

14 January 2022

Laboratory 1: Microscopes and streaking technique

* **Light microscope:** Light microscope uses visible light to illuminate specimens.

↳ it uses 2 factors that contribute the ability to see and distinguish structures

Magnification

the ability of a microscope to produce an image of an object at a larger scale
Larger than it's actual size. ✓

Resolution

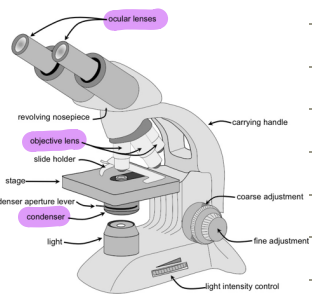
the ability to distinguish two different objects, for the light microscope (resolution) 0.2 micrometers. so if distance between 2 objects is smaller than 0.2 micrometers we cannot see them as two separate objects.

↳ Light microscope has 3 optical components (three systems of lenses)

• **Condenser:** collect and focuses light producing a cone of light that illuminate the object to be observed. ✓

• **Objective lenses:** enlarge and projects the image in the direction of the eye piece. ✓

• **Ocular lens (eye piece):** further magnifies the image of the object and projects it onto the observer's retina. (x10) ✓



* **What is the total magnification?**

↳ the product of the magnification of the objective and ocular lens. (maximum magnification is 1600 times)

↳ Resolution is a function of wavelength + ability of objective lens to gather light

Product of a 10x of the ocular times 160x of the objective.

* **Numerical Aperture:** the number which indicate the ability of gathering light.

- Resolution is expressed by: $R = 0.61 \lambda / NA$

Blue light → has the highest resolution + high NA.

• One of the objective lenses is called **Oil immersion lens**. → increases the ability of the objective to gather light + increasing resolution.

* a higher magnification → higher NA

Sometimes we use stains to → improve contrast between the cell and the surrounding → which makes it more visible.

x100 magnification

The Oil immersion lens: We have to add a drop of immersion oil on the slide

• if oil is not added light waves reflect off the slide specimen through the glass cover slip

this type of lens is used for increasing the resolving power of a microscope. how this can be achieved? it can be achieved by immersing both the objective lens and the specimen in transparent oil of high refractive index → increasing NA of the objective lens. → So it increases the light gathering property.

Focal point? A specified place which light is focused on.

Focal length? Distance between center of lens and the focal point.

↓ Focal length → ↑ magnification. → shorter wavelength → ↑ Resolution

* Electron microscope

Such as transmission electron microscope → focus a beam of electrons which have shorter wave length resulting in much higher Resolution.

↳ **Incubator:** An insulated and enclosed device that provides optimal condition of temperature, humidity that are required for the grow of organisms. → water bath may be used for this process also

↳ **Autoclave:** Is used to decontaminate certain biological waste and sterilize media, instruments and lab wear

* Streaking:

We use this technique to produce a pure culture of microorganisms why? characterize and identify microorganisms

What is a pure culture? is a culture in which all microorganisms are descendants of the same organisms

to grow microorganisms we must have a sterile nutrient medium to grow up microorganisms

↳ A sterile medium → free from all life forms and

there are several ways to grow microorganisms:

It's sterilized by heating into a temperature that kills all forms of microorganisms.

When cultures need to kept for small period (days/weeks)

↳ we use to a solid medium to grow them which contains **AGAR** → a complex of polysaccharide

AGAR has many important properties:

A) Some microorganisms can **degrade** agar → so a solid medium is an inert solution that keeps it solid.

B) it liquifies at 100°C or when temperature drops about 40°C. → so it can be incubated.

the agar can be poured in a petri dish → shallow dishes with lid → it need to be rest on the bottom to prevent

we can also pour agar in test tubes in 2 ways: **contamination**

A) **Slant tubes:** contains nutrient medium + agar → and it solidifies at an angle. Flat surface

B) **Stab tubes:** tubes of horizontal agar → inoculated by stabbing the inoculum into the agar.

Broth tubes can be also used for culturing microorganism

↳ Are used to culture organisms for a long period why? → Because microorganisms grow faster in

↳ Broth contains typical nutrients, microbial a liquid media and can reach a considerable density. growth substance, sodium chloride and water.

