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# fastGRO-LI (Low-input fastGRO)

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## MATERIALS

NAME	CATALOG #	VENDOR
IGEPAL-CA630	I3021 SIGMA-ALDRICH	<a href="#">Sigma Aldrich</a>
1.5 mL Eppendorf tubes		
Chloroform		
Isopropanol		
PBS		
NEBNext Ultra II Directional RNA Library Prep Kit for Illumina - 24 rxns	E7760S	<a href="#">New England Biolabs</a>
ATP	035RA02825	
0.5 M EDTA	AM9261	<a href="#">Ambion</a>
Glycerol		
Eppendorf tubes (1.5 & 2.0 ml)		
Corning® 15 ml Centrifuge Tubes		<a href="#">Corning</a>
M280 streptavidin beads		<a href="#">Invitrogen - Thermo Fisher</a>
5M NaCl	AM9760G	<a href="#">Ambion</a>
Capillary electrophoresis instrument (e.g. Agilent Tapestation 4200)		
1M MgCl <sub>2</sub> solution	AM9530G	<a href="#">Thermo Fisher Scientific</a>

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NAME	CATALOG #	VENDOR
50ml Falcon tubes	352070	Corning
Qubit RNA HS Assay Kit	Q32852	Thermo Fisher Scientific
4-Thiouridine	T4509-25MG	Sigma Aldrich
1M Tris-HCl (pH 8.0)	15568025	Thermo Fisher Scientific
ethanol		
Tween-20		
Sarkosyl	L7414	Sigma Aldrich
TRIzol <sup>®</sup> LS Reagent	10296028	Thermo Fisher
CTP	18331017	Thermo Fisher
GTP	18332015	Thermo Fisher
SUPERase <sup>®</sup> In <sup>®</sup> ; RNase Inhibitor (20 U/ $\mu$ L)	AM2696	Thermo Fisher
Qubit <sup>®</sup> 3 Fluorometer	Q33216	Thermo Fisher
NN-Dimethylformamide	D4551	Sigma Aldrich
2M KCl	AM9640G	Invitrogen - Thermo Fisher
Glycogen	10901393001	Millipore Sigma
1M DTT	43816-10ML	Sigma
1M Tris-HCl pH 7.5	15567027	Thermo Fisher Scientific
1M CaCl <sub>2</sub>	21115	Sigma-aldrich
4-Thiouridine-5-Triphosphate (4-thio-UTP)	N-1025-1	
RNA ScreenTape and Reagents		Agilent Technologies
Bioruptor USD-200		Diagenode
MTSEA-biotin-XX	#90066	Biotium

#### BEFORE STARTING

#### Prepare spike-in RNA or Nuclei

Prepare 50 mM of 4-thiouridine (4sU) in DEPC-treated water. Aliquot and store in the dark at -20 °C.

Incubate drosophila cells for 5 minutes with 50mM of 4sU in their growing medium. Wash cells with 1X PBS, lyse in Trizol reagent. Extract RNA, aliquot, snap-freeze in liquid nitrogen and store at -80 °C.

Can also prepare drosophila nuclei to control for the Nuclear run-on. Can be done using same nuclei extraction protocol (steps 1-9) and drosophila nuclei can be added to your sample at steps 8 or 12 to 5-10% of amount of nuclei from your sample.

#### Prepare buffers and solutions.

##### Swelling Buffer (SB) - Add 2 U/ml Superare-In before use.

- 10 mM Tris-HCL pH 7.5
- 2 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>
- 3 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>

Store at 4 °C.

##### Swelling Buffer + 10% Glycerol (GSB) - Add 2 U/ml Superare-In before use. Store at 4 °C.

##### Lysis Buffer (LyB) - Add 2 U/ml Superare-In before use.

- 10 mM Tris-HCL pH 7.5
- 2 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>
- 3 mM CaCl<sub>2</sub>
- 10% Glycerol
- 1% Igepal

Store at 4 °C.

##### Freezing Buffer (FB) - Add 2 U/ml Superare-In before use.

- 40% glycerol
- 5 mM MgCl<sub>2</sub>
- 0.1 mM EDTA
- 50 mM Tris-HCL pH8

Store at 4 °C.

#### 1 mg/mL MTS-Biotin

Prepare 1 mg/ml MTS-Biotin (Biotium) in DMF (store at -20C, stable for up to 3 months).

#### 10x Biotinylation Buffer

100 mM Tris pH 7.5

10 mM EDTA pH 8.0

Store at 4 °C.


### Nuclei isolation

1 Harvest cells and wash in cold 1X PBS

2 Resuspend cells in  10 mL of ice-cold SB.


Incubate for  00:05:00 .


