RESEARCH ARTICLE

Microwave Promoted Sodium Acetate Catalyzed One Pot Synthesis of Highly Functionalized Pyridine Derivatives

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Abstract: A simple and efficient microwave promoted one pot synthesis of highly functionalized pyridine derivatives using sodium acetate as a catalyst via three component condensations of aldehydes, malonitrile and thiols is described. It is an efficient and promising synthetic protocol to build the highly functionalized pyridine derivatives.

Keywords: Multi-component reaction, Highly functionalized pyridines derivatives, Sodium acetate

Introduction

Multicomponent reactions (MCRs) constitute an especially attractive synthetic strategy since they provide easy and rapid access to large libraries of organic compounds with diverse substitution patterns^{1,2}. As MCRs are one-pot reactions, they are easier to carry out than multi-step syntheses. The developing of new MCRs and improving known multi-component reactions are an area of considerable current interest. One such reaction is the synthesis of pyridine. Coupled with high-throughput library screening, this strategy was an important development in the drug discovery in the context of rapid identification and optimization of biologically active lead compounds. Among them, 2-amino-3,5-dicarbonitrile-6-sulfanylpyridines exhibit various pharmacological activities and are useful as anti-hepatitis B virus³, antiprion⁴, antibacterial⁵, anti-cancer agents⁶ and as potassium channel openers for treatment of urinary incontinence⁷. Moreover, some of these compounds were found to be highly selective ligands for adenosine receptors⁸, implicated Parkinson's disease, hypoxia/ischemia, asthma, kidney disease and epilepsy⁹.

A three-component condensation of aldehyde, malononitrile and thiol is one of the most prominent existing procedures used for the synthesis of 2-amino-3, 5-dicarbonitrile-6-thio-pyridines. Generally, this condensation has been carried out under basic conditions using various bases such as, Et₃N, DABCO, piperidine¹⁰, morpholine, thiomorpholine, pyrrolidine, N,N-DIPEA, pyridine, 2,4,6-collidine, DMAP, aniline, Nmethylaniline, N,N-dimethylaniline and N,N-diethylaniline¹⁰ and DBU¹¹. Moreover, basic ionic liquid 1-methyl-3-butylimidazolium Lewis hydroxide, that is, [bmim]OH¹² and using a variety of Lewis acids such ZnCl₂, AlCl₃, FeCl₃, I₂, Cu (OTf)₃, InCl₃ and $BF_3 Et_2 O^{13}$. However, most of these methods suffer by the formation of inevitable side products, which results in lower yield of desired product with long reaction time. Microwave promoted organic reactions has rapidly gained popularity as it accelerates a variety of synthetic transformations and is particularly eco-friendly with of short reaction time and high yield. So, development of an improved synthetic protocol for the generation of pyridine-3,5-dicarbonitriles for lead optimization is of considerable interest. Keeping the medicinal values of pyridine-3, 5-dicarbonitriles in mind, we considered it necessary to develop an efficient high yielding synthetic protocol for the synthesis of this class of compounds.

Experimental

All reagents were purchased from Merck and Loba and used without further purification.

Apparatus

Melting points were measured in open capillary and are uncorrected. The products were characterized by IR spectra, ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR. IR spectra were recorded on Perkin–Elmer FT-IR-1710 instrument. ¹H NMR was recorded on Bruker MSL-300 MHz and BrukerMSL-200 MHz instrument using TMS as an internal standard. Elemental analyses were determined by an elemental analyser (CHNS-O, EA 1108-elemental analyser, Carlo Erba instruments). Microwave oven was used LG MOD-MG-1742WE with 230V, 2450MHz and 700 W maximum.

General microwave procedure for synthesis of polysubstituted pyridines

Aldehyde (1 mmol), malononitrile (2.1 mmol), thiophenol (1 mmol), anhydrous methanol (1.5 mL) and sodium acetate (12 mol%) were mixed and placed under microwave irradiation at 280W power. After the completion of reaction monitored by TLC, the reaction mixture was cooled and precipitate formed was filtered and recrystallized from acetonitrile/methanol to yield the pure product.

