

# Best Practices to pass Library QC

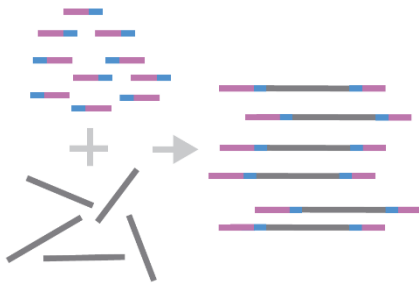
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Sr. Clinical Field Applications Scientist  
28-SEP-2020



# Library QC



## Library Preparation



Modify nucleic acid to proper insert size & add adapters

## Cluster Generation



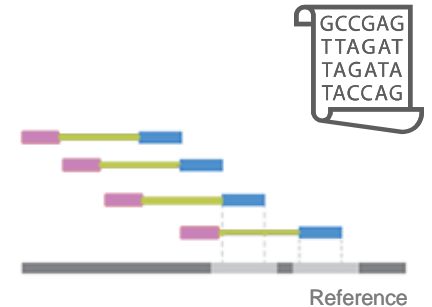
Attach library to the flow cell & clone to increase intensity

## Sequencing by Synthesis



Gather intensity information at each SBS cycle

## Data Analysis



Convert intensity into base calls & Q-scores; write reads to FASTQ

# Importance of library QC

Garbage in



Garbage out



Bad Sample → Bad Library

Bad Library → Bad Sequencing Data

# Importance of library QC

- **Library size**

- Inserts too short or too long will lead to improper coverage
- Insert size too short will lead to sequencing into the adapter

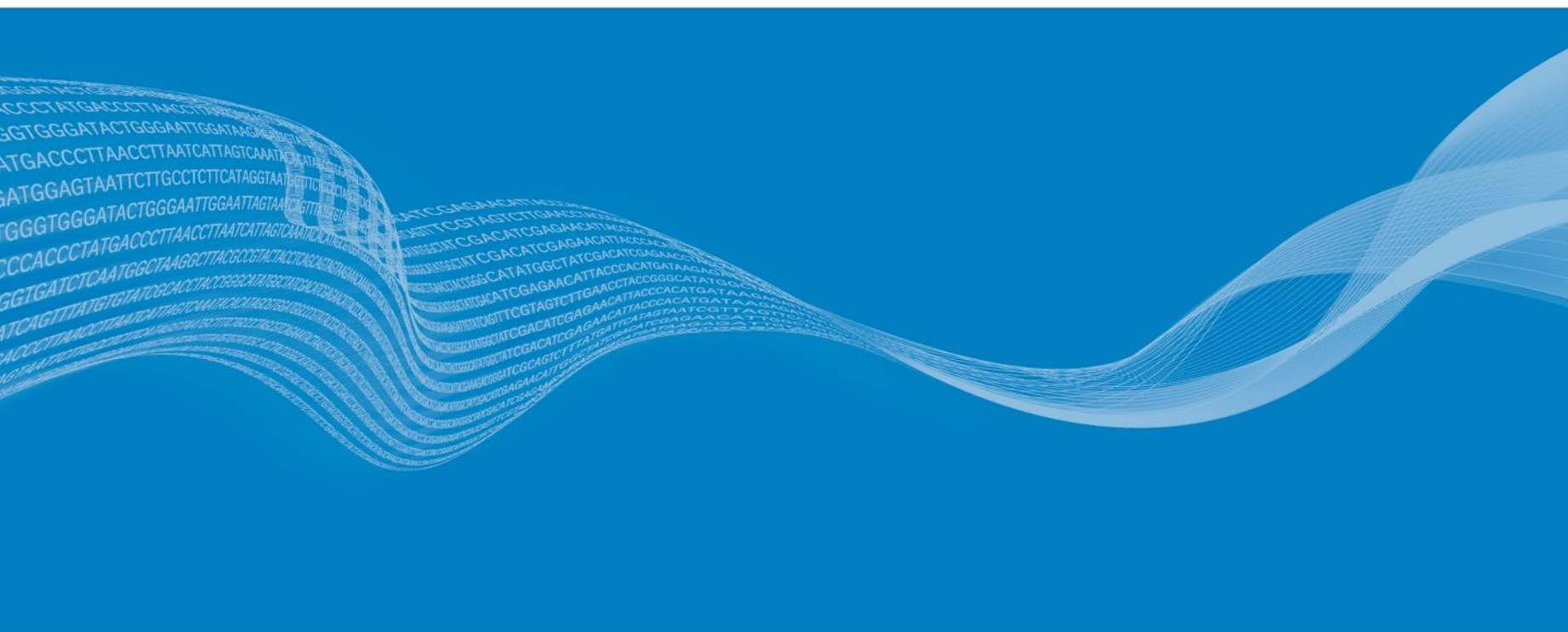
- **Contaminants**

- Negatively impact data quantity (yield in Mb) and quality (Q-scores)
- Can lead to index mis-assignment on some sequencing platforms

- **Library yield**

- Sequencing data quality depends on the loading concentration
- Pooling requires normalization to achieve equal amount of data/ sample
- Too little or too much library: reflects input quality issue or library prep biases that also impact data coverage (random loss of input RNA)

# Library quantification



# Quantification Methods of RNA-Seq Libraries

## Fluorometric dsDNA assay

- Specifically detects double-stranded DNA
- Does not discriminate incomplete TruSeq libraries



## qPCR

- Specifically measures full-length libraries
- Detection very sensitive



## UV spectrophotometer (Nanodrop)

- Non-specific nucleic acid detection
- Contaminants elevate values



# Library qPCR workflow

## Step 1

- Create a Control standard curve using a Control template of known concentration

