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4 **Tree Lab: Portable genomics for early detection of plant viruses and pests in Sub-Saharan Africa**

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32

### 33 **Abstract**

34 In this case study we successfully teamed the PDQeX DNA purification technology developed by  
35 MicroGEM, New Zealand, with the MinION and MinIT mobile sequencing devices developed by Oxford  
36 Nanopore Technologies to produce an effective point-of-need field diagnostic system. The PDQeX  
37 extracts DNA using a cocktail of thermophilic proteinases and cell wall degrading enzymes, thermo-  
38 responsive extractor cartridges and a temperature control unit. This single-step closed system delivers  
39 purified DNA with no cross contamination. The MinIT is a newly released data processing unit that  
40 converts MinION raw signal output into base called data locally in real time, removing the need for high  
41 specification computers and large file transfers from the field. All three devices are battery powered with  
42 an exceptionally small footprint that facilitates transport and set up.

43 To evaluate and validate capability of the system for unbiased pathogen identification by real-  
44 time sequencing in a farmer's field setting, we analysed samples collected from cassava plants grown by  
45 subsistence farmers in three sub-Saharan African countries (Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya). A range of viral  
46 pathogens, all with similar symptoms, greatly reduce yield or completely destroy cassava crops. 800  
47 million people worldwide depend on cassava for food and yearly income, and viral diseases are a  
48 significant constraint on its production (<https://cassavavirusactionproject.com>). Early pathogen  
49 detection at a molecular level has great potential to rescue crops within a single growing season by  
50 providing results that inform decisions on disease management, use of appropriate virus resistant or  
51 replacement planting.

52 This case study presented conditions of working in-field with limited or no access to mains power,  
53 laboratory infrastructure, internet connectivity and highly variable ambient temperature. An additional  
54 challenge is that, generally, plant material contains inhibitors of downstream molecular processes

55 making effective DNA purification critical. We successfully undertook real-time on-farm genome  
56 sequencing of samples collected from cassava plants on three farms, one in each country. Cassava  
57 mosaic begomoviruses were detected by sequencing leaf, stem, tuber and insect samples. The entire  
58 process, from arrival on farm to diagnosis including sample collection, processing and provisional  
59 sequencing results was complete in under 4 hours. The need for accurate, rapid and on-site diagnosis  
60 grows as globalized human activity accelerates. This technical breakthrough has applications that are  
61 relevant to human and animal health, environmental management and conservation.

62

63 **Keywords:** cassava, cassava mosaic begomovirus, cassava mosaic disease, *Bemisia tabaci*, whitefly,  
64 MinION, MinIT, PDQeX, Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya.

65

## 66 **Introduction**

67 Crop losses due to viral diseases and pests are major constraints on food security and income for millions  
68 of households in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). Such losses can be reduced if plant diseases and pests are  
69 correctly diagnosed and identified early. To date, researchers have utilized conventional methods for  
70 definitive identification of plant viruses and their vectors in SSA including PCR, qPCR, Next Generation  
71 and Sanger sequencing, but these require laboratory infrastructure, are costly and time consuming, and  
72 can delay time-sensitive corrective actions that could be taken. Direct rapid DNA/RNA sequencing of  
73 infected material on-the-spot or near sample collection sites turns this conventional paradigm on its  
74 head by taking the laboratory closer to farmers' fields. This reduces overall costs and gives crop  
75 protection officers and farmers in rural communities' information that is critical for sustainable crop  
76 production and management of pests and diseases, ensuring food and income security for millions of

77 Africans. Currently, provision of data on viruses which is essential for developing virus resistant varieties,  
78 sharing virus-indexed germplasm between regions and deployment of virus-free certified planting  
79 materials is hampered by the long time taken to receive results generated using the aforementioned  
80 conventional diagnostic methods. Our innovation will simplify information flow and fast track the  
81 deployments of virus resistant or tolerant cassava varieties directly to the farmers field. The emergence  
82 of new tools for real-time diagnostics, such as the Oxford Nanopore MinION, has proved useful for the  
83 early detection of Ebola (Quick et al. 2016) and Zika viruses (Faria et al. 2016, Quick et al. 2017). MinION  
84 consensus sequence accuracy of 99% is sufficient to identify pathogen and strain type (Calus et al. 2018).  
85 However, it can take months before results generated using other high throughput sequencing  
86 approaches (e.g. Illumina, PacBio) are available, particularly when local scientists are reliant on third-  
87 party service providers, who are often located in other countries. The delay in detecting or identifying  
88 viruses impedes quick in-situ decision making necessary for early action, crop protection advice and  
89 disease management strategies by farmers. This ultimately compounds the magnitude of crop losses and  
90 food shortages suffered by farmers. We have decreased the time to precisely detect and identify  
91 pathogens, vectors or pests, and increased resolution and reliability of results by utilizing the power of  
92 low-cost portable DNA extraction, sequencing and data analysis devices, coupled with our innovative  
93 data analysis pipelines. This real-time diagnosis in the field or located in regional laboratories quickly  
94 provides high quality and reliable diagnostics data to help farmers, seed certification agencies, scientists,  
95 crop protection and extension officers make timely and informed decisions. The immediate data  
96 accessibility makes possible dissemination of results downstream to extension officers and farmers for  
97 early disease control action via Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) applications. The

