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## A Review on Bioremediation of bulk oil in Sea Waters and Shoreline

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**Abstract:** Bioremediation, which is done by adding exogenous or indigenous microbial populations, attempts to raise the levels of degradation found naturally to considerable higher rates. Oil spills are some of the sources of hydrocarbon oil pollution in marine environments. Hydrocarbon oils are difficult to remove from water because of their oily nature and poor water solubility. The oil contamination persists in nature for long period of time and Water and soil pollution with oil spills is a serious problem that is very noticeable because this contaminaton is a serious threat for water, soil and human health. Oil spills severely reduces oxygen to water And the mortality of fish .Among the different techniques to enhance natural biodegradation by native microorganisms, seeding of new bacteria and fertilizing the indigenous consotium have attracted the most interest. Bioremediation has been reported to describe the process of utilizing biological agents to remove toxic waste from environment. it is the most effective management instrument, to manage the polluted environment. Bioremediation is simpler and public attitude toward bioremediation are generally favorable, the lack of knowledge about microorganisms and their natural role in the environment could affect the acceptability of their use. However, bioremediation can be considered one of the best technologies to deal with oil spills. In this research, will focus on the use of bioremediation for marine (surface water) oil spills.

**Keywords:** bioremediation, soil, oil spills, microorganism, water.

### Introduction

#### The Promise of Bioremediation

Different methods have been used for removal of oil contamination from soil. One of these methods is using of microorganisms to

bioremediate of oil which is very considered in recent years.(21) Advantages of this method are ease of use, suitable effeiciency and in-situ operating.In the last 20 years, many ways to accelerate the biodegradation of oil spills in sea level and ocean and beaches studied.(7). Bioremediation is aninnovative technology of

using living microorganisms metabolic activities, to degrade the environmental Polluters into lower toxic forms and Bioremediation of crude oil spill has been accepted as a remediation methods(15). It uses biological agents such as bacteria, fungi or plants to degrade or neutralize hazardous pollutants. (13)Bioremediation is not a new notion. Microbiologists have studied the methods since the 1940s. However, it became known to a broader public in the U.S. only in the late 1980s as a technology for cleanup of shorelines contaminated with spilled oil. Bioremediation is a process by which chemical substances are degraded by bacteria and other microorganisms.( 17)Bioremediation is an attractive approach of cleaning up oil spills because it is simple to maintain, cost effective, use over large areas and leads to the complete destruction of the contaminant(3)it is a normal process and is therefore perceived by the public as an acceptable waste treatment method for contaminant material such as soil. microorganisms able to degrade the contaminant increase in numbers when it is present; when the contaminant is degraded, the biodegradative population declines. The dregs for the treatment are usually harmless products and include carbon, water, and cell biomass. Crude oil mostly composed of mixture of thousands of different chemical compounds, that includes some of the groups that contain only hydrogen and carbon molecular structure of various types of hydrocarbons include: paraffin hydrocarbon-hydrocarbon such as cyclohexane and aromatic hydrocarbons such as benzene, paraffins As the compound of each type of oil is unique, there are different ways to deal with them through microbes and flora. Bioremediation can happen naturally or can be naturally or can be encourage with addition of microbes and fertilizers. The option of bioremediation, defined as the use of microorganisms to detoxify or remove pollutants owing to their diverse metabolic capabilities is an Expanding method for the removal and degradation of many

environmental pollutants including the products of petroleum industry(15).also, bioremediation technology is believed to be cost-effective And non-invasive method.(3,14)

### What an oil spills?

One of the major sources of water contamination is oil spills. oil and petroleum products can contaminate sources of water such as seas, rivers, oceans or underground waters. (1) the spilled oil eventually enters toxicity components into the human food chain and affects our health.(11,18)oil spills are the exit of liquid petroleum hydrocarbons into the environment, especially marine areas, due to human activity, and is a form of pollution. Oil Spills can harm living things because its chemical constituents are poisonous. This can Trace organisms both from internal exposure to oil through ingestion or inhalation and from external exposure through eye and skin irritation. Oil can also smother some small species of fish or invertebrates and fur and coat feathers, reducing birds, and mammals, ability to maintain their body temperatures. A tarball is a blob of petroleum and remnants of oil pollution which has been weathered after floating in the ocean. Tarballs are an aquatic pollutant in further environments, although they can happen naturally and as such are not always associated with oil spills(13,16,20)Tarballs slowly parseed by microorganisms such as *Chromobacterium violaceum*, *Cladosporium resinae*, *Micrococcus varians*, *Candida marina*, *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*, *Bacillus submainus* and *Saccharomyces estuari*. pollution with oil spills is the main global concern today. Soil contaminated with oil spills has a major hazard to human health [13], causes organic pollution of ground water which limits its use, environmental problems, economic loss and decreases the agricultural fertility of the soil [2]. The concern base, primarily from health risks, from direct contact with the contaminated

soil, vapors from the pollutions, and from secondary pollution of water supplies within and underlying the soil.