## Step 2

- Run qPCR on Control template standard curve and unknown libraries

## Step 3

- Extrapolate concentration of unknown libraries from standard curve

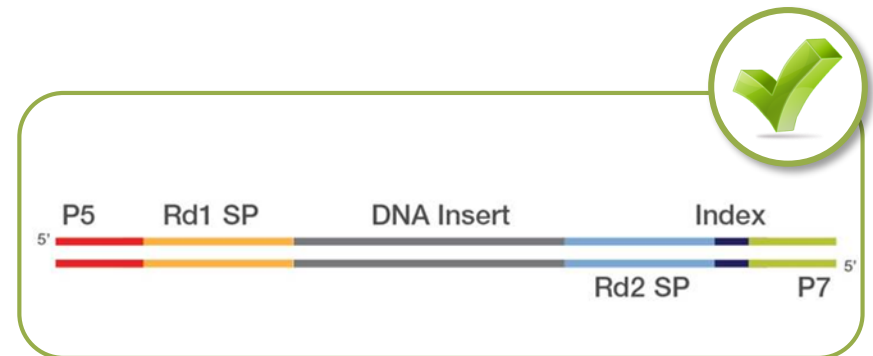
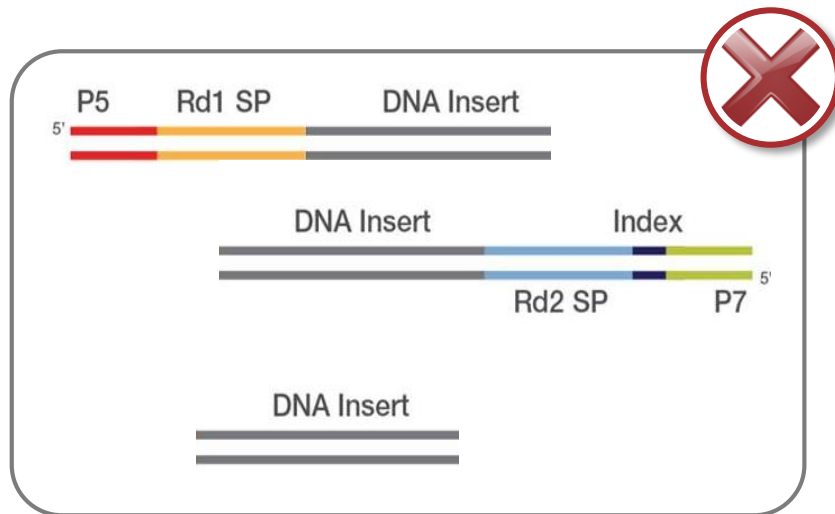
# Why is qPCR the most accurate quantification?

## qPCR

Designed to quantify only cluster-forming fragments in the samples

Uses primers complementary to adapters to mimic amplification on the flow cell

Only amplifies and quantifies library fragments with proper adapters at both ends



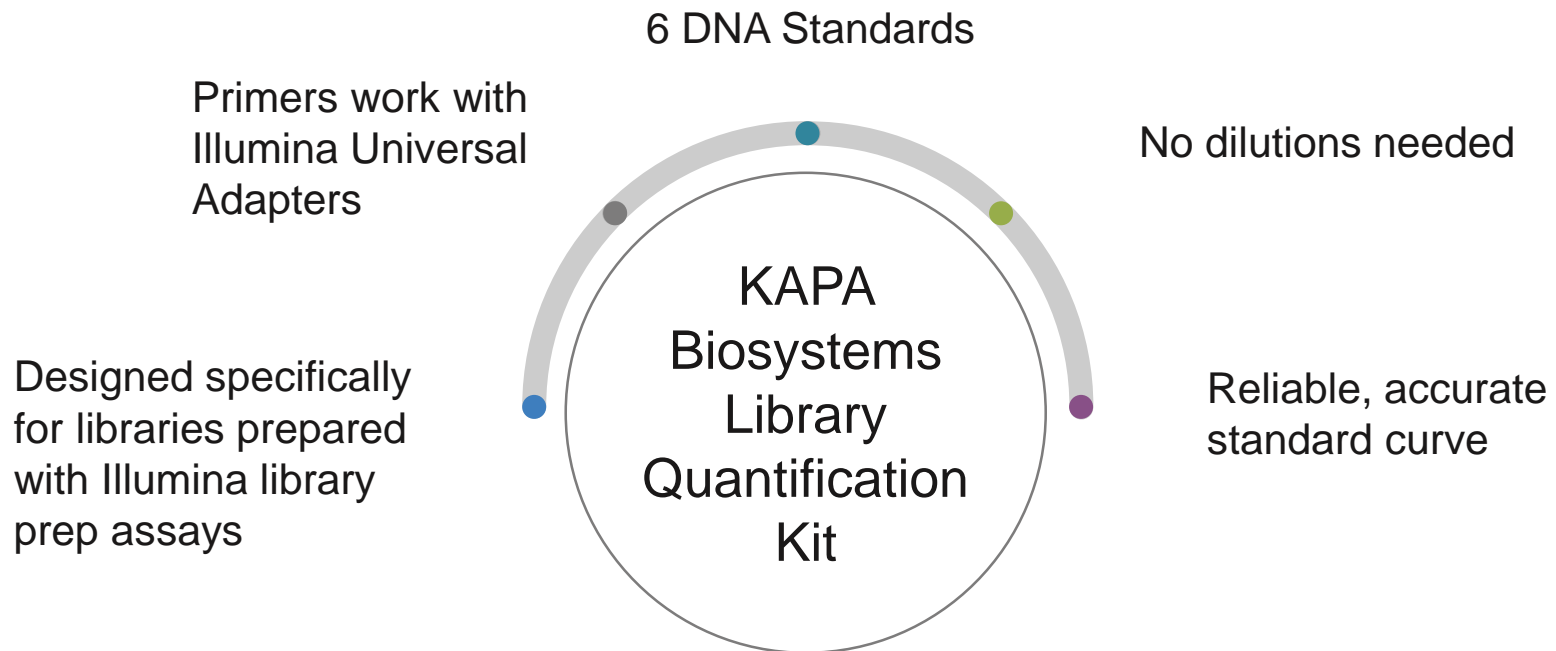


# Library Quantification Resource

## *KAPA Biosystems Library Quantification Kit*

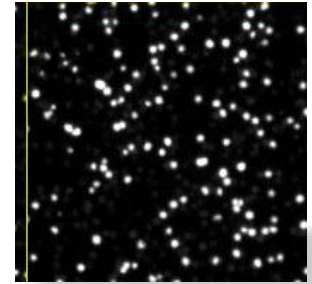
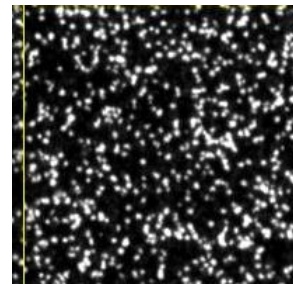
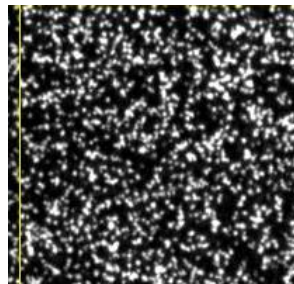
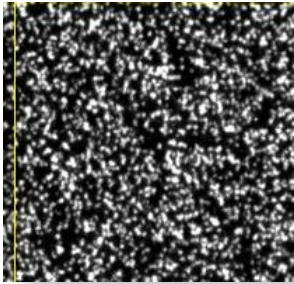
### Best Practice

