



# Digital PCR as a reference measurement procedure for HIV quantification

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Principal Scientist (NML) & Senior Lecture (University of Surrey)



*Novel materials and methods for the detection, traceable monitoring and evaluation of antimicrobial resistance*

Metrological traceability

International Comparison of DNA Copy-Counting Using Digital Polymerase Chain Reaction

Hee-Bong Yoo,<sup>†,‡</sup> Sang-Ryoul Park,<sup>†</sup>

Clinical Chemistry 64:9  
1296-1307 (2018)

10000 — 7714

NIST Special Publication 260-191

Special Report



of

Reference Laboratory

Article

pubs.acs.org/ac

# Assessment of Digital PCR as a Primary Reference Measurement Procedure to Support Advances in Precision Medicine

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## on of *Mycobacterium*

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> You are here : [JCTLM-DB](#) > Reference measurement methods/procedures

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Your search criteria produced 2 results.

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Sort by :  Analyte  Measurement principle/technique  Matrix/Material

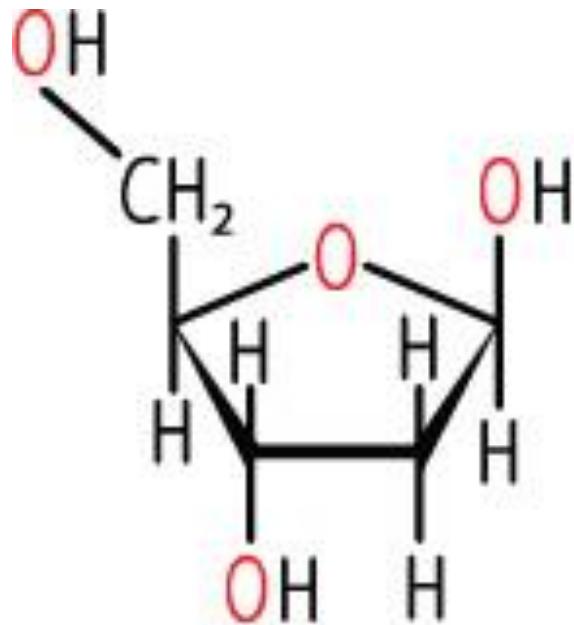
Select	Analyte	Measurement principle/technique	Matrix/Material
<input type="checkbox"/>	KRAS DNA wild type sequence and gene mutation	Digital PCR	calibration solution
<input type="checkbox"/>	KRAS DNA wild type sequence and gene mutation	Digital PCR	other

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# DNA vs RNA



# Evaluation of Digital PCR for Absolute RNA Quantification

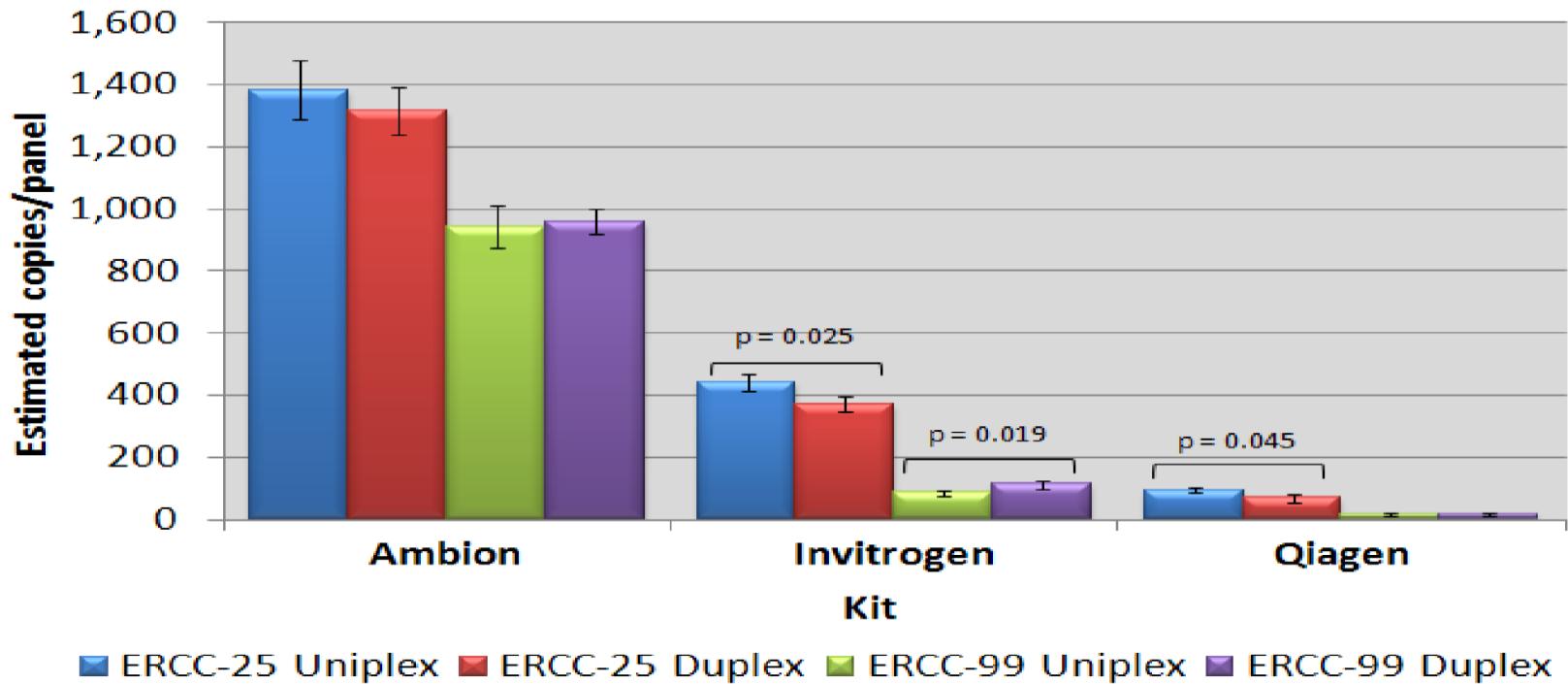
Rebecca Sanders<sup>1,2\*</sup>, Deborah J. Mason<sup>2</sup>, Carole A. Foy<sup>1</sup>, Jim F. Huggett<sup>1</sup>

