



# *Covaris*<sup>TM</sup>

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*the sample prep advantage*

Title:	Optimizing DNA Shearing
Presented by:	Jim Laugharn
Presented at:	Sequencing, Finishing, and Analysis in the Future (SFAF)
Date:	28 May 2009

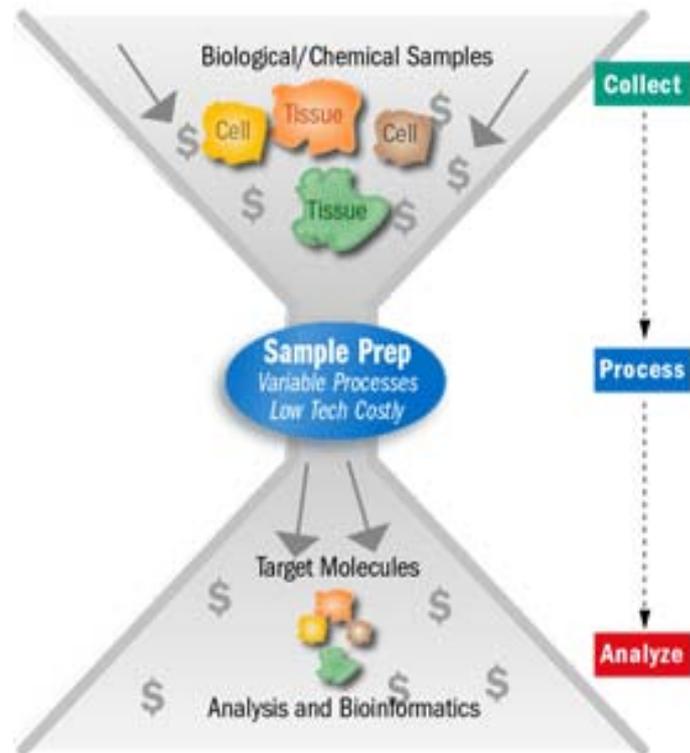
# Fragmenting – 1<sup>st</sup> sequencing step

- Current options and observations
- Covaris systems – The Solution
- High-throughput directions

# Sample Prep: an opportunity

- Collection - expensive
  - Starting material , storage & tracking
  - Emerging industrial approach
  - Costs - rising
- Preparation - bottleneck
  - No industrial style approach
    - Often an after-thought
  - Opportunities for substantial improvements
- Analysis - expensive
  - Developing industrial approach
  - Costs – rising

## Current Sample Preparation: An Expensive Bottleneck in Sample Prep



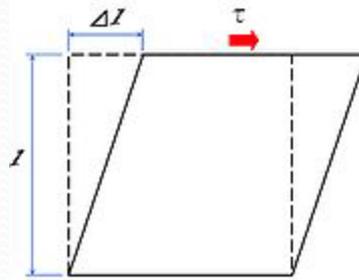
# DNA shearing...random

- Enzymatic - Not random
- Thermal – Not random
- Mechanical - Random
  - Fundamental mechanism
    - Shear stress forces

...it has to be random...some techniques are not

# shear stress - influences

- Mass (too high increase viscosity > increase heat)
  - Glycerol (detrimental)
- Viscosity (e.g., genomic vs. PCR products)
- Thermal energy
  - bias DNA shear patterns



A shear stress  $\tau$  is applied to the top of the square while the bottom is held in place. This stress results in a [strain](#), or deformation, changing the square into a parallelogram

# CAUTION: Glycerol (not for DNA shearing)

- Dynamic viscosity mismatch - Pascal\*second ( $\text{kg}\cdot\text{m}^{-1}\cdot\text{s}^{-1}$ )
  - Water 0.00089 Pa\*sec
  - Glycerol 1.50 Pa\*sec
- Attenuation 9dB/cm at 5MHz
  - Water: 0.0166
  - Glycerol (>98%): 11.1
- Shear stress and velocity gradients become non-linear
- Covaris data
  - Dramatic thermal rise >>> with glycerol addition to water
- Glycerol for DNA shearing
  - Only in low energy processes
- Temperature rise per gram (includes plate self-heating):
  - Water: 6 degree C
  - Glycerol: 28 degree C
- Conditions for both:
  - intensity=5, duty=10%, cpb=200,
  - sweep 1mm/sec

***...Low power conditions***

Glycerol makes process faster, but is **NOT** an appropriate adjuvant for DNA fragmentation

# Shear stress techniques

- Flow boundary layer
  - HydroShear
- Wind stress boundary layer
  - Nebulizers
- Cavitation (bubble collapse)
  - Sonicators (no thermal control)
  - Covaris AFA (thermal control)

...Ideal process minimizes thermal and maximize mechanical

# techniques

## HydroShear

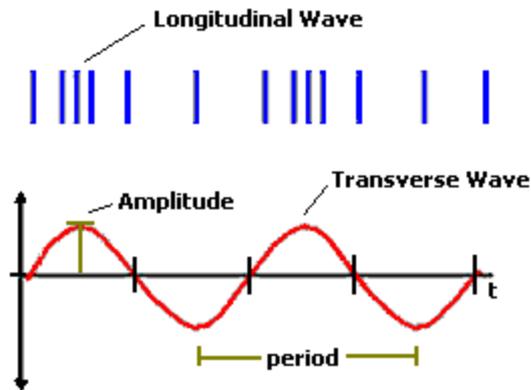
- No automation
- Not for small fragments
- Potential cross-talk

## Nebulizer

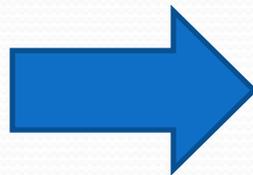
- No automation
- Not for large fragments
- Poor recovery
  - Increases as target size decreases

# acoustic technology

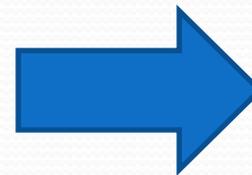
Acoustic waves and their properties have been utilized in research for decades. Operations such as sonication, ocean exploration, SONAR, apply acoustic waves.



Random cavitation



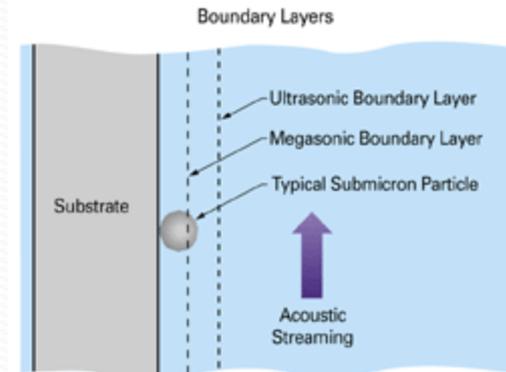
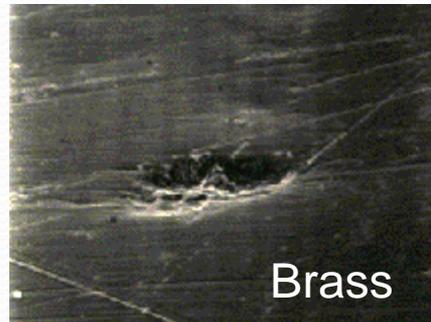
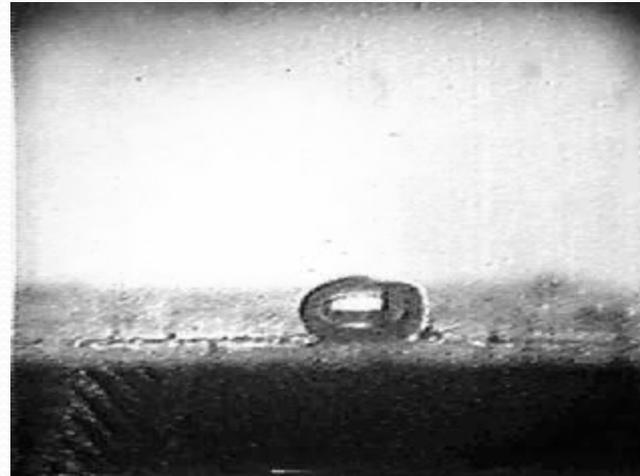
Shear forces and heat



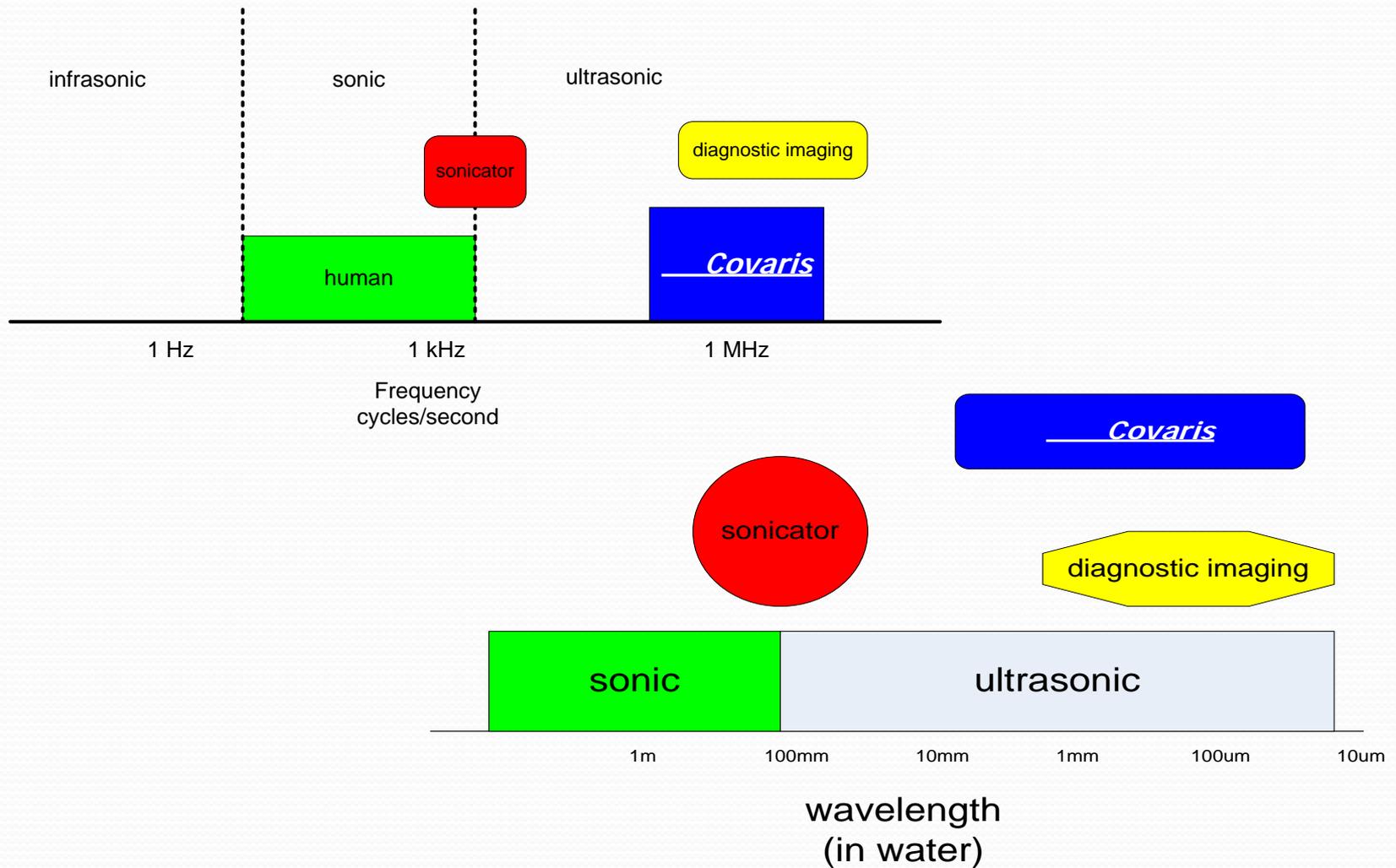
emulsify, homogenize, disrupt

# cavitation-based bubble growth

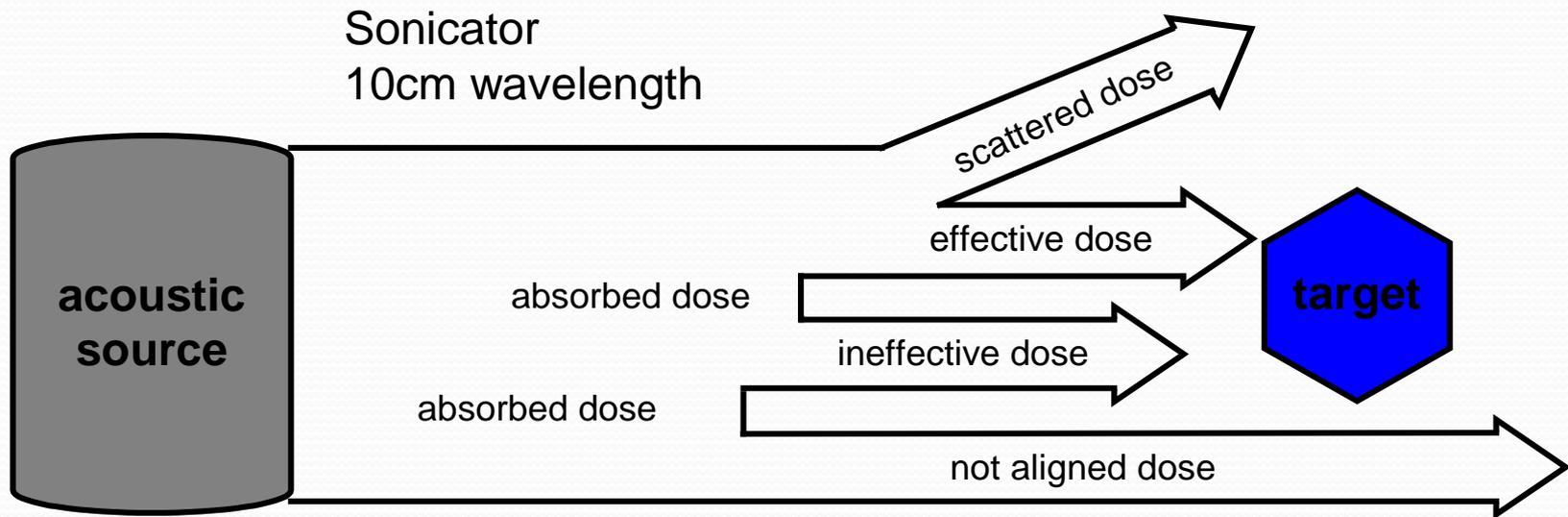
- Stroboscopic image (305,000 fps) of single collapsing 2mm bubble @ 60Hz
  - liquid jet impacts at >100m/sec
- Covaris
  - free fluid formation
- Sonicator
  - on metal tip (like video)



# acoustic frequency > wavelength



# Conventional “sonicator” Process

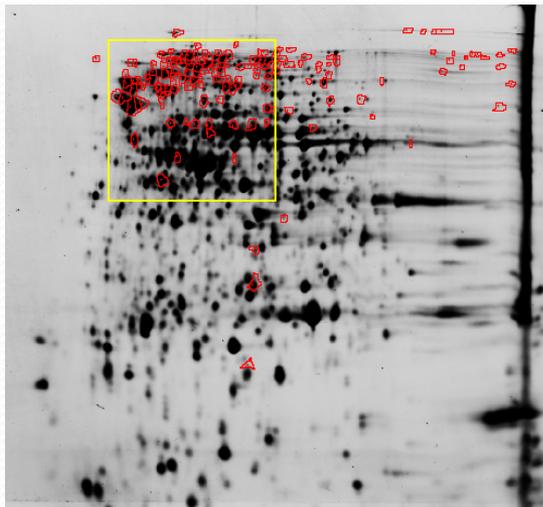


Mechanical effects > not controlled  
Thermal effects > not controlled

# thermal effects of sonicators

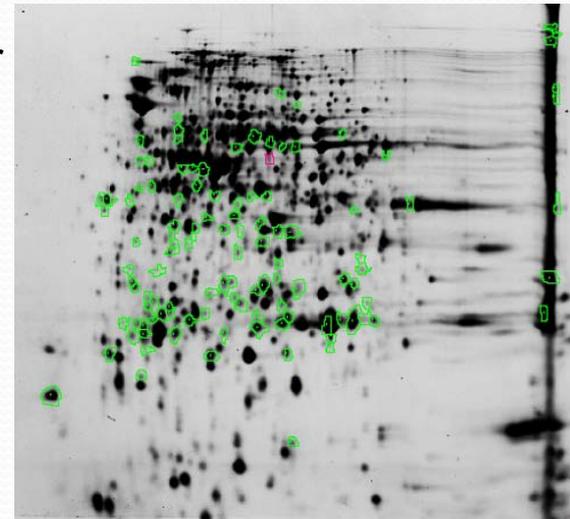
- 2D DIGE analysis
- Pooled standard from *E.coli* — was prepared by pooling equal amounts of each lysate labeled with Cy2. Individual lysates were then labeled with either Cy3 or Cy5 respectively for each gel with reciprocal labeling carried out between the two lysates to compensate for any bias between the labeling efficiency between C3 and Cy5. Gel images show spots that were increased with the different prep process. The sonicator prepped sample indicates thermal damage

