## Supplement

to
'Amino acid discriminators in a nanopore and the feasibility of sequencing peptides with a tandem cell and exopeptidase'

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This Supplement consists of the following sections and has some overlap with the main text:

1. Fokker-Planck model of tandem cell
2. Volume excluded in a pore by an analyte particle (monomer)
3. Dependence of charge on pH
4. Statistics of translocation of amino acids
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## 1. Fokker-Planck model

The mathematical model for the tandem cell here is very similar to that for the tandem cell proposed for exosequencing of DNA [1]. Similar to a mononucleotide in the original tandem cell, a residue is considered to be a particle that does not interact chemically with the pore lumen or the electrolyte and moves after being cleaved by the exopeptidase through a combination of diffusion and electric drift. With most of the potential difference $\mathrm{V}_{05}$ dropping across the two pores $\left(\mathrm{V}_{05}=\right.$ $0.365 \mathrm{~V}, \mathrm{~V}_{23}=1.6 \mathrm{mV}, \mathrm{V}_{34}=\sim 0.18 \mathrm{~V}$ ), movement of a cleaved residue through trans $1 /$ cis 2 , DNP, and trans 2 is dominated by diffusion. The movement through trans $1 /$ cis 2 and DNP can be studied via the trajectory of a particle whose propagator function $G(x, y, z, t)$ is given by a linear Fokker-Planck (F-P) equation in one dimension ( z ) for DNP, or three ( $\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y}, \mathrm{z}$ ) for trans $1 /$ cis 2 , containing a drift term in the z direction that arises from the voltage difference $\mathrm{V}_{05}$. The drift field affects charged residues but not neutral residues. Initially each section is considered independently. The behavior at the interface between two sections is examined later.

## Solution of the one-dimensional case

The F-P equation in the one-dimensional case can be solved in a straightforward way using methods from partial differentiation equations and Laplace transforms. Let $\mu$ be the mobility of the particle and D its diffusion constant. Following [1], the mean $\mathrm{E}(\mathrm{T})$ and variance $\sigma^{2}(\mathrm{~T})$ of the translocation time T over a channel of length L that is reflective at the top and absorptive at the bottom with applied potential difference of V are given by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{E}(\mathrm{~T})=\left(\mathrm{L}^{2} / \mathrm{D} \alpha\right)[1-(1 / \alpha)(1-\exp (-\alpha))] \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

and

$$
\begin{equation*}
\sigma^{2}(\mathrm{~T})=\left(\mathrm{L}^{2} / \mathrm{D} \alpha^{2}\right)^{2}(2 \alpha+4 \alpha \exp (-\alpha)-5+4 \exp (-\alpha)+\exp (-2 \alpha)) \tag{2}
\end{equation*}
$$

where

$$
\begin{equation*}
\alpha=v_{z} L / D \quad v_{z}=\mu V / L \tag{3}
\end{equation*}
$$

Here $v_{z}$ is the drift velocity due to the electrophoretic force experienced by a charged particle in the $z$ direction. For $v_{z}=0$, these two statistics are

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{E}_{0}(\mathrm{~T})=\mathrm{L}^{2} / 2 \mathrm{D} ; \quad \sigma_{0}^{2}(\mathrm{~T})=(1 / 6)\left(\mathrm{L}^{4} / \mathrm{D}^{2}\right) \tag{4}
\end{equation*}
$$

As discussed next, these formulas can be applied to all three relevant chambers: trans $1 /$ cis $2\left(\mathrm{~T}=\mathrm{T}_{\text {trans } 1 / \text { cis }} ; \mathrm{L}=\mathrm{L}_{23}\right)$, DNP ( T $\left.=\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{DNP}} ; \mathrm{L}=\mathrm{L}_{34}\right)$, and trans $2\left(\mathrm{~T}=\mathrm{T}_{\text {trans } 2} ; \mathrm{L}=\mathrm{L}_{45}\right)$. A piecewise approach is taken, with each section considered independent of the others. The behavior at the interface between two adjoining sections is discussed below.

Translocation through $D N P$. A cleaved residue is treated as a particle that is released at the top of DNP at $\mathrm{t}=0$, reflected there at $\mathrm{t}>0$, and 'captured' at the bottom at $\mathrm{t}>0$. Regardless of whether a residue is charged or not the diffusion is always in the $z$ direction because of the reflecting barrier at $z=0$. With $\mathrm{V}_{05}>0 \alpha$ is positive for negative residues and negative for positive residues. The resulting translocation time mean for negative residues is reduced below that due to $\mathrm{v}_{\mathrm{z}}=0$, and goes above for positive residues. In both cases the net translocation is in the positive z direction for the values of $\mathrm{V}_{05}$ in use. The electric field has no effect on neutral residues and their movement is entirely due to diffusion; therefore $\alpha=0$ for them. In summary all residues, charged or not, will move in the z direction and cause a current blockade in DNP; this, along with other measures (see 'Multiple discriminators in sequencing' in the main text), can be used to identify a residue. Equations 1 through 4 apply with $\mathrm{L}=\mathrm{L}_{34}$.
Translocation through trans $1 / \mathrm{cis} 2$. This is modeled in three dimensions using a rectangular box-shaped region. (The tapered geometry of Figure 1 in the main text is discussed below.) A particle is released at the top center of $\operatorname{trans} 1 /$ cis 2 at $\mathrm{t}=0$, reflected at the top and sides of the box at $\mathrm{t}>0$, and translocates to the bottom of the compartment where it is 'absorbed' at some $t>0$. That is, the particle is considered to be detected when it reaches $z=L_{23}$ independent of $x$ and $y$ and to move into DNP without regressing into trans $1 /$ cis 2 . The propagator function $\mathrm{G}(\mathrm{x}, \mathrm{y}, \mathrm{z}, \mathrm{t})$ can be written as the product of three independent propagator functions. It is shown in [1] that diffusion in the x and y directions has no effect so that the first passage time distribution in the three dimensional case reduces to that in the one-dimensional case. Thus Equations 1 through 4 apply with $\mathrm{L}=\mathrm{L}_{23}$. The effect of $\alpha$ on charged and neutral residues is the same as in DNP.
Translocation through trans 2 . This behavior can be modeled in the same way as that of a cleaved residue in trans $1 /$ cis 2 .

## 2. Volume excluded in a pore by an analyte particle (monomer)

The ratio of volume excluded $\left(\mathrm{V}_{\text {excl }}\right)$ by a particle treated as a cylinder of radius equal to the hydrodynamic radius $\mathrm{R}_{H}$ and height $2 R_{H}$ in a cylindrical pore of radius $r$ and length $L$ to the pore volume $\left(V_{\text {pore }}\right)$ is given by

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{V}_{\text {excl }} / \mathrm{V}_{\text {pore }}=1-\mathrm{L}\left(\mathrm{~A}_{\text {pore }}-\mathrm{A}_{\text {residue }}\right) / \mathrm{L}\left(\mathrm{~A}_{\text {pore }}-\mathrm{A}_{\text {residue }}\right)+2 \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{H}} \mathrm{~A}_{\text {residue }} \tag{5}
\end{equation*}
$$

where the A's are cross-section areas. Table 3 gives the ratio for each of the 20 amino acids with $L=L_{34}=10 \mathrm{~nm}$ and $\mathrm{r}=1.5$ $\mathrm{nm} . \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{H}}$ values are taken from Table 1.

