

# 'VirION': Long-read, low-input, viral metagenomic sequencing; Library Preparation and MinION (Oxford Nanopore Technologies) Sequencing (lib. prep. kit SQK-LSK108; flow cell: R9.4) v4

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#### **Abstract**

This protocol describes a generalizable, long-read, low-input metagenomic sequencing approach ('VirION') for the survey of viral communities. A significant obstacle in adopting long-read technology for viral metagenomics lies in obtaining the amount of DNA required; e.g. viral DNA extraction from 20 L of seawater yields far less than the micrograms of DNA recommended for efficient long-read sequencing. To overcome this limitation, we developed a Long-Read Linker-Amplified Shotgun Library approach for long-read viral metagenomics. The VirION method has been demonstrated to be as relatively quantitative as short-read methods, and analyses that combined VirION long-read data with Illumina, short-read data, captured many abundant and ubiquitous viral genomes that were missed by short-read assemblies. This approach was also shown to have overcome issues of microdiversity, and to have captured more genomic islands than short-read assemblies. Thus, VirION provides a high throughput and cost-effective alternative to fosmid and single-virus genomic approaches.

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#### **Guidelines**

#### **Method contents**

- A: DNA fragmentation
- B: End-prep and clean-up
- C: PCR adapter ligation and clean-up (possible stop stage)
- D: Amplification and clean-up (possible stop stage)
- E: 2<sup>nd</sup> End prep and clean-up
- F: Adapter ligation
- G: Adapter bead binding
- H: Elution of library
- I: Preparation of host computer and performing Flow cell QC
- J: Priming the flow cell
- K: Loading the library
- L: Completing the experiment

Note: Process sheared, diluted commercial lambda DNA as a postivie control, through stages A-E, in order to verify success of amplification stages.

#### **Equipment and consumables**

- Vortex mixer
- Pipettes P1000, P200, P100, P20, P10 and P2
- Tips: 1000 μl, 200 μl, 10 μl
- Magnet for bead separation (a decent make, e.g. DynaMag<sup>™</sup> Spin Magnet)
- Micro centrifuge \*(model: Eppendorf 5424, if possible)
- Covaris g-TUBE (1 per sample, plus one for a positive control)
- 1.5 ml Eppendorf LoBind centrifuge tubes (Important: some plastics inhibit library prep.)
- 2 ml thin-walled PCR tubes
- Thermal cycler set for:
  - Program 1: 5 min at 20°C; 5 min at 65°C; 1 min 20°C; hold at 20°C
  - Program 2: 3 mins at 95°C; 15 cycles of: 15 secs at 95°C, 15 secs at 62°C, 5 min at 72°C, followed by one cycle of 5 min at 72°C; and hold at 4°C
- Oubit fluorimeter
- Qubit reaction tubes and Qubit dsDNA HS and BR Assay Kits
- Heat block set to 55°C
- Timer
- Filled Ice box
- Bioanalyzer/TapeStation
- Hula mixer (rotator: optional)
- Desktop/laptop:
  - Min. available memory: 50 GB
  - · Sleeptimer and update turned off
  - For latest minimum computer specs: https://community.nanoporetech.com
- MinION Mk 1B

#### Reagents

- AMPure XP beads resuspended and at RT
- SQK-LSK108 sequencing kit (Oxford Nanopore)

Defrost following reagents on ice:

- 'PCR Adapters' (PCA),
- 'Primers' (PRM),
- 'Running Buffer with Fuel Mix' (RBF),
- 'Library Loading Beads' (LLB)'
- Adapter Mix' (AMX 1D) Note: leave in freezer until 10 min before needed

Defrost following reagents at RT:

- 'Adapter Bead Binding' (ABB)
- 'Elusion Buffer' (ELB)
- NEB Next Ultra II End-repair / dA-tailing Module (E7546S):
  - 'Ultra II End-Prep Buffer' defrost at RT; check for precipitate; vortex well to dissolve if necessary
  - 'Ultra II End-Prep Enzyme Mix' defrost on ice
- NEB Blunt / TA Ligase Master Mix (M0367S) check for precipitate; take out of freezer 10 min before use and keep on ice
- NEB Next High-Fidelity 2X PCR Master Mix (Product number: M0541), take out of freezer ~15 min before use and put on ice
- Nuclease free water (NFW)

- Freshly prepared 80% EtOH (with NFW)
- Commercial lambda DNA sheared as detailed in stage 'A', and diluted to match sample concentration

#### **Before start**

## Sample requirements

<1  $\mu$ g of viral metagenomic DNA in 47  $\mu$ l of elution buffer (EB) (e.g. 10 mM Tris-Cl, pH 8.5) or nuclease free water (NFW)

Important note: EDTA compromises flow cell pores, so do not use TE to re-suspend/elute viral DNA; If viruses were obtained by chemical flocculation and resuspension, further cleaning (post DNA extraction with Wizard DNA Clean-Up System) may be required (e.g. using DNeasy PowerClean Pro Kit (Cat No./ID: 12997-50).

## Stopping stages

If pausing (e.g. overnight) either after PCR adapter ligation and clean-up (Stage 'C') or after amplification and clean-up (Stage 'D'), some reagents will not be required immediately: check protocol to ensure reagents are not defrosted unnecessarily. Replace reagents taken from freezer to -20°C when they have been used and are no longer required (check later stages).

#### **Protocol**

#### A: DNA fragmentation

## Step 1.

Ensure DNA is not stuck to tube by gently flicking; then spin down; transfer  $<1 \mu g$  DNA in 47  $\mu l$  NFW/EB into the top compartment of a Covaris q-TUBE; screw on lid

#### A: DNA fragmentation

#### Step 2.

Shear DNA: Spin g-TUBE for 1 min at 6000 rpm (check all DNA has transferred into lower compartment of g-TUBE; if not, repeat 1 min spin); flip tube over (so base points upwards) and spin again for 1 min at 6000 rpm (check all DNA has transferred into lid of g-TUBE; if not, repeat 1 min spin);

#### **P** NOTES

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Keep processing time <15 min;

\*if a microcentrifuge other than model specified is used, spin speed may have to be optimised to obtain 8 Kbp fragments

#### A: DNA fragmentation

## Step 3.

keep g-TUBE base upward, carefully unscrew tube and transfer DNA from lid to a fresh LoBind Eppendorf or (if proceeding directly to stage 'B') 0.2 ml PCR tube

Retain 1 µl of sheared DNA for later quantification via QuBit fluorimeter

#### **P** NOTES

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Assessment of fragment size Bioanalyzer/TapeStation not usually possible due to dilute nature of DNA

# B: End-prep and clean-up

#### Step 4.

To 45 µl of fragmented and repaired DNA, add:

- 5 μl NFW
- 7 µl Ultra II End-Prep buffer
- 3 μl Ultra II End-Prep enzyme mix

(resulting in 60 µl total reaction volume)

# B: End-prep and clean-up

#### Step 5.

Mix by gentle flicking, then spin down (transfer end-prep reaction to a 0.2 ml PCR tube, if needed)

## B: End-prep and clean-up

## Step 6.

Using thermocycler program 1, incubate for:

- 5 mins at 20 °C
- 5 min at 65 °C,
- 1 min 20 °C

Then transfer to fresh DNA LoBind tube

## B: End-prep and clean-up

#### Step 7.

Resuspend AMPure beads (vortex); add 60 µl of beads to end-prep reaction; mix by gentle flicking

# B: End-prep and clean-up

#### Step 8.

Incubate for 5 mins at RT, either on rotator, or gently flick every 1 min

**↓** TEMPERATURE

20 °C Additional info:

Room temp.

