

**“GREEN SYNTHESIS OF SILVER NANOPARTICLES USING DEXTROSE AND
ITS ANTIMICROBIAL ACTIVITY”**

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for the partial fulfilment of the requirement for degree of
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DECLARATION OF ORIGINALITY & COMPLIANCE OF ACADEMIC ETHICS

I hereby declare that this thesis contains literature survey and original research work by the undersigned candidate, as part of her Master of Technology in Food technology and Biochemical engineering studies. All information in this document have been obtained and presented in accordance with academic rules and ethical conduct. I also declare that, as required by these rules and conduct, I have fully cited and referenced all materials and results that are not original to this work.

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This is to certify that I have personally worked on the research project entitled “**Green synthesis of silver nanoparticles using dextrose and its antimicrobial activity**”. The data mentioned in this report were obtained during genuine work done and collected by me. Data obtained from other agencies have been fully acknowledged. None of the finding pertaining to the work has been concealed. The results embodied in this project have not been submitted to any other university or institute for the award of any degree or diploma.

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Abstract

Here the green synthesis of polydispersed, small sized silver nanoparticles (Ag-NPs) in aqueous medium is reported. The synthesis was achieved by reduction of silver ion using dextrose. Dextrose also acts as a stabilizing agent. Silver nitrate was used as a precursor of silver ion. Influence of two parameters, temperature and pH were examined on the synthesis of nanoparticles. The nanoparticles were characterized using UV–Vis absorption spectroscopy and fluorescence spectroscopy. The absorption maxima of the as-synthesized Ag-NPs showed characteristic surface plasmon resonance (SPR) peak. The antimicrobial properties of the as-synthesised Ag-NPs were investigated against the gram-negative strains, *Escherichia coli* and gram-positive strains, *Bacillus subtilis*. Better antimicrobial activity has been seen against gram-negative *E. coli*.

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Chapter 1 - Introduction

1.1 Introduction

It has been suggested for some time that materials and substances may be manipulated at the very small size scale through atom-by-atom assembly. Nanotechnology is the broad term used to represent an assemblage of processes, materials and applications that span physical, chemical, biological and electronic science and engineering fields. Manipulation of materials is done for the all fields at a size range in the nanometer scale. One nanometer (nm) is one-billionth of a meter. A nanomaterial has been defined as a ‘material having one or more external dimensions in the nanoscale or which is nanostructured’, where the nanoscale size ranges is approximately 1-100 nm. Nanomaterials also exist in other forms, such as nanorods or nanotubes with two dimensions in the nanoscale, or nanolayers, coatings or sheets with just one dimension in the nanoscale.

The nation ‘a little goes a long way’ is probably the single most powerful reasoning behind many of the nanotechnology applications in different sectors. As food packaging plastics ENPs may be used. The very small size of engineered nanoparticles ENPs can also offer other benefits. For example, nanosizing of water-insoluble substances can enable their uniform dispersion in aqueous formulations. This makes it possible to reduce the use of solvents in certain applications such as cosmetics, paints and coatings, and allows the dispersion of food additives such as water-insoluble colours, flavours and preservatives in low-fat systems.^[1]

1.2 Importance of silver nanoparticles

The synthesis of noble metal nanoparticles has been gaining significant importance during the past few years owing to its increasing application in the field of medicine, biology, material science. Among the noble metals silver has been used for thousands of years for ornaments, medicine, food, textile, photography, electronics, dental fillings and utensils. Silver and its nanoparticles have been used as an antimicrobial in a variety of industrial, healthcare and domestic applications^[2]. Silver is used to inhibit the growth of bacteria and fungi on socks. It reduces odours and the risk of bacterial and fungal infections^[3]. The silver ion, Ag^+ , is bioactive and in sufficient concentration readily kills bacteria in vitro. Exposure to silver nanoparticles has been associated with inflammatory, oxidative, genotoxic and cytotoxic consequences. The silver particulates primarily accumulate in the liver, but have also been shown to be toxic to brain. Nano silver applied to tissue-cultured human cells leads to the formation of free radicals, raising concerns of potential health risks^[4, 5].

1.3 Methods of synthesis of silver nanoparticles

Nano-biotechnology is a rapidly growing scientific field of producing and constructing devices. An important area of research in nano-biotechnology is the synthesis of NPs with different chemical compositions, sizes and morphologies, and controlled disparities. Nano-biotechnology has turned up as an elementary division of contemporary nanotechnology and untied novel epoch in the fields of material science receiving global attention due to its ample

applications. It is a multidisciplinary approach resulting from the investigational use of NPs in biological systems including the disciplines of biology, biochemistry, chemistry, engineering, physics and medicine. Moreover, the nano-biotechnology also serves as an imperative technique in the development of clean, nontoxic, and eco-friendly procedures for the synthesis and congregation of metal NPs having the intrinsic ability to reduce metals by specific metabolic pathways [6-11].

Nowadays, development of eco-friendly processes is needed, where toxic chemicals are not used in the synthesis protocols. Green synthesis approaches include mixed-valence polyoxometalates, polysaccharides, Tollens, biological, and irradiation method which have advantages over conventional methods involving chemical agents associated with environmental toxicity. Selection of solvent medium and selection of eco-friendly nontoxic reducing and stabilizing agents are the most important issues which must be considered in green synthesis of NPs.

Silver NPs have unique properties which can be incorporated into antimicrobial applications, composite fibres, biosensor materials, cosmetic products, cryogenic super-conducting materials, and electronic components. Several physical and chemical methods have been used for synthesizing and stabilizing silver NPs [12, 13].

Most of these methods are still in development stage and the experienced problems are the stability and aggregation of NPs, control of crystal growth, morphology, size and size distribution. The most popular chemical approaches, including chemical reduction using a variety of organic and inorganic reducing agents, physicochemical reduction, electrochemical techniques and radiolysis are widely used for the synthesis of silver NPs. Furthermore, extraction and purification of produced NPs for further applications are still important issues [14-16].

1.3.1 Physical methods: [17-23]

Table-1: Physical method

Synthesis method	Advantages	Disadvantages
Laser ablation	Absence of solvent contamination, absence of chemical reagent in solution	Low yield, high power requirement
Evaporation-condensation	Uniform particle distribution, absence of solvent contamination	High energy requirement, large space requirement, long time period requirement
Arc discharge method	High production rate, high energy efficiency	Expensive

1.3.2 Chemical methods: [24-41]

Table-2: Chemical method

Synthesis method	Advantages	Disadvantages
Chemical reduction	Easy operation, low energy requirement, easy availability of equipment	Presence of toxic chemicals, low productivity, inconsistency of particle size
Electrochemical synthetic method	Easy operation, low cost, high flexibility, easy availability of equipments, control particle size, improve homogeneity of nanoparticles	Presence of toxic chemicals, low productivity, inconsistency of particle size
Photo induced reduction	high spatial resolution, convenience of use, and great versatility	Presence of toxic chemicals, low productivity, inconsistency of particle size
Sonoelectrochemical reduction	Simple, high flexibility, carried out in ambient temperatures	Presence of toxic chemicals, low productivity, inconsistency of particle size
Microwave associated synthesis	consistently yielding nanostructures with smaller sizes, narrower size distributions, and a higher degree of crystallization, shorter reaction times, reduced energy consumption, and better product yield, drastically reduce chemical wastes, rapid heat transfer, volumetric and selective heating.	Presence of toxic chemicals, low productivity, inconsistency of particle size
Microemulsion	Uniform and size controllable nanoparticles	use of highly deleterious organic solvents
UV-initiated photoreduction	Simple and effective method	Presence of toxic chemicals, inconsistency of particle size
Irradiation method	Well defined shape and size distribution, short time period requirement	Presence of toxic chemicals, low productivity,
Polymers and polysaccharides	Highly stable, protected against nanoparticle aggregation	Presence of toxic chemicals, low productivity, inconsistency of particle size
Tollens method	Simple one step method, synthesis nanoparticle with a controlled size	Presence of toxic chemicals, low productivity,

1.3.3 Bio-based methods:

A number of reports prevailed in the literatures indicate that synthesis of nanoparticles by chemical approaches are not eco-unfriendly and expensive. Thus, there is a growing need to develop environmentally and economically friendly processes, which do not use toxic chemicals in the synthesis protocols. This has conducted researchers to look at the organisms. The potential of organisms in nanoparticle synthesis ranges from simple prokaryotic bacterial cells to eukaryotic fungi and plants^[42]. Some examples of nanoparticle production include using bacteria for gold, silver, cadmium, zinc, magnetite, and iron NPs; yeasts for silver, lead and cadmium NPs; fungi for gold, silver and cadmium NPs; algae for silver and gold NPs; plants for silver, gold, palladium, zinc oxide, platinum, and magnetite NPs^[43,44].

Bio-based protocols could be used for synthesis of highly stable and well-characterized NPs when critical aspects, such as types of organisms, inheritable and genetic properties of organisms, optimal conditions for cell growth and enzyme activity, optimal reaction conditions, and selection of the biocatalyst state have been considered^[45].

Table-3: Synthesis of nanostructured silver from various biological sources

Biological source	Intracellular/Extracellular	Size range	Ref.
Bacteria			
<i>Klebsiella pneumonia</i>	Extracellular	5-32 nm	46
<i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i>		10-20 nm	47
<i>Bacillus licheniformis</i>	Extracellular	50 nm	48
<i>P. stutzeri</i> AG259	Intracellular	<200 nm	49
<i>Corynecoccus aureus</i>		5-15 nm	50
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	Extracellular	120-180 nm	51
Plants			
<i>Pelargonium graveolens</i>	Extracellular	16-40 nm	52
<i>Hibiscus rosasinensis</i>	Extracellular	13-20 nm	53
<i>Cinnamomum camplora</i>	Extracellular	55-80 nm	54
<i>Geranium leaf extract</i>	Extracellular	16-40 nm	55
<i>Emblic officinalis</i>	Extracellular	10-25 nm	56
<i>Jatropha curcas</i> (latex)	Extracellular	20-40 nm	57
<i>Aloe vera</i>	Extracellular	15.2±4.2 nm	58
<i>Azadirachta indica</i> (Neem)	Extracellular	5-35 nm	59
Yeast			
Extremophilic yeast			60
MKY3	Extracellular	2-20 nm	61
Fungi			
<i>Aspergillus niger</i>		20 nm	62
<i>Fusarium oxysporum</i>	Extracellular	2-50 nm	63
<i>Aspergillus fumigatus</i>	Extracellular	5-25 nm	64
<i>Fusarium solani</i>		5-35 nm	65
<i>Verticillium</i>	Intracellular	25±12 nm	66
<i>Aspergillus flavus</i>		8.92±1.61 nm	67
<i>Trichoderma viride</i>		10-40 nm	68

1.3.3.1 Synthesis of nanoparticles using plant-based extracts

Recently G. A. Kahrilas et al have studied Microwave-assisted synthesis of silver nanoparticles using orange peel extract. Besides orange peel extract, they also used extracts from other peels of citrus fruits like grapefruit, tangelo, lemon and lime. But only orange peel extract went successful. Orange peel is served as both reducing agent as well as capping agent. Nanospheres of TEM mean diameter of 7.36 ± 8.06 nm were successfully synthesized in 15 min by reducing Ag^+ ions with orange peel extract. One of the main advantages of microwave heating over traditional heating is that it reduces reaction time and thus improves experimental efficiency. Main reductive compound present in orange peel extract is citronellal. Other compounds responsible for capping reducing are citrate and limonene. This microwave assisted green synthesis allows for preparation of nanoparticles without risking intervention from toxic reducing agents and capping agents. [69]

A. A. Kajani et al have reported synthesis of anisotropic silver nanoparticles using *Taxus baccata* extract in the year 2014. Here *taxus baccata* extracts are used as reducing, capping and stabilizing agents. Monodispersed nanoparticles were obtained with an average of 75.1 nm. The main parameter for this synthesis was the type of plant extract used. Type of plant extract used affected the physical, chemical and cytotoxic properties of the nanoparticles. Other factors that were investigated to synthesize silver nanoparticles of desired shape and size were concentration of silver nitrate, pH and temperature. Plants and plant extracts are well suitable for biosynthesis of nanoparticles of various shape and sizes. Biomolecules present in the plants like alkaloids, phenolic compounds, terpenoids and coenzymes can be used to reduce metal ions to the nanoparticles. Organic compounds of plants act both as reducing and stabilizing agents. *Taxus* species are known to produce diterpenoids named as taxoids. One of the most known taxoids, taxol is well known for its anticancer property. Thus the nanoparticles synthesized from this *taxus baccata* extract are known for its anticancer effects. The MTT assay revealed the anti-cancer effects of those synthesised nanoparticles. [70]