98 application of cutting-edge sequencing technology, genomics and bioinformatics for pest and disease  
99 control has great potential to improve food security and agricultural development at large.

100

101 We propose using this technology to rapidly diagnose plant viruses and pests affecting smallholder  
102 farmers' crops in SSA. Our case study has identified cassava DNA viruses on the farm allowing farmers,  
103 researchers and development actors to take early, positive corrective action based on rapid diagnosis of  
104 plants. This proof-of-concept shows that portable DNA sequencer technology has great potential to  
105 reduce the risk of community crop failure. We have previously conducted pilot projects in Tanzania,  
106 Uganda and Kenya testing symptomatic and asymptomatic cassava plants and already have shown that  
107 sample collection to diagnosis and results delivered to the farmer or crop protection officer can be  
108 completed within 48 hours (Boykin et al. 2018). This technology will put the power of genome  
109 sequencing directly in the hands of agriculturalists and, in the work presented here, for the first time has  
110 enabled pest and disease diagnosis within one day on-the-spot. This has significant implications for new  
111 pest and disease outbreaks, monitoring of existing disease outbreaks and biosecurity monitoring at  
112 borders between countries.

113

#### 114 **Materials and Methods:**

115 **Tree Lab locations:** Three small scale family farms growing cassava were selected, one in each of the  
116 following counties: Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya. In Tanzania (Kisamwene, Mara Region. GPS: 315N,  
117 1°40'5"S, 33°55'55"E, 4380ft) on 1 August 2018, in Uganda (Wakiso. GPS: 255W 0°30'29"N, 32°37'19"E,  
118 3730 ft) on 8 August 2018, and in Kenya (Kiambu. GPS: 87E 1°5'33" S, 37°19'33"E, 4570 ft) on 14 August  
119 2018. A video of the Tanzanian Tree Lab is found here: <https://vimeo.com/329068227>.

120

121 **Sample selection:** All samples collected are documented in Table 1. For each sequencing run we  
122 barcoded either 11, including DNA extractions from cassava leaves, stems and also whiteflies (*Bemisia*  
123 *tabaci*) that were found feeding on cassava mosaic disease symptomatic cassava leaves.

124

125 **DNA extraction:** The PDQeX DNA extraction system from MicroGEM NZ Ltd (Stanton et al. 2019) was  
126 used to prepare DNA from samples. Briefly, a Harris punch was used to collect four discs, 2 mm in  
127 diameter, from each leaf, stem or root sample. Homogenization was performed by hand in 1x GREEN  
128 plus buffer using a Dounce homogenizer made from sealing the end of a 1 ml pipette tip and a 1.5 ml  
129 microfuge tube. Ninety microlitres of each homogenate and 10 µl of Enhancer (MicroGEM Ltd) was  
130 added to a 200 µl tube containing a lyophilized 1x mix of the enzyme cocktail (Holmes et al. 2018);  
131 (*phytoGEM* kit, MicroGEM Ltd, New Zealand). The reaction was re-suspended by gently flicking the 200  
132 µl tube until all reagents were well mixed. All of the reaction mix was transferred to a PDQeX extraction  
133 cartridge (Stanton et al. 2019) which was placed into the PDQeX1600 thermal incubation unit. PDQeX  
134 extraction was performed by a series of heating steps. First, incubation at 52°C for five minutes to  
135 promote cell lysis by activating cell wall degrading enzymes. Second, incubation at 75°C for five minutes  
136 to activate thermophilic proteinases to degrade sample proteins and enzymes from the previous step.  
137 Finally, heating to 95°C for 2 minutes to shrink the thermal responsive inner layer of the PDQeX  
138 extraction cartridge forcing the digested sample through a burst valve and a cleanup column into a  
139 collection tube (Stanton et al. 2019).