Results and Discussion

In view of the potential medicinal importance of the products and considering the limitations of the existing methods, we have investigated a sodium acetate (10 mol%) catalyzed, one-pot, simple and efficient procedure for the rapid construction of substituted pyridines via a three component reaction of aldehydes (1 mmol), malononitrile (2.1 mmol) and thiophenol (1 mmol) or 2-mercapto ethanol (1 mmol) in methanol under microwave irradiation (62-92%) (Scheme 1 & 2).

In the absence of catalyst the reaction was slow and product formed in traces. In the next step, we have screened different acidic, basic and phase transfer catalyst mention (Table 1). In comparison with these, sodium acetate proved to be almost efficient catalyst that gave higher yield within 3 min (Table 2). Sodium acetate plays a complex role in

accelerating the coupling reaction and thus promotes the formation of products. To investigate the reaction in detail, it was carried out in various solvents, the results are depicted in Table 3, also investigated the affect of concentrations of catalyst (Table 4). To evaluate the efficiency of this methodology, various substituted aromatic and hetero-aromatic aldehydes with either electron-donating or electron-withdrawing groups were used and it is found that the reaction underwent smoothly and gave the products in excellent yields. Possible mechanism of the reaction is depicted in Scheme 3.



Scheme 1. Synthesis of highly functionalized pyridine derivatives using thiophenol



Scheme 2. Synthesis of highly functionalized pyridine derivatives using 2- mercaptoethanol



Scheme 3. Proposed mechanism for the synthesis of pyridine carbonitrile

Catalysts	Solvent	Conventional, h	Microwave, min	Isolated yield, %
MeSO ₃ H	CH ₃ CN	8	-	-
MeSO ₃ H	EtOH	-	10	5
BF_3	EtOH	-	8	-
HBF _{4.} SiO ₂	EtOH	8	-	-
HBF _{4.} SiO ₂	-	-	5	15
HBF _{4.} SiO ₂	-	3	-	-
$H_3PW_{12}O_{40}$	EtOH	8	-	-
Alum	H_2O	8	-	-
NH_2PO_4	H_2O	8	-	-
NH_2PO_4	EtOH	8	-	20
KH_2PO_4	H_2O	8	-	13
TBABr	H_2O	8	-	15
TBABr +K ₂ CO ₃	H_2O	8	-	20
Sodium lauryl sulphate	H_2O	8	-	10
L-Proline	EtOH	8	-	25
ZnO	EtOH	8	-	15
CH ₃ COONa	EtOH	2	-	55
CH ₃ COONa	EtOH	-	3	69
CH ₃ COONa	MeOH	-	3	78
Amberlyst	EtOH	8	-	-

Table 1. Synthesis of 2-amino-3,5-dicarbonitrile-6-thio-pyridines using various catalysts10 mol% (280 W)

Table 2. Synthesis of 2-amino-3, 5-dicarbonitrile-6-thio-pyridines in the presence of different solvents using sodium acetate (10 mol%) as a catalyst at 280 W

Ent	ry	Solvent	Time, min	Yield, % ^a	
1	1-2Ethanol3Ethanol 50%4Ethanol 10%5Water6Methanol7Acetonitrile		1.3	65	
2			3	68	
3			4	55	
4			3	25	
5			4	20	
6			3	78	
7			4	58	
	^a Yields refer to the pure isolated products				
	Table 3. Effect of concentrations of catalyst				
	Entry Sodium acetate, mol%		Time, min	Yield, % ^a	
	1	5	4	52	

_	Entry	Sodium acetate, mol%	Time, min	Yield, % ^a
	1	5	4	52
	2	7.5	3.5	60
	3	10	3	78
	4	12	3	89
	5	15	2.5	80