Use control library that has an insert size and GC content similar to your sample library



# Maximize Data Quality and Quantity

*Optimized flow cell clustering determines data quality and overall data yield*



Loading Concentration

## Overclustering can result in:

- Loss of data quality and data output
- Loss of focus
- Reduced base calls and Q30 scores
- Complete run failure

## Underclustering can result in:

- Loss of time and money
- Loss of focus
- Complete run failure

# Accurate Quantification Is Critical When Multiplexing

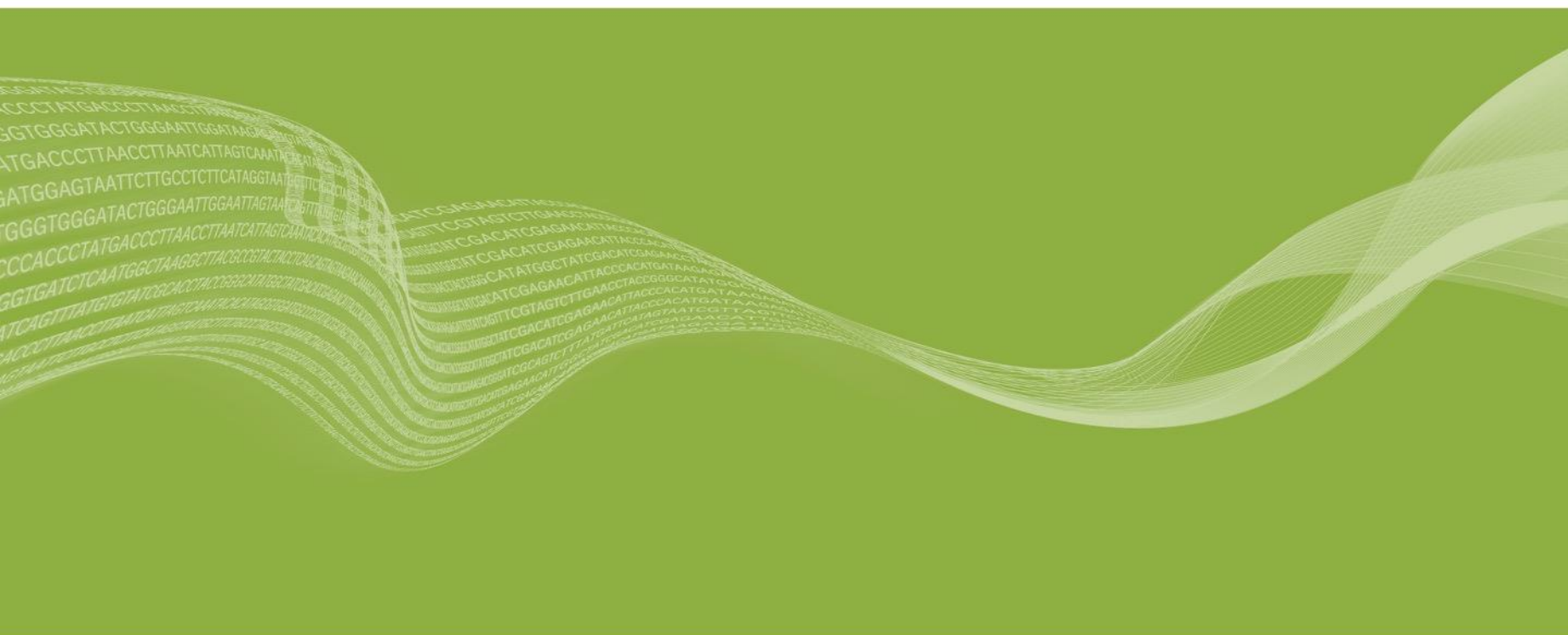
Calculated concentration is 10X  
higher for one library in pool

Sample	Expected Output	Actual Output
1	16%	66%
2	16%	6%
3	16%	6%
4	16%	6%
5	16%	6%
6	16%	6%

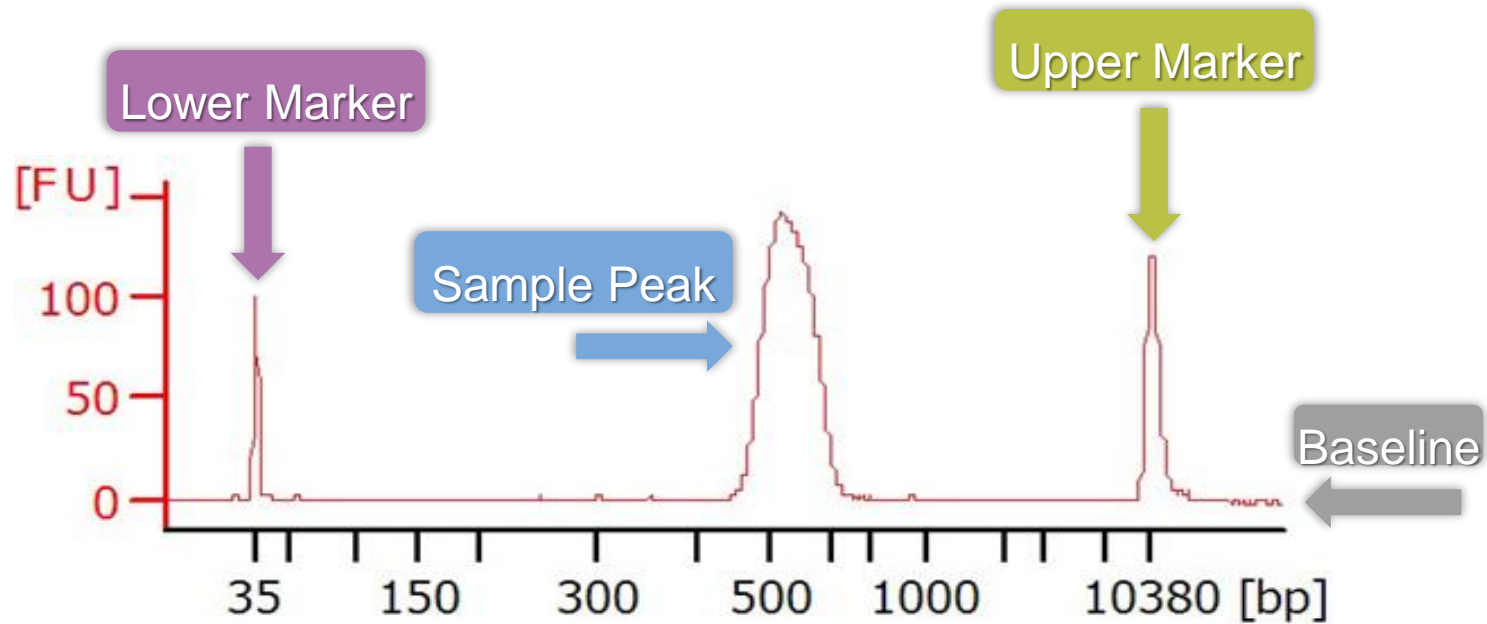
Sample	Expected Output	Actual Output
1	16%	20%
2	16%	20%
3	16%	20%
4	16%	20%
5	16%	20%
6	16%	2%

