

## **SWGDAM** (Fredericksburg, VA) January 19, 2012

# NIST Update

### John M. Butler

NIST Applied Genetics Group

National Institute of Standards and Technology Gaithersburg, Maryland





# NIST Human Identity Project Teams within the Applied Genetics Group

#### Forensic DNA Team

Guest Researcher

#### **DNA Biometrics Team**

Funding from the FBI S&T Branch

through NIST Information Access Division

Funding from the **National Institute of Justice (NIJ)** through NIST Office of Law Enforcement Standards



John Butler



Mike Coble



Becky Hill



Margaret Kline



Manuel **Fonde**vila Alvarez

Data

Analysis



Pete Vallone



Erica Butts



Kevin Kiesler

STRBase, Workshops & Textbooks

Mixtures, mtDNA & Y

Concordance & LT-DNA

A SRM work, variant alleles & Cell Line ID



Dave Duewer

Rapid PCR, ABI 3500
Direct PCR & DNA
& Biometrics Extraction

3500 PLEX-ID ONA & NGS action Exploration





Office Manager Patti Rohmiller



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
- o 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
- o Tri-Allelic Patterns ◆
- Mutation Rates for Common Loci
- Published PCR primers
- Y-chromosome STRs ◆
- Low-template DNA Information Updated
- o Mixture Interpretation
- o Kinship Analysis NEW
- o miniSTRs (short amplicons) >
- Null Alleles discordance observed between STR kits
- o STR Reference List now 3400 references ◆



John Butler

Cataloged as of Dec 2011

605 variant alleles
305 tri-allelic patterns

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

# Forensic DNA Typing Textbook

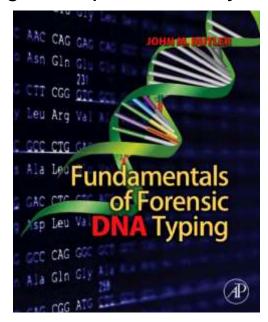
## 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition is Three Volumes

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



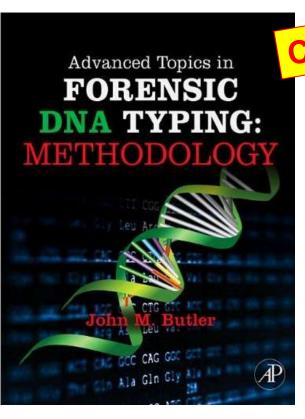
John Butler

For beginning students, general public, & lawyers



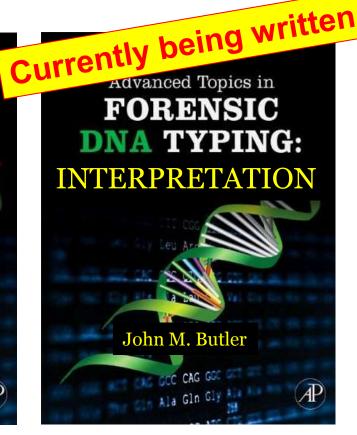
**Sept 2009** 

~500 pages



August 2011

~700 pages



**Fall 2012** 

~500 pages

# Current NIST Projects

Short Overviews...

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

## NIST SRM 2391c





**Margaret Kline** 

Becky Hill

#### **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.promega.com/resources/articles/profiles-in-dna
- http://www.nist.gov/srm
- SRM 2391c released Aug 2011

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

The Latest and Greatest NIST PCR-Based DNA Profiling Standard: Updates and Status of Standard Reference Material® (SRM) 2391c



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

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

## **Description of Components in SRM 2391c**

Component	Description	Quantity <sup>a</sup>
A	50 μL of anonymous <b>female</b> genomic DNA	1.4 – 1.9 ng DNA/μL
В	50 μL of anonymous <b>male</b> genomic DNA	1.3 – 1.5 ng DNA/μL
C	50 μL of anonymous <b>male</b> genomic DNA	1.3 – 2.0 ng DNA/μL
D	50 μL of <b>mixed-source</b> (Components A and C)	1.4 – 2.0 ng DNA/μL
E	Two 6 mm punches of CRL-1486 cells spotted on <b>903 paper</b>	~75,000 cells per punch
F	Two 6 mm punches of HTB-157 cells spotted on <b>FTA paper</b>	~75,000 cells per punch

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> DNA concentrations and cell counts are nominal values and are **not** intended for use as quantitative standards.

