

# Evaluation of Antimicrobial and Antibiofilm Potential of *Syzygium diospyrifolium*(Wall. Ex Duthie) S.N. Mitra via in Vitro Assays and Molecular Docking Against Bacterial Pathogens

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## Abstract

The progressive insensitivity of pathogenic bacteria to antimicrobial agents to conventional treatments it is demands the search for unconventional antimicrobial agents from natural source. In this investigation the leaf and fruit of *Syzygium diospyrifolium*(Wall.ExDuthie) S.N.Mitra were evaluated for their antimicrobial and antibiofilm activities against pathogenic bacteria, *S.aureus*, *B.subtilis*, *B.pumilus*, *M.luteus*, *E.coli* and *P.aeruginosa*. Methanolic extract exhibited significant zone of inhibition and high biofilm percentage indicates potential antimicrobial agent. GC-MS report identified several bioactive plant-derived compounds, which were carried for further studied to molecular docking against bacterial target protein. Among the identified compounds such as 5-(3-hydroxypropyl)-2,3- and D-allose displayed strong interactions with multiple bacterial proteins, in some cases approaching the binding energies of clinically used antibiotics. These investigation suggest that *Syzygium diospyrifolium*(Wall.ExDuthie) S.N.Mitra indicating positive outcome and innovative antimicrobial and antibiofilm agents. To the best of our review, this is the first documented on the medicinal value of these specific compounds from *Syzygium diospyrifolium*(Wall.ExDuthie) S.N.Mitra.

**Keywords:** *Syzygium diospyrifolium*(Wall.ExDuthie) S.N.Mitra, Meghalaya, Antimicrobial activity, Antibiofilm activity, GC-MS, Molecular docking

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## INTRODUCTION

Microbial infections continue to be a major global public health concern worldwide (Guo et al 2020). Over a past decade, the botanical and non-natural compounds with promising antimicrobial potential has become a primary concern of biomedical research. An essential aspects worsening bacterial infection is biofilm formation. Biofilms are structured communities of microorganisms envelope in a self-produced extracellular matrix that adheres to complex interplay between biotic and abiotic surfaces (Vaseudevan 2014). Approximately 75% of bacterial infections involve biofilms, which act as barriers to many conventional therapies (Musk et al. 2005). The need for new strategies to prevent or disrupt biofilms is increasingly urgent (Simoes et al. 2007). Surprisingly, despite the advancements of modern medicine the growth of efficient antibacterial drugs pipeline is dwindling, the rising tide of antibiotic resistance enduring challenge for healthcare systems (Loolaie et al. 2017). Plant-derived compounds have long served as critical resources for development of new therapies due to their historical usage in traditional medicine and perceived safety (Karuppiah and Mustafa 2013, Rasamiravaka et al. 2015). Improvement in computational methodologies have enhanced the discovery of drug candidates through in silico analyses of intermolecular interactions. Among these computational tools, molecular docking is commonly used to predict the binding affinity and conformation of ligands with target proteins, thereby elucidating potential mode of action (Rasouli et al. 2017 & 2020). ***Syzygium diospyrifolium*(Wall.exDuthie) S.N. Mitra** which is found in Shillong Meghalaya, specifically in Jarain West Jaintia Hills, were consumed by the local people as a curry for their meal and commonly used by traditional healers and local people staying in the area for treating several human diseases and infections such as diarrhea, food poisoning, wounds, skin infections, ulcers, inflammatory disorders, gastric problems. In spite of the well-documented benefits of various *Syzygium* species, the antibacterial and antibiofilm potential of ***Syzygium diospyrifolium*(Wall. Ex Duthie) S.N. Mitra** of leaf and fruits prepared in methanol remains

uninvestigated. Although various *Syzygium* species have recognized health benefits, no published research exist on the GCMS analysis and evaluation of antimicrobial as well as antibiofilm potential of *Syzygium diospyrifolium* (Wall. Ex Duthie) S.N. Mitra via in vitro assays and molecular docking against antibiotic resistance bacterial pathogens

## **MATERIAL AND METHOD**

### **Plant Source and Analytical extraction process**

The leaves and fruits of *Syzygium diospyrifolium* (Wall. ex Duthie) S.N. Mitra were collected from the humid tropical zone of Shillong, Meghalaya, specifically in Jarain, close to the pitcher plant Park in Amlarem Block of West Jaintia Hills District in the month of April and November 2019. The Eastern Regional centre of Botanical Survey of India (BIS) Shillong, authenticated the collected botanical specimens (Ref: BSI/ERC//6/6/2024-2025-tech/619). The plant specimen were cut into smaller fragment and dried in shade (Azwanida 2015, Pandey et al. 2014). Then, they were crushed into fined powder and preserve in airtight containers in a cool and dry location for analytical purpose. Methanol were utilized, typically 1:2 ratio (plant material to solvent) for the isolation of the compounds. The powdered material is transferred into a flask containing methanol and subjected to vigorous shaking for 24 hours or more at ambient temperature. The resulting extracts is then utilized for antimicrobial and antibiofilm activity analysis (Alvarado Gomez et al. 2016, Choi et al. 2017).

