



**Advanced Organic Chemistry/
Organic Synthesis – CH 621**

**Microwave Assisted Organic
Synthesis (MAOS)**

Bela Torok

Department of Chemistry

University of Massachusetts Boston

Boston, MA

Microwave Irradiation – Historical Overview



Microwave Chemistry

- microwaves (2.45 GHz)
- WWII – radar (magnetron)
- 1950s food industry
- 1984 first application in chemical synthesis

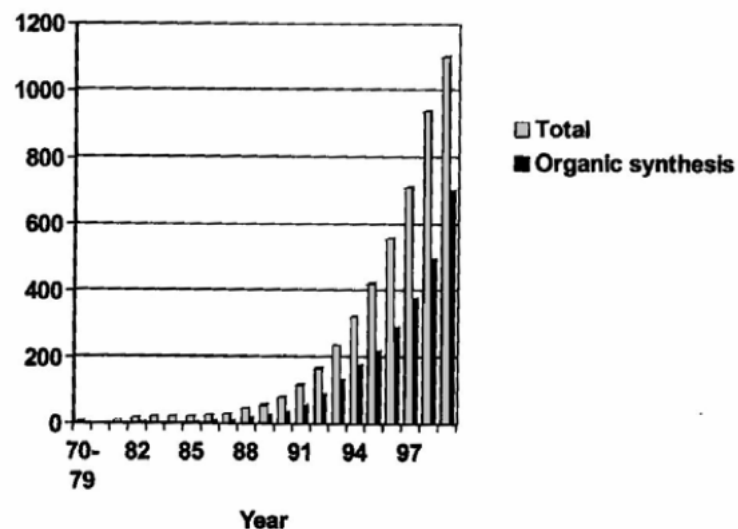


Fig. 1 Published articles involving microwave irradiation since 1970⁴¹

Microwave Irradiation – Historical Overview



- Microwave Ovens: domestic use
- Chemical Reactions – usually requires activation energy
 - Conductive energy transfer
 - Microwaves (dielectric heating)
- First instrument - Hull
- Reliable magnetron – Randall and Both (WVII)
- USA, 1950s food industry
- 1970s-1980s reliable domestic instruments

Microwave Irradiation – Historical Overview



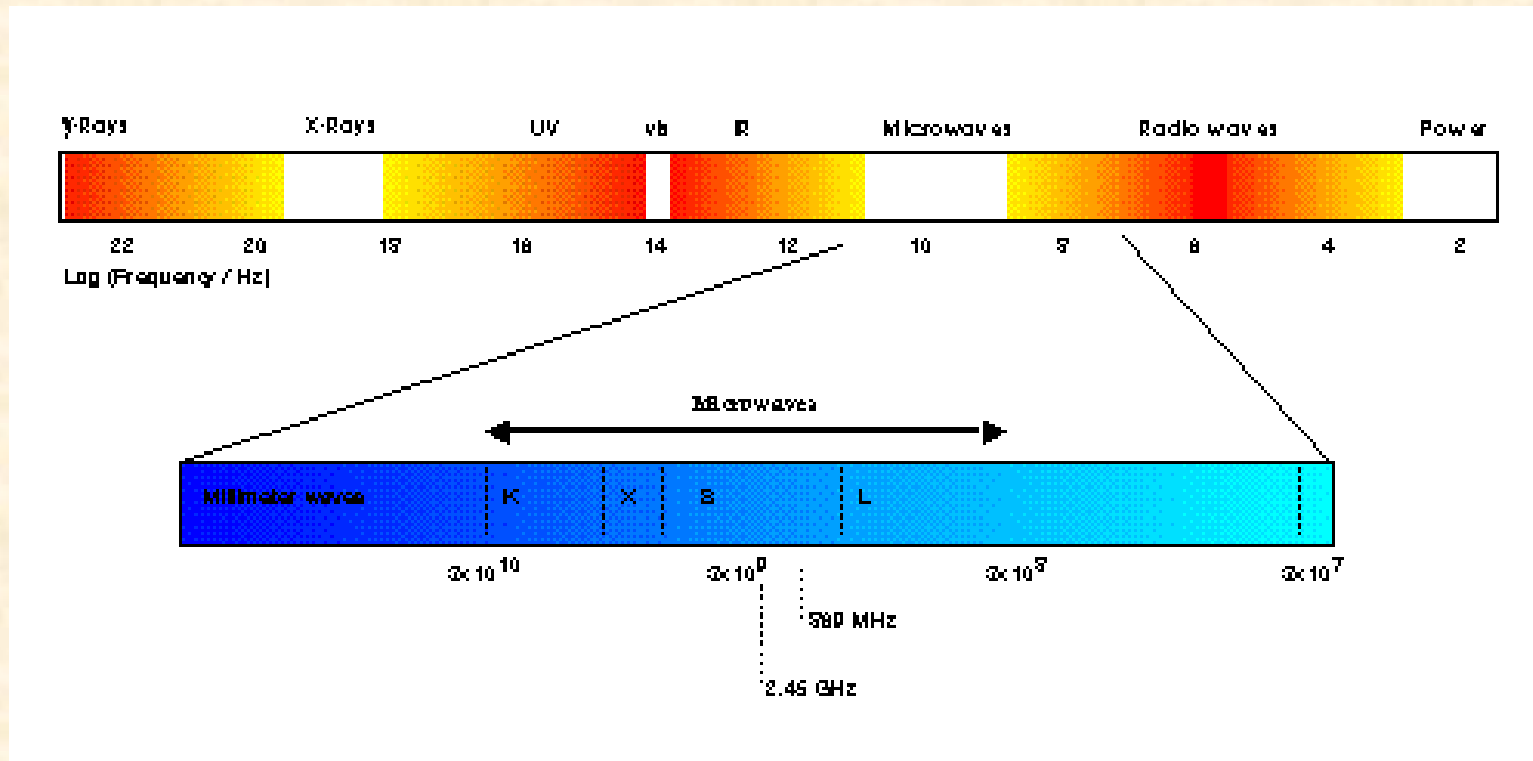
- First application 1969
 - Aqueous emulsion polymerization
(acrylic acid, butyl acrylate, methacrylic acid)
- Biological geological samples
- Water treatment
- “Real” synthetic applications
 - Gedye
 - Giguerre

Microwave Irradiation – Historical Overview



Frequency (GHz)	Tolerance (%)	Area permitted
0.434	0.2%	Austria, Netherlands, Portugal, Germany, Switzerland
0.896	10MHz	United Kingdom
0.915	13MHz	North and South America
2.375	50MHz	Albania, Bulgaria, CIS, Hungary, Romania, Czech /Slovak Republics,
2.450	50MHz	World-wide, except where 2.375 is used
3.390	0.6%	Netherlands
5.800	5MHz	World-wide
6.780	0.6%	Netherlands
24.150	25MHz	World-wide
40.680	25MHz	United Kingdom

Microwave Irradiation –



The electromagnetic spectrum

Microwave Irradiation – Heating Effect



Dielectric polarization

α_t – total polarization

α_e - electron polarization

α_a - atom polarization

α_i - interfacial polarisation
(Maxwell – Wagner effect)

