

Protocol for Illumina 2bRAD sample preparation

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Overview

This is a modification of the protocol described in Wang et al, Nature Methods 2012 2b-RAD paper (doi:10.1038/nmeth.2023) re-designed for Illumina HiSeq and BcgI enzyme (<https://www.neb.com/products/R0545-BcgI>). BcgI is a relatively frequent cutter, with 75-100k sites per genome, and in our experience is one of the most efficient of the IIB-type restriction enzymes. It produces 36-base fragments with two-base overhangs and is fully heat-inactivatable, both of which facilitate ligation of adaptors. Another enzyme that can be used with this protocol is Alfi (<http://www.thermoscientificbio.com/restriction-enzymes/alfi/>)

The latest modifications include the use of barcoded ligated adaptors so the samples can be pooled by 12 after ligation, and use of degenerate 5'-adaptor that makes it possible to remove PCR duplicates.

The protocol involves the following steps, of which steps 1-3 are performed within the same tube (or well of a 96-well plate) by consecutively adding reagents.

1. Restriction digest. Genomic DNA is digested with a type IIB restriction enzyme to produce restriction fragments of uniform length.
2. Ligation. Adaptors, barcoded for 3' end and generic for 5', are ligated to the cohesive ends generated by restriction digest. Overnight ligation at +4°C, then heat-inactivate the ligase for 10 min at 65°C.
3. Pool ligations with different 3' barcodes into groups of 12 (because we have 12 different 3' ligation adapters). Determine proportions from gel picture (regular pcr) or by qPCR.
4. Amplification and barcoding of pooled ligations.
5. Purification of the target 170 bp band by gel-electrophoresis (the only purification step in the whole procedure).
6. Quantification and mixing in equal proportions.

Digest

1. Prepare intact, high-quality genomic DNA samples each containing a total of 100-200 ng in 4 μ l. This can be accomplished using by ethanol precipitation or by drying under vacuum. Ideally, samples should have the same amount of DNA.

Note: we have successfully prepared samples from as little as 50 ng.

2. Prepare a digestion master mix. The following recipe is for a single reaction, so multiply by the number of samples plus some small amount for pipetting error.

NEB Buffer #3	0.6 μ l
150 μ M SAM	0.4 μ l
BcgI (1 U μ l ⁻¹)	1.0 μ l

**Note: SAM [S-adenosyl-methionine] and enzyme concentrations may differ depending on the manufacturer. If they are different in your case, re-calculate the volumes, make up the difference with nuclease free water if necessary, but keep the single-reaction volume at 6 μ l.*

3. Combine 2 μ l master mix with each 4 μ l DNA sample (6 μ l total volume). Cover this preparation with a drop of mineral oil. Incubate at 37°C 1 hr. If using a heat-inactivatable enzyme (e.g. BcgI, AlfI), inactivate the enzyme at 65°C for 20 min. Hold samples on ice.

**Note: one way to increase digestion efficiency is to add one extra μ l of enzyme after the initial 1h incubation and incubate for one more hour before heat-inactivation.*

4. (optional) For each sample, load 1 μ l digested DNA on a 1% agarose gel alongside a comparable amount of intact DNA from the same sample to verify the effectiveness of the digest.

The signs of an effective enzyme digest are quite subtle and include (a) a slight downward shift in the high molecular weight DNA band and (b) a subtle smear trailing downward from that band. Quite often these effects are not very clear, but the digest is happening. The key criterion for whether the library is good is the number of PCR cycles required to amplify the target band, later in the protocol – it should be 15 or less for full-representation 2bRAD.

Ligation

In this step adaptors are ligated to the restriction fragments produced above. Note that this is the stage at which reduced tag representation (RTR) must be applied by the choice of adaptor sequences.

1. Prepare double stranded adaptors by combining each pair of primers (iIIBC-ii, antiBC-ii). The oligonucleotide combination used for each alternative 2b-RAD preparations and sequences of each oligo are provided at the end of this document.

For generic Adaptor 1, mix 5iII-NNRW (10 μ M) with the same volume of Anti5iII-NNRW (10 μ M).

For barcoded Adaptor 2, mix each pair: 3iII BC(1-12) (10 μ M) with the same volume of antiBC(1-12) (10 μ M).

Incubate at 42°C for 10 minutes then keep at room temperature until ligation.

2. Prepare 12 master mixes for ligations (one for each barcoded 3' primer). This recipe is for a single reaction, so scale up as needed.

