TABLE OF CONTENTS

Contents	Page No.
Certificate	i
Declaration by the Candidate & Certificate by the Supervisor	ii
Copyright Transfer Certificate	iii
Dedication	iv
Acknowledgements	v-vii
Table of Contents	viii-xi
List of Figures	xii-xv
List of Tables	xvi-xvii
List of Symbols/Abbreviation	xviii-xx
Preface	xxi-xxiv
CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Microbial Fuel cell for Azo dyes treatment	10
1.2 Dye degradation mechanism in microbial fuel cell (MFC)	12
1.3 Effects of operational parameters on dye removal efficiency in MFC	13
1.4 Problem statement	16
1.5 Significance of research	17
CHAPTER 2: LITERATURE REVIEWS	18
2.1 Dyes and their history	18
2.1.1 Classification of dyes	19
2.1.2 Potential threats of Azo dyes to the environment and their treatment technology	29
2.1.3 Current treatment technology for dyes degradation	33
2.2 Microbial fuel cell and its history	43
2.2.1 Working principle of MFCs	50
2.2.2 Metabolism in MFCs	53
2.2.3 Current research on MFCs	55
2.2.4 Types of MFCs	58
2.2.5 Parameter affecting the performance of MFCs	62

2.2.6 Limitation of MFCs	65
2.2.7 Research Gap	65
2.2.8 Research Objective	66
CHAPTER 3: MATERIALS & METHODS	67
3.1 Dye degrading bacteria isolation, and their study for dye decolorizing capacity	67
3.1.1 Sample selection for isolation of bacteria	67
3.1.2 Dye selection	67
3.1.3 Media used for the growth of Culture	71
3.1.4 Screening and identification of the isolated organism	72
3.1.5 Study for dye decolorizing capacity	73
3.2 MFC setup construction	74
3.2.1 MFC 1	75
3.2.2 MFC 2	76
3.3 Analytical Procedure	77
3.3.1 Assessment of dye decolorization in batch study and in MFC	77
3.3.2 COD Removal efficiency	78
3.3.3 Dry biomass estimation	78
3.3.4 CO_2 measurement	79
3.3.5 CFU estimations	79
3.3.6 Fourier-transform infrared spectroscopy (FTIR) analysis	79
3.3.7 Identification of metabolites using Liquid chromatography and mass spectroscopy analysis (LCMS)	80
3.3.8 SEM analysis	80
3.3.9 Electrochemical monitoring	80
3.4 Kinetic Study	81
3.5 Statistical Modeling for the analysis of dye decolorization & current density though Response surface methodology (RSM)	82
3.6 Phytotoxicity Studies	83

RESULTS & DISCUSSIONS	
CHAPTER 4:	84
4.1 Dye degrading bacteria isolation & screening and their batch study for dye decolorizing capacity	84
4.1.1 Screening and Isolation of Dye Decolorizing Bacterial Strains	84
4.1.2 The Identification of Isolated Microorganisms	85
4.1.3 Dye Decolorization Studies	88
4.1.4 Concluding remarks	94
CHAPTER 5:	95
5.1 A comparative study of a bio fuel cell with two different proton exchange membrane for the production of electricity from waste water	95
5.1.1 Experiment design	95
5.1.2 Results & discussions	95
5.1.3 Concluding remarks	100
CHAPTER 6:	101
6.1 Biodegradation of Reactive Orange 16 Dye in Microbial Fuel Cell: An Innovative Way to Minimize Waste Along with Electricity Production	101
6.1.1 Experiment design	101
6.1.2 Results & discussions	101
6.1.3 Concluding remarks	112
CHAPTER 7:	113
7.1 Biodegradation of reactive red 120 in microbial fuel cell by *Staphylococcus equoruma RAP1*: Statistical modelling and process optimization	113
7.1.1 Experiment design	113
7.1.2 Results & discussions	113
7.1.3 Concluding remarks	137
CHAPTER 8:	138
8.1 A comparative study on the performance of Microbial Fuel Cell for	138

the treatment of Reactive Orange 16 dye using mixed and pure bacterial species and its optimization using response surface methodology	
8.1.1 Experiment design	138
8.1.2 Results & discussions	138
8.1.3 Concluding remarks	162
CHAPTER 9:	163
9.1 CONCLUSIONS	163
9.2 FUTURE RESEARCH PROSPECTIVE	166
REFERENCES	168
APPENDIX	218
LIST OF PUBLICATIONS	224
CONFERENCES	225