Covaris



increase in larger MW spots  
relative to sonicator

sonicator



increase in smaller MW spots  
(breakdown products)

# Fragmenting – 1<sup>st</sup> sequencing step

- Current options and observations
- **Covaris systems – The Solution**
- High-throughput directions

# well developed technologies

Covaris – combination of:

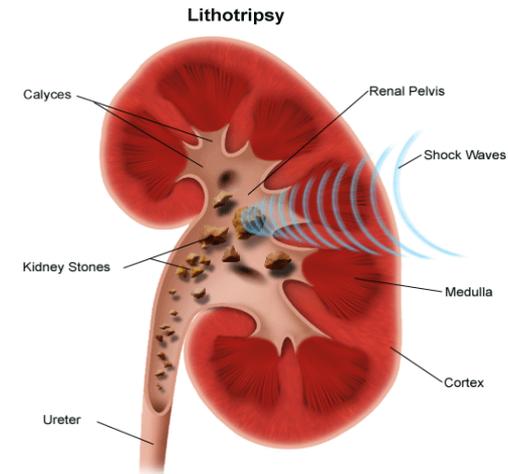
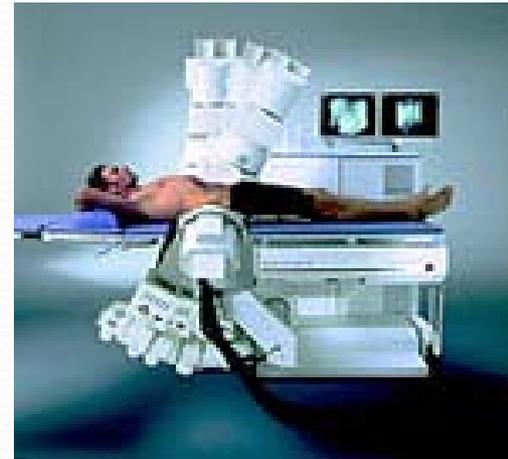
- Therapeutic Ultrasound:

Since 1980, Extracorporeal Shockwave Lithotripsy (ESWL) treatments apply non-contact acoustic properties to break down kidney and gall stones. Also known as, High Intensity Focused Ultrasound (HIFU).

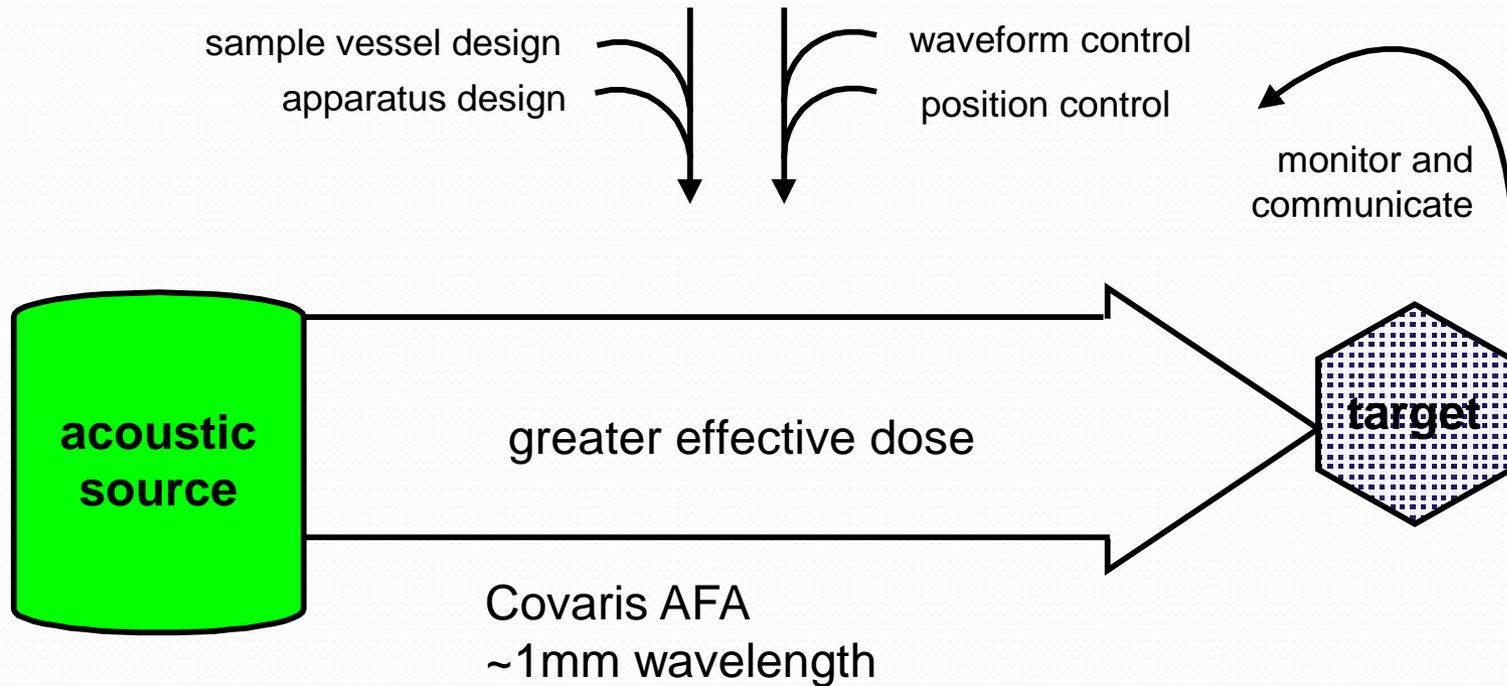
- Diagnostic Ultrasound:

imaging also uses related technology (low intensity focused ultrasound)

- Computer controlled



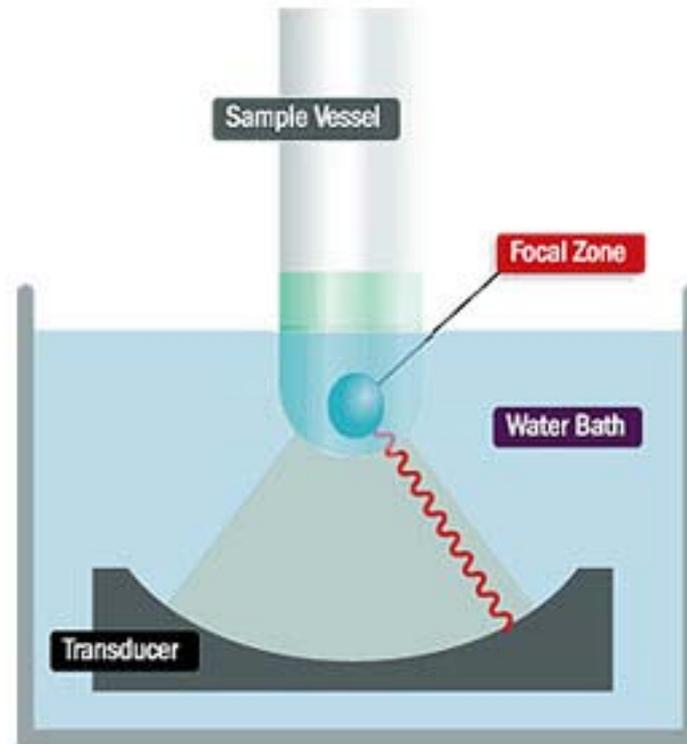
# The Covaris Process



AFA – Adaptive Focused Acoustics

# The Covaris Process

- Geometrically focused with spherically curved transducer
- Typically in water bath to maintain constant temperature
- Transmission
  - Power processes
- Reflection
  - Sample interrogation



... Adaptive Focused Acoustics (AFA)

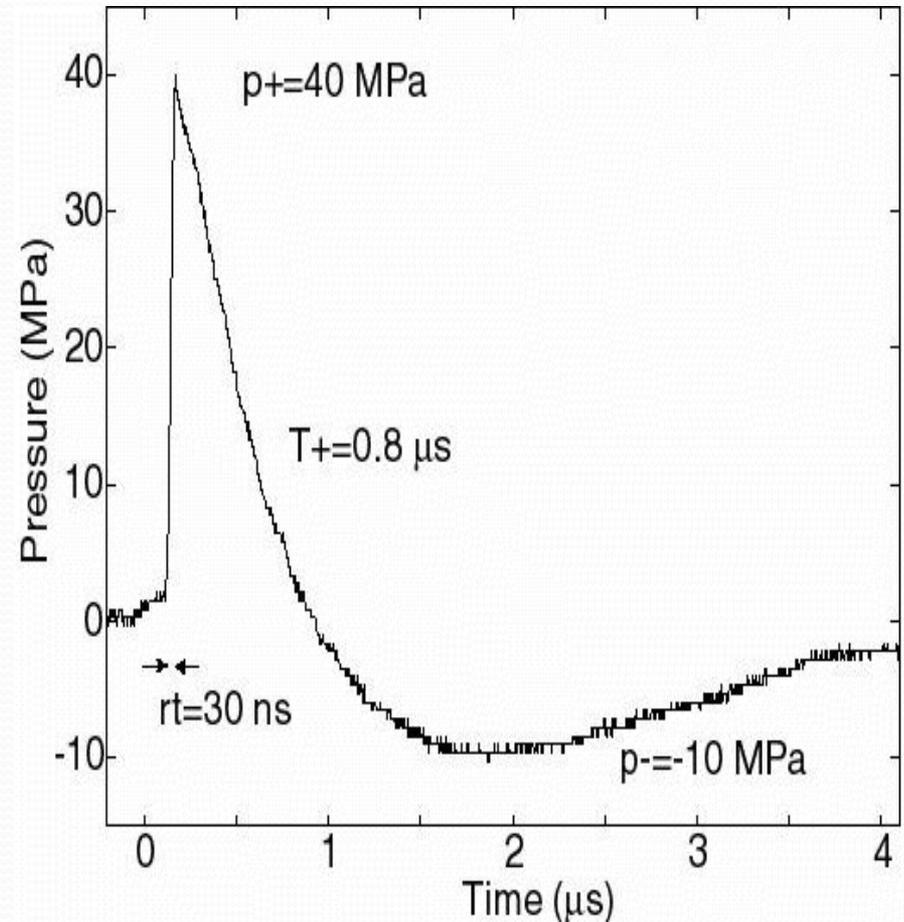
# controlled energy transfer

- High-speed 1/15,000 second
- Water 2.5ml in 16x100mm
- 0.46 MHz, focused
- Tensile strength



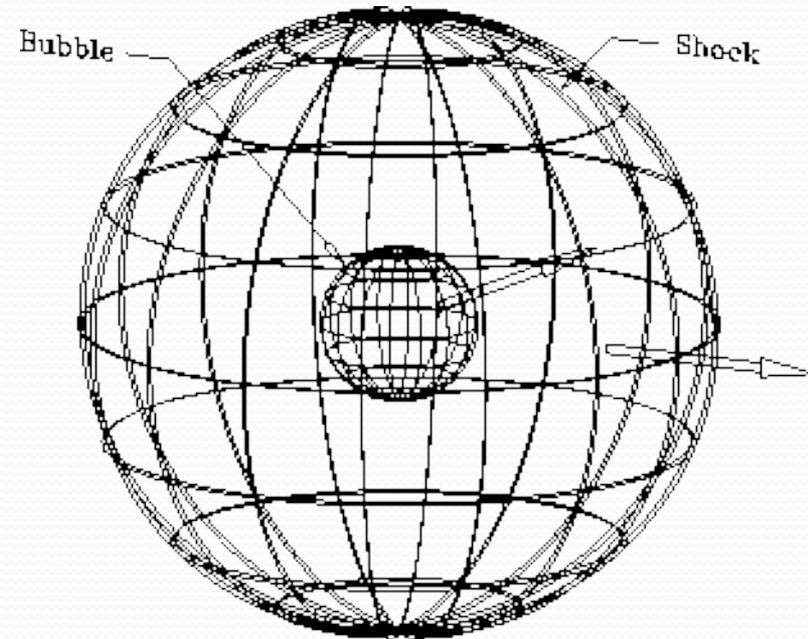
# Non-linear, high intensity waveform

- recorded at the focus of a HIFU lithotripter (High Intensity Focused Ultrasound) using a PVDF membrane hydrophone
- compressive spike
  - Convergence of energy
  - Measured rise time of 30 ns is limited by the hydrophone (theoretically <1 ns)
- tensile tail
  - Rarefaction of energy
  - peak negative pressure ... cavitation bubble formation



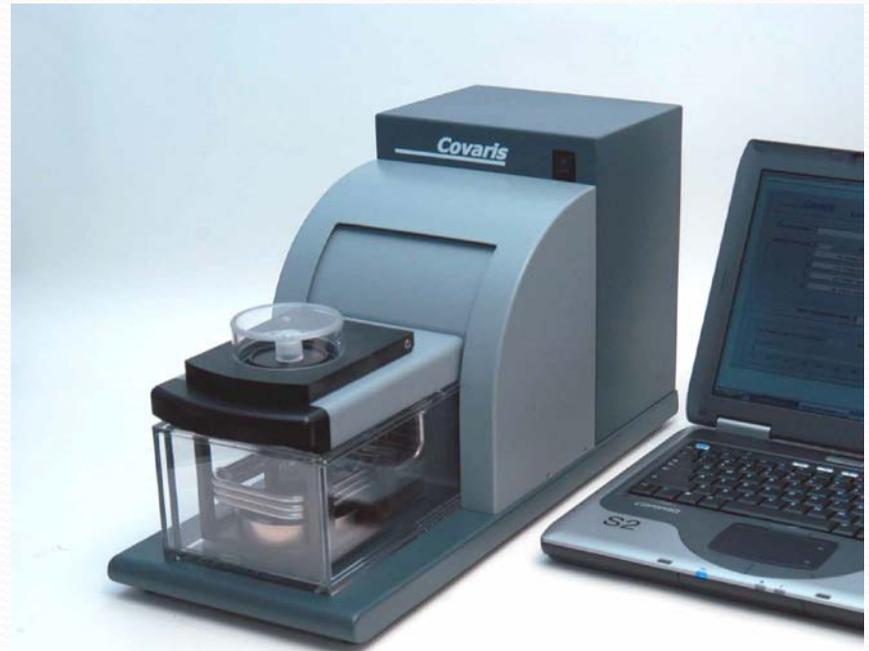
# shear forces @ submicron scale

- Expanding spherical shock wave
  - $>100\text{m/sec}$  shear force jet
- Conservation of energy the amplitude of each shock decreases  $1/\text{radius}$
- 1.1MHz resonant bubble radius is 3-4 microns...collapse results in submicron jets
- Area of the spherical front is proportional to  $r^2$ 
  - $\Delta p \propto 1/r$
- Expanding bubble
  - 100 increase in radius  $>$  million fold increase in volume