Growth in the Broth may be observed as one or combination of these forms:

1) **Floccle:** Organisms floating on top

2) **Turbidity:** Cloudiness throughout the broth

3) **Sediment:** Organisms appear as deposit at the bottom

Agar plates 1) Solid culture is less prone to contamination and tubes are in comparison to liquid cultures

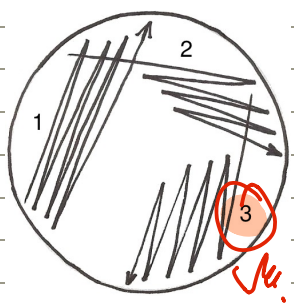
better to grow microorganism because: 2) they can be easily stacked and take up much less space than liquid medium.

After growth and after reaching density → growth needs to stop but without killing microorganisms. → so we transfer cultures into a Refrigerator that slows down growth to almost zero.

What is inoculum? method to transfer growing microorganisms from pure culture to sterile medium without introducing unwanted contamination.

↳ the method is **Aseptic technique** → using an inoculating loop

Area number 3 must have pure cultures of the microorganisms.



15 January 2022

Laboratory 2 : Environmental plate for growth of bacteria

* Microorganisms are **ubiquitous**, **Highly adaptive**

Can live in **extrem environments**

Extremely High temperature
High/Low PH
Salinity

Microorganisms are found everywhere **Surfaces, sections of man and animals**

Are heavily colonized with bacteria

Also we can find microorganisms and bacteria in the **Laboratory**

We can find microorganisms in the air, settling with dust on most of surfaces

Theory: all environments contain microorganism, unless they are sterile environments. It is possible to identify at least some of them by simple techniques application.

What is the aim of this experiment?

to investigate microbial growth from different environments → to analyse the presence of microbes in the air on the benches in the laboratory and other sources.



An example of collected Bacteria from surrounding Air



Human microflora

Can be collected from Human's skin

16th January 2022

Laboratory 3 : Simple staining, Gram staining and Bacterial shape

A) Smears preparation and simple staining:

most common way to observe microorganisms is by **killing and staining them**

Before staining microorganisms they must be **fixed** staining microorganisms with a dye allows to attached to a microscope visualize certain microbial structures and features

Staining specimens helps in: Slide and **kill** the microorganism too.

- 1) Increasing visibility of specimen.
- 2) Accentuates specific morphological features.
- 3) Preserves specimens

Fixation: preserves internal and external structures and fix them in place. So it usually kill them and firmly attach them to the slide.

Fixation is done in 2 ways: a) chemical fixation b) Heat fixation

Heat fixation: used for Bacteria and Archaea + preserve overall morphology but not internal structures.

Chemical fixation: used for larger and more delicate organisms. Protects fine cellular substructure and morphology.

* Smears preparation:

Smear is a thin film of material containing microorganisms on the surface of the slide.

First if smear is taken from a solid medium you need to add a drop of water then adding the culture then we have to mix it with the water. 2nd Smear is allowed to dry by the surrounding air then it need to be fixed by passing it almost 3 times through the flame in the bunsen burner.

It's important that smear is completely dry why? Because the presence of water might lead to the formation of artefacts that may cause the cells to appear in strange shapes and sizes. → if the smear is not fixed properly it may wash off during staining

What are stains? Salts composed of negative and positive ions. → Chromophore.

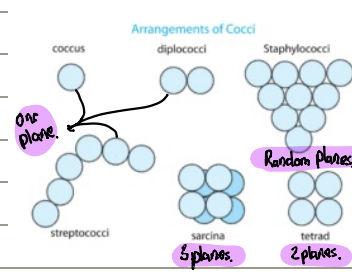
a) Basic dyes: Are positively charged b) Acidic dyes: (Chromophore) // Negatively charged → Orange G, eosin
→ crystal violet, methylene blue, malachite green, safranin

We use basic dyes because bacteria are negatively charged at pH 7 so it attract the colored positive ion in this dye while acidic dyes are not attracted by most of bacteria because dye has the negative ion which repels the negative charge of the bacterial surface, so they stain background instead of the cell.

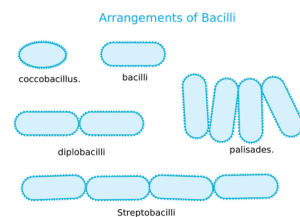
there are 3 types of staining: a) simple staining b) differential staining c) special staining.

A) Simple staining: we use a single stain and it's used for determining size, shape and arrangement of bacteria. in an aqueous or alcohol.