## 3. Dependence of amino acid charge on solution $\mathbf{p H}$

Let the set of amino acids be $\mathbf{A A}=[A, R, N, D, C, Q, E, G, H, I, L, K, M, F, P, S, T, W, Y, V]$ where $A A[i]$ is the i-th amino acid, $1 \leq \mathrm{i} \leq 20$. Let the pH value of the solution (electrolyte) be p , the kA value of the i -th amino acid $\mathrm{k}[\mathrm{i}]$, and the kA values of the carboxyl and amine ends of the amino acid kC and kN respectively. From [2]

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathbf{k}=\left[\_, 12.48, \ldots, 3.86,8.33,, 4.25,, 6.0,_{-},, 10.53,_{-},{ }_{-},{ }_{-},{ }_{-},, 10.07,{ }_{-}\right], \mathrm{kC}=9.69, \mathrm{kA}=2.34 \tag{6}
\end{equation*}
$$

where the placeholder _ = 'not applicable'. Using the Henderson-Hasselbach method the following equation can be written for $\mathrm{C}[\mathrm{i}]$, the electrical charge multiplier for amino acid i:

$$
\begin{array}{rlrl}
\mathrm{C}[\mathrm{i}] & =10^{\mathrm{kC}} /\left(10^{\mathrm{p}}+10^{\mathrm{kC}}\right)-10^{\mathrm{p}} /\left(10^{\mathrm{p}}+10^{\mathrm{kN}}\right) ; \quad \mathrm{i}=1,3,6,8,10,11,13,14,15,16,17,18,20 \\
& (\mathrm{~A}, \mathrm{~N}, \mathrm{Q}, \mathrm{G}, \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{I}, \mathrm{~L}, \mathrm{M}, \mathrm{~F}, \mathrm{P}, \mathrm{~W}, \mathrm{~T}, \mathrm{~S}) \\
& =10^{\mathrm{kC}} /\left(10^{\mathrm{p}}+10^{\mathrm{kC}}\right)-10^{\mathrm{p}} /\left(10^{\mathrm{p}}+10^{\mathrm{kN}}\right)+10^{\mathrm{k}[\mathrm{i}]} /\left(10^{\mathrm{p}}+10^{\mathrm{k}[\mathrm{ij}]}\right) ; & \mathrm{i}=2,9,12(\mathrm{R}, \mathrm{H}, \mathrm{~K}) \\
& =10^{\mathrm{kC}} /\left(10^{\mathrm{p}}+10^{\mathrm{kC}}\right)-10^{\mathrm{p}} /\left(10^{\mathrm{p}}+10^{\mathrm{kN}}\right)-10^{\mathrm{p}} /\left(10^{\mathrm{p}}+10^{\mathrm{k}[\mathrm{i}]}\right) ; & \mathrm{i}=4,5,7,19(\mathrm{D}, \mathrm{C}, \mathrm{E}, \mathrm{Y}) \tag{7}
\end{array}
$$

Table 2 shows the charge multiplier for each of the 20 amino acids for pH values 7.0, 9.0, and 5.0. The charge on an amino acid is $C[i] q$, where $q=1.619 \times 10^{-19}$ (coulomb) is the electron charge.

## 4. Statistics of translocation of amino acids

Substituting for $\mathrm{L}, \mu$ and D , the statistics of the particle in cis $1 /$ trans 2 and DNP can be calculated, where the values of D and $\mu$ for an amino acid aa with charge multiplier $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{a}}$ are obtained using

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{D}_{\mathrm{aa}}=\mathrm{k}_{\mathrm{B}} \mathrm{~T}_{\mathrm{R}} / 6 \pi \eta \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{aa}} \quad \mu_{\mathrm{aa}}=\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{aa}} \mathrm{q} / 6 \pi \eta \mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{aa}} \tag{8}
\end{equation*}
$$

Here $\mathrm{k}_{\mathrm{B}}$ is the Boltzmann constant ( $1.3806 \times 10^{-23} \mathrm{~J} / \mathrm{K}$ ), $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{R}}$ is the room temperature $\left(298^{\circ} \mathrm{K}\right), \eta$ is the solvent viscosity ( $0.001 \mathrm{~Pa} . \mathrm{s}$ ), $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{aa}}$ the hydrodynamic radius of an amino acid (usually given in angstrom or $\AA$ ), q is the electron charge (1.619 $\times 10^{-19}$ coulomb), and aa stands for the i-th amino acid listed in Section 3 above. D values are given in Table 1, while $\mu$ values (which depend on the charge multiplier) are given in Table 2. Table 4 shows translocation statistics for the 20 amino acids in DNP and trans $1 /$ cis 2 . Values for $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{aa}}$ are taken from [3], where they are described as having been calculated from experimentally obtained values of the diffusion constants $D_{\text {aa }}$.

## 5. Conditions for entry of residues into DNP and residue occupancy of DNP

Two conditions need to be satisfied for accurate sequencing:
a) cleaved residues must enter DNP in natural order;
b) no more than one residue may occupy DNP at any time.

Both depend on the time taken by the exopeptidase to cleave the leading residue from the peptide. Since cleaving is a stochastic processs and will vary with the amino acid, let $T_{c . \min -\mathrm{X}}$ and $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{c}, \text { max-X }}$ be the minimum and maximum cleaving times for any amino acid X.
Condition (a). Let residue $\mathrm{X}_{1}$ be cleaved at time $\mathrm{t}=0$. Its mean translocation time through trans $1 /$ cis 2 is $\mathrm{E}\left(\mathrm{T}_{\text {trans } 1 / \text { cis2-x1 }}\right)$ and standard deviation is $\sigma_{\text {trans } 1 / \text { cis2-x1 }}$. The next residue $X_{2}$ is cleaved no earlier than at $\mathrm{t}=\mathrm{T}_{\text {c.min }-\mathrm{X}}$. Assuming $6 \sigma$ support for the distribution, $\mathrm{X}_{1}$ arrives at the entrance to DNP latest by $\mathrm{t}=\mathrm{E}\left(\mathrm{T}_{\text {trans } 1 / \text { cis } 2-\mathrm{X} 1}\right)+3 \sigma_{\text {trans } 1 / \text { cis } 2-\mathrm{X} 1}$. The earliest that $\mathrm{X}_{2}$ can arrive at DNP is $\mathrm{t}=\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{c} \cdot \min -\mathrm{X}}+\max \left(0, \mathrm{E}\left(\mathrm{T}_{\text {trans } 1 / \text { cis } 2-\mathrm{X} 2}\right)-3 \sigma_{\text {trans } 1 / \text { cis } 2-\mathrm{X} 2}\right)$. Therefore for $\mathrm{X}_{2}$ to follow $\mathrm{X}_{1}$ requires