Calculated concentration is 10X  
lower for one library in pool

# Library Size

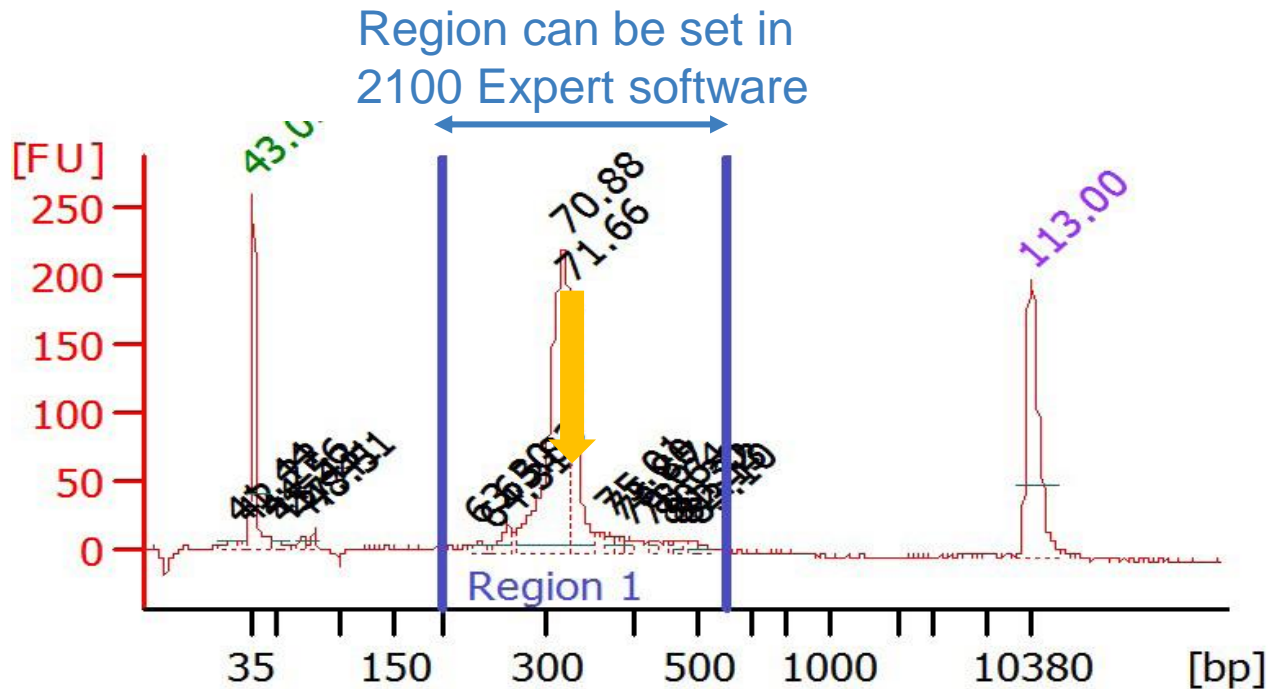


# Understanding a Bioanalyzer Trace



	BioAnalyzer Assay Options	
	DNA 1000 Chip	High Sensitivity DNA Chip
Dynamic Range	25-1000 bp	50-7000 bp
Input required	0.5-50ng	5-500pg

## Bioanalyzer Details

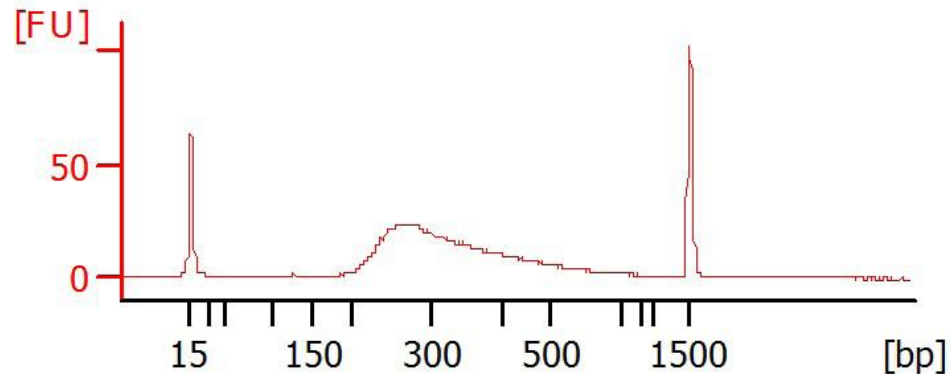


## Average library size

# Expected Bioanalyzer Traces

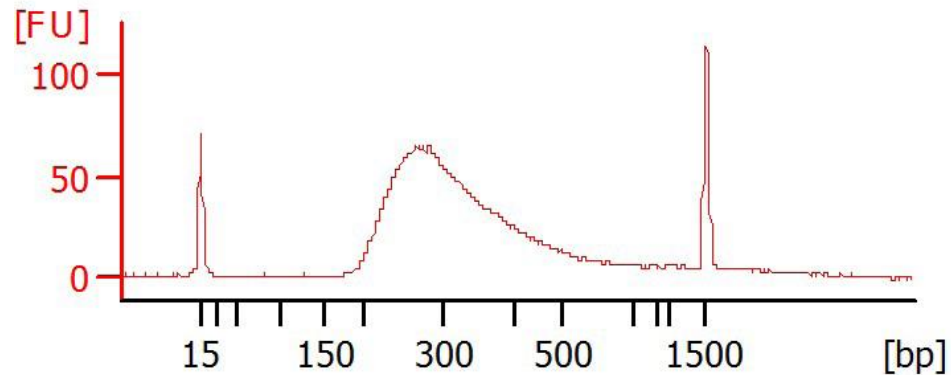
## TruSeq Stranded mRNA:

100ng total RNA input



## TruSeq Stranded Total RNA:

1µg total RNA input



# Troubleshooting Library QC results





# Troubleshooting scenario 1

Problem: Low or No Yield

Poor Quality  
Starting  
Material

Poor AMPure  
Bead  
Technique

Improper  
Reagent  
Handling

Lid Not  
Heated on  
Thermocycler

←————→  
Loss of material

# RNA input recommendations

Assess RNA quality (Bioanalyzer)