### **In vitro Studies (Antimicrobial evaluation)**

The antibacterial activities of leaf and fruits of *Syzygium diospyrifolium* (Wall. ex Duthie) S.N. Mitra were examined against six bacterial strain which are known to be pathogenic against human four Gram positive bacteria, *Bacillus subtilis* (ATCC-6633), *Bacillus pumilus* (ATCC-14884), *Micrococcus luteus* (ATCC-9341), *Staphylococcus aureus* (ATCC -6538); two Gram negative bacteria *Escherichia coli* (ATCC-1053), *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (ATCC-9027) were provides by Regional Drug Testing Laboratory Guwahati, Assam. The methanolic leaf and fruit extracts of *Syzygium diospyrifolium* (Wall. ex Duthie) S.N. Mitra (10 µg) were inoculated against six selected pathogenic bacteria strain using agar well diffusion method. The plates were then incubated at 37°C for 24 hours. Following incubation, the diameters of the incubation zones were measured and compared with those produced by standard antibiotics (Damiki Laloo et al. 2020)

### **In vitro Studies (Antibiofilm evaluation)**

Biofilm inhibition was carried out using crystal violet microtiterolate assay as illustrated by (Vasudevan 2014) with a slight modification. Bacterial structure were fixed to  $1 \times 10^6$  CFU/mL and incubate with 100 µg/mL of *Syzygium diospyrifolium* (Wall. ex Duthie) S.N. Mitra leaf and fruit methanol extract in 96-well plates at 37°C for 24 hours. After incubation well were washed with PBS (phosphate-buffered saline), fixed with methanol stained with 0.1% Crystal violet and dye is solubilized in ethanol. Biofilm inhibition was determined by measuring absorbance 570nm, and inhibition was calculated compared to untreated control.

### **In silico analysis**

#### **(i) Compound Identification and Selection (GC-MS-Based Compound Identification)**

The methanolic leaf and fruit extract of *Syzygium diospyrifolium* (Wall. ex Duthie) S.N. Mitra subjected to GCMS analysis. The GCMS analysis was performed in a Thermo Fisher Scientific GC system at the Central Instrumentation Facility (CIF), University of Science and Technology Meghalaya, India. The system was furnished with a split/splitless injection port with a consideration of 1/100 split ratio. It was accompanied by an electron impact mode set ISQ7000 mass spectrometer system. A column fused with TG-5MS silica capillary with the specification of 30 m × 0.25 mm i.d. and 0.25 µm film thickness was employed for the analysis. The initial temperature setting was for 3 min at 60 °C followed by elevation to 230°C at 5°C per minute. Both the transfer line and the injector temperature were maintained at 230°C and 290°C discretely. The ion source block was directly connected to the column outlet. Setting of the flow rate of ultrapure helium as a carrier gas was concluded at 1 ml per minute with 0.2 µL of injection volume. The Chromeleon™ Software which was provided along with the instrument was employed for the calculation of peak area percentages. The qualitative analysis was performed in dilute solutions of pre-determined concentrations. Confirmation of compound identifications was finalized by comparative analysis of the laboratory retention indices and NIST library-derived mass spectrum of undisputed standards as reference

### (ii) Selection of the protein target and preparation

Selections of the protein targets for docking were selected on the basis research papers (Patel et al. 2018, Tabassum et al., 2023, Balaji and Mahalingam 2025). The 3D structure of the proteins was downloaded from PDB (Berman et al. 2000) and modelled structure along with uniprot IDs. For the protein whose crystal structures are not available, modelled structures were downloaded from AlphaFold available in Uniprot database (Pettersen EF et al., 2004). The protein structures were optimized using the AutoDock Tools plug-in included in PyRx. The ligands corresponding to PUBMED IDs are processed in PyRx by minimizing all the ligands, ensuring no steric clashes and proper charge distribution. The prepared protein and ligand files were converted to pdbqt file format.

### (iii) Selection of the ligands

Selection of the ligands was done using ADME and Toxicity prediction ADME and toxicity of all the compounds were predicted using SWISSADME and ADMETlab3.0 Lead likeliness of the compounds, pharmacokinetic properties and their violations to drug ability rules, such as Lipinski, Ghose and Veber were studied using SWISSADME (Michielin & Zoete, V. (2017). The molecules that met the acceptance criteria from all the three rules will be presenting. The molecules which passed hERG Blockers, Ames mutagenesis, Rat oral acute toxicity, Eye corrosion, respiratory toxicity Genotoxic and immunotoxicity parameters obtained from ADMETlab3 web server will be presenting (Fu, L. & Cao, D. 2024).

### ADME and Toxicity prediction

ADME and toxicity of all the compounds were predicted using SWISSADME (<http://www.swissadme.ch/index.php>) and ADMETlab3.0 (<https://admetlab3.scbdd.com/>) web servers. Lead likeliness of the compounds, pharmacokinetic properties and their violations to drug ability rules, such as Lipinski, Ghose and Veber were studied using SWISSADME.