#### B: End-prep and clean-up

## Step 9.

Spin down the sample and pellet on a magnet until the eluate is clear and colourless (2 min)

# B: End-prep and clean-up

#### **Step 10.**

Leaving the tube on the magnet, carefully pipette off and discard the supernatant

#### B: End-prep and clean-up

## **Step 11.**

Keep tube on magnet, and wash beads with 200  $\mu$ l of freshly prepared 80% ethanol (without disturbing the pellet; leave 15 secs)

# B: End-prep and clean-up

#### **Step 12.**

Remove the 80% ethanol using a pipette and discard

## B: End-prep and clean-up

#### **Step 13.**

Repeat wash (steps 11 and 12)

## B: End-prep and clean-up

#### **Step 14.**

Spin down briefly, replace on magnet, pipette off residual wash; briefly allow to dry (1-2 min)

#### **P** NOTES

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It is important beads are allowed to dry to ensure all ethanol has been removed, however, over drying will result in some of the DNA not eluting efficiently leading to reduced recovery

## B: End-prep and clean-up

#### **Step 15.**

Remove the tube from the magnetic rack and resuspend pellet in  $\bf 31~\mu l$  nuclease-free water by gentle flicking

## B: End-prep and clean-up

#### Step 16.

Incubate for 2 minutes at 55 °C (heat block)

#### 

55 °C Additional info: In

heat block

#### B: End-prep and clean-up

#### **Step 17.**

Pellet beads on magnet until the eluate is clear and colourless (2 min)

# B: End-prep and clean-up

## **Step 18.**

Transfer eluate to fresh DNA LoBind tube:

Retain 1 µl of fragmented and end-prepped DNA for later quantification (QuBit fluorimeter)

## NOTES

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Recovery aim: ≥ 20 ng (dependent on starting quantity).

## C. PCR adapter ligation and clean-up

#### **Step 19.**

To 30 µl of end-prepped DNA, add:

- 20 μl of PCA
- 50 µl Blunt/TA Ligase Master Mix

(resulting in 100 µl total reaction volume)

Mix by gentle flicking, then spin down

## **₽** NOTES

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Note: mix between each addition by gentle flicking, and spin down

#### C. PCR adapter ligation and clean-up

## Step 20.

Incubate at RT for 10 minutes

#### **↓** TEMPERATURE

20 °C Additional info:

Room temp.

#### C PCR adapter ligation and clean-up

## **Step 21.**

Resuspend AMPure beads (vortex); add 40 µl of beads to PCR adapter reaction; mix by gentle flicking

#### **P** NOTES

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This 0.4x beadwash removes small fragments of template DNA before PCR step

#### C. PCR adapter ligation and clean-up

#### Step 22.

Incubate for 5 mins at RT, either on rotator, or gently flick every 1 min

#### **↓** TEMPERATURE

20 °C Additional info:

Room temp.

## C. PCR adapter ligation and clean-up

#### Step 23.

Spin down the sample and pellet on a magnet until the eluate is clear and colourless (3 min)

## C. PCR adapter ligation and clean-up

## **Step 24.**

Leaving the tube on the magnet, carefully pipette off and discard the supernatant

## C. PCR adapter ligation and clean-up

## Step 25.

Keep tube on magnet, and wash beads with 200  $\mu$ l of freshly prepared 80% ethanol (without disturbing the pellet; leave 15 secs)

## C. PCR adapter ligation and clean-up

#### Step 26.

Remove the 80% ethanol using a pipette and discard

#### C. PCR adapter ligation and clean-up

## **Step 27.**

repeat wash (steps 25 and 26)

#### C. PCR adapter ligation and clean-up

## **Step 28.**

Briefly spin down, replace on magnet, pipette of residual wash; briefly allow to dry (note importance of drying time, as above)

#### C. PCR adapter ligation and clean-up

#### Step 29.

Remove the tube from the magnetic rack and resuspend pellet in  $26~\mu l$  nuclease-free water by gentle flicking

#### C. PCR adapter ligation and clean-up

## Step 30.

Incubate for 2 minutes at 55 °C (heat block)

