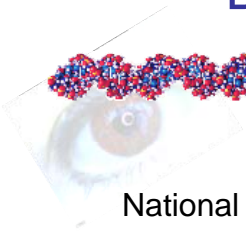
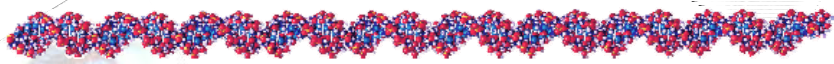



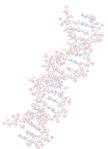
## DNA as a Biometric



Dr. Peter M. Vallone  
National Institute of Standards and Technology



George Washington University  
Washington, D.C.  
Friday November 12, 2010



peter.vallone@nist.gov (301) 975-4872

## Outline

- What is a Biometric?
- Rapid PCR Protocols
- DNA Typing on Integrated Systems

# What is a Biometric?

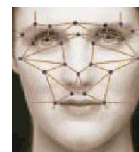
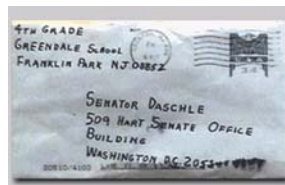
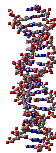
Method for uniquely recognizing humans based upon one or more intrinsic **physical** or **behavioral** traits

Jain, A. K.; Ross, Arun; Prabhakar, Sali (January 2004), "An introduction to biometric recognition", *IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems for Video Technology* 14th (1): 4-20

# Current Biometrics

Some commonly measured features

- Physical
  - Fingerprints (Palm/hand geometry)
  - Iris, retinal
  - Face
  - Odor/scent
  - DNA?
- Behavioral
  - Gait
  - Voice
  - Vein (IR thermogram)
  - Hand geometry
  - Handwriting



## Characteristics of a Biometric

- Universality
  - each person should have the characteristic
- Uniqueness
  - is how well the biometric separates individuals from another
- Permanence
  - measures how well a biometric resists aging and variance over time
- Collectability
  - ease of acquisition for measurement

Jain, A. K.; Ross, Arun; Prabhakar, Sallil (January 2004), "An introduction to biometric recognition", *IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems for Video Technology* 14th (1): 4–20

## Characteristics of a Biometric

(practical considerations)

- Performance
  - accuracy, **speed**, and robustness of technology used
- Acceptability
  - degree of approval of a technology
- Circumvention
  - ease of use of a substitute

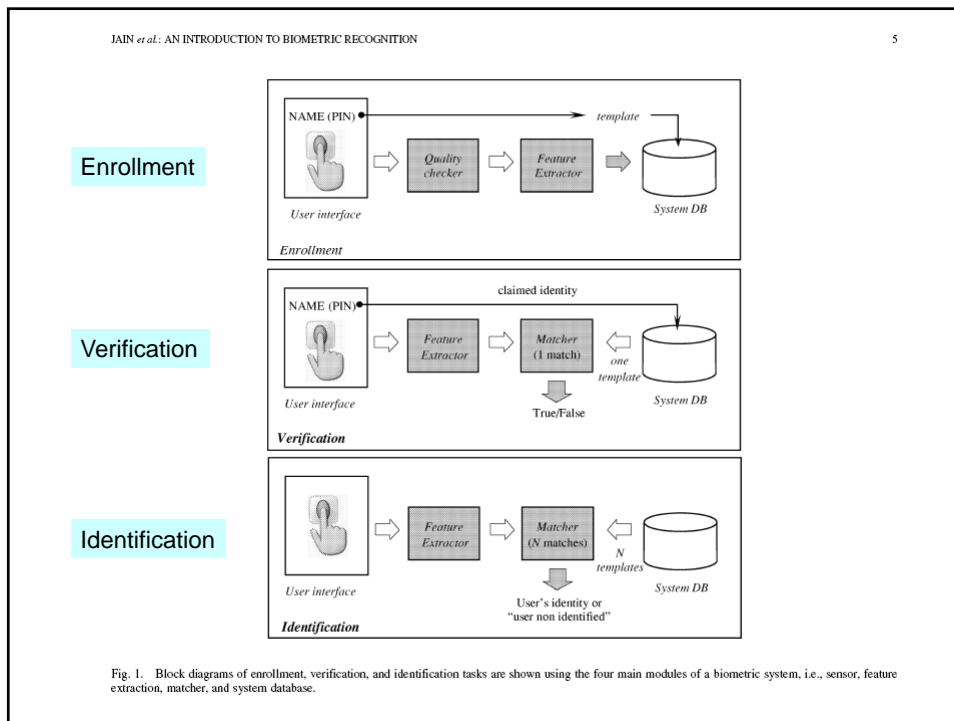
Jain, A. K.; Ross, Arun; Prabhakar, Sallil (January 2004), "An introduction to biometric recognition", *IEEE Transactions on Circuits and Systems for Video Technology* 14th (1): 4–20

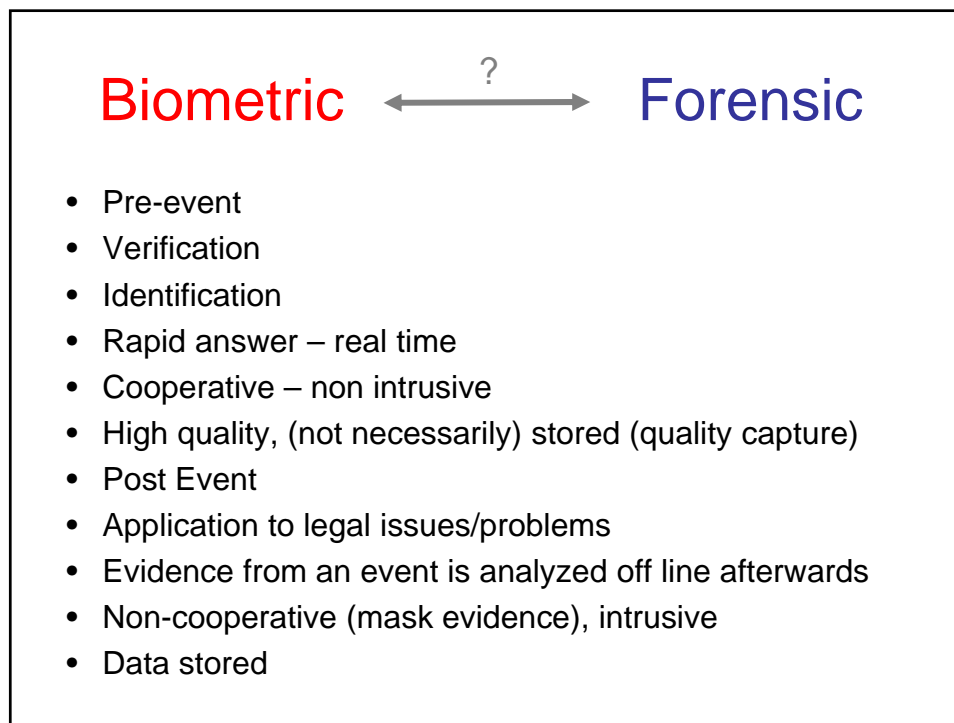
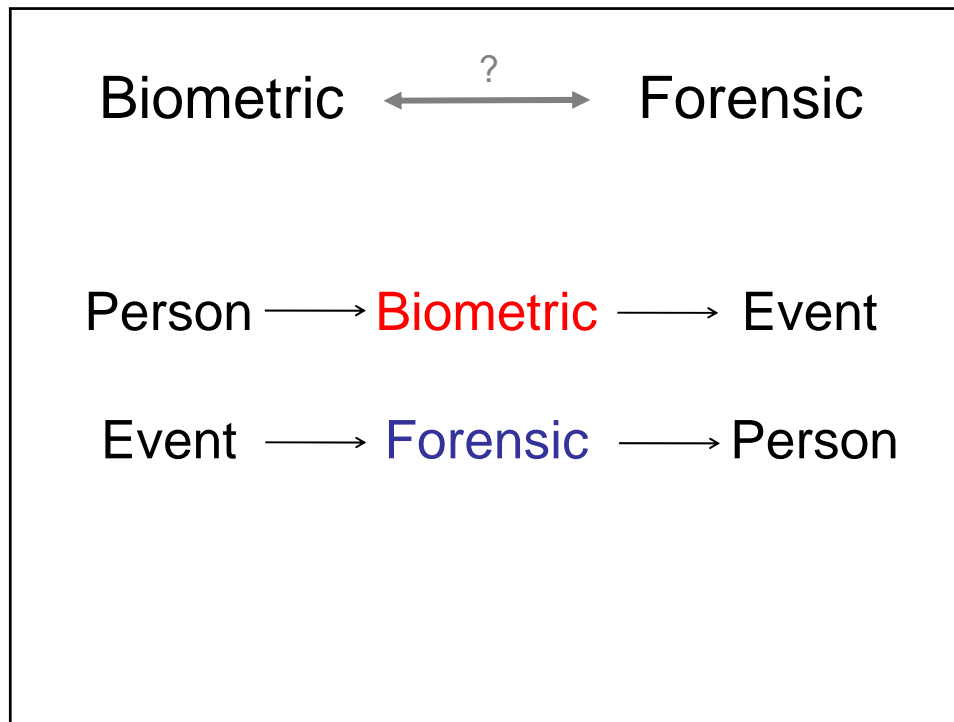
# Modes of Use

- Enrollment – Capturing and storing the biometric into a database

---

- Verification – A **one to one** comparison of a captured biometric with a stored template to **verify/confirm** identity
- Identification – A **one to many** comparison of the captured biometric against a biometric database in **attempt to identify** an unknown individual





# DNA Typing as a Biometric

## Advantages

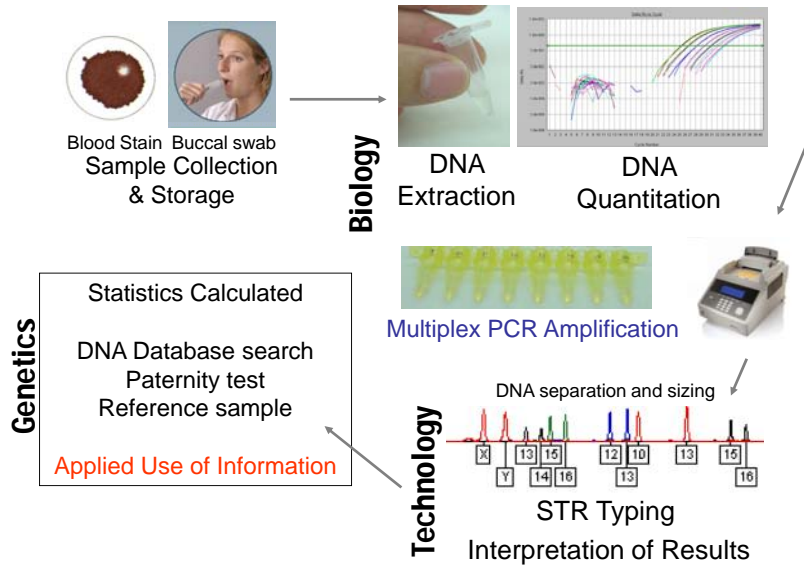
- High level of accuracy (Gold Standard)
- Solid foundation of Forensic DNA Testing (pop stats, molecular biology, court acceptance, protocols, training, education)
- Kinship determination (unique to DNA)
- Potential use for:
  - Phenotype (traits; eye/hair color)
  - Ancestry

