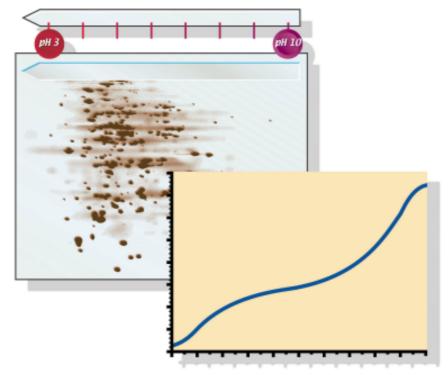
# Immobiline Drystrip Visualization of pH gradients

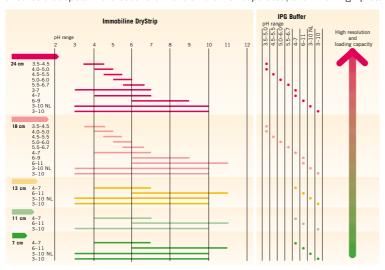


Immobiline Drystrip as the first di

#### Setting the standard

Products from Amersham Pharmacia Biotech set the standard for successful, highly reproducible 2-D electrophoresis, using Immobiline™ DryStrip immobilised pH gradient gels in IPGphor™ or Multiphor™ II for the first dimension and SDS gels on Hoefer™ vertical systems or Multiphor II flatbed system for the second dimension separation.

Immobiline DryStrip gels are easy to handle and highly reproducible, providing a wide selection of pH ranges and strip lengths (shown in the table below) to simplify the development of clear strategies for the analysis of complex cell extracts. The excellent first dimension separation ensures that spots in the second dimension are well separated, even with high protein loads.



#### **Choosing strip length**

Immobiline DryStrip gels provide overlapping coverage from pH 3 to pH 10 and are available in five lengths: 7, 11, 13, 18 and 24 cm.

Choose shorter strips for fast, cost-effective screening purposes (for a quick overview) or when only the most abundant proteins are of interest (as in pre-fractionated protein complexes). The shortest IPG strips give the fastest results, but the sample load is limited.

Use longer strips for maximal resolution and loading capacity. Longer strips allow the detection of more spots and facilitate the selection and identification of proteins in the spots. But remember that longer focusing times will be needed in both the first dimension and the second dimension separation. Table 1 gives an example of the interrelationship between these parameters.

Table 1. Typical operating parameters for Immobiline DryStrip pH 4–7 gels with E. coli extract. Protein spots were detected by silver staining. A similar relationship between number of spots detected and gel length is observed with other pH intervals and staining methods if the sample load is changed accordingly.

Pa ra meters	7 cm	11 cm	13 cm	18 cm	24 cm
Time 1st dimension (h)	2	4	4	6	10
Time 2nd dimension (h)	1.5	2	3	5	5.5
Sample (µg proteins)	10	25	30	55	90
Typical number of spots detected	350	500	600	850	1000



## ímension in 2D electrophoresis:

### Guide lines to choosing gel length, pH gradient and estimation of pl values.

#### **Choosing pH gradients**

Use a pH interval of 3–10 for an overview of total protein distribution. With a linear gradient pH 3–10 strip the estimation of a protein's isoelectric point (pI) is relatively easy

For increased resolution between pH 5 and 7, use a non-linear gradient pH 3–10 strip to distribute the proteins more evenly over the gel. This is particularly helpful when analysing cell extracts as, when run on a linear gradient, these often display a crowded area of spots between pH 4.5 and 6.0 and relatively few proteins at the basic end.

Combine pH 4–7 and pH 6–11 (or pH 4–7 and pH 6–9) to obtain a more detailed overview of the protein distribution. This combination is used also for preparative applications.

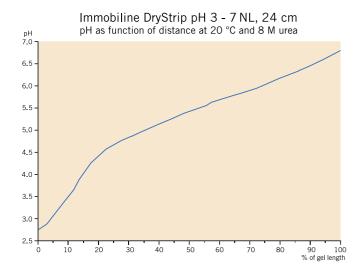
Follow this analysis by using narrow pH range (1 pH unit) Immobiline DryStrip gels to study, in more detail or with greater loads, the proteins in the regions of interest. These narrow pH range (1 pH unit) 24-cm IPG strips deliver the highest resolution and protein loading capacity available. Coomassie™ stained spots are cut out and identified by MALDI/TOF mass spectrometry.

