



Synthesis of Pyranopyrazoles using a Silica-Sodium Sulphate as a reusable catalyst in water

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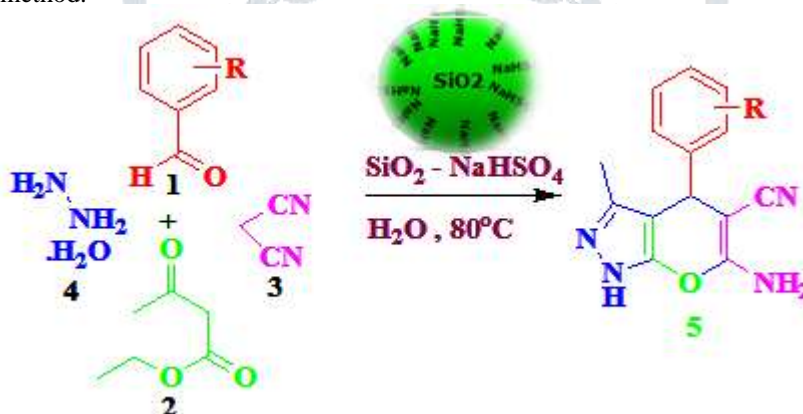
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Abstract: In this study, a one-pot four component synthesis of pyranopyrazoles from araldehydes (1), ethyl acetoacetate (2), malononitrile (3) and hydrazine hydrate (4) in the presence of catalytic amounts of heterogeneous silica-sodium hydrogen sulphate in water as a medium has been described. The ability to reuse the catalyst and good yields of the products are the important features of this method.



Index Terms - Multi-component reactions, Pyranopyrazoles, Heterogeneous catalysts, Silica-sodium hydrogen sulphate

1. INTRODUCTION

In the recent past Multicomponent reactions have gained higher priority due to high atom economy, milder reaction conditions and selectivity, with least byproduct formation as compared to conventional multistep synthetic reactions. simpler experimental procedures, efficient and recyclable catalysts, lower energy consumptions make these reactions more attractive, making them greener options for synthesis of many heterocyclic organic compounds such as substituted quinolines, benzopyrans, pyranopyrazoles etc.

Pyranopyrazoles are an important class of heterocyclic compounds which find application as pharmaceutical and biodegradable agrochemicals [1-3]. These compounds have been prepared earlier by a three component reaction between pyrazolone, aromatic aldehyde and malononitrile using triethylamine as catalyst in ethanol [3] and by the reaction of 5-methyl-2,4-dihydro-3H-pyrazol-3-one, malononitrile and different aromatic aldehydes using ammonium acetate in ethanol [4]. A four component reaction of aldehydes, ethyl acetoacetate, malononitrile and hydrazine hydrate using cyclodextrin has also been reported [5]. Continuing our research work in green synthesis of biologically important organic molecules [6] using green chemistry principles we are reporting a synthesis of Pyranopyrazoles using silica-sodium hydrogen sulphate as heterogeneous catalyst.

Advantages of solid catalysts include the safer handling, regeneration, and disposal complying with the green chemical principles making them very attractive for the researchers. Heterogeneous catalysts like SiO₂-NaHSO₄ catalyzed organic reactions have gained much attention due to their high catalytic activity, versatility of catalyzing many reactions, easier preparation, handling, stability and recyclability. Das B. *et. al.* [7] have used silica supported sodium hydrogen sulphate to synthesize 1, 8-Dioxo-octahydroxanthenes from 5, 5-dimethyl-1,3-cyclohexanedione and aromatic aldehydes in acetonitrile. Sodium hydrogen sulphate and sodium nitrite in the presence of SiO₂ has been used as an oxidizing agent for the conversion of aryl substituted unsaturated acylhydrazides to their corresponding azo compounds at room temperature [8]. Comparing the catalytic activity of pure NaHSO₄ with that of SiO₂-NaHSO₄ shows that the latter is better than the pure compound itself in catalytic activity as product yields were good (**Table 1**). The catalyst was prepared [9] and used in a model reaction using anisaldehyde as the starting material.