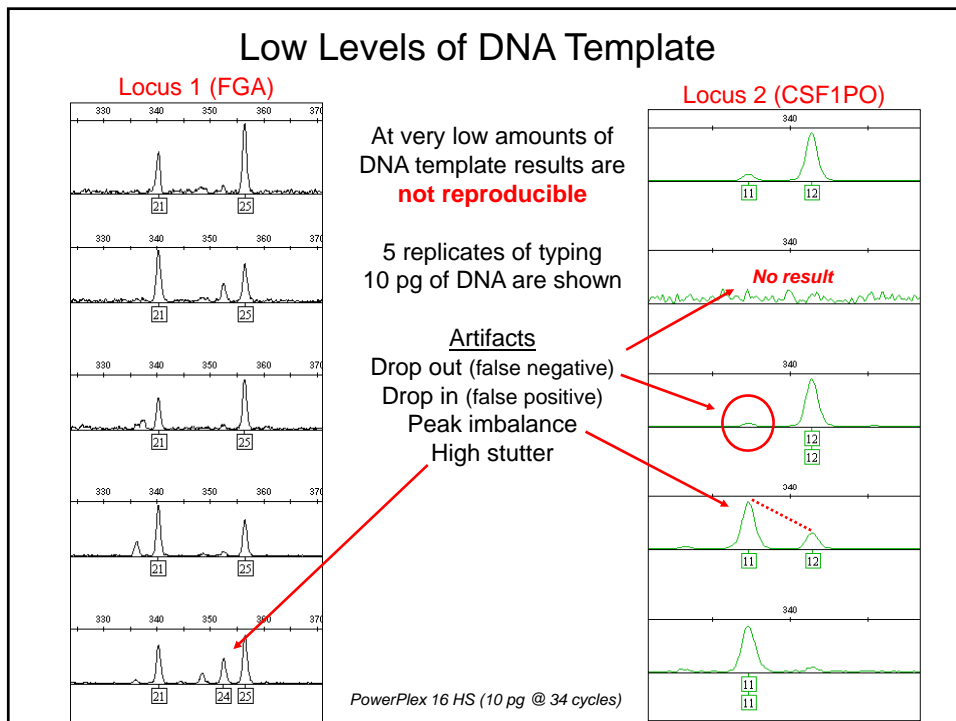
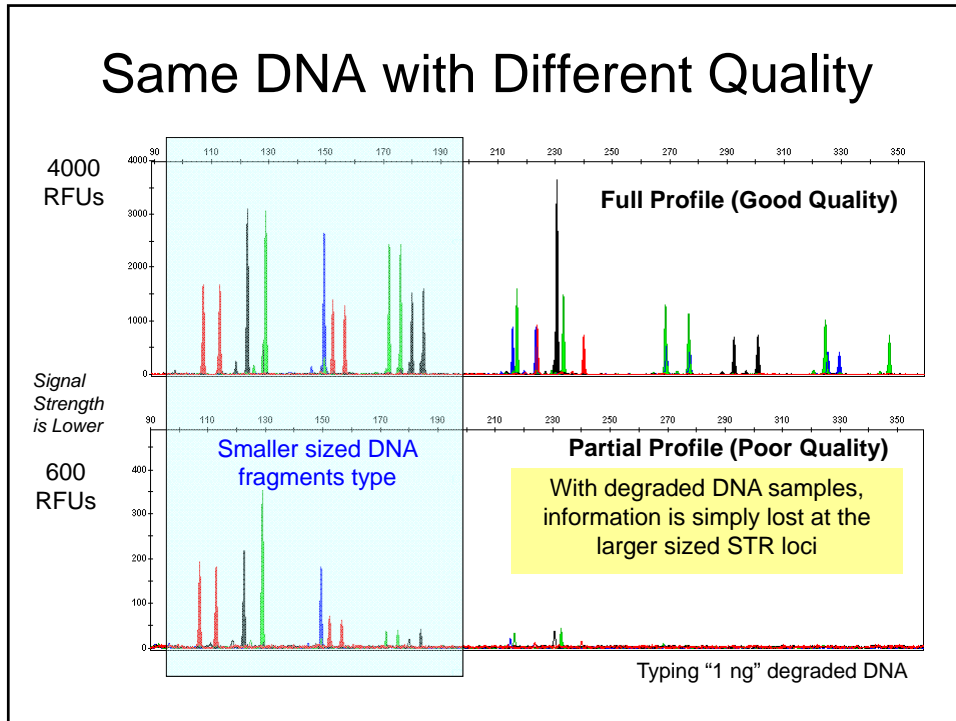
## Challenges

- Expensive
- **Time consuming**
- Sample collection (invasive, stability issues)
- Technical expertise required for analysis
- Low level template, mixtures, PCR inhibition
- Policy/Privacy/Ethical issues

# Steps in Forensic DNA Analysis

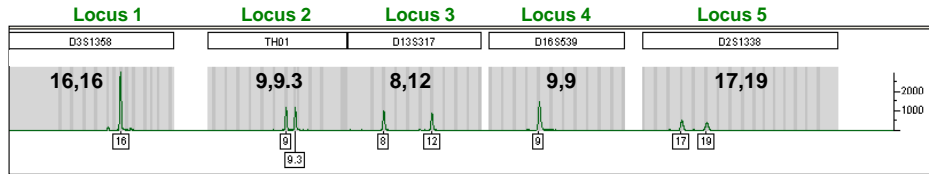
Usually 1-2 day process (a minimum of ~8 hours)





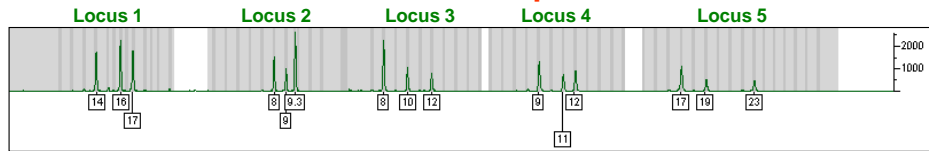
## Mixture Interpretation – A Major Challenge...

### Single Source Sample



*One or two peaks observed at each locus (tested DNA region)*

### Mixture Sample



*More than two peaks observed at more than two loci (tested DNA regions)*

Different possible combinations could have given rise to the particular mixture observed

## Biometric Sample Collection

- Similar to collecting a reference sample
  - Single source, human specific
  - **No quantitation**
- Collected on site (buccal swab)
  - Not sample limited
    - > 100 ng of template DNA
  - **No mixtures, no LCN, no inhibitors**



## Interest in Rapid DNA Typing

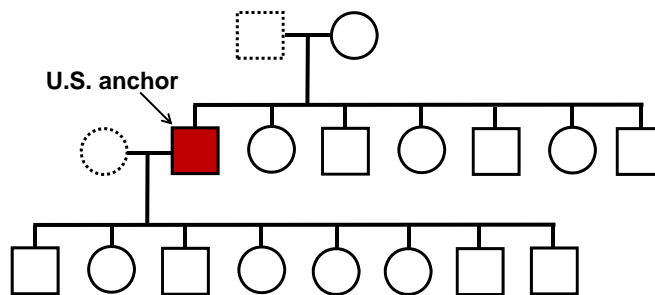
- DoD (field testing, rapid intelligence, mass fatalities)
- DHS (kinship determination, border security, immigration)
- DoJ (law enforcement, initial information)
- Industry (security, authentication)
  
- Each customer will have specific requirements
  - sample input
  - information output
  - degrees of 'accuracy'

The time required for generating a STR profile will have to be significantly reduced



## Immigration Testing

U.S. Department of Homeland Security



Anchor may sponsor up to 15 relatives (spouse, parents, siblings, children)

79% of refugee claims were fraudulent based on DNA testing or failure to appear for DNA testing (U.S. Dept. of State)

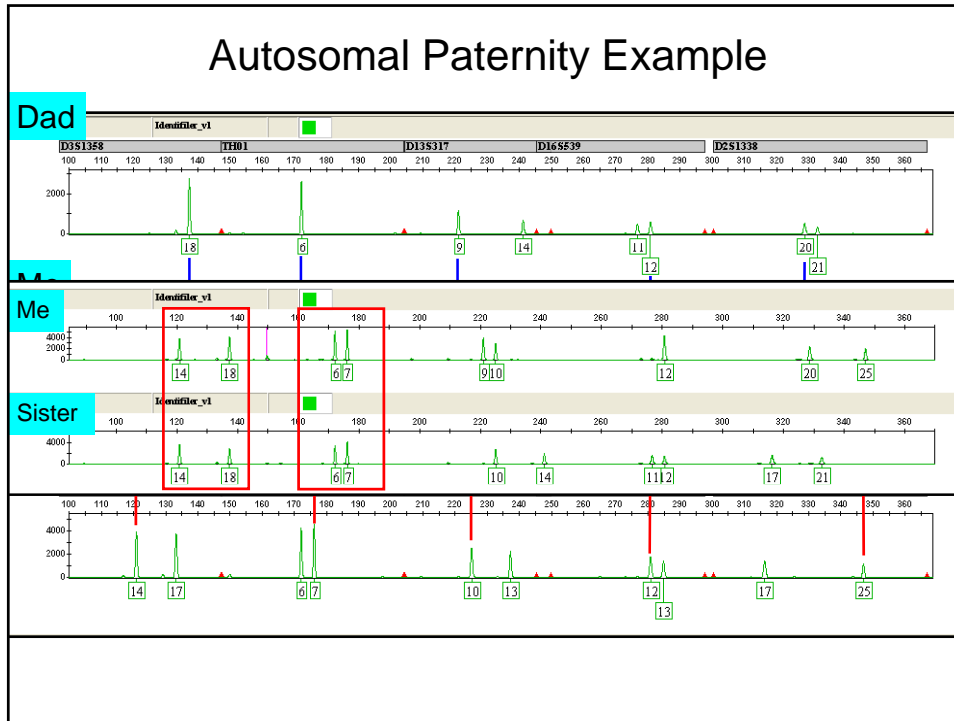
DHS is looking to require DNA to support relationship claims

## Kinship Testing

- DNA profiles can also be used to evaluate the probability of a specific familial relationship
- As a familial relationship becomes more distant, the ability of DNA to confirm the likelihood of that relationship decreases
  1. Parent-offspring
  2. Siblings
  3. Half siblings = uncle/nephew = grandchild
  4. Cousins

## Allele Sharing Probabilities

Relationship	0 alleles	1 alleles	2 alleles
Parent-child	0	1	0
Full siblings	1/4	1/2	1/4
Half siblings	1/2	1/2	0
Cousins	3/4	1/4	0
Uncle-nephew	1/2	1/2	0
Grandparent-grandchild	1/2	1/2	0

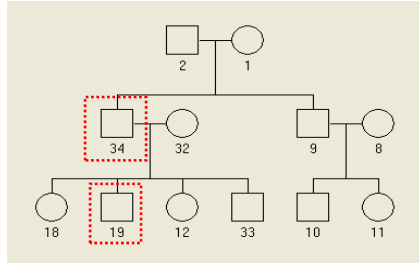


## Likelihood Ratio

- Examining or counting shared alleles is qualitative
- Likelihood ratio can be used to help quantify the information

$$LR = \frac{\text{Probability of the evidence (genotypes) given a particular hypothesis}}{\text{Probability of the evidence (genotypes) given an alternative hypothesis}}$$

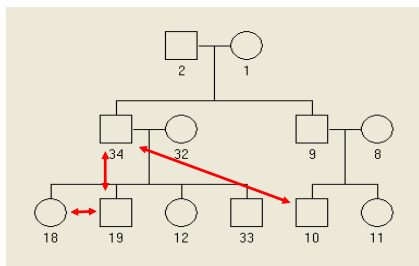
## Posing a Hypothesis



- Basic equations for calculating LR are known
- Available in the literature and in commercial software
- Requirements:
  - **Genotypes** of individuals being tested
  - **Allele frequencies** for the loci involved in the testing
  - **Two Hypotheses!**

$$LR = \frac{\text{Prob. of observing the genotypes for 19 and 34 given that they are parent-offspring}}{\text{Prob. of observing the genotypes for 19 and 34 given that they are unrelated}}$$

## Likelihood Ratios with 15 Loci




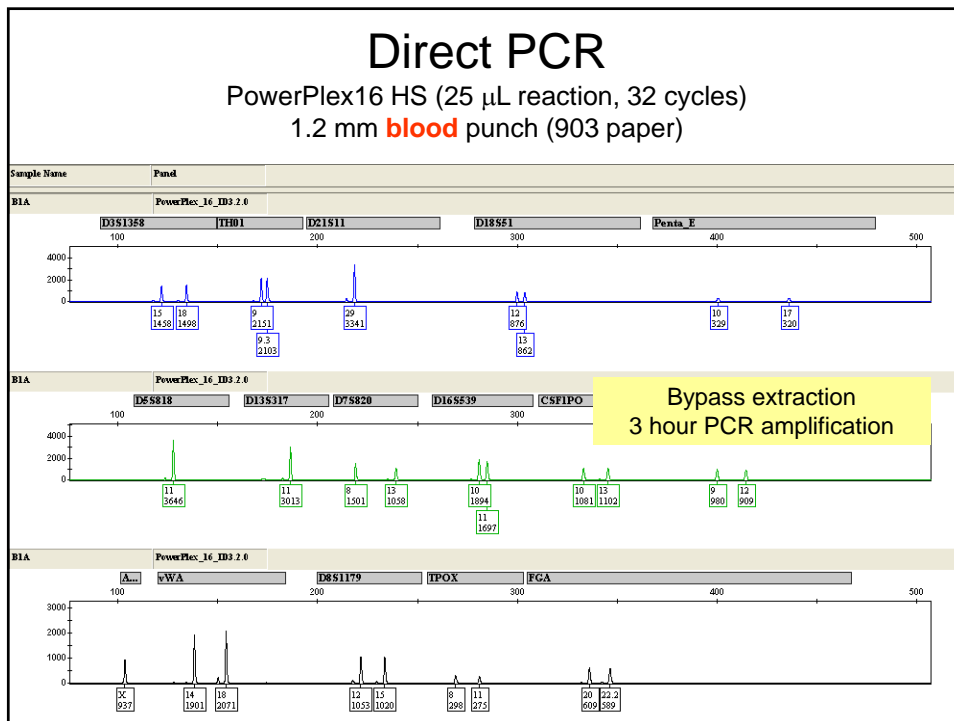
Comparison	LR for 34 & 19	LR for 18 & 19	LR for 34 & 10
Parent-Child	1.28E+06		
Full Siblings		2.76E+07	
Half Siblings			
Cousins			
Uncle-Nephew			6.65E-01
Grandparent-Grandchild			

