Table of Contents

Contents/Chapters	Page No.
List of Figures	xv
List of Tables	xviii
Abbreviations	xx
Preface	xxiii
1.0. Introduction	1
2.0. Literature Review	8
2.1 History of Microbial fuel cell	10
2.2 Principle of MFC	10
2.3 Material used in the MFC system	11
2.3.1 Anode	12
2.3.2 Cathode	13
2.3.3 Membranes	13
2.3.4 Substrates	14
2.3.4.1 Glucose	14
2.3.4.2 Acetate and Butyrate	14
2.3.4.3 Lignocellulose	15
2.3.4.4 Cellulose	15
2.3.4.5 Wastewater	16
2.4 Configuration of MFC	17
2.4.1 Single chamber MFC	17
2.4.2 Dual-chamber microbial fuel cells	18

2.5 Electrogenic microorganisms and extracellular electron transfer pathways 18

2.5.1 Electroactive Biofilms 20

2.6 EET pathways by electrogens 24

2.6.1 EET pathways in Gram-negative bacteria 24

2.6.1.1 Metal reducing pathway in *S. oneidensis* MR-1 24

2.6.1.2 Porin cytochrome pathway in *Geobacter sulfurreducens* 27

2.6.1.3 The Pio pathway in *Rhodopseudomonas palustris* TIE-1 30

2.6.1.4 Metal-oxidizing pathway in *Sideroxydans lithotrophicus* ES-1 31

2.6.1.5 Electron transfer pathway in *Thermincola potens JR* 32

2.6.2 EET pathways in Gram-positive bacteria 33

2.6.2.1 EET pathway in *Lysinibacillus varians GY32* 33

2.6.2.2 EET pathway in *Carboxydothermus ferrireducens* 34

2.6.2.3 EET pathway in *Enterococcus faecalis* 36

2.6.3 EET pathway in Yeast 37

2.7 Application of EET 38

2.7.1 Bioremediation of pollutants 38

2.7.2 Biomining 40

2.7.3 Nanomaterial synthesis 41

2.7.4 Bioenergy and biogas generation 42

2.8 Yeast as anode biocatalyst 43

2.8.1 Factors affecting the performance of the yeast-based MFCs 51

2.8.2 Strategies to enhance the electron transfer from yeast cell to the anode 52

2.8.2.1 Addition of artificial and natural mediators 53

2.8.2.2 Yeast extract as a sustainable mediator 56

2.8.2.3 Anode surface modification 57

2.8.2.4 Genetically modified yeast 60

2.8.2.5 Yeast surface display technique 61

2.8.3 Applications of yeast-based MFCs 62

2.8.3.1 Electricity generation 62

2.8.3.2 Alcohol production 63

2.8.3.3 Biohydrogen production 63

2.8.3.4 Biosensing 64

2.8.3.5 Wastewater treatment 64

2.8.3.6 Desalination of water 66

2.9 Utilization of food waste in MFC 66

2.10 Machine learning 74

2.10.1 Machine learning methods 75

2.10.1.1 Supervised machine learning 75

2.10.1.2 Unsupervised machine learning 76

2.10.1.3 Semi-supervised learning 76

2.10.1.4 Reinforcement learning 76

2.10.2 ML algorithms 76

2.10.2.1 Neural networks 76
2.10.2.2 Linear regression 77
2.10.2.3 Logistic regression 77
2.10.2.4 Clustering 77
2.10.2.5 Decision trees 77
2.10.2.6 Random forests 77
2.10.3 Decision tree Model 78
2.10.3.1 Root nodes 79
2.10.3.2 Decision Nodes 79
2.10.3.3 Leaf Nodes 79
2.10.3.4 Sub-tree 79
2.10.3.5 Pruning 79
2.10.3.6 Entropy 79
2.10.3.7 Information Gain 80
3.0 Bioelectricity generation using sweet lemon peels as anolyte and cow urine as catholyte in a yeast-based microbial fuel cell 83
3.1 Introduction 83
3.2 Material and methods 87
3.2.1 Raw material collection 87
3.2.2 Substrate preparation for the anode and its pre-treatment 87
3.2.3 Substrate characterization 88
3.2.4 Catholyte preparation & characterization 88
3.2.5 Anode biocatalyst 88
3.2.5.1 Isolation and identification of cellulolytic bacteria 88

