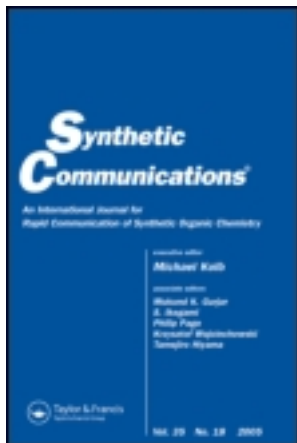


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Microwave-Assisted Synthesis of Quinoline Derivatives from Isatin

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Microwave-Assisted Synthesis of Quinoline Derivatives from Isatin

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Abstract: Microwave irradiation has been used for a rapid and efficient synthesis of quinoline-4-carboxylic acids **5a–g** and 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroacridine-9-carboxylic acid (**6**) from the reaction of isatins **1–3** with acyclic and cyclic ketones in basic medium. 2-Hydroxyquinoline-4-carboxylic acid (**11**) was also obtained by irradiating a mixture of isatin **1** and malonic acid in AcOH. The esters of **5f** and **11** and their respective hydrazides **8** and **13** were also prepared under MWI.

Keywords: Hydrazide, isatin, ketone, microwave, quinoline

INTRODUCTION

The synthesis of quinolines and their derivatives has been of considerable interest because a large number of natural products and drugs contain this heterocyclic unit.^[1–5] Quinoline-4-carboxylic acids and their analogs have a wide variety of medicinal applications including antitumor, antiviral, and antibacterial activities.^[6,7] 2-(4-Bromophenyl)-quinoline-4-carboxylic acid selectively inhibited *C. albicans* prolyl-tRNA synthetase and 2-phenylquinoline-4-carboxamides are used as analgesic, tranquillizer, antitumor, and antitubercular agents.^[8–11]

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In a continuation of our studies on microwave-assisted reactions,^[12–15] we report a versatile approach for the formation of quinoline-4-carboxylic acids, esters, and hydrazides using microwave irradiation (MWI).

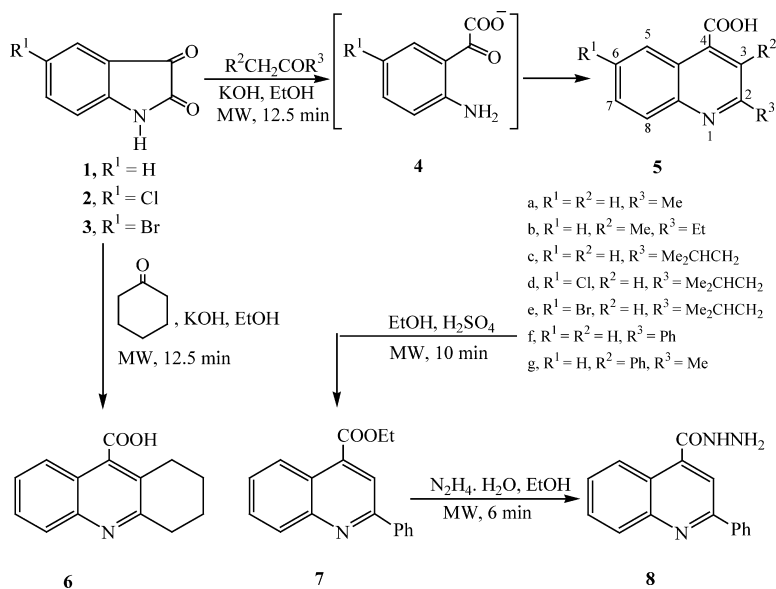
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Recently, efficient procedures for the synthesis of various quinoline derivatives were achieved using microwave irradiation.^[16–24] However, the role of MWI on the performance of the Pfitzinger reaction^[25] for the synthesis of quinoline-4-carboxylic acids has not been reported yet. The reaction between isatin and dialkyl ketones, in basic medium, required heating for about 70–96 h to give a considerable yield.^[26] However, it did not give appreciable amounts of the products when a strong steric hindrance was present in the ketone.^[27] Moreover, employing aqueous acid conditions required heating in an oil bath for 16 h.^[28]

However, we found that MWI has successfully accelerated the condensation of isatins **1–3** with a number of ketones, such as acetone, diethyl ketone, isobutyl methyl ketone, acetophenone, and benzyl methyl ketone, in alcoholic potassium hydroxide solution, whereby the corresponding quinoline-4-carboxylic acids **5a–g** were obtained in 12.5 min; the reactions were carried out in a closed Teflon vessel and the yield of products ranged between 50 and 96%. The highest yield observed in the cases of acetophenone (95%) and benzyl methyl ketone (96%) can be attributed to the stability of their carbanions, whose attack on the carbonyl group of the presumably formed isatic acid derivative **4** resulted from the ring opening of the isatin derivatives **1–3** and subsequent cyclization (Scheme 1).

