

Microwave Assisted Green Catalyzed One-pot Synthesis, Characterization, and Biological Significance of Hexahydroquinolines

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Abstract: A convenient method for the synthesis of hexahydroquinoline through one-pot four component approach using aromatic aldehydes, dimedone, malononitrile and ammonium acetate by using green catalyst under microwave irradiation. Shorter reaction time, high atom economy, easy work up and purification of products are the crucial features of this methodology. These chemicals are easily modifiable to elicit desirable features in the target product by choosing the right precursors. The protocol has been utilized mild reaction conditions, excellent yield, shorter reaction time and simple workup procedure. The synthesized derivatives were obtained in 82-96% yields and were characterized by IR, ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, Mass spectra and biological significance.

Keywords: Multicomponent reaction, Microwave irradiation, Hexahydroquinoline, Methanesulphonic acid.

I. INTRODUCTION

A chemical reaction known as a multicomponent reaction (MCRs) occurs when three or more reactants combine in a single reaction vessel to create a product that contains components from each reactant. It could provide facile, efficient and practical methods in modern medicinal chemistry for the construction of molecular complexity and structural diversity. Multi-component reactions are simple to design, efficient, eco-friendly, and can create target compounds using various elements in one-pot processes with straightforward procedures.[1] The use of microwave irradiation in organic synthesis has become a potent and adaptable approach that is transforming the way chemical processes are carried out in lab settings. In contrast to conventional heating techniques, which depend on outside heat sources like heating mantles or

oil baths, microwave irradiation heats the reactants directly using electromagnetic waves. This technique frequently produces cleaner reactions with fewer byproducts while also greatly increasing reaction rates and yields.[2]

A significant class of heterocyclic compounds known as hexahydroquinolines are distinguished by a partly hydrogenated quinoline ring structure. This structural motif consists of a fused bicyclic system in which the other ring is a nitrogen-containing saturated six-membered ring and the first ring is a benzene ring. Numerous natural products and synthetic pharmaceuticals use hexahydroquinoline as a well-known structural scaffold due to its wide range of biological characteristics.[3] They are employed as antimicrobial,[4] anti-inflammatory,[5] antioxidant,[6] anti-anaphylactic, and diuretic agents,[7] anticancer,[8] insecticidal,[9] antibacterial and antifungal properties.[10] Several homogeneous and heterogeneous catalysts have been utilized in the synthesis of substituted hexahydroquinoline derivatives. Among them, some of mentioned here Fe₃O₄@B-MCM-41,[11] iodotrimethylsilane,[12] triethylamine,[13] Bi(NO₃)₃·5H₂O,[14] nano TiO₂,[15] Pd nanoparticle,[16] K₂CO₃,[17] tetrabutylammonium hexatungstate,[18] AcOH,[19] Yb (OTf)₃,[20] Scolecite,[21] CAN,[22] and Sc (OTf)₃. [23] However, many of the reported methods still face several challenges, including prolonged reaction times, low yields, harsh reaction conditions, the use of hazardous solvents and catalysts.

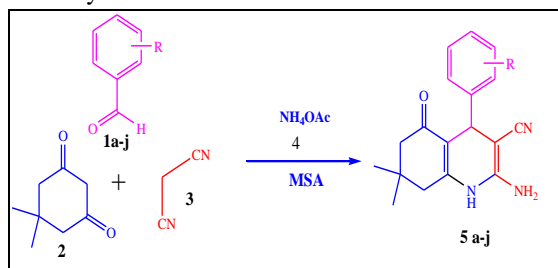
Therefore, there is a need to develop an environmentally friendly and efficient method for synthesizing hexahydroquinoline derivatives. So, our aim of this work is to present eco-friendly, atom-

economical and highly effective protocol. This approach involves a tandem synthesis of hexahydroquinoline derivatives through a four-component condensation of dimedone, aryl aldehydes, malononitrile, and an excess of ammonium acetate and a catalytic quantity of methane sulphonic acid (MSA) to accomplish this. Our approach was quick, easy, clear-cut, elegant, and efficient. (Scheme 1). Methane sulfonic acid (MSA) is an alkanesulfonic acid with the chemical formula $\text{CH}_3\text{SO}_3\text{H}$. It is a strong acid with a pKa of 1.9. MSA is biodegradable and does not release toxic gases, making it an environmentally friendly choice. Due to these properties, MSA is often favored by chemists for use in organic synthesis.[24]

