An investigation into the diversity of and interactions with platinum of a microbial population from a platinum mine

by

Abhita Gyanendra Jugdave

Submitted in fulfilment of the requirements for the degree

PHILOSOPHIAE DOCTOR

In the

Department of Microbial, Biochemical and Food Biotechnology

Faculty of Natural Sciences

University of the Free State

Bloemfontein

Republic of South Africa

November 2011

Promotors: Prof. E. Van Heerden
Prof. D. Litthauer
Prof . J. Albertyn