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{E}\left(\mathrm{~T}_{\text {trans } 1 / c i s 2-\mathrm{x} 1}\right)+3 \sigma_{\text {trans } 1 / c i s 2-\mathrm{x} 1}<\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{c} . \min -\mathrm{X}}+\max \left(0, \mathrm{E}\left(\mathrm{~T}_{\text {trans } 1 / c i s 2-\mathrm{X} 2}\right)-3 \sigma_{t r a n s 1 / c i s 2-\mathrm{X} 2}\right) \tag{9}
\end{equation*}
$$

Consider for example $\mathrm{pH}=7.0$ (results for the other pH values are very similar). From the data in Table 4, columns 2 and 3 (mean translocation time and standard deviation for trans $1 /$ cis 2$)$, max $\left(0, \mathrm{E}\left(\mathrm{T}_{\text {trans } 1 / \text { cis } 2-\mathrm{x} 2}\right)-3 \sigma_{\text {trans } 1 / \text { cis } 2-\mathrm{x} 2}\right)=0$ for any amino acid. Equation 7 reduces to

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{c} . \text { min- }-\mathrm{X}}>\max _{\mathrm{X}}\left\{\mathrm{E}\left(\mathrm{~T}_{\text {trans } 1 / \text { cis } 2-\mathrm{X}}\right)+3 \sigma_{\text {trans } 1 / \text { cis } 2-\mathrm{X}}\right\} \tag{10}
\end{equation*}
$$

over all X . From Table 4 (columns 2 and 3), the maximum occurs for $\mathrm{X}=\mathrm{K}(\mathrm{Lys})$, with $\mathrm{E}\left(\mathrm{T}_{\text {trans } 1 / \text { cis } 2-\mathrm{x}}\right)=0.86 \times 10^{-3}$ and $\sigma_{\text {trans } 1 / \text { cis } 2-\mathrm{X}}=0.71 \times 10^{-3}$, leading to

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{c} . \min }=2.99 \mathrm{~ms} \tag{11}
\end{equation*}
$$

over all X.
Condition (b). Consider residue $X_{1}$ to be cleaved before $X_{2}$. Since condition (a) has to be satisfied, $X_{1}$ arrives at the entrance to DNP before $X_{2}$. Let it arrive at time $t=0$. The latest it can exit DNP is at time $t=E\left(T_{D N P-X 1}\right)+3 \sigma_{D N P-X 1}$. The earliest that $\mathrm{X}_{2}$ can arrive at the entrance of DNP is at $\mathrm{t}=\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{c} \text {. } \text { min }}+\max \left(0, \mathrm{E}\left(\mathrm{T}_{\text {trans } 1 / \text { cis } 2-\mathrm{X} 2}\right)-3 \sigma_{\text {trans } 1 / \text { cis } 2-\mathrm{X} 2}\right)=\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{c} . \min }$. Therefore for condition (b) to be satisfied

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{c} . \text { min }}>\mathrm{E}\left(\mathrm{~T}_{\mathrm{DNP}-\mathrm{Xl}}\right)+3 \sigma_{\mathrm{DNP}-\mathrm{X} 1} \tag{12}
\end{equation*}
$$

From Table 4 (columns 4 and 5), the maximum of the right hand side in Equation 10 occurs once again for $\mathrm{X}_{1}=\mathrm{K}$ (Lys), with $\mathrm{E}\left(\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{DNP-X1}}\right)=14.95 \times 10^{-6}$ and $\sigma_{\mathrm{DNP}-\mathrm{X} 1}=14.89 \times 10^{-6}$, leading to $\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{c} . \min }=5.96 \times 10^{-5} \mathrm{~s}$, which is less than the value in Equation 11. Since Equation (11) has to be satisfied, it sets the minimum cleaving interval for any amino acid.

## 6. Sample size requirements for reliable residue identification and confidence levels for a given sample size

The two time-based discriminators discussed above are mean values. To obtain a sample mean value which approaches the population (that is, calculated) mean for amino acid $X$, sequencing has to be done $N$ ( = sample size) times to distinguish the sample mean of X from that for another amino acid Z . The value of N , which depends on how close the mean translocation times of two amino acids are and the desired confidence level, can be calculated using standard formulas from statistics. Thus with a population mean E and standard deviation $\sigma$, margin of error e, and confidence level $\alpha$ (equivalently the percentile value $=1-\alpha / 2$ ), the critical value $Z_{\alpha / 2}$ of the normal distribution can be obtained from tables or calculated using statistical software ( R was used in the present work). For example, with a confidence level of $0.95, \alpha$ is 0.05 , the percentile is 97.5 , and the critical value is 1.96 . The number of samples required for the sample mean $E$ to approach the population mean within error e is

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{N}=\mathrm{Z}_{\mathrm{\alpha} / 2}{ }^{2} \sigma^{2} / \mathrm{e}^{2} \tag{13}
\end{equation*}
$$

For $\mathrm{pH}=9.0$, Tables 5 and 6 in the Appendix give the required sample sizes for DNP and trans $1 /$ cis 2 for each amino $\operatorname{acid} \mathrm{X}$ and its nearest neighbor (that is, the amino acid Z whose mean is closest to the mean of X ) for three confidence levels: $90 \%, 80 \%, 70 \%$. $\sigma$ is taken from Table 4 , e is set to $k \times \min \left|E_{X}-E_{Z}\right|$ where $Z$ is the amino acid in column 6 or 8 with mean $\mathrm{E}_{Z}$ nearest to the mean $\mathrm{E}_{\mathrm{X}}$ for X , and $\mathrm{k}<0.5$. (This nearest neighbor can in most cases be identified visually in Figures 2 and 3, where the amino acids separate into ordered groups.) Figures 5 and 6 show histograms of the sample size for DNP and trans $1 /$ cis 2 respectively for $\mathrm{k}=0.4$.

The value of N to use in the sequencing is the largest sample size $\mathrm{N}_{\text {max }}$ over all the amino acids. In determining $\mathrm{N}_{\max }$ the discriminator to use for an amino acid is based on the smallest number of samples over all its discriminators. For example, with $\mathrm{pH}=9.0$, Asn $(\operatorname{symbol} \mathrm{N})$ has $\mathrm{E}\left(\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{DNP}}\right)=\sim 0.191 \times 10^{-6}$ which is $0.0038 \times 10^{-6}$ from the mean time of $\mathrm{Thr}(\mathrm{T})$ and requires $\sim 23000$ samples for a confidence level of $90 \%$. It has $\mathrm{E}\left(\mathrm{T}_{\text {trans } 1 / \text { cis } 2}\right)=0.68 \times 10^{-3}$ which is $0.0049 \times 10^{3}$ from the mean time of Asp (D) and requires $>200000$ samples. The discriminator to use for Asn is therefore $\mathrm{E}\left(\mathrm{T}_{\mathrm{DNP}}\right)$.

