



Development of Multiplexed Assays for Evaluating SNP and STR Forensic Markers

The George Washington University
Department of Biological Sciences

February 28th 2003

Peter M. Vallone
National Institute of Standards and Technology



National Institute of Standards and Technology
...working with industry to develop and apply technology, measurements and standards

Chemical Science & Technology Laboratory

Providing the chemical measurement infrastructure to enhance U.S. industry's productivity and competitiveness; assure equity in trade; and improve public health, safety, and environmental quality.

Chemical Science & Technology Laboratory Biotechnology Division

... provides the measurements, standards, and data needed for advancing the commercialization of biotechnology

Research Groups Web Resources Workshops Technical Reports Staff Links

DNA Technologies Group (4 projects)

Human Identity Project (funded by NIST and NIJ)

Role of NIST in Forensic DNA Typing

- Develop new DNA tests which are more rapid and efficient than those currently used.
 - Evaluation and development of new technologies.
-
- Develop DNA standards so that laboratories around the world may compare their results.
 - Conduct tests of laboratories around the world to insure accurate results in DNA testing.
 - Create useful information databases (STRBase)
<http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase>.

What Type of Genetic Variation?

• Length Variation

short tandem repeats (STRs)

CTAGTCGT**(GATA)(GATA)(GATA)**GCGATCGT

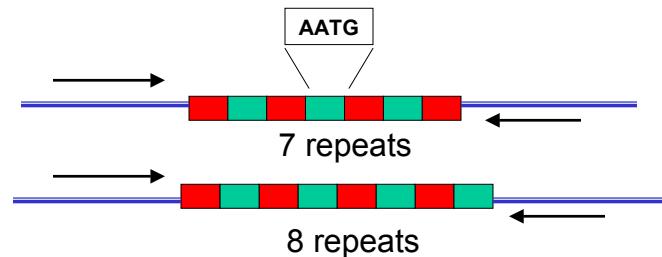
• Sequence Variation

single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs)

insertions/deletions

GCTAGTCGATGCTC**(G/A)**GCGTATGCTGTAGC

Short Tandem Repeats (STRs)

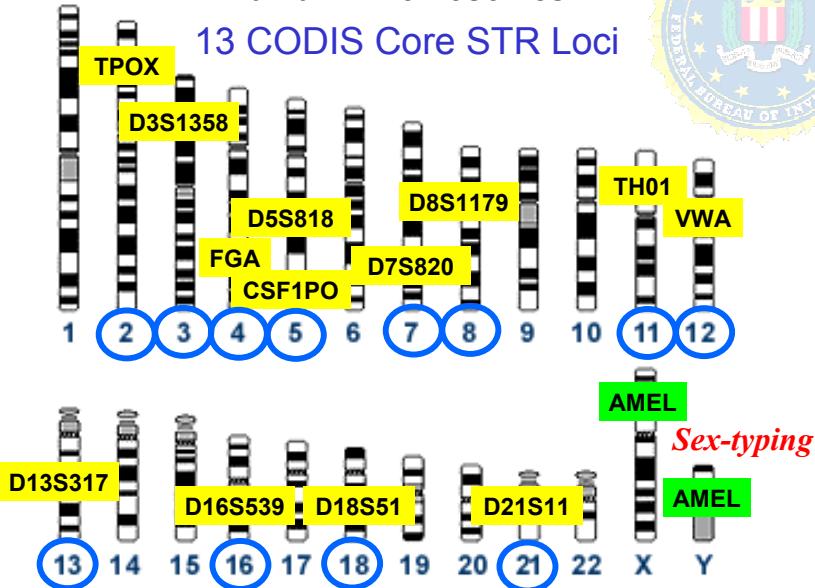


the repeat region is variable between samples while the flanking regions where PCR primers bind are constant

Homozygote = both alleles are the same length

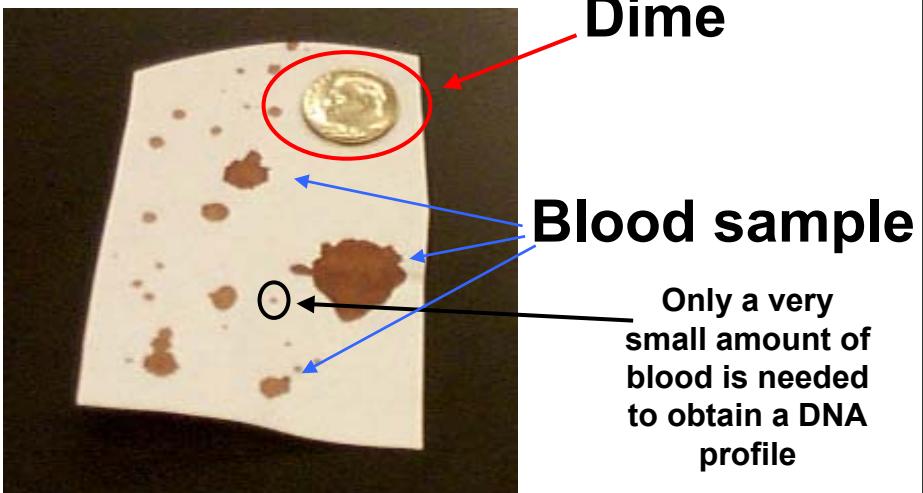
Heterozygote = alleles differ and can be resolved from one another

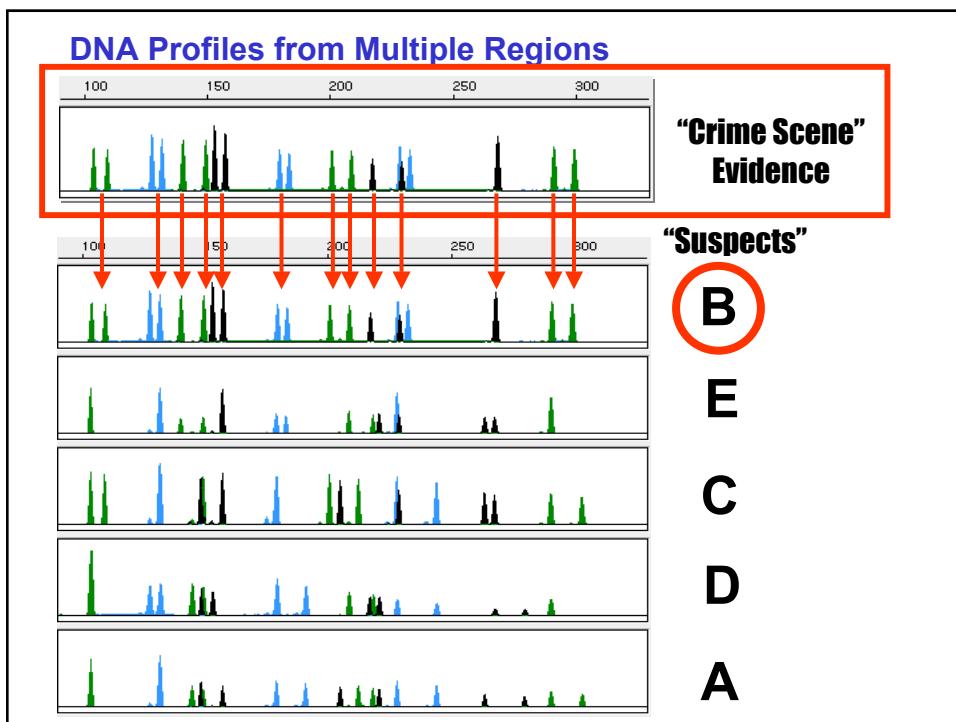
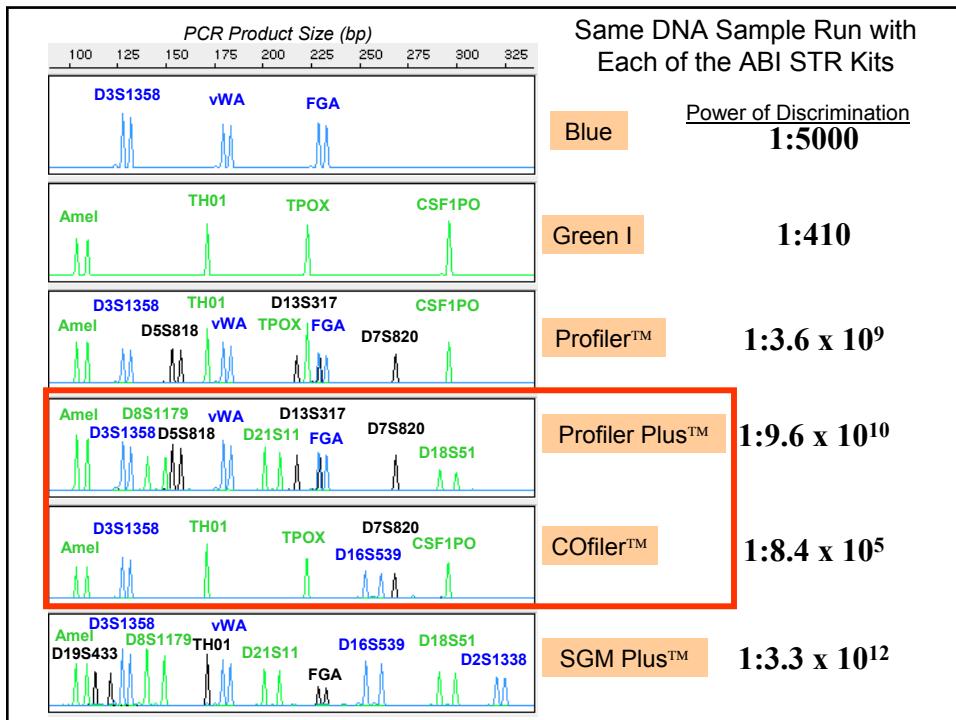
Position of Forensic STR Markers on Human Chromosomes

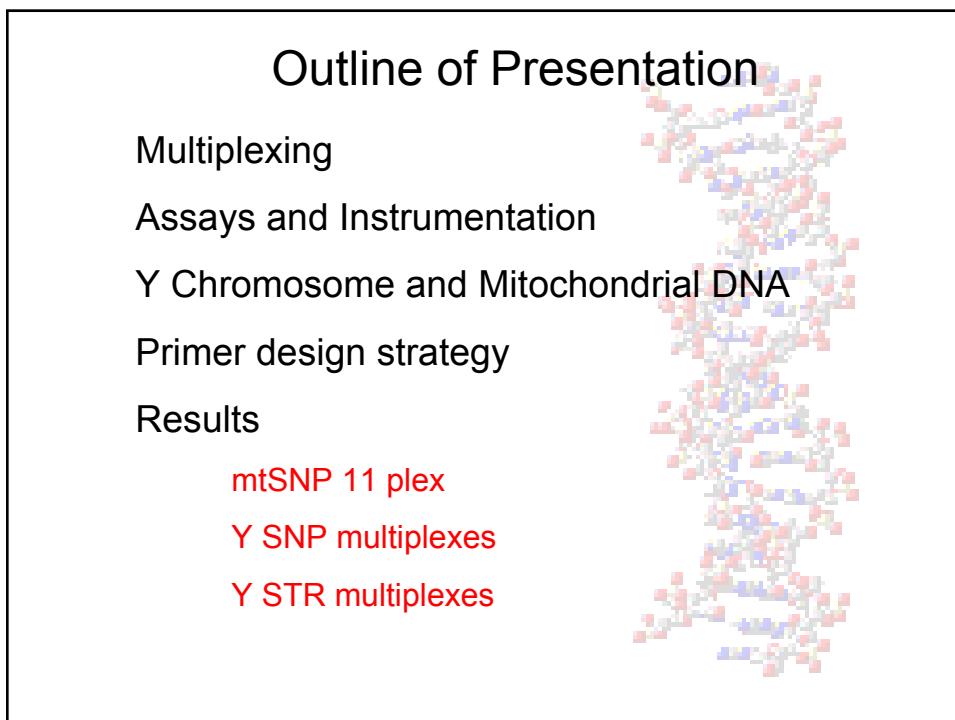
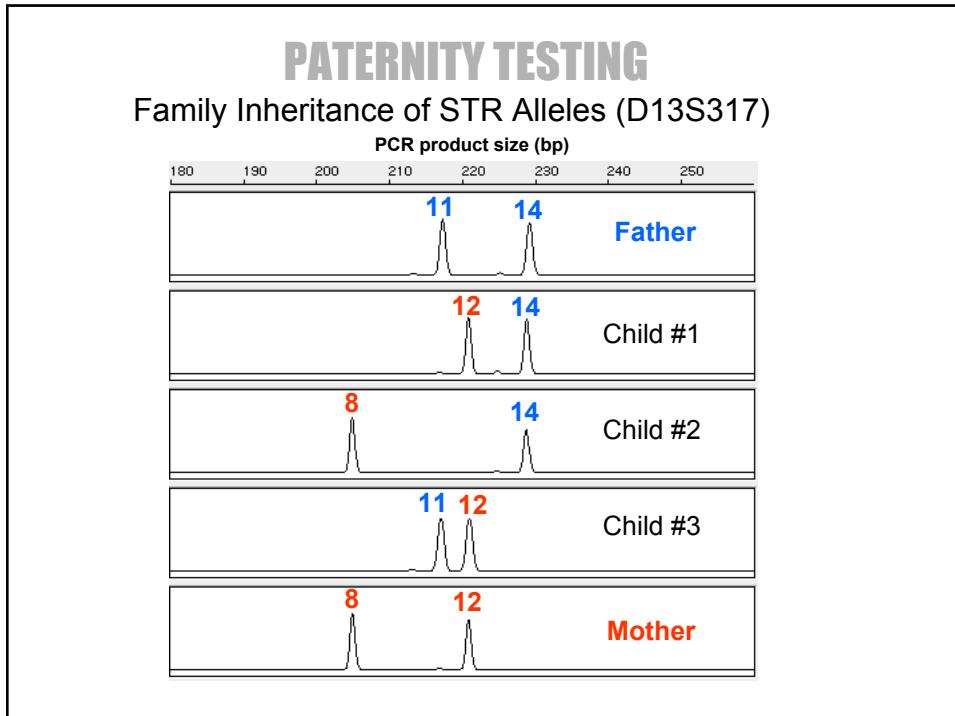


Sources of Biological Evidence

- Blood
- Semen
- Saliva
- Urine
- Hair
- Teeth
- Bone
- Tissue







What are the Advantages of Multiplexing?

- Obtain more information per unit time
- Reduce the amount of limited forensic sample used
- Save on reagents; enzyme, buffers, DNA oligomers
- Reduces labor
- Streamlines data analysis
- For certain markers it is essential (SNPs, YSTRs)
- Coincides with high capacity instrumentation

What are the Challenges of Multiplexing?

- Only guidelines exist for designing multiplexes
- More markers = increased complexity
- Testing a robust multiplex
- Inclusion of useful markers in the multiplex
- Managing the volume of information obtained

What Assays are we Multiplexing?

