

## List of Tables

Table no.	Title	Page No.
1.1	Techniques used for characterization of various parameters of NPs	5
2.1	Concentrations of various reagents for the synthesis of Ag NPs with varied sizes	13
2.2	Particle size analysis of chemically synthesized Ag NPs of varied sizes determined using TEM analysis	19
2.3	Particle size of Ag NPs with variation in their surface capping determined using TEM analysis	27
3.1	Interaction of various components of biological media with Ag NPs and their effects on dissolution kinetics	40-41
3.2	MIC of chemically synthesized Ag NPs with variation in their size and surface capping	53
4.1	Domain location and function of selected <i>E. coli</i> K12 genes to decipher the antibacterial mechanism of silver species	66
4.2	Details of gene specific primers used for qRT-PCR	67-68
4.3	Relative fold expression profiling of the 10 selected genes upon exposure of <i>E. coli</i> to silver species	97
5.1	Overview of the RNA sequencing libraries for <i>E. coli</i> K12	104
5.2	Differential expression profile of lipopolysaccharide biosynthesis regulating genes under the stress of L-Ag NPs	109
5.3	Differential expression profile of porin protein biosynthesis regulating genes under the stress of L-Ag NPs	110-111
5.4	Differential expression profile of ROS regulating genes under the stress of L-Ag NPs	111-112
5.5	Differential expression profile of genes related to bacterial defence under the stress of L-Ag NPs	113
5.6	Differential expression profile of genes related to flagella biosynthesis under the stress of L-Ag NPs	114
5.7	Differential expression profile of genes related to DNA repair mechanism under the stress of L-Ag NPs	116
5.8	Differential expression profile of genes related to protein repair mechanism under the stress of L-Ag NPs	116
5.9	Differential expression profile of genes related to bacterial homeostasis mechanism under the stress of L-Ag NPs	117
5.10	Differential expression profile of genes related to cysteine biosynthesis mechanism under the stress of L-Ag NPs	118-119

5.11	Differential expression profile of genes related to efflux pump regulation mechanism under the stress of L-Ag NPs	120
6.1	Overview of the RNA sequencing libraries for <i>K. pneumoniae</i>	139
6.2	Details of gene specific primers used for qRT-PCR	140
6.3	Differential expression profile of lipopolysaccharide biosynthesis regulating genes under the stress of L-Ag NPs	150
6.4	Differential expression profile of porin protein biosynthesis regulating genes under the stress of L-Ag NPs	151
6.5	Differential expression profile of ROS regulating genes under the stress of L-Ag NPs	152
6.6	Differential expression profile of genes related to bacterial defence under the stress of L-Ag NPs	153
6.7	Differential expression profile of genes related to DNA repair mechanism under the stress of L-Ag NPs	154
6.8	Differential expression profile of genes related to protein repair mechanism under the stress of L-Ag NPs	155
6.9	Differential expression profile of genes related to bacterial homeostasis mechanism under the stress of L-Ag NPs	156
6.10	Differential expression profile of genes related to cysteine biosynthesis mechanism under the stress of L-Ag NPs	157
6.11	Differential expression profile of genes related to efflux pump regulation mechanism under the stress of L-Ag NPs	160-161
6.12	Differential expression profile of genes related to toxin-antitoxin system under the stress of L-Ag NPs	161

## List of Figures

Figure No.	Title	Page No.
1.1	Top down and bottom up approach for the synthesis of nanoparticles	4
1.2	Difference between the Gram-negative and Gram-positive bacterial cell envelope	7
1.3	Antimicrobial drug resistance mechanisms in bacteria	9
2.1	UV-visible spectra of chemically synthesized Ag NPs of varied sizes (A) 5 nm, (B) 10 nm, (C) 20 nm and (D) 50 nm. Inset of these figures shows the colour of the reaction mixture after the completion of reaction	17
2.2	(A) TEM micrographs and (B) particle size histograms of chemically synthesized Ag NPs of varied sizes (5, 10, 20 and 50 nm)	18
2.3	Representative image of (A) HR-TEM and (B) SAED pattern of respective Ag NPs	20
2.4	EDS spectrum showing the presence of elemental silver in chemically synthesized Ag NPs of varied sizes (A) 5 nm, (B) 10 nm, (C) 20 nm, and (D) 50 nm	21
2.5	Representative XRD image of chemically synthesized Ag NPs	22
2.6	Representative FTIR image of chemically synthesized Ag NPs	23
2.7	UV visible spectra of Ag NPs with variation in their surface capping viz. (A) citrate, (B) fucose, and (C) lysozyme	24
2.8	TEM micrograph and particle size histogram of Ag NPs with variation in their surface capping by (A) citrate, (B) fucose and (C) lysozyme	26
2.9	EDS spectrum showing the presence of elemental silver for Ag NPs coated with (A) citrate, (B) fucose, and (C) lysozyme	28
2.10	XRD pattern analysis of Ag NPs with varying surface capping (A) citrate, (B) fucose and (C) lysozyme	29
2.11	FTIR analysis of Ag NPs with varying surface capping (A) citrate, (B) fucose and (C) lysozyme	31
2.12	UV- visible spectra of extracellular filtrate with respect to time for (A) <i>Penicillium shearii</i> AJP05 (B) <i>Penicillium janthinellum</i> DJP06. Inset shows the synthesized Ag NPs (brown) with respect to control (colourless). Reaction saturation curve for (C) <i>Penicillium shearii</i> AJP05, and (D) <i>Penicillium janthinellum</i> DJP06	34
2.13	TEM micrographs and particle size histograms of Ag NPs synthesized by (A) <i>Penicillium shearii</i> AJP05, and (B) <i>Penicillium janthinellum</i> DJP06	35
2.14	EDS spectra representing presence of silver in Ag NPs synthesized by (A) <i>Penicillium shearii</i> AJP05 and (B) <i>Penicillium janthinellum</i> DJP06	36