As noted in the main text, amino acid pairs whose mean times are very close to each other are the ones that effectively determine $\mathrm{N}_{\text {max }}$. For DNP the problem pairs are His (H) - Trp (W), Gln (Q) - Ile (I), Met (M) - Tyr (Y), and Ala (A) - Pro $(\mathrm{P})$, with N in the range 1 to 6 million; in the case of trans $1 /$ cis 2 they are Glu (E) - Met (M), His (H) - Trp (W), and Gln (Q) - Ile (I), with N in the range 1 to 11 million. By excluding them from the determination of $\mathrm{N}_{\max }$ and using error correction procedures to circumvent the resulting low confidence levels, $\mathrm{N}_{\max }$ can be brought down significantly.

Conversely for a given maximum number of samples $\mathrm{N}_{\max }$ one can find the confidence level for the sample mean of an amino acid $X$ to be no farther from the population mean than $e=k \times \min \left|E_{X}-E_{Z}\right|$, where $e$ is the distance to the nearest mean, with $\mathrm{k}<0.5$. This can be obtained from the critical value using the statistical formula

$$
\begin{equation*}
\mathrm{Z}_{\alpha / 2}=(\mathrm{e} / \sigma) \sqrt{ } \mathrm{N}_{\max } \tag{14}
\end{equation*}
$$

and tables (or the pnorm function in the software package R). For example, with $\mathrm{pH}=9.0$ and $\mathrm{N}=10000$ in DNP , consider $\mathrm{X}=\mathrm{A}$ (Ala) with $\sigma=0.13 \times 10^{-6}$. Its nearest mean neighbor $\mathrm{Z}=\mathrm{P}$ (Pro) with distance to mean of $\mathrm{Z}=0.0013 \times 10^{-6}$. With $\mathrm{k}=$ 0.4 the resulting critical value $\mathrm{Z}_{\alpha / 2}=0.40$, for which the confidence level is $0.43(43 \%)$. Table 7 gives the confidence levels for the 20 amino acids for $\mathrm{k}=0.4$ and $\mathrm{N}=10000$ in DNP and in trans $1 /$ cis 2 .

## 7. Additional notes

This section expands on issues that were not addressed in the main text or were considered in an abbreviated form.

1) Behavior of a particle at the interface between two sections in the tandem cell. Residues at the interface between trans $1 /$ cis 2 and DNP experience a drift field inside both regions that depends on their net charge. Using formal probabilistic arguments [1] it can be shown that with sufficiently large $\mathrm{V}_{05}$ a residue with a substantial negative charge will eventually pass into DNP, such passage being aided indirectly by the reflecting boundaries in trans $1 /$ cis 2 . The behavior at the interface between DNP and trans 2 is similar. The tapered geometry of trans $1 /$ cis 2 shown in Figure 1 in the main text aids passage into DNP. Similarly the abrupt increase in cross-section from DNP to trans 2 decreases the probability of a detected particle regressing into DNP from trans2. Residues that are substantially positive experience a negative drift field inside both regions. Because of this there is a non-zero probability that such a residue may ultimately not enter DNP and therefore may be 'lost' to diffusion in $\operatorname{trans} 1 /$ cis 2 . Also on entering DNP it may be trapped inside and neither regress into trans $1 /$ cis 2 nor exit into trans 2 . A solution to the first problem that is based on repeating the sequencing with the voltage reversed was considered in the main text. A second possible solution is to design the pore lumen so as to prevent regression of the residue once it has entered DNP. One can also consider use of a hydraulic pressure gradient to prevent entry into DNP; however the hydrodynamic radius of an amino acid is too small for the pressure to be comparable to the electric field. (Compare this with the behavior of polyethylene glycol (PEG) in a nanopore with combined electric field and hydraulic pressure gradients [4]: 12 kDa PEG molecules with a length of 0.35 nm have a hydrodynamic radius of 3.2 nm , which is $\sim 10 \times$ average radius for an amino acid [3].) At the interface between $\operatorname{trans} 1 /$ cis 2 and DNP residues that have very little charge are not affected by the electric field in either region. They are subject entirely to diffusion. In this case the tapered geometry of trans $1 /$ cis 2 in Figure 1 is useful in promoting entry from trans $1 /$ cis2 into DNP and also reduces the probability of permanent regression into trans $1 /$ cis 2 from DNP. Although a hydraulic gradient could be used to assist entry into DNP, the improvement is minimal because its effect is small for reasonable values of hydraulic pressure in the range $5-10 \mathrm{~atm}$ for solid-state membranes [4] (1 $\mathrm{atm}=1.01325 \times 10^{5} \mathrm{~Pa}$.). The behavior at the interface between DNP and trans 2 can be similarly understood, combined with the fact that the abrupt change in diameter from DNP to trans2 acts as a deterrent to regression from trans 2 into DNP. (The behavior is also impacted by the pH value. Looking at Table 3, a pH value of 9.0 results in 18 of the 20 amino acids having (significant) negative charge and only two, $\operatorname{Arg}(\mathrm{R})$ and Lys (K), being positive. However, this has to be considered along with the effect that the pH value has on exopeptidase efficiency. See discussion in the main text.)
2) Ensuring entry of the correct end of a peptide into $U N F$. If the incorrect end (amino or carboxy) has entered UNP this will be known from the absence of characteristic blockades; the peptide remains intact when it enters trans 2 . It can be recycled to cis 1 for another attempt at detection, this to be repeated until residue-driven blockades are detected. With two identical copies of the peptide, two sequencers, one with amino exopeptidase and the other with carboxy, can be used to increase the probability of successful sequencing. An alternative approach that dispenses with any dependence on the peptide's random orientation when entering DNP may be based on two tandem cells in tandem, the first with amino exopeptidase and the second with carboxy. The device would then have the structure [cis1, UNP with amino exopeptidase, trans $1 /$ cis2, DNP with carboxypeptidase, trans2/cis3, third (sensing) nanopore (TNP), trans3]. To guarantee detection in the second stage of a peptide that was not sequenced in DNP because it entered UNP C-terminal first, the unsequenced polymer has to enter DNP C-terminal first. This can be ensured if the poly-X leader (which entered UNP C-terminal first) is longer than the length of trans $1 /$ cis 2 so that the trailing polymer is still inside UNP and the leader (with its free C-terminal in front) enters

