

## Statistical Bioprocess Strategies for Bio-Fabrication of Nano-Ag from *Streptomyces rectiviolaceus* Strain SMWN3.2 as a Novel Antimicrobial Agent against Hospital-Acquired Infectious Pathogens

Shahira H. EL-Moslamy<sup>1\*</sup>, Nourhan S. Shehata<sup>2\*</sup>,  
Wegdan R. Ahmed<sup>3</sup> and Moustafa Y. El-Naggar<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Bioprocess Development Department, Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology Research Institute (GEBRI), City of Scientific Research and Technology Applications (SRTA-City), New Borg El-Arab city, Alexandria, Egypt.

<sup>2</sup>Botany and Microbiology Department, Faculty of Science, Alexandria University, Alexandria, Egypt.

<sup>3</sup>Physics Department, Faculty of Science, Alexandria University, Alexandria, Egypt.

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The application of actinomycetes for bio-fabrication of silver nanoparticles as a rapid, eco-friendly and promising approach is desired for its non-toxicity and simplicity advantages. From sixteen actinomycetes were isolated and checked for their ability to produce nano-Ag, *Streptomyces rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2 showed more effective nano-Ag (surface plasmon resonance peak at 420 nm and its size 10nm) as an antimicrobial agent. Comparing with the biological process microbial nano -Ag synthesis have advantageous because of its natural abundance, easy culture and its potential to scale up for large scale synthesis. By using Plackett-Burman and Box-Behnken experimental designs the optimized medium components recorded the larger biomass production (16g/l) than the basal conditions (3.8 folds). Also, the optimal nano-Ag bio-fabrication conditions were 0.5M silver nitrate and 5v/v cell filtrate at 45°C. Kinetic conversion rates in submerged batch cultivation in 7L stirred bioreactor was:  $Y_x = 30.5$ ,  $P_{max} = 85.5g/l$  and  $Y_p = 42.6$  at 30hr. The best nano-Ag concentrations that formed large inhibition zones were 35- 60 $\mu$ g/ml and the MIC/ MBC and MIC/MFC measured as 25 $\mu$ g/ml/50 $\mu$ g/ml, 50 $\mu$ g/ml/60 $\mu$ g/ml which showed against *Streptococcus pneumoniae* and *Aspergillus fumigatus* respectively. This work is focuses on large-scale production of nano-Ag as an antimicrobial agent against hospital-acquired infectious pathogens.

**Keywords:** Large-scale strategy, Nano-Ag bio-fabrication, Plackett-Burman designs, Box-Behnken experimental designs, *Streptomyces rectiviolaceus*.

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Nanotechnology deals with the biosynthesis, characterization, exploration and application of nanoparticles ranging from approximately 1-100 nm in one dimension for the development of science<sup>22, 39</sup>. Silver nanoparticles have widely medicinal applications. Bio nanotechnology employs nanoparticles synthesized on biological platforms such as algae,

fungi, yeast, bacteria, actinomycetes, and plants<sup>13, 23</sup>. Biological systems as eco-friendly nano-factories provide a wide range of environmentally acceptable procedures, clean, nontoxic and low-cost production with a minimum production time<sup>19, 23</sup>. Pathogens such as bacteria, molds, yeasts, and viruses in the living environment are often caused severe human infections. Infectious diseases caused by human systemic pathogens are life threatening and cause leading health problems in the developing countries. Repeated use of antibacterial drugs had resulted in multiple drug resistance which

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\* To whom all correspondence should be addressed.  
Tel.: 002-01023364556;  
E-mail: elmoslamygroup@yahoo.com

is a major problem. There is a critical need to search for new antimicrobial agents from natural substances required to overcome this multi-drug resistance<sup>23,37</sup>. The advantage of adopting synthesis of metal nanoparticles from microorganisms is mainly due to the simplicity of the methods of the biogenesis and the ease of downstream processing. Previously the studies reported that metal nanoparticles showed the proficient bactericidal activity against Gram-positive as well as Gram-negative bacteria, including multidrug resistant strains which produced by interacting with their enzymes, proteins, or DNA to inhibit cell proliferation<sup>38</sup>. Statistical optimization of the process parameters has been used by applying the experimental designs to improve the yield with cost effectiveness and scaling-up of the industrial process<sup>23</sup>. The most important factors that affect the production of the bioactive compound are mainly carbon, nitrogen sources, growth factors, metal ions, aeration, agitation and dissolved oxygen tension (DOT) in the fermentation medium<sup>12, 23</sup>. So, optimization of nutritional and physical factors is of prime importance for reaching the cost-effective and economically viable industrial process<sup>10,23</sup>. Statistical and mathematical methods are compiled in response surface methodology (RSM) based on the Box–Behnken design matrix to determine the effect of multiple variables and optimize several biotechnological procedure<sup>33,34</sup>. This paper encompasses the applying the Plackett-Burman and Box–Behnken designs to optimize the culture medium composition followed by RSM to optimize the reaction conditions for nano-Ag bio-fabrication by using extracellular fraction from *Streptomyces rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2. This work focuses on the optimization for nano-Ag bio-fabrication reaction by Box–Behnken statistical experimental design for large-scale production of nano-Ag from *Streptomyces rectiviolaceus* as a novel antimicrobial agent against hospital-acquired infectious pathogens. The method is quiet economically and efficient with respect to any other response surface designs.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Samples collection and isolation of Actinomycetes

Samples were collected from different localities in Egypt; Salt marsh sediments, Nile

sediment and cultivated soil samples at El-Sharkia, Alexandria, and Kafr El-Sheikh Governorates. The collected samples were transferred into sterilized container to Bioprocess development Laboratory and stored in the refrigerator at 4°C until further processing. Actinomycetes. were isolated from samples by spread plate method using starch nitrate agar medium of the following composition (g/l): starch, 20.0; KNO<sub>3</sub>, 2.0; K<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>, 1.0; MgSO<sub>4</sub>·7H<sub>2</sub>O, 0.5; NaCl, 0.5; CaCO<sub>3</sub>, 3.0; FeSO<sub>4</sub>·7H<sub>2</sub>O, 0.01; agar, 20.0; in sterile distilled water supplemented with antibiotic (Nalidixic acid 20.0µg/ml) and antifungals (Nystatin 25.0µg/ml and Cycloheximide 100.0µg/ml) to minimize the gram-negative bacteria, fungal and yeast contaminants respectively since *Actinomycetes* are filamentous gram-positive bacteria. The inoculated agar plates were incubated at 30°C for 7 days. After incubation period morphologically different typical powdery colony (16 isolates) was picked and sub cultured on starch nitrate agar slants and stored at 4°C for further studies.

### Screening of different Actinomycetes isolates for Bio-fabrication of nano-Ag

The sixteen isolates were freshly inoculated in Malt Yeast Extract Glucose Peptone (MYGP) broth of the following composition (g/l): (Malt extract 3.0, Yeast extract 3.0, Glucose 10.0, Peptone 5.0, Distilled water 1000 ml, pH-7.2) and incubated at 28°C±2 for 3-5 days. After the incubation period, the aqueous extract was centrifuged at 14000 rpm for 15 min. This supernatant extract was further filtered through Whatman No. 1 filter paper (6 mm diameter) and employed for the bio-fabrication of nano-Ag or stored in the deep freezer for further analysis. Fifty ml of 0.5M AgNO<sub>3</sub> solution was mixed with 50 ml of the cell filtrate in a 500 ml Erlenmeyer flask and agitated at 50°C in darker condition,

A negative control (silver nitrate solution only) was also run along with the experimental flask. The bio-reduction of Ag<sup>+</sup> ions was monitored by changes in color which noted at specific intervals (12 hours and 72 hours) and characterized by UV-visible spectroscopy analysis. After that, the reaction mixture containing nano-Ag was centrifuged at 10000 rpm for 25 min, for disposing of any impurities. For better separation particles was repeatedly centrifugated and re-dispersed in sterile double distilled water, this particles was

maintained in a dark place at room temperature for further antimicrobial spectrum.