α_d – dipolar polarization

$$\alpha_t = \alpha_e + \alpha_a + \alpha_d + \alpha_i$$

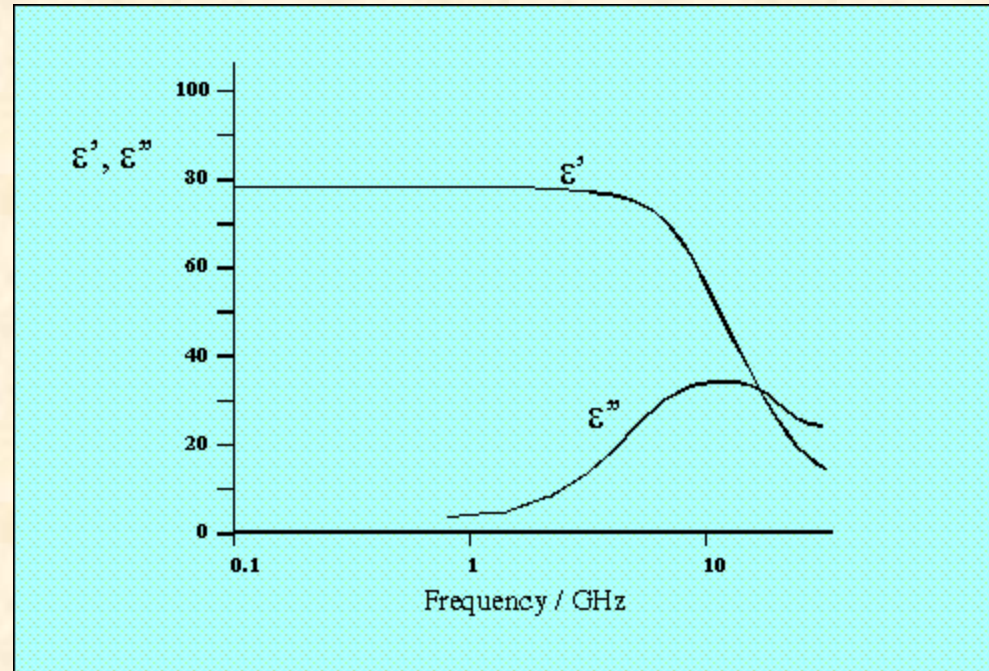
Microwave Irradiation – Heating Effect

Dipolar polarization

$$\tan \delta = \varepsilon'' / \varepsilon'$$

ε' – dielectric constant

ε'' – dielectric loss



Variation of dielectric properties as a function of frequency

$$D_p \approx \lambda_0 \sqrt{(\varepsilon' / \varepsilon'')}$$

Depth of irradiation

Microwave Irradiation – Heating Effect



Interfacial polarization

$$\varepsilon''_i \cong \frac{9v\varepsilon' f_{\max}}{1,8 \cdot 10^{10} \sigma} \frac{(\omega\tau)}{(1 + \omega^2 \tau^2)}$$

