

Illumina's sequencing by synthesis

Analysis of Next-Generation Sequencing Data

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Slides at <https://bit.ly/2T3sjRg>¹

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¹https://physiology.med.cornell.edu/faculty/skrabanek/lab/angsd/schedule_2020/

- 1 DNA Sequencing Overview & Recap
- 2 Template preparation
- 3 Sequencing-by-synthesis
- 4 Single and paired-end reads
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DNA Sequencing Overview & Recap

Three Generations of DNA Sequencing

- 1st: **Sanger sequencing** [Sanger et al., 1977]
 - ▶ Cost per Mb: **USD 2,400**
 - ▶ Read length: 800 bp
 - ▶ Run time: 3 hrs
- 2nd: **Next-generation** or **high-throughput** sequencing [Illumina]
 - ▶ Cost per Mb: (less than) **USD 0.07**
 - ▶ Read length: 50-150 bp
 - ▶ Run time: 10 days
- 3rd: **Single-molecule** and/or **long-read** sequencing [PacBio]
 - ▶ Cost per Mb: **USD 0.13-0.6**
 - ▶ Read length: 1.4 kb
 - ▶ Run time: 0.5-2h

Ease-of-use and through-put have been dramatically increased at the cost of (some) accuracy.

Three Generations of DNA Sequencing

Details of first, second, and third generation sequencing technologies with respect to their cost per megabase, instrument cost, read length, and accuracy

Platform	Company	Cost per megabase (USD)	Cost per instrument (USD)	Read-length (bp)	Run time	Throughput	Raw accuracy
<i>First generation</i>							
Maxam-Gilbert	NA	—	—	—	2h	Low	—
Sanger	Applied Biosystems	2400	95,000	800	3h	Low	99.9999%
<i>Second generation</i>							
GS FLX	454 Life Sciences, Roche	~60.0	500,000	700	24 h	High	99.9%
SOLiD	Life Technologies	~0.13	495,000	35	8–14 days	Very high	99.94%
Genome Analyzer	Solexa, Illumina	~0.07	690,000	36	10 days	Very high	>98.5%
Polonator	Dover	~1.00	155,000	13	8–10 days	High	99.7%
HeliScope	Helicos Biosciences	~1.00	1,350,000	30	7 days	High	>99%
<i>Third generation</i>							
Ion Torrent	DNA Electronics Ltd.	1.00	80,000	200–400	3 h	Moderate	99.2%
CGA	BGI	~0.5–1.00	1200,000	10	6 h	Very high	99.99 %
Pacific Bio RS	Pacific biosciences	0.13–0.6	695,000	1400	0.5–2 h	Moderate	88.0%
Oxford Nanopore	Oxford technologies	Not yet calculated	750,000	Up to 4Tb	Up to 48h	Very high	99.99%

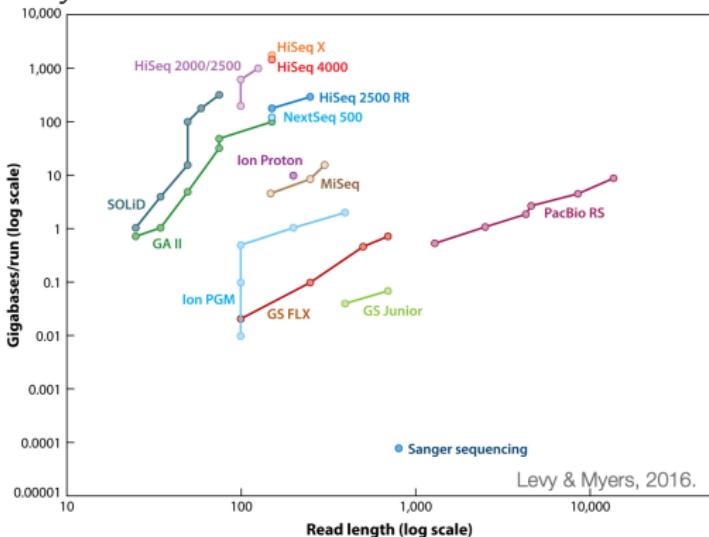
Table from Keith [2017]

NGS = Illumina-based sequencing

In practice, **Illumina's** sequencing platform is by far the most dominant one thanks to its high throughput, constant improvements, and library preparation support (kits).

Since acquiring Solexa in 2006, Illumina has been setting the pace in terms of optimizing yield and costs (e.g. Reuter et al. [2015]).

By mid-2019, PacBio was expected to belong to Illumina, too – on Jan 2, 2020, Illumina stepped away from the deal with a \$98M termination fee.



Main steps of typical NGS experiments

TEMPLATE PREP

Obtaining the molecules of interest:
DNA, RNA,
nucleotide-protein
complexes
↓
Library preparation:
fragmentation and
ligation of
sequencing adapters
↓
Amplification

SEQUENCING

Sequencing by
Synthesis
vs.
Sequencing by
Ligation
short reads vs. long
reads

BIOINFORMATICS

Base calling
↓
Alignment
Identifying loci of
the sequenced
fragments
↓
Additional processing
↓
Interpretation

Template preparation

Template preparation

- ① Nucleic acid **extraction**
- ② **Library preparation** ⇒ adapters for sequencing
- ③ **Clonal amplification** ⇒ making sure the signal is going to be strong enough

Template preparation

1. DNA/RNA extraction

Nucleic acids must be purified out of a mix of all sorts of organic and inorganic molecules.