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

Kit Provider			Primer Mixes
Life Technologies	Promega	Qiagen	NIST
Identifiler	Powerplex 16	ESSplex	26plex
Identifiler Plus	Powerplex 16 HS	IDplex	miniSTRs
NGM	Powerplex ESX 17		
NGM SElect	Powerplex ESI 17		
COfiler	Powerplex ES		
Profiler	Powerplex S5		
Profiler Plus	Powerplex Y		
Profiler Plus ID	FFFL		
SGM Plus		_	
SEfiler	All results are concordant across all kits.		
MiniFiler			
Yfiler			

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

## Insertion/Deletion (InDel) Markers







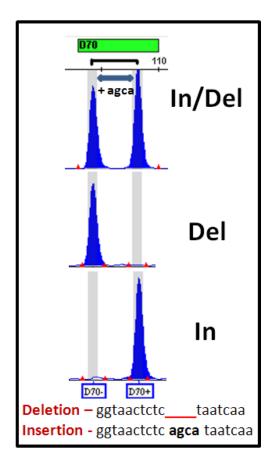


Manuel Fondevila Alvarez Guest Researcher from Spain

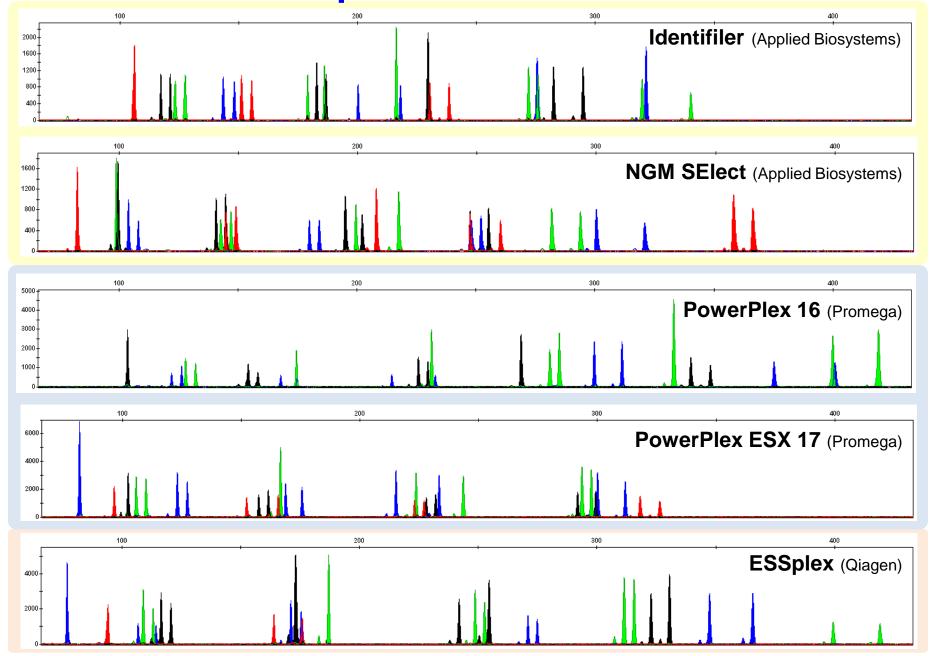
#### **Main Points:**

- InDels (insertion-deletion) or DIPs (deletioninsertion 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 (value to kinship analysis), small amplicon target sizes (value 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

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



## Same DNA Sample Tested with Five STR Kits



## Kit Concordance Comparisons



**Becky Hill** 

					•
Kits compared	<b>Samples</b>	Loci compare	d 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
<b>ID-MiniFiler</b>	1308	9	11,772	27	99.771
SGM-NGM	1436	11	15,796	4	99.975
ID-NGM	1449	400			
ProPlus-NGM	1427	128	kit-to-kit	compa	arisons
SGM-ESI	1436	4 404	024 -11-1		
ProPlus-ESX	1427	1,104,	U31 alle	ie com	parisons
ESI-ESX	1455	1224	differer	sees of	corvod
ESI-ESSplex	1445	1224	umerer	ices or	isel veu
ESX-ESSplex	1445	~(	99.9% cc	ncord	ance

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

(many corrected now)

