ABSTRACT

A bacterium can be detected and examined with identification thereof by simply and specifically labeling the bacterium itself without resort to a change in color tone due to the metabolism of a fermentable substrate or the like, whereby there is provided an excellent method of detecting a bacterium with a simple operation, a shortened determination time, an improvement in efficiency and an improvement in detection accuracy.

A bacteriophage having the nucleic acid thereof labeled with a fluorochrome is brought into contact with a host bacterium to judge the existence or nonexistence of the specific bacterium by making the most of a phenomenon that the fluorescence intensity of the fluorochrome-labeled nucleic acid in a state of existing in the phage shows a significant difference from the fluorescence intensity of the fluorochrome-labeled nucleic acid in a state of being injected into the bacterium.