Polymerase chain reaction (PCR)

Amplification of specific region of the human genome

Typically used for STRs

Use **Capillary Electrophoresis** for detection

Primer Extension reaction (minisequencing)

Typically used for SNP markers

Use **Capillary Electrophoresis** and

Mass Spectrometry for detection

Multiplexing

Assays and Instrumentation

Y Chromosome and Mitochondrial DNA

Primer design strategy

Results

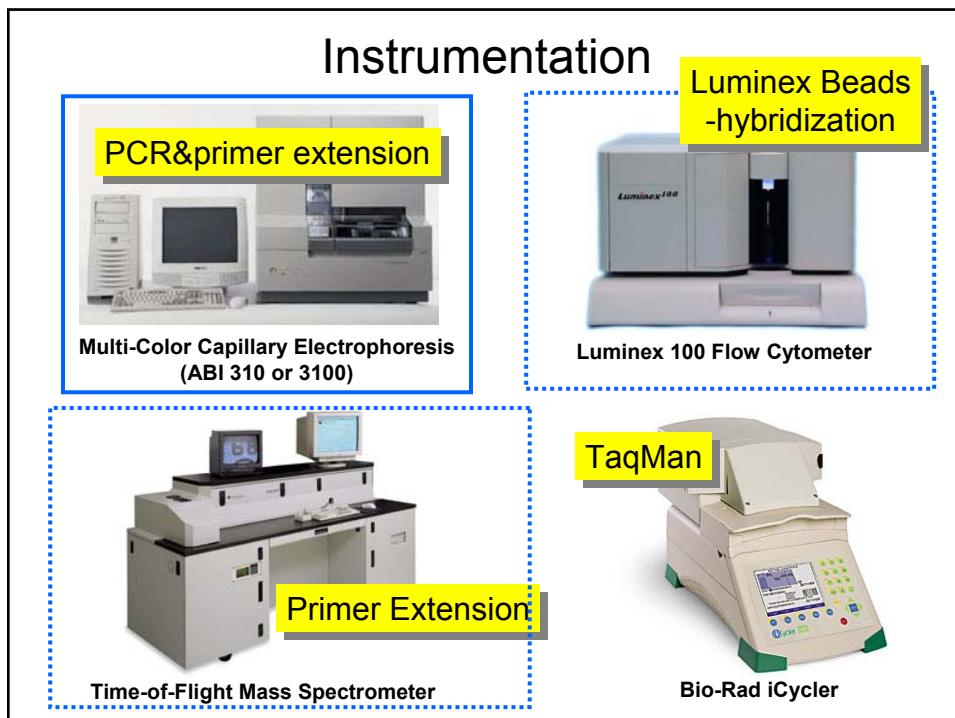
mtSNP 11 plex

Y SNP multiplexes

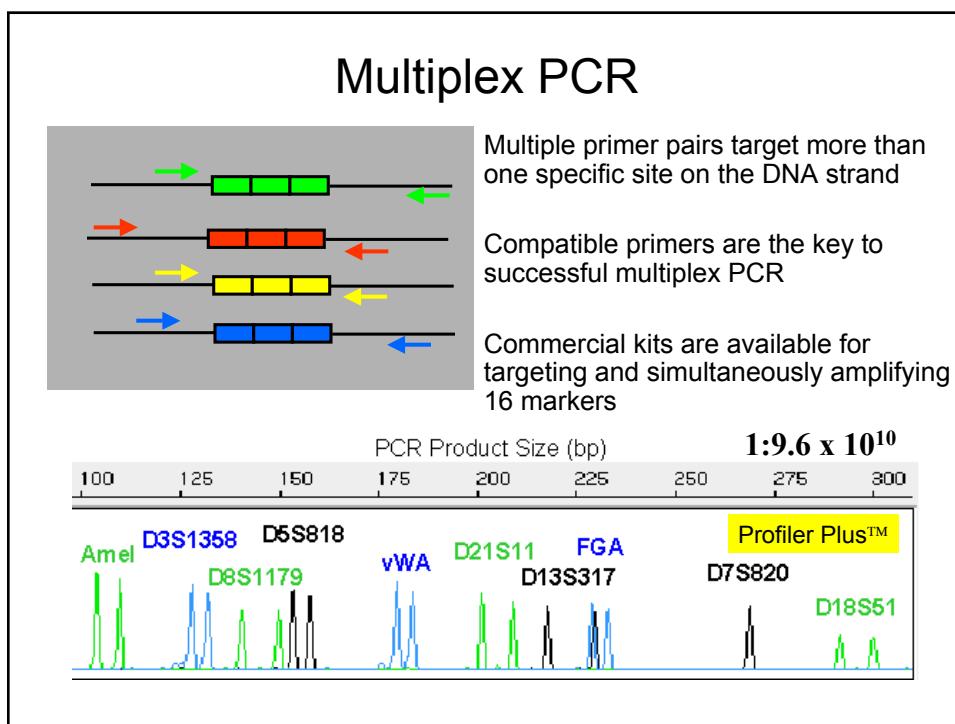
Y STR multiplexes



Instrumentation

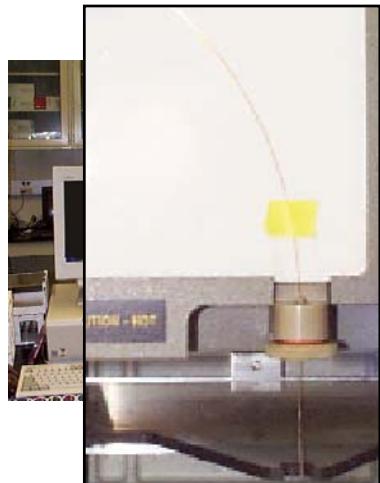


Multiplex PCR

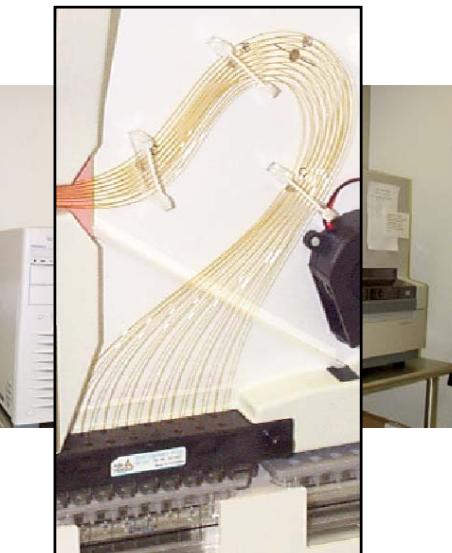


Capillary Electrophoresis Instrumentation

ABI 310
single capillary



ABI 3100
16-capillary array



Primer Extension Reaction Using the ABI PRISM® SNaPshot™ Multiplex System

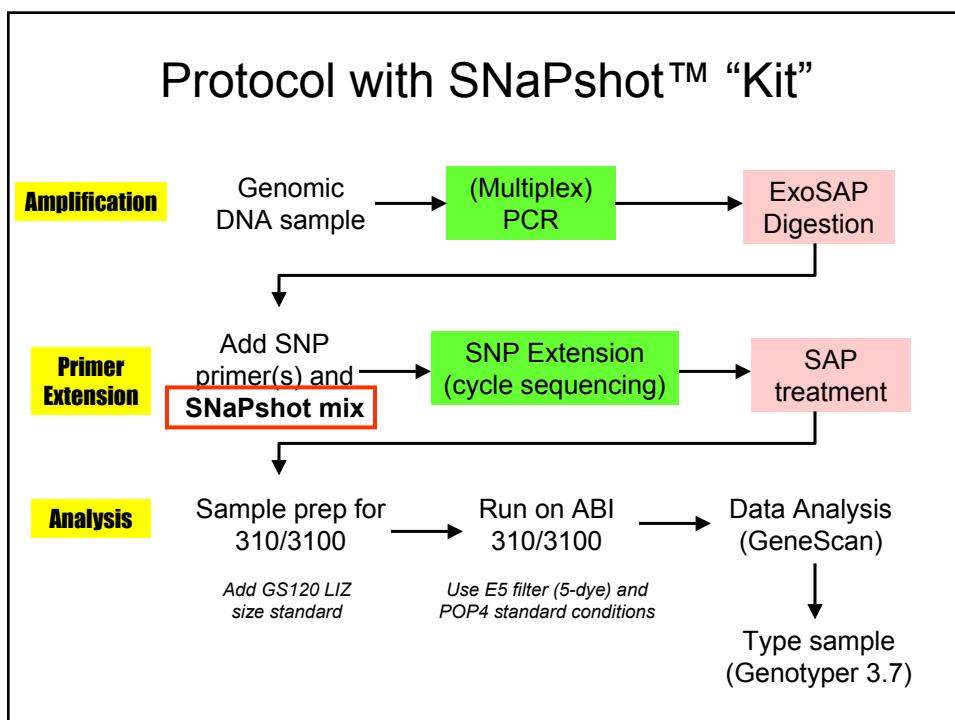
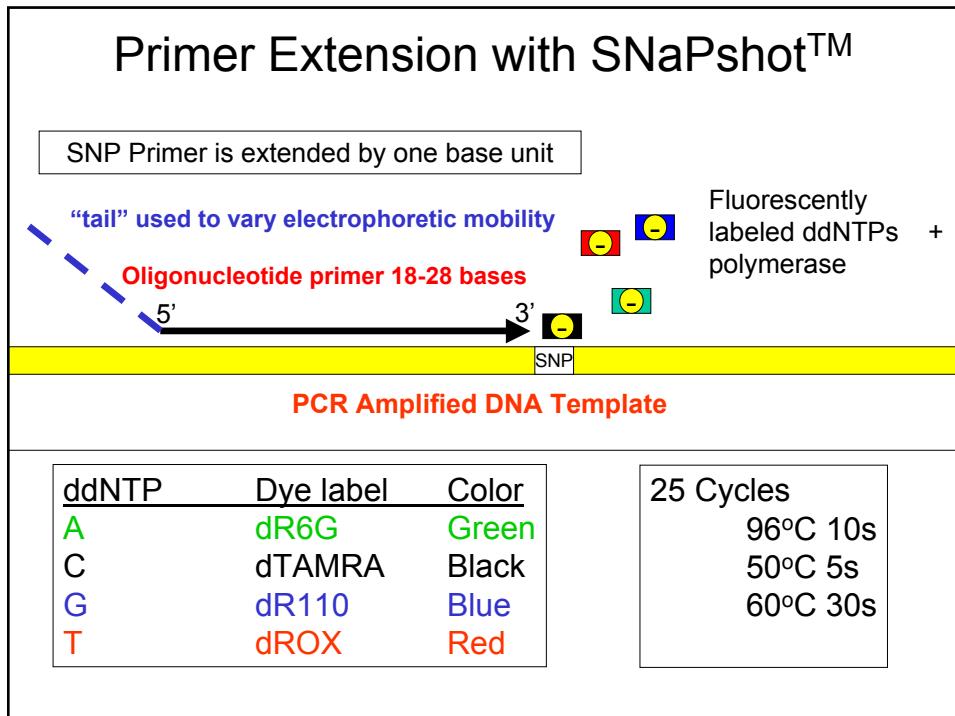
Primer extension assay that utilizes
fluorescently labeled ddNTPs



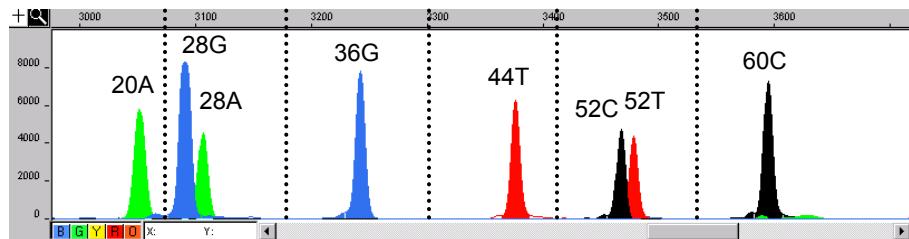
Analysis of fragment size and fluorescent
label identity by CE allows typing of multiple
SNPs

Multiplexed amplicons or pooled singleplex
PCR amplicons can be used as templates

Primer design must be done by user!



Detection of SNPs with ABI 310/3100



SNaPshot™ CEPH Control Reaction

20 nucleotides ddA

36 nucleotides ddG

Multiplexing possible by use
of different length primers

44 nucleotides ddT

60 nucleotides

Poly(T) tail or non-nucleotide linker
to aid separation

ddC

Priming site

Primer Extension for MALDI TOF MS Analysis

SNP Primer is extended by one base unit

Oligonucleotide primer 18-28 bases



Natural non-labeled
ddNTPs +
polymerase

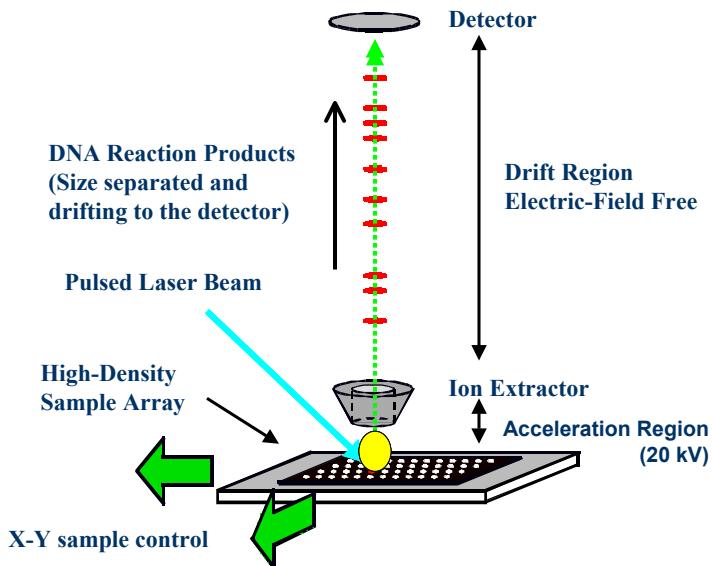
PCR Amplified DNA Template

ddNTP	Mass (Da)
A	297
C	273
G	313
T	288

40 Cycles
96°C 10s
50°C 20s
72°C 30s

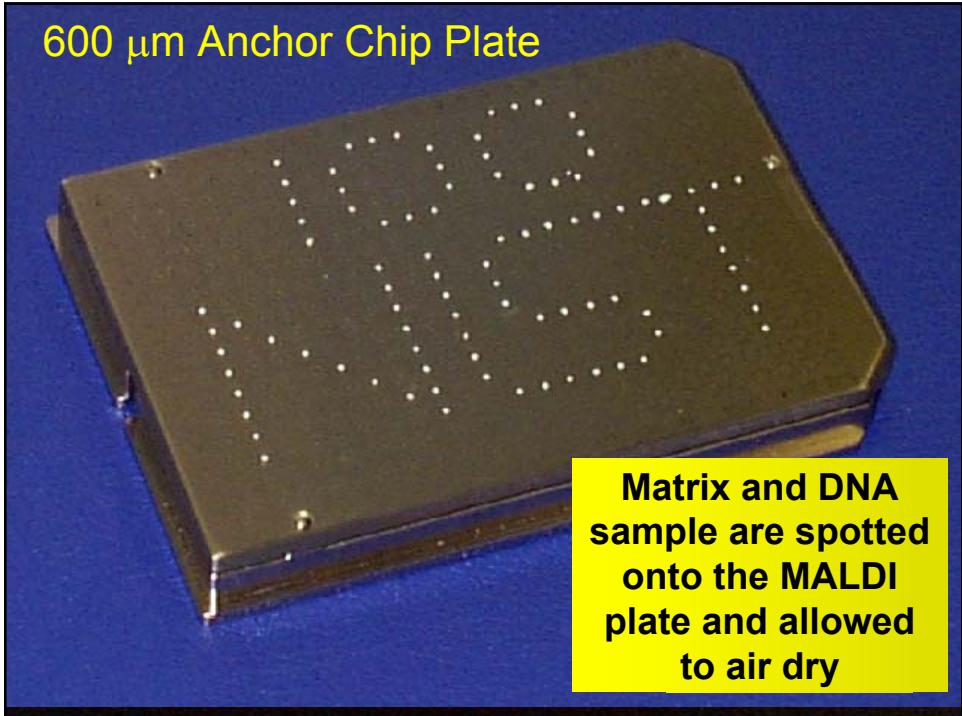
Mass difference
between SNP primer
and single base
extension product
provides genotype