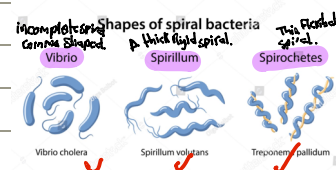
Bacterial shapes: 1) Coccus // cocci: it's usually spherical/oval, most of them 0.5-1.0 microm.



2) Bacillus (Rod shaped):



3) Spirillum: have 3 forms of shapes



B) Differential staining: React differently with different types of bacteria and used to distinguish among them.

We have 2 types of differential staining:

A) Gram staining B) Acidic fast staining

Gram staining differentiate between 2 main groups of bacteria, gram positive bacteria and gram negative bacteria. Because each one reacts differently to the gram stain and that's because of the structural differences in their cell walls, which affect the retention or escape one of the dyes that are used

Gram positive Bacteria:



Gram negative Bacteria:



if the bacteria stains purple with gram staining → gram positive bacteria.

And if it stains pink with gram staining → gram negative bacteria.

* Simple staining procedure:

- 1) Place the fixed slide on the staining rack and stain with one type of stains: *nyllyene blue, crystal violet, Safranin* for almost 30 sec to 1 min. Don't allow stain to dry out so you have to keep adding stain.
- 2) Wash off the stain gently using a constant flow of water.
- 3) Dry the slide with a paper towel.
- 4) And finally you can examine slide under the microscope.

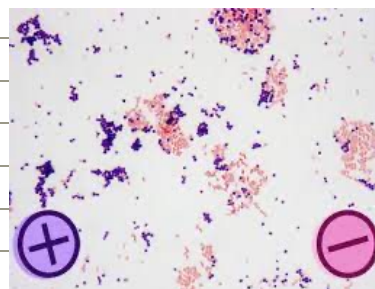
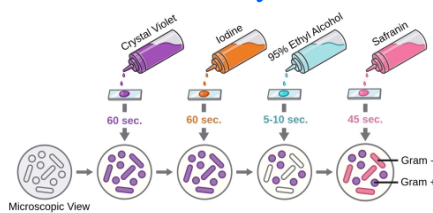
* Gram Staining procedure: we use iodine, 95% ethanol, crystal violet and safranin

- 1) Add crystal violet stain to the fixed smear for about 1 min, and if it dries out keep adding stain.
- 2) Rinse the stain with water.
- 3) Apply Iodine for 1 min (it acts as a mordant and fix the dye.)
- 4) Wash with 95% Ethanol (works as Decolorizer) use it until all free color is washed "For 20 seconds Almost"
- 5) Rinse again with water.
- 6) Apply Safranin (As a counter stain → Directly stains the bacteria that has been decolorized with Alcohol)
- 7) Rinse Again and dry it with a paper towel.
- 8) And now your slide is Ready to be examined.

So As a summary when adding crystal violet cells stain purple then after adding iodine they remain purple but after adding Alcohol color disappears if the cell is gram negative and stays purple if it's gram positive. And finally adding Safranin keeps gram positive bacteria in a purple color while gram negative stains with pink.

Why do the color of gram negative bacteria disappear when adding Alcohol?

Because Alcohol dissolves lipids found in the outer membrane of the bacteria, allowing crystal violet-iodine complex to leak out of the thinner peptidoglycan layer. Gram positive bacteria has a thick layer of peptidoglycan so stain is highly attached to the microorganism.



Pink color → gram negative
Purple color → gram positive.

Bacterial shapes and differentiation

Bacteria	Shape	-/+
1) P.mirabilis →	Rod shaped →	Negative
S.aureus	Cocci/round	Positive
M.lateus	Cocci/round	Positive
S.epidermidis	Cocci/round	Positive
E.faecalis	Cocci/round	Positive
2) E.coli →	Rod shaped →	
3) K.pneumonia →	Rod shaped →	Negative
4) P.aeruginosa →	Rod shaped →	Negative
5) B.subtilis →	Rod shaped →	Positive

17th January 2022

Laboratory 4 : Endospore Staining and special staining

* What are special stains? to color and isolate specific parts of the microorganisms (Endospore, Flagella and Revealing the presence of capsules)

We have 3 types of special staining:

A) Negative staining for capsules: Some bacteria produce slimy and viscous covering → Capsule / Glycocalyx
the ability to produce such a structure is inherited property of the organism. (what does it composed of?)
it's not an essential cellular component. it's composed of polysaccharide + Polypeptide

* Grow under specific growth conditions, it helps bacteria to survive in nature.

