

PROTOCOLS FOR FORENSIC MITOCHONDRIAL DNA ANALYSIS

Library Quantification with the PowerSeq Quant MS Kit		
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Manual MPS Library Quantitation with PowerSeq® Quant MS

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To determine the DNA concentrations of the purified libraries in order to establish the appropriate dilution schemes for normalization.

2 LIMS Processing

- 2.1 Refer to the LIMS Process Manual for the general worksheet processing protocols.

3 Preparation

- 3.1 Locate the [PowerSeq® Quant MS](#) worksheet for the run in LIMS.
- 3.2 Retrieve the following reagents and allow them to equilibrate to room temperature.

PowerSeq® Quant MS 2x qPCR Master Mix
PowerSeq® Quant MS 10x Primer Mix
PowerSeq® Quant MS DNA Standard (200 pM)
PowerSeq® Quant MS 1x Library Dilution Buffer
PowerSeq® Quant MS amplification-grade water

Note: Once thawed, PowerSeq® Quant MS 1x Library Dilution Buffer may be stored at 4°C for up to three (3) months.

- 3.3 Log all reagent lot numbers in LIMS as appropriate.
- 3.4 Vortex the reagents thoroughly. It is recommended to vortex three times for 10 seconds each time. Centrifuge briefly.
- 3.5 Retrieve a reagent reservoir.
- 3.6 Retrieve the purified library plate to be quantified and allow to equilibrate to room temperature.
- 3.7 Vortex the library plate on a plate mixer for 1 minute at 1000 rpm and then centrifuge the plate at 1000 rpm for 1 minute.
- 3.8 Prepare standards:
 - 3.8.1 Label five (5) - 2 mL Sarstedt screw cap tubes with the standard concentrations (20 pM, 2 pM, 0.2 pM, 0.02 pM, and NTC) on both the cap and the side of the tube.

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3.8.2 Pipette 45 µL of PowerSeq® Quant MS 1x Dilution Buffer into each labeled DNA standard tube.

- Pipette 5 µL of the 200 pM DNA standard into the 20 pM tube.
Vortex for 10 seconds and centrifuge briefly.
- Pipette 5 µL of the 20 pM standard into the 2 pM tube.
Vortex for 10 seconds and centrifuge briefly.
- Pipette 5 µL of the 2 pM standard into the 0.2 pM tube.
Vortex for 10 seconds and centrifuge briefly.
- Pipette 5 µL of the 0.2 pM standard into the 0.02 pM tube.
Vortex and centrifuge briefly.

3.8.3 Standards may be stored at 4 °C and used for up to three (3) months. If storing, record your initials and the date on the tubes.

3.9 Create 1:10,000 dilutions of libraries:

3.9.1 The following instructions are for the creation of 1:10,000 dilutions during the initial quantification of the purified or normalized libraries.

3.9.2 If quantifying a smaller number of libraries, the dilution described below may be performed in 1.5 mL microcentrifuge tubes using a single-channel pipet.

3.9.3 Label a new 96-well plate.
Columns 1-4 will be used to create 1:100 dilutions of columns 2-5 from the purified library plate.
Columns 7-10 will be used to create the final 1:10,000 dilutions from columns 1-4 of the dilution plate.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
A	●	●	●	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	○	○
B	●	●	●	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	○	○
C	●	●	●	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	○	○
D	●	●	●	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	○	○
E	●	●	●	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	○	○
F	●	●	●	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	○	○
G	●	●	●	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	○	○
H	●	●	●	●	○	○	●	●	●	●	○	○
	1:100				1:10,000							

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- 3.9.4 Pour approximately 15 mL of 1x Dilution Buffer into the reagent reservoir.
- 3.9.5 Remove the seal from the library plate.
- 3.9.6 Using a multi-channel pipette, add 2 µL of purified library to the appropriate wells of the dilution plate.
- 3.9.7 Add 198 µL of PowerSeq® Quant MS 1x Dilution Buffer to each well.
- 3.9.8 Seal the plate, vortex on a plate mixer at 1000 rpm for 1 minute and then centrifuge at 1000 rpm for 1 minute. This creates a 1:100 dilution.
- 3.9.9 Transfer 2 µL of the 1:100 library dilutions to the appropriate 1:10,000 wells.
- 3.9.10 Add 198 µL of PowerSeq® Quant MS 1x Dilution Buffer to each well.
- 3.9.11 Seal the plate, vortex on a plate mixer at 1000 rpm for 1 minute and then centrifuge at 1000 rpm for 1 minute. This creates the final 1:10,000 dilution.
- 3.9.12 Reseal the purified library plate using a BioRad Microseal B film and return to -20 °C freezer.

Note: Unpooled, purified libraries may be stored for up to six months at -20 °C.

3.10 If a dilution factor greater than 1:10,000 is necessary, follow the instructions below.

3.10.1 1:100,000 dilution:

- Transfer 2 µL of the 1:10,000 library dilutions to a new column. You may use a new plate, if needed.
- Add 18 µL of PowerSeq® Quant MS 1x Dilution Buffer to each well to complete the 1:100,000 dilution.
- Seal the plate, vortex on a plate mixer at 1000 rpm for 1 minute, and centrifuge at 1000 rpm for 1 minute.

3.11 Prepare reaction mix:

- 3.11.1 Create a reaction mix by adding the appropriate volumes of each reagent as listed in LIMS. Prepare the reaction mix in a 2 mL Sarstedt screw-cap tube. Vortex for 10 seconds to mix.

