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TEnCATS - Transposable Element nanopore Cas9-Targeted Sequencing V.1

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We use this protocol and it's working

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Abstract

This is the Boyle lab's protocol for using Cas9 to target transposable elements within genomic DNA using Oxford Nanopore Technologies (ONT) R10 flow cells.

Materials

Monarch HMW DNA Extraction Kit for Tissue (T3060S, NEB)
Proteinase K (3115879001, Roche)
Thermomixer
EnGen sgRNA Synthesis kit (E3322S, NEB)
Molecular biology grade water
Trizol
Chloroform
Ethanol
3M sodium acetate
Refrigerated centrifuge
RNase-free water
Qubit with BR RNA assay kit, dsDNA BR assay kit, dsDNA HS assay kit
Alt-R S.p. Cas9 HiFi Nuclease V3 (IDT)
QuickCIP (M0525S, NEB)
Taq DNA polymerase (M0273L, NEB)
10mM dATP
T4 DNA ligase (M0202M, NEB)
1X TE buffer
SQK-LSK114 kit (ONT)
MinION R10 flow cells (ONT)
MinION sequencer (ONT)
Tube rotator
1.5mL microcentrifuge tubes
PCR tubes



High Molecular Weight (HMW) genomic DNA (gDNA) extraction from tissue

45m

- 1 Aliquot the desired amount of tissue for gDNA extraction
- 2 Follow the manufacturer's guidelines from the Monarch HMW DNA Extraction Kit for Tissues (T3060S, NEB) with following changes to the lysis step:
 - 2.1 Add  40 μ L 10 mg/mL Proteinase K to  580 μ L Tissue Lysis Buffer
 - 2.2 Incubate tissue sample in Tissue Lysis Buffer  56 °C  00:15:00 in Thermomixer at 2000rpm 15m
 - 2.3 Incubate the tissue sample an additional  00:30:00 at  56 °C without agitation 30m
 - 2.4 Continue with Monarch protocol

in vitro transcription of guide RNAs (sgRNAs)

1h 15m

- 3 Lyophilized custom DNA oligos of the desired guide RNAs were resuspended in molecular biology grade water to a final concentration of 100uM. A 1:10 dilution of the oligos was used as a working stock for *in vitro* transcription.
- 4 For each guide, set up the below mix in a PCR tube using the EnGen sgRNA Synthesis Kit (E3322S, NEB):

 10 μ L 2x sgRNA Reaction Mix

 0.5 μ L DTT

 2.5 μ L custom DNA oligo

 2 μ L EnGen Enzyme Mix

 5 μ L molecular biology grade water
- 5 Incubate the reaction  37 °C  01:00:00 in a thermocycler 1h



6 Add  30 μ L molecular biology grade water then  2 μ L DNase I to the reaction to remove the DNA oligos



7 Incubate the reaction  37 °C  00:15:00

15m



Purification of sgRNAs

55m

8 Move the sgRNAs produced from the *in vitro* transcription reactions into a new 1.5mL microcentrifuge tube

9 Add  200 μ L Trizol and  50 μ L Chloroform to the samples and vortex to mix thoroughly



10 Centrifuge  20000 x g, Room temperature, 00:05:00

5m

11 Pipet out the aqueous layer (should be clear) carefully to avoid the pink layer and place into a new 1.5mL microcentrifuge tube

12 Add  50 μ L Chloroform and vortex to mix thoroughly



13 Centrifuge  20000 x g, Room temperature, 00:05:00

5m

14 Pipet out the top layer and place into a new 1.5mL microcentrifuge tube

15 Add 2 volumes of 70% ethanol and 3M sodium acetate solution to a final concentration of 0.3M and invert to mix 10 times

16 Centrifuge  20000 x g, 4°C, 00:30:00

30m

17 Remove supernant being careful not to disturb the white RNA pellet at the bottom



18 Wash the sgRNA by adding 250 μ L 70% ethanol and centrifuging 20000 x g, 4°C, 00:10:00 then removing the supernant. Repeat this wash for a total of 2 washes.

