

B.Sc. BOTANY LAB MANUAL  
1st Semester



Prepared By  
**Biological Science Dept.**  
Botany

**MIDNAPORE CITY COLLEGE**



**B Sc (Honours) in Botany****[Choice Based Credit System]****CP1: Algae and Microbiology-Lab****1. Electron micrographs/Models of viruses – T-Phage and TMV, Line drawings/  
Photographs of Lytic and Lysogenic Cycle.**

Bacteriophages are bacteria infecting viruses. They are also called 'phage' or simply bacterial Viruses as any group of viruses that infect bacteria are referred to as Bacteriophage. A bacteriophage is a virus that parasitizes bacteria and reproduces inside it. They are of different shapes and show genetic variations. They may contain DNA or RNA as genetic material and may have gene count ranging from four to several thousand. The name bacteriophage describes an entity's bactericidal ability and it translates to "bacteria eater" in English. Not only do bacteriophages infect the bacteria but also archaea- the single-celled Prokaryotic organisms.

**Characteristics of a Bacteriophage**

- Several varieties of bacteriophages exist in the environment but one type can infect only one type or a few types of bacteria.
- They are classied in a number of Virus families. Examples include Inoviridae, Microviridae, Rudiviridae, and Tectiviridae.
- Like all other viruses, they are simple organisms consisting of a core of genetic materialsurrounded by a protein capsid.
- The genetic material can either be DNA or RNA in the bacteriophages.
- After infecting a cell, it completely takes control of the host cells and stops it from
- producing bacterial components and forces it to produce viral components.
- They eventually bring about the lysis of the host bacterial cell.

**Characteristics of a Bacteriophage**

A typical bacteriophage is composed of a polyhedral head, a short collar, and a helical tail.

The head of the phage consists of 2000 capsomeres with the genetic material- doublestranded DNA or Single-stranded RNA enclosed within the head.

The tail is composed of an inner hollow tube that is surrounded by a contractile sheath with 24 annular rings. The distal end of the tail consists of a basal plate that has tail bers at each corner.

### **Diagram of a Typical Bacteriophage**

### **Life Cycle of a Bacteriophage**

After the phage infects the host cell and inserts its genetic material into the host cell, it

Follows either of the two life cycles, they are

1. Lytic Cycle (Virulent Cycle)
2. Lysogenic Cycle (Temperate Cycle)

### **Lytic Cycle**

If they uptake the lytic cycle, bacteriophages infect the host cell and kill it to release progeny viruses. Steps involved in this cycle are as follows

#### **Adsorption**

This is the rst step of infection by phage in which the bacteriophage attaches itself to the surface of the host cell or bacteria. For attachment to take place, the tips of the tail bers attach to specic receptor sites on the surface of the bacterial cell.

#### **Penetration**

In the next step, the tail sheath of the phage contracts after adsorption has taken place. The base plate and the tail bers attach rmly to the bacterial cell surface. The phage lysozymes weaken a part of the host cell wall and the hollow core is pushed downwards through it. The phage DNA is then injected inside the bacterial cell.

#### **Synthesis of Phage Components**

The components of new virus particles are produced after the genetic material of the phage

is released into the host cell. The sub-units of phage then appear which includes the head, tail, and late protein. Early proteins and specific enzymes carry out the synthesis.

### **Release**

The lysis of the bacterial cell takes place releasing the progeny phages. During the replication,

phage enzymes weaken the cell wall of bacteria.

### **Lysogenic Cycle**

It is another pathway of viral reproduction in a host cell. In this phase the integration of phage nucleic acid into the host cell genome or the formation of a circular replicon in the cytoplasm of the host cell takes place. The host bacterial cell continues to live and reproduce normally in this phase. The genetic material of the phage also called prophage is transmitted to daughter cells at each subsequent cell division. The lysogenic cycle is different from the lytic cycle in the respect that the lysogenic cycle does not lyse the host cell straight away. The prophage may be converted into the lytic phase either naturally or artificially by physical or chemical agents. The bacteria carrying prophage viruses without being lysed are known as “lysogenic bacteria”.

In the event of multiplication of lysogenic bacteria, the prophage might be lost due to excision.