### Molecular Docking

A total of 31 compounds and 6 reference molecules have been docked with 11 proteins of bacteria using PyRx software. A grid box was defined around the whole protein covering the entire possible binding pocket to ensure accurate docking of ligands. For all the proteins, grid box allocation dimensions will be present. The docking process was executed using the AutoDockVina algorithm integrated within PyRx. For each protein

ligand complex, 8 docking runs were performed. The scoring function outputted predicted binding affinities and docking pose (Trott & Olson, 2010).

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### Antibacterial activity

The metabolic extracts of leaves and fruits (1 mg/mL) exhibited varying degrees of antibacterial activity against six bacterial strains, as evaluated by the zone of inhibition (mm) as shown in **Table 1**. Across all bacterial strains tested, the standard antibiotics generally showed higher or comparable efficacy than the plant extracts, except in the case of *Staphylococcus aureus*, where the leaf extract was more effective. Among the Gram-positive bacteria, the leaf extract showed the highest activity against *Staphylococcus aureus* ( $21.25 \pm 1.09$  mm), which surpassed the activity of the standard antibiotic tobramycin ( $20.25 \pm 0.3$  mm). Other notable zones of inhibition for the leaf extract included  $18.75 \pm 0.5$  mm for *Bacillus pumilus*,  $18.25 \pm 0.5$  mm for *Micrococcus luteus*, and  $15.75 \pm 0.5$  mm for *Bacillus subtilis*. In the case of Gram-negative bacteria, the leaf extract exhibited moderate activity, with zones of inhibition measuring  $13.5 \pm 0.2$  mm for *Escherichia coli* and  $13.75 \pm 0.3$  mm for *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*. These values were lower compared to their respective standard antibiotics (streptomycin and neomycin). The fruit extract demonstrated comparatively lower antibacterial activity, with the highest zone observed against *Staphylococcus aureus* ( $18.75 \pm 0.5$  mm).

Table 1. Antibacterial activity of methanolic leaf and fruit extract of *Syzygium diospyrifolium* (Wall. ex Duthie) S.N Mitra against selected human pathogens

### Antibiofilm activity

The methanolic leaf extract exhibited significant biofilm inhibitory activity against all tested bacterial strains, with inhibition percentages ranging from 31% to 80.9% as shown in **Table 2**. The highest biofilm

Bacterial strain	MethanolicLeaf extract(1mg/ml)	MethanolicFruit extract(1mg/ml)	Standard antibiotic	Zone of standard antibiotic(1mg/ml)
<i>Staphylococcus aureus</i>	21.25±1.09	18.75±0.5	<i>Tobramycin</i>	20.25±0.3
<i>Bacillus subtilis</i>	15.75±0.5	12.75±0.95	<i>Amikacin</i>	16.75±0.95
<i>Bailluspumilus</i>	18.75±0.5	15.25±0.5	<i>Gentamicin</i>	20.5±0.4
<i>Micrococcus luteus</i>	18.25±0.5	16.25±0.5	<i>Erythromycin</i>	20.25±0.3
<i>Escherichia coli</i>	13.5±0.2	11.5±0.2	<i>Streptomycin</i>	15.75±0.5
<i>Pseudomonasaeruginosa</i>	13.75±0.3	11.75±0.5	<i>Neomycin</i>	18.75±0.5

inhibition was recorded against *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (80.9%), followed closely by *Bacillus pumilus* (80%), *Escherichia coli* (77.47%), and *Bacillus subtilis* (76%). Notably, the extract showed greater inhibition in all strains compared to their respective standard antibiotics. For *Staphylococcus aureus*, the extract inhibited biofilm formation by 63.2%, which was higher than tobramycin (55%). Similarly, for *E. coli*, the extract showed 77.47% inhibition compared to 59.8% by streptomycin. The lowest inhibition was observed against *Micrococcus luteus* (31%), which was lower than the standard erythromycin (51.4%).

Table 2. Biofilm inhibition (%) of leaves extract of *Syzygiumdiospyrifolium* (Wall.exDuthie) S.N. Mitra prepared in methanol compared with Reference Standard Antibiotic against six bacterial strains

The methanolic fruit extract exhibited strong antibiofilm activity against a range of Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacterial strains, with inhibition percentages ranging from 36% to 82.8% as shown in **Table 3**. The highest inhibition was observed against *Bacillus pumilus* (82.8%), followed closely by *Pseudomonas aeruginosa* (82.5%) and *Escherichia coli* (81.3%). These values were substantially higher than those obtained with their respective standard antibiotics, which generally showed inhibition around 55–60%. In the case of *Staphylococcus aureus* and *Bacillus subtilis*, the fruit extract inhibited biofilm formation by 67.8% and 80%, respectively, both exceeding the performance of the standard antibiotics (55% in both cases). For *Micrococcus luteus*, the extract showed the lowest antibiofilm activity (36%), which was less effective compared to erythromycin (51.4%).