^aYields refer to the pure isolated products

Entry	Ar	CH_2	Time, min	Yield, % ^a	$M.P.^{0}C$ [Ref.] ^b
1	C_6H_5	-	3.0	89	216-217 ^[14]
2	$4-Cl-C_6H_4$	-	3.0	92	$223-224^{[15]}$
3	$4-OCH_3 - C_6H_4$	-	4.0	91	241-243 ^[15]
4	$4-NO_2-C_6H_4$	-	5.0	85	286-287 ^[14]
5	$4-OH - C_6H_4$	-	4.5	86	312-314 ^[14]
7	$2 - OCH_3 - C_6H_4$	-	6.0	82	280-282
8	4-OH -3- OCH ₃ -C ₆ H ₃	-	5.5	87	216-218 ^[15]
9	3-OH- 4- OCH ₃ -C ₆ H ₃	-	5.5	84	274-276 ^[14]
10	C ₆ H ₅ -CH ₂ -CH ₂	1	5.0	82	270-271
11	3,4-(OCH ₃) ₂ - C ₆ H ₄	-	4.0	87	227-229 ^[15]
12	3,4,5-(OCH ₃) ₃ - C ₆ H ₄	-	3.0	89	236-238 ^[14]
13	2-Furyl	-	5.0	82	176-178 ^[15]
14	$2 - NO_2 - C_6 H_4$	-	12.0	62	290-292
15	$4 - NO_2 - C_6 H_4$	-	7.0	81	231-233
16	4-OH -3-OCH ₃ -C ₆ H ₃	-	8.5	78	208-210
17	$4-OCH_3-C_6H_4$	-	8.0	85	158-159
18	C_6H_5	-	8.0	81	148-150
19	4-Cl- C ₆ H ₄	-	7.0	87	167-169 ^[10]

Table 4. Synthesis of 2-amino-3, 5-dicarbonitrile-6-thio-pyridines

^aYields refer to the pure isolated products

^bAll known products have been reported previously in the literature and were characterized by comparison of IR and NMR spectra with authentic samples. All new compounds characterized by melting point, IR, NMR (1 H and 13 C) and elemental analyses

Spectral data and elemental analysis for new compounds

2-Amino-4-(2-methoxyphenyl)-6-(phenylthio) pyridine-3, 5-dicarbonitrile (entry 7) ¹H NMR (200MHz, DMSO-d6) δ :7.83(brs, NH₂, 2H),7.61-7.16(m, Ar-9H), 3.86(s, OCH₃); ¹³C NMR (50MHz,DMSO-d6) δ :55.41,72.0,83.23,116.82,120.68,129.65,159.0,159.81,190.36; IR(KBr):3406,3328,3230,2961,2214,2363,2214,2164,1551,1467,1489,1318,1247,1150,1029, 834,788,259,706,579,413; C₂₀H₁₄N₄OS; Anal.Calcd.for C, 67.02; H, 3.94; N, 15.63; S, 8.95; Found C, 67.07; H, 3.98; N, 15.67; S, 8.99.

2-Amino-4-phenethyl-6-(phenylthio) pyridine-3, 5-dicarbonitrile (entry10)

¹H NMR(200MHz, DMSO-d6)δ:6.91(brs, NH₂, 2H),7.69-7.41(m, Ar-10H),3.24(s, CH₂,4H); ¹³C NMR(50MHz,DMSO-d6) δ:26.41, 30.49,70.70, 81.13,114.38,114.96,116.22,126.16, 128.67,129.23,157.97,158.66,161.32;IR(KBr):3422, 3000, 2727, 2362, 1720, 1676, 1456, 1377,1303,1205,1154,1077,964,722;C₂₁H₁₆N₄S, Anal.Calcd.for C,70.76;H,4.52;N,15.72; S, 9.00; Found C, 70.86; H, 4.58; N, 15.78;S, 9.05.

