

Sep 13, 2019

Algal nuclei isolation for Nanopore sequencing of HMW DNA V.3

Robert Auber¹, Jennifer Wisecaver¹

¹Purdue University

1 Works for me

[dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.7b7hirn](https://doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.7b7hirn)

MinION user group for high molecular weight DNA extraction from all kingdoms | Wisecaver Lab

Robert Auber

ABSTRACT

This protocol was developed for extraction of high molecular weight (HMW) DNA from *Prymnesium parvum*, a unicellular haptophyte alga, for the purpose of whole genome sequencing using Oxford Nanopore Technology (ONT) long reads. *P. parvum* is known to produce several specialized metabolic compounds that may compromise isolated DNA, leading to decreased sequencing yield. We found that separating intact nuclei from cellular debris prior to DNA isolation, improved read length and throughput. Isolated nuclei were processed using a Circulomics NanoBind kit to extract HMW DNA.

GUIDELINES

This protocol was adapted from the "Preparing Arabidopsis Genomic DNA for Size-Selected ~20 kb SMRTbell TM Libraries" protocol. (<https://www.pacb.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/09/Shared-Protocol-Preparing-Arabidopsis-DNA-for-20-kb-SMRTbell-Libraries.pdf>)

Take care to minimize pipetting of the sample as much as possible and never vortex to retain HMW DNA.

MATERIALS TEXT

Prepared Buffers & Reagents

Nucleus Isolation Buffer (Must be cooled to 0°C for > 1 hour before use):

10 mM Tris pH 9.5
10 mM EDTA 100 mM KCL
500 mM Sucrose
4 mM Spermidine
1 mM Spermine
0.1% BME (add day of extraction)

Equipment

Refrigerated centrifuge with 50mL tube capacity
DynaMag Magnetic rack
ThermoMixer
Hula mixer
Epifluorescent microscope

| Item | Supplier | LOT/Catalog number |
|---|----------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 50 mL conical tubes | Eppendorf | H180965P |
| 10 mL serological pipette | Fisher | 13-676-10J |
| LoBind 1.5 mL microcentrifuge tubes | Eppendorf | H177737J |
| 1000 µl and 100 µl wide bore pipette tips | Art | 2069GPK/2079GPK |
| Nylon mesh filters: 100 µm, 70 µm and 40 µm | Cell treat/Fisher/Biologix | 180321-299/22363548/15-1040 |
| Liquid nitrogen | n/a | n/a |
| Tris pH 9.5 | Alfa Aesar | Q08F508 |

| | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------|-----------|
| EDTA | Milipore | 3070822 |
| KCl | Fisher | 177592 |
| Sucrose | Sigma | SLBW6518 |
| Spermidine trihydrochloride | Sigma | 334-50-9 |
| Spermine tetrahydrochloride | Sigma | 306-67-2 |
| 2-Mercaptoethanol (BME) | Sigma | SHBH5561V |
| Triton X-100 | Sigma | SLBW7103 |
| Isopropanol | Fisher | 175275 |
| 100% Ethanol | Acros organics | B0536196 |
| Propidium iodide | eBioscience | BMS500PI |
| Microscope slides | Thermo | 3050 |
| Microscope slide covers | Thermo | 3306 |

SAFETY WARNINGS

All handling of β -mercaptoethanol (BME) and solutions containing BME should be done in a chemical fume hood.

BEFORE STARTING

Have sufficient liquid nitrogen on hand to snap freeze your samples.

Prepare equipment and reagents

- 1 Add BME to premade NIB. Per sample add $\text{35 }\mu\text{l}$ BME into 35 ml premade NIB.
- 2 Make 10% Triton X-100 NIB solution. Per sample, aliquot 1.8 ml NIB prepared in previous step and add $\text{200 }\mu\text{l}$ Triton X-100.
- 3 Cool solutions to $\text{0 }^\circ\text{C}$ on ice.
- 4 Set thermomixer to $\text{55 }^\circ\text{C}$
- 5 Chill centrifuge to $\text{4 }^\circ\text{C}$
- 6 Chill 50 ml conical tubes (4 per sample) and NIB buffers on ice.

