# Nomenclature Issues and the Y-Chromosome

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4<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Genetic Genealogy Houston, TX October 20, 2007



## The Solution

• Standardize the nomenclature and encourage (or require) all testing laboratories to calibrate their results to this standard nomenclature

# Questions to Address Regarding STR Marker and Allele Nomenclature

DYS 463. Subtract 2 from the value reported by SMGF before entering it into Yasarch

- Where do STR marker names come from?
- Who decides on STR allele nomenclature?
- How is calibration of STR allele calls performed in the forensic DNA community?
- What are some potential solutions to aid the genetic genealogy community in marker standardization and STR allele calibration?

# **Presentation Outline**

- Introduction to myself and NIST
- Overview of DNA Typing Process
- STR Allele Repeat Nomenclature
- NIST Standard Reference Materials

# NIST and NIJ Disclaimer

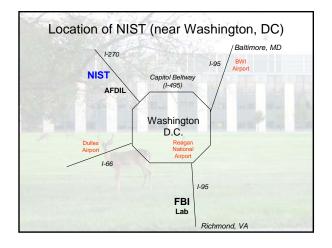
<u>Funding</u>: Interagency Agreement 2003-IJ-R-029 between the National Institute of Justice and NIST Office of Law Enforcement Standards

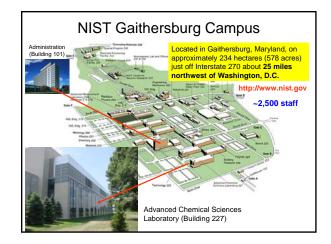
- Points of view are mine and do not necessarily represent the official position or policies of the US Department of Justice or the National Institute of Standards and Technology.
- Certain commercial equipment, instruments and materials are identified in order to specify experimental procedures as completely as possible. In no case does such identification imply a recommendation or endorsement by the National Institute of Standards and Technology nor does it imply that any of the materials, instruments or equipment identified are necessarily the best available for the purpose.

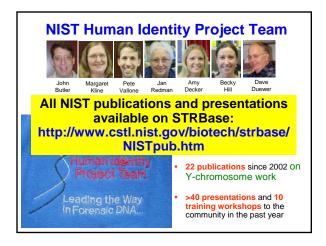
## **Our Team Mission Statement**

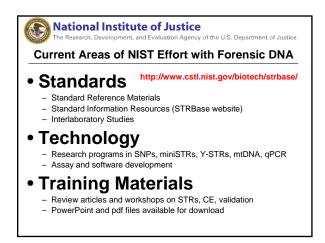
• The NIST Human Identity Project Team is trying to lead the way in forensic DNA... through research that helps bring traceability and technology to the scales of justice.

