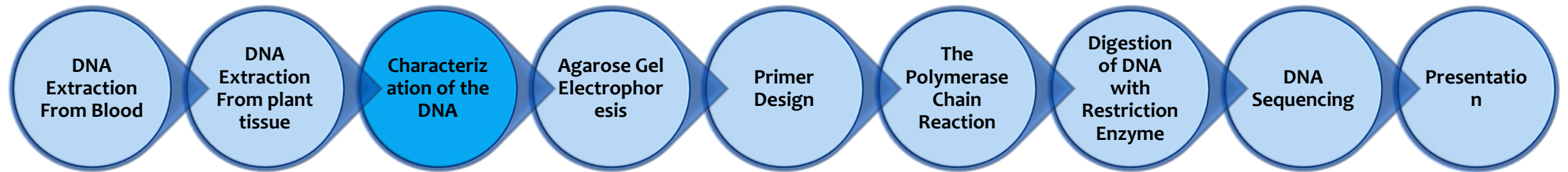


**CHARACTERIZATION OF THE DNA BY: (1)  
THE SPECTROPHOTOMETRIC ASSAY; (2)  
THE MELTING TEMPERATURE ( $T_M$ )**

# Outline

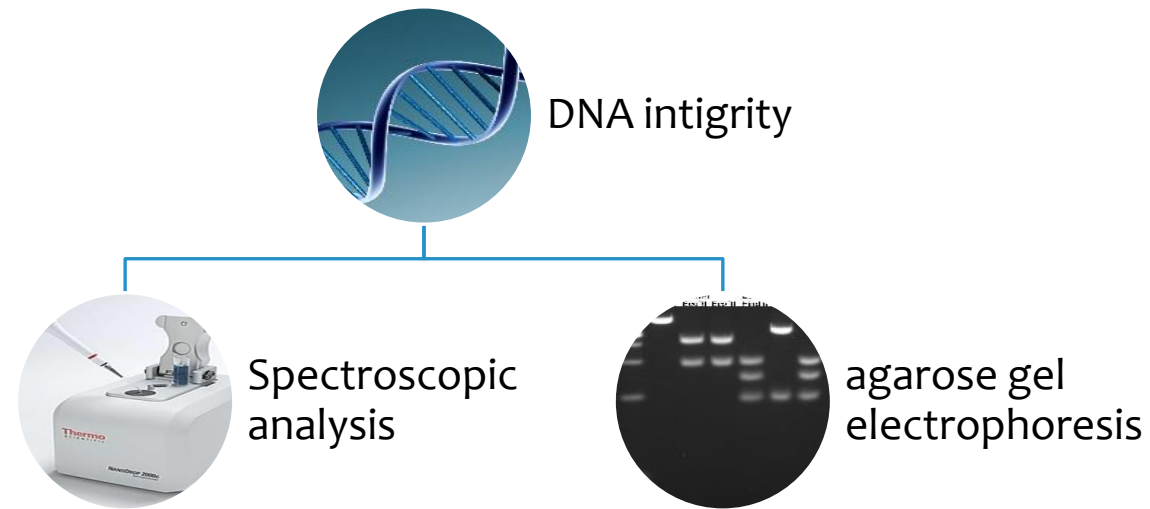


# After DNA Extraction...

- **What is the next step?**
- 1-The concentration of your Extracted DNA
- 2-The purity...
- 3-the integrity (is your extracted DNA is degraded or not)
- 4-(determining the GC content)

# DNA Quality and Quantity

- After DNA extraction, DNA integrity and purity must be checked.



