

**BIOLOGICALLY ACTIVE COMPOUNDS IN  
EXTRACTS OF SOME HALOPHILIC AND  
HALOTOLERANT FUNGI FROM THE ORDO  
*Dothideales* AND SELECTED YEASTS**

**Kristina Sepčič, Polona Zalar, Nina Gunde-Cimerman**



# EXTREME HABITATS



# AIMS OF THE WORK

- searching for novel biologically active compounds with hemolytic, antibacterial, hemagglutinating and anti-acetylcholinesterase activities
- Investigation of the effect of lowered water activity ( $a_w$ ) and temperature on synthesis of these compounds



# TESTED FUNGI (I)

Organism	Strain	Label	Habitat
<i>Alternaria tenuissimum grupa C</i>	EXF-2329	AltS	salterns
<i>Alternaria tenuissimum grupa C</i>	EXF - 2318	AltS	salterns
<i>Alternaria tenuissimum grupa X</i>	EXF-2338	AltS	salterns
<i>Alternaria infectoria</i>	EXF-2332	AliS	salterns
<i>Alternaria aborescens</i>	EXF-2340	AlaS	salterns
<i>Aureobasidium pullulans</i>	EXF-150	ApS	salterns
<i>Aureobasidium sp. skupina 5</i>	EXF-922	AspA	Arctic
<i>Aureobasidium pullulans var. melanogenum</i>	EXF-3233	ApG	Japanese sea, 4000 m depth
<i>Cladosporium cladosporioides</i>	EXF-381	CcS	salterns
<i>Cladosporium cladosporioides?</i>	EXF-2246	CcA	Arctic
<i>Cladosporium sphaerospermum</i>	EXF-385	CcS	salterns
<i>Cladosporium sphaerospermum?</i>	AR 297	CsA	Arctic
<i>Cladosporium dominicanum</i>	EXF-732	CdS	salterns
<i>Cladosporium velox</i>	EXF-466	CvS	salterns
<i>Cladosporium halotolerans</i>	EXF-572	ChS	salterns
<i>Cladosporium salinae</i>	EXF-335	CsaS	salterns
<i>Cladosporium langeronii</i>	EXF-1000	CIS	nails
<i>Cladosporium psychrotolerans</i>	EXF-391	Cps	salterns
<i>Cladosporium fusiforme</i>	EXF-449	CfS	salterns
<i>Cladosporium spinulosum</i>	EXF-334	CsS	salterns

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# TESTED FUNGI (II)

Organism	Strain	Label	Habitat
<b><i>Hortaea werneckii</i></b>	EXF-225 / MZKI B736	HwS	salterns
<i>Phaeotheca triangularis</i>	MZKI 206	PtS	salterns
<i>Trimmatostroma salinum</i>	EXF-295 / MZKI B734	TsS	salterns
<i>Fusarium</i> sp. 1	EXF-2254	F1S	salterns
<i>Fusarium</i> sp. 2	EXF-2276	F2S	salterns
<i>Fusarium</i> sp. 3	EXF-2275	F3S	salterns
<i>Fusarium</i> sp. 4	EXF-2277	F4S	salterns
<i>Wallemia ichthyophaga</i>	EXF-994	WiS	salterns
<i>Wallemia muriae</i>	EXF-951	Wm	salterns
<i>Wallemia sebi</i>	EXF-958	Ws	sunflower seeds
<i>Cryptococcus albidus</i>	MZKI K528	CaA	Arctic
<i>Cryptococcus liquefaciens</i>	MZKI K428	CIA	Arctic
<i>Filobasidium floriforme</i>	MZKI K560	FfA	Arctic
<i>Pichia guilliermondii</i>	EXF-518	PgS	salterns
<i>Pichia guilliermondii</i>	EXF-1496	PgA	Arctic
<i>Rhodosporidium babjavae</i>	EXF-513	RbS	salterns
<i>Rhodosporidium diobovatum</i>	MZKI K650	RdA	Arctic
<i>Rhodotorula mucilaginosa</i>	EXF-1630	RmA	Arctic
<i>Trichosporon mucoides</i>	EXF-1444	TmS	salterns
<i>Trichosporon Mucoides</i>	EXF-3366	TmA	Arctic
<i>Candida parapsilosis</i>	EXF-1574	CpS	salterns
<i>Candida parapsilosis</i>	EXF-517	CpA	Arctic
<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>	MZKI K86	ScK	control



