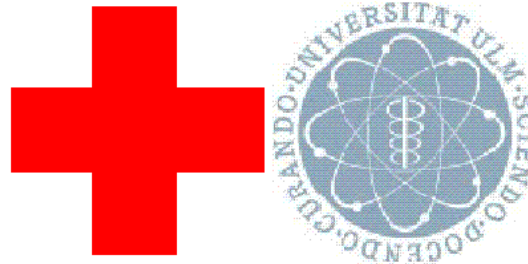


HLA-Typing Strategies

Cologne, 13.5.2017



Joannis Mytilineos MD, PhD

Department of Transplantation Immunology

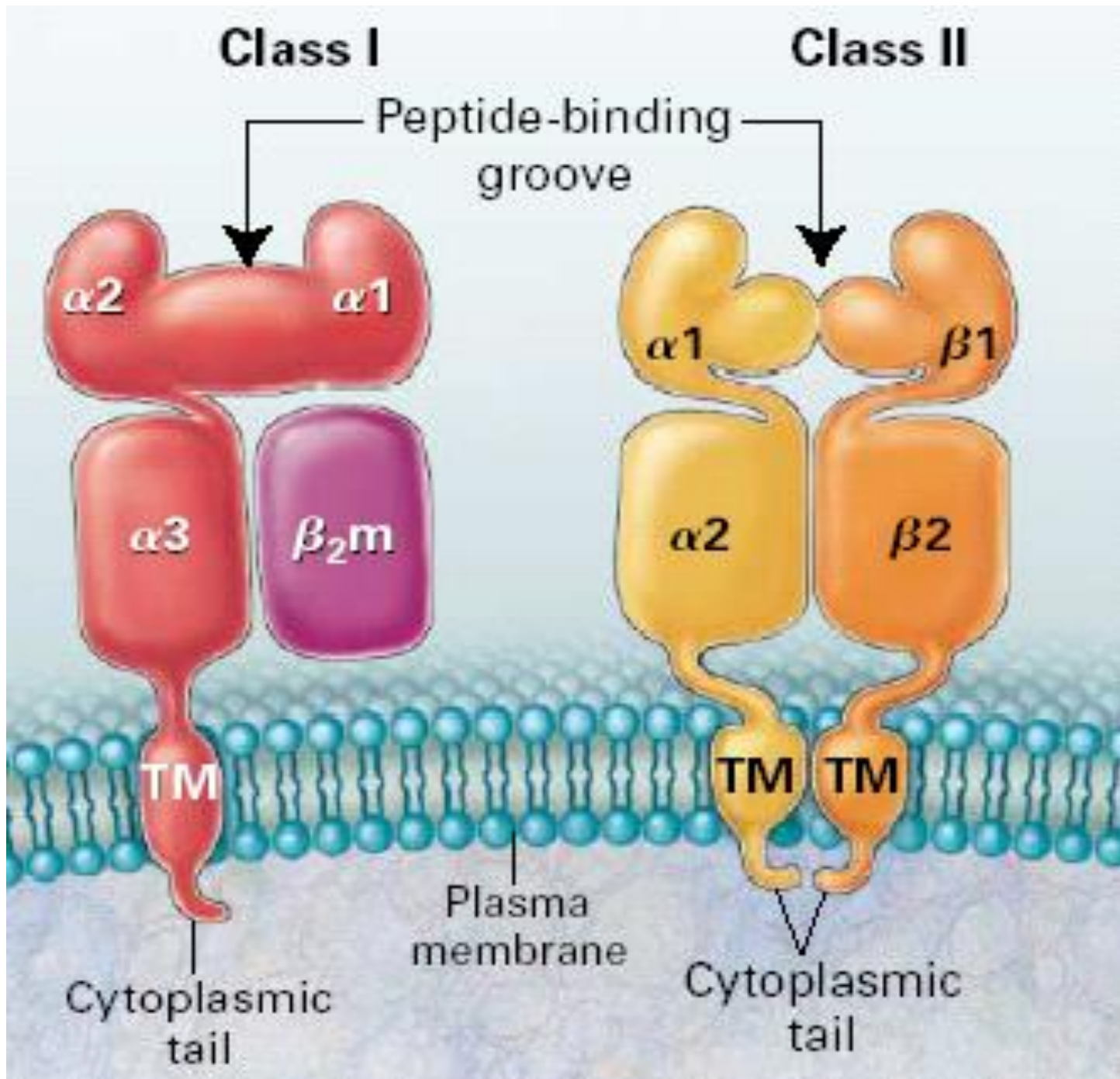
Institute for Clinical Transfusion Medicine and Immunogenetics