Quantify RNA (Qubit or PicoGreen)

Normalize total RNA samples

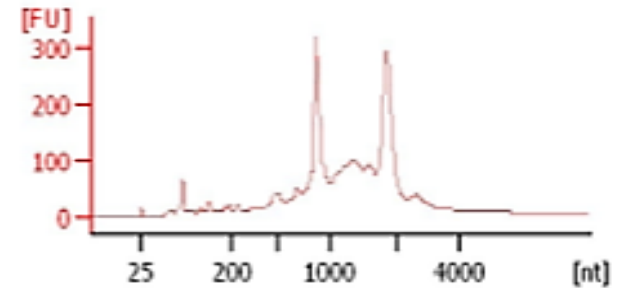
**TruSeq Stranded mRNA**

100 ng – 1 µg total RNA  
High quality (RIN >7)

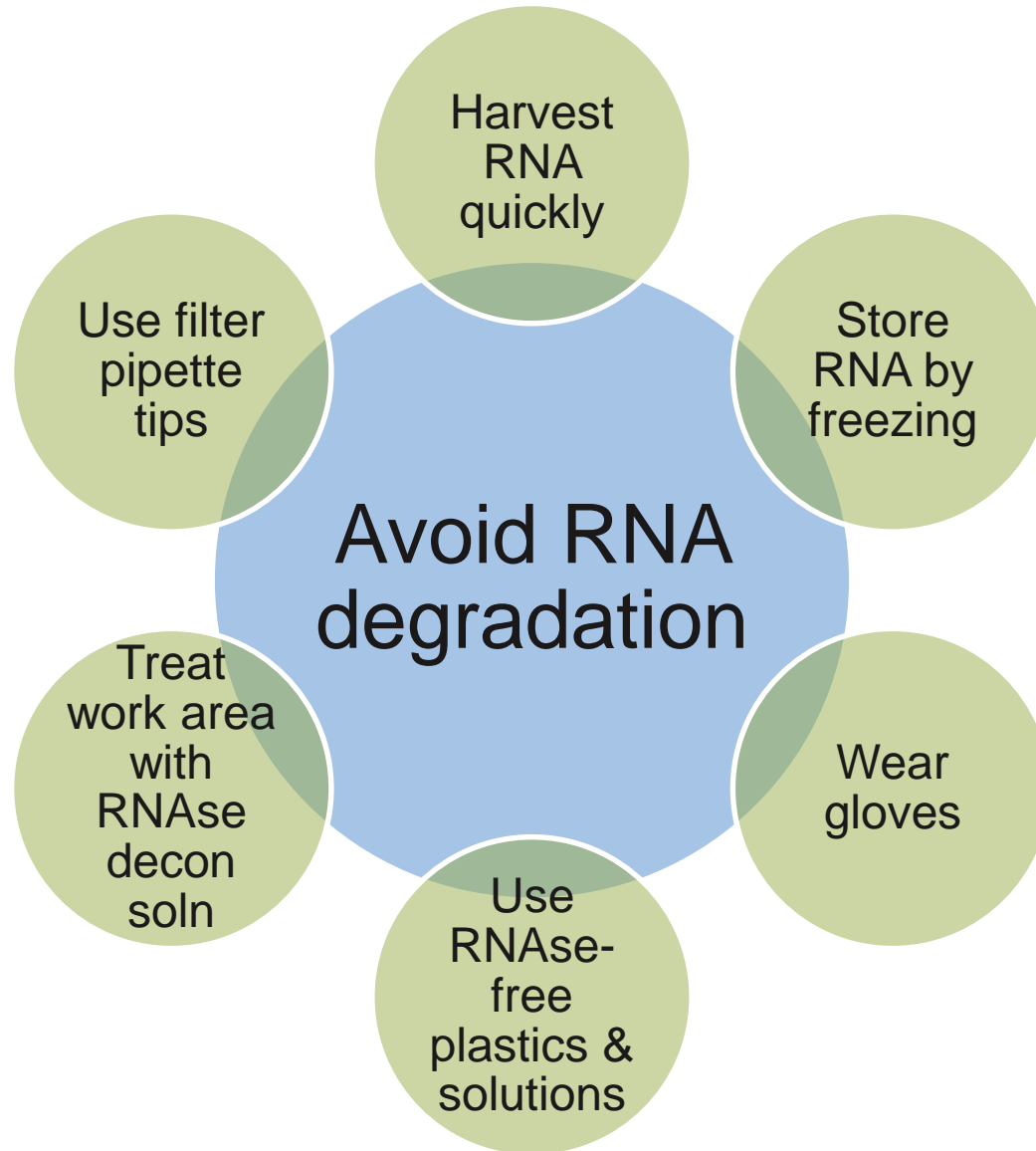
**TruSeq Stranded Total RNA**

100 ng – 1 µg total RNA  
Degraded RNA can be used

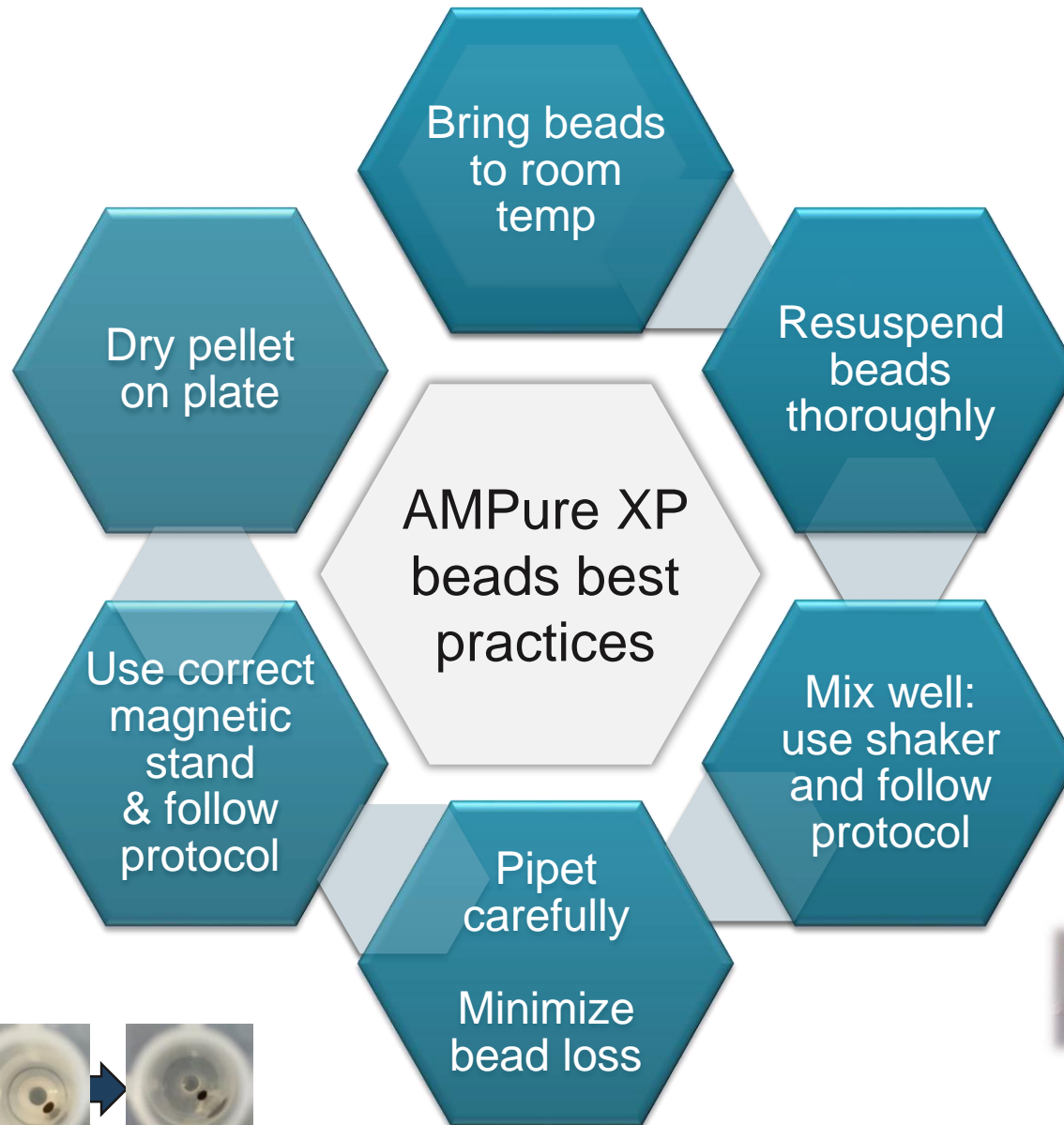
RIN value



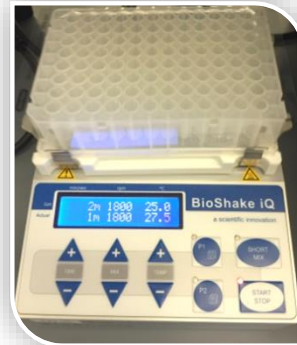
# RNA Handling Best Practices



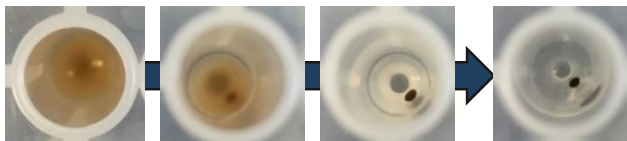
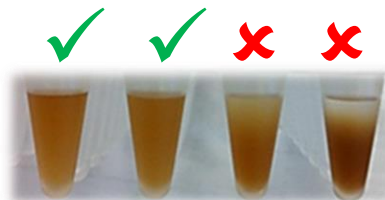
# Bead handling