#### **Antagonistic effect of nano-Ago *in vitro***

All bio-fabricated nano-Ag were tested to determine the antimicrobial activity against the selected human pathogens (bacteria and fungi) which were kindly provided by Dr. Shahira H. EL-Moslami (Department of Bioprocess Development, Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology Research Institute, City for Scientific Research and Technological Applications, Alexandria, Egypt) by using the following steps;

#### **Preparation of media**

Mueller Hinton Agar (MHA) was employed for bacterial pathogens and Potato Dextrose Agar (PDA) for fungal pathogens. MHA medium containing (g/l): Beef (dehydrated infusion from 300) 2, Casein hydro lysate 17.5, Starch 1.5, agar 17 and final pH  $7.3 \pm 0.1$  at  $25^{\circ}\text{C}$  and PDA containing (g/l): Potato extract; 4.0 (equivalent to 200.0g of potato infusion), Dextrose 20.0 and agar 15.0 dissolved in 1L distilled water and sterilized by autoclaving at ( $121^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) for 15 minutes for sterilization.

#### **Preparation of inoculums**

Pure bacterial and fungal pathogen cultures were maintained on sterile MHA or PDA slants respectively by frequent sub culturing each isolate in fresh media prior to testing. Loopful of pathogens was inoculated into 5 ml of sterile broth media and incubated at  $37^{\circ}\text{C}$  or  $30^{\circ}\text{C}$  respectively for 24hr or 96hr. These cultures were used as inoculums in all our experiments.

#### **Antimicrobial assay**

Antimicrobial activity of bio fabricated nano-Ag was analyzed by using the agar well diffusion method. The wells were made by using sterile cork borer (5mm) wells was created into the each Petri-plates. A constant concentration of nano-Ag ( $200\mu\text{g/ml}$ ) was used to assess it as antimicrobial efficiency. Fungal plates were swabbed with  $100\mu\text{l}$  of the mature spore suspension of each individual pathogen. The inoculated plates were incubated at  $37^{\circ}\text{C}$  (24 hr) for bacteria and at  $30^{\circ}\text{C}$  (96 hr) for fungal pathogens. After incubation, all plates were examined for the different level of the inhibition zones which measured and recorded in millimeter (mm). Triplicates were maintained for each test pathogen to calculate the mean standard deviation.

#### **Statistical analysis**

The grouped data were statistically evaluated using ANOVA with SPSS/14 software. Values are presented as the mean  $\pm$  SD of the three replicates of each experiment. According to the fast reduction of  $\text{AgNO}_3$  into nano-Ag and its antimicrobial efficacy, a proficient *Streptomyces* isolate was selected and used for further experiments.

#### **Molecular identification of the most potent isolate**

The selected Actinomycetes cells which grown at  $30^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 24 hr were harvested by centrifugation (10000 rpm for 10 min) and washed once with TE buffer (pH 7.0) then re-suspended in 10ml TE buffer (pH 7.0). This mixture was heated in boiling water bath for 10min and centrifuged (10000 rpm for 3min). The final supernatant was transferred to a clean tube and genomic DNA was extracted by using Bacterial genomic (miniprep) kit. PCR was carried out in  $50\mu\text{l}$  volumes by using PCR master mix with Universal 16S rDNA primers; F ( $5'\text{CAGCAGCCGCGTAATAC3}'$ ) and R ( $5'\text{CCGTCAATTCCTTTGAGTTT3}'$ ) primer. In this work the used PCR program was set up as the following: an initial denaturation ( $95^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 5 min), 30 cycles of denaturation ( $94^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 1 min), annealing ( $56^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 1 min) and extension ( $72^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 2 min), and a final extension ( $72^{\circ}\text{C}$  for 10 min). The PCR fragments were purified by a PCR purification kit which purchased from Invitrogen. Sequencing of the purified PCR fragment was carried out bi-directionally using the dideoxy chain termination method. The similarity and homology of the 16S rDNA partial gene sequence were analyzed with the similar existing sequences available in BLAST network services at the NCBI. Finally, multiple sequence alignment and molecular phylogeny were performed using BioEdit software (2006). The phylogenetic tree was displayed using the MEGA6 program (2013).

#### **Screening of different fractions from Actinomycetes for Bio-fabrication of nano-Ag**

The cellular bioactive metabolites were used for bio-fabrication of nano-Ag from cultures was determined by measuring the nano-Ag at different localities as extracellular, periplasmic and cytoplasmic fractions was prepared<sup>5, 6, 8, 9</sup>.

#### **Extracellular fraction**

The grown cultures were filtered using

suction filtration system so extracellular fraction collected. The residual pellets (grown cell biomass) were further used for preparing the periplasmic and cytoplasmic fractions.

#### **Periplasmic fraction**

The grown cell biomass were washed extensively using Milli-Q deionized water to remove any medium component then 10g (wet weight) of cells were added to 100ml distilled water in an Erlenmeyer flask and agitated again at 200rpm for 48 hr at 30°C. Then, the cell filtrate (periplasmic fraction) was obtained by filtering through Whatman filter paper No. 1.

#### **Cytoplasmic fraction**

The grown cell biomass (10g fresh weight) was re-suspended in 5ml cold 50mM PBS at pH 7.0, grinded by using mortar & pestle and mixed with 200ml of Millipore water deionized water in a 500 ml Erlenmeyer flask and agitated at 200rpm for 72hr at 37°C. The entire lysate was centrifuged; the remaining supernatant (cytoplasmic fraction) was collected and saved for bio-fabrication of nano-Ag.

#### **Bio-fabrication of nano-Ag by using different fractions**

Ten milliliters of different fractions were mixed with 10 ml of 1 mM silver nitrate in flasks; this mixture incubated at 50°C and agitated on orbital shaker at 200 rpm in dark condition. Silver nitrate solution with no cell filtrate was used as controls under similar experimental conditions. After 24hr the formations of nano-Ag were screened by visual observation of color that changes to dark brown. Change in color was visually observed over a period of time. Then it was further confirmed by subjecting the reaction mixture to UV-Visible spectrophotometer analysis. The spectrum was scanned at the resolution of 1 nm, between 300–1000 nm for each sample. For all fractions; nano-Ag dry mass weight (g/l) was determined after 24hr.

#### **Characterization of Bio-fabricated nano-Ag**

The UV-visible spectrometry measurements (City of Scientific Research and Technological Applications (STRA-CITY), Egypt) were carried out in ELICO double beam equipment (Model Lambda 35) in the wavelength range of 100–600 nm range. FTIR analysis was performed with SHIMADZU FTIR 8400S at STRA-CITY, Egypt. The wavelength intervals of

400–4000cm<sup>-1</sup> wave were used to record the spectra. XRD measurements of the bio-fabricated nano-Ag were carried out on X-ray diffractometer (XRD-600, SHIMADZU, Japan) instrument operating at a voltage of 40 kV and current of 30 mA with Cu K (±) radiation to determine the crystalline phase. EDX analysis was performed on a scanning electron microscope (JEOL JEM 6110 Japan–Japan University of Science and technology (E-JUST), Egypt), attached with an EDX detector (OXFORD X-MAX instrument –E-JUST, Egypt), to confirm the bio-fabricated nano-Ag. EDX spectrum was measured at 20 kV accelerating voltage. To determine the size and shape of the nano-Ag, TEM measurements were performed on an instrument (JEOL-JEM 2100F –JAPAN –E-JUST- Egypt), operating at accelerating voltages of 120 keV at 500 nm scales.

