

Title	Evaluation of the soundness of river water environment based on bacterial community analysis using DNA microarrays
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[57] ラフル ウバッデ Rahul Upadhye 氏 博士の専攻分野の名称 博士(工学) 学位記番号 第 24542 号 学位授与年月日 平成23年3月25日 学 位 授 与 の 要 件 学位規則第4条第1項該当 工学研究科生命先端工学専攻 学 位 論 文 名 Evaluation of the soundness of river water environment based on bacterial community analysis using DNA microarrays (DNAマイクロアレイによる微生物群集解析に基づいた河川環境の健全性 の評価) 論文審查委員 (主査) 教 授 池 道彦 教 捋 福崎英一郎 教 授 藤山 和仁 教 授 渡邉 肇 教 授 教 授 福井 希一 教 授 大竹 久夫 教 授 紀ノ岡正博 教 授 仁平 卓也 教 授 清水 浩

論文内容の要旨

Biological indicators have received much attention for the assessment of soundness of aquatic environment under the goal of creating and conserving healthy aquatic ecosystem and healthy water circulation system. In particular, microorganisms, which play a pivotal role in the cycling of elements/materials and breaking down various environmental pollutants, would be greatly helpful to understand and assess the soundness of aquatic environment. Therefore, to establish the method to assess the soundness of aquatic environment based on microbial indicators, this study characterized the fate of (i) total bacterial community, (ii) specific functional bacteria and (iii) pathogenic bacteria using a DNA microarray technique. Monitoring against surface water samples collected seasonally from Yodo River and Kita River revealed that all of total bacterial community, specific functional bacteria and pathogenic bacteria were affected primarily by seasonal variation. In addition, they were individually influenced by non-seasonal factors such as inflow of effluent from wastewater treatment plants (WWTPs), backflow of seawater and retention of water in dam lake. Results obtained in this study suggested that microbial indicators targeted in this study can be applied to evaluate the soundness of aquatic environments. Finally, based on the knowledge obtained in this study, the scheme for evaluating the soundness of aquatic environment based on microbial indicators was proposed.

This thesis is compiled up of six chapters and a brief description on each chapter is explained as below.

In Chapter 1, General Introduction was given with the purpose of this study to establish the method to evaluate the soundness of aquatic environment based on microbial indicators by applying DNA microarray technique.

Chapter 2 provided the details on river water samples analyzed and physicochemical tests and DNA microarray analyses performed in this study. A total of 24 surface water samples were collected seasonally from four stations in Yodo River and two stations in Kita River. For DNA microarray analyses, three different types of DNA microarrays, (1) eubacterial microarray targeting 1016 eubacterial species commonly present in the environment, (2) functional gene microarray targeting 33 bacterial functional genes (85 probes) related to carbon cycle, chemical degradation, nitrogen cycle, sulfur cycle, metal metabolism, and energy flow and (3) pathogen microarray targeting 1012 bacterial pathogens infectious to humans, animals, plants, fish and shellfish, were used in the experiments.

In chapter 3, total bacterial community in river water samples was analyzed using a eubacterial microarray. It was revealed that seasonal variables most strongly affected the diversity and composition of bacterial community in river water, as reported in previous studies. In particular, the number of bacterial species in winter was quite low as compared with that in the other seasons. In addition, the diversity of bacterial community in river water was influenced by the inflow of WWTP effluent and backflow of seawater. These results suggested that the overall bacterial diversity can be expressed as a function of seasonal factors, geographical features and river management factors for the use in the assessment of soundness of aquatic environment.

In Chapter 4, seasonal occurrence and distribution of the bacterial functional genes in river water samples were analyzed using a functional gene microarray. It was suggested that the presence of functional genes was greatly influenced by the seasonal variation. In particular, the most diverse functional genes were detected in summer. Further, it was revealed that the number of functional genes decreased by water retention in a dam lake, and increased by receiving WWTP effluent. Results obtained here suggested that 33 functional genes are classified in three groups according to their detection frequency: (A) universally present genes; (B) genes specifically present under certain geographical and seasonal conditions; and (C) genes that are not present. It was suggested that the functional genes classified in the group (B) may be useful as indicators for assessing the soundness of the environment.

Chapter 5 described the occurrence of bacterial pathogens in river water samples. A total of 87 pathogens including 21 biosafety level (BSL) 2 pathogens were detected in the samples, and more than half of them were present commonly in Yodo River and Kita River. There was a strong influence of seasonal variation in the occurrence of bacterial pathogens. In addition, the number of bacterial pathogens appeared to increase by the WWTP effluent load and backflow of seawater at the river mouth. Comparison of the relative abundance of each pathogenic bacteria in DNA microarray analysis and total coliform count, a traditional hygienic indicator showed that some fecal and non-fecal pathogenic bacteria do not show a positive correlation with the coliform count, suggesting that the traditional hygienic indicators needs to be updated to comprehensively determine the health risks associated with contamination of river water by pathogenic bacteria.

In Chapter 6, knowledge obtained in chapter 3 to 5 were briefly presented. From the results obtained in this study, it was concluded that the soundness of aquatic environment can be evaluated based on bacterial diversity and various bacterial functions. Therefore, the scheme for evaluating the soundness of aquatic environment based on the total bacterial diversity, bacterial functions belonging to group (B) (genes specifically present under certain conditions) and hygienic safety was proposed. By applying the scheme, assessment of the environmental soundness from various viewpoints can be accomplished.

論文審査の結果の要旨

人間の産業活動に起因する多大な環境負荷により、水環境の悪化が指摘されるようになって久しいが、その改善のために、環境省等を中心として、従来の環境基準による水質規制だけではなく、水量や生態系を含む水循環の視点から総合的な施策を策定する必要性が示されている。ここで、多様な水環境を対象に、物質循環や汚染浄化などの自然の営みの状態やはたらきを数値化、指標化することができれば、水環境の健全性を客観的に判断する上で重要な情報を与えることができる。環境中における自然の営みには、多様な生物の存在が多大な影響を及ぼしている。このため、国土交通省等によって行われた河川水辺の国勢調査を通じて、水環境における植生調査や動物目撃情報のデータベース化、底生生物・魚類調査が行われてきたが、物質循環において特に重要な役割を担う微生物に焦点を当てた研究はほとんど行われてこなかった。

本論文は、自然環境中の微生物の多様性や物質循環、化学物質分解機能、病原性等に基づいて、水環境の健全性を 診断することのできる DNA マイクロアレイの活用法を種々検討したものである。DNA マイクロアレイを用いて近畿 地方の河川水サンブルを様々な視点から解析し、水環境の健全性を評価するための複合指標を提案することを目的と して実施した一連の研究をまとめたものであり、その成果を要約すると以下のようになる。

(1) 一般細菌 1018 種を標的とした DNA マイクロアレイを用いて、淀川 4 地点と北川 2 地点の微生物群集を季節ごとに解析し、検出される一般細菌の種類数が季節や地理的特徴、人為的活動によって大きく影響を受けることを示している。特に水温の低下する冬季や、水の滞留が発生するダム周辺で一般細菌の種類が減少すること、逆に汽水域での海水の混入や、下水処理場放流水の流入域では種類と数が増加することを明らかにしている。また、その結果として、一般細菌の多様性が水環境の健全性を評価するための指標となり得ることを明らかにしている。