2. Experimental

All chemicals used were commercial and without further purification. Progress of the reaction was monitored using Silica gel-TLC plates. The synthesized compounds were characterized by ¹H NMR spectral analysis, comparing the products on TLC or by the comparison of melting points with products prepared by known methods. NMR spectra were recorded on a Bruker spectrophotometer. FT-IR spectra were recorded on a Bruker Optics Alpha-P FT-IR spectrophotometer with attenuated total reflectance (ATR) module.

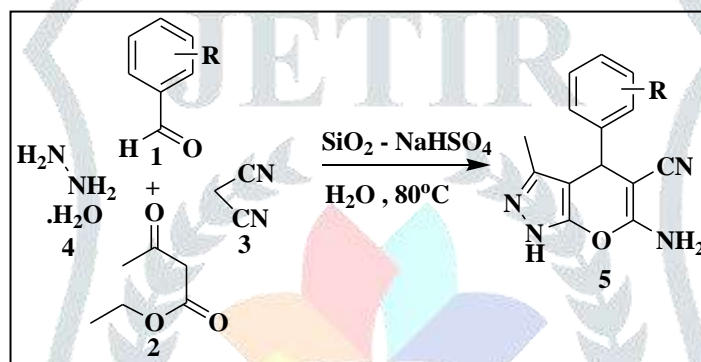
2.1. Preparation of catalyst

Silica gel (1.5 g, 60-120 mesh) NaHSO₄ (0.7 g, 5 mmol) were taken in 10 mL of water, stirred for approximately 1 hour. This was heated at 120 °C for 2-3 hour and dried to get free flowing solid powder of SiO₂-NaHSO₄.

In order to recycle the catalyst, after the completion of the reaction and removal of the product, ethyl acetate (10 mL) was added to the reaction mixture and the catalyst was filtered and washed with ether which was ready for further use. It was used up to 3-4 times after which the catalytic activity was found to be decreased, which may be due to the degradation of the catalyst under mechanical stirring and heating. The yields for the four runs were found to be 93%, 90%, 75% and 60% respectively indicating the degradation of the catalyst. The catalyst was successfully applied to the reactions with various araldehydes using ethylacetoacetate, malononitrile and hydrazine hydrate and the results are presented in **Table 1**.

2.2. Typical Procedure for the preparation of pyranopyrazole

The aromatic aldehyde (1 m mol), malononitrile (1 m mol), ethyl acetoacetate (1 m mol) hydrazine hydrate (1 m mol) and catalyst SiO₂-NaHSO₄ (0.5 m mol) were taken in water (~5 ml) and heated at 80 °C for 20–30 minutes. Products were subjected to column chromatography to get pure compounds. Various aromatic aldehydes were used, the yield of the products and time taken for completion of the reactions are summarized in **Table 1**. The reactions are compatible with functional groups such as -Cl, -OCH₃, -NO₂ and -OH. Spectral data (IR and ¹H NMR) of the compounds prepared are given in Figure 1 to 7.



Scheme 1: Synthesis of Pyranopyrazoles

TABLE 1: Synthesis of pyranopyrazoles from aromatic aldehydes.

Sl. No.	Aromatic aldehyde	Product	Time (min)	Yield (%)
1	Anisaldehyde	5a	30	95
2	3-methoxy, 4 -hydroxybenzaldehyde	5b	30	90
3	3- Nitrobenzaldehyde	5c	30	85
4	4- Nitrobenzaldehyde	5d	30	80
5	4-Chlorobenzaldehyde	5e	30	89
6	N,N-Dimethylbezaldehyde	5f	30	80

4. Conclusions

In this study we have reported the versatile nature of SiO₂-NaHSO₄ as a heterogeneous, inexpensive and efficient catalyst for the synthesis of pyranopyrazoles under mild reaction conditions. The method reported here is environmentally benign, absence of any organic solvents, and involves simple reaction set-up not requiring specialized equipment. It gives excellent product yields in a short reaction time making it a 'Green Protocol's for the synthesis of bioactive Pyranopyrazoles via the one-pot four component reaction of araldehydes, ethylacetoacetate, malononitrile and hydrazine hydrate.