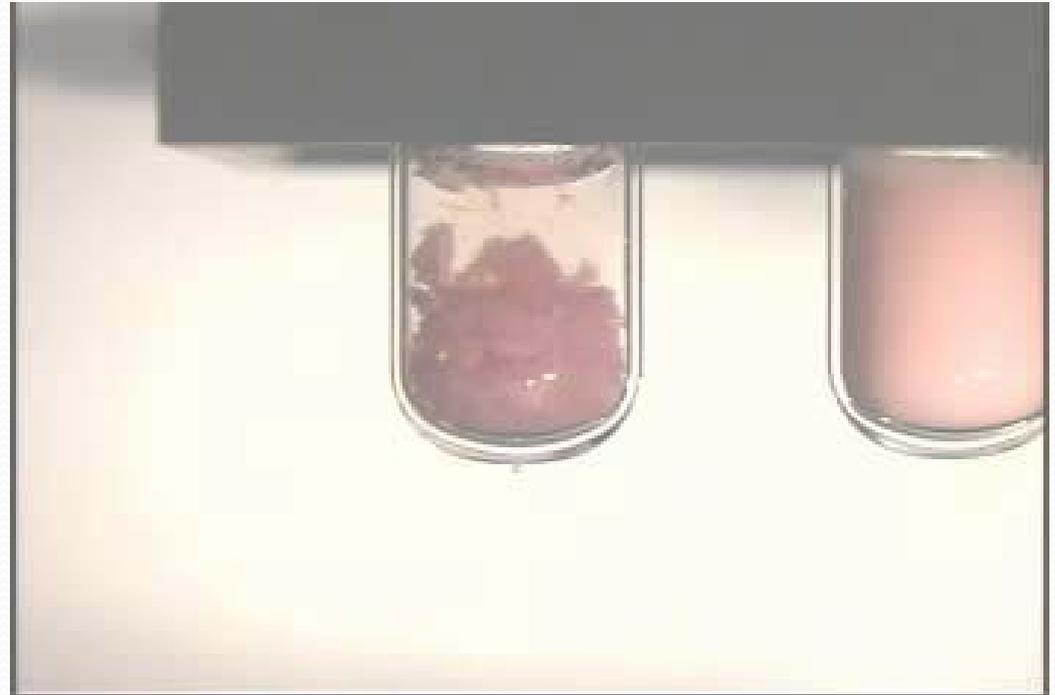
# S2 – serial, single

- DNA shearing range
  - 100bp-3kb (8kb TBD)
- Stand-alone format
  - ActiveX control
  - API's for TECAN Evo
  - CE marking
  - ETL (NRTL) testing
- Covaris systems shipped
  - ~750 units



# versatile tool

- **0.65 gm muscle homogenization**
- **DNA & RNA extraction from same sample**
  - **The Cancer Genome Atlas Research Network**  
Comprehensive genomic characterization defines human glioblastoma genes and core pathways.  
Nature Vol 455, October, 2008



# low power

- Yttrium oxide bead resuspension
  - Scintillation proximity assay

... low power



# high power

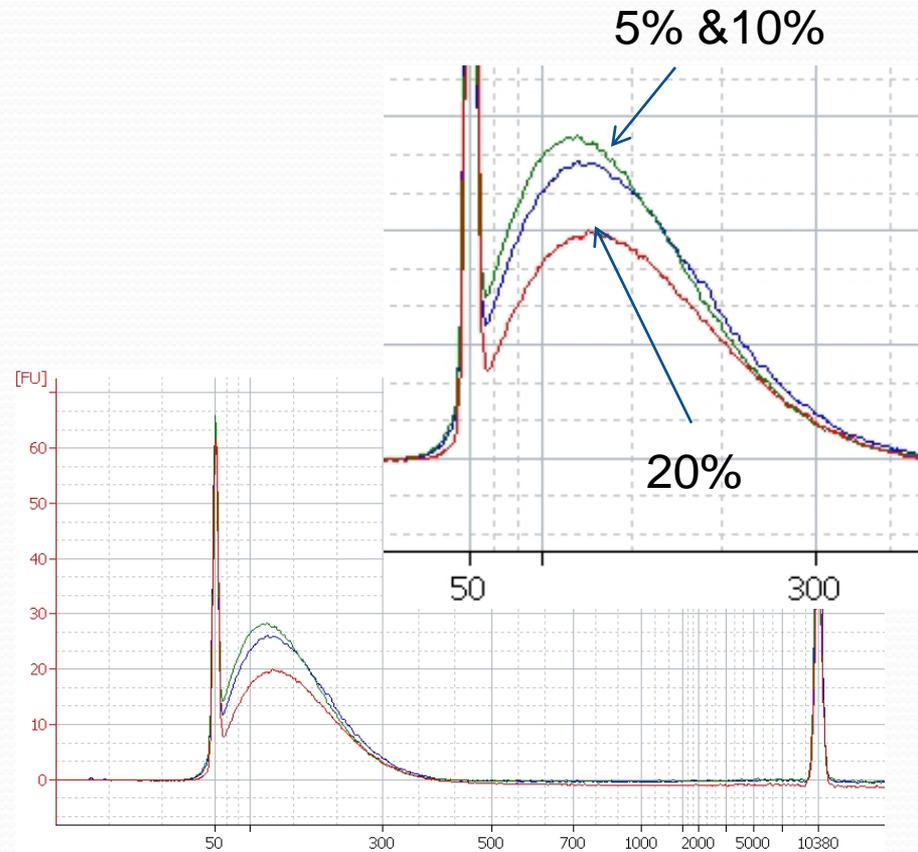
- single-walled carbon nanotubes (SWCN)
  - 1nm x ~5,000nm
- Flake >> slurry
  - 30 seconds with Covaris process
  - 3-5 hours with control process
- Controlled, no hot spots, isothermal, repeatable
- Accelerate formation of initial solvent boundary layer



...scalable for  
flow-through  
manufacturing line

# reproducible process

- **Identical AFA energy dose @ 5** intensity, 200 cpb, 0.46MHz, 8 degC,
  - a) 20% - 560 seconds
  - b) 10% - 1120 seconds
  - c) 5% - 2240 seconds
- **Result**
  - all at 100bp
  - 5% & 10% - identical “mass”
  - 20% - 60% “mass”
  - High energy > lower recovery
  - Moderate energy > high recovery
- **Lower dose**
  - Tighter peak
  - Higher recovery



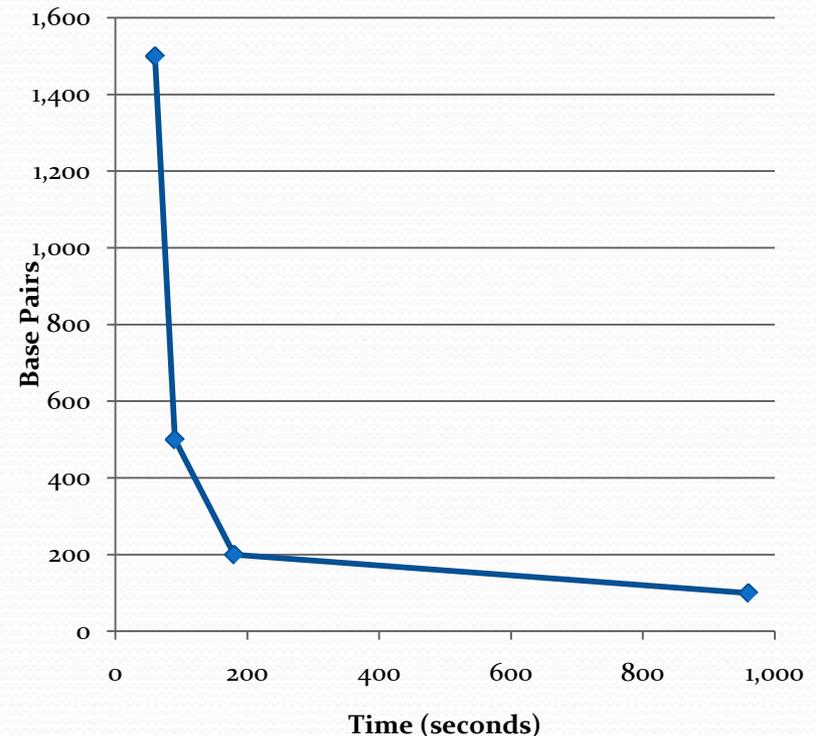
...highly repeatable process

# isothermal dose – vary time

- **With a high regularity process**
- Data from Covaris protocols with symmetrical fragment peaks
  - If energy increased at target fragment size > asymmetrical (e.g., 10% dc = symmetrical and 20% asymmetrical at a given target fragment size)
- Processes that require less than 500bp maybe susceptible to operator-induced dsDNA shearing conditions...
  - Therefore, a “fast” protocol may be introducing a thermal-bias to the desired random fragmentation process

...wide dynamic range of Covaris AFA

## DNA shearing isothermal conditions

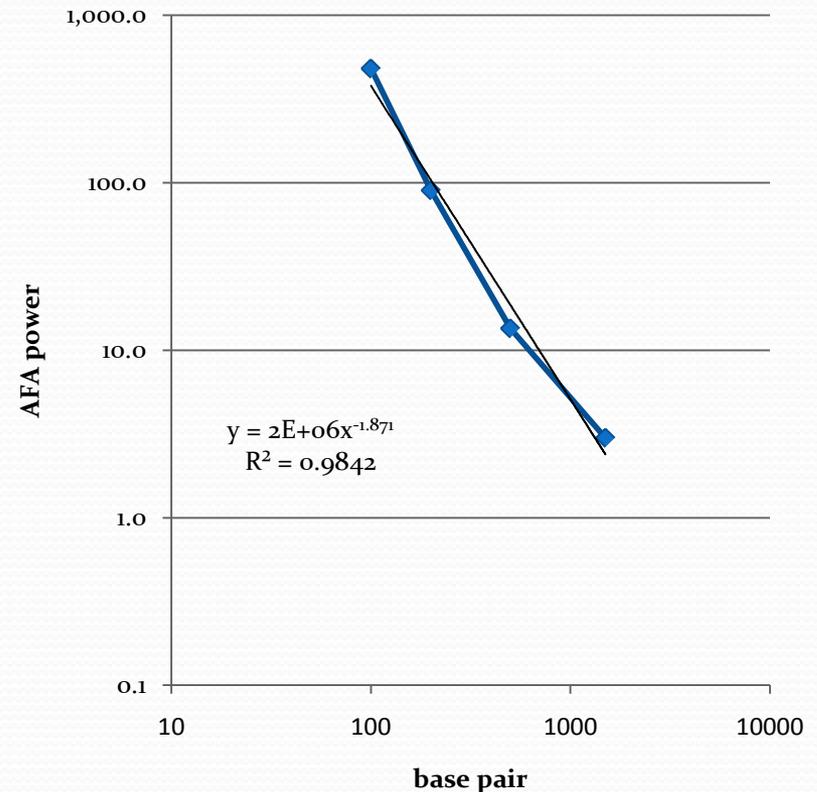


# dsDNA shearing with AFA energy

- AFA power - reproducible
  - Duty cycle, intensity, seconds
  - Data from Covaris protocols
  - lambda dsDNA in 100ul TE
- Vessels
  - microTUBE (glass)
    - <1.5kb
- Small bp constraint
  - 160x more energy required to generate 100bp than 1500bp (not 15x)

generation of small bp with a mechanical process requires high energy  
... potential for thermal-bias if process is overdriven

## DNA shearing energy



# constraints

- Extremely low energy will shear genomic dsDNA
- Generation of large fragments (>1.5kb)
  - Hard to control
  - Difficult to obtain narrow fragment patterns
- Extremely high energy is required to generate small fragments (<0.5kb)
  - Concerns of thermal bias in fragment patterns
    - AT melting
  - Sample loss – single strand generation

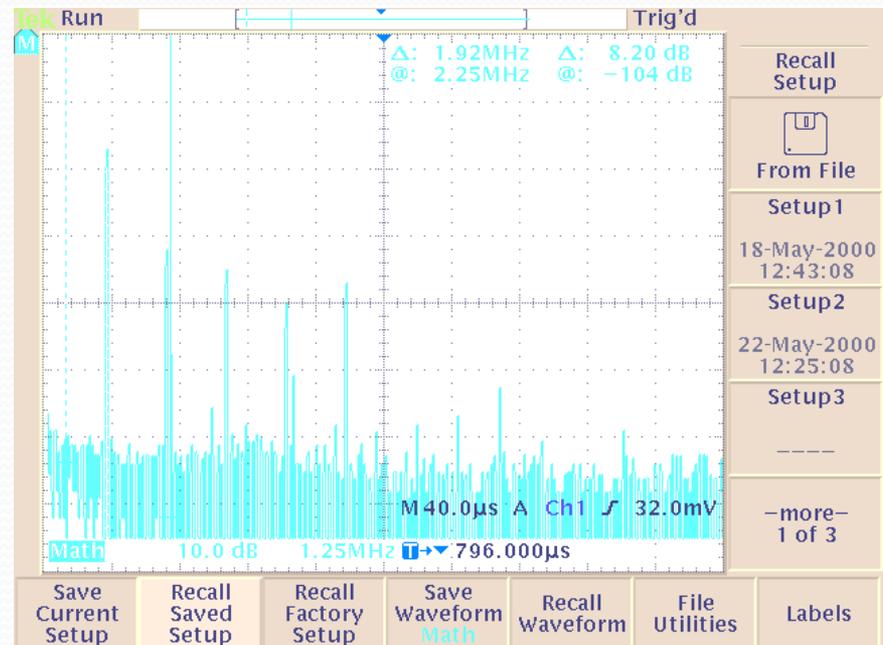
implies ~1000bp may be a natural inflection point of shear-based fragmentation

# Large fragments

- Defined as >1.5kb
- constraints on achieving narrow fragment bands
  - DNA extraction process variations
  - Biological variation of starting materials
  - Very low shear stress results in ~1.5kb

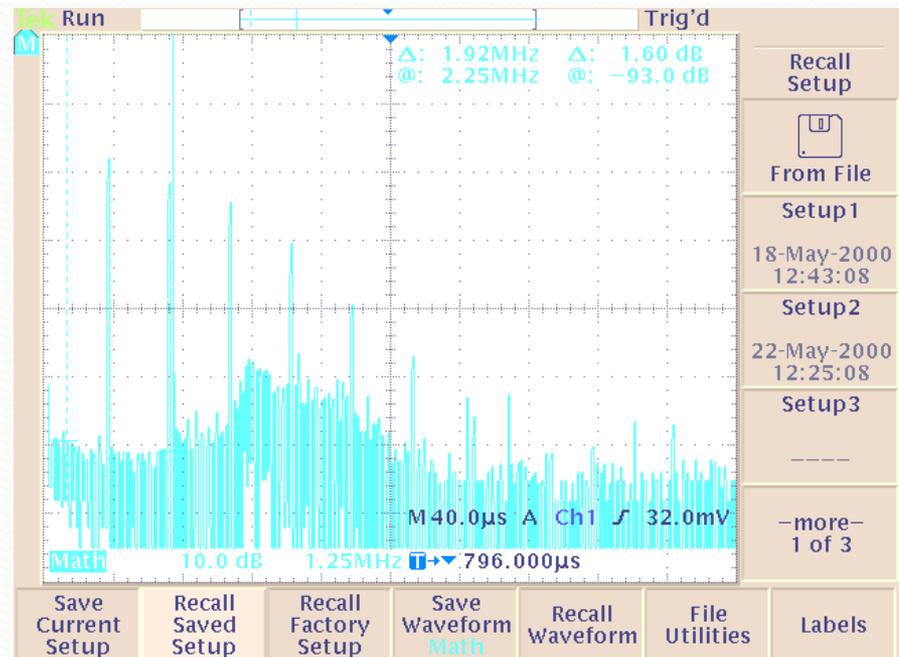
# no texture

- Applied acoustic dose
- Slight cavitation
- Fast Fourier Transform of 5 MHz Passive Cavitation Detection signal



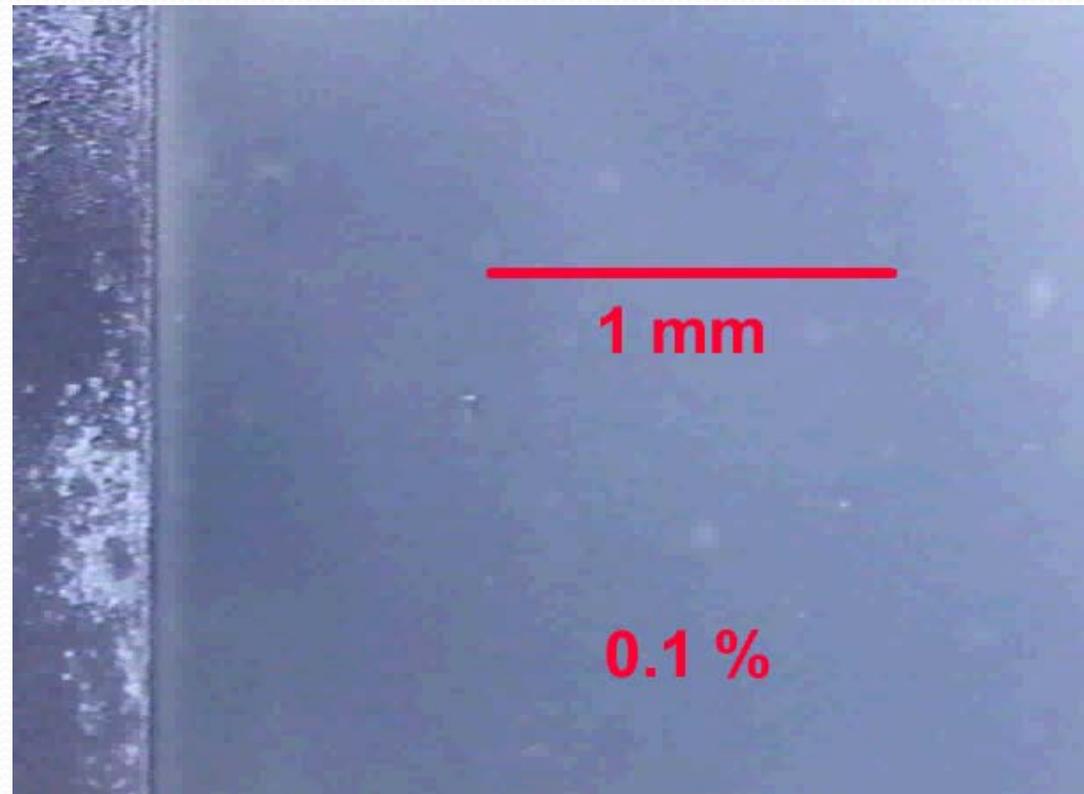
# textured surface

- Applied acoustic dose
- FFT analysis of 5MHz receiving transducer - echo
  - passive cavitation detection
- Broadband signal
  - repeatable
  - reproducible