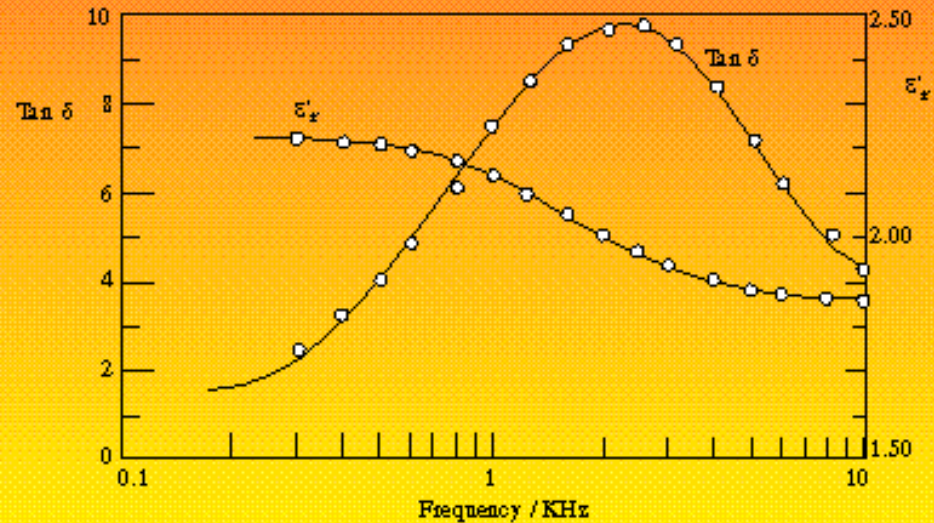
v – volume

f_{\max} – frequency at max loss

σ – conductivity

ω – frequency of relaxation

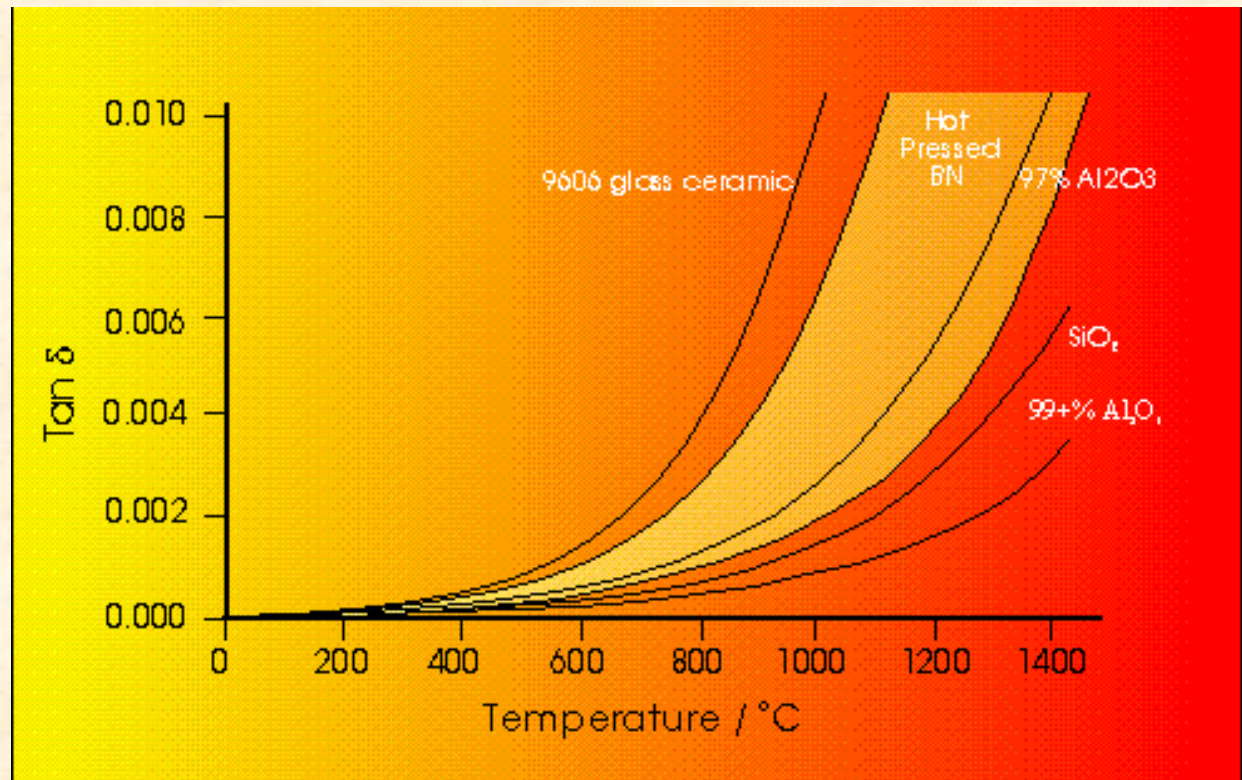
τ – time of relaxation



Microwave Irradiation – Heating Effect

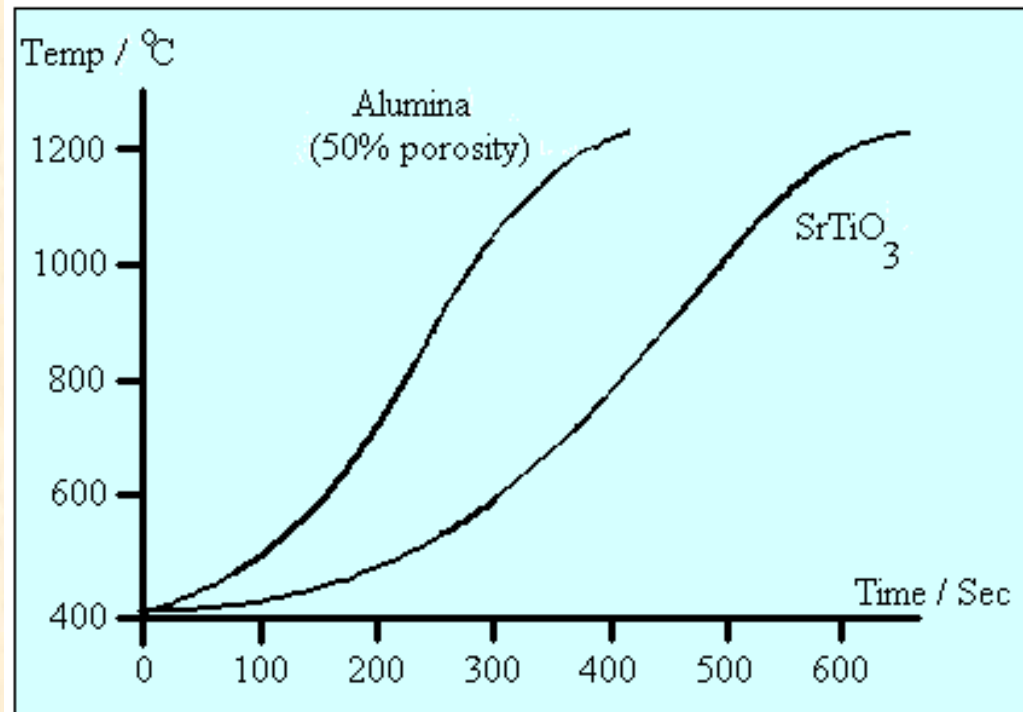


Interfacial polarization



Microwave Irradiation – Heating Effect

Interfacial polarization



Microwave Irradiation – Heating Effect



Solvent	Frequency					
	3.10 ⁸ Hz		3.10 ⁹ Hz		1.10 ¹⁰ Hz	
	ϵ'	ϵ''	ϵ'	ϵ''	ϵ'	ϵ''
water	77.5	1.2	76.7	12.0	55.0	29.7
0.1 M NaCl	76	59	75.5	18.1	54	30
heptane	1.97	-	1.97	0.0002	1.97	0.003
methanol	30.9	2.5	23.9	15.3	8.9	7.2
ethanol	22.3	6.0	6.5	1.6	1.7	0.11
1-propanol	16.0	6.7	3.7	2.5	2.3	0.20
1-butanol	11.5	6.3	3.5	1.6	0.2	-
Ethyleneglycol	39	6.2	12	12	7	5.5
CCl ₄	2.2	-	2.2	0,0009	2.2	0.003

Dielectric properties of solvents

Microwave Irradiation – Heating Effect



Sample	P (W)	t (min)	T (°C)	Sample	P (W)	t (min)	T (°C)
water	560	1	81	Al	1000	6	577
methanol	560	1	56	C	1000	1	1283
ethanol	560	1	78	Co ₂ O ₃	1000	3	1290
acetic acid	560	1	110	FeCl ₃	1000	4	41
CHCl ₃	560	1	49	NiO	1000	6.2	1305
CCl ₄	560	1	28	CaO	500	30	83
acetone	560	1	56	CuO	500	0.5	701
DMF	560	1	131	WO ₃	500	0.5	532
hexane	560	1	25	V ₂ O ₅	500	9	701

Temperature change of materials after 2.45 GHz frequency microwave irradiation (RT samples, 50 cm³ liquid, or 25 g (1000 W) or 5-6 g (500 W) solids)

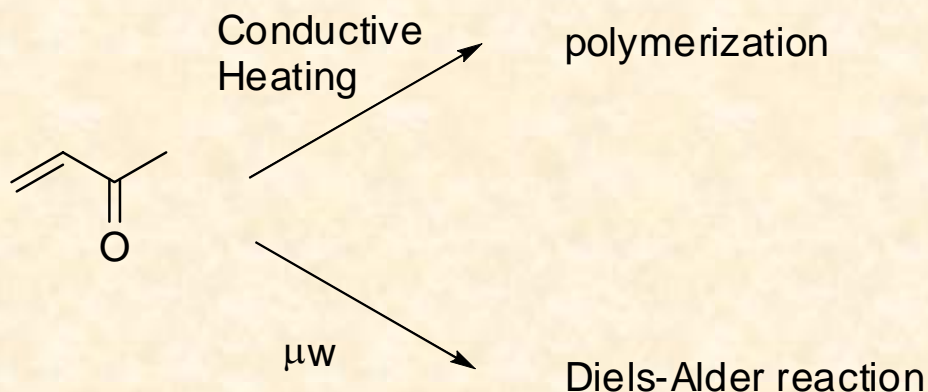
Microwave Irradiation – Heating Effect

Specific microwave effect ?

Yes and No

No - Molecular rotations only, no bond cleavage

Yes - The temperature dependence of E_A of different reactions could be significantly different – change in selectivities



Microwave Irradiation – Heating Effect



Summary:

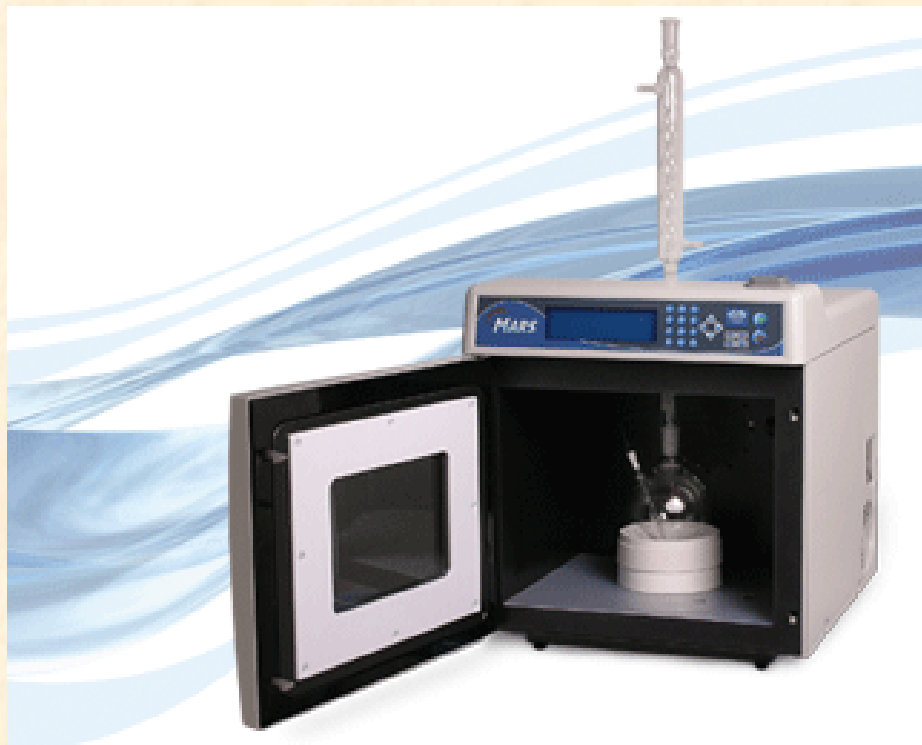
Internal (and very fast and effective) heating of the reaction mixtures

There is no specific (black magic) microwave effect.

Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

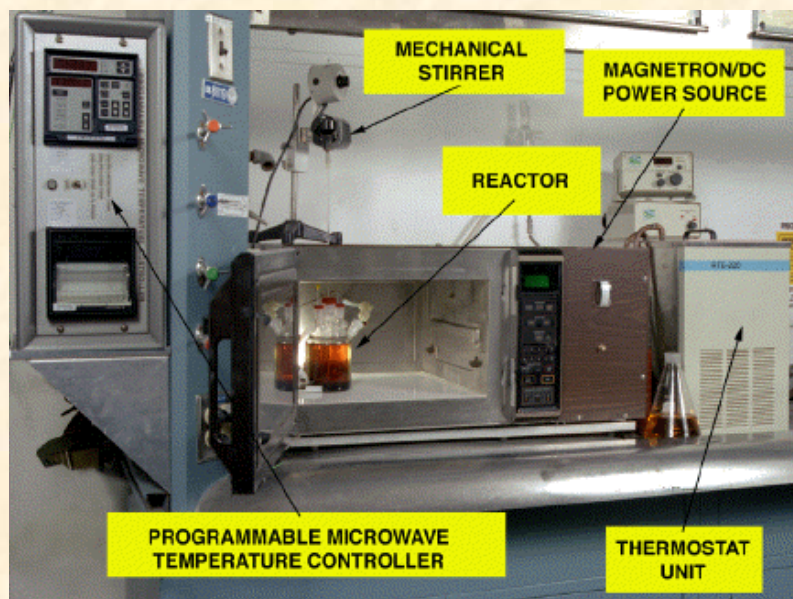
1. Reactions in Solvents

Reactions under reflux conditions



Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

- The microwave oven
- Synthetic instruments
 - Milestone, Prolabo, Berghof, CEM



Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

1. Reactions in Solvents Reactions in closed systems



Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

1. Reactions in Solvents Reactions in closed systems



Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

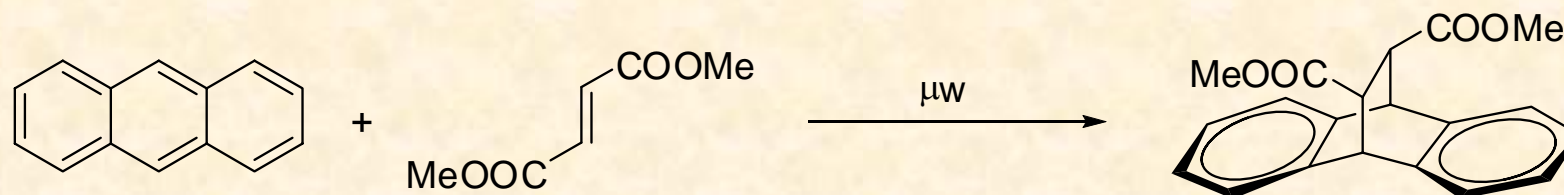
1. Reactions in Solvents

Reactions in continuous system

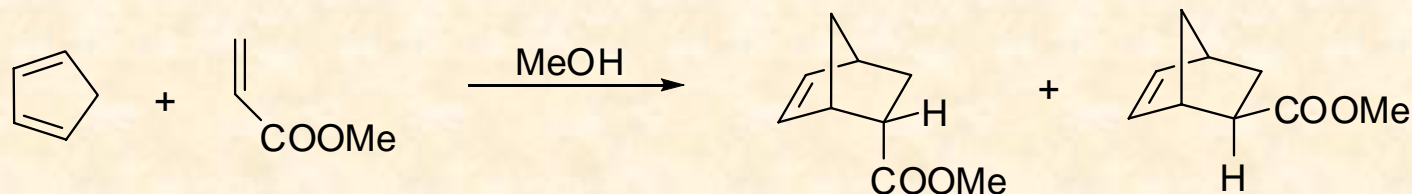


Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

1.1. Pericyclic Reactions



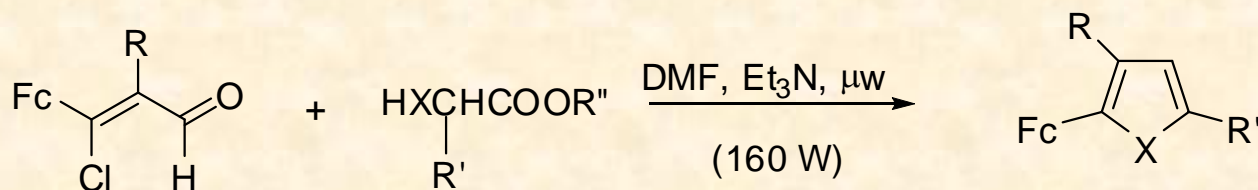
chlorobenzene (5 min)	< 5%
1,2-dichlorobenzene (5 min)	15-25%
1,2,4-trichlorobenzene (5 min)	70%



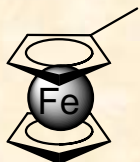
Conventional (0 °C, 67 h)	88 %	12%
Conventional (56°C)	85 %	15%
mw (110°C, 2-5 min)	79 %	21%

Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

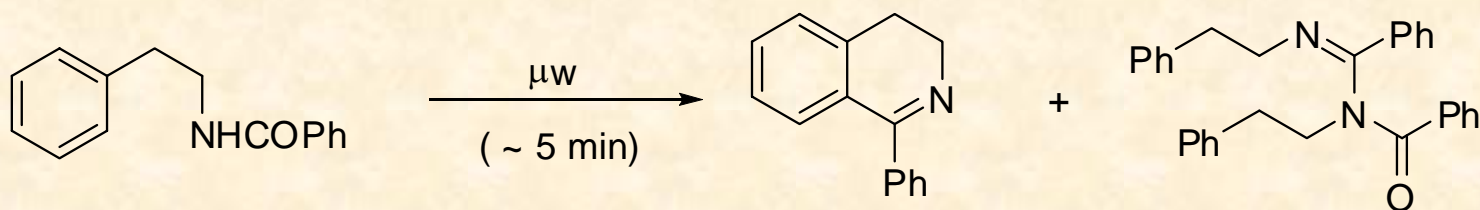
1.2. Synthesis of Heterocycles



Fc - ferrocenyl



35 - 87 %



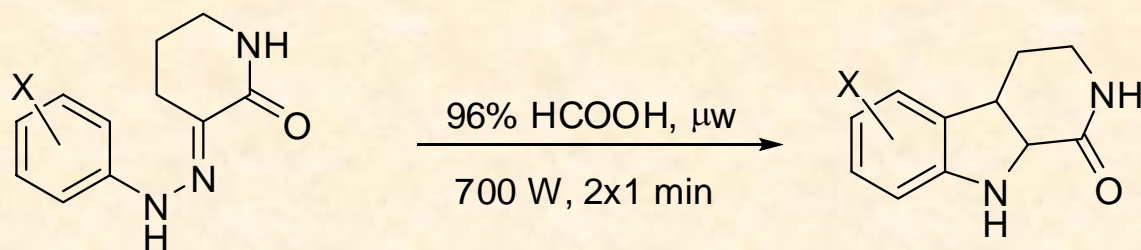
1,2-dichloroethane, P₂O₅ (80 °C)
 toluene, POCl₃ (80 °C)
 chlorobenzene (110-120 °C)
 1,2-dichlorobenzene (140-150 °C)

traces
 traces
 40%
 90%

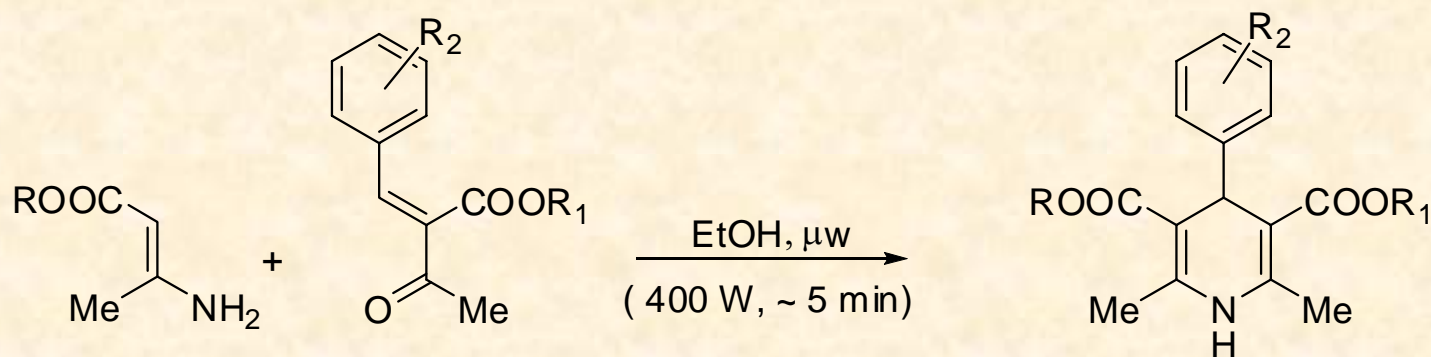
major product
 major product
 60%
 10%

Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

1.2. Synthesis of Heterocycles



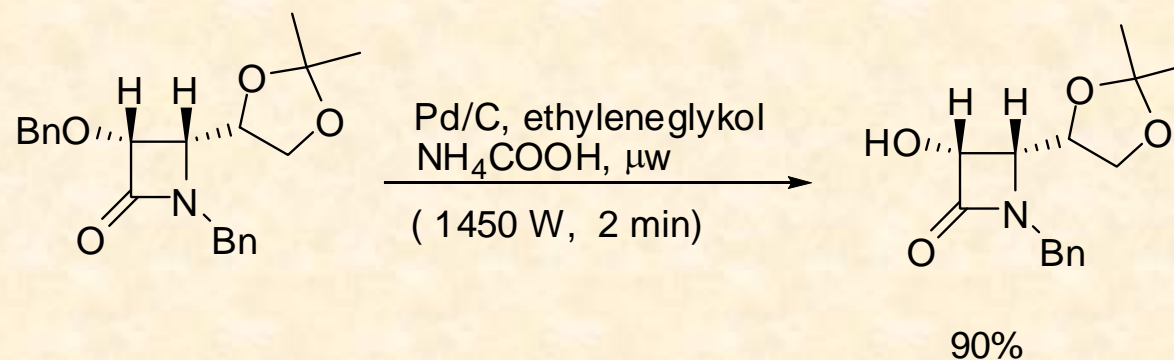
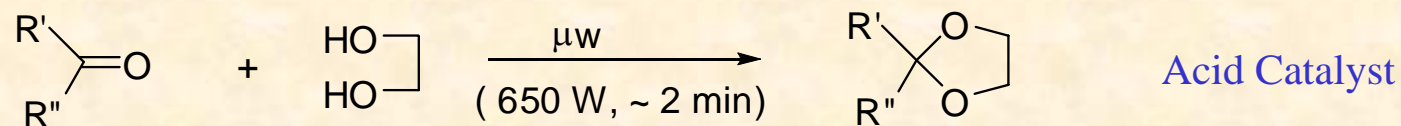
73 - 88 %