**ESI-NGMSElect** 

715

## **Recent Training Workshops**







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

### True Allele Mixture Software Evaluation



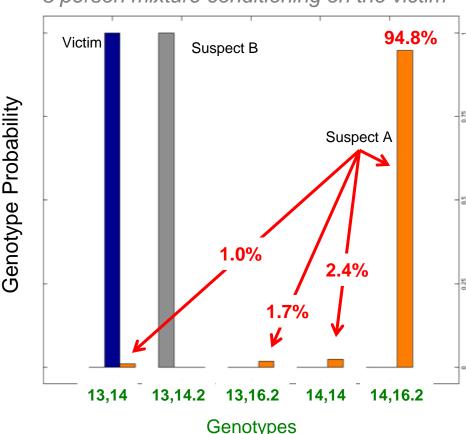
**Mike Coble** 

#### **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



- ISFG 2011 presentation
- ISHI 2011 mixture workshop

# 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

- 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

## **ABI 3500 Validation Studies**

#### **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

- MAAFS talk (May 2011)
- ABI road show talks (July & Aug 2011)
- ISFG presentation (Sept 2011)
- ISHI poster (Oct 2011)



Erica Butts

# ABI 3500 Open Letter Update







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

- I. RFID tags
- 2. New .hid file structure requires new software
- 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. Sailus, 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





Kevin Kiesler Pete Vallone

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
- Scheduled to complete experiments in February 2012

## **Contamination Check**

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

No signal detected in 'red' wells

39 (D03)

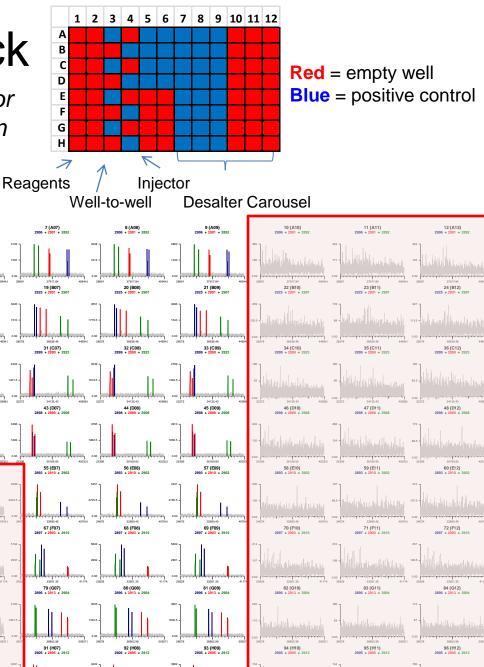
74 (G02)

65 (F05)

77 (G05)

89 (H05) 2905 + 2895 + 2912

88 (H04) 2905 + 2895 + 2912 78 (G06)



### PLEX-ID Evaluations Performed Thus Far...

Experiment	Number of Plates	Number of Unique Samples
Mixtures	20	3
Concordance	33	247
Sensitivity / Limit of Detection	10	3
Contamination	8	1
Total	71	6816 wells examined

- Mixtures can be detected with minor component present at 5-10%
- Concordance with Sanger sequencing (98.8%) (n=247)
- Limit of detection ≈ 2.5 pg/well
- 1-2 plates run daily on the platform since mid-October

## 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 validation with mtDNA base composition (FBI collaboration)
- Rapid DNA test device evaluation (FBI collaboration)
- Exploration of Next-Generation Sequencing
- Digital PCR for human DNA quantitation

# **Characterizing New STR Loci**





John Butler

Becky Hill

#### **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

- 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

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

REFERENCE: Butler JM, Hill CR: Biology and genetics of new autosomal STR loci useful for forensic DNA analysis; Forensic Sci Rev 24:15; 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 commonly 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.

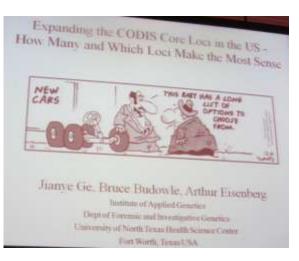
Key Words: Autosomal genetic markers, CODIS STRs, core loci, DNA typing, European Standard Set, expanded U.S. core loci, short tandem repeat (STR), STR kits.