3.2.5.2 Isolation of genomic DNA 89
3.2.5.3 16S rRNA gene sequencing 90
3.2.6 Microalgae culture 90
3.2.7 MFC construction 91
3.2.8 MFC operation 92
3.2.9 MFC characterization 93
3.2.10 Statistical analysis 95
3.3 Results and discussion 96
3.3.1 Ultimate and Proximate analysis of sweet lime peel 96
3.3.2 16s rRNA sequencing of isolated bacteria 98
3.3.3 Analysis of power generation/polarization curve and internal resistance 99
3.3.4 Pollutant removal and organic substrate consumption 106
3.3.5 Algae biomass yield 108
3.4 Conclusions 108
4.0 Bioelectricity generation by using cellulosic waste and spent engine oil in a concentric photobioreactor-microbial fuel cell 112
4.1 Introduction 112
4.2 Material and methods 114
4.2.1 Sample collection 114
4.2.2 Pretreatment of cellulosic waste 114
4.2.2.1 Characterization of cellulosic waste 115
4.2.2.2 Anolyte preparation and characterization 115
4.2.3 Microalgae cultivation 116

4.2.3.1 DNA extraction, amplification and sequencing of microalgae 116
4.2.4 Preparation of catholyte 117
4.2.4.1 Characterization of catholyte 117
4.2.5 Anode inoculum and characterization 117
4.2.6 MFC construction and operation 118
4.2.6.1 MFC characterization 120
4.2.7 Characterization of microbial community at anode 120
4.2.7.1 Preparation for scanning electron microscopy (SEM) analysis 121
4.2.8 Statistical analysis 122
4.3 Results and Discussion 122
4.3.1 Proximate and ultimate analysis of dried substrates 122
4.3.2 Identification of microalgae strain 124
4.3.3 Power generation 125
4.3.4 Substrate degradation and nutrient removal 131
4.3.5 Dried algae biomass yield 134
4.3.6 Microbial community and diversity 134
4.4 Conclusions 139
5.0 Bioelectricity generation by microbial degradation of banana peel waste biomass in a dual-chamber S. cerevisiae-based microbial fuel cell 142
5.1 Introduction 142
5.2 Materials and methods 144
5.2.1 Substrate collection and preparation 144
5.2.1.1 Preparation of dried banana peel powder 144

5.2.1.2 Preparation of banana slurry 144
5.2.1.3 Substrate preparation 145
5.2.1.4 Substrate characterization 145
5.2.2 Anode biocatalyst 145
5.2.3 MFC construction 145
5.2.4 MFC operation 147
5.2.5 MFC characterization 148
5.2.6 Sampling, PCR amplification, metagenomic analysis 150
5.2.7 Statistical analysis 151
5.3 Results and discussion 151
5.3.1 Anode modification by activated charcoal 151
5.3.2 Ultimate and proximate analysis of banana peel 153
5.3.3 Analysis of power generation from MFC 154
5.3.3.1 Polarization curve 158
5.3.4 COD removal and substrate digestion 163
5.3.5 Analysis of indigenous microbial consortia 165
5.4 Conclusions 168
6.0 Optimization of banana peel waste based microbial fuel cells by machine learning 170
6.1 Introduction 171
6.2 Materials and methods 174
6.2.1 Substrate preparation 174
6.2.2 Anode biocatalyst 175
6.2.3 Design of MFC 175
6.2.4 Experimental layout and data generation 176

6.2.5 Decision tree regression, computational and experimental validation `180
6.2.6 Software and statistical analysis 181
6.3 Results and Discussion 181
6.3.1 Decision tree evaluation 181
6.3.1.1 Voltage 182
6.3.1.2 Current density 188
6.3.1.3 Power density 195
6.3.2 Model validation 199
6.3.2.1 Computational validation 199
6.3.2.2 Experimental validation 204
6.4 Conclusions 207
7.0 Overall Conclusion and Future Perspective 209
7.1 Overall conclusion 210
7.2 Future research needs and engineering implications 211
8.0 References 214
List of Publications 253