- Transfer 20 ml to 50 ml of culture to a pre-chilled 50 ml conical tube and centrifuge 2000 x g at 4 °C for 00:10:00 to pellet cells.

The amount of culture spun down as well as the centrifugation speed at which cultures are pelleted should be optimized for each organism. In our experience, the pellet size should be at least the size of a lentil for small (5 µm) for our alga.



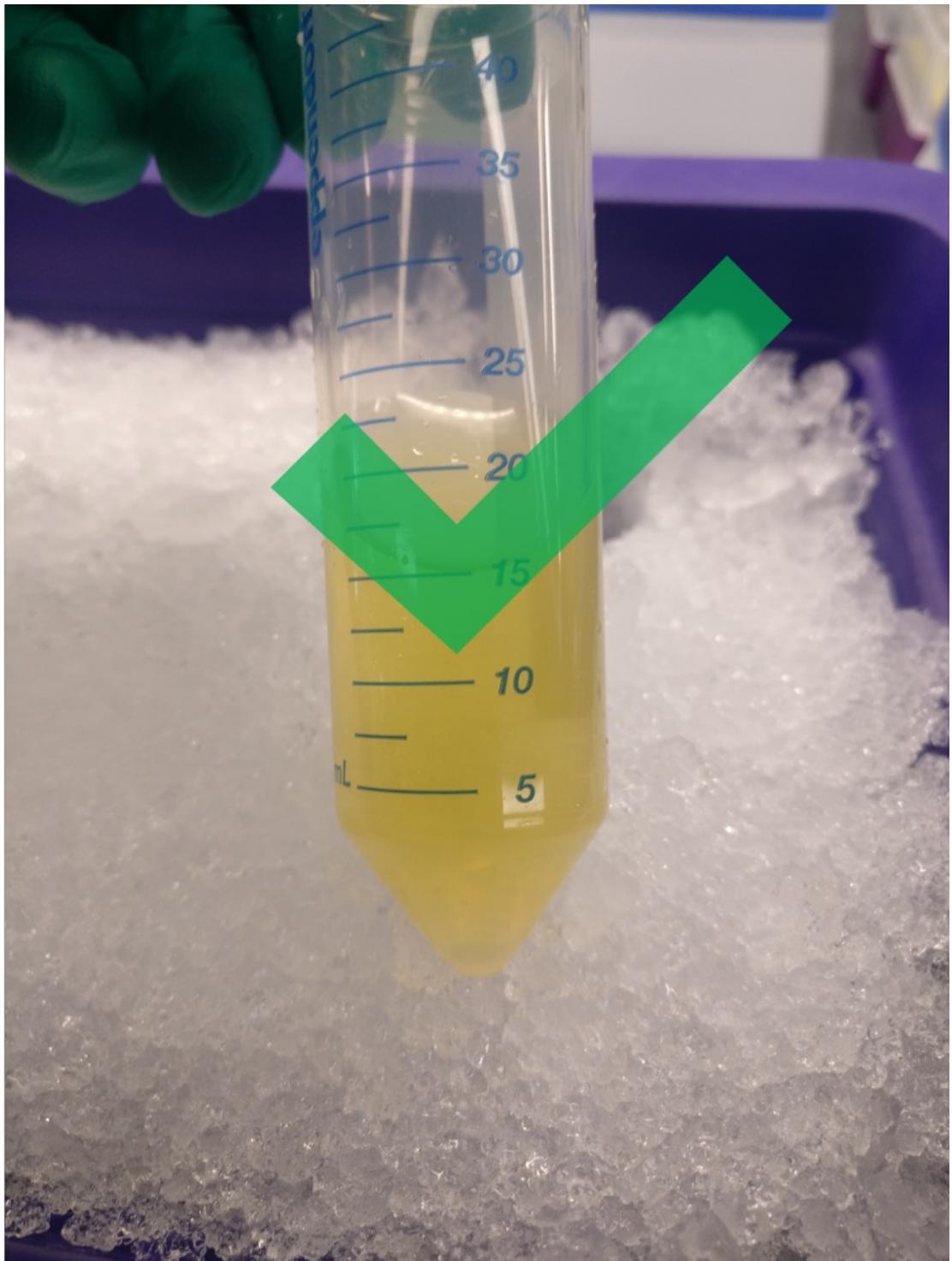
- 8 Discard the supernatant and snap freeze the conical tube in liquid nitrogen for at least **00:03:00**.