10 mM ATP	0.5 μ l
10X T4 ligase buffer	2.0 μ l
5 μ M Adaptor 1	1.0 μ l
5 μ M Adaptor 2(1-12)	1.0 μ l
T4 DNA ligase (NEB M0202L)	1.0 μ l
NFW (nuclease-free water)	14.5 μ l

3. Combine 20 μ l master mix with the remaining 5 μ l of digested DNA (25 μ l total volume). Incubate at 16°C for Alfi and BcgI, at 4°C for BsaXI, for at least 2 hours.

When set up ligation in 96 well plate format we find it useful to prepare 12 master mixes, each with individual Adapter 2(BC), and aliquot it with multi channel pipette. Keep on ice while mixing.

Incubate in 4°C overnight;

Then heat at 65°C for 10 min to inactivate the ligase.

Pooling ligations into 12-plex groups

If you used the same 3' barcoded adapters for all samples skip this step, since you will not be pooling samples at the next stage.

Samples barcoded at the 3' end by different ligation Adapters 2 (1-12) can be pooled into groups of 12. Each such group (you will end up with 8 such groups in a 96 well plate) works as a single sample sample in the subsequent Amplification and Purification, so pooling saves quite a bit of effort.

However, to ensure that we are pooling equivalent amounts of each initial sample into a group, it is necessary to quantify them using one of the following procedures:

- i. Use standard pcr (see next chapter **Amplification**) with 12-14 cycles and estimate the brightness of the bands on a gel. Mix 5 μ l (most efficient), 10, 15 or 20 μ l of each ligation in groups of twelve. Label Groups 1-8.
- ii. Alternatively, set up quantitative PCR:

(volumes given in μ l)

H ₂ O	4.45
SYBR Green mix	7.5
10 mpx primer(10 μ M)	0.15
any Ill-Rad-bc primer (1 μ M)	1.5
IC1-P5 primer (10 μ M)	0.2
IC1-P5 primer (10 μ M)	0.2

- a. Add 1 μ l of Ligation, either undiluted or diluted 10 times, to appropriate well as a template. Amplify in a qPCR machine with some NTC (no-template control) using the following profile:

95°C 5 min, (95°C 40 sec, 65°C 2 min, 72°C 30 sec) X 35 cycles

- b. Arrange the data in Excel in the form of a table with four columns: sam (sample name), lane (group number), conc (DNA dilution; use 0.066 for undiluted (0.066=1/15) and 0.0066 for 10-fold diluted template), and ct (qPCR result for this sam-conc combination). There must be at least two technical replicates for each combination of sam-conc (i.e. two rows with the same sam and conc and different ct values). The order of columns and rows does not matter, but the names of the columns do matter (note that they are case sensitive).

Export the data from Excel as comma-separated values (.csv). Open script mix_illumina_qpcr.R in R and follow the instructions given in the comments within the script.

Amplification

In this step, the constructs produced by ligation are amplified using a set of four primers that introduce sample (or pooled sample) specific barcodes and the annealing sites for HiSeq amplification and sequencing primers.

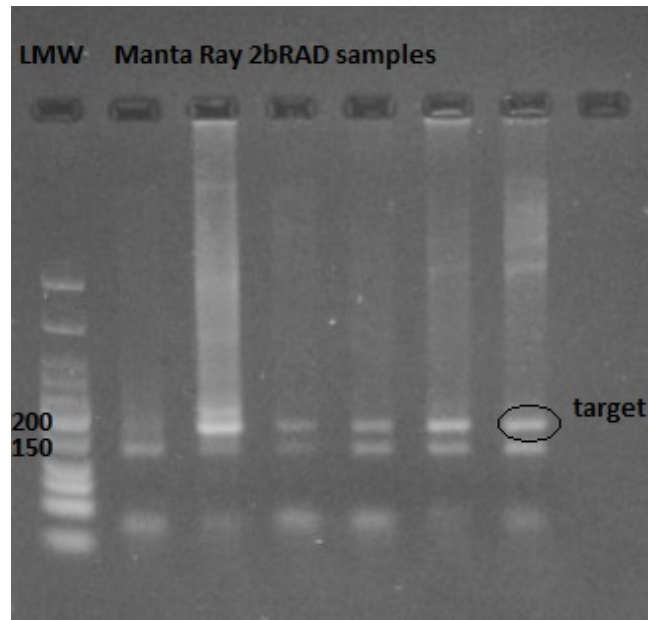
Very Important: if you find that it takes more than 15 cycles to amplify a visible target band, consider optimizing previous steps (DNA isolation, digestion, and ligation), since over-amplified RAD samples tend to lose heterozygosity.

