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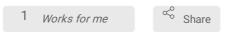


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PCR cleanup and size selection with magnetic beads

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ABSTRACT

This protocol describes how to clean up PCR products or DNA extracts and perform a size selection with carboxylated-magnetic beads and a PEG-NaCl buffer. It can also be used for volume reduction of a sample or for buffer exchange.

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PROTOCOL CITATION

Dominik Buchner 2022. PCR cleanup and size selection with magnetic beads. **protocols.io** https://dx.doi.org/10.17504/protocols.io.36wgqj45xvk5/v1

KEYWORDS

pcr cleanup, carboxylated beads, magnetic beads, PEG-NaCl precipitation, size selection, buffer exchange

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GUIDELINES

Follow general lab etiquette. Wear gloves to prevent contaminating the samples. Clean the workspace before starting with 80% EtOH.



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Ratio Guide:

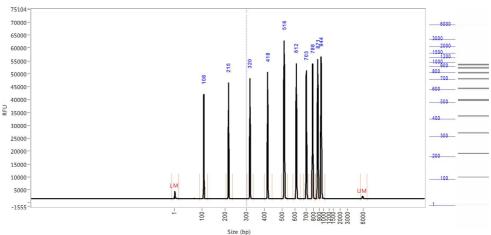
To get an estimate the performance of different ratios the protocol was tested using a DNA Ladder

⊠ GeneRuler 100 bp DNA Ladder ready-to-use Thermo Fisher

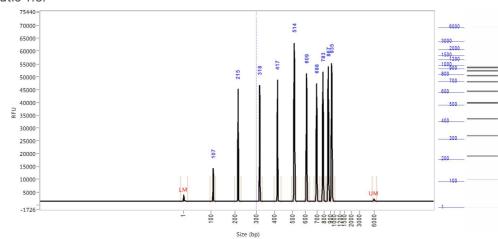
Scientific Catalog #SM0243

. The eluate was then measured using a Fragment Analyzer with the High Sensitivity Kit.

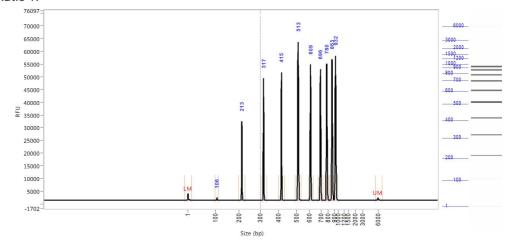
Input DNA:

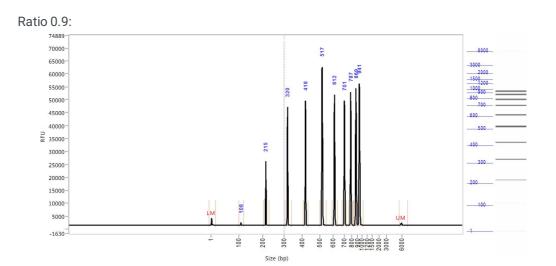


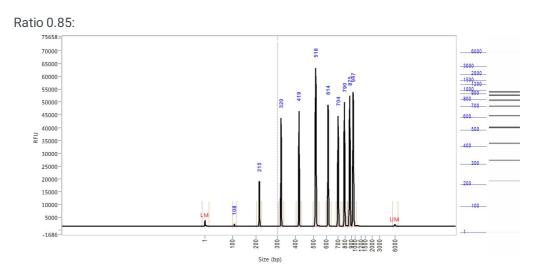
Ratio 1.8:

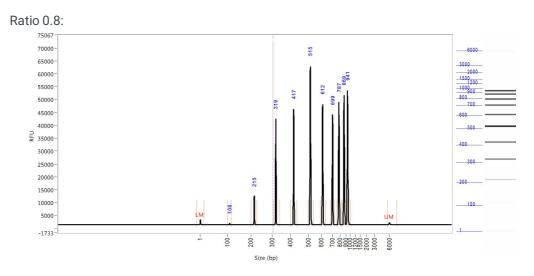


Ratio 1:

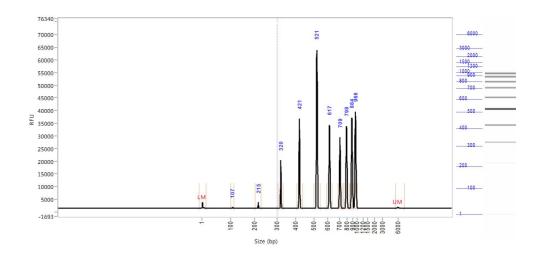




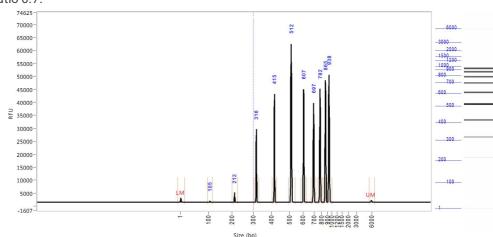




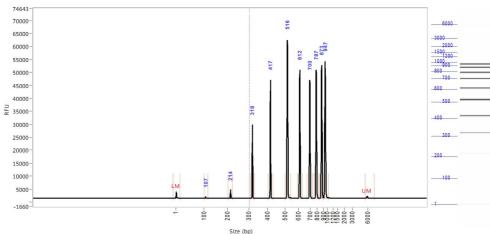
Ratio 0.75:



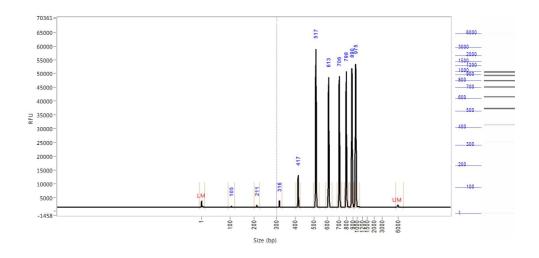
Ratio 0.7:



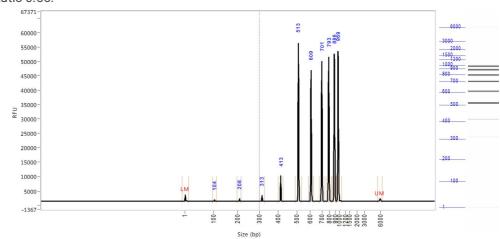
Ratio 0.65:



Ratio 0.6:



Ratio 0.55:



MATERIALS TEXT

Materials required:

Below all materials needed for the protocol are listed. Vendors and part numbers are listed but interchangeable depending on the supply situation.

Chemicals:

⊠ Ethanol absolute 99.8% Fisher

Ethanol absolute Scientific Catalog #11994041

₩ Hydrochloric acid fuming 37% Sigma

Hydrochloric acid fuming 37% Aldrich Catalog #1003171011

Tris ultrapure 99.9% 99.9% Diagonal Catalog #A1086.1000

⊠EDTA disodium salt **Sigma**

EDTA disodium salt Aldrich Catalog #E5134-50G



X Tween 20 Carl Tween 20 Roth Catalog #9127.1 Sera-Mag SpeedBeads Sera-Mag SpeedBeads carboxylate modified particles Sigma Aldrich Catalog #GE45152105050350 PCR-grade water ⋈ Invitrogen UltraPure DNase/RNase-Free Distilled Water Fisher Scientific Catalog #11538646 Labware: 125 mL Nalgene Wide-Mouth Bottle Scientific Catalog #10044180 **⋈** Neodyme Large magnet magnet Magnethandel Catalog #3935 MM-Seperator M96 Carl 96-well plate magnet Roth Catalog #2141.1 Hard-Shell PCR Plate Sciences Catalog #HSP9601 Clear Polystyrene 96-Well Microplate ○ Corning Clear Polystyrene 96-Well EIA/RIA Microplate Fisher Scientific Catalog #10380982 Stock solutions: □1 L Tris stock solution [M]1 Molarity (M) pH8.5 ■ Add **121.14 g Tris ultrapure 99.9%** to a beaker ■ Adjust volume to **300 mL** with ddH₂O ■ Adjust pH to p+8.5 with HCl Adjust volume to □1 L with ddH₂0 Sterilize by filtering and store at § Room temperature ■1 L Tris stock solution [M]1 Molarity (M) ■ Add 121.14 g Tris ultrapure 99.9% to a beaker ■ Adjust volume to **300 mL** with ddH₂O ■ Adjust pH to pF8 with HCl ■ Adjust volume to □1 L with ddH₂0 ■ Sterilize by filtering and store at § Room temperature

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□1 L Tris stock solution [M]1 Molarity (M) pH7.5
■ Add 121.14 g Tris ultrapure 99.9% to a beaker
■ Adjust volume to 300 mL with ddH<sub>2</sub>O
■ Adjust pH to p+7.5 with HCl
■ Adjust volume to ■1 L with ddH<sub>2</sub>0

    Sterilize by filtering and store at § Room temperature

□1 L EDTA stock solution [M]0.5 Molarity (M) p+8
■ Add ■186.12 g EDTA disodium salt to a beaker
■ Adjust volume to ■1 L with ddH<sub>2</sub>0
Adjust pH to pF8 with sodium hydroxide

    Sterilize by filtering and store at A Room temperature

□1 L wash buffer stock solution ([M]50 millimolar (mM) Tris ) p+7.5
■ Add 50 mL Tris stock solution pH7.5 to a beaker

    ■ Adjust volume to □1 L with ddH<sub>2</sub>0

    Sterilize by filtering and store at § Room temperature

□1 L PEG-NaCl buffer ([M]2.5 Molarity (M) NaCl ,[M]20 Mass / % volume PEG 8000 ,
[M] millimolar (mM) Tris ,[M] millimolar (mM) EDTA ,[M] 0.05 % (v/v) Tween 20 ) p+8
■ Add 200 g NaCl to a beaker
■ Add 146.2 g NaCl
■ Add 110 mL Tris stock solution pH8
■ Add 