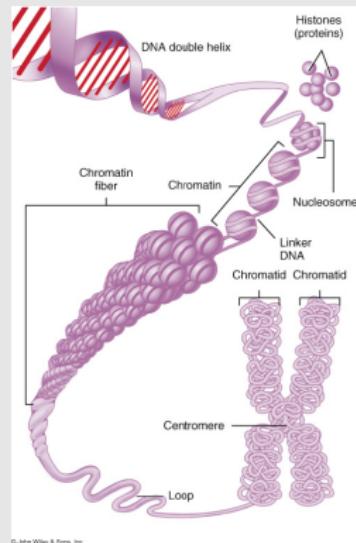
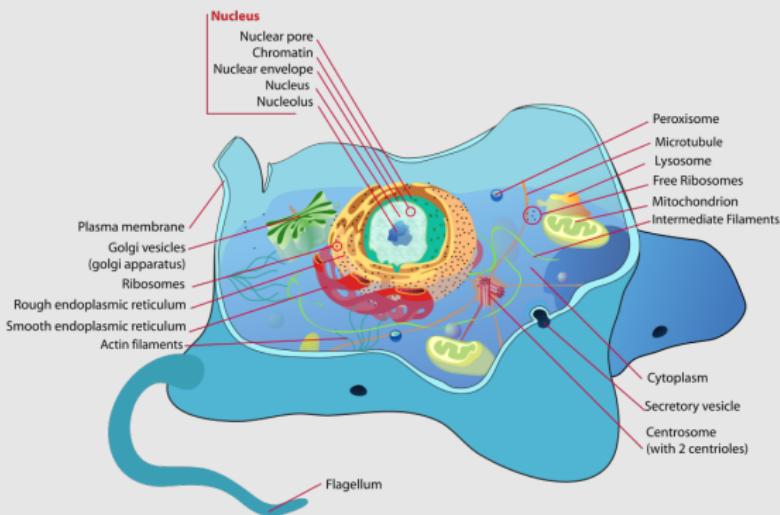


Fig. from: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eukaryote>

1. DNA/RNA extraction

Basic steps

Goal: Little or **no degradation** and complete profiling of the **entire length** of each DNA or RNA molecule.

Release NA

Lyse cell/
organism

Separate
NA

From other
cell material
incl. proteins

Purify NA

Wash away
unwanted
material

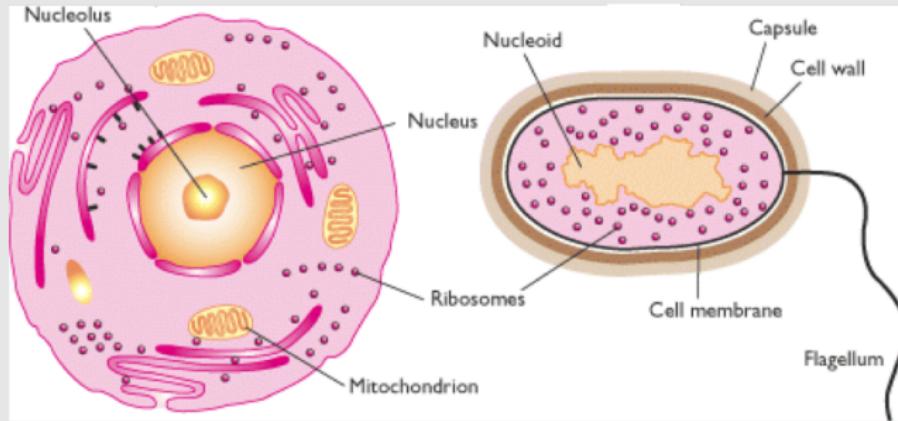
Concentrate
(optional)

Increase the
NA yield

1. DNA/RNA extraction

Lysis

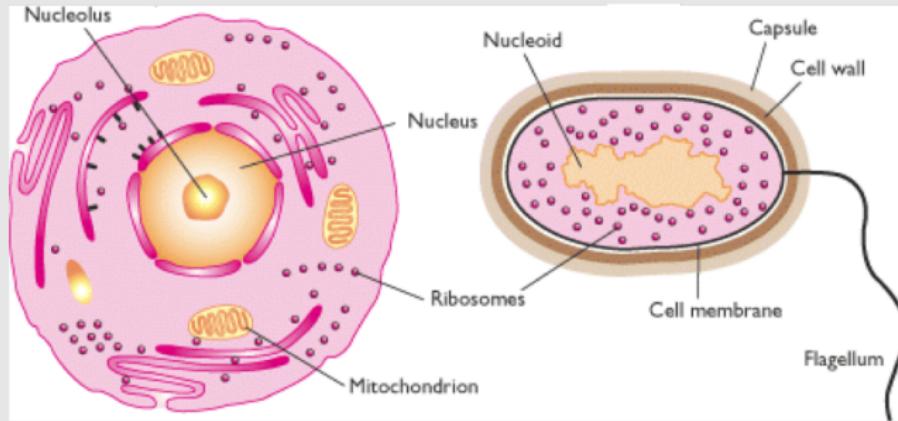
- Lysis = release of nucleic acids (NA) from cells/nuclei (= cell & nucleus destruction) using
 - ▶ salt solutions, detergents, lytic enzymes or
 - ▶ physical forces: mechanical force, heat, freezing
- different cells (bacteria, plant cells, mammalian tissues...) have very different optimal lysis properties (see Thatcher [2015]!)



1. DNA/RNA extraction

Lysis

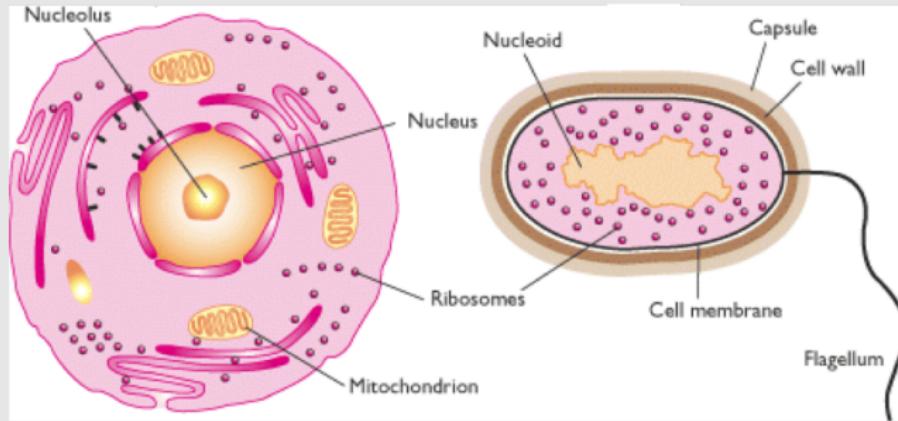
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Lysis