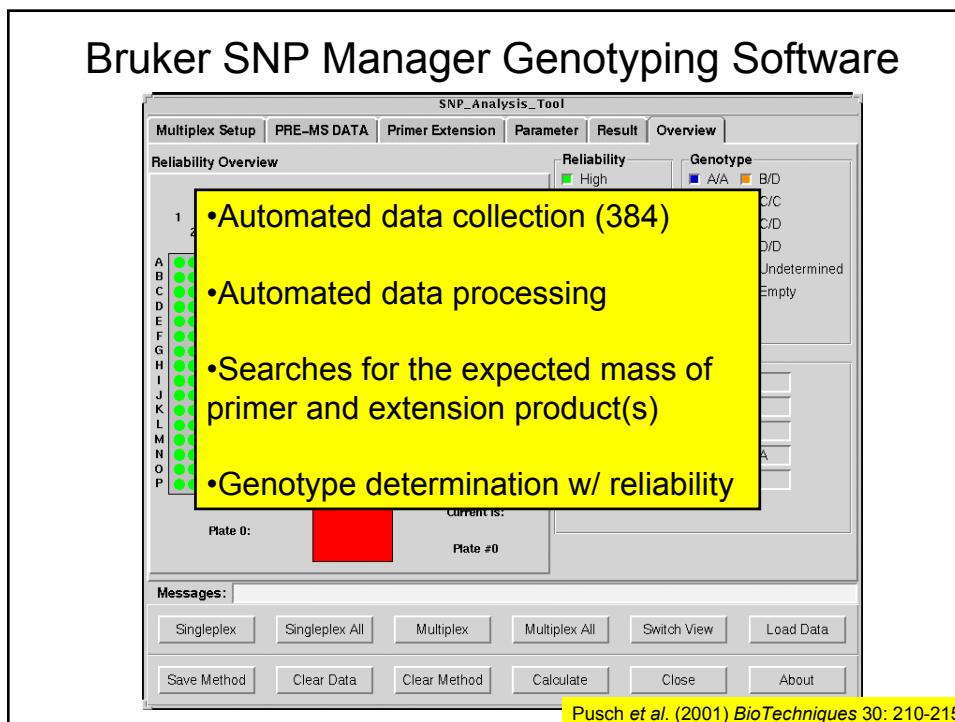
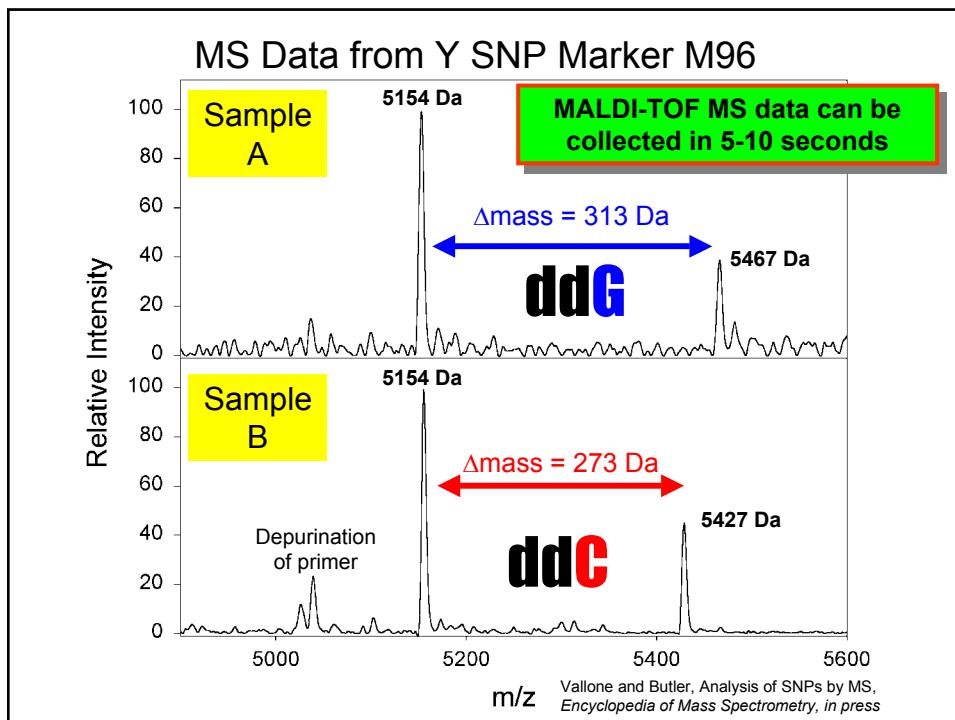
Time-of-Flight Mass Spectrometry (TOF-MS)

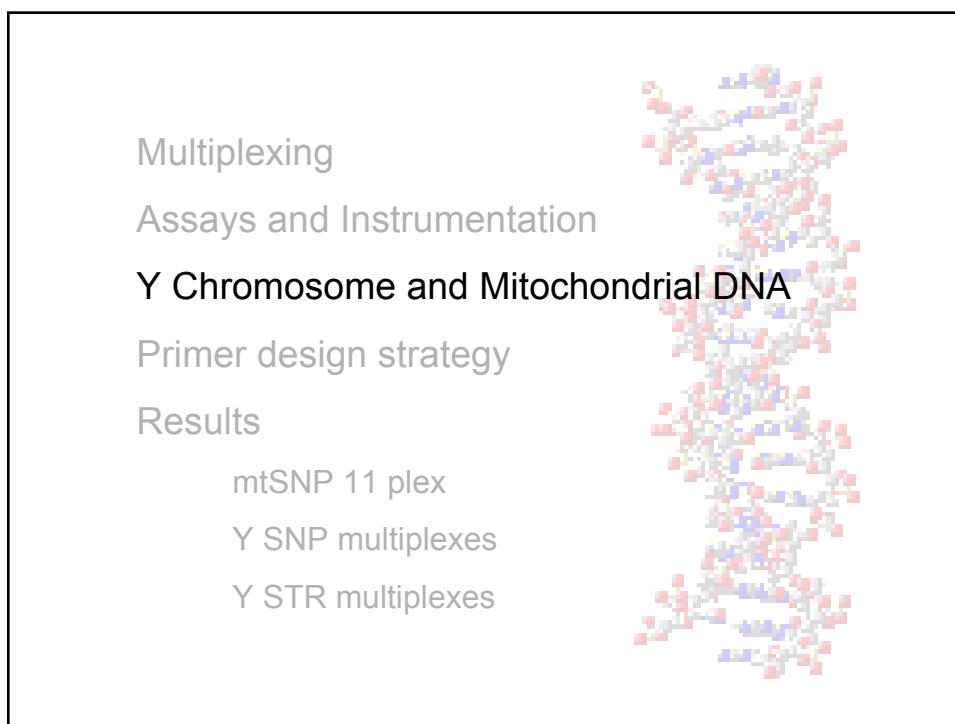
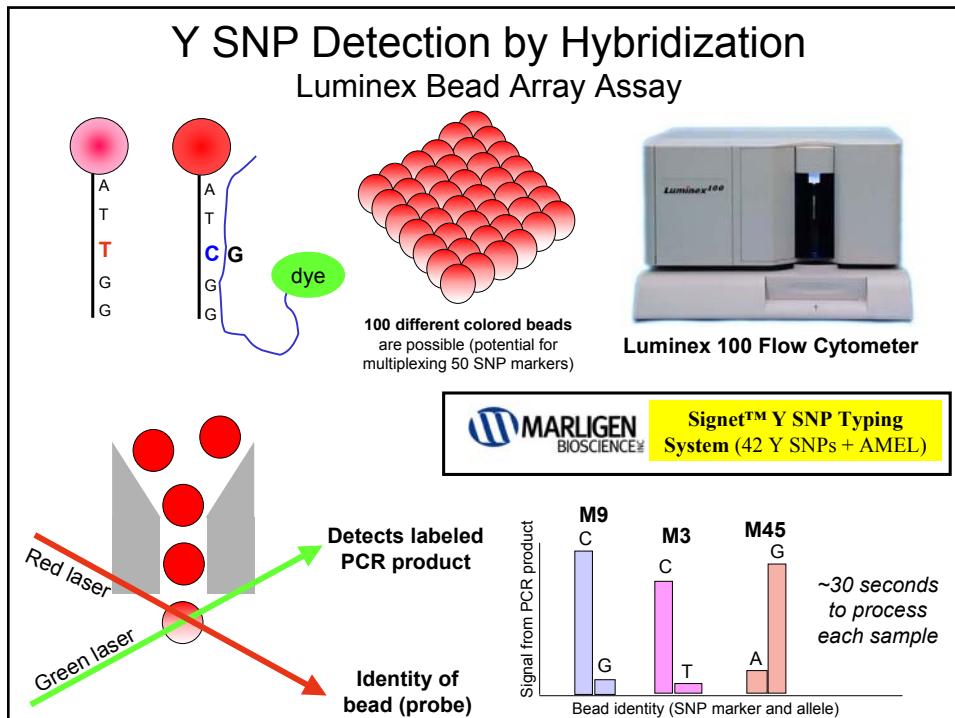


600 μm Anchor Chip Plate

Matrix and DNA sample are spotted onto the MALDI plate and allowed to air dry

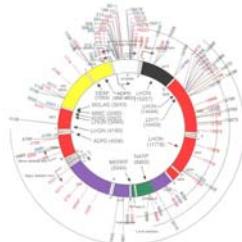






Markers of Interest

- Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA)
 - maternally inherited
 - polymorphic control region (D-loop)
 - ~1000's of copies per cell
 - coding region
- Y chromosome
 - paternally inherited
 - variety of Y STR and Y SNP markers
 - ***haplotype rather than genotype***



Require large databases because recombination does not occur

Mitochondrial Genome

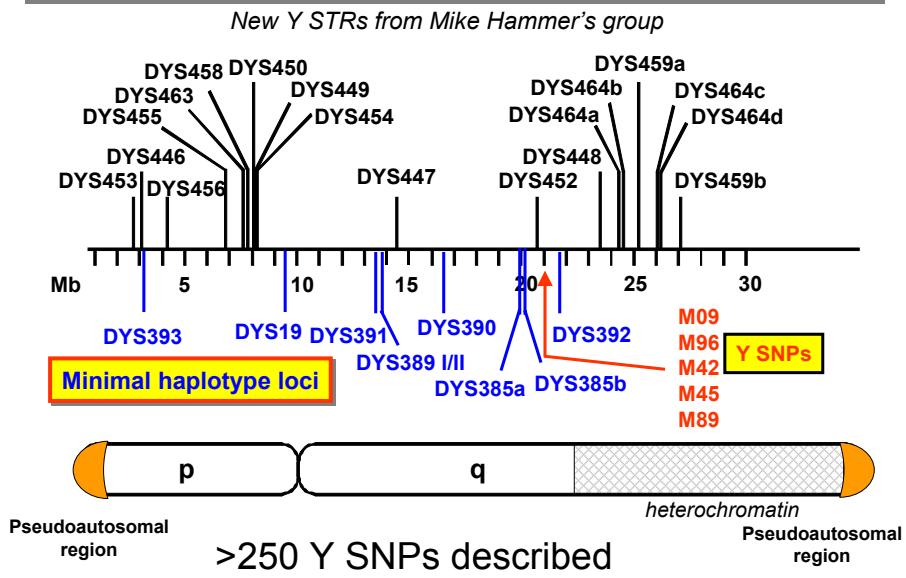
Control region (non-coding)
~1100 bp; closely spaced polymorphisms

Disease diagnostic sites

Coding region
~15,000 bp; widely spaced polymorphisms

Levin et al (1999) Genomics 55:135-146

There is a growing interest in the Y-chromosome to aid forensic, paternity, and missing persons testing...



