

Effect of Additional Loci on Likelihood Ratio Values for Complex Kinship Analysis

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NIST Efforts to Improve Kinship Analysis

- Assist forensic and biometrics communities with kinship testing needs
- Evaluate current and new loci for kinship analysis
- Develop standard datasets and tools to improve validation of kinship analysis methods and software

STR Loci Present in Commercial Kits

**U.S. is looking to expand
the core loci (18-20 total)**

Penta D
Penta E

23 unique loci

Genetic Data for Analysis of STR Loci

Simulated and **collected** genetic data were used to evaluate the discriminatory power gained by adding loci to the standard U.S. and European forensic panels

- **Simulated** datasets of related and unrelated genotypes
 - Genotypes simulated with DNA-VIEW™ v. 29.23 (Charles Brenner)
 - Parent-offspring
 - Full siblings
 - Half siblings/uncle-nephew/grandparent-grandchild
 - Unrelated pairs
- **Collected** pedigree data
 - Six extended pedigrees (3-4 generations, 165 total samples)
 - Number of pairwise comparisons:
 - 1st degree = 310, 2nd degree = 316, 3rd degree = 291, 4th degree = 172

Pairwise comparisons provide a good model to evaluate effect of additional loci.
Adding more individuals to the analysis can improve kinship determination.

Forensic STR Loci Examined for Kinship Analysis

Sets of Loci	Number of STRs
CODIS	13
Identifiler®	15
PowerPlex® 16	15
PowerPlex® ESI/ESX 16	14
PowerPlex® ESI/ESX 17	15
Identifiler® + 5 Euro	19
Identifiler® + 5 Euro + SE33	20
NIST 26plex	25
Identifiler® + NIST 26plex	40

Removed vWA for
sets with D12S391

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Kinship Statistics

- Allele frequency data from NIST U.S. Caucasian, African American, Hispanic population samples
- Likelihood ratio algorithms
 - Simulated data: DNA-VIEW™ v29.23 (Charles Brenner)
 - Real pedigree data: GeneMarker® HID v1.90 (SoftGenetics)
 - Mutation models were applied

Butler, J.M., et al. (2003) Allele frequencies for 15 autosomal STR loci on U.S. Caucasian, African American, and Hispanic populations, *J. Forensic Sci.* 48(4):908-911.

Hill, C.R., et al. (2008) Characterization of 26 miniSTR loci for improved analysis of degraded DNA samples, *J. Forensic Sci.* 53(1):73-80.

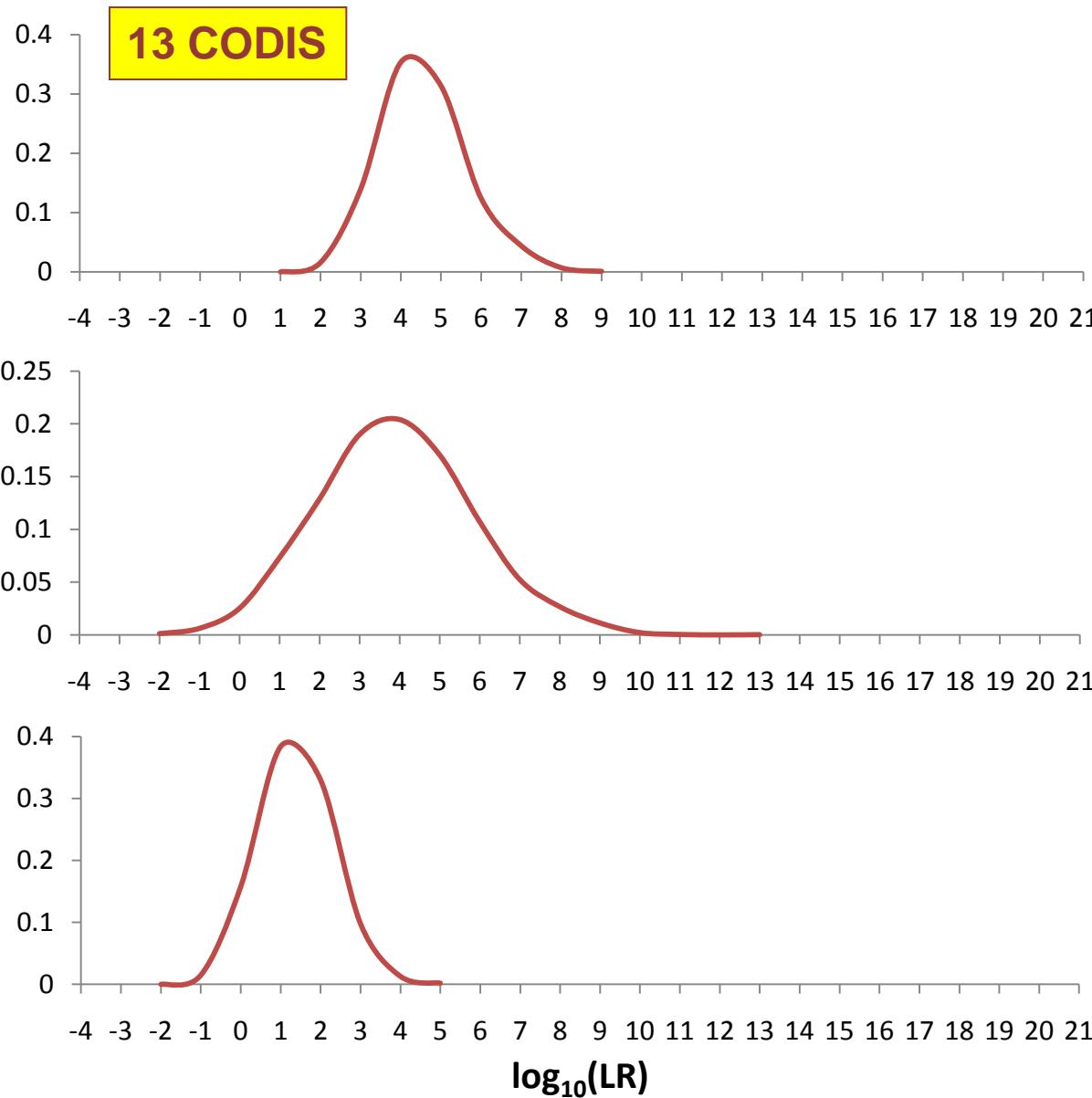
Hill, C.R., et al., Concordance and population studies along with stutter and peak height ratio analysis for the PowerPlex® ESX 17 and ESI 17 Systems, *Forensic Sci. Int. Genet.* (in press).