DNP C-terminal first. (High enough voltages that are within the breakdown limit may ensure such entry. Up to 0.7 V can be applied across a biological nanopore of length 10 nm [1].) This ensures that the leading residue is cleaved by the carboxypeptidase attached to the downstream side of DNP. When sequencing occurs in the first stage spurious signals from cleaved residues that try to enter TNP after detection in DNP can be avoided by flushing them out after they have entered trans2 (thus effectively deactivating TNP). Yet another possible, and somewhat simpler, alternative (although it requires an additional step) is to attach a capping molecule (similar to a biotinstreptavidin tether [5]) to the trailer at either the C-end or N-end of the peptide to prevent that end from entering UNP.
3) $N \times$ sequencing with one copy of the peptide. This may be possible by recycling the cleaved residues after their detection in the tandem cell back into cis1 for translocation through UNP and trans $1 /$ cis2 to DNP for another round of detection. This recycling can be done $\mathrm{N}_{\max }$ times; this assumes that the recycled residues are not affected by the exopeptidase attached to UNP. For short peptides the value of $\mathrm{N}_{\max }$ can be set adaptively after the first few sample runs have yielded a tentative sequence. The possibility of a tandem cell with recycling capability that uses a hydraulic gradient to 'pump' detected residues back to cis 1 is currently being examined.
4) Sequencing a whole protein. A folded protein could be loaded into the tandem cell and unfolded by an unfoldase enzyme [6] like ClpX before cleaving and sequencing. The unfoldase, which acts as a motor that both unfolds and translocates the protein, could be attached to the upstream side of UNP in cis 1 so that the protein enters UNP unfolded and is then cleaved by the exopeptidase attached to the downstream side of UNP. Alternatively the unfoldase could be attached to the downstream side (similar to [6]) of a precursor nanopore in a double tandem cell with the structure [cis0, precursor UNP with ClpX, trans0/cis1, UNP with exopeptidase, trans1/cis2, DNP, trans2]. Here the unfolded protein translocates to UNP after it has passed through ClpX, following which its behavior would be similar to that in the basic tandem cell. Such a modified tandem cell may be used to sequence a whole protein.
5) Transverse recognition tunneling and the tandem cell. If an amino acid can be uniquely identified by a transverse recognition tunneling (RT) current [7], a cascade of 21 nanopores could be used to fully sequence a peptide. In such a tandem cascade the first tandem stage is used to cleave residues in the peptide, followed by 20 pores each one of which is designed to recognize a unique amino acid. Such a system can sequence a peptide without having to depend on ionic current blockades and the extreme measurement precision required to distinguish among their closely spaced values in the presence of noise. Alternatively a single DNP with 20 recognizers and 20 pairs of transverse electrodes may also be possible. In either case the length of the pore is no longer a crucial issue as it is in most nanopore sequencing approaches. Correlations among the 20 transverse current records can be used not only to improve residue calling accuracy but also to extract other kinds of peptide-related information. The order of the recognizers may also be optimized to maximize discrimination among the residues.
6) Recovering the original peptide? The tandem cell approach to peptide sequencing as described above is a destructive process as the peptide is broken down into its constituent amino acids. Unlike exonuclease-based DNA sequencing, where re-sequencing of the original strand from the cleaved bases can be done using the individual cleaved nucleotides and a template with an enzyme motor attached to a nanopore [8], there is no simple way to re-synthesize the peptide that can be integrated with the tandem cell.
7) Other two-pore systems in peptide analysis. There appears to be one other reported instance in the literature of a system with twin nanopores for protein analysis. In [9] two nanopores in series are used to measure mobility and particle sizes to identify specific proteins. The nanopores are comparatively larger, with cross-section dimensions that are several 10's of nm . The system is structurally and procedurally different from the tandem cell described here. (For two-pore systems used in DNA sequencing see Supplement to [1].)

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## Appendix

Table 1 - Hydrodynamic radii and diffusion constants

| AA | Ala A | Arg R | Asn N | Asp D | Cys C | Gln Q | Glu E | Gly G | His H | Ile I | Leu L | Lys K | Met M | Phe F | Pro P | Ser S | Thr T | Trp W | Tyr Y | Val V |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| $\mathrm{Raa}_{\mathrm{aa}}{ }^{(a)}$ | 2.66 | 3.60 | 2.98 | 3.02 | 2.86 | 3.23 | 3.14 | 2.32 | 3.49 | 3.24 | 3.39 | 3.69 | 3.08 | 3.35 | 2.68 | 2.76 | 3.04 | 3.50 | 3.57 | 3.32 |
| $\mathrm{D}_{\text {aa }}{ }^{(b)}$ | 8.21 | 6.06 | 7.32 | 7.23 | 7.63 | 6.76 | 6.95 | 9.41 | 6.25 | 6.74 | 6.44 | 5.91 | 7.09 | 6.52 | 8.14 | 7.91 | 7.18 | 6.24 | 6.11 | 6.57 |

AA = Amino acid $\quad{ }^{(a)}$ Values $\left(10^{-10} \mathrm{~m}\right)$ from [3] $\quad{ }^{(b)}$ Values $\left(10^{-8} \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{Vs}\right)$ computed from Equation 8
Table 2 - Charge multiplier and mobility for three values of $\mathbf{p H}$

| pH | AA | A | R | N | D | C | Q | E | G | H | I | L | K | M | F | P | S | T | W | Y | V |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 7.0 | Multiplier | -0.0020 | 0.9980 | -0.0020 | -1.0013 | -0.0467 | -0.0020 | -1.0002 | -0.0020 | 0.0889 | -0.0020 | -0.0020 | 0.9977 | -0.0020 | -0.0020 | -0.0020 | -0.0020 | -0.0020 | -0.0020 | -0.0029 | -0.0020 |
|  | Mobility | -0.0064 | 2.3560 | -0.0057 | -2.8177 | -0.1388 | -0.0053 | -2.7072 | -0.0074 | 0.2165 | -0.0053 | -0.0051 | 2.2978 | -0.0056 | -0.0051 | -0.0064 | -0.0062 | -0.0056 | -0.0049 | -0.0068 | -0.0052 |
| 9.0 | Multiplier | -0.1696 | 0.8301 | -0.1696 | -1.1695 | -0.9934 | -0.1696 | -1.1695 | -0.1696 | -0.1686 | -0.1696 | -0.1696 | 0.8018 | -0.1696 | -0.1696 | -0.1696 | -0.1696 | -0.1696 | -0.1696 | -0.2480 | -0.1696 |
|  | Mobility | -0.5417 | 1.9597 | -0.4835 | -3.2912 | -2.9520 | -0.4461 | -3.1654 | -0.6211 | -0.4105 | -0.4447 | -0.4251 | 1.8466 | -0.4678 | -0.4301 | -0.5377 | -0.5221 | -0.4740 | -0.4117 | -0.5904 | -0.4340 |
| 5.0 | Multiplier | 0.0022 | 1.0022 | 0.0022 | -0.9303 | 0.0017 | 0.0022 | -0.8469 | 0.0022 | 0.9113 | 0.0022 | 0.0022 | 1.0022 | 0.0022 | 0.0022 | 0.0022 | 0.0022 | 0.0022 | 0.0022 | 0.0022 | 0.0022 |
|  | Mobility | 0.0069 | 2.3658 | 0.0062 | -2.6179 | 0.0050 | 0.0057 | -2.2921 | 0.0079 | 2.2190 | 0.0057 | 0.0054 | 2.3081 | 0.0060 | 0.0055 | 0.0069 | 0.0067 | 0.0060 | 0.0053 | 0.0051 | 0.0055 |

