

PV92 PCR

- Extract human genomic DNA and prepare samples for PCR
- PCR Cycle samples
 - Amplify PV92 locus of chromosome 16
- Agarose gel analysis
- Genotype individuals
- Hardy-Weinberg analysis of population genetics



What Is PCR?

Polymerase Chain Reaction

- DNA replication gone crazy in a test tube!
- Makes millions of copies of a specific **target sequence** from template DNA
- Uses heat-resistant *Taq* polymerase from *Thermus aquaticus*

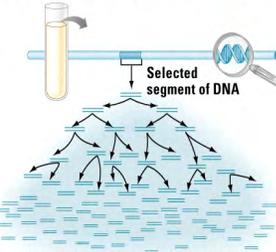


Polymerase Chain Reaction

With PCR, any specific segment—the target sequence—within a DNA sample can be copied many times (amplified) completely in vitro.!

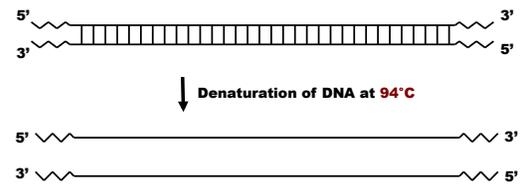
All you need:

- A heat-block that can rapidly and precisely change temperature (Thermocycler)
- Primers bracketing the sequence of interest
- A special heat-stable DNA-polymerase from a bacteria inhabiting hot-springs
- dNTPs
- Buffer & cofactors for the polymerase
- Source DNA as template



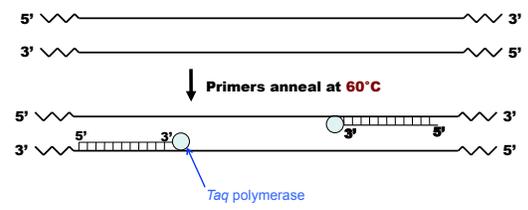
PCR Cycle – Step 1: Denaturing Template DNA

- Heat causes DNA strands to separate (“melt”)



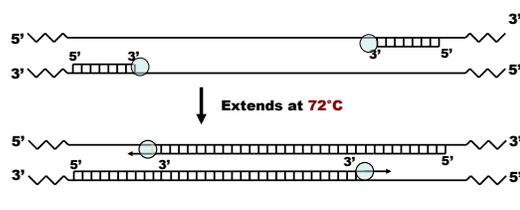
PCR Cycle – Step 2: Annealing Primers

- Primers bind to the template sequence
Actual temp used depends upon primer specificity
- *Taq* polymerase binds to double-stranded substrate



PCR Cycle – Step 3: DNA Extension

- *Taq* polymerase adds dNTPs to extend DNA polymer from 3'-end of each primer
- DNA target sequence is replicated



Polymerase Chain Reaction

TECHNIQUE

The PCR procedure

Each temperature cycle:

- High heat (94°C)
 - “melt” DNA
 - dsDNA → ssDNA
- Low heat (45–60°C)
 - Allow primers to anneal to DNA
- Medium heat (72°C)
 - Reduce nonspecific binding
 - Taq polymerase polymerizes new DNA on template DNA
- Return to Step 1.
 - New DNA from Step 3 also used as template.

Polymerase Chain Reaction

TECHNIQUE

The starting materials for PCR are double-stranded DNA containing the target nucleotide sequence to be copied, a heat-resistant DNA polymerase, all four nucleotides, and two short, single-stranded DNA molecules that serve as primers. One primer is complementary to one strand at one end of the target sequence; the second is complementary to the other strand at the other end of the sequence.

RESULTS

During each PCR cycle, the target DNA sequence is doubled.

- Theoretical yield: 2ⁿ-fold (n = # of cycles)**
- By the end of the third cycle, one-fourth of the molecules correspond exactly to the target sequence, with both strands of the correct length. (See white boxes in Cycle 3.)
- After 20 or so cycles, the target sequence molecules outnumber all others by a billionfold or more.

Figure 20.7

POLYMERASE CHAIN REACTION

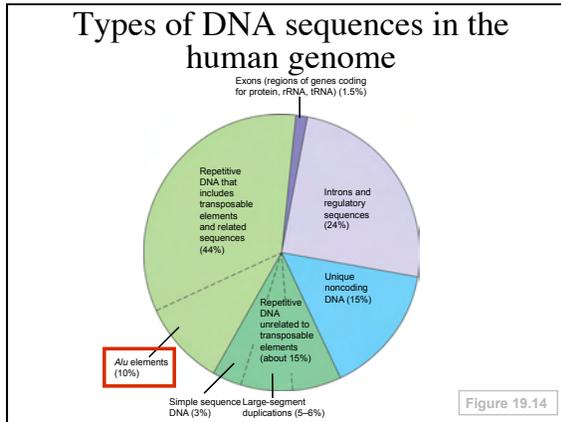
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DNA region of interest.

- DNA is denatured. Primers attach to each strand. A new DNA strand is synthesized behind primers on each template strand.
- Another round: DNA is denatured, primers are attached, and the number of DNA strands are doubled.
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- Another round: DNA is denatured, primers are attached, and the number of DNA strands are doubled.
- Continued rounds of amplification swiftly produce large numbers of identical fragments. Each fragment contains the DNA region of interest.

Polymerase Chain Reaction

Animation from Harvey Lodish, et al *Molecular Cell Biology*



Alu Repeats

- Classified as SINEs (Short Interspersed Repetitive Element) — ~300 bp; highly conserved
- Mobilized by an RNA polymerase-derived intermediate (retroposition)
- Approx. 500,000 *Alu* copies per haploid genome, representing about 5% of the genome
- Named for the *Alu* I restriction site within the element

