

- Autotrophic bacteria dominate
- Polluted water
 - Large amounts of organic matter
 - Bacterial numbers increase rapidly
 - Heterotrophic microbes dominate
 - Coliform bacteria (E. coli) also streptococcus, proteus and pseudomonas
 - Available oxygen is used up by these bacteria until a layer of dead organisms, mud, & silt accumulates on river bottom
 - Aerobic species then thrive and produced gasses (H₂S) that poisons water and effectively 'kill' river

Anaerobic growth

- Unable to grow in presence of oxygen
- Obligate anaerobic – don't tolerate oxygen (toxic)
 - Grown in special anaerobic flasks or cabinets that lack O₂
 - Displaces O₂ with CO₂ and N₂ gas mixtures
 - E.g., Bacteroides, Clostridium, Fusobacterium, Methanococcus

Osmotic pressure

- Solutes and water activity
 - Microorganisms obtain most of their nutrients from solutions
 - Sensitive to changes in osmotic pressure
 - Osmophiles
 - Need high osmotic pressure for growth
 - Osmotolerant
 - Grow in large range of salt/sugar concentrations
- Water activity = amount of water available to cell
 - A_w of 0.9 -1.0 required for microbial growth
 - Fungi grow at lower A_w than bacteria
 - Implicated in spoilage of dry foods such as bread

A _w values:	
pure water	1.00
blood	0.99
seawater	0.98
maple syrup	0.90
salt lakes	0.75
honey	0.60

Isotonic solution

- Similar salt concentration inside and outside cell = cell maintains shape

Hypotonic solution

- Lower salt concentration outside cell
- Water taken up by cell, cell swells up, may burst = osmotic lysis

- Many organisms are viable but not culturable since we don't understand their growth requirements
- In consortia, different species are inter-dependent
- Growth and survival depend on sufficient nutrients and favorable environments
 - Growth media = nutrient solutions prepared in lab
 - Environment = right pH, oxygen, osmotic pressure etc.
 - Fungi: pH 4.5
 - Bacteria: pH 7
- Add required components to water, sterilize medium
 - Autoclaving: 15min @ 121°C @ 100 kPa

Autoclaving

- Fastest most reliable way to sterilize things in a lab in a large pressure cooker (called autoclave)
- When an autoclave boils, produces steam which is held under pressure with a lid and safety valves
- High pressure raises boiling point of water to 121°C which is enough to kill all microbial cells and spores
- All instruments



Growth media types

- Chemically defined (synthetic) medium
 - Known ingredients in specific concentration
 - E.g., 0.2% glucose, 0.5% $(\text{NH}_4)_2\text{SO}_4$
 - Auxotrophic growth (mutation, essential nutrient must be added)
 - Heterotrophic organism that doesn't have stringent nutrient requirements
- Complex (undefined) medium
 - Rich in vitamins and other nutrients
 - Precise chemical composition of this media is unknown
 - Varies depending on the supplier
 - E.g., Yeast extract, blood agar

Types of growth media

Liquid media

- Turbidity or opaqueness in liquid media
- Pellicle formation – mass of cells float on surface of liquid media
- Sediment formation where cells deposit on bottom of tube