140

141 DNA was also extracted from whitefly. A single insect was fished from a pool of whiteflies in ethanol  
142 collected from leaves using a Pooter. The whitefly was transferred by pipette, taking as little ethanol as  
143 possible, to 98  $\mu$ l of 1x BLUE buffer (MicroGEM Ltd) and pipetted up and down several times. The whole  
144 mix was added to 1x lyophilized enzyme cocktail in a 200  $\mu$ l tube (*prepGEM*, MicroGEM Ltd). Reagents  
145 were re-suspended by gentle flicking and the contents transferred to a PDQeX extraction cartridge. The  
146 cartridge was placed in the PDQeX1600 thermal unit and heated as follows: 35°C for five minutes; 52°C  
147 for five minutes; 75°C for five minutes; 95°C for 2 minutes. DNA extraction took approximately 20  
148 minutes in total and 7.5  $\mu$ l of the collected elute was used directly for Rapid DNA library construction for  
149 MinION Sequencing. The PDQeX1600 thermal unit was powered by a 12-volt Lithium Polymer battery.  
150 The PDQeX1600 was operated using a purpose-made App from a Smart Phone that permitted run  
151 initiation, temperature profile selection and editing, and monitoring of run progress.

152

153 **Library preparation and sequencing:** We utilized the Rapid Barcoding kit SQK-RBK004 with 9.4.1 flow  
154 cells (Oxford Nanopore Technologies). The SQK-RBK004 protocols were performed as described by the  
155 manufacturer (RBK\_9054\_v2\_revB\_23Jan2018). We completed the optional clean-up steps using  
156 AMPure XP beads. The 30°C and 80°C steps were performed using the PDQeX1600 thermal incubation  
157 unit. All libraries were loaded directly onto the MinION that was connected to a MinIT and live base  
158 calling was enabled. For each Tree Lab the MinION and the MinIT were plugged into a 20000mAh laptop  
159 powerbank (Comsol) set at 20V (Figure 1). The key to using a power bank for this purpose is to make  
160 sure it not only has USB inputs but also has a DC port. It ran on average 4.5 hours set on 16.5V. When  
161 the run stopped, we immediately plugged the devices into a second power bank and data generation  
162 continued.

163

164 **Tree Lab data Analyses:** As the data was being basecalled on the MinIT we made a test folder on the  
165 laptop called “treelab” and inside that folder we added a demultiplex folder, into which we then  
166 transferred the first two .fastq files from the MinIT into. Demultiplexing was run with Porechop (Wick  
167 2019), preinstalled on the laptop, using the following commands >porechop -i  
168 /Users/lboykin/Desktop/treelab -b /Users/lboykin/Desktop/treelab/demultiplex. A cassava mosaic  
169 disease (CMD) reference data set was pre-curated and configured to work as a local database within  
170 Geneious vR11.1.2 (Kearse et al. 2012)  
171 ([https://figshare.com/articles/Nanopore\\_sequencing\\_of\\_cassava\\_from\\_Tanzania\\_Uganda\\_and\\_Kenya](https://figshare.com/articles/Nanopore_sequencing_of_cassava_from_Tanzania_Uganda_and_Kenya/6667409)  
172 [/6667409](https://figshare.com/articles/Nanopore_sequencing_of_cassava_from_Tanzania_Uganda_and_Kenya/6667409)). Twelve folders were created in Geneious, and the associated .fastq files from the  
173 “demultiplex” folder were drag and dropped into the relevant folder created within Geneious. BLASTn  
174 (Altschul et al. 1990) analysis was performed, ensuring the local CMD database was specified. The results  
175 from the search against the CMD database were visualized in-situ within Geneious and discussed with  
176 farmers and extension workers.

177

178 **Post Tree Lab data analyses:** Scripts from David Eccles' [Bioinformatics Scripts repository]  
179 (<https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.596663>) were used to carry out subsequent read QC and analysis.  
180 Sequenced read lengths were measured using [fastx-length.pl], and these lengths were used to generate  
181 length-based QC plots using [length\_plot.r].

182

183 **Assembly:** To determine whether any barcoded read sets could be assembled, an initial assembly  
184 attempt was made on each subset using Canu v1.8, with a genome size of 400M, ignoring any warning



185 messages about coverage being too low. The large genome size ensured that no reads are discarded and  
186 suppressing the coverage warning ensured that Canu would attempt an assembly with all the available  
187 reads. Previous discussions with Canu developer Sergey Koren (pers. comm.) indicated that adjusting the  
188 target genome size had no other effect on the contig assemblies that Canu produces.