#### **↓** TEMPERATURE

55 °C Additional info: Heat

block

#### C. PCR adapter ligation and clean-up

## **Step 31.**

Pellet beads on magnet until the eluate is clear and colourless (3 min)

## C. PCR adapter ligation and clean-up

# Step 32.

Transfer eluate to fresh DNA LoBind tube

Conduct a High Sensitivity (HS) QuBit fluorimeter quantification on 1  $\mu$ l of PCR adapted and ligated DNA (also quantify retained DNA from stages 'A' and 'B')

## C. PCR adapter ligation and clean-up

#### Step 33.

Calculate volume required to add 20 ng of PCR-adapter ligated DNA into the PCR reaction below (e.g. 2.7 ng/ $\mu$ l x 8 = 21.6 ng; use 8  $\mu$ l)

#### **P** NOTES

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If not proceeding directly to stage 'D', PCR-adapter ligated DNA should be stored post clean-up at -20°C.

## D. Amplification and clean-up

#### Step 34.

Set up the following PCR reactions (total volume 100 µl) in 0.2 ml thin-walled tubes, on ice:

- \*40 ul NFW
- 2 μl PRM (primers)
- \*8 µl PCR adapted and ligated DNA (from stage 'C')
- 50 μl NEB Next High Fidelity 2X master mix

:Mix by gentle flicking and spin down briefly

#### **₽** NOTES

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\*Adjust volume of NFW and DNA as necessary for a  $100\mu l$  reaction with  $\sim 20$  ng of PCR-adapter ligated DNA, using the volumes of PRM and NEB Next master mix specified

Set up as many reactions as possible to increase yield of amplicons for sequencing; also set up the PCR-adapter ligated lambda as a positive control

## D. Amplification and clean-up

#### Step 35.

Quickly transfer PCR reactions to the thermal cycler and run the following (Program 2):

- Initial denaturation: 3 mins at 95°C;
- 15 cycles of:
  - Denaturation: 15 secs at 95°C;

Annealing: 15 at 62°C;
Extension: 5 min at 72°C;
Final Extension: 5 min at 72°C;

Hold at 4°C

## D. Amplification and clean-up

#### **Step 36.**

Spin down and transfer each reaction to a fresh DNA LoBind tube

## D. Amplification and clean-up

#### **Step 37.**

Resuspend AMPure beads (vortex); add 40 µl of beads to each PCR reaction; mix by gentle flicking

## **₽** NOTES

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This 0.4x beadwash removes small amplification products

## D. Amplification and clean-up

## **Step 38.**

Incubate for 5 mins at RT, either on rotator, or gently flick every 1 min

**■** TEMPERATURE

20 °C Additional info:

Room temp.

#### D. Amplification and clean-up

#### Step 39.

Spin down the samples and pellet on a magnet until the eluates are clear and colourless (3 min)

#### D. Amplification and clean-up

## Step 40.

Leaving the tubes on the magnet, carefully pipette off and discard the supernatant

#### D. Amplification and clean-up

## **Step 41.**

Keep tubes on magnet, and wash beads with 200  $\mu$ l of freshly prepared 80% ethanol (without disturbing the pellets; leave 15 secs)

#### D. Amplification and clean-up

#### **Step 42.**

Remove the 80% ethanol using a pipette and discard

## D. Amplification and clean-up

## Step 43.

Repeat wash (steps 41 & 42)

## D. Amplification and clean-up

# Step 44.

Briefly spin down, replace tubes on magnet, pipette of residual wash; briefly allow to dry (note importance of drying time, as above)

## D. Amplification and clean-up

## **Step 45.**

Remove the tubes from the magnetic rack and resuspend pellets in  $26~\mu l$  nuclease-free water by gentle flicking

## D. Amplification and clean-up

#### **Step 46.**

Incubate for 2 minutes at 55°C (heat block)

**▮** TEMPERATURE

55 °C Additional info: Heat

block

#### D. Amplification and clean-up

#### **Step 47.**

Pellet beads on magnet until the eluate is clear and colourless (3 min)

#### D. Amplification and clean-up

## Step 48.

Transfer eluate to fresh DNA LoBind tube

Conduct Broad Range (BR) QuBit fluorimeter quantification on 1 µl of each PCR product

Conduct Bionalyzer/Tapestation assay on 1 µl of each PCR product

#### **P** NOTES

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Check no high molecular weight product present in adapted and ligated PCR product via Tapestation/Bioanalyzer; very high MW product is associated with poor sequencing; if observed, repeat PCR with fewer cycles.

