

# Facile Ambient Condition Synthesis and Characterisation of Bicyclic Amide Gallate via Galloyl Chloride Route

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## ABSTRACT

Gallic acid and its derivatives (gallates) are biologically active molecules with potentials for therapeutic applications. They are also labile ligands for the synthesis of coordination compounds. The new gallate Ethyl-4-[(3,4,5-trihydroxybenzoyl) amino] benzoate was synthesised via a mild condition, less strenuous route which involves room temperature reaction of ethyl-4-aminobenzoate with galloyl chloride. The galloyl chloride was obtained by the reaction of a solution of gallic acid in benzene with thionyl chloride using pyridine as a catalyst. The synthetic route afforded the gallate in good yield. The spectroscopy characterisation including FTIR, MS, <sup>1</sup>H, <sup>13</sup>C and 2D NMR (COSY, HMQC and HMBC) was carried out.

## I. INTRODUCTION

Gallates are esters, amides or salts of gallic acid, they have been reported to have several chemical and biological applications. The gallic acid moiety consisting of the aromatic ring along with three phenolic groups and a carbonyl group possess a wide array of biological activities such as antioxidant (Rasool et al., 2010), anti-inflammatory (Shranya et al., 2018, Toyama et al., 2022) antibacterial (Orlando et al, 2025), anticancer (Jiang et al., 2022, Huang et al., 2021), and antimicrobial (Shao et al., 2015, Kang et al., 2008) effects making them molecules with therapeutic potentials. Furthermore, many gallates have been reported as labile ligands (Rushi et al., 2018, Nidhi et al., 2018, Samy and Reham, 2022) for the synthesis of metal complexes. The lability of the gallate ligands stems from the presence of many hetero atoms with lone pairs of electrons which are used for coordination to the metal centre. In view of the many applications of gallates, the synthesis

of new gallates will avail the scientific world with new molecules which can be harnessed to solve life's challenging problems.

Many synthetic routes to gallates have been documented. Some of the synthetic routes to gallate involves the direct coupling reaction between gallic acid an amine or alkanol using a coupling reagent such as N, N-diisopropyl carbodiimide (DIC) and 4-dimethylaminopyridine. The associated challenge with this procedure is that it requires tedious workup to remove the urea generated during the process. Another approach is the reaction of gallic acid with thionyl chloride (or other chlorinating agents) resulting in the formation galloyl chloride which is coupled insitu with other reagent to yield the gallates (Alhazamet al., 2012). This approach works well with extremely anhydrous reagents since thionyl chloride readily reacts with water, also extensive separation is required to recover the gallate from the mixture of unreacted reagents. However, independent synthesis and isolation of galloyl chloride before reacting with another reagent to afford gallate is a facile and less strenuous synthetic route. It requires no coupling reagent, less separation and purification and give high yield. The galloyl chloride can be synthesis by the reaction of 1:1 (mole) mixture of galloyl chloride in aprotic solvent such as benzene with the addition of pyridine (a proton scavenger) (Human and Mills, 1946) and refluxing the result mixture at 70 °C for 2 hours.

Herein we report for the first time a facile ambient condition synthesis of Ethyl-4-[(3,4,5-trihydroxybenzoyl)amino]benzoate, a bicyclic amide gallate via the reaction of galloyl chloride and ethyl-4-aminobenzoate. The synthesis and isolation of galloyl chloride is also reported. The gallate was also characterised by different

spectroscopic techniques including  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR and 2D NMR (DEPT, COSY, HMQC and HMBC). Mass spectrometry and FTIR were also used for the characterisation of the gallate.

## II. MATERIALS AND METHODS

Gallic acid monohydrate (99%) used was a product of MolyChem, Mumbai, India. Thionyl chloride (98%), pyridine (99%), benzene (98%) and ethyl-4-aminobenzoate (99%) were purchased from Surechem Products Ltd, England. They reagents were used as purchased without further purification.

The melting point of the compound was determined using HANNA melting point determination equipment using capillary tube method without correction. The infrared spectrum of the compound was obtained using KBr pellets on a FTIR SHIMADZU spectrophotometer. Elemental composition of the gallate was determined using Vario MICRO elemental analyser. Nuclear magnetic resonance spectra ( $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  and DEPT 135, COSY, HMQC and HMBC) of the compound was recorded using Bruker AMX spectrophotometer at 500 MHz for  $^1\text{H}$  and 125 MHz for  $^{13}\text{C}$  respectively using deuterated DMSO as solvent and tetramethylsilane as the internal

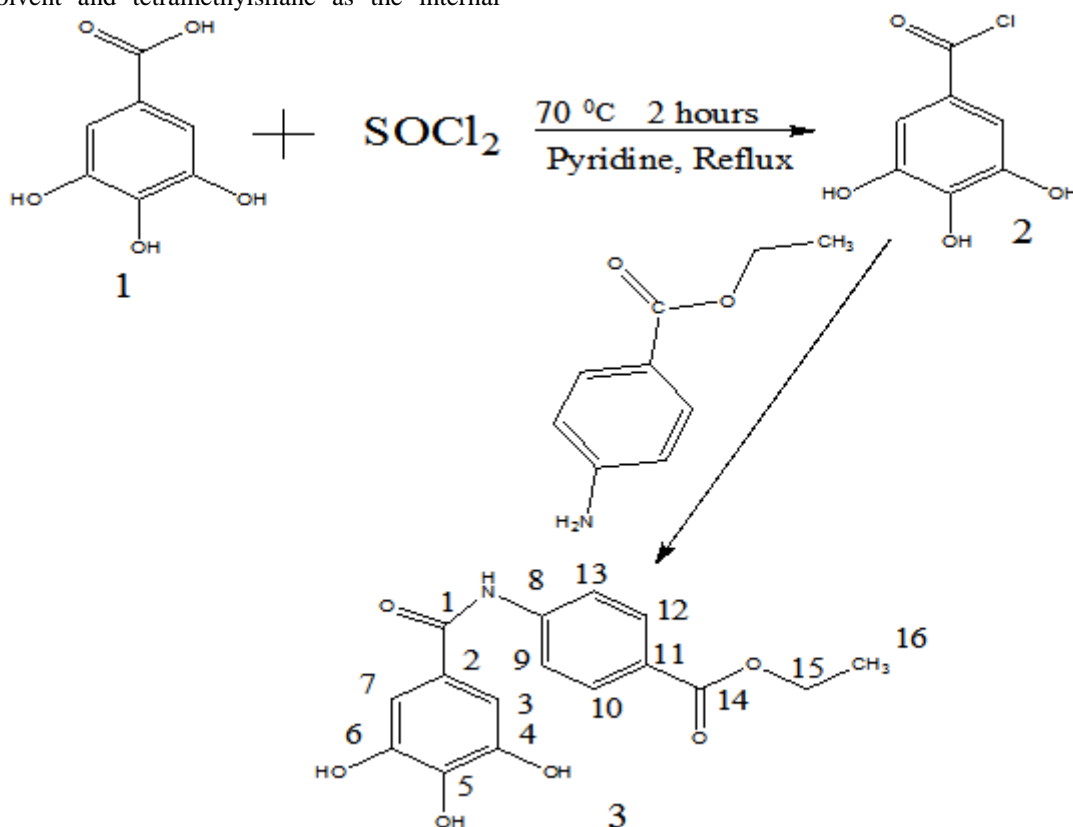
standard. The mass spectrum measured using a Thermo Scientific HRMS (ESI) spectrometer.