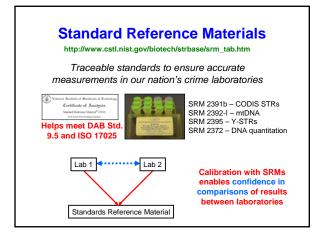


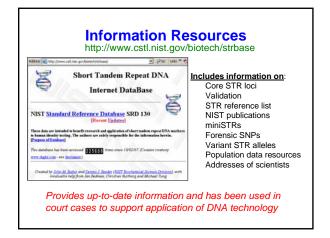


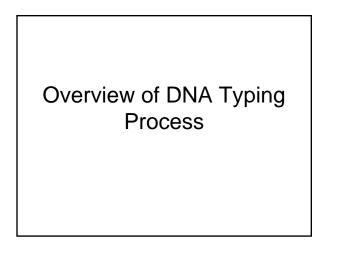


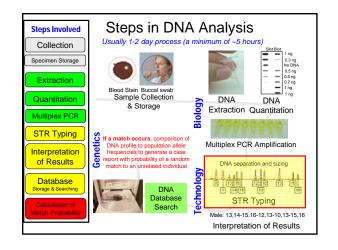


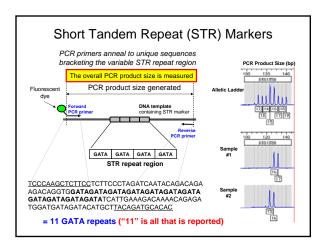


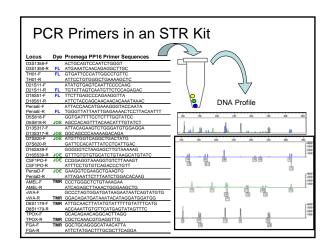






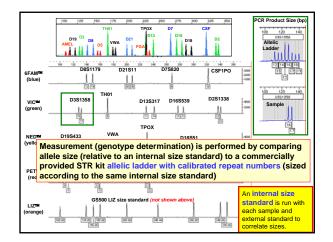


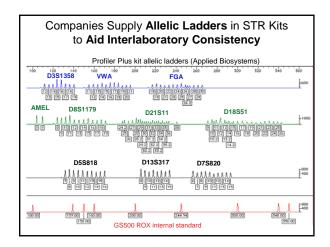


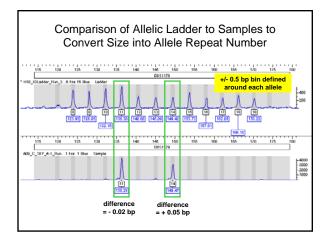


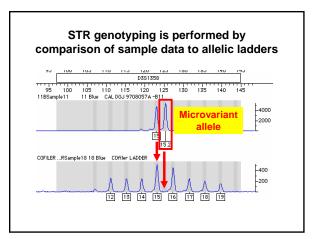
http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/NISTpub.htm

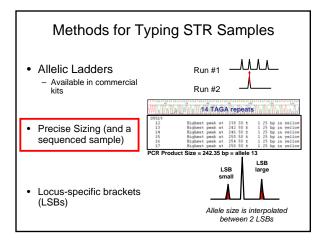


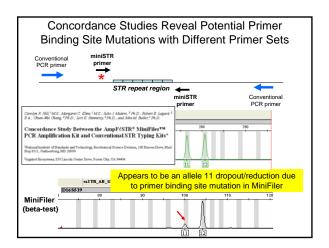










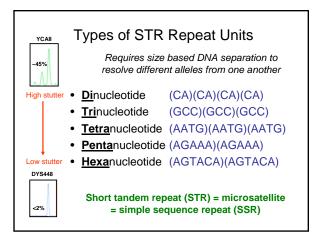


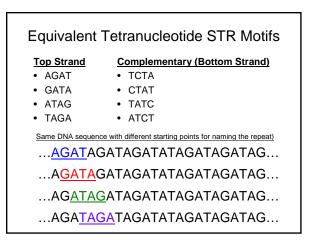
http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/NISTpub.htm

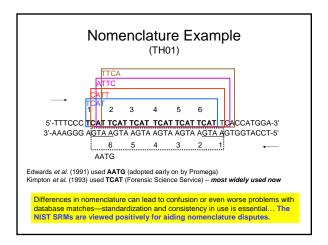
How Forensic DNA Typing Differs from Genetic Genealogy

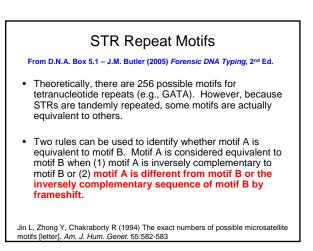
- Common set of core STR loci are used to enable DNA database compatibility
- Commercially available STR kits are used with allelic ladders to ensure consistency between laboratories
- Required calibration of STR allele calls to available NIST SRMs to ensure accuracy











Category	Example Repeat	13 CODIS Loci
	Structure	
Simple repeats – contain units of identical length and sequence	(GATA)(GATA)(GATA)	TPOX, CSF1PO, D5S818, D13S317, D16S539
Simple repeats with non-consensus alleles (e.g., TH01 9.3)	(GATA)( <mark>GAT-</mark> )(GATA)	TH01, D18S51, D7S820
Compound repeats – comprise two or more adjacent simple repeats	(GATA)(GATA)(GACA)	VWA, FGA, D3S1358, D8S1179
Complex repeats – contain several repeat blocks of variable unit length	(GATA)(GACA)(CA)(CATA)	D21S11

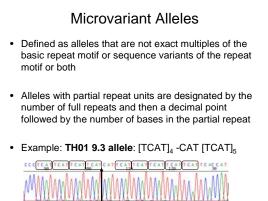
#### STR Typing Measurement Issues

- STR genotypes are generated using PCR amplification and electrophoretic sizing that involves an internal size standard with each sample.
- The forensic DNA community almost exclusively uses STR typing kits to obtain results (there are different kits available that examine the same common markers).
- PCR amplification is expected to generate consistent genotypes as long as primer positions are not changed between kits. Primer changes can result in allele dropout due to primer site mutations.
- Occasionally new commercial kits are created with additional loci.
- General STR repeat nomenclature rules have been established but do have soome subjectivity in them permitting possible differences in how STR alleles are named.