German Red Cross Blood Transfusion Service, and

Department of Transfusion Medicine - University Clinic Ulm

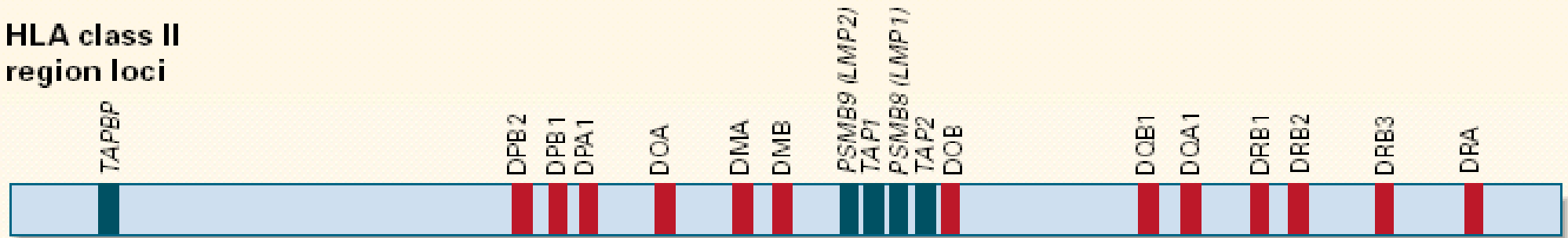
Ulm, Germany



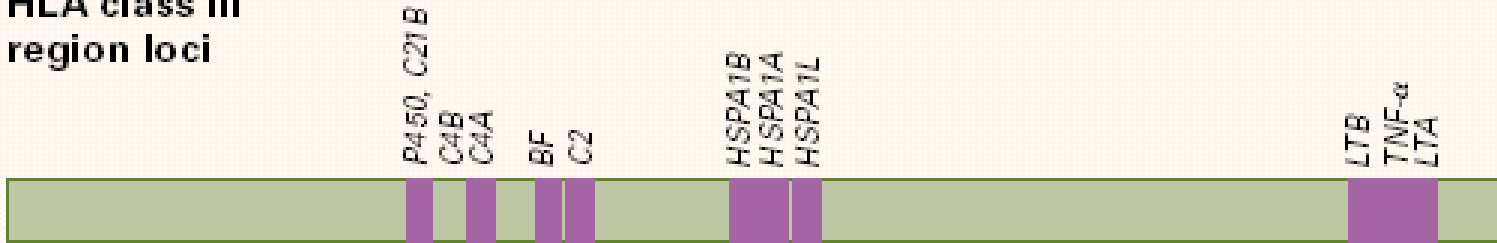


Human MHC

HLA class II region loci



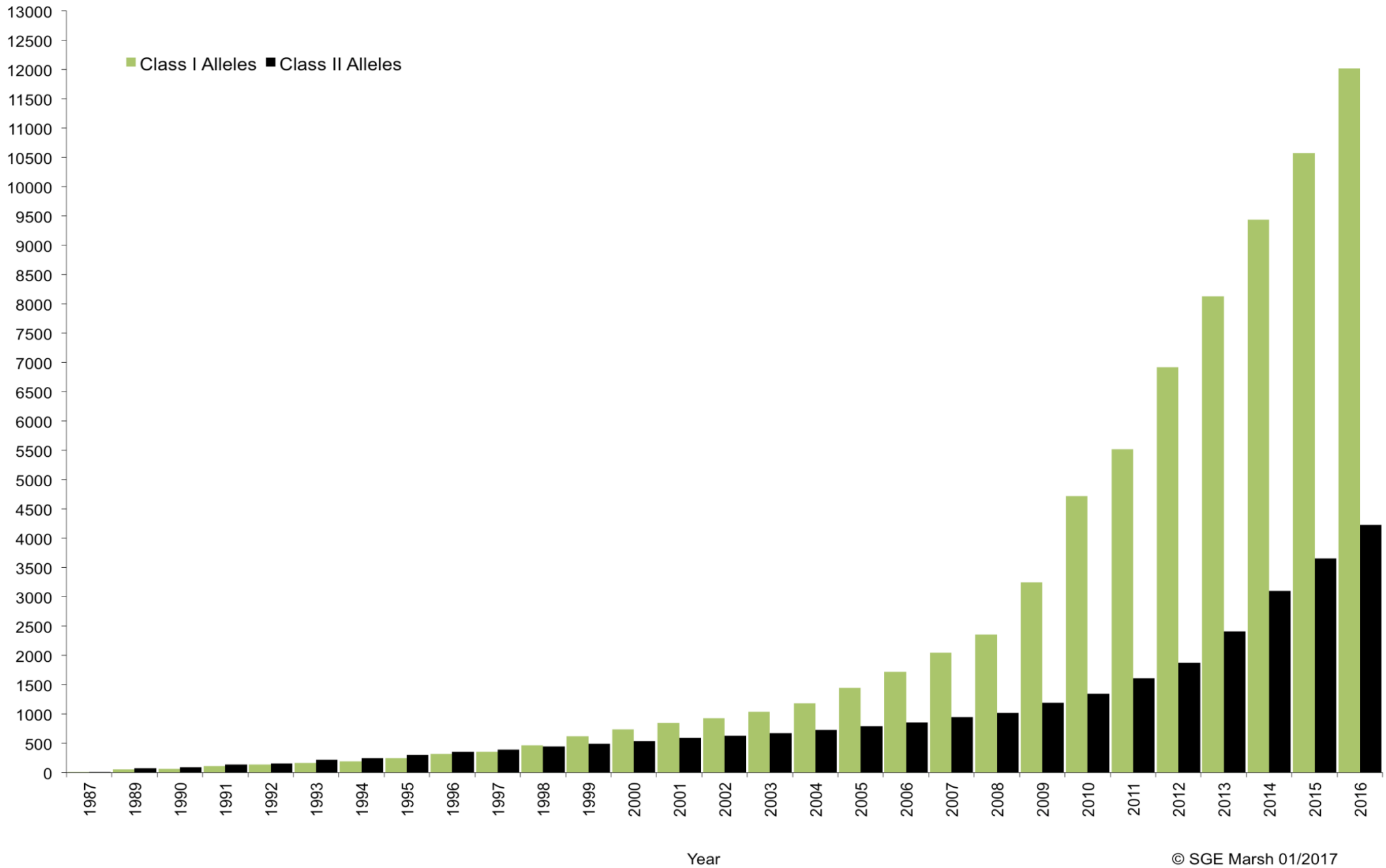
HLA class III region loci



HLA class I region loci



Annual increase of known HLA-Alleles



Current Number of recognized HLA-Alleles

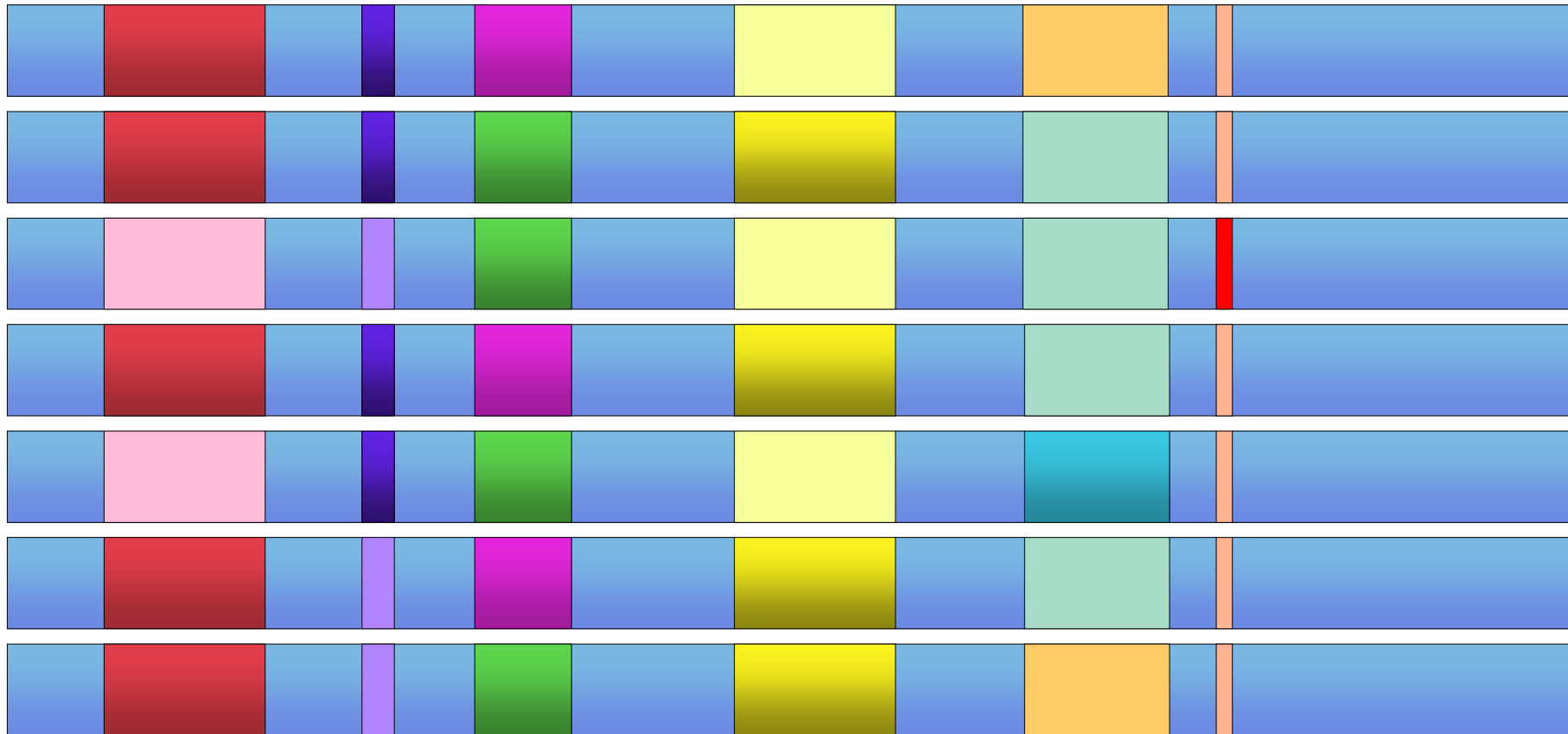
Apr 2017/(Dec. 2008) /<http://hla.alleles.org/nomenclature/stats.html>

HLA-A	3.830 (733)
HLA-B	4.647 (1.115)
HLA-Cw	3.382 (392)
HLA-DRB	2.252 (697)
HLA-DQB1	1.054 (95)
HLA-DPB1	740 (132)

A total of 16.251 HLA Alleles as of Apr. 2017



HLA alleles possess a “patchwork” pattern of polymorphism



Inheritance of HLA

	Mother		Father		Child 1		Child 2		Child 3		Child 4	
HLA-A:	01:01	29:01	02:05	03:01	29:01	03:01	01:01	03:01	29:01	03:01	01:01	02:05
HLA-B:	08:01	35:03	08:01	40:01	35:03	40:01	08:01	40:01	35:03	40:01	08:01	08:01
HLA-Cw:	07:01	04:01	03:03	07:02	04:01	07:02	07:01	07:02	04:01	07:02	07:01	03:03
HLA-DRB1*:	07:01	03:01	13:01	08:01	03:01	08:01	07:01	08:01	03:01	08:01	07:01	13:01
HLA-DQA1*:	02:01	05:01	01:03	04:01	05:01	04:01	02:01	04:01	05:01	04:01	02:01	01:03
HLA-DQB1*:	03:03	02:01	06:03	04:02	02:01	04:02	03:03	04:02	02:01	04:02	03:03	06:03
HLA-DPB1*:	09:01	04:01	04:01	15:01	04:01	15:01	09:01	15:01	04:01	15:01	09:01	04:01
	1	2	3	4	2	4	1	4	2	4	1	3



Why do we type for HLA

- Transplantation
 - Solid Organs
 - Kidney
 - Pancreas
 - Heart
 - Cornea
 - Bone Marrow + HSC
 - HLA-A, B for platelet transfusions
- Disease association
 - B27 with AS
 - DR4 with RA
 - DR3, 4 & DQ2, 8 with Diabetes and coeliac disease
- Recurrent foetal loss
- Paternity testing



Methods for HLA-Typing

- Resolution degree
 - Allelic Resolution = > 2 fields: e.g. A*02:01:01:01
 - High Resolution with G-Codes: e.g. A*02:01:01G
 - High Resolution = 2 fields: e.g. A*02:01
 - Low Resolution = 1 field: e.g. A*02
- Method
 - Serological
 - Molecular
 - Cellular
 - Biochemical



HLA Typing for Donor Registries

Considerations

- Typing Quality – Errors make the Registry unattractive
- Typing Resolution – „Two fields“ currently sufficient
- Number of Loci – The more the better
- Expenses – The cheaper the better
- Data Handling – The lesser the better
- Only 1% of the donors typed will be needed





Classical Methods

• Serological Typing (CDC)

- NIH-Test, LCT, Micro-lympho-cytotoxicity test

• Cellular Tests

- MLC (Mixed Lymphocyte Culture)
- PLT (Primed Lymphocyte Typing)

• Biochemical Typing

- One-dimensional, isoelectric focussing
- Two-dimensional, isoelectric focussing

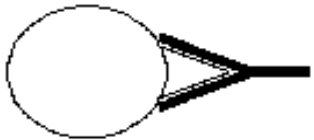
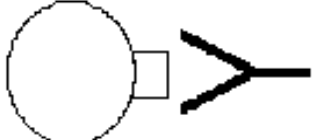
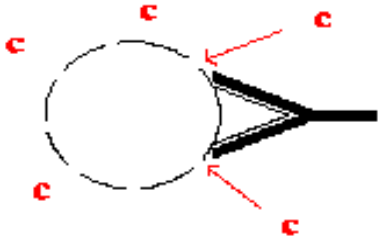
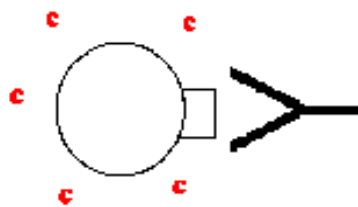




Serology

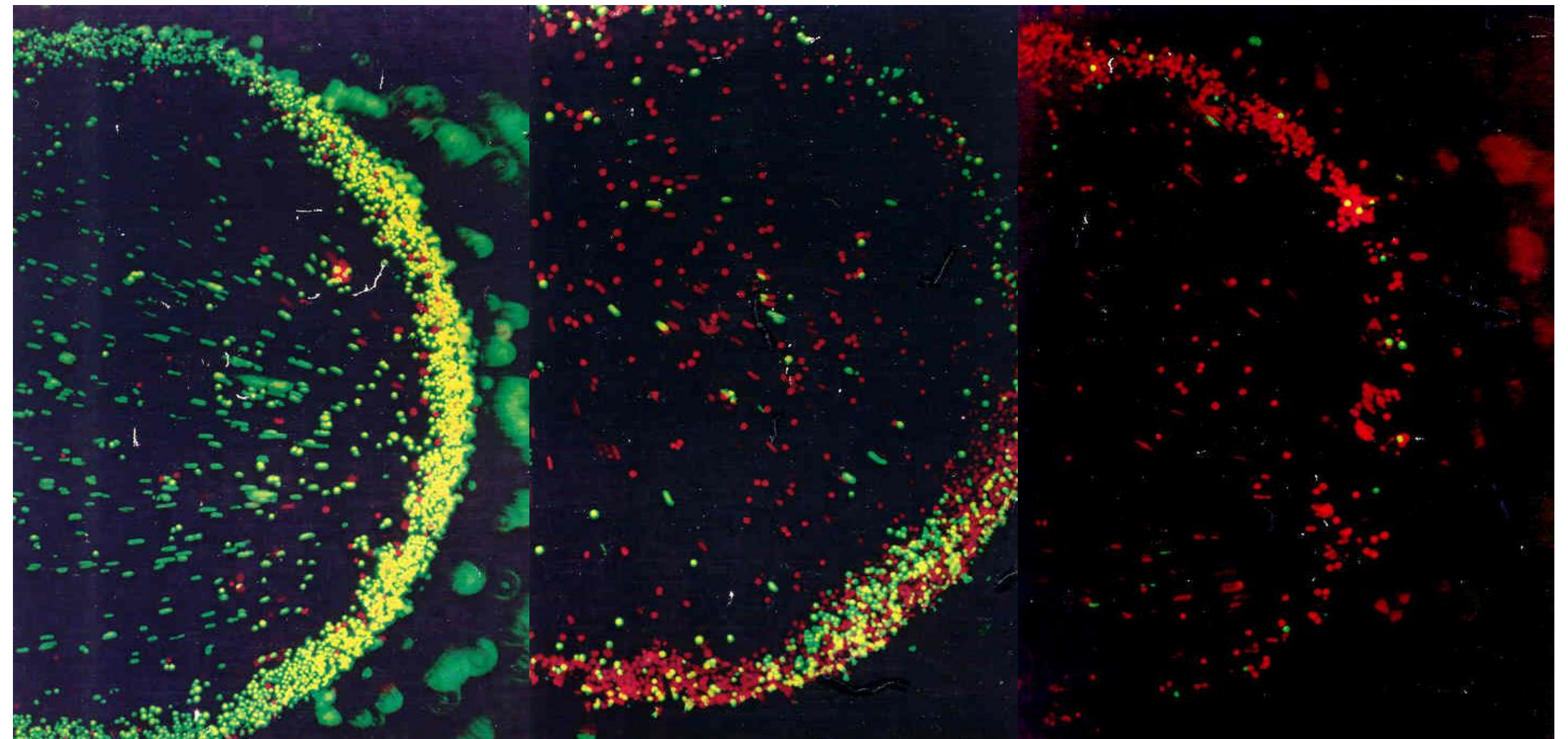
- **Pros:**
 - Low implementation costs (no expensive equipment)
 - Cheap and quick
- **Cons:**
 - Low Resolution
 - Fresh material required!
 - Insufficient quality for HLA-class II Typing