Table 3. Biofilm inhibition (%) of fruit extract of *Syzygiumdiospyrifolium* (Wall.exDuthie) S.N. Mitra prepared in methanol compared with Reference Standard Antibiotic against six bacterial strains

### Compound Identification and Selection (GC-MS-Based Compound Identification)

The GCMS chromatogram of both fruits and leaves extract of *S. diospyrifolium* (Wall.exDuthie) S.N. Mitra prepared in methanol confirms the eventuality of numerous compounds with different retention times. Comprehensive analysis of compounds present in fruits and leaves by GC-MS analysis is shown in **Table 4a,b**. Fruits are dominated by sugars and fatty acid amides whereas; leaves contain more sterols, terpenoids, and phenolic compounds.

Bacterial strain	Fruit (OD <sub>control</sub> )	Fruit (OD <sub>treated</sub> )	Inhibition (%)	Std. Antibiotic	OD <sub>control</sub>	OD <sub>treated</sub>	Inhibition (%)
Staphylococcus aureus	1.00±0.02	0.322±0.002	67.8%	Tobramycin	1.00±0.02	0.450±0.002	55%
Bacillus subtilis	1.00±0.02	0.200±0.001	80%	Amikacin	1.00±0.02	0.450±0.002	55%
Bacillus pumilus	1.05±0.02	0.180±0.001	82.8%	Gentamicin	1.05±0.02	0.450±0.002	55%
Escherichia coli	1.02±0.001	0.190±0.001	81.3%	Streptomycin	1.02±0.001	0.410±0.001	59.8%
Pseudomonas aeruginosa	1.10±0.01	0.192±0.001	82.5%	Neomycin	1.10±0.01	0.460±0.001	58.1%
Micrococcus luteus	1.00±0.02	0.640±0.001	36%	Erythromycin	1.00±0.02	0.486±0.002	51.4%

**Table 4a:** GC-MS analysis of *Syzygium diospyrifolium* (Wall.exDuthie) S.N. Mitra leaves extract prepared in methanol

S.No	RT	Compound name	% Peak area	Mol. Formula	Mol. weight (g/mol)
1	3.113	Cyclohexene-3,5-diol, cis-	0.31%	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	114.14
2	3.779	Melibiose	0.40%	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>11</sub>	342.30
3	4.681	Cyclopentane, 1-acetyl-1,2-epoxy-	3.28%	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	126.15
4	5.317	4H-Pyran-4-one, 2,3-dihydro-3,5-dihydroxy-6-methyl	3.85%	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	144.12
5	5.983	5-Hydroxymethylfurfural	15.30%	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	126.11
6	6.623	6-Acetyl-β-d-mannose	0.13%	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>14</sub> O <sub>7</sub>	222.19
7	7.293	1,2,4-Benzenetriol	4.53%	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	126.11
8	8.391	Melezitose	13.91%	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>32</sub> O <sub>16</sub>	504.4
9	8.585	Maltose	1.52%	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>11</sub>	342.3
10	10.075	Lactose	4.66%	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>22</sub> O <sub>11</sub>	342.3
11	14.367	1-Heptatriacotanol	0.18%	C <sub>37</sub> H <sub>76</sub> O	537.0
12	14.904	n-Hexadecanoic acid	0.62%	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>32</sub> O	256.43
13	17.758	Linoleic acid	0.47%	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>32</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	280.4
14	23.741	Hexadecanoic acid, 2-hydroxy-1-(hydroxymethyl)ethyl ester	3.18%		
15	26.230	(Z)-3-(Heptadec-10-en-1-yl)phenol	8.97%	C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>38</sub> O	330.6
16	26.768	Octadecanoic acid, 2-hydroxy-1-(hydroxymethyl)ethyl ester	0.91%	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>42</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	358.5
17	27.693	Palmitoleamide	24.71%	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>31</sub> NO	
18	34.008	β-Sitosterol	0.89%	C <sub>29</sub> H <sub>50</sub> O	414.7
19	35.352	Methyl glycocholate, 3TMS derivative	0.53%	C <sub>36</sub> H <sub>69</sub> NO <sub>6</sub> Si <sub>3</sub>	696.2
20	38.410	Octasiloxane, 1,1,3,3,5,5,7,7,9,9,11,11,13,13,15,15-hexadecam	0.39%	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>50</sub> O <sub>7</sub> Si <sub>8</sub>	576.15

