

# Biotechnology for the decontamination of Metal Wastes

Professor Vasu D. Appanna PhD  
Chair

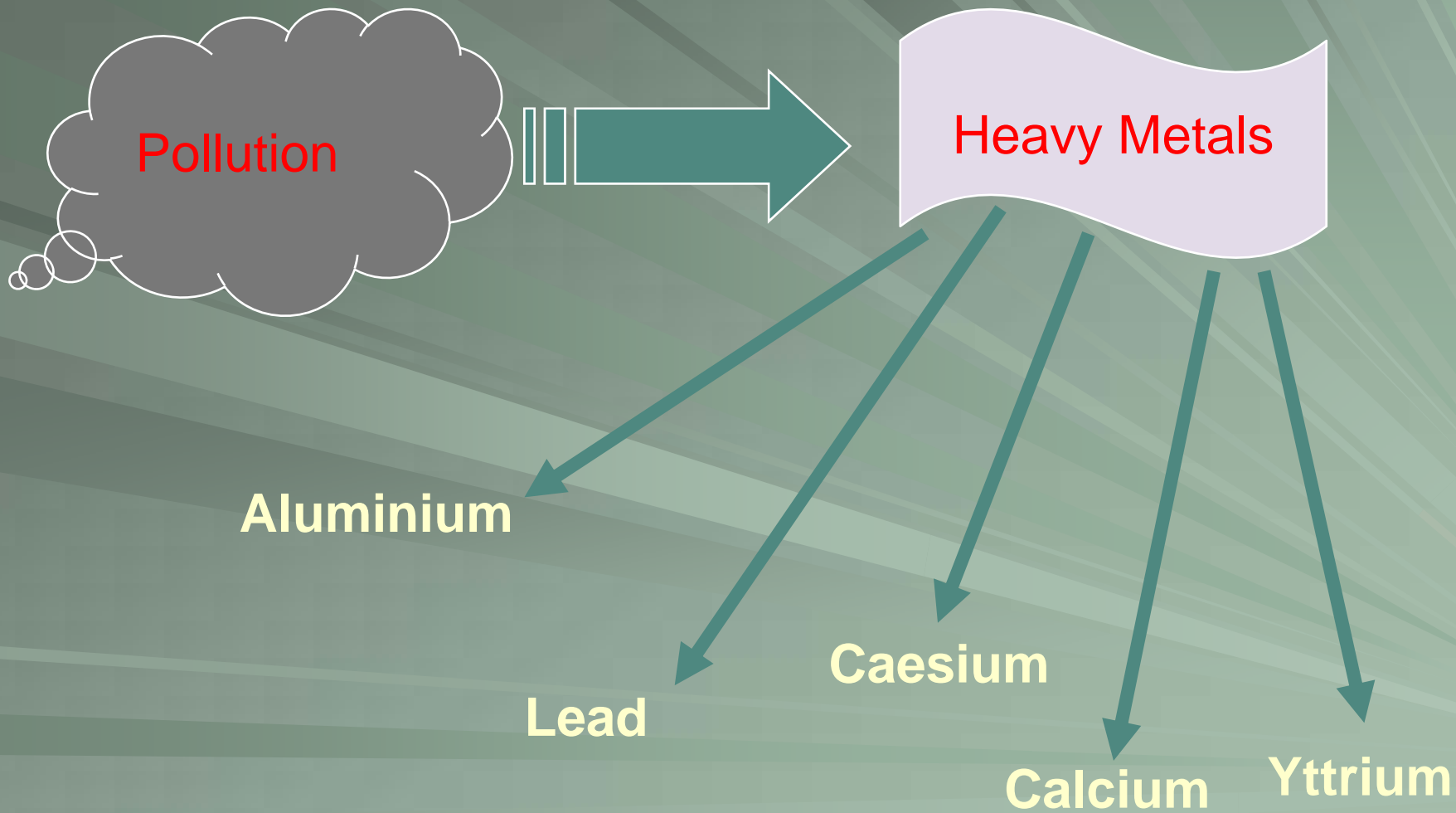
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry  
Laurentian University  
Sudbury, Ontario, Canada



SNO



# Problem:



# Accumulation of metals in living systems

## METAL ACCUMULATORS

	<u>Plants</u>	<u>Animals</u>
a) Mn	Ferns	Marine crustacea
b) Ni	Alyssium sp.	
c) Sr	Brown algae	Acantharia
d) V	Brown algae	Coelenterates
e) Zn	Thlaspi calaminare	Coelenterates