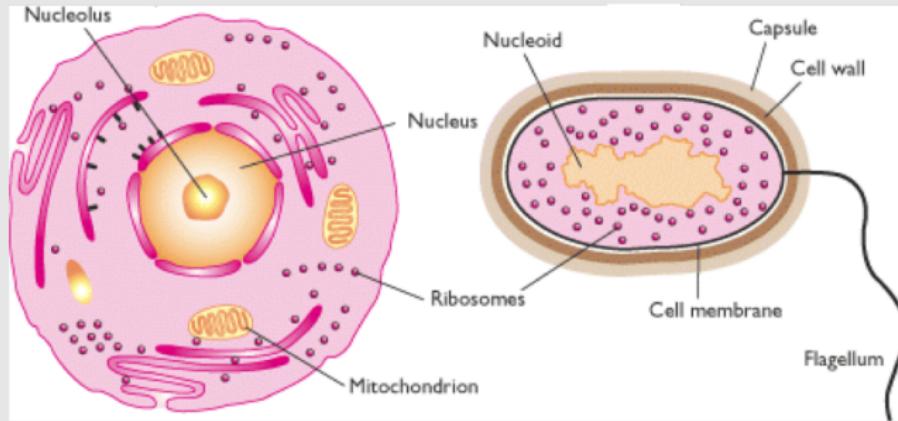
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1. DNA/RNA extraction

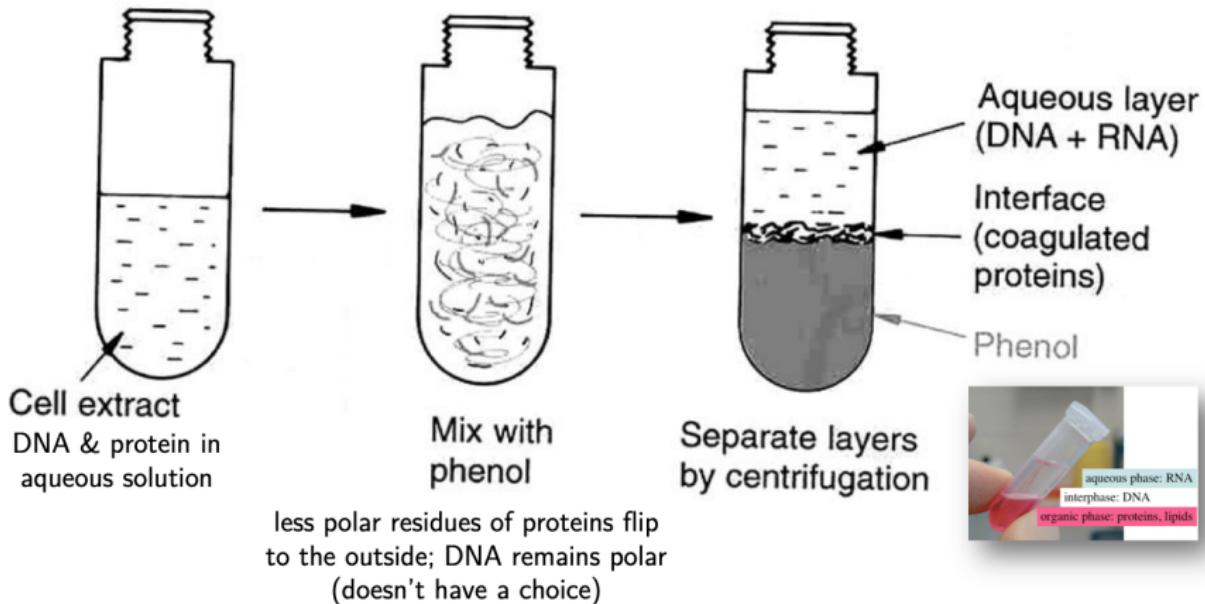
Lysis

- Lysis = release of nucleic acids (NA) from cells/nuclei (= cell & nucleus destruction) using
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1. DNA/RNA Extraction

Separate NA: **Liquid-liquid** extraction (Phenol-Chloroform)



<http://slideplayer.com/slide/10173005/34/images/28/Genomic+DNA+prep:+removing+proteins+and+RNA.jpg>

