Defense Forensic Science Center

Database Development and Product Variability in Lubricant Materials









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•Improve interpretation of lubricant evidence

- •Why?
 - Encountered in sexual assault (SA) cases: condom use, object/digital penetration, sodomy
 - Make up a meaningful portion of SA cases: 11.7%-15.6% of cases (n=841)*
- Challenges:
 - Many materials common to environment
 - Materials typically not controlled

*O'Neal, Decker, Spohn, Tellis, "Condom use during sexual assault", Journal of Forensic and Legal Medicine, 20 (2013) 605-609.



Composition



- All classes:
 - Lubricants
 - Texture elements
 - Preservatives
- Condoms/Sexual lubricants:
 - Active ingredients
- Lotions:
 - Emollients
 - Humectants
 - "Effect" components



Variation



- Few basic lubricant materials
- Total composition differs between condoms/lubricants vs lotions/cosmetics
- Few points of analysis in lubricants
- Wider variability in lotions
- Goals:
 - Discriminate class
 - Discriminate product
 - Discriminate lots



Compound Frequency in Lotions





PCA – Methanol Day 0 DART

UNCLASSIFIED







Current Database

U.S.ARMY



- Contains over 200 samples (some replicates)
 - 98 condoms
 - 86 lotions
 - 60 sexual lubricants
- Expansion
 - New product lines
 - Exemplars from different manufacturing sites/lots
 - Detergents
 - Cosmetics







Brand	PDMS	%	PDMS &	%	
			Starch		
Durex TM	22	88%	4	16%	
Lifestyles TM	32	97%	31	94%	
Trojan TM	24	77%	18	58%	
Other	8	89%	3	33%	
Total	86	87%	56	57%	



Condom Data Cont.



Condom Brand	N-9	N-9 + PDMS	Pro-glycol	Glycerin	PEG	Other
Durex	1 (5%)	1 (5%)	4 (16%)	0 (0%)	3 (12%)	4 (16%)
Lifestyles	9 (27%)	8 (24%)	6 (18%)	4 (16%)	0 (0%)	3 (9%)
Trojan	6 (19%)	0 (0%)	9 (29%)	3 (10%)	4 (13%)	9 (29%)
Other	1 (11%)	0 (0%)	1 (11%)	0 (0%)	1 (11%)	2 (22%)
Total	17 (17%)	9 (9%)	20 (20%)	7 (7%)	8 (8%)	18 (18%)



Additional Factors



- Mixtures
- Loss on the body/clothing
- Transferability
- Stability of source/unknown
- Regulatory issues
- New product development





Variability Based on Aging

U.S.ARMY







Direction



- Expand library*
- New analytical methods*
- Long term trends in product lines
- Further statistical population discrimination
- Persistence studies*
- Classification scheme

*Denotes projects in progress at DFSC





Cluster Analysis













- Basis for variability proven
- Database will lead to classification
- Expanded analysis will define limits of selectivity
- Persistence will refine value





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