Microlymphocytotoxicity Test

	+ve Reaction	-ve Reaction
<p>HLA antiserum (Ab) + lymphocyte suspension (Ag)</p> <p>(Ag - Ab reaction)</p>		
<p>Complement dependent cell lysis</p>		
<p>Staining with AO/EB/Hb</p> <p>(as seen through microscope)</p>		





SCORING

Percent dead cells	Score	Interpretation
0 - 10%	1	negative
11 - 20%	2	possibly negative
21 - 50%	4	weakly positive
51 - 80%	6	positive
81 - 100%	8	strongly positive
	0	not interpretable



	PL.1:"B10 1 "	PL.2:"B10 2 "	PL.3:"B10 3 "
Kav.	R. sp1sp2sp3sp4sp5sp6sp7sp8	R. sp1sp2sp3sp4sp5sp6sp7sp8	R. sp1sp2sp3sp4sp5sp6sp7sp8
A: 1	1 - - - - -	1 - - - - -	1 - - - - -
B: 1	8 + + + + +	8 + + + + +	8 + + + + +
C: 1	8 A 1	1 B12	1 B37
D: 1	8 A 1	1 B44	1 B37
E: 1	8 A 1A36	1 B44	1 B37
F: 1	8 A 1A36	1 B44	1 B40B13
F: 2	8 A 2	1 B45	1 B40B13B47
E: 2	8 A 2	1 B45	1 B40
D: 2	8 A 2	1 B13	1 B60
C: 2	8 A 2A28	1 B13	1 B40B13B41B47B48
B: 2	1 A 3	1 B14	1 B40B 7B42B48
A: 2	1 A 3	1 B14	1 B40B13B47B48
A: 3	1 A 3	1 B64B16B42	1 B60B48
B: 3	1 A 9	1 B65B 8B59	1 B60B48
C: 3	1 A23	1 B15B49B13	1 B60B48
D: 3	1 A23	1 B15	1 B61B 7B42B48B55
E: 3	1 A24 +++A24+++	1 B62B75B77	1 B48
F: 3	1 A24	1 B62B75	1 B41B42
F: 4	1 A10A43	4 B75B35	1 B41
E: 4	1 A25	1 B77B 5B49B53	1 B41
D: 4	1 A25	1 B77 B63	1 B42
C: 4	1 A26A66	1 B63	1 B42
B: 4	1 A26A66	1 B76	1 B46B77
A: 4	1 A26	1 B16	1 B46
A: 5	1 A34 A66	1 B16	1 B47B27
B: 5	1 A34	1 B38	1 B47B27
C: 5	1 A66A11	1 B38	1 B59B 5
D: 5	1 A11	1 B39B67	1 B59B 8
E: 5	1 A11	1 B39	8 B70B21B15B53B46B56
F: 5	1 A28	8 B17B63	1 B70B12B21B15B56B41
F: 6	1 A28	8 B17	1 B70B62B75
E: 6	1 A69	6 B57B15B49B46B52	1 B71B56
D: 6	1 A29	6 B57B15	1 B73
C: 6	1 A29A43	2 B57B15B46	1 B73
B: 6	1 A30A31	1 B57	1 C 1
A: 6	1 A30A31	1 B18	1 C 1
A: 7	1 A30	1 B18	1 C 2
B: 7	1 A30	1 B18	1 C 2
C: 7	1 A31A30	2 B21B45	1 C 3
D: 7	1 A32A31A30A33A74	1 B21	1 C 3
E: 7	1 A32A25 A69	1 B49B52	6 C 3
F: 7	1 A32A25	1 B49	8 C 4
F: 8	1 A33	1 B50B62B75B70	8 C 4
E: 8	1 A33	1 B22C 7	8 C 4
D: 8	1 A33	1 B22B67B42	1 C 5
C: 8	1 A33A34A28	1 B22	1 C 5
B: 8	1 A43	1 B54	1 C 5
A: 8	1 A74A29A31A32A33A43	1 B54B55	8 C 6
A: 9	1 A74A33A32A29A31A30A34	1 B55	8 C 6
B: 9	1 B 5	1 B55B56	8 C 4C 6
C: 9	1 B51	1 B56	1 C 7
D: 9	1 B51	1 B27	1 C 7
E: 9	1 B52B44	1 B27	1 C 7
F: 9	1 B52 B49	1 B27	1 C 8 C 3
F: 10	1 B 7	8 B35B53B 5	8 B 4B50
E: 10	1 B 7	4 B35B53	8 B 4
D: 10	1 B 7B27	6 B35B53	8 B 4
C: 10	1 B 8	8 B35B75	8 B 6
B: 10	1 B 8	1 B53B 5	8 B 6
A: 10	1 B 8B59	1 B53B 5	8 B 6

HLA/A	1.2
HLA/B	35.57
HLA/C	4.6
HLA/DR	7.13



Molecular Methods for HLA-Typing

- **PCR-SSP**
- **PCR-SSO**
 - **Luminex**
- **SBT – Sanger**
- **Next Generation Sequencing (NGS)**
 - Amplicon Based
 - Whole Gene



Class I Primer Design

DNA



Exon

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

E2 + E3



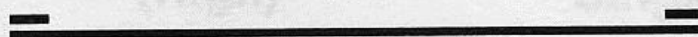
E2 + E2-E3



I1 - I3



E1 - E3



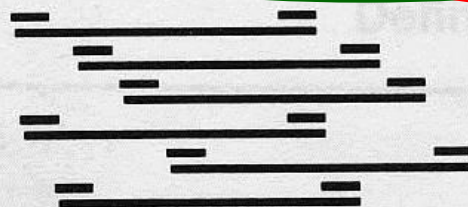
5'UT - I3



E1 - E5



Series of
Primer Pairs
E2 - E3

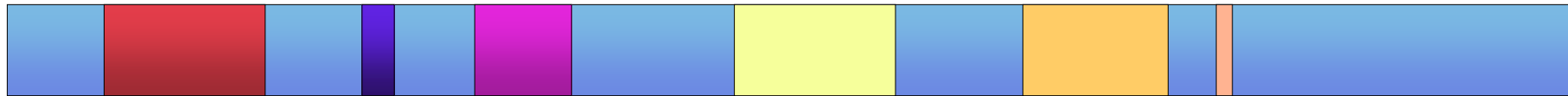


PCR-SSO,
SBT, NGS

PCR-SSP, SBT

PCR-SSP

Sequence Specific Primer Design



Primer 1

Primer 2



Primer 3

Primer 4



Primer 5

Primer 6



Primer 1

Primer 7



PCR-SSP - Workflow

DNA-Isolation



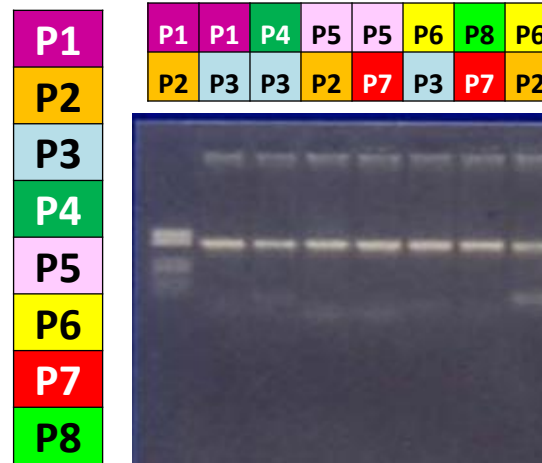
PCR with sequence-specific Primer-combinations



Electrophoresis



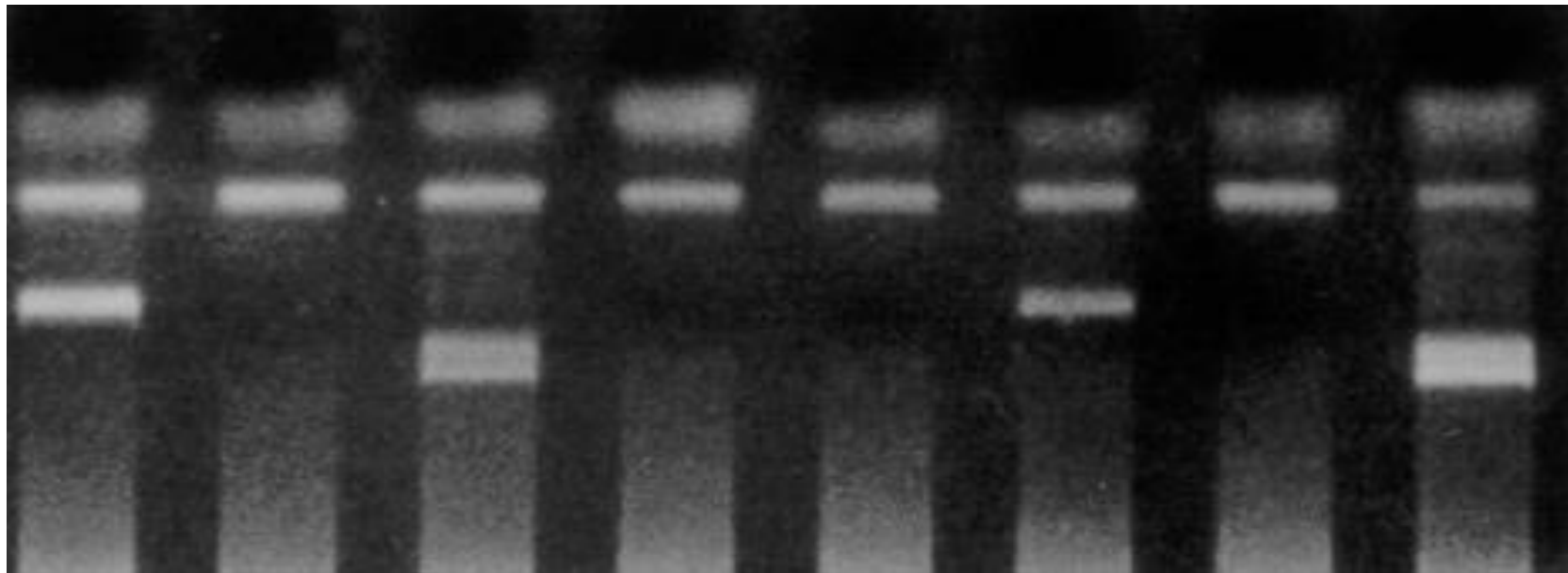
Reading and Interpretation



Example of a simple PCR-SSP-Typing

P1	P1	P4	P5	P5	P6	P8	P6
P2	P3	P3	P2	P7	P3	P7	P2

Mix Nr. 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8



+ - + - - + - +
 DQB1* 05:01 06 05/06 02 0301 03:02 03:03 03/04

Typing Result: DQB1*03:02, 05:01



PCR-SSP

- **Pros:**

- Low implementation costs (no expensive equipment)
- Straight forward interpretation of results
- Quickest molecular method (<3 hours)