**Table 4b:**GC-MS analysis of Syzygiumdiospyrifolium(Wall.exDuthie) S.N. Mitra fruits extract prepared in methanol

S.No	RT	Compound name	% Peak area	Mol. Formula	Mol. weight (g/mol)
1	3.773	DL-Arabinose	0.64%	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	150
2	4.674	Cyclopentane, 1-acetyl-1,2-epoxy-	0.57%	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>10</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	126.15
3	5.317	4H-Pyran-4-one, 2,3-dihydro-3,5-dihydroxy-6-methyl-	0.96%	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>8</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	144.12
4	5.463	l-Gala-l-ido-octose	0.03%	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	240
5	5.977	5-Hydroxymethylfurfural	1.05%	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	126.11
6	7.269	1,2,3-Benzenetriol	12.23%	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	126.11
7	8.395	D-Allose	1.41%	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>12</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	
8	9.776	Melezitose	0.52%	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>32</sub> O <sub>16</sub>	504.4
9	12.986	Neophytadiene	2.21%	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>38</sub>	278.5
10	13.922	5-(3-Hydroxypropyl)-2,3-dimethoxyphenol	1.55%	C <sub>11</sub> H <sub>16</sub> O	212.2
11	14.928	n-Hexadecanoic acid	1.92%	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>32</sub> O	256.43
12	17.891	9,12,15-Octadecatrienoic acid, (Z,Z,Z)-	2.00%	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>36</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	320
13	23.523	Phenol, 3-pentadecyl-	1.57%	C <sub>21</sub> H <sub>36</sub> O	304
14	26.268	(Z)-3-(Heptadec-10-en-1-yl)phenol	29.21%	C <sub>23</sub> H <sub>38</sub> O	330.6
15	27.693	13-Docosenamide, (Z)-	%1.39	C <sub>23</sub> H <sub>43</sub> NO	337.6
16	28.352	Squalene	2.14%	C <sub>30</sub> H <sub>50</sub>	410.7
17	31.903	dl-a-Tocopherol	3.55%	C <sub>29</sub> H <sub>50</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	430.7
18	34.026	β-Sitosterol	1.96%	C <sub>29</sub> H <sub>50</sub> O	414.7
19	37.233	Friedelan-3-one	2.40%	C <sub>30</sub> H <sub>50</sub> O	426.7

### Selection of the protein target and preparation

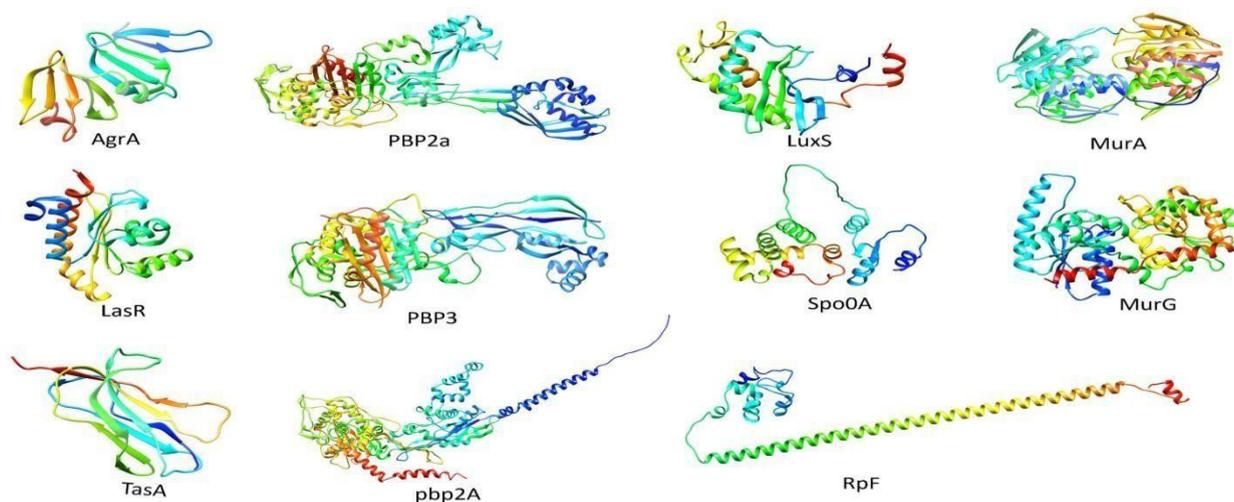
Protein targets responsible for antibiofilm and antibacterial were taken into consideration for the study. The 3D structure of the proteins was downloaded from PDB (Berman et al. 2000) and modelled structure along with uniprot IDs are listed in Table 5 and Fig.1. For the protein whose crystal structures are not available, for them modelled structures were downloaded from AlphaFold available in Uniprot data base. The protein structures were optimized using the AutoDock Tools plug-in included in PyRx.

**Table 5.**List of target proteins displaying the PDBIDs and modelled structure's uniprot IDs

Bacteria	Proteins symbol	Protein Name	Function	Antibiofilm/ Antibacterial	Resolution and Method	Sequence length
Staphylococcus aureus	AgrA	4G4K	Accessory gene regulator A) – Regulates quorum sensing for biofilm control	Antibiofilm	1.52Å, X-ray	103
	PBP2a	1VQQ	Penicillin-binding protein 2a) – Key for β-lactam resistance.	Antibacterial	1.80 Å	646
Escherichia coli	LuxS	Modelled (Q8X902)	LuxS (Autoinducer synthase) – Regulates quorum sensing.	Antibiofilm	-	171

