

PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF WASTEWATER

•The most important parameters used to characterize the physical properties of wastewater are:

- Solids content
- Odors
- Temperature
- Density
- Color
- Turbidity

CHEMICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF WASTEWATER

•The most important parameters used to characterize the chemical properties of wastewater are:

- Organic material
- Inorganic material

ORGANIC MATERIAL IN WASTEWATER

- Total organic material
- Proteins

0

- Carbohydrates
- Fats, oils, and grease
- Pesticides
- Phenols
- Priority pollutants
- Refractory pollutants
- Surfactants
- Volatile organic compounds

INORGANIC MATERIAL IN WASTEWATER

0

• pH

0

- Alkalinity
- Heavy metals
- Nitrate and nitrite
- Ammonia
- Phosphorous
- Sulfate and sulfite
- Sulfide
- Chloride
- Oxygen

BOD, COD, AND TOC

- Typical range of BOD/COD for untreated municipal WW is 0.3
 0.8
 - Typical range for BOD/TOC is 1.2 2.0
 - If BOD/COD > 0.5
 - WW is considered to be easily treatable by biological means
 - If BOD/COD < 0.3
 - WW may have some toxic components and/or the addition of acclimated micro-organisms may be required

BIOLOGICAL CHARACTERISTICS

- These are done to identify the group of micro-organisms present in the industrial waste.
- These require sophisticated instruments such as microscopes etc.,

Micro-organisms

- Untreated wastewater includes a wide variety of pathogenic micro-organisms, such as:
 - Bacteria (i.e. *E. coli*, salmonella, vibrio cholerae)
 - Protozoa (i.e. Balantidium coli, Entamoeba histolytica)
 - Helminths (i.e. pinworm, tapeworm)
 - Viruses (i.e. Hepatitis, Norwalk agent, Parvovirus)

INDICATOR ORGANISMS

- •Every person discharges from 100 to 400 billion
 - coliform bacteria every day
 - Coliform organisms are gram-negative, rod shaped bacteria
 - whose normal habitat is the intestines of human and animals;
 - some members are naturally found in the soil and vegetation
 - Escherichia
 - Enterobacter
 - Klebsiella
 - Citrobacter

COLIFORM

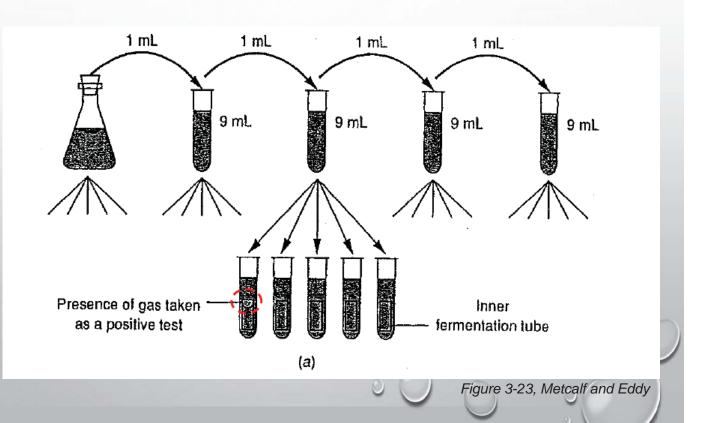
Total Coliform

- Species ferment lactose and produce CO_2 gas when incubated at (35 ± 0.5) °C for (24 ± 2) h
- Species produce a colony within (24 \pm 2) h to (48 \pm 3) h when incubated in a medium that facilitates growth
 - Micro 221 or 229- Agar Plates expts!