Charge multiplier values computed from Equation 7 , charge on amino acid $\mathrm{AA}=$ multiplier $\times 1.619 \times 10^{-19}$ coulomb; $\mathrm{mobility}\left(10^{-10} \mathrm{~m}^{2} / \mathrm{s}\right)$ from Equation 8
Table 3 - Volume exclusion ratio

| $\mathbf{A A}$ | $\mathbf{A}$ | $\mathbf{R}$ | $\mathbf{N}$ | $\mathbf{D}$ | $\mathbf{C}$ | $\mathbf{Q}$ | $\mathbf{E}$ | $\mathbf{G}$ | $\mathbf{H}$ | $\mathbf{I}$ | $\mathbf{L}$ | $\mathbf{K}$ | $\mathbf{M}$ | $\mathbf{F}$ | $\mathbf{P}$ | $\mathbf{S}$ | $\mathbf{T}$ | $\mathbf{W}$ | $\mathbf{Y}$ | $\mathbf{V}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| VER | 0.0863 | 0.2196 | 0.1223 | 0.1274 | 0.1078 | 0.1568 | 0.1437 | 0.0568 | 0.1993 | 0.1583 | 0.1821 | 0.2371 | 0.1354 | 0.1756 | 0.0883 | 0.0966 | 0.1300 | 0.2011 | 0.2139 | 0.1707 |

$\mathrm{VER}=$ Volume exclusion ratio, computed from Equation 5; $\mathrm{R}_{\mathrm{aa}}$ from Table $1 ; \mathrm{L}=\mathrm{L}_{34}=10 \mathrm{~nm}, \mathrm{r}=1.5 \mathrm{~nm}$
Table 4 - Statistics of translocation times in DNP and trans1/cis2 for three values of $\mathbf{p H}$

|  | pH $=7.0$ |  |  |  | $\mathrm{pH}=9.0$ |  |  |  | $\mathrm{pH}=5.0$ |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Amino acid | Mean translocation time in trans1/cis2 (a) $\left(10^{-3} \mathrm{~s}\right)$ | Std deviation of translocati on time in trans1/cis2 $\begin{gathered} (\mathrm{h}) \\ \left(\mathbf{1 0}^{-3} \mathrm{~s}\right) \end{gathered}$ | Mean translocation time in DNP ${ }^{(c)}$ $\left(10^{-6} s\right)$ | Std deviation of translocation time in DNP ${ }^{(d)}$ $\left(\mathbf{1 0}^{-6} \mathrm{~s}\right)$ | Mean translocation time in trans1/cis2 (a) $\left(10^{-3} s\right)$ | Std deviation of translocation time in trans1/cis2 (h) $\left(10^{-3} \mathrm{~s}\right)$ | Mean translocation time in DNP ${ }^{\text {(c) }}$ $\left(10^{-6} \mathrm{~s}\right)$ | Std deviation of translocation time in DNP ${ }^{(d)}$ $\left(\mathbf{1 0}^{-6} \mathrm{~s}\right)$ | Mean translocation time in trans1/cis2 (a) $\left(10^{-3} \mathrm{~s}\right)$ | Std deviation of translocation time in trans1/cis2 (h) $\left(10^{-3} \mathrm{~s}\right)$ | Mean translocation time in DNP ${ }^{\text {(c) }}$ $\left(10^{-6} s\right)$ | Std deviation of translocation time in DNP ${ }^{(\mathrm{d})}$ $\left(10^{-6} \mathrm{~s}\right)$ |
| Ala A | 0.609373 | 0.497551 | 0.242606 | 0.197900 | 0.607233 | 0.495455 | 0.170212 | 0.127737 | 0.609373 | 0.497551 | 0.244986 | 0.200232 |
| Arg R | 0.842077 | 0.690397 | 14.602984 | 14.548098 | 0.839119 | 0.687496 | 6.422961 | 6.364767 | 0.842151 | 0.690470 | 14.914867 | 14.860067 |
| Asn N | 0.682681 | 0.557407 | 0.271791 | 0.221707 | 0.680284 | 0.555058 | 0.190689 | 0.143104 | 0.682681 | 0.557407 | 0.274457 | 0.224320 |
| Asp D | 0.677680 | 0.551018 | 0.067638 | 0.033834 | 0.675343 | 0.548730 | 0.059285 | 0.027816 | 0.678670 | 0.551987 | 0.071886 | 0.037017 |
| Cys C | 0.654556 | 0.534344 | 0.235677 | 0.188191 | 0.641881 | 0.521927 | 0.064478 | 0.032355 | 0.655191 | 0.534961 | 0.263117 | 0.215004 |
| Gln Q | 0.739953 | 0.604169 | 0.294592 | 0.240307 | 0.737355 | 0.601623 | 0.206686 | 0.155110 | 0.739953 | 0.604169 | 0.297482 | 0.243139 |
| Glu E | 0.704623 | 0.572927 | 0.070387 | 0.035224 | 0.702178 | 0.570534 | 0.061641 | 0.028922 | 0.706850 | 0.575107 | 0.080662 | 0.043045 |
| Gly G | 0.531484 | 0.433954 | 0.211596 | 0.172604 | 0.529617 | 0.432126 | 0.148456 | 0.111410 | 0.531484 | 0.433954 | 0.213672 | 0.174638 |
| His H | 0.800994 | 0.654251 | 0.398006 | 0.338117 | 0.796725 | 0.650068 | 0.223751 | 0.168003 | 0.814864 | 0.667847 | 9.198090 | 9.143185 |
| Ile I | 0.742244 | 0.606040 | 0.295504 | 0.241051 | 0.739638 | 0.603486 | 0.207326 | 0.155590 | 0.742244 | 0.606040 | 0.298403 | 0.243891 |
| Leu L | 0.776607 | 0.634097 | 0.309185 | 0.252211 | 0.773880 | 0.631425 | 0.216925 | 0.162793 | 0.776607 | 0.634097 | 0.312218 | 0.255183 |
| Lys K | 0.863124 | 0.707652 | 14.946021 | 14.889757 | 0.859587 | 0.704183 | 5.763911 | 5.703731 | 0.863205 | 0.707731 | 15.287508 | 15.231338 |
| Met M | 0.705590 | 0.576112 | 0.280912 | 0.229147 | 0.703112 | 0.573684 | 0.197088 | 0.147906 | 0.705590 | 0.576112 | 0.283667 | 0.231847 |
| Phe F | 0.767444 | 0.626615 | 0.305537 | 0.249235 | 0.764749 | 0.623975 | 0.214365 | 0.160872 | 0.767444 | 0.626615 | 0.308534 | 0.252172 |
| Pro P | 0.613955 | 0.501292 | 0.244430 | 0.199388 | 0.611799 | 0.499180 | 0.171492 | 0.128698 | 0.613955 | 0.501292 | 0.246828 | 0.201737 |
| Ser S | 0.632282 | 0.516256 | 0.251726 | 0.205340 | 0.630062 | 0.514081 | 0.176611 | 0.132540 | 0.632282 | 0.516256 | 0.254196 | 0.207759 |
| Thr T | 0.696427 | 0.568630 | 0.277263 | 0.226171 | 0.693981 | 0.566234 | 0.194528 | 0.145986 | 0.696427 | 0.568630 | 0.279983 | 0.228836 |
| Trp W | 0.801807 | 0.654673 | 0.319218 | 0.260395 | 0.798991 | 0.651914 | 0.223964 | 0.168076 | 0.801807 | 0.654673 | 0.322349 | 0.263463 |
| Tyr Y | 0.817843 | 0.667766 | 0.324958 | 0.264971 | 0.813647 | 0.663656 | 0.197938 | 0.142535 | 0.817843 | 0.667766 | 0.328790 | 0.268726 |
| Val V | 0.760571 | 0.621004 | 0.302801 | 0.247003 | 0.757900 | 0.618387 | 0.212445 | 0.159432 | 0.760571 | 0.621004 | 0.305771 | 0.249913 |

