

Protein gel electrophoresis (Lämmli)

- solutions:
 - Tris gel buffer: 375 mM Tris pH 8.8
0.1% SDS
 - stacking gel (4%): 26.67 ml acrylamide-stock (30%)
0.2 g SDS (0.1%)
3 g Tris base
adjust pH to 6.8
add H₂O to 200 ml
store at 4°C
 - 10x running buffer: 250 mM Tris 30.3 g/l Tris base
1920 mM glycine 144.2 g/l
1% SDS 10 g/l
pH should be ~8.3 (do not adjust pH!!!)
 - 3x Lämmli: 187.5 mM Tris pH 6.8
6% SDS
30% glycerol
15% β-mercaptoethanol
0.003% bromphenolblue
make 1 ml aliquots
heat 5 min at 100°C in heating block
- sample preparation:
 - x μl protein extract
 - 5 μl 3x Lämmli
 - H₂O to 15 μl
 - denature 5 min at 95-100°C (heating block)
 - samples can be stored at -20°C (heat again before loading)
- gel preparation:
 - for Hoefer Minigels (Mighty Small II SE250)
 - clean 1 glass plate, 1 white plate and 2 spacers (0.75 mm) per gel
 - assemble for pouring (white plate in the back, do not tighten screws too much, make sure spacers and plates are level at the bottom)
 - prepare 10% APS (ammonium persulfate) in H₂O
 - make a mark on glass plate to indicate the volume of the gel (~1 cm below the comb)
 - acrylamide-solution: e.g. for two 10% gels:
 - 3.3 ml acrylamide-stock (30%)
 - 6.7 ml Tris gel buffer
 - 200 μl 10% APS
 - 6 μl TEMED
 - mix well and pour gel up to mark
 - add 200 μl n-butanol on top
 - polymerize for ~1 h

- remove gel from pouring unit, remove n-butanol with H₂O
- remove drops between plates using a whatman paper
- stacking gel: for 2 gels:

4 ml stacking gel (4%)
 200 μ l 10% APS
 4 μ l TEMED

- mix well and fill gel up to the very top
- immediately add combs (stacking gel polymerize very fast)
- polymerize for 15 min

-gel run:

- prepare 250 ml 1x running buffer
- carefully remove combs and load samples
- add protein standard
- run gels for 50-60 min at 25-30 mA per gel (use water cooling and mix buffer) until bromphenolblue reaches bottom of gel and runs out
- the protein gels can be stained directly or used in a western blot procedure

Staining of protein gels with Coomassie

- solutions:
 - Coomassie-solution 1: 0.025% Coomassie Brilliant Blue R250
25% isopropanol
10% HAc
 - Coomassie-solution 2: 0.0025% Coomassie Brilliant Blue R250
10% isopropanol
10% HAc
 - destaining solution: 10% isopropanol
10% HAc

- shake protein gel 20-30 min in Coomassie-solution 1
- partially destain in Coomassie-solution 2 (gels can be left in this solution almost indefinitely)
- destain 2-3 h in destaining solution (add a rolled kim wipe to absorb the coomassie)
- fix for ~1 h in 10% HAc
- sandwich gel between wet cellophane foil, put sandwich on a whatman filter and cover with saran wrap
- dry for 1 h on gel drier at 80°C
- make sure gels do not curl