#### **Optimization for Actinomycetes biomass production by using statistical experimental designs (Plackett-Burman and Box-Behnken design)**

A single cell is considered as a microscopic biochemical factory. Materials such as carbon, nitrogen, and others are absorbed by the cell and processed in the cell via hundreds of reactions to the various constituents<sup>2</sup>. Also, biochemical products may be retained or transported back into the environment outside the cell. Metabolic activities inside the cell are regulated at various levels<sup>3</sup>. In this work; the bioprocessing strategies like comparison of biomass production among different industrial media, Plackett-Burman and Box-Behnken experimental design as well as Excel solver were applied in the optimization of the nutritional condition for the biomass production of the identified *Streptomyces* strain

#### **Biomass production at different industrial media**

Four published formulated media was chosen in this experiment<sup>4,15,41</sup> Medium No. 1(ISP 1);(g/l)Yeast Extract 3.0 and Tryptone 5.0, (pH 7.0), Medium No. 2; Modified Bennett's Broth medium(ISP2);(g/l) Yeast Extract 4.0; Malt Extract10.0; Dextrose 4.0 (pH 7.3), Medium No.3; industrial medium for *Streptomyces*,(g/l) Glucose 20.0, Yeast extract 10.0, Peptone 10.0, K<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> 0.05, MgSO<sub>4</sub> .7H<sub>2</sub>O 0.5, NaCl 4.0, CaCO<sub>3</sub> 5.0 (pH 6.8), and finally medium No.4;(g/l) Dextrose 20.0, K<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> 1.0, MgSO<sub>4</sub> 0.5 (pH 7.0). All media

dissolved in distilled water up to 1 L and sterilized for 15 min at 121° C, inoculated by *Streptomyces* strain until 0.8 as initial O.D<sub>600</sub> (zero time for cultivation) and finally, the flasks incubated at 30°C, 200rpm. The culture growth was monitored and the biomass weight (g/l) was determined after 24, 48, 72, and 96 hr.

### Identifying the Significant Variables Using Plackett-Burman Design

Screening process was carried out by conducting the experiments to determine which variables significantly affected microbial biomass production. The seven independent variables tested in this application and their settings are recorded in (Table 1).

Based on the biomass production, the factorial experiment was analyzed using regression analysis and ANOVA. The model created for the analysis of Plackett-Burman design using multiple regression analysis is based on the 1<sup>st</sup> order model (Eq. 1):

$$Y = b_0 + \sum b_i x_i \quad \dots(1)$$

Where: Y is the response (biomass production),  $b_0$  is the model intercept,  $b_i$  is the variable estimate; and  $X_i$  represents the variable.

**Table 1.** Values of the variables randomized in Plackett-Berman experimental design for biomass production from the selected *Actinomycetes* strain

Trails	Medium component	Low level (-1)	High level (+1)
X1	Yeast extract	7	15
X2	Peptone	7	15
X3	Glucose	16	25
X4	NaCl	2	8
X5	K <sub>2</sub> HPO <sub>4</sub>	0.05	0.2
X6	MgSO <sub>4</sub>	0.4	1
X7	CaCO <sub>3</sub>	4	10

The predicted optimum levels of the independent variables were carried out and compared with the basal conditions and the averages of biomass production were calculated.

### Box-Behnken Design (Response surface methodology)

Three variables Box-Behnken design for response surface methodology was used to study the combined effect of Yeast extract, Peptone, and K<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub> on biomass production over three levels. In this study, the experimental plan consisted of 15 trials and the independent variables were studied at three different levels, low (“-1), medium (0), and high (+1) as shown in (Table 2). This kind of optimization design involves three main steps: performing the statistically designed experiments, estimating the coefficients of the structured mathematical model & predicting the response and checking the adequacy of the model<sup>4</sup>. The experimental results of RSM were fitted via the response surface regression procedure using the following second-order polynomial equation (Eq. 2):

$$Y = \beta_0 + \sum i\beta_i X_i + \sum ii\beta_{ii} X_i^2 + \sum ij\beta_{ij} X_i X_j \quad \dots(2)$$

In the equation above Y is the predicted response,  $b_0$  is the regression coefficients,  $b_i$  is the linear coefficient,  $b_{ii}$  is the quadratic coefficients,  $b_{ij}$  is the interaction coefficients, and  $X_i$  is the coded levels of independent variables. However, in this

**Table 2.** Values of the biomass production variables randomized in Box-Behnken design

g/L	High level (1)	Medium level (0)	Low level (-1)
Yeast extract	20.0	15.0	10.0
Peptone	20.0	15.0	10.0
K <sub>2</sub> HPO <sub>4</sub>	0.5	0.2	0.1

**Table 3.** The coded and actual values of the studied variables at various levels

Code	Variables	Low level(-1)	Medium level(0)	High level(1)
F1	Precursor concentration (M)	0.5	1	2
F2	Reductant concentration (v/v)	0.5%	5%	10%
F3	Temperature (°C)	30	40	50

study, the independent variables were coded as  $X_1, X_2,$  and  $X_3$ . Thus, the second-order polynomial equation can be presented as Eq. 3:

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1x_1 + \beta_2x_2 + \beta_3x_3 + \beta_{12}x_1x_2 + \beta_{13}x_1x_3 + \beta_{23}x_2x_3 + \beta_{11}x_1^2 + \beta_{22}x_2^2 + \beta_{33}x_3^2 \dots(3)$$

**Table 4.** Zone of inhibition of bio-fabricated nano-Ag against different human pathogenic bacteria

<i>Actinomycetes</i> isolates	Bio-fabricated nano-Ag Average inhibition Zone (diameter mm )					
	<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	<i>Klebsiella pneumonia</i>	<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	<i>Salmonella typhi</i>	<i>Vibrio cholera</i>	<i>E.coli</i>
E 58	8±0.01	8±0.01	10±0.01	8±0.01	8±0.02	2±0.01
G 45	10± 0.001	3±0.02	5±0.01	3±0.05	3±0.03	3±0.02
E 3	15±0.01	7±0.01	11±0.01	7±0.04	7±0.01	5±0.02
H 8	3±0.02	4±0.02	3±0.01	4±0.05	4±0.01	4±0.01
G 40	3±0.001	8±0.02	7±0.01	8±0.02	8±0.20	6±0.03
G 49	14±0.10	10±0.01	0	10±0.01	10±0.02	10±0.01
E 59	6±0.20	2±0.01	6±0.01	2±0.02	2±0.01	2±0.01
E 3.1	8±0.20	5±0.01	7±0.01	5±0.01	5±0.02	5±0.04
G 50	13±0.04	6±0.01	6±0.01	6±0.01	6±0.02	6±0.03
E 3.2	16±0.01	14±0.04	15±0.02	19±0.01	19±0.02	15±0.02
E 56	3±0.01	4±0.01	2±0.03	2±0.01	4±0.02	3±0.01
G 46	6±0.01	3±0.01	4±0.04	4±0.01	3±0.02	6±0.01
G 51	4±0.02	4±0.04	5±0.01	5±0.01	4±0.01	4±0.01
G 41	5±0.01	4±0.04	7±0.01	7±0.02	4±0.01	5±0.04
E 56	3±0.10	3±0.10	3±0.01	3±0.02	3±0.01	3±0.01
H 58	4±0.01	6±0.12	7±0.01	7±0.01	6±0.02	4±0.02

The data represents mean values of three independent experiments± SD.

**Table 5.** Zone of inhibition of bio-fabricated nano-Ag against different human pathogenic fungi

<i>Actinomycetes</i> isolates	Bio-fabricated nano-Ag Zone of inhibition (diameter mm )			
	<i>Fusarium sp.</i>	<i>Aspergillus niger</i>	<i>Aspergillus fumigates</i>	<i>Candida albicans</i>
E 58	2±0.01	8±0.01	10±0.01	3±0.03
G 45	1±0.01	3±0.01	5±0.01	5±0.03
E 3	10±0.02	7±0.01	13±0.01	9±0.01
H 8	3±0.01	4±0.02	3±0.01	3±0.01
G 40	3±0.04	8±0.01	7±0.01	7±0.01
G 49	5±0.02	6±0.02	2±0.01	2±0.01
E 59	2±0.01	4±0.01	4±0.04	4±0.01
E 3.1	4±0.01	5±0.01	7±0.01	7±0.01
G 50	3±0.05	6±0.01	6±0.01	6±0.01
E 3.2	10±0.01	12±0.03	13±0.01	11±0.01
E 56	3±0.01	3±0.01	2±0.02	2±0.01
G 46	0	3±0.02	4±0.01	4±0.01
G 51	4±0.01	4±0.01	5±0.01	5±0.01
G 41	5±0.02	4±0.01	7±0.02	7±0.05
E 56	3±0.01	3±0.08	3±0.01	3±0.01
H 58	0	6±0.04	7±0.01	7±0.01

The data represents mean values of three independent experiments± SD.

