The maximum optical density (OD), duration of the lag phase, and the doubling time (DT) of *E. coli* BL21 [DE3], NCM3722 (K12) and JM109 grown in M9 minimal medium with different carbon sources. All experiments were carried out in test tubes (initial volume of cultures was 10ml). Test tubes were cultivated aerobically in 37°C incubator. Three independent experiments were carried out for BL21 growth in each medium; data in this case represents arithmetic averages.

Strain / Carbon source	Max (OD)	Lag Phase (hrs)	DT (hrs)
BL21 Glycerol	0.86	1	2.3
BL21 Pyruvate	0.63	6	3.3
BL21 Succinate	0.56	20	4.6
BL21 Acetate	0.60	11	5.9
BL21 Fumarate	0.68	19	2.9
BL21 Malate	0.66	2	4.5
BL21 Oxaloacetic acid	0.34	4	4.8
K12 Glycerol	0.83	1	2.2
K12 Pyruvate	0.71	1	2.1
K12 Succinate	0.74	2	2.4
K12 Acetate	0.85	5	3.4
K12 Fumarate	0.71	2	2.0
K12 Malate	0.62	1	2.3
K12 Oxaloacetic acid	0.37	1	2.8
JM109 Glycerol	0.78	2	2.8
JM109 Pyruvate	0.67	2	2.3
JM109 Succinate	0.67	2	2.8
JM109 Acetate	0.56	17	4.8
JM109 Fumarate	0.63	5	2.6
JM109 Malate	0.55	5	2.3
JM109 Oxaloacetic acid	0.33	4	3.8