Reagent	Per Reaction
2x qPCR Master Mix	10.0 µL
10x Primer Mix	2.0 µL
Water	4.0 µL

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4 Procedure

- 4.1 Obtain a new Applied Biosystems® MicroAmp® Optical 96-Well Reaction Plate.
- 4.2 Add 16.0 µL of reaction mix to each well being used according to the plate layout for the run.
- 4.3 Add 4 µL of the Quant MS standards, the NTC, and the 1:10,000 dilutions of the libraries to the designated wells according to the plate layout in LIMS.
- 4.4 Seal the dilution plate with optical adhesive film and store at 4°C until the quantitation run is complete. **If rework is required, these dilutions may be used.**
- 4.5 Seal the quantitation plate with optical adhesive film. Use a straight edge or tube opener to secure the seal.
- 4.6 Centrifuge for 1 minute at 3000 rpm.
- 4.7 Ensure that there are no bubbles in the reaction wells before placing the plate on the 7500.

5 Software Operations

- 5.1 Turn on the Applied BioSystems® 7500 Real-Time PCR System. Allow time for the instrument to warm up.
- 5.2 Press the tray door to open and place the plate on the instrument. Be sure the plate is correctly aligned when position A12 is in the top right corner of the tray.
- 5.3 Close the tray door by pushing the depressed imprint on the right side of the tray. Do not push from the center.
- 5.4 Double-click the icon for the HID Real-Time PCR Analysis Software.
- 5.5 Click the *Custom Assay* icon.
- 5.6 Click the down arrow for *New Experiment*.
- 5.7 Click *From Template*.
- 5.8 Open the “*PSQuant MS*” template.
- 5.9 Inside the Experiment Menu on the left side of the screen, click *Setup » Experiment Properties*.
- 5.10 Enter the run name into the field labeled Experiment Name.

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5.11 To import samples, click *File » Import*. Locate file in the LIMS file share folder. Click *Start Import*.

5.12 Plate set-up imported successfully » click *OK*.

5.13 Check the top header and ensure the following:

- **Experiment Name:** Current Run Name
- **Type:** Standard Curve
- **Reagents:** SYBR® Green Reagents

7500	The PSQuant MS file is as follows:
PSQuant MS	Soak at 95 °C for 2 minutes
	<u>30 cycles:</u>
	Denature at 95 °C for 15 seconds
	Anneal at 60 °C for 15 seconds
	Extend at 72 °C for 45 seconds – fluorescence collection

5.14 Click *Start Run*. The run time is ~1:15 hours.

5.15 Once the run is complete, discard the plate and turn the instrument off.

6 Exporting Results

6.1 Open the HID Real-Time PCR Analysis Software on the desktop, if needed.

6.2 Enter custom assay mode.

6.3 If the assay that needs analysis is not currently open, click *File » Open*. Navigate to desired file, select the file, and click *Open*.

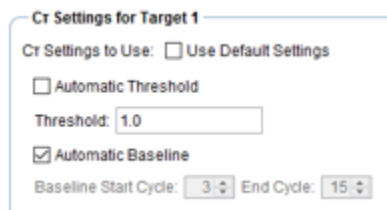
6.4 In the *Experiment Menu* located on the left side of the screen, click *Analysis*.

6.5 In the *Analysis* tab on the top right side of the screen, click *Analysis Settings » Ct Settings*.

6.6 Verify the settings below and click *Cancel*.

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Cr Settings for Target 1

Cr Settings to Use: ☐ Use Default Settings

☐ Automatic Threshold

Threshold: 1.0

☒ Automatic Baseline

Baseline Start Cycle: 3 End Cycle: 15

6.7 Click *Analyze*.

6.8 After analysis, click *View Plate Layout » Highlight All Wells*.

6.9 Located on the top toolbar, click *Export*.

6.9.1 Select data to export » *Results*.

6.9.2 Select one file or separate files » *One File*.

6.9.3 Ensure the file name is correct.

6.9.4 In the Custom Export tab, check the data is exporting columns (A1, B1, etc.)

6.9.5 Click Start Export.

6.10 With all wells still highlighted, click *Print Report* located on the top toolbar. Select *All Report Types*.

6.11 Click *Print* and choose to save as a *.PDF*. Ensure the correct run name is listed. Add "*reports*" to the end of the file name.

6.12 Save file in appropriate network folder and click *Save*.

6.13 Transfer the raw data *.EDS* files from the instrument PC to the Forensic Biology network drive.

6.14 Convert the Excel file generated from the 7500 instrument to a *.txt* file and save in *C:\LABSAVE*.

7 Data Analysis

7.1 Use the standard curve to determine the concentration of the unknown samples.

7.2 Use the reports generated to interpret the results for each assay.

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7.2.1 Using the standard curve reports, ensure the following parameters are met for the slope, Y-intercept and R^2 value. All three parameters must fall within the quality criteria for the quantitation to pass.

- Standard slope must be between -3.2 and -3.8
- R^2 values must be ≥ 0.980
- The Y-intercept value must be between 12.5 and 18.5

7.2.2 Record the standard curve parameters in LIMS.

7.2.3 Attach the reports to the worksheet in LIMS.

7.3 Import the data into the LIMS worksheet.

7.3.1 Ensure that concentrations have been imported for all samples and controls.

7.4 Evaluate the NTC. The library quant must quant at 0 pM for the quantitation run to pass. The status of NTC must be recorded in LIMS.

7.5 Extraction negative controls and amplification negative controls are not evaluated for pass/fail during this library quantification procedure. However, their measured concentrations should be consistent with expected background levels and generally lower than those of DNA-positive samples.

7.6 Samples or controls whose dilutions are reported outside the dynamic range of 0.2 nM to 200 nM, should be scheduled for re-quantitation at a 1:100,000 dilution.

7.7 When evaluating normalized libraries, concentrations should fall within 2.5 nM and 8 nM. If library concentrations fall outside of this range, consult a supervisor before you proceed.

7.8 Record interpretation in LIMS.