II. EXPERIMENTAL

MATERIAL AND METHODS

All the chemicals and synthetic grade reagents were procured from Sigma Aldrich India and Merck chemicals. They were used without further purification. Melting points were recorded in open capillaries using a Buchi melting-point B-540 apparatus. ^1H NMR spectra were obtained on a Bruker instrument (400 MHz) and chemical shifts are reported in δ ppm. Mass spectra were measured using high-resolution ESI-MS (DFS) Thermo spectrometers (70 eV). ^{13}C NMR was recorded on a Bruker DRX 100 MHz Spectrometer Microwave irradiation was carried out in a Microwave Oven, Model No. MS2044DB DB1QILN (2450 MHz, 1050 W) equipped with Erlenmeyer flask.



Scheme 1: Synthesis of hexahydroquinoline derivatives using green catalyst under microwave irradiation.

GENERAL PROCEDURE FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF HEXAHYDROQUINOLINE AND ITS DERIVATIVES (5a-j)

A mixture of substituted aromatic aldehydes (0.01 mol), dimedone (0.01 mol), malononitrile (0.01 mol),

ammonium acetate (0.02 mol), in the presence of catalytic amount of methanesulphonic acid in ethanol under irradiated in microwave oven in an Erlenmeyer flask and irradiated until completion of the reaction. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) with ethyl acetate: n-hexane (2:8) eluent system was used to check the reaction progress. Once the reaction was complete, as shown by TLC, the reaction mixture was poured in crushed ice and filtered it. The residue was then recrystallized from ethanol to obtain the purified product. The entire product was characterized by physical constant and spectroscopic techniques compared with the standard method.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

We present a novel synthetic strategy for the synthesis of substituted hexahydroquinoline derivatives using benzaldehyde (0.01 mol), dimedone (0.01 mol), malononitrile (0.01 mol), and ammonium acetate (0.02 mol) as model substrates, with a catalytic amount of methanesulphonic acid (MSA) in ethanol under microwave irradiation. Initially, the reaction was first attempted without any catalyst, but it did not proceed (Table 1, Entry 1). Introducing a trace amount of catalyst (2 mol% - 4 mol%) allowed the reaction to proceed, although the desired product was not obtained (Table 1, Entries 2 & 3).

Table 1: Optimization of catalyst concentration for the synthesis of hexahydroquinoline under M.W. Irradiation.^a

Entry	Catalyst Mol %	Time in Min	Yield (%) ^b
1	0	25	Trace
2	2	9	75
3	4	5	90
4	6	4	96
5	8	5	83
6	10	10	69

^aReaction conditions: Benzaldehyde (0.01 mol), dimedone (0.01 mol), malononitrile (0.01 mol), and ammonium acetate (0.02 mol), catalyst (6 mol%) & ethanol 10 mL. ^bIsolated yields. ^bIsolated yields.

Optimization with 6 mol% of catalyst under microwave irradiation resulted in the desired product being achieved in excellent yield (89%) (Table 1, Entry 4). Increasing the catalyst amount beyond this level led to a slower reaction rate and a reduced yield

of the desired product (Table 1, Entries 5 & 6). Next, we focused on finding the optimal solvent for synthesizing the target molecule. To this end, we performed the model reaction in the presence of various solvents, and the results are summarized in Table 2. Obviously, the highest yield was observed while using ethanol as a solvent.

