

Table 1

Carbon Source		Cation-Enriched Solution	Control
		Yeast Extract	
Major Ionic Species in Their Total Concentrations (mM)*	Ca ²⁺	24.28	1.33
	Mg ²⁺	2.88	0.82
	K ⁺		8.62
	NH ₄ ⁺		3.29
	H ₂ PO ₄ ⁻		8.49
	Cl ⁻		3.38
	SO ₄ ²⁻		2.16
pH			4.5
Ionic Strength, <i>I</i> (mM)		> 18.4	18.4

* Extra Ca²⁺ and Mg²⁺ in the cation-enriched solution, in comparison to control, was added by immersing 4 commercially available ceramic balls (Akatsuka Group, Tsu-City, Japan) in 1-L deionized (DI) water for 2 hours. We then used this water, instead of the DI water, to make the medium solution. The cations and balancing anions (presumably chloride) came from the dissolution of the mineral contents of the ceramic balls. Their concentration was estimated from ICP-MS analytical data provided by the Akatsuka Group.