

2. Agarose Gel Electrophoresis

·Material

TAE buffer

Agarose Powder

Ethidium Bromide (EB)

Comb and Bed

·Step (take 30ml gel for instance)

- ① Weigh 0.3g agarose powder and 30 μ l 1%TAE buffer, then add to a flask;
- ② Heat up until the solution is completely dissolved. If it boils, move away from the heat until it cools down and put it back on the heat until it absolutely dissolved.
- ③ While heating, prepare the bed where the gel polymerizes. Make sure that it is well balanced and tight, and that the comb is well placed.
- ④ When the solution cools down to approximately 55 °C , add 1 μ l EB to the homogeneous solution and mix well.
- ⑤ Pour the solution into the bed and clear all the bubbles in it with a tip.
- ⑥ When the gel solidification solidifies, carefully pull out the “comb”;
- ⑦ Place the gel in the electrophoresis chamber, then add enough TAE buffer till there is about 2-3 mm of buffer over the gel;
- ⑧ Mix the samples with loading buffer in a 10:1 ratio, then put the samples into the wells, as well as marker into the first well.
- ⑨ Run the gel at 120V for about 30 minutes, then check the result under the Blue Light Gel Imager.

·Note

- ① For different size of gels, we have 25 ml,50 ml and 100 ml agarose gel.
- ② We often use 0.7%,1% and 1.5% agarose gel for different samples.