If not proceeding directly to stage 'E', PCR products should be stored post clean-up at -20°C.

## E. 2nd End prep and clean-up

# Step 49.

# E. 2nd End prep and clean-up

## Step 50.

To 45 μl of PCR product in NFW add:

- 5 μl NFW
- 7 µl Ultra II End-Prep buffer
- 3 μl Ultra II End-Prep enzyme mix

(resulting in 60 µl total reaction volume)

# E. 2nd End prep and clean-up

## Step 51.

Mix by gentle flicking, then spin down; transfer end-prep reaction to a 0.2 ml PCR tube

# E. 2nd End prep and clean-up

## Step 52.

Using thermocycler program 1, incubate for:

- 5 mins at 20 °C
- 5 min at 65 °C,
- 1 min 20 °C

Then transfer to fresh DNA LoBind tube

## E. 2nd End prep and clean-up

#### **Step 53.**

Resuspend AMPure beads (vortex); add 60 µl of beads to end-prep reaction; mix by gentle flicking

# E. 2nd End prep and clean-up

## Step 54.

Incubate for 5 mins at RT, either on rotator, or gently flick every 1 min

**↓** TEMPERATURE

20 °C Additional info:

Room temp.

## E. 2nd End prep and clean-up

# Step 55.

Spin down the sample and pellet on a magnet until the eluate is clear and colourless (2 min)

# E. 2nd End prep and clean-up

## **Step 56.**

Leaving the tube on the magnet, carefully pipette off and discard the supernatant

## E. 2nd End prep and clean-up

## Step 57.

Keep tube on magnet, and wash beads with 200  $\mu$ l of freshly prepared 80% ethanol (without disturbing the pellet; leave 15 secs)

## E. 2nd End prep and clean-up

#### **Step 58.**

Remove the 80% ethanol using a pipette and discard

# E. 2nd End prep and clean-up

#### Step 59.

Repeat wash (steps 57 & 58)

# E. 2nd End prep and clean-up

## Step 60.

Spin down, replace on magnet, pipette of residual wash; briefly allow to dry (note importance of drying time, as above)

# E. 2nd End prep and clean-up

#### Step 61.

Remove the tube from the magnetic rack and resuspend pellet in  $\bf 31~\mu l$  nuclease-free water by gentle flicking

## E. 2nd End prep and clean-up

#### Step 62.

Incubate for 2 minutes at 55 °C (heat block)

**▮** TEMPERATURE

55 °C Additional info: Heat

block

# E. 2nd End prep and clean-up

#### Step 63.

Pellet beads on magnet until the eluate is clear and colourless (2 min)

## E. 2nd End prep and clean-up

# Step 64.

Transfer eluate to fresh DNA LoBind tube

Retain 1 µl of fragmented and repaired DNA for (later) quantification using a QuBit fluorimeter;



Recovery aim: >2500 ng.

#### F. Adapter ligation

#### Step 65.

To 30 μl of end-prepped amplified DNA, add:

- 20 μl AMX
- 50 μl NEB Blunt / TA Master Mix

(resulting in a final volume of 100 µl)

Mix by gentle flicking, then spin down

## **₽** NOTES

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Mix between each addition by gentle flicking; spin down

## F. Adapter ligation

#### **Step 66.**

Incubate at RT for 10 minutes

**↓** TEMPERATURE

20 °C Additional info:

Room temp.