### Optimization for nano-Ag reaction by Box-Behnken statistical experimental design

To establish the best condition for biofabrication of nano-Ag to get the large mass weight of nano-silver, the biofabrication reactions set up were prepared by using the different concentration of the precursor (0.5, 1.0, 2.0M) which prepared and added to the different reductant concentration (0.5, 5.0, 10.0 % v/v), then these mixtures were incubated at different temperature (30, 40 and 50°C) in ranges of pH (5.5-6) in light or dark conditions (Table 3), Box-Behnken modeling and the final results analysis were carried out using the Microsoft Excel 2007 and essential experimental design software by multiple

regression analysis to evaluate the analysis of variance (ANOVA).

### Large scale batch fermentation for biomass production

The most common fermentation system is the batch fermentation, due to its simplicity and low cost. This is a closed system in which there is no input or output of materials, and the microbial population cell density increased constantly until exhaustion of some nutrient components of the culture medium which decreased over time and the produced bioactive compounds during growth increased in the culture medium<sup>21, 23</sup>. The scale-up process was automated through a computer aided data bioprocessing system Bio Command

**Table 6.** Independent variables matrix and the experimental results of Plackett–Burman design for seven variables affecting *S.rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2 biomass production

Trail	Yeast extract	Peptone	MgSO <sub>4</sub>	NaCl	K <sub>2</sub> HPO <sub>4</sub>	Glucose	CaCO <sub>3</sub>	Biomass g/l	Predicted biomass g/l
1	1	-1	-1	1	-1	1	1	4.50	4.64
2	1	1	-1	-1	1	-1	1	9.90	10.04
3	1	1	1	-1	-1	1	-1	6.40	6.54
4	-1	1	1	1	-1	-1	1	4.20	4.34
5	1	-1	1	1	1	-1	-1	6.90	7.04
6	-1	1	-1	1	1	1	-1	4.80	4.94
7	-1	-1	1	-1	1	1	1	2.60	2.74
8	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	-1	1.29	1.43

**Table 7.** Independent variables matrix and the experimental results of Box-Behnken design for variables affecting *S.rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2 biomass production

Exp #	Yeast extract	Peptone	K <sub>2</sub> HPO <sub>4</sub>	Biomass (g/l)	Predicted biomass (g/l)
1	0	0	0	5.6	5.47
2	-1	-1	0	13.9	13.33
3	0	1	1	7.3	7.41
4	0	-1	1	3.5	3.34
5	0	0	0	5.2	5.47
6	1	1	0	12.3	12.88
7	1	0	1	5.2	4.66
8	1	0	-1	10.3	9.71
9	-1	1	0	20.4	19.84
10	-1	0	1	11.2	11.79
11	0	1	-1	4.2	4.08
12	0	-1	-1	5.6	5.77
13	-1	0	-1	5.3	5.84
14	0	0	0	5.6	5.47
15	1	-1	0	15	15.56

((BIOFLO® 310) multi-process management program. The bioreactor was initially contained 4.6 Liter of optimized medium and autoclaved for 20 min at 121°C. There are several mathematical relationships of specific growth rate coefficient to the concentration of growth-limiting nutrient <sup>23</sup>.

#### Application of nano-Ag against multidrug-resistant human pathogens *in vitro*

The antimicrobial activity of the pure nano-Ag ( $\mu\text{g/ml}$ ) was evaluated using the well diffusion method <sup>14, 32</sup> against tested multidrug-resistant human pathogens. Briefly, PDA plates and MHA ager plates were prepared and, subsequently, 100 $\mu\text{l}$  of fungal inoculums ( $1-5 \times 10^6$  CFU/ml) and bacterial inoculums of  $1 \times 10^8$  CFU/ml were uniformly spread onto the plates. Then, a 50 $\mu\text{l}$  aliquot of nano-Ag solution was loaded into wells. The plates were then incubated at 30°C for 24-72hr. Finally, the inhibition halo was measured.

#### Minimal inhibitory concentration (MIC)

Antimicrobial activity of nano-Ag was examined using the standard broth dilution method <sup>43</sup> according to the Clinical and Laboratory Standards Institute. The MIC was determined in LB broth using serial two-fold dilutions of nano-Ag in concentrations ranging from 200 to 10 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ ; initial bacterial inoculums were ( $1 \times 10^8$  CFU/ml, 0.5 McFarland's standard) and the time and

temperature of incubation being 24hr at 37°C, respectively. The MIC is the lowest concentration of antimicrobial agents that completely visually inhibits 99% growth of the microorganisms. The MIC measurement was done in triplicate to confirm the value of MIC for each tested bacteria <sup>1</sup>.

#### Minimal bactericidal concentration (MBC)

After MIC determination of the nano-Ag tested, aliquots of 100 $\mu\text{l}$  from all tubes in which no visible bacterial growth was observed were seeded in LB agar plates not supplemented with nano-Ag and were incubated for 24hr at 37°C. The MBC endpoint is defined as the lowest concentration of antimicrobial agent that kills 100% of the bacterial population <sup>36</sup>.

#### Minimum fungicidal concentration (MFC)

In this case, MIC was the lowest concentration of nano-Ag that resulted in visual inhibition of fungal growth. The determination of the minimum fungicidal concentration (MFC) was performed after 48hr of treatment with the inhibitory concentrations used in the broth micro dilution assay. An aliquot of all treatments was transferred onto PDA plates. The plates were incubated at 30°C for 72hr and the MFC was determined. MFC means the lower concentration which showed no fungal growth<sup>18</sup>.

**Table 8.** Independent variables matrix and the experimental results of Box-Behnken design for variables affecting on extracellular bio-fabrication of nano-Ag from *S.rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2

Trails	Precursor concentration	Reductant concentration	Temperature	Nano-Ag(g/l)	Predicted nano-Ag(g/l)
1	0	0	0	5	5.0
2	-1	-1	0	14	14.8
3	0	1	1	7	7.3
4	0	-1	1	0	-0.6
5	0	0	0	5	5.0
6	1	1	0	23	22.3
7	1	0	1	5.5	5.9
8	1	0	-1	10.5	10.7
9	-1	1	0	20.3	20.2
10	-1	0	1	11	10.8
11	0	1	-1	4	4.5
12	0	-1	-1	0	-0.3
13	-1	0	-1	4	3.6
14	0	0	0	5	5.0
15	1	-1	0	14	14.1

**Table 9.** Antibacterial activity, minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) and minimum bactericidal concentration (MBC) of nano-Ag against multidrug-resistant human pathogens

Human pathogenic bacteria	Pure bio-fabricated nano-Ag ( $\mu\text{g/ml}$ )										MIC ( $\mu\text{g/ml}$ )	MBC ( $\mu\text{g/ml}$ )		
	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50			60	70
<i>Klebsiella pneumoniae</i>	12	15	15	2	35	53	48	41	35	12	10	5	30	40
<i>Pseudomonas aeruginosa</i>	21	15	29	31	34	45	50	35	25	2	5	1	25	30
<i>Salmonella typhimurium</i>	24	18	25	29	34	42	55	45	24	19	15	1	30	40
<i>Shigella flexneri</i>	15	23	23	28	35	46	55	36	24	14	5	2	20	35
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	13	12	26	32	38	58	52	42	32	14	5	4	25	40
<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	19	26	27	35	41	65	58	52	45	19	4	1	25	50

**Table 10.** Antifungal activity, minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC) and minimum fungicidal concentration (MFC) of nano-Ag against multidrug-resistant human pathogens

Human pathogenic bacteria	Pure bio-fabricated nano-Ag ( $\mu\text{g/ml}$ )										MIC ( $\mu\text{g/ml}$ )	MBC ( $\mu\text{g/ml}$ )		
	5	10	15	20	25	30	35	40	45	50			60	70
<i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>	17	16	19	25	36	45	41	35	23	21	20	15	40	60
<i>Fusarium sp</i>	1	2	5	12	18	21	25	29	32	37	45	34	40	65
<i>Aspergillus niger</i>	2	4	7	15	19	25	28	32	32	34	35	33	60	75
<i>Aspergillus fumigates</i>	5	2	5	9	14	19	21	28	34	45	54	44	50	60
<i>Candida albicans</i>	1	3	6	11	16	50	45	36	30	25	20	15	50	80