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<i>Wallemia ichthyophaga</i>	EXF-994	WiS	salterns
<i>Wallemia muriae</i>	EXF-951	Wm	salterns
<i>Wallemia sebi</i>	EXF-958	Ws	sunflower seeds
<i>Cryptococcus albidus</i>	MZKI K528	CaA	Arctic
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<i>Rhodosporidium diobovatum</i>	MZKI K650	RdA	Arctic
<i>Rhodotorula mucilaginosa</i>	EXF-1630	RmA	Arctic
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<i>Rhodosporidium diobovatum</i>	MZKI K650	RdA	Arctic
<i>Rhodotorula mucilaginosa</i>	EXF-1630	RmA	Arctic
<i>Trichosporon mucoides</i>	EXF-1444	TmS	salterns
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<i>Wallemia ichthyophaga</i>	EXF-994	WiS	salterns
<i>Wallemia muriae</i>	EXF-951	Wm	salterns
<i>Wallemia sebi</i>	EXF-958	Ws	sunflower seeds
<i>Cryptococcus albidus</i>	MZKI K528	CaA	Arctic
<i>Cryptococcus liquefaciens</i>	MZKI K428	CIA	Arctic
<i>Filobasidium floriforme</i>	MZKI K560	FfA	Arctic
<i>Pichia guilliermondii</i>	EXF-518	PgS	salterns
<i>Pichia guilliermondii</i>	EXF-1496	PgA	Arctic
<b><i>Rhodosporidium babjvae</i></b>	EXF-513	RbS	salterns
<b><i>Rhodosporidium diobovatum</i></b>	MZKI K650	RdA	Arctic
<i>Rhodotorula mucilaginosa</i>	EXF-1630	RmA	Arctic
<i>Trichosporon mucoides</i>	EXF-1444	TmS	salterns
<i>Trichosporon Mucoides</i>	EXF-3366	TmA	Arctic
<i>Candida parapsilosis</i>	EXF-1574	CpS	salterns
<i>Candida parapsilosis</i>	EXF-517	CpA	Arctic
<i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i>	MZKI K86	ScK	control



# TESTED FUNGI (II)

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<i>Phaeotheca triangularis</i>	MZKI 206	PtS	salterns
<i>Trimmatostroma salinum</i>	EXF-295 / MZKI B734	TsS	salterns
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<b><i>Saccharomyces cerevisiae</i></b>	MZKI K86	ScK	control

# PREPARATION OF EXTRACTS

- cultivation in the laboratory:

	composition of medium (1l)	temperature
<b>control conditions</b>	YNB (1,7g), (NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> (5g), glukoza (20g), agar (13g)	30°C
<b>low temperature</b>	YNB (1,7g), (NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> (5g), glukoza (20g), agar (13g)	4°C/10°C
<b>high salt (10%) concentration</b>	YNB (1,7g), (NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> (5g), NaCl (50g), agar (13g)	30°C
<b>high glucose (20%) concentration</b>	YNB (1,7g), (NH <sub>4</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> SO <sub>3</sub> (5g), glucose (400g), agar (13g)	30°C



- extraction (acetone, methanol, water):  
extracts 5 mg/ml

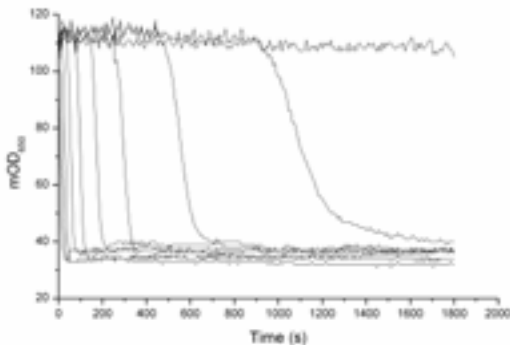
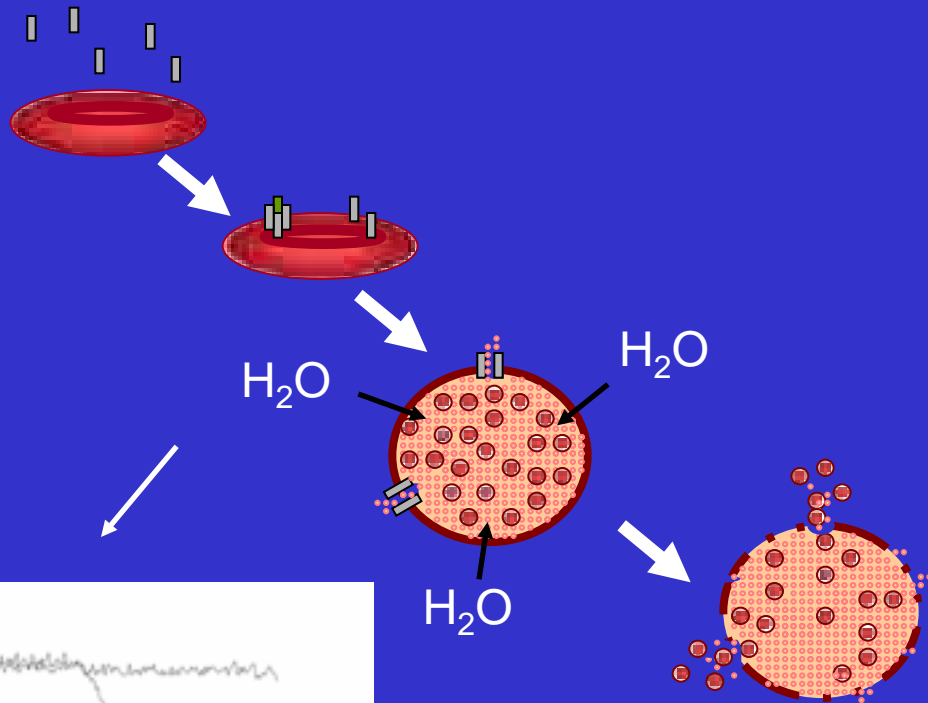