Spin  400 x g, 00:10:00 .

3 Remove supernatant and resuspend in  10 mL GSB



Volume of GSB should be at least 5 times the volume of cell pellet

4 Vortex lightly while adding  10 mL of LyB

5 Incubate on ice for  00:05:00



Add  25 mL of LyB and centrifuge  600 x g, 00:05:00 .

6 Flick to loosen pellet and resuspend in  25 mL of LyB.

Centrifuge  600 x g, 00:05:00

7 Remove supernatant and resuspend in  10 mL of FB.

Take  10 µl for cell count.

8 Centrifuge  900 x g, 00:06:00 and resuspend using wide-end pipette tips in FB to a maximum concentration of 5x10<sup>6</sup> nuclei per  25 µl of FB.

9 Nuclei can be stored at  $-80^{\circ}\text{C}$  for months.

#### Nuclear Run On

10

Prepare fresh 2x Nuclear run-on buffer (NRO). (  $25\ \mu\text{l}$  /sample)

- 10 mM Tris-HCl pH8
- 5 mM  $\text{MgCl}_2$
- 300 mM KCl
- 1 mM DTT
- 500  $\mu\text{M}$  ATP
- 500  $\mu\text{M}$  GTP
- 500  $\mu\text{M}$  4-thio-UTP
- 2  $\mu\text{M}$  CTP
- 200  $\mu\text{g/ml}$  Suprase-in
- 1% Sarkosyl (N-Laurylsarcosine sodium salt solution)



Per library, use  $0.5\text{--}5 \times 10^6$  nuclei

11 Warm the NRO buffer at  $30^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

12 Thaw nuclei **On ice**.



5-10% drosophila nuclei can be added to your sample as spike-in if not using 4S-U labelled drosophila RNA in step 26.

13 Mix  $25\ \mu\text{l}$  of thawed nuclei solution with  $25\ \mu\text{l}$  of 2xNRO buffer.  
Pipette up and down 15 times using end-cut pipette tip.







14 Incubate  $00:07:00$  at  $30^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

15 Add  $150\ \mu\text{l}$  Trizol LS.  
Vortex.  
Incubate  $00:05:00$  at **Room temperature**.







STOP POINT: Freeze with liquid nitrogen, and store at -80 °C

#### Total RNA precipitation

- 16 Add  **40 µl** of chloroform, shake vigorously by hand for  **00:00:15**
- 17 Incubate  **00:02:00** at  **Room temperature**.
- 18 Centrifuge at  **12000 rpm, 4°C, 00:15:00**.
- 19 Transfer upper, aqueous phase into new 1.5 mL centrifuge tube.
- 20 Add  **100 µl** of isopropanol to precipitate RNA and incubate at  **Room temperature** for  **00:10:00**.



Can add 1-2 ul of 2 µg/µL glycogen to allow for visualization of pellet with lower RNA concentrations.

- 21 Centrifuge at  **12000 rpm, 4°C, 00:10:00**.
- 22 Wash RNA pellet using  **1 mL** of cold 75 % ethanol  
Centrifuge at  **12000 rpm, 4°C, 00:10:00**.
- 23 Completely remove ethanol and air-dry pellet.  
Dissolve in  **100 µl** of nuclease-free water.
- 24 Determine concentration by Nanodrop or Qubit.

#### RNA fragmentation

- 25 Transfer  **30 µg** of RNA to a 1.5 ml tube and add water up to  **100 µl**.



Save 5 µl of unfragmented RNA to be run on TapeStation as a control for fragmented RNA and to check quality of RNA.

- 26 Add 5-10% of labelled spike-in RNA if using instead of drosophila nuclei.
- 27 Fragment RNA using Bioruptor with the following settings using: 1 cycle: 30 sec / 30 sec ON / OFF at high settings.
- 28 Transfer fragmented RNA to 2 ml tube.
- 29 Analyze fragmentation efficiency of fragmented versus unfragmented RNA on Agilent 2200 TapeStation.
- 30 Sonicated RNA can be snap-frozen in liquid nitrogen and stored at  $-80^{\circ}\text{C}$







#### MTS-Biotinylation

- 31 Incubate RNA at  $65^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 00:02:00 , then **On ice** for 00:05:00 .
- 32 Prepare Biotin-RNA mix in 1.5 ml tube. Follow the order:
  - up to 30 µg of fragmented RNA in 100 µl
  - H2O up to 140 µl
  - 5 µl HEPES pH 7.4
  - 5 µl 0.5M EDTA
  - 50 µl Diluted MTS-Biotin

- 33 Incubate in the dark at  $24^{\circ}\text{C}$  and 800 rpm for 00:30:00 .

