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## Environmental DNA (eDNA) metabarcoding protocol for amphibians species V.1

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## ABSTRACT

Environmental DNA metabarcoding universal primers targeting the hypervariable region of the 12S rRNA gene

## ATTACHMENTS

[Valentini\\_et\\_al-2016-Molecular\\_Ecology.pdf](#)

## GUIDELINES

Serial dilutions of mock community was prepared as a positive control

## MATERIALS

| NAME ▾                                      | CATALOG # ▾ | VENDOR ▾                 |
|---|-------------|--------------------------|
| Agencourt Ampure XP                         | A63AA0      | Beckman Coulter          |
| UltraPure™ DNase/RNase-Free Distilled Water | 10977015    | Thermo Fisher Scientific |
| 10 mM dNTPs                                 | 10297-018   | Life Technologies        |
| Q5 High-Fidelity DNA Polymerase - 500 units | M0491L      | New England Biolabs      |

## SAFETY WARNINGS

The 1st part of the protocol is performed in the pre-PCR room.

The 2nd part in the post-PCR room.

Never bring back PCR products to the pre-PCR room.

Always add a negative control samples in each PCR run

## BEFORE STARTING

Laboratory work space and equipment were sterilized by UV-light and DNase solution and 70% ethanol. Filter pipet tips were used in all steps of the laboratory work.

- 1 For DNA extraction use Qiagen DNeasy power water sterivex kit.  
The quality of the extracted DNA can be estimated using Nanodrop.

Qiagen DNeasy power water sterivex kit: <https://www.qiagen.com/se/resources/resourcedetail?id=c5fe7d5f-070a-4ebe-ac04-4bbf05a13e91&lang=en>

- 2 Perform the first PCR (triplicates/duplicates of each sample) using Illumina adaptor attached primers that target the gene of your choice.  
For Amphibians  
Group specific mitochondrial 12S primers and human blocking primers (<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pubmed/26479867>) were used  
batra\_F: 5'-ACA CTC TTT CCC TAC ACG ACG CTC TTC CGA TCT NNN NNN ACA CCG CCC GTC ACC CT-3' and  
batra\_R: 5'-AGA CGT GTG CTC TTC CGA TCT NNN NNN GTA YAC TTA CCA TGT TAC GAC TT-3'.  
Human blocking primer: batra\_blk: TCACCCTCCTCAAGTATACTTCAAAGGCA-SPC3I  
which was used to bind to human DNA and prevent its amplification.

## Amplification strategy

- 3 Paired end sequencing on the Miseq platform required two steps of PCR

### First PCR step

#### 3.1

| Components            | Working conc. | Final conc. | 1 reaction (µl) |
|-----------------------|---------------|-------------|-----------------|
| 5x Q5 Reaction Buffer | 5X            | 1X          | 5               |
| batra_F               | 10 µM         | 0,2 µM      | 0,5             |
| batra_R               | 10 µM         | 0,2 µM      | 0,5             |
| dNTPs                 | 2 mM          | 0,2 mM      | 2,5             |
| batra_blk             | 50µM          | 4µM         | 2               |
| Q5 HF DNA polymerase  | 2 U/µl        | 0.02 U/µl   | 0,25            |
| Template DNA          |               |             | 5               |
| Nuclease-Free water   |               |             | 9,25            |
| Σ                     |               |             | 25              |

For environmental samples add 5 µl of template DNA and for mock community samples add 1 µl DNA

| STEP                 | TEMP. | TIME   |
|----------------------|-------|--------|
| Initial Denaturation | 98 C  | 30 sec |
| 35 cycles            | 98 C  | 20 sec |
|                      | 57 C  | 30 sec |
|                      | 72 C  | 1 min  |
| Final Extension      | 72 C  | 7 min  |
| Hold                 | 6 C   | ∞      |

3.2 Check PCR products with Agarose gel electrophoresis (1%).

3.3

Pool PCR triplicated or duplicate samples together and perform purification with magnetic beads (Agencourt AMPure)

[https://research.fhcrc.org/content/dam/stripe/hahn/methods/mol\\_biol/Agencourt%20AMPure%20XP.pdf](https://research.fhcrc.org/content/dam/stripe/hahn/methods/mol_biol/Agencourt%20AMPure%20XP.pdf)

## Second PCR

4 A second PCR is conducted for attaching standard illumina handles and index primers

Multiplex\_fwd

AATGATACGGCGACCACCGAGA{TCTACAC}-[i5 index] ACACTCTTCCCTACACGACG

Multiplex\_rev

CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATACGAGAT-[i7 index]-GTGACTGGAGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCTTCCGATCT

We have in total 20 different forward index/barcode primers and 20 different reverse index/barcode primers.

By combining both primers (20X20), it is possible to generate 400 tags in one final pool for sequencing.

## 4.1

| Components                         | Working conc. | Final conc.     | 1 reaction (20 $\mu$ l) |
|------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| 5xQ5 Reaction Buffer               | 5X            | 1X              | 4                       |
| Forward index (i5, illu-N501-N508) | 5 $\mu$ M     | 0.25 $\mu$ M    | 1                       |
| Reverse index (i7, illu-N701-N712) | 5 $\mu$ M     | 0.25 $\mu$ M    | 1                       |
| dNTPs                              | 2mM           | 200 $\mu$ M     | 2                       |
| Q5 HF DNA polymerase               | 2 U/ $\mu$ l  | 0.02 U/ $\mu$ l | 0.2                     |
| Template from 1st PCR              |               |                 | 2                       |
| Nuclease-Free water                |               |                 | 9.8                     |
| $\Sigma$                           |               |                 | 20                      |

| STEP                 | TEMP. | TIME     |
|----------------------|-------|----------|
| Initial Denaturation | 98 C  | 30 sec   |
|                      | 98 C  | 10 sec   |
| 15 cycles            | 66 C  | 30 sec   |
|                      | 72 C  | 30 sec   |
| Final Extension      | 72 C  | 2 min    |
| Hold                 | 6 C   | $\infty$ |

4.2 Check second PCR products with Agarose gel electrophoresis (1%)

4.3 Perform purification with magnetic beads (Agencourt AMPure).

5 Use a PicoGreen assay to quantify the concentration of the second PCR product before pooling.

- 6 Pool the PCR samples in equal DNA amount (ng) or for unequal length amplicons, in equal molecule amount (mol). This results in one tube including a mix of all the samples.

Calculate the volume of each sample to be pooled (DNA amount mixing) as follows:

- Use the lowest concentration sample to define the minimum amount of DNA (ng) that you have available from a single sample:
- DNA concentration (ng/μL) of the lowest concentration sample multiplied with its volume (μL). This will be your target DNA amount for each sample.
- Calculate how many μLs of each sample you need to achieve the target DNA amount: divide the target DNA amount with the concentration of each sample.
- Pipette into one tube the calculated volume of each sample.
- Aim to use the same pipette for all samples (dilute or pipette multiple times) to avoid pipette calibration errors.

- 7 Check the pooled samples by agarose gel electrophoresis (1%) to make sure only one band is displayed in the gel. Gel purify the pool and re-quantify with PicoGreen before submitting to sequencing facility.

#### Sequencing

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**Illumina MiSeq Next  
Generation sequencer** [↗](#)

Sequencing was performed on the Illumina MiSeq platform that generated paired end sequence that where 150 bp in length.



Analysis was carried out by DADA2 pipeline <https://benjjneb.github.io/dada2/tutorial.html>.



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