# Biological Effects

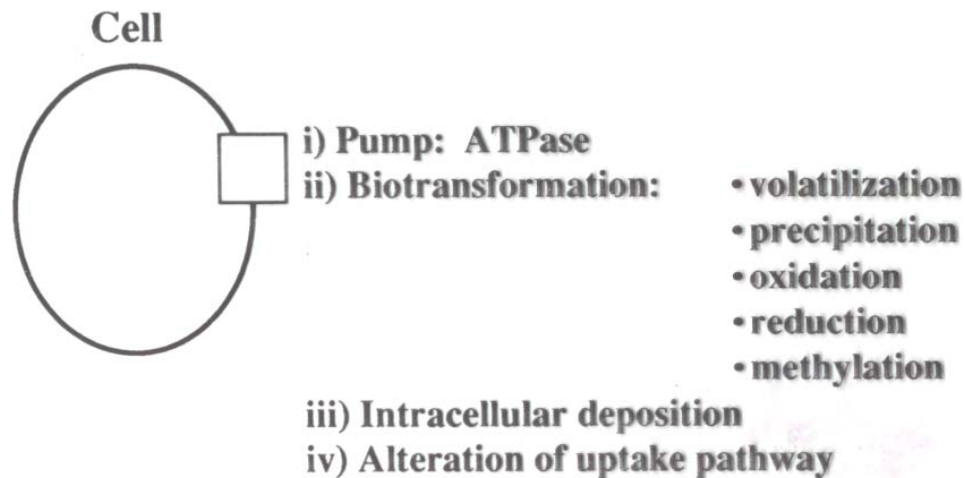
## **Mode of toxicity and interaction with cells.**

- i) Membranes -> altered membrane fluidity  
phospholipid constituents**
- ii)  $\text{Ca}^{2+}$  metabolism and calmodulin**
- iii) Iron metabolism -> transferrin**
- iv) DNA and  $\text{Al}^{3+}$**
- v) Signal transduction mechanism “phosphoinositide”**
- vi) Tubulin**
- vii) Decrease glucose utilization**