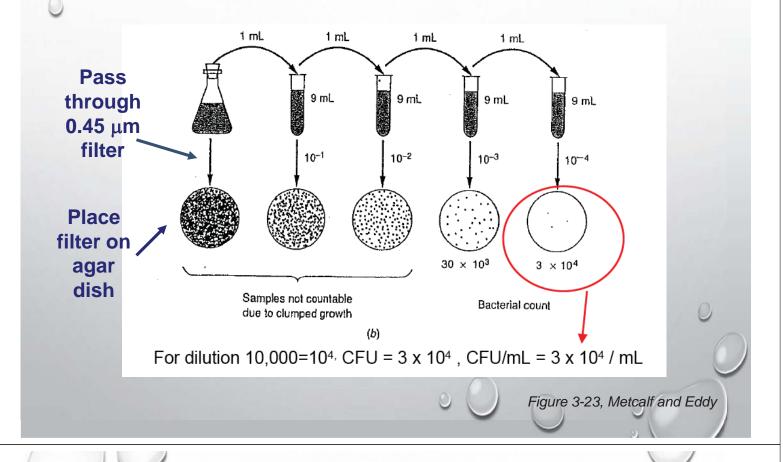
• Fecal Coliform

- Species produce gas or colonies when incubated at the higher temperature of (44.5 $\pm\,$ 0.2) $^{\circ}{\rm C}$ for (24 \pm 2) h
- Total coliform is used as the indicator for drinking water and wastewater effluent

BACTERIAL COUNTS - LIQUID MEDIUM (BOARD EXAMPLE!)



BACTERIAL COUNTS - SOLID MEDIUM



TOXICITY TESTING (OVERALL WATER QUALITY)

- Performed on effluent before discharge
- Measures the overall quality of the treated water and to establish acceptable discharge concentrations for conventional parameters (such as DO, pH, temperature, salinity, or turbidity)
- Determines the efficacy of the waste treatment process
- Determines compliance with federal regulations

• Use "test" organisms (baby trout, minnows) sensitive to the presence

of contaminants



- Fish are placed in aquariums/vessels containing various dilutions of treated wastewater
- Start test with about 10 fish/aquarium
- Run the test for a fixed period of time (24, 48, 96 h) and count the number of dead fish
- Plot results on semi-log paper

TOXICITY TESTING - BIOASSAYS

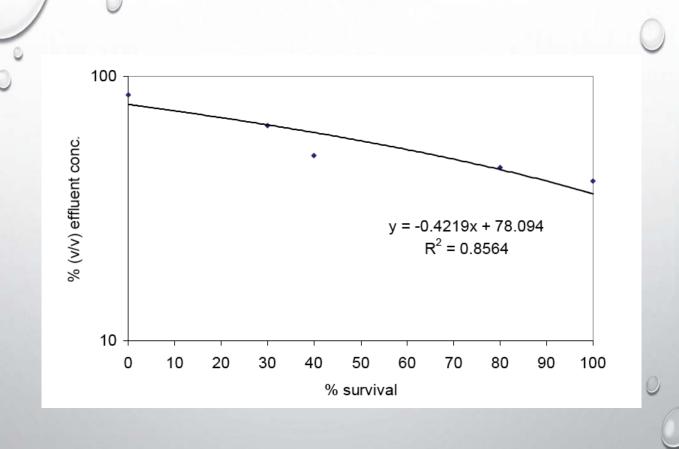
- •LC₅₀:
 - Median lethal concentration for 50% of the organisms
 - The diluted concentration of the wastewater that will kill 50% of the test population in a fixed time period

• NOEC:

- No Observed Effect Concentration
- The highest concentration of diluted wastewater that has no observable effect on the test organisms

Example: The discharge for your company allows you to discharge treated wastewater with a trout 96 h LC₅₀ value of 75%. Test results are shown below.

Conc. Of effluent (%v/v)	Fish initially present	Fish surviving after 96 h	% survived after 96 h
85	10	0	0
65	10	3	30
50	10	4	40
45	10	8	80
40	10	10	100



•What does a 96-h LC50 of 75% mean?

When the effluent is diluted to a concentration of 75% (v/v), 50% of the test organisms will die.

•What is the 96-h LC50 measured?

57%

Is the plant in compliance?
 No!

