alleles from Appendix 1, J.M. Butler (2012) *Advanced Topics in Forensic DNA Typing: Methodology*; <sup>†</sup>SE33 alleles have complex repeat structure

Loci sorted on Probability of Identity (PI) values

STR Locus	Alleles Observed	Genotypes Observed	Het. (obs)	PI value N = 938
<b>SE33</b>	53	292	0.9360	0.0069
<b>Penta E<sup>†</sup></b>	20	114	0.8799	0.0177
<b>D2S1338</b>	13	68	0.8785	0.0219
<b>D1S1656</b>	15	92	0.8934	0.0220
<b>D18S51</b>	21	91	0.8689	0.0256
<b>D12S391</b>	23	110	0.8795	0.0257
<b>FGA</b>	26	93	0.8742	0.0299
<b>D6S1043*</b>	25	91	0.8627	0.0343
<b>Penta D*</b>	16	71	0.8754	0.0356
<b>D21S11</b>	25	81	0.8358	0.0410
<b>D19S433</b>	16	76	0.8124	0.0561
<b>D8S1179</b>	11	45	0.7878	0.0582
<b>vWA</b>	11	38	0.8060	0.0622
<b>D7S820</b>	11	32	0.8070	0.0734
<b>TH01</b>	8	24	0.7580	0.0784
<b>D16S539</b>	9	28	0.7825	0.0784
<b>D13S317</b>	8	29	0.7655	0.0812
<b>D10S1248</b>	12	39	0.7825	0.0837
<b>D2S441</b>	14	41	0.7772	0.0855
<b>D3S1358</b>	11	30	0.7569	0.0873
<b>D22S1045</b>	11	42	0.7697	0.0933
<b>CSF1PO</b>	9	30	0.7537	0.1071
<b>D5S818</b>	9	34	0.7164	0.1192
<b>TPOX</b>	9	28	0.6983	0.1283

24 STR Loci in STR kits rank ordered by their variability

Better for mixtures (more alleles seen)

There are several loci more polymorphic than the current CODIS 13 STRs

Better for kinship (low mutation rate)

Forensic Science International: Genetics Supplement Series

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Journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/FSIGS

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Research article

**The single most polymorphic STR Locus: SE33 performance in U.S. populations**

John M. Butler<sup>a,\*</sup>, Carolyn R. Hill<sup>b</sup>, Margaret C. Kline<sup>c</sup>, David L. Danner<sup>d</sup>, Cynthia J. Sprecher<sup>e</sup>, Robert S. McLaren<sup>f</sup>, Dawn E. Rabbach<sup>g</sup>, Benjamin E. Kresie<sup>h</sup>, Douglas R. Storm<sup>i</sup>

<sup>a</sup> National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, USA; <sup>b</sup> Pennsylvania State University, Hershey, PA 17033, USA

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SE33 variant alleles: Sequences and implications

John M. Butler<sup>a,\*</sup>, Carolyn R. Hill<sup>b</sup>, Margaret C. Kline<sup>c</sup>, Ingo Bastisch<sup>d</sup>, Volker Weisich<sup>e</sup>, Robert S. McLaren<sup>f</sup>, Douglas R. Storm<sup>g</sup>

<sup>a</sup> National Institute of Standards and Technology, Gaithersburg, MD 20899; <sup>b</sup> Pennsylvania State University, Hershey, PA 17033; <sup>c</sup> University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742; <sup>d</sup> University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC 27599; <sup>e</sup> Pennsylvania State University, Hershey, PA 17033

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Concordance and population studies along with stutter and peak height ratio analysis for the PowerPlex<sup>®</sup> ESX 17 and ES1 17 Systems

Carolyn R. Hill<sup>a,\*</sup>, David L. Danner<sup>b</sup>, Margaret C. Kline<sup>c</sup>, Cynthia J. Sprecher<sup>d</sup>, Robert S. McLaren<sup>e</sup>, Dawn E. Rabbach<sup>f</sup>, Benjamin E. Kresie<sup>g</sup>, Mattia G. Eisenberger<sup>h</sup>, Patricia M. Palmer<sup>i</sup>, Douglas R. Storm<sup>j</sup>, John M. Butler<sup>k</sup>

<sup>a</sup> National Institute of Standards and Technology, Chemical Science and Technology Laboratory, Gaithersburg, MD 20899-0101; <sup>b</sup> Pennsylvania State University, Hershey, PA 17033, USA

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Improved Primer Pair for the SE33 Locus in the PowerPlex<sup>®</sup> ES1 17 Pro System

Robert S. McLaren<sup>a</sup>, Jeyaraj Paul<sup>b</sup>, Douglas R. Storm<sup>c</sup>, Carolyn R. Hill<sup>d</sup>, Margaret C. Kline<sup>e</sup> and John M. Butler<sup>f</sup>

Forensic Science International: Genetics Supplement Series, 2012

### Expanding the CODIS Core Loci

D.R. Hares (2012) Expanding the CODIS Core Loci in the United States. *Forensic Sci. Int. Genet.* 6: e52-e54. Addendum to expanding the CODIS core loci in the United States, *Forensic Sci. Int. Genet.* (2012) doi:10.1016/j.fsigen.2012.01.003

Forensic Science International: Genetics Supplement Series

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Letter to the Editor

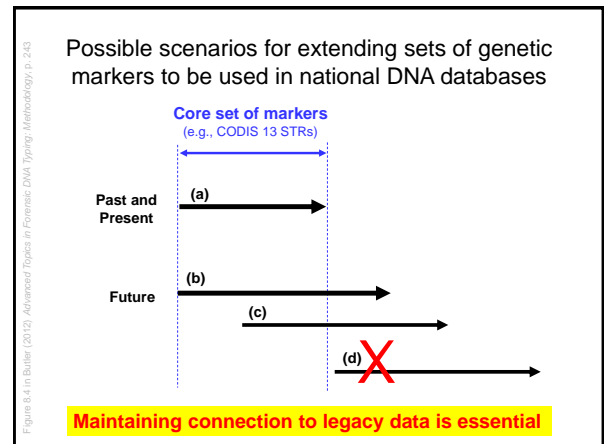
Expanding the CODIS core loci in the United States