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

# Recent Public Criticism of Efforts to Expand the CODIS Core Loci in the U.S.



October 4, 2011 Presentation at Promega's International Symposium on Human Identification





October 16, 2011 Follow-up article by BBC News on ISHI presentation



http://ishinews.com/

## FBI's DNA Database Upgrade Plans Come Under Fire

© OCTOBER 18, 2011 9:00 AM ☐ FEATURED ARTICLE, GENERAL SESSION UPDATES, RECENT ARTICLE

By: Paul Rincon, Science editor Published October 16, 2011 by the BBC News Website A major upgrade of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's (FBI) DNA database system has come under fire from members of the forensic science community. The Codis system is used to generate the genetic profiles stored in the US national DNA [...]

http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-15311718

## Recent Publication by Budowle et al. Summarizing Criticisms Raised in ISHI Talk

Jianye Ge, Arthur Eisenberg, Bruce Budowle

Investigative Genetics 2012, 3:1 (6 January 2012)

Developing criteria and data to determine best options for expanding the core CODIS loci

Research Open Access

Developing criteria and data to determine best options for expanding the core CODIS loci

Jianye Ge, Arthur Eisenberg, Bruce Budowle

Investigative Genetics 2012, 3:1 (6 January 2012)

Abstract | Provisional PDF | PubMed | Editor's summary

The rapid expansion of DNA databases over the past few years has lead to numerous problems associated with their use. In order to increase the efficiency of the Combined DNA Index System, expansions to the core loci have been suggested. Budowle et al evaluate these proposed expansions and consider the consequences of the selection of core genetic markers for forensic DNA databases.

Available at http://www.investigativegenetics.com

# Concerns Raised in Public Criticisms of Expanded CODIS Core Loci Selection

- Not enough data behind decisions need more community involvement rather than a small committee making decisions
- Casework needs should drive decisions
- Large loci fail in casework samples and should be avoided – miniSTR capabilities are preferred
- Large multiplexes may adversely impact performance
- DYS391 is a poor choice and AMEL Y nulls are not a significant concern
- Y-STRs should be included as core loci to benefit familial searches of the future
- No definition of performance goals are provided

What data exist behind decisions made so far and what additional data are there for consideration to help address concerns raised?

## The 11 STR Loci Beyond the CODIS 13

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

5 new European loci

<sup>\*</sup>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

# Concern: Large loci fail in casework samples and should be avoided – miniSTR capabilities are preferred

- We agree that miniSTRs (smaller amplicons) work best with degraded DNA that is often present in casework samples
- How often are high molecular weight loci failing?
- What data exist on success rates of loci for profiles stored in Forensic Index of CODIS based on PCR product size?

### Palm Beach Sheriff's Office Crime Lab

#### LDIS Forensic Unknowns - PowerPlex 16 data

### Single-source

### 2,452 profiles total

- Loss of Penta D: 633
- Loss of Penta E: 323
- Loss of FGA: 202
- Loss of all 3 loci: 130

**130/2452 = 5.3%** 

**FGA loss = 8.2%** 

#### **Mixtures**

### 841 profiles total

- Loss of Penta D: 297
- Loss of Penta E: 296
- Loss of FGA: 179
- Loss of all 3 loci: 55

**55/841 = 6.5%** 

FGA loss = 21.3%

Larger loci are lost in a fraction of casework samples...

## Additional Data from VA and CA

	Virginia	California
# Forensic Unknowns (single-source profiles)	13,488	37,024
No FGA (largest of current CODIS 13 core loci)	68 ( <b>0.5%</b> )	1,936 ( <b>4.5%</b> )
Profiles missing at least one locus	1,609 (12%)	4,440 (12%)

Data courtesy of George Li, Brad Jenkins, and Ken Konzak

# Will Performance with Large Multiplexes Be Adversely Impacted with Additional Loci Added?

- There has been significant improvement in kit development in recent years
  - In addition, 6-dye capability of ABI 3500 instruments may play a role in future kits...