58-98%

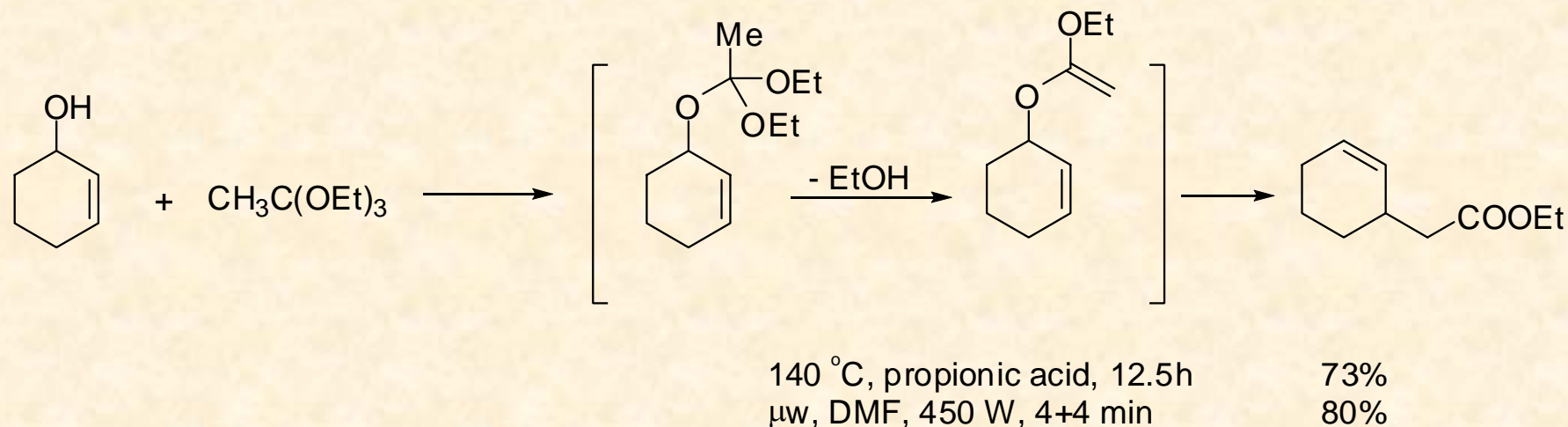
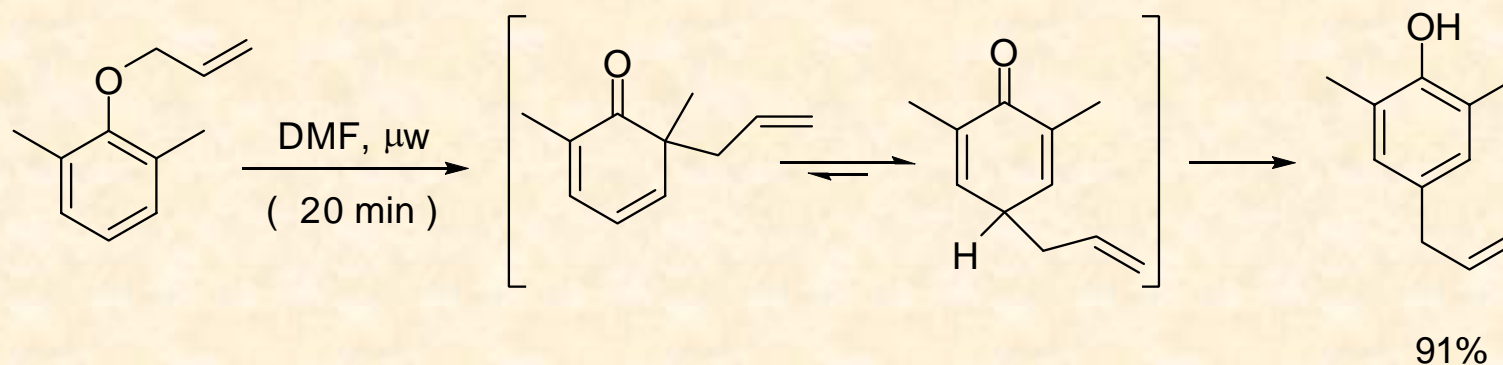
Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

1.3. Protection/Deprotection



Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

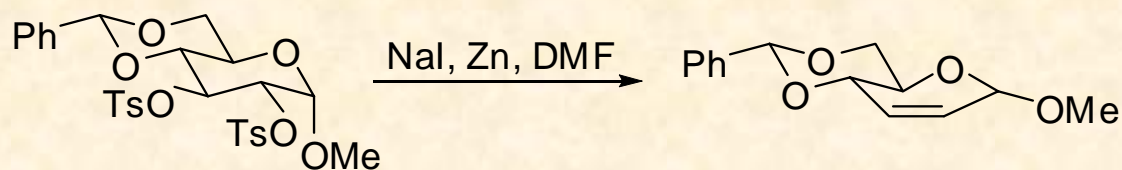
1.4. Rearrangements/Isomerization



Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications



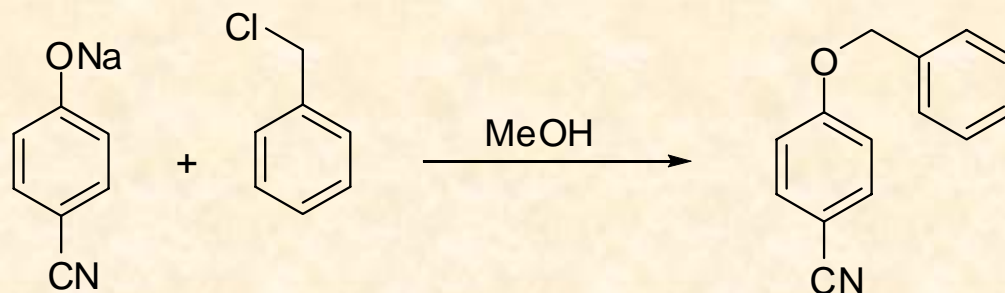
1.5. Elimination



conventional, 2h	53%
4h	40%
μ w, 700 W, 14 min	88%

Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

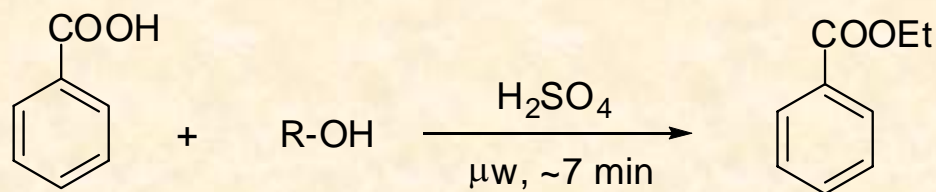
1.6. Alkylation/Acylation



93%

conventional, 12h
 μ w, 560 W, 35 s

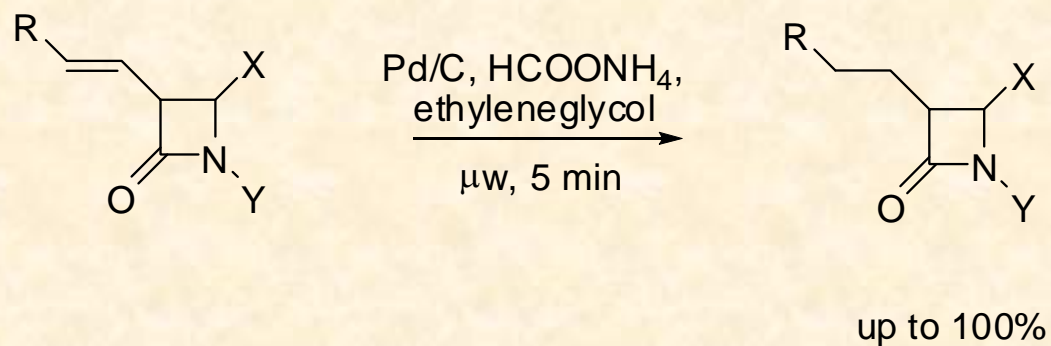
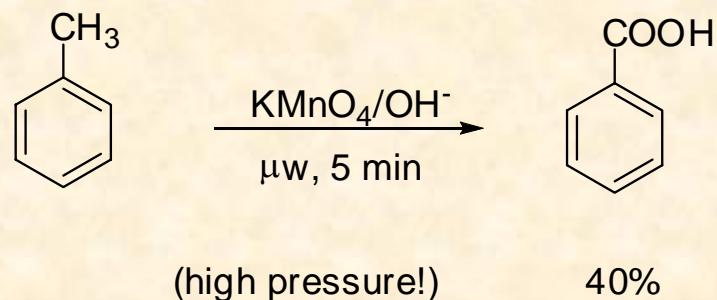
65%
 65%