### How formed oil tarballs ?

Bullet oil, are small, dark oil, that feet the skin of human when walking on the beach. they are very stable in the pelagic environment and can be toted hundreds of kilometers. Lakes, beaches, piers and harbors on oil samples from areas that are encapsulated in it, Will infect areas. Changing the oil on the beaches spread to a large extent depends on the type and sex beach. Wind currents, waves and currents cause the oil to become, instead of being continuous coverage in the form of a lump or Bands along the coast precipitate. Weathering processes cause oil balls Have finally dry and brittle on the outside and soft and gooey inside. Temperature affects the viscosity of oil pellets. With increasing temperature, weather, oil balls are more soft. A second factor affecting the adhesion bullets, particles in the Water or beach that balls that stick.

### Oil spills in Iran

Iran is OPEC's largest oil producer and contain 9% of the world's oil reserves and 15% of its gas reserves. Iran designs wide development of exiting offshore fields. the attack to develop oil and gas resources in the caspian sea makes oil contamination in the caspian a real enviromental threat. Main increases in energy consumption over the past 20years have contributed greatly to contamination levels as Iran's carbon emissions have nearly tripled over the same time period. Also, Iran's affluence of fossil fuel resources has tended to discourage the incentive to shift to cleaner alternnative energy sources for energy needs. the caspian sea is the largest inland water body on earth, has low salinity, and unique yet vulnerable marine ecology has developed. main commerical species contain herring, mullet, sturgeon, carp bream, pike-perch and salmon. The most valuable species commercially, Caspian sturgeon, has suffered substantial declines in community due to

over-exploitation. The freshwater Caspian seal is an endemic species and has also decreased substantially in numbers in recent decades. Tehran Refinery is one of the largest refineries in Iran and Middle East, with a substantial capacity of 225,000 tanks per day and an operational capacity of 240,000 barrels per day (5) that contain liquid gas, ordinary gasoline, light and heavy naphtha, kerosene, gas oil, furnace oil, mineral oil, and sulfur and its wastewater has 900 mg/L chemical organic demand (COD). The recent increases in the activities of Tehran Refinery, notwithstanding the old transmission lines and tanks, have resulted in the oil spills leakage and surefire, feasibility of soil and following underground water contamination with oil spills compounds.



**Figure1. Photograph showing tarball morphology typically found from shoreline of Anzali beach in Iran**

### Microorganisms in Bioremediation

Many microorganisms can degrading crude oil. They first attack these organic chemicals by the enzymatic apparatus acquired during the cycle of enrichment, when they are exposed to these specific or structurally related compounds. Presence of these pollutants in the environment either induces or depresses the enzymatic function of microorganisms. Scientists found that biodegradation of complex hydrocarbon usually requires the assistance of more than a single species. single microorganisms lonely cannot mineralize most hazardous compounds into water and CO<sub>2</sub> as final product. However, for better bio-degradable, the method of cooperation between the microorganisms can be utilized. Most bioremediation systems running under aerobic conditions, but running a system under anaerobic conditions (8)

may permit microbial organisms to degrade otherwise recalcitrant molecules. The most common microorganisms that carry out biodegradation in most different environments are identified as active members of microbial consortiums. These microorganisms include *Moraxella*, *Aeromonas*, *Beijerinckia*, *Pseudomonas*, *F. luvobacteria*, *chrobacteria*, *Nocardia*, *Atinetobacter*, *Mycobactena*, *Modococci*, *Streptomyces*, *Corynebacteria*, *Bacilli*, *Arthrobacter*, *Aeromonas*, *Aspergillus*, *Cyanobacteria*, *Mucor*, *Penicillium*, *Fusarium*, *Rhodotorula*, *Sporobolomyces* and *Candida*. (6). Microorganism need carbon and macronutrient like nitrogen and phosphorous to ensure effective degradation of the oil. (2)

**Table1.compound of a microbial cell(13)**

Element	Percentage	Element	percentage
Carbon	50	Sodium	1
Oxygen	20	Calcium	0/5
Nitrogen	14	Chloride	0/5
Hydrogen	8	Magnesium	0/5
phosphorous	3	Iron	0/2
sulfur	1	All others	0/3
Potassium	1		

