Last update: 07/03/2024 Flow Cell Number:



Before start checklist		
Materials	Consumables	Equipment
100-200 fmol of amplicon DNA	MinION and GridION Flow Cell	MinION or GridION device
Ligation Sequencing Kit V14 (SQK-LSK114)	■ NEBNext® Companion Module for Oxford Nanopore Technologies® Ligation Sequencing (NEB, E7180S or E7180L). Alternatively, you can use the NEBNext® products below:	MinION and GridION Flow Cell Light Shield
	NEBNext Ultra II End repair/dA-tailing Module (NEB, E7546)	Hula mixer (gentle rotator mixer)
	NEBNext Quick Ligation Module (NEB, E6056)	Magnetic rack, suitable for 1.5 ml Eppendorf tubes
	Qubit dsDNA HS Assay Kit (Invitrogen, Q32851)	Microfuge
	Optional) Bovine Serum Albumin (BSA) (50 mg/ml) (e.g Invitrogen™ UltraPure™ BSA 50 mg/ml, AM2616)	Vortex mixer
	Freshly prepared 80% ethanol in nuclease- free water	Thermal cycler
	Nuclease-free water (e.g. ThermoFisher, AM9937)	Ice bucket with ice
	1.5 ml Eppendorf DNA LoBind tubes	Timer
	0.2 ml thin-walled PCR tubes	Qubit fluorometer (or equivalent for QC check)
	Qubit™ Assay Tubes (Invitrogen, Q32856)	Pipettes and pipette tips P2, P10, P20, P100,

P200, P1000

INSTRUCTIONS	NOTES/OBSERVATIONS
End-prep	
Check your flow cell.	
Thaw DNA Control Sample (DCS) at RT, spin down, mix by pipetting, and place on ice.	
Prepare the NEBNext Ultra II End Repair / dA-tailing Module reagents in accordance with manufacturer's instructions, and place on ice:	
Thaw all reagents on ice.	
Flick and/or invert the reagent tubes to ensure they are well mixed. Note: Do not vortex the Ultra II End Prep Enzyme Mix.	
Always spin down tubes before opening for the first time each day.	
☐ The Ultra II End Prep Buffer may have a little precipitate. Allow the mixture to come to RT and pipette the buffer up and down several times to break up the precipitate, followed by vortexing the tube for 30 seconds to solubilise any precipitate.	

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INSTRUCTIONS	NOTES/OBSERVATIONS
IMPORTANT	
Do not vortex the NEBNext Ultra II End Prep Enzyme Mix.	
IMPORTANT	
It is important that the NEBNext Ultra II End Prep Reaction Buffer is mixed well by vortexing.	
Prepare the DNA in Nuclease-free water: Transfer 100-200 fmol of amplicon DNA into a 1.5 ml Eppendorf DNA LoBind tube Adjust the volume to 49 µl with Nuclease-free water Mix thoroughly by pipetting up and down, or by flicking the tube Spin down briefly in a microfuge	
In a 0.2 ml thin-walled PCR tube, mix the following: 1 µl DNA CS 49 µl DNA 7 µl Ultra II End-prep Reaction Buffer 3 µl Ultra II End-prep Enzyme Mix	
Thoroughly mix the reaction by gently pipetting and briefly spinning down.	
\Box Using a thermal cycler, incubate at 20°C for 5 minutes and 65°C for 5 minutes.	
Resuspend the AMPure XP Beads (AXP) by vortexing.	
Transfer the DNA sample to a clean 1.5 ml Eppendorf DNA LoBind tube.	
Add 60 µl of resuspended the AMPure XP Beads (AXP) to the end-prep reaction and mix by flicking the tube.	
☐ Incubate on a Hula mixer (rotator mixer) for 5 minutes at RT.	
\square Prepare 500 µl of fresh 80% ethanol in Nuclease-free water.	
Spin down the sample and pellet on a magnet until supernatant is clear and colourless. Keep the tube on the magnet, and pipette off the supernatant.	
Keep the tube on the magnet and wash the beads with 200 μl of freshly prepared 80% ethanol without disturbing the pellet. Remove the ethanol using a pipette and discard.	
Repeat the previous step.	
Spin down and place the tube back on the magnet. Pipette off any residual ethanol. Allow to dry for ~30 seconds, but do not dry the pellet to the point of cracking.	
Remove the tube from the magnetic rack and resuspend the pellet in 61 µl Nuclease-free water. Incubate for 2 minutes at RT.	
Pellet the beads on a magnet until the eluate is clear and colourless, for at least 1 minute.	
Remove and retain 61 µl of eluate into a clean 1.5 ml Eppendorf DNA LoBind tube.	
Quantify 1 µl of eluted sample using a Qubit fluorometer.	