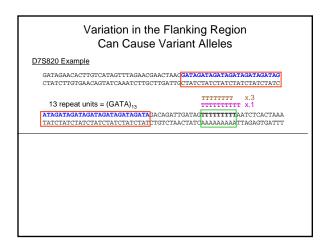
# STR Repeat Nomenclature Rules

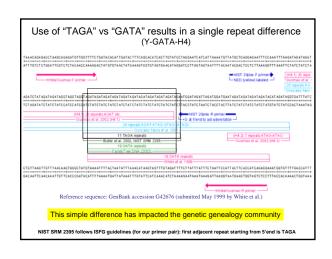
DNA Commission of the International Society of Forensic Genetics (ISFG) – Int. J. Legal Med. (1997) 110:175-176

- For sequences within genes, use the coding strand
- For other sequences, select the first GenBank database entry or original literature description
- Define the repeat sequence which will provide the largest number of consecutive repeats (as far as possible on the 5'end)
- If two sequences are repeated (i.e., compound repeats), include both motifs in determining the repeat number
- Microvariants: should be designated by the number of complete repeats and the number of base pairs of the partial repeat separated by a decimal point (Int. J. Legal Med. 1994, 107:159-160) e.g. TH01 allele 9.3

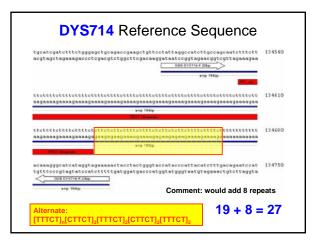


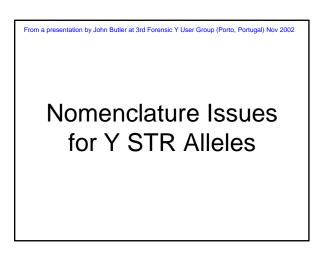
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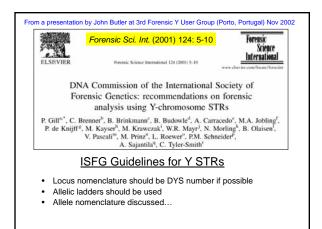