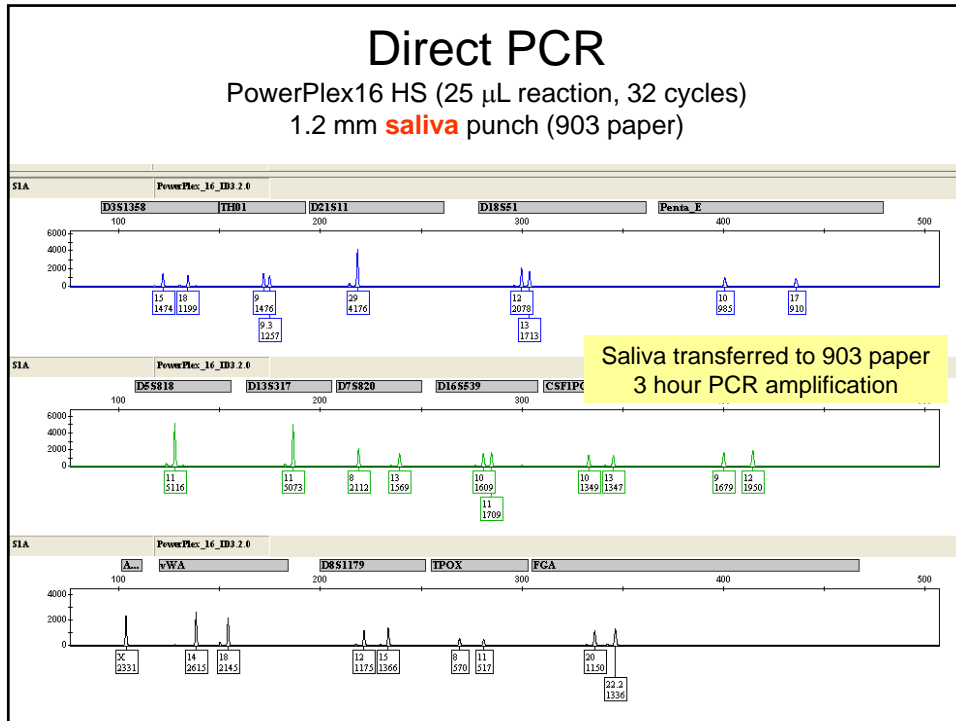
Parent/Child      Full Sibs      Uncle/Nephew

LR calculations were performed with GeneMarker HIDv1.90

### DNA Analysis Approaches (non-integrated)

Steps Involved	Traditional Protocols	Rapid Improvements (Buccal)	Rapid Improvements (Direct PCR)
Collection			
Extraction	1.5 hours <small>Manual</small>	30 min. <small>Automated Extraction Qiagen EZ1 Advanced</small>	 Blood Stain
Quantitation	1.5 hours <small>qPCR</small>	1.5 hours	
Amplification	3.5 hours	<36 min. <small>Rapid PCR conditions</small>	3 hour <small>Using PowerPlex 16 HS or Identifier Direct for direct amplification from a 1.2mm blood punch.</small>
Separation/ Detection	1 hour <small>Capillary Electrophoresis ABI 3130xl</small>	1 hour	1 hour
Data Interpretation	Time may vary depending on software, sample quality and analyst expertise		
Total Time	Minimum ~7.5 hours	~4 hours	~4 hours






## Recent Work with Rapid PCR


Developing rapid PCR protocols  
Multiplex amplification of STR kits in 20 - 30 min

- Evaluating faster polymerases
- Faster thermal cyclers
- Deviating from standard STR typing kit protocols

~3.5 h → ~20 min?



Multiplex PCR Amplification



## DNA Polymerases

- Takara
  - SpeedStar

### General characteristics

2 - 5x faster processivity than TaqGold

- Fermentas
  - PyroStart Master Mix

1-5 min hot start at 95°C

Minimal post-cycling 'soak'

- Qiagen
  - QIAGEN Fast Cycling PCR Kit

- New England Biolabs/Finnzymes
  - Phusion DNA Polymerases

## Thermal Cyclers



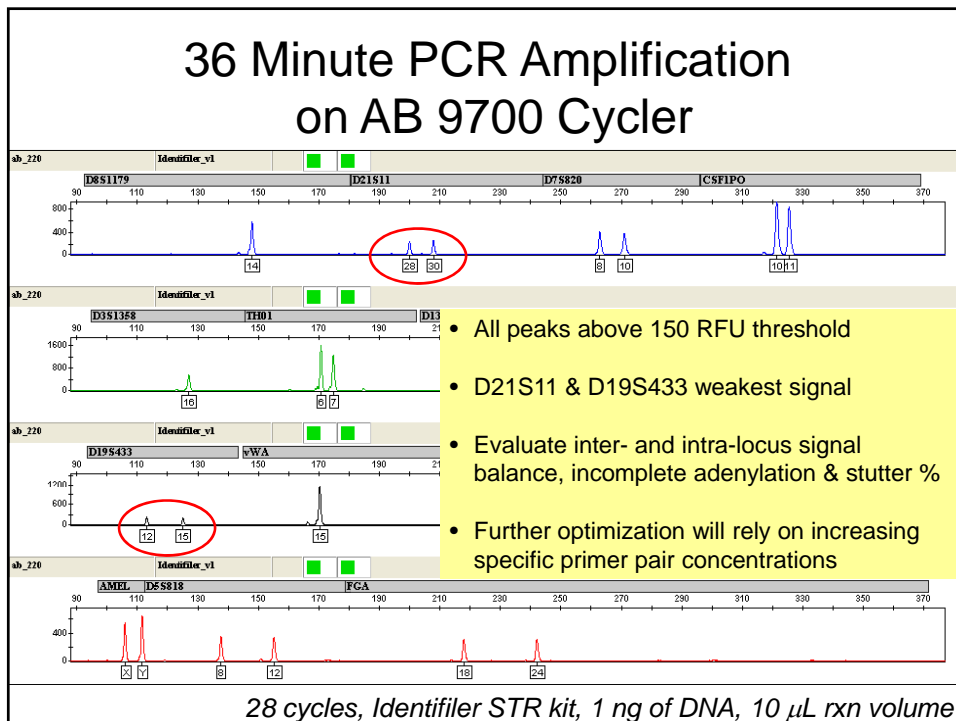
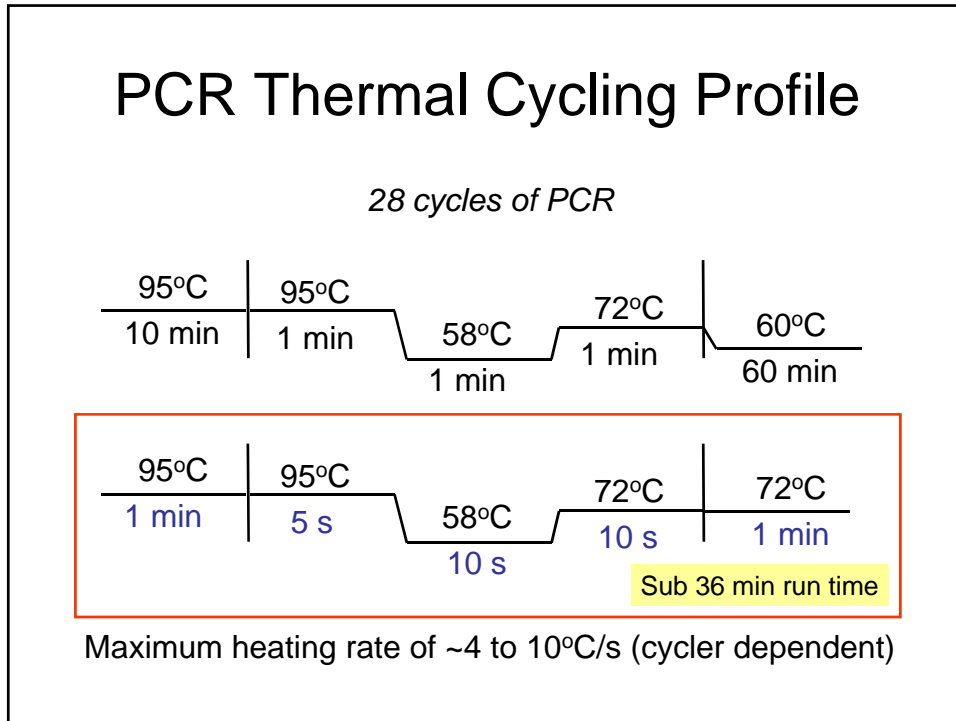
Cepheid SmartCycler  
Ramp rate = 10°C/s



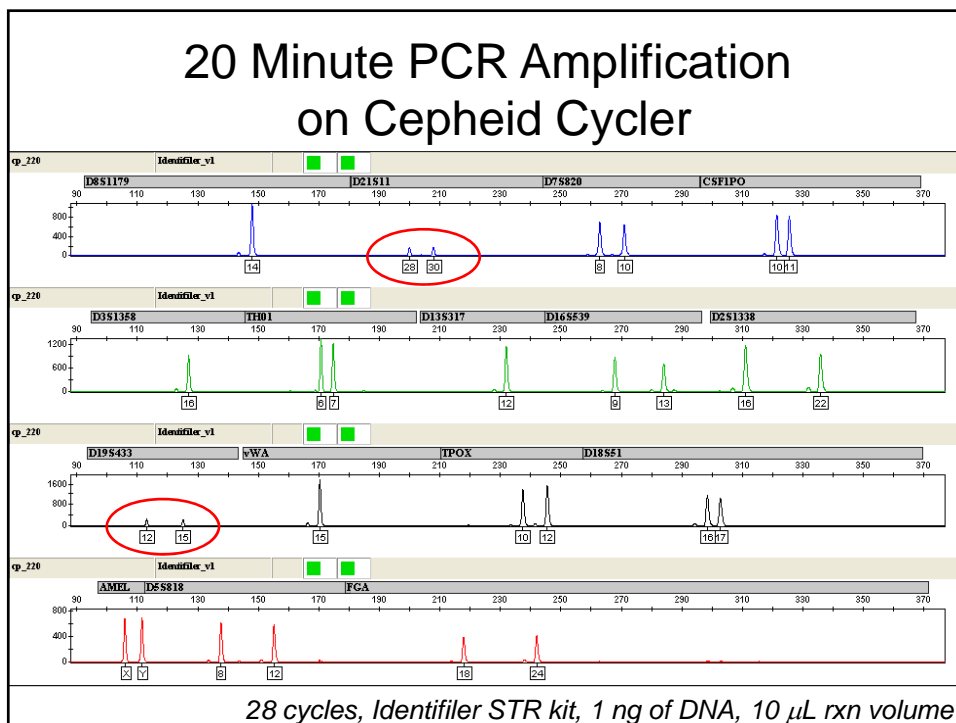
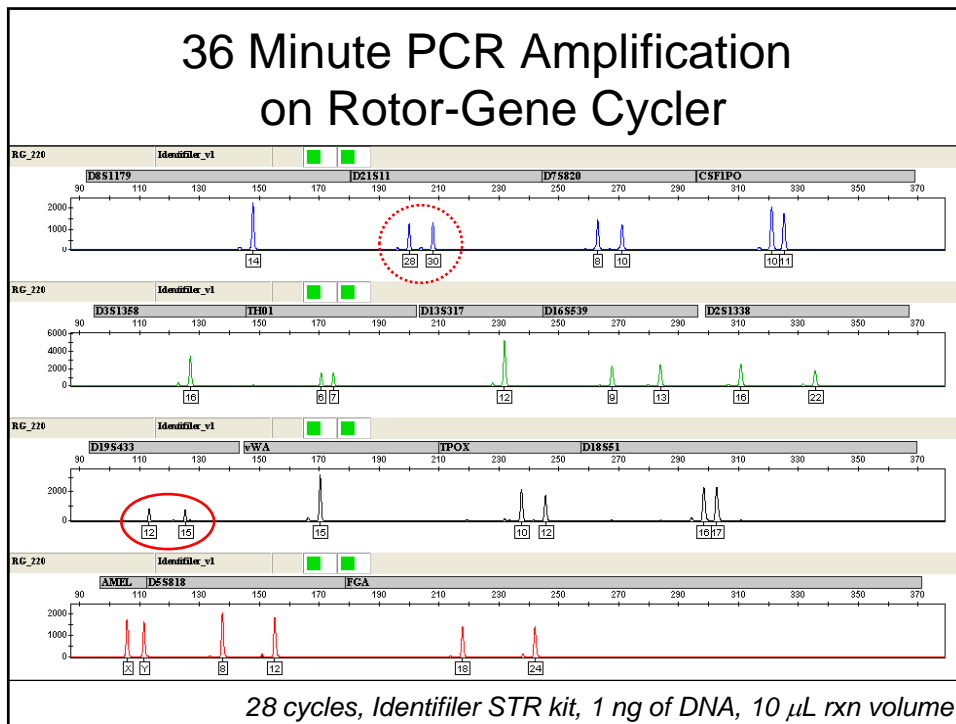
Qiagen Rotor-Gene  
Ramp rate = 15°C/s