Esterification of 2-phenylquinoline-4-carboxylic acid (**5f**) with ethanol in the presence of a catalytic amount of concentrated sulphuric acid under MWI in a closed Teflon vessel required 10 min to afford ethyl 2-phenylcinchoninate (**7**) in 94% yield; under the conventional conditions the reaction required heating under reflux for 22 h to give a comparable yield.^[29] Under MWI activation, the ester **7** was transformed into the corresponding acid hydrazide **8** in a much shorter time (6 min) compared with conventional heating (15.5 h). Furthermore, the yield of **8** was improved to 80% compared with 61%.^[29] When isatin **1** was reacted with cyclohexanone as the ketonic reagent under MWI, 1,2,3,4-tetrahydroacridine-9-carboxylic acid (**6**) was produced in 95% yield within 12.5 min, but under conventional heating, the reaction required 72 h and gave only a 55% yield.^[30]

Conventionally, isatin (**1**) was acetylated by heating with acetic anhydride for 2 h to give 75–80% yield of *N*-acetylisatin (**10**).^[31] However, when the reaction was conducted under MWI, the reaction time was dramatically reduced to 5 min to give 70% yield of **10**. When a mixture of **10** and aqueous sodium hydroxide was irradiated by MW for 3 min, 2-hydroxyquinoline-4-carboxylic acid (**11**) was produced in 65% yield; the reaction required 1 h of conventional heating to give a comparable yield.^[32] Another route for



Scheme 1.

the preparation of **11** involved heating a mixture of isatin **1** and malonic acid in the presence of acetic acid for 2 days,^[33] but when the reaction was carried out under MWI in a closed Teflon vessel, it required only 15 min to give a 68% yield (Scheme 2).

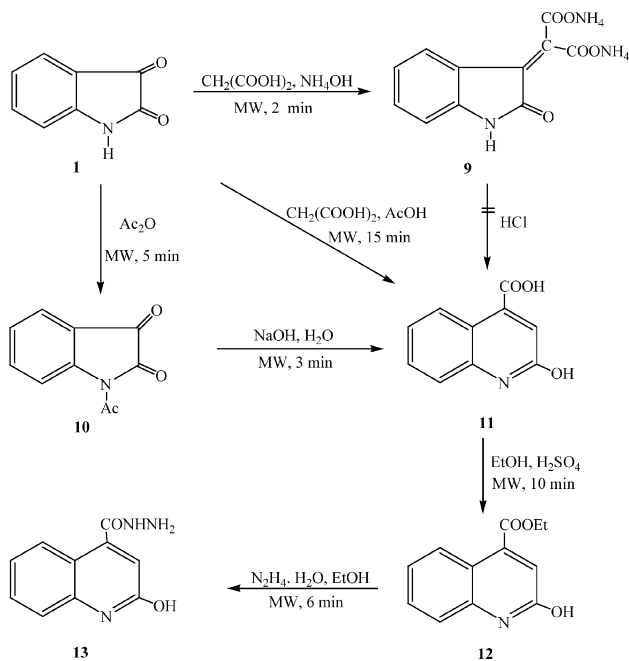
Isatin (**1**) has also been condensed with malonic acid in ammonia solution under MWI to give 94% yield of ammonium-3-(methylene di-acid)-oxindole **9** in a much shorter time (2 min) than under classical heating conditions (1 h).^[34] However, in our hands the treatment of **9** with hydrochloric acid at room temperature did not give **11** as previously reported.^[34] Esterification of **11** to the ethyl ester **12** and its subsequent transformation to the acid hydrazide **13** were carried out under MWI within 6–10 min to give 99 and 92% yields, respectively.

In conclusion, the use of MWI provides an efficient, clean, and quick methodology for the synthesis of quinoline-4-carboxylic acids as well as their esters and hydrazides with greater yields than the previously reported conventional methods.