### **Gram Staining**

#### **Principle:**

Differential staining requires the use of at least three chemical reagents that are applied sequentially to a fixed smear. The first reagent is called primary stain. Its function is to impart its colour to all cells. In order to establish a colour contrast, the second reagent used is

the decolouring agent. Based on the chemical composition of cellular components, the decolouring agent may or may not remove the primary stain from the entire cell or only from certain cell structure. The final reagent, the counter stain has a contrasting colour than that of the primary stain. The following decolourization, if the primary stain is not washed out the counter stain cannot be observed and the cells on their components will retain the colour of the primary stain. If the primary stain is removed, the colourized cellular components will accept and assume the contrasting colour of counter stain. In this way, cell types or their structure can be distinguished from each other on the basis of the stain that the cells retained.

**Purpose: to become familiar with;**

1. The chemical & theoretical bases for differential staining procedure.
2. The chemical basis of gram stain.
3. Performance of the procedure for differentiating between the two principle groups of bacteria:

-Gram +ve bacteria

-Gram -ve bacteria

**Materials:** Cultures: 24 hours nutrient agar stain culture of sample

1. Reagents: Crystal violet (Primary stain) Gram's iodine (mordant) 70% Ethyl alcohol (Decolourising agent) Safranin (Counter stain) Equipments: Bunsen burner, inoculating loop, staining tray, glass slide, bibulous, Paper, lens paper and microscope.

**Procedure:**

1. obtain 4 clean glass slides.
2. Using sterile technique prepared smears of each of the 2 sample organisms. The smear is prepared by placing a drop of water on the slide, then transferring each organism separately to the drop water with a sterile cooled inoculating loop. mix and spread the organism by the means of circular motion by inoculating loop.
3. Allow smears to air dry then heat fixed the smear by the Bunsen burner.

4. Gently flood the smear with crystal violet and let stand for 1 min.
5. Gently then wash it with tap water.
6. Gently flood smear with the gram's iodine mordant and let it stand for 1 min.
7. Gently wash it again with tap water.
8. Decolourised it with 90% ethyl alcohol. (Caution: do not over decolourise, add reagent drop by drop until alcohol runs almost clear, showing only a blue colouration.)
9. Gently wash it with tap water is when done, then the next step is to apply gently or counter stain gently with safranin for 45 sec.
10. Blot dry with bibulous paper and examine under oil immersion microscope.

**Observation and result:**

Draw a representative field. Cell morphology;

- 1) Shape — Round shaped
- 2) Arrangement — single
- 3) Cell colour — crystal violet (purple)
- 4) Gram Reaction — gram positive

**Comment:**

According to the above result, the sample contains gram positive stain, because it retains the crystal violet stain colour, hence it is a gram positive bacterium.

**ENDOSPORE STAINING****Principle:**

Some bacteria are capable of changing in to dormant structure that are metabolically inactivate and do not grow or reproduce since these structure are formed inside the cells hence are known as endospore . During sporulation a vegetative cell give rise to a new intracellular structure termed as endospore that is surrounds by a impermeable layer called as spore coat. Example: Bacillus, Clostridium, Coniella, Desulyoyomacula,

thermoactinomycetes and spore. These spore are differentially stained by using special procedure that help the dyes to penetrate the spore wall. An aqueous primary stain (malachite green) is applied and is steamed to enhance penetration of the impermeable spore coats, once endospores are stained they do not readily decolorize and appear green with red cells.

**Requirements:**

- i) 48 hours nutrient agar cultures of *Bacillus cereus* or *Bacillus subtilis* and *Staphylococcus aureus*.
- ii) Malachite green (5% aqueous)
- iii) Safranin (0.5% aqueous)
- iv) Staining tray
- v) Glass slides
- vi) Inoculation loop
- vii) Blotting paper
- viii) spirit lamp
- ix) microscope.

**Procedure:**

- i) Make smears of *Bacillus subtilis* and *Staphylococcus aureus* on separate clean slide.
- ii) Air dry and heat fix the smear
- iii) Flood the smear with malachite green
- iv) Heat the slide to steaming and steam for 5 minutes adding more stain to the smear from time to time.
- v) Wash the slides under slowly running tap water.
- vi) Counter stain with safranin for 30 seconds.
- vii) Wash the smear with distilled water.
- viii) Blow dry the slides that is wet with distilled water

**Observation:**

Examine the slides microscopically under oil immersion objects from a representative microscopic field of each preparation works drawing indicate the position and size of the endospore within individual cell as well as the size and also the exact shape of the free spore

**Result:**

In *Bacillus subtilis* the endospore staining and the vegetation cells stains red. The vegetation cells are rod-shaped each containing an elliptical centrally located spores.