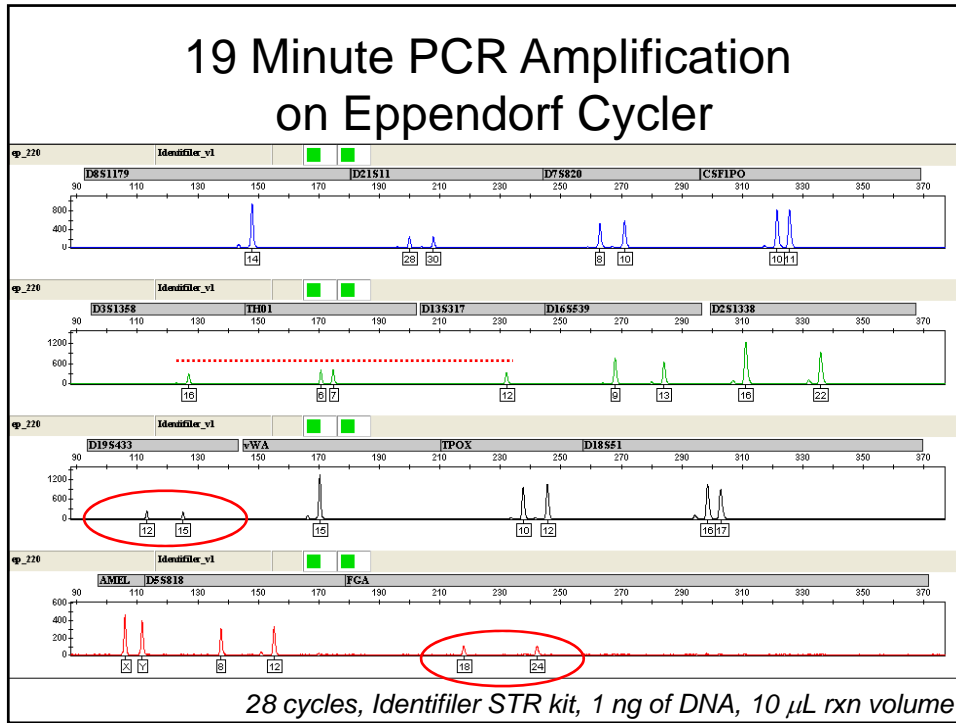
Eppendorf  
Mastercycler pro  
Ramp rate = 6°C/sec



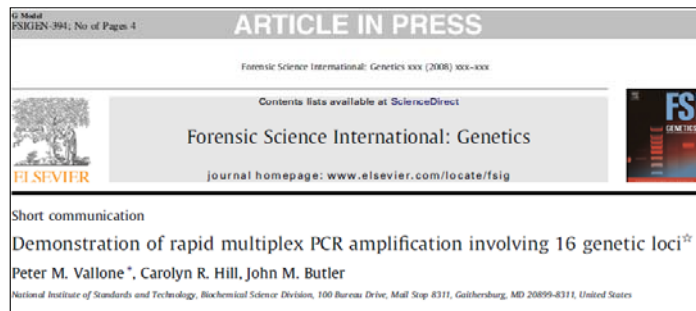








## Rapid PCR Article



Vallone, P.M., Hill, C.R., Butler, J.M. (2008) Demonstration of rapid multiplex PCR amplification involving 16 genetic loci. *FSI Genetics* 3(1): 42-45.

[Rapid PCR Amplification of STR Typing Kits](#) 20th Annual International Symposium on Human Identification (Promega Meeting) October 14, 2009, Las Vegas, NV

[Rapid Amplification of Commercial STR Typing Kits](#), International Society of Forensic Genetics (ISFG), September 16, 2009, Buenos Aires, Argentina

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

# Rapid PCR of STRs on a chip-based thermal cycler

JOURNAL OF **FORENSIC SCIENCES**

*J Forensic Sci*, November 2009, Vol. 54, No. 6  
doi: 10.1111/j.1556-4029.2009.01200.x  
Available online at: interscience.wiley.com

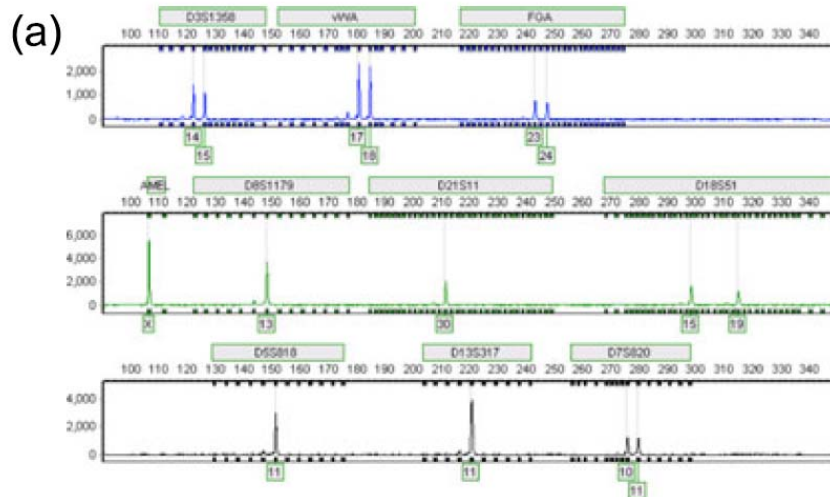
**TECHNICAL NOTE**

*Heidi Giese,<sup>1</sup> Ph.D.; Roger Lam,<sup>1</sup> M.Sc.; Richard Selden,<sup>1</sup> M.D., Ph.D.; and Eugene Tan,<sup>1</sup> Ph.D.*

**Fast Multiplexed Polymerase Chain Reaction for Conventional and Microfluidic Short Tandem Repeat Analysis**

- Multiplex amplifications in microfluidic biochip-based thermal cycler in 17.3 min
- Full CODIS-compatible profiles were generated using the Profiler Plus ID, COfiler and Identifier primer sets

## Profiler Plus® ID Profile



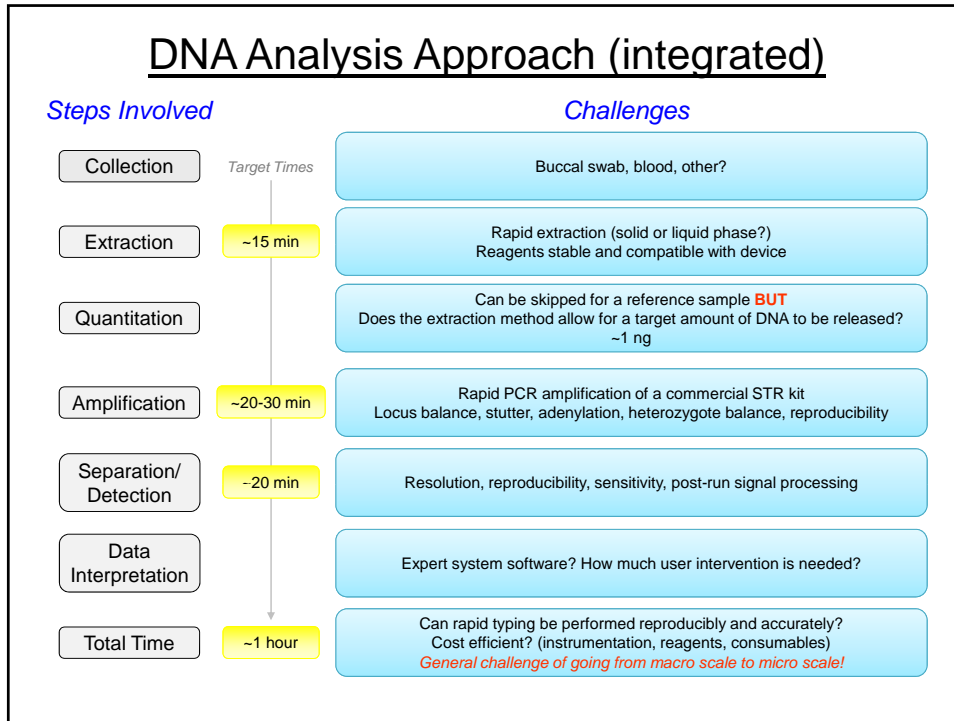
Giese et al., Fast Multiplexed Polymerase Chain Reaction for Conventional and Microfluidic Short Tandem Repeat Analysis *J Forensic Sci*, Vol. 54, 1287-1296

## Current State of Rapid PCR Protocols

- Rapid amplification of at least 16 loci is possible
  - 17.3 minutes
- Faster DNA polymerases and thermal cyclers are required
- Optimized rapid STR typing kits could be produced for
  - chip based thermal cyclers
  - standard bench top cyclers
- Success with ~1 ng of DNA template (single source)
- Sub 45 minute PCR will be essential for rapid typing in a integrated/ portable system

## Goals for Rapid DNA Typing Systems

- Develop an **integrated system** capable of performing DNA testing in less than **1 hour**
- Little user interaction (or experience)
- Rugged
- Robust **Swab in...answer out**
- Simple data interpretation
- 4-16 samples per run
- Disposable chips (with reagents on board)



## Rapid DNA Typing Systems Under Development

- Systems are currently under development and are not yet commercially available
- Network Biosystems (Woburn, MA)  
<http://www.netbio.com>
- ZyGEM and Lockheed Martin (Charlottesville, VA)  
<http://www.zygem.com>
- IntegenX (Pleasanton, CA)  
<http://www.integenx.com>
- Forensic Science Service (UK)  
<http://www.forensic.gov.uk/>

Use of DNA as a Biometric Tool. American Academy of Forensic Science, Feb 22, 2010, Seattle, WA  
<http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/NISTpub.htm>  
Biometrics Consortium Conference September, 2010 Tampa, FL  
<http://www.biometrics.org/bc2010/program.pdf>

Microchip Biotechnologies, Inc. (slide courtesy of Helen Franklin)

### Apollo 200: 4-Channel Integrated Breadboard

The photograph shows a complex laboratory instrument on a breadboard. Red boxes highlight several key components: the Polymer Gel Fill Device, Capillary Separation & Detection Subsystem, Post Amplification Subsystem, Reagent Distribution Device, Nucleic Acid Purification Subsystem, Reagent Reservoirs, STR Reaction Subsystem, and Waste container. A computer monitor in the background displays data. Below the image, the system footprint is given as 2ft x 2ft x 1.25ft.

System Foot Print = 2ft x 2ft x 1.25ft

© 2009 MBI 2 Integrate. Automate. Simplify.

Microchip Biotechnologies, Inc. (slide courtesy of Helen Franklin)

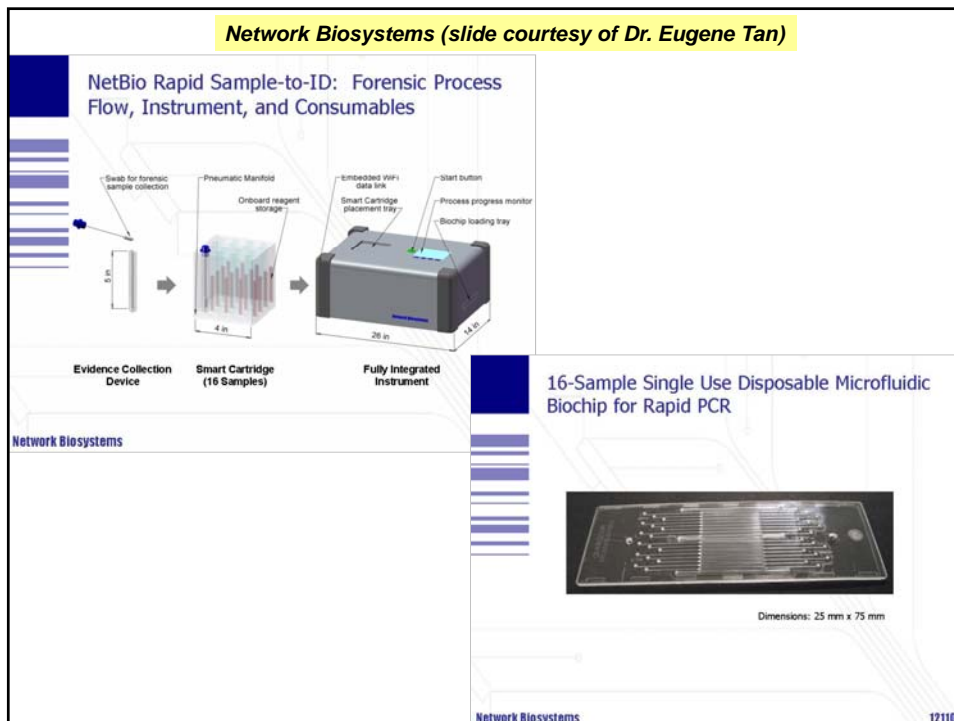
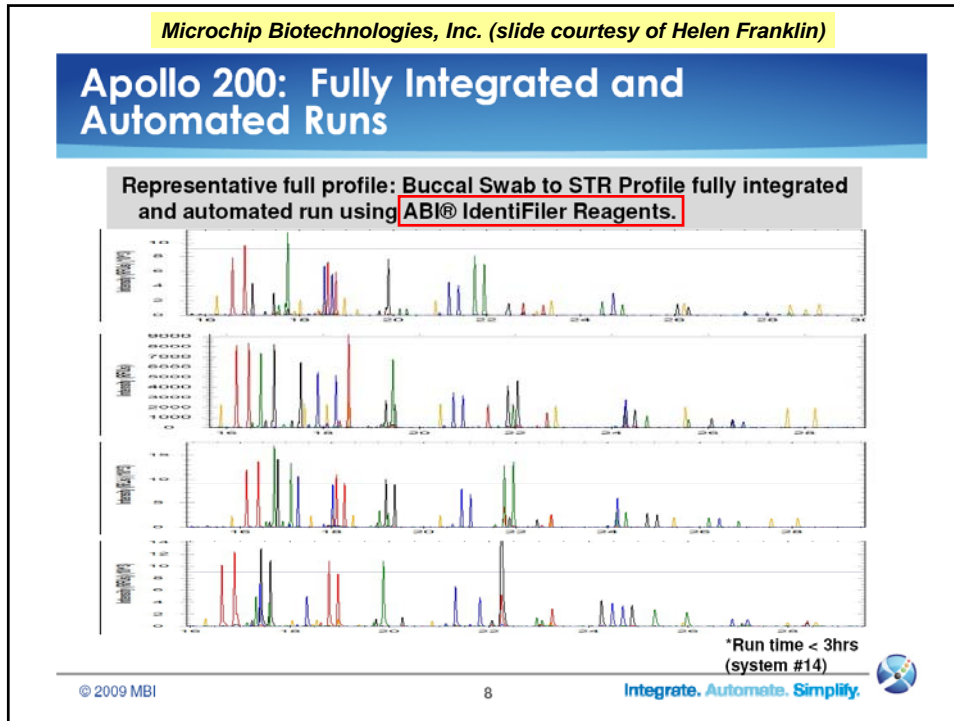
### Apollo 200: Fully Integrated and Automated Runs

Representative full profile: Buccal Swab to STR Profile fully integrated and automated run using Promega® PowerPlex 16 HS.

