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4: User-friendly protocol: Cost-efficient Primer Exchange Reaction (PER) concatemerization (SABER-FISH)

In 1 collection

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1 Works for me

This protocol is published without a DOI.

Human Cell Atlas Method Development Community

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ABSTRACT

This protocol explains the cost-efficient Primer Exchange Reaction (PER) concatemerization.



This protocol is part of the [SABER-FISH collection](#).

EXTERNAL LINK

<http://saber.fish/>

THIS PROTOCOL ACCOMPANIES THE FOLLOWING PUBLICATION

Kishi, J.Y., Lapan, S.W., Beliveau, B.J. et al. SABER amplifies FISH: enhanced multiplexed imaging of RNA and DNA in cells and tissues. Nat Methods 16, 533–544 (2019). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41592-019-0404-0>

ATTACHMENTS

SABER amplifies
FISH_enhanced
multiplexed imaging of
RNA and DNA in cells and
tissues.pdf

PROTOCOL CITATION

Jocelyn Y. Kishi, Sylvain W. Lapan, Brian J Beliveau, Emma R. West, Allen Zhu, Hiroshi M. Sasaki, Sinem Saka, Yu Wang, Constance L Cepko, Peng Yin 2020. 4: User-friendly protocol: Cost-efficient Primer Exchange Reaction (PER) concatemerization (SABER-FISH). **protocols.io**
<https://protocols.io/view/4-user-friendly-protocol-cost-efficient-primer-exc-bh9ij94e>

MANUSCRIPT CITATION please remember to cite the following publication along with this protocol

Kishi, J.Y., Lapan, S.W., Beliveau, B.J. et al. SABER amplifies FISH: enhanced multiplexed imaging of RNA and DNA in cells and tissues. Nat Methods 16, 533–544 (2019). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41592-019-0404-0>

EXTERNAL LINK

<http://saber.fish/>

COLLECTIONS ⓘ



SABER-FISH – Signal amplification for multiplexed fluorescence in situ hybridization assays

KEYWORDS

PER, Primer Exchange Reaction, concatemerization

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PARENT PROTOCOLS

Part of collection

[SABER-FISH – Signal amplification for multiplexed fluorescence in situ hybridization assays](#)

MATERIALS

NAME	CATALOG #	VENDOR
Magnesium Sulfate (MgSO ₄) Solution - 6.0 ml	B1003S	New England Biolabs
UltraPure™ DNase/RNase-Free Distilled Water	10977023	Thermo Fisher
E-Gel™ EX Agarose Gels, 1%	G402001	Thermo Fisher
10x PBS		
Deoxynucleotide (dNTP) Solution Set	N0446S	New England Biolabs
Clean.G hairpin (1 μM)		
Bst DNA Polymerase (large fragment)	BPL-300	MCLAB
Hairpin (5 μM)		
Probe oligo pool (10 μM)		
SYBR Gold dye		
PB Buffer		
MinElute PCR Purification Kit	28004	Qiagen

MATERIALS TEXT

Clean.G (CCCCGAAAGTGGCCTCGGGCCTTTTGGCCCAGGCCACTTTCG) is ordered with standard desalting and diluted in H₂O.



Note 1: dGTP nucleotides are excluded from the reaction as a string of C's in the hairpin is used as a stop sequence. The Clean.G oligo incorporates contaminating dGTPs (see Fig. S6 from ref³⁰). The dNTP mix is generated by ordering dNTP's in separate tubes and mixing A, C, T to a final concentration of **16 Milimolar (mM)** each. Bst large fragment polymerase NEB (M0275L) can be used instead.



Bst DNA Polymerase Lg Frag - 8,000 units
by New England Biolabs
Catalog #: [M0275L](#)



Note 2: Hairpin final concentration may be adjusted depending on the desired probe length and properties of the specific hairpin. Extension rates can be quite variable depending on the specific hairpin. As a starting point try **100.5 Micromolar (μM)** final hairpin concentration for a 60 minute extension reaction. Hairpin concentration, extension time, and other reaction conditions can be adjusted to modify concatemer length (see Fig. 1b and Fig. 1a in the [Nature Methods article](#)).



Note 3: We recommend using **ddH₂O** or **ideally molecular grade water** such as UltraPure DNase/RNase-free distilled water (Invitrogen #10977023), especially if you will be using the concatemers for RNA FISH.



UltraPure™ DNase/RNase-Free Distilled Water
by Thermo Fisher
Catalog #: [10977023](#)



You can also use dense agarose gel (~1.25%) instead of 1% E-Gel EX agarose gels (Thermo Fisher G402001).

Equipment:

- Thermocycler
- nanodrop

SAFETY WARNINGS

For hazard information and safety warnings, please refer to the SDS (Safety Data Sheet).

BEFORE STARTING

Heat cycler to **37 °C**.

PER mix and extension

1

Mix with the following components **On ice** :



Add the polymerase last.

Component	Volume (μ L)
10 \times PBS	10
100mM MgSO ₄ * (NEB)	10
dNTP mix* (A,C,T only 6mM each, NEB)	5
Clean.G (1 μ M)	10
Bst LF polymerase* (McLab)	0.5
H ₂ O	44.5

*Indicates component concentration can easily be varied to control reaction kinetics and therefore concatemer length, see comments below.

2 

Add mix to strip tube with **10 μ l 5 μ M hairpin** and mix.

3 

Incubate for **00:15:00** at **37 $^{\circ}$ C**, then pause cycler.

4 

Remove tube from the cycler, add **10 μ l 10 μ M probe oligos** and mix.

5 

Incubate at **37 $^{\circ}$ C** for desired extension time (see [Note 2](#)).

6 

Heat to **80 $^{\circ}$ C** **00:20:00** to inactivate the Bst polymerase.

7 Cool to **4 $^{\circ}$ C**.

Check Extension lengths

8 To check the lengths of extensions, load **10 μ l of reaction** with loading dye on a dense agarose gel (~ **1.25 %**). You can also load samples into **1 % E-Gel EX agarose gels** (Thermo Fisher G402001).



Note 5: We recommend using primary probes extended to ~500-650 nt and branch probes extended to ~250-450 nt.




Note 6: Because there aren't G bases in the concatemer sequences, and they are highly single-stranded, intercalating dyes are not as effective as they are at staining other types of sequences (we recommend using the **Sybr Gold dye**). This means the bands may look faint on the gel but still be efficiently elongated, so

don't be surprised if you need to turn up the contrast quite a bit.

Purification of probes

- 9 While purification of probes is not usually required for cell applications, we have found it helpful **for SABER-FISH in tissue**.

10 

Purify probes by running  **90 µl of reaction** (for 500 nt probe) over one MinElute PCR purification column (Qiagen #28004).

Add PB buffer to 7×the volume of reaction being purified.

11 

Elute in  **25 µl ddH₂O** .

12 

Determine concentration after purification by nanodrop using ssDNA setting.

13 Store probes at  **-20 °C** .