Table 2. Solvents effect on the Hexahydroquinoline synthesis^a

Entry	Solvent	Time (Min)	Yield (%) ^b
1	Ethanol	4	96
2	Methanol	7	89
3	Acetonitrile	14	81
4	THF	17	73
5	DMF	18	76
6	1,4-dioxane	21	65

^aAll reaction were carried out using MSA catalyst under MWI. ^bIsolated yields.

The optimized tandem methodology tolerated a wide spectrum of aldehydes with good to excellent yields of the targeted molecules. From Table 3 it is evident that the reaction proceeded smoothly for both electron rich and electron deficient aromatic aldehydes. All the products were characterized by IR, ¹H NMR, ¹³C NMR, LC-MS and by elemental analysis and well matched with literature reported compound.

Spectroscopic Characterization of the synthesized derivatives.

2-Amino-4-phenyl-3-cyano-7,7-dimethyl-5-oxo-1,4,5,6,7,8-hexahydroquinoline (5a)

IR(KBr cm⁻¹): 3399, 3315, 3256, 2934, 2162, 1651, 1622, 1493; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ 0.97(s, 3H, CH₃), 1.0 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.92-2.14 (dd, 2H, J=15 Hz, CH₂), 2.34- 2.54 (dd, 2H, J=17.6, CH₂), 4.37 (s, 1H, CH), 5.91 (s, 2H, NH₂), 6.93-7.31 (m, 5H, Ar-H), 7.22-7.52 (br, s, 1H, NH); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 27.3, 27.3, 31.4, 42.5, 53.6, 58.0, 112.7, 115.3, 122.9, 123.2, 125.2, 127.4, 133.4, 145.5, 150.0, 164.2, 199.2.; ESI-MS(m/z): 294.3 [M+H]⁺

2-Amino-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-3-cyano-7,7-dimethyl-5-oxo1,4,5,6,7,8-hexahydroquinoline (5b)

IR(KBr cm⁻¹): 3373, 3315, 3173, 2965, 2673, 1664, 1495, 1376; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ 0.91 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.01 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.91-2.11,3.72-3.84

(s, 3H, -OCH₃) (dd, 2H, J=15 Hz, CH₂), 2.32-2.43 (dd, 2H, J=17.0, CH₂), 4.45 (s, 1H, CH), 5.90 (s, 2H, NH₂), 6.65-7.02, (dd, 2H Ar-H), 6.65-7.05, (dd, 2H, Ar-H), 7.10-8.6, (br, s, 1H, NH); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 27.3, 31.7, 37.6, 45.2, 55.5, 60.5, 112.0, 122.9, 125.9, 127.2, 131.4, 132.4, 151.5, 154.0, 165.2, 196.0; ESI-MS(m/z): 324 [M+H]⁺

2-Amino-4-(4-chlorophenyl)-3-cyano-7,7-dimethyl-5-oxo1,4,5,6,7,8-hexahydroquinoline (5c)

IR(KBr cm⁻¹): 3495, 3321 and 3223, 2174, 1690, 1440, 1330, 745; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ 0.92 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.10 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.93-2.30 (dd, 2H, J=15 Hz, CH₂), 2.40-2.95 (dd, 2H, J=17.0, CH₂), 4.35 (s, 1H, CH), 5.78 (s, 2H, NH₂), 7.31, (d, 2H, J=8.0 Hz, Ar-H), 7.15, (d, 2H, J=8.0 Hz, Ar-H), 7.15-8.5, (br, s, 1H, NH); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 27.2, 31.3, 38.4, 43.3, 51.5, 57.3, 111.6, 115.4, 117.7, 130.9, 134.2, 150.5, 161.0, 197.4.; ESI-MS(m/z): 327 [M+H]⁺

2-Amino-4-(3-nitrophenyl)-3-cyano-7,7-dimethyl-5-oxo-1,4,5,6,7,8-hexahydroquinoline (5d)