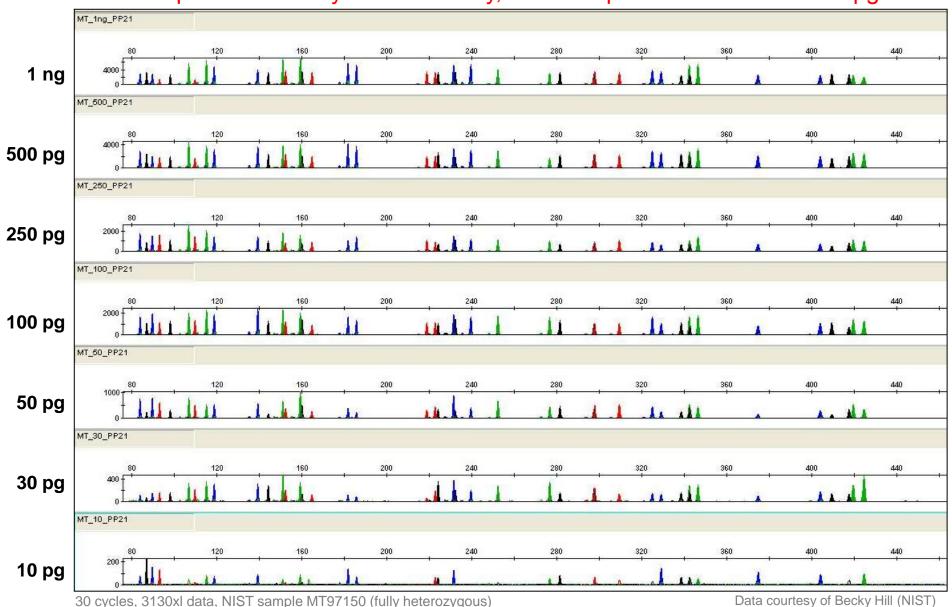
- What assay or kit data exist with 20plex (or greater) STR multiplexes?
  - NIST 26plex
  - PowerPlex 21 data collected at NIST

### PowerPlex 21

- Promega STR kit to be released in early 2012
  - NIST has been working with this kit since spring 2011 primarily for concordance testing and has permission from Promega to discuss results
- Contains 20 autosomal STRs + amelogenin
- Enables examination of performance characteristics similar to a future U.S. megaplex containing at least 20 loci

### **DNA Dilution Series with PowerPlex 21**

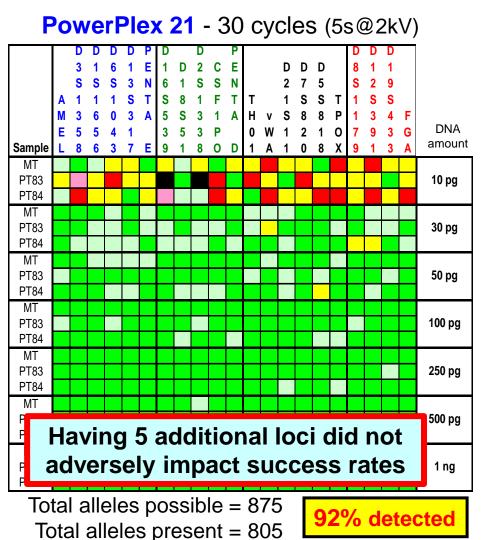
As expected with any STR kit/assay, allele dropout occurs below 100 pg...



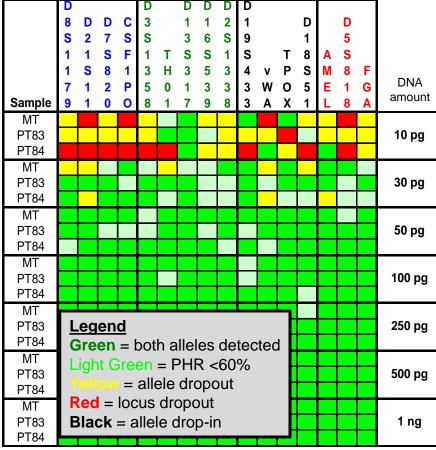
92% detected

## Measurement of Allele Dropout and Extreme Peak Height Imbalance for 2 STR Kits

Three fully heterozygous (except PT83 at Penta D) pristine DNA samples were examined in a dilution series with PowerPlex 21 and Identifiler Plus. Results are ordered by amplicon size and dye color.