### Statistical analysis

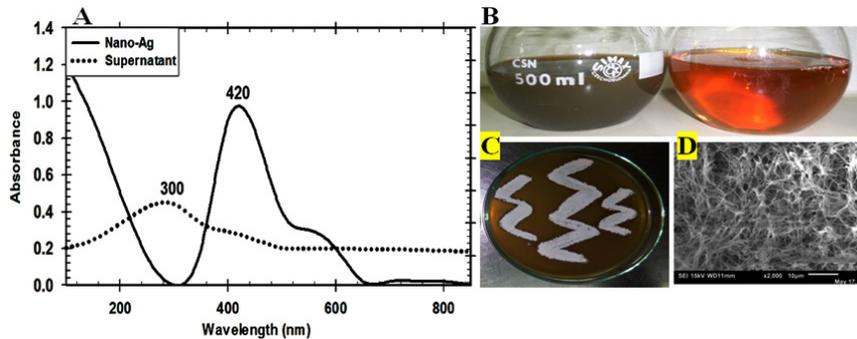
MIC, MFC and MBC tests were performed in triplicate, and the results were expressed as the mean. Student's 't' test was used to compare these results. *P* values lower than 0.05 were considered significant

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

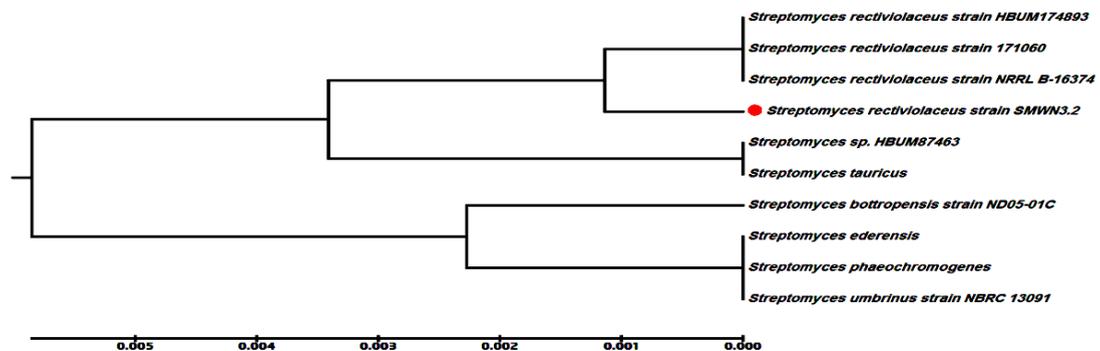
### Isolation and screening of Actinomycetes for the bio-fabrication of nano-Ag and its efficiency as an antimicrobial agent

A total of different 16 Actinomycetes were isolated from collected sediments and soil samples,

coded and checked for their ability to produce silver nanoparticles. Among the tested isolates, only E3.2 isolate showed the ability to fabricate more effective nano-Ag as an antimicrobial agent against human pathogenic bacteria and fungi (Table 4, 5). The Ag<sup>+</sup> ions reduction was evidently noticeable when AgNO<sub>3</sub> was added to the E3.2 supernatant, and the color changed from yellow to dark brown compared to no color development for the control. Due to the reduction of Ag<sup>+</sup> ions and formation of surface plasmon resonance (SPR) in the reaction mixture, while no color change appeared in E3.2 culture filtrates without silver nitrate. Synthesis of nano-silver was confirmed as indicated by UV-



**Fig.1.** The most potent isolate (E3.2) which showed ability to fabricate more affective nano-Ag as antimicrobial agent against human pathogenic bacteria and fungi A; UV-visible spectroscopy analysis showed SPR peak of nano-Ag at 420 nm: nano-Ag compared with bioactive supernatant fraction as a control B; Digital photographs indicates biosynthesis nano-Ag reaction by using bioactive supernatant fraction as reducing agent and silver nitrate as a precursor: nano-Ag compared with bioactive supernatant fraction as a control C; Digital photographs indicates color of the aerial mycelium of the selected isolates grown on ISP2 medium for 7days at 30 °C D; Scanning electron micrograph showing the spore-chain morphology and spore-surface ornamentation at constant magnification

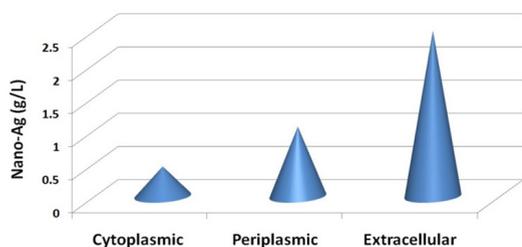


**Fig. 2.** The phylogenetic tree of *S.rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2 was constructed using the neighbor-joining method with aid of MEGA 6.0 program

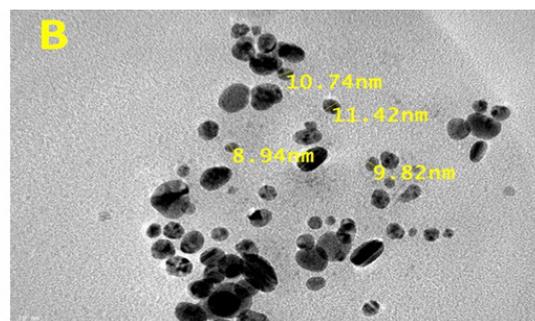
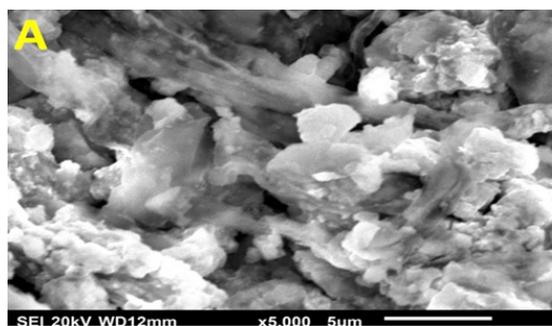
Visible spectra (at a range of 300nm-600nm) of the reaction mixture after 24hr. The UV-Vis spectrum showed SPR peak of silver nanoparticles at 420nm (Fig.1). Other studies reported same color change during the extracellular biosynthesis of nano-Ag<sup>18, 26</sup>. The synthesis of nanoparticles by Actinomycetes has many advantages as they are safe to handle, easily available, and possess variable metabolites that may help in the reduction. Moreover, these particles have innumerable applications<sup>24</sup>.

#### Molecular identification of the most potent isolate

Actinomycete (isolate E3.2) that produced the highly effective nano-Ag capable of inhibiting the growth of all tested human pathogens (bacteria and fungi) was selected. This isolate was identified by using molecular phylogenetic analysis. Comparisons of the partial 16S rDNA sequence of this isolate with other 16S rRNA sequences available in GenBank using BLAST searches were used to select related sequences for constructing a multiple alignment. The 16S rDNA gene sequence showed that the actinomycete isolate



**Fig. 3.** Dry mass weight of nano-Ag powder bio-fabricated by using the extracellular, periplasmic, and cytoplasmic fractions from *S.rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2



**Fig. 4.** SEM (A) and TEM (B) Image of nano-Ag bio-fabricated by the reaction of 1mM AgNO<sub>3</sub> and the cell-free culture supernatant of *S.rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2. Scale bar of 5µm and 10nm respectively

was similar to *Streptomyces rectiviolaceus* with an identity of 99%. Neighbor-joining method with the software package MEGA6 was used to construct the phylogenetic tree based on 16S rDNA gene sequences of members of the genus *Streptomyces* (Fig.2). The sequence of nucleotide was deposited into the database of GenBank as *Streptomyces rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2 with accession number KX077914 <https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/nuccore/1036392264>.

#### Bio-fabrication of nano-Ag by using different fractions

Previously, nanoparticles biosynthesis with different size and shapes depends on the microorganisms optimized by using the concentration of the bioactive compounds, the concentration of used metal ions and the reaction incubation period. Through this study, to facilitate verification, of extracting cell protein and bioactive compounds that founded in the extracellular, periplasmic and cytoplasmic fractions was observed. All these fractions produced nano-Ag but the high nano-Ag dry weight was recorded by using the extracellular fraction as a reducing agent (Fig.3).

