A Decade of PCR

Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory and The Perkin-Elmer Corporation celebrate 10 years of amplification with a videotape library in which Nobel prize winners Kary Mullis and James Watson and 19 other distinguished scientists review the applications and evolution of the amplification technique hailed as one of the century’s most important scientific tools.

In 1995, the polymerase chain reaction will be 10 years old. The technique that began as a late-night inspiration by an unrenowned scientist is now the bedrock of DNA research, gene discovery, diagnostics development, forensic investigation and environmental science. It has built an industry, provoked a court case, and spawned a dozen books, countless papers and a journal. Along the way, it earned its inventor, Kary Mullis, a Nobel prize.

To mark this anniversary, a conference sponsored by The Perkin-Elmer Corporation was held at Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory in September 1994. Beginning with perspectives from James Watson, famed for the discovery of the structure of DNA, and PCR-inventor Kary Mullis, outstanding scientists from a variety of fields reviewed the impact of the technique on their specialties, discussing the present and future applications of PCR technology.

A day and a half of wide-ranging, highly illustrated talks have been captured in this unique videotape library. The collection will appeal to working scientists from the graduate student level upwards who apply PCR to problems in human, animal and plant genetics, cell biology, diagnostics, forensic science and molecular evolution.

CONTENTS

PERSPECTIVES
James D. Watson, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory
Kary Mullis, La Jolla

AN IN-DEPTH LOOK AT PCR
Primers, Oligos and Hybridization
Wojciech Rychlik, National Biosciences, Inc.

Biology of DNA Polymerases
Tom Kunkel, National Institutes of Health

PCR Automation and Genotyping
Stanley Rose, The Perkin-Elmer Corporation

APPLICATIONS OF PCR
Human Genome Project
Glen A. Evans, University of Texas

Human Genetics
Henry Erlich, Roche Molecular Systems

Molecular Diagnostics
Tom Caskey, Baylor College of Medicine

Forensic Analysis
Bruce Budowle, FBI Academy

Gene Evolution/Ancient DNA
Svante Pääbo, University of Munich

Agriculture and the Third World
Richard Jefferson, CAMBIA

Gene Expression in Single Cells
Tim Eberwine, University of Pennsylvania

In Situ PCR
Ashley Haase, University of Minnesota

Combintional Libraries and Rapid Evolution
Andrew Ellington, Indiana University

THE FUTURE OF PCR
Applications of Long Distance PCR
Elise Rose, The Perkin-Elmer Corporation

PCR Quantitation
Francois Ferre, The Immune Response Corporation

Analysis of PCR Products in Microchips
Stephen Fodor, Affymetrix, Inc.

RNA Differential Display
Peng Liang, Dana Farber Cancer Institute

Representational Difference Analysis
Nikolai Lisitsyn, Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory

Summary
Maynard Olson, University of Washington

1994, 7 edited videotapes (10 hours 15 minutes in total)


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