**1** Molecular and Cell Biology, LGC, Teddington, United Kingdom, **2** Cardiff School of BioSciences, The Sir Martin Evans Building, Cardiff, United Kingdom

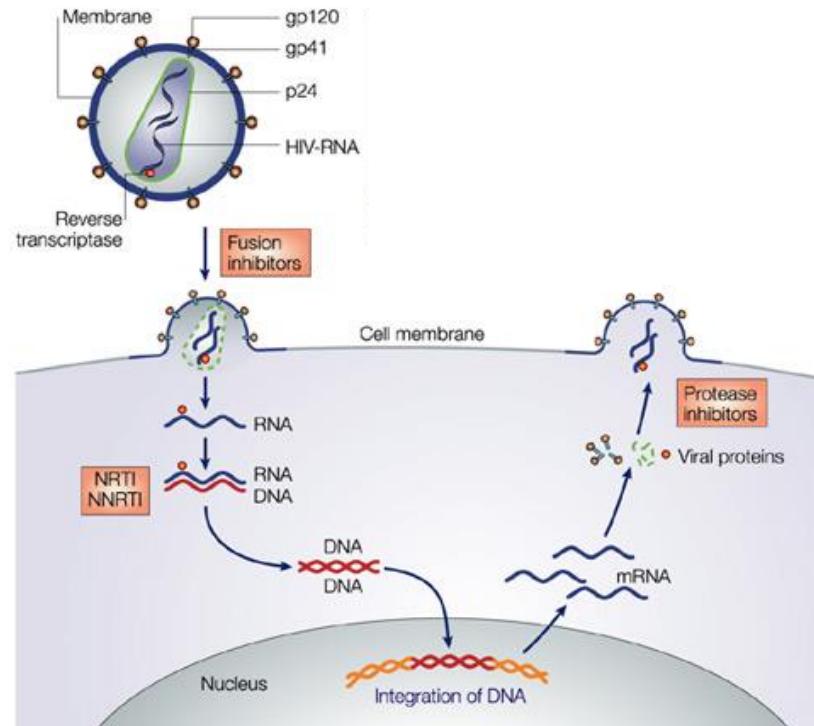
## Abstract

Gene expression measurements detailing mRNA quantities are widely employed in molecular biology and are increasingly important in diagnostic fields. Reverse transcription (RT), necessary for generating complementary DNA, can be both inefficient and imprecise, but remains a quintessential RNA analysis tool using qPCR. This study developed a Transcriptomic Calibration Material and assessed the RT reaction using digital (d)PCR for RNA measurement. While many studies characterise dPCR capabilities for DNA quantification, less work has been performed investigating similar parameters using RT-dPCR for RNA analysis. RT-dPCR measurement using three, one-step RT-qPCR kits was evaluated using single and multiplex formats when measuring endogenous and synthetic RNAs. The best performing kit was compared to UV quantification and sensitivity and technical reproducibility investigated. Our results demonstrate assay and kit dependent RT-dPCR measurements differed significantly compared to UV quantification. Different values were reported by different kits for each target, despite evaluation of identical samples using the same instrument. RT-dPCR did not display the strong inter-assay agreement previously described when analysing DNA. This study demonstrates that, as with DNA measurement, RT-dPCR is capable of accurate quantification of low copy RNA targets, but the results are both kit and target dependent supporting the need for calibration controls.