The figure displays four stacked STR profile graphs. Each graph plots Intensity (RFU) on the y-axis against time on the x-axis. The top graph has a y-axis from 0 to 8000, the second from 0 to 3000, the third from 0 to 7000, and the bottom from 0 to 12. The x-axis for all graphs ranges from approximately 15 to 35 minutes. The profiles show multiple peaks for each marker, indicating a heterozygous genotype. A note at the bottom right states: '\*Run time < 3hrs (system #13)'. The slide footer includes '© 2009 MBI 7 Integrate. Automate. Simplify.' and a logo.

\*Run time < 3hrs (system #13)

© 2009 MBI 7 Integrate. Automate. Simplify.



**Network Biosystems (slide courtesy of Dr. Eugene Tan)**

### 16-Sample Microfluidic Biochip for Separation and Detection



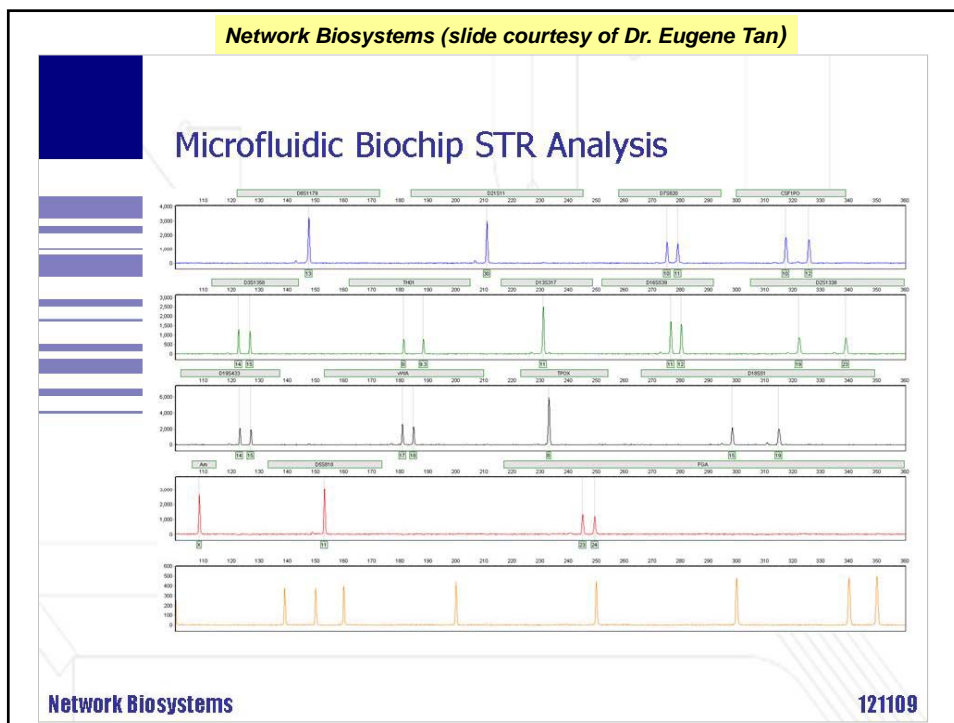
Sample and Waste Waste  
Excitation and Detection Region  
Separation Channel  
Cathode  
Anode

### NetBio Genebench-FX™ Separation and Detection Platform



Network Biosystems 121109

Network Biosystems 121109

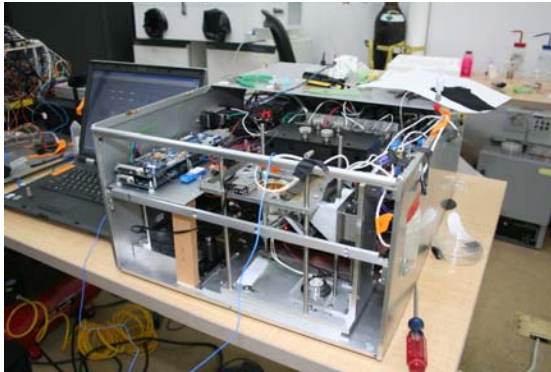




Lockheed Martin & MicroLab Diagnostics (slide courtesy of Dr. Joan Bienvenue)

## DNA Analysis for Human ID *Rapl.D.<sup>TM</sup>*

### 2009 Alpha Design

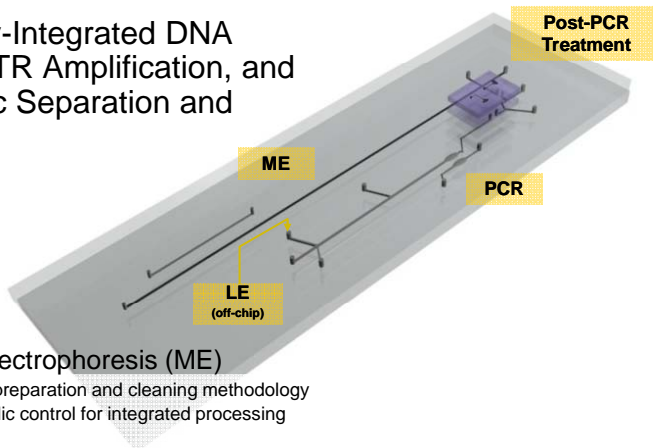


- Wet swab sample to analysis  
In ~ 75 min; partial profile
  - Liquid Extraction
  - PCR
  - Separation & Detection
- Smaller box 24" by 10" by 18"
- More ruggedized design
- Improved valving
- IR light source improvement
- On-box syringe heater
- Analysis software improvements
- Configured for future growth

Lockheed Martin & MicroLab Diagnostics (slide courtesy of Dr. Joan Bienvenue)

## Integrated DNA Analysis


- Microfluidically-Integrated DNA Purification, STR Amplification, and Electrophoretic Separation and Detection




- PCR-Micro Electrophoresis (ME)
  - Modified chip preparation and cleaning methodology
  - Optimized fluidic control for integrated processing

**Forensic Science Service (slide courtesy of Keith Elliott & Dr. Gillian Tully)**

**Primary Aim:**  
Evidential Quality

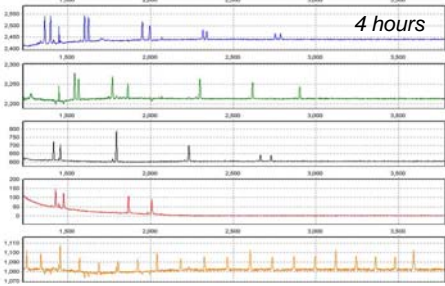





THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE  
PHOENIX

in partnership with  
Arizona State University


- Current status
  - Single sample: reduce error
  - Off chip lysis - flexibility
  - Lysate to profile with no manual intervention
  - Plastic integrated cartridge
  - Integrated transfer to glass CE chip (1.2bp resolution)



4 hours



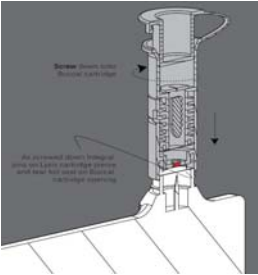
**Forensic Science Service (slide courtesy of Keith Elliott & Dr. Gillian Tully)**




- In development
  - Integration of sample collection cartridge
  - Single pre-loaded plastic cartridge for whole process
  - Fully automated “sample to name” <2h
  - Multiple cartridge loading capability for multiple sample analysis with maximum flexibility

THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA  
COLLEGE OF MEDICINE  
PHOENIX

in partnership with  
Arizona State University





## Benefits of Developing Integrated Devices

### Potential

- Pushing technology and reagent development forward
  - Faster methods of DNA extraction
  - Faster PCR cycling protocols, optimized STR kits
  - Alternative chip electrophoresis, faster separations
- Advances can be applied to benefit DNA typing performed in a lab setting
  - after proper validation studies


## Benefits of Developing Integrated Devices

- Functional prototypes should be available for testing in the next 12-18 months
- 3-4 year horizon until concordance testing and validation
- The use of rapid DNA testing as a biometric would have an impact in various areas:
  - field testing, reference samples, rapid intelligence, mass fatalities, kinship determination, airport and border security, immigration, booking stations
  - other identification needs e.g., bioagent/pathogen detection, clinical diagnostics

## Resources & Websites

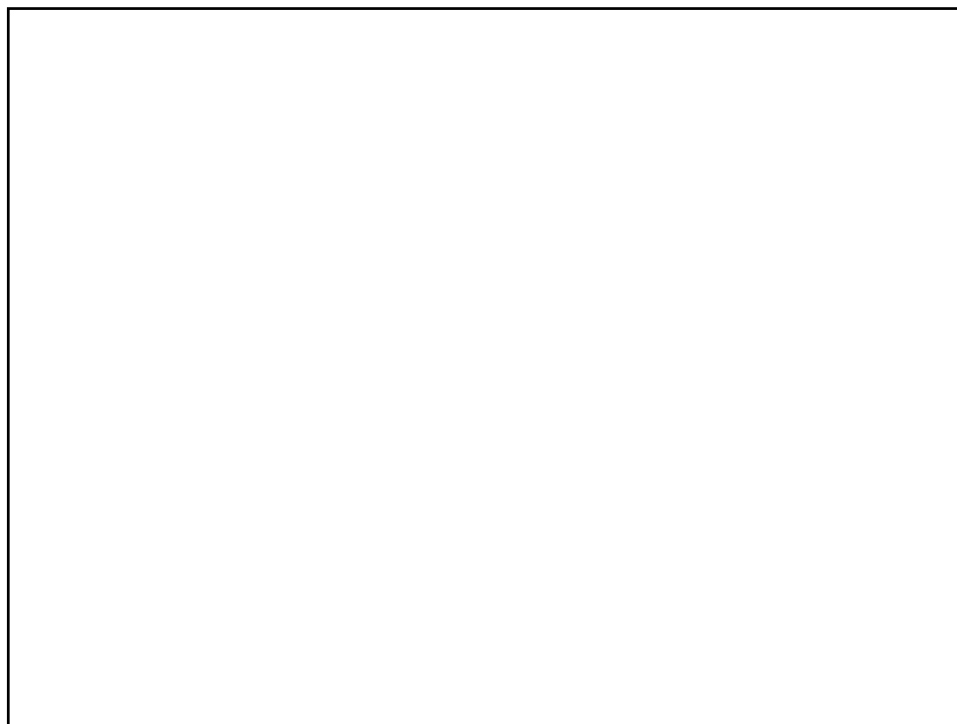
- FBI Biometric Center of Excellence
  - <http://www.biometriccoe.gov>
- Biometric Consortium
  - <http://www.biometrics.org/>
- Biometrics.gov
  - <http://www.biometrics.gov/default.aspx>
- IEEE Biometrics Council
  - <http://ieee-biometrics.org/>
- Biometrics Task Force
  - <http://www.biometrics.dod.mil/>

## Acknowledgements

- Erica Butts (NIST)
- Dr. Kristen Lewis (NIST) 
- Helen Franklin (Microchip Biotechnologies)
- Dr. Eugene Tan (Network Biosystems)
- Dr. Joan Bienvenue (Lockheed Martin)
- Dr. Gillian Tully, Keith Elliott and Dr. Andrew Hopwood (FSS)
- FBI for funding ([Evaluation of DNA as a Biometric](#))

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

peter.vallone@nist.gov



# Rapid PCR

## Applications

- Faster sample-to-answer
- Increase throughput
- Integrated platforms for forensics and biometrics
- Single source reference samples = 1ng of DNA

Develop a PCR protocol for typing the Applied Biosystems Identifiler STR kit in less than 1 hour

## Initial Questions

- Robustness
  - Sensitivity
  - PCR artifacts
  - Locus-to-locus balance
- 
- Validation
  - Mixtures
  - PCR Inhibitors