2 mL EDTA stock solution pH8
■ Add 250 µL of Tween 20

    ■ Adjust volume to □1 L with ddH<sub>2</sub>0

■ Dissolve the PEG and NaCl by stirring and heating to § 80 °C the solution will become milky at this

    Let the solution cool down to § Room temperature

    Sterilize by filtering and store at § 4 °C

Working solutions:
■1 L TE minimum buffer ([M]10 millimolar (mM) Tris, [M]1 millimolar (mM) EDTA)
p⊦8
■ Add ■10 mL Tris stock solution pH8 to a beaker
■ Add 200 µL EDTA stock solution pH8

 Adjust volume to 11 L with ddH<sub>2</sub>O
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Sterilize by filtering and store at § Room temperature

□1 L wash buffer ([M]10 millimolar (mM) Tris , [M]80 % (v/v) Ethanol) p+7.5

- Add **200 mL wash buffer stock solution**
- Adjust volume to 1 L with Ethanol absolute
- Sterilize by filtering and store at § Room temperature

□1 L elution buffer ([M]10 millimolar (mM) Tris) p+8.5

- Add ■10 mL Tris stock solution pH8.5 to a beaker
- Adjust volume to ■1 L with ddH₂0
- Sterilize by filtering and store at § Room temperature

■100 mL cleanup solution pH8

- Add 2 mL Sera-Mag SpeedBeads carboxylate modified to a clean 125 mL Nalgene bottle
- Add **25 mL TE minimum buffer**
- Shake the bottle to wash the beads
- Place the bottle on a large magnet for **© 00:05:00** to pellet the beads
- Discard the supernatant
- Add **25 mL TE minimum buffer**
- Shake the bottle to wash the beads
- Place the bottle on a large magnet for **© 00:05:00** to pellet the beads
- Discard the supernatant
- Add **100 mL PEG-NaCl buffer**
- Shake well to resuspend the beads
- Store at § 4 °C

SAFETY WARNINGS

Reagents are potentially damaging to the environment. Dispose waste responsibly.

BEFORE STARTING

Make sure all buffers are prepared before starting.

For easier pipetting let the bead-solution adjust to § Room temperature

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The protocol described here is designed for the use of $\blacksquare 250 \ \mu L$ U-bottom assay plates but can also be done in tubes, PCR plates, strips, or any sufficient reaction vessel. The recommended shaking speeds are adjusted to the plates mentioned in the materials.

1 Shake the **cleanup solution** until the beads are homogeneously resuspended

The protocol described here uses a **cleanup solution** to **sample** ratio of 0.8:1. This is sufficient for the removal of primer and primer dimers below a size of 200 bp. For the removal of shorter or larger fragments, the ratio has to be adjusted accordingly. For more information on ratios refer to the material provided in the tab "Guidelines".

2 Add $\blacksquare 30~\mu L$ PCR-grade water and $\blacksquare 32~\mu L$ of cleanup solution to a $\blacksquare 250~\mu L$ U-bottom assay plate

It's recommended to increase the volume of the sample with PCR-grade water for easier liquid handling but also to lower relative pipetting error (e.g. if the pipette is off by 2μ L the effect on the ratio is larger if working with a 10μ L assay than when working with a 80μ L assay.

The amount of beads is calculated as follows: (sample volume + water volume) * ratio = cleanup solution volume

In this example:

(10 μL PCR product + 30 μL PCR-grade water) * 0.8 = 32 μL cleanup solution

For higher sample numbers PCR-grade water and cleanup solution can be prepared as a master mix.

3 Add \blacksquare 10 μ L of sample.

This protocol works for the cleanup of PCR products as well as the cleanup of DNA extracts or for buffer exchange after enzyme treatment of samples.

4	To bind the DNA to the beads shake at \$\textit{\rm 900 rpm, Room temperature , 00:05:00}\$	
	If the protocol is not done in plates mixing can also be accomplished by pipetting or vortexing.	
5	Place the plate on a magnet to pellet the beads for $© 00:02:00$	2m
	Depending on the magnet and volume used separation times may vary and have to be adjusted accordingly.	
6	Discard the supernatant by pipetting	
7	With the plate still on the magnet, add $$	
8	Incubate for at least © 00:00:30	30s
9	Discard the supernatant by pipetting	
10		
11	With the plate still on the magnet, incubate the plate for © 00:05:00 at & Room temperature to residuals of wash buffer	5m dry off

- 13 = 900 rpm, Room temperature, 00:05:00 to elute the DNA from the beads
- 14 Place the plate on a magnet to pellet the beads for © 00:02:00

2m

15 Transfer 30 μL of the DNA to a new PCR plate. Store at δ-20 °C

Leaving $\blacksquare 10~\mu L$ of elution buffer is recommended to avoid carry-over of beads. If all of the DNA is needed for subsequent analysis try to pipette slowly without disturbing the pellet.