# different intensity > different eddy size

- Covaris AFA control allows precise shear force generation
- Video
  - 50um gap
  - TiO<sub>2</sub> particles
  - Real-time



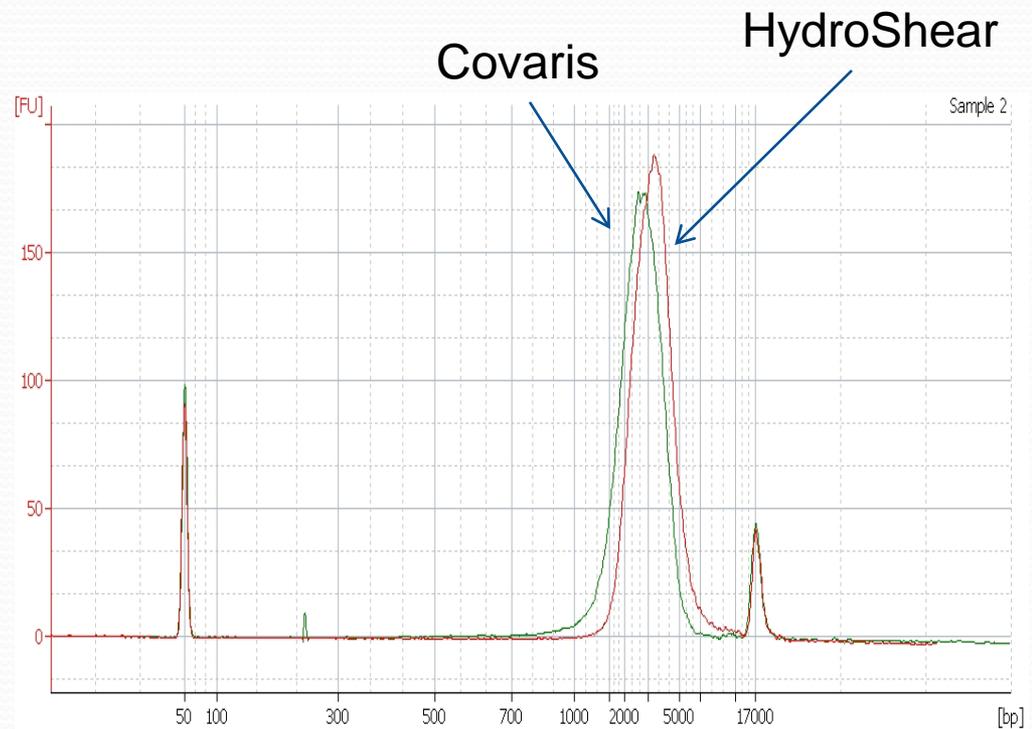
# miniTUBE

- PCR tube and AFA Plug
- Active surface for Covaris AFA dose
  - Textured field of active features
  - Eddy



# similar physical process

- Similar recovery with identical mass
  - Genomic DNA starting material (3-5 ug)
  - 3ug/100ul with Covaris
- Symmetrical peak shape
  - Shear forces



# Small fragments <500bp

- Extremely high energy requirement
  - Easy to overheat sample
- Potential to damage shearing randomness
- Human tendency to accelerate, but detrimental effects
  - Sonicators > heat
  - Glycerol > poor buffer choice

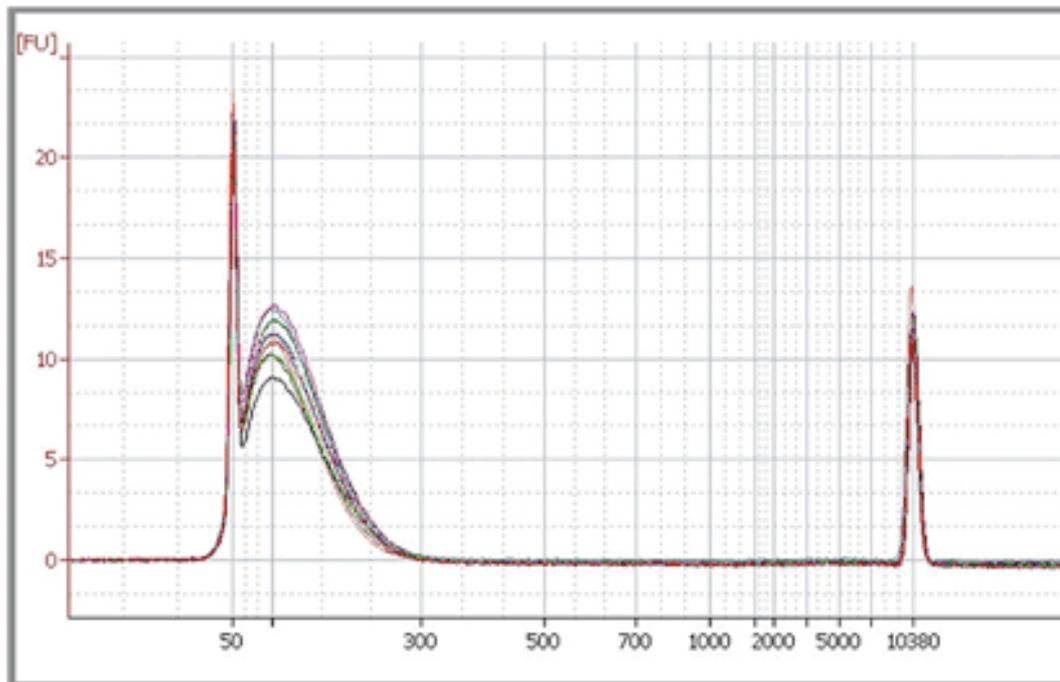
# microTUBE

- Features
  - Tube and AFA fiber designed to enable high intensity acoustic field with minimum bubble cloud formation (scattering effect)
- Benefits
  - Robust
  - Precise
  - 100  $\mu$ l (may use 50  $\mu$ l)
  - More efficient



# microTUBE

## Reproducible



N=12

Avg=100bp

CV =2.6%

S2 and E210 systems

TE buffer

100ul volume

Lambda DNA  
(starting material)

	Ideal	Covaris	Genomic Solutions	Branson	Diagenode
Instrument		S2 / E210	Hydroshear	Probe Sonicator	Bioruptor
Technology		Focused acoustic beam	Pressure flow	Acoustic vibrations	Acoustic vibrations
		High Intensity Focused Ultrasound	Pressure drop	Low frequency unfocused	Low frequency unfocused
Shear Mechanism		AFA cavitation	Flow boundary layer	Cavitation on metal tip	Cavitation on metal
<100bp	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
100bp < X < 1.5kb	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
>1.5kb	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Isothermal	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Hands on (<1 min)	<1	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Batch process	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes
Random shearing	Yes	Yes	Yes	No <sup>1</sup>	No <sup>1</sup>
No clean-up	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes/no
Closed vessel	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes
Non-contact	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Repeatable	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No
Small volume	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes/no

1 – concerns of biased shearing with heat generated

# Fragmenting – 1<sup>st</sup> sequencing step

- Current options and observations
- Covaris systems – The Solution
- High-throughput directions

# Higher-throughput

- Serial process
  - Batch process
    - 96 samples (E210 apparatus)
  - Improve acoustic circuit efficiency
    - Electronics (*i-series*)
    - Sample Vessel (microTUBE, miniTUBE)
      - 8 tube strip
- Parallel process
  - Modify L8 for DNA high power process

# E210 – serial, batch

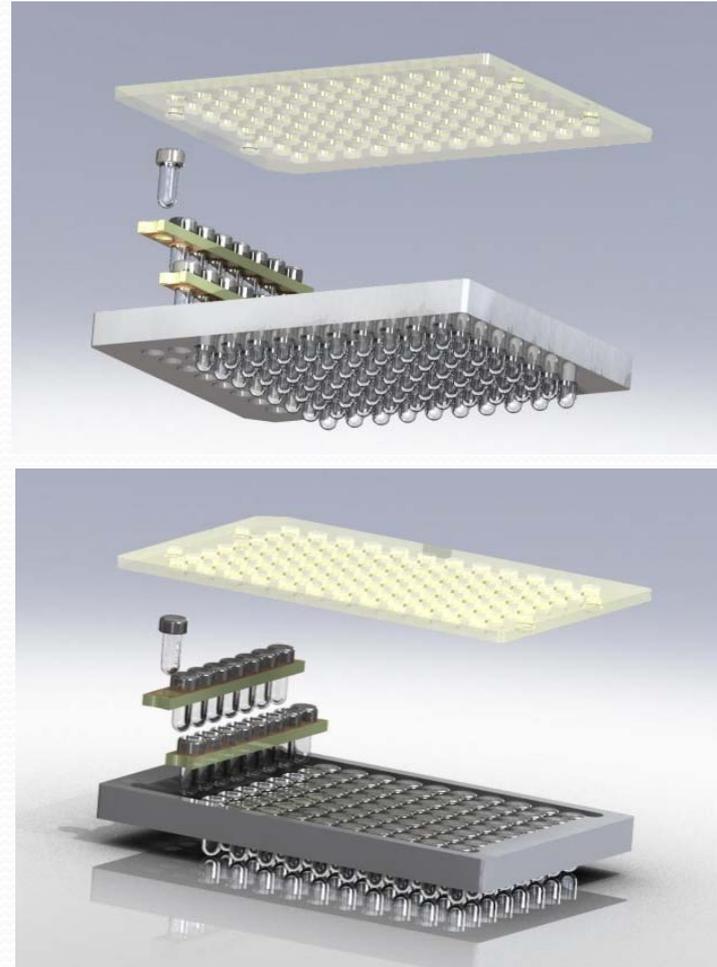
- SBS microplate format
- Unattended operation
- DNA shearing range
  - 100bp-3kb (8kb TBD)
- Stand-alone format
  - ActiveX control
  - API's for TECAN Evo
  - CE marking
  - ETL (NRTL) testing



# tube strip (new)

- microTUBE
  - Designed for high intensity-power applications
    - Spore lysis,
    - 100bp fragment generation,
    - ChIP fragment generation
- miniTUBE
  - Designed for low intensity apps
    - >1.5 kb fragments
- Both sold as
  - 8 tubes/strip (for 96 format)
- Run
  - 1, 2,...12 strips/process
  - 1 tube (7 empty)

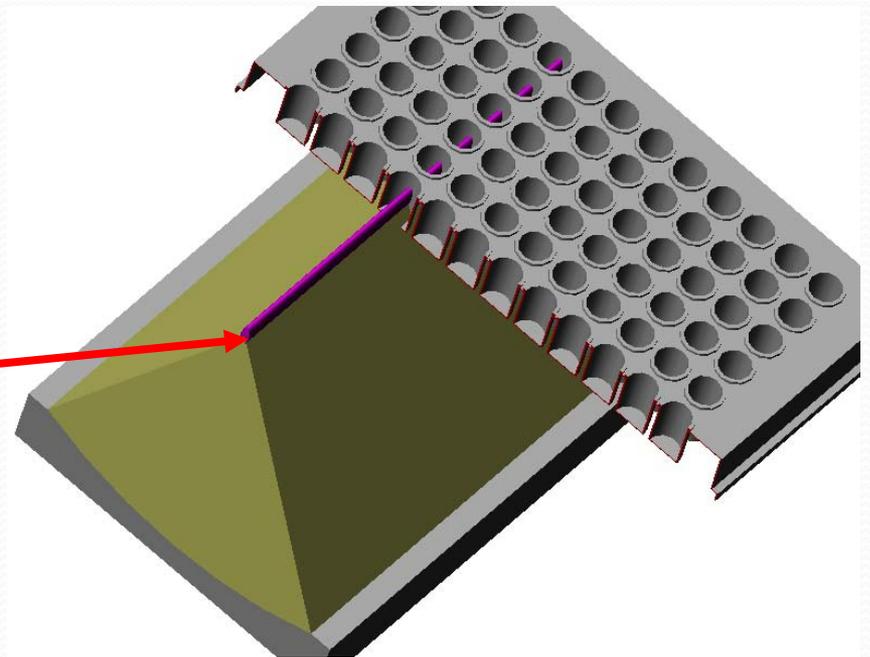
...with thermal control



# parallel process

- Non-contact
- process an entire row at once
  - NOTE: acoustic side lobes not shown
- scan across plate
  - e.g., 30 seconds/plate
- link with robotics for HTS

focal zone

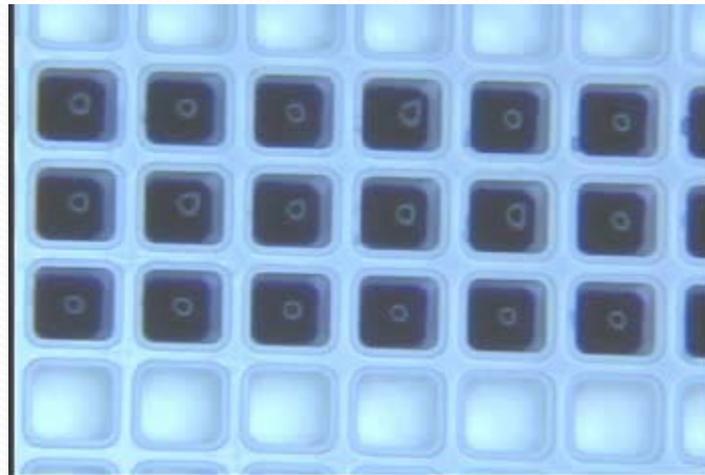
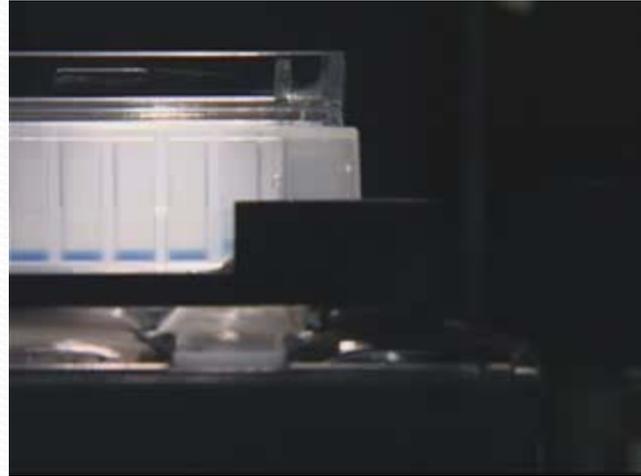


... currently for  
low power processes

# parallel – low intensity

- “line transducer”
  - Treats entire row at once
    - e.g., 30 seconds/plate
- Video
  - 384 well Corning plate
  - 25 ul water with dye (bottom)
  - 100 ul (top)
  - Real-time, right to left
  - NOTE: air/liquid interface
  - No cover

