

# Supplementary Material for “Discriminating protein tags on a dsDNA construct using a Dual Nanopore Device”

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## II. EXPERIMENTAL PROTOCOL

Experimental results for tag dwell-times in our dual-pore device are obtained using previously published methods. Device fabrication is described in Zhang *et al.* [S1], use of FPGA protocol for efficiently forming tug-of-war states is described in Li *et al.* 2019 [S2], basic multi-scanning protocols and tag blockade analysis are described in Li *et al.* 2020 [S3] and zoom multi-scanning and recapture protocols are described in Rand *et al.* [S4].

Briefly, the labeled DNA constructs used are based on  $\lambda$ -DNA with 90 nt long oligo-flap labels inserted at the recognition sites of the nicking enzyme Nt.BbvC1. The labels are generated by using nick-translation to insert azide bearing nucleotides at the Nt.BbvC1 recognition sites; these are then coupled to 90 nt long DBCO bearing moieties via copper-free click chemistry [S4]. The labeled constructs are introduced into a dual-pore device in 2 M LiCl buffer containing two 20-30 nm diameter pores fabricated via focused ion-beam (FIB) [S1]. The pores have a spacing of around 500 nm. Each pore is coupled to a separate microchannel that can be independently biased with respect to a common reservoir giving access to both pores. The current through each pore is measured using a dual channel recorder (Molecular Device Multi-clam 700B) interfaced to a Field-Programmable Gate Array (FPGA, PCIe-7851R). The FPGA can apply active logic to exploit feedback signals, in the form of measured currents at each pore, to dynamically adjust the dual pore biasing during a translocation event. The signals are sampled at 250 kHz and filtered at 10 kHz. Specifically, the results obtained correspond to the following parameters: pore 1 has a diameter of 23.9 nm, pore 2 has a diameter of 20.4 nm and the pore-to-pore spacing is 561 nm (obtained from SEM).

The labeled  $\lambda$ -DNA is captured in a tug-of-war state [S2] and then subjected to a multi-scanning protocol where the molecule is driven back and forth between the pores ([S3, S4], which we term “flossing”). In a dual-pore device, when a molecule trapped in a tug-of-war state, the translocation speed and polarity is determined fundamentally by the magnitude and sign of the biasing differential between the pores. In our scanning protocol, to achieve either L-R or R-L directed motion, the voltage at one pore, which we will term pore 2, is held fixed (at 300 mV) and the voltage at pore 1 is varied between a low (150 mV, for L-R motion) and high level (650 mV, for R-L motion) with respect to the pore 1 voltage. In order to vary the scan polarity in a systematic way to achieve multi-scanning, the FPGA is then programmed to count the number of tags that pass through a pore (say pore 2 for a translocation in the L-R direction), and then reverse the translocation polarity from the L-R direction to the R-L direction when a fixed number of tags have passed through the pore. The number of tags that pass through pore 1 is then counted and the translocation polarity flipped when a fixed number have passed through. Repetition of these counting cycles at pore 1 and 2 leads to repetitive back-and-forth cycling of the chain. In the zoom multi-scanning protocol [S4], the number of tags that are allowed to pass through pore 1 and 2 is gradually increased, leading to scanning of successively larger portions of the chain. In addition, the FPGA can recapture the same chain to perform multiple multi-scanning cycles on the same chain [S4]. The tag results shown correspond to 18 separate  $\lambda$ -DNA molecules captured and 46 recapture events. The translocation velocity  $v$  can be measured by finding the time-of-flight (TOF) for a tag to move between the pores:  $v = \langle TOF \rangle / d$  where  $d$  is the pore-to-pore spacing and  $\langle TOF \rangle$  is the average TOF over all tags measured for a given captured molecule (including all individual recaptures for the given molecule). Averaging the translocation velocity further over all molecules captured gives:  $v_{L-R} = 0.99 \pm 0.01$  (for L-R direction) and  $v_{R-L} = 2.23 \pm 0.05$  (for R-L direction). Error given corresponds to error on the mean over all 18 molecules captured.

The tag-blockades are analyzed on individual scans using the approach developed in [S3] coded in Matlab (see in particular supplementary methods for this article). First, the positions of the tags along the scan are identified using a peak-finding algorithm. Next, we model the varying current background arising from capacitance transients introduced by flipping the voltage. To do this, a fixed region of around 400  $\mu$ s is removed about the position of each identified tag and then the remaining signal, giving purely the varying current background, is fit to a spline. The spline model for the varying background is then subtracted from the signals for pore 1 and pore 2. The individual

blockade profiles for each tag are then modeled via the fitting function:

$$I(t) = I_{b1} + I_{b2}t - \frac{I_o}{2} \left[ \operatorname{erf} \left( \frac{t - (t_o - \Delta t/2)}{\sqrt{2}\sigma} \right) - \operatorname{erf} \left( \frac{t - (t_o + \Delta t/2)}{\sqrt{2}\sigma} \right) \right] \quad (\text{S1})$$

This form is based on convolving a box of width  $\Delta t$ , height  $I_o$  centered at position  $t_o$  with a Gaussian of width  $\sigma$ . In the limit that  $\Delta t \gg \sigma$ , the model yields a box-like profile. In the limit that  $\Delta t \ll \sigma$ , the model yields a Gaussian-like profile. The profile width at half-maximum is reported as the pore dwell-time (note that the width at half-maximum is obtained numerically as a function of  $\Delta t$  and  $\sigma$  from the blockade model). The parameters  $I_{b1}$ ,  $I_{b2}$ , which specify a constant and linear term, help characterize residual varying background at the tag-position. The 46 recapture events obtained from the 18 molecules captured corresponds with multi-scanning to 2256 measured dwell-time pairs (e.g. for pore 1 and pore 2).

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