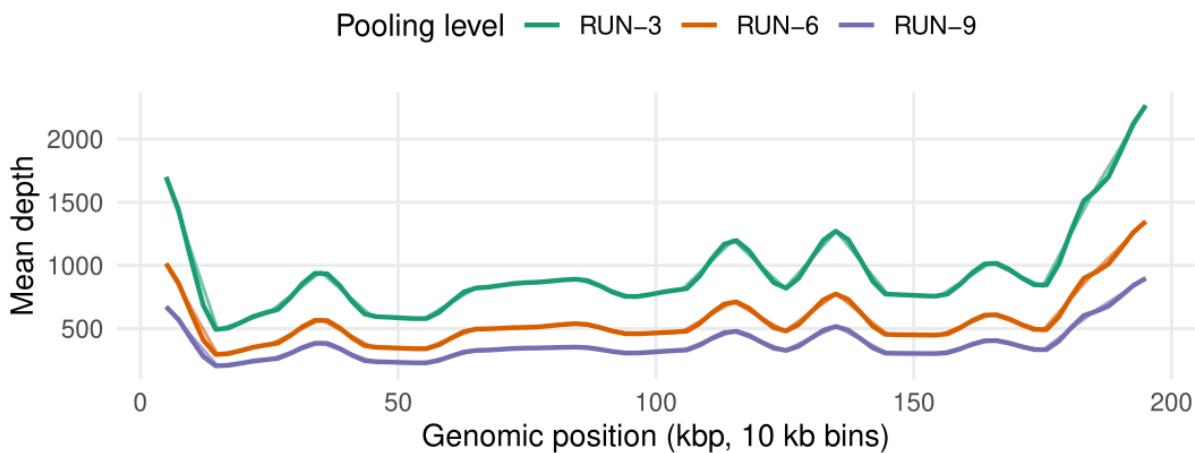


## Supplementary materials

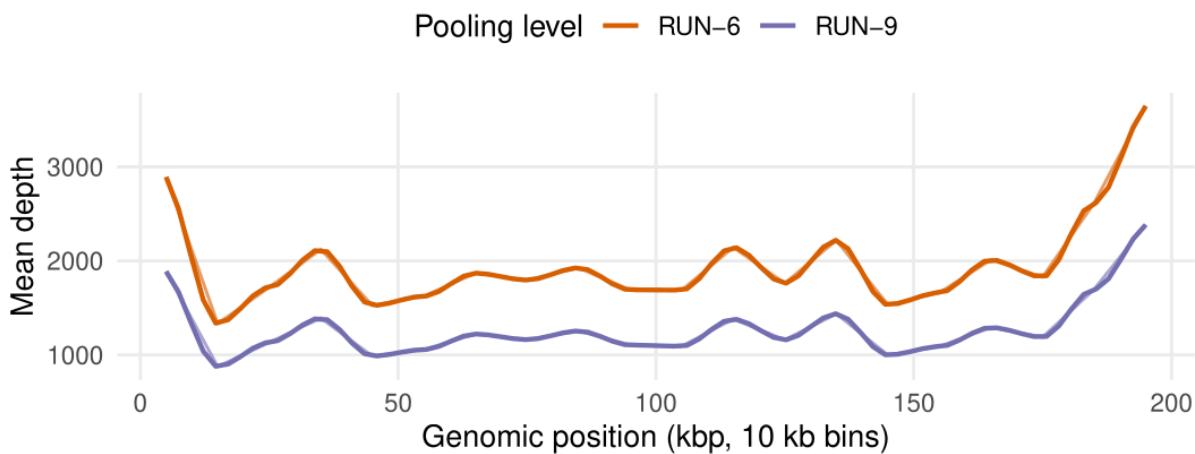
### Evaluation of Optimal Pooling Strategies for Mpox virus Genomic Surveillance Using the Illumina Viral Surveillance Panel on the iSeq100 Platform in Outbreak Settings

Julien A. Nguinkal<sup>1\*</sup>, Néhémie Nzoyikorera<sup>2</sup>, Aryse Martins Melo<sup>1</sup>, Jürgen May<sup>1,9,10</sup>, Muna Affara<sup>1</sup>, and Florian Gehre<sup>1</sup>