# BIOLOGICAL TESTS (I)

1. estimation of hemolytic activity

2. hemagglutination test

(final conc. of extract = 0.5 mg/ml)

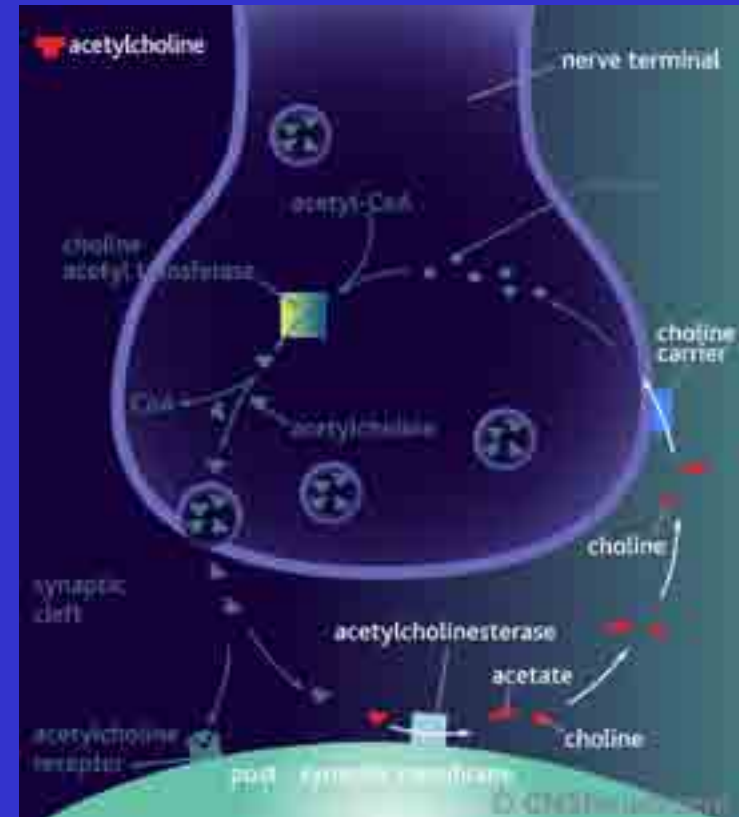


# BIOLOGICAL TESTS (II)

3. estimation of **antibacterial activity** (*Bacillus subtilis*, *Escherichia coli*)



4. Estimation of **anti-cholinesterase activity**



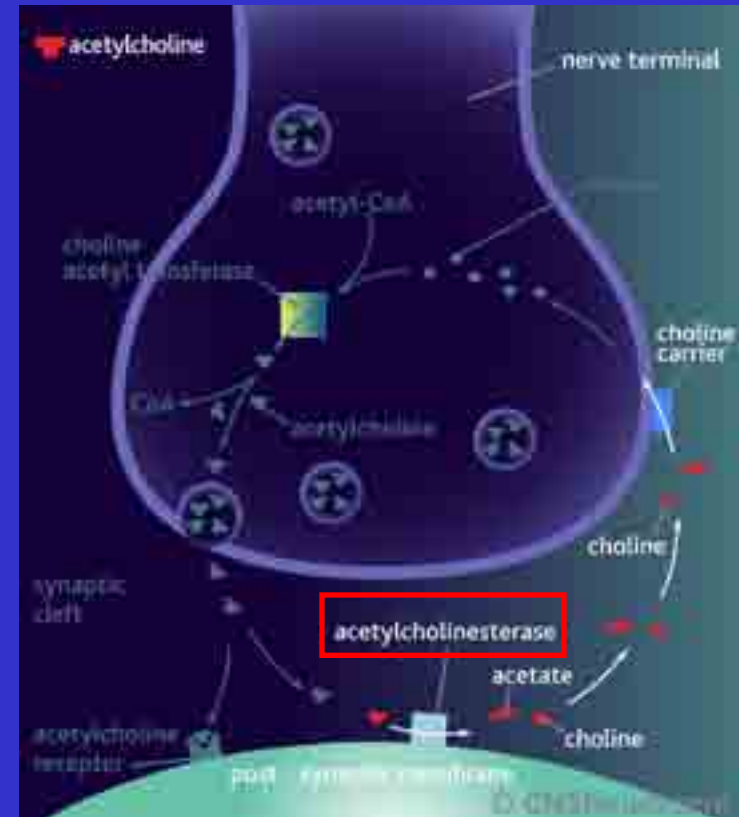
(final conc. of extract = 0.5 mg/ml)

