

1. Safety warnings and precautions

Correct operations are necessary for safe use of this product. The complete instructions should be read and fully understood before attempting to use the product.

The Procedure described in the instruction manual applies only to the use for the intended purpose. Using the product for any purpose other than the intended use or in any manner other than that described in the manual is forbidden.

User shall be liable for all safety measures needed for any use other than specified in the manual.

This kit contains acrylamide-based reagents. When using these reagents, protect yourself using rubber gloves, etc.

2. Introduction

EzApply 2D Kit is designed to extract proteins from mammalian tissues / cells and prepare samples through the reduction and alkylation of proteins, for 2- dimensional electrophoresis.

3. Package

Wash buffer	30mL	• • • 2 bottle	Overlay Solution 1	1mL	• • • 1 bottle
Solution 1	20mL	• • • 1 bottle	Overlay Solution 2	1mL	• • • 1 bottle
Solution 2	10mL	• • • 1 bottle	DTT tube for Solution 1		• • • 1 bottle
Solution 1-2	2mL	• • • 1 bottle	DTT tube for Solution 2		• • • 1 bottle
Solution 2-2	2mL	• • • 1 bottle			

4. Components

Bottle	Major components
Wash Buffer	Tris, NaCl
Solution 1	Tris, Ampholine, (DTT)
Solution 2	Tris, Ampholine, Urea, Thiourea, Detergent, (DTT)
Solution 1-2	Iodoacetamide
Solution 2-2	Iodoacetamide
Overlay Solution 1	Glycerin, BPB
Overlay Solution 2	Urea, BPB

5. Disposal

Follow the procedure specified at your laboratory.

6. Storage

- The kit should be stored at -20°C, avoiding direct light. Unopened reagent is stable until mentioned expiration date.
- DTT is very susceptible to oxidation. Ensure that the tube bottle containing DTT is closed tightly.
- Solution 1 and Solution 2 should be divided into disposable aliquots after adding DTT (1 mL for Solution 1, 0.5 mL of Solution 2) and kept at -20°C. Use the aliquots within 3 months.

7. Additional equipments

Additional equipment and apparatus are required depending on sample to be analyzed.

- Micropipette
- Glycerin

The following equipment and apparatus are used for tissue or cell samples.

- Homogenizer
- Ultrasonic homogenizer
- Refrigerated microcentrifuge
- Voltex mixer

8. Preparation and usage notes

- This kit contains reagents containing iodine acetamide, urea, and thiourea. Please wear gloves to protect your body when handling.
- A series of operations should be carried out in a cold room or on ice. Refrigerated centrifuge should be powered on prior to use.
- Thaw frozen Solution 1 and Solution 2 at room temperature. Urea or detergent may be crystallized during thawing. Dissolve these crystalline completely.
- Add 1 mL of Solution 1 and Solution 2 to each DTT tubes and dissolve DTT completely. After dissolving DTT, reconstitute solutions 1 and 2 into the original bottles of solution 1 and solution 2, respectively. After adding DTT, keep Solution 1 and Soution 2 at -20°C.

- Add 2mL of 20% glycerol (in DW) to Solution 1-2 and dissolved completely. Glycerin is not included.
- Add 2mL of distilled water to Solution 2-2 and dissolved completely.
- Prepare protease inhibitor and add it to Solution 1 and Solution 2, respectively. The protease inhibitor should be prepared just before use. We recommend Complete, Mini, EDTA-free (Roche), as a protease inhibitor. For detailed information about the protease inhibitor, contact the manufacturer.