P. K. Singh et al have studied about *Lantana camara* leaf extract synthesized silver nanoparticles and about their UV-assisted synthesis and antibacterial property in the year 2015. In this study silver nanoparticles are synthesised using weed plant *Lantana camara*'s leaf extract. This green route synthesis is very quick, easy and cost effective route. Synthesised silver nanoparticle by this method was studied and discussed based on photoluminescence, optical absorption, dynamic light scattering, zeta potential, X-ray diffraction measurements, infrared spectroscopy, FE-SEM and TEM analysis. *Lantana camara* has recently been recognized for its natural healthcare potential. It is known for its antifungal and antibacterial activity. It is also used in HIV patients for boosting of immune system. Due to the presence of flavonoids and phenylpropanoid, *lantana camara* acts as potential anti-tumour agents. Here *lantana camara* leaf extract act as both reducing and stabilizing agent for synthesizing silver nanoparticles. Synthesised silver nanoparticles showed very high antibacterial activity against *E. coli* and *S. aureus* bacteria at very low concentration of 50 ppm. [71]

E. Roy et al have studied on shape-specific silver nanoparticles prepared by Microwave-assisted green synthesis using pomegranate juice in the year 2015. Here four different shaped silver nanoparticles were synthesized. Four different shapes include spherical, oval, rod and flower. Pomegranate juice was used as reducing agent here. Microwave irradiation is used here due to its advantage of reducing reaction time and its effectiveness in synthesis. Pomegranate juice contains mainly gallic acid, ellagic acid and flavonol glycosides that are able to reduce silver nitrate to silver nanoparticles very effectively. Four different shaped silver nanoparticles were synthesized. Synthesized silver nanoparticles have been characterized by UV-visible spectroscopy, transmission electron microscopy, field emission scanning electron microscopy and powder X-ray diffraction techniques. Bactericidal activity was studied for all prepared nanoparticles of varied shapes. Among the four different shaped silver nanoparticles, the flower shaped silver nanoparticles gave the best results and mediated the fastest bactericidal activity against all the tested strains at similar bacterial concentrations. [72]

1.3.3.2 Microbial synthesis of nanoparticles

P. Mukherjee et al have studied on Fungus-mediated synthesis of silver nanoparticles and their immobilization in the Mycelial Matrix in the year 2001. In this study silver nanoparticles were synthesised using the fungus *Verticillium*. Here this fungus *Verticillium*, when exposed to aqueous silver nitrate solution, it reduces the metal ions and thus leads to the formation of silver nanoparticles of 25nm diameter. Silver nanoparticles were formed below the fungal cells. Fungal cells continued to multiply after biosynthesis of silver nanoparticles. [73]

B. Ramalingam et al have studied on Antibacterial effects of biosynthesized silver nanoparticles on surface ultra-structure and nano mechanical properties of gram-negative bacteria in the year 2016. Here biosynthesis was done by in situ reduction of silver nitrate using cell free protein of *Rhizopus oryzae*. Synthesized nanoparticles were characterized UV-Visible spectroscopy, dynamic light scattering, transmission electron microscopy and FTIR spectroscopy. High resolution transmission microscopy was also done for the synthesized nanoparticles and confirmed the formation of 7.1 ± 1.2 nm silver nanoparticles. The antibacterial activity of silver nanoparticles was tested against *E. coli* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. Silver nanoparticles showed concentration dependent antibacterial activity. 100% killing of *E. coli* and *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* achieved when the cells were treated with 4.5 and 2.7 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ silver nanoparticles for 4h. Using fluorescence microscopy, AFM and FTIR, the alteration and morphological and physicochemical properties of bacterial surface has been monitored. [74]

H. Sowani et al have studied on green synthesis of gold and silver nanoparticles by an actinomycete *Gordonia amicalis* HS-11 and their biological application in the year 2015. Silver nanoparticles were prepared by incubating cell free supernatant of bacterium with 1mM silver nitrate at pH 9 in a boiling water bath. Similarly gold nanoparticles were also synthesized incubating with 1mM chloroauric acid. It was assumed that the cell free supernatant contained some thermo stable biomolecule that mediated metal reduction

reactions. The synthesized nanoparticles were characterized by using UV-Vis spectrophotometer, transmission electron microscope and X-ray diffractometer. In this paper nanoparticle synthesis by actinomycete culture is highlighted, also identifies the biomolecule involved in the process and describes the associated antioxidant activity. [75]

P. Manivasagan et al have studied on Production of polysaccharide-based bioflocculant for the synthesis of silver nanoparticles by *Streptomyces* sp. in the year 2015. In this study production and optimization of polysaccharide based bioflocculants by *Streptomyces* sp. for the green synthesis of silver nanoparticles were reported. Bioflocculants are organic macromolecular substances secreted by microorganisms. Bioflocculants are well known for their wide use in waste water treatment, food and fermentation process and downstream processing. Using response surface methodology medium composition and culture conditions for polysaccharide-based bioflocculants were optimized. Synthesized silver nanoparticles were characterized using UV-Vis spectroscopy, FTIR, XRD, FESEM, EDXA and HRTEM. Strong antibacterial activity was shown by synthesized silver nanoparticles in sewage water. [76]

1.3.3.3 Carbohydrate based green synthesis

S. Mohan et al have studied on Green synthesis of dextrose reduced silver nanoparticles and its antimicrobial and sensing properties in the year 2014. In this study silver nanoparticles were synthesized using dextrose. Here water is used as the solvent. Dextrose acts as both reducing agent as well as stabilizing agent. In this work, they have reported, synthesis of highly mono-dispersed, water soluble, stable and small sized gelatine-capped silver nanoparticles. Synthesized nanoparticles were characterized using UV-Vis spectroscopy, transmission electron microscopy; X-ray diffraction, high resolution transmission electron microscopy and Fourier transform infra-red spectroscopy. These synthesized silver nanoparticles showed better antibacterial efficacy than the antibiotics; ciproflaxin and impinem against *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* with minimum inhibition concentration of 6µg/ml and better efficacy than impinem against *E. coli* with minimum inhibition concentration of 10µg/ml. [77]

W. Haggren et al have studied about Microwave-assisted green synthesis of silver nanoparticles with soluble starch, dextrose and arabinose and its antibacterial activity in the year 2014. In this study silver nanoparticles were synthesized in three different schemes by reducing Ag⁺ ions with reducing agents arabinose, dextrose and soluble starch. Nanoparticles formed in less than 15 min. Microwave heating was used here. The advantage of microwave heating over traditional heating like less reaction time and all made to select this microwave mode of heating. Here starch served as both capping agent as well as reducing agent. In this study protocols were developed using starch, starch + dextrose and starch + arabinose. The nanoparticles prepared by these methods were characterized using UV-Visible spectroscopy, powder X-ray diffraction, fluorescence spectroscopy, transmission electron microscopy and differential light scattering. Antibacterial activity of synthesized nanoparticles was examined using different test microorganisms. All silver nanoparticles prepared in this study showed

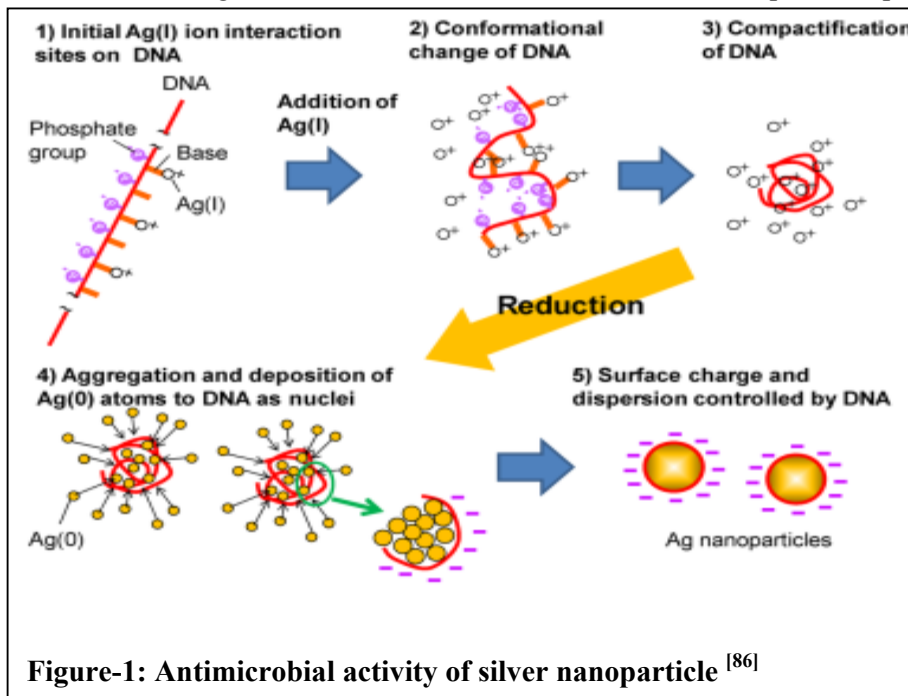
antibacterial effects on variety of microorganisms. This antibacterial activity was determined by a well diffusion assay. ^[78]

B. Xia et al have studied about Preparation of bimetallic nanoparticles using green synthesis method in the year 2013. In this study, green synthesis of well stabilized Au/Ag bimetallic nanoparticles was reported. Degraded pueraria starch (DPS) used for synthesis of bimetallic nanoparticles. DPS acted as both a reducing agent as well as a capping agent. Au/Ag bimetallic nanoparticles were characterized using energy-dispersive X-ray, X-ray diffraction and high-resolution transmission electron microscopy. Prepared bimetallic nanoparticles showed good catalytic activity in the reduction of 4-nitrophenol. ^[79]

O. S. Oluwafemi et al have studied on Maltose-reduced silver nanoparticles in the year 2012. In this study highly stable and small sized silver nanoparticle with narrow size distribution without the use of an accelerator was reported. Here maltose was used as the reducing agent and gelatine as the stabilizer. Synthesized silver nanoparticles were characterized using UV-Visible spectroscopy, transmission electron microscopy; X-ray diffraction, high resolution transmission electron microscopy, and Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy. Through transmission electron microscopy it was found that the particles formed are small, and spherical in shape. Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy confirmed the stabilisation of silver nanoparticles by the gelatine. Main advantages of this synthesis method are moderate temperature for preparation, avoidance of toxic starting materials, lack of need for an additional flow of inert gas, and the use of atmospheric pressure. ^[80]

1.4 Antibacterial activity of Silver nanoparticles:

Application of silver nanoparticles into bacterial cells induces a high degree of structural and morphological changes; as a result cell death is happened. As the silver nanoparticles come in contact with the bacteria, they adhere to the cell wall and cell membrane. Once bound, some of the silver passes through to the inside, and interacts with phosphate-containing compounds like DNA and RNA, while another portion adheres to the sulphur-containing proteins on the membrane.^[81] The silver-sulphur interactions at the membrane cause the cell wall to undergo structural changes, like the formation of pits and pores. Simply due to the osmotic difference, through these pores, cellular components are released into the extracellular fluid. Within the cell, the integration of silver creates a low molecular weight region where the DNA then condenses. Having a condensed state DNA inhibits the cell's replication proteins contact with



the DNA. Thus the application of silver nanoparticles inhibits replication and becomes a cause of cell death. Further increasing their effect, when silver comes in contact with fluids and tends to ionize which increases the nanoparticles bactericidal activity.^[82]

This has been

correlated to the suppression of enzymes and inhibited expression of proteins that relate to the cell's ability to produce ATP.^[83] This could also be partly due to the fact that as particle size decreases, reactivity increases due to the surface area to volume ratio increasing. It has been noted that the introduction of silver nanoparticles has shown to have synergistic activity with common antibiotics already used today, such as; penicillin G, ampicillin, erythromycin, clindamycin, and vancomycin against *E. coli* and *S. aureus*.^[84] In medical equipment, it has been shown that silver nanoparticles drastically lower the bacterial count on devices used. However, the problem arises when the procedure is over and a new one must be done. In the process of washing the instruments a large portion of the silver nanoparticles become less effective due to the loss of silver ions. They are more commonly used in skin grafts for burn victims as the silver nanoparticles embedded with the graft provide better antimicrobial activity and result in significantly less scarring of the victim.^[85]