* Also it may help pathogenic and normal flora bacteria to initially resist phagocytosis

* In soil and water capsules prevent bacteria from being engulfed (preventing fusion of the lysosome with phagosome by protozoans) → it also help bacteria to adhere to surfaces → Resist flushing

~ Capsules staining is one of the most difficult type of staining because it's soluble in water and capsules are non ionic → Do not accept most biological dyes so we use negative staining for them. ✓

We can use (Nigrosin) → Acidic stain.

B) Flagella staining: Structures used by bacteria to move in their environment

Flagella become visible when stained with Carbol-fuchsin.

C) Endospore staining: Special differentiated state of the bacteria → Allows them to resist adverse

environmental conditions.

* The most commonly used stain for endospore → Schaeffer-Fulton such as lack of water OR change

Endospore is dormant structure and it's resistant to harsh conditions in temperature.

Heat, Radiation, chemicals, desiccation

* Endospore is covered with a layer which called Exosporium → it is surrounded by a coat (made of thick layers of protein)

→ it has the Cortex which is beneath the coat, thick peptidoglycan → Core which has nucleoid and ribosomes.

What makes Endospore so resistant? A) Calcium (complexed with dipicolinic Acid).

B) Small, Acid soluble, DNA-binding protein.

C) Dehydrated core D) Spore coat + Exosporium → protects it

How does it form? with a process called sporulation and it start forming because the lack of nutrient

* Formation of vegetative cell? it starts forming when caused to heat → Activation

↳ process is called germination → when nutrients are detected + Absorption of spore coat.

Outgrowth → Emergence of vegetative cell → increased metabolic activity

* Endospore staining Procedure:

1) Prepare a smear, air dry + Heat fixed.

2) Apply Malachite green

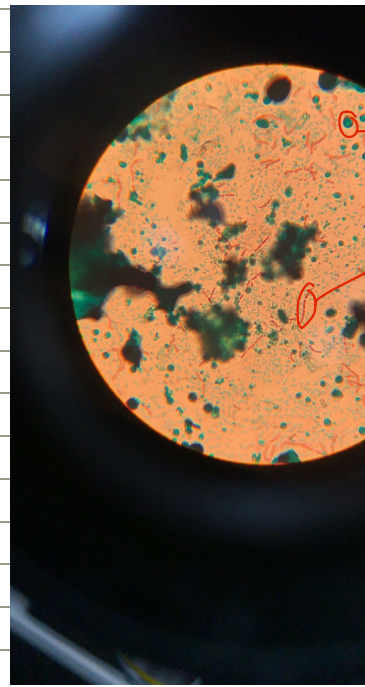
3) Place the slide over a beaker with boiling water and keep adding stain so it won't dry (to open tough layers of endospore so stain can get attached to it)

4) Cooling → wash with water

5) Apply safranin → stains cells rather than endospores (vegetative cells).

6) Rinse with water and dry it with paper towel

7) Examine it with Oil immersion lens to view.



18th January 2022

Laboratory 5: Media preparation and evolution

* What are culture media? Nutrient solutions used to grow microorganisms

* We have 2 classes of culture media: 1) Defined media 2) Undefined Media

• **Defined media:** Chemically known and prepared by precise amount of known chemical substance to distilled water

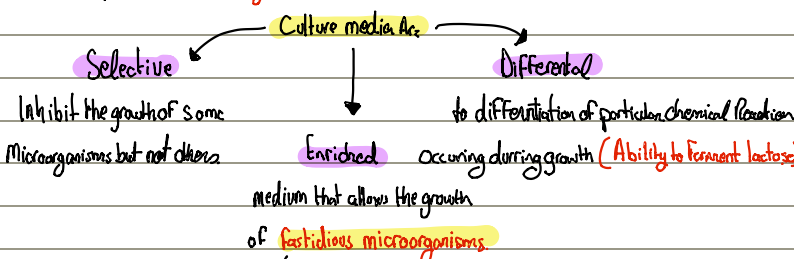
↳ In simple defined medium → Single source of carbon

• **Undefined / complex media:** Media employ digest from animal or plants products

↳ Casein → from milk / Yeast cells / Beef / Soybeans

↳ They are available as powder which can be dissolved in water // Unknown exact composition

If the complex media is solid → Agar Liquid → Broth



* Culture media can be **Supportive** → Support the growth of many microorganisms

↳ microorganisms that have very specific requirement to their growth and cannot be grown on general purpose media.

