

You can be identified by your own unique various regions

## **DNA Use in Forensic, Paternity... Cases**

- Most Forensic cases are rape cases (>2 out of 3)
   Looking for match between evidence and suspect

   -- matching suspect with evidence
- Paternity testing -- identifying father
- Military DNA "dog-tag."

#### **Challenges**

- •Mixtures must be resolved
- •DNA is often degraded (stored wet- have mold, nuclease)
- •Inhibitors to PCR are often present

## **Sources of Biological Evidence**

- Blood
- Semen
- Saliva
- Urine
- Hair
- Teeth (useful in fires).
- **Bone** (Yes, there are cells in bone. Decalcify it. 100,000 year old people, Dinosaurs- has DNA!)
- Tissue

#### All felony arrests- cheek swab.



## 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

## **Variation Among STRs**

Choosing which STRs:

Significant statistical variation – but not too many. Freq. that are measured in pop. : Loc 1 -10%. Loc 2 - 10%; locus 1+2 -1/100. Random match with 13 primers (used now): 1/10<sup>13</sup>. (There are 6 billion people, ~ 6 x 10<sup>9</sup> people.)

Watch out for different racial types!



## **Multiplex PCR**

- Over 10 Markers Can Be Copied at Once
- Sensitivities to levels less than 1 ng of DNA
- Ability to Handle Mixtures and Degraded Samples
- Different Fluorescent Dyes
   Used to Distinguish STR
   Alleles with Overlapping Size
   Ranges

Most rxns: require 2 PCR (tubes) 7 or 8 primer pairs in one tube– need total of about 2 tubes for 13 different STRs.

> \$20-\$25 per rxn in lab. \$150 incl labor. Cost for forensic up to \$1000.





D tells chromosome 21- Can tell Down's syndrome. (No Down's here.)

#### Human Identity Testing with Multiplex STRs Amelogenin protein is involved in tooth enamel and happens to be on sex chromosome



Simultaneous Analysis of 10 STRs and Gender ID

# FBI's CODIS DNA Database

- <u>Combined DNA Index System</u> -- all 50 states can upload their convicted felony and seq. of unsolved cases.... In Florida to convicted felon.
- Used for linking serial crimes and unsolved cases with repeat offenders
- Launched October 1998
- Links all 50 states
- Requires >4 RFLP markers and/or 13 core STR markers



• Current backlog of >600,000 samples

Except for police errors, and sufficient racial typing, its a done deal

### **Class evaluation**

- 1. What was the most interesting thing you learned in class today?
- 2. What are you confused about?
- 3. Related to today's subject, what would you like to know more about?
- 4. Any helpful comments.

Answer, and turn in at the end of class.