189

190 **Blast:** We confirmed these in-field results by performing a post diagnostic blast of reads on the Nimbus  
191 Cloud at the Pawsey Supercomputing Center with blast 2.2.31 against the full NCBI nucleotide database  
192 to confirm results. For reference the specific database used was `{ $ blastcmd -db nt/nt -info }` Database:  
193 Nucleotide collection 49,266,009 sequences; 188,943,333,900 total bases Date: Aug 8, 2018 12:38 PM.  
194 The data were processed into a blast archive using a blast script with the following parameters (Script  
195 attached) `{ $blastn -query "$file" -db /mnt/nucdb/nt/nt -outfmt 11 -culling_limit 10 -out "out.$file.asn"  
196 -num_threads 17 }` then converted into XML (for loading into Geneious) and HTML for viewing.

197

#### 198 **Blastn analysis – MEGAN:**

199 Blastn results produced from the Nimbus cloud analysis pipeline were also visualized using MEGAN  
200 Community Edition version 6.12.6 (Huson et al. 2016) on the Zeus computing resource located at the  
201 Pawsey Supercomputing Center.

202

#### 203 **Blastn analysis - Kraken:**

204 We used kraken2 [<https://github.com/DerrickWood/kraken2>] to classify demultiplexed reads using the

205 Loman Lab "maxikraken2" database

206 [[https://lomanlab.github.io/mockcommunity/mc\\_databases.html#maxikraken2\\_1903\\_140gb-march-](https://lomanlab.github.io/mockcommunity/mc_databases.html#maxikraken2_1903_140gb-march-2019-140gb)  
207 2019-140gb], on the Zeus computing resource located at the Pawsey Supercomputing Center.

208

## 209 **Results**

210

### 211 **Tree Lab**

212 All essential equipment that were used in the Tree Labs in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania are listed in Table  
213 1 and shown in Figure 1. Summary statistics for our three Tree Labs are shown in Table 2 and Figure 2.  
214 Table 2 summarizes DNA sequencing metrics from all three Tree Lab experiments. Each MinION run  
215 contained 11 barcoded libraries representing 11 individual samples. All DNA samples, except the ACMV  
216 and EACMV controls (Tanzania) were extracted using the PDQeX system with 11 samples prepared in lab  
217 from exemplar material collected from scientific plots and 20 DNA samples extracted on farm. A total of  
218 1,442,599 sequences were produced across all the experiments. Of these, barcodes could only be  
219 resolved for 550,938 sequences using Porechop to demultiplex the samples. Mean sequence length  
220 across all sequencing runs ranged from 355bp to 948bp with the longest read being 276,793 bp.

221

222 Raw reads of Cassava mosaic begomoviruses (CMBs) sequences were detected in 21 samples with the  
223 longest CMB read reaching 2808 bp, close to the full genome size. A total of 18 leaf samples were  
224 sequenced of which 15 were found to contain CMBs. Two of the 5 stem samples sequenced were found  
225 to contain CMBs whereas neither of the two root samples sequenced presented CMB sequences. Six  
226 single whiteflies were tested with 2 being positive for CMBs. All libraries, regardless of CMB content  
227 produced DNA reads indicating that sequencing was successful for all samples. CMBs were detected in

228 plants with symptoms and there was a suggestion that the number of CMB sequences detected possibly  
229 correlated with symptom severity scores, but more data will be required to prove this. Interestingly, a  
230 known healthy plant taken from the scientific plot at JKUAT did not yield CMB sequences (Table 2).  
231 Following assembly with Canu 8 of the 21 samples gave complete assembled virus genomes, however,  
232 gave less than 10 fold coverage.

233

### 234 **Post Tree Lab data analyses**

235 We investigated whether there was any effect of sample type on read length. The cumulative density  
236 curves (Figure 2) show the proportion of sequenced bases with length greater than a particular length  
237 (with L10/L50/L90 highlighted). Additional length-based QC plots can be found in the supplemental  
238 information (Supplemental File 1).

239

### 240 **MEGAN results**

241 The primary targets of this analysis were known cassava viruses, as well as the host, either cassava plant  
242 (*Manihot esculenta*) or the whitefly (*Bemisia tabaci*) and its endosymbionts. Results are summarized in  
243 Table 3, and in general the desired result of virus (EACMV or ACMV) and host DNA were recovered from  
244 all symptomatic samples.

245

### 246 **Kraken2 results**

247 The analysis using Kraken2 had an approximately 50% classification success rate (IQR 45-52% unclassified  
248 reads). This database is for human + microbial and viral sequence, so any eukaryote reads (e.g. from  
249 cassava or whitefly) would probably be unclassified by Kraken2 or assigned to the human taxa. The

250 sample with the highest classification success was the ACMV positive control from Tanzania (mr\_BC11,  
251 5.6% unclassified), and the lowest classification success was the leaf tissue sample #2 from Kenya  
252 (mm\_BC02, 61% unclassified).

