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# **OPEN** Application of novel nanomagnetic metal-organic frameworks as a catalyst for the synthesis of new pyridines and 1,4-dihydropyridines via a cooperative vinylogous anomeric based oxidation

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Herein, a new magnetic metal-organic frameworks based on Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (NMMOFs) with porous and high surface area materials were synthesized. Then, NMMOFs were characterized by FT-IR, XRD, SEM, elemental mapping, energy dispersive X-ray (EDS), TG, DTG, VSM, and N<sub>2</sub> adsorption-desorption isotherms (BET). Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub> as a magnetic porous catalyst was applied for synthesis of novel fused pyridines and 1,4-dihydropyridines with pyrazole and pyrimidine moieties as suitable drug candidates under ultrasonic irradiation. The significant advantages of the presented methodology are mild, facile workup, high yields, short reaction times, high thermal stability, and reusability of the described NMMOFs catalyst.

Catalysis under ultrasonic irradiation has been widely applied for the preparation of organic compounds and catalysis<sup>1-3</sup>. On the other hand, hybrid organic-inorganic catalysts such as metal-organic frameworks (MOFs) as a new class of porous materials have high attention in chemical processes. Porous and magnetic materials have been widely used in biotechnology, magnetic resonance imaging (MRI), catalysis, adsorption, gas separation, and purification, optics, drug delivery, etc.<sup>4-6</sup>. However, metal-organic frameworks (MOFs) are a widespread strategy for the expansion of new porous materials to reach with the higher surface area. By selecting a suitable plan, reactants and reaction conditions can be correctly controlled by the porosity and structure of desired materials<sup>7–13</sup>. Magnetic catalysts have been used for the synthesis of a good range of pharmaceutical and chemical compounds, due to their easy removal and convenient separation<sup>14-16</sup>. The reported catalysts can be easily isolated from the reaction mixture with an external magnetic field<sup>17-19</sup>. Therefore magnetic metal–organic frameworks (MMOFs) have been used for various purposes due to their exciting properties<sup>20-23</sup>, such as high thermal stability and application at the hard reaction conditions<sup>24-26</sup>. The chemistry of magnetic metal–organic frameworks and their corresponding applications comprehensively have been reviewed<sup>27-29</sup>.

Fused N-heterocycles compounds with pyrazole and pyridines have shown a broad spectrum of biological and agricultural activities such as antitumor, cardiotonic hepatoprotactive, antihypertensive, antibronchitic, and antifungal activity<sup>30-33</sup>. Therefore, research and develop the new strategy are necessary for the synthesis of pyridines with pyrazole moieties. Pyridine derivatives are the central core of natural products such as NADP, clivimine, kedarcidin, and promothiocin A (Fig. 1)<sup>34</sup>.

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**Promothiocin** A

Figure 1. Structure of pyridine as natural products.



**Scheme 1.** Preparation of novel fused pyridines and 1,4-dihydropyridines with pyrazole and pyrimidine moieties by using Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub> as the catalyst.

Synthesis of composites of MOF and nano-magnetic  $Fe_3O_4$  is our great research interest. With this aim, we have decided to synthesize nano-magnetic metal–organic frameworks  $Fe_3O_4@Co(BDC)-NH_2$  as a porous and magnetic catalyst under ultrasonic irradiation condition. This nanomagnetic metal–organic frameworks (NMMOFs) was applied in the synthesis of novel fused pyridines and 1,4-dihydropyridines with pyrazole and pyrimidine moieties by using the corresponding precursors in DMF (5 mL) as solvent under ultrasonic irradiation (Scheme 1).



**Scheme 2.** Synthesis of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub> as a nanomagnetic metal–organic frameworks.

# Experimental

**Materials and methods.** All chemicals were purchased from Merck Chemical Company. The known products were identified by comparison of their melting points and spectral data with those reported in the literature. To scrutinize the progress of the reaction silica gel SIL G/UV 254 plates were used. From the model of the BRUKER Ultra shield, NMR spectrometer ( $\delta$  in ppm) was recorded <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz) and <sup>13</sup>C NMR (100 MHz). Recorded on a Büchi B-545 apparatus in open capillary tubes were melting points. The PerkinElmer PE-1600-FTIR device was registered for the infrared spectra of compounds. SEM was performed using a scanning electron microscope for field publishing made by TE-SCAN. Thermal gravimetry (TG), differential thermal gravimetric (DTG) and differential thermal (DTA) were analyzed by a Perkin Elmer (Model: Pyris 1). The analysis 25–1000 °C, temperature increase rate of 10 °C min<sup>-1</sup>.

