Biochemistry Lab



Visualizing Biological Molecules





Electrophoresis



Controlled motion of charged molecules Relies on an electrochemical cell



Electrophoresis



Controlled motion of charged molecules



Oxidation

Reduction

A salt bridge is also needed to maintain charge balance.

Anions flow to Anode Cations flow to Cathode In electrophoresis, the salt bridge is made of a porous matrix that allows selective penetration of molecule based on size and shape.

Electrophoretic Mobility



How far a protein can travel down a gel

Size – Can it easily fit through the pores?

Shape – Does it have structural components that make it appear bigger?

Charge – Will it travel toward the anode or cathode?





Protein electrophoresis almost always uses polyacrylamide to form the resolving matrix





Polyacrylamide Gel Electrophoresis



What do we need for a crosslinking molecule?





Size Matters





Denaturing Condition

We want to see use PAGE to estimate size! This is NOT possible for folded protein.



Denaturing Condition



Such a process allows proteins to be separated based primarily on polypeptide chain length.





Long Chains experience more drag while winding through a pores.