... Non-contact



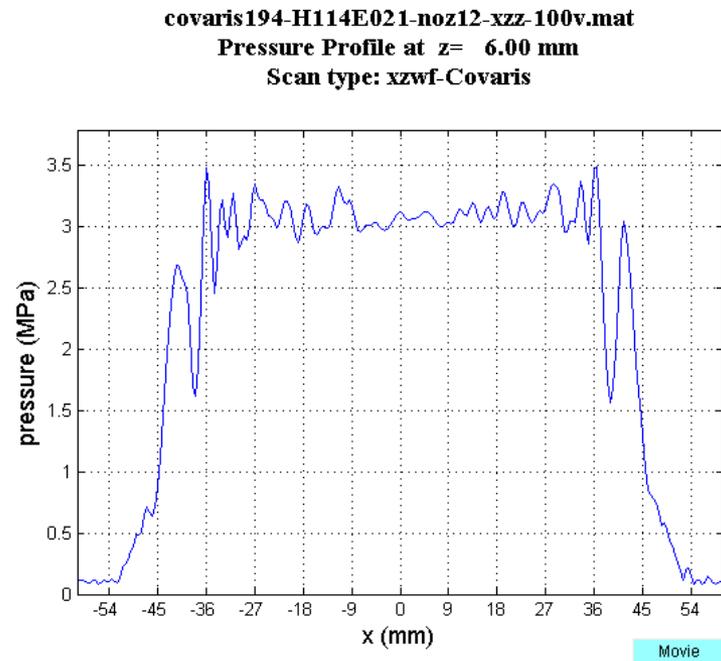
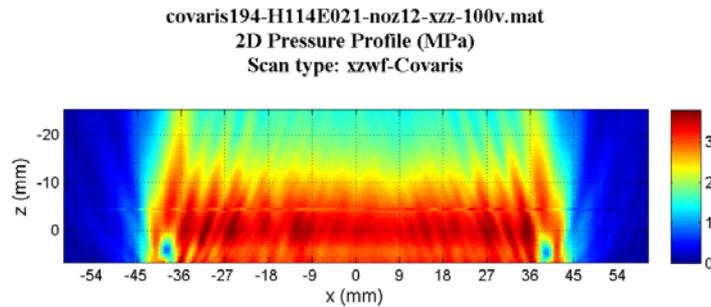
# L8 – commercially available

## L8i (high power) – under development

- L8i
  - Parallel 8 tubes (with 96)
    - 32 wells with 384 plate
  - All tube in thermal control
  - Higher power than L8
  - High power applications
    - 100bp
    - Spore lysis
- Controlled dynamics
  - Density (initial)
    - 96 – in 8 tube strips
  - Sample volume (96 plate)
    - 50-100ul per well in microTUBE
    - 50ul in miniTUBE



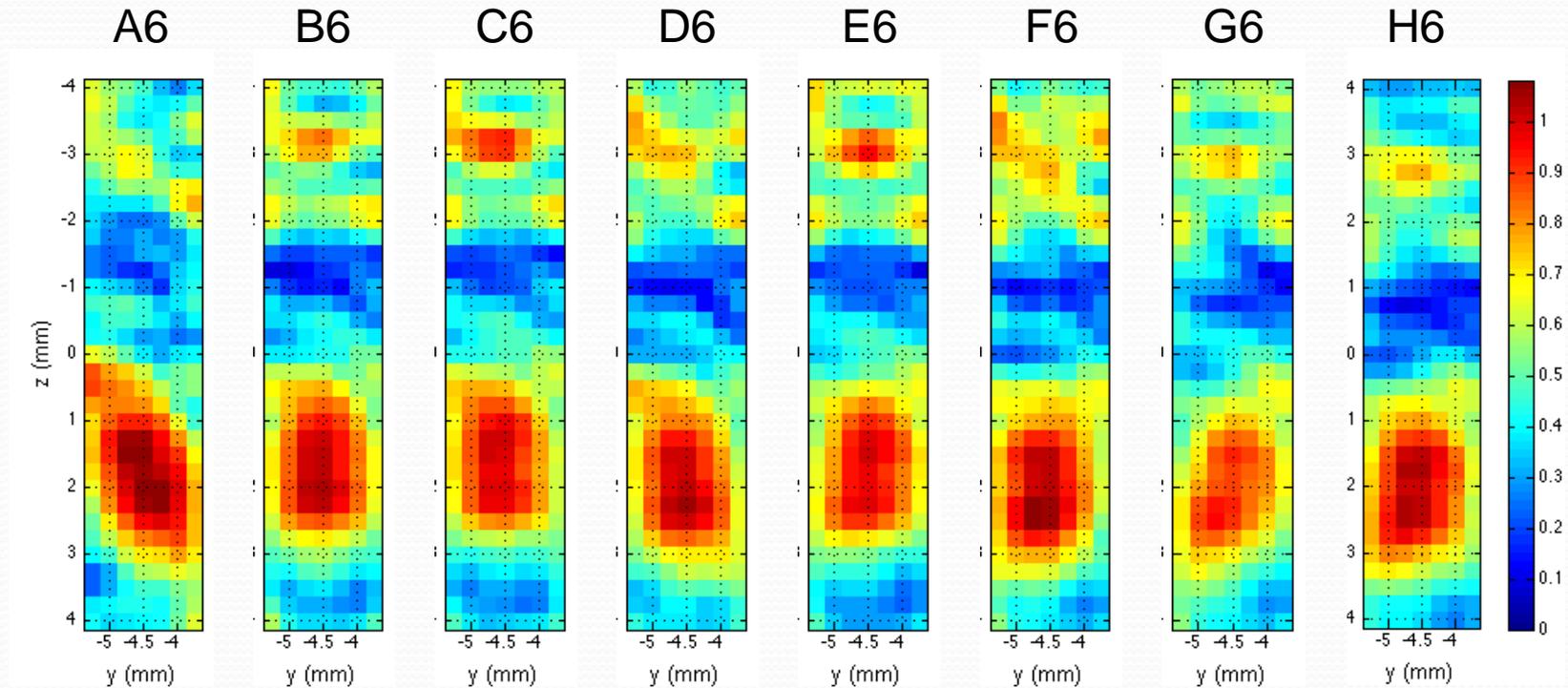
# Exp1: Acoustic Map, 6x16mm glass tubes, 96 well format XZ plot, no tube rack (XDCR w/nozzle 12)



Full scale amplitude = 3.79 MPa

Maximum pressure at Z=0, the geometric focus, which is also the well plate reference surface  
Cross-section at Z=6, corresponding to the inner-bottom of the tubes

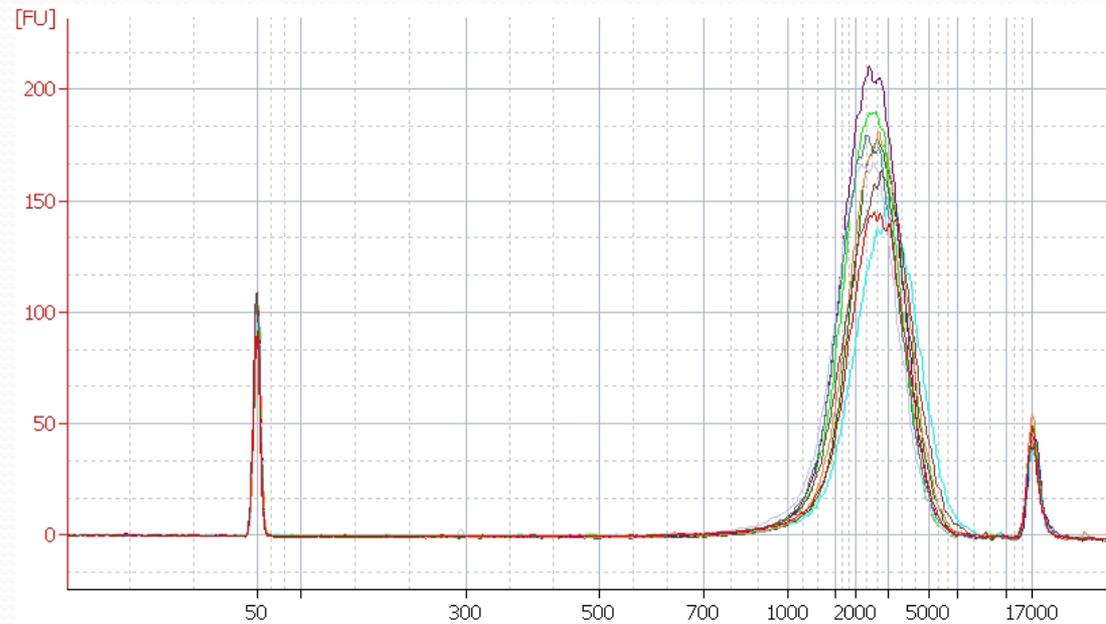
# Exp1: Acoustic Map, 6x16mm glass tubes, 96 well format YZ slice at X midline



Bottom of tubes (outside) at Z=7.0 mm  
Full scale amplitude = 1.084 MPa

# L8i - miniTUBE

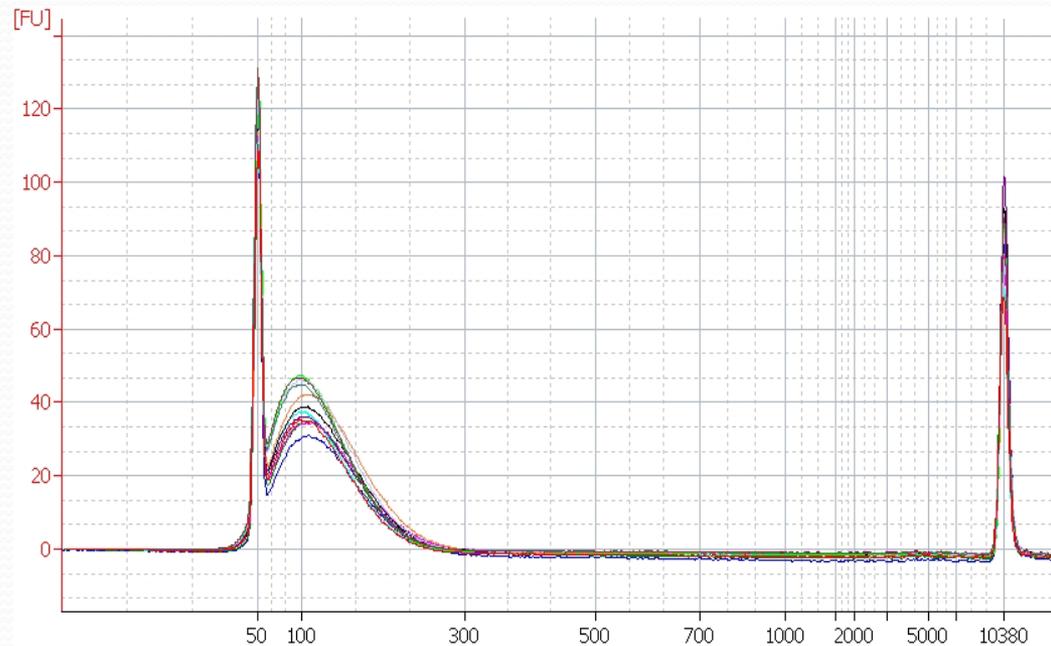
Lambda – TE  
miniTUBE plug in  
PCR plate  
Peak 3kb  
8 samples/7 minutes



# L8i - microTUBE

Lambda dsDNA in TE  
microTUBE  
Peak 100bp  
8 samples

Avg 99bp  
s.d. 2bp



# Systems – key points

## Large Fragments

- HydroShear
  - Potential cross talk
  - No automation
- Covaris AFA
  - No cross talk
  - Automation ready

## Small Fragments

- Nebulizer
  - Poor recovery
  - No automation
- Sonicator
  - Fast, heat not controlled
  - Potential cross talk
- Covaris AFA
  - Automation ready
  - Thermal control

# summary

- Instrument
  - One unit for both libraries (S2/E210)
  - Highly reproducible energy
  - True thermal control
    - If not overpowered
    - If Newtonian fluids used
- Consumable
  - Fragment library
    - 100-130 bp
  - Mate-pair library
    - 1.5kb, 3kb, (8kb TBD)

# The Sample Prep Advantage

## Control

- Tissue/Cell Disruption
  - RNA / metabolite Extraction
  - Compound Dissolution
  - Biomolecule separation
  - Assay acceleration
  - Mixing
- Standardize with
    - Identical energy for each sample
    - Non-contact
    - Closed vessel
    - Isothermal

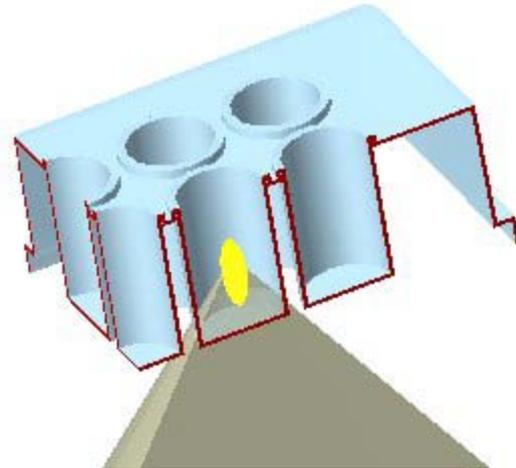
Covaris systems enable the introduction of lean/6 Sigma philosophy into many processes

# Covaris™

*the sample prep advantage*

Covaris, Inc.  
14 Gill Street, Unit H  
Woburn, Massachusetts  
01801-1721 USA

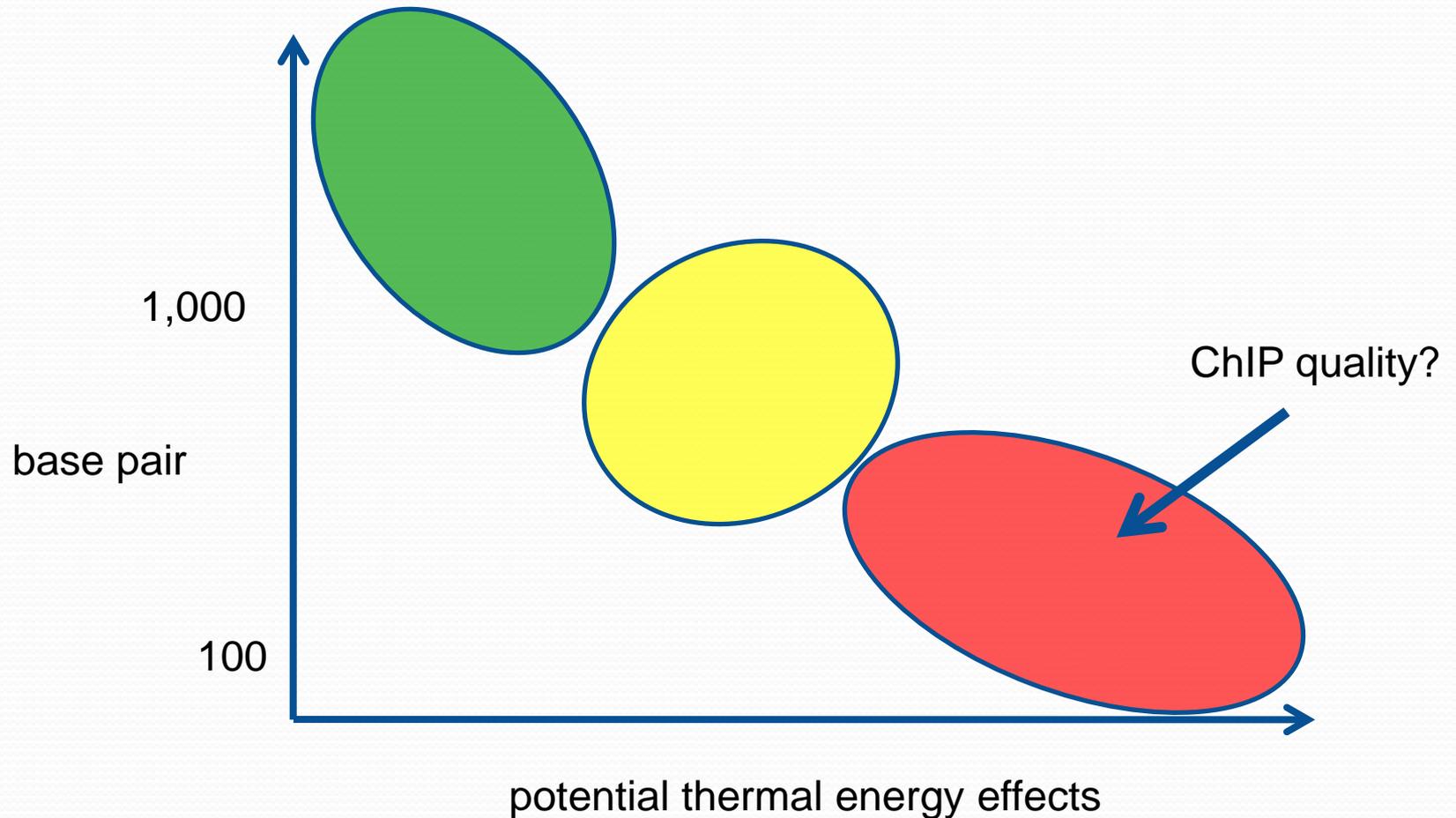
telephone: +1 781 932 3959  
fax: +1 781 932 8705  
e-mail: [info@covarisinc.com](mailto:info@covarisinc.com)  
http:// [www.covarisinc.com](http://www.covarisinc.com)