### Synthesis of 3,4,5-trihydroxybenzoyl chloride (Galloyl chloride)

Galloyl chloride was synthesis following the procedure reported by Human and Mills (1946). A solution containing 0.1mole (18.8g) of gallic acid monohydrate was dissolved in 100  $\text{cm}^3$  of benzene and 0.1 mole (7.33  $\text{cm}^3$ ) of thionyl chloride ( $\text{SOCl}_2$ ) added to it followed by adding 0.1 mole (8.16  $\text{cm}^3$ ) of pyridine. The resultant mixture was refluxed for 2 hours at 70  $^\circ\text{C}$ . The precipitate formed was filtered and washed repeatedly with methanol and dried.

### Synthesis of Ethyl-4-[(3,4,5-trihydroxybenzoyl) amino] benzoate.

Methanolic solution containing 0.83g (5 mmols) of ethyl-4-aminobenzoate in 40  $\text{cm}^3$  was reacted with 0.94g (5 mmols) of galloyl chloride in 40  $\text{cm}^3$  under reflux at 70  $^\circ\text{C}$  for 2 hours. A greenish-brown solution was formed which was left for 14 days. A brown precipitate formed was filtered and washed with water and dried in a desiccator.



Scheme 1: Synthetic route for the synthesis of Ethyl-4-[(3,4,5-trihydroxybenzoyl)amino]benzoate.

### III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Galloyl chloride ( $C_7H_5ClO_4$ ) was synthesised via method stated above as a white powdery solid with a melting point of 142 °C in high yield of 93%. The synthesised galloyl chloride was used for the synthesis of Ethyl-4-[(3,4,5-trihydroxybenzoyl)amino]benzoate. The elemental

analysis (CHNO) of galloyl chloride ( $C_7H_5ClO_4$ ) showed the calculated values for the composition by mass of carbon, hydrogen and oxygen to be in agreement with the experimentally determined values. The calculated values and the (found) in % are: C, 44.59 (44.70); H, 2.67 (2.61); O, 33.94 (33.78).