	MurA	3SWD	MurA (UDP-N-acetylglucosamineenolpyruvyltransferase) – Key for the first step of peptidoglycan biosynthesis	Antibacterial	2.5Å,X-ray	418
Pseudomonas aeruginosa	LasR	3IX3	LasR (Quorum sensing regulator) – Controls virulence and biofilm formation.	Antibiofilm	1.40Å,X-ray	173
	PBP3	4WEL	PBP3 (Penicillin-binding protein 3) – Important for cell wall integrity.	Antibacterial	1.99Å,X-ray	538
Bacillus pumilus	Spo0A	Modelled (P52933)	Spo0A (Sporulation master regulator) – Controls biofilm initiation.	Antibiofilm	-	191
	MurG	Modelled (A8FCY1)	MurG (UDP-N-acetylglucosamintransferase) – Essential for peptidoglycan biosynthesis.	Antibacterial	-	364
Bacillus subtilis	TasA	6HQC	TasA (Amyloid-like protein for matrix stability) – Required for robust biofilm structure.	Antibiofilm	1.28Å,X-ray	116
	pbp2A	Modelled (P54488)	PBP2 (Penicillin-binding protein 2) – Key for cell wall biosynthesis.	Antibacterial	-	716
MicrococcusLeteus	Rpf	Modelled (Q6UC89)	Rpf (Resuscitation-Promoting Factor) protein plays a crucial role in bacterial growth and resuscitation of dormant cells	Antibacterial	-	210

Figure 1. 3D images of all the 11 bacterial proteins



ADME and Toxicity prediction

A total of 8 molecules got acceptance from all the three rules as shown in Table 6. Most of the 8 molecules passed hERG Blockers, Ames mutagenesis, Rat oral acute toxicity, Eye corrosion, respiratory toxicity Genotoxic and immunotoxicity parameters obtained from ADMETlab3 web server as shown in Table 7( Supplementary file)

**Table6.**The lead likeliness and pharmacokinetic profiles of the selected compounds and reference molecule

Sl.No	Compound CID	MW<500	HBA<10	nHD≤5	ThreeruleViolation			MLogP ≤4.15	TPSA(Å <sup>2</sup> ) <140	Bioavailability Score > 0.1
					Lipinski	Ghosh	Veber			
1	854 (DL-Arabinose)	150.05	5	4	0	0	0	-2.48	97.99	0.55
2	119838 (4H-Pyran-4-one, 2,3-dihydro-3,5-)	144.04	4	2	0	0	0	-1.77	66.76	0.85
3	219659 (l-Gala-l-ido- octose)	240.08	8	7	0	0	0	-3.81	158.68	0.55
4	237332 (5-Hydroxymethylf urfural) (HMF)	126.03	3	1	0	0	0	-1.06	50.44	0.55
5	439507 (D-Allose)	180.06	6	5	0	0	0	-2.75	110.38	0.55
6	537123 (Cyclopentane)	126.07	2	0	0	0	0	0.42	29.6	0.55
7	565903 (Cyclohexene- 3,5-diol, cis-)	114.07	2	2	0	0	0	0.07	40.46	0.55
8	72942686 (5-(3-Hydroxypropyl)- 2,3-)	212.1	4	2	0	0	0	0.93	58.92	0.55
9	36294 Tobramycin	467.26	14	15	2	1	1	-6.3	268.17	0.17
10	37768 Amikacin	585.29	18	17	3	3	2	-8.42	331.94	0.17
11	3467 Gentamicin	477.32	12	11	2	2	1	-3.33	199.73	0.17
12	12560 Erythromycin	733.46	14	5	2	3	1	1.79	193.91	0.17
13	19649 Streptomycin	581.27	19	16	3	4	1	-8.16	336.43	0.17
14	8378 Neomycin	614.31	19	19	3	4	1	-8.9	353.11	0.17

**Table7.**Toxicity parameters were calculated using ADMET lab3.0 for the selected compounds

Sl. No	Phytochemicals	hERG Blockers	Ames	Ratoralac ute toxicity	Eyecorrosi on	Respiratory Toxicity	Immunotoxicity	Genotoxicity
1.	854 (DL-Arabinose)	0.39 (Negative)	0.20 (Negative)	0.031 (Negative)	0.0009 (Negative)	0.003 (Negative)	0.02 (Negative)	0.001 (Negative)

