ABBREVIATIONS USED IN THIS THESIS

AAS = Atomic absorption spectrophotometer
ASN = Artificial seawater nutrient
ASW = Artificial seawater
BHRM = Bacteria highly resistant to mercury
CFU = Colony forming unit
C:N = Carbon:Nitrogen
CHN = Carbon hydrogen nitrogen
CPD = Critical point drying
DNA = Deoxyribonucleic acid
dNTP = Deoxynucleoside tri phosphate
ECD = Electron capture detector
EDS = Energy dispersive x-ray spectrometry
EDTA = Ethylene diamine tetra acetic acid
EtBr = Ethidium bromide
FAD = Flavo adenine dinucleotide
FIAS = Flow injection atomic spectrometry
FID = Flame ionization detector
GC = Gas chromatography
ICP-AES = Inductively coupled plasma – atomic emission spectrometry
LB = Luria Bertani
MB = Marine broth
MBT = Monobutyltin
MRB = Mercury resistant bacteria
MSM = Minimal salt medium
NADP = Nicotin amide adenine dinucleotide phosphate
NADPH = Nicotin amide adenine dinucleotide hydrogen phosphate
OD = Optical density
PAGE = Poly acrylamide gel electrophoresis
PBS = Phosphate buffer saline
PCBs = Polychlorinated biphenyls
POPs = Persistent organic pollutants
PPB = Parts per billion (≡μg l⁻¹)
PPM = Parts per million (≡mg l⁻¹)
PPT = Parts per trillion (≡ng l⁻¹)
RNA = Ribonucleic acid
SDS = Sodium dodecyl sulphate
SEM = Scanning electron microscopy
SWNA = Seawater nutrient agar
SWNB = Seawater nutrient broth
TAE = Tris acetic acid EDTA
TBT = Tri butyl tin