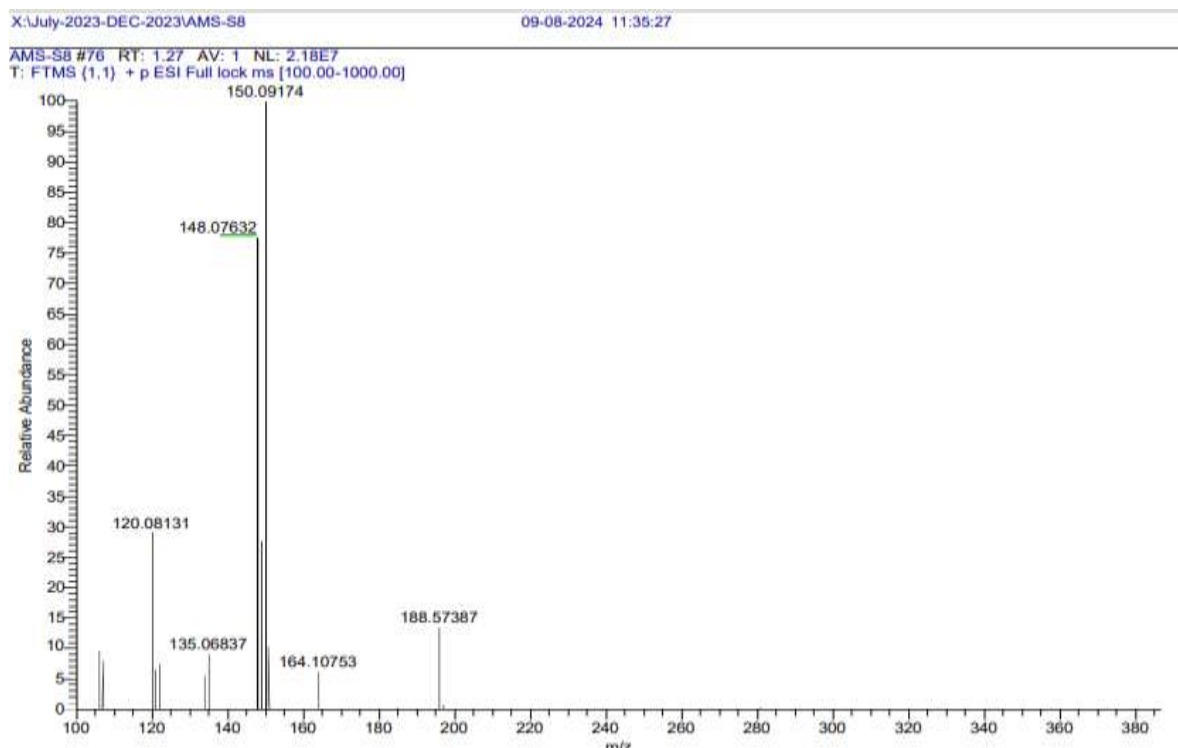


Figure 1: Mass Spectrum of Galloyl chloride

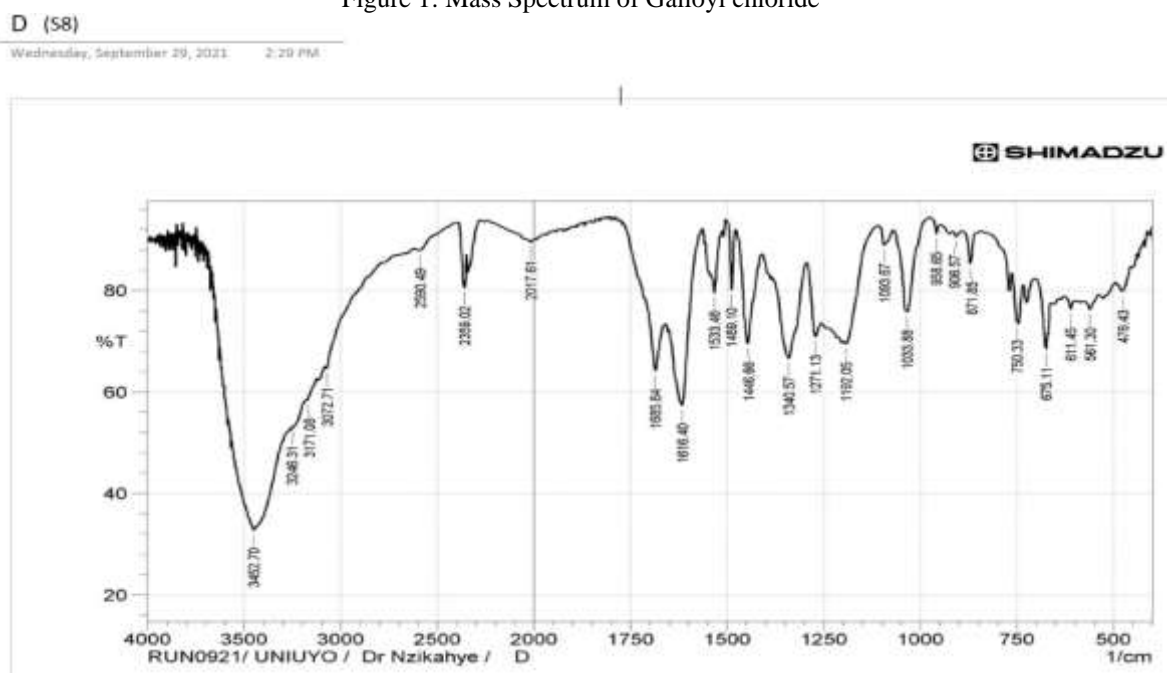


Figure 2: FTIR Spectrum of Galloyl chloride

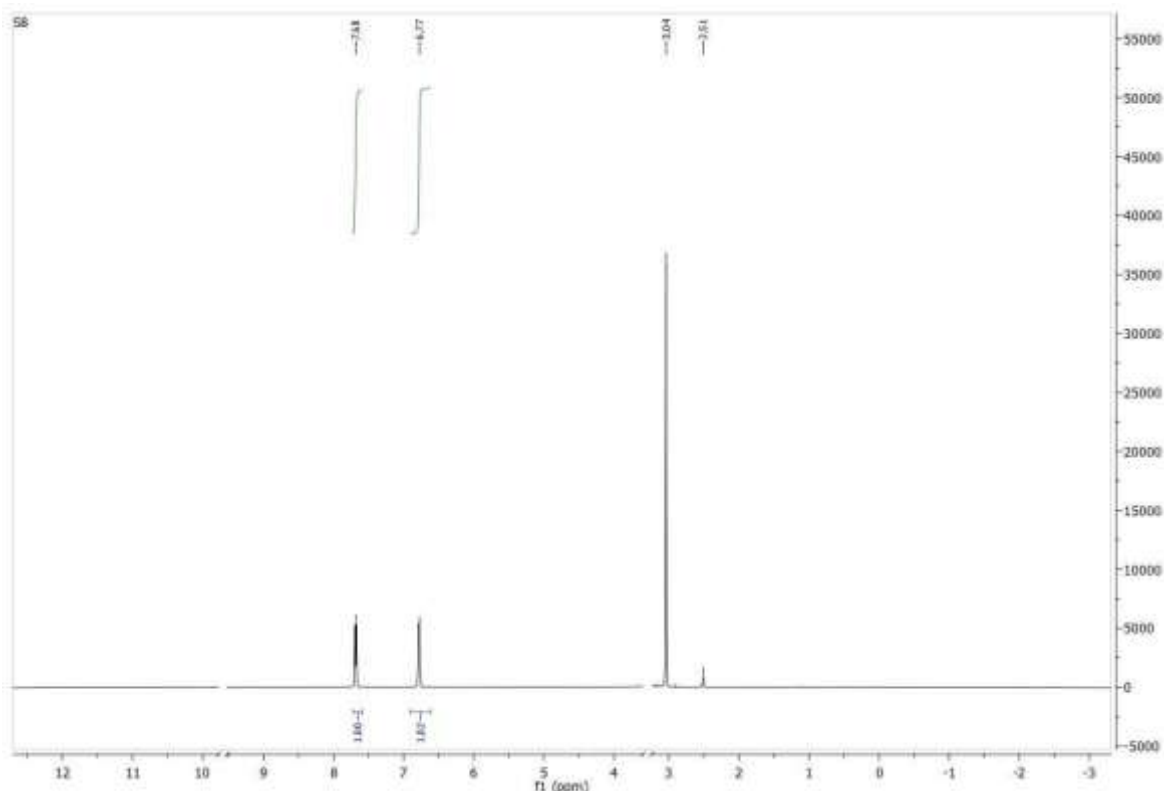


Figure 3: Proton NMR Spectrum of Galloyl chloride

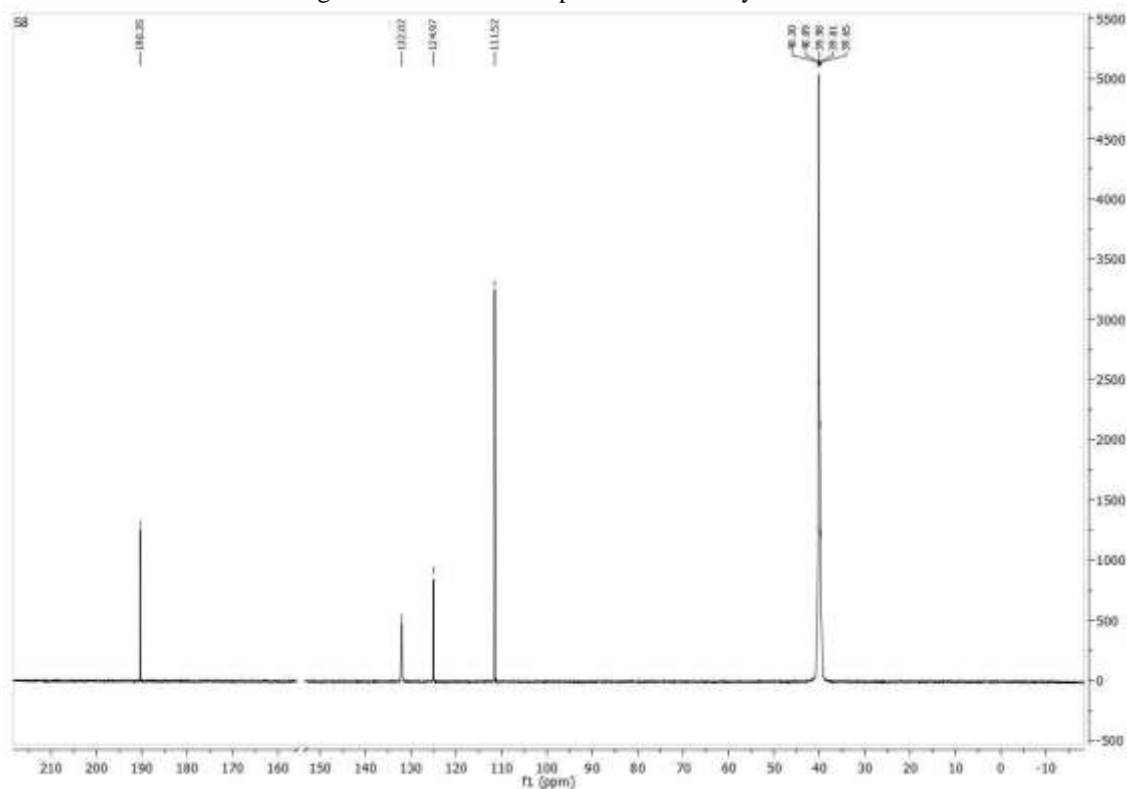


Figure 4: Carbon-13 NMR Spectrum of Galloyl chloride

The carbon-13 NMR (126 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) showed five peaks;  $\delta_c$  190.35, 132.02, 124.97, 111.52. The deshielding signal at  $\delta_c$  190.35 was assigned to carbonyl carbon and  $\delta_c$  111.52 was attributed to the aromatic carbons bonded to the phenolic groups. The two aromatic C-H aromatic carbons were assigned at  $\delta_c$  124.97 while the ring carbon directly bonded to the carbonyl carbon was attributed to the  $\delta_c$  132.02, the solvent peak occurred at  $\delta_c$  39.98. The proton NMR result (500 MHz, DMSO- $d_6$ ) showed a peak  $\delta_H$  7.68 (1H, s) and  $\delta_H$  6.77 (1H, s) assigned to the two aromatic protons. The DMSO protons peak occurred as a singlet at  $\delta_H$  3.04 while the  $\delta_H$  2.51 peak is water signal. The result of mass spectrometry of galloyl chloride confirmed the