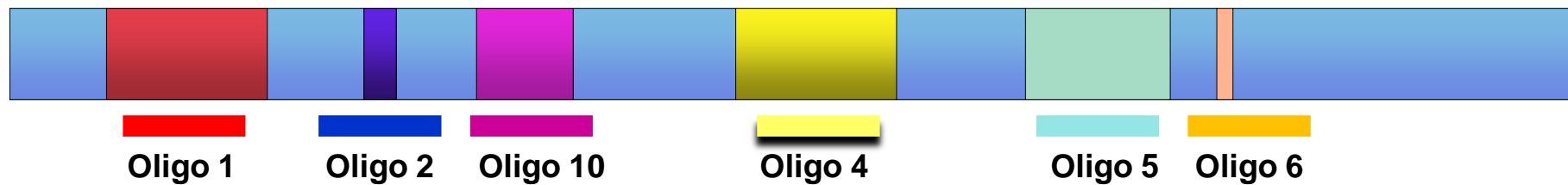
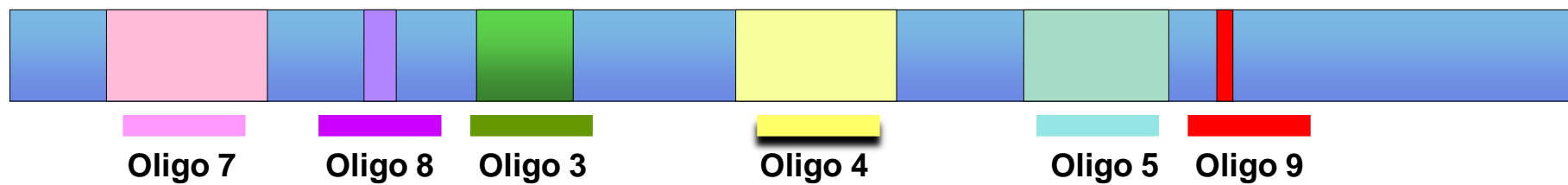
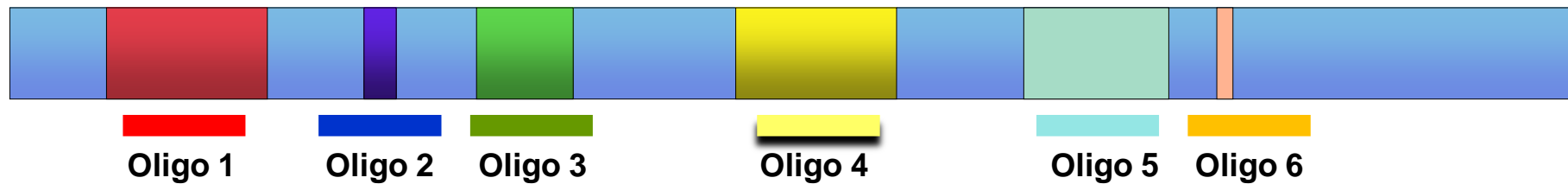
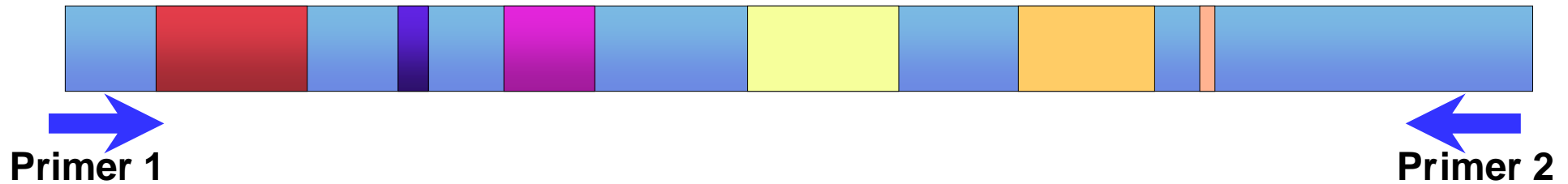
- **Cons:**

- High consumption of DNA (in particular for high res)
- Limited resolution in view of the increas. number of alleles
- Constant need for primer updating – too cumbersome
- Only low throughput possible



PCR-SSO

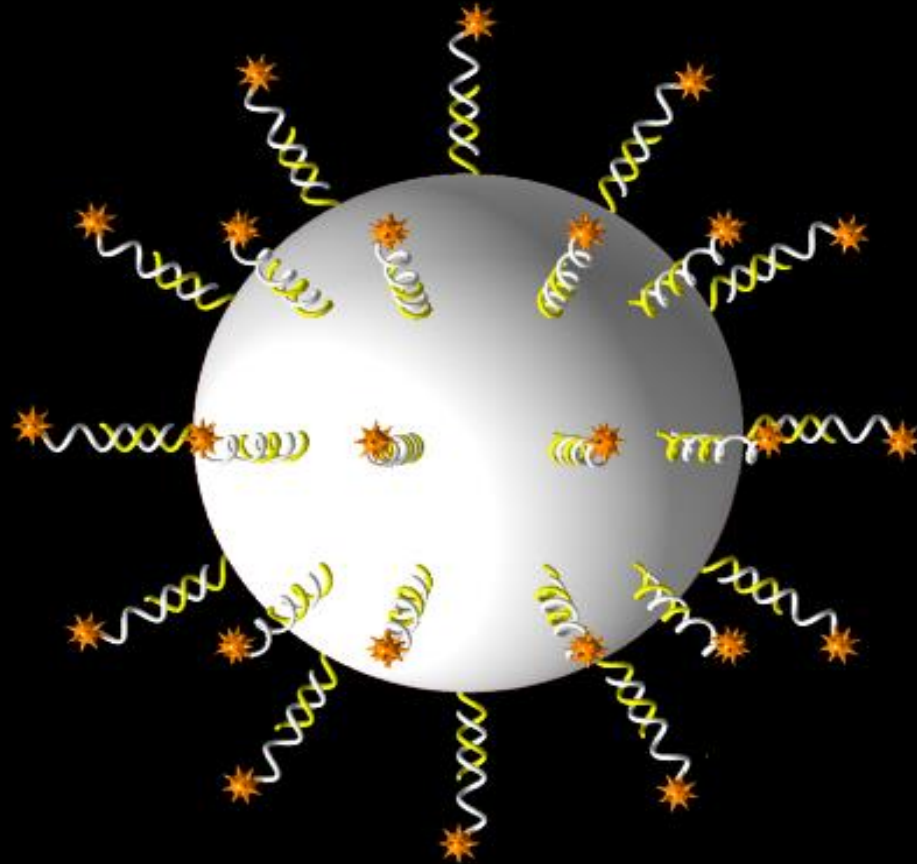
Sequence Specific Oligonucleotides Design