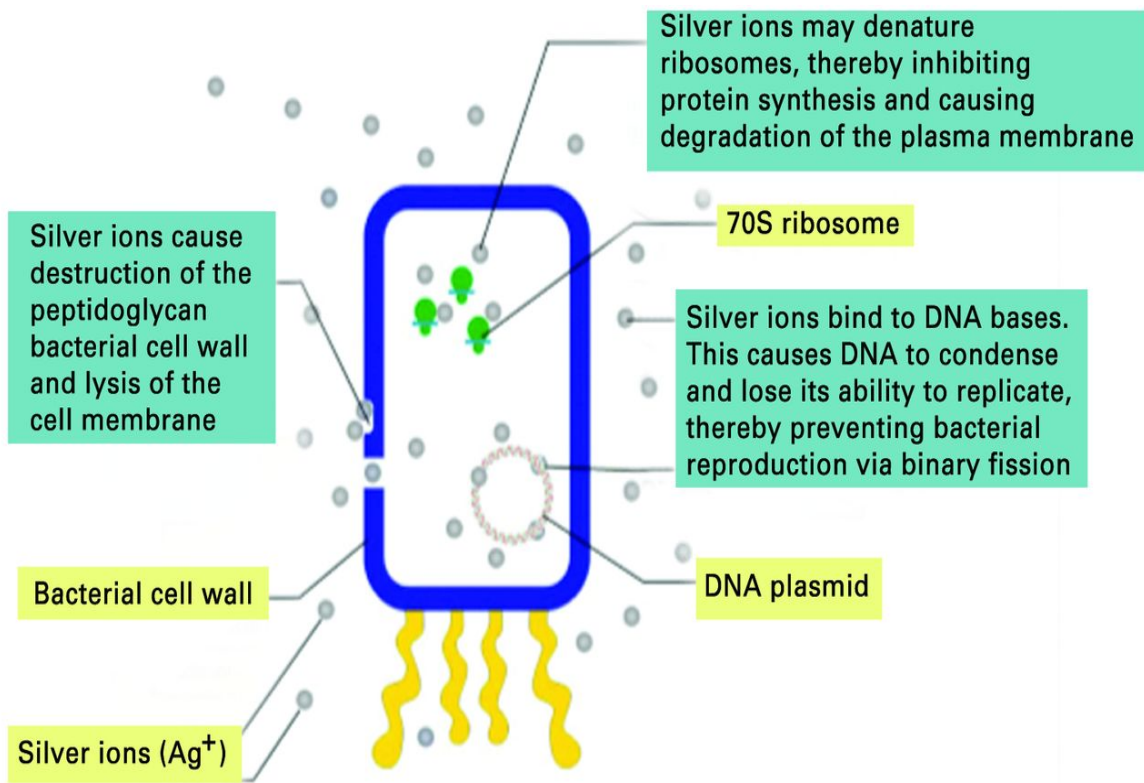


Figure-2: Antibacterial activity of silver nanoparticle ^[87]

Chapter 2: Aims and Objectives

Aims and Objectives

1. To synthesize silver nanoparticles by green protocol using dextrose as a reducing and stabilizing agent
2. To investigate the kinetics of the formation of nanoparticles
3. To study the effect of temperature on the kinetics of reduction process and morphology of silver nanoparticle.
4. To characterize the as-synthesized silver nanoparticle by spectroscopy.
5. To study the stability of silver nanocolloid stored at different temperatures.
6. To study the antimicrobial efficacy of as-synthesized silver nanoparticles.

Chapter 3: Materials and Methods

3. MATERIALS AND METHODS:

3.1 Green synthesis of Silver nanoparticles

I. Chemicals and reagents:

1. Dextrose ($C_6H_{12}O_6$)
2. Silver nitrate ($AgNO_3$)
3. Double distilled water
4. Sodium hydroxide (NaOH) from Qualigens fine chemicals

II. Instruments used

1. METTLER Digital weighing balance
2. PERKIN-ELMER UV-Visible Spectrophotometer (Lambda- 25)
3. REMI Magnetic Stirrer set at 1150 rpm
4. PERKIN-ELMER fluorescence Spectrophotometer (LS- 45)
5. BHATTACHARYA & CO. hot air oven
6. pH meter

III. Equipments used

1. Pipettes (0.1ml, 1ml and 5ml)
2. Round bottom flask (50ml)
3. Conical flasks (100ml and 250ml)
4. Plastic bottles
5. Spatula

IV. Preparation of 10mM $AgNO_3$ stock solution:

0.0338gm of $AgNO_3$ (99.99% purity from MERCK) was added to a 20ml of double distilled water in a round bottom flask. The flask was gently rotated manually to dissolve and to obtain a clear solution. The flasks were covered with brown paper and placed in a dark place to prevent reaction of silver nitrate with light.

V. Preparation of NaOH stock solution:

1 NaOH pallet was added to a 10ml volumetric flask and the flask was gently rotated manually to dissolve and to obtain a clear solution.

VI. Preparation of sample:

Dextrose-silver sample solutions of different temperature ($5^\circ C$, $32^\circ C$, $40^\circ C$ and $60^\circ C$) were prepared with aqueous solutions. The sample solutions were prepared in 20ml plastic bottles. There were two batches samples. One of sample contains 18ml H_2O , 2ml $AgNO_3$ and 5gm dextrose with pH 5.4. Other sample contains 18ml H_2O , 2ml $AgNO_3$ and 5gm dextrose with NaOH. The pH of the solutions was adjusted to 10.6 using reagents NaOH. These way four batches of these samples were prepared and that were stored under different temperature conditions ($5^\circ C$, $32^\circ C$, $40^\circ C$ and $60^\circ C$). First batch was stored at $5^\circ C$, second batch was stored

at 32°C, Third batch was stored in incubator at 40°C and fourth batch was also stored in incubator at 60°C.

Table-4: Samples subjected to different synthesis conditions

Composition	Storage temperature(°C)	pH	Stirring speed(rpm)
2ml AgNO ₃ , 5g dextrose, 18mlH ₂ O	5	10.6	1150
	32		
	40		
	60		
2ml AgNO ₃ , 5g dextrose, 18mlH ₂ O	5	5.4	
	32		
	40		
	60		

3.2 Characterization of Ag Nanoparticles

I. UV-Visible Spectrophotometer

The absorption spectrum of the Ag-NPs synthesized was determined by this characterization technique. The Surface Plasmon Resonance (SPR) of the synthesized Ag nanoparticles can be measured using this method. The Spectrophotometer (Perkin-Elmer Lambda-25) was employed for carrying out the ultraviolet-visible (UV-Vis) Spectroscopy in a range of 200 to 800 nm. The sample was directly poured into quartz cuvettes without any further dilution.

II. Fluorescence Spectrophotometer

The Fluorescence spectrophotometer (Perkin-Elmer LS-45) was employed to determine whether the synthesized Ag nanostructure produced any fluorescence spectrum within a wavelength range of 200 to 600nm. The sample solutions were directly poured into quartz cuvettes without further dilution.

3.3 Antimicrobial analysis

I. Reagents Used

1. Beef extract
2. Peptone
3. Agar agar
4. Distilled water
5. Silver nanoparticle solution

II. Equipments Used

1. Conical flasks
2. Petri dishes
3. Pipettes
4. Spreader

III. Instruments Used

1. Autoclave
2. pH meter
3. BOD incubator

IV. Methodology

- Preparation of nutrient broth (for bacterial growth): The following chemicals were weighted (g/ml):
 - Peptone 0.5g%
 - Beef extract 0.3g%
 - Agar 1.5g%
- Required amount of beef and peptone were dissolved in distilled water
- pH was adjusted to 7.2 by adding NaOH
- After that required amount of agar was added to it and allowed for dissolving
- Prepared media was autoclaved at 121°C for 15 psi
- Along with media other equipments (Petri dishes, pipettes and spreader) are also autoclaved
- After autoclaving, those were allowed to cool
- Then those were kept in laminar flow chamber for 30 minutes under UV-radiation

V. Addition of Ag nanoparticles

25µg/ml, 50µg/ml and 100µg/ml Ag-Dextrose sample solution (pH-5.4) were added in three plates and in other three plates 25 µg/ml, 50µg/ml and 100µg/ml Ag-Dextrose sample solution (pH-10.6) were added.

VI. Inoculation of Test Plates

Escherichia coli (Gram-negative) and *Bacillus subtilis* (Gram-positive) were used in the antibacterial tests.

- Molten agar was poured in each of the six sterile plates containing Ag-Dextrose sample solution and in one more sterile petri plate without Ag-Dextrose sample solution (Control) and then it was allowed to solidify at room temperature
- After solidification, 0.1 ml of microbial inoculums were taken aseptically in each of the seven petri plates and were spread properly by using a spreader

VII. Incubation

All petri plates were incubated at 37°C for 24 hours.

Chapter 4: Results and Discussions

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS:

4.1 Green synthesis of silver nanoparticles

4.1.1 Characterisation of the as-synthesised Ag-NPs:

Following the protocol mentioned in materials and methods the silver nanoparticles were prepared. In this synthesis method the dextrose acted as both reducing and stabilizing agent. Dextrose reduces silver cations to metallic silver and itself get oxidised to gluconic acid. In this reaction colour of Ag^+ /dextrose solutions with pH of 10.6 changes from colourless to light brown and then dark brown and the other set of samples with pH of 5.4 changes their colour from colourless to light yellow and then to dark yellow as the reaction time increases, indicating the formation of dextrose reduced Ag-NPs of different particle sizes. The silver nanoparticles formed were confirmed using UV-Visible spectroscopy. Using UV-Vis spectroscopy, gradual formation and growth of silver nanoparticles at different reaction times were studied using UV-Vis spectroscopy. UV-Visible spectroscopy is one of the most noted characterization methods to determine the particle.

4.1.2 Kinetic Study of Synthesized Silver Nanoparticles

Figure-3, Figure-4 and Figure-5 represent the absorbance intensity at λ_{max} of Ag-NPs with dextrose solutions plotted against wavelength for various reduction temperatures (5°C, 32°C and 40°C). The sample solutions have maintained pH of 5.4. It is quite evident from the figures that the time taken for completion of reaction decreases with increase in reduction temperature. In case of the sample solution that has been reduced at 5°C, the reaction completed after 648 hrs. The reaction completed after 432 hours and 312 hours respectively for sample solutions subjected to thermal reduction at 32°C and 40°C.

Figure-6, Figure-7 and Figure-8 represent the absorbance intensity at λ_{max} of Ag-NPs with dextrose solutions plotted against wavelength for various reduction temperatures (5°C, 32°C and 40°C). The sample solutions are treated with NaOH to maintain the pH 10.6. In case of the sample solutions reduced at 5°C and 32°C, the reaction completed after 0.83 hrs. In case of sample that has been subjected to thermal reduction at 40°C; the reaction took 1.83 hours to complete. Higher intensity peaks were obtained for sample that has been reduced at 40°C. Samples that are treated with NaOH took less time to complete the reaction. Thus it is fast reaction in case of samples with pH of 10.6. Refer to figure-9 and figure-10.

Data of time vs. absorbance is in good match in log scale ($R^2 > 0.8$). Therefore change of pattern is logarithmic in nature. Representative graphs are shown in figure-11.

