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VISAGE

VISIBLE ATTRIBUTES THROUGH GENOMICS

H2020 -The EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, Secure Societies Challenge.

01/05/2017 – 30/04/2021

Budget: € 5007778.75

13 partners from academic, police and justice institutions of 8 European countries

Aim: Use of DNA towards constructing composite sketches of unknown perpetrators from as many biological traces and sources

Work Package 1: Project management and coordination

Work Package 2: (Epi)Genetic markers for constructing composite sketches from DNA

Work Package 3: Prototype tool(s) based on massively parallel sequencing for constructing composite sketches from DNA

Work Package 4: Integrative statistical framework with prototype software for constructing composite sketches from DNA

Work Package 5: Societal, ethical, and regulatory dimensions of constructing composite sketches from DNA for forensic applications

Work Package 6: Implementing the construction of composite sketches from DNA in the routine forensic DNA service environment

Work Package 7: Training of relevant target groups on constructing composite sketches from DNA in forensic applications and disseminating

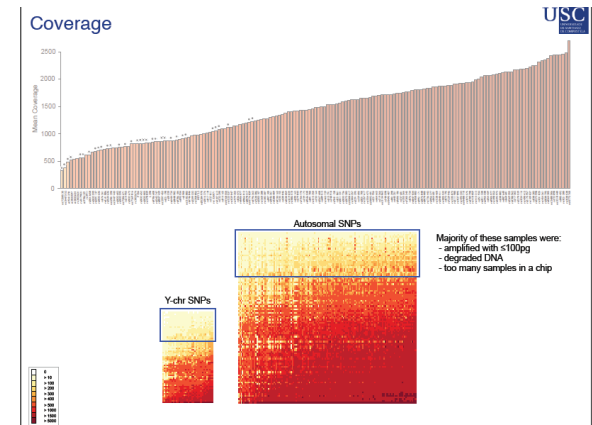
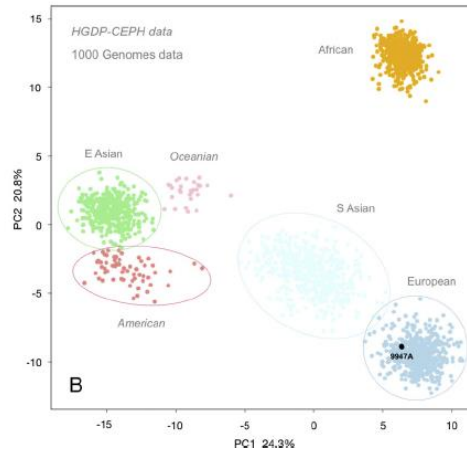
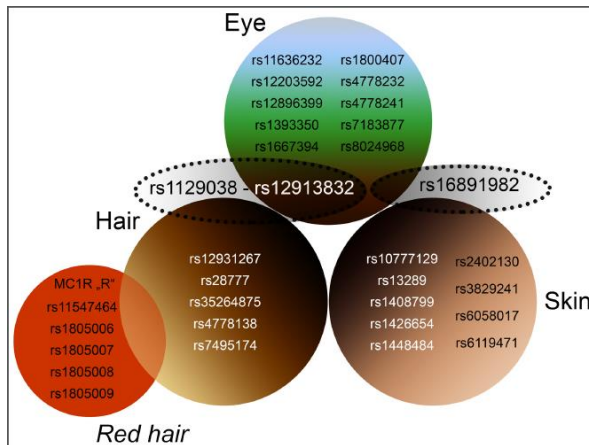
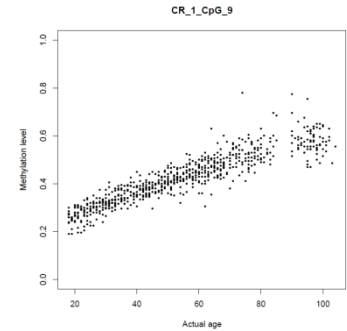
Work Package 8: Ethics requirements

Objectives

Allocate previous and establish new DNA predictors for as detailed as possible information on appearance, age and ancestry.

Develop and forensically validate prototype tool(s) based on massively parallel sequencing (MPS) for simultaneously analysis of the identified DNA predictors of appearance, age and ancestry suitable for trace DNA.

Design an integrated interpretation framework including a prototype software for combined statistical consideration of the appearance, age, and ancestry DNA information delivered by the MPS tool(s), while responsibly considering a *privacy-by-design* approach and the relevant legal situation in EU Member States.



Identify and analyse the main challenges for, and make recommendations on, the legally, ethically and socially responsible implementation of constructing composite sketches from DNA for forensic use in EU Member States.

Implement the developed VISAGE Toolkit for constructing composite sketches from DNA traces in the routine forensic DNA service.

Train the different target groups on the technical, interpretation, societal and regulatory issues of constructing composite sketches from DNA traces in forensic applications, and disseminate the major project outcomes to the relevant target groups and the wider public.

Existing VISAGE contacts with global industry leaders in the field of forensic DNA products will aim at further developing the prototype outcomes into commercial products for future widespread application in routine forensic casework in the EU Member States and beyond



The regulatory landscape of forensic DNA phenotyping in Europe