# BIOLOGICAL TESTS (II)

3. estimation of **antibacterial activity** (*Bacillus subtilis*, *Escherichia coli*)

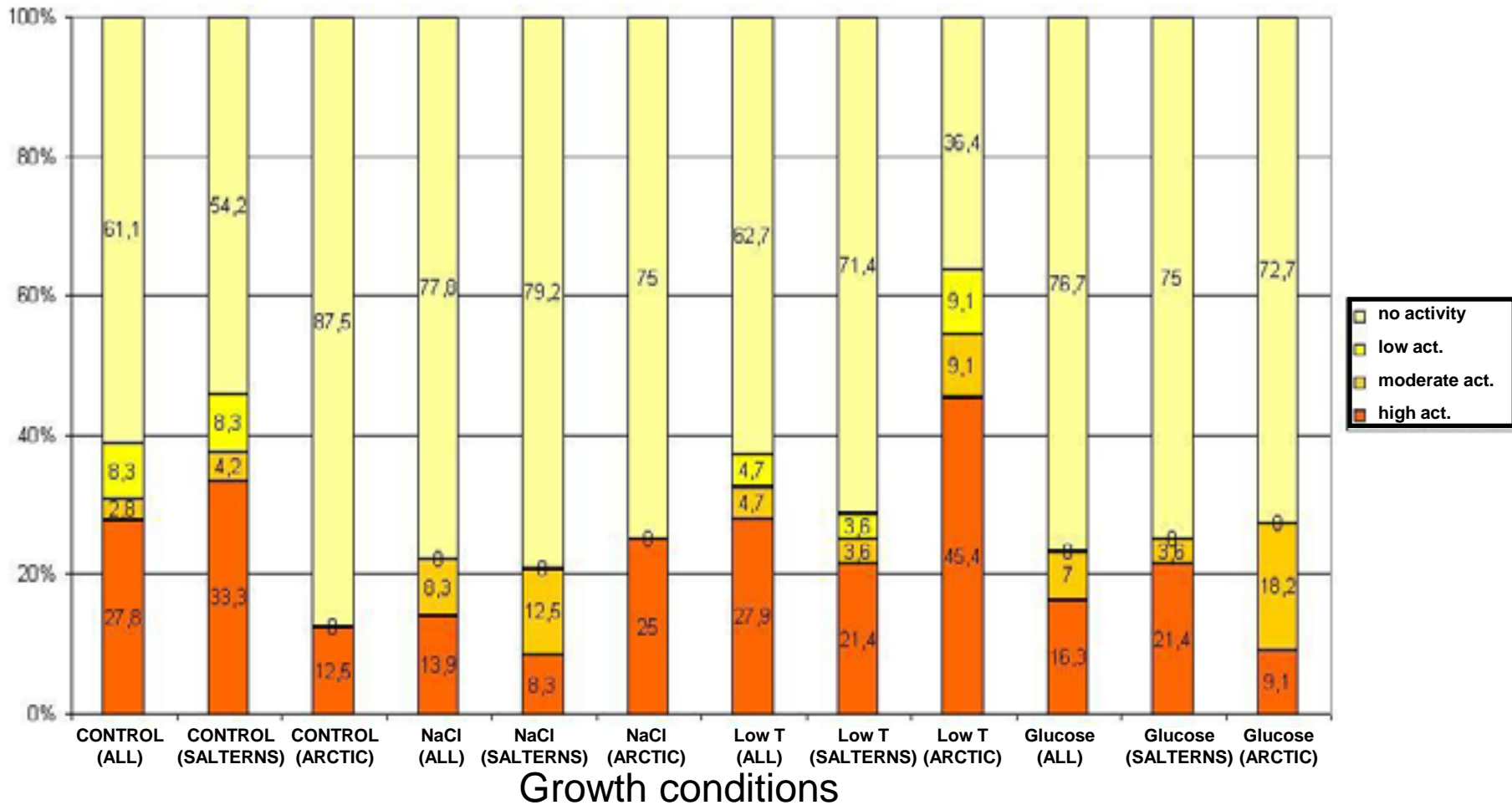


4. Estimation of **anti-cholinesterase activity**

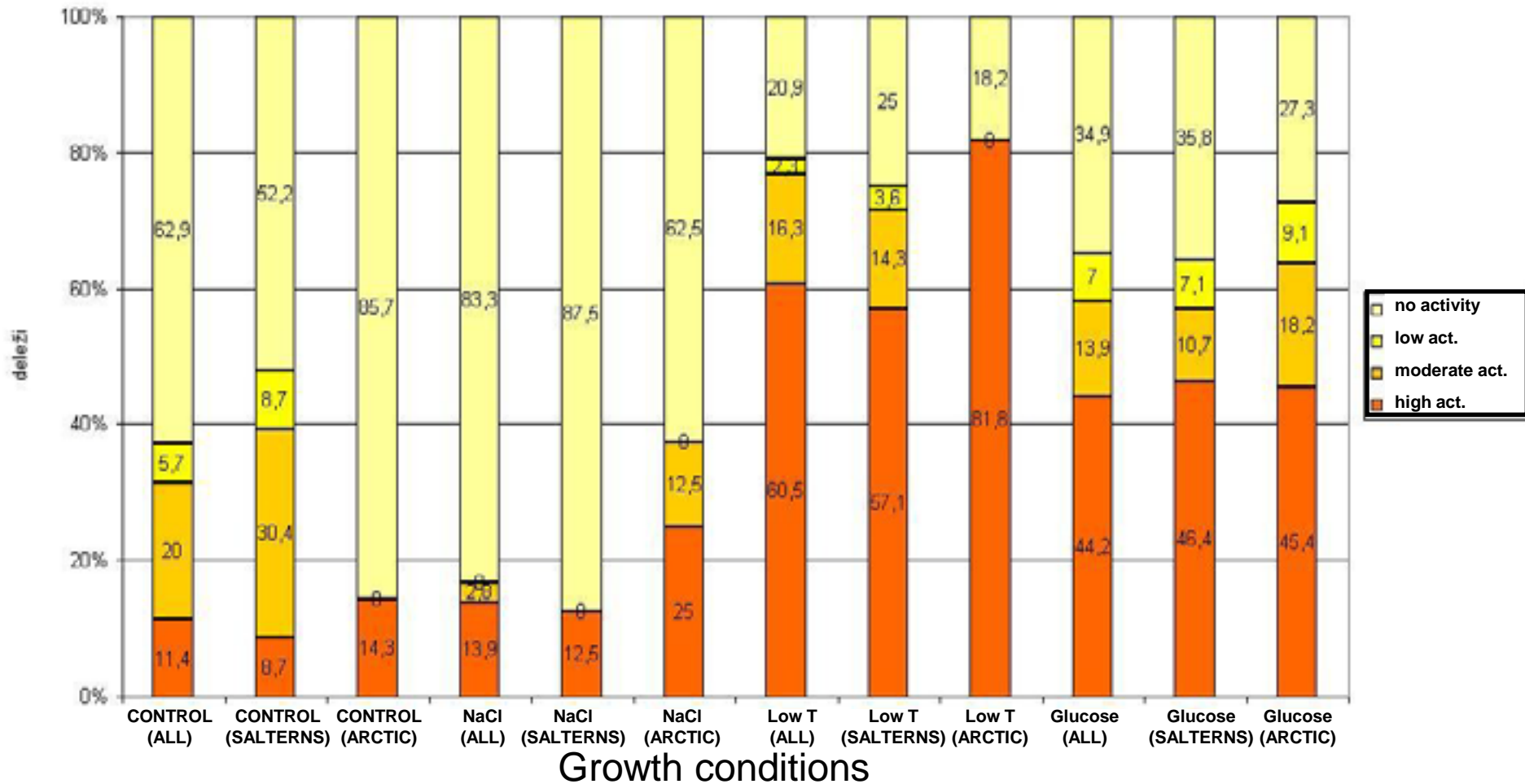




# HEMOLYTIC ACTIVITY – - ACETONE EXTRACTS



# HEMOLYTIC ACTIVITY – - METHANOLIC EXTRACTS



# ESTIMATION OF HEMOLYTIC ACTIVITY - SUMMARY

Only organic extracts exert hemolytic activity

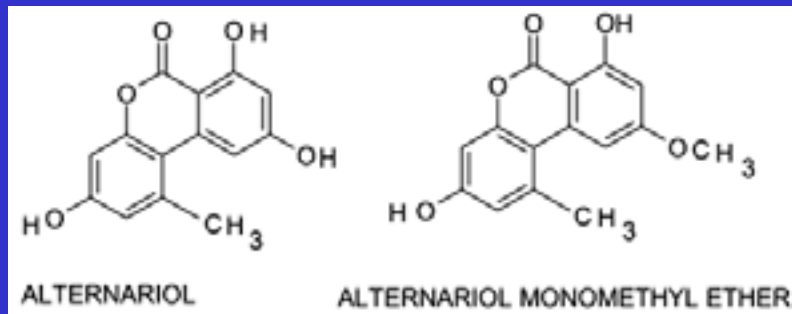