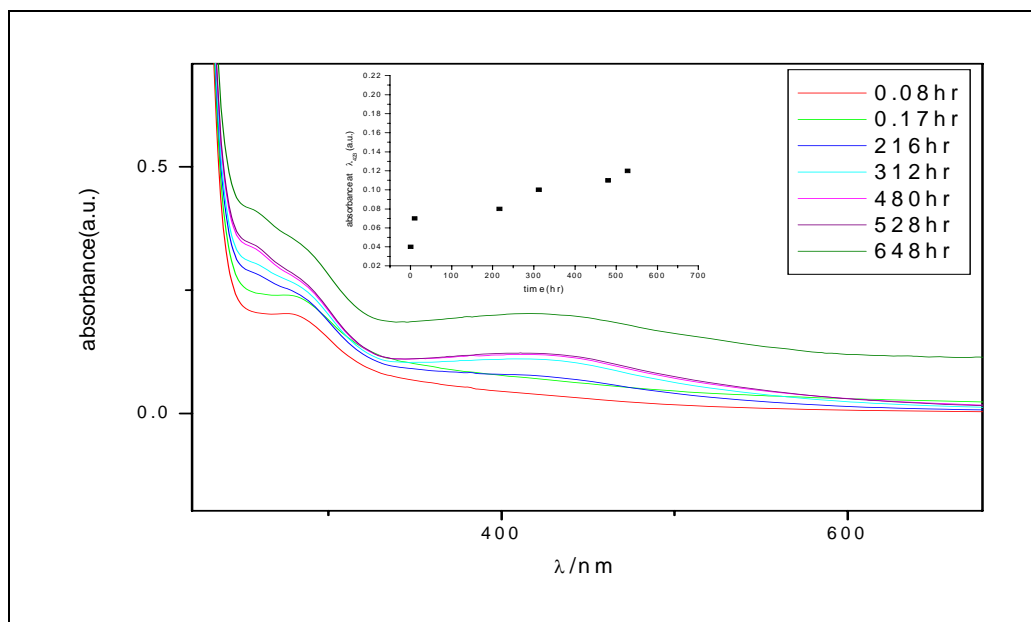


Figure-3: Time dependent UV-Visible spectra of the aqueous reaction mixture containing silver nitrate and dextrose with molar ratio Ag^+ to Dextrose $1:10^3$. Temperature-5°C, pH-5.4, Inset-plot of absorbance at λ_{max} (423nm) vs. time

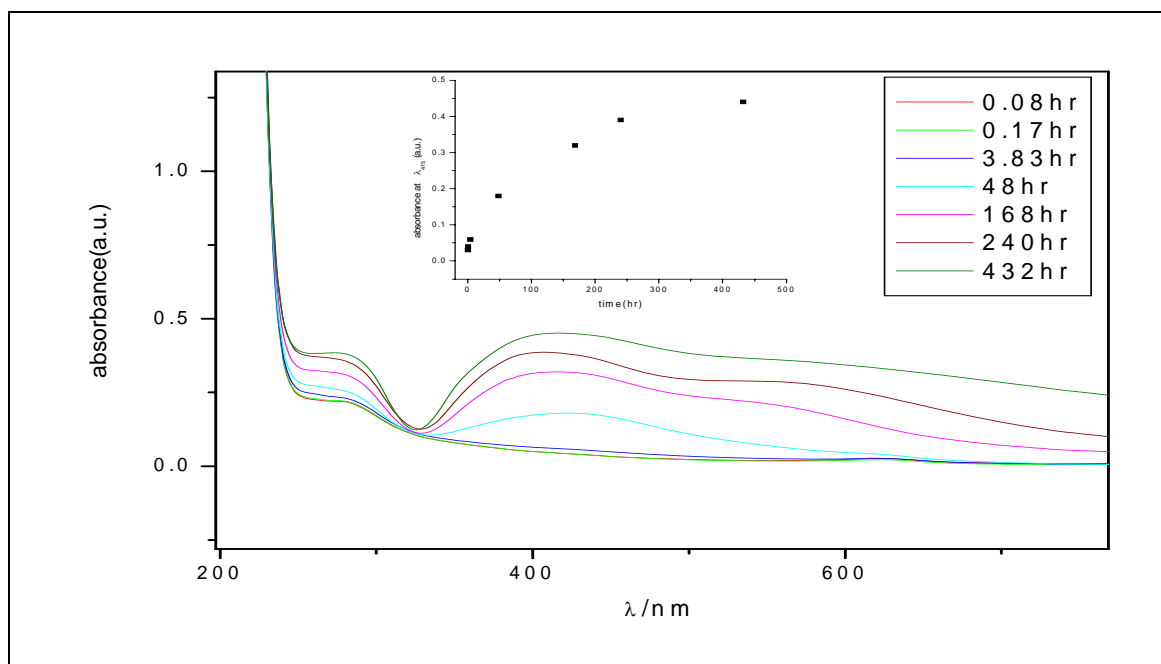


Figure-4: Time dependent UV-Visible spectra of the aqueous reaction mixture containing silver nitrate and dextrose with molar ratio Ag^+ to Dextrose $1:10^3$. Temperature-32°C, pH-5.4, Inset-plot of absorbance at λ_{max} (415nm) vs. time

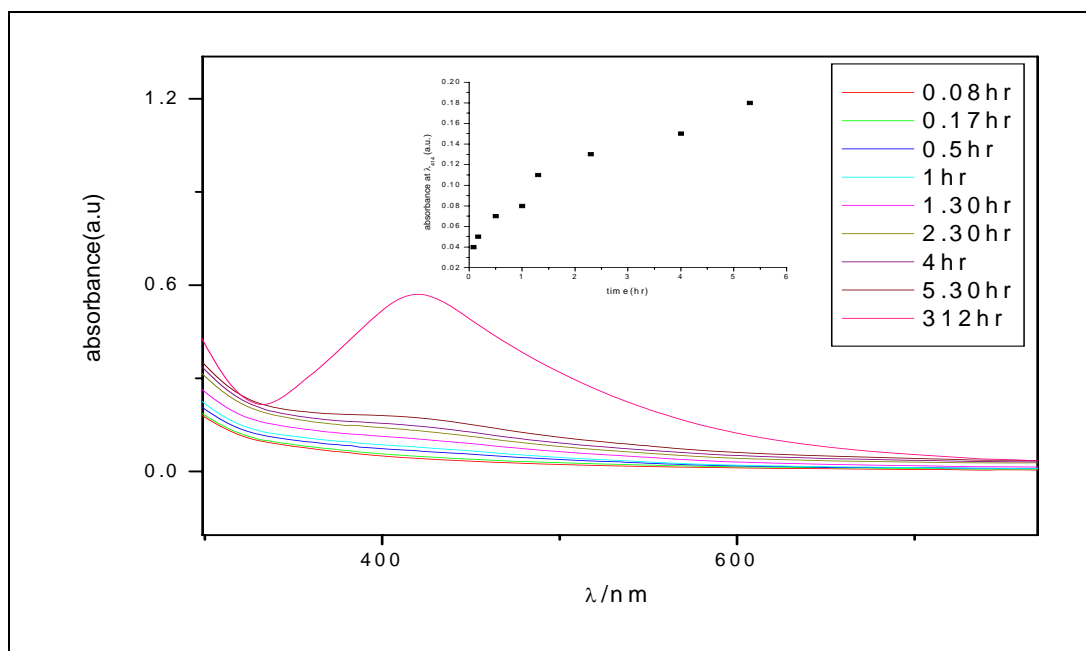


Figure-5: Time dependent UV-Visible spectra of the aqueous reaction mixture containing silver nitrate and dextrose with molar ratio Ag^+ to Dextrose $1:10^3$. Temperature-40°C, pH-5.4, Inset-plot of absorbance at λ_{max} (414nm) vs. time

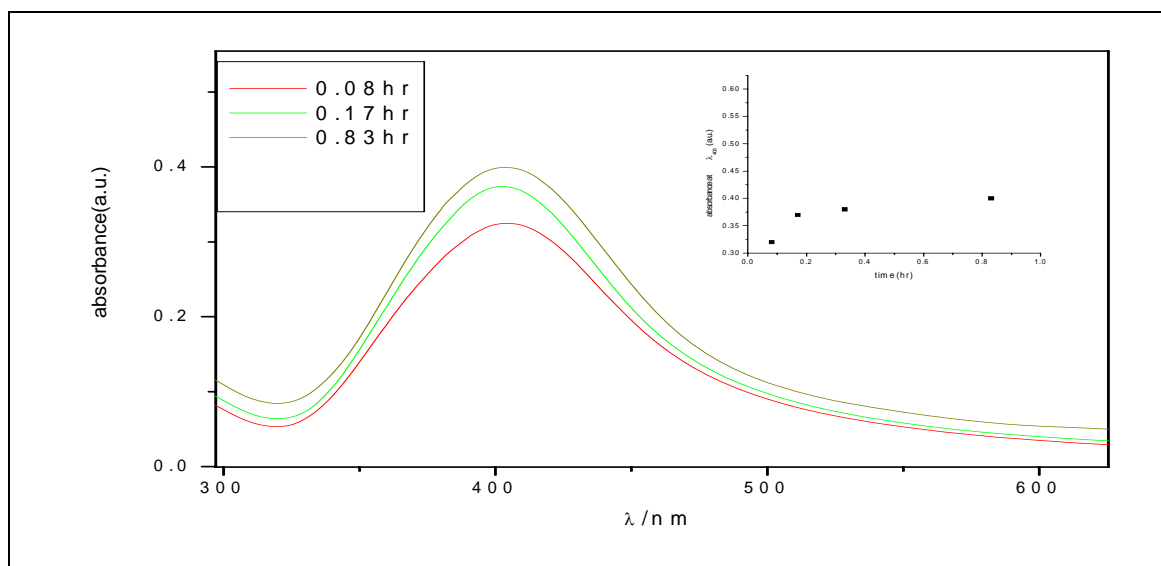


Figure-6: Time dependent UV-Visible spectra of the aqueous reaction mixture containing silver nitrate and dextrose with molar ratio Ag^+ to Dextrose $1:10^3$. Temperature-5°C, pH-10.6, Inset-plot of absorbance at λ_{max} (403nm) vs. time

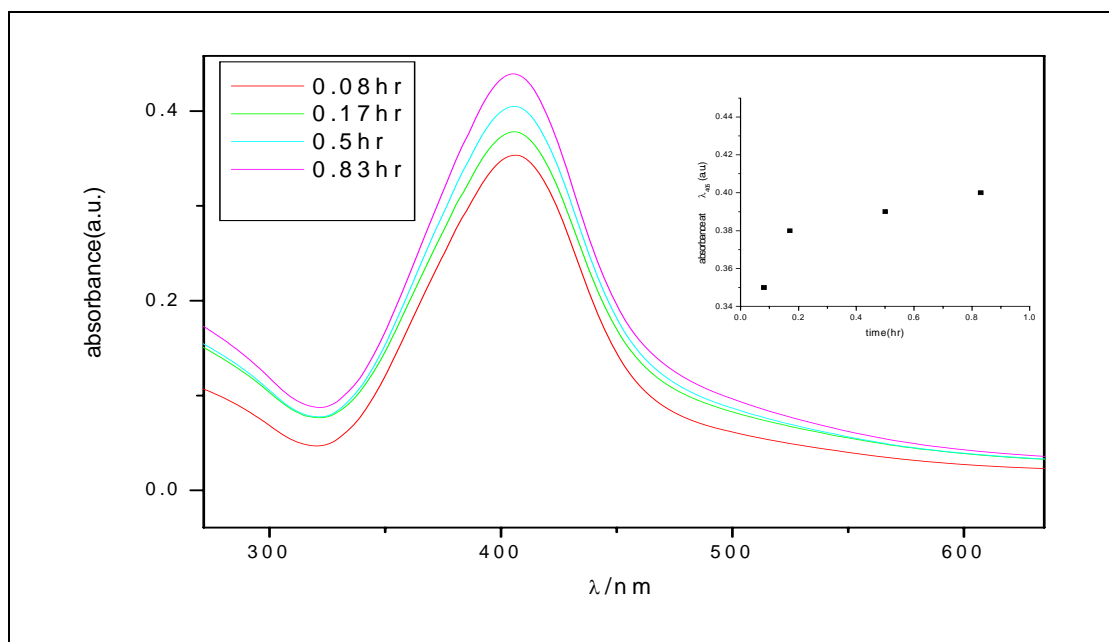


Figure-7: Time dependent UV-Visible spectra of the aqueous reaction mixture containing silver nitrate and dextrose with molar ratio Ag^+ to Dextrose $1:10^3$. Temperature- 32°C , pH-10.6, Inset-plot of absorbance at λ_{max} (405nm) vs. time