2.15	XRD spectra of Ag NPs synthesized by (A) <i>Penicillium shearii</i> AJP05 and (B) <i>Penicillium janthinellum</i> DJP06, with Bragg's diffraction values shown in parentheses	36
2.16	FTIR spectra of Ag NPs synthesized by (A) <i>Penicillium shearii</i> AJP05, and (B) <i>Penicillium janthinellum</i> DJP06	37
3.1	Growth curve analysis of <i>E. coli</i> K12 in LB and modified LB medium. Vertical bar represents SD	45
3.2	Dissolution kinetics of silver ions from the surface of Ag NPs with varied (A) size and (B) surface capping, with respect to time. Vertical bar represents SD	47
3.3	MIC analysis of chemically synthesized Ag NPs with an average size of (A) 5 nm, (B) 10 nm, (C) 20 nm, and (D) 50 nm. Vertical bar represents SD	49
3.4	MIC analysis of silver ions. Vertical bar represents SD	50
3.5	Comparative MIC of chemically synthesized Ag NPs with varied sizes	50
3.6	MIC analysis of chemically synthesized Ag NPs with variation in surface coating viz. (A) citrate, (B) fucose and (C) lysozyme. Vertical bar represents SD	52
3.7	MIC analysis of Myco-synthesized Ag NPs by (A) <i>Penicillium shearii</i> AJP05 and (B) <i>Penicillium janthinellum</i> DJP06. Vertical bar represents SD	54
3.8	MIC comparison of Ag NPs with variation in their surface capping	54
3.9	Schematic presentation of possible mechanism for the antibacterial action of Ag NPs with varied surface capping	57
3.10	MBC analysis for verifying concentrations (A) 0 (Control), (B) 28, (C) 29, and (D) 30 $\mu\text{g}$ (Ag) $\text{mL}^{-1}$ of L-Ag NPs against <i>E. coli</i> K12	58
3.11	MBC analysis for verifying concentrations (A) 0 (Control), (B) 16, (C) 17, and (D) 18 $\mu\text{g}$ (Ag) $\text{mL}^{-1}$ of silver ions against <i>E. coli</i> K12	59
4.1	Location of selected genes in the bacterial cell	68
4.2	Real time PCR conditions	70
4.3	Analysis of ROS by DCFH-DA assay for (A) Silver ions and (B) L-Ag NPs. Vertical bars represent SD	71
4.4	SEM micrograph of <i>E. coli</i> K12 cells showing the membrane damage in the <i>E. coli</i> K12 treated with (A) Untreated/ control, (B) MIC <sub>75</sub> of silver ions, and (C) MIC <sub>75</sub> of L-Ag NPs	73
4.5	Analysis of membrane damage by MDA assay for (A) silver ions & (B) L-Ag NPs; and anthrone assay for (C) silver ions & (D) L-Ag NPs. Vertical bars represent SD	75
4.6	Effects of Ag species on the molecular machinery of the bacterial cell	76
4.7	Differential expression of <i>wbbH</i> gene upon exposure of <i>E. coli</i> to (A) silver ion and (B) L-Ag NPs	78