**MATERIALS AND METHODS**

**Microbiological methods for bioremediation evaluation**

primary soil analyses of the total heterotrophic microbial counts and specific hydrocarbon degrading microbial counts in the contaminated soil can provide effective information on soil biological activities, and the extent to which the native microbial population has acclimated to the site conditions. The results will also indicate whether the soil contains a healthy native microbial population capable of doing bioremediation. plus the primary microbial assessment of the polluted soil, being microbial populations during the soil bioremediation is a useful tool for following the changes and observation for microbes active in hydrocarbon

degradation.(3)

**Table2: Environmental factors affecting degradation(16)**

Factors	Condition required for microorganism activity	Optimum value bioremediation
Soil pH	5.5-8.8	
Soil moisture	25-28% of water holding capacity	30-90%
Nutrient content	P and N for microbial growth	C:N:P=100:10:1
Oxygen content	Aerobic, minimum air	10-40%
Temperature (C)	15-45	20-30
Type of soil	Low clay or silt content	
Heavy metals	2000ppm	700ppm
Contaminants	Not too toxic	

**Microorganisms, Media and Culture Condition :**

Native Bacterial strains were isolated from samples collected from oil spills in Sea waters and shoreline located at the oil polluted water. 10ml of each sample were washed with 90mL saline and filtered with membrane. Incubation was carried out on nutrient agar plate for 24h at 37°C. Mineral Salts Medium (MSM)[16] was prepared by dissolving 1/8g K<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>, 4g NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, 0/2g MgSO<sub>4</sub>.7H<sub>2</sub>O, 0/1g NaCl, 0/01g FeSO<sub>4</sub>.7H<sub>2</sub>O in 1L of distilled water. Bacteriological agar was added (15g/l) to the solution where solid basal medium was required. concentrations of 0/3, 0/5, 1 and 1/50% (v/v). cultures were carried out after 5 days and the growth was measured as CFU count.

**Construction of Bacterial Consortia:**

some different samples that demonstrated high growth were chosen to construct consortia of hydrocarbon degraders. generally, two different bacteria were constructed consortia and tested for

bioremediation to confirm their biodegradation abilities. Use of consortia inoculum: The samples were grown separately in Nutrient broth and processed to yield separate suspensions with an absorbance reading of 0.5 at 550 nm. Specific aliquots of the bacterial inoculum were then separately added into normal saline solution to give a ultimate combined inoculum concentration of 10% (v/w). (2)

### Microbial counts

Incipient soil analyses of the total heterotrophic microbial count and specific hydrocarbon degrading microbial enumerate in the polluted soil can provide effective information on soil biological activities, and the extent to which the native microbial population has acclimated to the site conditions. The results will also indicate whether the soil contains a healthy native microbial population capable of supporting bioremediation. Also the primary microbial assessment of the polluted soil, monitoring microbial populations during the soil bioremediation is an effective tool for following the changes and knowing for microbes active in hydrocarbon degradation (3) Bacterial enumerate is usually determined in representative soil composite and oil spills in Sea waters and shoreline isolates with the standard serial dilution and nutrient agar plate-counting techniques. (14)

### Characterization of Bacterial strains

Bacterial strains were characterized with traditional microbiological methods, e.g. by plating on selective microbiological media. (10)

### Biosurfactant screening (15)

#### 1. Hemolytic activity

This method described by screening isolated strains on blood agar plates containing 5% (v/v) blood and incubated for 24–48 h at 45°C and Hemolytic activity was detected as the presence of a clear zone around a colony.

#### 2. The drop-collapse technique

In This method was added 100-ml culture supernatant to wells of a 96-well microliter plate lid, then 5 ml of oil spills was added to the surface of the culture supernatant. Biosurfactant-producing culture showed flat drops. Then from a culture of each isolate were analyzed on two separate microliter plates (4,15)

#### 3. Stalagmometric method

In This method, The DPP and DC polarographies were used to evaluate biosurfactant adsorption was done by using Traubeg's stalagmometer that Surface tension was measured with a ring-tensiometer at room temperature.