80%

Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

1.7. Oxidation/Reduction



Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

1.8. Coupling/Arylation

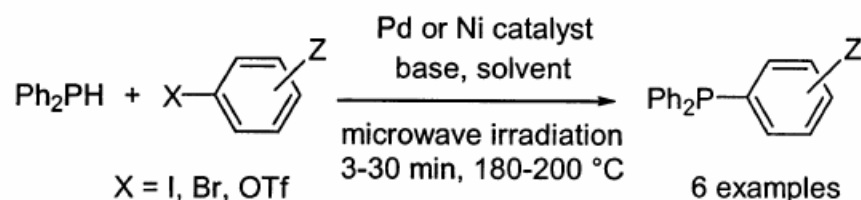


Table 2. Microwave-Enhanced Synthesis of Triphenylphosphine from Iodobenzene and Diphenylphosphine Using Pd/C as a Heterogeneous Catalyst^a

entry	PhI (mmol)	5% Pd/C (mg)	temp (°C)	time (min)	yield (%)
1	0.50	10	190	3	76
2	0.60	10	190	3	93
3	0.75	20	190	3	98
4	0.75	20	200	3	96
5	0.75	20	200	2	96

^a Reactions were carried in DMF (1.0 mL) with 0.50 mmol of Ph₂PH in the presence of KOAc (0.50 mmol). For details, see Supporting Information.

Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

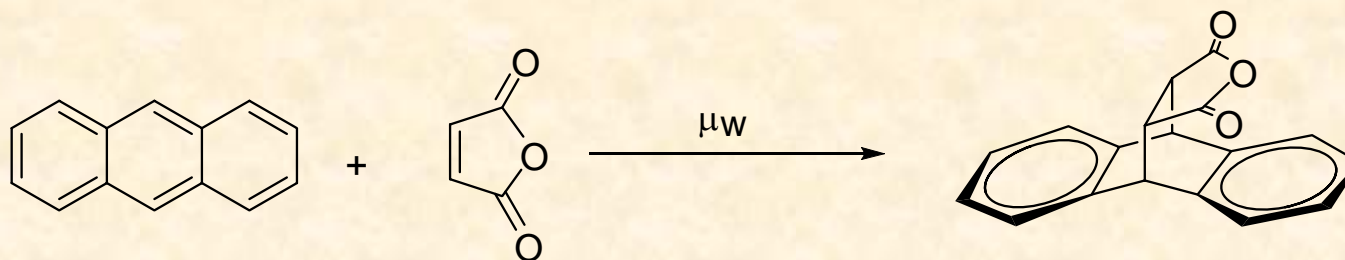
2. Reactions without Solvents

Reactions can be carried out in different ways:

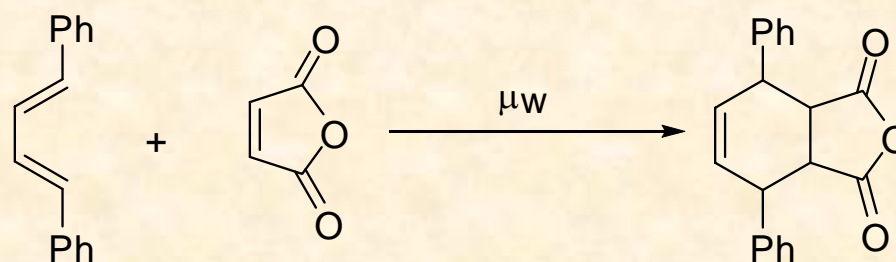
- neat
- on surfaces: support only
on a catalytic surface

Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

2.1. Pericyclic Reactions



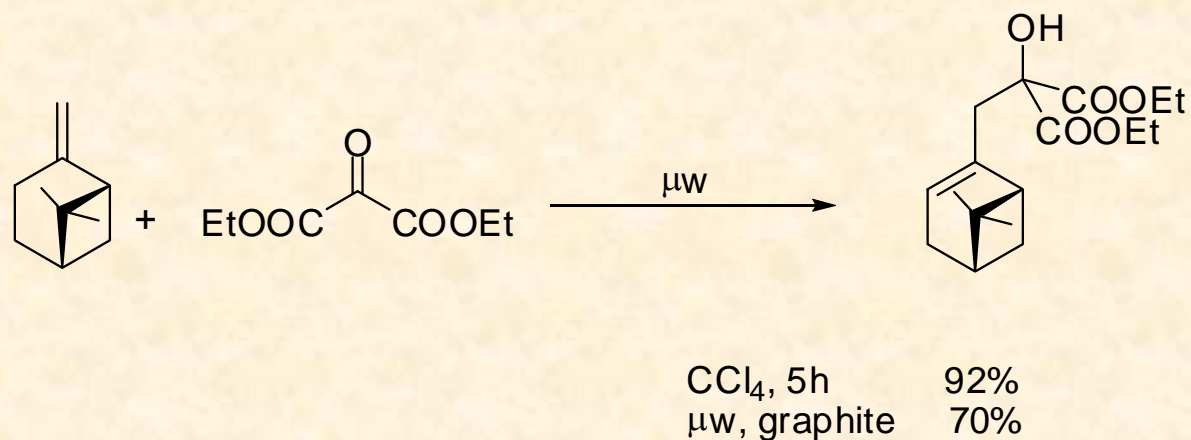
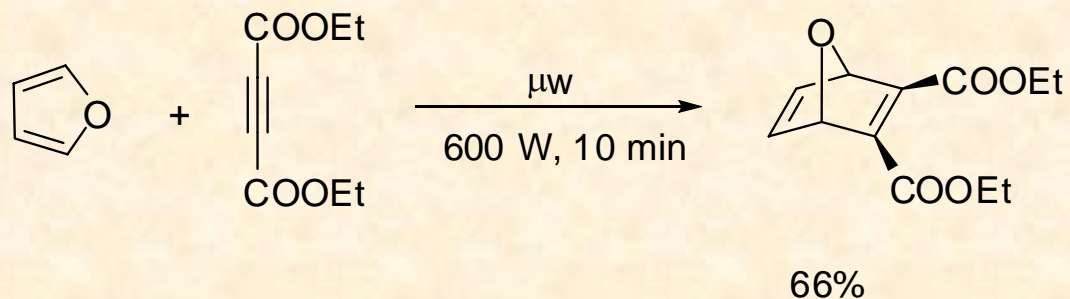
dioxane (60 h)	90%
mw (graphite, 30W, 3x1 min)	75%



xylene (7 h)	88%
μw (chlorobenzene, 10min)	27%
μw (no solvent, 3min)	85%

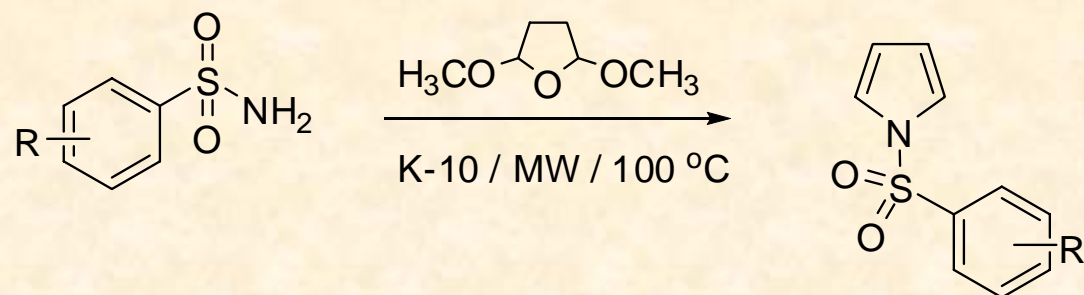
Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