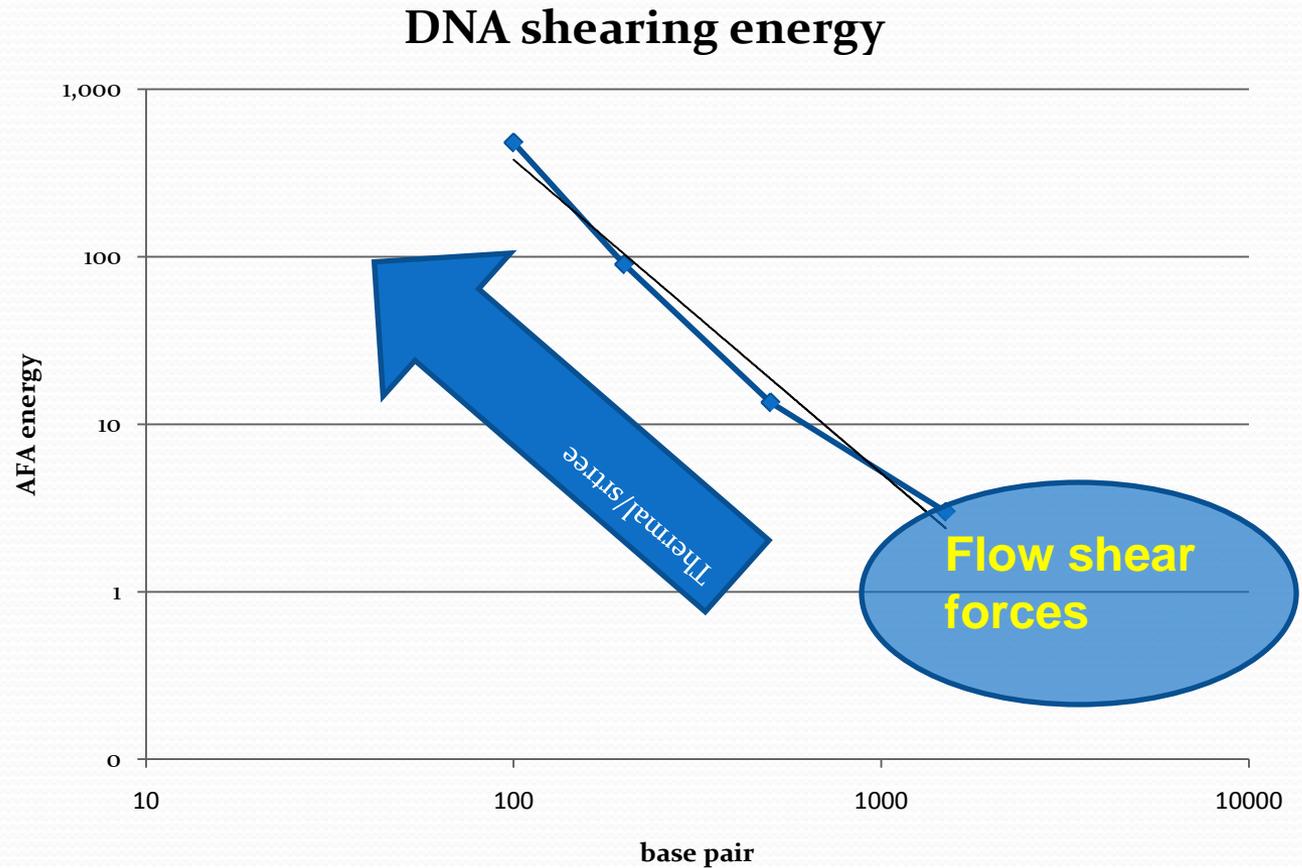
# Take home message

- Potential to bias next gen sequencing
- “Fast” shearing is dangerous, not better
  - Thermal damage if sheared too fast
    - Especially small fragments as high energy is required
- AFA controlled energy delivery across broad range
  - Large fragments (miniTUBE)
  - Small fragments (microTUBE)

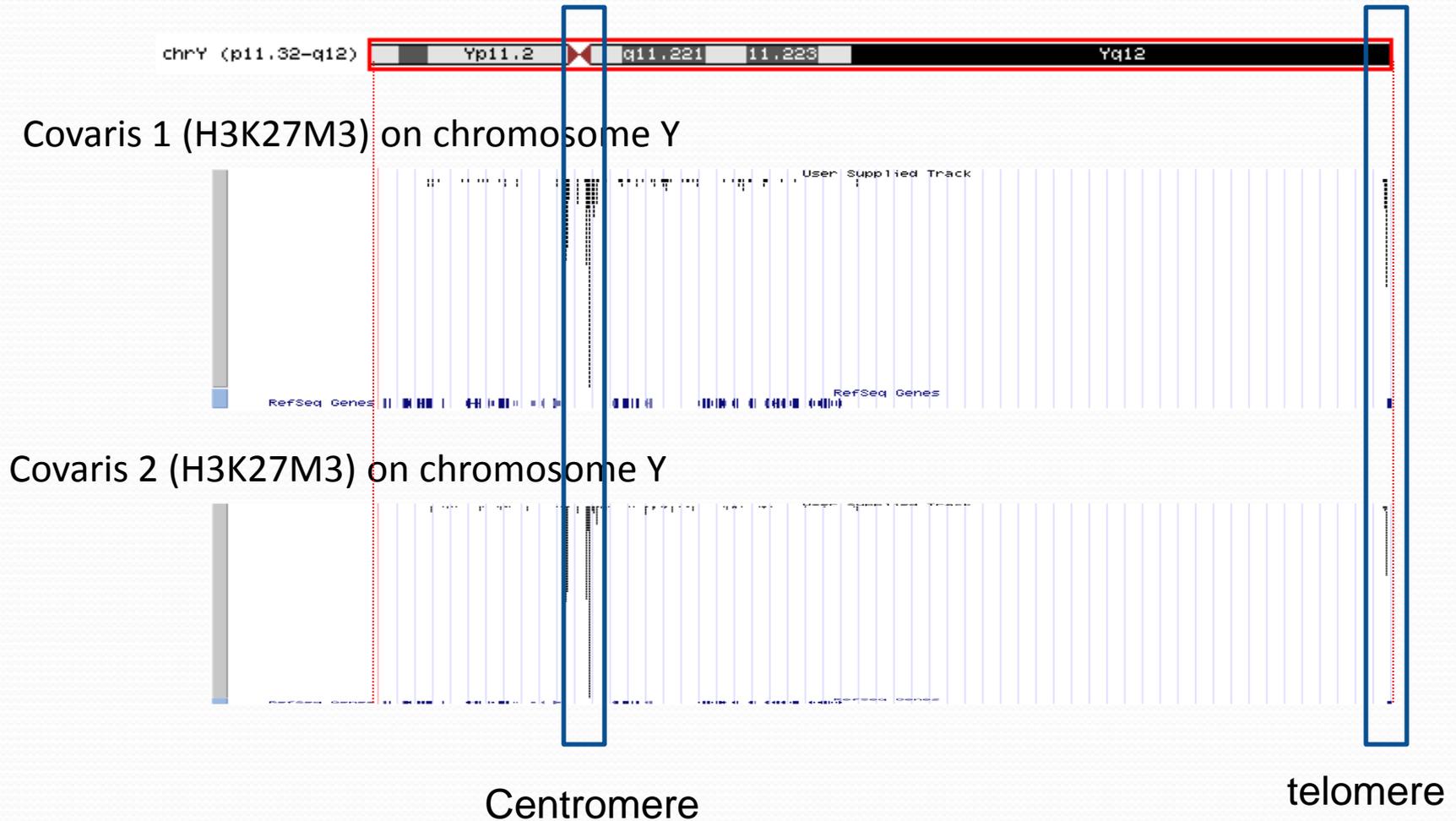
# Different fragment = different energy



# dsDNA shearing with AFA energy



# Comparing duplicate ChIP-SEQ data obtained by Covaris S2 ultrasonicator in entire chromosome Y

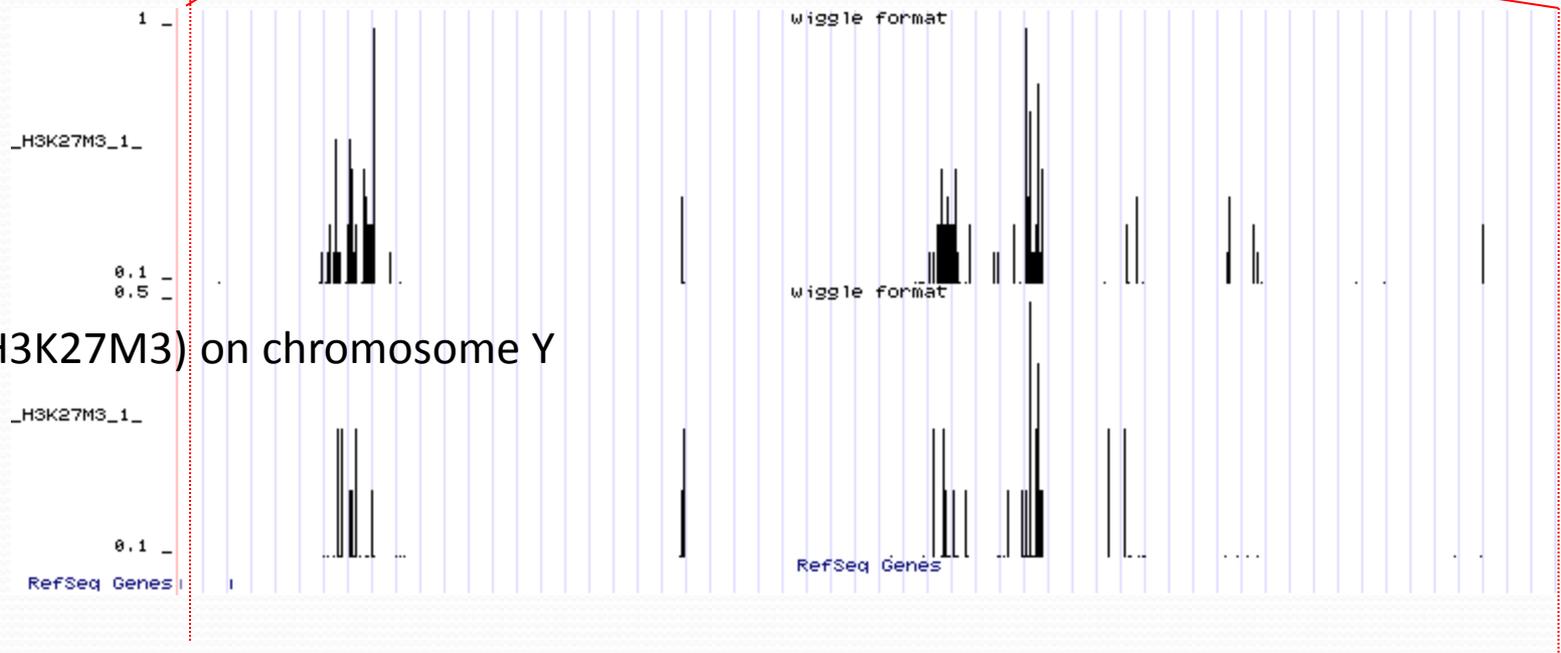


We observed high enriched patterns in both centromere and telomere from two biological independent experiments with Covaris S2