Anal Bioanal Chem. 2014 Oct;406(26):6471-83



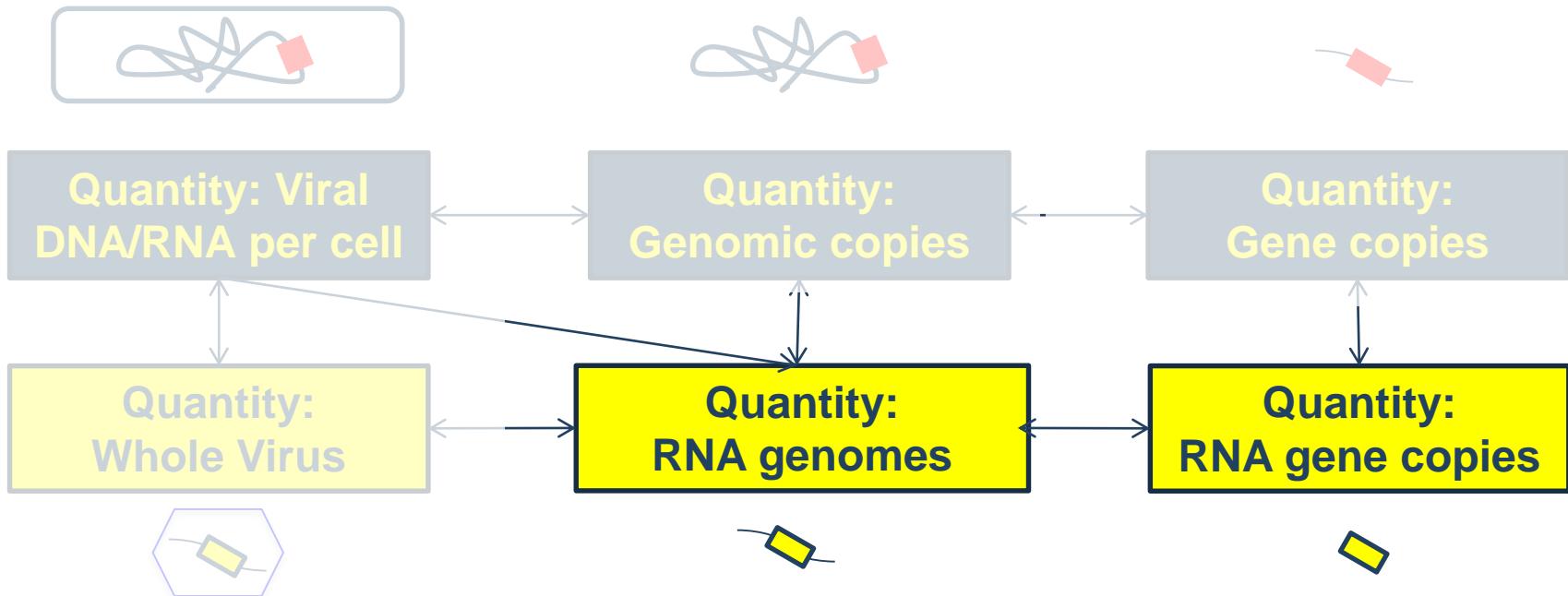
# The HIV Life Cycle



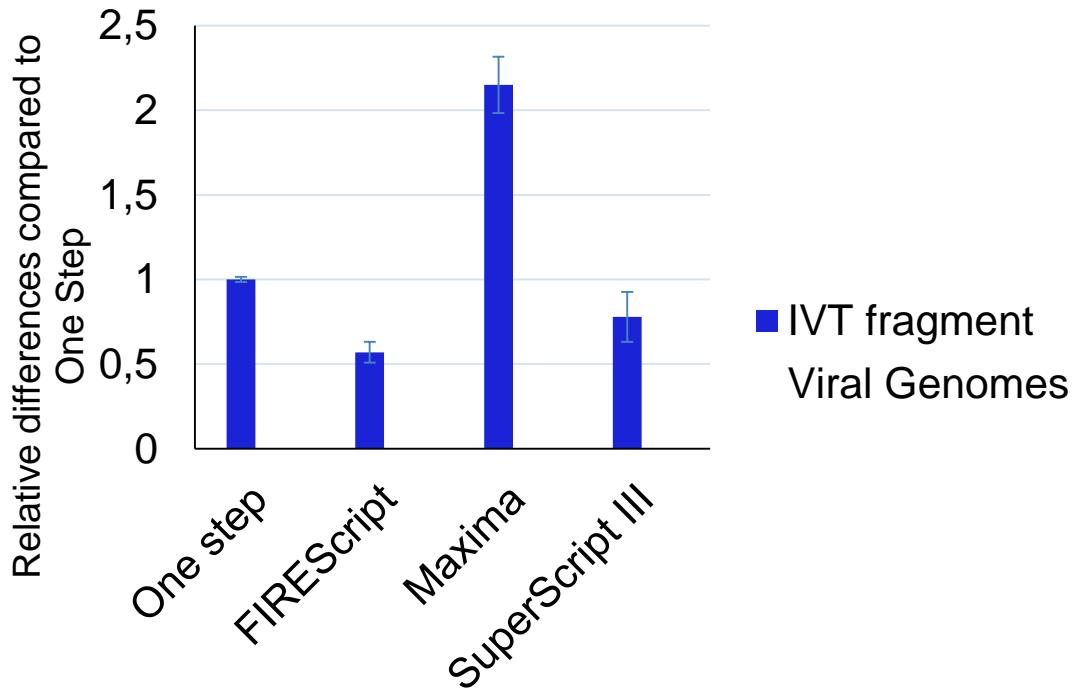
# HIV-1



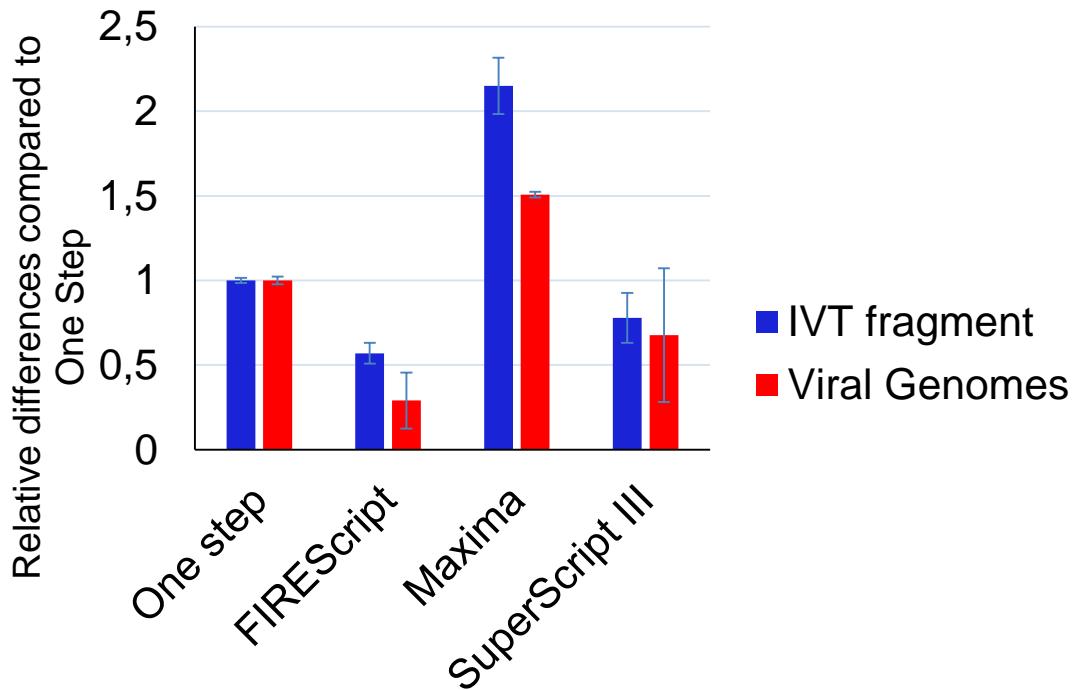
- Retrovirus (single stranded RNA genome)
- Quantified clinically:
  - Guide treatment
  - Monitor resistance
- Measured internationally as copies(IU)/ml blood, plasma, serum
  - <50->100,000 copies/ml
  - RT-qPCR