[^0]Table 5 - Sample sizes for three confidence levels for DNP, $\mathbf{p H}=9.0$

| DNP |  | Confidence level $=0.9$ |  | Confidence level $=0.8$ |  | Confidence level $=0.7$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Amino Acid | Nearest Amino Acid ${ }^{\text {(a) }}$ | Difference in means ( $\mathbf{1 0}^{-6} \mathrm{~s}$ ) | Sample size <br> (b) | Difference in means ( $10^{-6} \mathrm{~s}$ ) | Sample size <br> (b) | Difference in means ( $10^{-6} \mathrm{~s}$ ) | Sample size <br> (b) |
| A | P | 0.001280 | 168458 | 0.001280 | 102261 | 0.001280 | 66883 |
| R | K | 0.659050 | 1577 | 0.659050 | 957 | 0.659050 | 626 |
| N | T | 0.003839 | 23491 | 0.003839 | 14260 | 0.003839 | 9327 |
| D | E | 0.002356 | 2356 | 0.002356 | 1430 | 0.002356 | 935 |
| C | E | 0.002837 | 2199 | 0.002837 | 1335 | 0.002837 | 873 |
| Q | I | 0.000640 | 993560 | 0.000640 | 603131 | 0.000640 | 394477 |
| E | D | 0.002356 | 2547 | 0.002356 | 1546 | 0.002356 | 1011 |
| G | A | 0.021756 | 443 | 0.021756 | 269 | 0.021756 | 176 |
| H | W | 0.000212 | 10571896 | 0.000212 | 6417570 | 0.000212 | 4197403 |
| I | Q | 0.000640 | 999721 | 0.000640 | 606871 | 0.000640 | 396923 |
| L | F | 0.002560 | 68401 | 0.002560 | 41522 | 0.002560 | 27157 |
| K | R | 0.659050 | 1266 | 0.659050 | 768 | 0.659050 | 502 |
| M | Y | 0.000850 | 512330 | 0.000850 | 311005 | 0.000850 | 203412 |
| F | V | 0.001920 | 118750 | 0.001920 | 72086 | 0.001920 | 47148 |
| P | A | 0.001280 | 171001 | 0.001280 | 103804 | 0.001280 | 67893 |
| S | P | 0.005119 | 11335 | 0.005119 | 6880 | 0.005119 | 4500 |
| T | M | 0.002560 | 55006 | 0.002560 | 33391 | 0.002560 | 21839 |
| W | H | 0.000212 | 10580977 | 0.000212 | 6423082 | 0.000212 | 4201008 |
| Y | M | 0.000850 | 475793 | 0.000850 | 288825 | 0.000850 | 188906 |
| V | F | 0.001920 | 116633 | 0.001920 | 70801 | 0.001920 | 46307 |

Table 6 - Sample sizes for three confidence levels for trans1/cis2, $\mathbf{p H}=9.0$

| trans1/cis2 |  | Confidence level $=0.9$ |  | Confidence level $=0.8$ |  | Confidence level $=0.7$ |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Amino Acid | Nearest Amino Acid ${ }^{(a)}$ | Difference in means ( $10^{-3} \mathrm{~s}$ ) | Sample size <br> (b) | Difference in means ( $10^{-3} \mathrm{~s}$ ) | Sample size <br> (b) | Difference in means ( $10^{-3} \mathrm{~s}$ ) | Sample size <br> (b) |
| A | P | 0.004566 | 199129 | 0.004566 | 120879 | 0.004566 | 79061 |
| R | K | 0.020468 | 19078 | 0.020468 | 11581 | 0.020468 | 7574 |
| N | D | 0.004941 | 213398 | 0.004941 | 129541 | 0.004941 | 84726 |
| D | N | 0.004941 | 208560 | 0.004941 | 126604 | 0.004941 | 82805 |
| C | S | 0.011819 | 32975 | 0.011819 | 20017 | 0.011819 | 13092 |
| Q | I | 0.002283 | 1174455 | 0.002283 | 712941 | 0.002283 | 466298 |
| E | M | 0.000934 | 6305602 | 0.000934 | 3827756 | 0.000934 | 2503538 |
| G | A | 0.077616 | 524 | 0.077616 | 318 | 0.077616 | 208 |
| H | W | 0.002266 | 1391248 | 0.002266 | 844544 | 0.002266 | 552372 |
| I | Q | 0.002283 | 1181738 | 0.002283 | 717363 | 0.002283 | 469190 |
| L | F | 0.009131 | 80855 | 0.009131 | 49082 | 0.009131 | 32102 |
| K | R | 0.020468 | 20015 | 0.020468 | 12150 | 0.020468 | 7946 |
| M | E | 0.000934 | 6375422 | 0.000934 | 3870140 | 0.000934 | 2531259 |
| F | V | 0.006848 | 140371 | 0.006848 | 85211 | 0.006848 | 55732 |
| P | A | 0.004566 | 202134 | 0.004566 | 122703 | 0.004566 | 80254 |
| S | C | 0.011819 | 31991 | 0.011819 | 19420 | 0.011819 | 12701 |
| T | E | 0.008197 | 80688 | 0.008197 | 31991 | 0.008197 | 32036 |
| W | H | 0.002266 | 1399162 | 0.002266 | 849348 | 0.002266 | 555515 |
| Y | W | 0.014656 | 34671 | 0.014656 | 21047 | 0.014656 | 13765 |
| V | F | 0.006848 | 137868 | 0.006848 | 83691 | 0.006848 | 54738 |