NIST Efforts to Assist Validation of Kinship Analysis

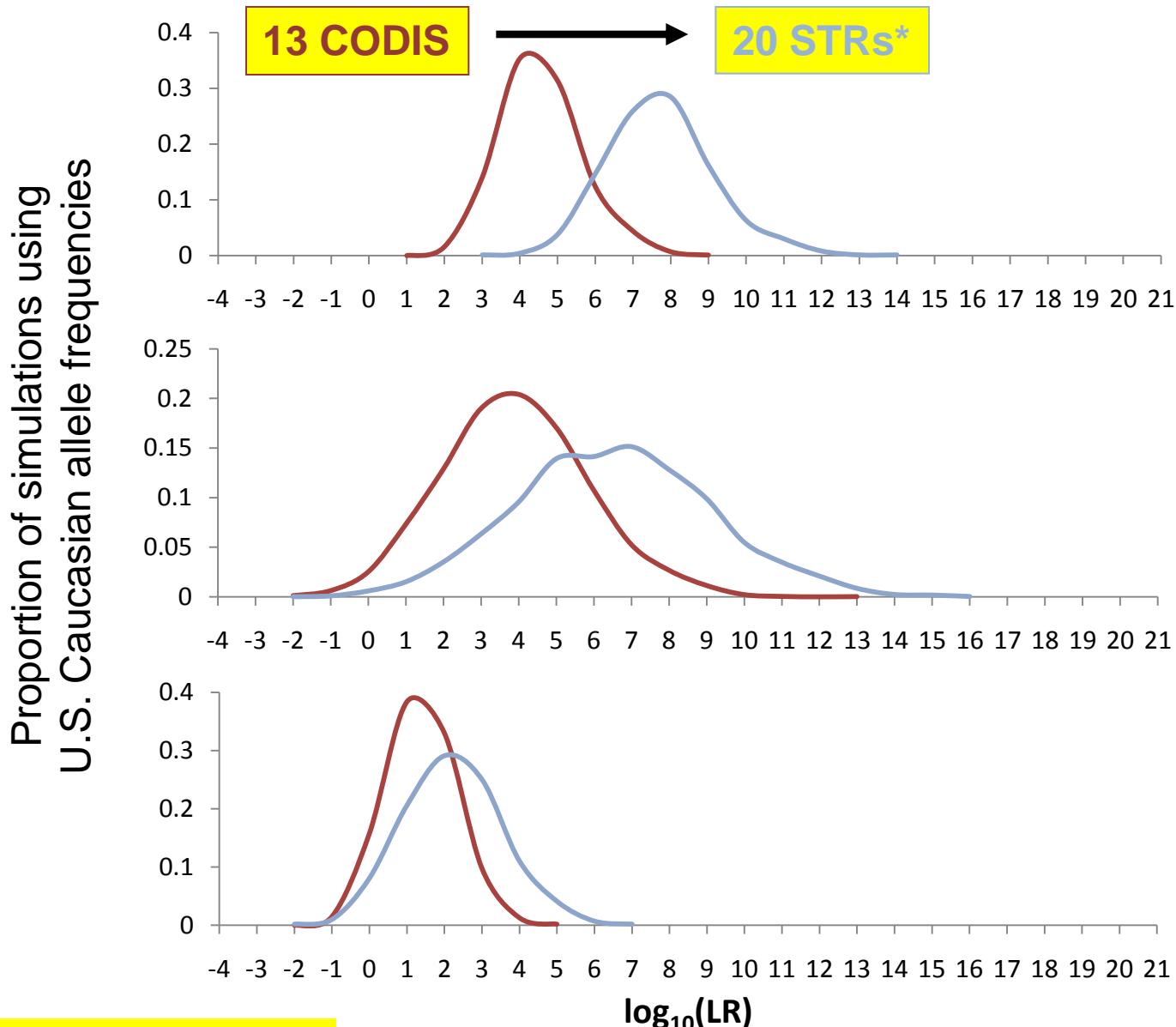
- Simulated data
 - Model a large number of different genotype combinations for related and unrelated individuals
 - Observe expected ranges of likelihood ratio values
 - Evaluate discriminatory power of additional loci

Likelihood Ratio Distributions for True Relationships Using Different Sets of STR Loci

Proportion of simulations using
U.S. Caucasian allele frequencies



Likelihood Ratio Distributions for True Relationships Using Different Sets of STR Loci