2.1. Pericyclic Reactions

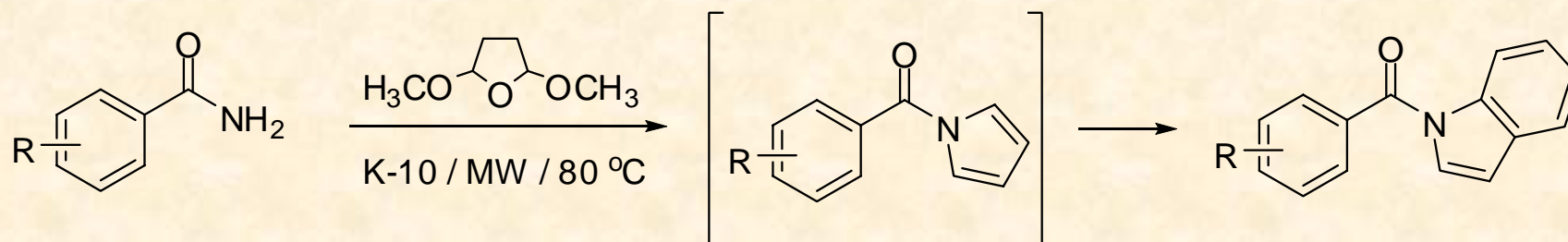


Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

2.2. Synthesis of Heterocycles



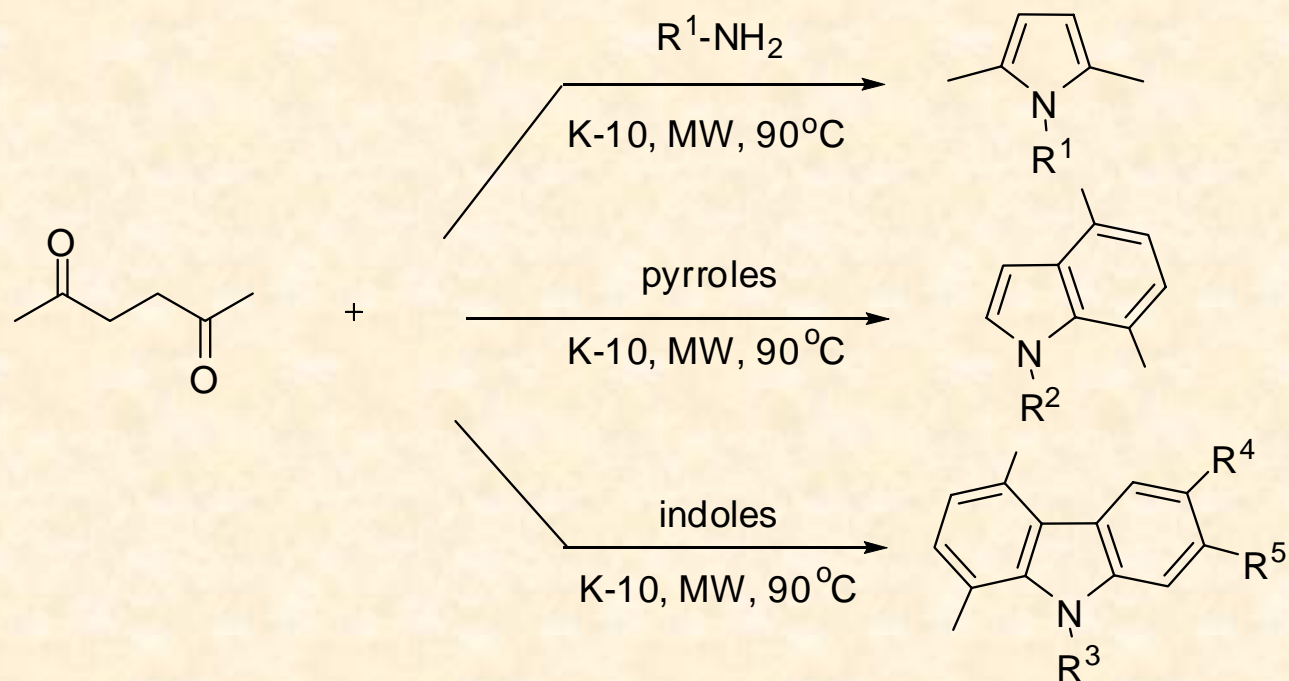
yields 86-95%



yields 85% (5-30 min)

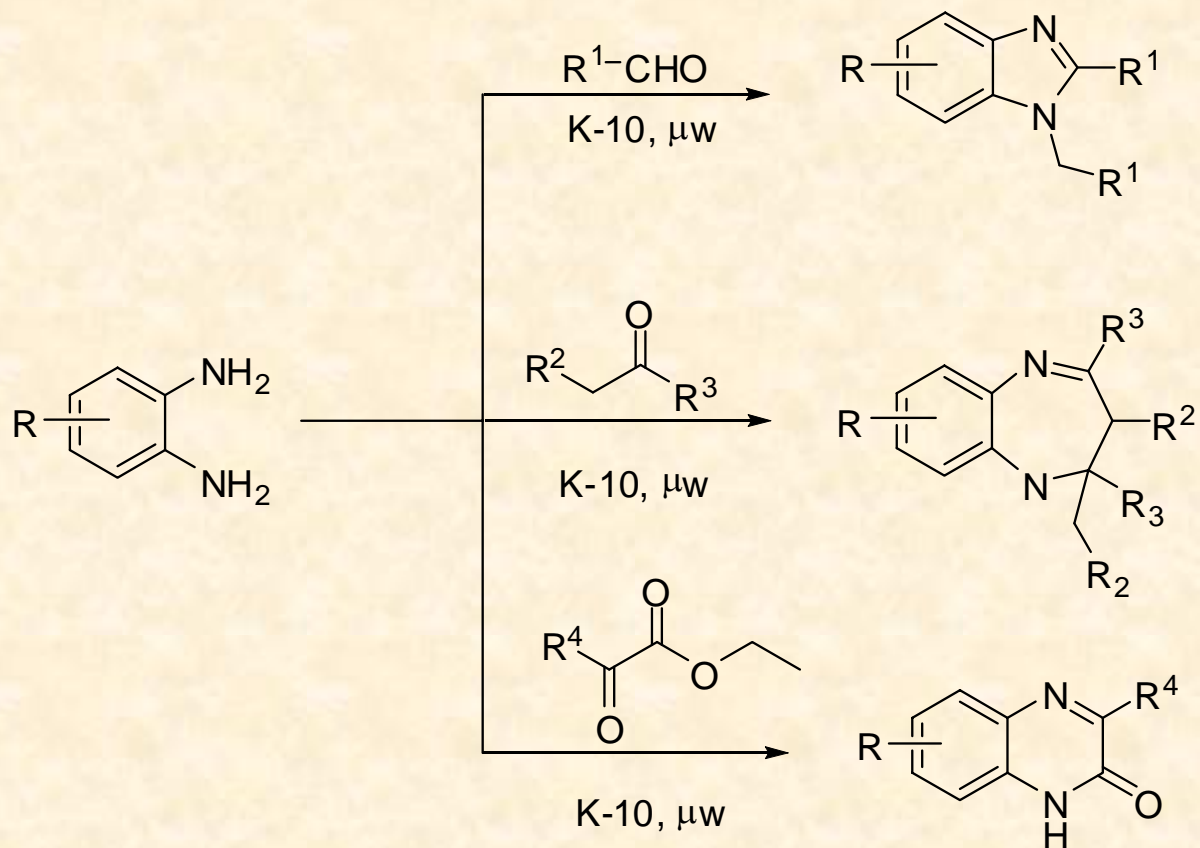
Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

