

ABSTRACTPROCESS AND APPARATUS ALLOWING THE DETECTION OF THE
FORMATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF BIOFILMS IN A CULTURE MEDIUM

5

The present invention relates to a process allowing the measuring of the viscosity of a culture medium (4) of microorganisms (5) characterized in that it comprises the steps consisting successively in:

10 a) The immersion of at least one particle (3) that is charged electrically, is magnetic or can be magnetized or covered with at least one magnetic or magnetizable layer in the culture (4),

b) The subjection of the culture (4) to an electrical, magnetic or electromagnetic field, preferably a magnetic field, in such a manner as to put this particle (3) in motion, and

15 c) The detection of the degree of liberty of motion of the particle (3) in the culture.

The present invention applies more particularly to a process and an apparatus for detecting the formation and the development of biofilms in a culture of microorganisms.

20

Figure 1