Genetic and linguistic evolution in Africa Sarah Tishkoff Departments of Genetics and Biology <u>Tishkoff@mail.med.upenn.edu</u>

Africa is the source of the worldwide range expansion of all modern humans. To explore relationships among geographic, linguistic, and genetic landscapes of Africa, we studied 121 diverse African populations, 4 African American populations and 60 non-African populations for patterns of variation at 1327 nuclear microsatellite and insertion/deletion markers. Africans have the highest levels of genetic substructure on a global scale. Fourteen ancestral population clusters were identified in Africa, which are often correlated with self-described ethnicity and shared cultural and/or linguistic properties.