# Comparing duplicate ChIP-SEQ data obtained by Covaris S2 ultrasonicator in small window



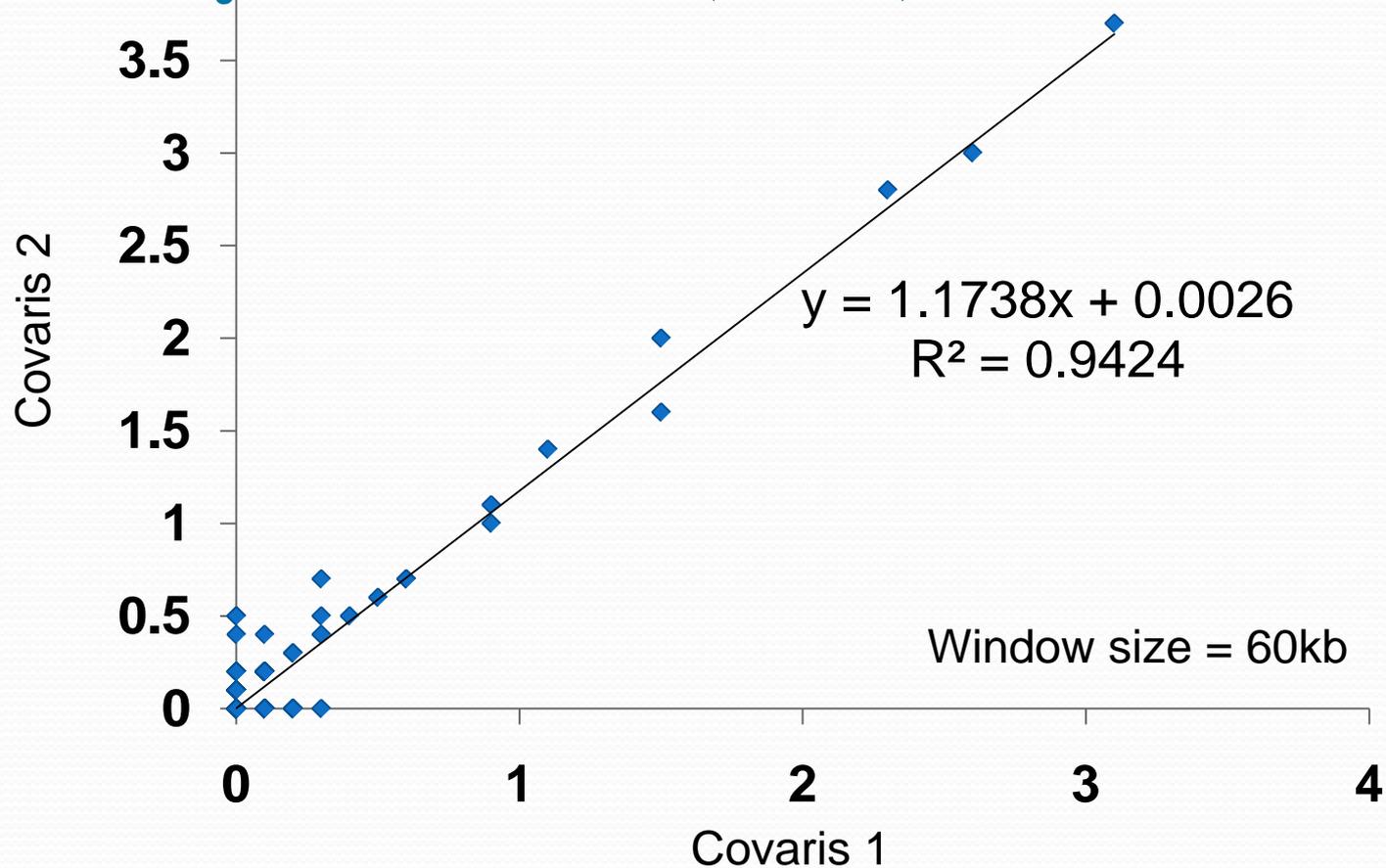
Covaris A (H3K27M3) on chromosome Y



Covaris B (H3K27M3) on chromosome Y

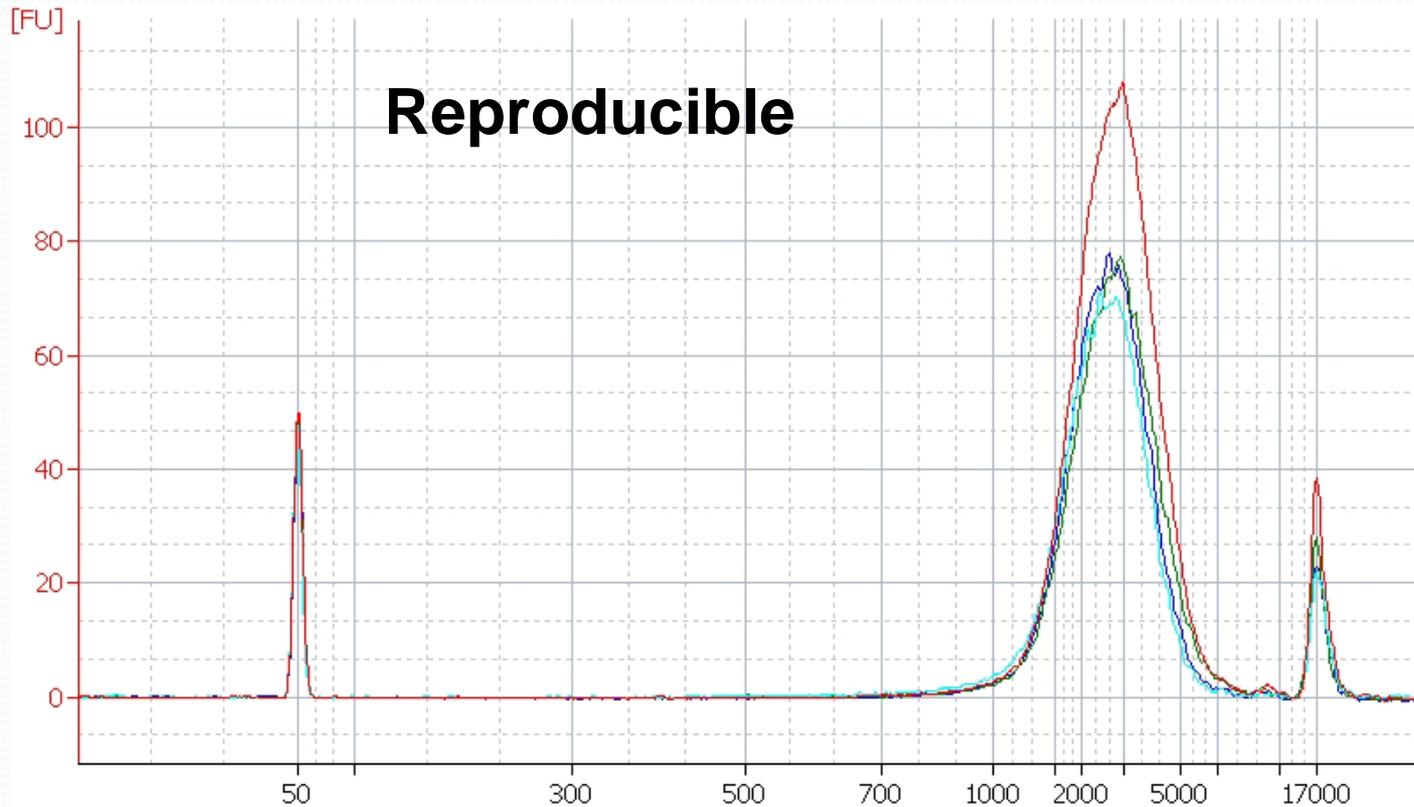
We observed high enriched patterns in both centromere and telomere from two biological independent experiments with Covaris S2

# Correlation of duplicated ChIP-SEQ data sheared by Covaris S2 (chrY)



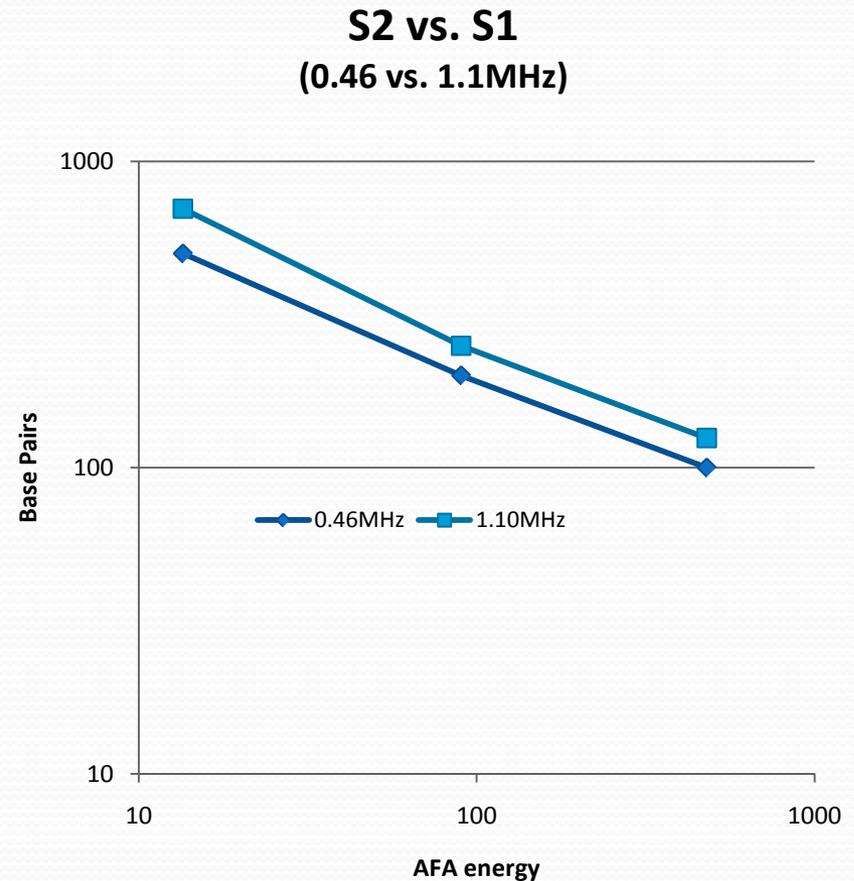
We observed high correlation of intensities from two biological independent experiments with Covaris S2

# miniTUBE



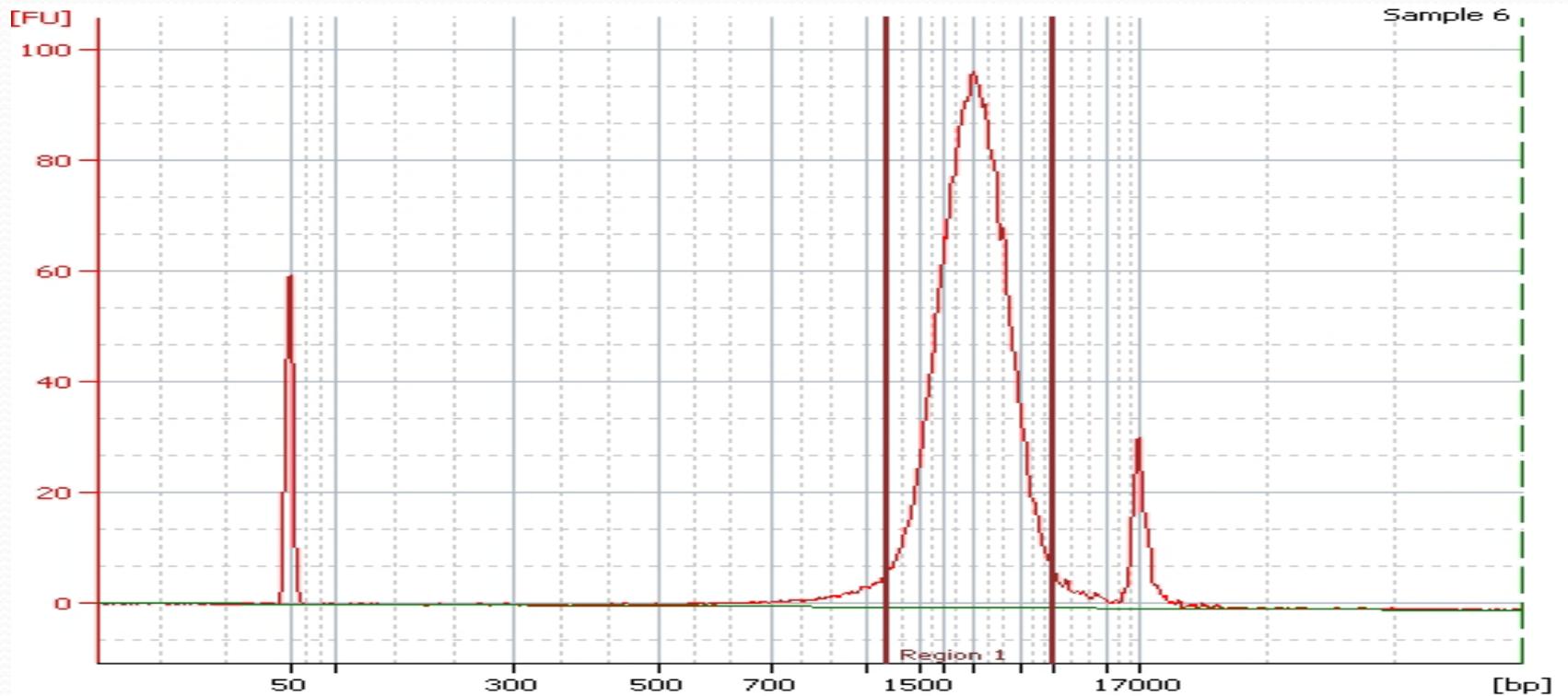
# Process improvement - frequency

- microTUBE
- Identical dose (AFA energy)
- 20% less energy required with lower frequency (0.46MHz) S2 system than with higher frequency S1 (1.1MHz) system to obtain the same effect
  - AFA energy in S2 = 200bp
  - Same dose in S1 = 250bp
  - Faster process at lower frequency



## 3.0kb (lambda dsDNA)

- 92% between 1.2 – 7.0 kb

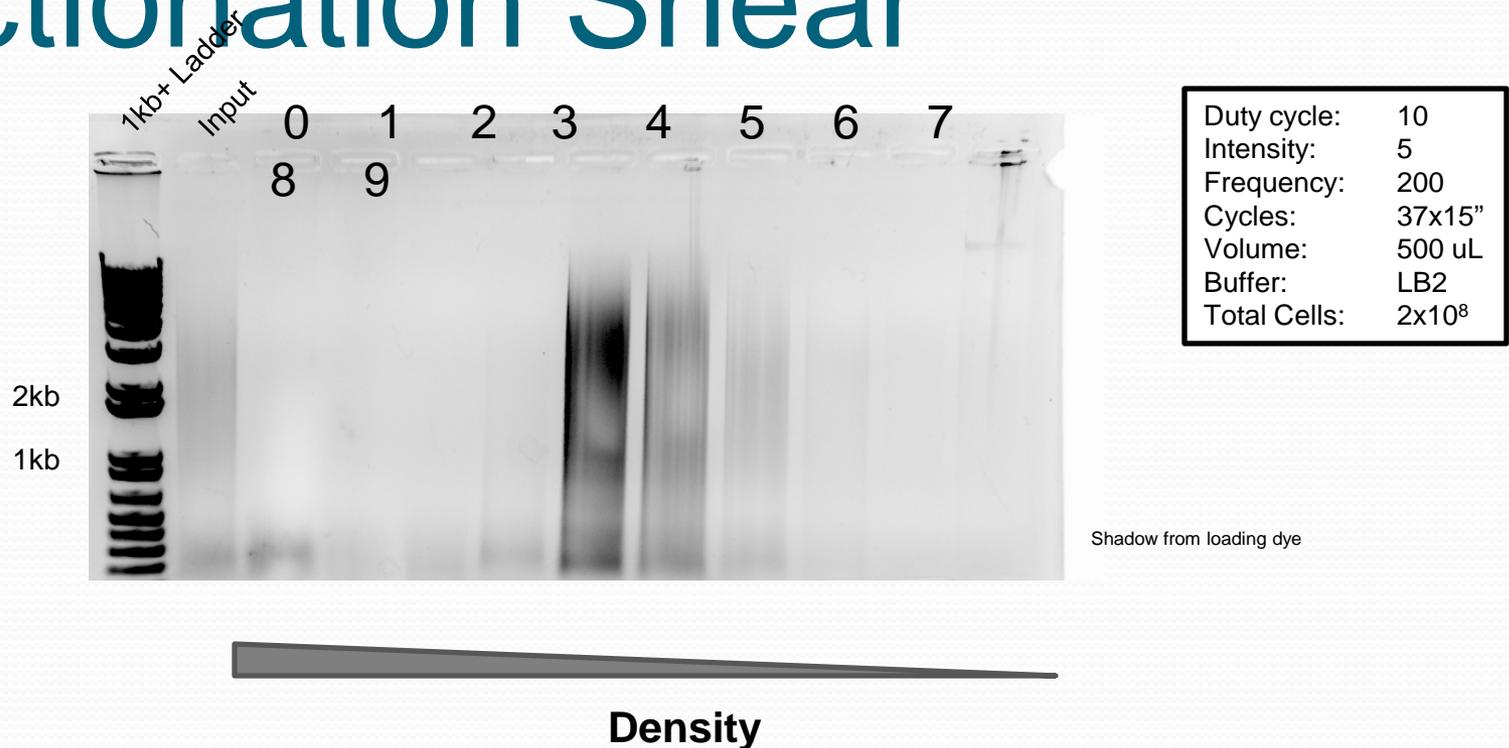


# Potential system improvements

- Earliest potentially available
  - Higher power L8
    - L8i – summer/fall 09
  - Lower frequency
    - L4i – fall/winter 09
  - Lower volume
    - L4i + tube – winter 09/10
  - Higher density plate (384)
    - 2010

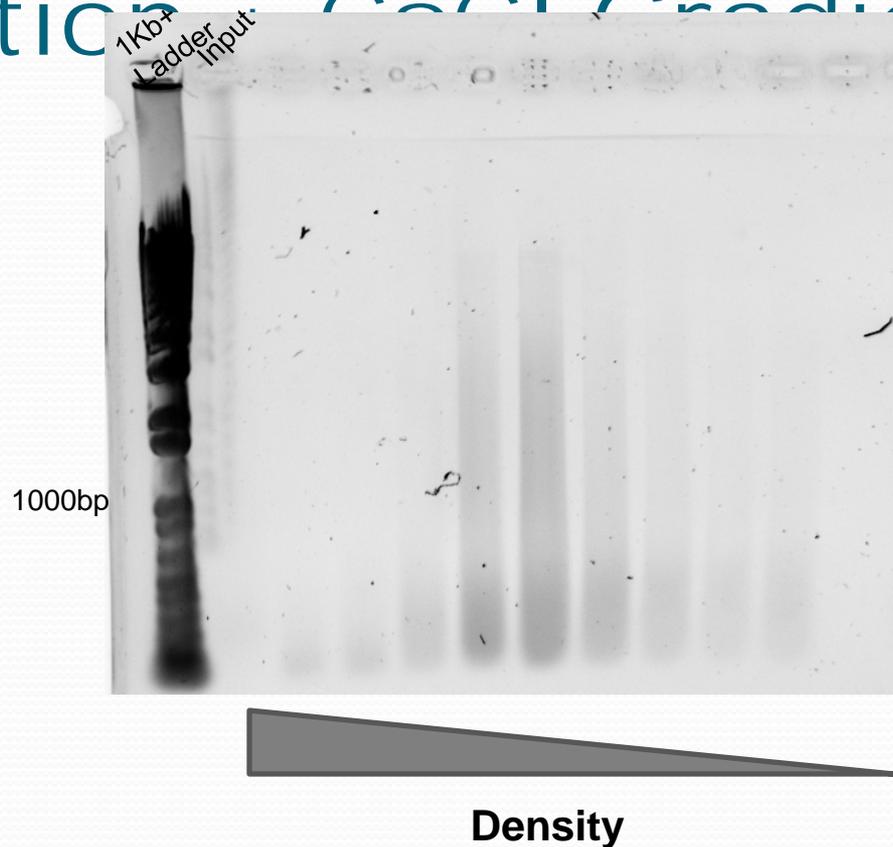
... cumulative potential to process  
384 samples to 150bp in ~60 minutes