Table 7 - Confidence levels for DNP and trans1/cis2 for a sample size of $10000, \mathrm{pH}=9.0$

| Amino Acid | DNP |  |  |  | trans1/cis2 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Nearest Amino Acid ${ }^{(a)}$ | Difference in means ( $10^{-6} s$ ) | $\mathbf{Z}_{\omega / 2}{ }^{\text {(b) }}$ | Confidence level | Nearest Amino Acid ${ }^{(a)}$ | Difference in means ( $10^{-3} \mathrm{~s}$ ) | $\mathbf{Z}_{\alpha / 2}{ }^{\text {(b) }}$ | Confidence level |
| A | P | 0.001280 | 0.400757 | 0.429120 | P | 0.004566 | 0.368604 | 0.397832 |
| R | K | 0.659050 | 4.141863 | 1.000000 | K | 0.020468 | 1.190856 | 0.907842 |
| N | T | 0.003839 | 1.073168 | 0.870907 | D | 0.004941 | 0.356067 | 0.385426 |
| D | E | 0.002356 | 3.388176 | 0.999998 | N | 0.004941 | 0.360173 | 0.389501 |
| C | E | 0.002837 | 3.506890 | 0.999999 | S | 0.011819 | 0.905797 | 0.799803 |
| Q | I | 0.000640 | 0.165018 | 0.184526 | I | 0.002283 | 0.151778 | 0.169957 |
| E | D | 0.002356 | 3.258653 | 0.999996 | M | 0.000934 | 0.065503 | 0.073807 |
| G | A | 0.021756 | 7.811308 | 1.000000 | A | 0.077616 | 7.184600 | 1.000000 |
| H | W | 0.000212 | 0.050588 | 0.057034 | W | 0.002266 | 0.139452 | 0.156341 |
| I | Q | 0.000640 | 0.164508 | 0.183966 | Q | 0.002283 | 0.151310 | 0.169441 |
| L | F | 0.002560 | 0.628917 | 0.626224 | F | 0.009131 | 0.578458 | 0.586679 |
| K | R | 0.659050 | 4.621886 | 1.000000 | R | 0.020468 | 1.162636 | 0.899868 |
| M | Y | 0.000850 | 0.229801 | 0.254810 | E | 0.000934 | 0.065144 | 0.073403 |
| F | V | 0.001920 | 0.477320 | 0.500345 | V | 0.006848 | 0.439024 | 0.465317 |
| P | A | 0.001280 | 0.397766 | 0.426242 | A | 0.004566 | 0.365853 | 0.395119 |
| S | P | 0.005119 | 1.544947 | 0.971103 | C | 0.011819 | 0.919621 | 0.806584 |
| T | M | 0.002560 | 0.701325 | 0.678716 | E | 0.008197 | 0.579056 | 0.587162 |
| W | H | 0.000212 | 0.050567 | 0.057010 | H | 0.002266 | 0.139057 | 0.155904 |
| Y | M | 0.000850 | 0.238461 | 0.264060 | W | 0.014656 | 0.883364 | 0.788432 |
| V | F | 0.001920 | 0.481633 | 0.504212 | F | 0.006848 | 0.442991 | 0.469002 |

${ }^{(a)}$ Amino acid with closest mean translocation time $\quad{ }^{(b)}$ Critical value of normal distribution (Equation 14)
Table 8 - Statistics of nucleotides (for comparison)

| Base | Nucleotide volume ${ }^{(\mathrm{a})}$ $V_{N}$ $\left(10^{-30} \mathrm{~m}^{3}\right)$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Hydrodynamic } \\ \text { radius } \\ \mathbf{R}_{\text {aa }}^{(b)} \\ \left(10^{-10} \mathbf{m}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Diffusion } \\ \text { coefficient }{ }^{(\mathrm{c})} \\ \mathbf{D}_{\text {aa }} \\ \left(\mathbf{1 0}^{-10} \mathbf{m}^{2} / \mathrm{s}\right) \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{gathered} \text { Mobility }{ }^{(d)} \\ \mu_{\text {aa }} \\ \left(1^{-8} \mathbf{m} / \mathrm{Vs}\right) \end{gathered}$ | Mean translocation time in DNP ${ }^{(e)}$ $\left(10^{-6} \mathbf{s}\right)$ | Std deviation of translocation time in DNP ${ }^{\left({ }^{(1)}\right.}$ $\left(10^{-6} \mathrm{~s}\right)$ | Mean <br> translocation time in trans $1 /$ cis ${ }^{\left({ }^{(8)}\right.}$ $\left(10^{-3} \mathrm{~s}\right)$ | Std deviation of translocation time in trans1/cis2 ${ }^{(\text {h) }}$ $\left(10^{-3} \mathrm{~s}\right)$ | Volume exclusion ratio ${ }^{(j)}$ |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| A | 349 | 4.878957 | 4.473436 | 1.741885 | 0.019994 | 0.019919 | 1.141287 | 0.935719 | 0.412390 |
| T | 339 | 4.808550 | 4.538936 | 1.767390 | 0.019705 | 0.019632 | 1.124817 | 0.922216 | 0.399273 |
| C | 324 | 4.700962 | 4.642815 | 1.807839 | 0.019264 | 0.019193 | 1.099650 | 0.901582 | 0.379756 |
| G | 359 | 4.948362 | 4.410692 | 1.717454 | 0.020278 | 0.020203 | 1.157522 | 0.949030 | 0.425593 |

(a) Volumes in column 2 from: M. Zwolak and M. DiVentra, "Physical approaches to DNA sequencing and detection," Rev. Mod. Phys., 2008, 80, 141-165.
(b) Calculated from ellipsoid of length $7 \AA$ ( $=$ length of stretched mononucleotide, same for all 4 types) and circular cross-section from volume in column 2
(c), (d) Values computed from Equation 8
(e), (f), (g), (h) Values computed from Equations 1-4 ( $\mathrm{V}_{23}=1.6 \mathrm{mV}, \mathrm{V}_{34}=0.18 \mathrm{~V}$ )
(j) Values computed from Equation 5 ( $\mathrm{DNP}: \mathrm{L}=\mathrm{L}_{34}=10 \mathrm{~nm}, \mathrm{r}=1.5 \mathrm{~nm} ; \quad \operatorname{trans} 1 /$ cis $2: \mathrm{L}=\mathrm{L}_{23}=1 \mu \mathrm{~m}, \mathrm{r}=0.5 \mu \mathrm{~m}$ )


Figure 7. Scatter chart of mean translocation time through DNP and mean translocation time through trans 1/cis2 for nucleotides


Figure 8. Histograms of sample sizes for three confidence levels


Figure 9. Histograms of confidence levels for sample size $=10000$


[^0]:    (a), (b), (c), (d) Values computed from Equations 1-4