**GC content by measuring  $T_m$**

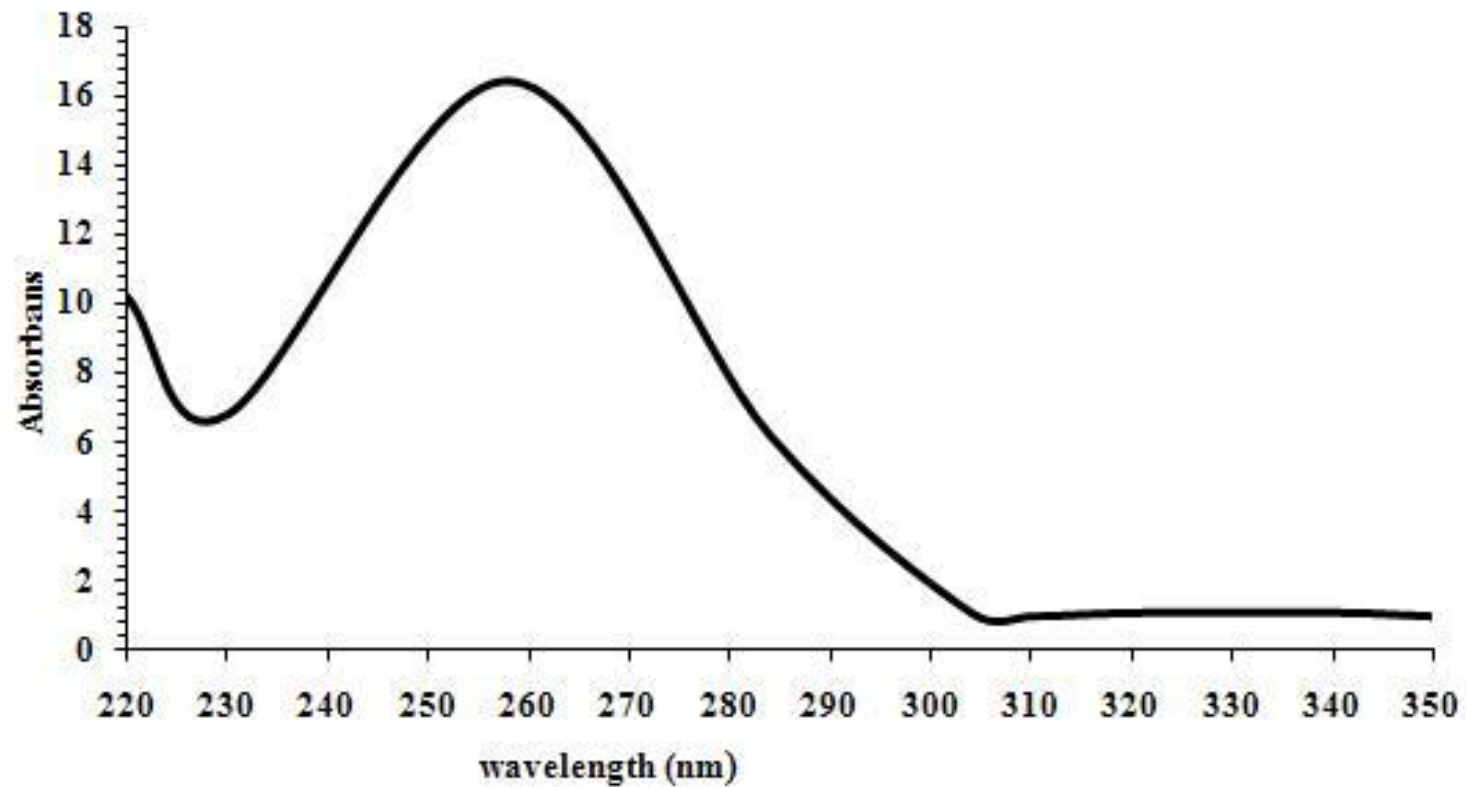
# UV for quantification of nucleic acid concentration

- Is determined by measuring absorbance at 260 nm,
- For a 1-cm pathlength, the optical density at 260 nm ( $OD_{260}$ ) equals 1.0 is equivalent to approximately.
  
- 50  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  double-stranded DNA (dsDNA)
- 33  $\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$  single-stranded DNA (ssDNA)
  
- **Concentration** =  $50 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL} \times A_{260} \times \text{dilution factor}$ .