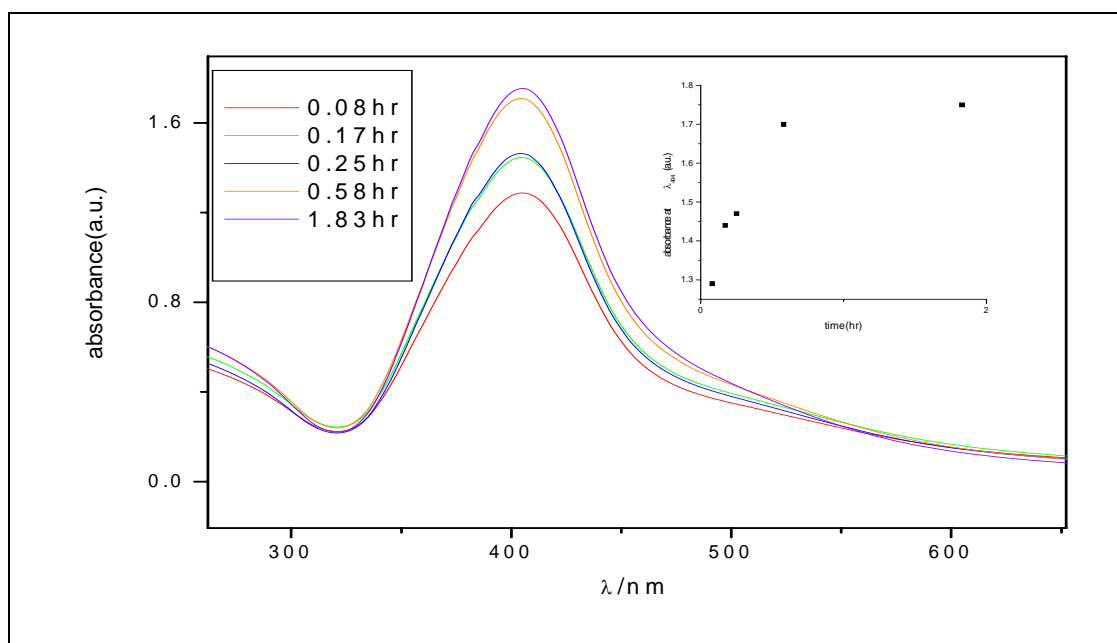


Figure-8: Time dependent UV-Visible spectra of the aqueous reaction mixture containing silver nitrate and dextrose with molar ratio Ag^+ to Dextrose $1:10^3$. Temperature- 40°C , pH-10.6, Inset-plot of absorbance at λ_{max} (404nm) vs. time

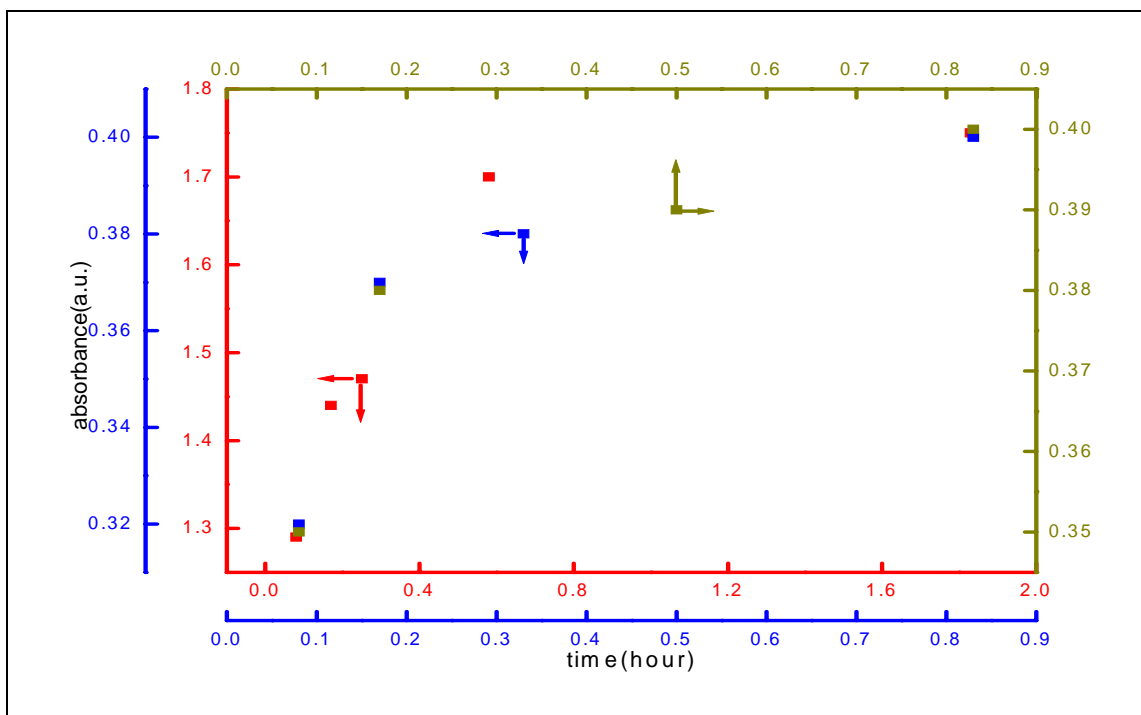


Figure-9: Plot of absorbance vs. time of the reaction mixture containing silver nitrate and dextrose with molar ratio Ag^+ to dextrose $1:10^3$, pH-10.6 at 5°C , 32°C and 40°C respectively.

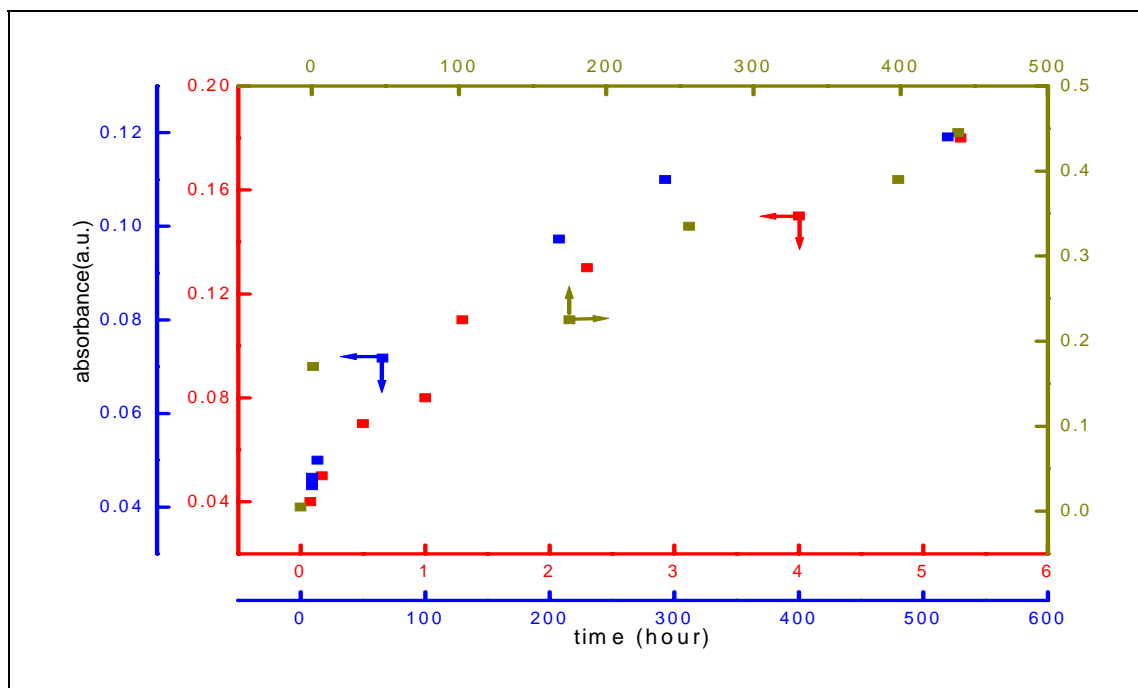


Figure-10: Plot of absorbance vs. time of the reaction mixture containing silver nitrate and dextrose with molar ratio Ag^+ to dextrose $1:10^3$, pH-5.4 at 5°C , 32°C and 40°C respectively.

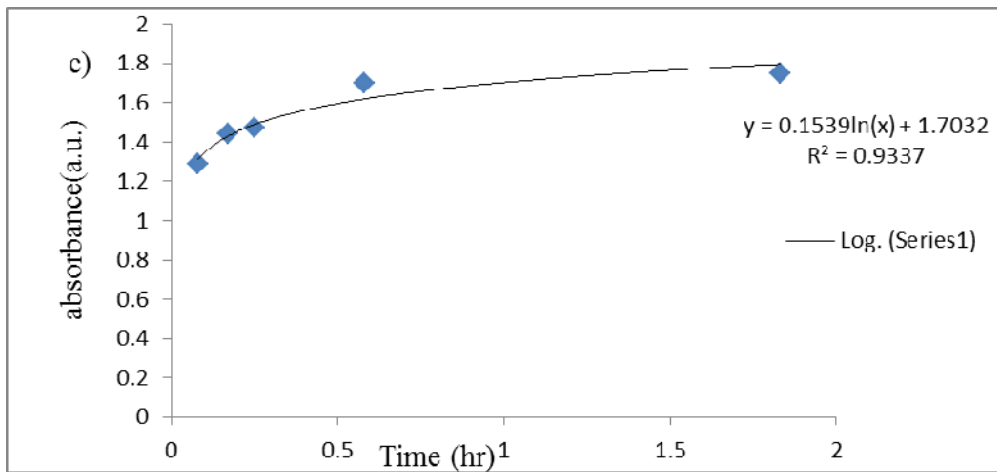
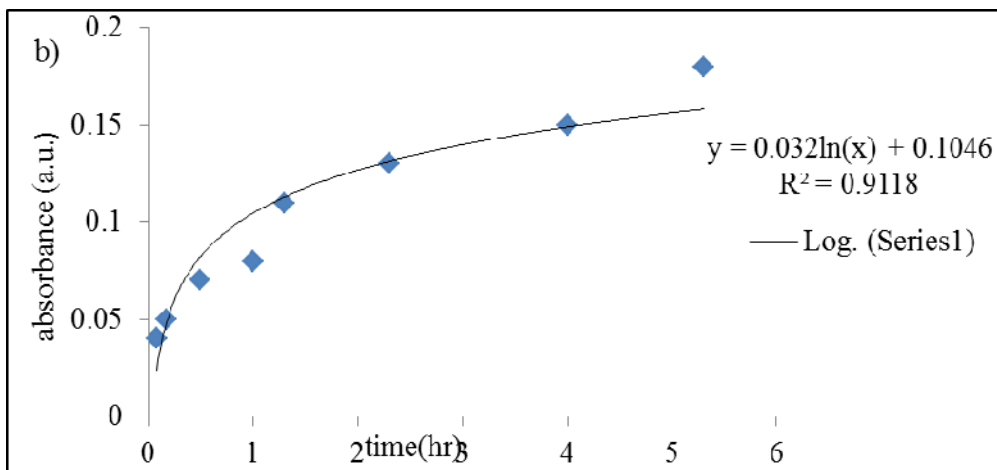
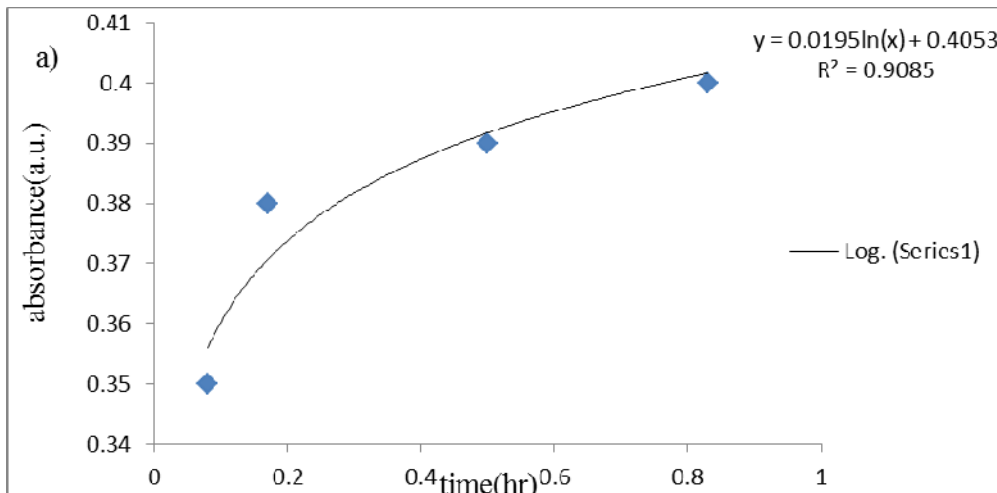


Figure-11: Time vs. absorbance profile of Ag-Dextrose sample solution subjected to thermal reduction at a) temp-32°C, pH-10.6; b) temp-40°C, pH-5.4; c) temp-40°C, pH-10.6