Y SNPs

Low mutation rate of SNPs $2e^{-8}$ per base per generation

Over 3,700 SNP found on the Y so far
(<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>)

245 SNPs validated in population studies

Sites discovered using DHPLC (Underhill et.al., Nat Genet 2000 26:358-61)

Y SNP validation and nomenclature (Y chromosome consortium, Genome Res. 2002 12:339-348)

Paracchini et. al., have designed 20 multiplexes for typing 118 Y SNPs by MALDI TOF MS (Paracchini et. al., Nucleic Acids Res. 2002 30:e27)

NIST Y Chromosome SRM material 2395 will include haplotypes including 5-10 SNP sites UPDATE

Forensic Utility of Y Chromosome SNPs

Human identification purposes (criminal, paternity, evolutionary, population studies)

Y chromosome markers are useful in mixed male - female samples

Simplicity in testing – typically bi-allelic markers (versus length polymorphisms) and haploid (homozygous)

Haplogroups are non-randomly distributed among populations therefore potential exists for predicting population of origin

Improve multiplex assay development (both PCR and SNP detection)

For serious forensic usage parallel high-throughput methods will be required for typing

Multiplexing

Assays and Instrumentation

Y Chromosome and Mitochondrial DNA

Primer design strategy

Results

mtSNP 11 plex

Y SNP multiplexes

Y STR multiplexes



Multiplex PCR Primer Selection

Identify markers of interest (collaborations, literature, research)

Obtain reference sequences containing the sites of interest (Genbank) with approximately 500 bases of sequence information upstream and downstream of the marker

Decide upon a desired PCR product size

Short amplicons for degraded samples, SNPs

Longer amplicons for STRs

Use software for selecting singleplex primer pairs

Primer3

www-genome.wi.mit.edu/genome_software/other/primer3.html

Multiplex PCR Design

Select singleplex PCR primers for each amplicon using Primer 3 software

OLIGO	start	len	tm	gc%	any	3' seq
LEFT PRIMER	27	20	60.06	50.00	4.00	2.00 GGGATAAACAGCGCAATCCTA
RIGHT PRIMER	174	22	60.31	50.00	8.00	3.00 CGGTCTGAACTCAGATCACGTA
SEQUENCE SIZE: 205						
INCLUDED REGION SIZE: 205						
PRODUCT SIZE: 148, PAIR ANY COMPL: 3.00, PAIR 3' COMPL: 2.00						
EXCLUDED REGIONS (start, len)*: 70,65						
1	CTTGACCAACGGAACAAGTTACCTAGGGATAACAGCGCAATCCTATTCTAGAGTCCATA					>>>>>>>
61	TCAACAATAGGGTTTACGACCTCGATGTTGGATCAGGACATCC					○ATGGTGCAGCCGCTA
121	TTAAAGGTTCGTTGTTCAACGATTAAAGTCCTACGTGATCTGAGTTCAAGACCGGAGTAA					<<<<<<<<
181	TCCAGGTCGGTTCTATCTACCTTC					

Stand Alone Primer3

Sending multiple sequences over the web for primer selection can be tedious

The Primer3 web output is fine for the screen viewing or printing but not for organizing in spreadsheets

Primer3 is publicly available and can be run (in batch!) on a Unix, PC (Linux), or Mac (OSX) computer

Developed a program that formats files for Primer3 input

Reference sequences that are stored in Excel can be quickly formatted for Primer3

Non-Specific Interactions

Primers that interact with non-specific (undesired) regions of a genome OR with each other can degrade PCR performance

Screening for alternate genomic binding regions can be accomplished using **BLAST** <http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>

Screening for potential primer-dimer interactions is accomplished using in house software - **AutoDimer**

AutoDimer Check

$2n^2+n$

15plex

M45-R TGTTCTGACACCTTCCACA versus M91-R TGTGTTAGCGATTTGAAGG
Matches = 8
Blast = 7
3-GAAAGTTGAGCGATTGTGT-5
||||| |||||

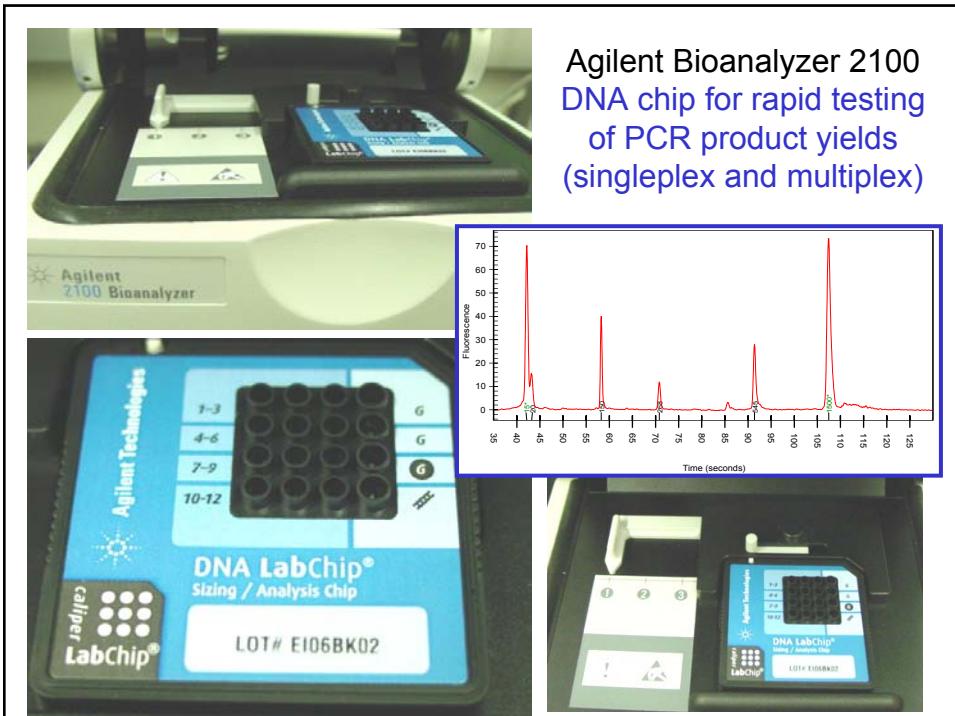
M89-F TGCCAGCCTCTCCTGATACT versus M130-F GATAAGAGGCTGGCCACCAA
Matches = 11
Blast = 7
5-GATAAGAGGCTGGCCACCAA-3
| |||||||
3-TCATAGCCTCTCCGACCGT-5

Screening for potential intramolecular hairpin and intermolecular primer-dimer formation

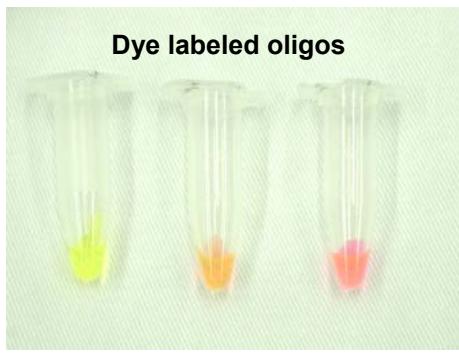
PCR Assay Design

If primer pairs meet criteria

Obtain primer pairs and test singleplex PCR
(QC all primers with MS/CE/HPLC)



PCR Primer Quality Control



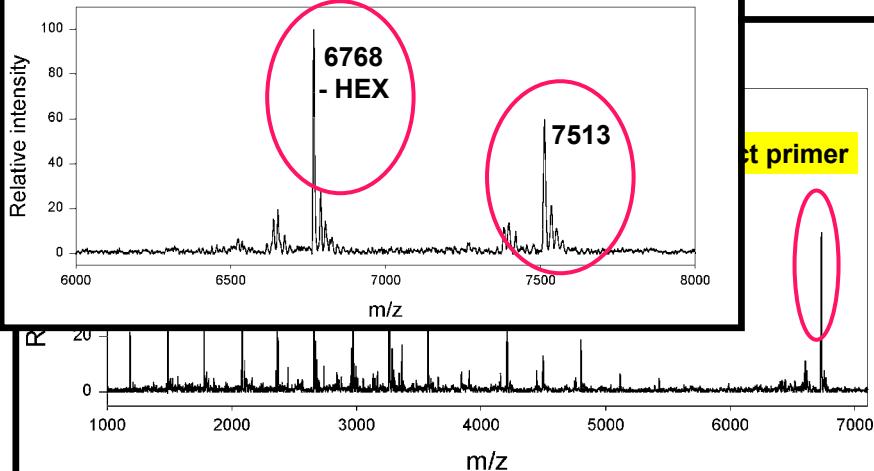
6FAM (yellow), VIC (orange), NED (red)

- UV Spec to determine concentration
- HPLC to evaluate purity
- TOF-MS to confirm correct sequence

Butler *et al.* (2001) *Forensic Sci. Int.* 119: 87-96

MALDI QC of Commercial Oligos

Loss of Fluorescent dye



Vallone and Butler (Oct 2000) *International Symposium on Human Identification* (Biloxi, MS)

PCR Assay Design

If primer pairs meet criteria

Obtain primer pairs and test singleplex PCR
(QC all primers with MS/CE/HPLC)

Begin initial testing of multiplex PCR
Start with a PCR mix containing
0.5 μ M of each primer pair

Evaluate amplicon yields, presence and balance

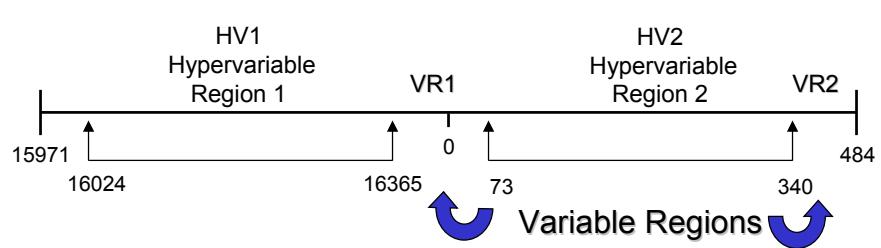
Variables: primer pair concentrations, [polymerase],
number of cycles, $[Mg^{++}]$, [dNTPs], BSA

Redesign and retest failing loci

Multiplexing
Assays and Instrumentation
Y Chromosome and Mitochondrial DNA
Primer design strategy
Results
mtSNP 11 plex
Y SNP multiplexes
Y STR multiplexes



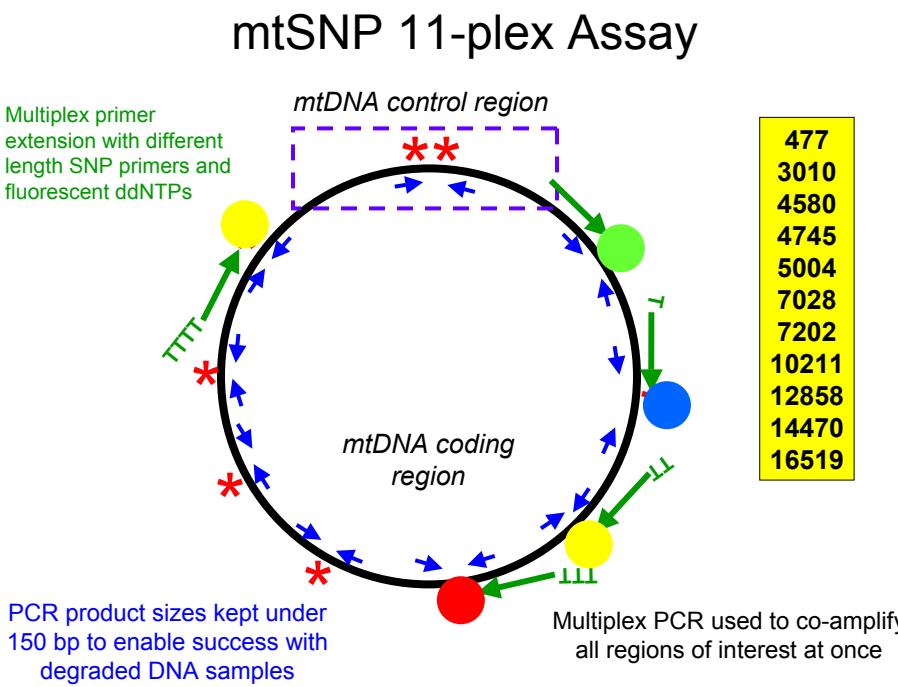
The Current mtDNA Amplification & Sequencing Strategy Focuses on the Hypervariable Regions of the mitochondrial genome HV1 and HV2



However, the greatest limitation for mtDNA testing lies with the small number of common types for which the power of discrimination is low.

The Use of Full mtGenome Polymorphisms

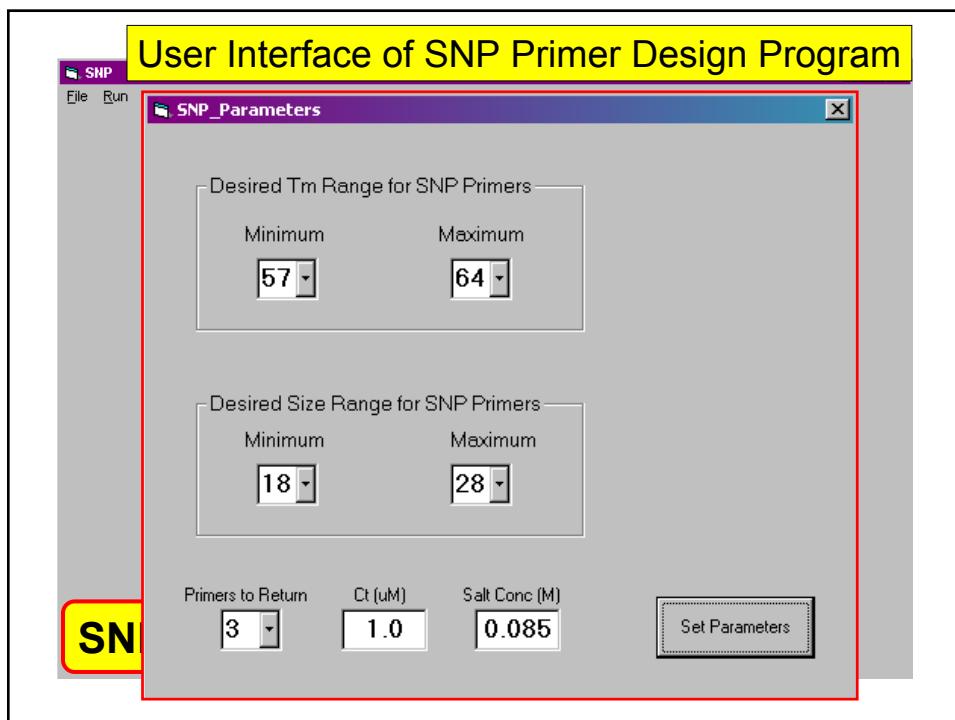
- Sequence data from mtDNA genome coding region reveals numerous SNPs that can nearly distinguish Caucasians sharing common HV types (**Tom Parsons and Mike Coble AFDIL**)
- 11 SNP sites are being evaluated to resolve Caucasian individuals having the most common HV type



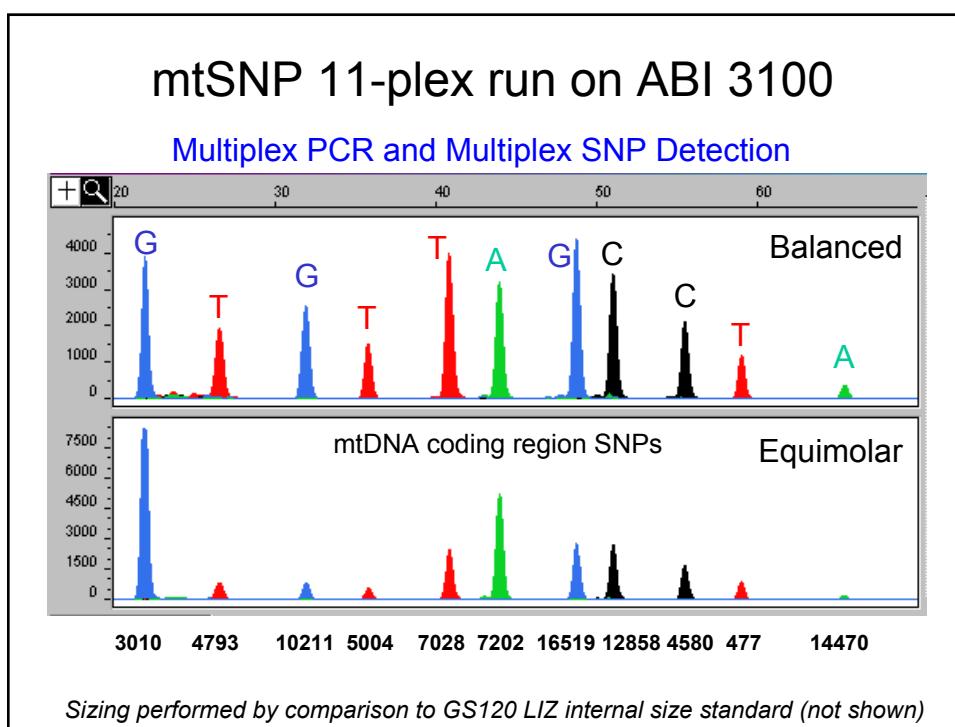
Tailed SNP primers allows for multiplexing in the SNaPshot assay