4.8	Differential expression of <i>aqpZ</i> gene upon exposure of <i>E. coli</i> to (A) silver ion and (B) L-Ag NPs	79
4.9	(A) Functioning of soxRS system; Differential expression of <i>soxS</i> gene upon the exposure of <i>E. coli</i> to (B) silver ion and (C) L-Ag NPs	81
4.10	Differential expression of <i>fliG</i> gene upon exposure of <i>E. coli</i> to (A) silver ion and (B) L-Ag NPs	82
4.11	(A) SOS response system of bacteria; Differential expression of <i>recA</i> gene upon exposure of <i>E. coli</i> to (B) silver ion, and (C) L-Ag NPs	83
4.12	(A) Functioning of DnaK protein in bacteria; Differential expression of <i>dnaK</i> gene upon the exposure of <i>E. coli</i> to (B) silver ion and (C) L-Ag NPs	86
4.13	Correlation between the ISC system and Suf system in bacteria	88
4.14	(A) Functioning of Suf system in bacteria; Differential expression of <i>sufB</i> gene upon exposure of <i>E. coli</i> to (B) silver ion and (C) L-Ag NPs	91
4.15	(A) Functioning of cusCFBA system in bacteria; Differential expression of <i>cusC</i> gene of <i>E. coli</i> exposed to (B) silver ions and (C) L-Ag NPs	92
4.16	(A) Functioning of cue system in bacteria; Differential expression of <i>copA</i> gene of <i>E. coli</i> exposed to (B) silver ion and (C) L-Ag NPs	93
4.17	(A) Functioning of mazEF system in bacteria; Differential expression of <i>mazF</i> gene upon exposure of <i>E. coli</i> to (B) silver ion and (C) L-Ag NPs	96
4.18	Heat map representing the expression pattern of studied genes in <i>E. coli</i> cells exposed to Ag <sup>+</sup> ions and L-Ag NPs	98
4.19	Concentration of silver ions in <i>E. coli</i> cells exposed to MIC <sub>75</sub> of silver species	99
5.1	Overview of statistically significant and non-significantly expressed (NSE) genes at (A) 5 min. and (B) 30 min., post L-Ag NPs exposure (FDR, $p \leq 0.05$ )	106
5.2	Overview of statistically significantly expressed genes at (A) 5 min., and (B) 30 min. post L-Ag NPs exposure	107
5.3	Venn diagram showing overlapping sets of differentially (A) up-regulated, (B) down-regulated and (C) neutral genes at 5 and 30 min. post L-Ag NPs exposure	108
5.4	Heat map showing expression changes of the genes and pathways regulated by the key genes. The sequence of genes is similar as given in respective table numbers (5.2 to 5.11) (Green and red color denote the up-regulated and down-regulated genes, respectively)	121
5.5	GO enrichment analysis showing the up-regulated biological processes at (A) 5 min. and (B) 30 min	123
5.6	GO enrichment analysis showing the down-regulated biological processes at (A) 5 min. and (B) 30 min	124

5.7 A	GOBP term analysis showing the up-regulated biological processes at 5 min	125-129
5.7 B	GOBP term analysis showing the up-regulated biological processes at 30 min	126-129
5.8 A	GOBP term analysis showing the down-regulated biological processes at 5 min	130
5.8 B	GOBP term analysis showing the down-regulated biological processes at 30 min	131
5.9	Validation measurements comparing the RNAseq and qRT-PCR data at 5 and 30 min, post L-Ag NPs exposure. Vertical bar represents the standard deviation	132
5.10	TEM micrograph of <i>E. coli</i> K12 exposed to L-Ag NPs (A) control (without exposure), (B) MIC <sub>75</sub> of L-Ag NPs [6.75 µg (Ag) mL <sup>-1</sup> ], and (C) EDS mapping of bacterial cell surface	133
6.1	Growth curve analysis of <i>K. pneumoniae</i> in LB and MLB media. Vertical bar represents SD.	142
6.2	MIC evaluation of L-Ag NPs against <i>K. pneumoniae</i> . Vertical bar represents SD	143
6.3	MBC analysis for verifying concentrations (A) 0 (Control), (B) 43, (C) 44, and (D) 45 µg (Ag) mL <sup>-1</sup> of silver ions against <i>K. pneumoniae</i>	143
6.4	Biochemical analysis of <i>K. pneumoniae</i> exposed to MIC <sub>75</sub> of L-Ag NPs in comparison to control (A) ROS generation by DCFH-DA assay; SEM micrograph showing the membrane damage in the bacteria treated with (B) Untreated/ control, (C) MIC <sub>75</sub> of L-Ag NPs; (D) MDA assay, and (E) anthrone assay. Vertical bars represent SD	145
6.5	Concentration of silver ions in <i>K. pneumoniae</i> cells exposed to MIC <sub>75</sub> of L-Ag NPs. The data are expressed as mean ± SD of two independent experiments.	146
6.6	Overview of statistically significant and non-significantly expressed (NSE) genes at (A) 5 min. and (B) 30 min., post L-Ag NPs exposure (FDR, p ≤ 0.05)	147
6.7	Overview of statistically significantly expressed genes at (A) 5 min., and (B) 30 min. post L-Ag NPs exposure	148
6.8	Venn diagram showing overlapping sets of differentially (A) up-regulated, (B) down-regulated and (C) neutral genes at 5 and 30 min. post L-Ag NPs exposure	149
6.9	Schematic representation of functioning of <i>sil</i> system	159
6.10	Heat map showing expression changes of the genes and pathways regulated by the key genes. The sequence of genes is similar as given in respective table numbers (6.3 to 6.12) (Green and red color denote the up-regulated and down-regulated genes, respectively)	162
6.11	GO enrichment analysis of bacterial biological pathways	163