List of Figures

Figure No.	**Figure Captions**	**Page No.**
Figure 1.1	Sources of dye wastewater	**1**
Figure 1.2	Wastewater discharge into the river	**3**
Figure 1.3	Mechanism of waste remediation and electricity production	**6**
Figure 1.4	Dye remediation in MFC	**7**
Figure 1.5	Mechanism of waste degradation in MFC	**13**
Figure 2.1	Effects of dye wastewater	**30**
Figure 2.2	Dye treatment technology	**34**
Figure 2.3	Mechanism of electron transport to the anode surface	**51**
Figure 2.4	Electron transport mechanism from bacterial metabolism to the surface of the anode	**52**
Figure 2.5	Metabolism of a substrate (waste) in MFC	**54**
Figure 2.6	Schematics of single-chambered MFC	**59**
Figure 2.7	Schematics of double-chambered MFC	**60**
Figure 2.8	Schematics of Up-flow MFC	**61**
Figure 3.1	Calibration plot for model dyes (a) Reactive orange 16 (b) Reactive red 120	**70**
Figure 3.2	MFC 1	**76**
Figure 3.3	MFC 2	**77**
Figure 4.1	Isolated strains	**84**
Figure 4.2 (a)	SEM images of *Acinetobacter pitii* at 20 K X on the surface of cellulose filter 0.2 microns, 4.2	**86**
Figure 4.2 (b)	SEM images of cellulose filter 0.2 microns with growth media without bacteria at 20KX	**86**
Figure 4.3	Phylogenic tree of the bacterial isolate (*Acinetobacter pitii*)	**86**
Figure 4.4 (a)	SEM images of *Staphylococcus equorum* ta at 20 K X on the surface of cellulose filter 0.2 microns	**87**
Figure 4.4 (b)	SEM images of cellulose filter 0.2 microns with growth media without bacteria at 20KX	**87**
Figure 4.5	Phylogenic tree of the bacterial isolate (*Staphylococcus equorum* RAP1)	**88**

Figure 4.6	Study on isolated strains for **(a) *Staphylococcus eqrum* and (b) *Acinetobacter pitti*** degradation of RO16 dye and RR120 Dye in batch and MFC for 100 ppm initial concentration of dyes	**89**
Figure 4.7	Study on isolated strains for **(a) *Staphylococcus eqrum* and (b) *Acinetobacter pitti*** degradation of RO16 dye and RR120 Dye in batch and MFC for 100 ppm initial concentration of dyes at 72 h	**91**
Figure 4.8	Study on isolated strains for **(a) *Staphylococcus eqrum* and (b) *Acinetobacter pitti*** degradation of RO16 dye and RR120 Dye in batch and MFC for 100 ppm initial concentration of dyes at 72 h.	**93**
Figure 5.1	Comparison of voltage produced by Nafion as separator and agar salt bridge as a separator	**96**
Figure 5.2	Comparison of current density produced by Nafion as separator and agar salt bridge as a separator	**97**
Figure 5.3	Polarization curve for Nafion and agar salt bridge as PEM	**99**
Figure 6.1(a)	Variation of voltage and current over time and	**102**
Figure 6.1(b)	Variation of voltage and Colony-forming unit with time	**102**
Figure 6.2	Relation between power density and COD removal over time	**103**
Figure 6.3	Variation of % color removal and bacterial growth with dye concentration	**104**
Figure 6.4	Relation between COD Removal Vs Dye Concentration	**107**
Figure 6.5	Relation between CO2 production and Dye concentration	**109**
Figure 6.6	Monod Equation fitted till 400 ppm of dye (obtained experimental value)	**110**
Figure 7.1(a)	voltage variation with time at different pH for 100 ppm dye	**115**
Figure 7.1 (b)	voltage variation with time at pH 7.0 for different concentration of dye	**115**
Figure 7.1 (c)	power density variation with time at different pH for 100 ppm dye	**116**

Figure 7.1 (d)	power density variation with time at pH 7.0 for different concentration of dye	**116**
Figure 7.2 (a)	Degradation of dye at different pH at concentration range of 100 to 300 ppm	**118**
Figure 7.2 (b)	% Degradation of dye at different pH at concentration range of 100 to 300 ppm	**118**
Figure 7.3	COD removal efficiency	**119**
Figure 7.4	Actual vs Predicted value of RR120 dye	**121**
Figure 7.5 (a)	2D Contour plot for the degradation of RR120 dye as a function of the concentration of dye and pH	**124**
Figure 7.5 (b)	3D Response surface plot for the degradation of RR120 dye as a function of the concentration of dye and pH	**124**
Figure 7.5 (c)	2D Contour plot for the degradation of RR120 dye as a function of time and pH	**125**
Figure 7.5 (d)	3D Response surface plot for the degradation of RR120 dye as a function of time and pH	**125**
Figure 7.5 (e)	2D Contour plot for the degradation of RR120 dye as a function of time and concentration of dye	**126**
Figure 7.5 (f)	3D Response surface plot for the degradation of RR120 dye as a function of time and concentration of dye	**126**
Figure 7.6	Predicted Vs actual value of current density	**127**
Figure 7.7 (a)	2D Contour plot for current density as a function of concentration and pH	**129**
Figure 7.7 (b)	3D Response surface plot for current density as a function of concentration and pH	**129**
Figure 7.7 (c)	2D Contour plot for current density as a function of time and pH	**130**
Figure 7.7 (d)	3D Response surface plot for current density as a function of time and pH	**130**
Figure 7.7 (e)	2D Contour plot for current density as a function of time and concentration	**131**
Figure 7.7 (f)	3D Response surface plot for current density as a function of time and concentration	**131**