molecular mass of the compound with the molecular ion peak is at 188.57 m/z. The FTIR spectra of galloyl chloride, showed absorptions at 3453  $cm^{-1}$  assigned to O-H stretch phenol, 1686  $cm^{-1}$  assigned to C=O stretch acid chloride, 3246  $cm^{-1}$  assigned to C-H stretch aromatic, 1616  $cm^{-1}$  assigned C=C skeletal stretch

phenyl, 1447  $cm^{-1}$  assigned to (O-H in plane bending, phenol), and 750 assigned to C-Cl stretch. The peaks at 3171  $cm^{-1}$  and 3073  $cm^{-1}$  are likely due to the solvent.

#### Spectroscopic Characterisation of Ethyl-4-[(3,4,5-trihydroxybenzoyl)amino]benzoate

Ethyl 4-[(3, 4, 5-trihydroxybenzoyl) amino] benzoate was synthesised by the reaction of galloyl chloride and ethyl-4-aminobenzoate. The product has a melting point of 173 °C and was obtained in good yield of 81 %. The elemental analysis (CHNO) result of the compound with molecular formula  $C_{16}H_{15}NO_6$  and molecular weight of 317.29 g/mol; reveals the calculated values and (found) percentage composition as: C 60.55 (60.87), H, 4.77 (4.89), N, 4.41 (4.37) and O, 30.25 (30.47) which are in good agreement. The molecular weight was confirmed by the molecular ion peak at 317.90 m/z in the result of mass spectrometry