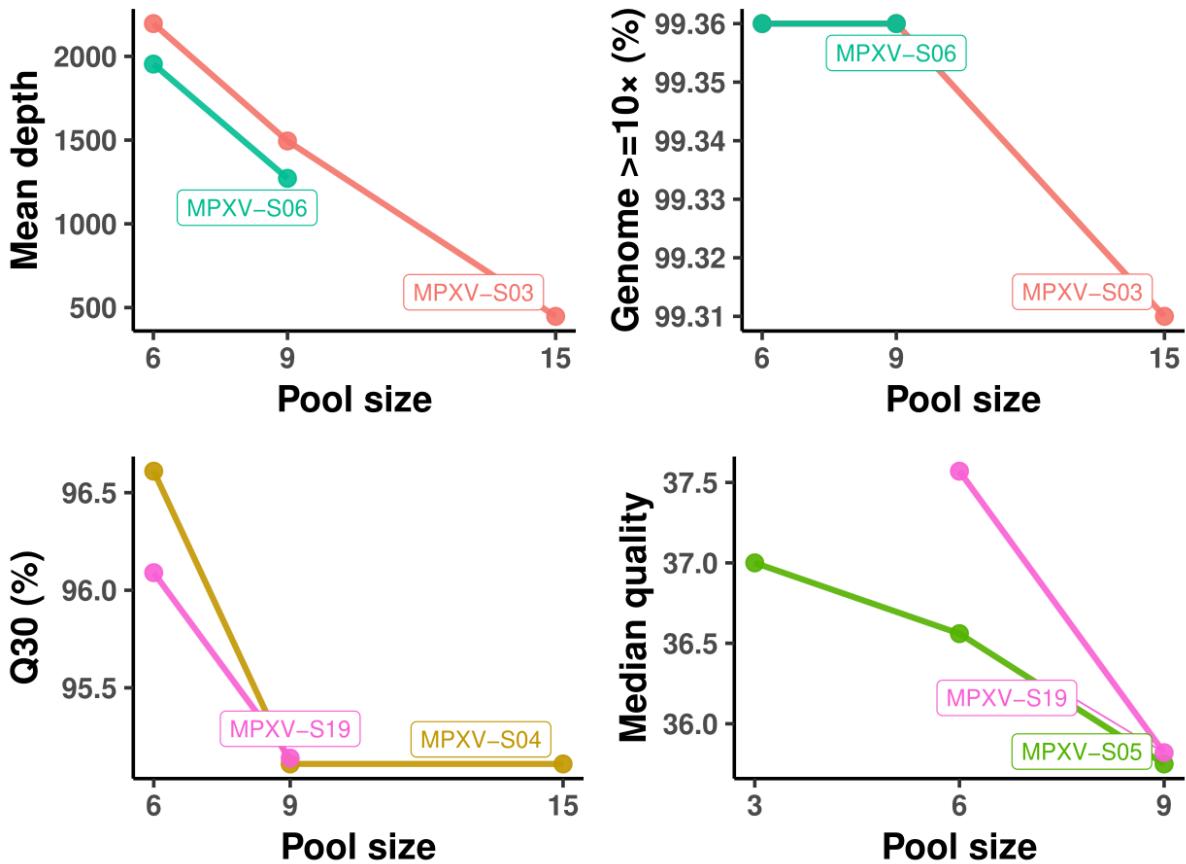
#### Genome-wide coverage for MPXV-S05 across pooling levels