#### Characterization of bio fabricated nano-Ag from *Streptomyces rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2

##### Electron microscope analysis

The electron microscopes are a powerful analysis to determine the morphology and particle distribution of nanostructures, so in this work, the electron microscopy micrographs of the bio fabricated nano-Ag revealed the formation of extracellular spherical and elongated nanoparticles with a size range of 8.9–11.4nm as shown in (Fig.4). The sizes of the nanoparticles which recorded from

the previous reports were ranged from 25-80nm by using a microbial biosynthesis method<sup>7, 39</sup>. The smaller size of nano-Ag is very important to medical and pharmacological purposes because they could easily entrance into the microbial cell through the cell membrane to destroy it<sup>7</sup>.

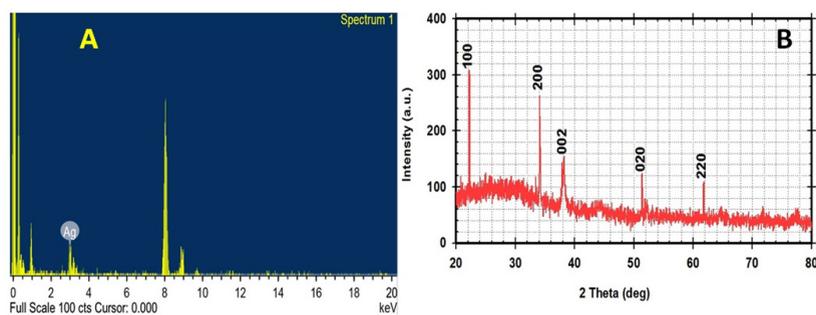
#### XRD and EDX analysis

X-ray analysis and EDX analytical technique used for analysis the elemental composition of metal nanoparticles and confirmed the presence of the silver ions as the major constituent element. The spectrum at 3keV indicates a strong signal for silver (Fig.5A), which is characteristic to nano-sized metallic silver<sup>39, 42</sup>. In this study, the next method used to improve nano-Ag formation was x-ray diffractometry (XRD) to determine the chemical composition of its surrounded thin layer by X Ray diffraction diagram<sup>16, 17</sup>. The obtained XRD spectrum was matched with JCPDS card No.010893722 that exhibits the silver peaks observed at 2 $\theta$  values of 22.71°, 32.16°, 38.28°, 52.70° and 64.64° as shown

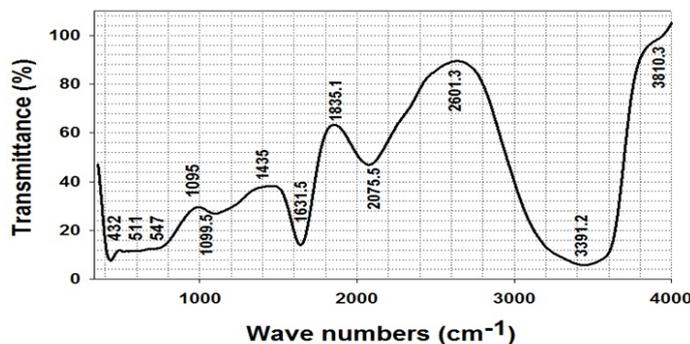
in (Fig.5B). Other workers have been confirmed the biosynthesized Ag NPs by using XRD and JCPDS card 89-3722, with similar results to those obtained in the current study<sup>18, 24, 26</sup>.

#### Identifications of functional group using FT-IR

Fourier transformed infrared spectroscopy used for determining the chemical composition of the nanoparticles surface which used as a stabilizing agent that prevent the reduced silver particles agglomeration<sup>17,28</sup> and identifying the possible biomolecules which responsible for the reduction of the Ag<sup>+</sup> ions into Ag<sup>0</sup> as shown in (Fig.6). Some other workers have reported that functional groups such as -C-O-C-, -C-O-, and -C=C- are derived from heterocyclic compounds like proteins which present as the capping ligands of the nanoparticles<sup>29,34</sup>. Our findings were confirmed by other studies who reported the stabilization of the nano-Ag by proteins and bioactive compounds, which surround or bind to nanoparticles through free amine groups and residues in the proteins and through the electrostatic



**Fig. 5.** EDX spectrum (A) showing a peak between 3keV and XRD pattern (B) of nano-Ag bio-fabricated using cell free supernatant of *S.rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2 confirming the presence of silver



**Fig. 6.** FTIR spectrum recorded from a drop-coated film of nano-Ag bio-fabricated by *S.rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2

attraction of negatively charged carboxylate groups in the cell-free supernatant<sup>29, 31, 34</sup>. Finally, we can conclude that the actinomycetes, which secrete the higher proportions of the bioactive substances, may make it more suitable for the production of

nano-Ag. The precise reaction mechanism leading to the bio fabricated nanoparticles is not definitely realized yet<sup>28</sup>. In this regard, the results obtained in this work open several avenues of further studies.

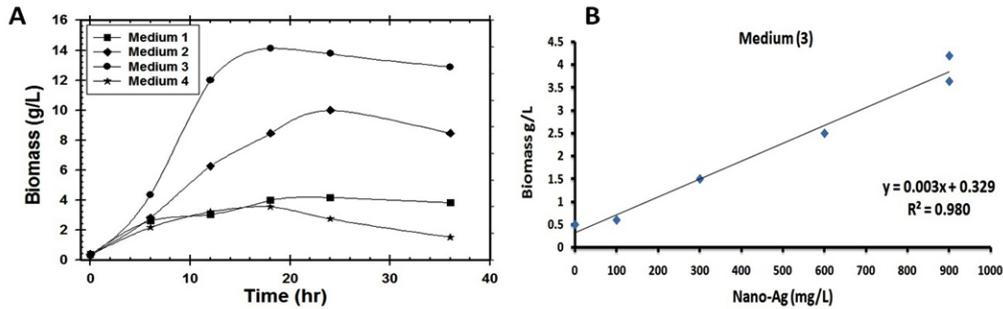


Fig. 7. (A) Time course of biomass production of *S.rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2 cultivated in various industrial media and (B) The correlation between produced nano-Ag (mg/L) and biomass mass weight (g/L) for *S.rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2 which grown in medium (3).

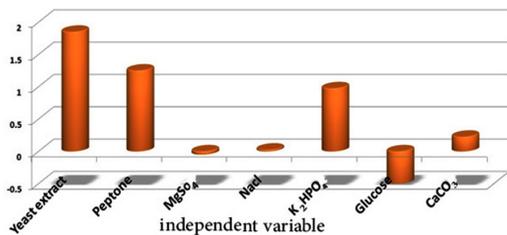


Fig. 8. Column chart shown the main of culture variables influencing the *S.rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2 biomass production

**Statistical evaluation of the medium components for the production of high biomass using Plackett-Burman and Box-Behnken experimental designs**

The aim of these examinations was to optimize the best medium formulation for the cultivation of *Streptomyces rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2 through the following steps:

**Biomass production at different industrial media**

As a general the success of industrial production for biological control agents depending

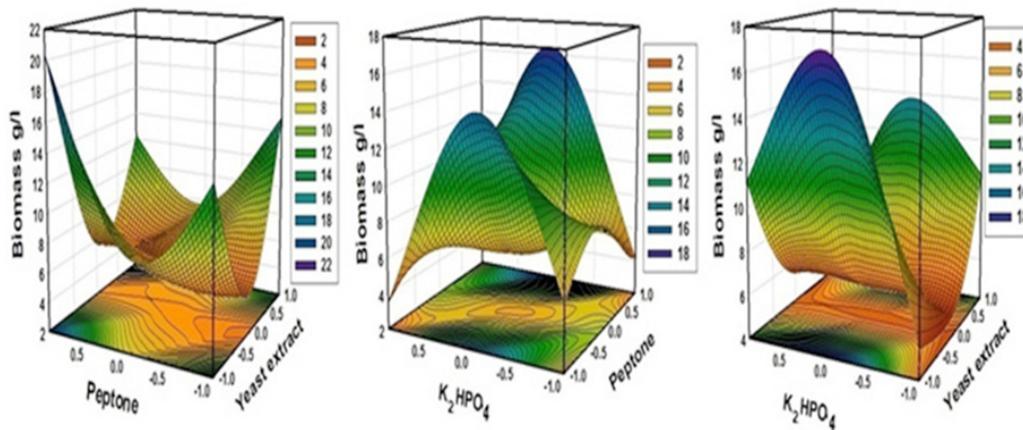
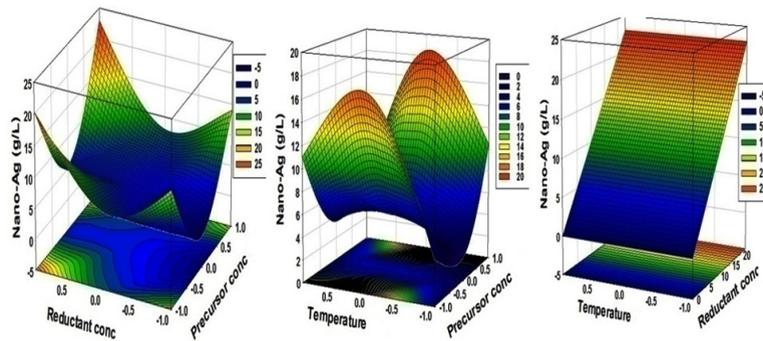


