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← TABLE-seq for strand-specific RNA sequencing

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ABSTRACT

This protocol utilizes the Tn5, a widely used transposase, to perform single-strand DNA sequencing. Tn5 can tagment single-strand DNA and ligate transposon cargo to the 3' end. We developed a tagmentation-based and ligation-enabled single-strand DNA sequencing method called TABLE-seq. The method below is an example to use TABLE-seq to conduct strand-specific RNA sequencing.

Assemble transposons and ligation adapters before starting the experiment.

Tn5 transposons Assembly

- 1. Add 1 μ l 100 μ M Tn5ME-B and 1 μ l 100 μ M Tn5MErev to 8 μ l H₂O
- 2. Anneal oligos as Tn5-B at 95 °C 5 min, ramp to 25 °C at 5 °C/min, and hold at 16 °C.
- 3. Take 20 μ l annealed Tn5-B and incubate with 70 μ l of 200 μ g/ml Tn5 transposase at 25 °C for 1 hour to assemble the single adaptor Tn5 transposon (Tn5B+B).
- 4. The assembled transposons can be stored at -20 °C until usage.

Tn5ME-B: 5'-GTCTCGTGGGCTCGGAGATGTGTATAAGAGACAG-3' Tn5MErev: 5'- [phos]CTGTCTCTTATACACATCT-3'

Ligation adapter anneal

- 1. Add 2 μ l 100 μ M 5ph_Tn5a and 2 μ l 100 μ M Tn5a_N6_invert_dT to 16 μ l H₂O
- 2. Anneal oligos as Adapter-A at 95 °C for 5 min, ramp to 25 °C at 5 °C/min, and hold at 16 °C.
- 3. Add 1 μ l Exo I (NEB, Cat. # E1050), 3 μ l 10X Exo I reaction buffer, and 6 μ l H₂O
- 4. Incubate at 37 °C for 30 min, followed by 80 °C for 15 min, and 16 °C to hold.
- 5. Add 2X volume of VAHTS DNA clean beads (VAHTS, Cat. #N411-03), and gently mix by pipetting, place the tube at RT for 10 min.
- 6. Place the tube on the magnet stand for 1 min, and remove the liquid.
- 7. Add 200 μ l 80% ethanol (fresh prepared) to the tube, keep the tube on the magnet stand, and do not mix or resuspend beads. Remove the ethanol after 30 s.
- 8. Repeat adding 200 μ l 80% ethanol (fresh prepared) to the tube, keep the tube on the magnet stand, and do not mix or resuspend beads. Remove the ethanol after 30 s
- 9. Air dry the beads for about 2-5 min. Do not over-dry the beads.
- 10. Remove samples for the magnet stand.
- 11. Resuspended beads with 20 μ l H₂O, and incubate at RT for 5 min.
- 12. Place the tube on the magnet stand until the solution turns clear (around 30 s) and take all the liquid containing Adapter-A to the new tube.
- 13. Store at -20 °C until usage.

5ph_Tn5a: 5'- [phos]CTGTCTCTTATACACATCTGACGCTGCCGACGA-3'
Tn5a_N6_dT: 5'-TCGTCGGCAGCGTCAGATGTGTATAAGAGACAGNNNNNNN[invertdT]
-3'

1 Reverse transcription

2h

Reverse transcription is conducted with Thermo Fisher SuperScript™ IV kit (Thermo, Cat. #18091050). Or any conventional method.

- 1.1 Take 300 ng (or any desired amount of) RNA, anneal with 1 μ l 50 μ M Oligo d(T)20 and 1 μ l 10 mM dNTP at 65 °C for 5 min, and place on ice immediately for 2 min.
- 1.2 Mix each sample with 4 μ l 5X SSIV Buffer, 1 μ l 100 mM DTT, 1 μ l Ribonuclease Inhibitor, 1 μ l SuperScriptTM Reverse Transcriptase, 1 μ l 100 μ g/ml Actinomycin D, and add H2O to a total volume of 20 μ l.
- 1.3 Incubate samples at 42 $^{\circ}$ C for 90 min, 10 cycles of 50 $^{\circ}$ C for 2 min and 42 $^{\circ}$ C for 2 min, then 85 $^{\circ}$ C for 5 min, and hold at 16 $^{\circ}$ C.
- 1.4 Add 1 μ l Exo I (NEB, Cat. #M0293S), 3 μ l 10X Exo I buffer, and 6 μ l H2O to digest oligo d(T)20 primers at 37 °C for 30 min, then inactive Exo I at 80 °C for 15 min.
- 1.5 Add 1 μ l RNase A (Takara, Cat. #2158) and 1 μ l RNase H (Thermo, Cat. #18091050) and incubate at 37 °C for 30 min to digest the leftover RNA from cDNA.