6.12	GO enrichment analysis of bacterial molecular functions and cellular components	164
6.13	Validation measurements comparing the RNAseq and qRT-PCR data at 5 and 30 min, post L-Ag NPs exposure. Vertical bar represents the SD	165
6.14	TEM micrograph of <i>K. pneumoniae</i> MGH78578 exposed to L-Ag NPs (A) control (without exposure), (B) MIC75 of L-Ag NPs [ $6.75 \mu\text{g (Ag) mL}^{-1}$ ], and (C) EDS mapping of bacterial cell surface	166

## List of Abbreviations

Symbol	Abbreviation
μg	Microgram
μl	Microlitre
Ag NPs	Silver nanoparticles
au	Arbitrary unit
BITS	Birla Institute of Technology and Science
BLAST	Basic local alignment search tool
bp	Base pair
C	Celsius
C-Ag NPs	Citrate capped Ag NPs
cAMP	Cyclic adenosine monophosphate
cDNA	Complementary Deoxyribonucleic acid
CFU	Colony forming unit
cm	Centimeter
CRP	Camp receptor protein
DCF	2'-7' dichloro fluorescein
DCFH-DA	2,7-dichlorodihydrofluorescein diacetate
DLS	Dynamic light scattering
DNA	Deoxyribonucleic acid
<i>E. coli</i>	<i>Escherichia coli</i> K12
EDS	Energy dispersive spectroscopy
F-Ag NPs	Fucose coated Ag nps
fcc	Face centered cubic
FDR	False discovery rate
FMCGs	Fast-moving consumer goods
FTIR	Fourier transform infrared
g	Gram
GA	Gum arabic
GC	Guanine cytosine
GO	Gene ontology
GOBP	GO biological processes
h	Hour
HR-TEM	High-resolution TEM



ICDD	International Centre for Diffraction Data
ICP-OES	Inductively coupled plasma optical emission spectrometry
IMTech	Institute of Microbial Technology
ISC	Iron-sulfur cluster
JCPDS	Joint Committee on Powder Diffraction Standards
<i>K. pneumoniae</i>	<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i> MGH78578
kDa	Kilo dalton
keV	Kilo electron volt
kV	Kilo volt
L-Ag NPs	Lysozyme coated Ag nps
LB	Luria bertani
LPS	Lipopolysaccharide
M	Molar
mA	Milli Ampier
MBC	Minimum bactericidal concentration
MDA	Malondialdehyde
MDR	Multi-drug resistance
mg	Milli gram
MGYP	Malt Glucose Yeast extract Peptone
MIC	Minimum inhibitory concentration
min	Minutes
mL	Milli litre
MLB	Modified luria bertani
mM	Milli Molar
MPA	3-marcaptopropionic acid
mV	Mili Volt
NADH	Nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide
NCBI	National Center for Biotechnology Information
nm	Nanometer
NMR	Nuclear magnetic resonance
NPs	Nanoparticles
NSE	Statistically non-significant genes
NTA	Nanoparticle tracking analysis

OD	Optical density
OM	Outer membrane
PA	Polyamides
PBS	Phosphate buffered saline
PCR	Polymerase chain reaction
qRT-PCR	Quantitative real-time polymerase chain reaction
R&D	Research and development
RNA	Ribonucleic acid
RNAseq	RNA Sequencing analysis
ROS	Reactive Oxygen species
rpm	Rotation per minute
rRNA	Ribosomal ribonucleic acid
RT	Room temperature
S. No.	Serial number
SAED	Selected area electron diffraction
SD	Standard deviation
SEM	Scanning electron microscopy
SPR	Surface plasmon resonance
TA	Toxin-antitoxin
TEM	Transmission electron microscopy
TGA	Thermogravimetric analysis
TSC	Trisodium citrate
UV-vis.	Ultraviolet-visible
v/v	Volme by volume
XRD	Powder X-ray diffraction
$\zeta$	Zeta potential