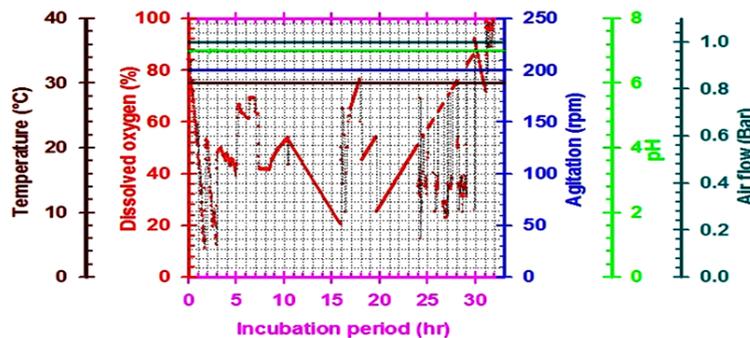
Fig. 9. Three dimensional response surfaces plot representing *S.rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2 biomass production yields (g/l)

not only the isolation, characterization & pathogenicity but also on the successful mass production of the microbial cells in laboratory<sup>23</sup>. The selection of a carbon source to enhance microbial growth without catabolic repression is highly desirable because a high concentration of

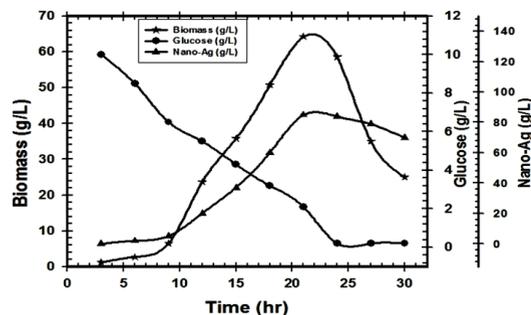
microbial biomass is required in order to maximize bioactive compounds & proteins productivity<sup>10, 23</sup>. The relation between bioactive compound, protein secretion and the growth profile of the microorganism is a key consideration for increased nanoparticles production. Hence, the growth



**Fig. 10.** Three dimensional response surfaces plot representing nano-Ag dry mass weight yield (g/L) bio-fabricated by using supernatant of *S.rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2



**Fig. 11.** On-line data (temperature, dissolved oxygen, pH, air flow rate and agitation) as a function of time during batch cultivation of *S.rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2 in bioreactor



**Fig. 12.** Variation of growth kinetic parameters, biomass, glucose concentration and nano-Ag bio-fabricated from supernatant as a function of time for batch cultivation of *S.rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2

medium could be one of the main factors affecting cells and protein production during a fermentation process<sup>11,23</sup>. Therefore, the use of high cell density cultivation is required in order to improve nano-Ag biosynthesis<sup>13,23</sup>. So, in the present study several substrates of both organic, inorganic and mixed media were tested for mass multiplication of *Streptomyces rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2 to select the best medium to achieve high cell growth. Among the tested media, medium 3 produced significantly higher 4.2 g/l of biomass production (Fig.7) and 900 mg/l of nano-Ag dry weight was recorded.

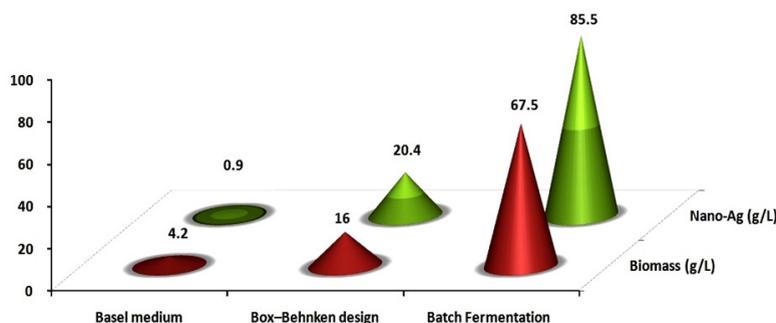


Fig. 13. Summarization of the large scale nano-Ag production and high-cell-density cultivation of *S.rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2

### Optimization of the culture medium formulation by application of Plackett–Burman design

This design has been applied to evaluate the significant effect of selected medium components according to a design matrix (Table 6). The main effects of each variable were calculated and the t-values were estimated for each variable to identify the statistical significance of the measured response and determine the main effects (Fig.8). This experiment was carried out to verify the optimization conditions to validate the obtained optimized medium. *Streptomyces rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2 was grown on the optimized medium of the following components (g/l): 15 Yeast extract, 15 Peptone, 25 Glucose, 8 NaCl, 0.2 K<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>, 1 MgSO<sub>4</sub> and 10 CaCO<sub>3</sub>, recorded the larger biomass production (10g/l) than that in the basal conditions by 2.38 fold increase. The present result confirms the validity of the optimized conditions.

### Statistical optimization of *Streptomyces rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2 biomass production by using Response surface methodology (Box-Behnken Design)

In order to determine the maximum *S. rectiviolaceus* SMWN3.2 biomass production (Table7) and to calculate the optimal levels of the tested variables (yeast extract, peptone, and K<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>) the second-order polynomial model was proposed in this work and the independent variables was obtained as shown in Eq.4.

$$Y = 5.46 - 0.82 * F1 + 0.59 * F2 + 0.22 * F3 + 6.21 * F1 * F1 + 3.36 * F2 * F2 - 3.67 * F3 * F3 - 1.93 * F1 * F2 - 2.75 * F1 * F3 + 1.44 * F2 * F3 \quad \dots(4)$$

A multiple regression analysis of the experimental data was applied and a second-

order polynomial model indicates the role of each variable and their second order interactions, which affected on biomass production. An ANOVA analysis was employed to detect the significance and the adequacy of this model, which carried by Fisher's statistical test for the analysis of variance and the regression model results, demonstrated that the model is highly significant as was evident from the Fisher's F-test (67.06) at a very low probability value (0.000112). Optimal concentrations of the tested variables were experimentally verified and compared with the theoretically predicted data and the predictive accuracy of the model was 96%. The interaction effects of the variables and biomass production were determined (Fig.9). Finally, a verification experiment was carried out to validate the obtained optimized medium which composed of (g/l): 10 yeast extract, 20 peptone, 0.37K<sub>2</sub>HPO<sub>4</sub>, 1 MgSO<sub>4</sub>, 10 CaCO<sub>3</sub>, 25 Glucose and 8 NaCl, that recorded the larger biomass production (16g/l) than that in the basal medium (4.2) by 3.8 fold.