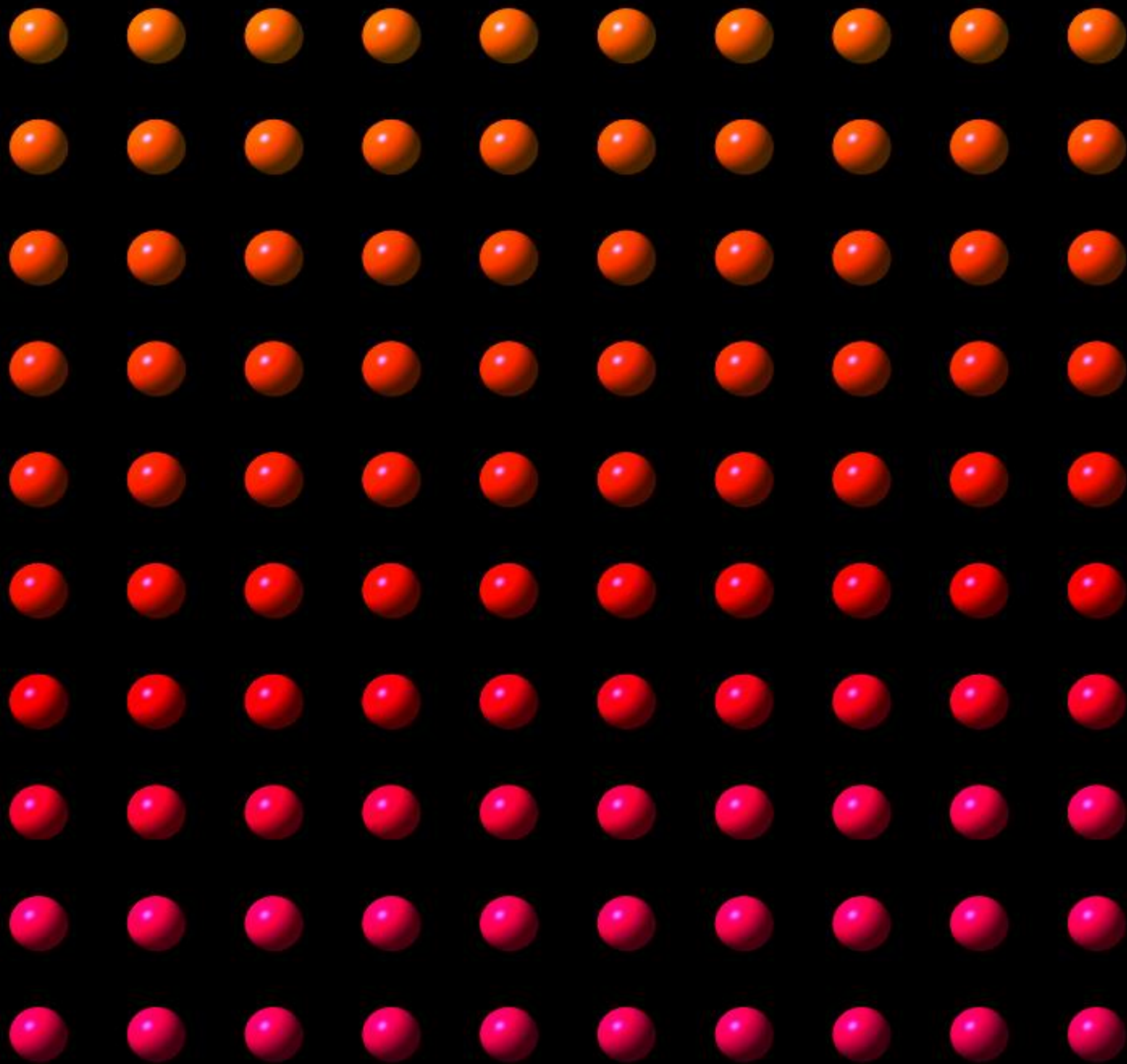


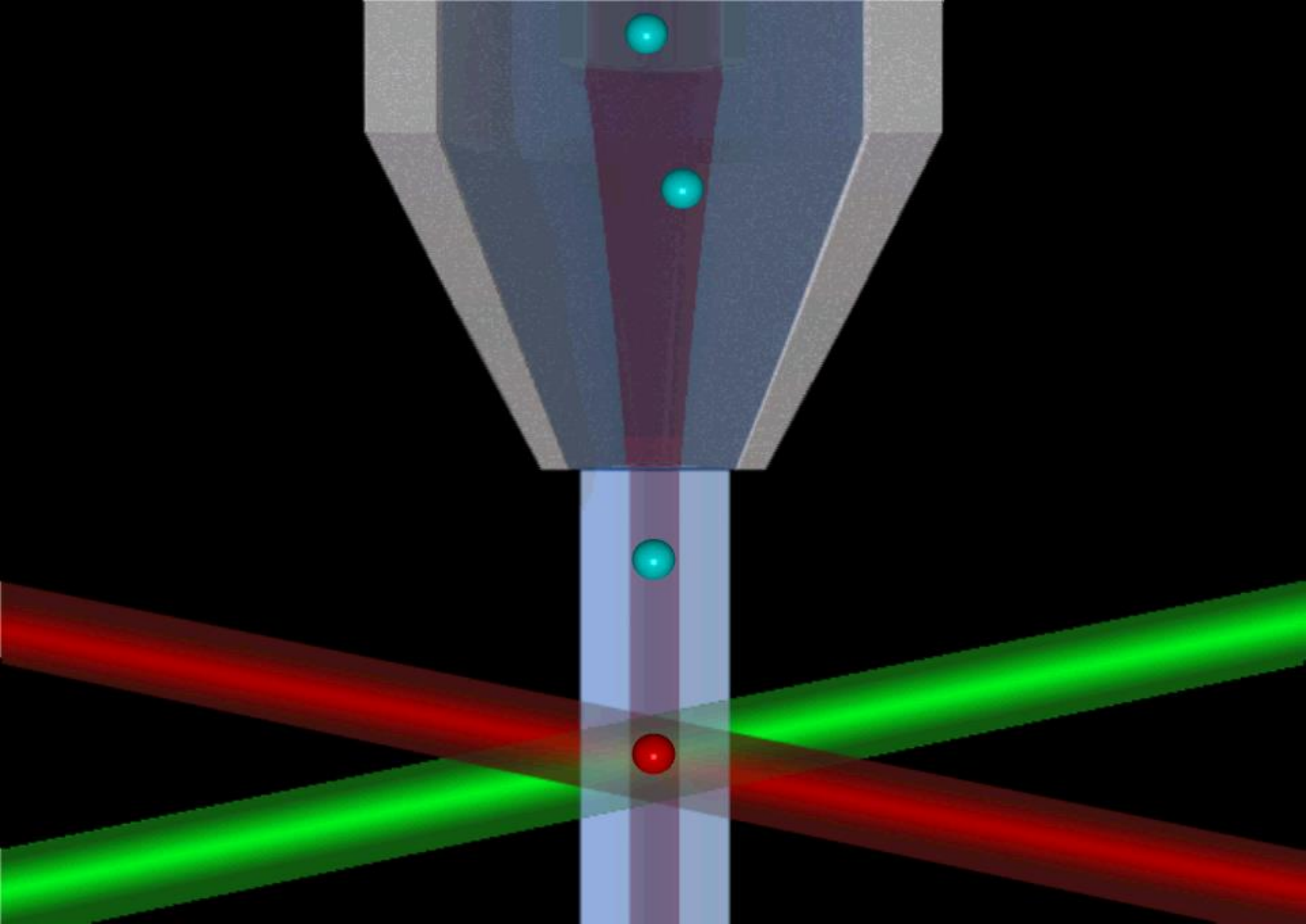
Example of an allele specific hybridization reaction:

Specific bead set is coupled with a **specific oligonucleotide to the surface.**

To develop the biological reaction **an orange fluorescent labeled PCR product is used**

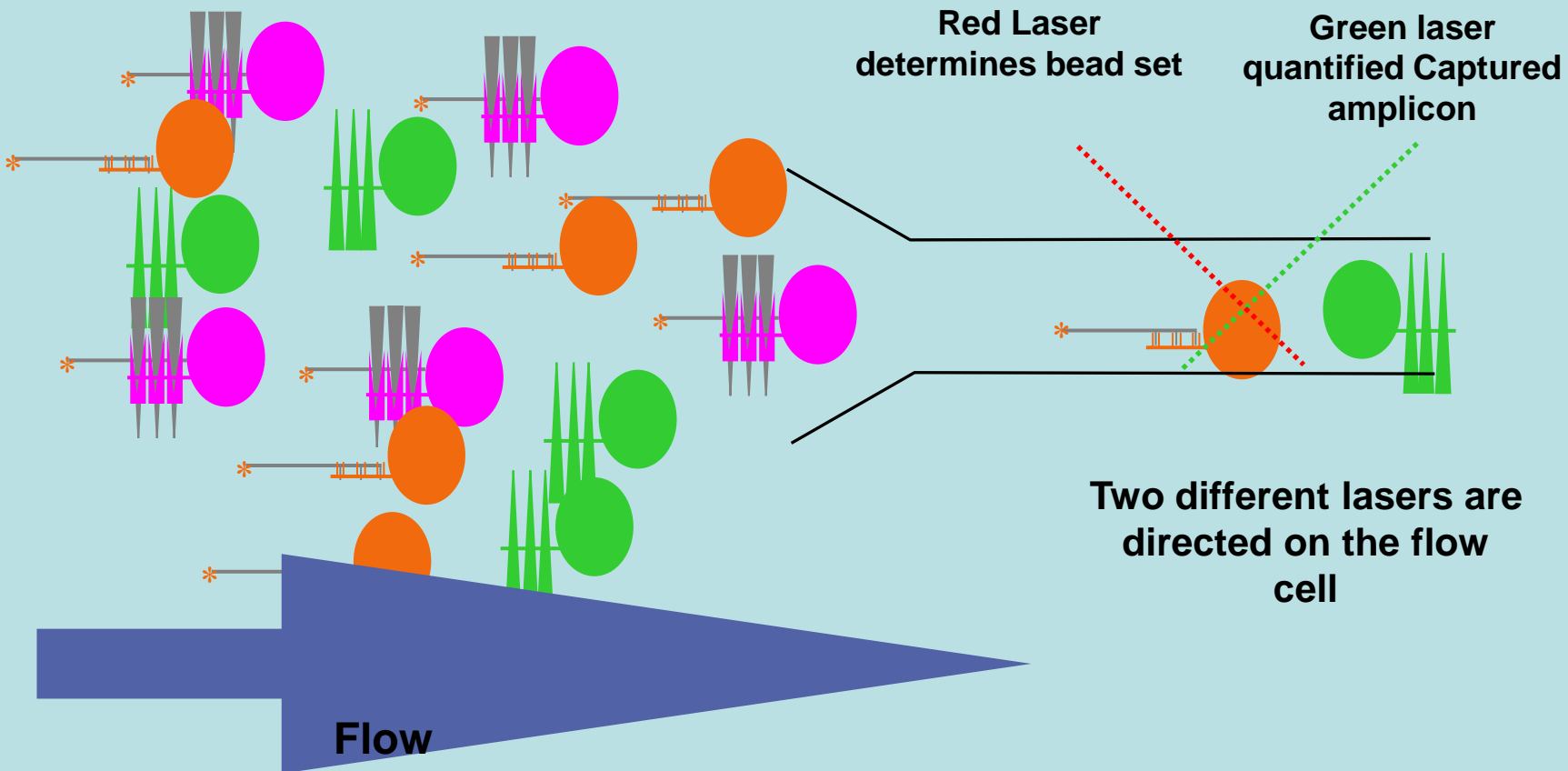






Sample will be taken up by the instrument and will pass the lasers

Detection of Signal



- LABType
- 20051107_DQ
 - 20051107_DR
 - 141544
 - 141545
 - 141546
 - 141547**
 - 141548
 - 141549
 - 141550
 - 141551
 - 141552
 - 141553
 - 141554
 - 141555
 - 141556
 - 141557
 - 141559
 - 141560
 - 141561
 - 141562
 - 249641
 - 249642
 - 249643
 - 249644
 - 249645
 - 249646
 - 249648
 - 249649
 - 259650
 - 249651
 - 249652
 - 259653
 - 249654
 - 249655
 - 259041
 - 141496
 - 259147
 - 259148
 - 259149
 - 259154
 - 259155
 - 259156
 - 259151

FalseReactions

FalseReactions : 16 FP (2 items)

Allele1	Allele2
DRB1*07APT	DRB1*1339
DRB1*07APT	DRB1*1331

FalseReactions : 61 FP (1 item)

Allele1	Allele2
DRB1*0708	DRB1*13XX2

FalseReactions : 70 FP (1 item)

Allele1	Allele2
DRB1*070102	DRB1*13XX2

FalseReactions : 75 FN (1 item)

Allele1	Allele2
DRB1*0704	DRB1*13XX2

< Collapse

- Matched
- All Alleles
- Type/Subtype
- Closest Hits
- Specificity

DNA

DRB1*0701 **DRB1*1302**

Serological

DR7 DR13

Locked

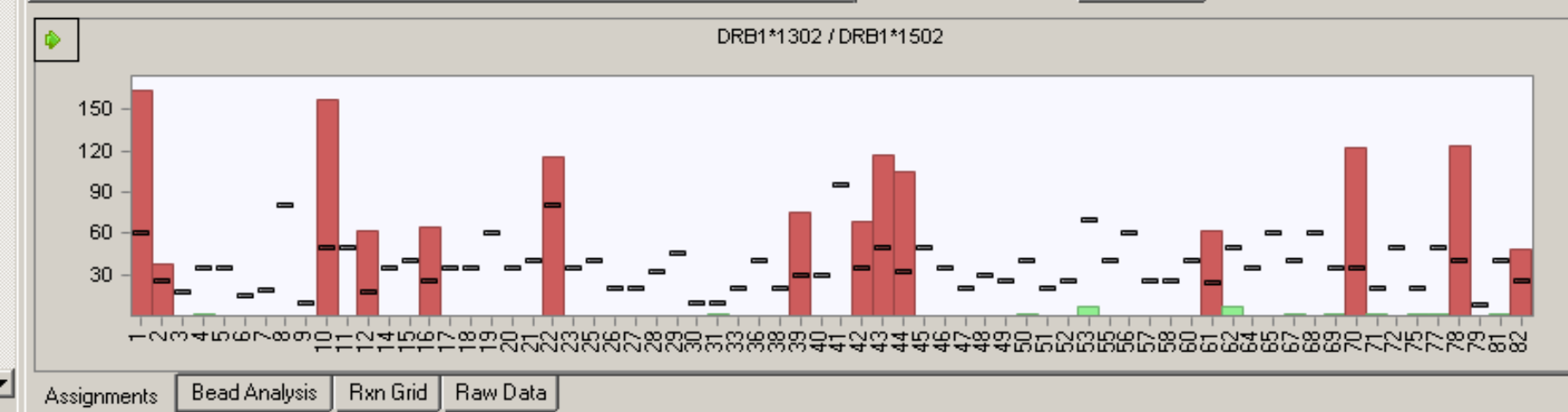
Filter: Europe

-Comments-

No False Reactions
 ** 1 Matched Reaction Pair **
 (DRB1*07APT & DRB1*13XX2) --> (DRB1*070101, DRB1*0703, DRB1*0705, DRB1*0707, DRB1*0709 & DRB1*130201, DRB1*130202)
 4 Close Reactions