# Adaptation

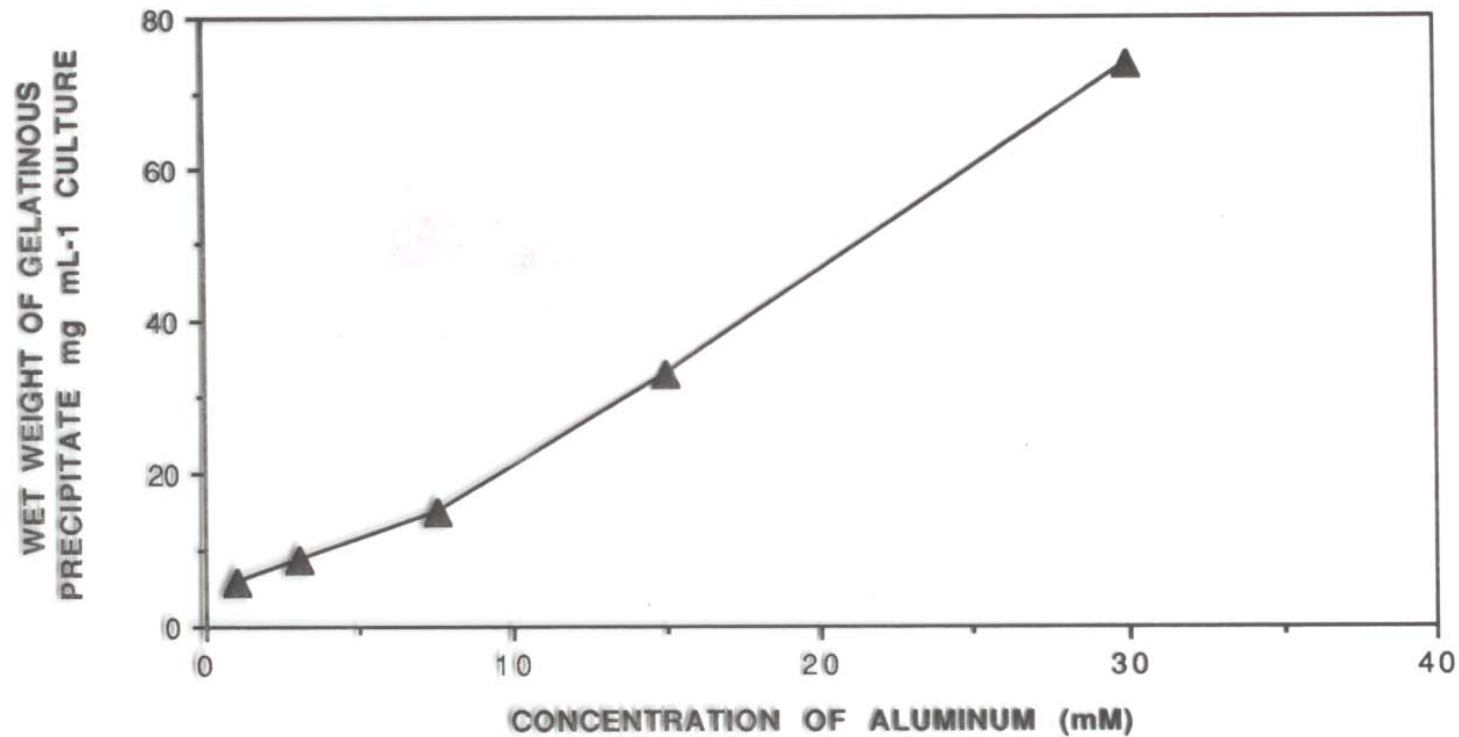
## GENERAL ADAPTATION MECHANISMS



# Aluminium Stress on biological systems

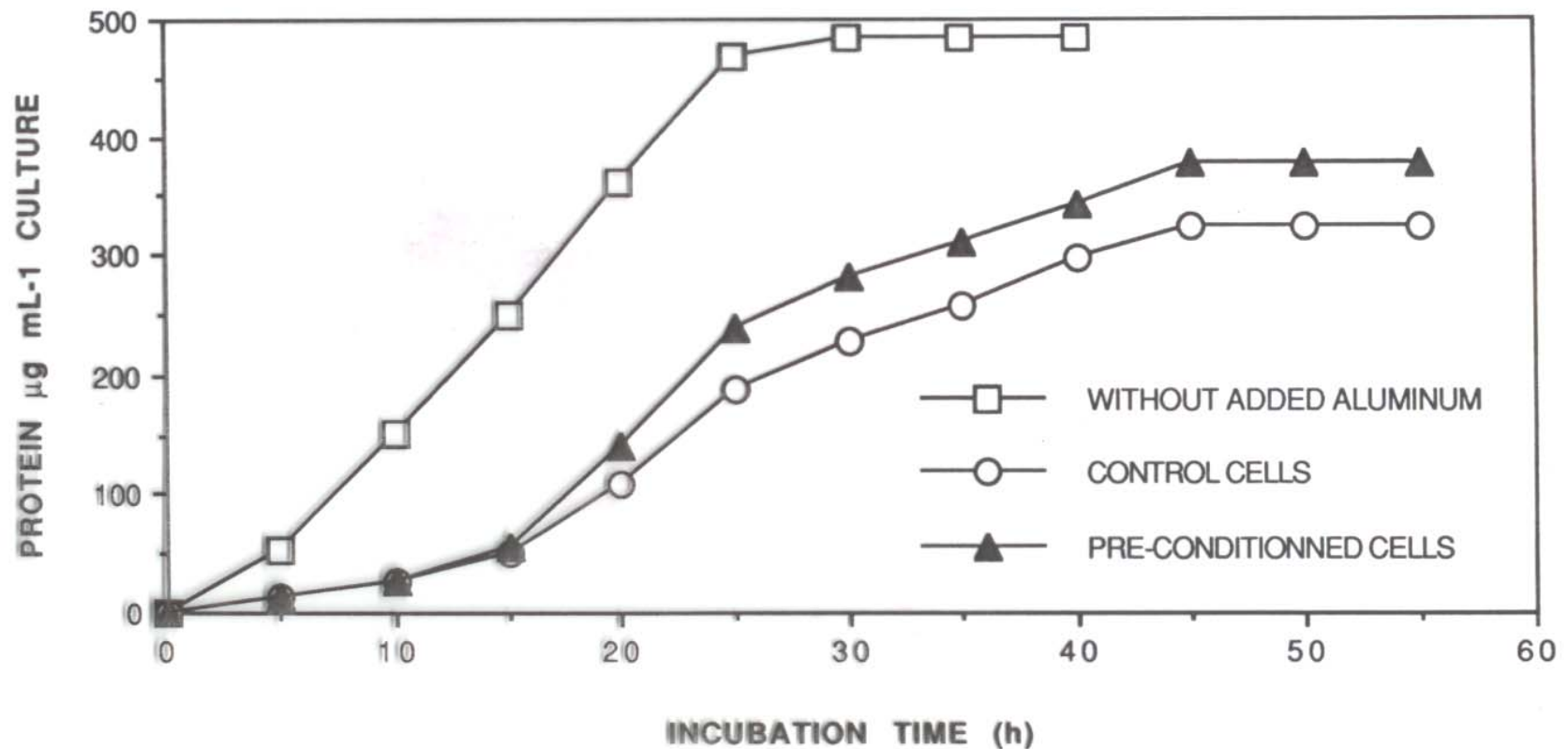
STRESS	CELL	ADAPTATION
$\text{Al}^3$		Phospholipide (PE), aluminophore
$\text{Fe}^{3+}$		Hydroxides de fer, PE
$\text{Ca}^{2+}, \text{Sr}^{2+}$		$\text{CaCO}_3$ , $\text{SrCO}_3$
$\text{Ga}^{3+}, \text{Zn}^{2+}$		Peptides et protéines
$\text{Y}^{3+}$		Bioaccumulation
$\text{In}^{3+}$		$\text{InPO}_4$
Al, Ca, Fe, Zn, Ga	----->	Précipitation, (PE)