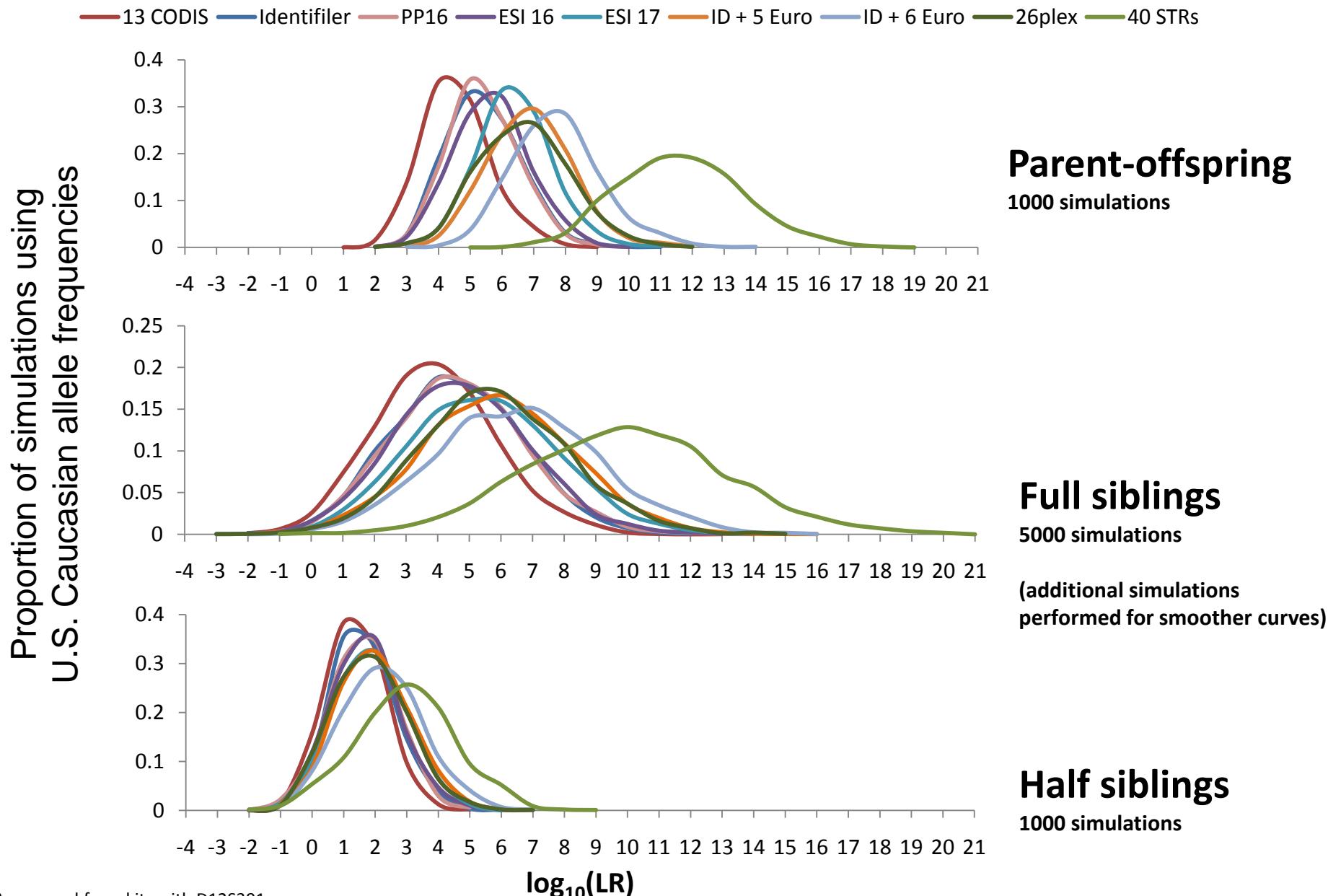
Parent-offspring
1000 simulations

Full siblings
5000 simulations

(additional simulations
performed for smoother curves)