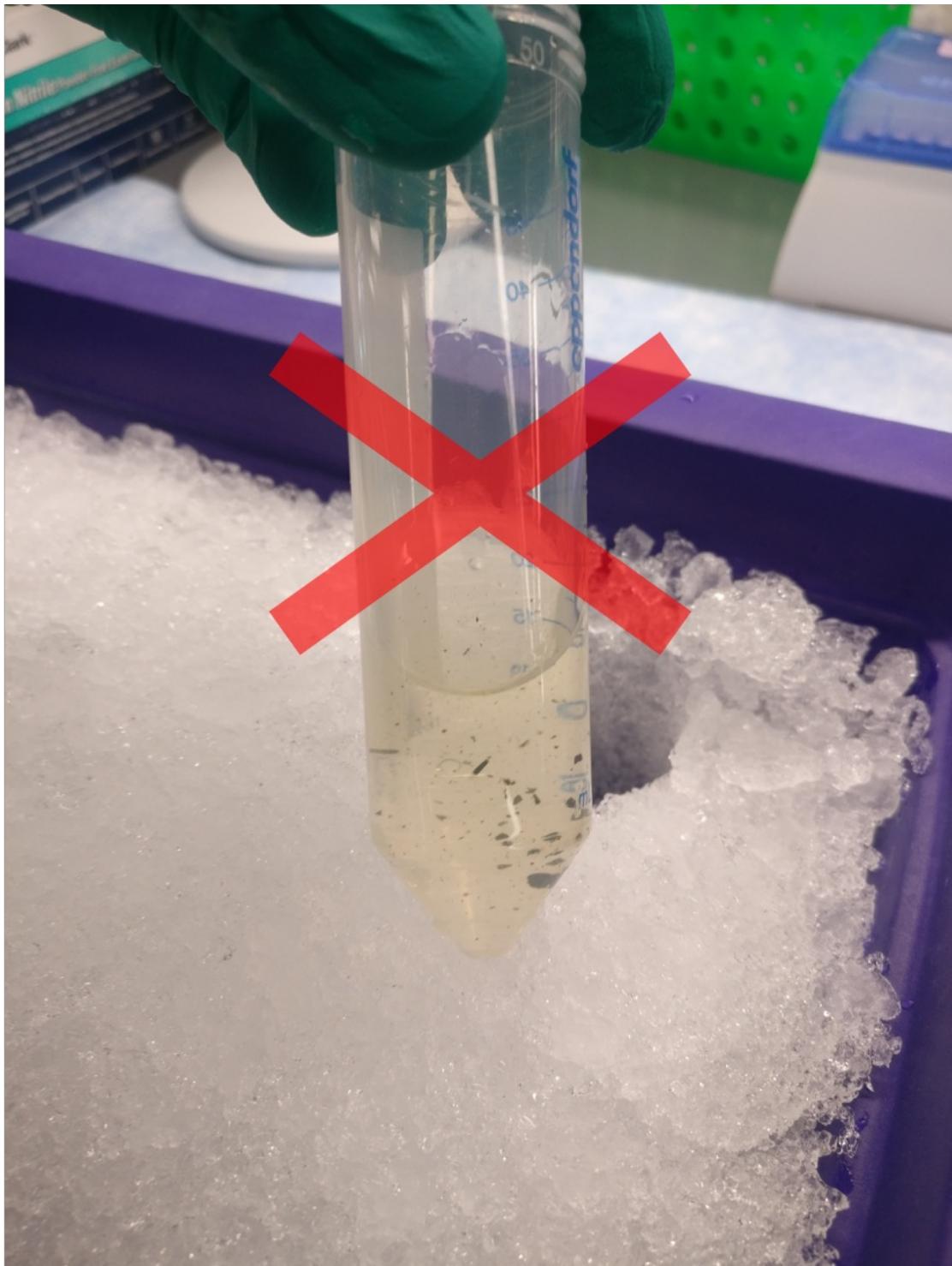
Some organisms will require some type of tissue disruption to lyse cells.

- 9 Place cell pellet on ice and add **10 ml** of ice cold NIB.