# Common Thermal Cycling

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

## DNA Polymerases

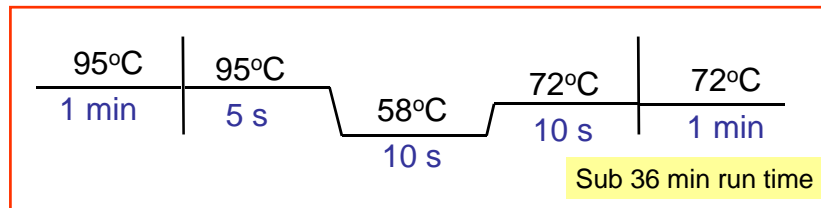
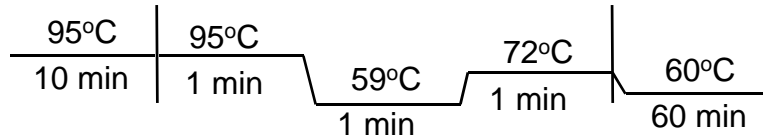
- AmpliTaq Gold® is typically used
  - Heat activated (avoid non-specific PCR products)
- Fermentas PyroStart Master Mix
- SpeedStart Qiagen
  - Extends QIAGEN Fast Cycling PCR Kit (comp New England Biolabs/Finnzymes ses)
  - Still used Phusion DNA Polymerases
  - Hot-start formulation is antibody mediated

## Thermal Cyclers

1. GeneAmp 9700 (Applied Biosystems)
  2. Mastercycler Pro S (Eppendorf)
    - Peltier based
  3. Rotor-Gene Q (Qiagen)
    - Air heated and cooled Intended for real-time PCR
  4. SmartCycler (Cepheid)
    - Hot plates for heating, fans for cooling
- 
- Cycling for most STR kits is run in '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

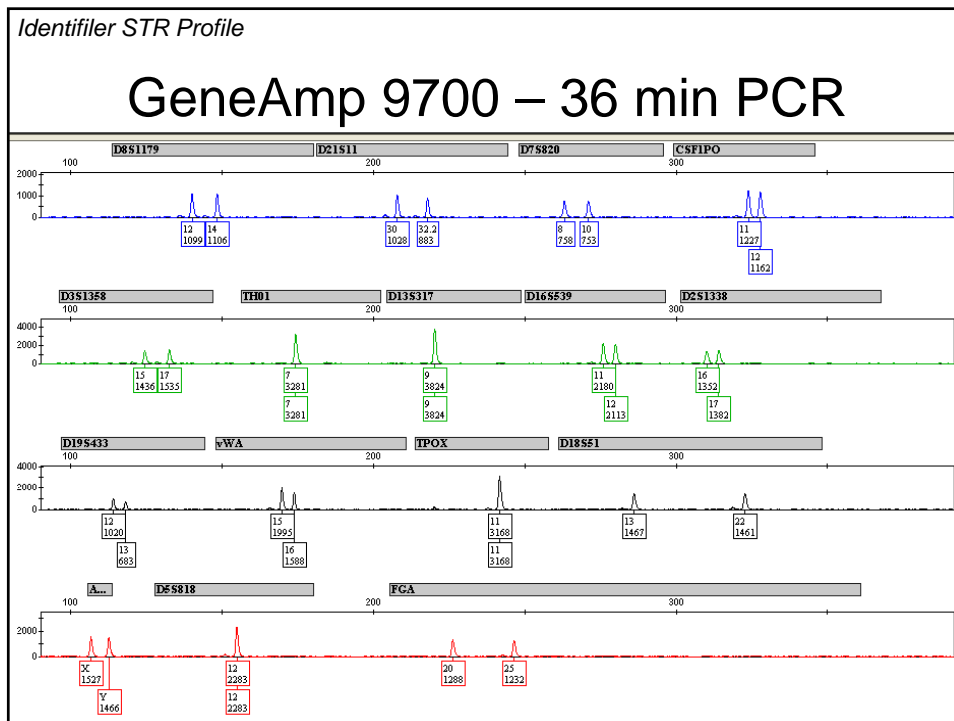
- 1 X Takara PCR mastermix, 1 U SpeedStar polymerase
    - *Premix Ex Taq*<sup>™</sup> (Perfect Real Time)
  - 10 µL total reaction in a thin walled tube (8-strip)
  - 2 µL of Identifiler PCR primer mix
  - ~1 ng of template DNA
- 
- Utilize maximum ramp rate on thermal cyclers
    - GeneAmp 9700 = 1.6°C/s (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)

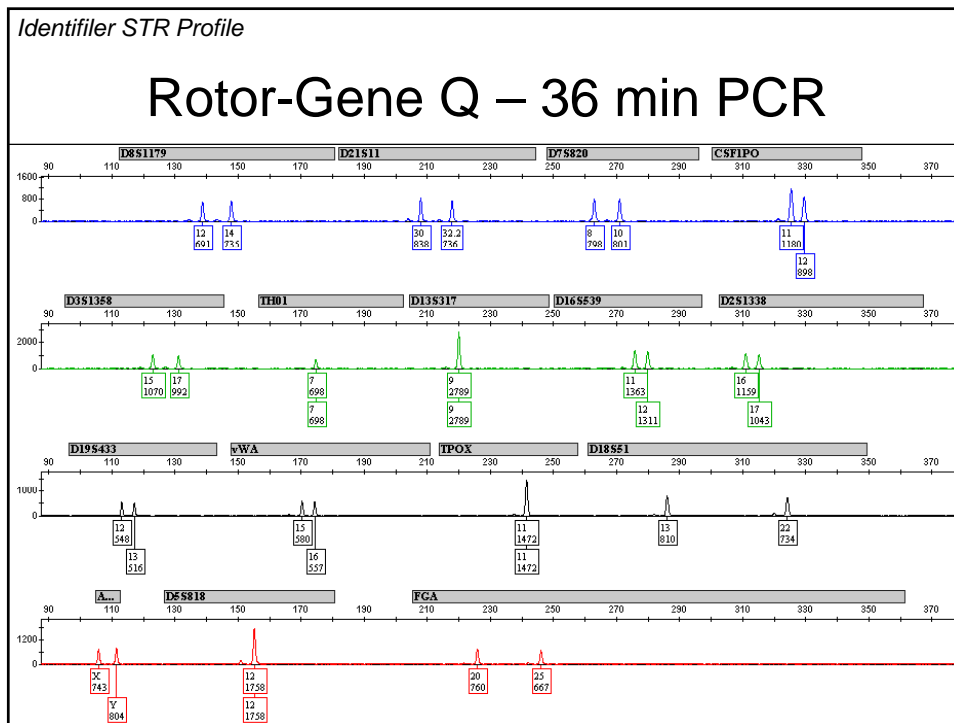
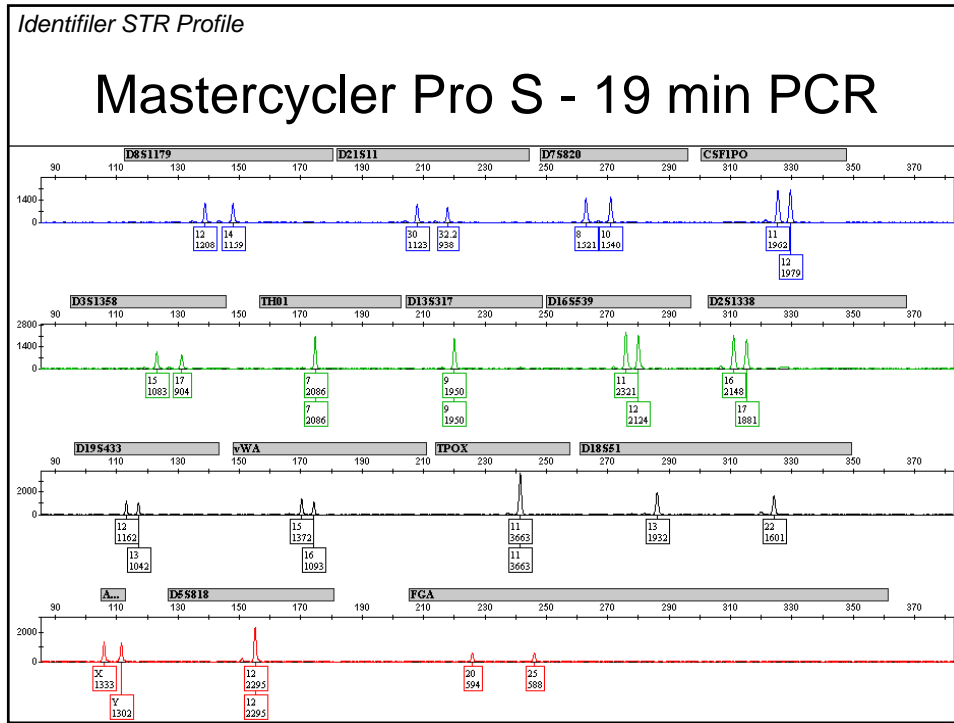


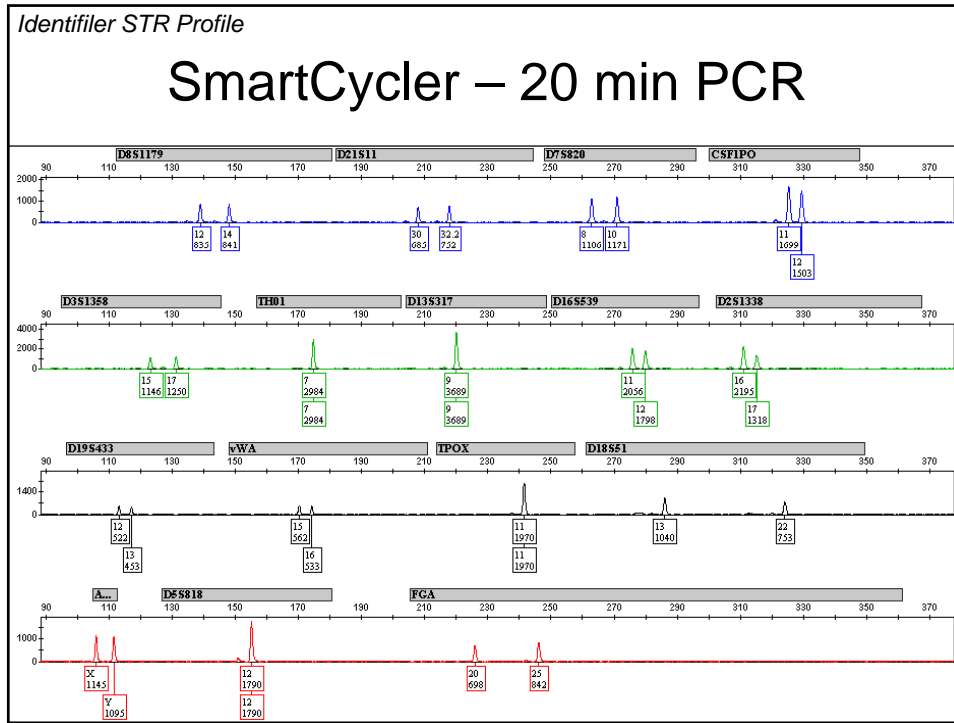
## Experimental Design

- Type a set of NIST population samples (n=95)
- Evaluate
  - Full profiles (% success and concordance)
  - Identify artifacts of rapid PCR (adenylation, other)
  - Heterozygote peak height balance
  - Stutter %
  - Signal balance (locus-to-locus) and intensity
  - **Sensitivity**
- Not inhibitors or mixtures

Separated on a 3130xl  
 Injection = 3kV for 5 s  
 Allele calling threshold = 50 RFUs