EXPERIMENTAL

General Methods

Melting points were determined with a Mel-Temp apparatus and are uncorrected. TLC was performed on Baker-Flex silica gel 1B-F plates using ethyl



Scheme 2.

acetate–petroleum ether (3 : 2) and ethyl acetate–methanol (4 : 1) as eluents; the compounds were detected by UV light absorption. Irradiation was achieved using a domestic microwave oven EM-230M (800-W output power). IR spectra were recorded on Perkin-Elmer 1430 spectrometer. ^1H NMR spectra were recorded on Jeol spectrometer (500 MHz). Chemical shifts (δ) are given in ppm relative to TMS as internal standard.

General Procedure

Quinoline-4-carboxylic acids (5a–g): A mixture of isatin, 5-chloro, or 5-bromoisatin **1–3** (3.4 mmol), ketone (8.6 mmol), and potassium hydroxide (0.63 g, 11 mmol) in 20% aqueous ethanol (2 ml) was placed in a closed Teflon vessel and irradiated by MWI for 12.5 min. The reaction mixture was acidified with acetic acid and the product was recrystallized from EtOH or MeOH– CHCl_3 .

2-Methylquinoline-4-carboxylic acid (5a): Yield 0.318 g, 50%; mp 244–245°C, lit.^[35] mp 242°C.

2-Ethyl-3-methylquinoline-4-carboxylic acid^[36] (5b): Yield 0.373 g, 51%; mp 287–288°C; IR (KBr): 2940 cm^{-1} (OH), 1708 cm^{-1} (C=O); ^1H NMR

(CDCl₃): δ 1.47 (t, 3H, $J = 7.7$ Hz, CH₃CH₂), 2.69 (s, 3H, CH₃), 3.33 (q, 2H, CH₂CH₃), 7.92 (t, 1H, $J_{7,6} = 7.7$ Hz, $J_{7,8} = 8.6$ Hz, H-7), 8.05–8.08 (m, 2H, H-6, H-8), 8.21 (d, 1H, $J_{5,6} = 8.6$ Hz, H-5), 14.58 (s, 1H, COOH).

2-Isobutylquinoline-4-carboxylic acid (5c): Yield 0.467 g, 60%; mp 156–158°C, lit.^[27] mp 192°C; IR (KBr): 2729 cm⁻¹ (OH), 1692 cm⁻¹ (C=O); ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 0.89 (d, 6H, $J = 6.9$ Hz, (CH₃)₂CH), 2.10–2.18 [m, 1H, CH(CH₃)₂], 2.81 (d, 2H, $J = 7.7$ Hz, CH₂CH), 7.61 (t, 1H, $J_{7,6} = 6.9$ Hz, $J_{7,8} = 8.4$ Hz, H-7), 7.75 (ddd, 1H, $J_{6,5} = 8.4$ Hz, $J_{6,7} = 6.9$ Hz, $J_{6,8} = 1.5$ Hz, H-6), 7.78 (s, 1H, H-3), 8.01 (d, 1H, $J_{8,7} = 8.4$ Hz, H-8), 8.61 (d, 1H, $J_{5,6} = 8.4$ Hz, H-5).

6-Chloro-2-isobutylquinoline-4-carboxylic acid (5d): Yield 0.538 g, 60%; mp 182–184°C; IR (KBr): 2758 cm⁻¹ (OH), 1705 cm⁻¹ (C=O); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 1.02 (d, 6H, $J = 6.1$ Hz, (CH₃)₂CH), 2.27–2.29 [m, 1H, CH(CH₃)₂], 3.06 (d, 2H, $J = 7.7$ Hz, CH₂CH), 7.77 (dd, 1H, $J_{7,8} = 8.4$ Hz, $J_{7,5} = 1.5$ Hz, H-7), 8.00 (s, 1H, H-3), 8.31 (d, 1H, $J_{8,7} = 8.4$ Hz, H-8), 8.93 (s, 1H, H-5), 9.75 (s, 1H, COOH). Anal. calcd. for C₁₄H₁₄NO₂Cl: C, 63.76; H, 5.31; N, 5.31. Found: C, 63.84; H, 5.19; N, 5.22.

6-Bromo-2-isobutylquinoline-4-carboxylic acid (5e): Yield 0.627 g, 60%; mp 186–188°C, lit.^[27] mp 189°C.

2-Phenylquinoline-4-carboxylic acid (5f): Yield 0.805 g, 95%; mp 212–214°C, lit.^[37] mp 209–210°C, lit.^[38] mp 210–212°C.

