

20% Sodium Azide (aqueous solution)

(Greg A. Perry, Ph.D.)

Equipment:

100ml Glass bottle
Stir bar and stir plate

Reagents:

25 gm Sodium Azide (NaN_3)
100 ml Distilled Water

Method:

- 1) Add about $\frac{1}{2}$ (12.5gm) of the sodium azide to 100ml distilled water.
- 2) Stir continuously until all is in solution.
- 3) Add remaining sodium azide.
- 4) Stir continuously until all is in solution.
- 5) Filter with 0.45 μm filter to remove particles

Use this solution to protect protein containing solutions from contaminant growth. Use at 0.1% final concentration (thus add 5 μl of 20% sodium azide solution to each 1ml of protein solution).

Notes: *Depending on the sodium azide used, you might be able to add all the azide at once and forgo filtering.*

Fisher "Purified Sodium Azide" (S-227I) does not go into solution. Baker "Sodium Azide Practical" (V015-5) worked well.