

fragments on the basis of size.



## **Gel Electrophoresis** What is it?

• a method used to separate macromolecules like proteins and nucleic acids (ie DNA/RNA) based on their size and electric charge



## How is Gel Electrophoresis Achieved? · The electrical current creates an anode and cathode at either end of the gel and these attract or repel the DNA molecules depending on their charge DNA being negatively ٠ charged is repelled from Fig. 3. A the cathode (+) and attracted to the anode (-)







## Why do we use Gel Electrophoresis?

- Gel electrophoresis is an important tool in biology
- It can be used to identify specific DNA molecules that have been isolated and cut up by restriction enzymes
- We also use it to determine differences in the genomes of different plant and animal species

## Why do we use Gel Electrophoresis? Gel electrophoresis is also used in forensic science to compare the DNA fingerprints found at the Crime Scene and that of the suspect DNA samples collected from blood or semen are separated using GE The number and positions of the bands formed on each lane of gel is the actual DNA fingerprint and is unique to each person