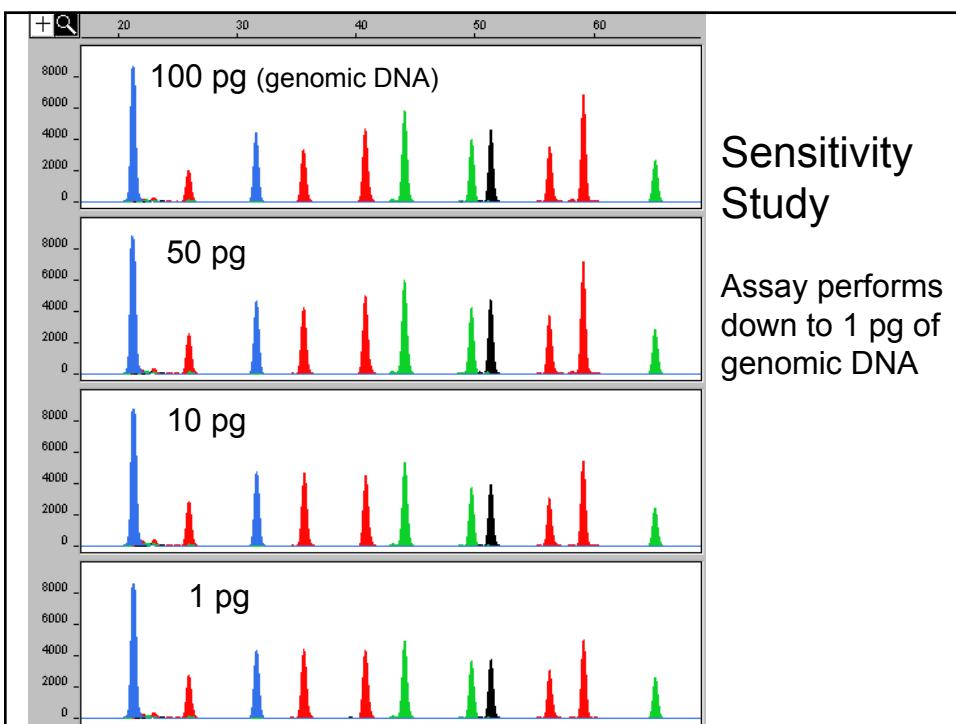
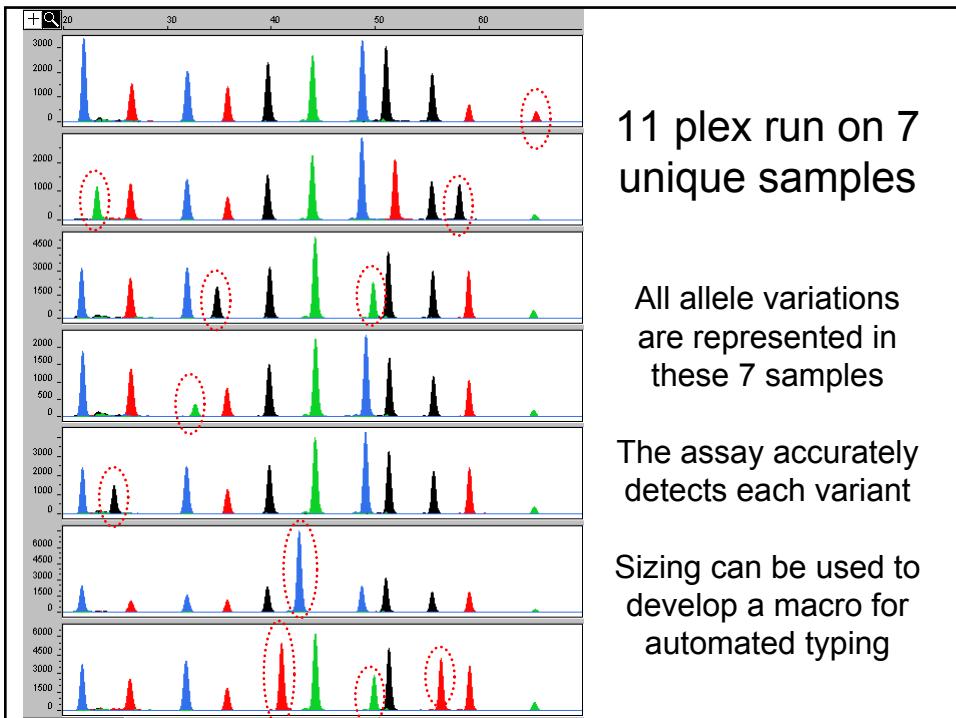
Sequences for 11 extension primers

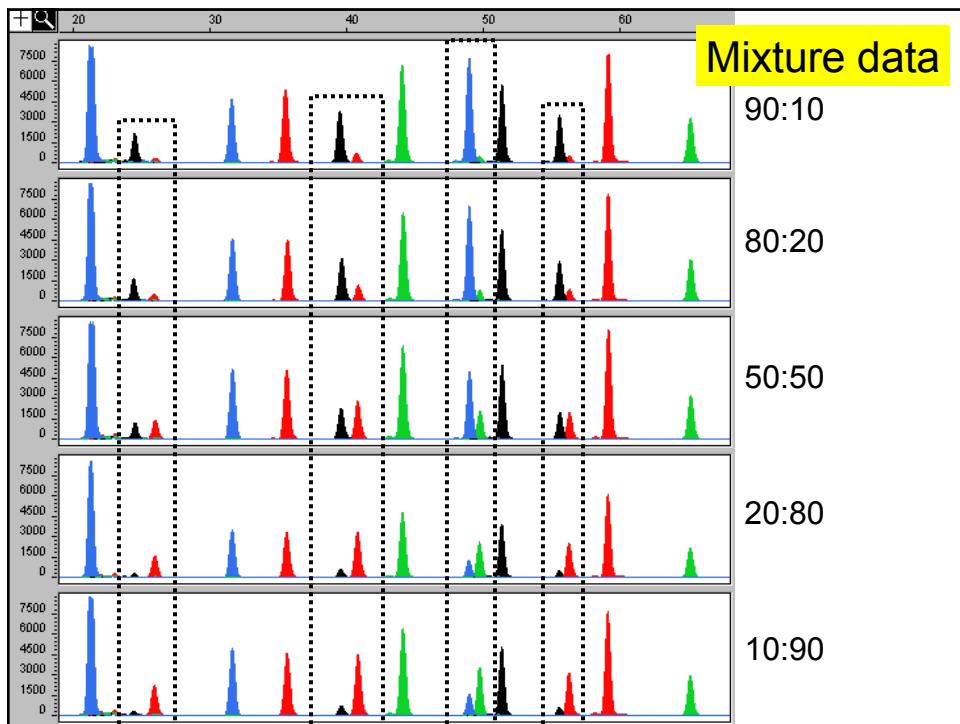
3010-F	TGTTGGATCAGGACATCCC	19 19
4793-R	(T) ₄ – TCAGAAGTGAAAGGGGGC	18 22
10211-R	(T) ₁₀ – ACTAAGAAGAATTATGGA	20 30
5004-F	(T) ₁₄ – AGACCCAGCTACGCAAAATC	20 34
7028-F	(T) ₁₈ – GACACGTACTACGTTGTAGC	20 38
7202-F	(T) ₂₂ – CCACAACACTTCTCGGCCT	20 42
16519-R	(T) ₂₄ – TGTGGGCTATTAGGCTTAGG	22 46
12858-F	(T) ₂₇ – GCAGCCATTCAAGCAATCCTATA	23 50
4580-R	(T) ₂₉ – TGGTTAGAACTGGAATAAGCTAG	25 54
477-F	(T) ₃₈ – CCCTCCCCTCCACTAC	20 58
14470-R	(T) ₄₁ – GGGATGATGGTTGTCTTG	21 62



Program Output										
Label	Length	Sequence		Position	Tm					
Forward Primers Salt = 0.3Ct = 10										
M42 340 bp (A/T 297 W) AC010889	18	ATTTAGGACACAAAAGCW		280	60.65398					
M42 340 bp (A/T 297 W) AC010889	19	GATTAGGACACAAAAGCW		279	61.96716					
M42 340 bp (A/T 297 W) AC010889	20	AGATTTAGGACACAAAAGCW		278	63.67808					
Reverse Primers										
M42 340 bp (A/T 297 W) AC010889	23	GCTCTCTTTTCATTATGTAGTW		319	63.5462					
M42 340 bp (A/T 297 W) AC010889	21	TCTCTTTTCATTATGTAGTW		317	59.28964					
M42 340 bp (A/T 297 W) AC010889	20	CTCTTTTCATTATGTAGTW		316	57.50257					
Hairpin	Dimer	Template	Mass	Rank	Mutation	+ddC	+ddT	+ddA	+ddG	
4	8	10	5273.48	2.133333	W	N/A	5561.67998	5570.68998	N/A	
5	10	10	5602.69	2	W	N/A	5890.889941	5899.899941	N/A	
5	10	11	5915.9	2	W	N/A	6204.099902	6213.109902	N/A	
4	8	22	6734.42	2.133333	W	N/A	7022.619922	7031.629922	N/A	
4	8	20	6116.02	2.133333	W	N/A	6404.22002	6413.23002	N/A	
4	8	19	5811.82	2.133333	W	N/A	6100.019824	6109.029824	N/A	





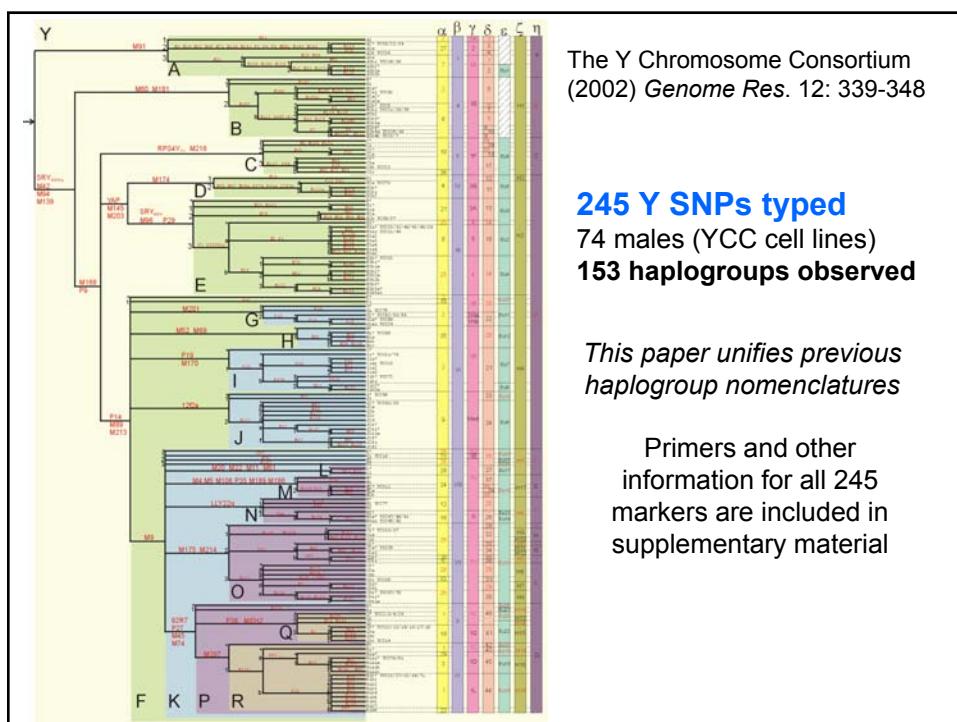
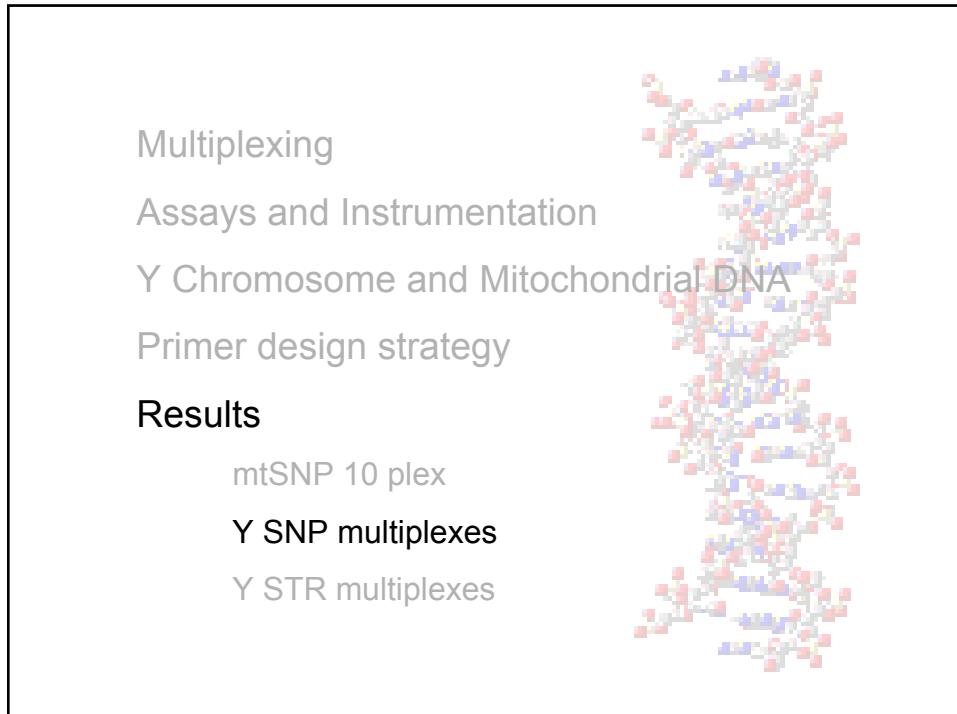


Status of 11plex mtSNP assay

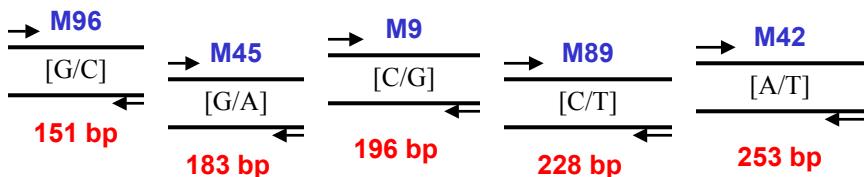
Currently the 11plex assay is being validated for case work samples at AFDIL

Manuscript is in preparation

Further multiplexes are being developed for other common HV1/HV2 types in collaboration with AFDIL



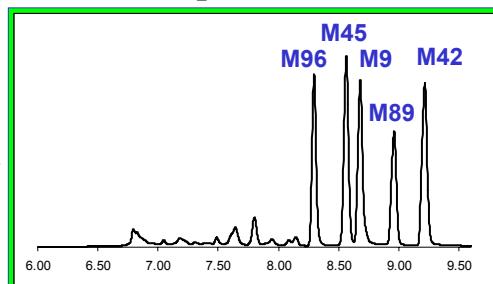
Multiplex PCR with Y-Chromosome SNP Markers