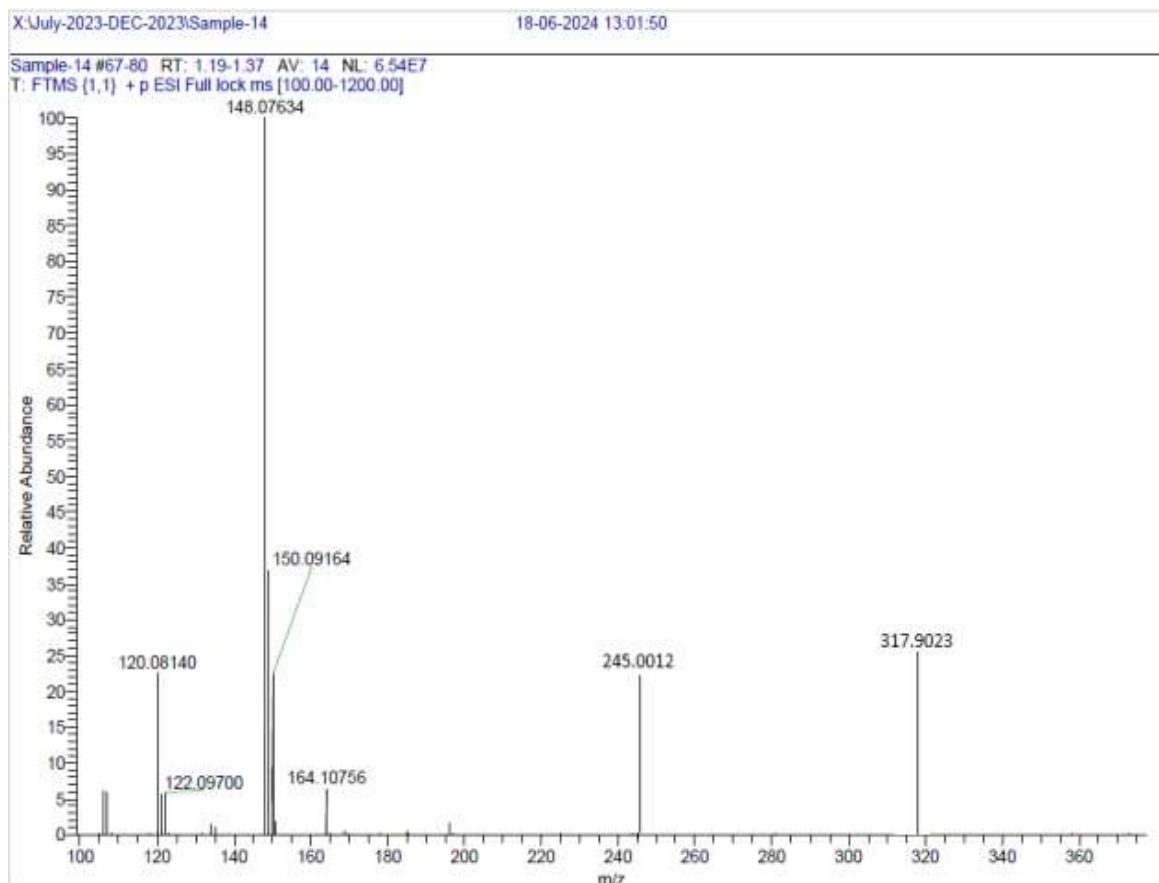


Figure 5: Mass Spectrum of Ethyl-4-[(3,4,5-trihydroxybenzoyl)amino]benzoate

# Sample 14

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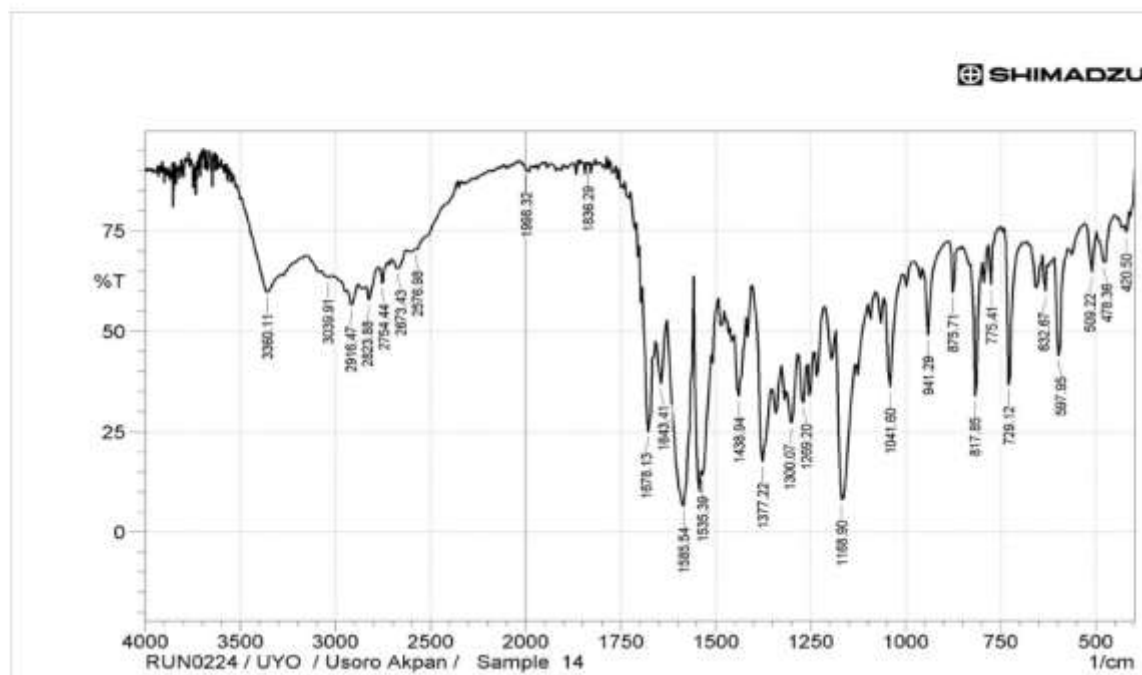