Prepare a test-scale PCR to determine optimum cycle number and evaluate relative yield across samples.

1. For each reaction prepare the following master mix:

NFW	5.2 μ l
2.5 mM dNTP	2.5 μ l
10 μ M IC1-P5	0.4 μ l
10 μ M IC2-P7	0.4 μ l
10 μ M Mpx primer	0.3 μ l
5X HF buffer	4.0 μ l
Phusion polymerase	0.2 μ l #NEB M0530L (or M0530S)

2. Combine 13 μ l master mix with 4 μ l ligation, add 3 μ l of 1 μ M III-Rad-bc (barcode-bearing) primer to each reaction, and amplify as follows:
70°C 30 sec then (95°C 20 sec, 65°C 3 min, 72°C 30 sec) X *N* cycles
3. Sample 5 μ l from each reaction at few time points. For example, at 8, 10 and 12 cycles. Load these products on a 2% agarose gel with a low molecular weight marker to confirm molecular weight of PCR product.
4. Select the minimum number of cycles that produces a visible, but not over-amplified, product at ~170 bp. You might also see a 130bp band, which this seems to be an artifact from the carried-over ligase (make sure to heat-inactivate the ligase before mixing the PCR reaction!).



5. Prepare the following master mix for each sample:

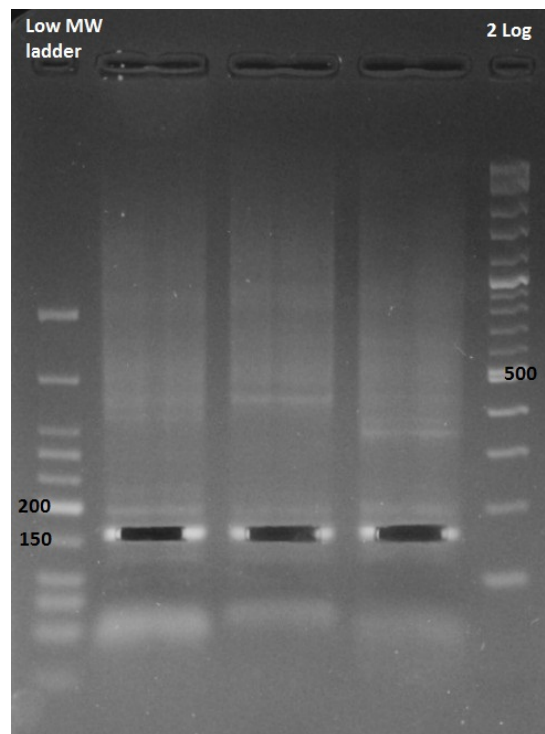
NFW	13 μ l
2.5 mM dNTP	6 μ l
10 μ M Mpx primer	0.75 μ l
10 μ M IC1-P5	1 μ l
10 μ M IC2-P7	1 μ l
5X HF buffer	10 μ l
Phusion polymerase	0.5 μ l #NEB M0530L (or M0530S)

6. Combine 30 μ l master mix with 10 μ l ligation (group 1-8), add 7.5 μ l of 1 μ M Ill-Rad-bc (barcode-bearing) primer individually to each reaction, and amplify using the temperature profile as in 2 above with the cycle number as determined in 4.

Purification

In this step the target band is gel-extracted to exclude high-molecular weight fragments and any chaff that may emerge during PCR (e.g., primer dimers).

1. Prepare a 2% agarose gel using TBE or TB. Use a wide comb that can accommodate 50 μ l sample loading plus 10 μ l loading dye, or tape together two wells if required.
2. Load the entire volume of each reaction alongside a low-molecular weight ladder. Run gel at low voltage for a long time until bands at 150bp and 200bp will clearly resolved. In our experience 100V for 70 minutes produce the good separation.
3. View the gel briefly (<30 seconds) on a UV or appropriate for your DNA dye black-light transilluminator set at low intensity to verify the presence of target bands and adequate separation of molecular weight standards to resolve bands at \sim 170 bp and \sim 130 bp. Typically \sim 5 cm run distance is sufficient. Photograph.
4. Cut out target band of 170 bp in a narrow gel slice, avoiding the edges of the lane (i.e., cut out the middle 70-75% of the band). Cut just inside the bottom boundary of the target band to avoid getting anything smaller than 170bp.