Vortex clumps



No Sunsets



# Troubleshooting scenario 2

## Unexpected library size

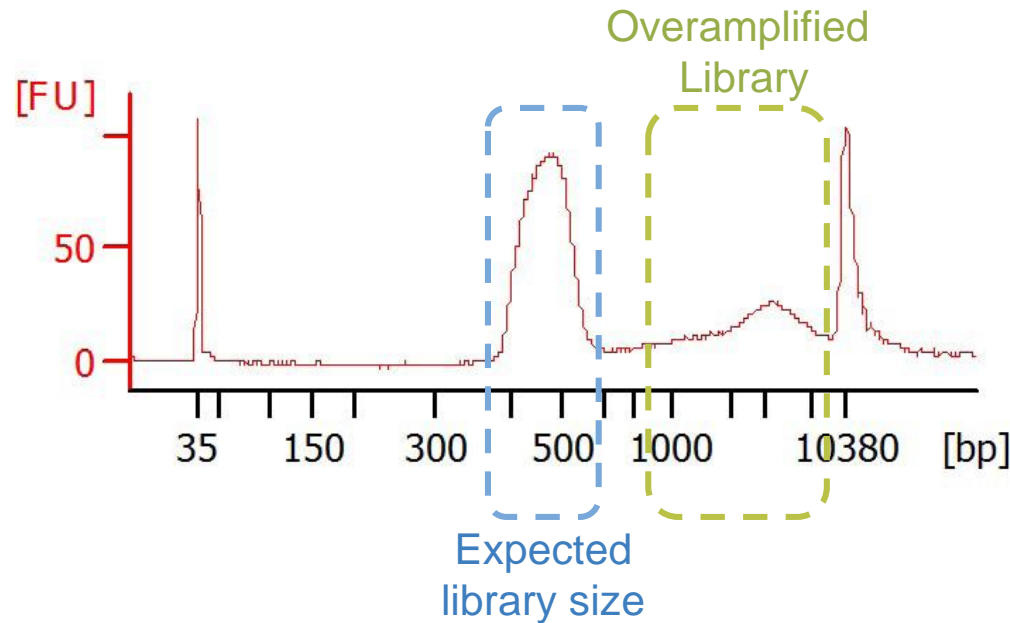
Poor Quality  
Starting  
Material

Poor AMPure  
Bead  
Technique

Improper Input  
Quantification

Number of  
Amplification  
Cycles

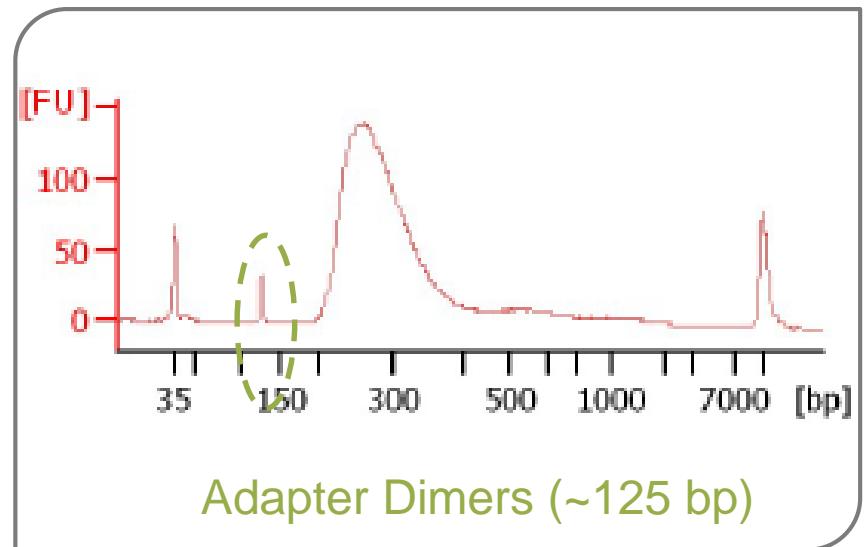
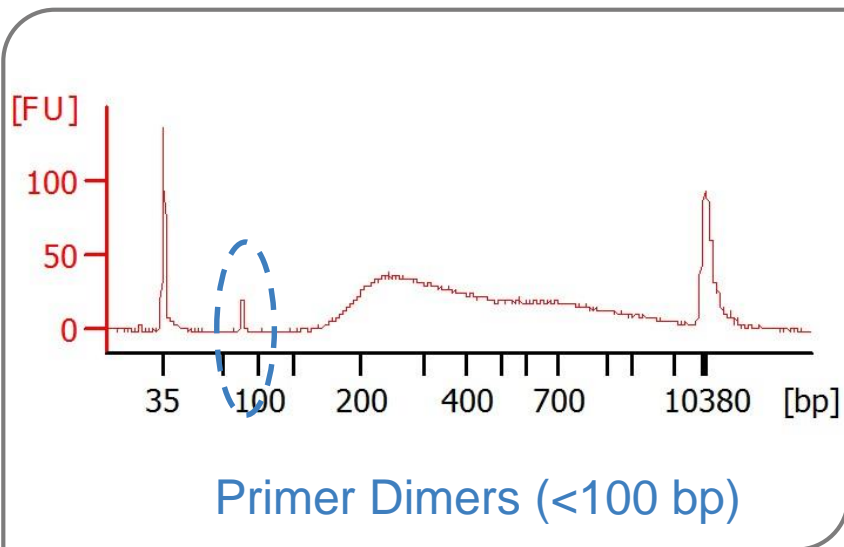
# Library over-amplification



- **Occurs when PCR reagents (primers) are exhausted**
  - Do not increase PCR cycles
  - Quantify input RNA using fluorometric assay and do not exceed recommended input range (100 ng – 1 µg total RNA)
  - Will create duplicate sequencing reads and possible amplification bias

# Troubleshooting scenario 3

## Presence of Library Contaminants



# Why are dimers problematic?

- **Primer dimers cannot cluster, but they can bind to the flow cell surface**
  - Occupy real estate and reduce sequencing yield
- **Adapter dimers will form clusters and be sequenced**
  - Lower yield (some reads will be adapter sequence)
  - Lower passing filter (loss of quality)
  - On patterned flow cells (HiSeq 4000, NovaSeq), adapter dimers even at low levels cluster more efficiently than larger libraries
- **Inefficient removal of adapter dimers correlate with higher rates of index hopping on patterned flow cells**
  - Incorrect assignment of reads to their index



# Adapter Dimer Sources

- Adapter dimers are formed when the P5 and P7 adapters ligate to one another rather than to an inserted library