If you know your pellet is not very soluble, only add 1mL of NIB at first and mix by pipetting up and down with a 1mL pipette. Add remaining 9mL NIB after clumps are broken up.

- 10 Mix by slowly pipetting up and down with a 10mL serological pipettor until the mixture is smooth and not clumpy.

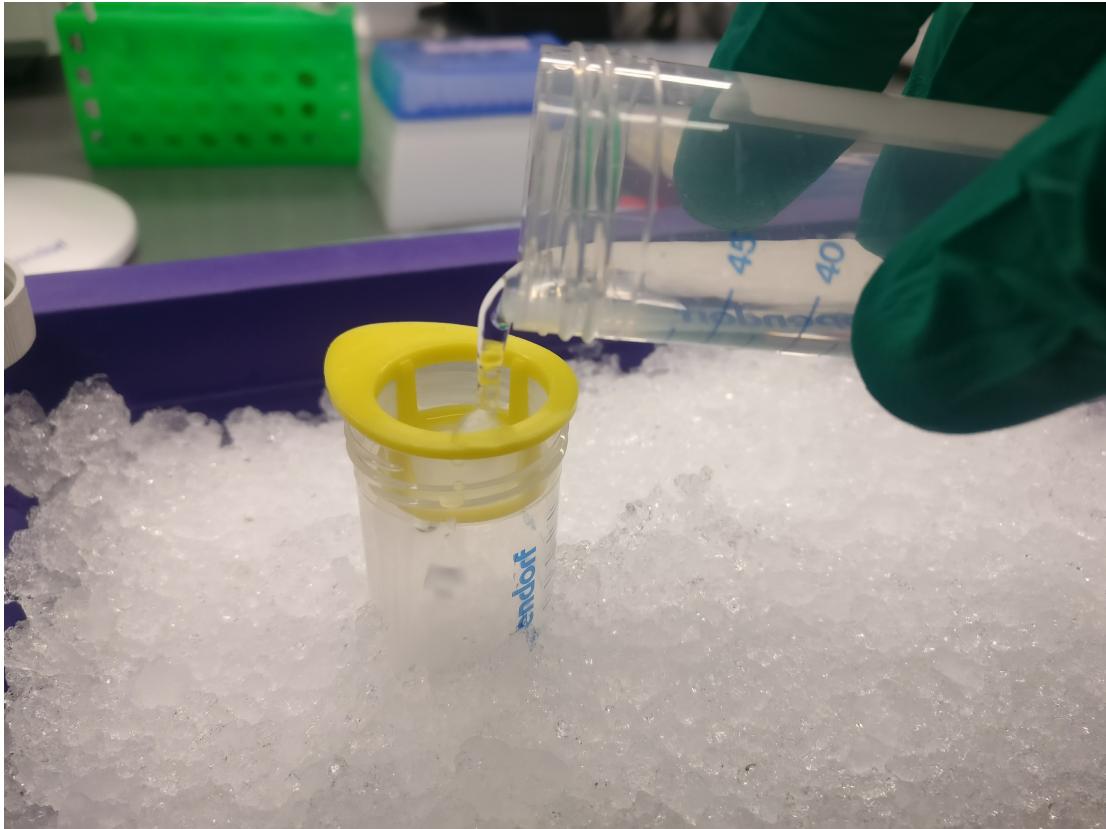




Filter to remove particulate material

- 11 Place a 100 µm filter on top of a pre-chilled 50 ml conical tube.

- 12 Slowly pour the sample through the filter into the clean tube.



13 Use a serological pipettor to wash the filter with **10 ml** of ice cold NIB.

14 Place a 70 µm filter on top of a second pre-chilled 50 ml conical tube.

15 Slowly pour the sample through the filter into the clean tube.

16 Use a serological pipettor to wash the filter with **10 ml** of ice cold NIB.

17 Place a 40 µm filter on top of a third pre-chilled 50 ml conical tube.

18 Slowly pour the sample through the filter into the clean tube. (Do **not** wash with NIB)

Pellet nuclei

19 Add **1.5 ml** of ice cold NIB + TritonX solution to filtrate.

- 20 Centrifuge $\textcircled{S} 500 \times g$ at $\textcircled{C} 4\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ for $\textcircled{D} 00:10:00$ to pellet nuclei.