# Purity

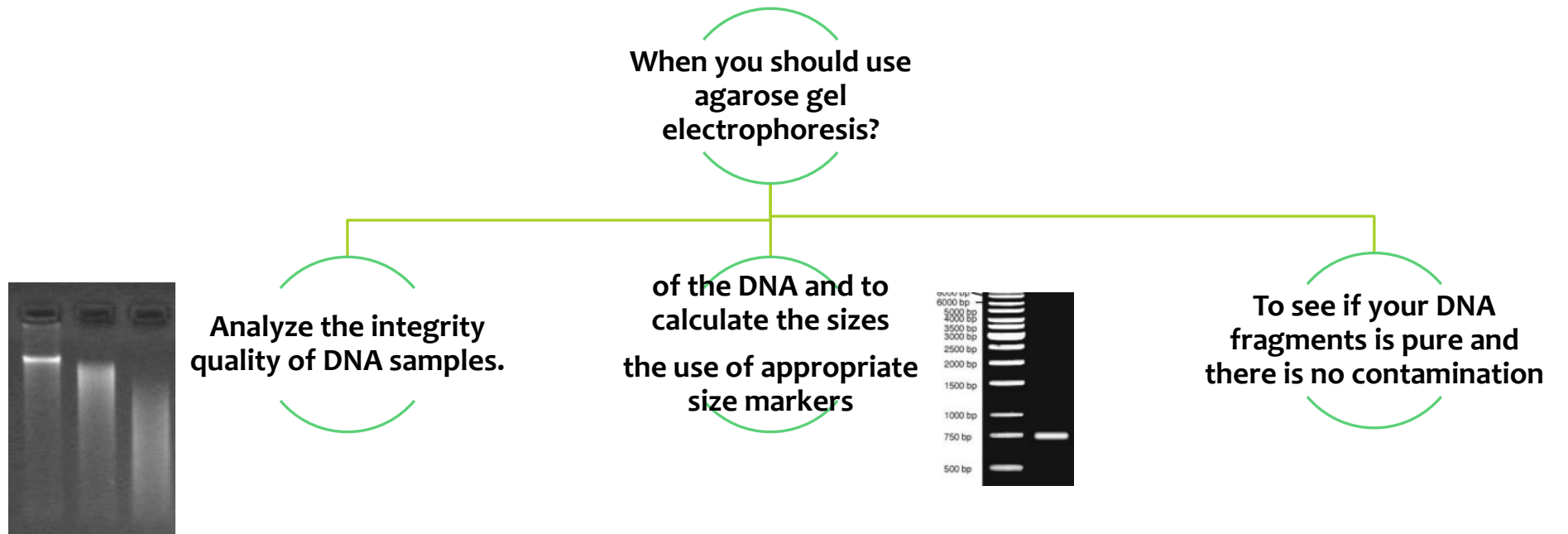
- Calculating the ratio between absorbance at 260 nm and 280 nm.
- **Contamination with protein:**
  - DNA absorb light at 260 nm
  - This ratio ( $A_{260}/A_{280}$ ) is used to estimate purity because proteins absorb more strongly at 280 nm.
- **Pure DNA should have a ratio of approximately 1.8**
- **Absorption at 230 nm** reflects contamination of the sample by substances such as carbohydrates, peptides, phenols or aromatic compounds. The ratio  $A_{260}/A_{230}$  should be approximately 2.2 for pure nucleic acid samples.
- *What is the effect of contaminated DNA on concentration?*

# DNA absorption spectrum



# DNA integrity

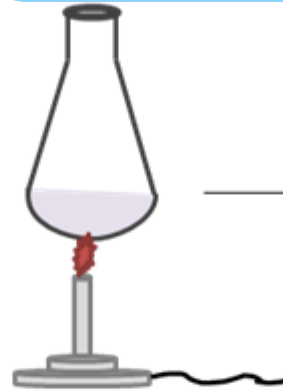
- Using agarose gel electrophoresis
- Is a method of gel electrophoresis used to separate and analyze DNA or RNA molecules **by size**