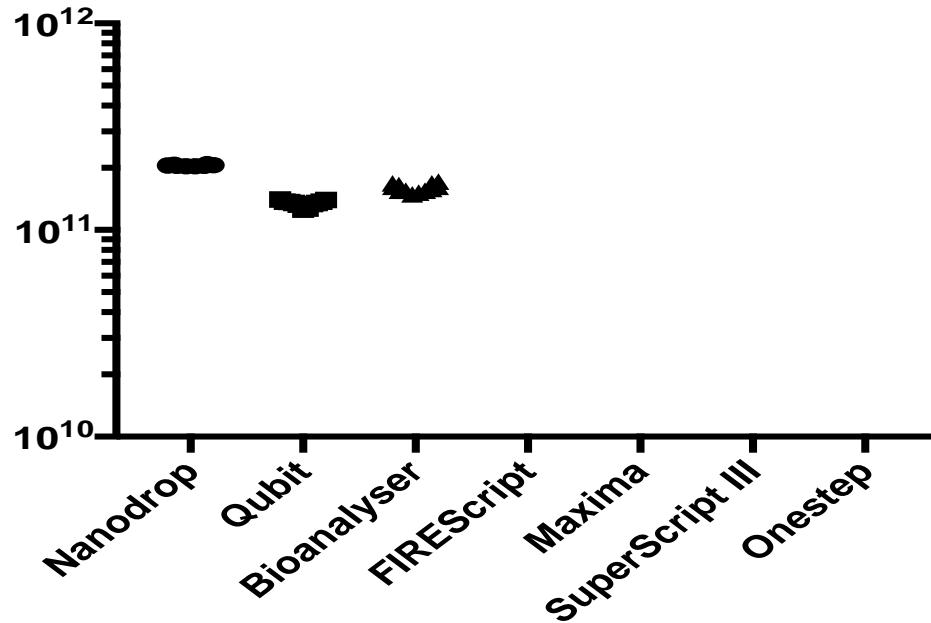
# Comparison of Reverse Transcriptase choice (LTR/GAG assay)



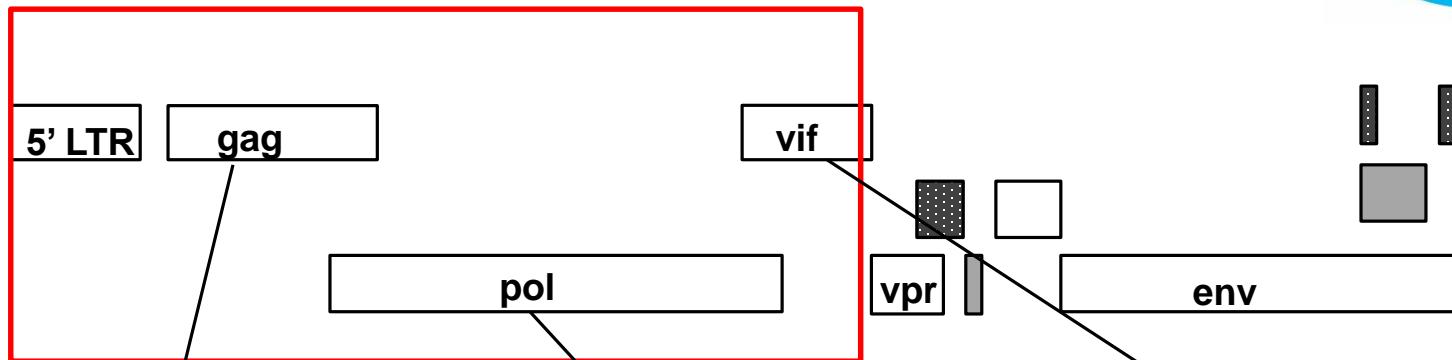
# Comparison of Reverse Transcriptase choice (LTR/GAG assay)



## HIV LTR assay



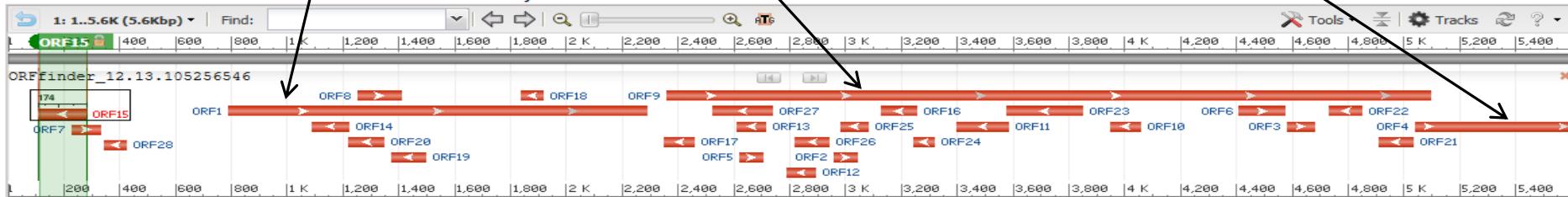
# Synthetic gene fragment ‘UB49’