# Influence of Aluminum concentration on the weight of the gelatinous residue

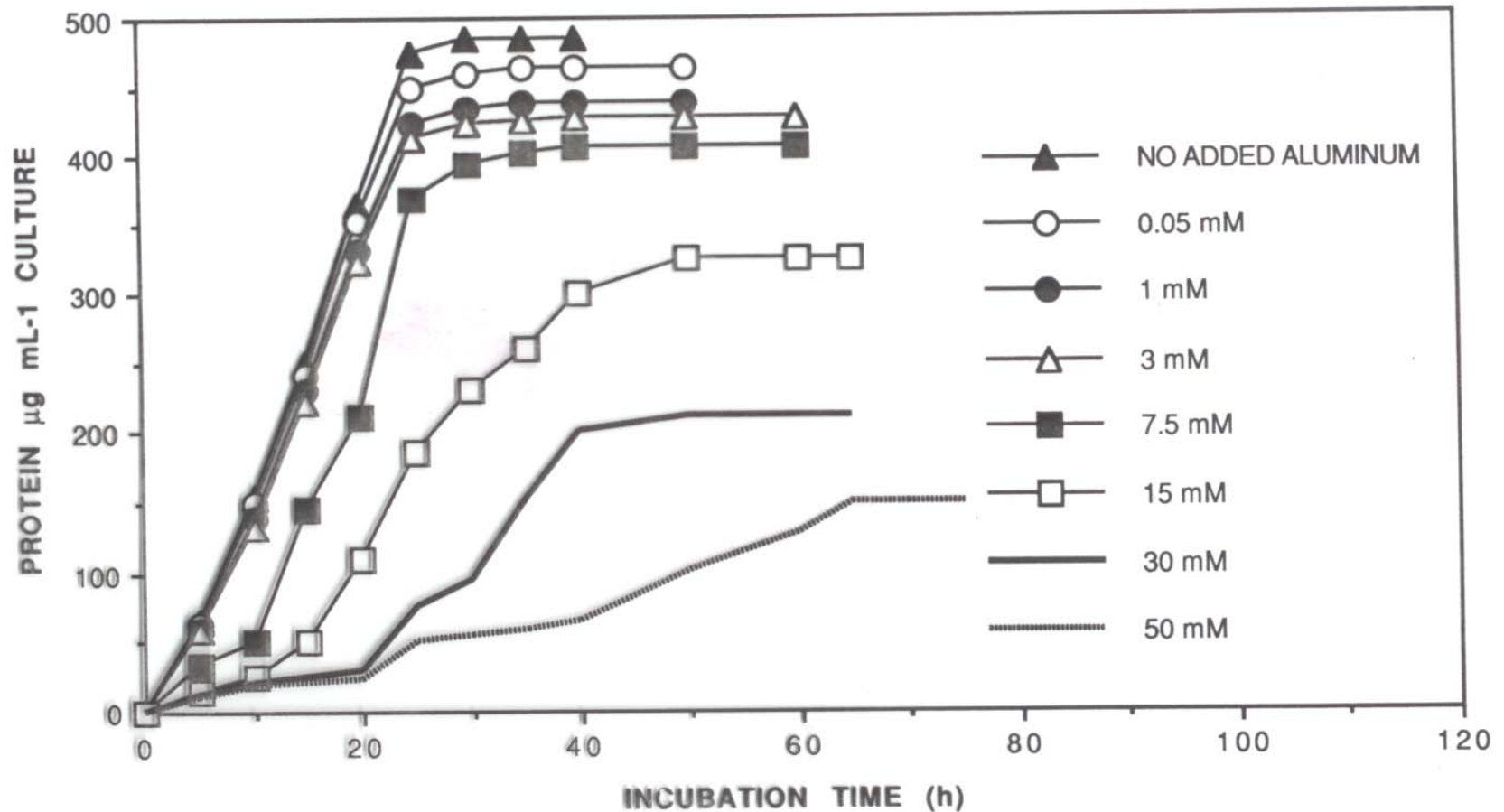




# Preconditioned Cell Growth in 15mM Aluminium



# Growth profile in varying concentrations of Aluminium.



# Insolubilization of Al

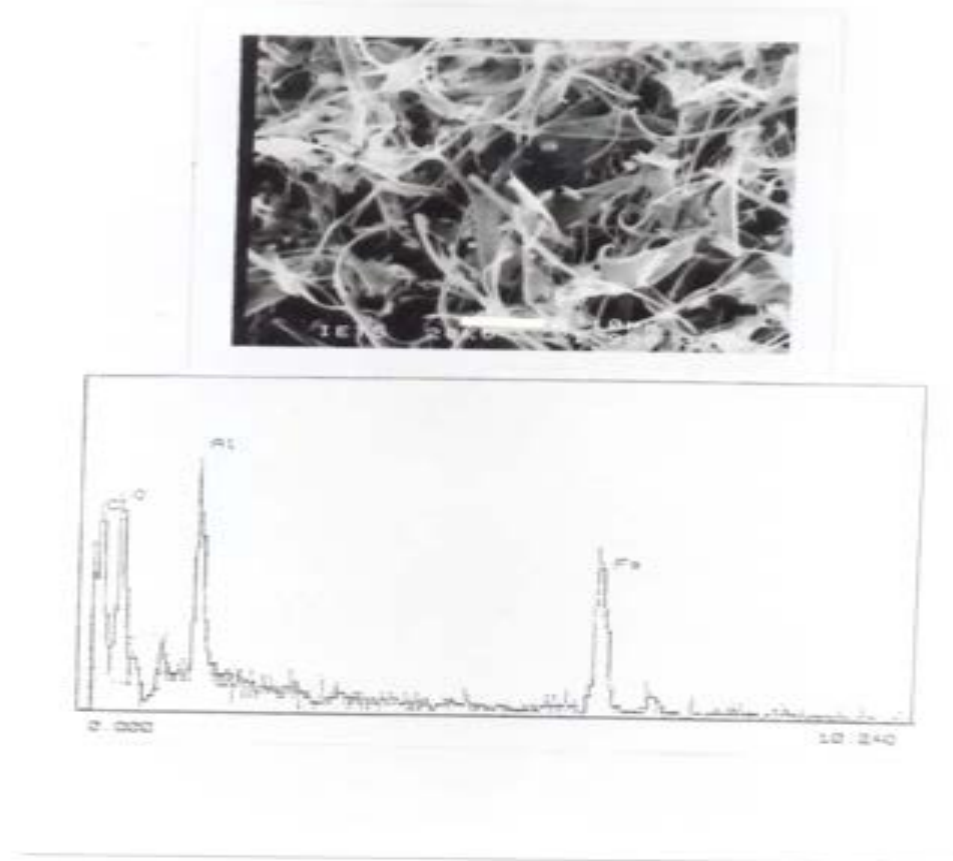