253

254 Results were aggregated into a table using Pavian (Supplemental File 2) to identify common elements of  
255 each sample. Begomovirus reads were detected in 15 samples, with very high proportions of  
256 Begomovirus (8.6%) in the ACMV Positive control from Tanzania (mr\_BC11), and above-average  
257 proportions (0.25%) in Kwatempale sample #5 from Sarah's Farm in Uganda (ut\_BC05). ACMV and  
258 EACMV were detected in 11 samples.

259

## 260 **Discussion**

261 This case study was designed to show the possibility to go from sample to diagnosis, in a regional setting,  
262 on farm in three hours versus the normal 6 months with conventional methods. The results of this  
263 research show that it is indeed possible, and that it is possible to use a range of battery powered devices  
264 to achieve DNA extraction, long read sequencing and analysis all under a tree on the farm while the  
265 farmers wait for results.

266

267 Access to next generation sequencing technology, or to services that offer access has been a major  
268 barrier to their use in diagnostics for scientists, and particularly many agricultural scientists in SSA. The  
269 advent of the Oxford Nanopore Technologies MinION has brought this technology to their door in recent  
270 years, and with access to training through various institutions and especially the Oxford Nanopore  
271 Technologies run "Pore Safari" there are more and more users in the region. Previous studies that have

272 used the technology for real time analysis of pathogen outbreaks, such as the Ebola and Zika studies  
273 (Faria et al. 2016, Quick et al. 2016, Quick et al. 2017) have still relied heavily on the transport of bulky  
274 laboratory equipment, or local acquisition of it to perform their work. Previous work by our team of  
275 scientists (Boykin et al. 2018) showed that the turnaround time to result could be 48 hours, and now  
276 with the addition of the PDQeX and MiniIT to the system we have been able to reduce the time to 4 hours  
277 and perform the entire process in the field and under a tree.

278

279 One of the major barriers to producing these outputs in the field has until now been the lack of a simple,  
280 quick and effective methods to extract DNA from a sample without the need for laboratory equipment  
281 requiring mains power and space, items such as benchtop centrifuges, fridges, freezers and temperature  
282 sensitive extraction kits which can be bulky and rely on traditional laboratory infrastructure. The use of  
283 the PDQeX in the system described in this case study was the real game changer: compact and able to  
284 operate from a battery, it made nucleic acid extraction possible.

285

286 This study also highlighted where the next gains for in-field sequencing are to be made, as improvements  
287 are required in rapid data analysis. The MiniIT eliminated obstacles to base calling, by converting the raw  
288 reads into .fast5 and .fastq reads in real time. This moves the data analysis bottleneck in the pipeline to  
289 the Blast analysis. Blast is not fast analysis, and so for now we must rely on a pre-curated database of  
290 known or expected pathogens and host genomes. This poses risks, in that new and emerging pathogens  
291 or vectors could be missed in the first instance, and not seen until subsequent data analysis when the  
292 scientist has returned to the lab or is within range of a good internet connection capable of uploading  
293 large amounts of data to the cloud. In our case, we can predict what sorts of genomes should be in our

294 custom database, but for use in biosecurity, and at borders between countries a better solution is  
295 required.

296

297 Read length distributions were generally quite similar for all samples. The Tanzania samples showed the  
298 greatest difference in read length distribution (L50 range 400 - 2000 bp). The ACMV Positive control from  
299 Tanzania (mr\_BC11) showed a very pronounced spike of reads at around 4kb (presumably near full-  
300 length ACMV sequence). Apart from that sample, there was no obvious association between read length  
301 distribution and tissue type or variety. The Uganda samples had a moderate read length distribution  
302 spread (L50 range 500-1000 bp), which split into two clusters of slightly shorter and longer reads (BC02,  
303 BC04, BC05, BC06, BC07; BC01, BC03, BC08, BC12). These clusters did not appear to have any relationship  
304 with tissue type or variety. The Kenya samples had a similarly moderate read length distribution spread  
305 (L50 range 500-1000 bp), with no obvious clustering, or association of distribution with tissue type or  
306 variety.