Figure 6: FTIR Spectrum of Ethyl-4-[(3,4,5-trihydroxybenzoyl)amino]benzoate

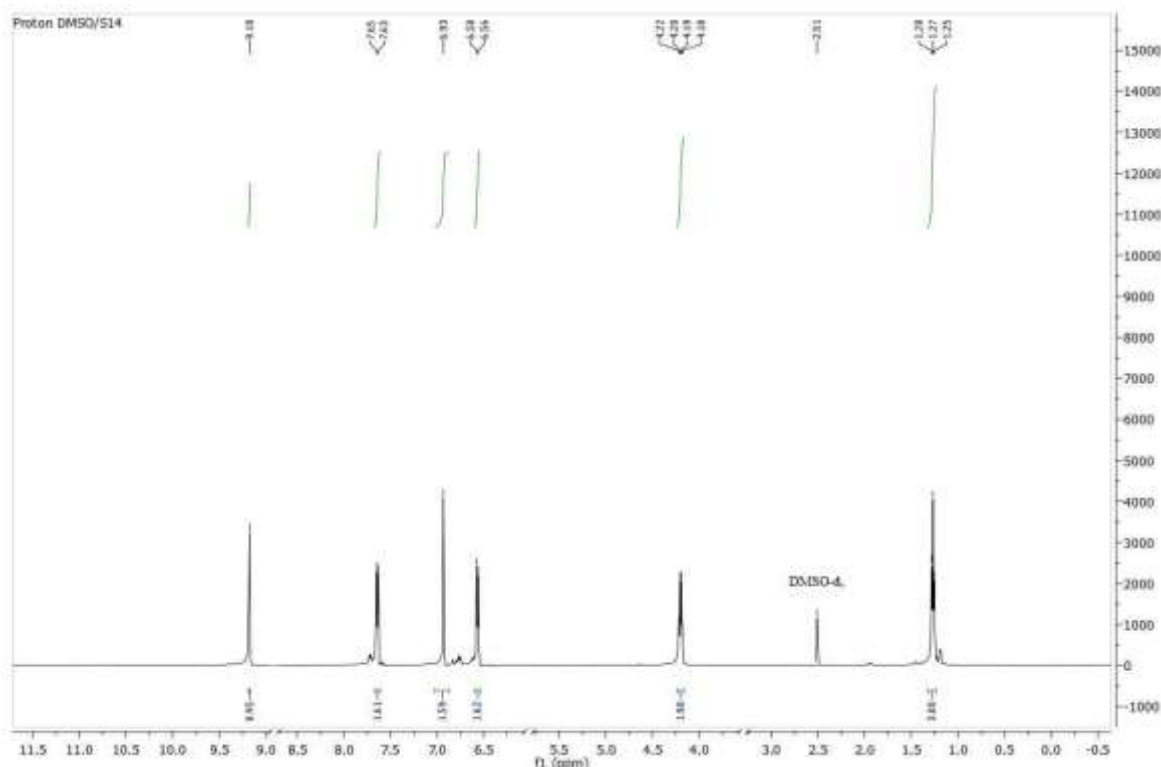


Figure 7: Proton NMR Spectrum of Ethyl-4-[(3,4,5-trihydroxybenzoyl)amino]benzoate



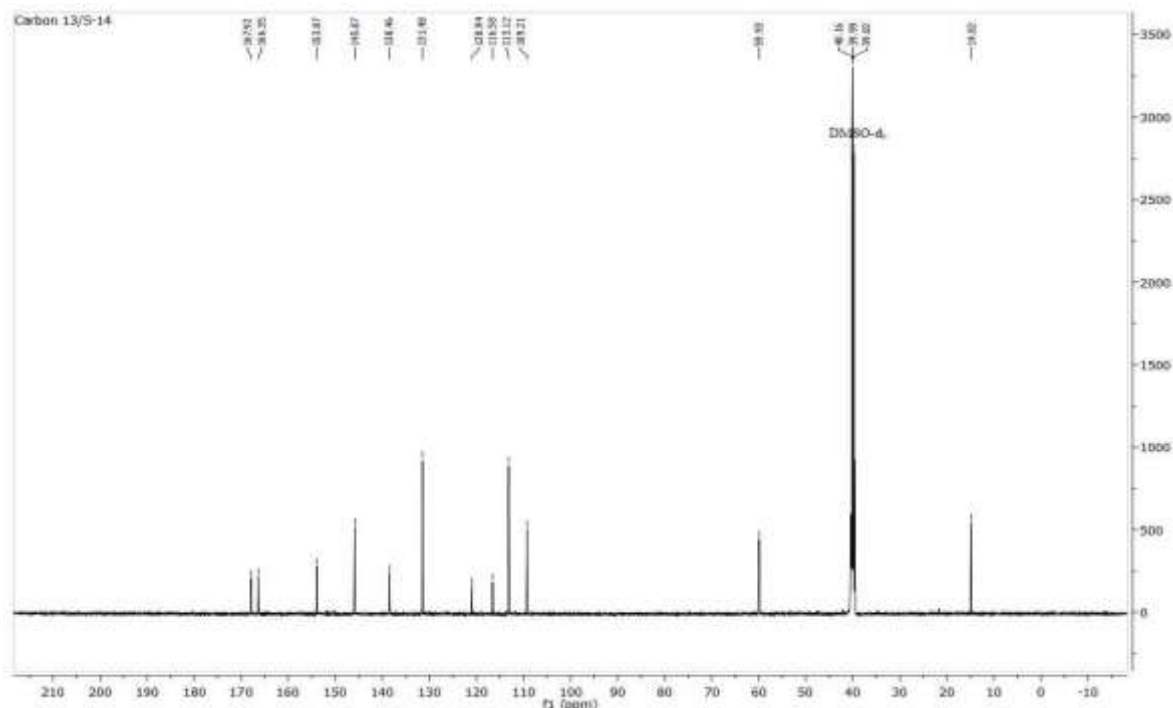


Figure 8: Carbon 13 NMR Spectrum of Ethyl-4-[(3,4,5-trihydroxybenzoyl)amino]benzoate