**Note: at this stage a commercial gel-extraction kit can be substituted for the following three steps, if you feel more confident this way. In our practice, simply soaking the gel slice in water overnight, as described below, works just fine.*

5. Transfer each gel slice into a 1.5 ml microcentrifuge tube and add 20 μ l NFW.
6. Make sure gel slice is in contact with water (cut or break it into a few, say 4-5, smaller pieces to make sure they sit comfortably at the bottom of the tube). Hold overnight at 4°C.
7. The following day transfer the eluate (\sim 15 μ l) into a new tube. This material is now ready for sequencing, pending qPCR quantification (see the writeup and scripts under "Quantifying samples for sequencing on the same Illumina HiSeq lane")

Oligonucleotide sequences for Illumina HiSeq

Name	Sequence (5' – 3')
5ILL-NNRW	CTACACGACGCTCTCCGATCTNNRWCCNN
Anti5ill-NNRW	GGWYNNAGATCGG/3InvdT ¹ /
3ILL-NN	CAGACGTGTGCTCTCCGATCTNN
anti-ILL	AGATCGGAAGAGC/3InvdT ¹ /
5ILL-NG ²	CTACACGACGCTCTCCGATCTNG
3ILL-NG ²	CAGACGTGTGCTCTCCGATCTNG
ILL-Mpx ³	AATGATACGGCGACCACCGAGATCTTACACTCTTTCCCTACACGACGCTCTTCCGAT
ILL-RAD-bc ⁴	CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATAACGAGAT [barcode] ⁵ GTGACTGGAGTTCAGACGTGTGCTCTTCCGAT
IC1-P5	AATGATACGGCGACCACCGA
IC2-P7	CAAGCAGAAGACGGCATAACGA

1 InvdT: inverted dT to prevent extension by DNA polymerase.

2 These two adaptors can be used to reduce representation of the 2b-RAD tags down to approximately 1/16th of the total number. This is a useful cost-lowering trick for applications such as basic population genetics, relatedness analysis, or QTL mapping, the power of which would max out already at a few hundred polymorphic markers.

3 This is a standard Illumina-“universal” primer in TrueSeq v.3 (configuration 5' P5-index2-R1primingSite 3')

4 “bc” stands for “barcode”, and is typically replaced by the barcode number (or other barcode-specific identifier) in the actual name of the primer. This primer can be substituted for a standard TrueSeq v.3 barcoded oligo of the configuration 5' P7-Index1-R2primingSite 3'.

5 barcode: a 6-base sequence easily distinguishable from other sequences on that same sequencing run. A list of good working barcodes can be found here:

<https://wikis.utexas.edu/display/GSAF/Illumina+-+all+flavors>

BUT NOTE that the barcode sequences listed at that site are in fact REVERSE COMPLEMENTS relative to what needs to be written in the ILL-RAD-bc oligo (we had so many fun moments because of that)

Secondary-barcoded adaptors for Ligation (to be used instead of 3ILL-NN and anti-ILL)

3illBC1	CAGACGTGTGCTCTCCGATCT ACCA NN
3illBC2	CAGACGTGTGCTCTCCGATCT GTCT NN
3illBC3	CAGACGTGTGCTCTCCGATCT TGGT NN
3illBC4	CAGACGTGTGCTCTCCGATCT CACT NN
3illBC5	CAGACGTGTGCTCTCCGATCT GATG NN
3illBC6	CAGACGTGTGCTCTCCGATCT TCAC NN
3illBC7	CAGACGTGTGCTCTCCGATCT CTGA NN
3illBC8	CAGACGTGTGCTCTCCGATCT AAGC NN
3illBC9	CAGACGTGTGCTCTCCGATCT GTAG NN
3illBC10	CAGACGTGTGCTCTCCGATCT GACA NN
3illBC11	CAGACGTGTGCTCTCCGATCT GTGA NN
3illBC12	CAGACGTGTGCTCTCCGATCT AGTC NN
antiBC1	TGGT AGATCGGA/3InvdT/
antiBC2	AGAC AGATCGGA/3InvdT/

antiBC3	ACCA AGATCGGA/3InvdT/
antiBC4	AGTG AGATCGGA/3InvdT/
antiBC5	CATC AGATCGGA/3InvdT/
antiBC6	GTGA AGATCGGA/3InvdT/
antiBC7	TCAG AGATCGGA/3InvdT/
antiBC8	GCTT AGATCGGA/3InvdT/
antiBC9	CTAC AGATCGGA/3InvdT/
antiBC10	TGTC AGATCGGA/3InvdT/
antiBC11	TCAC AGATCGGA/3InvdT/
antiBC12	GACT AGATCGGA/3InvdT/