The speed at which the sample is spun down should be reevaluated for different organisms based on genome size.

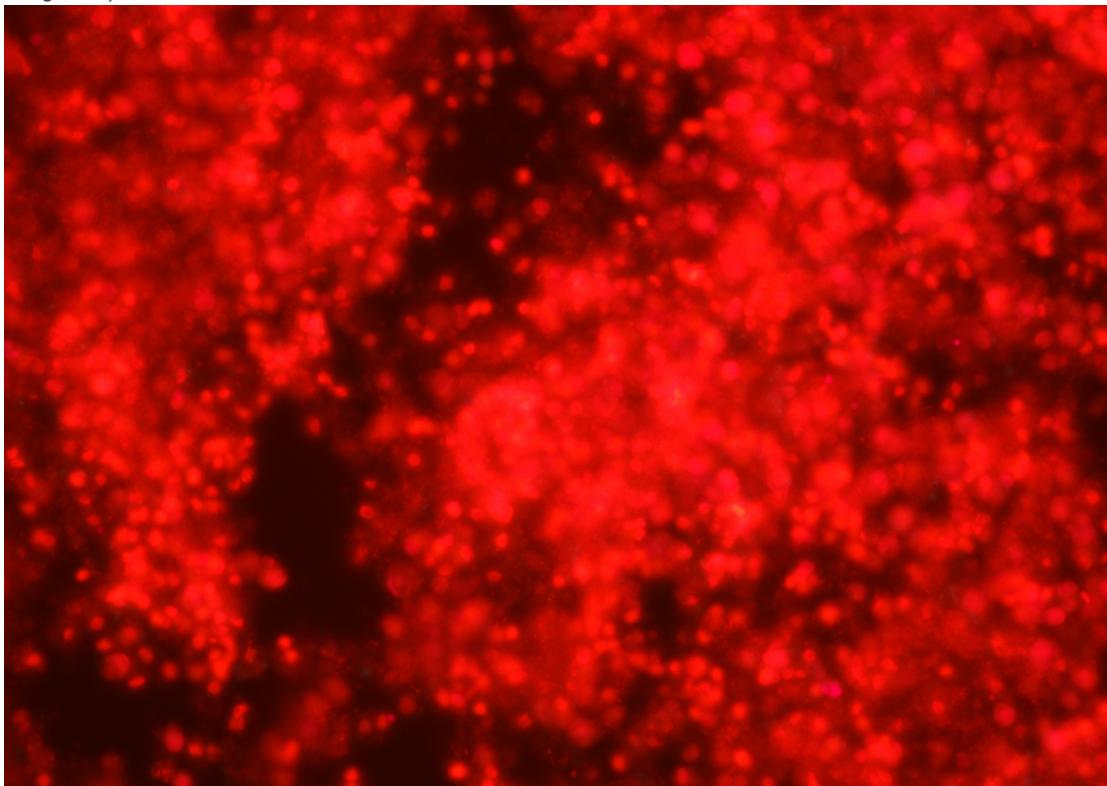
- 21 Discard the supernatant.

Confirm isolation via microscopy

- 22 Aliquot $\textcircled{V} 1 \mu\text{l}$ of the pellet into a clean 1.5ml eppendorf tube. Add $\textcircled{V} 18 \mu\text{l}$ of fresh NIB and $\textcircled{V} 1 \mu\text{l}$ of propidium iodide to the tube.

- 23 Transfer the stained nuclei to a microscope and confirm presence of fluorescing nuclei under an epifluorescent light.

Image was taken on a Nikon Ts2R-FL microscope with a CFP LP cube (Excitation 448/23nm (436.5-459.5nm), Emission 472nm Long Pass)



Extract DNA from Nuclei

- 24 Extract DNA by referring to Circulomics Plant Nuclei Big DNA Kit protocol.

<https://www.circulomics.com/store/Nanobind-Plant-Nuclei-Big-DNA-Kit-Alpha-Version-p99924200>

This is an open access protocol distributed under the terms of the [Creative Commons Attribution License](#), which permits unrestricted use, distribution, and reproduction in any medium, provided the original author and source are credited