307

308 MinION Rapid libraries use transposase to fix sequencing adaptors to DNA fragments. The ratio of DNA  
309 to transposase complex for the MinION Rapid kit has been optimized for 400 ng DNA and at lower  
310 amounts DNA is susceptible to over fragmentation. This may account for DNA fragment length falling  
311 around 900 bp, however, the control DNA also gave similar read length characteristics. Though there  
312 was not enough data collected on farm for a thorough statistical analysis these results did show both  
313 yield and integrity of the DNA extracted using the PDQeX was of sufficient quality for diagnostic  
314 sequencing. We successfully retrieved enough data from each sample to establish whether the virus in  
315 the plant was EACMV or ACMV. Assembly with Canu suggested that in this case, while there was enough

316 data to assemble whole genomes, the average coverage meant the quality was not sufficient for  
317 downstream applications such as recombination detection and other evolutionary analyses. We  
318 anticipate that as the DNA extraction methods improve, and in field library preparation becomes easier  
319 this will be possible. An alternative would be to investigate the use of a panel-like targeted amplicon  
320 approach or CRISPR/Cas9 enrichment, but again this removes the likelihood of detecting unknowns in  
321 the samples, and could lead to samples giving negative results not being followed up, or the time to  
322 result being blown out to days or weeks if they need to return to a laboratory to complete a different  
323 type of library preparation.

324

325 Compared with other in-field diagnostic tools, this system involving the MinION is unique in its ability to  
326 detect anything that might be present in the sample. Other in-field diagnostic tools, including serological  
327 based dipsticks, LAMP-PCR, in field qPCR and AI driven applications on smart phones all have one single  
328 thing in common – they require a prior knowledge of the suspected pathogen, coupled with targeted  
329 design of antibodies, primers or training for known positives to function effectively. The only decision  
330 required to run the MinION is whether to prepare a DNA or an RNA library.

331

#### **Executive summary:**

332

333 **Can we go from sample to answer on the farm? Yes**

334 **DNA extraction to library prep to sequencing? Yes**

335 **Can we detect virus in leaves off the grid at the farm? Yes**

336 **Can we detect virus in whiteflies off the grid on the farm? Yes**

337 **Can we detect virus in stems off the grid on the farm? Yes**

338 **Do we get enough to coverage of the viral genomes to generate polished genomes to track the**  
339 **evolution of the viruses real-time? No**

340

341

342 **Video of Tree Lab:** <https://vimeo.com/329068227>

343

344

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348 Kway, Benson Ongori, and Jimmy Sebayiga. Filming was done by Andrew Court. PDQeX was developed  
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350 Funding from the Australia Government and the Government of Western Australia supported  
351 computation analysis.

352  
353  
354  
355  
356



357  
358 **Table 1.** Essential equipment for Tree Lab in Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda.  
359  
360 Sample collection plants  
361 Envelopes  
362 4 fine sharpies  
363 Notebook  
364 Scissors  
365 Canvas sling bag to carry sample collection equipment  
366 Gloves  
367  
368 Sample collection whiteflies  
369 Pooter  
370 70% ETOH  
371 Eppendorf tubes  
372 Transfer pipette to get the whitefly from the pooter to the Eppendorf tube  
373  
374 Lab under a tree/disease diagnostic camp  
375 Blanket/floor covering  
376 Hard flat surface- raised  
377  
378 Sample homogenization  
379 1 microfuge tube/sample  
380 1 ml tips with fine tip sealed to form pestle for crushing  
381 Tip disposal/waste bags  
382 1.5ml racks for holding  
383 p10, p1000, p200 pipette (one set of pipettes)- tips for all 1 box  
384  
385 DNA extraction  
386 2 MicroGEM kits (transported at ambient temperature)  
387 PDQeX phytoGEM kit for plants  
388 PDQeX Universal kit for insects  
389 Reagents lyophilized into 200µl tubes  
390 Rack for 200µl microcentrifuge tubes  
391 Nuclease free water  
392 PDQeX thermal device  
393 PDQeX Extraction tubes  
394 Mobile phone being used as a remote controller- MicroGEM PDQeX app  
395 Battery 2 12V batteries put together  
396  
397 Save the DNA for later quantification using fluorometry (e.g Qubit).  
398  
399 Library prep  
400 Printed library prep protocol or iPad

401 Library kit  
402 200µl tubes  
403 1.5ml tubes  
404 Ampure beads  
405 Magnetic rack  
406 Tube stands for the 0.2ml  
407 Tris and sodium chloride  
408 Nuclease free water  
409 Syrafoam cooler and cold packs  
410 Flow cell  
411 MinIT  
412 Laptop Power bank – one with a pin plug not just USB output- console  
413 Laptop- with MinKnow installed  
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421 **Table 2.** Summary statistics and locality information for the three Tree Labs in Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda. \* indicates DNA extraction  
 422 carried out using PDQeX in the laboratory before sequencing under the tree.  
 423