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INSTRUCTIONS	NOTES/OBSERVATIONS
Take forward the repaired and end-prepped DNA into the adapter ligation step. However, at this point it is also possible to store the sample at 4°C overnight.	
Adapter ligation and clean-up	
IMPORTANT	
Ligation Adapter (LA) included in this kit and protocol is not interchangeable with other sequencing adapters.	
IMPORTANT	
Although the recommended third-party ligase is supplied with its own buffer, the ligation efficiency of the Ligation Adapter (LA) is higher when using the Ligation Buffer (LNB) supplied in the Ligation Sequencing Kit.	
Spin down the Ligation Adapter (LA) and Quick T4 Ligase, and place on ice.	
Thaw Ligation Buffer (LNB) at RT, spin down and mix by pipetting. Due to viscosity, vortexing this buffer is ineffective. Place on ice immediately after thawing and mixing.	
☐ Thaw the Elution Buffer (EB) at RT and mix by vortexing. Then spin down and place on ice.	
IMPORTANT	
Depending on the wash buffer (LFB or SFB) used, the clean-up step after adapter ligation is designed to either enrich for DNA fragments of >3 kb, or purify all fragments equally.	
To enrich for DNA fragments of 3 kb or longer, use Long Fragment Buffer (LFB)	
To retain DNA fragments of all sizes, use Short Fragment Buffer (SFB)	
Thaw either Long Fragment Buffer (LFB) or Short Fragment Buffer (SFB) at RT and mix by vortexing. Then spin down and place on ice.	
In a 1.5 ml Eppendorf DNA LoBind tube, mix in the following order:	
\square 60 µl DNA sample from the previous step	
25 µl Ligation Buffer (LNB)	
 10 μl NEBNext Quick T4 DNA Ligase 5 μl Ligation Adapter (LA) 	
Thoroughly mix the reaction by gently pipetting and briefly spinning down.	
\Box Incubate the reaction for 10 minutes at RT.	
Resuspend the AMPure XP Beads (AXP) by vortexing.	
$\hfill\square$ Add 40 μl of resuspended AMPure XP Beads (AXP) to the reaction and mix by flicking the tube.	
Incubate on a Hula mixer (rotator mixer) for 5 minutes at RT.	
Spin down the sample and pellet on a magnet. Keep the tube on the magnet, and pipette off the supernatant when clear and colourless.	
Wash the beads by adding either 250 µl Long Fragment Buffer (LFB) or 250 µl Short Fragment Buffer (SFB). Flick the beads to resuspend, spin down, then return the tube to the magnetic rack and allow the beads to pellet. Remove the supernatant using a pipette and discard.	