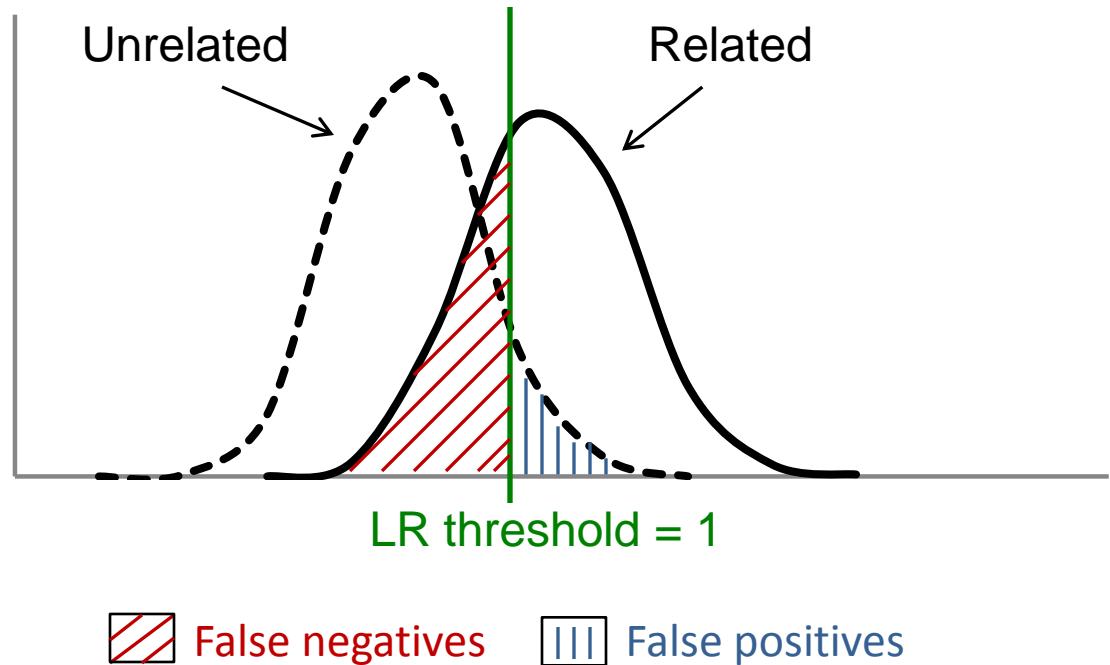
Half siblings
1000 simulations

Likelihood Ratio Distributions using Different Sets of STR Loci



Overlap of Likelihood Ratio Distributions

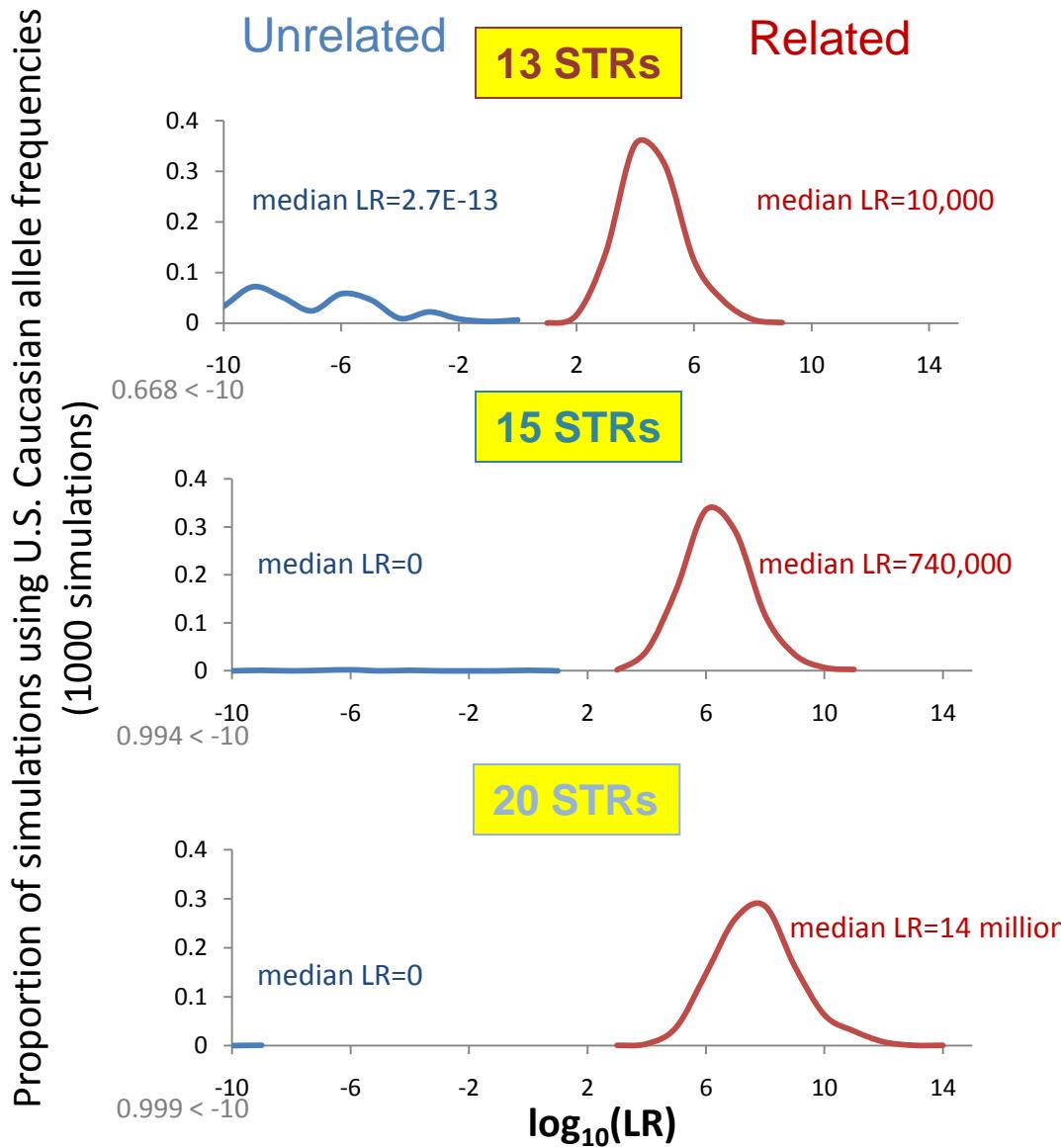
By the definition of a LR:
 $LR > 1$ supports the numerator
 $LR < 1$ supports the denominator



Probabilistic nature of relationship inference

- Incorrect relationships may be suggested
 - True relatives may appear unrelated
 - Unrelated individuals may appear related
- When distributions are pulled apart, the area of overlap is reduced
 - Goal is to reduce the area of overlap to zero
 - Can this be done with additional STR markers?