#### G. Adapter bead binding

## **Step 67.**

Resuspend AMPure beads (vortex); add 40  $\mu$ l of beads to the adapter ligation reaction; mix by gentle flicking

#### G. Adapter bead binding

#### **Step 68.**

Incubate for 5 mins at RT, either on rotator, or gently flick every 1 min

**▮** TEMPERATURE

20 °C Additional info:

Room temp.

#### G. Adapter bead binding

# Step 69.

Spin down the sample and pellet on a magnet until the eluate is clear and colourless (3 min)

#### G. Adapter bead binding

#### **Step 70.**

Leaving the tube on the magnet, carefully pipette off and discard the supernatant

# G. Adapter bead binding

## **Step 71.**

Add 140 µl of **ABB** to the beads; remove from magnet and resuspend by gentle flicking

## G. Adapter bead binding

## Step 72.

Pellet beads on magnet until the eluate is clear and colourless (5 min)

## G. Adapter bead binding

## **Step 73.**

Leaving the tube on the magnet, very carefully remove supernatant using a pipette and discard

## G. Adapter bead binding

#### **Step 74.**

Repeat addition and removal of 140 µl of ABB (steps 71 -73)

## H. Elution of library

# **Step 75.**

Resuspend pelleted beads in 15 µl ELB by gentle but tenacious flicking; incubate at RT for 10 minutes

#### **■** TEMPERATURE

20 °C Additional info:

Room temp.

#### H. Elution of library

## Step 76.

Pellet beads on magnet until the eluate is clear and colourless (5 min)

#### H. Elution of library

## Step 77.

Remove and retain 15 µl of eluate into a clean 1.5 ml Eppendorf DNA LoBind tube

Place the tube of (adapted and tethered) library on ice until required for library loading

#### **P** NOTES

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This elution will form the basis of the library loading mix

#### H. Elution of library

## Step 78.

Conduct a second elution on the beads: add 15  $\mu$ l ELB to the pellet; resuspend; incubate at RT for 10 min; pellet on magnet; remove and retain second eluate into clean 1.5. ml tube; place this on ice

#### NOTES

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If the first elution is somewhat low on DNA, this second one may form the basis of a second library loading mix. It may be worth loading the second library mix onto a flow cell at a point in the run where there does not appear to be enough DNA for the 'single pores' still available.

#### H. Elution of library

#### Step 79.

Quantify 1  $\mu$ l of DNA library via QuBit fluorimeter (both elutions); also quantify DNA retained from previous stages at this time.

## Recovery aim for RT eluate: >1000 ng (75ng/μl); ;

Remove flow cell from 4°C to RT 30 min before performing QC and loading library (check for bubbles on 'chip'; if bubbles noted, use alternative flow cell)

## I. Preparation of host computer and performing Flow cell QC

#### Step 80.

On host computer ensure that:

- The internet is working;
- >150 GB of memory is free on the C drive;
- All sleep modes (including screensavers and log-offs) are disabled

#### I. Preparation of host computer and performing Flow cell QC

## **Step 81.**

Connect MinION to host computer (light and fan operation indicates that the device is successfully plugged in); open MinKNOW software; Check for MinKNOW software updates

#### **P** NOTES

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Check that the MinION configuration has been run prior to loading flow cell

#### I. Preparation of host computer and performing Flow cell OC

## Step 82.

Insert flow cell into MinION (orientated with flow chip adjacent to hinge); close cover; check that MinKNOW is reporting a 'Flowcell connection' number and flowcell ID (if not, close MinKNOW, eject MinION, and repeat)

## I. Preparation of host computer and performing Flow cell QC

## Step 83.

Select running parameters:

• Label Experiment' and 'Sample ID' (as required)

• Select the appropriate operation (i.e. Platform QC)

# I. Preparation of host computer and performing Flow cell QC

## **Step 84.**

'Start' QC; to assist MinION gain correct temperature (approximately 34 °C), place MinION on insulating or conductive surface and modify airflow (as needed)

Allow script to run to completion (this will QC the flow cell; total time 10 min); note number of pore channels available (if <1000, consider using a different flow cell)

Proceed with preparation of priming buffer

## J. Priming the flow cell

## Step 85.

Mix RBF thoroughly by vortexing/pipetting; briefly spin down; prepare priming buffer by adding **576**  $\mu$ I of RBF to **624**  $\mu$ I NFW (total: 1200); mix by vortexing, spin down.