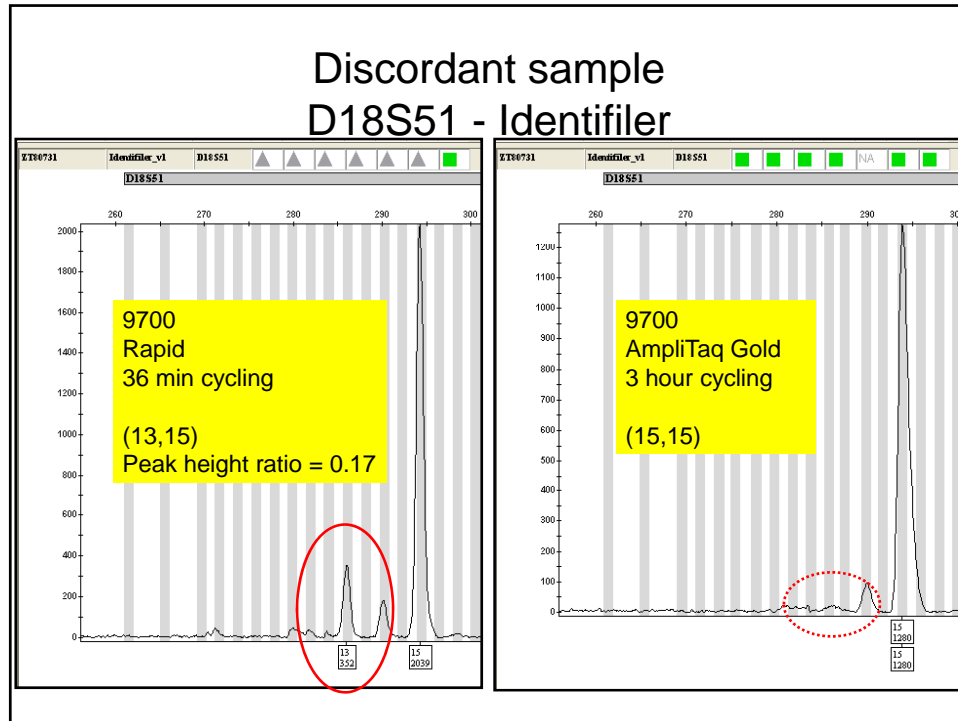






## Summary of Initial Results

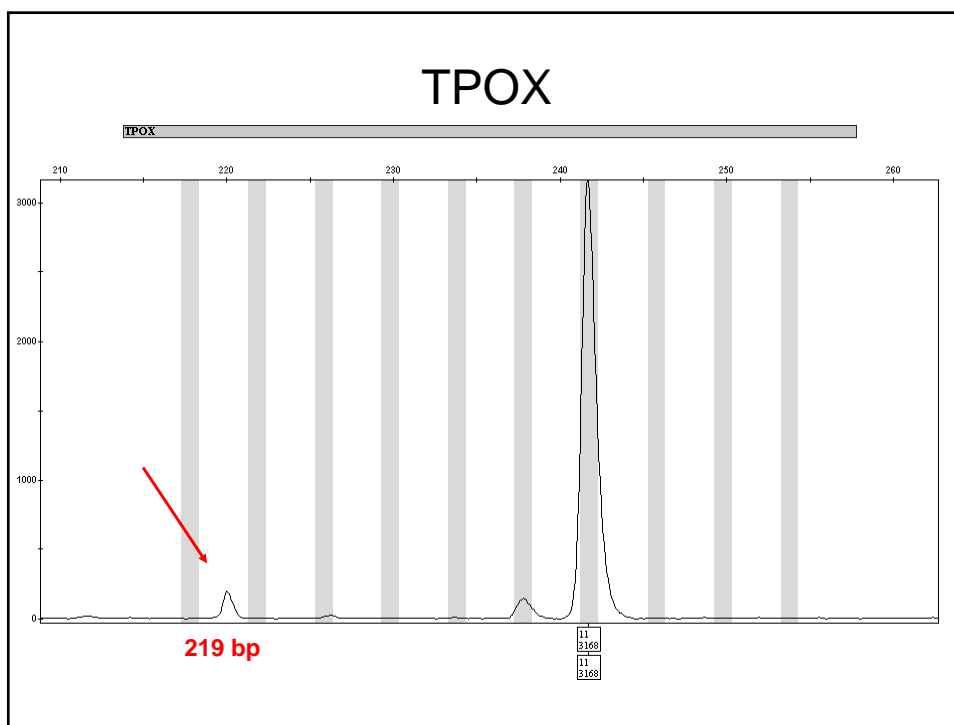
- All 95 samples were successfully typed on each thermal cycler using the rapid PCR protocol
- One sample gave a discordant genotype

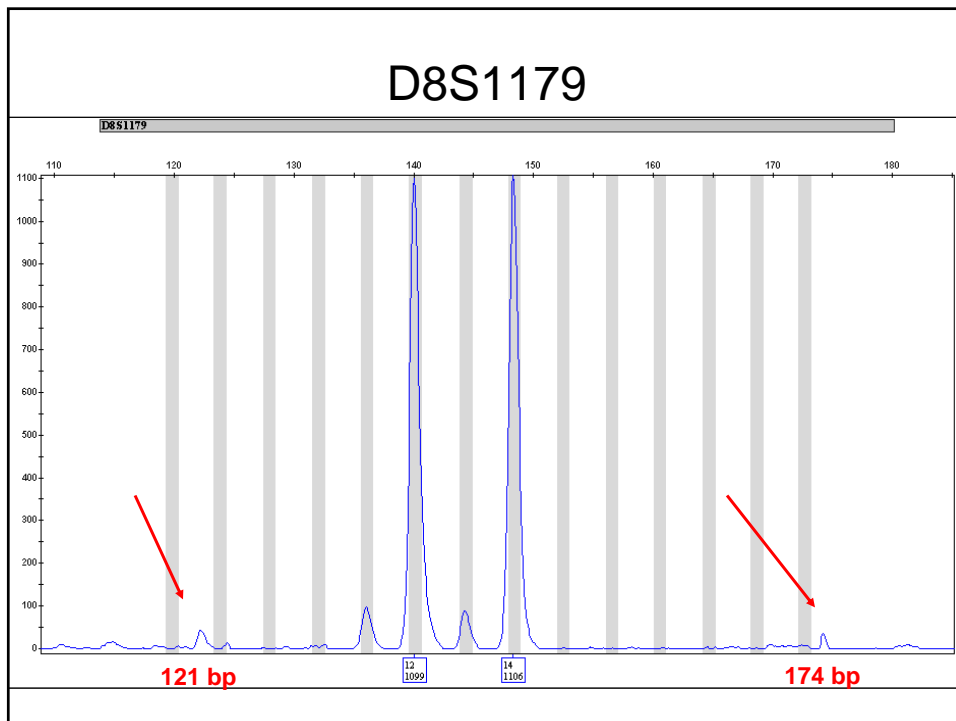
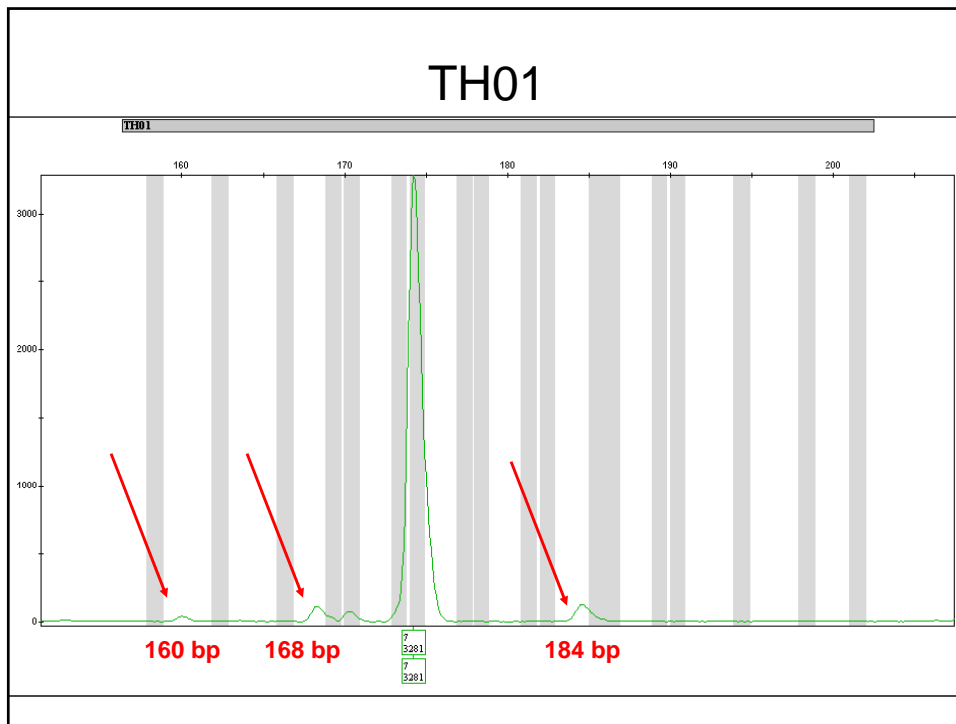


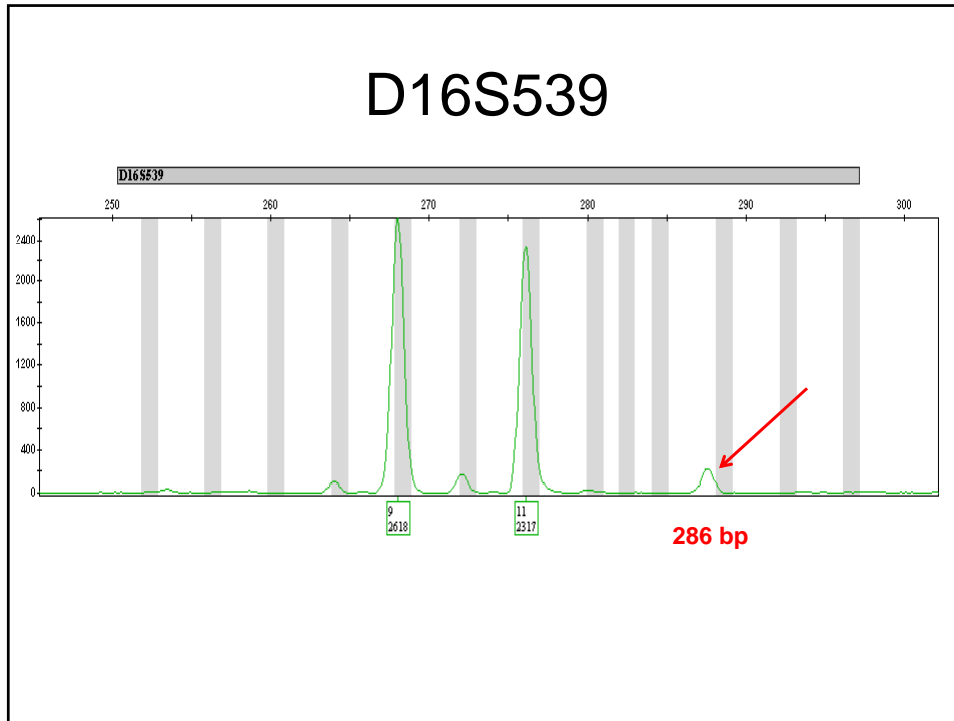
## Discordant sample

- Amplification with PowerPlex 16 indicated a (13,15) genotype
- A SNP under the binding site an Identifiler PCR primer results in the null allele\*  
Hill et al., (2007) J. Forensic Sci. 52: 870-873
- Still present with a 59°C annealing temperature
  - But with lower signal intensity

# Rapid PCR Artifacts







## Summary of PCR Artifacts

N = 95

Number of times an artifact was observed

PCR Artifacts Observed	9700	Smart Cyclor	Master Cyclor Pro	Rotor-Gene
D16S539 (287 bp)	35	4	1	6
D8S1179 (121 bp)	6	0	1	3
D8S1179 (174 bp)	14	10	1	7
TH01 (160 bp)	28	2	1	11
TH01 (168 bp)	83	32	1	40
TH01 (184 bp)	59	19	0	25
TPOX (219 bp)	77	13	2	22

*Artifacts only called above 50 RFUs*

PCR artifacts **did not affect allele calls** (not in bins) and exhibited signal intensities similar to stutter peaks

Artifact signal intensities varied based on cyclor

## Heterozygote peak height ratios

n = 95	D8S1179	D21S11	D7S820	CSF1PO	D3S1358	TH01	D13S317	D16S539	D251338	D19S433	vWA	TPOX	D18S51	AMEL	D5S818	FGA
9700	0.89	0.91	0.90	0.89	0.90	0.90	0.89	0.91	0.88	0.88	0.89	0.90	0.91	0.92	0.90	0.89
SmartCycler	0.90	0.88	0.89	0.87	0.88	0.89	0.88	0.89	0.88	0.89	0.87	0.90	0.86	0.90	0.88	0.89
Mastercycler pro	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.89	0.90	0.90	0.87	0.89	0.88	0.90	0.89	0.89	0.88	0.93	0.90	0.89
Rotor-Gene Q	0.88	0.85	0.86	0.88	0.88	0.90	0.86	0.88	0.88	0.88	0.87	0.89	0.86	0.90	0.88	0.89
9700 Taq Gold	0.87	0.89	0.88	0.84	0.84	0.88	0.83	0.88	0.84	0.87	0.86	0.88	0.84	0.88	0.88	0.86
SD <0.1																

- Average PHR for rapid PCR conditions > 0.85
- Standard deviation per locus < 0.1 (n=95)
- 1 ng of DNA amplified with the rapid PCR protocols exhibited heterozygote peak height balance comparable to traditional kit cycling conditions

## Stutter Intensity

N > 80 for all points

Locus	9700 Taq		9700		SmartCy		MasterC		Rotor-G	
	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD	Mean	SD
CSF1PO	3.9	1.8	7.4	4.3	6.8	2.6	7.5	3.3	6.7	2.5
D13S317	4.1	2.7	7.7	5.7	6.7	4.3	7.5	4.2	6.9	5.0
D16S539	4.2	2.2	7.7	3.3	7.7	2.6	8.0	2.3	7.5	3.7
D18S51	7.8	2.7	11.8	5.9	10.6	4.2	12.6	5.5	10.9	4.4
D19S433	7.2	2.4	10.4	3.9	9.6	2.4	10.0	2.5	11.3	4.1
D21S11	5.3	1.5	9.2	1.9	9.6	2.4	10.1	1.9	9.7	2.6
D2S1338	6.1	1.9	12.0	2.8	12.3	3.2	12.7	3.1	12.4	3.2
D3S1358	7.6	4.1	11.7	4.7	10.4	2.3	11.4	3.1	10.4	2.4
D5S818	4.8	3.6	8.8	4.7	8.0	2.6	9.1	3.8	8.3	2.9
D7S820	3.7	1.3	5.9	2.6	5.9	2.0	6.5	2.2	5.8	2.0
D8S1179	5.7	3.6	9.3	4.4	8.5	2.5	8.9	2.2	8.6	2.8
FGA	7.0	3.7	9.9	4.6	10.0	3.8	10.2	3.5	9.6	3.2
TH01	3.0	5.0	5.8	6.5	3.8	3.9	4.8	6.2	5.1	6.6
TPOX	2.6	3.8	4.7	4.1	4.5	3.5	4.1	2.0	4.8	4.0
vWA	6.5	5.0	11.0	4.9	10.5	3.1	10.6	3.6	10.8	4.0

