

(A) Schematic to show the relative positions of the primer pairs (black arrows) used to generate X- and Y-specific amplicons for SNP haplotyping across the canonical PAR1 boundary (PAB1, which is marked by the insertion site of an Alu element on the Y chromosome). Primers 1 and 4 amplify equally well from each of the sex chromosomes, primers 2 and 5<sub>Y</sub> are specific to the Y chromosome, whilst primers 3 and 5<sub>X</sub> are specific to the X (the 3' ends of 5<sub>X</sub> and 5<sub>Y</sub> terminate with SNP rs2857317 alleles G and A respectively). A total of 27 markers were typed by ASO hybridization to these overlapping chromosomespecific amplicons from 50 sperm donors, many showing the expected pseudoautosomal inheritance, but some being sexlinked. Data shown are for man 20; markers with pseudoautosomal inheritance are shown as black circles, Y-linked SNP variants as grey circles and X-linked variants by white circles. Whilst only one SNP variant per marker hybridized to the Yspecific amplicons of this man, surprisingly, both allelic variants at each of ten markers (black asterisks, "pseudoheterozygous"), in total spanning over 5.2 kb, hybridized to the X-specific amplicons. In an attempt to establish how far this presumed X chromosome duplication extends proximally, a qPCR assay was established ~12 kb from PAB1 (white arrow). (B) The qPCR assay spanning chr X (hg19):2711371-2711465 was carried out on two female and two male DNAs in addition to that from man 20 using qPCR MasterMix Plus for SYBR Green I without UNG (Eurogentec). Reactions were carried out in quadruplicate with inputs ranging from 0.125 to 4 ng, and with 4 to 8 inputs per sample. The data were normalized using a published assay for the estrogen receptor located on chromosome 6 ((hg19):152265487-152265570 [1]). The Ct ratios for man 20 were more similar to those of the two females than the two males as shown by the boxplots. These results suggested the X chromosome duplication in man 20 covers at least 17 kb.

1. Mhlanga MM and Malmberg L (2001) Using molecular beacons to detect single-nucleotide polymorphisms with real-time PCR. Methods 25: 463-471