2-Methyl-3-phenylquinoline-4-carboxylic acid^[26] (5g): Yield 0.859 g, 96%; mp > 300°C; IR (KBr): 2735 cm⁻¹ (OH), 1644 cm⁻¹ (C=O); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ 2.4 (s, 3H, CH₃), 7.35 (d, 2H, $J = 6.9$ Hz, Ph-H), 7.40–7.48 (m, 3H, Ph-H), 7.62 (t, 1H, $J_{7,8} = 6.9$ Hz, $J_{7,6} = 7.7$ Hz, H-7), 7.76 (t, 1H, $J_{6,7} = 7.7$ Hz, $J_{6,5} = 7.7$ Hz, H-6), 7.79 (d, 1H, $J_{8,7} = 6.9$ Hz, H-8), 8.02 (d, 1H, $J_{5,6} = 7.7$ Hz, H-5).

1,2,3,4-Tetrahydroacridine-9-carboxylic acid (6): A mixture of isatin **1** (0.5 g, 3.4 mmol), cyclohexanone (0.9 ml, 8.7 mmol), and potassium hydroxide (0.63 g, 11 mmol) in 20% aqueous ethanol (2 ml) was placed in a closed Teflon vessel and irradiated by MWI for 12.5 min. The reaction mixture was processed as previously described to give **6**; yield 0.734 g, 95%; mp 284°C (dec.), lit.^[30] mp 285–286°C.

Ammonium 3-(methylene di-acid)-oxindole (9): A mixture of isatin **1** (1.0 g, 6.8 mmol) and malonic acid (0.8 g, 7.7 mmol) in 10% absolute ethanolic ammonia (3 ml) was placed in an Erlenmeyer flask (250 ml) and irradiated by MWI for 2 min. The product was filtered and washed with hot CHCl₃; yield 1.707 g, 94%; mp 168–170°C; mp was not determined in lit.^[34] IR (KBr): 3581–2633 cm⁻¹ (NH₄, NH), 1725 cm⁻¹ (C=O).

N-Acetylisatin (10): A mixture of isatin **1** (0.5 g, 3.4 mmol) and acetic anhydride (10 ml) was placed in an Erlenmeyer flask (250 ml) and irradiated

by MWI for 5 min. The product was filtered, washed with ether, and recrystallized from benzene; yield 0.45 g, 70%; mp 144–145°C, lit.^[31] mp 143–144°C.

2-Hydroxyquinoline-4-carboxylic acid (11): Method (a): A mixture of *N*-acetylisatin (**10**) (0.5 g, 2.6 mmol) and sodium hydroxide (0.26 g, 6.5 mmol) in water (10 ml) was placed in an Erlenmeyer flask (250 ml) and irradiated by MWI for 3 min; the reaction mixture was acidified with acetic acid and the product was recrystallized from EtOH; yield 0.325 g, 65%; mp 332–336°C, lit.^[31] mp 335–338°C.

Method (b): A mixture of isatin **1** (1.0 g, 6.8 mmol) and malonic acid (1.07 g, 10.3 mmol) in acetic acid (3 ml) was placed in a closed Teflon vessel and irradiated by MWI for 15 min. The product (0.874 g, 68%), was found to be identical with that obtained from the previous method.

Ethyl 2-substituted quinoline-4-carboxylate (7) and (12): A mixture of compound **5f** or **11** (2.02 mmol), ethyl alcohol (3 ml), and concentrated sulfuric acid (0.5 ml) was placed in a closed Teflon vessel and irradiated by MWI for 10 min. The mixture was neutralized with sodium bicarbonate solution and the products were recrystallized from EtOH.

Ethyl 2-phenylquinoline-4-carboxylate (7): Yield 0.523 g, 94%; mp 56–58°C, lit.^[29] mp 58–59°C.

Ethyl 2-hydroxyquinoline-4-carboxylate (12): Yield 0.432 g, 99%; mp 210–212°C, lit.^[32] mp 206°C.

2-Substituted quinoline-4-carboxylic acid hydrazides (8) and (13): A mixture of the ethyl ester **7** or **12** (1.38 mmol) in ethyl alcohol (3 ml) was treated with hydrazine hydrate (4.6 mmol) and then irradiated by MWI for 6 min in a closed Teflon vessel. The products were recrystallized from EtOH.

2-Phenylquinoline-4-carboxylic acid hydrazide (8): Yield 0.29 g, 80%; mp 222–224°C, lit.^[29] mp 224°C.

2-Hydroxyquinoline-4-carboxylic acid hydrazide (13): Yield 0.257 g, 92%; mp 288–290°C, lit.^[39] mp 287–288°C.

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