LR Distributions for Parent-Offspring with Different Numbers of STR Loci



The degree of overlap corresponds with possible values for false positive or false negative results

For Pairwise Comparisons

No overlap for parent-offspring simulations with 13 STR loci

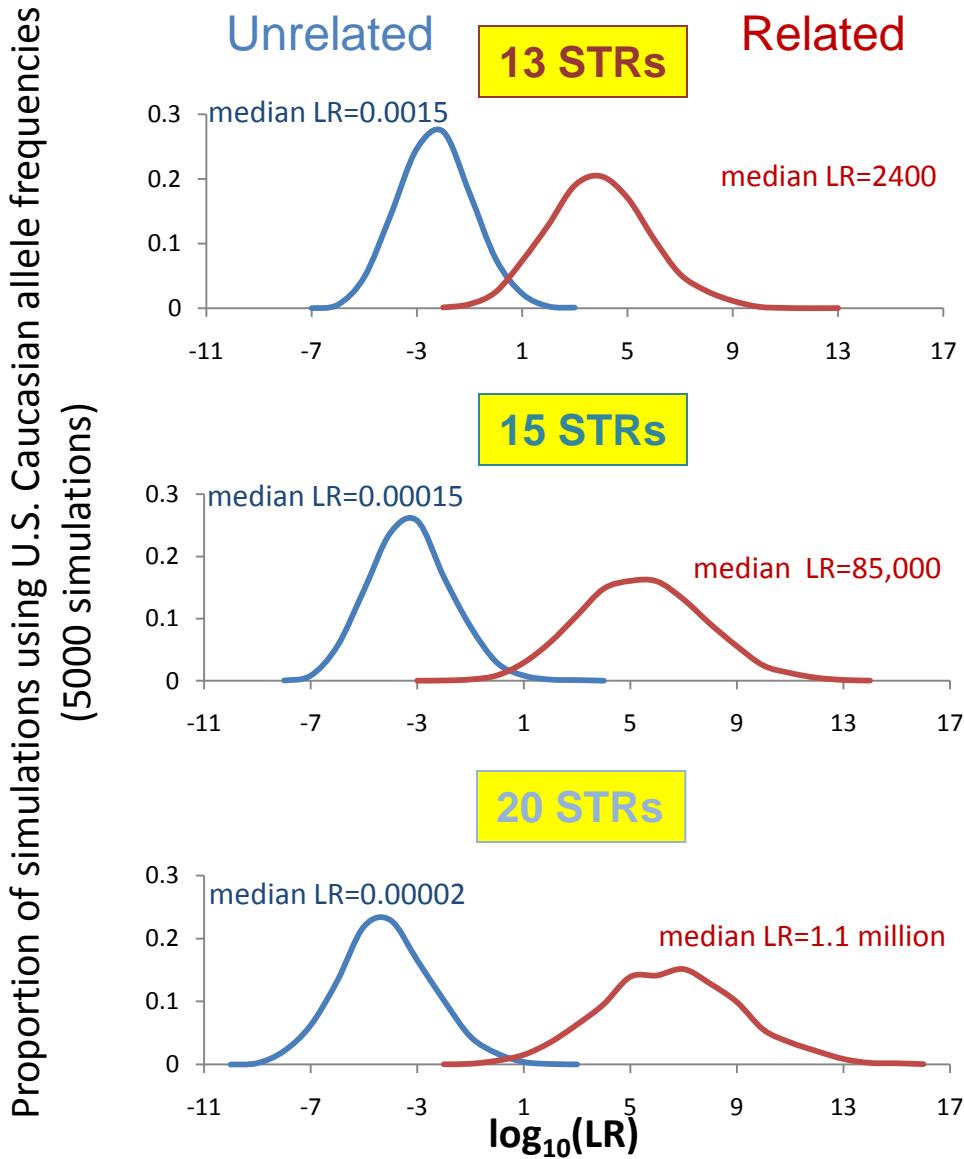
Additional loci separate distributions even more

After Large Database Search

False positives/negatives are likely for parent-offspring with 13 STR loci

Fortuitous matches would be reduced with 20 STR loci

LR Distributions for Full Siblings with Different Numbers of STR Loci



Additional STR loci reduce overlap

Range of related and unrelated distributions is wider with 15 loci vs. 13 loci

20 loci increase LR values for true FS and decrease LR values for unrelated pairs