4.1.3 Effect of Temperature

Effect of temperature on characteristics of synthesized silver nanoparticles was studied. This study was conducted on nanoparticles synthesized at different reduction temperatures (5°C, 32°C and 40°C). Keeping the other parameters constant and varying the temperature nanoparticles were synthesized and the effect of temperature on characteristics of these synthesized nanoparticles was studied. This study was conducted for two sets of samples reduced at different temperatures. One of the set is having pH of 5.4 and the other set is having pH of 10.6. Figure-3 represent UV-Visible spectra of sample reduced at 5°C having pH of 5.4. Here the reaction is slow. The reaction was completed after 648 hrs. At lower temperature rate of reduction and rate of decomposition of dextrose is slow. SPR peaks obtained in these spectra gave broader peaks, which in turn can be concluded as the nanoparticles formed are highly poly-dispersed in nature. SPR absorbance is at λ_{\max} 423nm. This particular wavelength 423nm is the characteristic Surface Plasmon Resonance absorption of spherical Ag-NPs (S. Shankar et al). Thus we can say that the nanoparticles formed are spherical in shape. Even the wavelength of peaks obtained is higher compared to other higher temperatures, indicating that increase in silver nanoparticle size at this temperature. Figure-4 represent UV-Visible spectra of sample reduced at room temperature (32°C) having pH of 5.4. It took 432 hr for the completion of reaction. Compared to reaction at 5°C, this reaction is faster. SPR peaks obtained are broad, which indicates that Silver nanoparticles obtained are poly-dispersed in nature. Intensity of SPR peaks of this sample is higher than that of sample reduced at 5°C. Here absorbance value is almost 0.5, but in case of sample reduced at 5°C have an absorbance value less than 0.5. Spectra show peak at 415nm, which indicates formation of smaller nanoparticles. Figure-5 represent the sample reduced at 40°C having pH of 5.4. It took 312 hr for the completion of reaction. This reaction is faster compared to sample reduced at 5°C and 32°C. Absorbance value is 0.6. Absorbance increased with higher temperature. Spectra show peak at 414nm, indicating that the nanoparticles formed are smaller. Figure-6 represent the sample reduced at 5°C having pH of 10.6. UV-Vis spectra shows broad peak. But not as broad as sample with pH 5.4. As the pH increase there is shift from poly-dispersity. Absorbance value is 0.4. Spectra show peak at 403nm. With the influence of higher pH peak here shifted to somewhat shorter wavelength. Figure-7 represent the sample reduced at room temperature (32°C) having pH of 10.6. At this temperature UV-Vis spectra show narrow peak at lower wavelength region (405nm) which indicates that the nanoparticles formed are more or less mono-disperse in nature. Figure-8 represent the sample reduced at 40°C having pH of 10.6. UV-Visible spectra show sharp and narrow peak at lower wavelength (404nm) which indicates that the nanoparticles formed are mono-disperse in nature. Absorbance value is more than 1.6. Overall conclusions for effect of temperature are as follows:

- With increase in temperature intensity of SPR peak increased.
- Increase in reaction temperature UV spectra show sharp narrow peaks at lower wavelength region, which indicate the formation of smaller nanoparticles.
- At lower reaction temperature, the peaks observed at higher wavelength regions which clearly indicate increase in silver nanoparticle size.

- At higher temperature silver nanoparticle aggregate very quickly.

4.1.4.1 Stability

Stability of silver nanoparticles synthesized at different temperatures (5°C, 32°C, 40°C and 60°C) was studied. Figure-12 represents the UV-Vis spectra of sample that has been synthesized at 5°C with pH of 10.6. In case of this sample the reaction completed after 5 days. After that the stability of this sample was checked by analysing the surface Plasmon resonance (SPR) peaks obtained, it was found that the sample was stable for more than 30 days. After 40th day the peak got shifted. After 5th day the intensity of the peaks obtained found decreasing. Intensity decreased due to oxidation and agglomeration. Figure-13 represents the UV-Vis spectra of sample synthesized at 32°C with pH of 5.4. For this sample, the reaction was completed on 11th day. After that the stability of the sample was studied. SPR peaks obtained were analysed and found out that the sample was stable for more than 30 days. Peak shifted after 50th day. Intensity of the peaks was found decreased after 11th day due to oxidation and agglomeration. Figure-14 represent the UV-Vis spectra of sample that has been synthesized at 40°C having pH of 5.4. Highest peak was obtained on 30th day. Reaction completed on 30th day. After that stability was checked by analysing the SPR peaks obtained and it was found that the sample was stable for another 30 days. Peak got shifted after 60th day. Intensity of peaks was found decreasing gradually after 30th day. This decrease in intensity was due to oxidation and agglomeration. Figure-15 represent the UV-Vis spectra of sample synthesized at 60°C having pH of 10.6. For this sample the reaction completed on 2nd day itself. This was very fast reaction. And then the stability of sample was checked. SPR peak got shifted after 14th day. Sample was stable for 12 days. In this graph, UV spectra of dextrose were clearly visible at about wavelength of 270 nm. The intensity of the peaks formed by dextrose was also found increasing. From these observations it was inferred that the decomposition of dextrose happens faster at higher temperature. At higher temperature sample is not stable. Background scattering was observed on 26th day. This is clearly visible in the graph that shows higher intensity due to background scattering on 26th day. Scattering happens due to turbidity, which in turn increase the background scattering.

Stability of samples with pH 5.4 reduced at different temperatures (32°C, 40°C and 60°C) was studied. Figure-16 represents the UV-Vis spectra of sample reduced at 32°C with pH of 5.4. Reaction was completed on 20th day. After that stability of sample was checked and it was found that the sample was stable for 20 days. On 40th day UV-Vis spectra did not give any SPR peak. Figure-17 represents the UV-Vis spectra of sample that has been thermally reduced at 40°C with pH of 5.4. Reaction was completed on 30th day. After that stability was checked. SPR peaks were analysed and found out that the sample was stable for 30 days. After 60th day peak got shifted.

Figure-18 represent the UV-Vis spectra of sample reduced at 60°C having pH of 5.4. Reaction was completed on 2nd day. Stability was checked for this sample. This sample was stable for 3 days. From this graph it is also evident that decomposition of dextrose happened faster at higher temperature. Thus it can be concluded that at higher temperature sample is not stable.

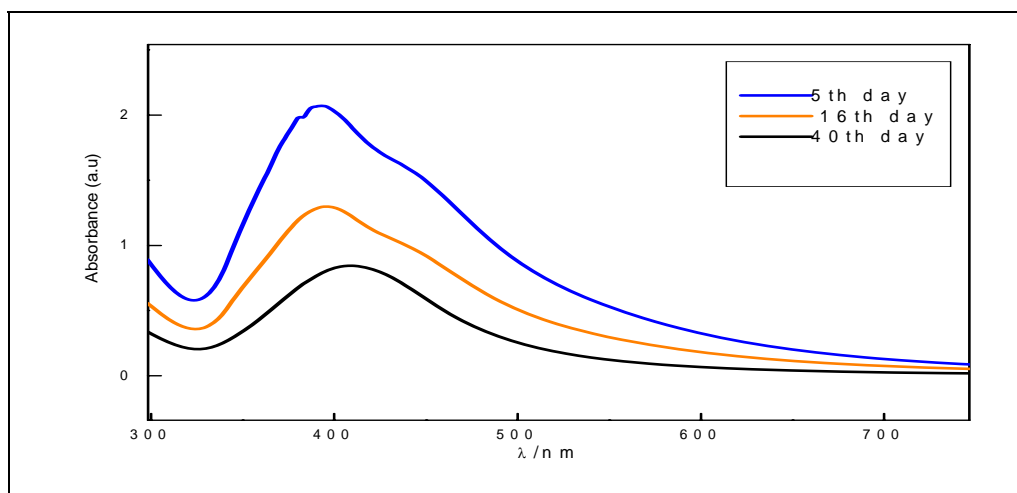


Figure-12: UV-Vis spectra of aqueous reaction mixture containing silver nitrate and dextrose with molar ratio Ag^+ to Dextrose $1:10^3$. Temperature- 5°C , pH-10.6

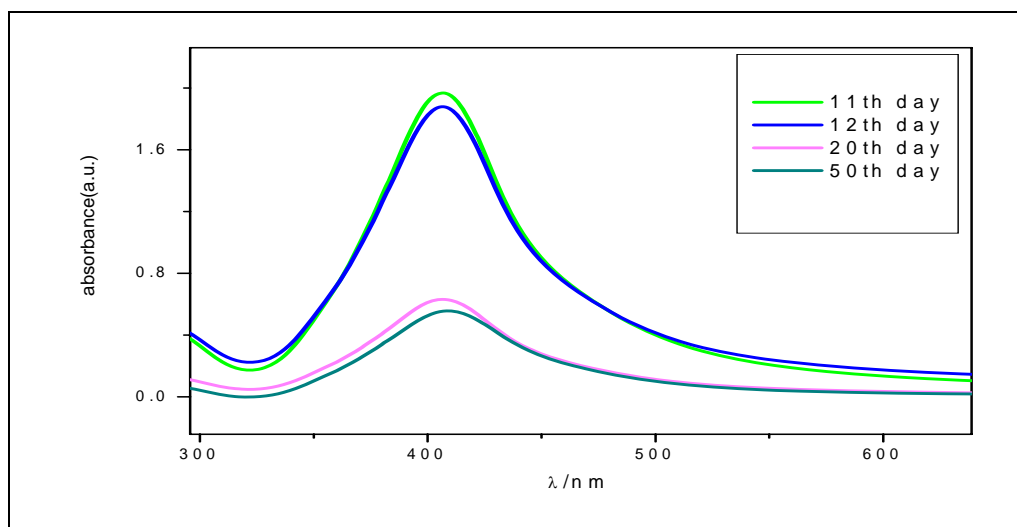


Figure-13: UV-Vis spectra of aqueous reaction mixture containing silver nitrate and dextrose with molar ratio Ag^+ to Dextrose $1:10^3$. Temperature- 32°C , pH-10.6

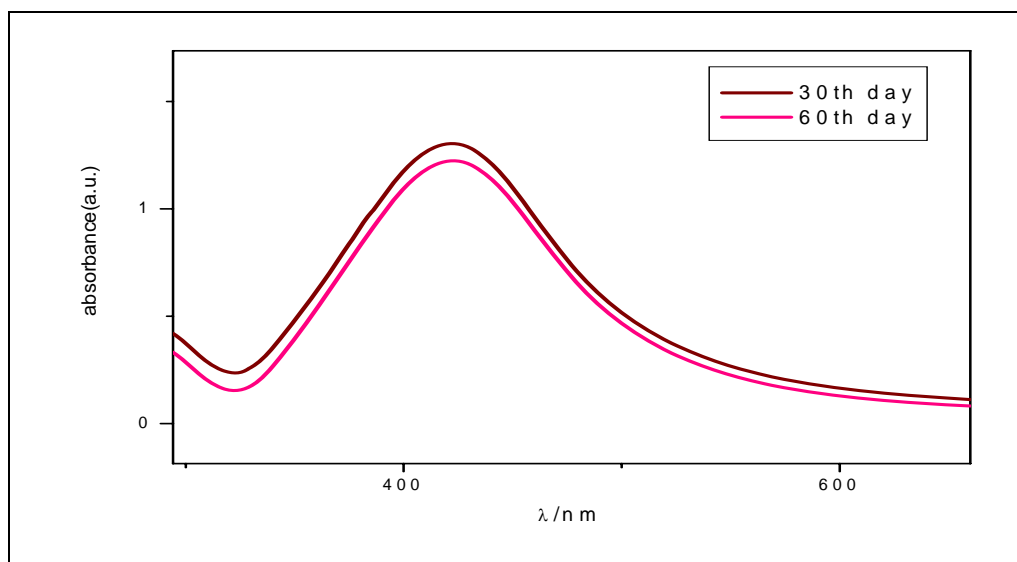


Figure-14: UV-Vis spectra of aqueous reaction mixture containing silver nitrate and dextrose with molar ratio Ag^+ to Dextrose $1:10^3$. Temperature- 40°C , pH-10.6

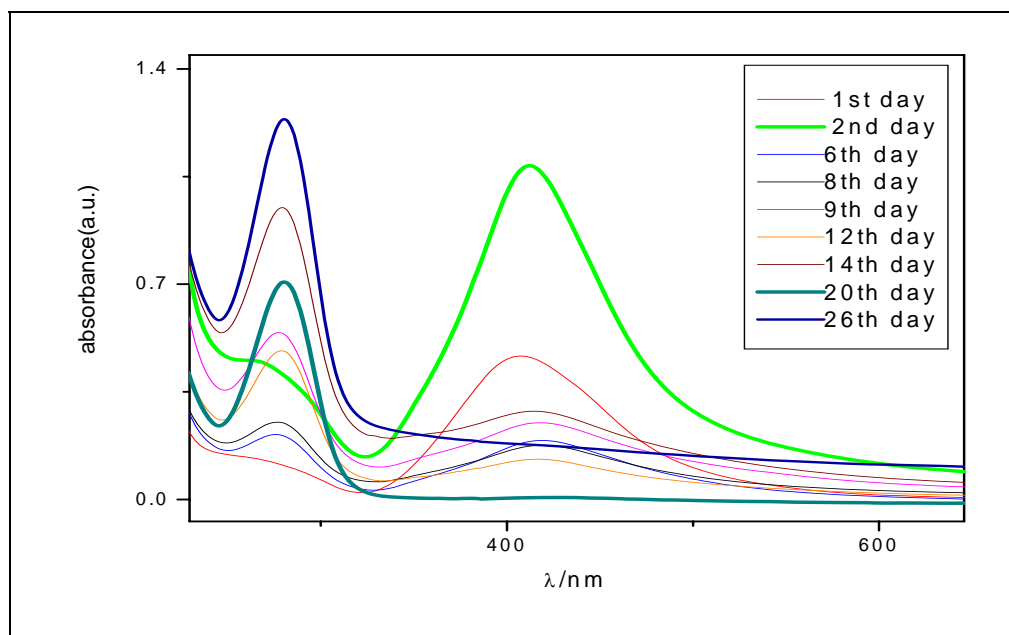


Figure-15: UV-Vis spectra of aqueous reaction mixture containing silver nitrate and dextrose with molar ratio Ag^+ to Dextrose $1:10^3$. Temperature- 60°C , pH-10.6

