

STITCHER 2.0: Primer Design for Overlapping PCR Applications

Herburger, Isabel (School: Marcus High School)

Overlapping polymerase chain reaction (O-PCR) is a common technique used in diverse fields to 'stitch' individual strands of DNA together. Previously, STITCHER was created to automate primer design for overlapping PCR applications. The experimental benchmarking used to create STITCHER 2.0 - a substantial update to STITCHER - is presented here. The gel electrophoresis images of the successful primers created for both standard and overlapping PCR using STITCHER 2.0, together with the photograph of a microinjection of the fused DNA product into live *C. elegans*, serve to indicate this web tool's ability to create high quality primers for overlapping PCR.