2.	119838 (4H-Pyran-4-one, 2,3-dihydro-3,5-)	0.08 (Negative)	0.82 (Positive)	0.26 (Negative)	0.64 (Positive)	0.28 (Negative)	0.06 (Negative)	0.68 (Negative)
3.	219659 (l-Gala-l-ido- octose)	0.40 (Negative)	0.43 (Negative)	0.02 (Negative)	2.32 (Positive)	0.000103 (Negative)	0.01 (Negative)	0.0004 (Negative)
4.	237332 (5- Hydroxymethylfu rfural) (HMF)	0.25 (Negative)	0.80 (Positive)	0.42 (Negative)	0.89 (Positive)	0.68 (Positive)	0.04 (Negative)	0.96 (Positive)
5.	439507 (D-Allose)	0.21 (Negative)	0.88 (Positive)	0.22 (Negative)	0.09 (Negative)	0.22 (Negative)	0.10 (Negative)	0.37 (Negative)
6.	537123 (Cyclopentane)	0.43 (Negative)	0.60 (Positive)	0.52 (Positive)	0.07 (Negative)	0.56 (Positive)	0.06 (Negative)	0.69 (Positive)
7.	565903 (Cyclohexene- 3,5-diol, cis-)	0.26 (Negative)	0.33 (Negative)	0.27 (Negative)	0.99 (Positive)	0.53 (Positive)	0.02 (Negative)	0.008 (Negative)
8.	72942686 (5-(3- Hydroxypropyl)- 2,3-)	0.51 (Positive)	0.26 (Negative)	0.12 (Negative)	0.88 (Positive)	0.62 (Positive)	0.05 (Negative)	0.009 (Negative)
9.	36294 Tobramycin	0.018 (Negative)	0.41 (Negative)	0.003 (Negative)	0.0001 (Negative)	0.015 (Negative)	0.27 (Negative)	0.02 (Negative)
10.	37768 Amikacin	0.02 (Negative)	0.66	0.002 (Negative)	1.77 (Positive)	0.004 (Negative)	0.31 (Negative)	0.64
11.	3467 Gentamicin	0.4 (Negative)	0.20 (Negative)	0.50 (Positive)	2.83 (Positive)	0.30 (Negative)	0.11 (Negative)	0.47 (Negative)
12.	12560 Erythromycin	0.03 (Negative)	0.32 (Negative)	0.03 (Negative)	0.0001 (Negative)	0.02 (Negative)	0.38 (Negative)	0.22 (Negative)
13.	19649 Streptomycin	0.004 (Negative)	0.98	0.01 (Negative)	1.45 (Positive)	0.0009 (Negative)	0.24 (Negative)	0.99
14.	8378 Neomycin	0.01 (Negative)	0.79	0.001 (Negative)	1.68 (Positive)	0.006 (Negative)	0.30 (Negative)	0.04 (Negative)

### Selection of the ligands

The ligands corresponding to PUBMEDIDs are processed in PyRx by minimizing all the ligands, ensuring no steric clashes and proper charge distribution. The prepared protein and ligand files were converted to pdbqt file format. (Table for ligand)

### Molecular Docking

The prepared protein and ligand files were converted to pdbqt file format. A grid box was defined around the whole protein covering the entire possible binding pocket to ensure accurate docking of ligands. For all the proteins, grid box allocation dimensions are presented in **Table 8 (Supplementary file)**. A total of 8 compounds and 6 reference molecules have been docked with all the 11 proteins of bacteria using PyRx software as shown in Table 9. The binding affinity analysis presented in Table 9 demonstrates that the selected eight ADMET-validated compounds exhibit variable interaction strengths with multiple bacterial protein targets when compared with standard antibiotics. Overall, the reference molecules such as Streptomycin (−7.9 kcal/mol), Gentamicin (−7.4 kcal/mol), and Erythromycin (−6.7 kcal/mol) showed stronger binding affinities, which was expected given their established antimicrobial efficacy. Among the phytochemicals, PubChem ID 72942686 (5-(3-Hydroxypropyl)-2,3-) emerged as the most promising candidate, with docking scores reaching −6.0 kcal/mol against LasR and −5.8 kcal/mol against MurG, values that approach those of conventional antibiotics. Similarly, D-Allose (PubChem ID 439507) and l-Gala-l-ido-octose (PubChem ID 219659) demonstrated consistent binding affinities across multiple targets, notably against pbp2A, LasR, and MurG, suggesting potential broad-spectrum activity. In contrast, compounds such as Cyclopentane

(PubChem ID 537123) and Cyclohexene-3,5-diol (PubChem ID 565903) showed weaker interactions, indicating limited antimicrobial promise. Target-specific trends were also evident, with LasR and MurG being the most sensitive proteins, receiving moderate to strong affinities from several natural compounds, whereas AgrA and Spo0A showed weaker interactions overall. Although none of the tested natural molecules surpassed the binding efficiencies of antibiotics, their overlapping affinities with certain bacterial targets highlight their potential as lead scaffolds for antimicrobial drug development. The docking process was executed using the AutoDockVina algorithm integrated within PyRx. For each protein-ligand complex, 8 docking runs were performed. The scoring function outputted predicted binding affinities and docking pose. Those 8 molecules passed most of the toxicity parameters displayed less binding affinity than the reference molecules.

**Table 8.** Grid box allocation for the proteins

SI No	Bacteria	Proteins	Center	Size
1.	S.Aureus	AgrA(4G4K)	X=17.57,Y=15.32,Z=42.03	X=38.23,Y=46.30,Z=43.90
2.		PBP2a(1VQQ)	X=23.40,Y=26.68,Z=41.65	X=76.76,Y=70.60,Z=134.32
3.	E.Coli	LuxS(Modelled)	X=4.66,Y=1.58,Z=3.60	X=61.93,Y=44.60,Z=49.98
4.		MurA(3SWD)	X=1.10,Y=-0.95,Z=0.49	X=55.36,Y=67.59,Z=57.80
5.	P. Aeruginosa	LasR(3IX3)	X=11.45,Y=1.60,Z=17.76	X=44.49,Y=54.92,Z=60.52
6.		PBP3(4WEL)	X=4.93,Y=22.47,Z=7.09	X=66.72,Y=73.17,Z=102.74
7.	B.Pumilus	Spo0A(Modelled)	X=-10.40,Y=-6.86,Z=8.65	X=62.49,Y=66.56,Z=68.16
8.		MurG(Modelled)	X=-4.10,Y=1.70,Z=-1.55	X=69,Y=55.97,Z=66.52
9.	B.Subtilis	TasA(6HQC)	X=8.42,Y=-0.71,Z=-15.29	X=48.26,Y=48.03,Z=40.04
10.		pbp2A(Modelled)	X=-1.01,Y=5.51,Z=-13.29	X=93.03,Y=80.52,Z=111.40
11.	Micrococcus luteus	Rpf(Modelled)	X=-21.69,Y=2.76,Z=32.59	X=72.25,Y=53.55,Z=58.64