**General procedure for the synthesis of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> @CH<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H.** Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> was prepared according to the previously reported literature<sup>35,36</sup>. Then, in a 25 mL round-bottomed flask, a mixture of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> (1 g), HSCH<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H (10.0 mmol, 1.38 g), and EtOH (30 mL) were added and refluxed for 24 h. After this time, a dark brown precipitate was appeared, which it is isolated by using a magnet. The obtained Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@CH<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H (1.95 g) was dried under vacuum<sup>23</sup>.

**General procedure for the synthesis of Fe\_3O\_4 (@Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub>.** At first, a solution of 45.0 mM of  $Co(NO_3)_2$ ·6H<sub>2</sub>O (2.34 g in 180 mL DMF) (solution I) and 45.0 mM of H<sub>2</sub>BDC-NH<sub>2</sub> (1.46 g in 180 mL DMF) (solution II) were prepared respectively. In a 25 mL glass vials, a mixture of  $Fe_3O_4$ @CH<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H (0.5 g) and 10 mL of solution I were sonicated for 20 min. Then, this mixture was separated by a permanent magnet and washed with DMF as step I. Then, a mixture of step I and 10 mL of solution II were sonicated for 45 min. The produced solid was separated by a permanent magnet and washed with EtOH as step II. In continued, two strategies (a mixture of step I and step II) were repeated 18 times, respectively. Finally,  $Fe_3O_4$ @Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub> (0.8 g) was dried under vacuum for 2 h (Scheme 2).

**General procedure for the synthesis of novel fused pyridines and 1,4-dihydropyridines.** In a 10 mL round-bottomed, a mixture of aldehyde (1.0 mmol), pyrimidine (1,3-dimethylpyrimidine-2,4,6(1*H*,3*H*,5*H*)-trione or pyrimidine-2,4,6(1*H*,3*H*,5*H*)-trione) and pyrazole-5-amine (3-methyl-1*H*-pyrazole-5-amine or 3-methyl-1-phenyl-1*H*-pyrazole-5-amine) derivatives] and Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub> (10 mg) as a catalyst were mixed in DMF (5 mL) as solvent under ultrasonic irradiation. After completion of the reaction (monitor by TLC *n*-hexane/ethyl acetate; 4:6), the catalyst was separated by an external magnet. Finally, the mixture was poured into H<sub>2</sub>O and filtered off its precipitate. The obtained residue was washed with warm ethanol and dried at 100 °C (Scheme 1).

# **Result and discussion**

The systematic study of the stereoelectronic effects in target molecules, allows for the design of synthetic strategies based on a nomerically driven stereoselective reactions, or highly biased equilibria among isomeric products. To the best of our knowledge, many biological processes involve the oxidation–reduction of substrates by NAD<sup>+</sup>/ NADH, respectively<sup>37-41</sup>. The key feature of the oxidation mechanism is hydride transfer from carbon via stereoelectronic interactions. Thus the development of stereoelectronic effects leads to knowledge-based designing



Figure 2. Stepwise synthesis of the nanomagnetic metal-organic frameworks (NMMOFs) system.

of biomimetic reactions. The obtained results from this research will be supporting the idea of rational designs, syntheses, and applications of tasked-specific catalysts and molecules for the development of stereoelectronic effects in the course of organic synthesis. With this aim, a nanomagnetic metal–organic frameworks (NMMOFs) was designed, characterized and applied for the preparation of pyridines fused with pyrazole and pyrimidine under ultrasonic irradiation.

At first, nanomagnetic metal–organic frameworks (NMMOFs) were synthesized (Scheme 2). Its schematic synthesis is showed in Fig. 2. The synthesized  $Fe_3O_4@Co(BDC)-NH_2$  fully characterized by applying FT-IR, XRD, SEM, elemental mapping, energy dispersive X-ray (EDS), TG, DTG, VSM and N<sub>2</sub> adsorption–desorption isotherms (BET).

