

Editors Comments and Authors Feedback:

Comments on the manuscript BMRJ_25837.

The discovery of a consortium of microorganism that efficiently degrades 2,4-DNT and the elaboration of evolution is interesting.

There are a few points that need correction:

- 1) Generally use everywhere 2,4-DNT instead of occasionally 2, 4-DNT.

Ans: It has been done in the manuscript.

- 2) 68 Sentence is unclear.

Ans: The sentence is rewritten. The Tween-20 prevents formation of aggregation-based artifacts hence original arrangement of microbial cell is clear.

- 3) 88 “measurement of 2,4-DNT degradation” instead of “determination of..”

Ans: It has been done in the manuscript.

- 4) 100 “degree of biodegradation” instead of “biodegradation of...”

Ans: It has been done in the manuscript.

- 5) 107 high absorbance at ? nm wavelength related to what?

Ans: All the strains exhibited high absorbance at 620nm indicating microbial growth in the initial 8 hrs of incubation.

- 6) 112 (-), but there is no (-) in Table 1

Ans: For A17 bacterial strain the growth was not observed in the concentration of 0.3mg/ml. By mistake it was not mentioned which have been included now

- 7) 115 Table 2, not (Table 2) (omit parentheses); same holds for figure 2, etc.

Ans: It has been done in the manuscript.

- 8) Fig. 5: Replace by using: “B-GC Degradation products of 2,4 Di-nitro toluene in the presence of Consortium”

Ans: It has been done in the manuscript.

- 9) Comparison of panels A and B shows that the large peak in B-GC is comparable with the one in A-GC, and not much smaller. Please comment.

Ans: The GC chromatogram B denotes degradation after 8 hours. We have not included the 48h GC Chromatogram previously which have been included now (as C) in the revised manuscript.