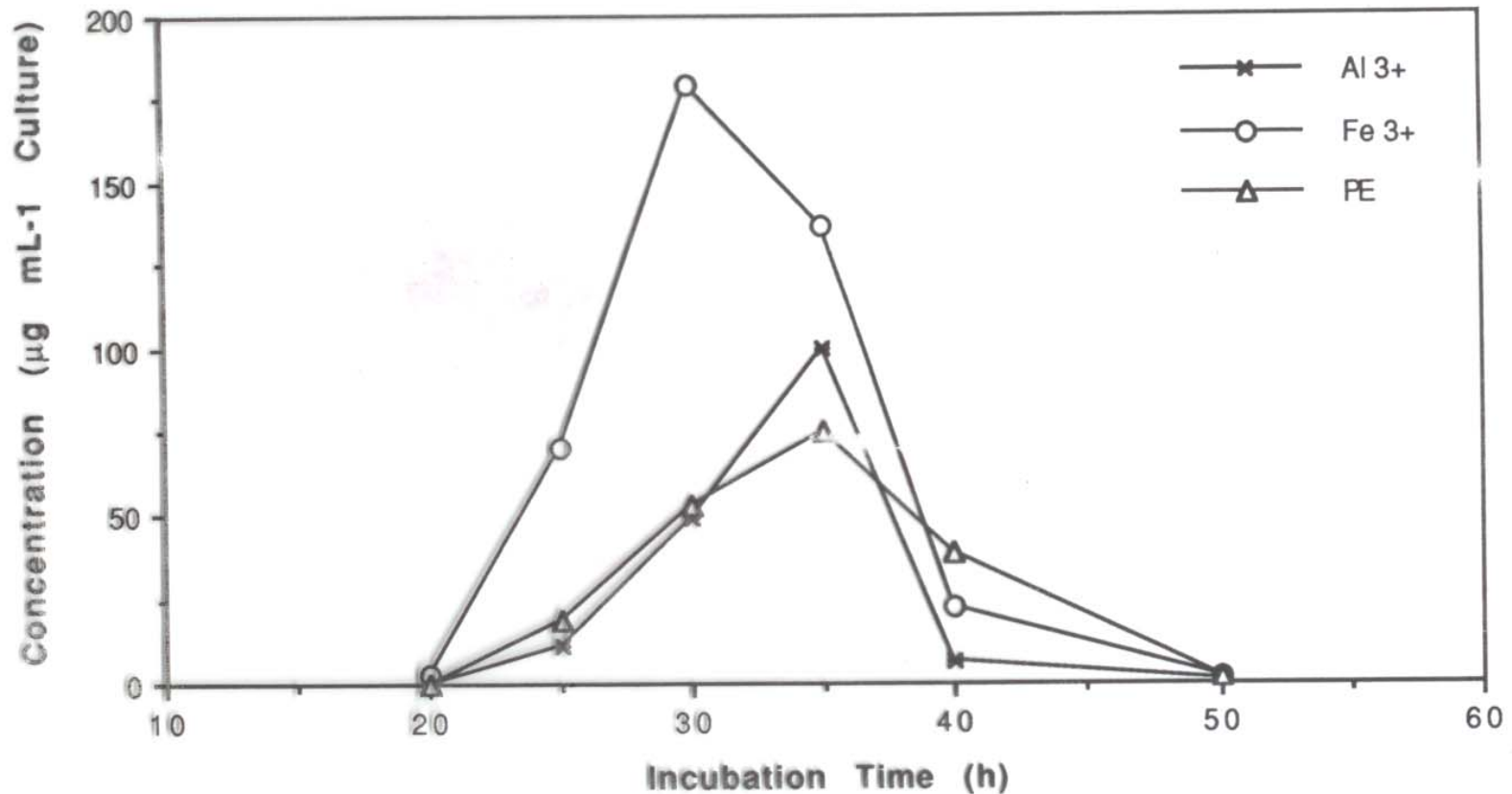


Figure 25 Scanning electron micrograph of the dialysate obtained from the spent fluid at 30 h of growth. Note the nodule-like structures. The bar represents 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