IR(KBr cm⁻¹): 3392, 3330, 3222, 2178, 1658, 1599 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ 9.04 (s, 1H, NH), 8.04 (d, 1H, J = 7.6 Hz, ArH), 7.93 (s, 1H, ArH), 7.64-7.57 (m, 2H, ArH), 5.94 (s, 2H, NH₂), 4.50 (s, 1H, CH), 2.46 (d, 1H, J = 17.2 Hz, CH₂), 2.35 (d, 1H, J = 17.2 Hz, CH₂), 2.20 (d, 1H, J = 16.0 Hz, CH₂), 2.00 (d, 1H, J=16.0 Hz, CH₂), 1.02 (s, 3H, CH₃), 0.90 (s, 3H, CH₃). ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 27.1, 29.2, 32.5, 38.0, 50.4, 57.8, 108.19, 121.6, 124.0, 128.5, 146.3, 150.8, 150.9, 158.1, 194.4; ESI-MS(m/z): 339.2 [M+H]⁺

2-Amino-4-(4-bromophenyl)-3-cyano-7,7-dimethyl-5-oxo1,4,5,6,7,8-hexahydroquinoline (5e)

IR(KBr cm⁻¹): 3425, 3327, 3265, 2965, 2175, 1655, 1475, 1365, 675; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ 0.95 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.15 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.95-2.90 (dd, 2H, J=15 Hz, CH₂), 2.73-2.95 (dd, 2H, J=17.0, CH₂), 4.80 (s, 1H, CH), 5.90 (s, 2H, NH₂), 6.60-7.00, (m, 4H Ar-H), 7.20-8.55, (br, s 1HNH); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 27.5, 31.5, 39.5, 43.5, 52.7, 59.5, 111.5, 115.3, 115.5, 135.3, 139.2, 156.5, 162.0, 199.5; ESI-MS(m/z): 372 [M+H]⁺

Table 3: Synthesis of hexahydroquinoline derivatives by using MSA catalyst under MWI.

Entry	R	Time in Min.	Yield %	Melting Point °C	
				Obtained	Reported ^{Ref}
5a	-H	6	91	272-274	275-277 [25]
5b	-4-OCH ₃	4	96	290-292	288-289 [26]
5c	-4-Cl	5	93	288-290	290-291 [26]
5d	3-NO ₂	5	92	281-282	282-283 [26]
5e	-4-Br	6	91	291-293	295-296 [25]
5f	-4-CH ₃	5	92	295-297	294-295 [27]
5g	-4-OH	6	90	290-292	293-295 [25]
5h	-2-Br	7	89	283-285	285-287 [25]
5i	-2-Cl	7	87	270-272	273-276 [25]
5j	-2-F	4	82	297-299	299-300 [27]

^aReaction conditions: Benzaldehyde (0.01 mol), dimedone (0.01 mol), malononitrile (0.01 mol), and ammonium acetate (0.02 mol), catalyst (6 mol%) & ethanol 10 mL. ^bIsolated yields. ^cIsolated yields.

2-Amino-4-(4-methylphenyl)-3-cyano-7,7-dimethyl-5-oxo1,4,5,6,7,8-hexahydroquinoline (5f)

IR(KBr cm⁻¹): 3392, 3313, 3245, 2922, 2176, 1671, 1610, 1485.; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ 0.93(s, 3H, CH₃), 1.04 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.96-2.19 (dd, 2H, J=15 Hz, CH₂), 2.34- 2.45 (dd, 2H, J=17.2, CH₂), 4.44 (s, 1H, CH), 5.95 (s, 2H, NH₂), 6.90-7.32 (dd, 2H Ar-H), 6.92-7.01, (dd, 2H Ar-H), 7.16-8.4, (br, s 1H, NH); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 28.0, 29.5, 32.5, 43.1, 55.4, 59.0, 112.2, 122.9, 123.9, 128.2, 128.4, 131.4, 146.5, 151.0, 163.2, 197.0; ESI-MS(m/z): 307 [M+H]⁺

2-Amino-4-(4-hydroxyphenyl)-3-cyano-7,7-dimethyl-5-oxo1,4,5,6,7,8-hexahydroquinoline (5g)