FT-IR spectrum of H<sub>2</sub>BDC-NH<sub>2</sub>, Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@CH<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H, and Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub> are shown in Figure S1 (see supporting information). The absorption bands at 670 cm<sup>-1</sup> linked to the stretching vibrational modes of Fe–O groups in Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>. The absorption bands at 1741, 2924, and 3426 cm<sup>-1</sup> related to C=O, C–H and, O–H stretching respectively in Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@CH<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H. Also, the absorption bands at 633 cm<sup>-1</sup> and 3318–3448 cm<sup>-1</sup> are related to Co–O and N–H<sub>2</sub> stretching respectively, of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub>. Finally, the differences between H<sub>2</sub>BC-NH<sub>2</sub>, Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@CH<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H, and Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub> in the FT-IR spectrum were confirmed the synthesis of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub>.

The particle size and shape, as well as the morphology of  $Fe_3O_4@CH_2CO_2H$ ,  $Fe_3O_4$ , MOF-Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub>,  $Co(NO_3)_3 \cdot 6H_2O$  and  $Fe_3O_4@Co(BDC)$ -NH<sub>2</sub> were studied by XRD (Fig. 3), and SEM (Fig. 4). The comparison XRD pattern of JCPDS (red line),  $Fe_3O_4$  (black line),  $Co(NO_3)_3 \cdot 6H_2O$  (purple line), Simulated XRD (orange line), MOF-Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub> (green line),  $Fe_3O_4@CH_2CO_2H$  (brown line) and  $Fe_3O_4@Co(BDC)$ -NH<sub>2</sub> (blue line) is assembled according to the liturture servey at the range of 5°–80° in Fig. 3<sup>42</sup>. The phase of Co oxide and  $Fe_3O_4$  in  $Fe_3O_4@CO(BDC)$ -NH<sub>2</sub> as standard brown line (ICDD Card: 80-1540) of Co and pinks standard line (JCP2: 75-449) of  $Fe_3O_4$  in the standard references. Also, Peaks of  $Fe_3O_4@Co(BDC)$ -NH<sub>2</sub> exhibited  $2\theta = 18.3^\circ$ ,  $30.2^\circ$ ,  $35.6^\circ$ ,  $43.3^\circ$ ,  $53.6^\circ$ ,  $57.3^\circ$ ,  $62.8^\circ$  and  $74.2^\circ$  corresponding to diffraction lines (111), (220), (311), (400), (422), (511), (440) and (533). Then, the averaged interlunar distance and sizes of crystal were calculated by the Scherer equation and Bragg equation, which are determined 0.67 nm (single peak at 12.8 and 17.5–37.5 nm range (Table S1 see in supporting information)<sup>43,44</sup>.

For comparison, structure and elementals in the synthesis of step by step  $Fe_3O_4@CH_2CO_2H$  and  $Fe_3O_4@Co(BDC)-NH_2$  were also studied with energy dispersive X-ray analysis (EDX) analysis (Figure S2 see supporting information). The structures of  $Fe_3O_4@Co(BDC)-NH_2$  and  $Fe_3O_4@CH_2CO_2H$  were verified with existence of Fe, Co, N, C, O and Fe, C, O, and S atoms respectively <sup>45</sup>. Then, elementals dispersed over the surface of the catalyst, and step  $Fe_3O_4@Co(BDC)-NH_2$  was checked out by SEM-elemental mapping (Figure S3 see supporting information). The images in Figure S3 shows that all kinds of elements are well dispersed over the surface of  $Fe_3O_4@Co(BDC)-NH_2$ . The difference between EDX analysis and SEM-elemental mapping is confirmed by the structure of  $Fe_3O_4@Co(BDC)-NH_2$ .

In another investigation, the particle size and shape, as well as the morphology of  $Fe_3O_4@Co(BDC)-NH_2$  were examined by scanning electron microscope (SEM) (Fig. 4). As shown in Fig. 4, nano-spherical particles of the nanomagnetic metal–organic frameworks (NMMOFs) are in the nanoscale, as the particles are quite overlapped with different crystallite size as observed in SEM Transmission electron microcopy (TEM) images of  $Fe_3O_4@$  Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub> catalyst reveal that the particles shape is spherical and the particle size is up to 50 nm (Fig. 5).



**Figure 3.** Comparison XRD pattern of JCPDS (red line),  $Fe_3O_4$  (black line),  $Co(NO_3)_3 \cdot 6H_2O$  (purple line), Simulated XRD (orange line), MOF-Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub> (green line),  $Fe_3O_4@CH_2CO_2H$  (brown line) and  $Fe_3O_4@CO(BDC)-NH_2$  (blue line).



Figure 4. Scanning electron microscope (SEM) images of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub>.