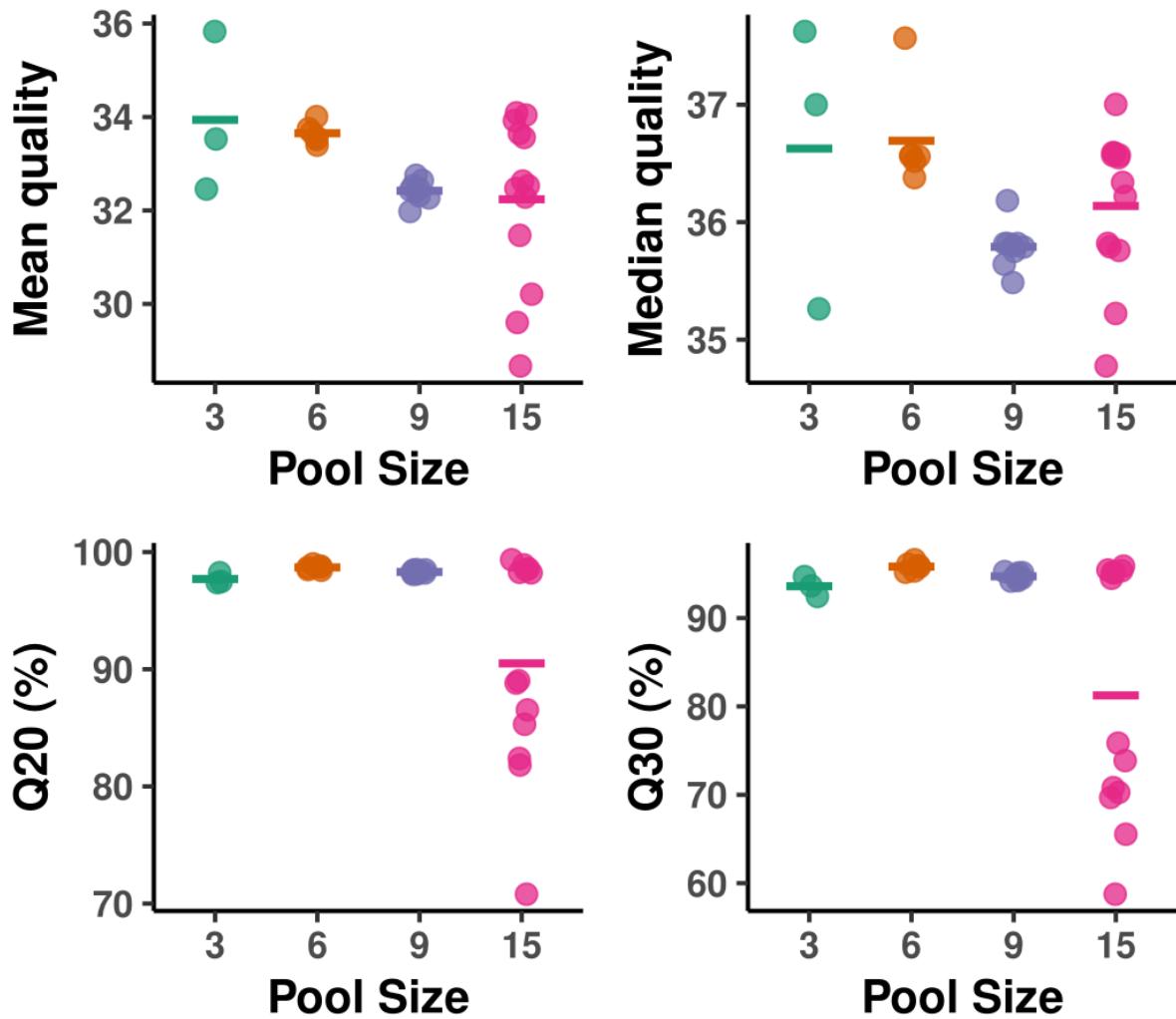
#### Genome-wide coverage for MPXV-S06 across pooling levels



**Supplementary Figure S1: Genome-wide coverage across pooling levels for MPXV-S05 and MPXV-S06 specimens.** Mean sequencing depth is plotted across 10 kb genomic bins for two representative samples. For MPXV-S05 (top panel), coverage decreases with increasing pooling level: RUN-3 (green) yields the highest depth, followed by RUN-6 (orange) and RUN-9 (purple). For MPXV-S06 (bottom panel), only RUN-6 and RUN-9 are shown, with RUN-6 consistently outperforming RUN-9. In both samples, coverage peaks are observed at the genomic termini, reflecting conserved enrichment patterns across pooling conditions.



**Figure S2. Effect of pooling level on sequencing quality metrics for repeated MPXV specimens.**  
 Representative samples were repeatedly included across different pooling levels to assess protocol robustness. Mean depth (top-left), genome coverage  $\geq 10x$  (top-right), Q30 percentage (bottom-left) and median base quality (bottom-right) show only marginal variation (<1% in most cases) as pool size increases. These results suggest that sequencing quality remains largely stable across pooling levels.



**Supplementary Figure S3: Read level quality metrics across pooling levels.** Distribution of mean quality score, median quality score, and the proportion of bases with Q20 and Q30 across RUN-3, RUN-6, RUN-9 and RUN-15.