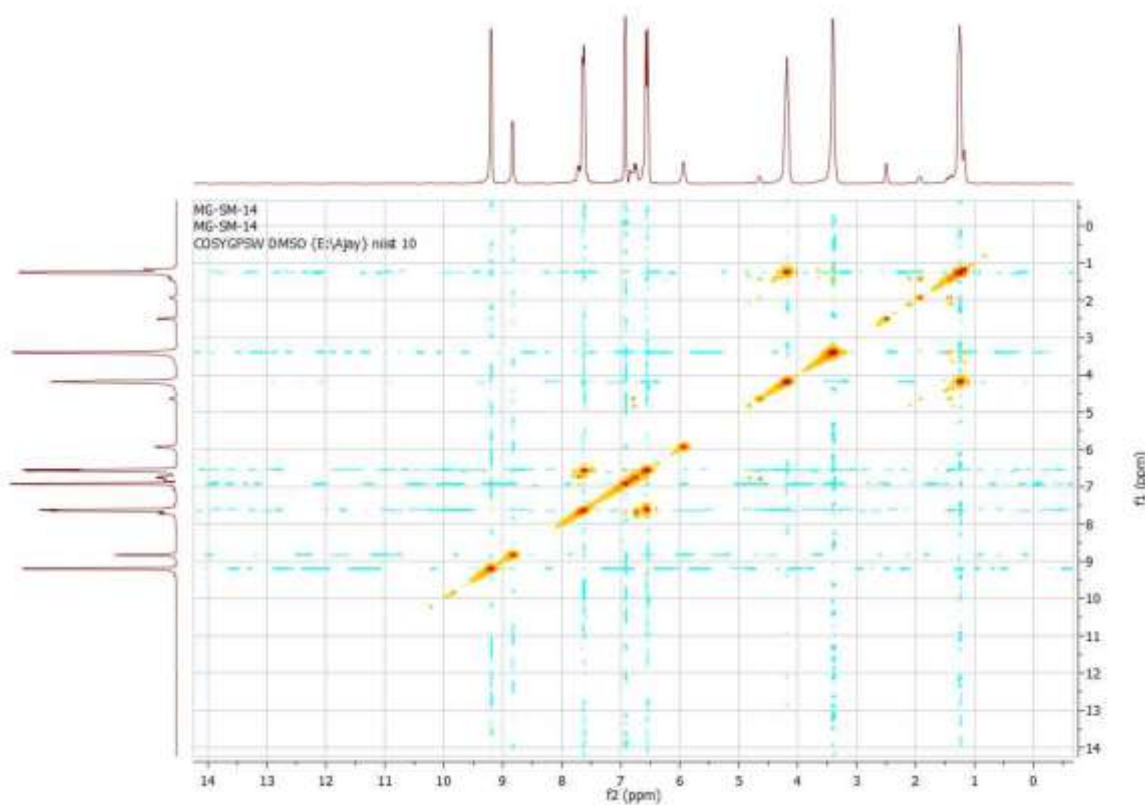


Figure 9: COSY NMR Spectrum of Ethyl-4-[(3,4,5-trihydroxybenzoyl)amino]benzoate

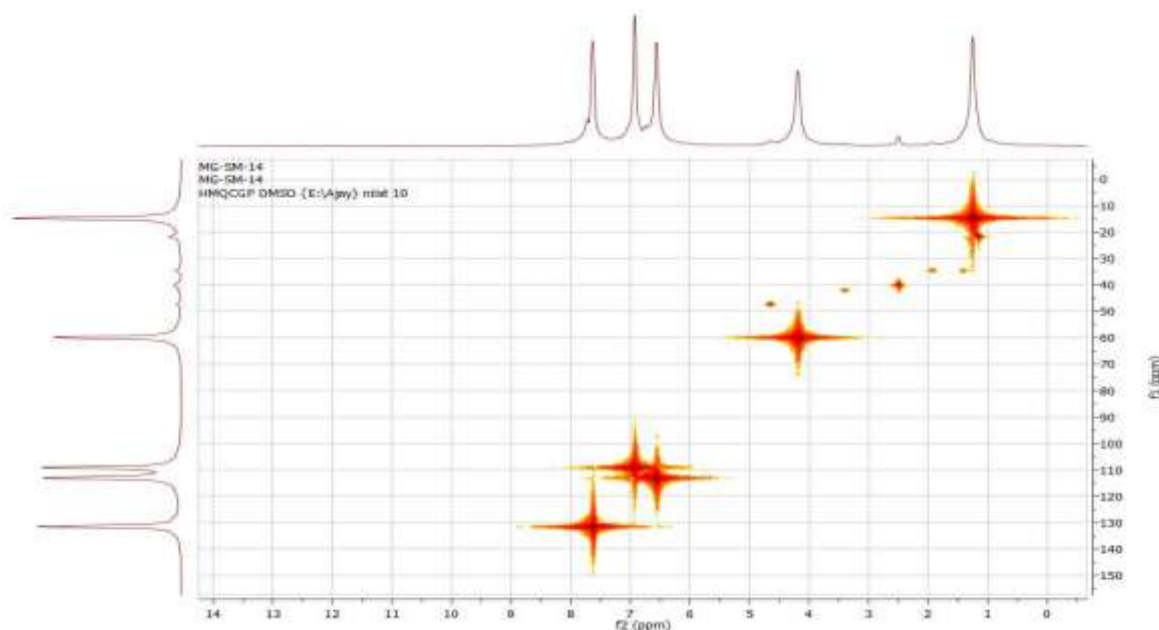


Figure 10: HMQC NMR Spectrum of Ethyl-4-[(3,4,5-trihydroxybenzoyl)amino]benzoate

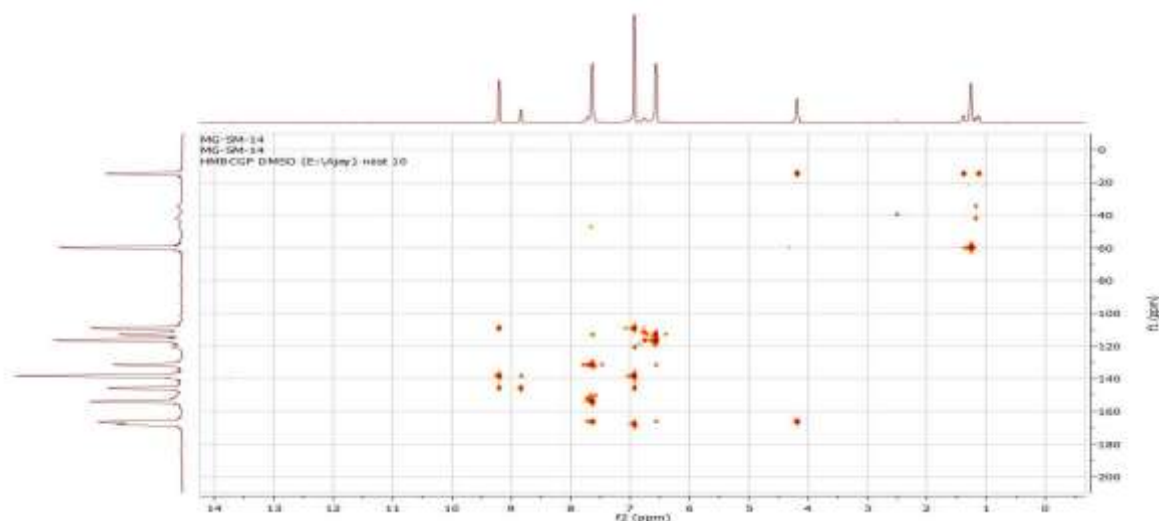


Figure 11: HMBC NMR Spectrum of Ethyl-4-[(3,4,5-trihydroxybenzoyl)amino]benzoate

The  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (DMSO,  $\delta$  (ppm)) spectrum of compound showed methyl signals at  $\delta_{\text{H}} 1.27$  (3H, t,  $J=6.7$  Hz), which was attributed to the protons at H-16. One deshielding proton signal at  $\delta_{\text{H}} 4.20$  (2H, q,  $J=6.7$  Hz) which was assigned to proton at H-15 and aromatic protons signal at  $\delta_{\text{H}} 6.57$  (1H, d,  $J=7.8$  Hz, H-12 and H-10), at the adjacent side, signal resonated at  $\delta_{\text{H}} 7.64$  (1H, d,  $J=6.9$  Hz, H-9 and H-13) was observed. A singlet signals resonated at  $\delta_{\text{H}} 6.93$  (1H, s, H-3 and H-7) and highly deshielding proton resonated at  $\delta_{\text{H}} 9.18$  (1H, s) was attributed to the proton bonded to nitrogen atom H-17. The  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR (125 MHz, DMSO,  $\delta$  (ppm)) showed 12 carbon signals, of which 4 carbon signals appearing in the same chemical environment resonated with

high peak signals summing up to 16 carbon signals. The signal at 40.0 is the solvent (DMSO) peak. The carbon signals of the carbonyl carbon atoms resonated at  $\delta_{\text{C}} 167.9$  and aromatic  $\delta_{\text{C}} 166.4$ , which were attributed to carbon atoms at C-1 and C-14 due to the deshielding effect of heteroatom, Nitrogen and Oxygen, while the aromatic carbon signals resonated between  $\delta_{\text{C}} 153.8$  to  $\delta_{\text{C}} 109.32$ . Carbon signals showing deshielding effect due to heteroatom was observed at  $\delta_{\text{C}} 59.9$  (C-15) while a methyl carbon (C-16) signal was observed at  $\delta_{\text{C}} 14.8$ . The DEPT 135 spectrum showed the presence of six aromatic C-H carbon atoms ranging from  $\delta_{\text{C}} 131.50$  to  $\delta_{\text{C}} 109.17$ , one  $\text{CH}_2$  carbon atom assigned at  $\delta_{\text{C}} 59.95$  (H-15) and one  $\text{CH}_3$  carbon