Sample ID: 141547
 Date: 11/9/2005
 Birth: 1/1/1901
 Race: Unk
 Patient: 141547

Assignment



PCR-SSO (Luminex)

- **Pros:**

- Simultaneous Hybridisation of one PCR product with >100 oligonucleotides in one single tube (liquid chip)
- High throughput with minimal staff requirements
- Very few DNA material required

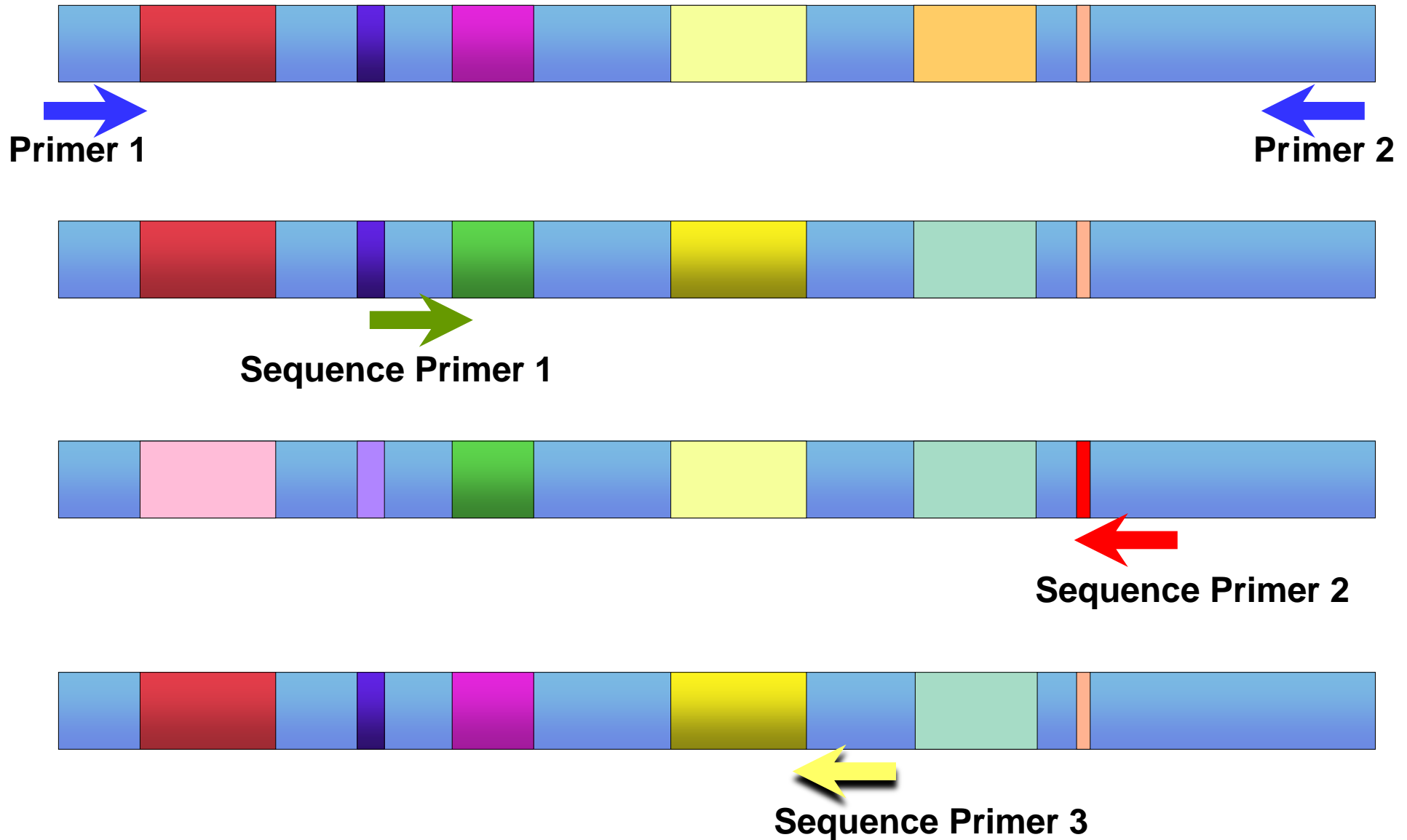
- **Cons:**

- Reagent costs
- Constant need for probe updating – too cumbersome
- Limited resolution in view of the increas. number of alleles



SBT

Sequence Based Typing



Why Sequencing Approaches

A*01:001: AACGCCGATCCGTTACGCTAG
SSO: ???GCC?? ?????????TAG
SSP: ???GCC?? ?????????TAG
SBT: AACGCCGATCCGTTACGCTAG

Some years later.....

A*01:040: AACGCCGACAGGTTACGCTAG



SBT Steps

1. DNA-Isolation



2. Locus +/- Allele-group specific Amplification (PCR)



3. PCR Control



4. Purification of Amplification Product



5. Cycle Sequencing



6. Purification of the „Cycle Seq“ Products



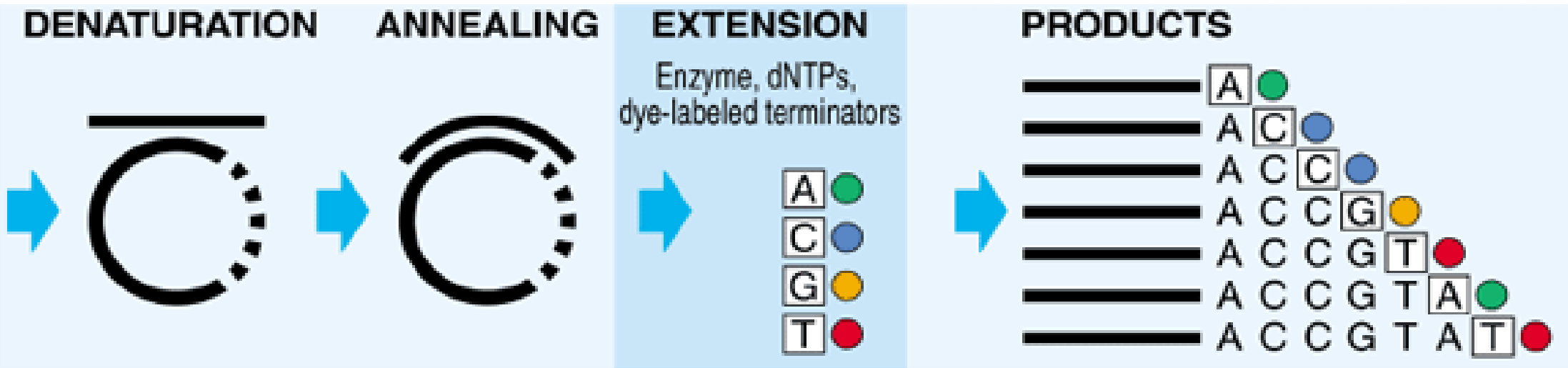
7. Separation of the „Cycle Seq“ Fragments in an automatic Sequencer



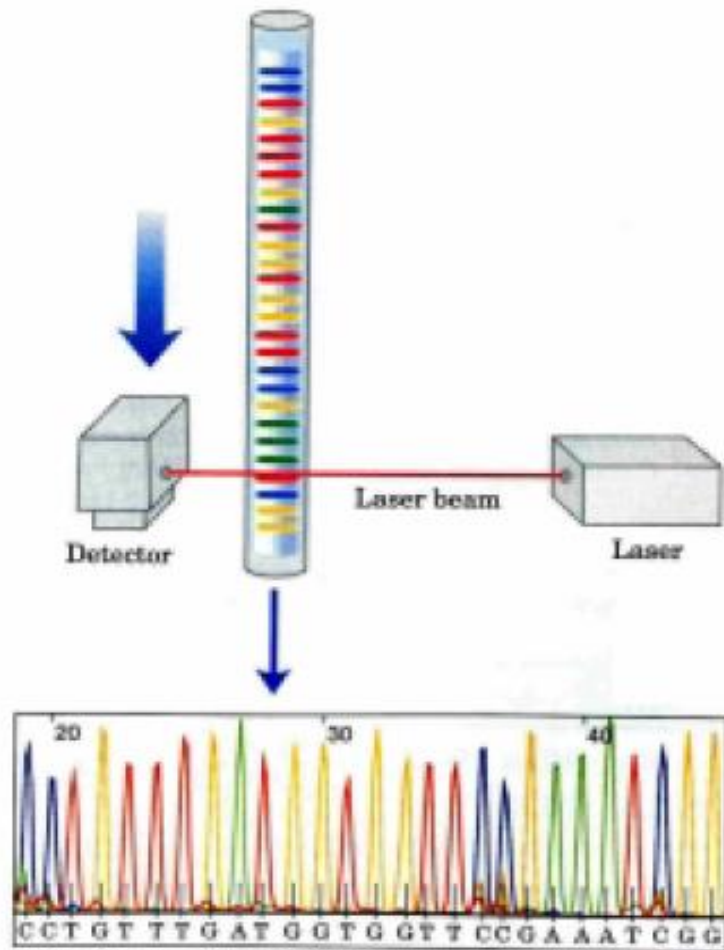
8. Interpretation and Evaluation of the Sequences



5. SBT – Cycle Seq Step

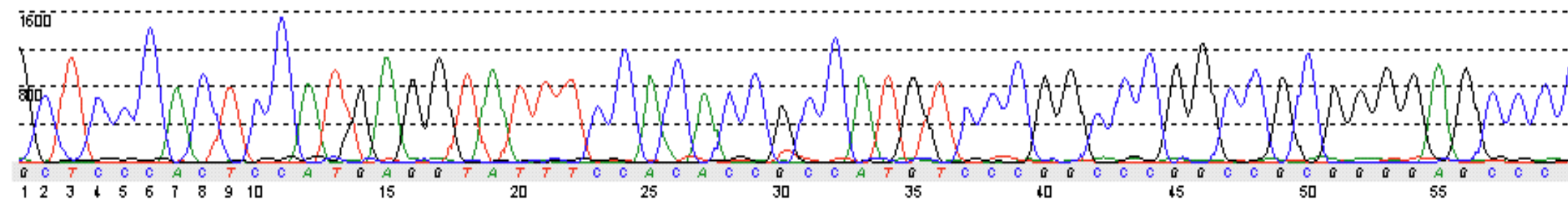
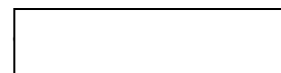