5-plex PCR

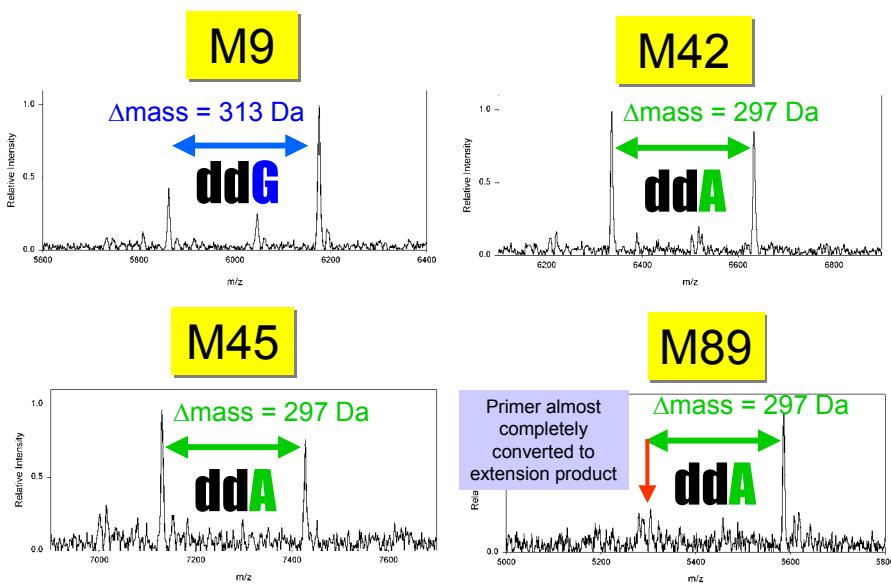
Rapid CE Separation and Quantitation of Multiplex PCR Products

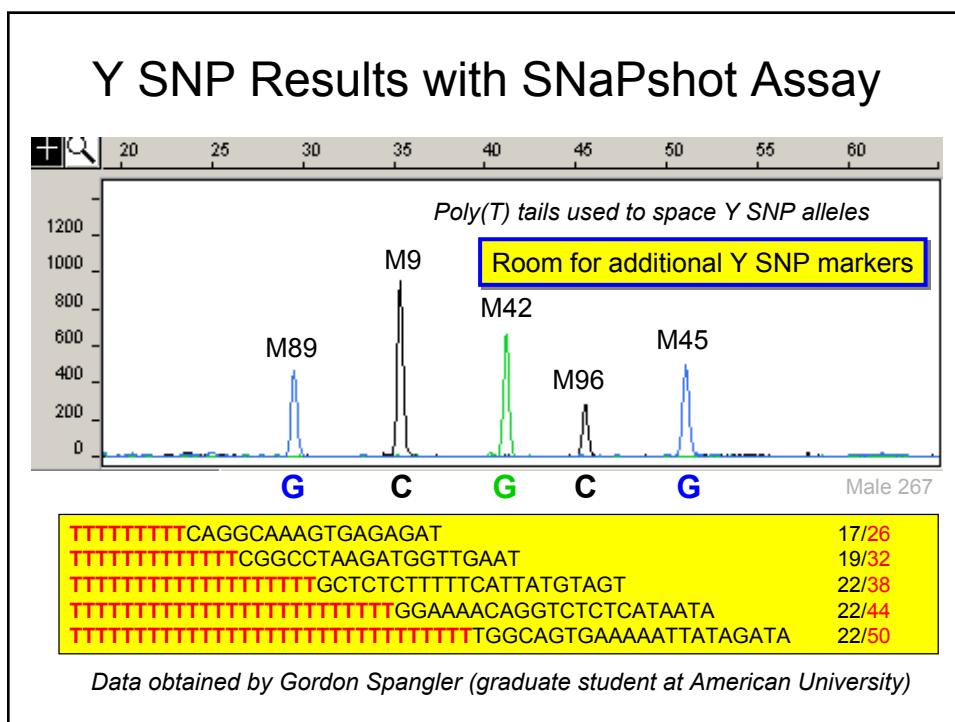
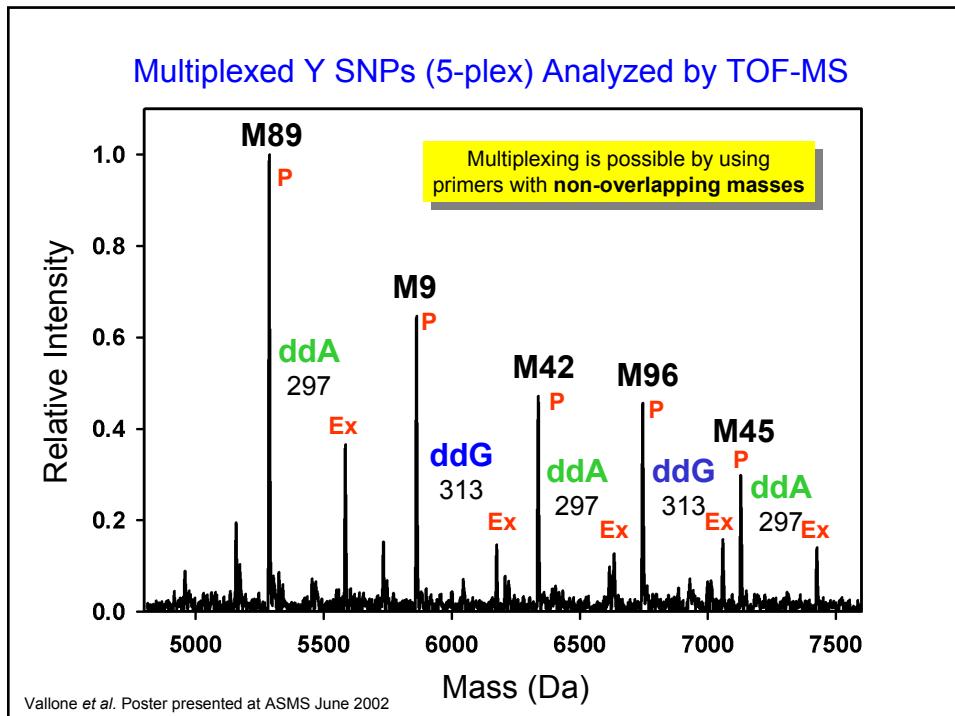
Intercalating dye used to fluorescently label amplicons

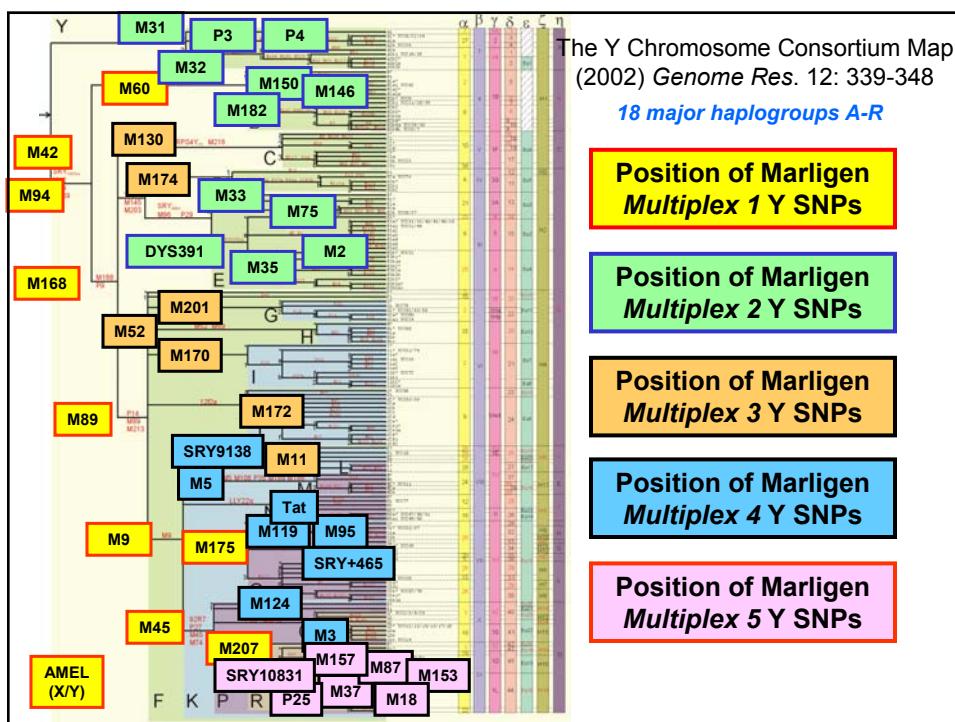
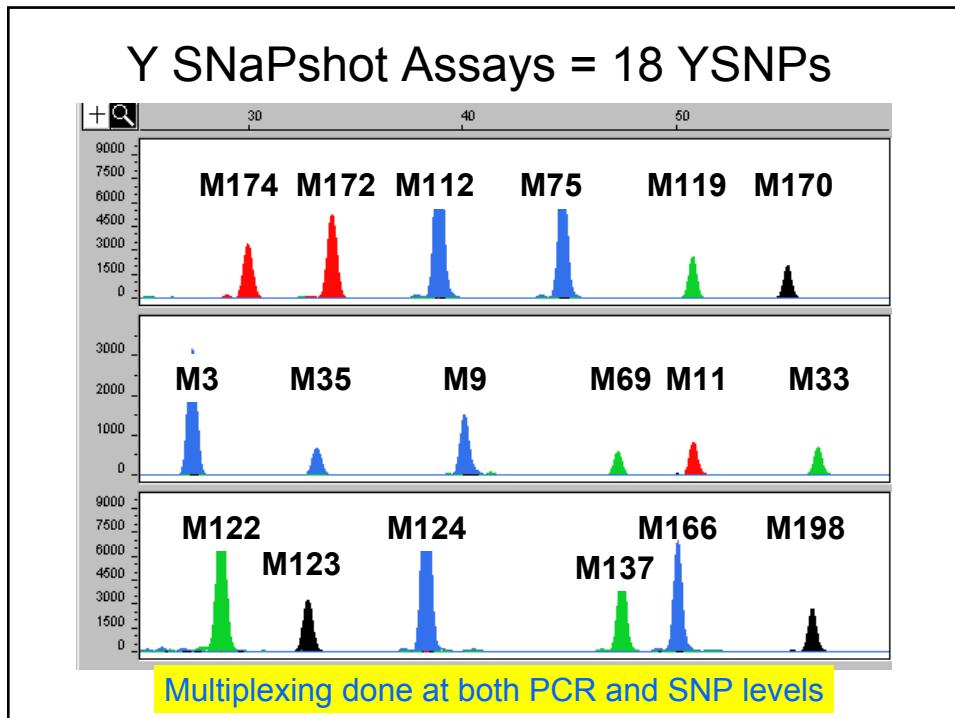


Butler *et al.* (2001) Fresenius J. Anal. Chem. 369: 200-205

Y Chromosome SNP Results by Probing PCR Products through Primer Extension and TOF-MS Detection

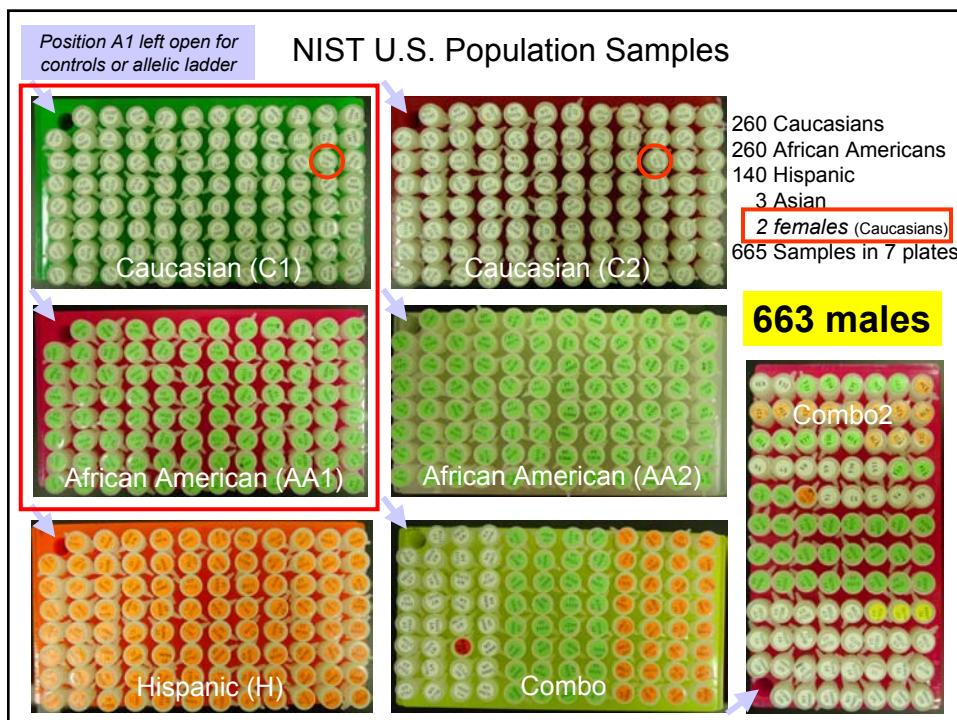






42 Y SNPs Typed with Luminex Assay									
Multiplex 1									
AMEL	M168	M175	M207	M42	M45	M60	M89	M94	
XX or XY	(C/T)	(+/-)	(A/G)	(A/T)	(A/G)	(-/+)	(C/T)	(A/C)	
Multiplex 2									
DYS391	M146	M150	M182	M2	M31	M32	M33	M35	M75
(C/G)	(A/C)	(C/T)	(C/T)	(A/G)	(C/G)	(C/T)	(A/C)	(C/G)	(A/G)
Multiplex 3									
M11	M130	M170	M172	M174	M201	M52			
(A/G)	(C/T)	(A/C)	(G/T)	(C/T)	(G/T)	(A/C)			
Multiplex 4									
M119	M124	M3	M5	M95	SRY465	SRY9138	Tat		
(A/C)	(C/T)	(C/T)	(C/T)	(C/T)	(C/T)	(C/T)	(C/T)		
Multiplex 5									
M153	M157	M18	M37	M87	P25	SRY10831			
(A/T)	(A/C)	(-/+)	(C/T)	(C/T)	(A/C)	(A/G)			