If LR threshold is 1, false positive rate =

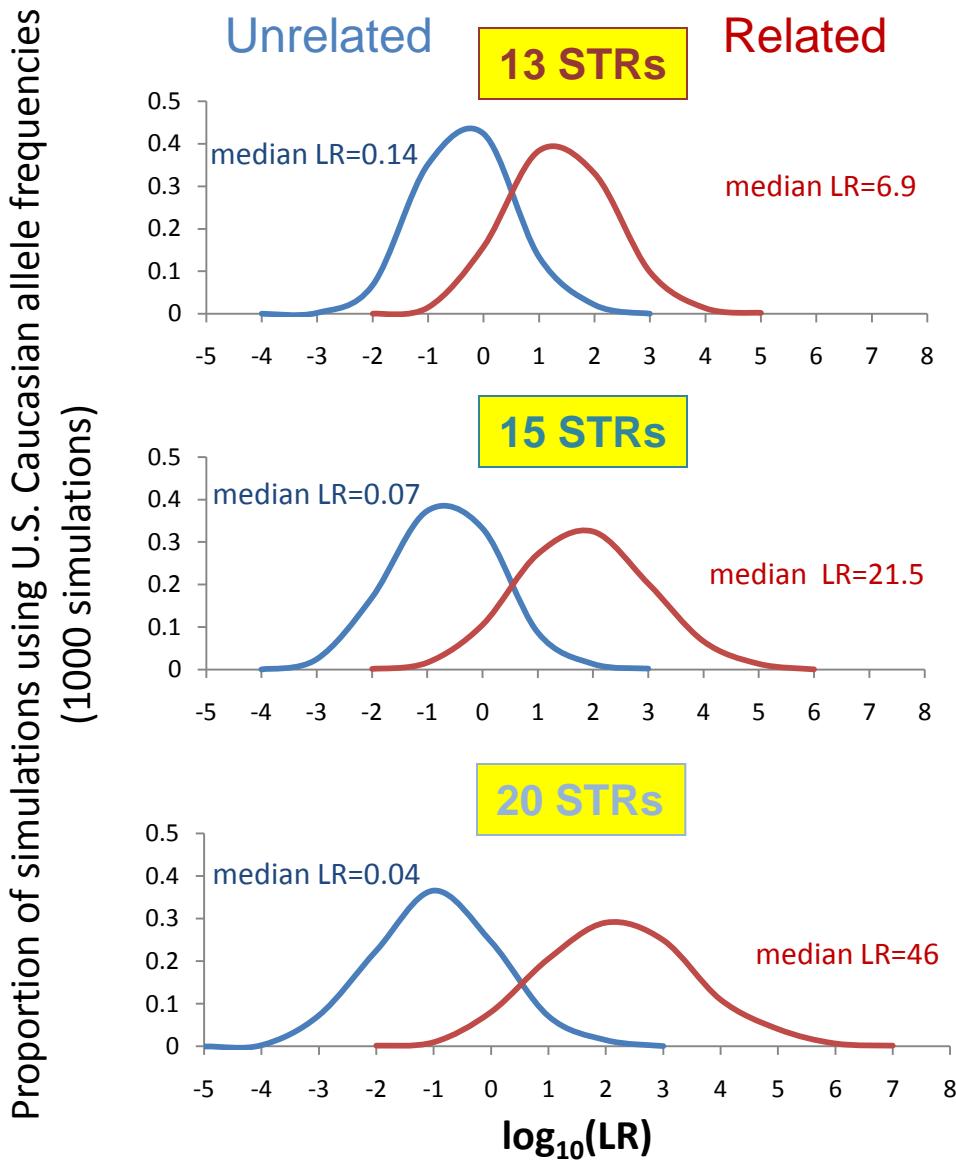
0.03 with 13 loci
0.01 with 15 loci
<0.01 with 20 loci

If LR threshold is 1, false negative rate =

0.03 with 13 loci
0.01 with 15 loci
<0.01 with 20 loci

Fortuitous kinship matches from database search would be reduced with 20 loci

LR Distributions for Half Siblings with Different Numbers of STR Loci



Amount of overlap is not substantially reduced with additional loci

Large overlapping range of LR values for related and unrelated pairs

Difficult to define a LR threshold for kinship determination

If LR threshold is 1, false positive rate =

0.16 with 13 loci

0.10 with 15 loci

0.09 with 20 loci

If LR threshold is 1, false negative rate =

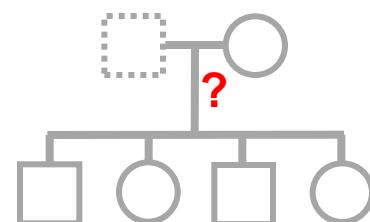
0.17 with 13 loci

0.12 with 15 loci

0.09 with 20 loci

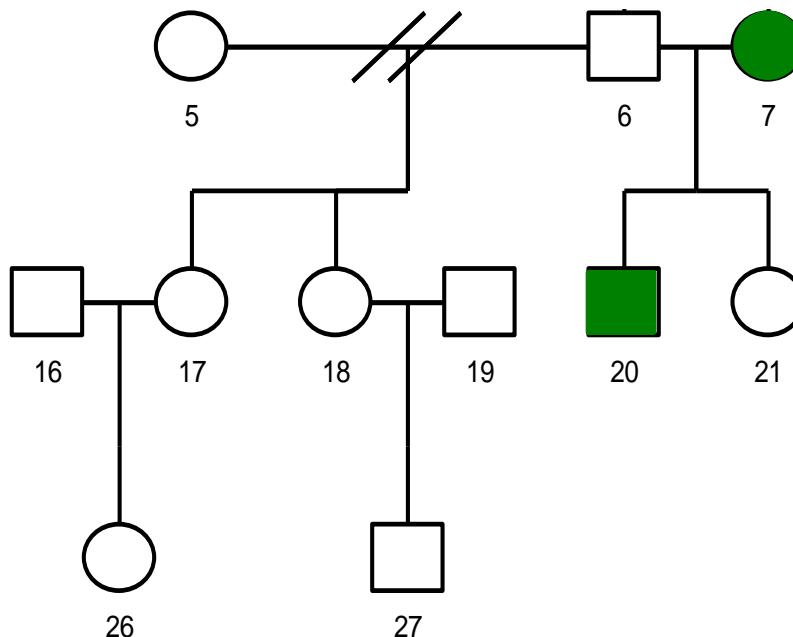
Reference Family Data to Assist Validation of Kinship Analysis

- NIST Standard Reference Family Data
 - Currently being developed to aid validation of kinship analysis algorithms, software, and loci selection
- Genetic data from known pedigrees
 - Use genotypes with known inheritance
 - Make direct comparisons between likelihood ratio values from algebraic and software calculations
 - Test algorithms for mutation, rare alleles, incest
 - Illustrate benefit/limitations of different loci to detect relationships



