

TABLE 1. Average doubling times (τ) of *E. coli* B/r A and K grown in different media

Growth medium	B/r A		B/r K	
	τ (min)	SD ^a	τ (min)	SD ^a
Batch cultures				
0.1% glucose + 1% Casamino Acids	25, 27 (2) ^b		27, 35 (2) ^b	
0.1% glucose	45 (2)		50, 54 (2)	
0.04% L-alanine + 0.04% L-proline	69 (8)	7	104 (9)	12
0.2% sodium succinate	70, 90 (2) ^c		70, 80 (2) ^c	
0.2% acetate	105, 123 (2)		135, 140 (2)	
0.04% L-alanine ^d	122 (9)	15	177 (8)	19
Chemostat cultures^c	175		175	

^a SD, Standard deviation.

^b Number in parentheses indicates number of independent growth experiments in which a constant τ was obtained.

^c In these experiments constancy of length distributions could not be obtained.

^d In early experiments a concentration of 0.025% has been used, and doubling times up to 220 min have been obtained for both B/r A and K (cf. Table 3). In some of these experiments no constancy of length distributions could be found, but a steady state of growth was nevertheless obtained, as indicated by a constant mass/cell ratio.