17 Y SNPs overlap with current SNaPshot assays

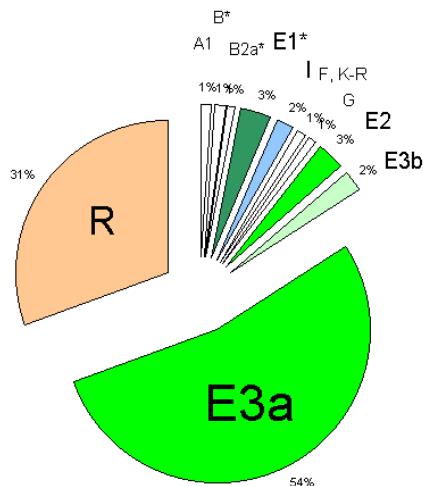
Summary of YSNP Data

- Excellent success with Signet Y SNP kits using ~10 ng of each NIST population sample (5 multiplexes used; 2 ng each)
- A total of 8,109 allele calls out of 8,170 attempts on first pass (99.3% success rate)
- Single female sample gave “no calls” at all loci except amelogenin X,X
- Variation was only observed in 19 of the 42 YSNPs

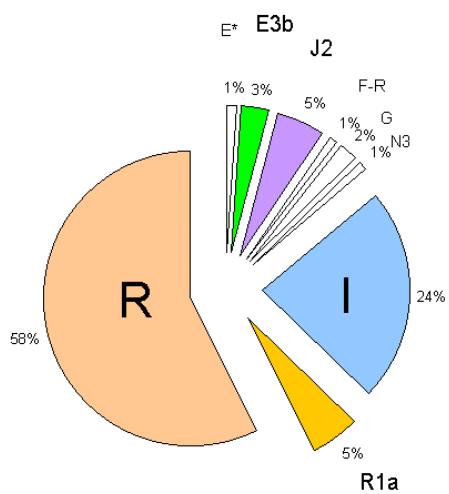
Number of haplogroups

	No. of Markers	AA(95)	Cau(94)
Y-SNPs	42	11	9

**Y SNP Haplogroups
for 95 African Americans**



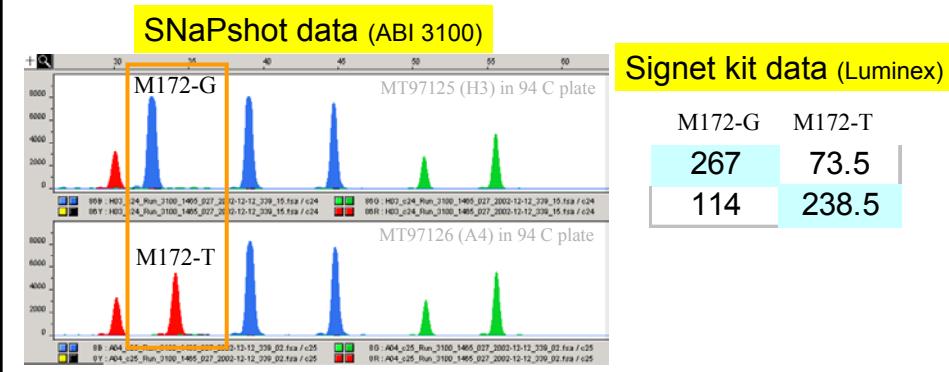
**Y SNP Haplogroups
for 94 Caucasians**



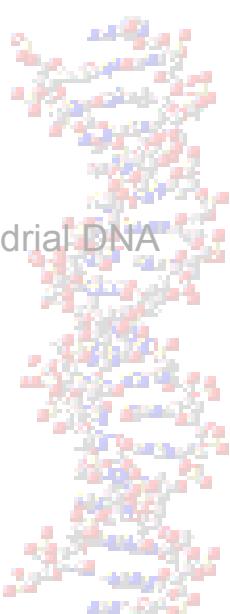
15 different haplogroups seen in 189 males
(11 in 95 AA and 9 in 94 C)

Y SNP Concordance Summary

- Comparison of Luminex (Signet Y SNP kit) and SNaPshot assays developed at NIST
- 2,090 allele calls compared**
- Complete Concordance Seen!**



Multiplexing
Assays and Instrumentation
Y Chromosome and Mitochondrial DNA
Primer design strategy
Results
mtSNP 10 plex
Y SNP multiplexes
Y STR multiplexes



Chromosomal Positions of Y STRs

Short Arm (p)

DYS393

DYS19

Collaboration
with Michael
Hammer
(U of Arizona)

Based on BLAT search
from Aug 6, 2001
Human Genome
Working Draft
<http://genome.ucsc.edu/>



Long Arm (q)

DYS391
DYS437
DYS439
DYS389 I/II
DYS388
DYS438
DYS447
DYS390
H4
DYS426
YCAII a
YCAII b
DYS385 a
DYS385 b
A7.1
DYS392
DYS448

<u>Y STR Marker</u>	<u>Sequence Position</u>
DYS393	3,038,729
DYS19	9,437,335
DYS391	13,413,353
DYS437	13,777,618
DYS439	13,825,798
DYS389 I/II	13,922,787
DYS388	14,057,445
DYS438	14,247,805
DYS447	14,588,695
DYS390	16,521,407
H4	17,990,102
DYS426	18,381,316
YCAII a	18,868,535
YCAII b	19,754,090
DYS385 I	19,998,053
DYS385 II	20,038,828
A7.1	20,247,345
DYS392	21,780,328
DYS448	23,511,495

New Y STR Markers (Redd et al.)



ELSEVIER

Published *Forensic Sci. Int.* (Dec 2002)

Forensic Science International 130 (2002) 97–111

www.elsevier.com/locate/forsciint

Forensic value of 14 novel STRs on the human Y chromosome

Alan J. Redd^{a,*}, Al B. Agellon^a, Veronica A. Kearney^a, Veronica A. Contreras^a, Tatiana Karafet^a, Hwayong Park^{a,c}, Peter de Knijff^b, John M. Butler^d, Michael F. Hammer^a

^aDivision of Biotechnology, University of Arizona, Biosciences West room 239, Tucson, AZ 85721, USA

^bForensic Laboratory for DNA Research, MGC-Department of Human and Clinical Genetics,

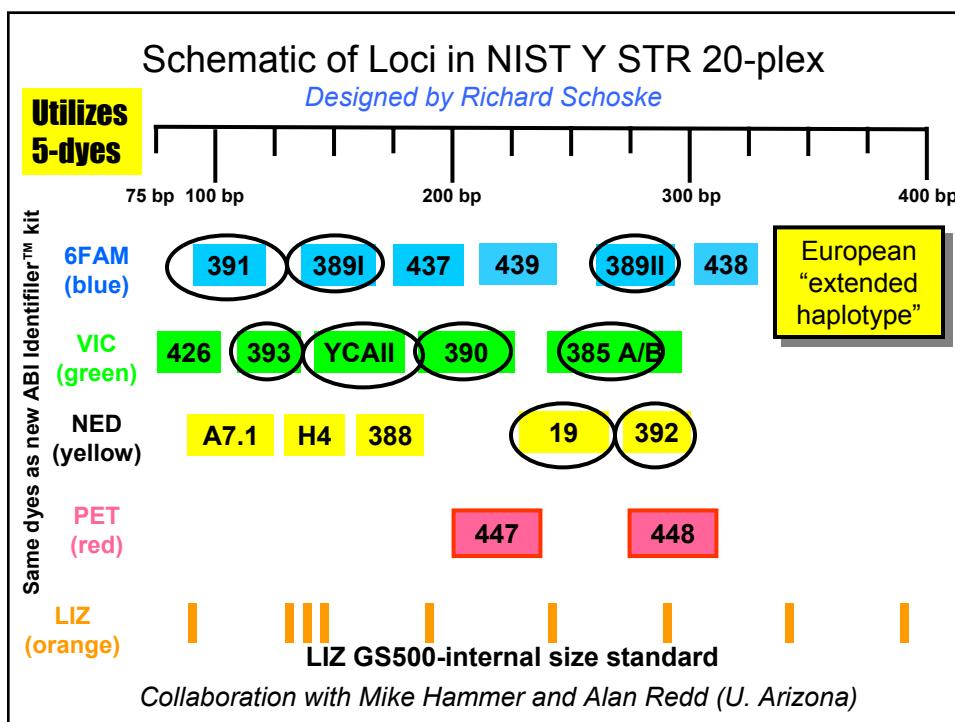
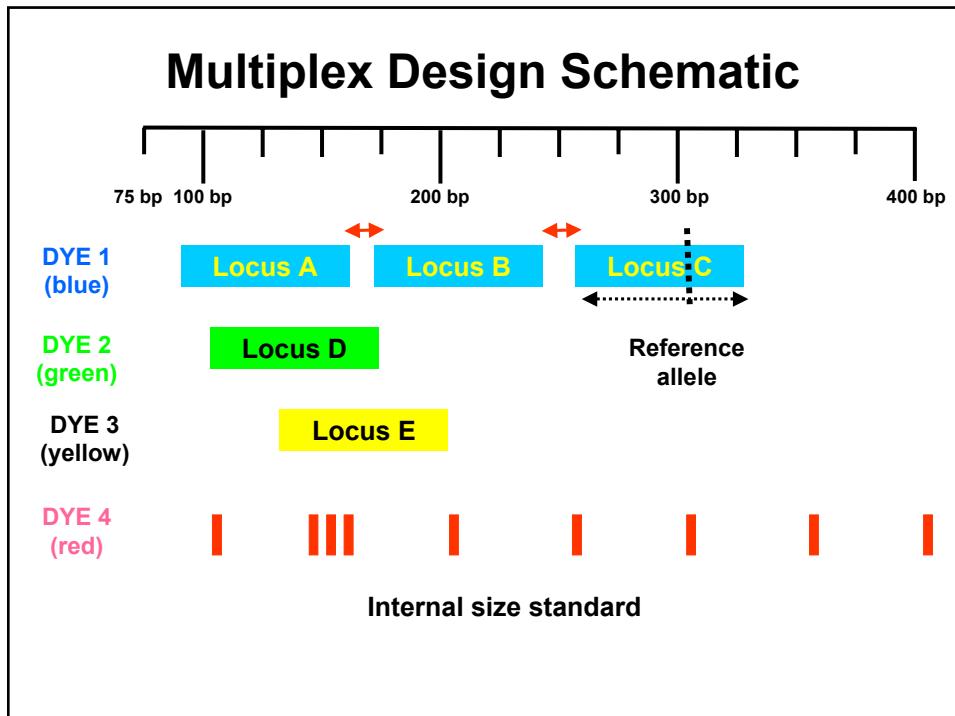
Leiden University Medical Center, RA Leiden 2300, The Netherlands

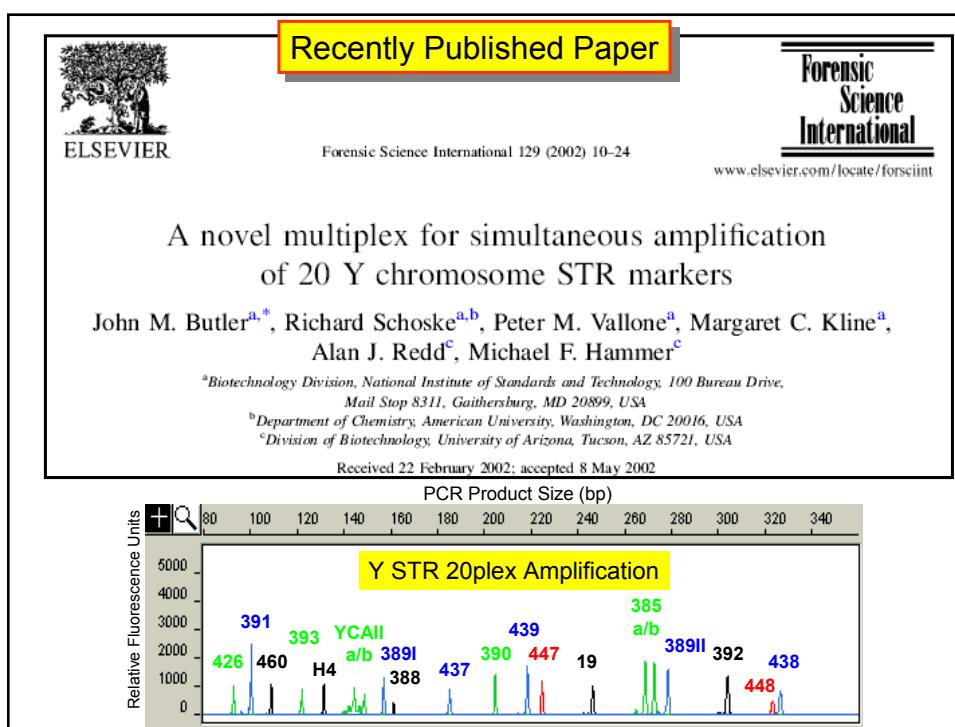
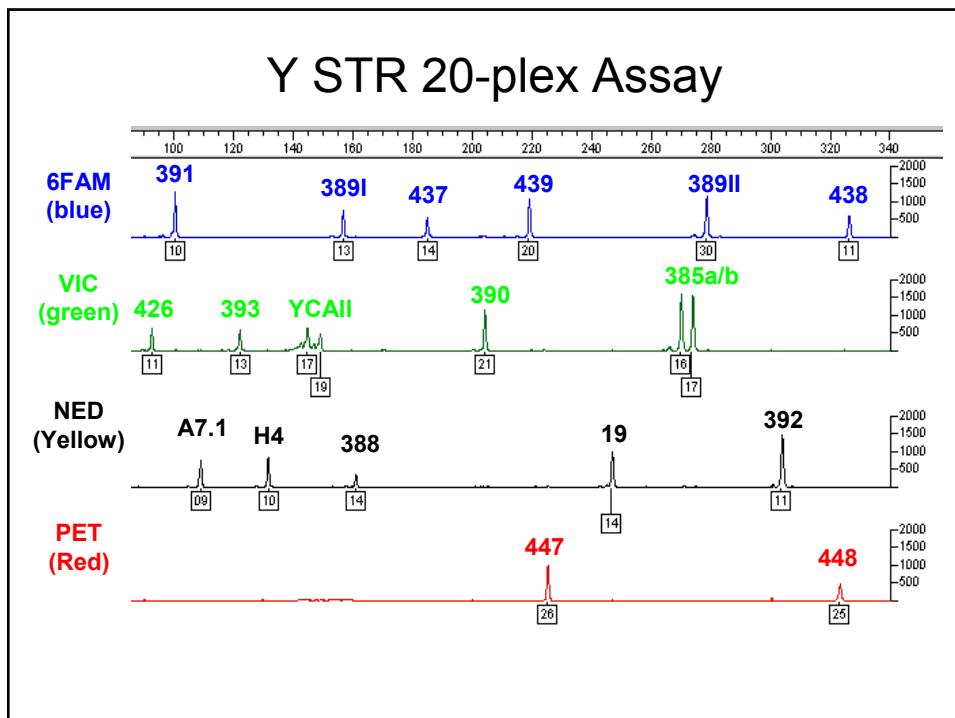
^cGenome Research Center, Korea Research Institute of Bioscience and Biotechnology, Daejon 305-333, South Korea