### Statistical evaluation of the bio-fabrication nano-Ag reaction by Box-Behnken experimental design

Silver nanoparticles can be induced to have different forms depends on filtrate volume, salt concentration and physical conditions: pH, and light intensity that affects the maximum yield, the rate of synthesis and its size. There are many previous studies connected the stability and antimicrobial activity of nano-Ag bio-fabricated from different actinomycetes with pH and reported<sup>18,26</sup> the optimum pH was ranged from 5 to 9. In this work by using survey experiments on nano-Ag bio-fabrication reaction at different physical conditions (pH, and light intensity), we observed the narrow ranges of pH (5.5-6) in light or dark conditions

(these results unpublished). So these physical conditions used constantly in all work experiments. The results obtained from the experimental runs carried out according to the Box-Behnken design is summarized in (Table 8). In this study, a total of 15 experiments with the different combination of precursor conc. ( $\text{AgNO}_3$ ), reductant conc. (cell filtrate) and the temperature were performed and the results of experiments for studying the effects of three independent variables on bio-fabrication of nano-Ag are presented.

#### Statistical Analysis, ANOVA, and Model Fitting

The coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ ) of the model indicated that the model adequately represented the real relationship between the variables under consideration. The  $R^2$  value of 0.99 means that 99 % of the variability was explained by the model and only 1% of the total variance could not be explained by the model. Therefore, the present  $R^2$  value reflected a very good fit between the observed and predicted responses and implied that the model is reliable for nano-Ag bio-fabricated in this study. All values of model coefficients were calculated by multiple regression analysis. The significance of each coefficient was determined by Student's  $t$ -test and  $P$  values. The  $P$  values were used as a tool to check the significance of each of the coefficients which, in turn, are necessary to understand the pattern of the mutual interactions between the test variables. The results of the second-order response surface model fitting in the form of analysis of variance (ANOVA) which required testing the significance and the adequacy of the model. The analysis of variance (ANOVA) of the regression model demonstrates that the model is highly significant, as is evident from Fisher's  $F$ -test (147.79) and a very low probability value (0.0000158). In order to evaluate the relationship between dependent and independent variables and to determine the maximum dry mass weight of nano-Ag corresponding to the optimum levels of precursor conc., ( $X_1$ ), reductant conc. ( $X_2$ ), and temperature ( $X_3$ ), a second-order polynomial model was proposed to calculate the optimum levels of these variables. By applying the multiple regression analysis to experimental data, the second-order polynomial equation that defines predicted response ( $\bar{Y}$ = dry mass weight of nano-Ag) in terms of the independent variables ( $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ , and  $X_3$ ) was obtained:

$$Y = 5 + 0.56X_1 + 3.18X_2 + 0.62X_3 + 0.87X_1X_2 - 3X_1X_3 + 0.78X_2X_3 + 8.81(X_1)^2 + 3.81(X_2)^2 - 6.06(X_3)^2$$

The three-dimensional response surface curves which are shown in Fig. (10) Were plotted to understand the interaction of the variables and the optimal levels of each variable required for the optimal production. Each figure presents the effect of two factors on nano-Ag production, while the third factor was held at the constant level.

#### Verification of the Model

The validity of the estimated results indicated from the regression model was confirmed by carrying out repeated experiments under optimal reaction conditions (precursor conc. (0.5M), reductant conc. (5v/v) and temperature (45°C). The results obtained from three replications indicated that the average of the maximum dry mass weight of nano-Ag obtained was close to the predicted result. The verification revealed a high degree of accuracy of the model (more than 98.9%), indicating the model validation under the tested conditions. The excellent correlation between the expected and measured values from these experiments indicates the validity of response model. The optimal levels of the process variables nano-Ag production recorded the larger yield production (20.4g/l) than that in the basal conditions (0.9 g/l) by 22.3 folds increase.

#### High cell density cultivation of *Streptomyces rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2 in 7 L Stirred tank bioreactor

For industrial applications, actinomycetes should have certain properties which include a high production of a specific metabolite, high growth rate, easy handling in large-scale production and a low-cost requirement for production procedures (El-moslamy et al. 2016). Many reports have appeared in a bioactive compound and nitrate reductase enzymes produced by the submerged cultivation of *Streptomyces* spp. The present investigation was carried out to evaluate available cheaper medium for mass multiplication of *Streptomyces rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2 for bio-fabrication of nano-Ag as an antimicrobial agent by using submerged batch fermentation mode. The pre-culture of *Streptomyces rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2 was inoculated in 7L stirred tank bioreactor (working volume 5L) to reach the initial biomass of 0.5g/l. Then the bioreactor was incubated and agitated

at 30°C, 200rpm. The aeration, agitation, pH, temperature and composition of nutrients are considering the principle factors that have an effect on growth yield. The culture was maintained at higher value of dissolved oxygen, which decreased gradually indicating cell growth and glucose consumption from the culture broth. To ensure a sufficient oxygen supply, oxygen was kept above 20% through raising the agitation speed (Fig.11). In this experiment, by using kinetics measurements we conclude that;  $Y_x$  (30.5),  $P_{max}$  was 85.5g/l;  $Y_p$  was 42.6 and the incubation period was 30hr. Fig. (12) Shows the growth patterns, kinetics in the batch culture, the concentration of consuming glucose, biomass and nano-Ag dry mass weight plotted against the time. Nano-Ag dry mass weight was increased near the end of the stationary phase. The biomass  $X_{max}$  achieved was 67.5 g/l. Cells were grown directly after the lag phase which lasted for about 9hr. Cell mass was then increased exponentially over time with a specific growth rate,  $\mu_{max}$  (0.85 hr<sup>-1</sup>) within the exponential phase. Batch model prediction for biomass and nano-Ag production was higher than the shake flask experimental data at different stages of cell growth. The possible reason was that the fermentation conditions in stirred tank bioreactor (agitation, airflow, and pH) were controlled.

#### **Application of bio-fabricated nano-Ag against multidrug-resistant human pathogens *in vitro***

*Streptomyces* have received much attention because of their potential to produce bioactive compounds and useful enzymes for industrial applications. Nowadays many researchers focused on the biosynthesis of nano-Ag which is used as bioactive compounds against various human pathogens<sup>20, 22, 25</sup> with a broad spectrum against Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacteria as well as multi-resistant strains<sup>27</sup>. In the present study, the antagonistic activity of nano-Ag bio-fabricated from *Streptomyces rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2 with different concentrations was investigated against selected human pathogens (Table 9, 10). The maximum zones of inhibition ranged from 50 to 65mm by using 30 and 35µg/ml of nano-Ag, 35–54 mm by using 30 and 60µg/ml of nano-Ag for pathogenic bacteria and fungi, respectively. Generally, nano-Ag showed higher activities against the tested pathogenic bacteria rather than tested pathogenic

fungi, and the highest activity was recorded against *Streptococcus pneumoniae* (65mm) and *Aspergillus fumigatus* (54mm) respectively. MIC, MFC, and MBC of nano-Ag was evaluated against tested human pathogenic bacteria and fungi. The nano-Ag exhibited MIC against *Streptococcus pneumoniae* at 255µg/ml, & MBC at 505µg/ml and MIC against *Aspergillus fumigates* at 505µg/ml & MFC 605βg/ml. Similarly, many other researchers have been demonstrated the reactive antimicrobial activity of silver nanoparticles<sup>20, 22, 27</sup>. Also, it has been reported that silver nanoparticles synthesized by *Streptomyces sp.* have reactive antibacterial activity against test pathogens including *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Proteus vulgaris*, *Escherichia coli*, *Shigella dysenteriae*, *Klebsiella pneumoniae* and *Salmonella typhi* and the antimicrobial efficiency of Ag NPs was shape and size dependent. Ag NPs was reported to attach to the cell membrane surface and significantly damage its permeability and respiratory function<sup>20</sup>. This work focuses on large-scale production of nano-Ag from high-cell-density filtrate of *Streptomyces rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2 (Fig.13) as a novel antimicrobial agent against hospital-acquired infectious pathogens.

## **CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, the present work could successfully potentiated the biogenesis of nano-Ag mediated by *Streptomyces rectiviolaceus* strain SMWN3.2 with a remarkable antimicrobial activity against bacterial and fungal human pathogens with a successful mass production of the microbial cells in the laboratory. Optimization approaches have been successfully designed for bio fabrication of nano-Ag reaction. Actinomycete isolate has reached the high production of the specific metabolite with a high growth rate; easy handling in large-scale production and the low-cost requirement for production procedures at both the shake flask and stirred tank bioreactor levels. Finally, this current work could be applied on the large-scale production of nano-Ag as a novel antimicrobial agent against hospital-acquired infectious pathogens.

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