



Figure. Autoaggregation percentage of *L. helveticus* NS8 in 5 hours.

The sedimentation rate of strains was measured over a period of 5 h under identical conditions. NS8 isolate exhibited the highest cell autoaggregation. The autoaggregating phenotype of NS8 was so strong that over half bacterium have formed a precipitate in 1 h, while other bacterial suspensions showed constant turbidity with little precipitate.