#### Identifiler Plus - 28 cycles (10s@3kV)



Total alleles possible = 672

Total alleles present = 619

# Concern: DYS391 is a poor choice and AMEL Y nulls are not a significant concern

- AMEL Y nulls happen...
  - Common practice in some labs is a follow-up test with Y-STRs to confirm that a sample is male
  - Some labs have implemented an additional ChrY test (SRY) to confirm AMEL Y nulls
- A further purpose of having a single Y-STR is to aid QC checks if further Y-STR testing is performed for familial searching or casework purposes
  - DYS391 result will enable a QC check to Yfiler or PowerPlex Y results like D3 and D7 did for Profiler Plu/COfiler (albeit a rather weak one because it is not very polymorphic)
  - By itself, DYS391 is not polymorphic enough to be helpful with any potential familial search filter

# SRY Male-Specific Amplicon Used to Aid with Amelogenin Null Detection

Journal of Forensic Sciences, May 2009, 54(3): 551-555

#### TECHNICAL NOTE

J Forensic Sci, May 2009, Vol. 54, No. 3 doi: 10.1111/j.1556-4029.2009.01007.x Available online at; www.blackwell-synergy.com

Vanja Kastelic, B.S.; Bruce Budowle, Ph.D.; and Katja Drobnič, Ph.D.

# Validation of *SRY* Marker for Forensic Casework Analysis

<sup>3</sup>Forensic Science Centre, Ministry of the Interior, Vodovodna 95, Ljubljana, Slovenia.

<sup>2</sup>FBI Laboratory, Quantico, VA 22135.

Received 13 Mar. 2008; and in revised form 15 May 2008; accepted 14 July 2008.

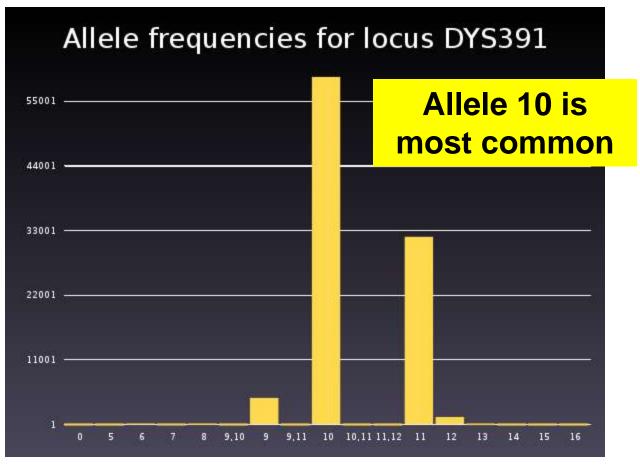
"Determining the gender of the source of forensic DNA evidence is based on the amelogenin test. However, at times the assay may not be indicative of gender assignment, because of deletions at the amelogenin site. ... The study herein addresses the validation of primers for the target SRY gene regarding specificity, sensitivity, and robustness."

## Why Consider DYS391?

- DYS391 is located on the long arm of the Y-chromosome over 7 Mb away from amelogenin. Thus, it is likely to be detected in the event of an amelogenin Y deletion that could make a male sample falsely appear as a female (X,-).
- DYS391 is not very polymorphic. From a data set of 97,575 haplotypes available on the Y-Chromosome Haplotype Reference Database, over half of them possess allele 10. However, only two null alleles have been reported and 0.01% duplication events (11 total) have been seen in over 700 different population groups from around the world. Thus, it is a stable locus with a relatively narrow allele range.
- DYS391 has a mutation rate of 0.26%, which is comparable to most autosomal STRs commonly in use. There have been 38 mutations observed so far in the 14,621 meioses reported in the literature and compiled on YHRD.