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INSTRUCTIONS	NOTES/OBSERVATIONS
Repeat the previous step.	
Spin down and place the tube back on the magnet. Pipette off any residual supernatant. Allow to dry for ~30 seconds, but do not dry the pellet to the point of cracking.	
Remove the tube from the magnetic rack and resuspend the pellet in 15 µl Elution Buffer (EB). Spin down and incubate for 10 minutes at RT. For high molecular weight DNA, incubating at 37°C can improve the recovery of long fragments.	
Pellet the beads on a magnet until the eluate is clear and colourless, for at least 1 minute.	
Remove and retain 15 µl of eluate containing the DNA library into a clean 1.5 ml Eppendorf DNA LoBind tube.	
Quantify 1 µl of eluted sample using a Qubit fluorometer.	
Prepare 35-50 fmol of your final library to 12 μl with Elution Buffer (EB).	
IMPORTANT	
We recommend loading 35-50 fmol of this final prepared library onto the R10.4.1 flow cell.	
The prepared library is used for loading into the flow cell. Store the library on ice or at 4°C until ready to load.	
Priming and loading the MinION and GridION Flow Cell	
IMPORTANT	
Please note, this kit is only compatible with R10.4.1 flow cells (FLO-MIN114).	
Thaw the Sequencing Buffer (SB), Library Beads (LIB) or Library Solution (LIS, if using), Flow Cell Tether (FCT) and Flow Cell Flush (FCF) at RT before mixing by vortexing. Then spin down and store on ice.	
IMPORTANT	
For optimal sequencing performance and improved output on MinION R10.4.1 flow cells (FLO-MIN114), we recommend adding Bovine Serum Albumin (BSA) to the flow cell priming mix at a final concentration of 0.2 mg/ml.	
To prepare the flow cell priming mix with BSA, combine Flow Cell Flush (FCF) and Flow Cell Tether (FCT), as directed below. Mix by pipetting at RT.	
1,170 μl Flow Cell Flush (FCF)	
5 μl Bovine Serum Albumin (BSA) at 50 mg/ml	
30 µl Flow Cell Tether (FCT)	
Open the MinION or GridION device lid and slide the flow cell under the clip. Press down firmly on the flow cell to ensure correct thermal and electrical contact.	
Slide the flow cell priming port cover clockwise to open the priming port.	

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DNA Samples	:
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INSTRUCTIONS	NOTES/OBSERVATIONS
IMPORTANT	
Take care when drawing back buffer from the flow cell. Do not remove more than 20-30 µl, and make sure that the array of pores are covered by buffer at all times. Introducing air bubbles into the array can irreversibly damage pores.	
 After opening the priming port, check for a small air bubble under the cover. Draw back a small volume to remove any bubbles: Set a P1000 pipette to 200 µl Insert the tip into the priming port Turn the wheel until the dial shows 220-230 µl, to draw back 20-30 µl, or until you can see a small volume of buffer entering the pipette tip Note: Visually check that there is continuous buffer from the priming port across the sensor array. Load 800 µl of the priming mix into the flow cell via the priming port, avoiding the introduction of air bubbles. Wait for five minutes. During this time, prepare the library for loading by following the steps below. 	
Thoroughly mix the contents of the Library Beads (LIB) by pipetting.	
Important The Library Beads (LIB) tube contains a suspension of beads. These beads settle very quickly. It is vital that they are mixed immediately before use.	
In a new 1.5 ml Eppendorf DNA LoBind tube, prepare the library for loading as follows: 37.5 µl Sequencing Buffer (SB) 25.5 µl Library Beads (LIB) mixed immediately before use, or Library Solution (LIS), if using 12 µl DNA library	
Complete the flow cell priming:	
Gently lift the SpotON sample port cover to make the SpotON sample port accessible.	
Load 200 μl of the priming mix into the flow cell priming port (not the SpotON sample port), avoiding the introduction of air bubbles.	
☐ Mix the prepared library gently by pipetting up and down just prior to loading.	
Add 75 µl of the prepared library to the flow cell via the SpotON sample port in a dropwise fashion. Ensure each drop flows into the port before adding the next.	
Gently replace the SpotON sample port cover, making sure the bung enters the SpotON port and close the priming port.	
IMPORTANT	
Install the light shield on your flow cell as soon as library has been loaded for optimal sequencing output.	
Place the light shield onto the flow cell, as follows:	
Carefully place the leading edge of the light shield against the clip. Note: Do not force the light shield underneath the clip.	
Gently lower the light shield onto the flow cell. The light shield should sit around the SpotON cover, covering the entire top section of the flow cell.	
Close the device lid and set up a sequencing run on MinKNOW.	

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INSTRUCTIONS	NOTES/OBSERVATIONS
Flow cell reuse and returns	
After your sequencing experiment is complete, if you would like to reuse the flow cell, please follow the Flow Cell Wash Kit protocol and store the washed flow cell at 2-8°C.	
Alternatively, follow the returns procedure to flush out the flow cell ready to send back to Oxford Nanopore.	
IMPORTANT	
If you encounter issues or have questions about your sequencing experiment, please refer to the Troubleshooting Guide that can be found in the online version of this protocol.	