Figure 5. Transmission electron microscopy (TEM) images of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub>.



Figure 6. Vibrating sample magnetometer (VSM) of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@CH<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H, and Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub>.

The magnetic measurement of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@CH<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H, and Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub> are shown in Fig. 6. Based on Fig. 6, the vibrating sample magnetometer (VSM) of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>, Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@CH<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H, and Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub> were examined and reduced from 64.4, 60.1 up to 54.3  $\mu$ g<sup>-1</sup> respectively. Therefore, these decreases are the result of coating with its corresponding layers.

In another investigation, the structural and thermal stability of  $Fe_3O_4@Co(BDC)-NH_2$  was also determined using the technique of the thermal gravimetric (TG), derivative thermal gravimetric (DTG), as well as the differential thermal analysis (DTA) (Figure S4 see in supporting information). First stage weight loss is about 100 °C, associated with the removal of possible solvents (organic and water), which was used in the course of catalyst preparation. Then, twice a step of weight loss has occurred at about 300 °C, which is the onset of the structural degradation of the catalyst.

For the determination of surface structural parameters, the  $N_2$  adsorption/desorption technique was used. The results of  $N_2$  adsorption/desorption were plotted in Fig. 7. The obtained surface area based on BET isotherm is 22.35 m<sup>2</sup> g<sup>-1</sup>. The total pore volume of the catalyst is 0.02 cm<sup>3</sup> g<sup>-1</sup>. Also, for studying the textural properties of MOF-Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub> the N<sub>2</sub> adsorption-desorption isotherms were used (Fig. 7). The adsorption isotherm is type III and the appearance of hysteresis loop shows the presence of mesopores in the sample. The calculated surface areas based on BET equation and total pore volumes are 86 m<sup>2</sup> g<sup>-1</sup> and 0.36 cm<sup>3</sup> g<sup>-1</sup> respectively. The pore size distribution of MOF-Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub> based on BJH method is shown (Figure S5 see in supporting



**Figure 7.** Nitrogen adsorption–desorption isotherm (BET) of  $Fe_3O_4@Co(BDC)-NH_2$  and MOF-Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub>.

information). This plot clearly shows presence of micropores (size < 2 nm) and mesopores (2 < size < 50 nm) in the sample, however the micropores are more abundant.

After the synthesis and characterization of  $Fe_3O_4@Co(BDC)-NH_2$ , it was applied for the synthesis of novel mono, bis and tris novel fused pyridines and 1,4-dihydropyridines with pyrazole and pyrimidine moieties by using the corresponding precursors such as 3-methyl-1,4-diphenyl-1,8-dihydro-5*H*-pyrazolo[4',3':5,6] pyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-5,7(6*H*)-dione and 3-methyl-4-phenyl-1,4,8,9-tetrahydro-5*H*-pyrazolo[4',3':5,6] pyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-5,7(6*H*)-dione. The above mentioned products were obtained by reaction of 4-nitro benzaldehyde (1.0 mmol, 0.151 g), 3-methyl-1-phenyl-1*H*-pyrazole-5-amine (1.0 mmol, 0.174 g) and pyrimidine-2,4,6(1*H*,3*H*,5*H*)-trione (1.0 mmol, 0.128 g) as a model for the optimization the reaction conditions. The optimized data is listed in Table 1. As shown in Table 1, the best of choice for the synthesis of 3-methyl-1,4-diphenyl-1,8-dihydro-5*H*-pyrazolo[4',3':5,6]pyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-5,7(6*H*)-dione was achieved in the presence of 10 mg Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub> in DMF (5 mL) as solvent under ultrasonic irradiation (entry 4, Table 1). The model reaction was also studied by using several solvents such as H<sub>2</sub>O, CH<sub>3</sub>CN, *n*-hexane, CHCl<sub>3</sub>, MeOH, EtOH, CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, EtOAc (5 mL) and solvent-free condition in the presence of 10 mg of Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub>. The results of the reaction did not improve (Table 1, entries 6–13). Also, the model reaction was also studied in the magnetic stirrer condition at room temperature under the solvent-free reaction (Table 1, entry 14).