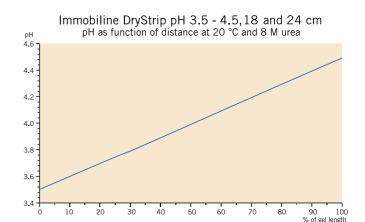
#### Precision and reproducibility of pH gradients

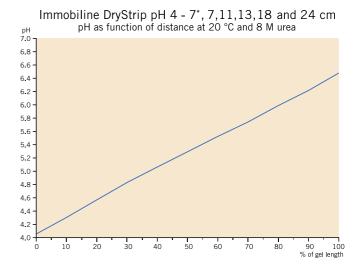
A high level of performance with guaranteed reproducibility is essential for successful 2-D electrophoresis. The statistical analysis below based on 80 batches and over 7 years of production clearly demonstrate the excellent accuracy achievable on Immobiline DryStrip gels. Batch-to-batch reproducibility of the pH gradient is extremely high, with standard deviation (s) of less than  $\leq 1\%$  for the position of specific pH values along the gradient (as defined by the relative position [Rp] of standard proteins and shown in Table 2).

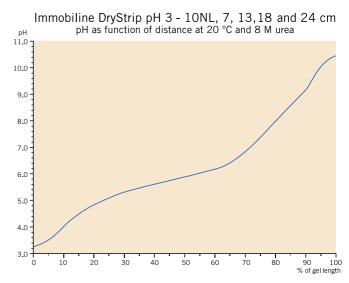
Table 2. Statistical analysis of average Rp values of standard proteins of Immobiline DryStrip pH 3-10NL, 18 cm (17-1235-01) based on 80 batches and over 7 years of production.

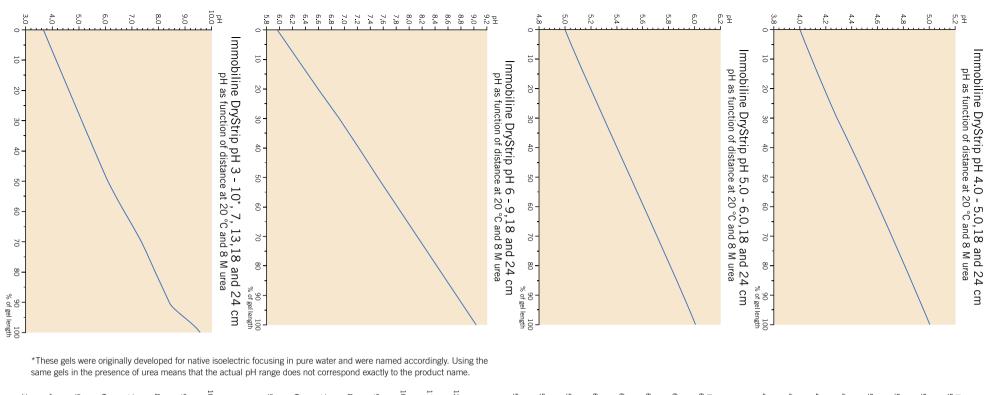
Sdt no.	1	2	3	4	5	Av
Av Rp	0.24	0.45	0.69	0.78	0.83	-
σ	0.009	0.007	0.007	0.008	0.010	0.008