# Fractionation Shear



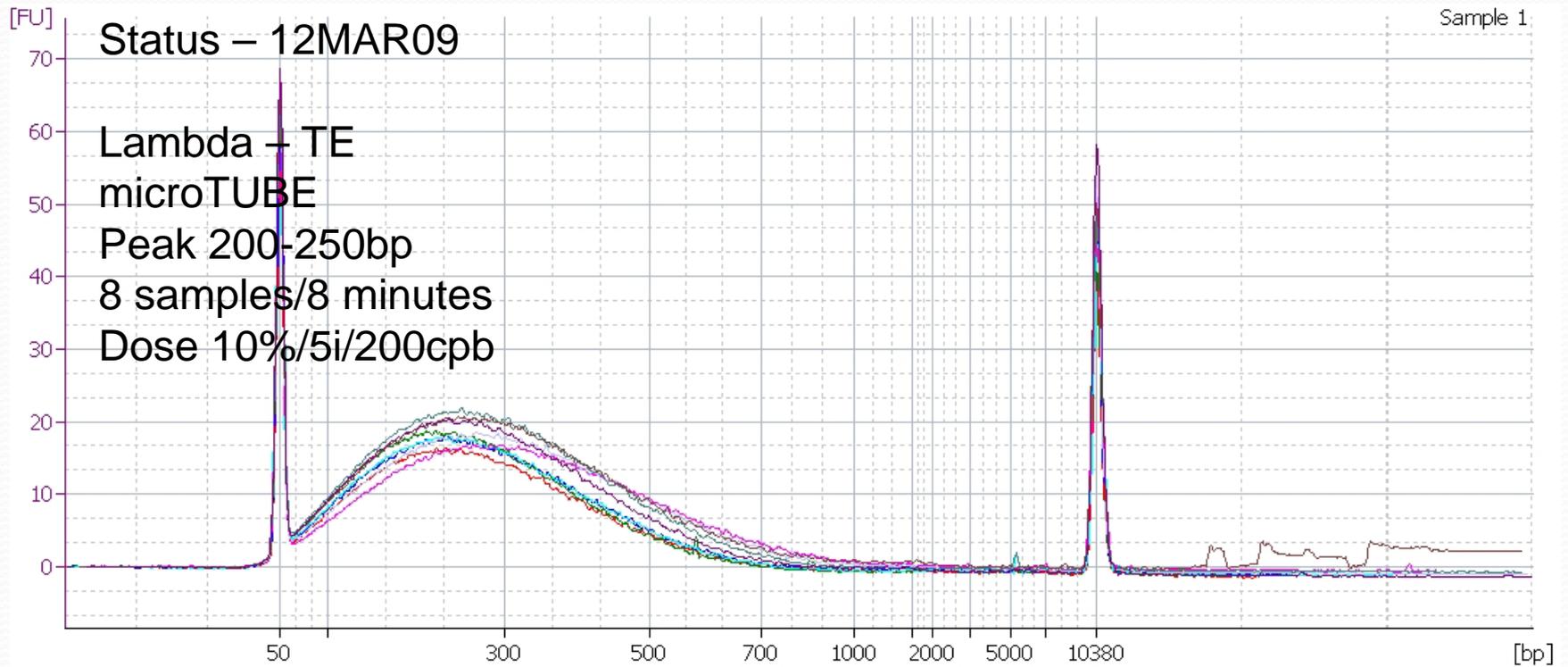
Cross-linked nuclei were subjected to the above conditions on the Covaris machine. The resulting solution was spun hard and the soluble portion applied to a density gradient. The gradient was fractionated by volume. The DNA from each fraction was isolated after RNase and ProK treatment and run out on a pre-stained EtBr agarose gel.

# Chromatin from Branson sonication



Compared to the shearing in slide #2, the distribution of the DNA sheared using a Branson sonicator (in nearly identical conditions) has higher variance.

# L8 - DNA shearing



# Process improvement – 96 to 384

- Processing time is reduced as mass of sample (e.g., 100ul > 20ul) is reduced
- Width of focal zone may be increased (L4x) to process two rows simultaneously.
  - Therefore, instead of 8 samples in one “dose”, there would be 32 samples in one “dose”
- Processing time for 384 should be similar to total time for 96 samples,
  - if the volume is lower
  - if the vessel is acoustically matched to transducer

## Process improvement – new circuit

- microTUBE
- Identical dose (AFA energy)
- 80% energy required with new circuit board

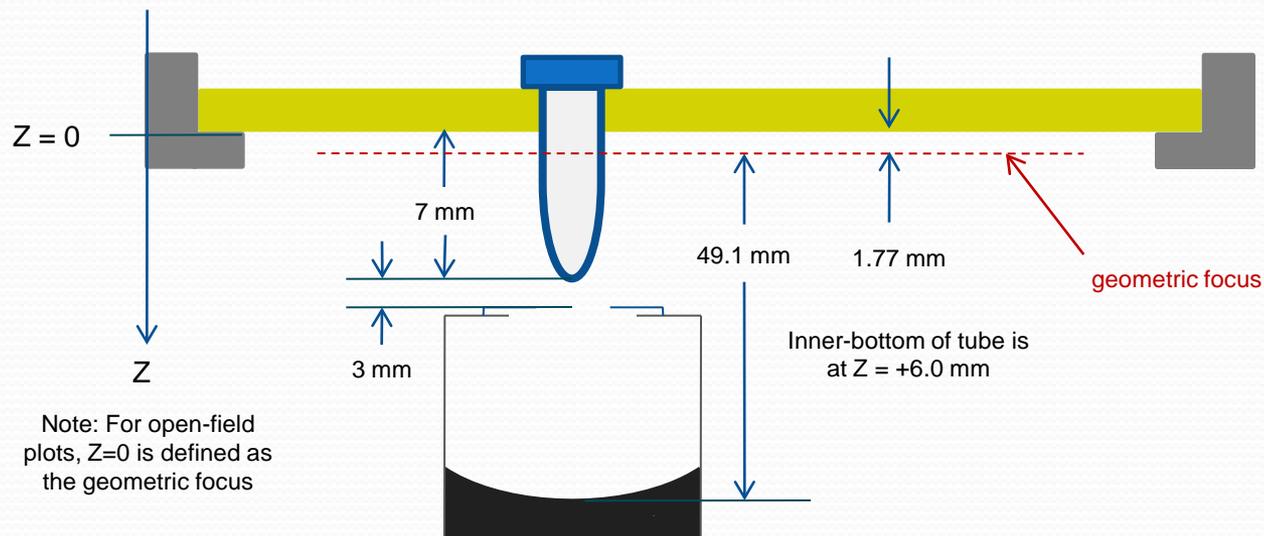
# Process improvement - vessel

- Improve transmission efficiency of acoustic energy across vessel wall
- Current microTUBE – borosilicate
- Future microTUBE
  - Engineering polymers
    - High temperature
  - Ultem, Liquid Crystal Polymer, Nylon, etc.

## Process improvement – volume

- Processing time is reduced as mass of sample (e.g., 100ul > 20ul) is reduced
- Same energy for 100ul and 50ul results in ~25% increase in response

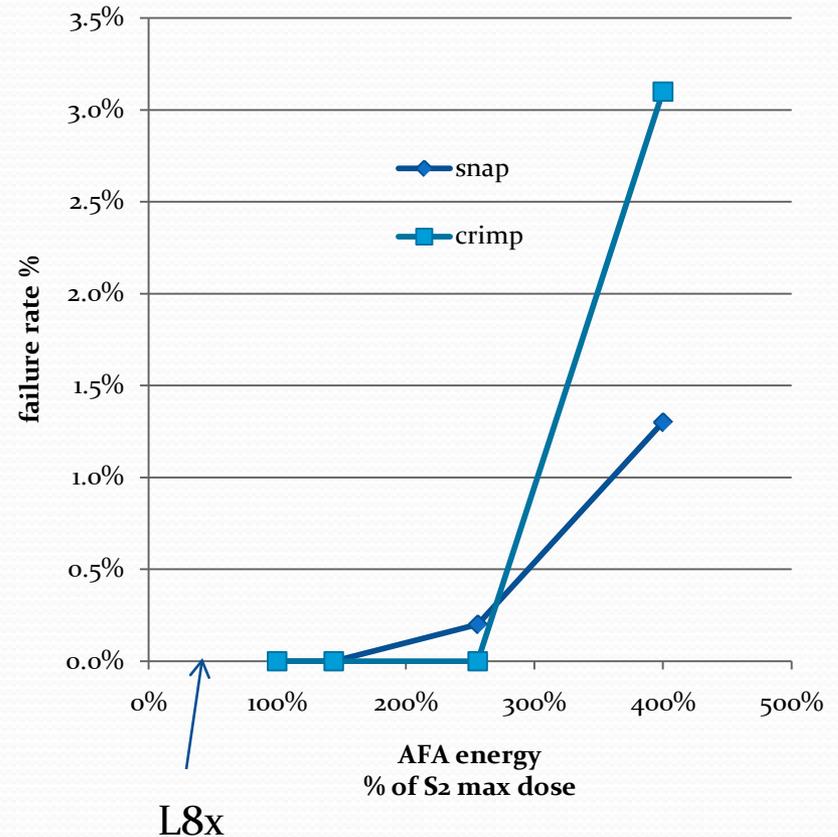
# Experiment 1: Dimensions and coordinates, tube rack, 3mm gap



## microTUBE - failure rate (lot 3)

- S2 – test dose (>2000 tubes tested)
  - Duty cycle = 20%
  - Time = 560 seconds
  - Cycles/burst = 200
  - Vary intensity 5, 6, 8, 10
- S2 – Covaris recommended maximum dose (100%)
  - Duty cycle = 10%
  - Intensity 5
  - 0 failure with 16k shipped

L8x max. = 30% energy/tube



## Glass microTUBE: Situation

- Energy required to obtain <100bp is high
  - Serial process of S2/E210 stresses tube with point focal zone
    - Breakage 1/1000
  - Parallel process of L8/L8x requires less energy as it is spread over a 100mm line and only 44% reaches tube
    - Breakage – none to date

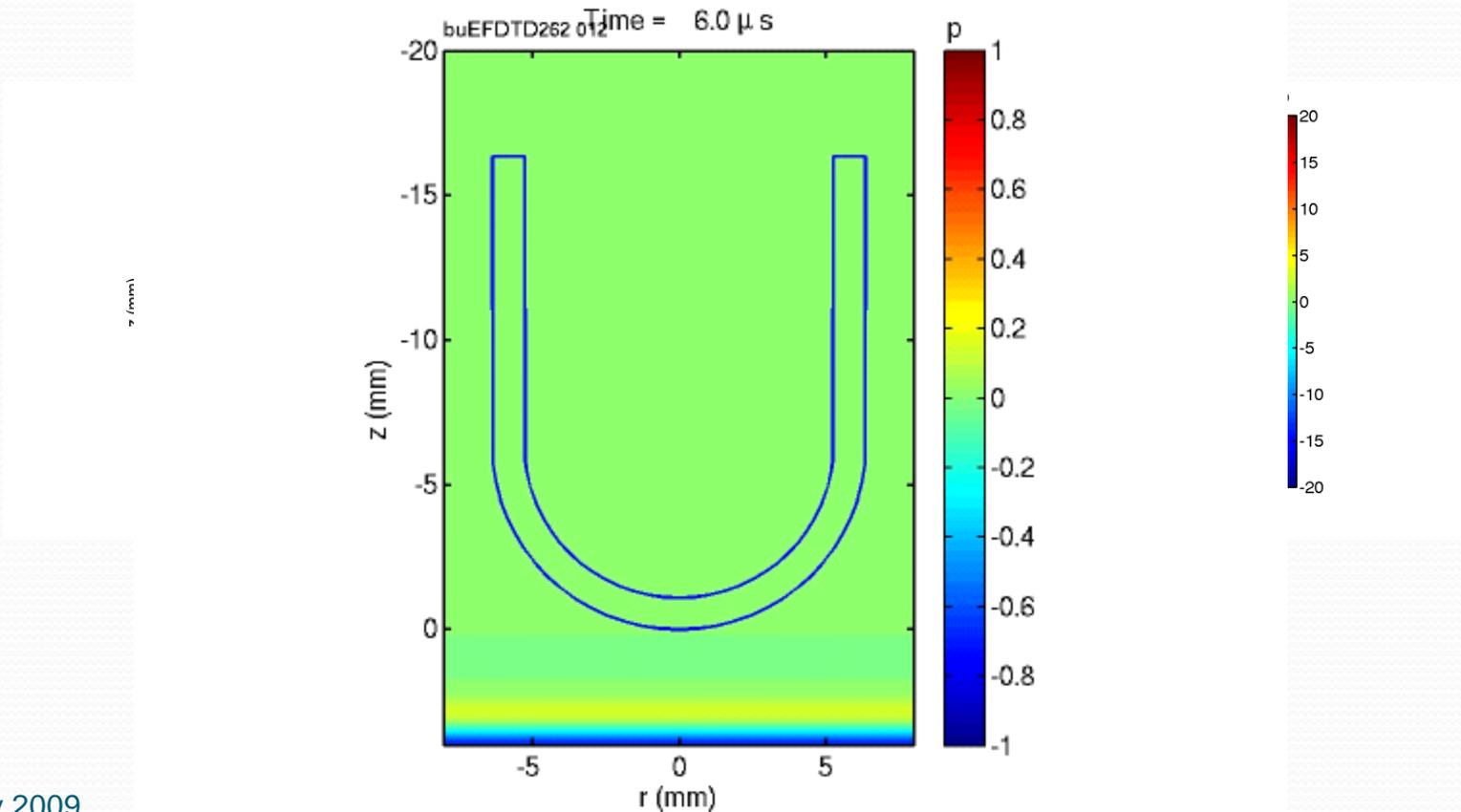
## L8 less energy/tube

	<b>S2</b>	<b>L8</b>	<b>L8x</b>
<b>100bp minutes</b>	8	32	16
watt - peak	32	400	600
transducer length in mm		100	100
microTUBE OD in mm		5.5	5.5
number tubes		8	8
width in microTUBES		44	44
% microTUBE		44%	44%
watt - tubes		176	264
duty cycle	10%	10%	25%
watt - 8 tubes		17.6	66
tubes		8	8
watt/tube	32	2.20	8.25
	100%	7%	26%

# Focusing through

tpx

glass



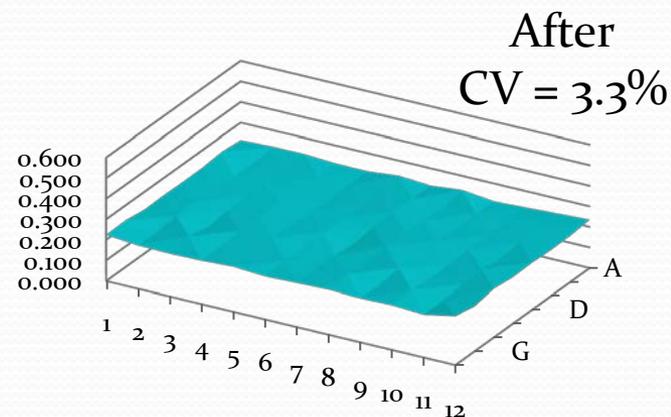
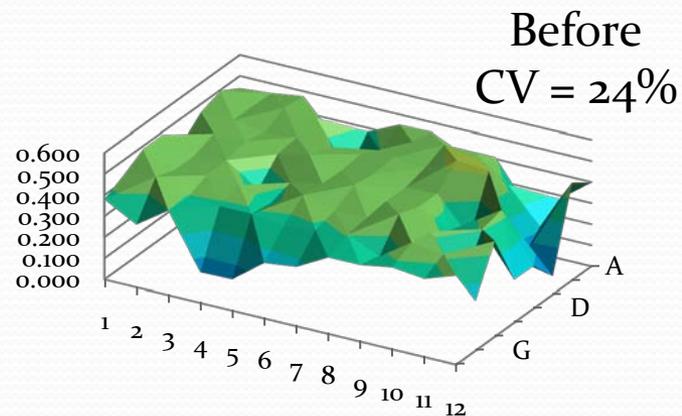
# L8 – parallel AFA process

- L8
  - Parallel samples in row
    - Lower intensity than point transducers
  - General purpose
    - Enzyme, dissolution, etc.
  - API
- DNA shearing
  - microTUBES
    - >300bp – 8 samples in 2 minutes
    - **<100bp – 8 samples in \_\_ min**
  - miniTUBES
    - >3kb – 8 samples in 7 minutes



## L8 – low intensity

- 5 $\mu$ l of 9.6 nM p-nitrophenol was dispensed into 100 $\mu$ l of 0.1 N NaOH stock buffer.
- Absorbance, read soon after dispensing, showed high variance and incomplete mixing.
- Following a single 30 second Covaris AFA treatment, mixing homogeneity was strongly promoted, as illustrated by the absorbance data:





## L8 – user interface

# AFA high intensity

- Yeast
- TE buffer, 100ul, 6degC
- Protein assay - Bradford
- Control
  - Bead-beater
  - 120 seconds
- AFA Dose
  - 20%/5l/200cpb
  - 0, 120, 180 seconds