After optimizing the reaction conditions,  $Fe_3O_4@Co(BDC)-NH_2(10 mg)$  is applied to synthesis a good range of novel biological and pharmacological candidate compounds using various aromatic aldehydes (trephetaldehyde, iso-trephetaldehyde, tris-aldehyde, bearing electron-donating and electron-withdrawing groups), pyrimidine (1,3-dimethylpyrimidine-2,4,6(1*H*,3*H*,5*H*)-trione, pyrimidine-2,4,6(1*H*,3*H*,5*H*)-trione) and pyrazole-5-amine (3-methyl-1*H*-pyrazole-5-amine, 3-methyl-1-phenyl-1*H*-pyrazole-5-amine) derivatives. As shown in Table 2, the obtained results indicated that  $Fe_3O_4@Co(BDC)-NH_2$  is appropriate for the preparation of target molecules in high to excellent yields (65–90%) with in relatively short reaction times (20–40 min). Furthermore, the model reaction is tested by the reaction of 3-methyl-1*H*-pyrazole-5-amine, and 3-methyl-1*H*-pyrazole-5-amine to give a mixture of the corresponding pyridine and 1,4-dihydropyridine respectively.

In the proposed mechanism, the aldehyde is activated by  $Fe_3O_4@Co(BDC)-NH_2$ . In the initial step, intermediate (I) is produced by the reaction of pyrimidine ( $R_2$  = H, Me) and activated aldehyde. In the next step, intermediate (II) is prepared with losing one molecule of  $H_2O$ . In the third step, pyrazole-5-amine ( $R_1 = H$ , Ph) derivatives react with intermediate (II) to gives intermediate (IV) after tautomerization. Then, intermediate (IV) gives intermediate (V) after intramolecular cyclization and losing another molecule of  $H_2O$ . In the last step, the lone pair electrons of N atoms of 1,4-dihydropyridine (VI) interacts through C-C double bonds with a vacant anti-bonding orbital of C–H bond  $(n_N \rightarrow \sigma_{C-H}^* \text{ and } \pi_{C=C} \rightarrow \sigma_{C-H}^*)$  and weaken it, so that is favoring for hydride transfer and H<sub>2</sub> releasing from intermediate VI to generate its corresponding pyridinium salt. The achieved data from the optimization of described reaction under argon and nitrogen atmospheres verified our suggestion for oxidation and aromatization of intermediate VI. On the other hand, 1,4-dihydropyridine (VI) is converted to its corresponding pyridinium intermediate (VII), via a cooperative vinylogous anomeric based oxidation and releasing a hydrogen molecule  $(-H_2)^{47-55}$ . Finally, the desired pyridine fused with pyrazole and pyrimidine moiety (B) is obtained via removing a proton from the pyridinium intermediate (VII). When, 3-methyl-1H-pyrazole-5amine was used instead of 3-methyl-1-phenyl-1H-pyrazole-5-amine after intramolecular cyclization and losing a molecule of water, intermediate (VI) is converted to product (A) (Scheme 3). Interestingly, the 1,4-dihydropyridines (A) did not convert to their corresponding pyridines.

The reusability of  $Fe_3O_4@Co(BDC)-NH_2$  was also investigated. The reaction of 4-nitro benzaldehyde (1.0 mmol, 0.151 g), 3-methyl-1-phenyl-1*H*-pyrazole-5-amine (1.0 mmol, 0.174 g) and pyrimidine-2,4,6(1*H*,3*H*,5*H*)-trione (1.0 mmol, 0.128 g) was selected as a model reaction under ultrasonic irradiation. The



**Table 1.** Effect of different amounts of catalysts and solvent (5 mL) in the synthesis of novel fused pyridines and 1,4-dihydropyridines with pyrazole and pyrimidine moieties by using the corresponding precursors under ultrasonic irradiation. Reaction conditions: 3-methyl-1-phenyl-1*H*-pyrazole-5-amine (1.0 mmol, 0.174 g), pyrimidine-2,4,6(1*H*,3*H*,5*H*)-trione (1.0 mmol, 0.128 g) and 4-nitrobenzaldehyde (1.0 mmol, 0.151 g).