Figure 7.8	FTIR spectra of RR120 dye (Control) and (b) FTIR spectra of degraded metabolites	**133**
Figure 7.9	Proposed mechanism of biodegradation of RR120 dye by *Staphylococcus equorum RAP1*	**135**
Figure 7.10	Phytotoxicity effect of treated dye samples using *Staphylococcus equrumin* MFC	**136**
Figure 8.1 (a)	Voltage variation along with the time of mixed and isolated species	**140**
Figure 8.1 (b)	Effect of CFU/ml on Voltage.	**140**
Figure8.2	COD removal efficiency	**142**
Figure 8.3	Variation of color removal efficiency with time	**143**
Figure 8.4	CO_2 variation with time	**144**
Figure 8.5	predicted vs actual data of dye degraded	**147**
Figure 8.6 (a, b)	Dye degradation as function of pH and concentration	**148**
Figure 8.6 (c, d)	Dye degradation as function of pH and time	**149**
Figure 8.6 (e, f)	Dye degradation as function of time and concentration	**150**
Figure 8.7	Predicted vs actual data of current density	**152**
Figure 8.8 (a,b)	current density as function of pH and concentration,	**153**
Figure 8.8 (c,d)	current density as function of pH and time	**154**
Figure 8.8 (e,f)	current density as function of time and concentration	**155**
Figure 8.9 (a)	FTIR spectrums of control reactive orange 16	**158**
Figure 8.9 (b)	decolorized reactive orange 16	**158**
Figure 8.10	Proposed biodegradation pathway for reactive orange 16 degradation by *Acinetobacter pitii*	**160**
Figure 8.11	Phytotoxicity study	**161**

List of Tables

Table No.	Table Captions	Page No.
Table 1.1	Electricity production using Dyes	**11**
Table 2.1	Classification of dyes based on chromophore group	**21**
Table 2.2	Examples of dyes based on affinity towards material	**24**
Table 2.3	Examples Based on application methods	**28**
Table 2.4	Characteristics of textile industry effluent	**31**
Table 2.5	International standard of dye effluent discharge into the environment	**32**
Table 2.6	Advantages and disadvantages of various physical and chemical methods	**38**
Table 2.7	Work done by other researchers in MFC	**44**
Table 3.1	Waste water characteristics used for MFC	**67**
Table 3.2	Physicochemical Characteristics of Dyes	**68**
Table 3.3	Medium specific to Geobacter sp. (For1 L).	**71**
Table 3.4	Experimental Design for the degradation of RR120	**83**
Table 3.5	Experimental Design for the degradation of RO 16	**83**
Table 4.1	Decolorization efficiency of all the isolated strains for RO 16 and RR 120 dyes for 100 ppm for 24 h.	**85**
Table 6.1	Electricity production using dyes	**105**
Table 6.2	Haldane kinetic parameter for different dyes	**111**
Table 7.1	Design table for Face Centred Central Composite design for MFC	**119**
Table 7.2	Analysis of variance (ANOVA) for the degradation of RR120 by *Staphylococcus equorum* RAP1 terms of concentration of dye degraded	**122**
Table 7.3	Analysis of variance (ANOVA) for the degradation of RR120 by *Staphylococcus equorum* RAP1 terms of current density	**128**
Table 7.4	Optimized numerical solutions for degradation of dye and current density	**132**
Table 8.1	Design table for Face Centred Central Composite design for MFC	**144**

Table 8.2	Analysis of variance (ANOVA) for the degradation of RO 16 by *Acinetobacter pitii* terms of Concentration of dye degraded	**146**
Table 8.3	Analysis of variance (ANOVA) for the degradation of RO 16 by *Acinetobacter pitii* in terms of Current density	**151**
Table 8.4	Optimized numerical solutions for degradation of dye and current	**156**