# Aluminum, Iron, and PE Isolated by ultra-centrifugation from multiple-metal culture



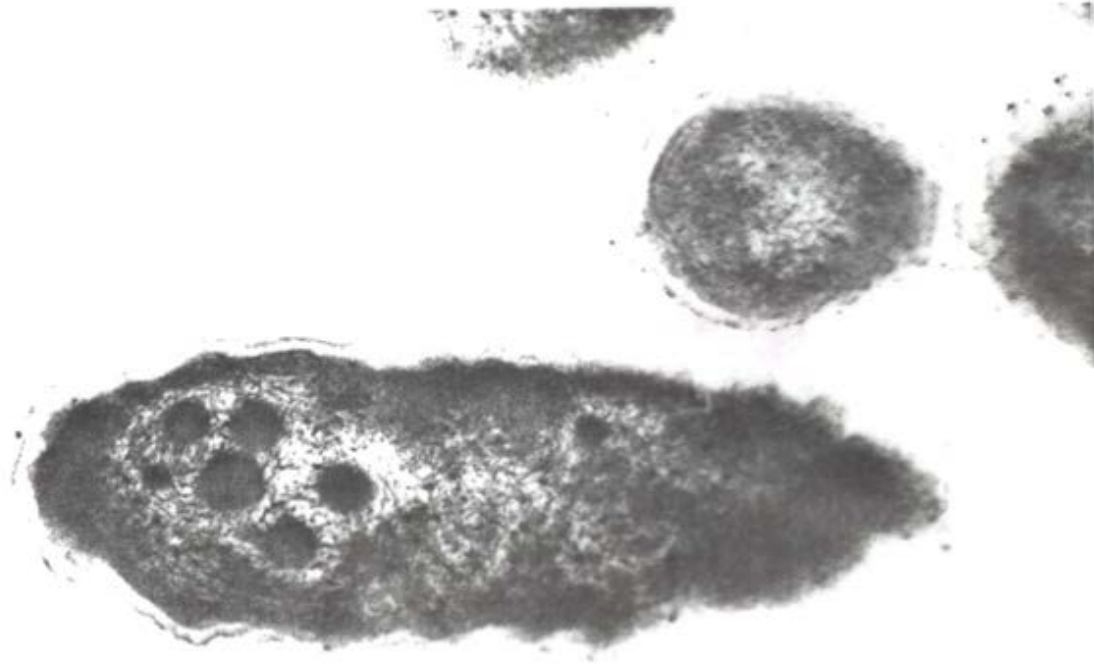
# SEM: Deposition of Al





# Intracellular accumulation of Al

Aluminum deposition in *Pseudomonas fluorescens*



# Al in *P.fluorescens*



# Gelatinous deposit of Al & Fe

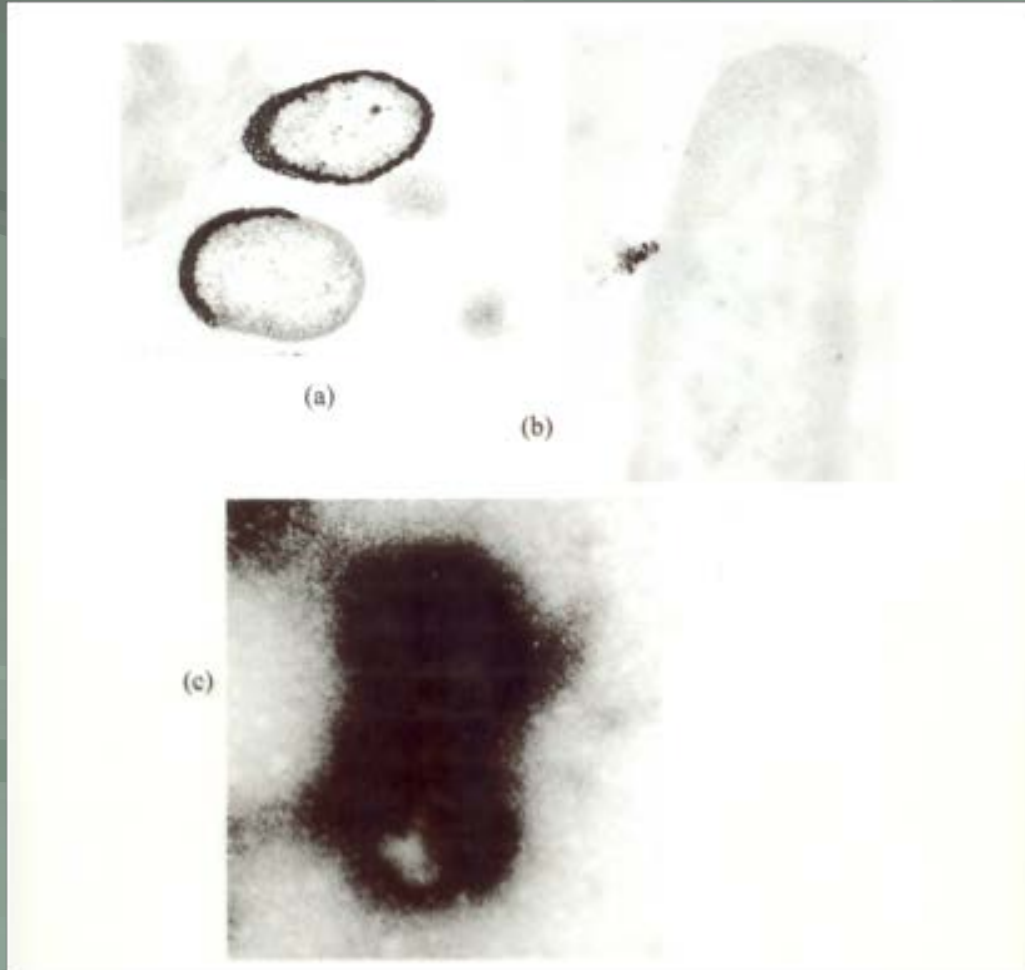


# Fe deposition in *P. fluorescens*

**Iron deposition in a dividing cell**



# Membrane-assisted secretion of Metals in *P. fluorescens*





# Metabolomic Study

4

R.D. Hamel, V.D. Appanna / *Journal of Inorganic Biochemistry* 87 (2001) 1–8