2 Tagmentation of cDNA or strand-specific RNA sequencing) Single-strand DNA can be sequenced with the same TABLE-seq method.

40m

- 1.1 Denature cDNA at 98 °C for 10 min and place samples on ice immediately for 5 min.
- 1.2 Mix 14 μ l cDNA with 4 μ l 5X DMF buffer (50% DMF, 50 mM Tris-HCl pH 7.5, 10 mM MgCl2) and 2 μ l transposon Tn5 B+B.
- 1.3 Incubate samples at 37 °C for 5 min.
- 1.4. Stop the reaction by adding 2.4 μ l Stop buffer (1.5 μ l 0.5 M EDTA, 1.4 μ l 10% SDS, and 0.5 μ l 20 mg/ml Proteinase K) and incubating at 55 °C for 30 min and then 70 °C for 20 min.
- 1.5 Purify the tagmented cDNA by adding 0.9X volume of VAHTS DNA clean beads (VAHTS, Cat. #N411-03), and gently mixing by pipetting, place the tube at RT for 10 min.
- 1.6 Place the tube on the magnet stand for 1 min, and then remove the liquid.
- 1.7~ Add $200~\mu$ l 80% ethanol (fresh prepared) to the tube, keep the tube on the magnet stand, and do not mix or resuspend beads. Remove the ethanol after 30~s.
- 1.8 Repeat adding 200 μ l 80% ethanol (fresh prepared) to the tube, keep the tube on the magnet stand, and do not mix or resuspend beads. Remove the ethanol after 30 s.
- 1.9 Air dry the beads for about 2-5 min. Do not over-dry the beads.
- 1.10 Remove samples for the magnet stand.
- 1.11 Resuspended beads with 10 µl H2O, and incubate at RT for 5 min.
- 1.12 Place the tube on the magnet stand until the solution turns clear (around 30 s) and take all the liquid containing tagmented cDNA to the new tube.
- 1.13 Store at -20 °C until usage.

RNA extractionRNA extraction is performed by RNeasy Plus Mini Kit (Qiagen, Cat. #74134). Or any conventional method.

30m

- 1.1 Harvest and wash cells with PBS once.
- 1.2 Lyse the cell with 350 µl Buffer RLT and vortex for 30 s.
- 1.3 Add the lysates to a gDNA Eliminator spin column and centrifuge at 10,000 rpm for 30 sec.
- 1.4 Mix the flow-through with 350 µl of 70% ethanol before transferring the samples to an

RNeasy spin column.

- 1.5 Centrifuge at 10,000 rpm for 15 s at RT.
- 1.6 Wash the RNA-bound column with 700 μ l Buffer RW1, and centrifuge at 10,000 rpm for 15 s at RT.
- 1.7 Add 500 µl Buffer RPE to the RNA-bound column, and centrifuge at 10,000 rpm for 15 s at RT.
- 1.8 Repeat washing with 500 µl Buffer RPE once.
- 1.9 Place the column into a new 1.5 ml tube, add 30 μ l of RNase-free H2O to the RNA-bound column, and centrifuge at 10,000 rpm for 15 s at RT to collect the RNA.
- 1.10 Treat 30 μ l eluted RNA with 1 μ l of DNase I (NEB, Cat. #M0303S), 5 ul 10X DNase I buffer, and 14 μ l H2O, and incubate at 37 °C for 1 h to further eliminate genomic DNA.
- 1.11 Add 1 ml 75% ethanol to the treated RNA, and store at -20 °C for 1 hour.
- 1.12 Centrifuge samples at 12,000 rpm for 5 min at 4 °C and discard the supernatant.
- 1.13 Wash the precipitated RNA with 1 ml 75% ethanol twice.
- 1.14 Dissolved RNA with 30 µl RNase-free H2O.
- 1.15 Store the Purified RNA at -80 °C until usage.