Such as *Neisseria gonorrhoeae* → grow on media containing Heat-lysed blood → Heat-lysed blood interacts with media components that are toxic for the organisms and allow for growth that would be otherwise inhibited.

Agar > 13g → Solid Agar < 13 → Semisolid 0 Agar → Liquid

For this experiment we've used the following tests:

1) **Manitol Salt Agar (MSA):** Selective + differential

• **Selective:** Because it contains high concentration of salt → inhibitory for the growth of most of the bacteria

• **Differential:** Because it contains carbohydrate mannitol as a source of carbon which can be fermented by

Special type of Bacteria (Releasing Acidic products) → Phenol Red is the pH indicator

↳ Microorganisms that can grow on high salt conc. can survive + ones which can ferment mannitol will have

Test Results: Yellow Halo

S. aureus → Positive for growth (Halotolerant)

↳ Positive for the fermentation of mannitol

S. epidermidis → Positive for growth (Halotolerant)

↳ Negative for the fermentation of mannitol

E. coli → Non-halotolerant, thus we can't know whether it ferments mannitol or not

2) **Blood Agar:** Enriched + Differential

Supports the growth of many fastidious bacteria → Can be differentiated based on specific haemolytic properties

a) **Beta Hemolysis:** Strains of streptococci which can produce streptolysin O/S → Can lyse red blood cells completely

So it appears as clear zone → because of the complete destruction of RBC and the use of hemoglobin

b) **Alpha Hemolysis:** Strains that produce alpha-hemolysin → Cause the reduction of hemoglobin to methemoglobin

that change the color around the agar to greenish / brownish areas

c) **Gamma Hemolysis:** no lysing for RBCs / no leakage / no change in color

Test Results:

S. aureus → β Hemolysis

B. subtilis → α Hemolysis

E. faecalis → Gamma Hemolysis

3) **MacConkey Agar:** Selective + differential

• **Selective:** Inhibits the growth of gram-positive bacteria it contains Crystal violet and Bile salts

• **Differential:** Because it contains Lactose that only some microorganisms ferment it. (pH indicator turns Red)

Test Results:

K. pneumoniae → Positive for growth (Gram negative bacteria) ✓
↳ Positive for fermentation of lactose
↳ "Gram positive bacteria is inhibited because Crystal violet dye and bile salt halt the growth of gram positive bacteria."
which turns the color into Red.

S. aureus → Gram positive bacteria (Inhibited)

P. mirabilis → Gram negative bacteria / No fermentation

4) **Eosin Methylene Blue (EMB) Agar:** Selective + differential

Inhibits the growth of gram positive and selective for gram negative bacteria because of the presence of 2 dyes Eosin Y + Methylene blue. And also it can differentiate between bacteria which can ferment lactose.

Test Results:

a) *K. pneumoniae* → Gram negative bacteria + Positive for the fermentation of lactose

b) *S. aureus* → Gram positive bacteria // No growth

c) *P. mirabilis* → Gram negative bacteria + negative for fermentation

d) *E. coli* → Gram negative bacteria + positive for the fermentation

20th January 2022

Laboratory 6: Bacterial population Count.

* Microbiologist often has to determine the number of Bacteria given in a sample.

What is the theory? A) Plate count B) Turbidity procedure C) Direct cell count with counting chamber

Count

* Another reason for this experiment is to compare the amount of Bacterial growth under various

Conditions

Enumeration of Microorganisms is important for Drug, Food and water microbiology

A) Plate count (Viable count)

Usually number of Bacteria given in a sample is too great to be counted directly.

C, But if the sample is serially diluted and then plated on an agar, so single isolated Bacteria form visible isolated colony

* Some organisms form multiple cell arrangement such as chain
the number of colonies can be used as a measure of the number of the living cell in the known dilution.

Laboratory 8 → Chemical effects on bacterial growth:

1) **Stabilization:** Destroying all living organisms + viruses → A sterile object is free of all life forms.

2) **Disinfection:** Elimination of microorganisms from inanimate objects or surfaces