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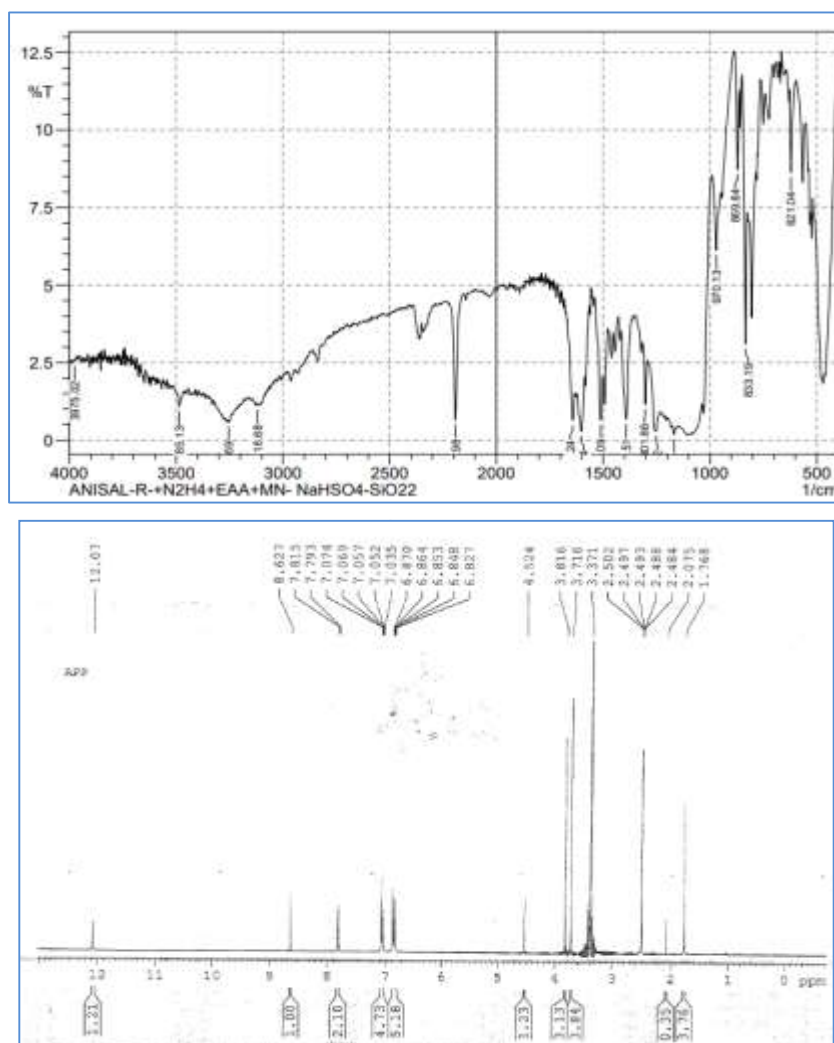
Supporting data – Infra red and ^1H NMR of some of the compounds prepared-

Fig. 1 and 2- IR and ^1H -NMR of 6-Amino-4-(4-methoxyphenyl)-5-cyano-3-methyl-1-phenyl-1,4-dihydropyranopyrazole.

