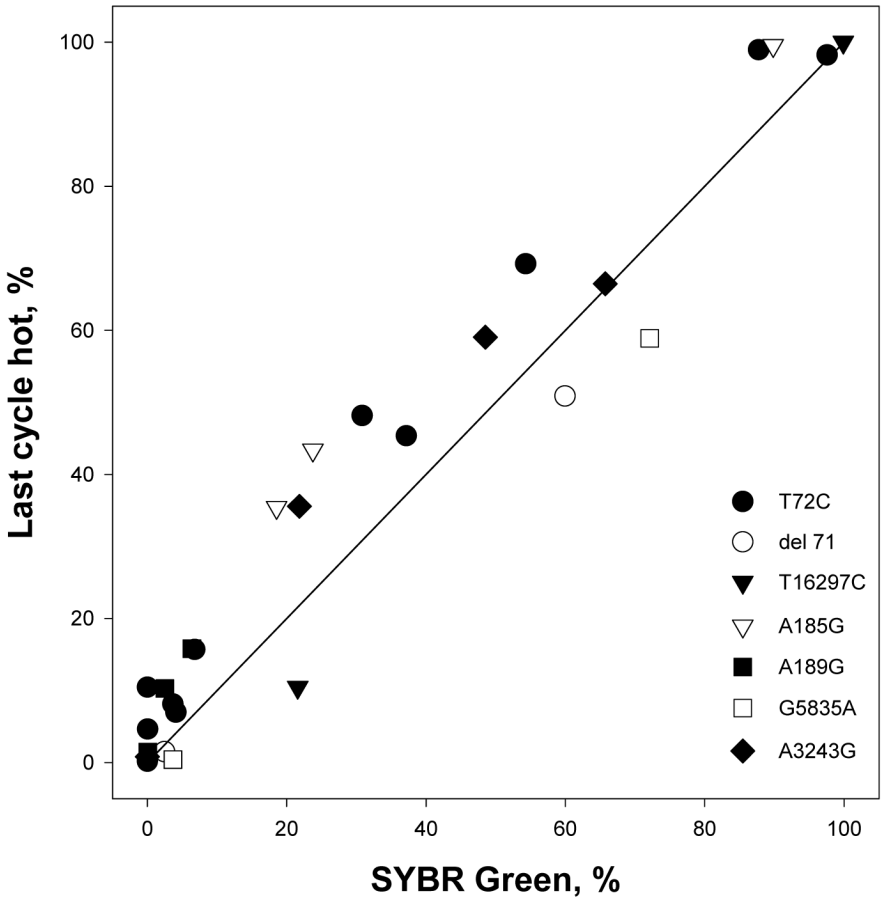
Supplementary Figure 2



Comparison of mtDNA heteroplasmy determined by SYBR Green staining and radioactive detection ('last cycle hot' PCR)

Heteroduplexes formed during the PCR reaction will not be cut by the restriction enzyme and could lead to an underestimation of the digested allele. To estimate this influence for all analysed point mutations we used the PCR product as template for a final amplification step with ^{32}P-labeled dCTP ('last cycle hot' PCR). The newly formed homoduplex strands were then digested and analysed on polyacrylamide gels. The dry gels were analyzed using a phosphoimager. The conditions for SYBR Green staining are described in Methods.