The synthesis of hemolytically active compounds in stress conditions was increased in 43% of acetone and 73% of methanolic extracts, especially in different strains of *Alternaria tenuissima*, *Hortaea werneckii*, *Aureobasidium* and *Fusarium*

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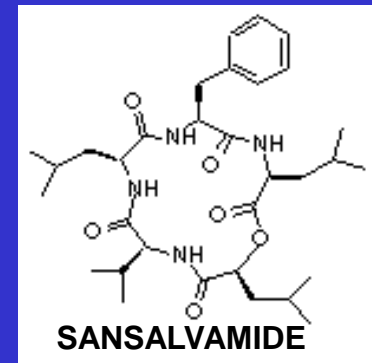
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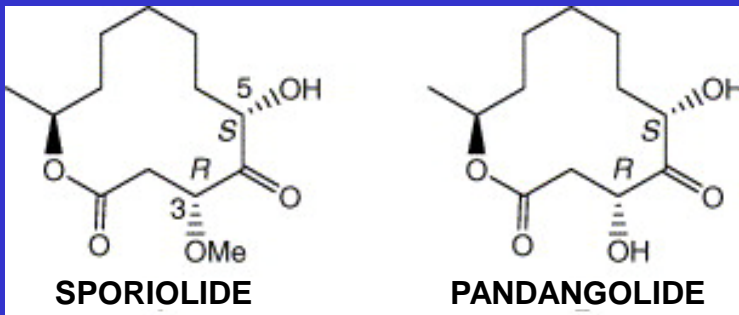
# *Alternaria tenuissima*