10m

19 Remove as much of the residual ethanol as possible and air dry on bench for 00:05:00

5m



20 Resuspend the sgRNA in 11 μ L RNase-free water



21 Quantify the RNA concentration using your specific method, we used the Qubit

Cas9-targeting of transposable elements in HMW gDNA

1h 31m

22 Aliquot out 10ug of extracted gDNA using a wide-bore tip into a PCR tube, try to get this to below 30uL. If not, you can scale up the following reaction if needed.

23 Add the following to the gDNA sample:

4 μ L 10X Cutsmart Buffer

6 μ L QuickCIP

X μ L molecular biology grade water to a total of 40uL

24 Incubate the sample to dephosphorylate the gDNA using the below protocol in a thermocycler:

50m

37 °C 00:30:00

80 °C 00:20:00

24.1 Make a 1:5 dilution of the Cas9 nuclease as follows:

2.5 μ L 1X Cutsmart Buffer

0.5 μ L Alt-R S.p Cas9 HiFi nuclease



24.2 While the gDNA is dephosphorylating, make the Cas9:sgRNA (RNP) by mixing the following in a PCR tube:

850 ng sgRNA





🧪 1 μ L 1:5 dilution of Cas9 nuclease

🧪 1.5 μ L 10X Cutsmart Buffer

🧪 X μ L RNase-free water to a total of 15uL

24.3 Mix by flicking and incubate 🌡️ Room temperature ⌚ 00:20:00

25 Cool the dephosphorylated gDNA on ice for ⌚ 00:01:00

1m



26 Add the following to the gDNA sample for Cas9 cleavage and a-tailing of open ends:

🧪 15 μ L RNP

🧪 2 μ L Taq DNA polymerase

🧪 1.5 μ L 10mM dATP

Mix by inversion

27 Incubate the sample using the protocol below in a thermocycler:

40m

🌡️ 37 °C ⌚ 00:30:00

🌡️ 72 °C ⌚ 00:10:00

ONT library preparation for R10 MinION flow cells

56m

28 Cool the Cas9-treated sample on ice for ⌚ 00:01:00

1m



29 Transfer the sample to a new 1.5mL microcentrifuge tube using a wide-bore tip

30 Add the following to the sample from the ONT SQK-LSK114 kit:

🧪 25 μ L LNB

🧪 5 μ L LA

then add 🧪 5 μ L T4 DNA ligase (M0202M, NEB) and

🧪 X μ L molecular biology grade to 100uL total and mix by flicking



- 31 Incubate Room temperature 00:30:00 with rotation 30m
- 32 Add 1 volume of 1X TE buffer and invert to mix
- 33 Add 40 μ L Axygen magnetic beads to the sample and invert to mix
- 34 Incubate Room temperature 00:10:00 with rotation 10m
- 35 Incubate Room temperature 00:05:00 without rotation 5m
- 36 Place tube on a magnetic rack and pellet the beads
- 37 Remove supernant
- 38 Wash beads twice by adding 200 μ L LFB , resuspending the beads by inversion, pellet beads on magnetic rack and removing the supernant
- 39 Remove as much residual LFB as you can
- 40 Add 13 μ L EB to the sample and resuspend the beads in the buffer
- 41 Incubate 37 °C 00:10:00 10m
- 42 Place tube on magnetic rack and pellet the beads
- 43 Pipet out the eluate and place in new 1.5mL microcentrifuge tube



44 Quantify the library using your method of choice, we use the Qubit



Loading onto the R10 MinION flow cell

45 For sequencing, we load as much library as we can onto the flow cell thus the entire 12uL of library is used. Add the following to the library:

🧪 37.5 μ L SQB

🧪 25.5 μ L LB

46 Prime the MinION following ONT's instructions

47 Mix the library to resuspend the LB and load onto the flow cell following ONT's instructions