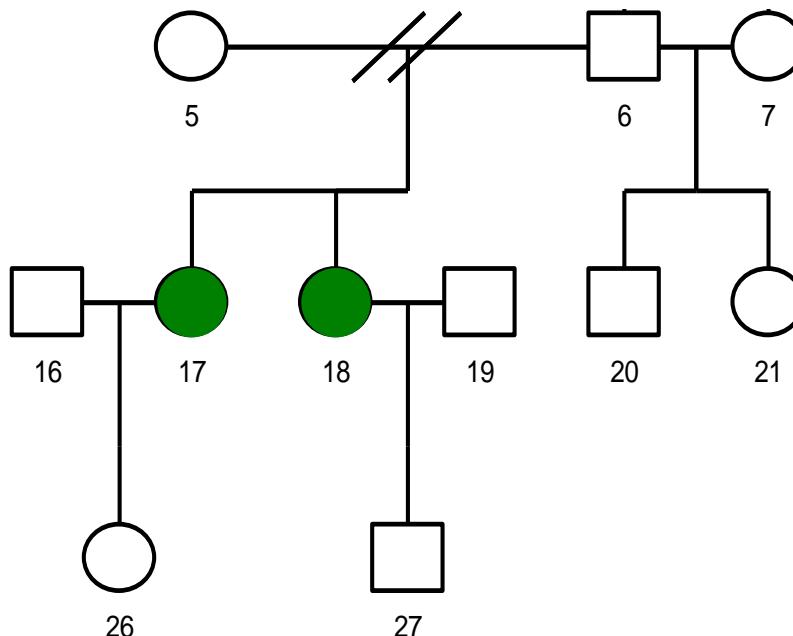
Specific Example of LR Values for Different Relationships using Collected Pedigree Data

Relationship Tested	Likelihood Ratio Values using Different Sets of Loci			
	13 STRs (CODIS)	14 STRs (ESI/ESX 16-vWA)	15 STRs (ESI/ESX 17-vWA)	20 STRs (Identifier-vWA + 5 Euro + SE33)
Parent-offspring (7 vs 20)	3.2E+04	7.4E+07	8.5E+08	8.0E+09



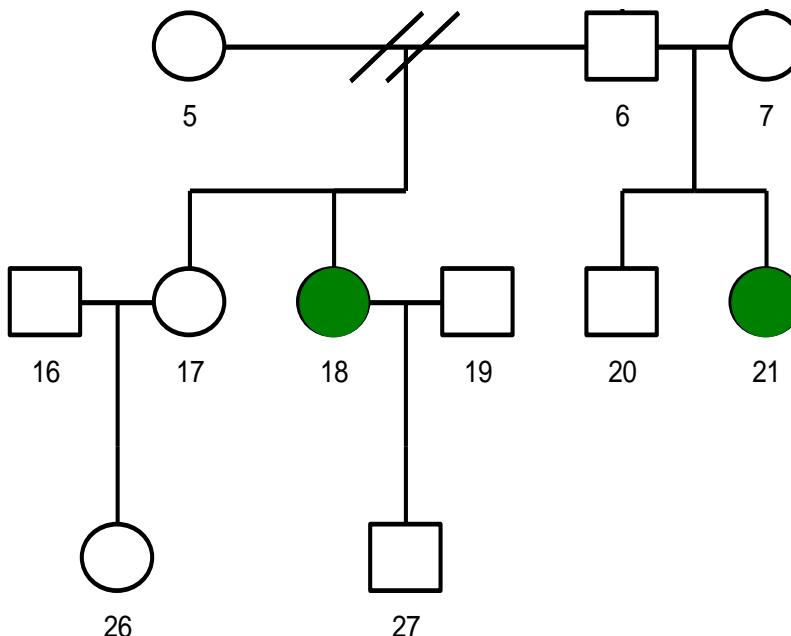
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Full siblings (17 vs 18)	132	268	67	7143



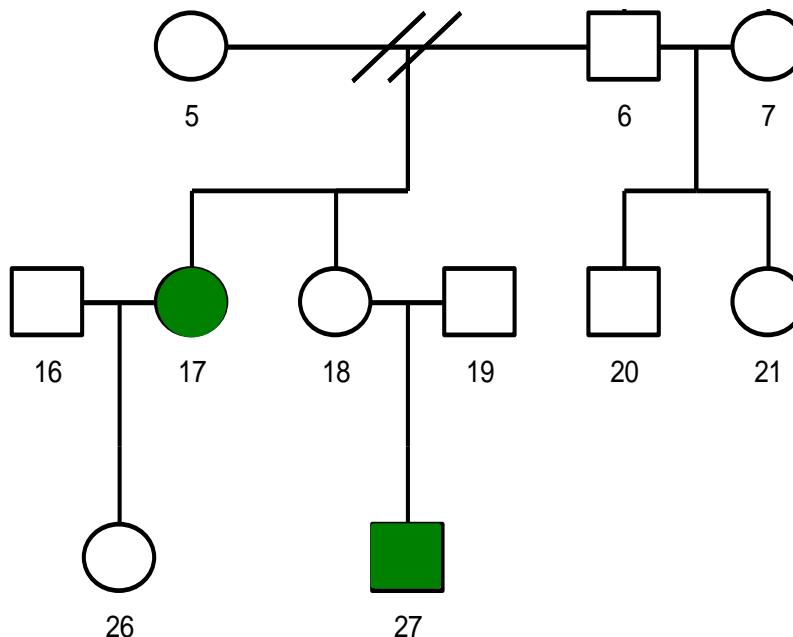
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Half siblings (18 vs 21)	0.9	1.5	5.1	2.0