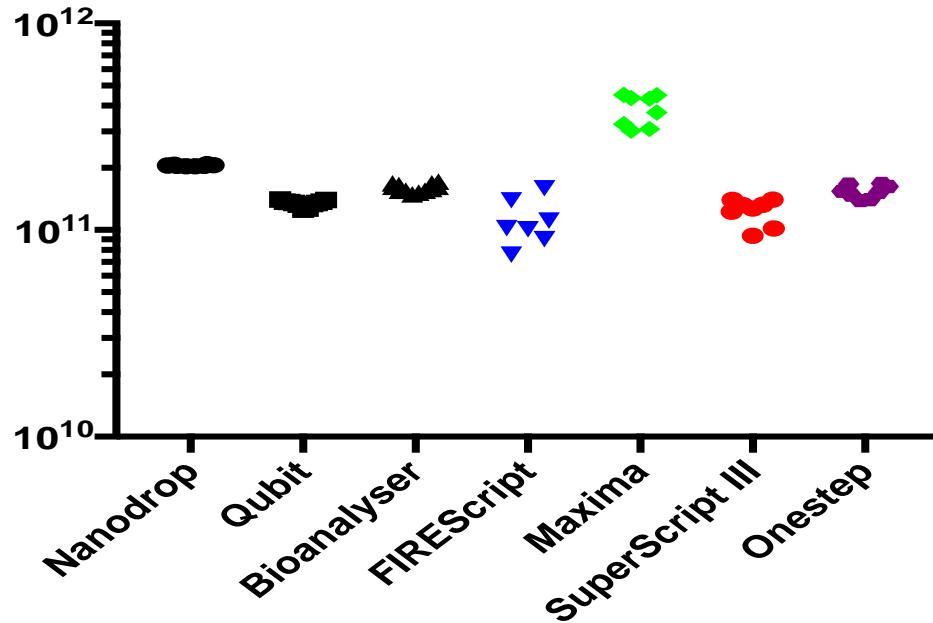
Open Reading Frame Viewer

## Sequence

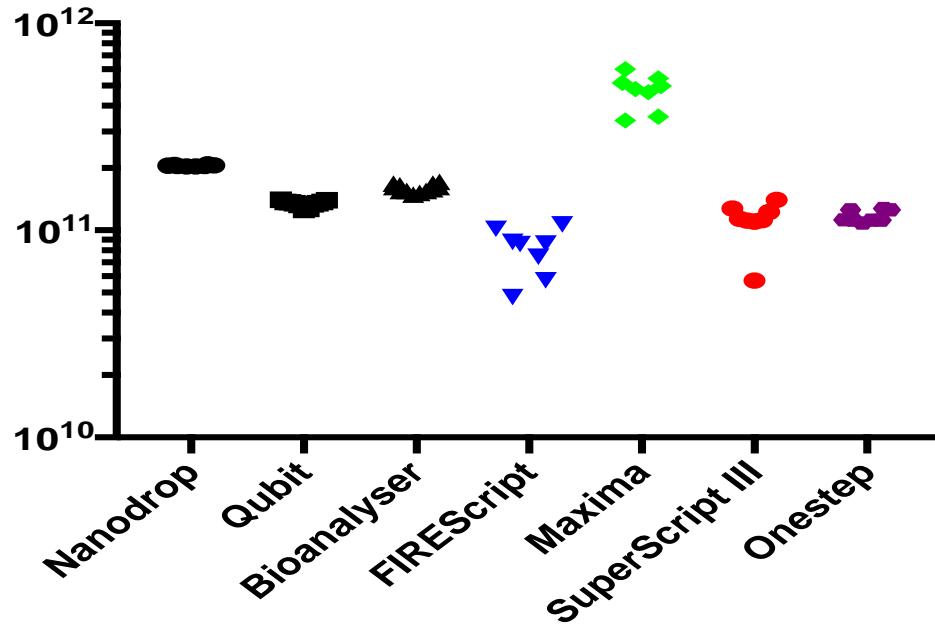
ORFs found: 28      Genetic code: 1      Start codon: 'ATG' only