● 9. Procedure

Mammalian tissues		Cells / Bacterial cells	
Cut 100 mg of tissue sample into pieces (less than 2-mm block) and transfer them to a tube.		Harvest cells from culture medium / bacterial suspension by centrifugation.	
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Add 1 mL of Wash Buffer. After vortex-mixing, centrifuge the tissue (4000 rpm, 5-30 seconds). Repeat this wash step for 3 times.		Suspend approximately 100 mg of cell pellet / bacterial cells in 1 mL of Wash Buffer by pipetting. Transfer the suspension to a microtube. After vortex-mixing, centrifuge at 4000 rpm for 5 seconds. Repeat this wash step for 3 times.	
↓		↓	
Transfer the washed tissue into a suitable container for homogenization, and add 1 mL of Solution 1.		Transfer the washed cells into a suitable container for homogenization, and add 1 mL of Solution 1.	
↓		↓	
Homogenize the tissue sample on ice. Homogenization conditions should be optimized. Different samples require different methods to achieve complete disruption.		Homogenize the washed cells on ice. Homogenization conditions should be optimized. Different samples require different methods to achieve complete disruption.	
↓		↓	
Centrifuge at 13000 - 17000 g for 20 - 40 minutes at 4°C. Centrifugation conditions should be optimized for samples.		Centrifuge at 13000 - 17000 g for 20 - 40 minutes at 4°C. Centrifugation conditions should be optimized for samples.	
↓		↓	
Transfer a 0.5 - 0.7 mL aliquot from the middle layer of the supernatant to new tube.	Add 0.5 mL of Solution 2 to the homogenized tissue sample.	Transfer a 0.5 - 0.7 mL aliquot from the middle layer of the supernatant to new tube.	Add 0.5 mL of Solution 2 to the homogenized cells.
↓		↓	
Add a one-fifth volume (100 - 140 μL) of Solution 1-2 to the aliquot, and incubate the mixture at room temperature for 10 minutes.	Sonicate the homogenized tissue on ice (10 - 20 times at 2-second intervals).	Add a one-fifth volume (100 - 140 μL) of Solution 1-2 to the above aliquot, and incubate the mixture at room temperature for 10 minutes.	Sonicate the homogenized cells on ice (10 - 20 times at 2-second intervals).
↓		↓	
Apply the sample to the first dimensional agarose gel and overlay it with 10 μL of Stratified Solution 1, and then begin the first dimensional electrophoresis.	Centrifuge at 13000 - 17000 g for 20 minutes at 4°C	Apply the sample to the first dimensional agarose gel and overlay it with 10 μL of Stratified Solution 1, and then begin the first dimensional electrophoresis.	Centrifuge at 13000 - 17000 g for 20 minutes at 4°C
↓		↓	
	Transfer the supernatant to new tube and mix with a one-fifth volume of Solution 2-2. Incubate the mixture at room temperature for 10 minutes.		Transfer the supernatant to new tube and mix with a one-fifth volume of Solution 2-2. Incubate the mixture at room temperature for 10 minutes.
↓		↓	
	Apply the sample to the first dimensional agarose gel and overlay it with 10 μL of Stratified Solution 2, and then begin the first dimensional electrophoresis.		Apply the sample to the first dimensional agarose gel and overlay it with 10 μL of Stratified Solution 2, and then begin the first dimensional electrophoresis.
<Hydrophilic fraction>	<Hydrophobic fraction>	<Hydrophilic fraction>	<Hydrophobic fraction>

9. Procedure

Liquid samples (*1 Serum, urine , liquid medium, etc.)

Perform desalting, delipidation, or removal of culture medium-derived proteins or albumin, as necessary. A method for the desalting and delipidation of serum samples using trichloroacetate (TCA) is described below. For detailed information, refer to literatures.

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Add 0.9 mL of Solution 1 to 100 μ L of serum sample.

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(*2) Add 100 μ L of 100% TCA.

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Incubate the mixture on ice for 30 minutes.

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Centrifuge it at 13000 - 17000 g for 10 minutes at 4°C.

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Remove all the supernatant. Mix the precipitates with 1 mL of chilled acetone (-20°C)

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Centrifuge it at 13000 - 17000 g for 10 minutes at 4°C. Repeat twice this wash step with acetone.

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Remove acetone and dry up the precipitates.

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Add 1 mL of Solution 2 to the precipitates and sonicate them on ice (10 - 20 times at 2-second intervals).

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Mix the precipitates with a one-fifth volume of Solution 2-2. Incubate the mixture at room temperature for 10 minutes.

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Apply the sample to the first dimensional agarose gel and overlay it with 10 μ L of Stratified Solution 2, and then begin the first dimensional electrophoresis.

*1 It is based on the premise that all proteins contained in the liquid sample are hydrophilic. Hydrophilic proteins cannot be separated from hydrophobic proteins.

*2 One gram of TCA is dissolved in distilled water to mess up a final volume of 1 mL.