Barcoded PCR primers (can be substituted for standard TruSeq v.3 oligos: 5' P7-**Index1**-R2primer 3')

ILL-RAD01	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT CGT GAT GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD02	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT ACA TCG GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD03	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT GCC TAA GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD04	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT TGG TCA GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD05	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT CAC TGT GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD06	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT ATT GGC GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD07	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT GAT CTG GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD08	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT TCA AGT GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD09	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT CTG ATC GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD10	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT AAG CTA GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD11	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT GTA GCC GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD12	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT TAC AAG GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD13	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT TTG ACT GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD14	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT GGA ACT GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD15	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT TGA CAT GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD16	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT GGA CGG GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD17	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT CTC TAC GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD18	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT GCG GAC GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD19	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT TTT CAC GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD20	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT GGC CAC GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD21	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT CGA AAC GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD22	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT CGT ACG GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD23	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT CCA CTC GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD24	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT GCT ACC GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD25	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT ATC AGT GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD26	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT GCT CAT GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD27	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT AGG AAT GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD28	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT CTT TTG GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD29	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT TAG TTG GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD30	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT CCG GTG GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD31	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT ATC GTG GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD32	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT TGA GTG GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD33	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT CGC CTG GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD34	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT GCC ATG GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD35	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT AAA ATG GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD36	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT TGT TGG GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD37	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT ATT CCG GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT
ILL-RAD38	CAA GCA GAA GAC GGC ATA CGA GAT AGC TAG GTG ACT GGA GTT CAG ACG TGT GCT CTT CCG AT

qPCR quantification for mixing on the same HiSeq lane

NOTE: quantify all the preps that are to be mixed on the same lane. For checking quality and quantity of gel eluted DNA we do two pcrs. One is to check the product size on gel: it should be the same as the band we cut out with no additional products. For mixing samples together in equal proportions we perform qPCR with IC1-P5 and IC2-P7 primers and mix samples accordingly..

- a. For quality check prepare a PCR master mix. The following volumes are for a single reaction, so multiply these values by the total number of reactions plus a small additional amount to account for pipetting error.

(volumes given in μl)	
H ₂ O	6.4
dNTP (2.5 mM ea)	1
10X PCR buffer	1
IC1-P5 primer (10 μM)	0.2
IC2-P7 primer (10 μM)	0.2
Titanium Taq polymerase	0.2

- b. Add 1 μl of gel-extracted final product DNA template to each reaction, for a total reaction volume of 10 μl .
- c. Amplify in a PCR-thermocycler using the following profile:
 - 95°C 5 min, (95°C 40 sec, 63°C 1 min, 72°C 1 min) X 12 cycles
 - Run 5 (or less) μl on gel. The size of the product should match the size you aiming when cut a band for gel-extraction.
- d. For mixing samples in equal proportions into the library prepare three dilutions of each sample (clear eluate from step 3m), 1/10, 1/50 and 1/250, in 10 mM Tris-HCl. Arrange the dilutions in a 96-well plate for easy pipetting. Two technical replicates will have to be amplified from each dilution.
- e. Mix Qpcr Master mix for according Qpcr machine (Roche or ABI) with two primers, and aliquot 14 μl . Add 1 μl of diluted templates from (d):

(volumes given in μl)

H ₂ O	6.1
SYBR Green mix	7.5
IC1-P5 primer (10 μM)	0.2
IC2-P7 primer (10 μM)	0.2

- c. Amplify in a Qpcr machine with some NTC (no-template control) using the following profile:
95°C 5 min, (95°C 40 sec, 63°C 1 min, 72°C 1 min) X 30-35 cycles
NTC should start to amplify after 30 cycles, when product – around 10-15 cycles.
- d. Arrange the data in Excel in the form of a table with four columns: sam (sample name), lane (intended HiSeq lane), conc (DNA dilution; use 0.1 for 1/10, 0.02 for 1/50 and 0.004 for 1/250), and ct (qPCR result for this sam-conc combination). There must be at least two technical replicates for each combination of sam-conc (i.e. two rows with the same sam and conc and different ct values). If all samples are to be mixed on the same lane, enter '1' throughout the lane column. The order of columns and rows does not matter, but the names of the columns do matter (they are case sensitive).

Export the data from Excel as comma-separated values (.csv). Open script `mix_illumina_qpcr.R` in R, follow the instructions given in the comments within the script.