## HIV LTR assay

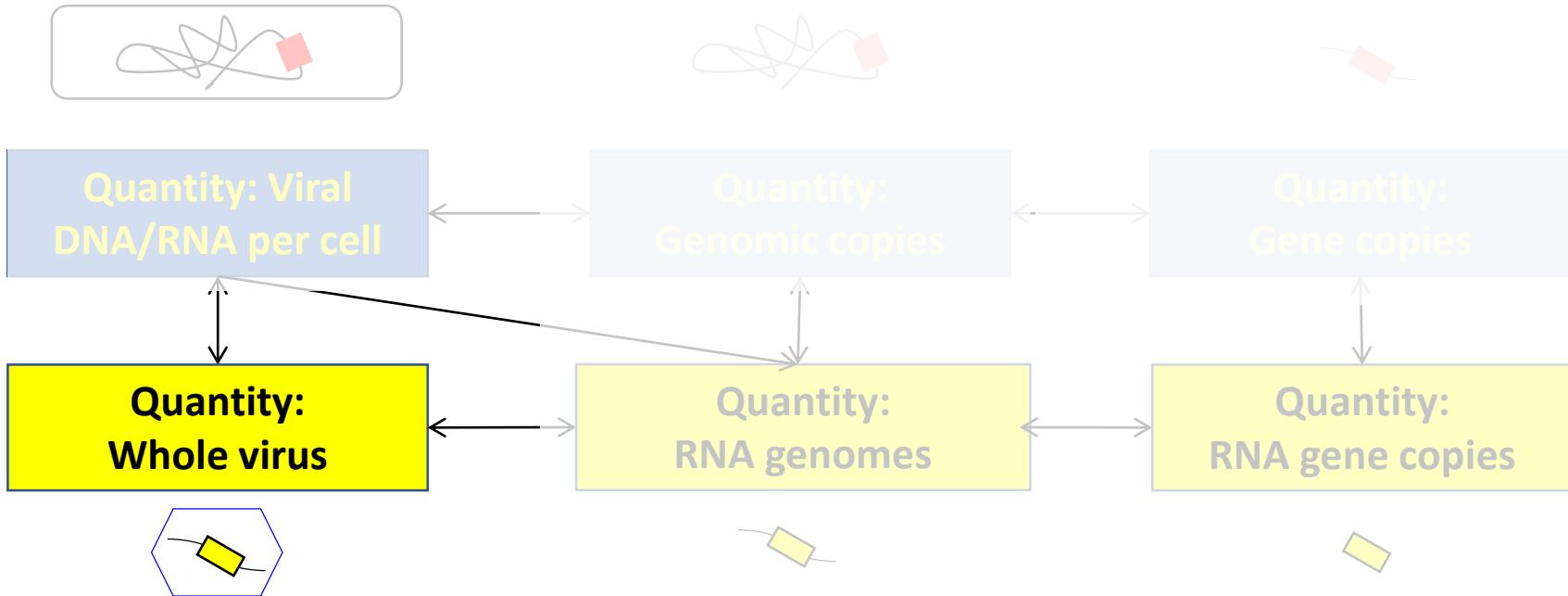


## HIV pol assay

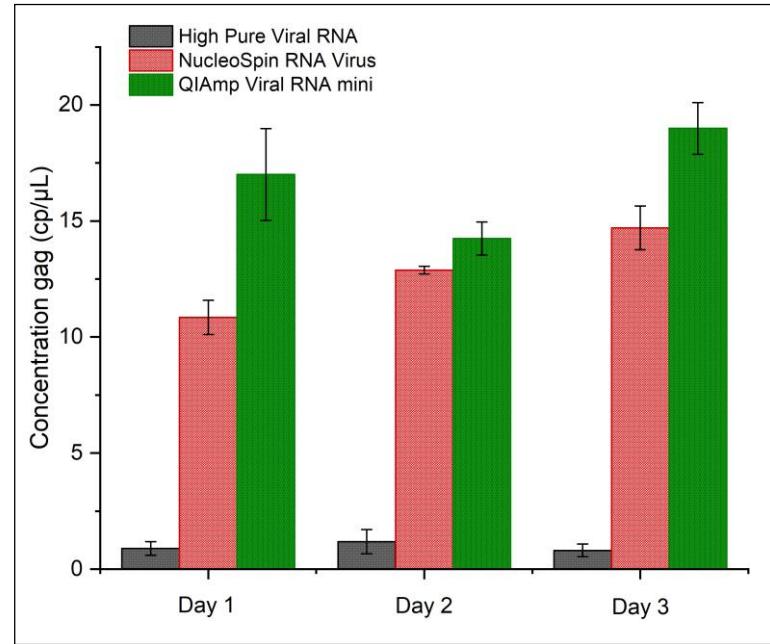




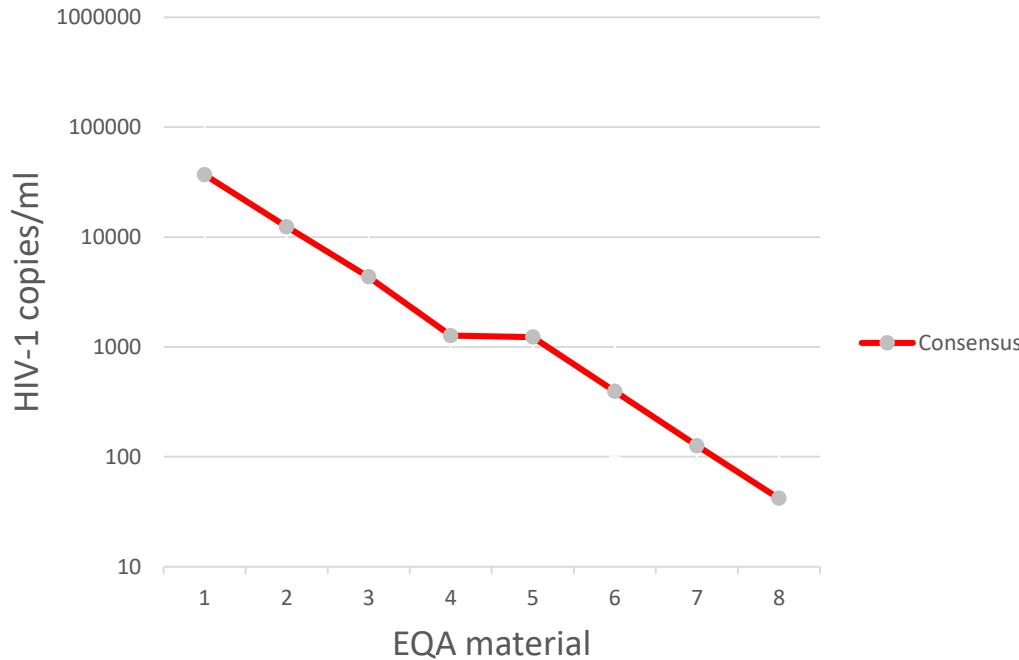
# Materials for full analytical workflow



