



#### **DNA and Genealogy: The Basics**

Presented to the Pinellas Genealogy Society on October 20, 2007 by Ed Deming

# What will be covered?

- Some Terminology
- Types of DNA Testing
- Basic migration maps
- What kind of genealogy questions can be answered? What can't?
- Who are candidates for testing?
- Where can I get my DNA tested?
- Online databases and tools
- A real Y-DNA example

## Some Terminology

- Allele variant form of a gene
- Genetic marker a DNA sequence with known characteristics that can be tested for comparison purposes
- Haplogroup defined by mutations on Y-DNA or mtDNA; members link to the original appearance of the mutation; frequently geographically related
- Haplotype an individuals complete set of test results; a single difference delineates a distinct haplotype
- Loci positions where particular genetic markers are located

# Terminology continued

- Most Recent Common Ancestor (MRCA) the shared ancestor of two or more haplotypes who represents their closest link
- Mutation rate the frequency at which genetic change occurs for specific markers; used in calculations of MRCA or generation distance of MRCA
- Phylogenetic network/tree diagram a pictorial representation of the relationships among individuals and haplogroups sharing a common ancestor

## Types of DNA Testing in Genealogy

- Mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA)
  - Available for both males and females
  - Changes very slowly (a haplotype could remain unchanged for thousands of years)
  - If you share the same mtDNA you share a common maternal ancestor
    - Could be applied to old hair samples



# Types of DNA Testing in Genealogy

(continued)

- Y chromosome DNA (Y-DNA)
  - Available only for males
  - Shared markers used to determine a probability for a mean time to common paternal ancestor
  - Changes slowly (a haplotype could remain unchanged for hundreds of years)



#### Types of DNA Testing in Genealogy (continued)

- Geographical (paternal or maternal)
  - mtDNA or Y-DNA testing can be used
  - Smaller number of loci can be tested
  - Seven daughters of Eve; or ancestral clans

#### **Haplogroups and Migration Patterns**



#### mtDNA Migrations



Europe

Americas

Na-Dene/Esk/Aleuts

15,000 - 35,000

8,000 - 10,000

mtDNA Migrations Map

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#### **Y-DNA Migrations**



## What use is mtDNA in genealogy?

- Verify or refute martilineal ancestry
  - Determine which of multiple same surname families a female ancestor could come from
- Other?

## What use is Y-DNA in genealogy?

- Broad surname study what family groupings exist for a given surname?
- Are two families with the same surname related?
- Are related surnames descended from the same family?
- Verify or refute descent from a given male ancestor

### What Y-DNA or mtDNA don't tell you

- If you have an inheritable disease or susceptibility
- A certainty of anything. All results are probabilities.

#### Who are candidates for testing?



### Where can I get my DNA tested?

- Family Tree DNA <u>www.familytreedna.com</u>
   100,000+ Y-DNA; almost 56,000 mtDNA
- DNA Heritage <u>www.dnaheritage.com</u>
  - Used by about 75,000
- DNA Ancestry (formerly Relative Genetics) <u>dnaancestry.com</u>
- Oxford Ancestors <u>www.oxfordancestors.com</u>
  - Low resolution tests to determine hapologroup
- National Geographic Geographic Project <u>www3.nationalgeographic.com/genographic</u>

## **Online databases**

- Sorenson Molecular Genealogy Foundation
   <u>www.smgf.org</u> (y DNA and mtDNA)
- y search <u>www.ysearch.org</u>
- Ybase: genealogy by numbers <u>www.ybase.org</u>
- y Chromosome Haplotype Reference Database – <u>www.yhrd.org</u>
- mito search <u>www.mitosearch.org</u>

# Tools

- Y-Utility: Y-DNA Comparison Utility www.mymcgee.com/tools/yutility.html
- Haplogroup predictor <u>https://home.comcast.net/~hapest5/index</u> .<u>html</u>
- mtDNAtool: An mtDNA Analysis Utility <u>http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.com/</u> <u>~glad/dna/mtdnatool.html</u>

#### A real Y-DNA example

 The question to be tested using Y-DNA: were John Deming and Thomas Deming/Dymont, both in Wethersfield, CT in the 1640's brothers as some speculate?



#### A real Y-DNA example (continued)

 An existing surname study for the Diamond Family contained three descendants of Thomas Deming/Dymont

Genetic	Time						
ID	John Deming-1	John Deming-2	John Deming-3	Thomas Dymont-1	Thomas Dymont-2	Thomas Dymont-3	
John Deming-1	37	0	1	10	16	10	IF
John Deming-2	0	12	:0:	5	5	5	John Dem
John Deming-3	1	0	31	10	12	10	John Dem
Thomas Dymont-1	10	5	10	25	0	1	John Dom
Thomas Dymont-2	16	5	12	0	37	:1:	John Den Thomas D
Thomas Dymont-3	10	5	10	1	1	25	Thomas D
Related	oly ed	Thomas D Thomas D					
Infinite allele mutation Values on the diagon	of	0-270					
For Family Tree DN/	- Average						
- For 12 Marker Te	databas						
www.familytreedna - For 25 Marker Te	<ul> <li>Values o tested</li> </ul>						
www.familytreedna	- Probabili						

www.familytreedna.com/gdrules 37.htm

	Time to Most Recent Common Ancestor												
, )	ID	John Deming-1	John Deming-2	John Deming-3	Thomas Dymont-1	Thomas Dymont-2	Thomas Dymont-3						
5	John Deming-1	37	450	/360/	3570	2850	3570						
	John Deming-2	450	12	450	4650	4650	4650						
	John Deming-3	/360/	450	31	3570	3360	3570						
5	Thomas Dymont-1	3570	4650	3570	25	180	450						
8	Thomas Dymont-2	2850	4650	3360	180	37	450						
1	Thomas Dymont-3	3570	4650	3570	450	450	25						
	0-270 Years	300- Ye	570 ars	600- Ye	870 ars	900- Ye	1170 ars						
	- Infinite allele mutat	tion mo	odel is	used									
	- Average mutation	rate va	ries: 0.	.0020 t	o 0.00	31							
	rates derived by Doug McDonald from the Sorenson database												
- Values on the diagonal indicate number of markers tested													
- Probability is 50% that the TMRCA is no longer than indicated													

Average generaton: 30 years

Result comparison

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#### A real Y-DNA example (continued)

 There is very little likelihood that John Deming and Thomas Deming/Dymont were related, except thousands of year ago.

#### Questions?



# An example phylogenetic network tree diagram