2-Amino-4-(2-nitrophenyl)-6-(phenylthio) pyridine-3, 5-dicarbonitrile (entry14)

¹H NMR (200MHz, DMSO-d6) δ :8.42(brs, NH₂,2H), 802-7.65(m,Ar-9H);¹³C NMR(50MHz, DMSO-d6) δ :73.45, 84.23, 115.59, 120.12, 129.48, 133.24, 138.65, 146.34, 159.78, 162.82, 160.32;IR(KBr):3404, 3323, 3153, 3132, 3078, 2754, 2218,1685,1660,1610,1579,1477, 1435, 1325, 1257, 1151, 1085; C₁₉H₁₁N₅O₂S Anal.Calcd.for C, 61.12; H, 2.97; N, 18.76; S, 8.59; Found C, 61.14; H, 2.94; N, 8.81; S, 8.63.

2-(2-Hydroxyethylthio)-6-amino-4-(4-nitrophenyl)pyridine-3,5-dicarbonitrile(entry 15)

¹H NMR(200MHz, DMSO-d6)δ:3.32(m, 2H, CH₂),3.7(m, 2H, CH₂), 5.0(brs, 1H, OH), 7.8 (d, Ar-H,2H), 8.2(brs, 2H, NH₂), 8.6(d, Ar-H, 2H); IR(KBr): 3477, 3427, 3327, 2879, 2218, 1680, 1552, 1518, 1411,1352,1267,1026, 956, 852; C₁₅H₁1N₅O₃S Anal.Calcd.for C, 52.78; H, 3.25; N, 20.52; S, 9.39; Found C, 52.75; H, 3.31; N, 20.57; S, 9.47.

2-(2-Hydroxyethylthio)-6-amino-4-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxyphenyl)pyridine-3,5-dicarbonitrile(entry**16**)

¹H NMR (200MHz, DMSO-d6) δ :3.32(m, 2H, CH₂), 3.7(m, 2H, CH₂), 3.8(s, 3H, OCH₃), 5.1 (brs, 1H,OH),7.1(brs,1H,OH),7.5-7.8(m,Ar-H, 3H), 7.9(brs, 2H, NH₂); IR(KBr):3475, 3371, 2843, 2210,1926, 1680, 1566, 1514, 1406, 1307, 1168, 1021, 956, 850, 663;C₁₆H₁₄N₄O₃S Anal. Calcd. C, 56.13; H, 4.12; N, 16.36; O, 14.02; S, 9.37; Found C, 56.10; H, 4.22; N, 16.45; S, 9.37.

2-(2-Hydroxyethylthio)-6-amino-4-(4-methoxyphenyl) pyridine-3, 5-dicarbonitrile, (entry17)

¹H NMR (200MHz,DMSO-d6)δ: 3.31(m, 2H,CH₂),3.63(m,2H,CH₂),3.8(s,3H,OCH₃), 5.0 (brs,1H,OH),7.0(d,2H,Ar-H),7.4(d,2H,Ar-H),7.9(brs,2H,NH₂); IR(KBr):3421,3340,2840, 2214,1901,1880,1647,1550,1514,1419,1253,1186,1039,956,779;C₁₆H₁₄N₄O₂:Anal. Calcd. C, 58.88; H, 4.32; N, 17.17;S, 9.82 ; Found C, 58.94; H, 4.34; N, 17.15; S, 9.81

2-(2-Hydroxyethylthio)-6-amino-4-phenylpyridine-3,5-dicarbonitrile (entry18)

¹H NMR (200MHz,DMSO-d6)δ:3.33(m, 2H,CH₂),3.66(m,2H,CH₂), 5.1(brs,1H,OH),7.5-7.8(m,Ar-H,5H), 8.1(brs,2H,NH₂); IR(KBr):3440,3356,2847, 2212,1915,1896,1642,1548, 1523,1414,1190,1023,955; $C_{15}H_{12}N_4OS$:Anal. Calcd. C, 60.79; H, 4.08; N, 18.91;S,10.82; Found C, 60.80; H, 4.06; N, 18.94; S, 10.84.

Conclusion

An efficient and environmentally benign strategy for the synthesis of highly functionalized pyridine derivatives is developed. The method offers several advantages including high yield of products, short reaction time, easily availability of catalyst, ease of work-up and low-cost.

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