1. DNA/RNA extraction

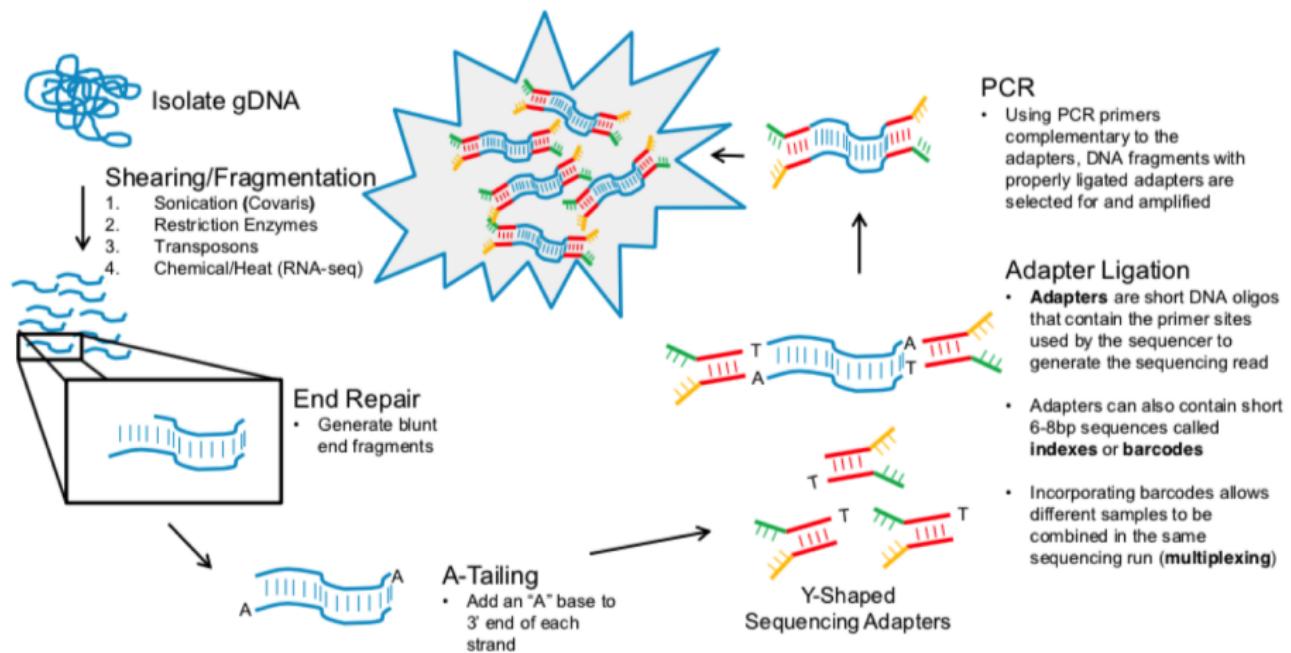
Separate NA: **Solid-phase** DNA extraction

- liquid-liquid extraction relies on toxic chemicals and is difficult to automate/standardize
- solid phase extraction is based on **silica molecules** (e.g. within a column or as magnetic silica-based beads) that will bind the nucleic acids in the presence of a chaotropic buffer ^a
- non-DNA components are washed away, before releasing the DNA from the solid adsorber



^aA chaotrope is an ion that disrupts hydrogen bonding, leading to higher protein solubility in water.

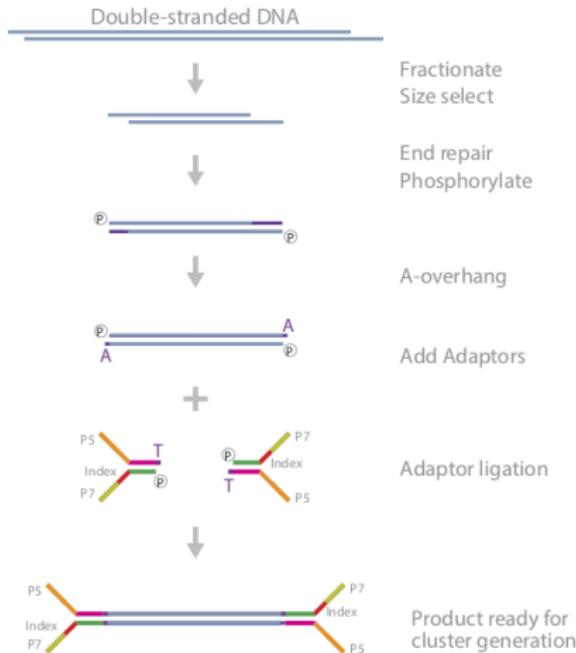
2. Library preparation: getting the NA molecules ready for the sequencer



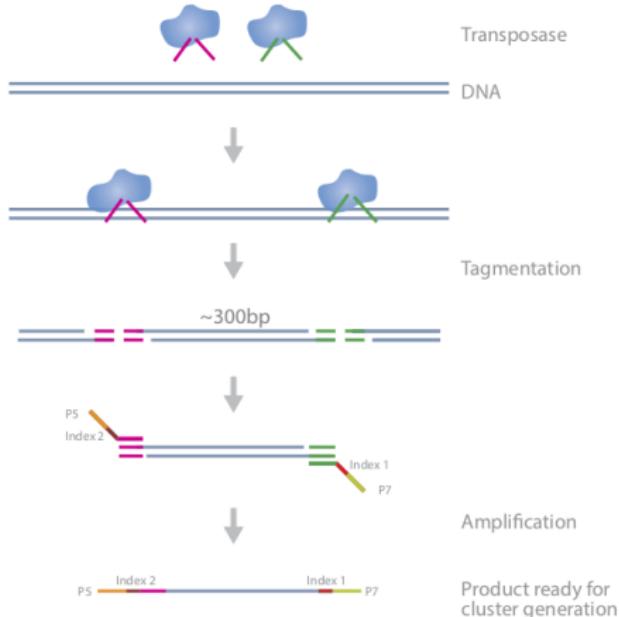
<https://www.agilent.com/cs/library/eseminars/public/Next%20Generation%20Sequencing%20101.pdf>

2. Library preparation

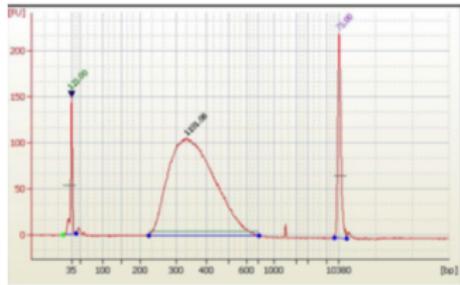
TruSeq Library Prep Protocol



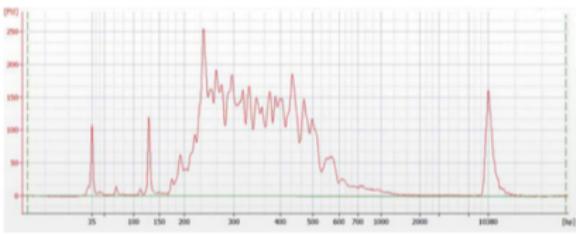
Nextera Library Prep Protocol



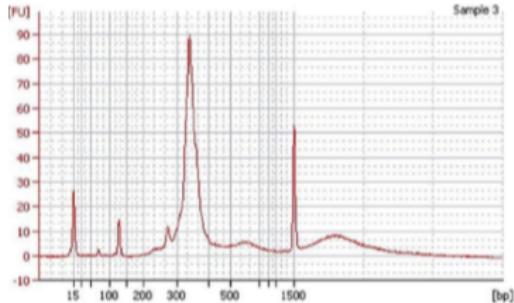
Different library preparations may yield different distributions of PCR fragment sizes – should be suited to the question at hand