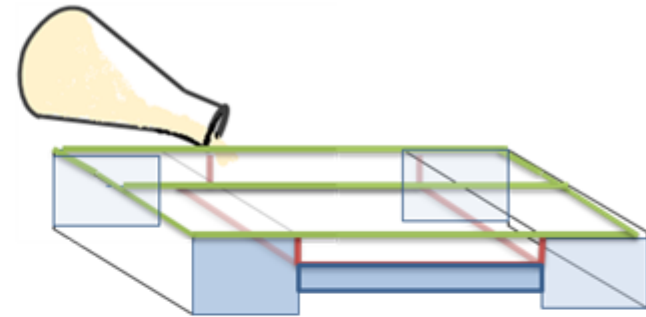




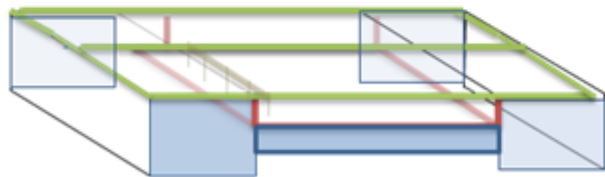
Agarose



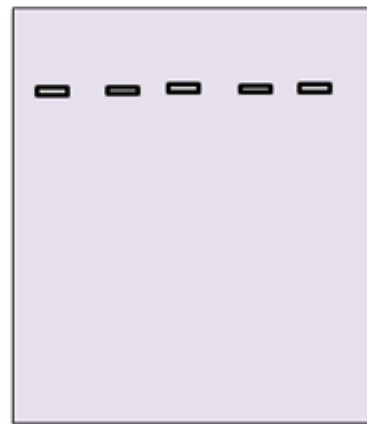
Melting  
Agarose



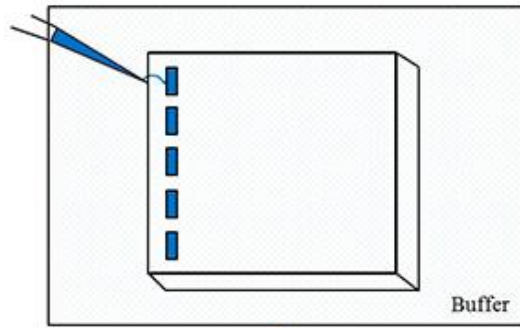
Pouring agarose in gel caster



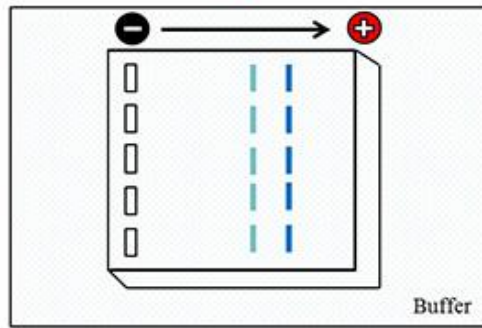
Solidification of agarose gel



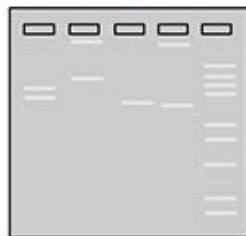
Agarose gel



DNA/RNA samples and marker loaded in the horizontal gel electrophoresis system



Direction of migration of DNA/RNA samples in horizontal gel electrophoresis system