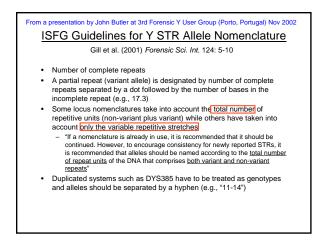


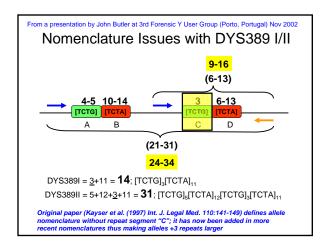


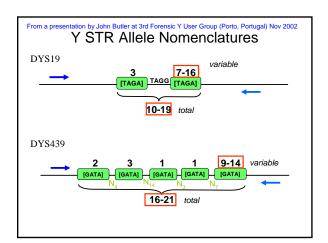


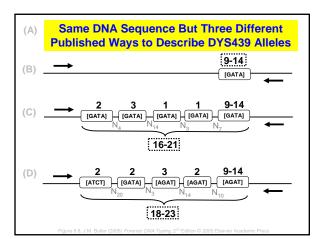


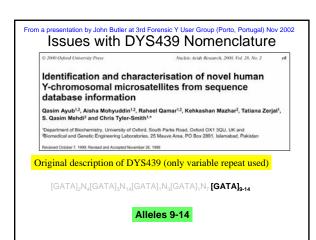


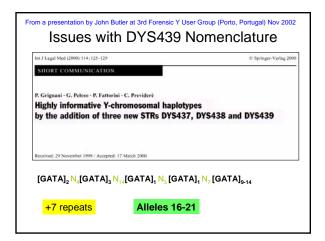


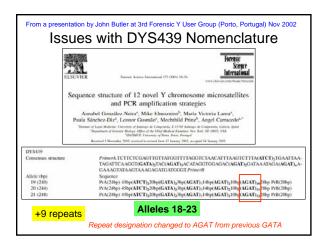


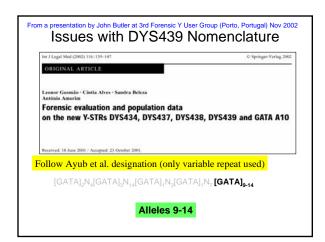


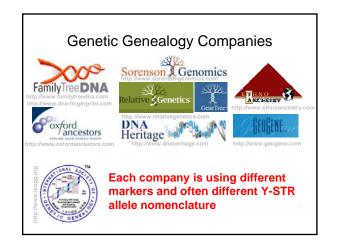




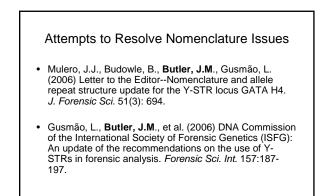








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				een testing comp		, i remeren,
Marker	DNA- Fingerprint	DNA Heritage	Family Tree DNA	Genographic	Oxford Ancestors	Relative Genetics
DYS385		-	=		?	=
DYS388	=	=	=	=	=	=
DYS389I					+ 3	=
DYS389II		**	**		**	**
DYS390	=	=	=	=	=	=
DYS391						
DYS392	=	=	=	=		
DYS393	=	=	=	=	=	=
DYS394	+1	+1	+ 1	+1	+1	+ 1
<b>DYS426</b>	=	=	=	=	=	=
DY5437	=	=	=	?	?	=



## Yfiler Kit H4 Nomenclature Resolution

- Establishing a consensus nomenclature can facilitate data comparison for proficiency testing, quality assurance, and casework results. Efforts into nomenclature standardization should be supported and lauded...
- There are differences in allele designations at the GATA H4 marker between those recommended in the Applied Biosystems AmpFISTRs Yfiler™ polymerase chain reaction amplification kit (Applied Biosystems, Foster City, CA) and the ISFG recommendations. The nomenclature for the GATA H4 marker in the Yfiler kit is based on the allele repeat structure defined by the National Institute of Standards and Technology Standard reference material (SRM) 2395 and the work of Butler et al.
- Those who choose to follow the allele nomenclature recommendations of the ISFG Commission should add a correction factor of nine to the Yfiler allele number, and they should refer to this marker as GATA H4.1.

Mulero, J.J., Budowle, B., Butler, J.M., Gusmão, L. (2006) Letter to the Editor--Nomenclature and allele repeat structure update for the Y-STR locus GATA H4. J. Forensic Sci. 51(3): 694.

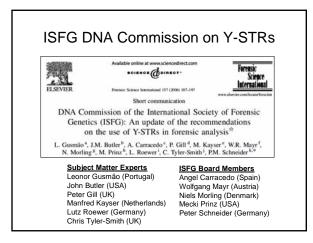
# ISFG DNA Commission

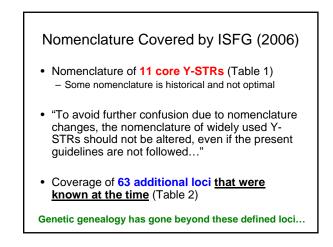
International Society of Forensic Genetics http://www.isfg.org/

- An international organization responsible for the promotion of scientific knowledge in the field of genetic markers analyzed with forensic purposes.
- Founded in 1968 and represents more than 800 members from over 50 countries.
- A DNA Commission regularly offers recommendations on forensic genetic analysis.

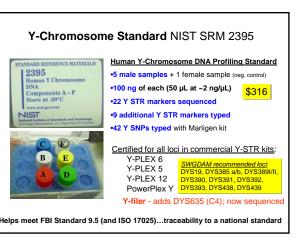
#### DNA Commission of the ISFG

- DNA polymorphisms (1989)
- PCR based polymorphisms (1992)
- Naming variant alleles (1994)
- Repeat nomenclature (1997)
- Mitochondrial DNA (2000)
- Y-STR use in forensic analysis (2001)
- Additional Y-STRs nomenclature (2006)
- Mixture Interpretation (2006)
- Disaster Victim Identification (2007)

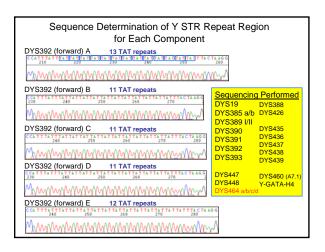


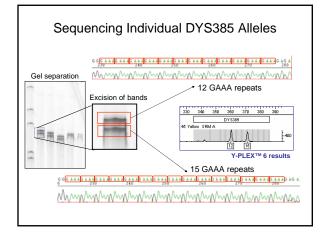


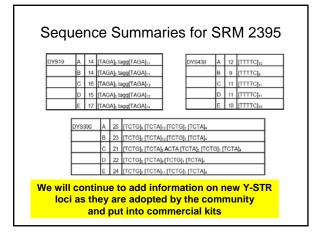
NIST Standard Reference Materials (SRMs)