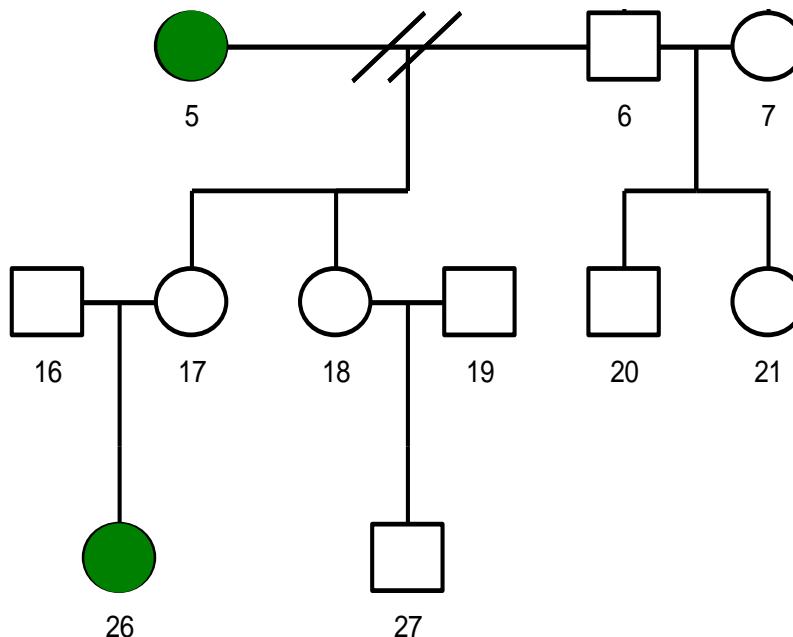
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Aunt-niece (17 vs 27)	1.1	0.9	0.4	1.9



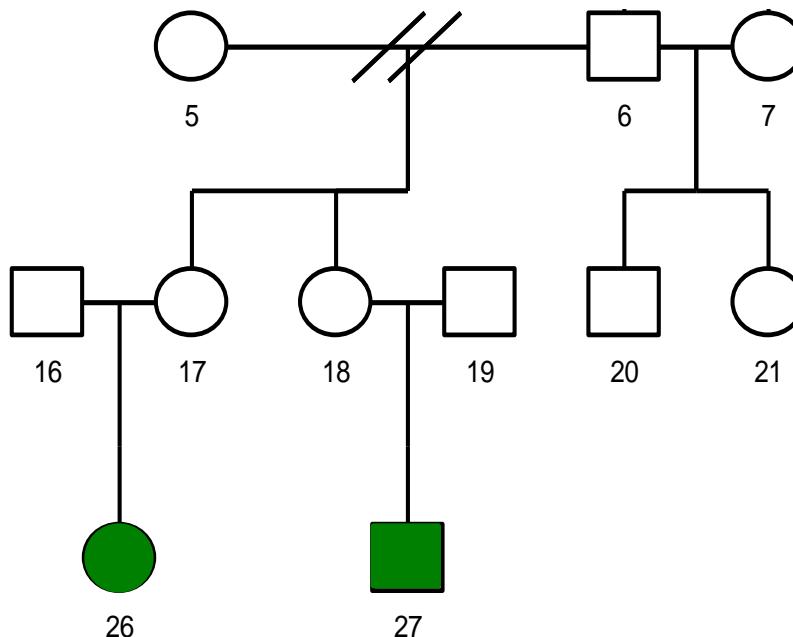
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Grandmother-granddaughter (5 vs 26)	10.1	0.1	0.2	4.4



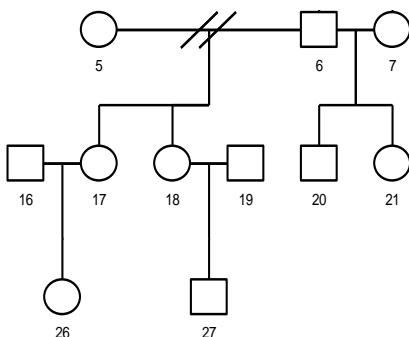
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First cousins (26 vs 27)	1.7	1.1	0.9	2.0



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Aunt-niece (17 vs 27)	1.1	0.9	0.4	1.9
Grandmother-granddaughter (5 vs 26)	10.1	0.1	0.2	4.4
First cousins (26 vs 27)	1.7	1.1	0.9	2.0



Additional loci improve LR values for 1st degree relatives (parent-offspring, full siblings)

LR values are not greatly improved for more distant relatives for which the probability of allele sharing is reduced

Summary of 20 STR Loci

(Identifiler-vWA + 5 Euro + SE33)

- Robust set of loci for close relatives
 - Parent-offspring and full siblings
 - Single multiplex PCR would require 6-dye chemistry and possible primer redesign
 - Depending on manufacturer and primer design, SE33 may not fit
- SE33 is a powerful locus for determining first degree relatives
 - Large amount of allelic variation
 - High mutation rate
- More distant relationships remain difficult to identify with 20 STR loci
 - Half siblings, uncle-nephew, grandparent-grandchild, cousins, etc.
 - Nearly 10% false positive and false negative rates with LR threshold = 1
 - Lineage markers, more individuals, or non-genetic information (use Bayesian statistics) can increase confidence in a kinship test



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