#### 4. The Emulsifying activity

Emulsifying activity was determined by using a modification of the method. (17) 7 ml of the culture filtrates was mixed with 3 ml, petroleum oil, diesel oil, xylene and toluene, and then, vortexed for 1 min and the stability of emulsion was specified after 24 h and the emulsification index (EI-24) was estimated by dividing of measured height of the emulsion layer by the height of the hydrocarbons phase. An emulsion was determined as stable if the EI-24 was 50% or better (4)

### Gas Chromatography (GC) analysis for oil spills extraction

A novel experimental method has been developed for the gas chromatographic (GC) analysis of oil spills. The injection of the isolates is performed using a thermal extraction device, directly connected to the GC. Oil spills samples are initially adsorbed on an appropriate material and ingredients their light components are thermally extracted and driven into the GC by the carrier gas flow, while the heavy end remains adsorbed on the sample probe. Factors affecting the profundity of the analysis, such as temperature, the kind of adsorbent material, and duration of sampling, were studied. The

major preponderance of the proposed technique is that no preliminary separation of the oil spills sample into a light and heavy part is needed prior to the GC analysis. Also, the pollutions of the chromatographic system by the heavy oil spills components is avoided. Oil spills were extracted with a separating funnel (16). Then isolates (50 mL) were centrifuged at 4000 rpm for 15 min. The separating funnel was stoppered with a glass stopper and it was shaken vigorously. The process of venting and vigorous shaking was repeated for several minutes and the mixture was allowed to divide into two phases. After phases have been separated in the funnel, chloroform was collected in a 250 mL pre-cleaned bottle. The extraction with chloroform (25 mL) twice was repeated. Then, it was dried by passing it through of 3g pre-combusted Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> (150°C for 3h in incubation) and collected in a globular bottom flask. The extract was then evaporated with using a rotary evaporator. The oil spills drawn out with 2 mL chloroform was washed. The solvents under a gentle stream for 7 days were removed. The residue was reconstituted with chloroform (1 mL) and analyzed by GC.

### Genetic Engineering

Genetic engineering improves the genetic combination of an organism using methods that remove heritable material or that display DNA supplied outside the organism either directly into the host or into a cell that is then fused or hybridized with the host (9). Researchers are currently looking into certain genetically engineered microorganisms to progress their ability to degrade hydrocarbons and pesticides. The eventuality of application genetic engineering for development of bioremediation methods had an early boost in the late 1980's. Recombinant DNA techniques have been studied intensively to progress the degradation of dangerous waste under laboratory conditions. The genetically engineered microorganisms

have higher degradative valency and have been demonstrated successfully for the degradation of various pollutants under defined conditions. Genetic Engineering has concluded often in a wide variety of current and useful applications for utilization in the methods of bioremediation. The genetic architecture of these microorganisms makes them precious in Biodegradation, Biosorption, Biotransformation, and Bioaccumulation. The fundamental blueprint of gene encoding for biodegradative enzymes is supplied in chromosomal and extra-chromosomal DNA of such microorganisms. This technology includes PCR, site directed mutagenesis, anti-sense RNA technique, electroporation and particle bombardment methods. The biotechnology armed with recombinant DNA technology is now good tuning the bioremediation technology by improving contaminant degrading microorganisms via strain improvement and genetic modification of specific regulatory and metabolic. Bioremediation can be used to clean unwanted substances from water, soil, air, and for the degradation of pollutants.

### Conclusion

Researches by bioremediation has shown great aims to date. Also latter research is certainly to study its application outside the laboratory-scale and to develop the kinetics of degradation. (14) Bioremediation is the most economical at the required yield when the soil to be treated is more. Although public attitudes toward bioremediation are generally desirable, the lack of science about microorganisms and their normal role in the environment could affect the acceptability of their application. Before bioremediation techniques to be used widely, their efficacy and safety will have to be persuasively demonstrated and communicated to the public. The surfactant production of the isolates done by the following methods; drop-collapse method, oil spreading and stalagmometric methods, and finally surfactant tension measurements. Both the oil spreading techniques and drop-collapse can

be used as qualitative and quantitative methods. Research shows that isolates with emulsifying abilities and grow under extreme conditions may be suitable for MEOR as well as bore and oil spills cleanups. The ultimate of MEOR is an attractive option that will be worth pursuing in the future. The Advantages of bacterial consortium are:

1. In almost all cases using a consortium of microorganisms compared with single planting Show better results in biodegradation of contaminants.

2. As a result of several factors, And employing a more metabolic pathway, the risk of breakdown increases.

3. The elimination of toxic substances produced by a strain of strain or other strains, By eliminating toxic compounds, increases degradation efficiency.

4. In analyzing the mixture of pollutants, the use of effective microorganism consortium as may be several members of the consortium to break one or some of the pollutants are most effective.

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