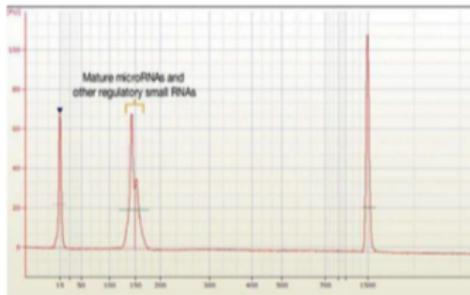
Agilent SureSelect Library Prep



Agilent Haloplex Library Prep



TruSeq Custom Amplicon Library



TruSeq Small RNA Library Prep

What to consider before choosing a library preparation

- ① Sample type
 - ▶ High quality DNA? Easy to extract?
 - ▶ How much?
- ② Experiment goal
 - ▶ RNA-seq, ChIP-seq, variant identification, . . . ?
- ③ Beware of excess PCR cycles!

Library preps all come with their own advantages and disadvantages! Know what to look for during and talk to other people (in your lab, the sequencing facility, online. . .)!

Loading the library onto the flowcell

Following library prep, the DNA fragments are floated over the flowcell, which is essentially a glass slide full of oligonucleotides that are complementary to the adapters of the library, thereby leading to the physical attachment of the DNA fragments.

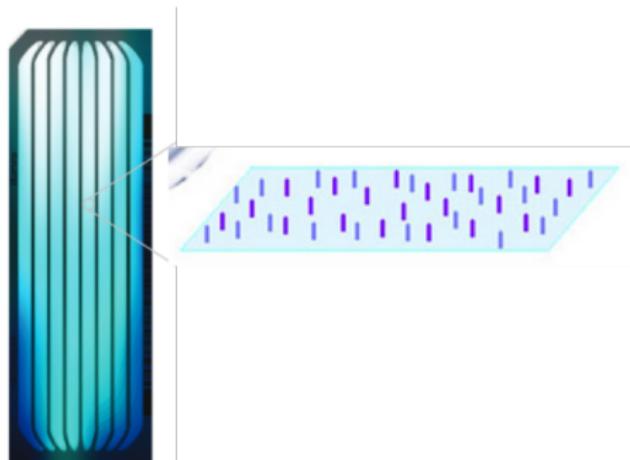
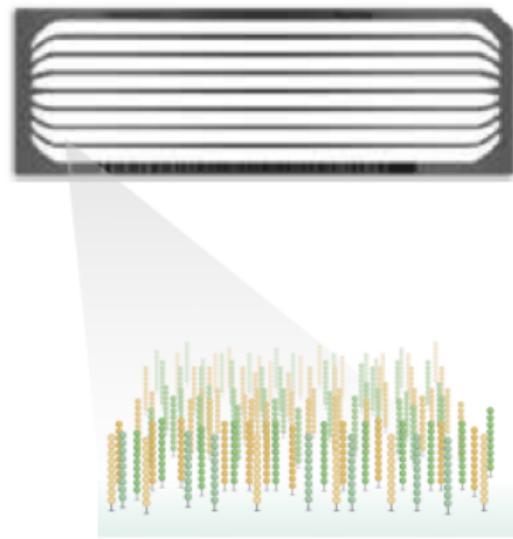


Figure from Illumina Inc [2015]

- 8 microfluidic channels (= "lanes")
- within the channels, the sequencing reaction will happen

3. Clonal amplification = cluster generation

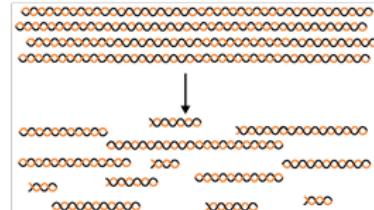
Flowcell



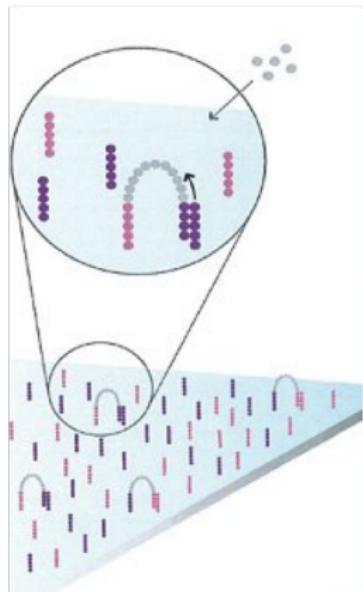
Clusters

To generate strong signals during sequencing, every fragment is "cloned", yielding physically separate clusters of DNA fragments with identical sequences.

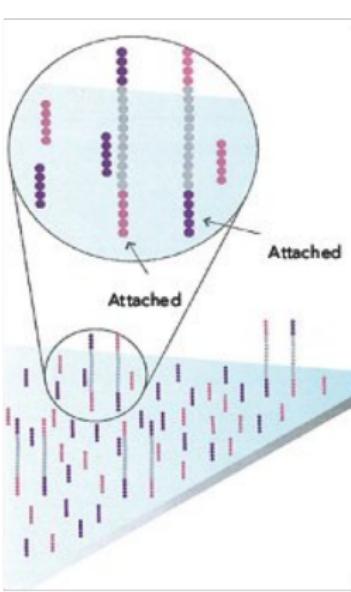
Ideally, the fragments represent the full genome.