Sample	Barcode	Variety	Severity Score	Tissue type	Total reads	Max. Seq Length	CMV Blast hits	Max. CMV length	Min CMV length	% CMV reads	Canu Contigs
<b>Tanzania</b>											
1	1	Kilati - Local Variety	4	Leaf	61,317.0	26,107.0	125.0	2,808.0	196.0	0.204	0
3	3	Kilati - Local Variety	4	Leaf	21,468.0	16,098.0	14.0	815.0	288.0	0.065	0
4	4	Kasuxsali - Local Variety	3	Leaf	31,300.0	17,624.0	21.0	941.0	129.0	0.067	12
5	5	Mukombozi - Virus Resistant	1	Leaf	2,117.0	24,665.0	7.0	815.0	198.0	0.331	0
6	6	Mukombozi - Virus Resistant	1	Leaf	27,178.0	12,340.0	8.0	826.0	85.0	0.029	0
7	7	Mukombozi - Virus Resistant	1	Leaf	5,634.0	17,003.0	5.0	484.0	243.0	0.089	0
8	8	Whitefly close to Mukombozi - Virus Resistant	1	1x Whitefly, in EtOH	6,237.0	8,753.0	26.0	828.0	52.0	0.417	0
9	9	Whitefly close to Mukombozi - Virus Resistant	1	1x Whitefly, in EtOH	25,289.0	17,900.0	3.0	0.0	0.0	0	2
10	10	Whitefly close to Mukombozi - Virus Resistant	1	1x Whitefly, in EtOH	798.0	23,259.0	21.0	815.0	187.0	2.632	0
11*	11	ACMV - Positive Control DNA			10,966.0	28,541.0	4,311.0	1,598.0	31.0	39.312	0
12*	12	EACMV - Positive Control DNA			1,797.0	22,871.0	9.0	830.0	191.0	0.501	0
None	None	Porechop unable to match to Rapid Barcode			449,981.0	276,793.0	8,136.0	2,757.0	28.0	1.808	
<b>Uganda</b>											
1*	1	R39-B1-UG15F289P503	4	Leaf from stem 1	24,343.0	24,373.0	20.0	1,222.0	123.0	0.082	2
1.1*	2	R39-B1-UG15F289P503	4	Phloem, stem 1 - top	5,135.0	50,184.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0
1.2*	3	R39-B1-UG15F289P503	4	Phloem, stem 1 - mid	4,010.0	9,768.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0
1.3*	4	R39-B1-UG15F289P503	4	Phloem, stem 1 - bottom	10,314.0	48,265.0	1.0	402.0	402.0	0.010	0
5	5	Kwatempale from Sarah's Farm	4	Leaf	3,012.0	66,062.0	11.0	604.0	107.0	0.365	0
6	6	Kwatempale from Sarah's Farm	5	Leaf	5,074.0	5,243.0	1.0	235.0	235.0	0.020	0
7	7	Wild Plant from Naomi's Farm	3	Leaf	16,386.0	45,024.0	6.0	1,121.0	352.0	0.037	0
9	8	Sick branch from NAROCass1 from Naomi's Farm	3	Leaf	37,822.0	20,509.0	15.0	2,021.0	166.0	0.040	12
WF5	9	Whitefly from sample 5	4	1x Whitefly, no EtOH	347.0	41,599.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0
WF7	10	Whitefly from sample 7	3	1x Whitefly, no EtOH	2,613.0	2,613.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0
WF8	11	Whitefly from sample 8	1	1x Whitefly, no EtOH	705.0	15,596.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0
None*	None	Porechop unable to match to Rapid Barcode			196,290.0	267,436.0	59.0	1,677.0	42.0	0.030	
<b>Kenya</b>											
1	1	Local	1	Leaf	43,049.0	39,851.0	1.0	123.0	123.0	0.002	1
2	2	Local	1	Leaf	15,890.0	66,540.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0
4	4	Local	1	Leaf	38,291.0	53,843.0	3.0	890.0	251.0	0.008	1
5	5	Local	1	Leaf	9,213.0	44,230.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0
L1*	6	Stem from CMV infected plant	4	Leaf	28,450.0	18,287.0	219.0	2,228.0	98.0	0.770	3
L2*	7	Stem from CMV infected plant	4	Leaf	17,320.0	42,191.0	76.0	2,127.0	78.0	0.439	0
S1*	8	Stem from CMV infected plant	4	Phloem, 22.5cm from tip	16,310.0	24,566.0	10.0	1,485.0	269.0	0.061	0
S2*	9	Stem from CMV infected plant	4	Phloem, 52.3cm from tip	5,346.0	54,245.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0
R1*	10	Stem from CMV infected plant	4	Root 1, under outer bark	7,336.0	15,689.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0
R2*	11	Stem from CMV infected plant	4	Root 2, under outer bark	21,576.0	24,853.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0
H1*	12	Leaf from Healthy Plant	1	Leaf	44,295.0	33,307.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	3
None	None	Porechop unable to match to Rapid Barcode			245,390.0	265,898.0	75.0	2,404.0	28.0	0.031	
<b>TOTALS</b>					<b>492,466.0</b>	<b>56,958.3</b>					