## J. Priming the flow cell

## **Step 86.**

Open the Minion lid and flow cell 'Priming Port' (turn clockwise)

## J. Priming the flow cell

## Step 87.

To ensure liquid-liquid contact between priming buffer flow cell buffer, and a continuous buffer flow from the Priming Port port across the sensor array:

- Place pipette tip of a Gilson 1000 μl pipette at flow cell Priming Port; hold vertically and slowly wind pipette (anticlockwise) to draw back a small volume of the (yellow) QC buffer from the flow cell (a few μls)
- Visually check that there is continuous buffer from the Priming Port across the sensor array; continue to wind pipette if necessary to remove any small bubbles, but do not draw bubbles from post-sensor channel into the array

#### I. Priming the flow cell

## **Step 88.**

Avoiding the introduction of air bubbles, **load 800 \mul of the priming mix** via the Priming Port: wind a vertical Gilson pipette (clockwise), use pipette plunger (with care) under 200-100  $\mu$ l volume, and remove pipette with a few  $\mu$ ls left in tip

#### I. Priming the flow cell

## Step 89.

Proceed with preparing library for loading while flow cells 'primes' for 5 min



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Secondary priming of flow cell with  $200~\mu l$  priming buffer (see below) should take place immediately before loading the library

## K. Loading the library

## **Step 90.**

To a fresh low bind tube, add the following (in order):

- 35 µl RBF;
- 2.5 μl NFW;
- 25.5 μl LLB;
- 12 µl of adapted and tethered DNA library (i.e.: 'RT eluate')

(Total library loading mix: 75 µl)

Mix by gentle flicking (gently spin down if needed)

## **₽** NOTES

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LLB will settle out very quickly; resupend by pipetting prior to transfter

## K. Loading the library

## Step 91.

Open the Spot-ON sample port cover with care

Very carefully and slowly, add 200  $\mu$ l of **priming buffer** to the flow cell via the **Priming Port** (NOT the Spot-ON Sample Port), avoiding bubbles and maintaining liquid-liquid contact as before (including removal of a few  $\mu$ ls beforehand if needed); proceed immediately to next step

#### K. Loading the library

## Step 92.

Resuspend beads in the library loading mix via pipette, and immediately **load into the Spot-ON Sample Port in a dropwise fashion**; ensure each drop flows into the port before adding the next

#### K. Loading the library

## **Step 93.**

Gently replace the Spot-ON Sample Port cover ensuring that the bung enters the port; close the Priming Port cover and replace the MinION lid

#### K. Loading the library

## Step 94.

Wait for 1 hour prior to starting sequencing run

# L. Starting the sequencing run

#### Step 95.

Complete experiment parameters:

- Choose correct library prep. kit (SQK-LSK108)
- Select correct flow cell (FLO-MIN106; R9.4)
- Switch base calling to 'Off'

(select other parameters as required; 48 hour run recommended)

# L. Starting the sequencing run

## Step 96.

Click on 'Begin Experiment' and:

- Note new number of pores reported in pre-sequencing QC ('Mux')
- Check pore occupancy figures (i.e. high 'in-stand pore' to 'single pore' ratio)
- Monitor messages in the Message panel in the MinKNOW GUI
- Allow the protocol to proceed in MinKNOW until it reports that the run is complete, or use 'Stop' in MinKNOW control panel to finish protocol

#### **P** NOTES

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The read files are stored in :\data\reads (? 'C\MinION data\reads)

Base call reads after sequencing has been completed.