

Roll No.				Total No.	of Pages: 02
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Total No. of Questions: 09

# B.Tech.(BT) (2011 onwards) (Sem.-6) FUNDAMENTALS OF BIOCHEMICAL ENGINEERING

Subject Code: BTBT-601 Paper ID: [A2283]

Time: 3 Hrs. Max. Marks: 60

### **INSTRUCTION TO CANDIDATES:**

- SECTION-A is COMPULSORY consisting of TEN questions carrying TWO marks each.
- 2. SECTION-B contains FIVE questions carrying FIVE marks each and students has to attempt any FOUR questions.
- 3. SECTION-C contains THREE questions carrying TEN marks each and students has to attempt any TWO questions.

## **SECTION-A**

# 1. Write briefly:

- a) What are the advantages and the challenges in bio-process engineering?
- b) What are the advantages and disadvantages of bioprocesses over conventional chemical processes?
- c) What is the difference between aerobic and anaerobic fermentation?
- d) Define decimal reduction time.
- e) State four products obtained through fermentation.
- f) Define 'yield factor' and 'yield coefficient'.
- g) What are macro and micro-nutrients?
- h) Contrast the advantages and disadvantages of chemically defined and complex media.
- i) Explain the primary and secondary metabolites.
- j) What are the different sterilization methods?



#### **SECTION-B**

- 2. Write short notes on (a) Anaerobic bioreactor and (b) Non-agitated bioreactors.
- 3. What are the environmental factors that affect growth kinetics? Explain.
- 4. Describe with a neat sketch an ideal fermentor for an aseptic process.
- 5. With the help of a neat flow sheet, explain the components of a typical fermentation process.
- 6. Describe the formulation of synthetic and complex media for cell cultures.

## **SECTION-C**

- 7. a) How do you define specific growth rate? Prove that the specific growth rate,  $\mu$  is related to mass doubling time  $t_d$  by  $t_d = \frac{0.694}{\mu}$ 
  - b) Discuss the purpose of aeration and agitation in fermentors.
- 8. a) During the batch sterilization of a liquid, normally carried out at 121 °C for 10 min, the control system showed a malfunction when the temperature reached 116 °C. Due to the malfunction, the temperature remained at 116 °C for 15 min before the fault was rectified. What new holding time at 121 °C will be required to ensure that the design criterion ∇ is maintained for this batch?

**Data given:** at 116 °C, k = 0.605 and 121 °C, k = 1.83.

- b) How pH and dissolved oxygen concentration can be monitored and controlled in a fermentor? Outline the principle of equipment/ instrument used for this purpose.
- 9. a) Experimental work on the growth of a micro-organism shows that the critical dissolved oxygen concentration required to sustain growth is 0.022 m mol/L, and the oxygen utilization rate is  $1.68 \times 10^{-4} \, \text{kmol/sm}^3$ . Determine the required mass transfer coefficient for this process. At 30°C, Henry's constant for oxygen/broth is  $4.75 \times 10^4$  atmospheres/mol fraction.
  - b) What are the different mass transfer resistances for the transfer of oxygen from gaseous phase to liquid phase in an aerobic fermenter?