**CODIS Core Loci Working Group**  
Formed in May 2010 to make recommendations to FBI CODIS Unit

Douglas Hares (Chair) – FBI  
John Butler – NIST  
Cecelia Crouse – FL PBSO  
Brad Jenkins – VA DFS  
Ken Konzak – CA DOJ  
Taylor Scott – IL SP

major reasons for expanding the CODIS core loci in the United States:

- (1) To reduce the likelihood of adversarial matches (7) as the number of profiles stored at MSIS continues to increase each year projected to total over 10 and also profile by the time of this publication. There are no signs that this trend will slow down as states expand the coverage of their DNA database programs and increase laboratory efficiency and capacity.
- (2) To increase international interoperability to assist law enforcement data sharing efforts.
- (3) To increase discriminative power to aid resolving persons cases.

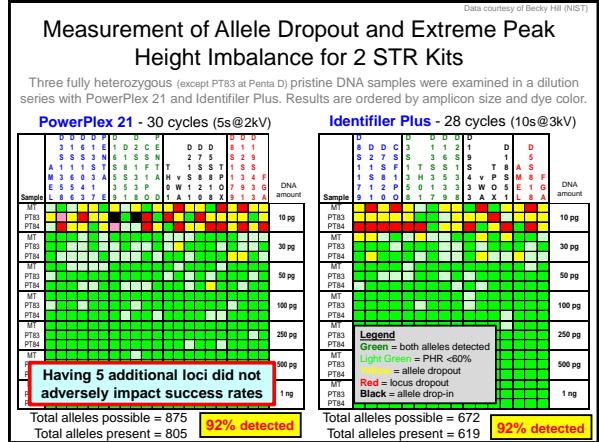


### Determination of Additional CODIS Core Loci

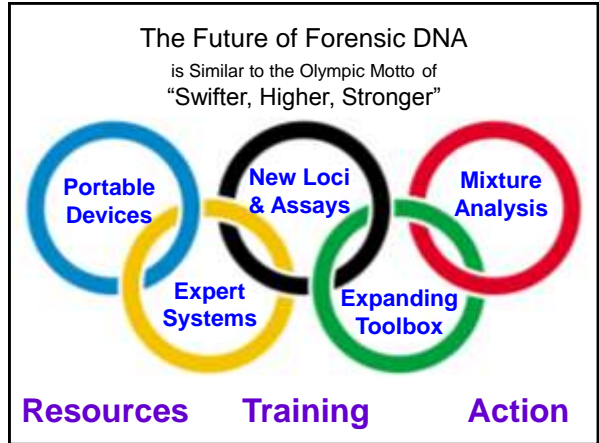
D.R. Hares (2012) Expanding the CODIS Core Loci in the United States. *Forensic Sci. Int. Genet.* 6: e52-e54  
 Addendum to expanding the CODIS core loci in the United States, *Forensic Sci. Int. Genet.* (2012) doi:10.1016/j.fsigen.2012.01.003

What	Why	Who/How	When
Form a Working Group (WG) to discuss initial selection	Establishes target goals	CODIS Core Loci Working Group with FBI Chair and 5 members; Web meetings	May 2010 - present
Announce proposed additional CODIS core loci	Sets desired target goals and informs manufacturers	WG Chair; Publish proposed listing of CODIS core loci	April 2011 online (published Jan 2012)
Ongoing Progress Reports	Provides updates for DNA community	WG Chair; Present updates on status of CODIS Core Loci project at meetings	2010-2012
Implementation Considerations & Strategy	Identify issues for implementation and timeline	WG	June 2011 - present
Manufacturers develop prototype kits	Creates tools to meet target goals	Manufacturers; Provide status reports to WG for timeline	2011-2012
Test and validate prototype kits	Examines if target goals can be met	Validation Laboratories; Follow QAS compliant validation plan	Beginning in 2012
Review and evaluate data from validation	Evaluates if desired performance is obtained	NIST, SWGDAM and FBI; Provide feedback, if any, to Manufacturers	In conjunction with and at the conclusion of validation
Selection of new CODIS core loci	Allows protocols to be established	FBI; seek input from DNA community and stakeholders; Notify Congress	After evaluation of validation data and kit production factors
Implementation of new CODIS core loci at the National DNA Index System	Enables target goals to be met	All NDIS-participating labs	~ 24 months after selection of new CODIS core loci

<http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/lab/codis/planned-process-and-timeline-for-implementation-of-additional-codis-core-loci>



- ### Future Projects Planned
- New book in progress on interpretation issues
  - Additional mixture software evaluation
  - Rapidly mutating Y-STR loci (European collaboration)
  - More concordance testing with new STR kits
  - Complete PLEX-ID mass spec assessment with mtDNA base composition (FBI collaboration)
  - Rapid DNA test device evaluation (FBI collaboration)
  - Exploration of Next-Generation Sequencing
  - Digital PCR for human DNA quantitation



### Recent NIST Publications Demonstrating "Swifter, Higher, Stronger" DNA Analysis

**Swifter PCR Amplification**

**Higher Levels of Multiplexing**

**Stronger Powers of Discrimination**

### Thank you for your attention

Acknowledgments: NIJ & FBI Funding; Applied Biosystems, Promega, and Qiagen for STR kits used in concordance studies

**Contact Information**

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