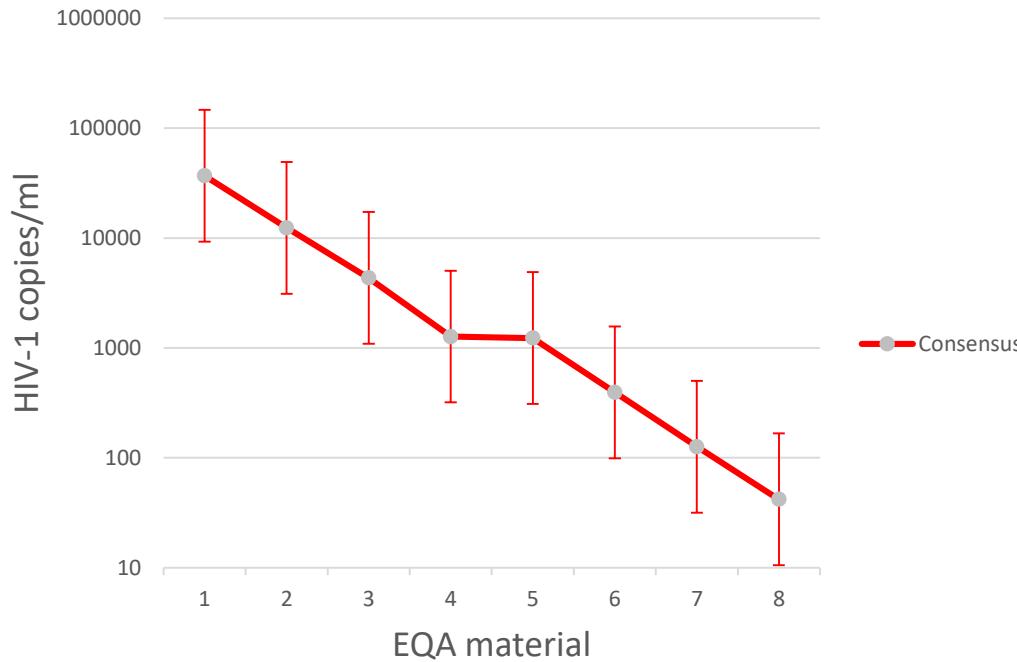
# HIV-1 RNA Extraction Results



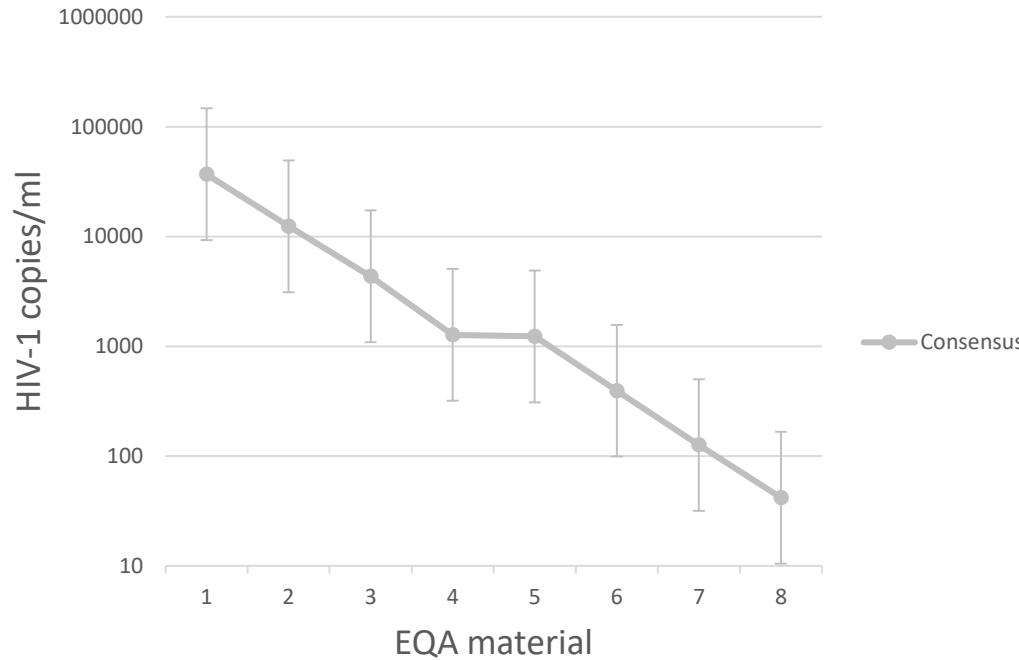
- **HIV-1 (RNA) Virus Genome Detection Program (360)**
- **Additional HIV-1 (RNA) Training Program (382)**
- **PTB and LGC participated using dPCR**
- **Other 140 laboratories used qPCR**

Acceptance range  $\pm \log(0.6)$  for HIV Rili-BAEK

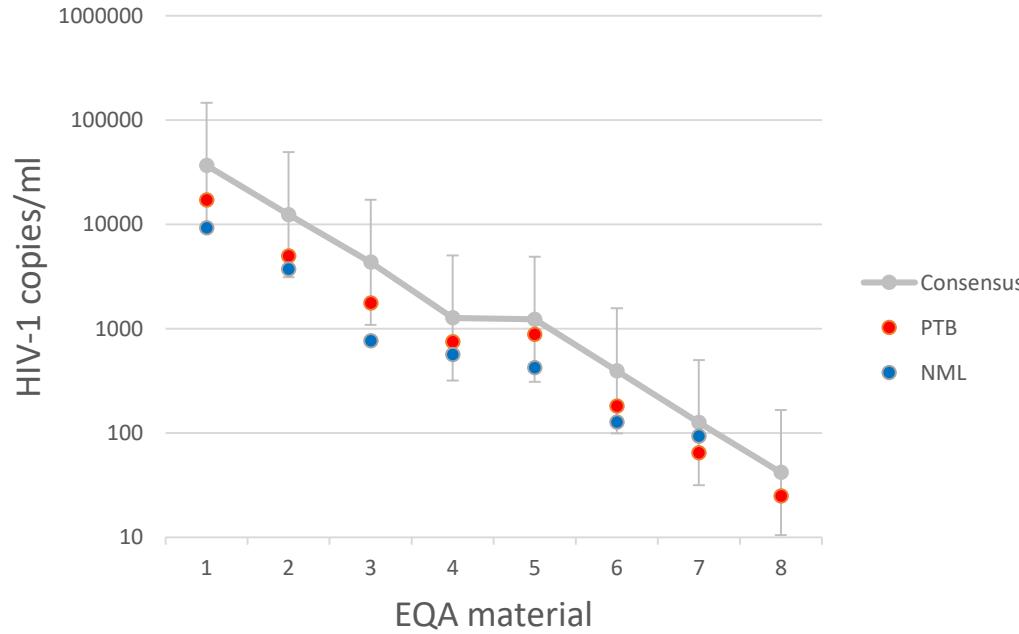
Acceptance range  $\pm \log(0.6)$  for HIV Rili-BAEK