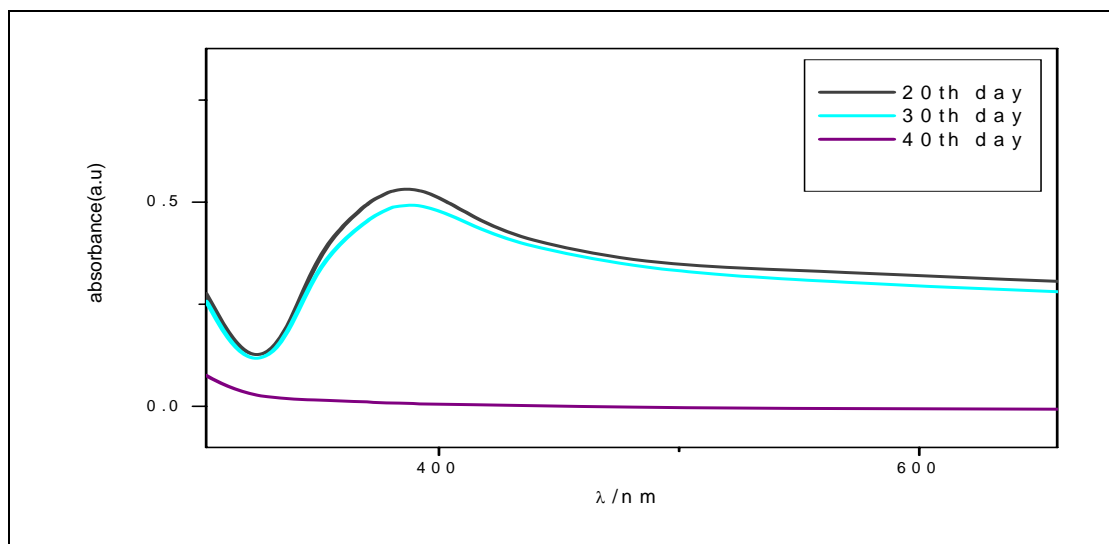


Figure-16: UV-Vis spectra of aqueous reaction mixture containing silver nitrate and dextrose with molar ratio Ag^+ to Dextrose $1:10^3$. Temperature- 32°C , pH-5.4

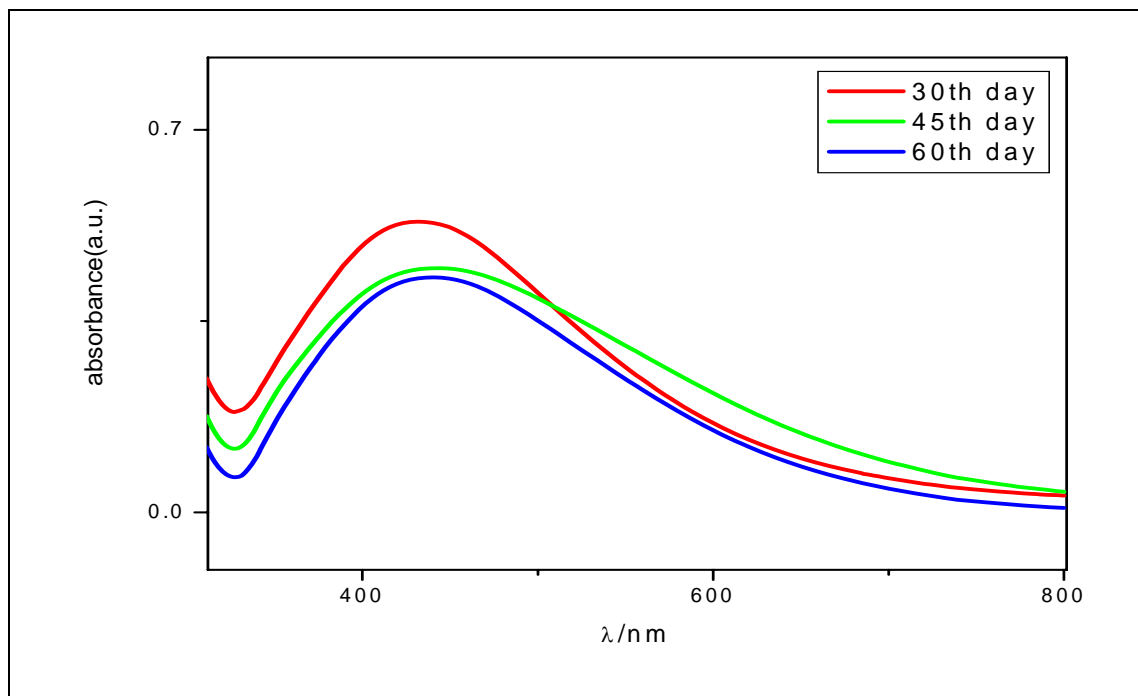


Figure-17: UV-Vis spectra of aqueous reaction mixture containing silver nitrate and dextrose with molar ratio Ag^+ to Dextrose $1:10^3$. Temperature- 40°C , pH-5.4

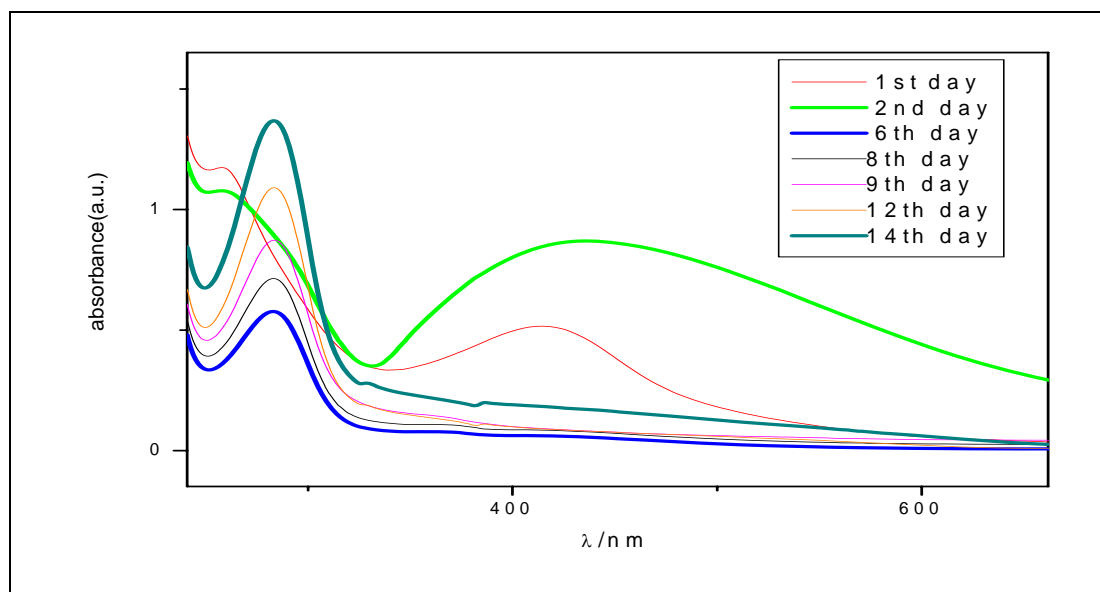


Figure-18: UV-Vis spectra of aqueous reaction mixture containing silver nitrate and dextrose with molar ratio Ag^+ to Dextrose $1:10^3$. Temperature- 60°C , pH-5.4

Table-5: Study of Stability

Composition	Storage Temperature($^\circ\text{C}$)	Initial Plasmon peak position(nm)	Final Plasmon peak position(nm)	Stability
2ml AgNO_3 , 5g dextrose, 18ml H_2O , pH-10.6	5	392	409	More than one month
	32	405	408	More than one month
	40	421	423	30 days
	60	411	415	12 days
2ml AgNO_3 , 5g dextrose, 18ml H_2O , pH-5.4	32	385	387	20 days
	40	432	439	30 days
	60	414	434	3 days

4.1.4.2 Stability of silver nanoparticles after two months

Figure-19 represents the UV-Visible spectra of sample synthesized at 5°C having pH of 5.4. The intensity of the peak increases even after two months. The SPR peaks obtained were broad, indicating that the nanoparticles formed are poly-dispersed in nature. The increase of the absorbance of the Ag-Dextrose sample solution after 2 months of storing means that the reaction was continued at 5°C temperature until all silver ions are converted to silver nanoparticles.

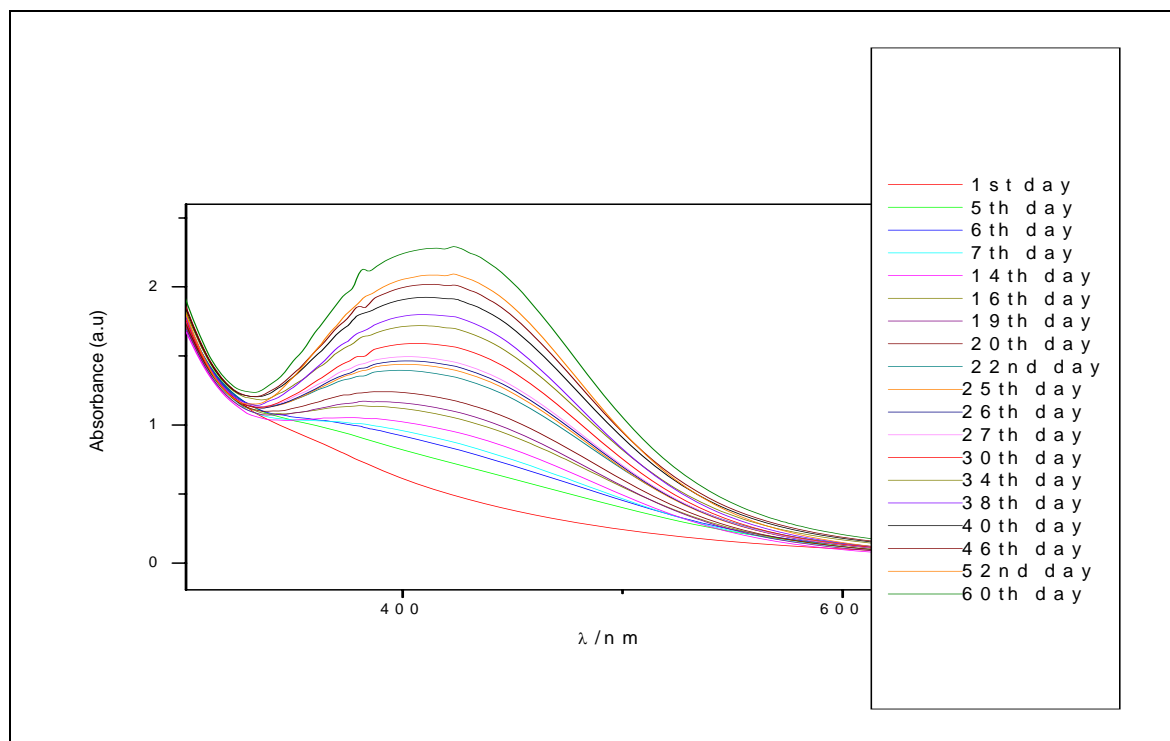


Figure-19: UV-Visible spectra of aqueous reaction mixture containing silver nitrate and dextrose with molar ratio Ag^+ to Dextrose $1:10^3$. Temperature-5°C, pH-5.4

4.1.5 Fluorescence spectroscopic observations

Ag-Dextrose sample solutions were found to generate fluorescence spectrum. Figure-20 represents the spectral data for a) Ag-Dextrose sample solution of ratio $1:10^3$ and b) dextrose solution having pH 5.4. An emission spectrum is observed at 424 nm when dextrose solution was excited at 340 nm. The corresponding excitation spectrum was obtained at 331 nm when this solution was emitted at 450 nm. But for Ag-Dextrose sample solution an emission peak is observed at 431 nm when sample solution was excited at 340 nm. The corresponding excitation spectrum obtained at 335 nm when sample solution was emitted at 450 nm. That is a mirror image of emission spectrum. The decreasing of peak height and shifting of peak position possibly is due to interaction of dextrose and Ag-NPs surface.