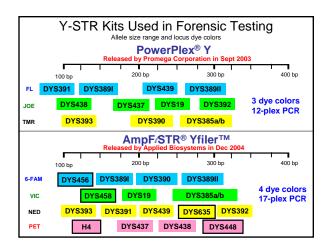


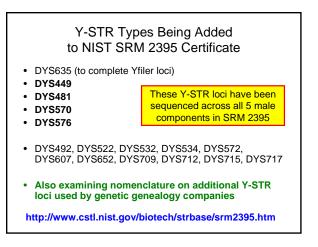
		42 Y	-SNF	Ps m	easure	d acro	oss all	sampl	es
SRM 2395	AMEL	M207	M45	M89	DYS391	M2	M170	M172	M201
		(A/G)	(A/G)	(C/T)	(C/G)	(A/G)	(A/C)	(G/T)	(G/T)
Component A	XY	G	Α	Т	С	A	Α	Т	G
Component B	XY	Α	G	Т	С	Α	Α	G	G
Component C	XY	Α	G	С	G	G	Α	Т	G
Component D	XY	Α	G	Т	С	Α	Α	Т	Т
Component E	XY	Α	G	Т	С	Α	С	Т	G
Component F	XX								
		SRM co	mponent	s are all	distinguisha	ble from	one anothe	er with these	e Y SNPs







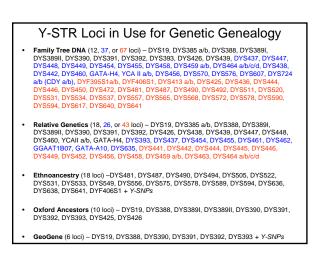




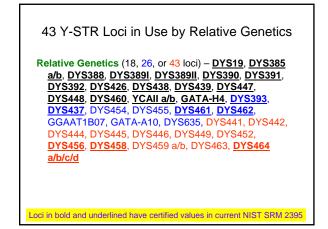
Modes Used at NIST for Value-Assignment of Reference Materials for Chemical Measurements to Obtain a NIST Certified Value

- Certification <u>at NIST</u> Using a Single Primary Method with Confirmation by Other Method(s)
- Certification <u>at NIST</u> Using Two Independent Critically-Evaluated Methods
- Certification/Value-Assignment Using One Method <u>at</u> <u>NIST</u> and Different Methods by Outside Collaborating Laboratories

NIST Special Publication 260-136 "Definitions of Terms and Modes Used at NIST for Value-Assignment of Reference Materials for Chemical Measurements, Table 1 (p.2)



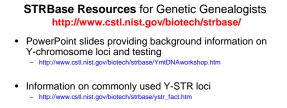
67 Y-STR Loci in Use by FamilyTree DNA
Family Tree DNA (12, 37, or 67 loci) – <u>DYS19, DYS385</u> a/b, <u>DYS388, DYS3891, DYS38911, DYS390, DYS391,</u> DYS392, <u>DYS393, DYS426, DYS439, DYS437</u> ,
<u>DYS447, DYS448,</u> DYS449, DYS454, DYS455, <u>DYS458,</u> DYS459 a/b, <u>DYS464 a/b/c/d,</u> <u>DYS438,</u> DYS442, <b>DYS460, GATA-H4, YCA II a/b, DYS456</b> ,
DYS570, DYS576, DYS607, DYS724 a/b (CDY a/b), DYF395S1a/b, DYF406S1, DYS413 a/b, DYS425, DYS436, DYS444, DYS446, DYS450, DYS472,
DYS481, DYS487, DYS490, DYS492, DYS511, DYS520, DYS531, DYS534, DYS537, DYS557,
DYS565, DYS568, DYS572, DYS578, DYS590, DYS594, DYS617, DYS640, DYS641
Loci in bold and underlined have certified values in current NIST SRM 2395





# Points to Keep in Mind...

- Initial selection of material (SRM components) was for a specific purpose usually and may not address every need in the future (a new locus may not exhibit a diverse set of alleles)
- The forensic community uses commercial STR typing kits – and only wants a confirmation of the allele calls against an allelic ladder
- Some duplicated Y-STR loci (e.g., DYS464) will not be able to have every allele sequenced
- There are lots of loci that could be "certified" - how do we decide which ones to include in future certificate updates?



- Information on Y-STR nomenclature

   http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/YSTRs/H4\_nomenclature.htm
- Links to Y-STR haplotype databases

   http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/y\_strs.htm
- Links to genetic genealogy websites

   http://www.cstl.nist.gov/biotech/strbase/weblink.htm#Genetic\_Genealogy