On average, stutter peak intensity for rapid protocol is 30-40 % higher than for PCR standard conditions

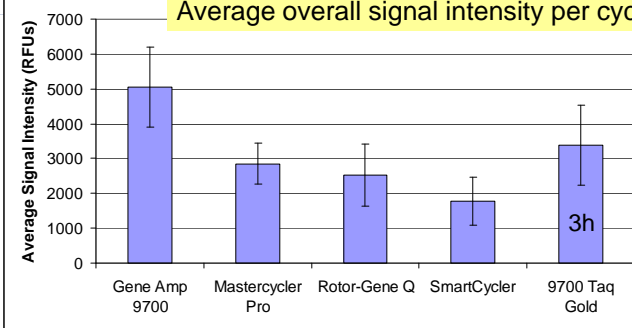


# Signal Intensity

Average signal intensity per locus (RFUs)

	D8S1179	D21S11	D7S820	CSF1PO	D3S1358	TH01	D13S317	D16S539	D2S1338	D19S433	vWA	TPOX	D18S51	AMEL	D5S818	FGA
9700	4289	4322	4068	5395	5243	6348	6541	7582	5896	2923	4042	5324	5209	4812	4723	4069
SmartCycler	1377	1036	1603	2133	1712	2625	2564	2409	2514	976	1175	2304	1888	1756	1530	1040
Mastercycler Pro	2488	2461	2783	3948	2005	2175	2081	4150	4431	2286	2807	3321	3927	3042	2466	1260
Rotor-Gene Q	2292	1751	1845	2458	2564	3568	3476	3520	3486	1503	1939	2885	2476	2358	2608	1775
9700 Taq Gold	3554	2958	1601	1840	3221	5166	3309	3501	3228	4631	5155	4241	1804	4146	3699	1952

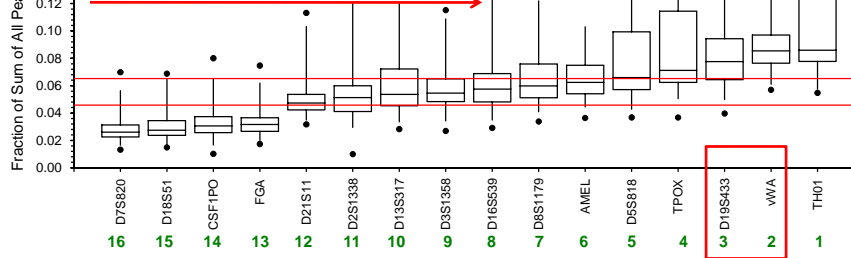
Average overall signal intensity per cyler (RFUs)



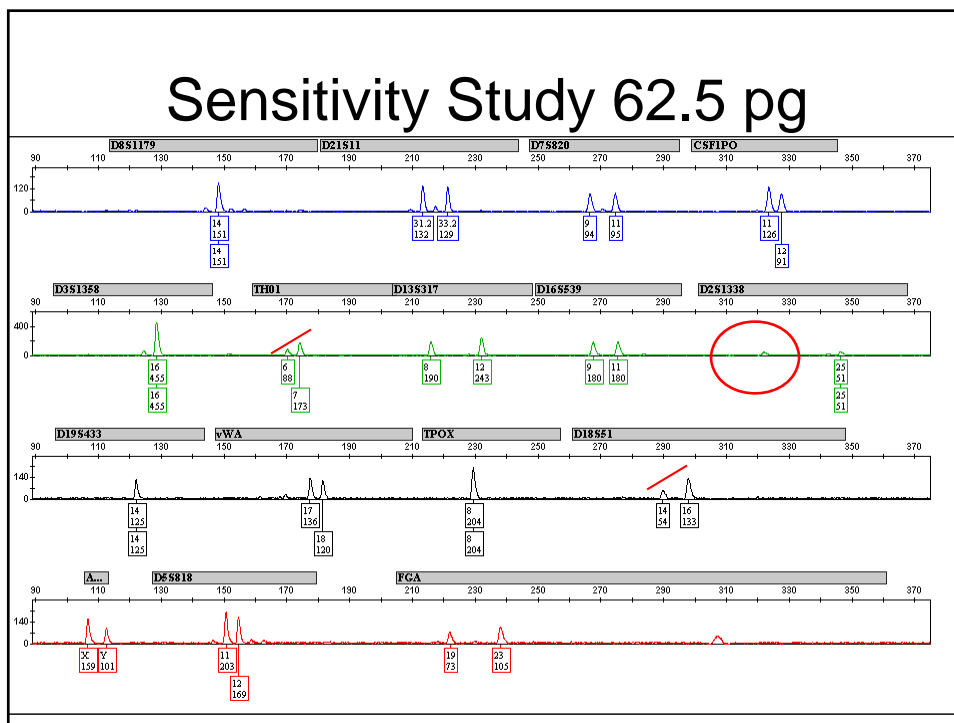
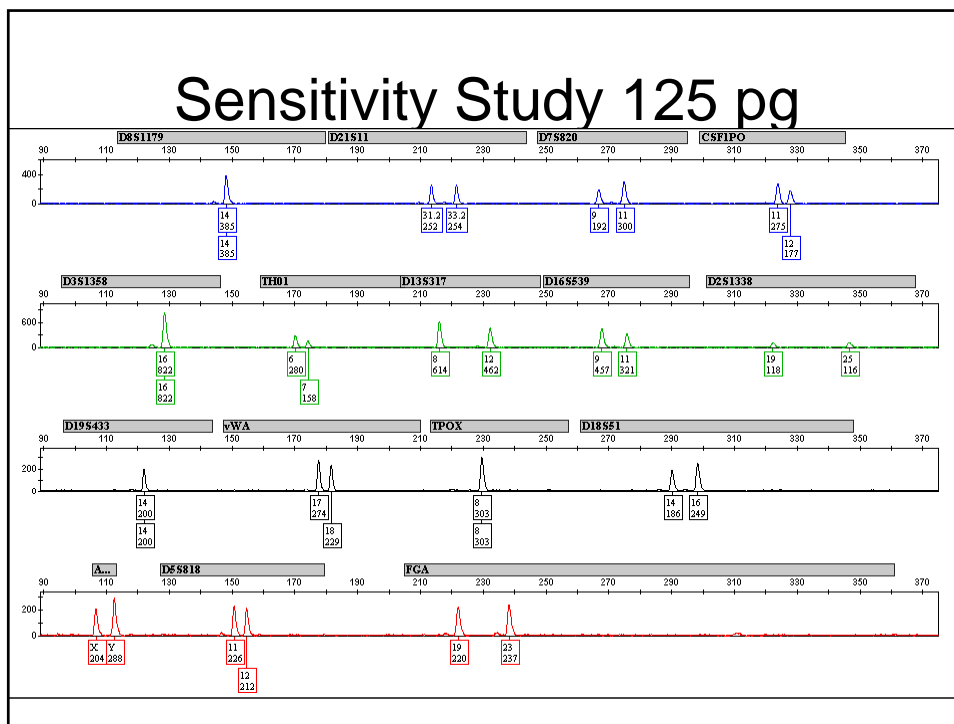
Overall multiplex balance comparable to standard conditions...

Standard PCR Conditions

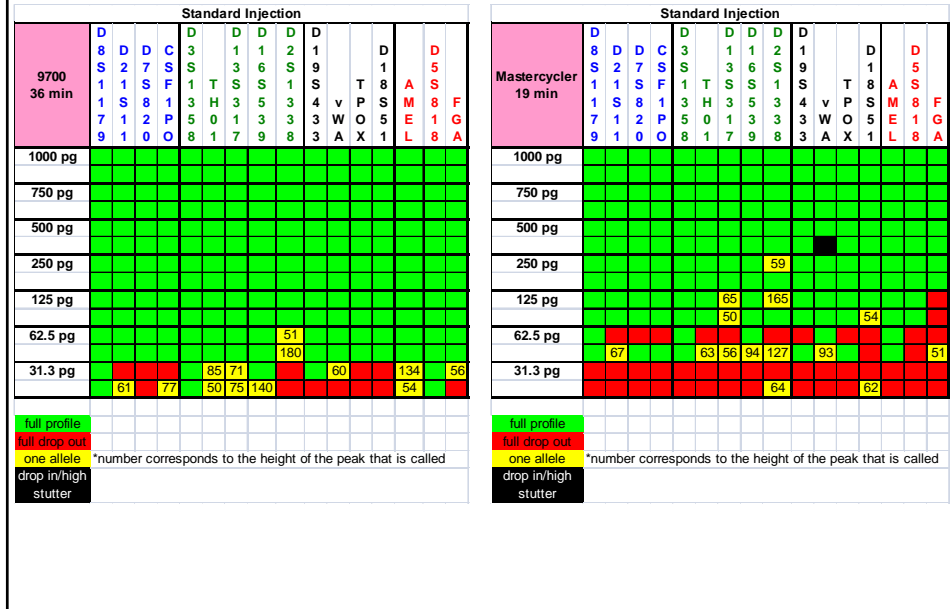
Increasing signal contribution →



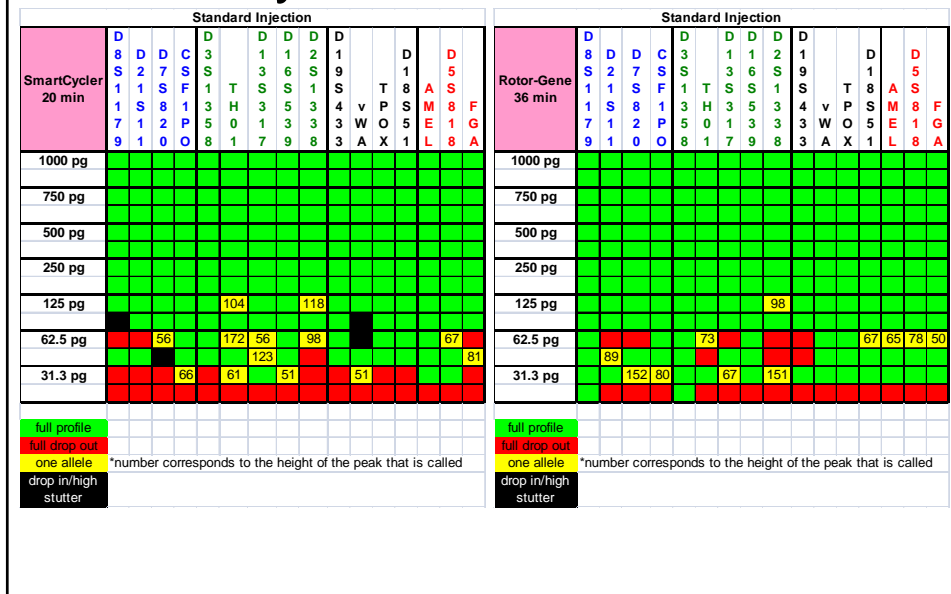




## Peltier Cyclers: 9700 and Mastercycler Pro S



## SmartCycler and Rotor-Gene Q



## Changing Volumes and Cycling Times

- Increasing PCR volume (10  $\mu$ L to 25  $\mu$ L)
  - Slight decrease in signal intensity of PCR artifacts
  - Heterozygote peak height ratios similar
  - No decrease in signal for stutter peaks
  - Decrease in signal intensity (due to higher volume)
- Effects of increasing cycling hold times for the rapid protocol (36 min, 60 min, 3 hour)
  - Signal intensity of PCR artifacts increased
  - Heterozygote peak height ratios similar
  - No decrease in signal for stutter peaks

## Summary of Rapid PCR Protocols

- Rapid PCR protocols can successfully amplify 15 STR loci in 19 to 36 minutes
  - Utility for reference samples, integrated typing systems
- PCR artifacts did **not** affect allele calls
- Stutter is 30-40% greater
  - Test different 'fast' polymerases
  - High stutter may affect DNA mixture interpretation
- Sensitivity varies by cycler (250 - 500 pg)
- Thermal cycler characteristics affect the quality of an STR profile (faster = fewer artifacts, less signal)

## Acknowledgements



Erica Butts



John  
Butler



Dave  
Duewer



Becky  
Hill



Kristen  
O'Connor

*NRC  
Postdoctoral fellow*

### DNA Biometrics Project Team

Funding from the FBI S&T Branch through the NIST Information Access Division

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

[peter.vallone@nist.gov](mailto:peter.vallone@nist.gov)

1-301-975-4872