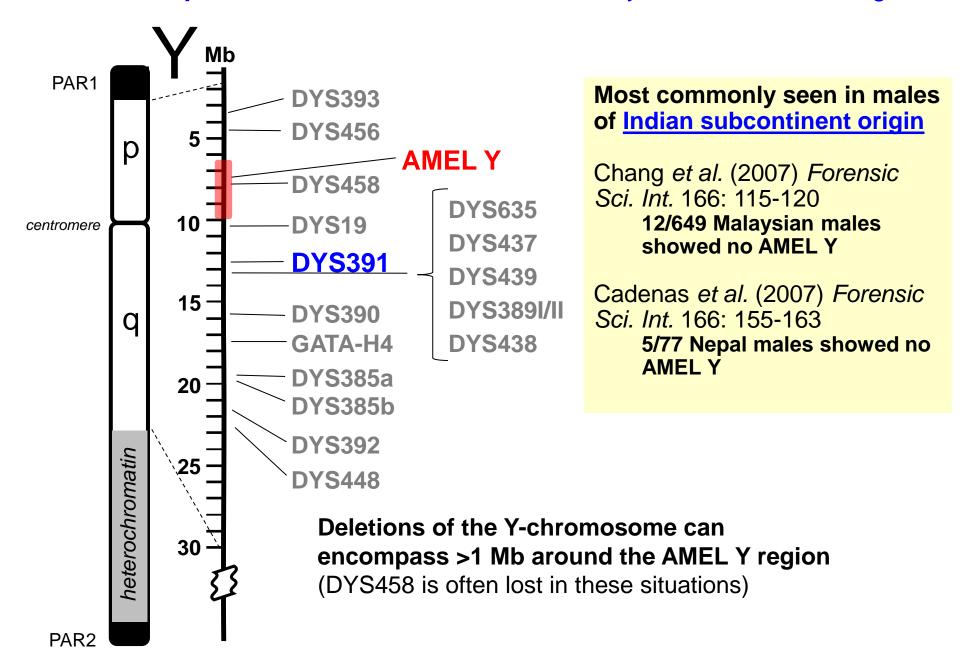
## DYS391 Variability

YHRD (Y-chromosome Haplotype Reference Database) data from 97,575 samples



http://www.yhrd.org/Research/Loci/DYS391

#### Relative positions of 17 Y-STR loci commonly used in ChrY testing



# Why mixing Y-STRs and autosomal STRs in a single DNA test is a bad idea...

#### Offender/arrestee reference samples

- Male samples: will work fine
- Female samples: only autosomal STRs will amplify resulting in a waste of reagents compared to match probability produced

#### Casework samples

 Mixtures: excess of either male or female DNA will result in poor STR typing results

#### Missing person samples

Y-STRs will fail to work on female DNA samples

Do females represent a significant portion of the samples being examined in these specimen categories?

## Not all DNA samples tested are male...

And if not male, then Y-STRs fail to amplify!

#### **SDIS Offender/Arrestee Data:**

- Virginia (371,000): ~22% female\*
- California (1.9 million): ~17% female\*
- Illinois (463,000): ~16% female\* \*Determined to be female based on amelogenin results or meta data

### **Missing Persons**:

Data kindly provided by George Li & Brad Jenkins, Ken Konzak, and Taylor Scott

- NamUs (<a href="http://www.namus.gov/">http://www.namus.gov/</a>; searched 11/4/11):
  - Unidentified persons: 20% female (1699/8438 cases)
  - Missing persons: 36% female (3278/9012 cases)
- NDIS Statistics (Aug 2011):
  - Unidentified human remains: 5,324
  - Missing person cases: 1,039

Per NDIS Custodian (11/4/11):

~45% females in MP cases (by amelogenin results)

## Summary

- It is vital that an expanded set of core loci be carefully considered and implemented to avoid adventitious hits on large and growing DNA databases.
- There is limited "electrophoretic real-estate" in constructing STR multiplex assays that will work in 5-dye instruments and contain PCR products <500 bp – 6-dye kits and instruments will help.</li>
- The number of females in DNA database and missing persons cases make required use of multiple Y-STRs of questionable utility.
- Data driven decisions are being made by the CODIS Core Loci Working Group.
- The CODIS community will be involved in the implementation phase of adding new kits.

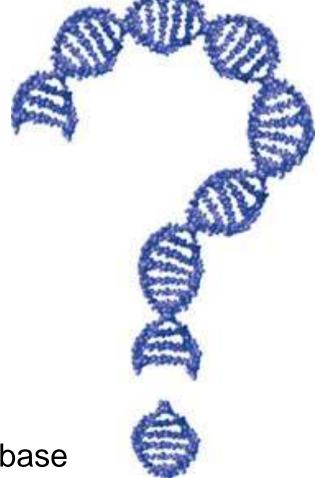
## Thank you for your attention

Acknowledgments: Applied Biosystems, Promega, and Qiagen for STR kits used in concordance studies



John Butler **NIST Fellow Group Leader of Applied Genetics** john.butler@nist.gov 301-975-4049

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





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