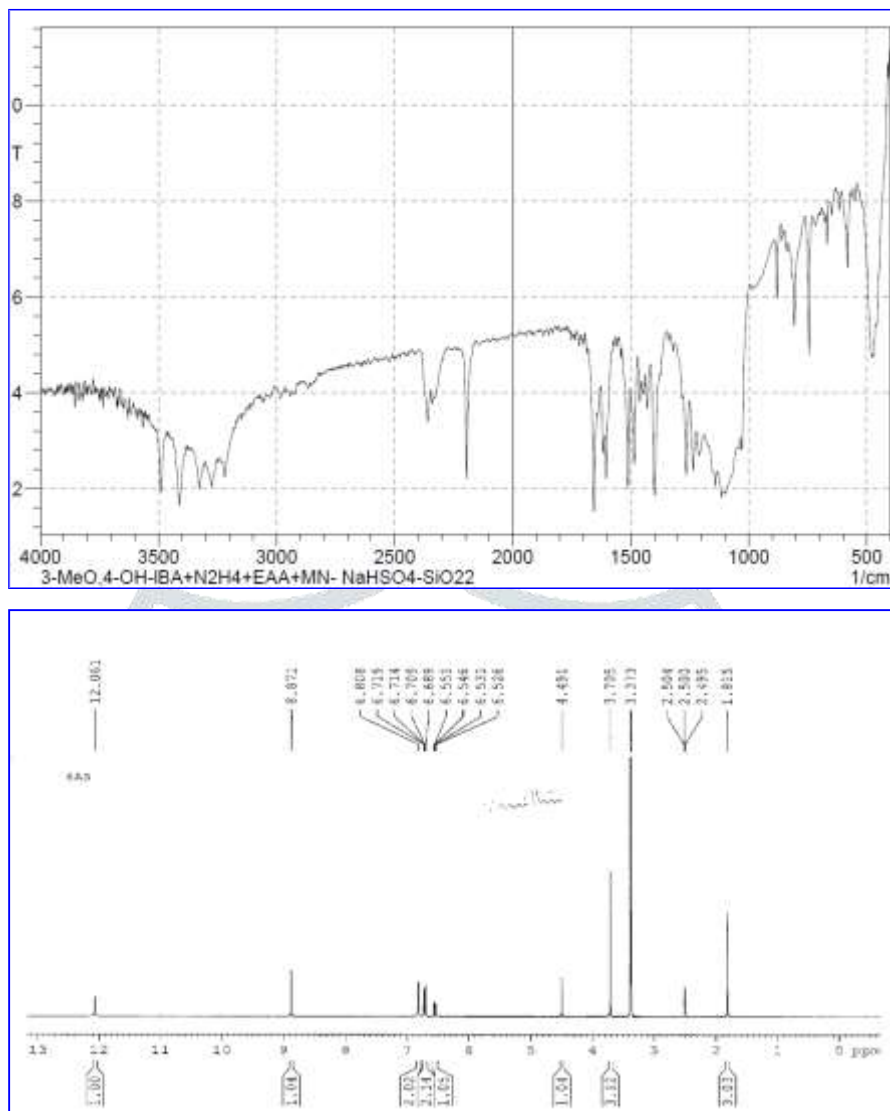


Fig. 3 and 4- IR and ¹H-NMR of 6-Amino-4-(4'-hydroxy-3'-methoxyphenyl)-3-methyl-1,4-dihydroprano[2,3-c]pyrazole-5- carbonitrile

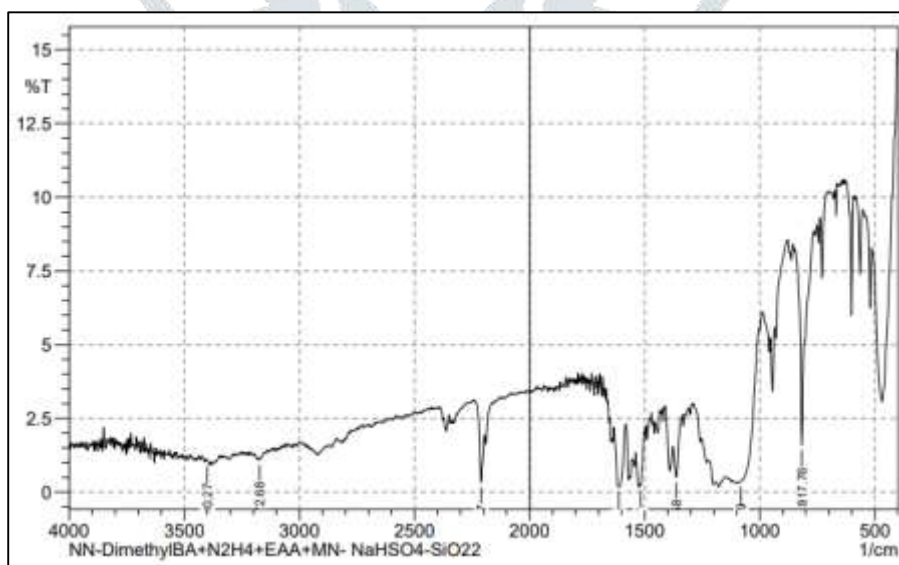


Fig. 5. IR of 6-Amino-4-(N, N dimethyl)-3-methyl-1,4-dihydroprano [2,3- c]pyrazole-5- carbonitrile