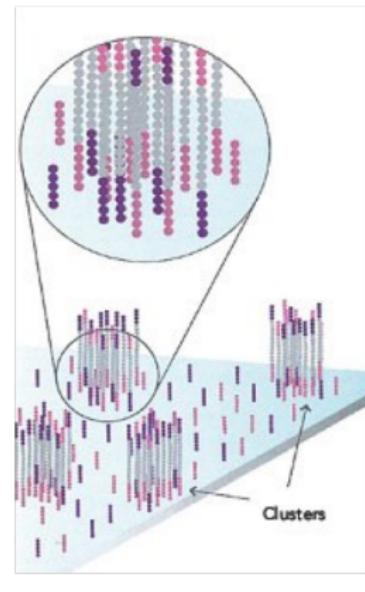
3. Clonal amplification = cluster generation via PCR



bridge amplification



denaturation



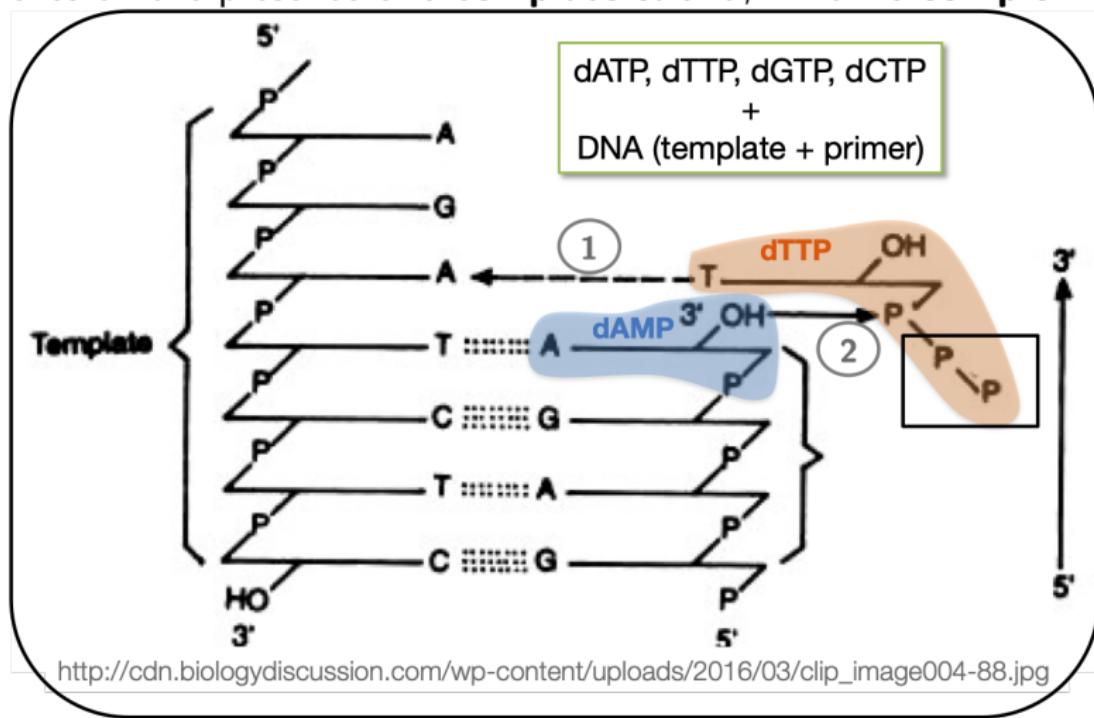
cluster generation

removal of complementary strands
 → identical fragment copies remain

Sequencing-by-synthesis

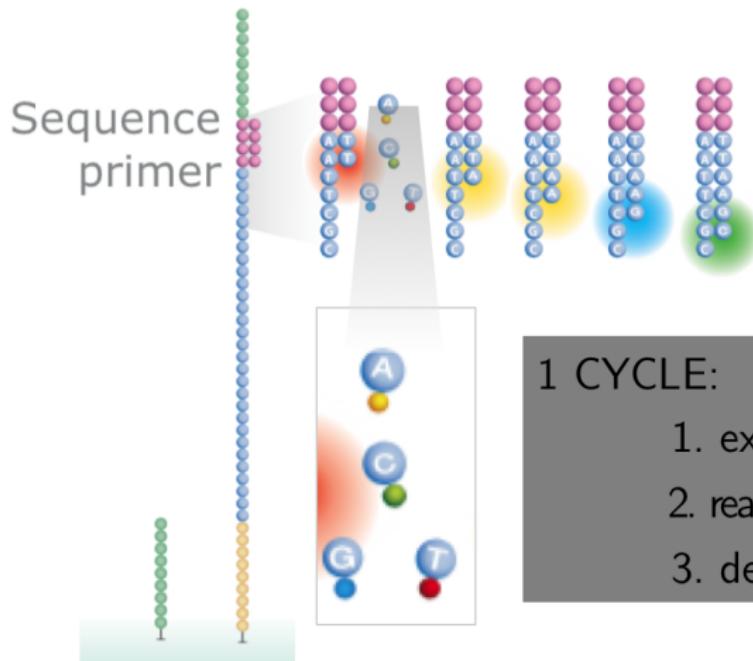
Decoding the DNA: DNA polymerase

- cannot start DNA synthesis from scratch, always needs **primers**
- relies on the presence of a **template** strand, which is **complemented**



Identifying the order of the nucleotides for every fragment

Illumina's sequencing is based on **fluorophore-labelled dNTPs** with **reversible terminator elements** that will become incorporated and excited by a laser one at a time.