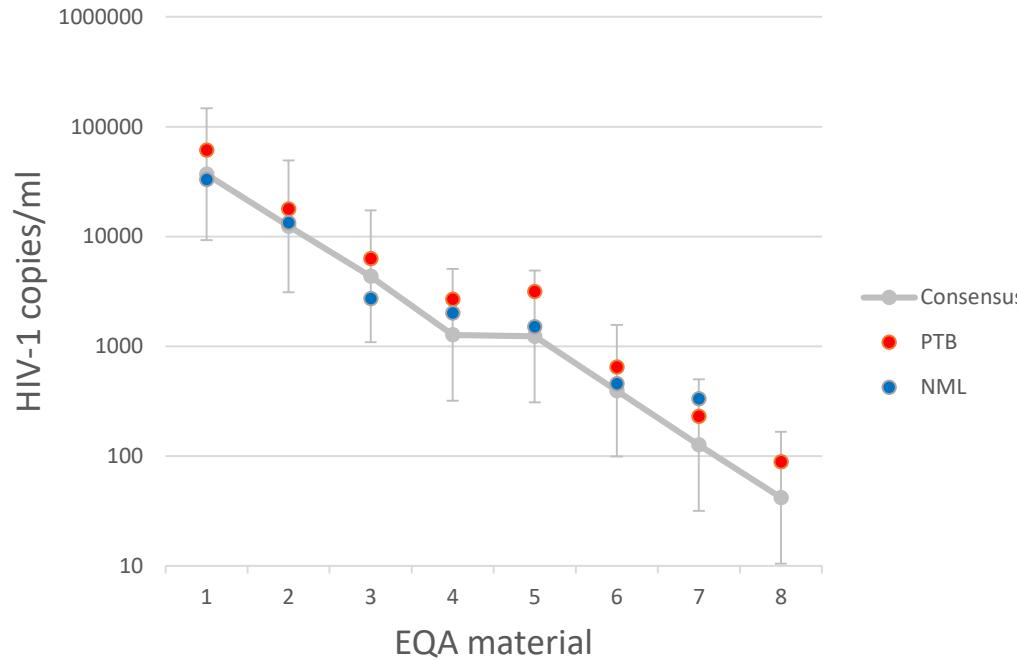
Acceptance range  $\pm \log(0.6)$  for HIV Rili-BAEK



Acceptance range  $\pm \log(0.6)$  for HIV Rili-BAEK



Acceptance range  $\pm \log(0.6)$  for HIV Rili-BAEK



# Conclusion



- dPCR shows good potential as a reference measurement procedure for HIV-1 RNA quantification
- Further work is required to explore impact of
  - Instrument
  - Assay (PCR & RT)
  - Sequence complexity
  - Continue and expand assessment of pre analytical steps
  - SI traceable orthogonal comparisons



# P199 –HIV-1 RNA

- Stakeholder relevance
  - Viruses (e. g. HIV, Hep C) pose a global problem with severe health effects
  - HIV-1 viral load monitoring is directly relevant to clinical management of patient treatment
- Proposed study plan (Duration: Sept 2018 –March 2020)
  - Three materials:
    1. Low concentration genome fragment
    2. High concentration genome fragment for orthogonal SI traceable verification
    3. Low concentration whole genome material
  - Coordinator: LGC with NIBSC contribution
  - 13 NMIs participating. Results presented April 2020

# Future



## Explore the role of dPCR in ensuring traceability in laboratory medicine

EN

Official Journal of the European Union

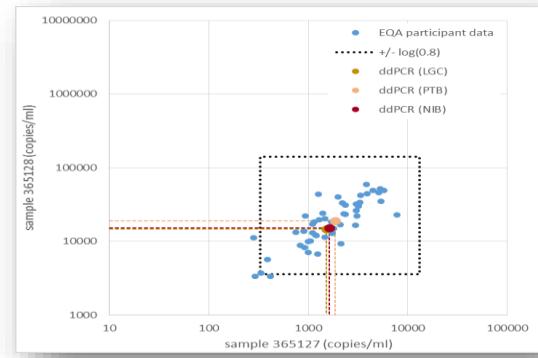
REGULATION (EU) 2017/746 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL

of 5 April 2017

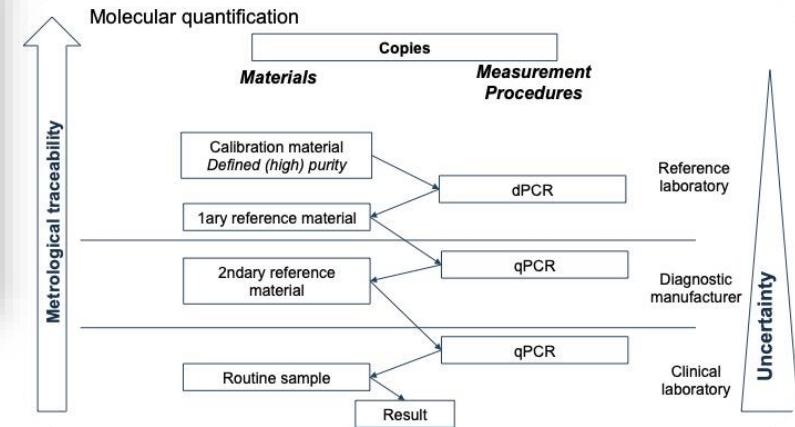
on *in vitro* diagnostic medical devices and repealing Directive 98/79/EC and Commission Decision 2010/227/EU

(Text with EEA relevance)

## Xpert MTB/RIF



ISO17511



# Acknowledgements

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- Alexandra Whale
- Simon Cowen
- Alison Woolford
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- Carole Foy

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- Peter Vallone
- Megan Cleveland



## GBD

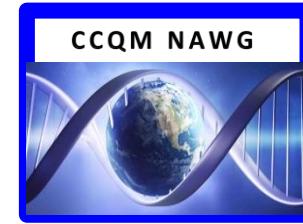
- Heinz Zeichhardt,
- Hans-Peter Grunert
- Martin Kammel

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- Clare Morris
- Mei Mei Ho

## NIB

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- Jana Zel



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## EMPIR



EURAMET

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## PTB

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- Annabell Plauth



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