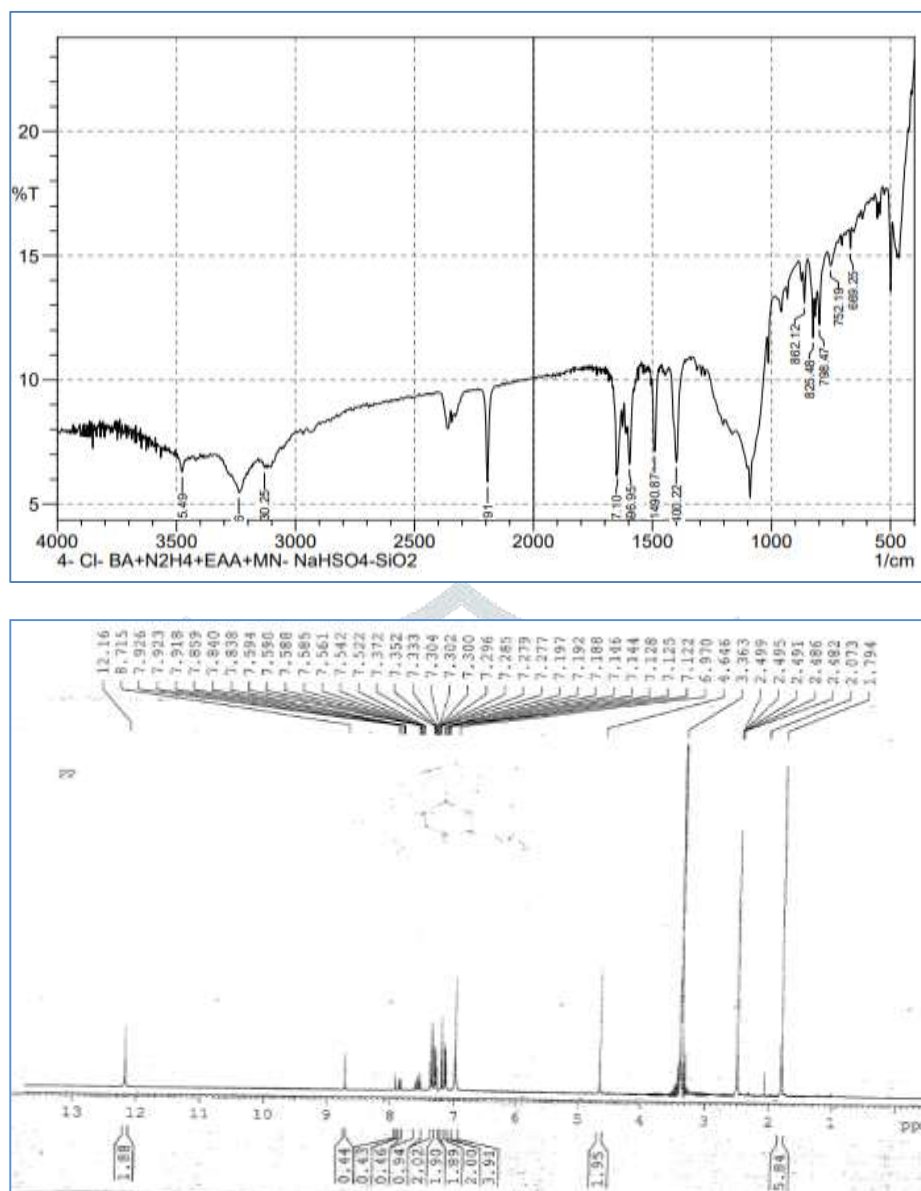


Fig. 6 and 7- IR and ¹H-NMR of 6-Amino-4-(4'-chloro)-3-methyl-1,4-dihydropyranopyrazole-5-carbonitrile