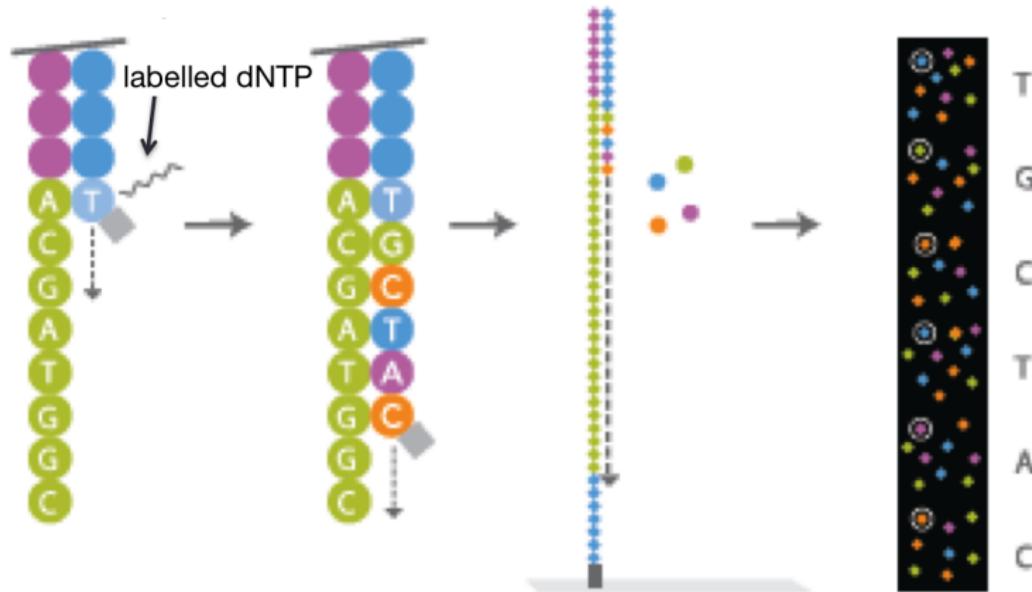


1 CYCLE:

1. extend prev. base
2. read (excite & capture)
3. de-block

The number of cycles determines the read length

50-150 cycle repetitions = 50-150 bp read length



The actual raw data of Illumina sequencing are **images**, but nowadays Illumina will return the **base calls**, i.e. text files of As, Cs, Ts, Gs.

The number of flowcell lanes determines the sequencing depth

Every read represents one cluster on the flowcell.

- every cluster = one DNA fragment
- the more clusters one sequences, the more information (= reads) one gets

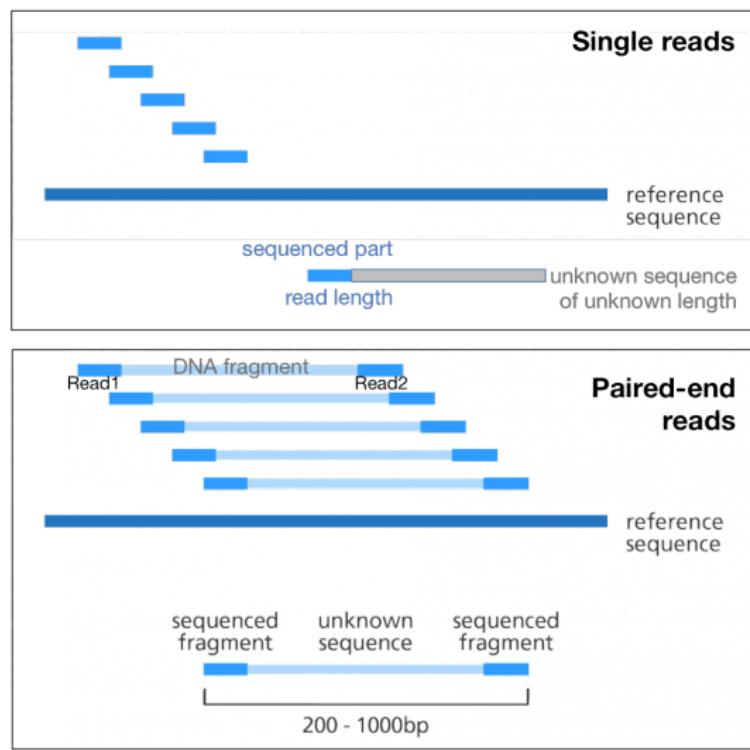
Machine	Yield per lane
HiSeq4000	400 mio reads
NovaSeq	800-2500 mio reads

Application	Recommended seq. depth
differential gene expression	20 - 50 mio SR, 75 bp
variant calling	30-200x coverage
whole-genome bisulfite sequencing	30x coverage

Single and paired-end reads

Types of reads

<https://www.yourgenome.org/facts/how-do-you-put-a-genome-back-together-after-sequencing>

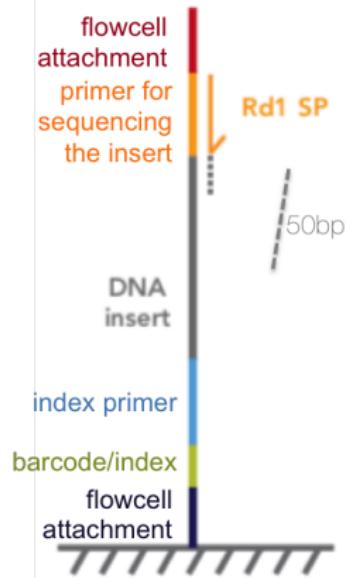


Single reads are the cheaper.
Paired-end (PE) reads are helpful for:

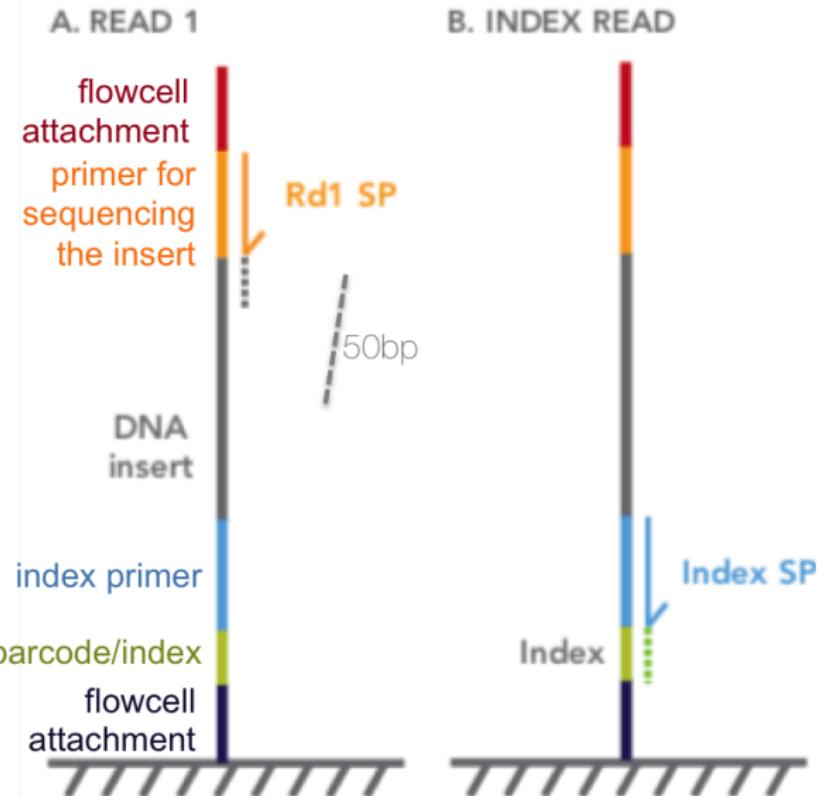
- **alignment** along repetitive regions
- **chromosomal rearrangements** and gene fusion detection
- ***de novo* genome and transcriptome assembly**
- precise information about the size of the original fragment (**insert size**)
- PCR duplicate identification

Paired-end read generation

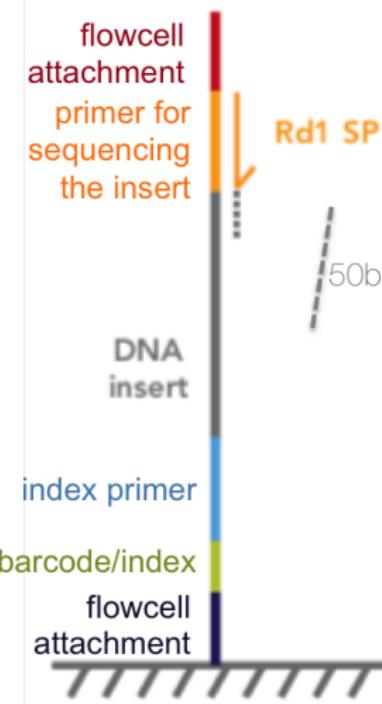
A. READ 1



Paired-end read generation



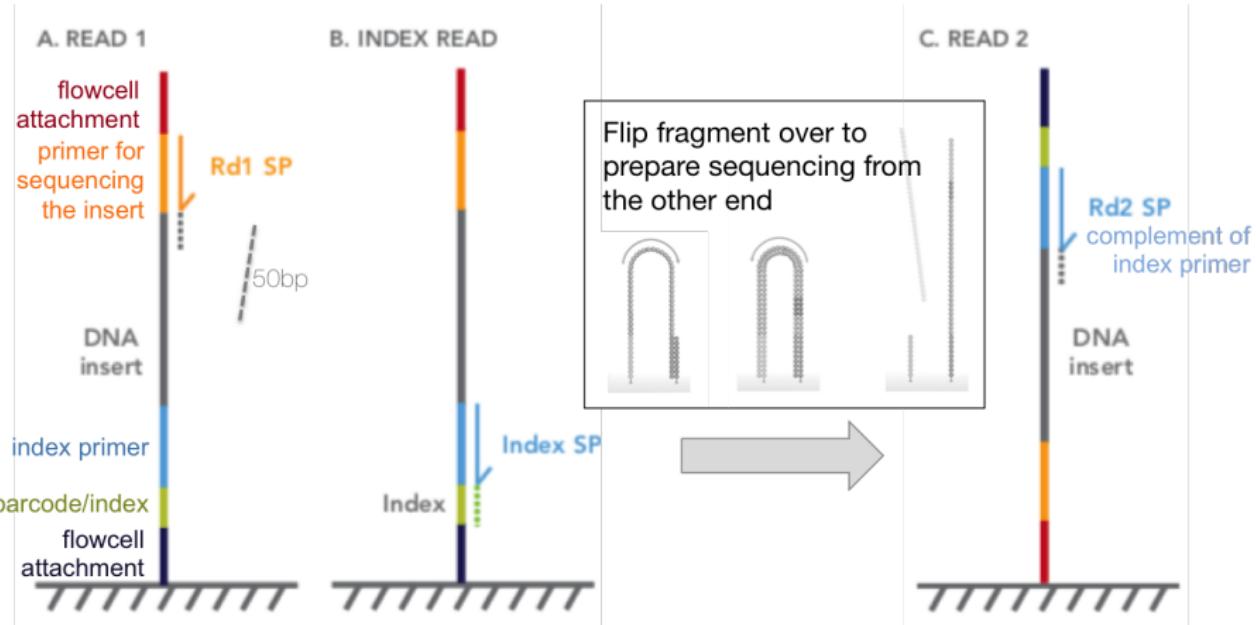
Paired-end read generation

A. READ 1**B. INDEX READ**

Flip fragment over to prepare sequencing from the other end



Paired-end read generation



References

See the website

<https://bit.ly/2T3sjRg>

Clinical Chemistry 61:1
89-99 (2015)

Reviews

DNA/RNA Preparation for Molecular Detection

Stephanie A. Thatcher^{1*}

SURVEY AND SUMMARY

Capturing the ‘ome’: the expanding molecular toolbox for RNA and DNA library construction

Morgane Boone^{1,2,*}, Andries De Koker^{1,2} and Nico Callewaert^{1,2,*}

¹Center for Medical Biotechnology, VIB, Zwijnaarde 9052, Belgium and ²Department of Biochemistry and Microbiology, Ghent University, Ghent 9000, Belgium

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Clinical Chemistry, 2015. doi: 10.1373/clinchem.2014.221374.