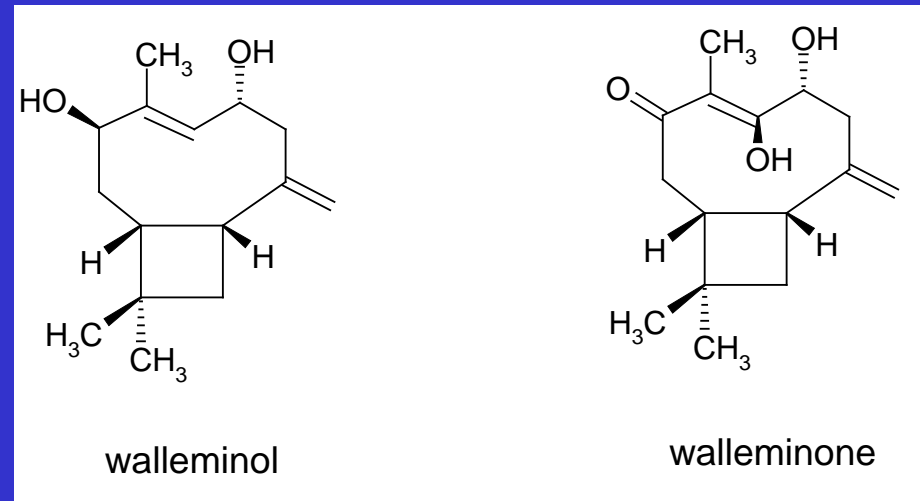
# *Fusarium sp.*



# *Cladosporium*



# *Walleimia* sp.

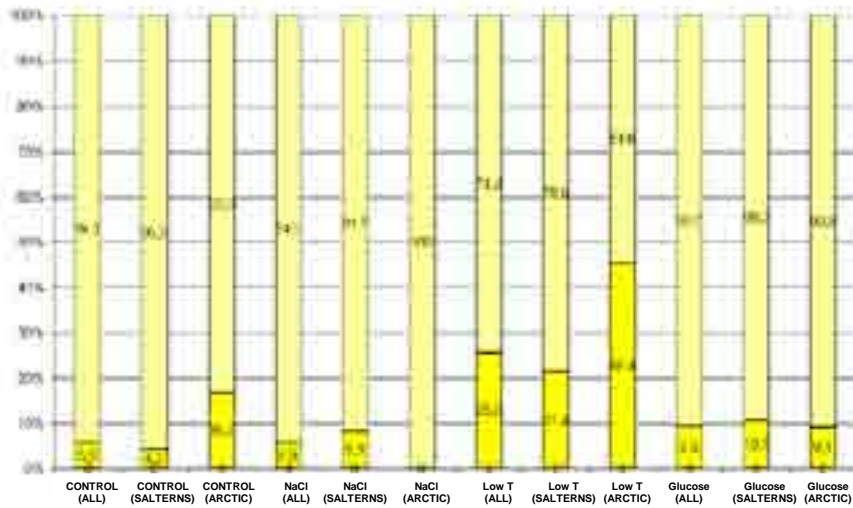


*Hortaea werneckii*  
*Candida parapsilosis*  
*Trimmatostroma salinum*  
*Aureobasidium pullulans*  
*Rhodospiridium diobovatum*  
*Cryptococcus sp.*  
*Pichia guilliermondii*  
*Rhodotorula mucilaginosa*  
