

Contents

ABSTRACT	iii
References	vi
DECLARATION	ix
CERTIFICATE	xi
ACKNOWLEDGMENT	xv
List of Figures	xxiii
List of Tables	xxix
List of abbreviations	xxxii
1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Analytical methods of material analysis	1
1.1.1 Colorimetric and Photometric methods of material analysis	2
1.1.2 Spectroscopic methods of material analysis	3
1.1.3 Turbidimetric and Nephelometric method of material analysis	4
1.1.4 Optical microscopic methods of material analysis	4
1.2 Applications of analytical instruments	5
1.3 Miniaturisation of analytical instruments	5
1.4 Smartphone-based instrumental method of analysis	7
1.5 Importance of water quality assessment	10

1.6	Water quality assessment on smartphone-based platforms	12
1.6.1	Heavy metal detection on smartphone-based platform	12
1.6.2	Minerals and Chemicals detection on smartphone-based platform	14
1.6.3	Estimation of physical parameters on smartphone-based platform	16
1.6.4	Detection of biological contaminants on smartphone-based platform	18
1.7	Statement of the research problem and research motivation	18
1.8	Scope and Contribution of the Thesis	20
	References	22
2	HARDWARE AND SOFTWARE PART OF A SMARTPHONE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF ANALYTICAL INSTRUMENTS	33
2.1	Recent advancement in smartphone technology and its embedded sensors	33
2.1.1	Imaging sensor of a smartphone	35
2.1.2	Ambient light sensor of a smartphone	37
2.2	Development of an Android application	38
2.3	Analysis of accuracy and precision in instrumental methods	42
2.4	Some important figure of merits of analytical instrument	43
2.5	Summary	44
	References	44
3	SMARTPHONE-BASED FLUORESCENCE SENSING FOR ACCURATE ESTIMATION OF MERCURY IN WATER	47
3.1	Introduction	47
3.2	Design and development of the smartphone-based fluorometer	49
3.3	Development of an Android application	51
3.4	Materials and methods	53
3.4.1	Preparation of the standard solutions	53
3.4.2	Spectroscopic analysis of the standard solutions	54
3.5	Results and Discussions	55

3.6	Performance evaluation of the tool in presence of other elements in the test sample	57
3.7	Study of the sensor response for field-collected water samples	59
3.8	Summary	60
	References	61
4	GROWTH KINETICS MONITORING OF BACTERIAL SAMPLES USING SMARTPHONE IN THE LABORATORY ENVIRONMENT.	63
4.1	Introduction	64
4.2	Development of the nephelometric setup for monitoring growth kinetics of bacteria	65
4.3	Development of the Android application	68
4.4	Materials and methods	68
4.4.1	Bacterial growth kinetics experiments	69
4.4.2	Synthesis of standard turbid sample	69
4.5	Calibration of the developed platform with formazin sample	70
4.6	Monitoring of growth kinetics of <i>E. coli</i> and <i>B. subtilis</i> using the designed sensor	71
4.7	Evaluation of sensor performance with Colony Forming Unit (CFU) analysis	73
4.8	Study of sensor's performance for other bacterial samples	75
4.9	Summary	75
	References	77
5	DUAL MODE PHOTOMETRIC AND NEPHELOMETRIC BASED SENSING FOR ACCURATE ESTIMATION OF SULPHATE AND CHLORIDE LEVEL IN WATER	81
5.1	Introduction	82
5.2	Experimental design of the dual sensing platform	83
5.3	Development of an Android application for dual mode sensing	85
5.4	Material and methods	85
5.4.1	Preparation of standard formazin solution	87
5.4.2	Preparation of sulphate sample	87
5.4.3	Preparation of chloride sample	88

7.2	Hardware design	119
7.2.1	Design of the universal smartphone holder	119
7.2.2	Design of the dual mode colorimetric and fluorescence based sensing system	121
7.2.3	Design of the microscopic imaging system	122
7.3	Software	124
7.4	Materials and methods	125
7.5	Utilisation of the dual-mode sensing platform	125
7.5.1	Colorimetric mode of sensing	125
7.5.2	Fluorescence mode of sensing	126
7.6	Microscopic setup for imaging study	128
7.7	Summary	130
	References	130
8	CONCLUSION, LIMITATIONS AND FUTURE PROSPECTS OF THE PRESENT THESIS WORK	133
8.1	Summary of the thesis work	133
8.2	Limitations	136
8.3	Future prospects	136