qBase*Plus*: import file guidelines

iCycler

General information

Import files should contain a list of Quantification Cycle (**Cq**) values. Depending on the instrument software that generates the data, Cq values might have alternative names such as Ct, CP, TOP, etc. Cq is the official abbreviation in the Real-time PCR Data Markup Language (more info on http://www.rdml.org). The qBase*Plus* calculation engine is based on Cq values. Raw amplification curve data are not (yet) supported.

Import file formats should be either a tab delimited text file (.**txt**), a comma or semicolon separated value file (.**csv**) or a Microsoft Excel file (.**xls**). Microsoft Excel 2007 (.xlsx) , OpenOffice.org Calc (.ods) and proprietary or binary instrument files are not supported.

In qBase*Plus*, there are restrictions on sample, target and run names. Only the following characters are allowed: all alphanumerical characters (0-9, a-z, A-Z), space, _, -, $, #, :, ^, . and the greek letter mu (µ). **Illegal characters** such as brackets and slashes should be removed or replaced.

Generating iQ export files

1. Open the *PCR Quantification* tab in *Data Analysis* window
2. Adjust *Threshold Cycle Calculations*
3. Click *Recalculate Threshold Cycles* button if necessary
4. Click on top left cel of the data table, copy to memory (by pressing CTRL and C key simultaneously), and paste in new Microsoft Excel sheet (CTRL+V)
5. One plate (run) should be copied to one Excel file
6. Save Excel file as Excel version 97/2000/XP/2003

See screenshot on next page.

There is an alternative procedure following step 3 in the above outlined procedure, resulting in an alternative output file:

4. Open *PCR Standard Curve* tab
5. Click on top left cel of the data table, copy to memory (by pressing CTRL and C key simultaneously), and paste in new Microsoft Excel sheet (CTRL+V)
6. One plate (run) should be copied to one Excel file
7. Save Excel file as Excel version 97/2000/XP/2003

The resulting Excel file should look like one of the iCycler example files available on the Biogazelle website (http://www.biogazelle.com/support/qBasePlus/formats).

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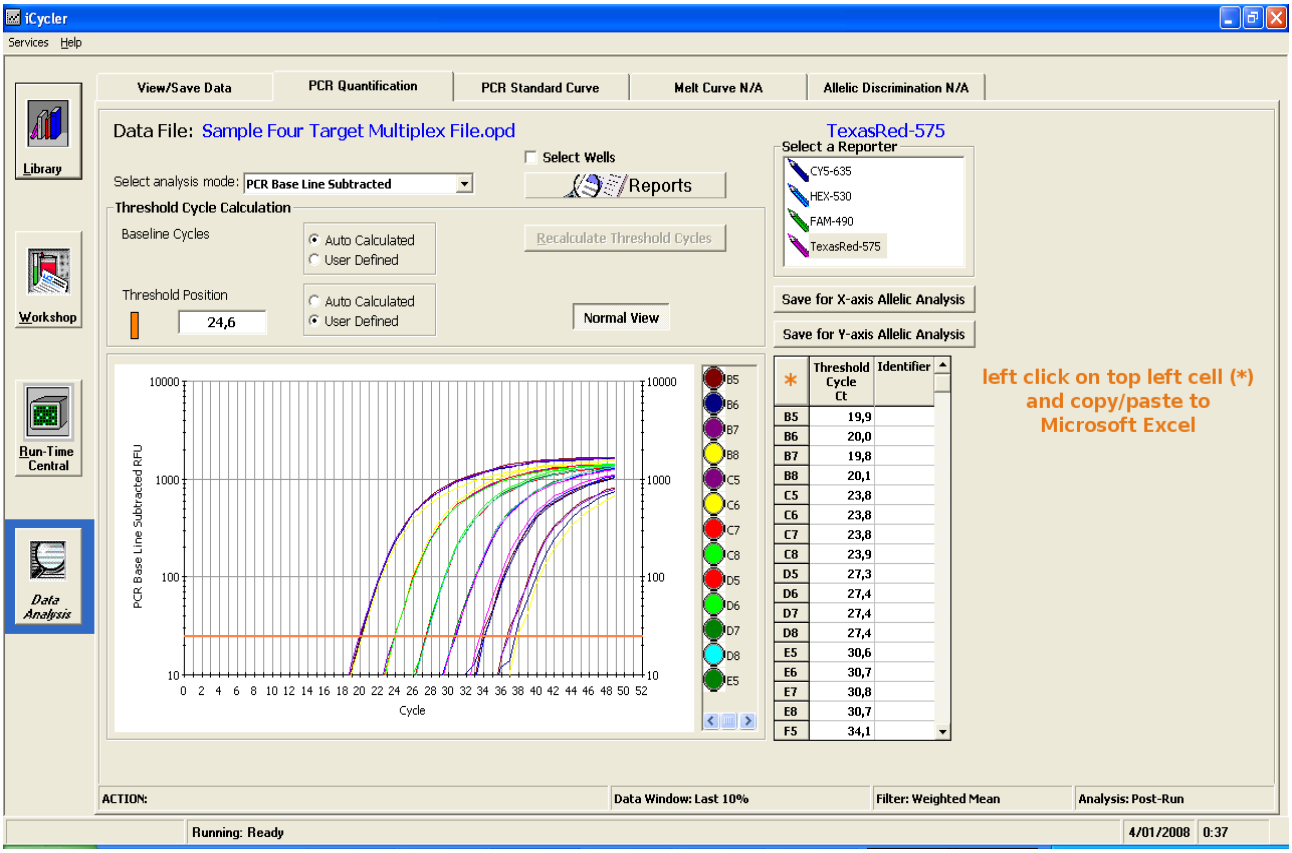

*	Threshold Cycle Ct	Identifier
B5	19,9	
B6	20,0	
B7	19,8	
B8	20,1	
C5	23,8	
C6	23,8	
C7	23,8	
C8	23,9	
D5	27,3	
D6	27,4	
D7	27,4	
D8	27,4	
E5	30,6	
E6	30,7	
E7	30,8	
E8	30,7	
F5	34,1	