IR(KBr cm⁻¹): 3427, 3317, 3176, 2975, 2684, 1674, 1495, 1381.; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ 0.93(s, 3H, CH₃), 1.11 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.91-2.85 (dd, 2H, J=15 Hz, CH₂), 2.70- 2.90 (dd, 2H, J=17.0, CH₂), 4.40 (s, 1H, CH), 5.95 (s, 2H, NH₂), 6.65-7.00, (dd, 2H Ar-H), 6.60-7.05, (dd, 2H, Ar-H), 7.15-8.3, (br, s, 1H, NH); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 27.6, 32.4, 38.2, 43.5, 51.3, 57.1, 111.8, 115.5, 115.6, 134.9, 135.2, 155.5, 163.0, 198.4; ESI-MS(m/z): 309.3 [M+H]⁺

2-Amino-4-(2-bromophenyl)-3-cyano-7,7-dimethyl-5-oxo1,4,5,6,7,8-hexahydroquinoline (5h)

IR(KBr cm⁻¹): 3455, 3341, 3162, 2945, 2675, 1651, 1422, 1383, 755; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ 0.95 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.11 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.95-2.90 (dd, 2H, J=15 Hz, CH₂), 2.75-2.95 (dd, 2H, J=17.0, CH₂), 4.66 (s, 1H, CH), 5.96 (s, 2H, NH₂), 6.60-7.50, (m, 4H, Ar-H), 7.16-8.55, (br, s 1H, NH); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 27.4, 31.2, 39.4, 43.5, 52.7, 59.6,

111.8, 114.3, 113.5, 130.4, 135.7, 150.3, 163.0, 197.4; ESI-MS(m/z): 372 [M+H]⁺

2-Amino-4-(2-chlorophenyl)-3-cyano-7,7-dimethyl-5-oxo1,4,5,6,7,8-hexahydroquinoline (5i)

IR(KBr cm⁻¹): 3440, 3335, 3135, 2925, 2665, 1695, 1445, 1385, 725.; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ 0.95 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.15 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.95-2.90 (dd, 2H, J=15 Hz, CH₂), 2.75-2.95 (dd, 2H, J=17.0, CH₂), 4.60 (s, 1H, CH), 5.95 (s, 2H, NH₂), 6.65-7.00, (m, 4H, Ar-H), 7.15-8.9, (br, s, 1H, NH); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 27.3, 31.5, 39.5, 43.5, 51.5, 57.5, 112.5, 116.4, 118.7, 131.9, 135.2, 155.5, 163.0, 195.4; ESI-MS(m/z): 327.8 [M+H]⁺

2-Amino-4-(2-fluorophenyl)-3-cyano-7,7-dimethyl-5-oxo1,4,5,6,7,8-hexahydroquinoline (5j)

IR(KBr cm⁻¹): 3489, 3345, 3128, 2972, 2685, 1685, 1493, 1391, 745; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, DMSO-d₆): δ 0.96 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.12 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.92-2.95 (dd, 2H, J=15 Hz, CH₂), 2.75-2.90 (dd, 2H, J=17.0, CH₂), 4.51 (s, 1H, CH), 5.85 (s, 2H, NH₂), 6.65-7.05, (m, 4H, Ar-H), 7.17-8.5, (br, s 1H, NH); ¹³C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d₆): 27.4, 32.5, 38.1, 43.2, 51.5, 57.5, 111.5, 115.4, 117.7, 130.8, 135.2, 153.5, 165.0, 196.4; ESI-MS(m/z): 311.3 [M+H]⁺

IV. CONCLUSION

We have developed a novel, one-pot, four component reaction under microwave irradiation that offers a simple, efficient and environmentally benign route for the synthesis of hexahydroquinolines and its

derivatives exhibiting biological importance in good to excellent yields. Methane sulfonic acid showed high catalytic activity in the synthesis of hexahydroquinolines. Our new method offers several obvious advantages including short reaction times, the use of mild reaction conditions, avoiding of discharging harmful organic solvents and acids and involving a simple work-up procedure.

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