OTHER IMPORTANT TERMS

• 1. Theoretical Oxygen Demand

- This is theoretical method of computing the oxygen demand of various constituents of the organic matter present in wastewater.
- •The organic matter present in the wastewater may be of animal or vegetable origin, consisting of principal groups such as carbohydrates, proteins, fats and products of their decomposition

- •WW generally contains a mixture of carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, and nitrogen
- Each one of these is a typical combinations of carbon, hydrogen, oxygen and nitrogen based on chemical formula.
- •Hence if chemical formulae of the constituents are known, ThOD can be determined

STEPS IN CALCULATION OF THOD OF GLYCINE (CH₂(NH₂)COOH)

- In the first step, the organic carbon and nitrogen are converted to carbon dioxide (CO₂) and ammonia (NH₃), respectively.
- In the second and third steps, the ammonia is oxidized sequentially to nitrite and nitrate.
- 3. The ThOD is the sum of the oxygen required for all three steps.

 Write balanced reaction for the carbonaceous oxygen demand.

- • $CH_2(NH_2)COOH + 1.5 0_2 ->NH_3 + 2CO_2 + H_20$
- 2. Write balanced reactions for the nitrogenous oxygen demand.
- $\bullet NH_3 + 1.5 O_2 -> HNO_2 + H_2O_2$
- • $HNO_2 + 0.5 O_2 -> HNO_3$

 $NH_3 + 2O_2 -> HNO_3 + H_2O$

- •3. Determine the ThOD.
- •ThOD= $(1.5 + 2) \mod O_2/\mod glycine$
- •= 3.5 mol O_2/mol glycine x 32 g/mol $O_2/$ 75 g/mol glycine
- •= 1.49 g O_2/g glycine

- $C_6H_{12}O_6 + 6O_2 = 6CO_2 + 6H_2O_2$
 - Oxygen Demand
 - 6moles*32g/mole
 Oxygen/1mole*180g/mole
 - = $1.06 O_2 / Glucose$

• If glucose concentration is 360 mg/L THOD is

• 1.06 * 360 mg/L = 384 mg/L Oxygen

Amount of organic waste load expressed as "Oxygen Demand":

• Theoretical oxygen demand, ThOD, from reaction with O2, e.g. :

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- $C_2H_5OH + 3O_2 \rightarrow 2CO_2 + 3H_2O$
- \rightarrow ThOD of C₂H₅OH =

2. RELATIVE STABILITY

- It is defined as the ratio of available oxygen to the required oxygen satisfying the first stage BOD.
- The available oxygen will include dissolved oxygen (DO) as well as oxygen present as nitrite or nitrate.
- It is expressed as % of total oxygen required.

 The test for the relative stability is carried out in following steps:

- The wastewater sample is filled in a glassstoppered bottle and a small quantity of methylene blue is added to it.
- The mixture is then incubated either at a temp of 20° C or 37° C. In India 37 deg C is prefered.

3. During the incubation period, the anaerobic bacteria start their function, the available DO is consumed and H_2S is produced which decolourise the mixture.

- •The time 't' in days required for bleaching the blue colour is noted.
- 4. The relative stability is given by

• SR = 100 $(1 - 0.794^{\dagger 20})$

- •SR = 100 $(1 0.695^{+37})$
- •Where,
- •t20 and t37 are the number of days of incubation at 20° C and 37° C respectively.

In a test for relative stability, the period of incubation comes out to be 8 days. Determine the relative stability if the test temperature is 20° C and 37° C respectively

- •84.2%
- •98.2%

3. POPULATION EQUIVALENT

- The wastewater carried by the sewer consists of domestic sewage and the industrial wastewater.
- Since, contribution of solids to sewage should be nearly constant on a per capita basis, the BOD contribution should also be constant.
- Generally, BOD contribution per capita per day may be taken as 80 g/day.

3. POPULATION EQUIVALENT

- Industrial wastewaters are generally compared with per capita domestic sewage, through the concept of Population equivalent (P_F) using per capita BOD values as basis.
- $P_E = (Total BOD_5 of the industrial wastewater in kg/day)/(BOD_5 value per capita/day)$

THEORY QUESTIONS

Q1. Give procedure for finding out relative stability of wastewater. Find relative stability of wastewater for 7 days bleaching time at 20 deg C.

Q2. What is Theoretical Oxygen Demand (ThOD)? Mention the steps in the reactions.