**Comment:**

From observation and result we can conclude that supplied sample contain endospore staining some cells have taken malachite green stain and from greenish colour and some cells have taken saffranin colour and from pink colour. So from above experiment we can conclude that greenish cells are spore and pink cells are vegetation cells.

## CP2: Biomolecule and Cell Biology-Lab

### Staining procedure for algal specimen

- Put the species in clean slide and one drop cotton blue taken on it
- After preparation the slide heated by spirit lamp and waiting for 3-5 minutes.
- Added lacto phenol on the slide and spread well.
- After preparation the specimen is covered by cover slip and given pressure on the cover slip for clean the bubbles.
- At last seal the cover slip.

### Phycology

#### Description and workout of algal specimen: A

##### Thallus Structure:

plant body is blue – green in colour, free floating colonial or attached to a substratum. Each colony contains a number of trichomes embedded within a matrix (common sheath) forming little Blass Nostoc balls. The trichoms consist of a single series of uniform, often torulose, bead-like, ellipsoidal cells more or less depressed which are often contorted and some times form densely interwoven masses. Cells of each trichomes are joined end to end to form moniliform (bead like) chains. Sheaths of individual trichomes are heterocysts are present. Heterocysts are distinguished from the vegetative cell by thick walls, transparent contents, larger size and two polar nodules at two ends. Heterocysts separate the hormogonium

##### Reproductive structure:

**Akinetes** – They are different in appearance from vegetative cells. Akinetes are spherical or oblong and much larger than vegetative cells with dense Protoplasm.

##### IDENTIFICATION:

Thallus blue green in colour, cells devoid of conspicuous nucleus, absence of any sex organ, presence of gelatinous sheath around the cells (in most case) absence of organised cell organelles

like plastids.

Thallus unbranched, filamentous, presence of hormogonium, heterocyst present some genera only.

The specimen belong the class: **CYANOPHYCEAE**.

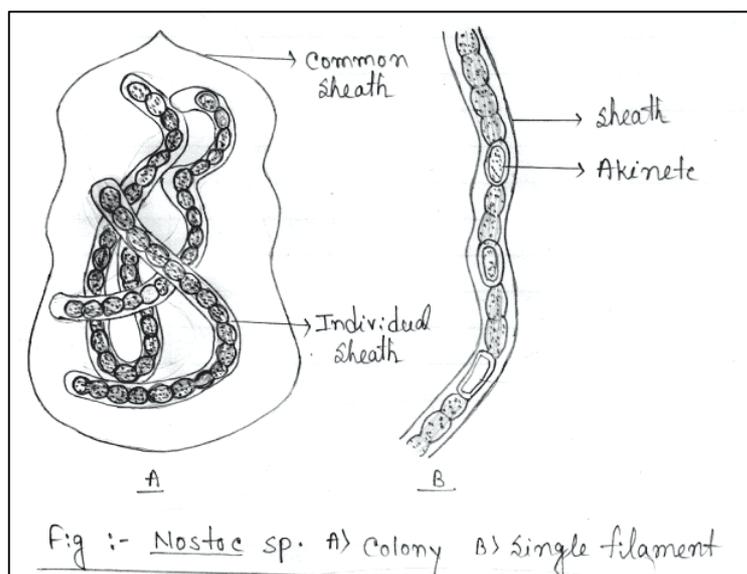
Trichomes unbranched ,interwoven and surrounded by sheath presence of heterocyst and akinets.

The specimen belong the order : **NOSTOCALES**.

Trichomes with single series of unifrome ,ellipsoidal(bead-like) cells presence of intercalary heterocysts and akinets.

The specie s belonging the family: **NOSTOCACEAE**.

Hence the specimen is under the Genus : **Nostoc**



### WORK OUT OF SPECIMEN: B

Materials :-The specimen supplied from laboratory.

#### The plant body:-

- I) Plant body of this specimen is filamentous, much branched coenocytic and saponaceous thallus.
- II) The coenocytic body contains many nuclei, septa may form during injury on the development of sex organ .
- III) In terrestrial species the plant body remains attached to the soil surface with much branched thread like structure ,the rhizoid are either absent or ill -developed.
- IV) The filamentous body has a thin outer wall. which is less elastic .it is made up of outer pectin and inner cellulosic layers
- IV) In the centre of the filament a continuous vacuole is present except at the apical region , which is filled with cell sap.