atom signal  $\delta_C$  14.82 (H-16). The  $^1H$ - $^1H$  COSY showed a correlation between the methylene proton at  $\delta_H$  4.20 (2H, q,  $J=6.7$  Hz, H-15) with  $\delta_H$  1.27 (3H, t,  $J=6.7$  Hz, H-16) and the proton at  $\delta_H$  6.57 (1H, d,  $J=7.8$  Hz, H-12 and H-10) with  $\delta_H$  7.64 (1H, d,  $J=6.9$  Hz, H-9 and H-13). The  $^1H$ - $^{13}C$  HMQC spectrum indicated that  $sp^2$  proton  $\delta_H$  4.20 (2H, q,  $J=6.7$  Hz) showed a direct bonding to  $\delta_C$  59.95 (C-15). The aromatic protons (H-3 and H-7)  $\delta_H$  6.93 (1H, s) directly bonded to aromatic carbons (C-3 and C-7)  $\delta_C$  109.21 respectively. Also, aromatic protons (H-10 and H-12)  $\delta_H$  6.57 (1H, s) is directly bonded to aromatic carbons (C-10 and C-12)  $\delta_C$  113.46 respectively and  $\delta_H$  7.64 (1H, d,  $J=8.2$  Hz, H-9 and H-13) are correlated to Carbon (C-9 and C-13)  $\delta_C$  131.49 respectively. HMBC spectrum showed a correlation between the proton at  $\delta_H$  6.93 (1H, s, H-3 and H-7) and the carbon atom at  $\delta_C$  167.9 (C-1). Also, the signals at  $\delta_H$  1.27 (3H, t,  $J=6.7$  Hz) showed correlation with carbon signal at  $\delta_C$  59.9 (C-15) and  $\delta_H$  4.20 (2H, q,  $J=6.7$  Hz) correlated with  $\delta_C$  14.8 (C-16) and  $\delta_C$  166.4.

The FTIR spectra of the compound in KBr shows N-H stretch amide at  $3360\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , O-H stretch phenol at  $3040\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , C=O stretch at  $1678\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , C-H stretch aliphatic at  $2824\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $2754\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , C-H aromatic at  $2917\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , C=C stretch aromatic at  $1643\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , O-H in plane bending phenol at  $1436\text{ cm}^{-1}$ , C-N stretch at  $1269.26\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and C-H bending aromatic at  $818\text{ cm}^{-1}$ . Following the rule of three peaks for ester absorptions, peaks at  $1678\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ,  $1377\text{ cm}^{-1}$  and  $1169\text{ cm}^{-1}$  were assigned to C=O stretch, C-C-O stretch and C-O-C stretch respectively of the ester moiety. The synthesis of compound was confirmed based on the above spectroscopic data.

#### IV. CONCLUSION

A novel bicyclic amide gallate: Ethyl-4-[(3, 4, 5-trihydroxybenzoyl) amino] benzoate was synthesis at room temperature and pressure by the direct reaction of galloyl chloride with ethyl-4-aminobenzoate. The synthesis and isolation of galloyl chloride was also achieved. This ambient condition synthesis of the gallate was facile and required minimum workup for the recovery of the product. The product was obtained in high yield with a short time duration.

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