

The *Bacteroides fragilis* MLST scheme uses internal fragments of seven single-copy core genes associated with housekeeping functions. The fragments are amplified using the following primers pairs and PCR protocol.

Primer	Sequence (5' to 3')	Amplicon size (bp)	MLST fragment size (bp)
GroL - Heat shock protein			
groL_fw	CGGTTATCGGTAAACTGATTGC	607	498
groL_rv	GATTAGTAGCAGCAATCTGAGC		
RpoB - RNA polymerase b-subunit			
rpoB_fw	GCCGATTATCCGGTTGTAG	614	498
rpoB_rv	CGAACTTCGAGTGAATACTCTTCTAC		
DnaJ - Chaperone protein			
dnaJ_fw	GGATAAACGTGCCCGCTAC	582	480
dnaJ_rv	C(G/C)CCCATAGAGAGTTGC		
RprX - Histidine kinase			
rprX_fw	TACATCCGTGCGAAATGC	607	498
rprX_rv	CTTCACAATACTCATCTTCGCAG		
PrfA - Release factor			
prfA_fw	CTCAGGA(T/C)GGTAA(G/A)AATGCC	573	471
prfA_rv	CGTCGATATACTTCTGATGTCC		
FusA- Elongation factor G			
fusA_fw	CTACAACTCTCGTTCAGGTAAG	588	486
fusA_rv	GGAATGTTACCACCTTCAC		
RecA - DNA repair recombinase			
recA_fw	GCTGCCATGGACAAGATAG	569	468
recA_rv	ACACCGATTTTCTCACGC		

Final length of concatenated MLST fragments: 3399bp

PCR protocol

All the primers have been designed with a GC content of 40-60% and a melting temperature (t_m) of 54-56°C. The following PCR programs are suggestions and should be adjusted according to the specifications of the polymerase used.

Phusion polymerase

Initial denaturation: 98°C 30s
 Denaturation: 98°C 10s
 Annealing: 60°C 20 s
 Extension: 72°C 30s
 Repeat previous 3 steps 30 times
 Final extension: 72°C 5m

Taq polymerase

Initial denaturation: 95°C 30s
 Denaturation: 95°C 10s
 Annealing: 55°C 20 s
 Extension: 72°C 30s
 Repeat previous 3 steps 30 times
 Final extension: 72°C 5m