Plants

Cut 20 - 40 mg of plant tissue into pieces (less than 2 mm-block) and transfer them to an appropriate container.

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*1 After adding 1 mL of Solution 1, homogenize the tissue. Homogenization conditions should be optimized.

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Centrifuge at 13000 - 17000 g for 20 - 40 minutes at 4°C. Centrifugation conditions should be optimized for the tissue. Different samples require different methods to achieve complete disruption.

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*2 Transfer the supernatant to new tube and mix it with a one-tenth volume of 100% TCA.

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Incubate the mixture on ice for 30 - 60 minutes and centrifuge it at 13000 - 17000 g for 10 minutes at 4°C.

↓

Remove all the supernatant and mix the precipitates with 1 mL of chilled acetone (-20°C).

↓

Centrifuge at 13000 - 17000 g for 10 minutes at 4°C. Repeat twice this wash step with acetone.

↓

Remove acetone and dry up the precipitates.

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Add a 3- to 5-fold volume of Solution 2 to the precipitates, and sonicate them on ice (10 - 20 times at 2-second intervals).

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Add a one-fifth volume of Solution 2-2 to the precipitates, and incubate them at room temperature for 10 minutes

↓

Apply the sample to the first dimensional agarose gel and overlay it with 10 μ L of Stratified Solution 2, and then begin the first dimensional electrophoresis.

*1 Solution 1 included in this kit contains DTT, but not any polyphenol scavenger or antioxidant. Select appropriate reagents for the sample.

*2 This kit is not suitable for the fractionated extraction of plant samples.

Troubleshooting Guide

Spots after the second dimension electrophoresis appear broad, not sharp.

1) Protein reduction is insufficient

DTT, once dissolved, degenerates with time and its reducing ability decreases, even when stored -20°C.

2) Blocking of protein thiol is insufficient

Thiol blocking with iodoacetamide occurs at pH 8.8 - 9.3. The pH of the solution may vary depending on the properties (status) of samples.

3) Contamination with lipid or contaminants

A tissue sample may be contaminated with lipid, due to washing is insufficient. For plants or other samples which are easily contaminated by contaminants, extract with Solution 1 and filter the supernatant (using a 0.45 µm filter unit, etc.)

4) Protein concentration exceeds the separation limit

Apply the optimized concentration of protein sample to the first dimensional agarose gel.

5) Incomplete contact between first dimensional gel and second dimensional gel

The gap between the first and second dimensional gels results in an electrophoresed pattern with protein diffusion. Make sure that the 1st and 2nd gels are in contact completely and no air bubbles are traced between them.

No spot is detected.

1) Sample quantity (protein concentrations are too low)

When the sample produces no visible spots though the band of a molecular mass marker appears, protein amount containing in the sample may be too small. Measure protein concentration in the sample using a protein assay kit for two-dimensional electrophoresis samples, etc. When protein concentration cannot be measured, prepare a dilution series of the sample and subject the serial dilutions to SDS-PAGE, preliminarily. When a sample extracted using EzApply 2D Kit is subjected to SDS-PAGE, it should be diluted 10 times with AE-1430 EzApply (sample buffer for SDS-PAGE) and heated before SDS-PAGE.

2) Failure in first dimensional electrophoresis

Contamination by materials that interfere with isoelectric focusing electrophoresis may occur. High concentrations of lipid components, materials carrying electrical charge (except proteins) and high concentrations of salts may interfere with isoelectric focusing electrophoresis.

3) Decomposition / degeneration of proteins

Decomposition / degeneration of proteins should be prevented by preparing samples in a cold room or on ice and adding protease inhibitors. Prepared sample solutions should be stored at -80°C and used within 2 weeks, avoiding repeated freezing / thawing cycle.

TCA precipitate is hardly soluble.

1) Remaining of TCA

When TCA remains, the solubility of the precipitate may be reduced. Remove TCA completely and wash the precipitate thoroughly with acetone.

Tips for dissolution of TCA precipitate

1) Washing with acetone

After adding acetone, break the precipitate into smaller pieces using a 100-µL tip. Do not do pipetting during this, otherwise the tip would be blocked with protein pieces.

2) Change of pH

Remaining TCA causes low pH, which reduces the solubility of the precipitate. Addition of 0.5 - 1 M Tris may facilitate easy dissolution of the precipitate