**Sexual Reproduction :-**

- I) The sexual reproduction in specimen is of organous type.
- ii) It takes place by antheridium ,the male sex organ and oogonium, the female sex organ

**Development of the sex organ: Antheridium or male sex organ:**

- I) The nuclei of antheridium aggregate in the continue and divide Mibctically.
- II) Each nucleus along with along with some cytoplasm metamorphoses into sivgta spindle shaped bi flagellate antherozoid.
- III) The flagella are unequal in length ,dissimilar cone whiplash and othr tinsel and laterally in sorted.
- Iv) The antherozoids are generally liberated though on opening developed at the apical region of antheridium

**Oogonium or Femal sex organ :-**

- I) Identatically a small protuberance developes at on near the base of antheridial branch,due to occumulation of cytoplasm.
- (II) The cytoplasm of this region is colourless which has many nucli and without any chromatophores .
- III) The mature Oogonium contain a large nucleus at the centre with many chromatophores and all drof dispersed throughout the cytoplasm
- IV) The protoplast along with nucleus round of and froms single ovum or egg.
- V) It has an hyaline area towards the anterior known as receptive spot

**IDENTIFICATION :-**

- I) Thallus yellowish green in colour filamentous cenocytic brunched.
- II) Presence of oil as reserve food sexual reproduction complex Oogamous type.

Hence, the specimen is under the class – **XANTHOPHYCEAE**.

- I) Plant body filamentous a sexuality reproduce by multiflagellate zoospore

Hence the supplied specimen is under the order – **HETRROSIPHOOONALES**

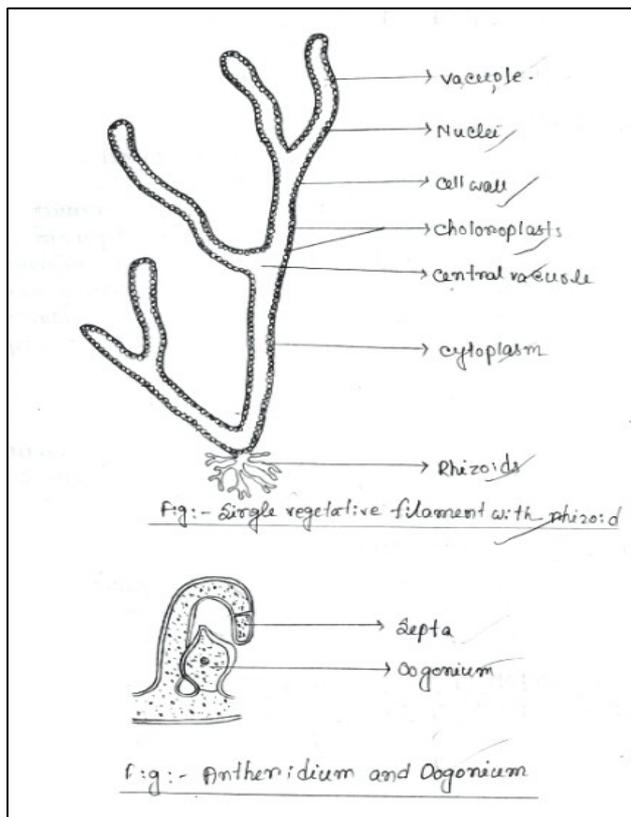
- I) Filaments irregularly brunched .
- II) Antheridia curved cylindrical and Oogonia.

Hence the specimen under the family –**VAUCHERTIACERAE**.

- I) Filament long tubular spirally branched.
- II) Antheridia hook like curved and oogonium sessile on short stalked with a beak.

Hence the specimen is under the Genus – **VAUCHERIA**

So the supplied specimen is **Vaucheria sp**



### WORK OUT OF SPECIMEN –C

**Specimen: Supplied the specimen from the laboratory**

#### Thallus structure:-

- I) The plant body is prominent, branched laterally or dichotomously and brownish red to purple red in colour.
- II) The main axis and branches possess a polysiphonia appearance as the central axis cell is surrounded by pericentral cells of a variable number.
- III) The cell is a prominent cell-to-cell organism connection and each cell has one nucleus and many discoid plastids embedded in dense cytoplasm. Ultimate branches are uniseriate structures and are known as trichoblasts.

#### Reproductive structure : Spermatangium :

The lateral branches of the male plant bear antheridium known as spermatangia in dense. The spermatangia are short-stalked, colourless, and spherical-oval structures. They contain a single...

**Cystocarps :**

It is an unshaped structure formed by gonimoblast filament surrounded by sterile filaments. The terminal cells of the gonimoblast filament produce a carposporangium with one carpospore.