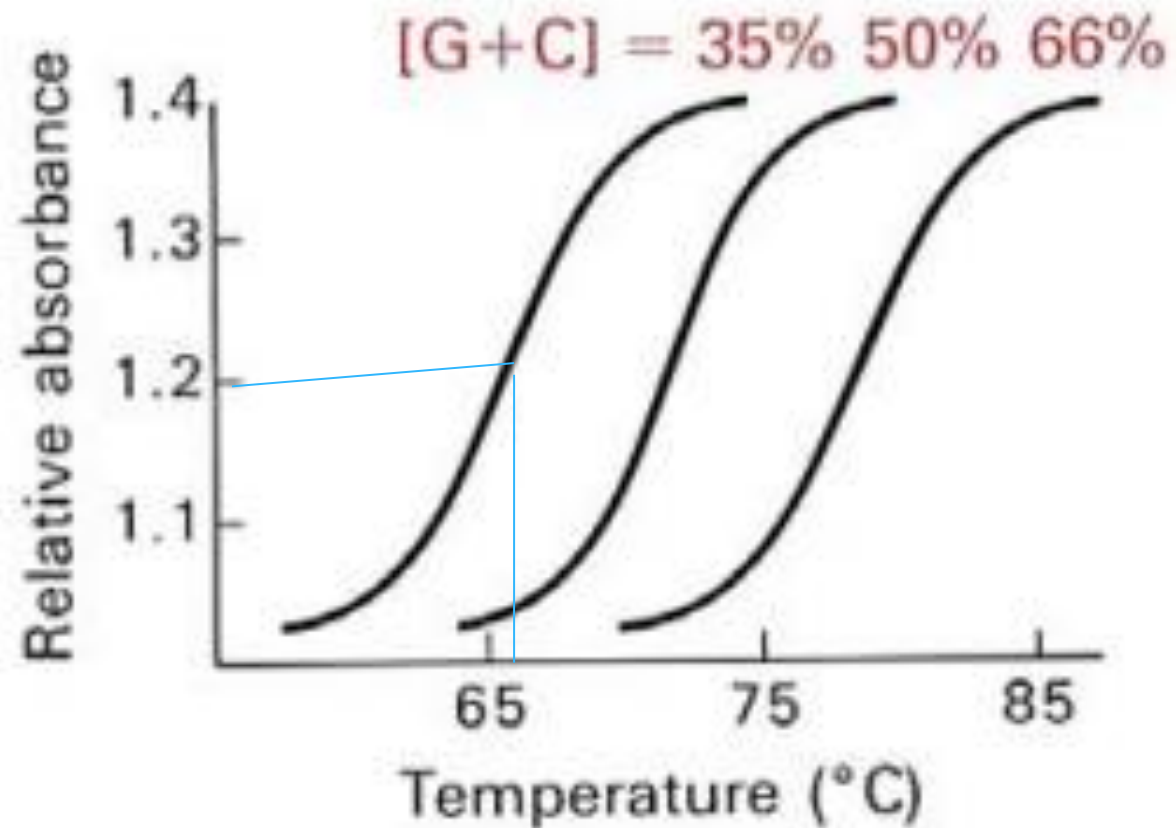


Agarose gel after ethidium bromide staining

# Melting temperature and GC content

- The two strands of a DNA molecule can be dissociated ("melted") into single strands by heat, which breaks the hydrogen bonds between complementary bases.
- The temperature at which a particular DNA molecule "melts" will vary. Why?
- What is the important of knowing  $T_m$  of DNA?
- $\%(G+C) = 2.44(T_m - 69.3)$

# Melting Temperature



**What do you notice about the GC content in relation to  $T_m$ ?**

# Method

- DNA concentration and purity:
  - using spectrophotometer
- Melting temperature: put the DNA sample into each temperature for 5 min and then measure the absorbance
- Room temperature, 50, 60, 70, boiling
- Draw a figure between temperature and absorbance and notice the figure

# Discussion

- \* Discuss the purity and DNA concentration
- \* Calculate the GC content

# Home work

- Watch the following videos
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wXiiTW3pflM>
- [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U2-5ukpKg\\_Q](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U2-5ukpKg_Q)
- And answer the questions:
- What is agarose gel electrophoresis?
- How to prepare the gel?
- How you will choose the appropriate concentration of the gel ?
- What are the things that you should consider when preparing agarose gel electrophoresis?
- What is the comb and for what is it used?
- What is loading dye? And what are the component?