7. SBT – Separation of the Cycle Seq fragments



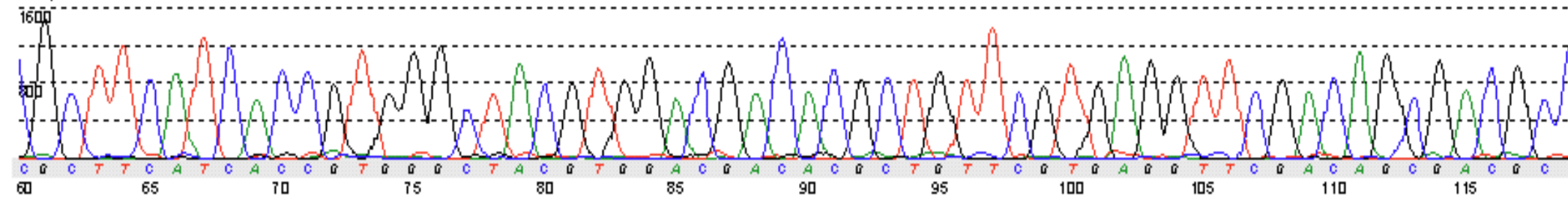
Sequence 1

58(250059_BCG_BE2R)_2005-10-26_031.ab1



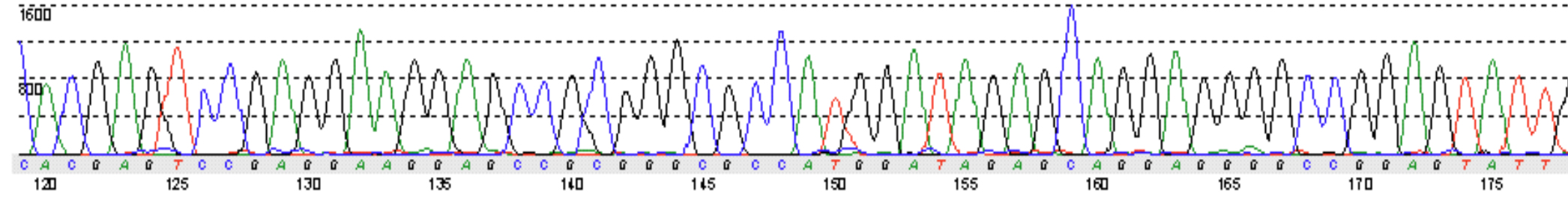
Sequence 1

1/5



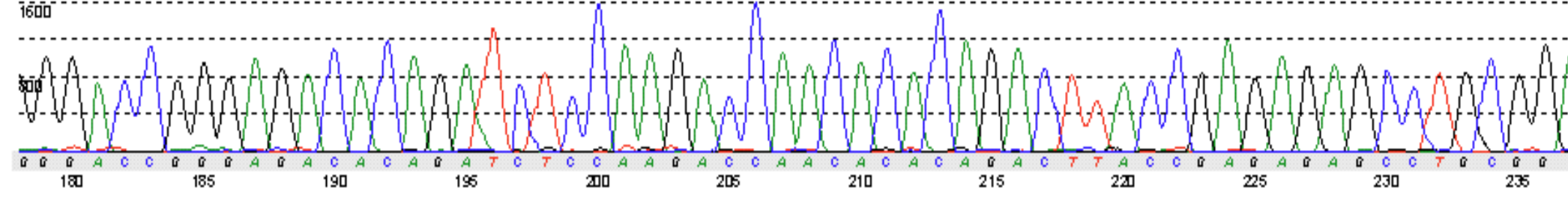
Sequence 1

2/5



Sequence 1

3/5



Sequence 1

4/5



SBT

- Pros:

- High Resolution approach
- Direct reading of sequence information
- Very few DNA material required

- Cons:

- Costs for reagents and equipment
- Rather time consuming and complex if more than exons 2 and 3 need to be considered
- Limited resolution in view of the steadily increasing number of alleles (no cis-trans-separation -> Ambiguities)



Problem: Ambiguities

Allele 1:

Acg**T**TAAggTagcgcATcTgA**ccc**AATCTT

Allele 2:

Acg**C**TAAggTagcgcATcTgA**ggg**TACTT

Sequencing-Result:

Acg**Y**TAAggTagcgcATcTgA**SSSW**WWCTT

Allele 3:

Acg**T**TAAggTagcgcATcTgA**ggg**AATCTT

Allele 4:

Acg**C**TAAggTagcgcATcTgA**ccc**TACTT

Sequencing-Result:

Acg**Y**TAAggTagcgcATcTgA**SSSW**WWCTT

Final Result: Allele 1 + Allele 2 or
Allele 3 + Allele 4

} = Ambiguities



NGS

- Principle:
 - Massive Parallel Sequencing
 - Different Platforms and Technologies
(Illumina, PGM, PacBio, Nanopore etc)
- Resolution: High, Maximum



Why NGS?

- Reduction of Expenses due to the massive parallel testing feasible by the use Multiplex Identifier Sequences (MID)
- Higher Resolution and avoidance of Ambiguities.
- Higher Throughput
- More Information (more Loci) per Test Run
 - HLA-Loci
 - Other Genes (ABO, KIR, CCR5 etc)



NGS Workflow Overview

1. DNA-Isolation



2. Locus specific Amplification (PCR)



3. PCR Control – Quantification steps



4. Library Preparation (differs dramatically between platforms)



5. Quantification - Purification



6. Pooling



7. Sequencing



7. Interpretation and Evaluation of the Sequences



Current NGS Platforms

- ThermoFisher – Ion Torrent (PGM)
- Illumina – Miseq
- Pacific Biosciences RS
- Oxford Nanopore - Minion



Thermofisher - PGM



Illumina - Miseq



Pacific Biosciences - RS



Minion - Nanopore



NGS Typing Approaches

Exon-based typing (selected exonic/intronic sequences)



= Amplicon based

cDNA-based typing (selected exons can be included)



= „Shot gun“ based

Full genomic typing



= „Shot gun“ based

Full length Amplification (5'UTR to 3'UTR) of : HLA-A, HLA-B, HLA-C (~3kb)
HLA-DQA1 (~7kb)
HLA-DQB1 (~7kb)

Partial Amplification of: HLA-DRB1 amplicon ~5 kb (gene ~15kb)
HLA-DPB1 amplicon ~7kb (gene ~12kb)



NGS – Important Molecules

(for Whole Gene and Amplicon Based Approaches)



- Adapter
- Reverse Adapter
- MID (Multiplex Identifier = Molecular Barcode)
- Target Specific Primer (= Locus specific)
- Individual Sequence (Targeted Region)



NGS – Library Preparation

= Ligation of double-stranded DNA adaptors to the ends of the DNA template, that are used throughout the process to amplify, capture, and sequence the DNA.

Two strategies for library preparation depending on the size of the DNA region to be sequenced

Whole Gene (Long range PCR)

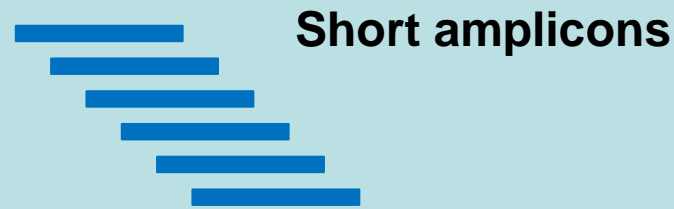
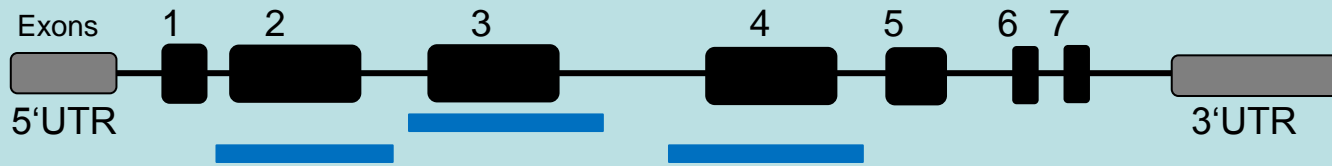
- for targeted regions >500 bases in length
- the starting DNA template (genomic DNA or large PCR amplicons) must be fragmented prior to adaptor ligation.

Amplicon based (Short PCR)

- for targeted regions <500 bases in length
- does not require fragmentation prior to adapter ligation



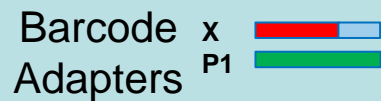
NGS – Amplicon Based Workflow



Purification + Quantification

Pool and end-repair amplicons

Purification



Ligate adapters and nick-repair



Barcoded Library

Purification, Quantification
and dilution

Pool



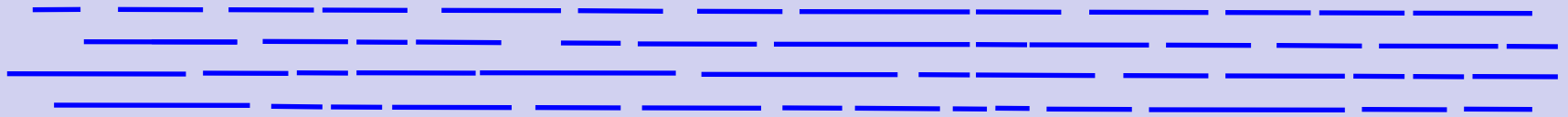
Shotgun Genome Sequencing



Complete genome copies
->Fragmented genome chunks



Shotgun Genome Sequencing



Fragmented genome chunks



NOT REALLY DONE BY DUCK HUNTERS
Hydroshearing, sonication, enzymatic shearing



Assembly

Consensus:

```
TAATGCGACCTCGATGCCGGCGAAGCATTGTTCCACAGACCGTGTTTTCCGACCGAAATGGCTCC
      AATTGTTCCACAGACCG
      CGGCGAAGCATTGTTCC      ACCGTGTTTTCCGACCG
AGCTCGATGCCGGCGAAG      TTGTTCCACAGACCGTG      TTTCCGACCGAAATGGC
      ATGCCGGCGAAGCATTGT      ACAGACCGTGTTTCCCGA
TAATGCGACCTCGATGCC      AAGCATTGTTCCACAG      TGTTTTCCGACCGAAAT
      TGCCGGCGAAGCCTTGT      CCGACCGAAATGGCTCC
```

6x coverage
100% identity

Coverage: # of reads underlying the consensus



Assembly

Consensus:

TAATGCGACCTCGATGCCGGCGAAGCATTGTTCCCACAGACCGTGTTTTCCGACCGAAATGGCTCC

```

                                ATGTTCCCACAGACCG
                                CGGCGAAGCATTGTTCC      ACCGTGTTTTCCGACCG
          AGCTCGATGCCGGCGAAG  TTGTTCCCACAGACCGTG  TTTCCGACCGAAATGGC
                                ATGCCGGCGAAGCATTGT      ACAGACCGTGTTTCCCGA
TAATGCGACCTCGATGCC      AAGCATTGTTCCCACAG      TGTTTTCCGACCGAAAT
                                TGCCGGCGAAGCCTTGT      CCGACCGAAATGGCTCC
```

5x coverage
80% identity

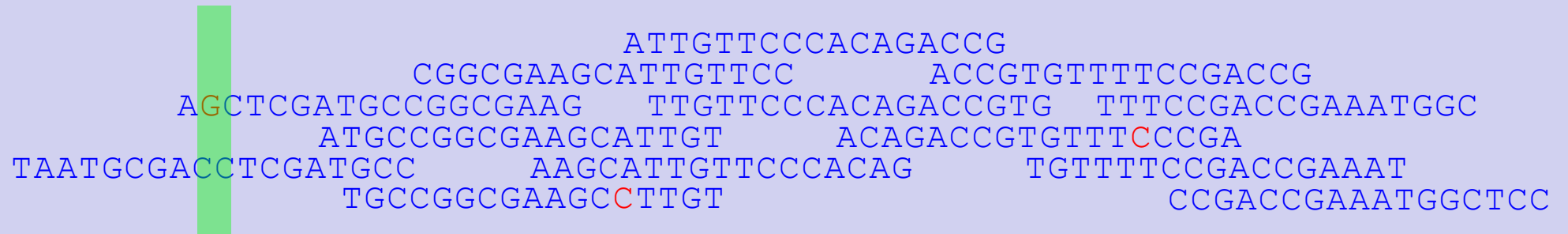
Coverage: # of reads underlying the consensus