nanomagnetic metal–organic frameworks (NMMOFs) catalyst was separated by an external magnet, washed with DMF and dried. The results indicated that the catalyst could be utilized for nine runs without any significant loss of its initial catalytic activity, which can be ascribed to the high stability of the synthesized catalyst (Fig. 8). Then, the reused catalyst was also characterized by FT-IR spectrum (Figure S6 see supporting information),  $N_2$  adsorption–desorption isotherm (BET) and scanning electron microscope (SEM) images. The obtained spectra are as same as the corresponding spectra of fresh catalyst (Figures S7, S8 see supporting information), Furthermore, to compare the performance of nanomagnetic metal–organic frameworks (NMMOFs) catalyst for the synthesis of desired fused pyridines and 1,4-dihydropyridines with pyrazole and pyrimidine moieties via a cooperative vinylogous anomeric based oxidation, we have used various organic and inorganic acid catalysts for condensation reaction between 4-nitro benzaldehyde (1.0 mmol, 0.151 g), 3-methyl-1-phenyl-1*H*-pyrazole-5-amine (1.0 mmol, 0.174 g) and pyrimidine-2,4,6(1*H*,3*H*,5*H*)-trione (1.0 mmol, 0.128 g). As Table 3 indicates, Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub> is the best of choice for the synthesis of pyrazolo[4',3':5,6]pyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-5,7(6*H*)-dione (Table 3).

# Conclusion

In summary, a novel core–shell nanomagnetic metal–organic frameworks  $Fe_3O_4@Co(BDC)-NH_2$  as a new catalyst was prepared and fully characterized. This catalyst was applied for the synthesis of a range of novel fused pyridines and 1,4-dihydropyridines with pyrazole and pyrimidine moieties with good yields via a cooperative vinylogous anomeric based oxidation mechanism under ultrasonic irradiation. The obtained biological-based compounds are suitable candidates for biological studies. The described catalyst is reusable and easily separated by an external magnet.





**Table 2.** Synthesis of (a) 3-methyl-1,4-diphenyl-1,8-dihydro-5*H*-pyrazolo[4',3':5,6]pyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-5,7(6H)-dione derivatives, (b) 3-Methyl-4-phenyl-1,4,8,9-tetrahydro-5*H*-pyrazolo[4',3':5,6]pyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-5,7(6H)-dione derivatives, (c) Bis and tris 3-methyl-1,4-diphenyl-1,8-dihydro-5*H*-pyrazolo[4',3':5,6]pyrido[2,3-*d*]pyrimidine-5,7(6H)-dione derivatives using Fe<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>@Co(BDC)-NH<sub>2</sub> under ultrasonic irradiation.



**Scheme 3.** Proposed mechanism for the preparation of novel fused pyridines and 1,4-dihydropyridines with pyrazole and pyrimidine moieties via a cooperative vinylogous anomeric based oxidation.





Entry	Catalyst	(mol%)	Time (min)	Yield (%)
1	FeCl <sub>3</sub>	10	120	25
2	[PVI-SO <sub>3</sub> H]FeCl <sup>56</sup>	10	120	48
3	Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	10 mg	120	Trace
4	NH <sub>4</sub> NO <sub>3</sub>	10	120	Trace
5	SSA <sup>57,58</sup>	10 mg	120	35
6	Nano-SB-[PSIM]Cl <sup>59</sup>	10 mg	120	Trace
7	NaHSO <sub>4</sub>	10	120	-
8	GTBSA <sup>60</sup>	10	120	55
9	SBA-15/(CH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> N(CH <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>3</sub> H <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> <sup>61</sup>	10 mg	120	35
10	[Py-SO <sub>3</sub> H]Cl <sup>62</sup>	10	120	35
11	p-TSA	10	120	25
12	Et <sub>3</sub> N	10	120	-
13	MIL-100(Cr)/NHEtN(CH <sub>2</sub> PO <sub>3</sub> H <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> <sup>63</sup>	10 mg	120	63
14	APVPB <sup>64</sup>	10 mg	120	40
15	MHMHPA <sup>65</sup>	10	120	55
16	GTMPA <sup>66</sup>	10	120	40
17	Co(NO <sub>3</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> ·6H <sub>2</sub> O	10	120	36
18	H <sub>2</sub> BDC-NH <sub>2</sub>	10	120	42
19	Fe <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub> @Co(BDC)-NH <sub>2</sub>	10 mg	50	72 <sup>a</sup>

**Table 3.** Synthesis of pyrazolo[4',3':5,6]pyrido[2,3-d]pyrimidine-5,7(6*H*)-dionein the presence of various catalysts under ultrasonic irradiation. <sup>a</sup>This work.

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#### **Author contributions**

H.S., M.Z. and S.B.: methodology, validation, investigation, writing the original draft. M.A.Z.: supervision, resources, project administration, funding acquisition, conceptualization, writing—review and editing. S.R.: advisor of project and editing of the manuscript.

#### **Competing interests**

The authors declare no competing interests.

### Additional information

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