## Adapter Dimers Sources

Poor quality input

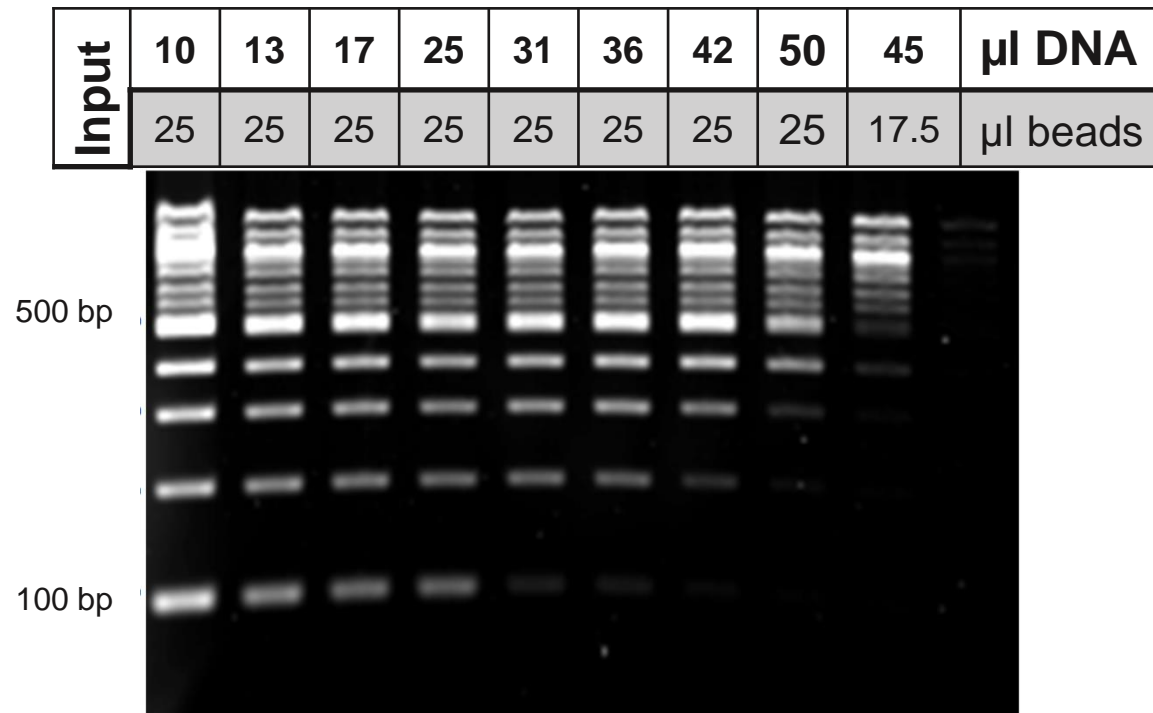
Bead Handling Error

Insufficient input amount

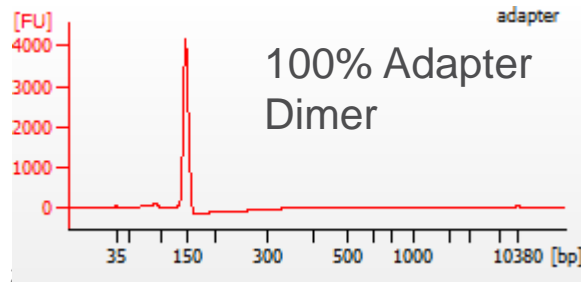
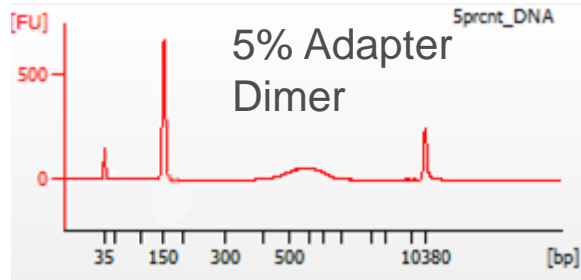
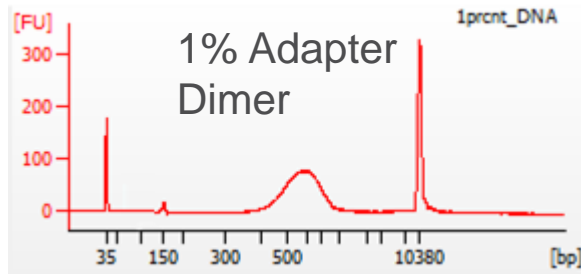
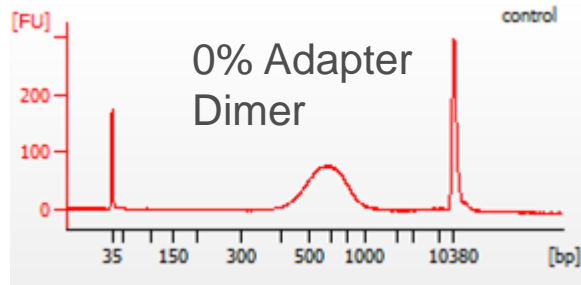
Enzymatic failure

# Clean up steps

- Beads are used to remove small contaminants
- Ratio of beads to DNA is critical
  - 2 rounds of bead clean-up after ligation
  - Be mindful of extra beads on the outside of pipet tips



# Removal of contaminants

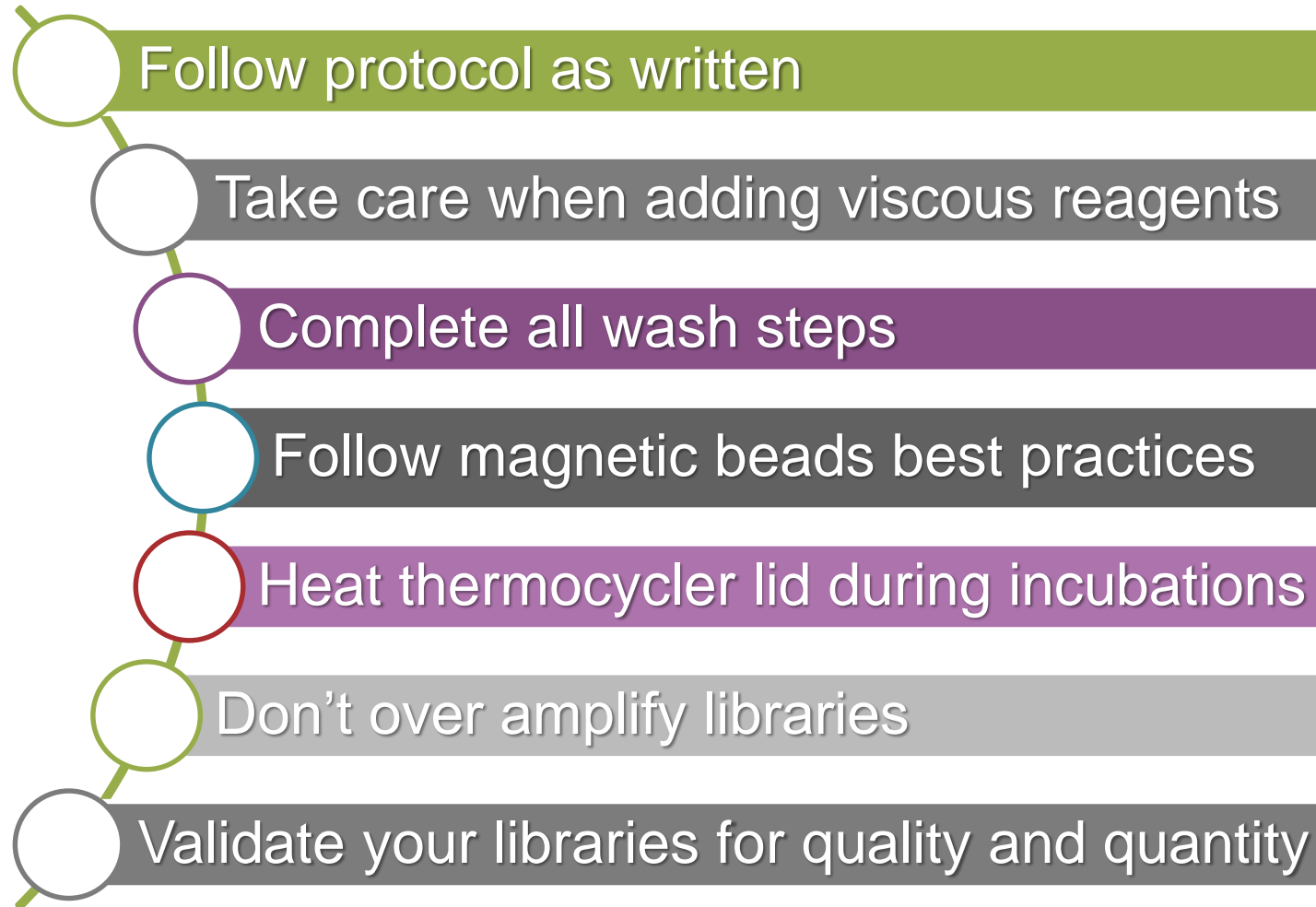


If you see adapter dimers, perform additional 1:1 bead clean-up step

# Summary



# Best Practices Summary

- 
- Follow protocol as written
  - Take care when adding viscous reagents
  - Complete all wash steps
  - Follow magnetic beads best practices
  - Heat thermocycler lid during incubations
  - Don't over amplify libraries
  - Validate your libraries for quality and quantity

# Before sequencing ...

- **Make sure that:**
  - The inserts are of the correct size and have adapters on each end
  - The library concentration is appropriate
  - The libraries are clean and free of major contaminants
- **Furthermore, the sequencing facility needs to know:**
  - The sequence of the sequencing-priming site
  - The length and type of the read you desire
  - Whether there is a barcode or index sequence
  - If the inserts contain a region of low sequence complexity immediately after the sequencing-priming site
  - What buffer the libraries are resuspended in