**Tetrasporangium :**

It is borne on the central axis of the specialised filament called tetrasporangium filament. Each sporangium contains four tetraspores.

**Identification :**

Presence of gelatinous material in the thallus cells contain chloroplast with pyrenoid. Presence of characteristic post lytic structure called cystocarp.

Hence the specimen belongs to the class-**RODOPHYCEAE**.

Plant body heterotrichous uniaxial in the growing and multi axial in the mature region. Carposporangium developing on filamentous gonimoblasts derived directly from the fertilized carposporangia. uni or multiaxial construction of thallus presence of tetrasporangia with tetraspores.

Hence the specimen belongs to the order –**SERAMIALES**.

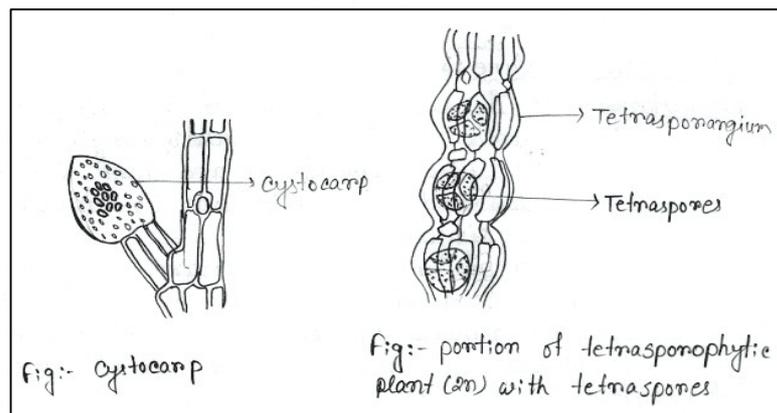
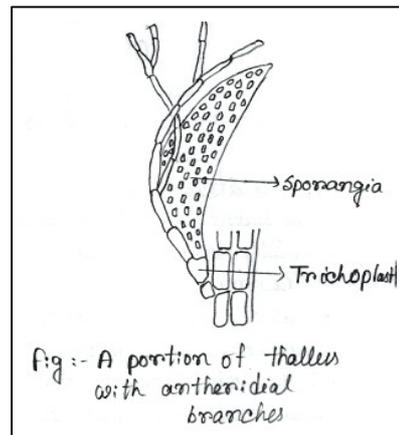
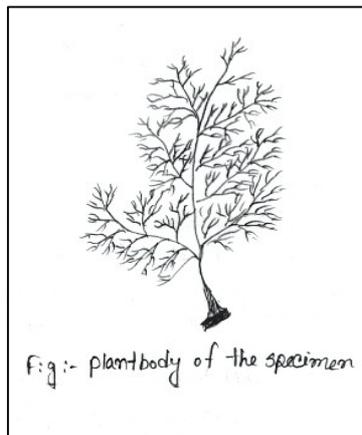
Polysiphonous branched thallus cystocarp urn shaped with a pore tetrasporangia with tetraspores

Hence the specimen belongs to the family-**RHODOMELACEAE**

Cells of the central axis polysiphonous surrounded by pericentral cells presence of spermatangia on separate filaments

Hence specimen belongs to the genus **POLYSIPHONIA**

So the supplied specimen is **Polysiphonia sp.**



### WORK OUT OF SPECIMEN –D

#### Material:-

- I) The plant body is filamentous and the filament are green, simple unbranched consisting of row of cylindrical cells
- II) The filamentous are usually free flating
- III) The filamentous are silky hair like structures which are smooth to touch.
- IV) The cells are generally more is length then in breath.
- V) The protoplast is differentiated into structures such as plasma membrane chlloplasts pyrenoids central vascular other cytoplasm is nucleus.
- VI) The cytoplasm is surrounded by plasma membrane and it encloves a long vacuole fillec with tannin containing cell shape.
- VII) The most prominante feature of this cells the presence of spinal or rtibbow shaped chloroplast which are partial in position and remain cubedded in the cytoplasm.
- VIII) Chloroplast contain man pyrenoids.

#### Identifying character:-

- I) Unbranched filamentous type.
- II) The filamentous forms are free floating

- III) Filamentous forms are Silky hair like structure which are smooth touch.
- IV) Cells are generally more in length than in breadth.
- V) Chloroplasts contain many pyrenoids

So, the supplied specimen is belongs the genus-*Spirogyra* sp.