#### Precipitation of biotinylated RNA

- 34 Add 160 µl of chloroform to the RNA-biotin in the 2 mL phase-lock tube and mix by manually shaking the tube.

- 35 Centrifuge full speed  **21000 x g, 4°C, 00:05:00** .
- 36
  - Transfer upper phase into new tube (appr  **200 µl** ).
- 37 If needed at 1-2µl of 2 µg/µl Glycogen to allow for visualization of pellet with lower RNA concentrations.
- 38 Add 1/10 volume (20 µl) of 5 M NaCl and mix.
- 39 Add 1 volume (200 µl) of isopropanol and mix for 15 sec manually.
- 40 Centrifuge  **16000 x g, 4°C, 00:30:00** .
- 41 Remove supernatant.
- 42 Wash pellet with  **1 mL** of ice-cold 75% ethanol.  
Centrifuge  **10006 x g, 4°C, 00:05:00** .
- 43 Remove supernatant.
- 44 Spin quickly at  **4 °C** and remove remaining supernatant with 200 µl and 10 µl pipettes.



Biotinylated RNA should NOT dry.

- 45 Resuspend RNA in  **44 µl** of nuclease-free water.



Biotinylated RNA can be stored at **-80 °C**.

#### DNase treatment

- 46 Add **5 µl** of TURBO DNase buffer to the RNA-biotin.
- 47 Add **1 µl** of TURBO DNase.
- 48 Incubate at **37 °C** for **00:30:00**.
- 49 Add **1 µl** of inactivation reagent.
- 50 Incubate at **Room temperature** for **00:05:00**.
- 51 Centrifuge **10000 x g, Room temperature, 00:02:00**.
- 52 Transfer RNA-biotin solution in a new tube.

#### Enrichment of biotinylated RNA

- 53 Prepare Wash Buffer (WB):
  - 100 mM Tris pH 7.5
  - 10 mM EDTA pH 8.0
  - 1M NaCl
  - 0.1% (vol/vol) Tween-20
- 54 Leave half volume of WB at room temperature and heat the other half at **65 °C**.
- 55 Prepare the beads:
  - 55.1 Take **25 µl** of beads per sample.



## 55.2

Wash the beads twice with 2 volumes (  **50 µl** per sample) of wash buffer.

## 55.3

Resuspend in 1 Volume (  **25 µl** per sample) of wash buffer.

## 56

Incubate at  **65 °C** for  **00:10:00** .

Place on ice for  **00:05:00** .

## 57

Add  **25 µl** of prepared Invitrogen streptavidin beads to  **50 µl** of RNA-biotin.

## 58

Incubate at  **4 °C** for  **00:15:00** in rotation.

## 59

Transfer tubes to a magnetic rack.  
Remove supernatant.  
Do not disturb beads.

## 60

Wash at least 3 times with  **200 µl** of warm (  **65 °C** ) WB.

## 61

Wash at least 3 times with  **200 µl** of room temperature WB.

## 62

Resuspend beads in  **25 µl** of 100 mM DTT and incubate  **00:05:00** .

## 63


Transfer tubes to the magnetic rack.  
Collect the 4-thio-labeled RNA in a new tube.







## 64

Repeat steps 62-63 and collect the eluted RNA in the same tube (50 µl total volume).

### RNA precipitation of labelled RNA

## 65

Add  **150 µl** nuclease-free water to the samples to final volume of 200 µl.

- 66 Add  **160 µl** of chloroform to the labelled RNA and mix
- 67 Centrifuge  **21000 x g, 4°C, 00:05:00** .
- 68 Transfer upper, aqueous phase into new 1.5 mL centrifuge tube.
- 69 Add  **2 µl** of 2 µg/µl glycogen and mix.
- 70 Add 1/10 volume (20 µl) of 5 M NaCl and mix.
- 71 Add 1 volume (200 µL) of isopropanol and mix.
- 72 Centrifuge  **21000 x g, 4°C, 00:30:00** .
- 73 Remove supernatant.
- 74 Wash pellet with  **1 µl** of ice-cold 75 % ethanol.
- 75 Centrifuge  **21000 x g, 4°C, 00:05:00** .
- 76 Remove supernatant.
- 77 Quick spin  **21000 x g, 4°C, 00:00:15** and remove remaining supernatant with 10 µL pipette.
- 78 Resuspend RNA in  **6 µl** DEPC-treated H<sub>2</sub>O.

79 Use  to measure concentration of labelled RNA by Qubit fluorometer.

80 Libraries can be prepared with NEBNext Ultra II Directional RNA Library Prep or other library prep kits.