4 Adapter ligation

1h 30m

- 1.1 Mix 10 μ l tagmented cDNA with 2 μ l annealed Adapter-A, 0.5 μ l T4 DNA ligase (Takara, Cat. #2011A), 2 μ l 10X ligation buffer, 2.5 μ l 40% PEG6000, 3 μ l H2O, and incubate at 37 °C for 1 h.
- 1.2 Purify the ligated cDNA by adding 0.8X volume of VAHTS DNA clean beads (VAHTS, Cat. #N411-03), and gently mixing by pipetting, place the tube at RT for 10 min.
- 1.3 Place the tube on the magnet stand for 1 min, and then remove the liquid.
- $1.4\,$ Add $200\,\mu$ l $80\%\,$ ethanol (fresh prepared) to the tube, keep the tube on the magnet stand, and do not mix or resuspend beads. Remove the ethanol after $30\,$ s.
- 1.5 Repeat adding 200 μ l 80% ethanol (fresh prepared) to the tube, keep the tube on the magnet stand, and do not mix or resuspend beads. Remove the ethanol after 30 s.
- 1.6 Air dry the beads for about 2-5 min. Do not over-dry the beads.
- 1.7 Remove samples for the magnet stand.
- 1.8 Resuspended beads with 10 µl H2O, and incubate at RT for 5 min.
- 1.9 Place the tube on the magnet stand until the solution turns clear (around 30 s) and take all the liquid containing ligated cDNA to the new tube.
- 1.10 Store at -20 °C until usage.

5 Library construction

1h 30m

- 1.1 Amplify the purified DNA was amplified by primers with sequencing indexes.
- 1.2 Mix1 μ l 10 μ M Index-F primer, 1 μ l 10 μ M Index-R primer, 8 μ l ligated DNA, and 10 μ l 2X HIFI PCR Master Mix (NEB, Cat. #M0541) and incubate at 72 °C for 5 min, 98 °C for 30 s, 20 cycles of 98 °C for 10 s and 63 °C for 10 s, then 72 °C for 1 min, and hold at 16 °C.
- 1.3 Purified PCR products by adding 0.9X volume of VAHTS DNA clean beads (VAHTS, Cat. #N411-03), and gently mixing by pipetting, place the tube at RT for 10 min.
- 1.4 Place the tube on the magnet stand for 1 min, and then remove the liquid.
- $1.5\,$ Add $200\,\mu$ l $80\%\,$ ethanol (fresh prepared) to the tube, keep the tube on the magnet stand, and do not mix or resuspend beads. Remove the ethanol after $30\,$ s.

- $1.6\,$ Repeat adding 200 μ l 80% ethanol (fresh prepared) to the tube, keep the tube on the magnet stand, and do not mix or resuspend beads. Remove the ethanol after 30 s.
- 1.7 Air dry the beads for about 2-5 min. Do not over-dry the beads.
- 1.8 Remove samples for the magnet stand.
- 1.9 Resuspended beads with 20 µl H2O, and incubate at RT for 5 min.
- 1.10 Place the tube on the magnet stand until the solution turns clear (around 30 s) and take all the liquid containing constructed libraries to the new tube.
- 1.11 Detect concentrations of the constructed libraries by adding 1 μ l DNA to 199 μ l Equalbit 1X dsDNA HS Working Solution (Vazyme, Cat. #121-01-AA). Or any preferred method.
- 1.12 Library sequencing is performed with an Illumina NovaSeq platform with pair-end reads of 150 bp. Or any preferred method.

Index-F primer: AATGATACGGCGACCACCGAGATCTACAC XXXXXXXX TCGTCGGCAGCGTCAGATGTGTAT (XXXXXXXXX is the index sequence for sequencing) Index-R primer: CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATACGAGAT XXXXXXXXX GTCTCGTGGGCTCGGAGATGTG (XXXXXXXXX is the index sequence for sequencing)