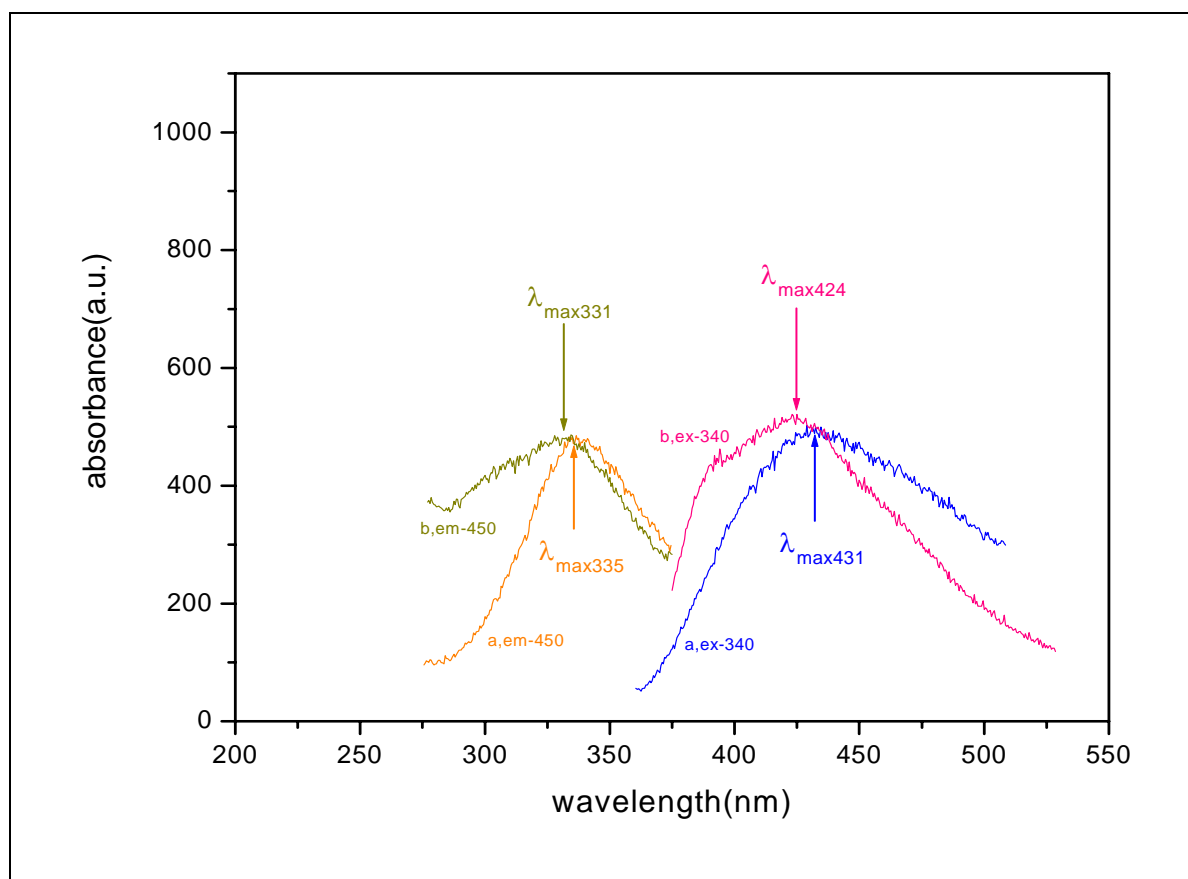


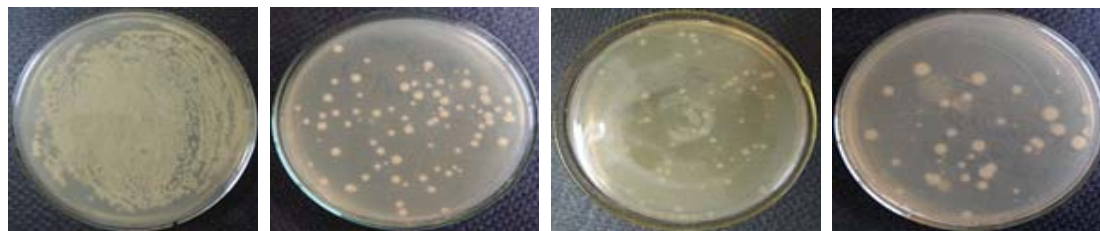
Figure-20: Emission and excitation peaks of fluorescence spectrum of the aqueous reaction mixture containing silver nitrate and dextrose with molar ratio Ag^+ to Dextrose $1:10^3$. Temperature- 5°C , pH-5.4, a) Ag-dextrose sample solution; b) dextrose

4.2 Antimicrobial activity

After 24 hours incubation, each plate was examined. The antimicrobial efficacy of the materials were investigated by supplementing nutrient-agar media with an aqueous suspension of Ag-Dextrose sample solution at various concentrations. The presence of Ag-Dextrose sample solution in the nutrient-agar plates was able to inhibit the formation of colonies for both types of bacteria (gram-negative and gram-positive). The effect was more noticeable for the *E. coli* compared to the *B. subtilis*, as the nanoparticles were able to substantially reduce the number of colonies at a final Ag-Dextrose sample solution concentration of $25 \mu\text{g/ml}$. The formation of colonies for *E. coli* strains was fully inhibited when $100 \mu\text{g/ml}$ of the particles were added. Even for $50 \mu\text{g/ml}$ Ag-Dextrose sample solution (pH-10.6) *E. coli* growth was inhibited totally. At the same concentration of Ag-dextrose sample solution ($50 \mu\text{g/ml}$, pH-10.6) effective inhibition was shown for *B. subtilis*. Thus it can be concluded that silver nanoparticles having pH 10.6 have shown higher antibacterial

activity at 100 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ and 50 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ concentration than the silver nanoparticles having pH 5.4(100 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ and 50 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ concentration).

A) *E.Coli*



A1-control

A2-25 $\mu\text{g/ml}$, pH-5.4

A3-25 $\mu\text{g/ml}$, pH-10.6

A4-50 $\mu\text{g/ml}$, pH-5.4



A5-50 $\mu\text{g/ml}$, pH-10.6

A6-100 $\mu\text{g/ml}$, pH-10.6

A7-100 $\mu\text{g/ml}$, pH-10.6

Figure-21: Petri dishes with nutrient-agar inoculated with A) *E. coli*, showing variable numbers of colonies when supplemented with different amounts of nanoparticles.

B) *Bacillus subtilis*

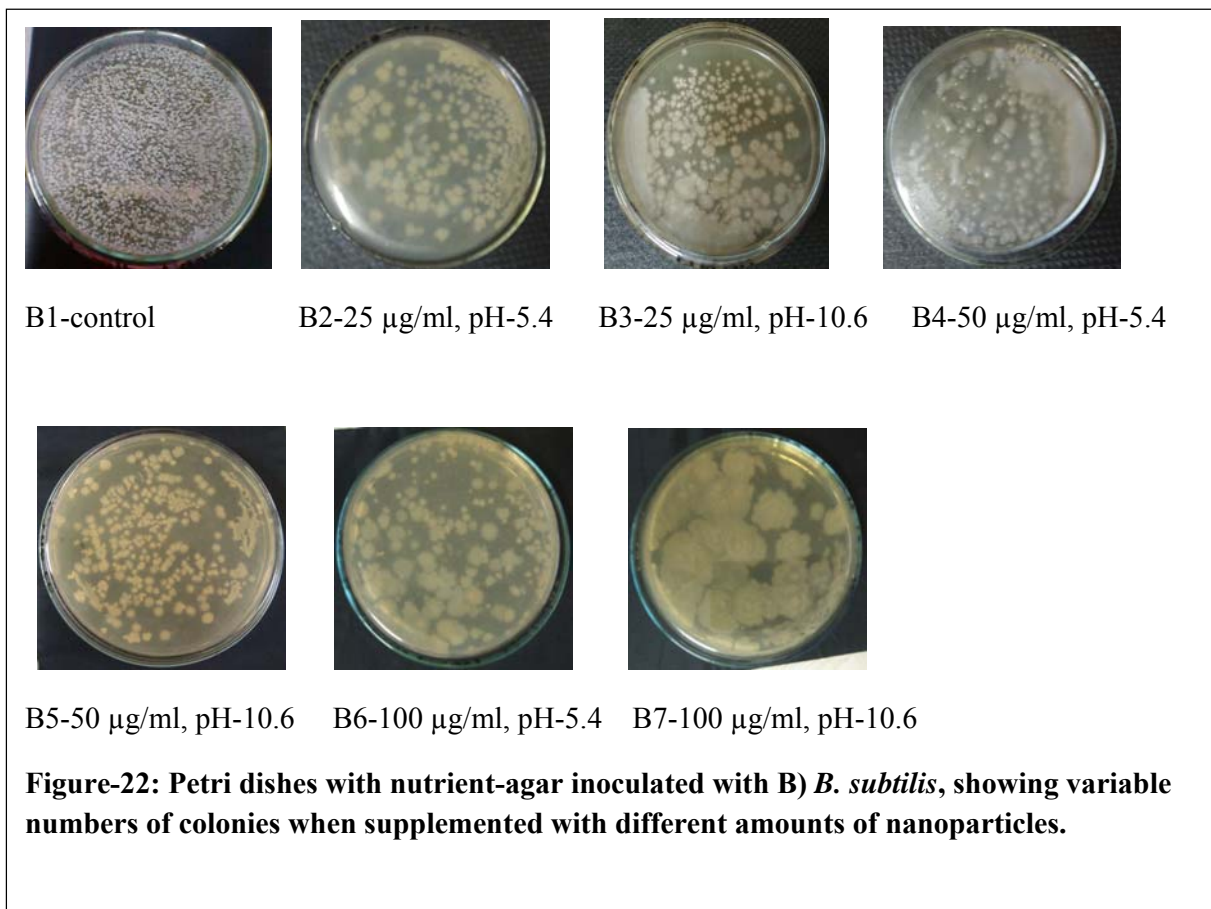


Table-6: Number of colonies formed

Bacteria name	Control	25µg/ml Ag-NPs		50µg/ml Ag-NPs		100µg/ml Ag-NPs	
		pH-5.4	pH-10.6	pH-5.4	pH-10.6	pH-5.4	pH-10.6
A) <i>Escherichia coli</i>	670	82	81	40	25	nil	nil
B) <i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	737	250	234	178	138	100	30

Chapter 5 - Conclusion

Conclusion

In summary complete green synthesis of silver nanoparticles using dextrose has been achieved. Dextrose acted as both reducing as well as stabilizing agent in this synthesis process. Kinetics study of the reduction of Ag^+ ions and the formation of Ag-NPs at different temperatures (5°C, 32°C and 40°C) was carried out. Less time was taken for completion of reaction at higher temperature. Data of time vs. absorbance is in good match in log scale ($R^2 > 0.8$). Temperature effect on UV-Vis spectra of Ag-NPs was studied. It was observed that 1) Increase in reaction temperature UV spectra show sharp narrow peaks at lower wavelength region, which indicate the formation of smaller nanoparticles, 2) At lower reaction temperature, the peaks observed at higher wavelength regions which clearly indicate increase in silver nanoparticle size, 3) At higher temperature silver nanoparticle aggregate very quickly. Stability of silver nanoparticles stored at different temperature conditions (5°C, 32°C, 40°C and 60°C) was studied. Nanocolloids stored at lower temperature were stable for more than 1 month. At higher temperature (60°C) stability was very less. 4) For Ag-NPs formation emission and excitation spectrum were shifted in Ag-NPs sample solution. The as-synthesized Ag-NPs show good antibacterial activity against Gram-negative bacteria *E. coli*. It also showed antibacterial activity against Gram-positive bacteria *B. subtilis* at higher concentration. These nanoparticles with antibacterial potency may be exploited for various biomedical applications, food packaging and food processing equipment and so on.

Chapter6-References

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