METHOD FOR COAMPLIFICATION OF TWO DIFFERENT NUCLEIC ACID SEQUENCES USING POLYMERASE CHAIN REACTION

Abstract

Nucleic acids can be amplified and detected using a very rapid polymerase chain reaction procedure in which two different nucleic acid sequences are present. This method allows one to preferentially modulate (for example, suppress) the degree of amplification of one or more nucleic acid sequences relative to other nucleic acid sequences. This modulation is achieved by exploiting differences in the relative primer melt temperatures, or by using certain ratios of primers. Each PCR cycle is very fast, that is less than 90 seconds. This method is particularly useful for amplification and detection of DNA associated with infectious agents that may be present in a specimen in very small quantities compared to other nontargeted nucleic acids.