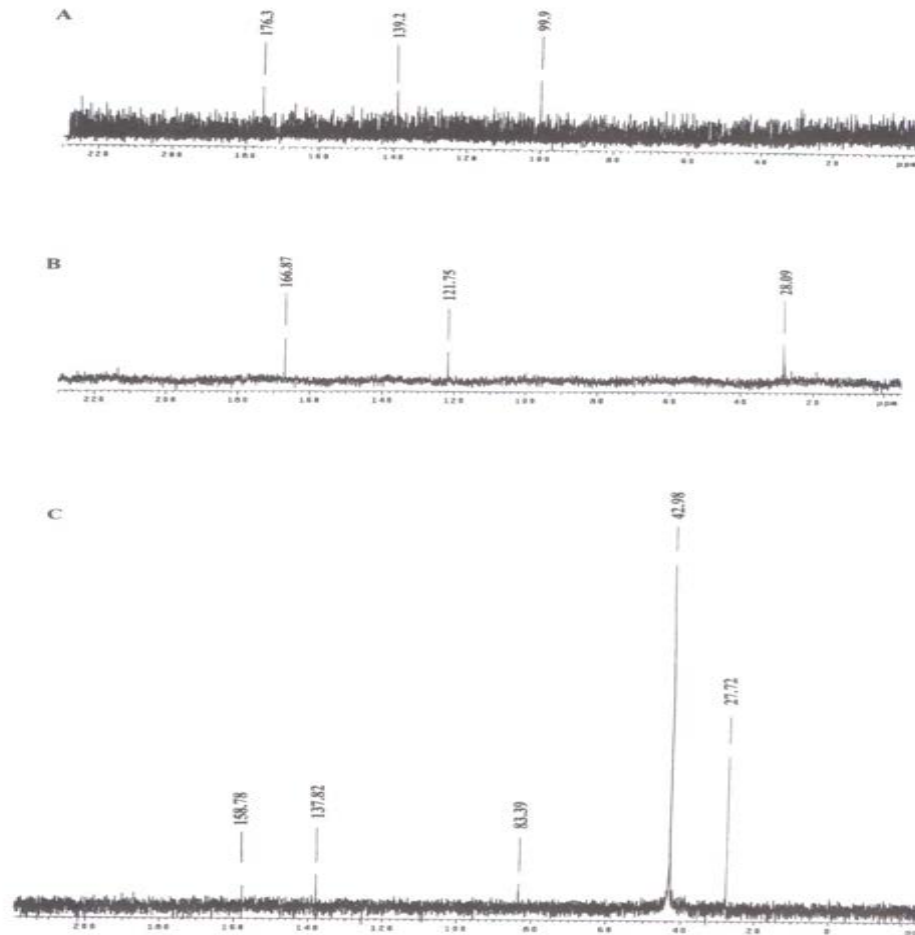


Fig. 1. Proton-decoupled  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra obtained upon incubation of citrate [ $2,4\text{-}^{13}\text{C}$ ] with *P. fluorescens* from control and Al-supplemented (15 mM) cultures. Cells (late logarithmic phase) were incubated for 10 min and the cellular fractions were analyzed. (A) Membrane fraction from control cells, (B) Membrane components from Al-stressed cells, (C) Soluble fraction from Al-stressed cells.

# Global metabolic network evoked by Al stress