*Rhodospiridium babjevae*

**UNDESCRIBED  
HEMOLYTICALLY  
ACTIVE  
COMPOUNDS**

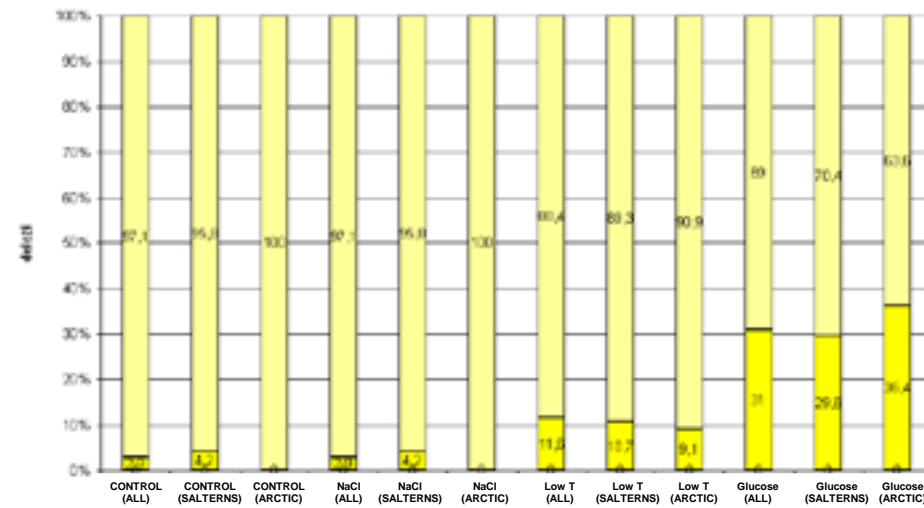
# ANTIBACTERIAL ACTIVITY – - *E. coli*

## ACETONE



Growth conditions

## METHANOL



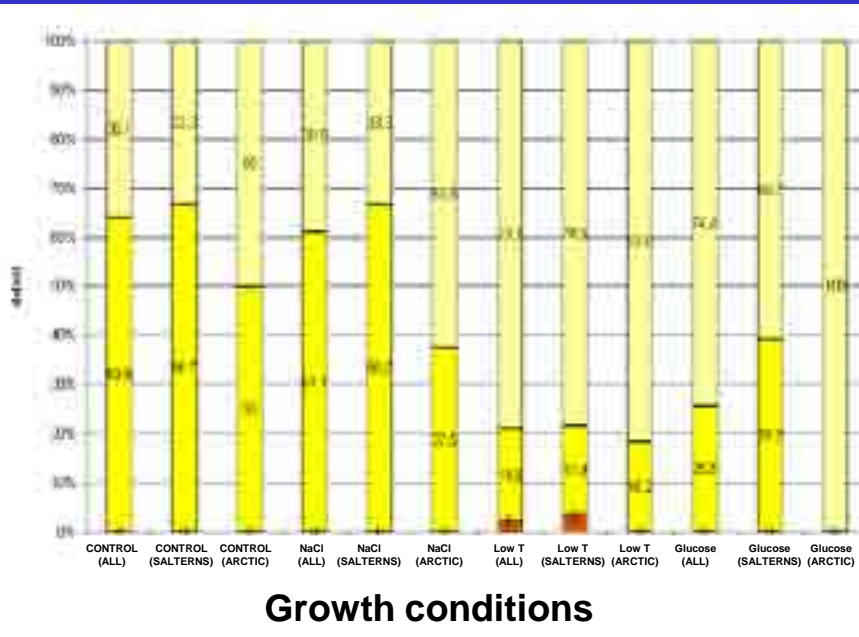
Growth conditions

- no activity
- low act. (1-5 mm)
- moderate act. (6-10 mm)
- high act. (11-15 mm)