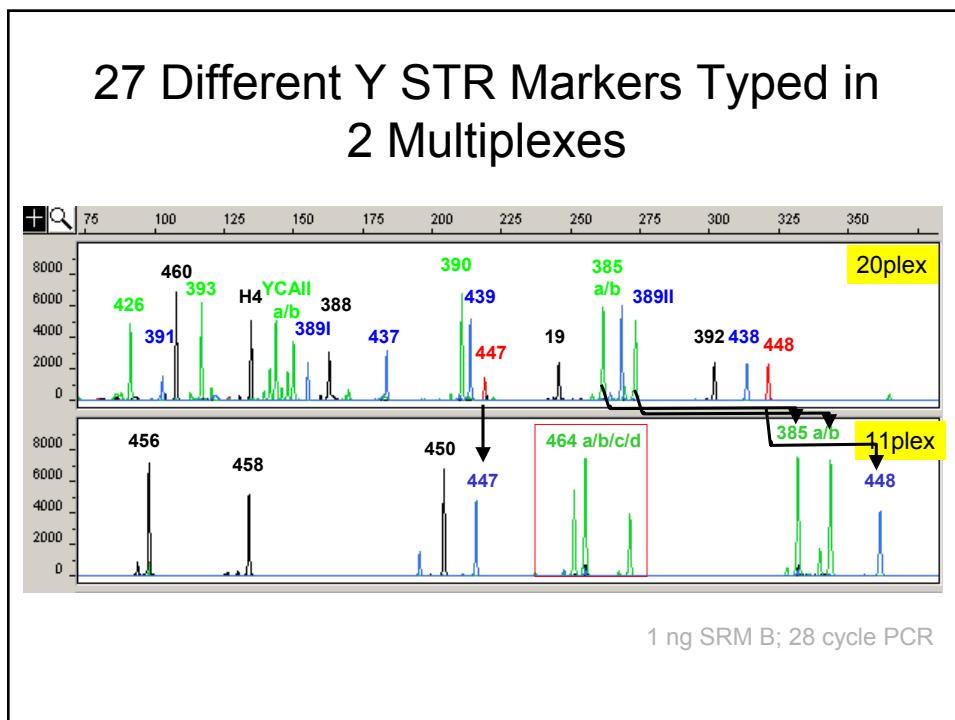
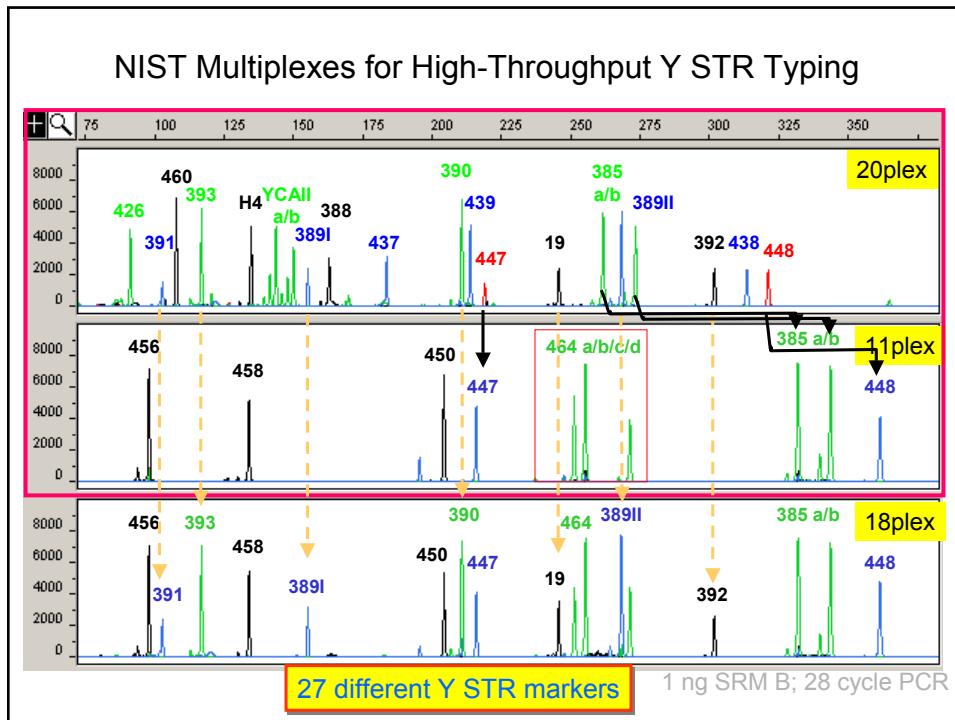
^dNational Institute of Standards and Technology, Biotechnology Division, Gaithersburg, MD 20899, USA

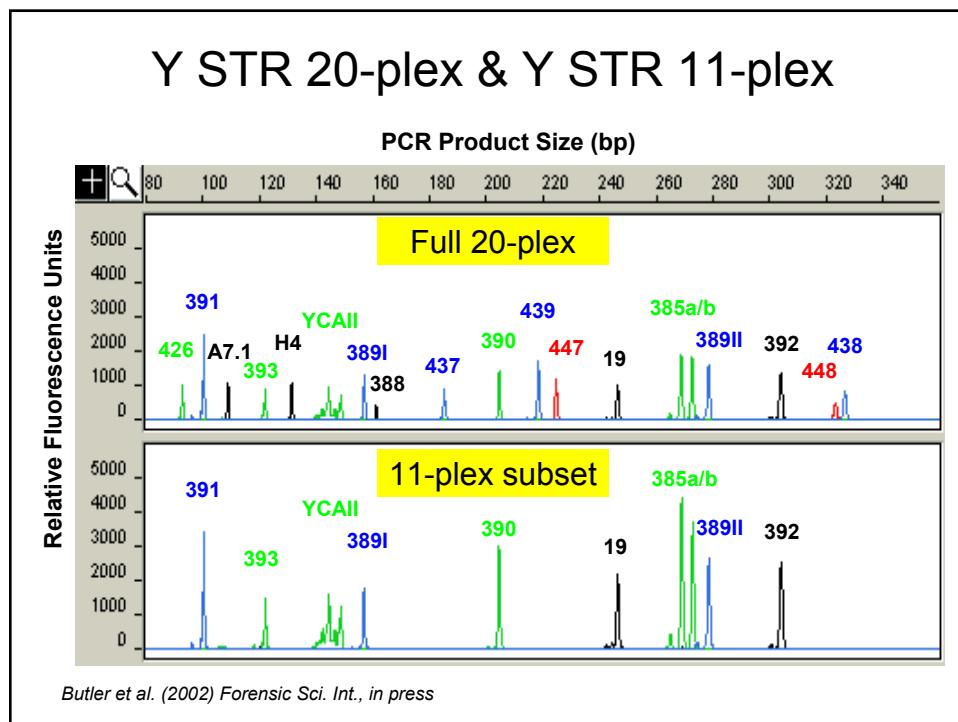
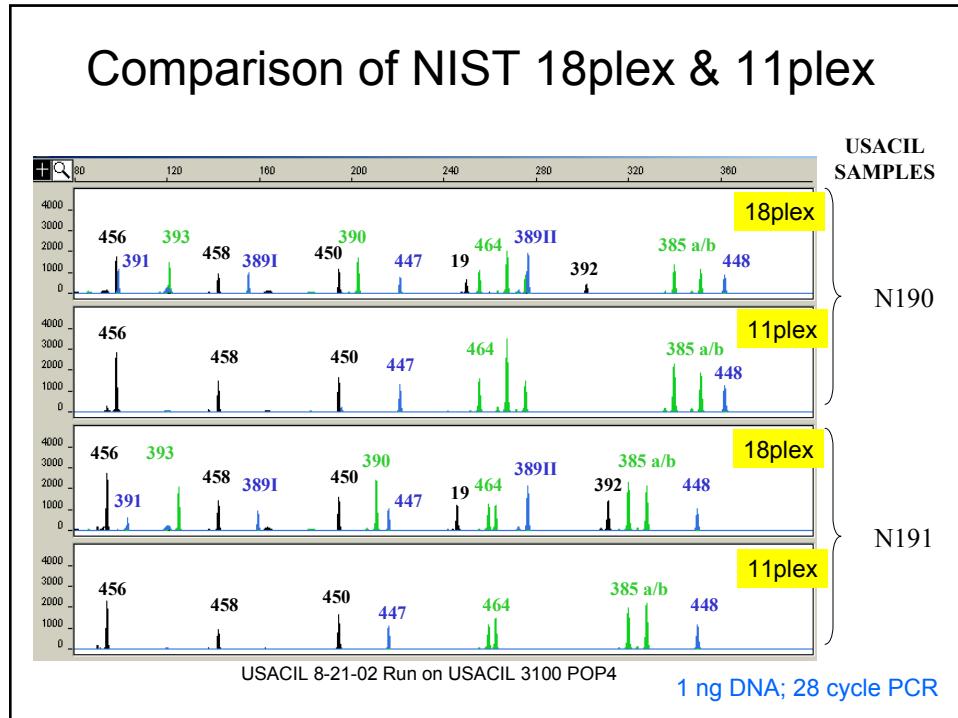
Received 11 February 2002; accepted 10 September 2002

eight tetranucleotide repeats (DYS449, DYS453, DYS454, DYS455, **DYS456**, **DYS458**, DYS459, and **DYS464**), five pentanucleotide repeats (DYS446, **DYS447**, **DYS450**, DYS452, and DYS463), and one hexanucleotide repeat (**DYS448**)









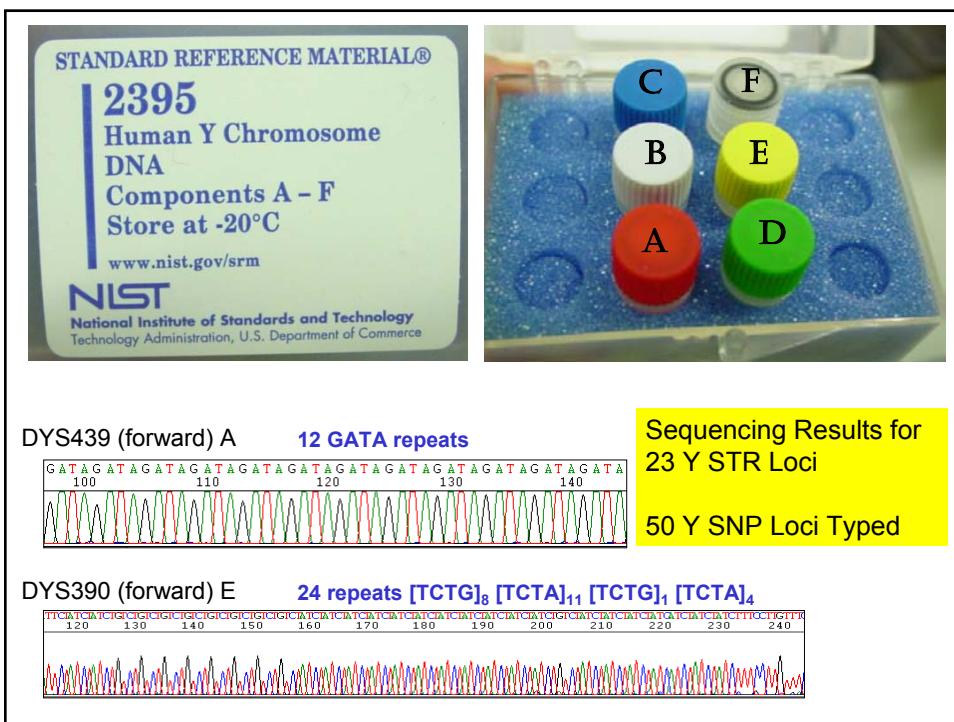
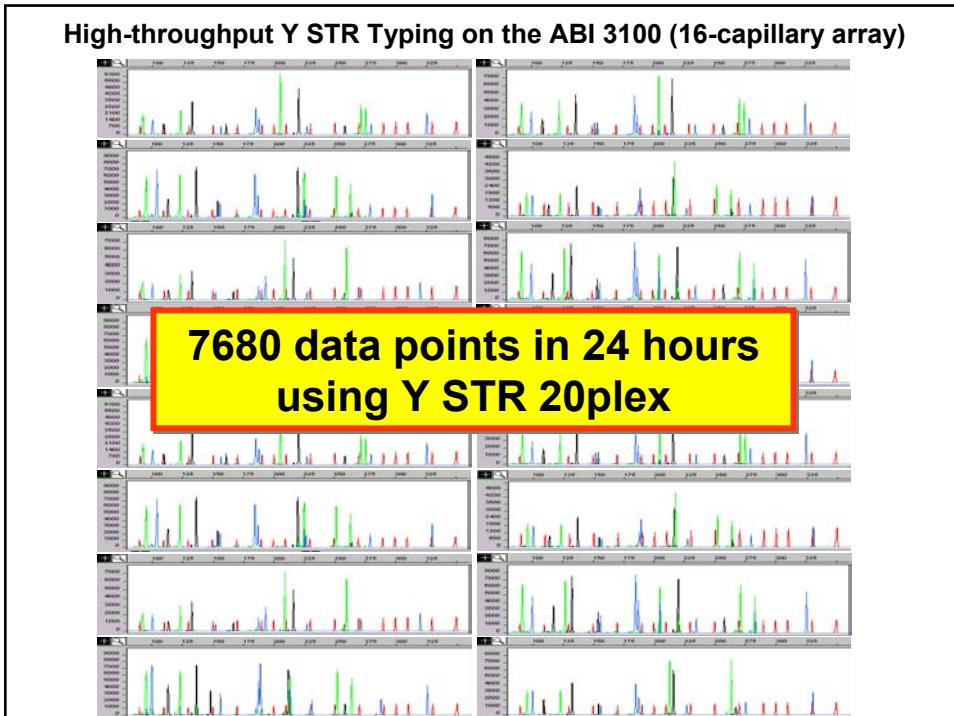
Marker	Y-PLEX 6	Y-PLEX 5	PowerPlex Y	NIST 10 plex	NIST 20plex	NIST 11plex
19	+			+	+	
385 a	+			+	+	+
385 b	+			+	+	+
389 I		+	+	+		+
389 II	+	+	+			+
390	+		+			+
391	+		+	+		+
392		+	+	+		+
393	+		+			+
438		+	+	+		+
439		+	+	+		+
437			+	+		+
YCAII a/b					+	
388					+	
426					+	
435				+		
European database						
448					+	+
450					+	
456					+	
458					+	
460 = A7.1			+	+		
464(abcd)			+			+
Y-GATA-H4			+	+		

Summary of Typing Y-STRs

260 AA, 244 Cauc, 143 HIS samples were typed from the NIST U.S. population samples (647 total)

	No. of Markers	AA(260)	Cau(244)	HIS(143)	Number of haplogroups
Y-PLEX 5&6	11	239	201	133	
NIST 20 and 11 plex	27	257	243	142	
10 best loci	10	252	238	142	

Multiplexing results in 13 fold reduction
 $647 \times 27 = 17,469$
 $2 \times 647 = 1294$



Acknowledgments

Funding:



U.S. National Institute of Justice Grant #97-LB-VX-0003

Interagency Agreement between NIJ and NIST Office of Law Enforcement Standards



John Butler

petev@nist.gov



Rich Schoske



Margaret Kline

Collaborators

Thomas Parsons, Rebecca Hamm and Mike Coble (AFDIL)
Mike Hammer and Alan Redd (U. of Arizona)