Assembly

Consensus:

TAATGCGACCTCGATGCCGGCGAAGCATTGTTCCCACAGACCGTGTTTTCCGACCGAAATGGCTCC



2x coverage
50% identity

Coverage: # of reads underlying the consensus



Assembly

Consensus:

TAATGCGACCTCGATGCCGGCGAAGCATTGTTCCACAGACCGTGTTTTCCGACCGAAATGGCTCC

```

                                ATTGTTCCACAGACCG
                                CGGCGAAGCATTGTTCC      ACCGTGTTTTCCGACCG
AGCTCGATGCCGGCGAAG  TTGTTCCACAGACCGTG  TTTCCGACCGAAATGGC
                                ATGCCGGCGAAGCATTGT      ACAGACCGTGTTTCCGA
TAATGCGACCTCGATGCC      AAGCATTGTTCCACAG      TGTTTTCCGACCGAAAT
                                TGCCGGCGAAGCCTTGT      CCGACCGAAATGGCTCC
```

1x coverage

Coverage: # of reads underlying the consensus

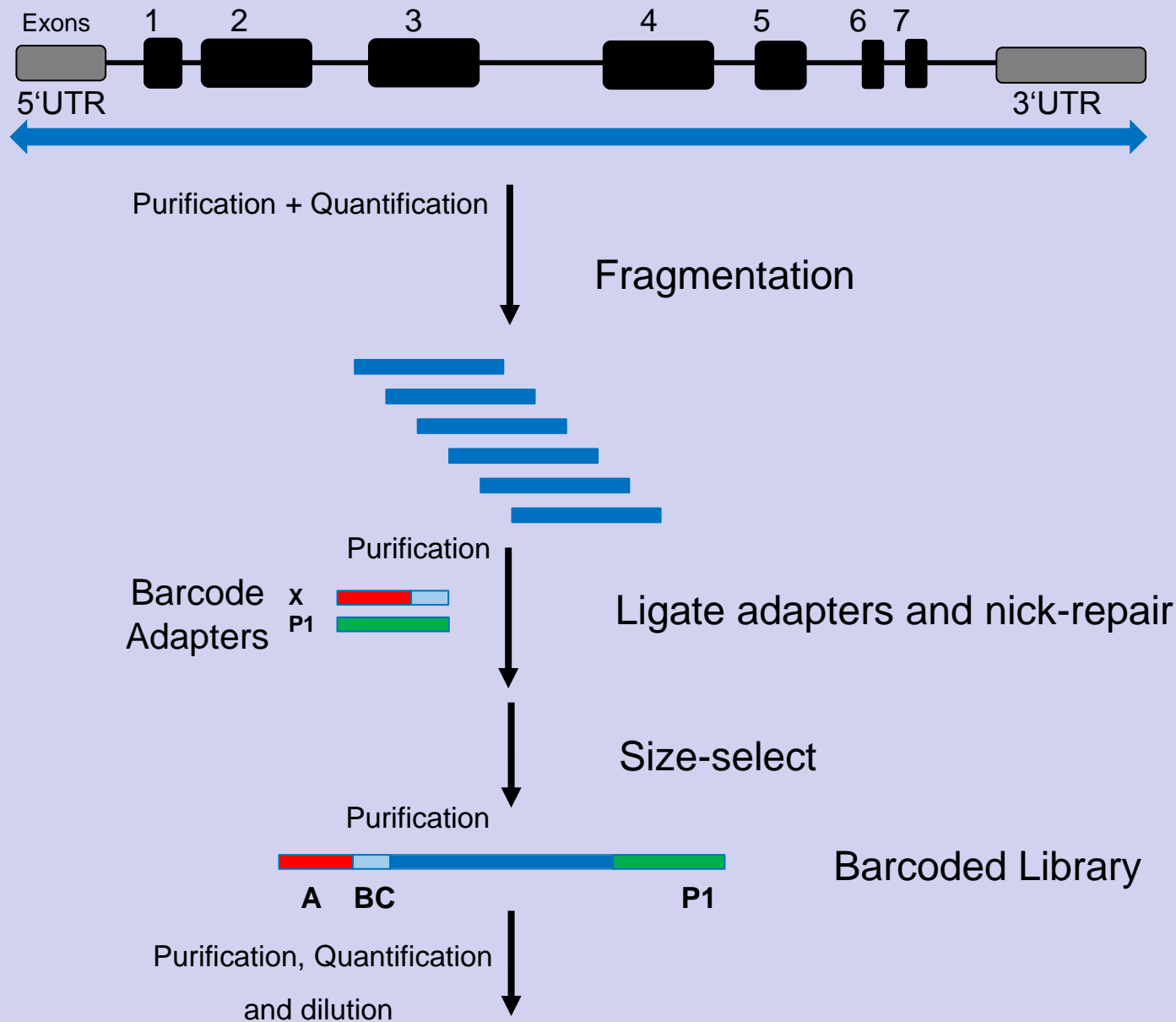


Assembly

The screenshot displays a bioinformatics software interface, likely a genome browser or assembly viewer. At the top, there is a menu bar with options: File, Navigate, Info, Color, Din, Misc, and Help. Below the menu, a search bar contains the text "SG4_454.fasta.screen.ace.12". The main area shows a sequence alignment for "Contig6" with positions ranging from 1090 to 1290. The alignment is presented as a grid of colored bars representing different reads. A consensus sequence is shown at the top of the alignment. The bottom of the interface features navigation controls, including arrows and a "cursor" field, and a "dismiss" button.



NGS – Whole Gene Workflow - Library



Current NGS Platforms

- ThermoFisher – Ion Torrent (PGM)
- Illumina – Miseq
- Pacific Biosciences RS
- Oxford Nanopore - Minion



Thermofisher - PGM



Illumina - Miseq



Pacific Biosciences - RS

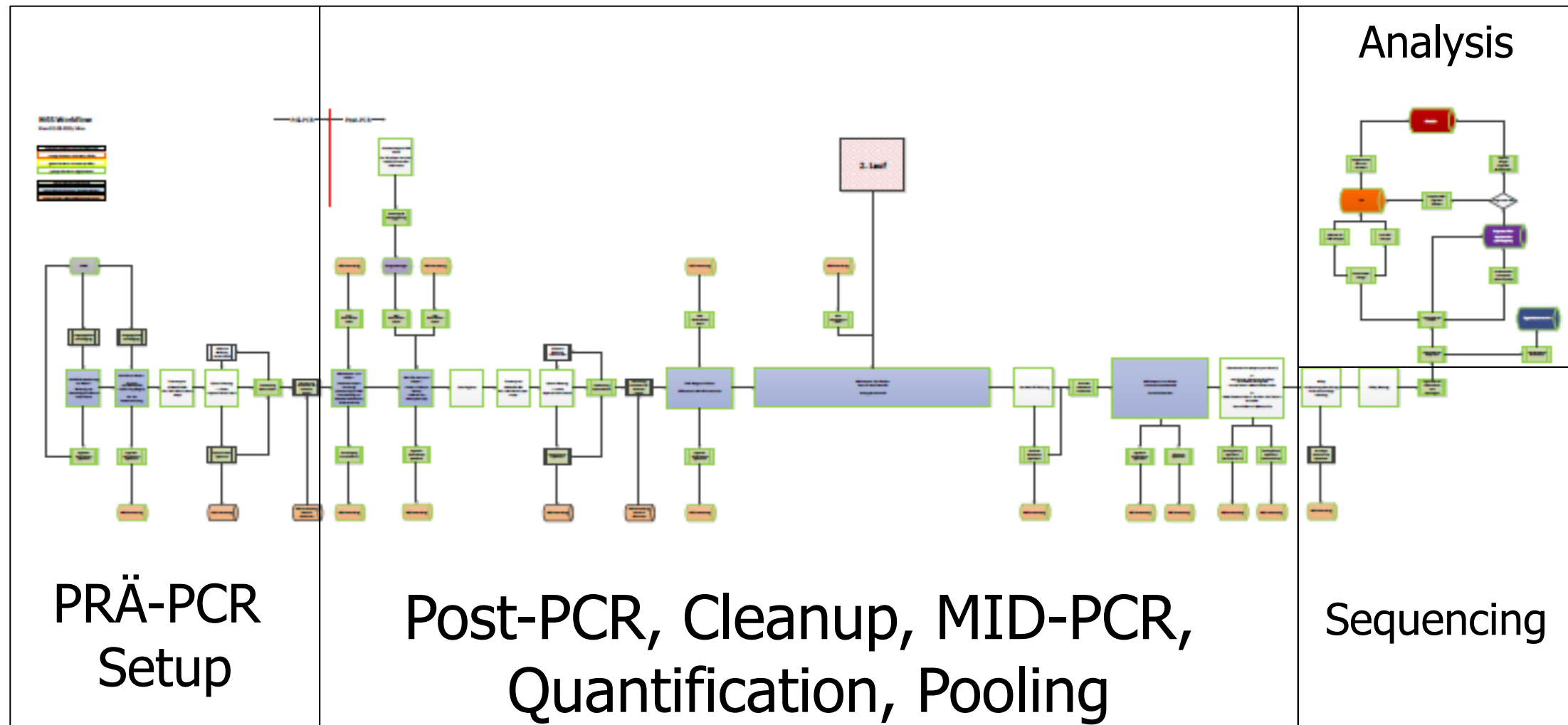


Minion - Nanopore



NGS

Workflow, Automation and Data Processing



NGS – Critical Points

- Fragment length of products to be sequenced – *Platform depended*
- Sequence „Depth“ – *Number of reads per position*
- Sequence „Coverage“ – *reliable sequences per gene area*
- Error Rate of Sequence Reading – *Platform depended*
- Complexity of Library Preparation - *Automation*
- Turn Around Time - *Platform and Approach depended*
- Throughput – *Approach and platform depended*
- Expenses – *Approach depended*
- Data Overload



NGS

- **Pros:**

- Maximum Resolution possible
- Cis-Trans Information provided (less ambiguities)
- Very few DNA material required
- Parallel Testing of large number of Material (= low cost)

- **Cons:**

- Costs for reagents and equipment
- Complex Procedures – Automation mandatory
- Time consuming – TAT significantly longer
- Large data volumes – Data storage and processing logistics required



HLA Typing for Donor Registries

Considerations

- Typing Quality – Errors make the Registry unattractive
- Typing Resolution – „Two fields“ currently sufficient
- Number of Loci – The more the better
- Expenses – The cheaper the better
- Data Handling – The lesser the better
- Only 1% of the donors typed will be needed



HLA Typing for Donor Registries

Recommendation from today's point of view

- NGS – exon based for typing at registration
- ABCDRDQDP at „two field“ level

In order to keep costs reasonably low

And have a reasonably high level of quality and information in an acceptable time frame



HLA-Typing in Future?



Nanopore Technology