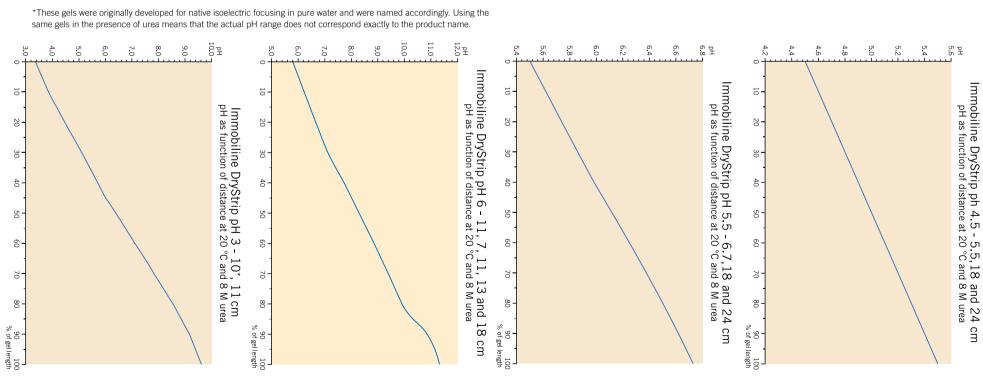












## dimension in 2D electrophoresis

#### pH gradient profiles

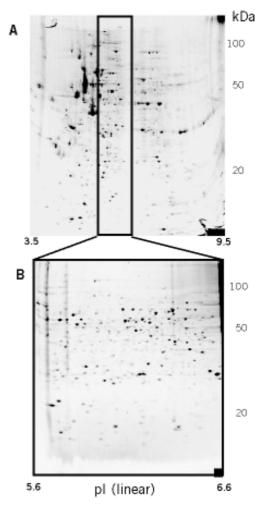
The pH gradients are the calculated  $^{\star}$  target pH gradient profiles, run at 20  $^{\circ}$ C in 8 M urea, 19 mM DTT and with a co-ordinated IPG buffer.

\*The shape of a pH gradient is determined by reference to proteins of known pl, run on the same gel, and calculated from the concentration and pKs of the acids and bases used to form the gradient. When calculating the gradient shape, the solvent and temperature must be taken into account. The pK values for weak acids and bases are dependent on the solvent used, particularly the concentrations of urea. Temperature affects the pKs of each buffer species differently.

#### Estimating pl after 2-D electrophoresis

The reliability of the first dimension separation is so high that the pl of a protein can be estimated by relating the position of the protein in the second dimension gel to its original position in the Immobiline DryStrip gel.

Determine the first dimension position by measuring the length of the Immobiline DryStrip gel, the position of the strip on the second dimension gel and, for gels not attached to backing, correct for shrinkage or swelling of the gel during staining. Plot the spot position (as a per cent of gel length) versus pH and read off the pl from the graph of the pH gradient. Larger graphs and more detailed information on this procedure can be found at http:// proteomics.apbiotech.com



A 2-D map of Hek proteins analysed by ImageMaster 2D Elite software. (A) First dimension pH 3-10 gradient strip. (B) First dimension narrow pH 5.5-6.7 gradient strip. (Results courtesy of Dr Hanno Langen, F. Hoffmann-La Roche AG. Basel. Switzerland.)

For more details see article "Separation of Proteins from Human Embryonic Kidney Cells on Narrow Range pH Strips". H. Langen and D. Röder. Life Science News 3, (1999).

## Technical data and ordering information

Technical data Immobiline DryStrip

Gel dimensions: 235 x 3 x 0.5 mm

180 x 3 x 0.5 mm 130 x 3 x 0.5 mm 110 x 3 x 0.5 mm 70 x 3 x 0.5 mm

Polyacrylamide T=4%, C=3% Gel matrix:

Gel backing: Polyester film Shelf-life: 18 months Storage:

Technical data IPG Buffer

Content: Specialized carrier ampholytes

in aqueous solution

Volume:

+4 °C to +8 °C Storage:

Ordering information Sample preparation

**IPG Buffer** Code No. Code No. IPG Buffer pH 4-7, 1 ml 17-6000-86 IPG Buffer pH 3.5-5.0 17-6002-02 IPG Buffer pH 6-11, 1 ml 17-6001-78 IPG Buffer pH 4.5-5.5 17-6002-04 IPG Buffer pH 3-10, 1 ml 17-6000-87 IPG Buffer pH 5.0-6.0 17-6002-05 IPG Buffer pH 3-10 NL, 1 ml 17-6000-88 IPG Buffer pH 5.5-6.7 17-6002-06

Ampholyte concentrate in aqueous solution, 1.0 mL

First dimension IEF Immobiline DryStrip

Dry polyacrylamide gels (0.5 mm, T=4%, C=3%, after rehydration) cast on

plastic backing. 12/pk.

24 cm 18 cm 11 cm 7 cm pH 3.5-4.5 17-6002-38 17-6001-83 pH 4.0-5.0 17-6001-84 17-6002-39 pH 4.5-5.5 17-6002-40 17-6001-85 pH 5.0-6.0 17-6002-41 17-6001-86 17-6002-42 17-6001-87 pH 5.5-6.7 Medium pH 3-7 NL 17-6002-43 pH 4-7 17-6002-46 17-1233-01 17-6001-13 18-1016-60 17-6001-10 pH 6-9 17-6002-47 17-6001-88 pH 6-11 17-6001-97 17-6001-96 17-6001-95 17-6001-94 Wide pH 3-10 17-6002-44 17-1234-01 17-6001-14 17-6001-11 18-1016-61 pH 3-10 NL 17-6002-45 17-1235-01 17-6001-15 N/A 17-6001-12

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