**Table 9.** Binding affinity of the selected eight compounds which obeys ADMET along with reference molecules

SLN o.	PubChemIDS	S.aureus		E.coli		P.aeruginosa		B.pumilus		B.subtilis		M. luteus
		AgrA (4G4K)	PBP2a (1VQQ)	LuxS (Modelled)	MurA (3SWD)	LasR (3IX3)	PBP3 (4WEL)	Spo0A (Modelled)	MurG (Modelled)	TasA (6HQC)	pbp2A (Modelled)	
1.	854 (DL-Arabinose)	-4.1	-4.1	-3.7	-4.3	-5.1	-4.8	-3.5	-4.7	-4.2	-4.4	-3.9
2.	119838 (4H-Pyran-4-one, 2,3-dihydro-3,5-)	-4.1	-4.9	-4.1	-5.1	-6.0	-5.2	-4.2	-5.0	-4.6	-5.4	-4.2
3.	219659 (l-Gala-l-ido-octose)	-4.4	-5.2	-4.0	-5.2	-5.6	-5.5	-4.7	-5.5	-4.7	-5.5	-4.5
4.	237332 (5-Hydroxymethylfurfural) (HMF)	-4.0	-4.8	-4.0	-4.7	-5.4	-4.7	-4.1	-4.9	-4.1	-5.1	-4.2

5.	439507 (D-Allose)	-4.5	-5.1	4.7	-5.4	-5.6	-5.3	-4.3	-5.4	-5.0	-5.9	4.4
6.	537123 (Cyclopentane)	-3.7	4.6	4.4	-4.7	-5.5	-4.8	-4.3	-5.3	-3.9	-4.5	-4.5
7.	565903 (Cyclohexene-3,5-diol, cis-)	-3.8	4.2	-3.9	4.6	-4.9	-4.5	-4.1	-5.1	-3.9	-4.3	4.1
8.	72942686 (5-(3-Hydroxypropyl)- 2,3-)	-4.6	-5.5	4.9	-5.6	-6.0	-5.5	-4.6	-5.8	-5.1	-5.7	-5.0
9.	36294 Tobramycin	-5.5	-6.3									
10.	19649 Streptomycin			-6.3	-7.9							
11.	Neomycin8378					-5.9	-6.4					
12.	3467 Gentamicin							-5.7	-7.4			
13.	37768 Amikacin									-5.4	-6.5	
14.	12560 Erythromycin											-6.7

## CONCLUSION

The present study highlights the promising antibacterial and antibiofilm potential of methanolic leaf and fruit extracts of *Syzygiumdiospyrifolium* (Wall. ex Duthie) S.N. Mitra against a broad spectrum of pathogenic bacteria. The methanolic leaf extract exhibited notably higher antibacterial activity than the fruit extract, with zones of inhibition in several cases comparable to or exceeding those of standard antibiotics—particularly against *Staphylococcus aureus*, *Bacillus pumilus*, and *Micrococcus luteus*. Antibiofilm assays further confirmed the efficacy of the leaf extract, demonstrating substantial inhibition rates—up to 80.9% against *Pseudomonas aeruginosa*—often surpassing the inhibitory effects of the tested standard antibiotics. In silico molecular docking supported these experimental observations by revealing favorable binding affinities of selected bioactive compounds to key bacterial targets involved in cell wall synthesis, quorum sensing, and biofilm formation. Notably, compounds such as 5-(3-hydroxypropyl)-2,3- and D-allose displayed strong interactions with multiple bacterial proteins, in some cases approaching the binding energies of clinically used antibiotics. The methanolic leaf extract showed very good growth inhibition against Gram-positive bacteria like *S. aureus* (21.25 mm) and *B. pumilus* (18.75 mm), which were on par with their standard antibiotics; however, Gram-negative bacteria (*E. coli*, *P. aeruginosa*) showed smaller zones (13–14 mm), which reflect less activity. The leaf extract always showed larger antibiofilm inhibition than its antibacterial inhibition zones. In silico studies showed moderate to excellent binding affinities, although less than standard antibiotics. Binding scores show likely antibiofilm-related target inhibition versus antibacterial protein targets. In summary, the complementary in vitro and in silico studies put forward that the methanolic leaf extract, which is rich with efficacious phytoconstituents, holds much promise as a future source of novel antibacterial and antibiofilm moieties. However, more studies are required to uncover the therapeutic possibility of these plant origin bioactives in the control of multidrug-resistant bacterial infections.

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