425 **Table 3.** Megan Results of Blastn from Nimbus cloud.

426

	Total reads	Reads classified	Manihot esculenta	EACMV	ACMV	TLCV	Begomo-associated DNA-III	Bemisia tabaci	Bemisia afer	Candidatus Portiera aleyrodidarum	Other
<b>Tanzania</b>											
1	61,317	23,481	15,862	63	-	1					
3	21,468	5,407	3,509	5							
4	31,309	10,561	6,462	2	5	1					
5	2,117	325	144		2			3		3	
6	27,178	2,127	76		1			521	67	802	
7	5,634	1,141	669		1						
8	6,237	1,449	88		5			912		15	
9	25,289	2,303	126	2				506	57	905	
10	789	166	66		3			11		2	
11	10,966	7,843	69	3	616					2	
12	1,797	356	171		2			13		7	
<b>Uganda</b>											
1	18,853	5,662	3,073			11	1				
1.1	5,135	876	402								
1.2	4,010	1,034	591								
1.3	10,314	1,933	864		1						
5	3,012	556	255	1	7						
6	5,074	758	39		1						
7	16,386	4,608	2,666		4						
9	37,822	12,768	7,268	10							
WF5	347	51	20					10			
WF7	243	48	21								
WF8	705	128	35					9		1	
<b>Kenya</b>											
1	43,049	10,283	9,947		1	1	1				
2	15,890	2,968	2,854								
4	38,291	8,648	8,836	1	1						
5	8,213	1,959	1,887								
L1	28,450	9,968	9,580	45	81						SLCV (1)
L2	17,320	4,367	2,050	29	4						
S1	16,310	3,718	1,933	5		1	1				
R1	7,336	2,303	1,016								
R2	21,578	6,810	2,000								
H1	44,295	15,537	8,389				1				

427

428 **Figure 1.** Tree Lab in Kenya. Essential equipment is listed in Table 1.

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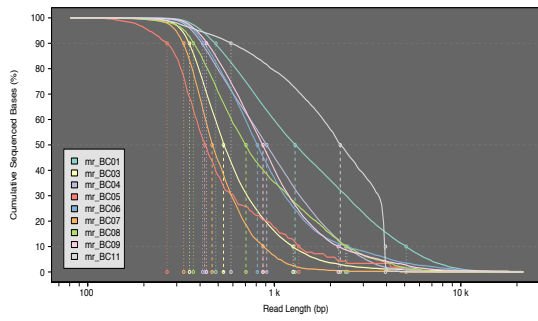
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433 **Figure 2.** Cumulative density curves showing the proportion of sequenced bases with length greater than a particular length (with  
434 L10/L50/L90 highlighted).

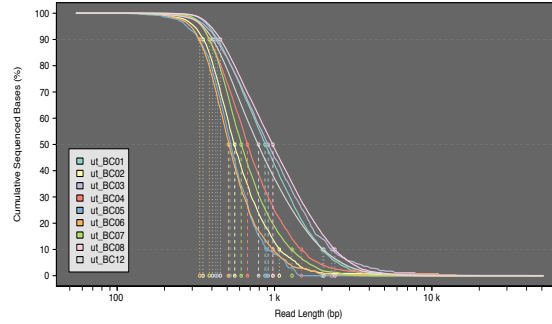
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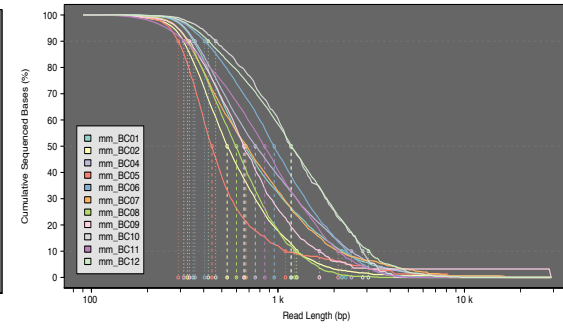
Tanzania



Uganda



Kenya



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