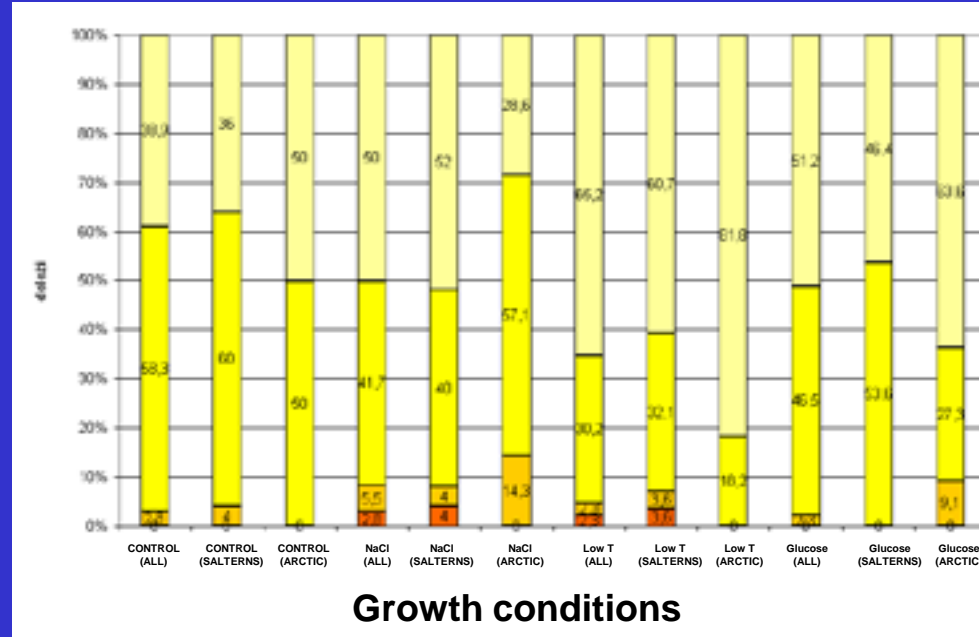


# ANTIBACTERIAL ACTIVITY – - *B. subtilis*

## ACETONE



## METHANOL



- no activity
- low act. (1-5 mm)
- moderate act. (6-10 mm)
- high act. (11-15 mm)

# ESTIMATION OF ANTIBACTERIAL ACTIVITY - SUMMARY

Only organic extracts exert antibacterial activity

The synthesis of antibiotic compounds in stress conditions was less pronounced than in the case of hemolytic activity

At low temperature, *Cladosporium spinulosum* synthesizes compounds with potent antibacterial activity against

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At low temperature, *Cladosporium spinulosum* synthesizes compounds with potent antibacterial activity against *B. subtilis*

# *Cladosporium sp.*



Also in:

*Fusarium sp.*

*Wallemia sebi*

*Alternaria sp.*

*Cryptococcus sp.*

*Phaeoteca triangularis*

*Hortaea werneckii*

*Candida parapsilosis*

*Trimmatostroma salinum*

*Aureobasidium pullulans*

*Rhodosporidium diobovatum*

*Cryptococcus sp.*

*Pichia guilliermondii*

**UNDESCRIBED  
COMPOUNDS  
WITH ANTIBIOTIC  
ACTIVITY**

# HEMMAGGLUTINATION

Only weakly present in water extracts of *Aureobasidium pullulans* and *Cryptococcus liquefaciens*

# INHIBITION OF ACETYLCHOLINESTERASE

Absent in all the tested extracts

# CONCLUSIONS

Selected halotolerant and halophilic species synthesize bioactive metabolites under stress-conditions (decreased  $a_w$ , low T)

The specialisation of adaptation on the level of the chemical nature of the solute that lowers  $a_w$  can be observed, e.g.:

- *H. werneckii*, *T. salinum*, *A. pullulans*, *Wallemia* spp. from salterns: higher activity at high salt concentration
- several Arctic species: higher activity at low temperatures

Biological/ecological role?



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Biological/ecological role?

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

A petri dish containing a bacterial culture on a light-colored agar surface. Numerous dark, circular colonies of varying sizes are scattered across the surface, with some appearing in clusters and others in pairs.

Prof. Dr. Nina Gunde-Cimerman  
Dr. Polona Zalar

Mojca Miša Cajnko  
Sandra Žulič  
Mojca Horvat  
Žana Kovačec

A petri dish showing a bacterial culture on a dark agar surface. The culture is a large, dense, circular area of bright yellow color, indicating a specific type of bacterial growth.