2.2. Synthesis of Heterocycles



Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

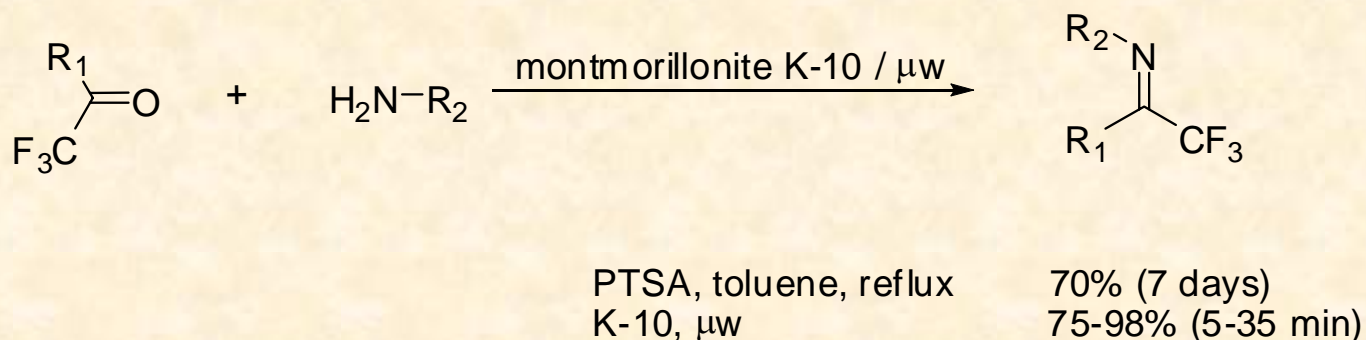
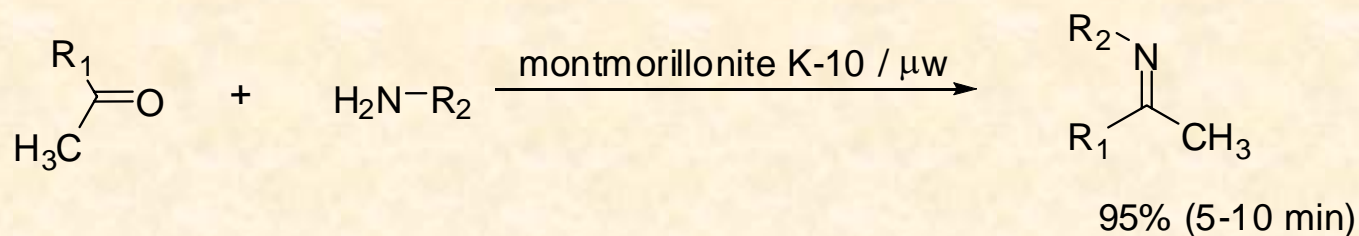
2.2. Synthesis of Heterocycles



75-98% (2-15 min)

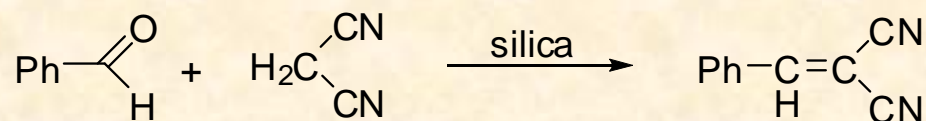
Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

2.3. Condensation

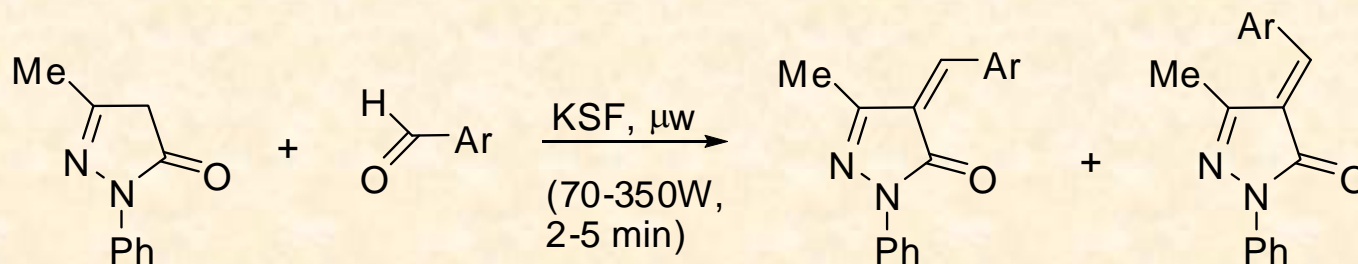


Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

2.3. Condensation



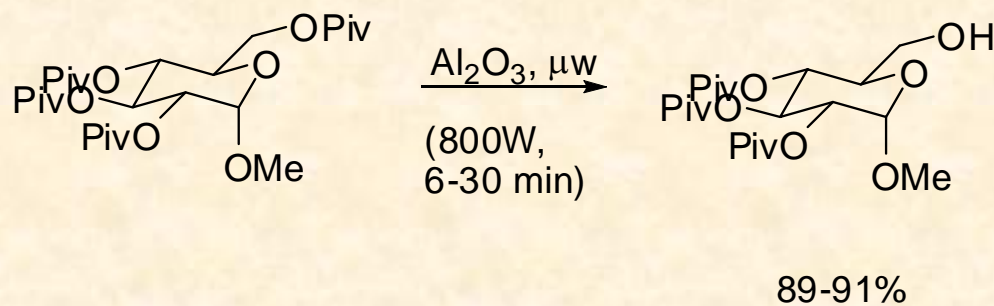
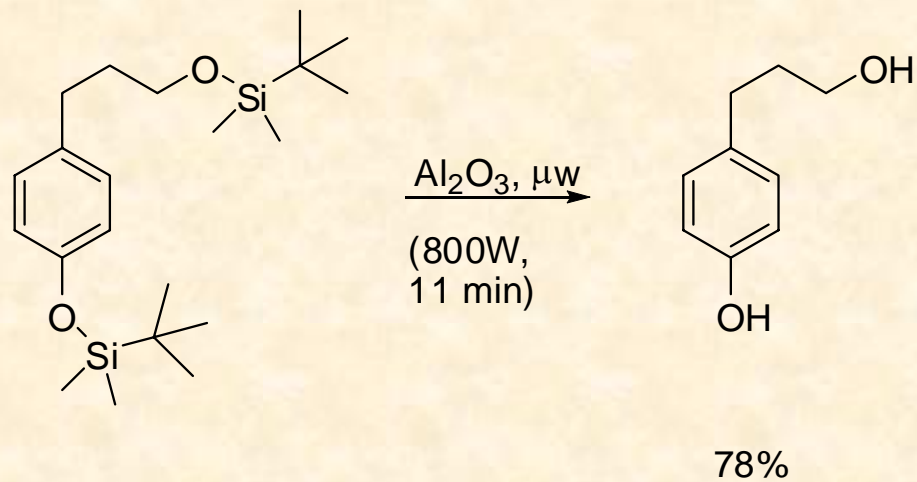
conventional (120 °C, 30 min)	48%
μw (150W, 3 min)	79%



68 - 92%

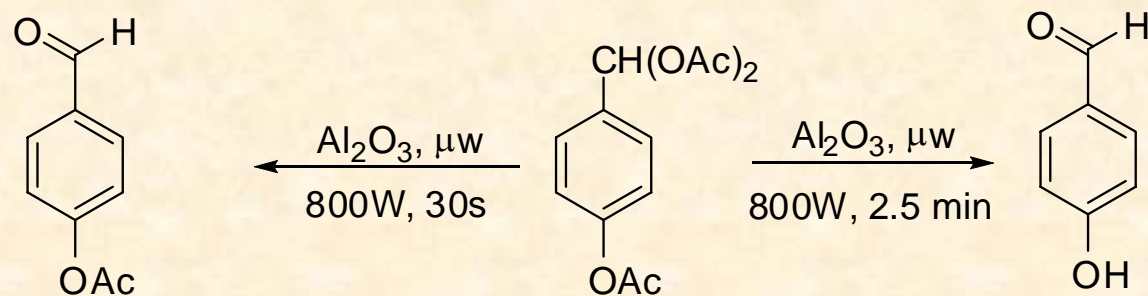
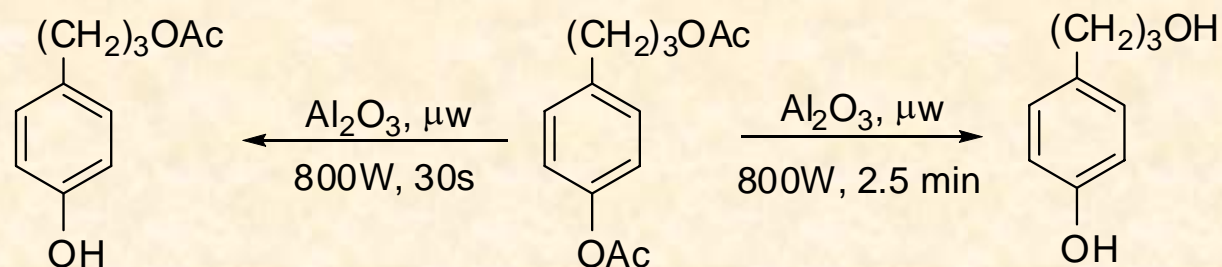
Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

2.4. Protection/Deprotection



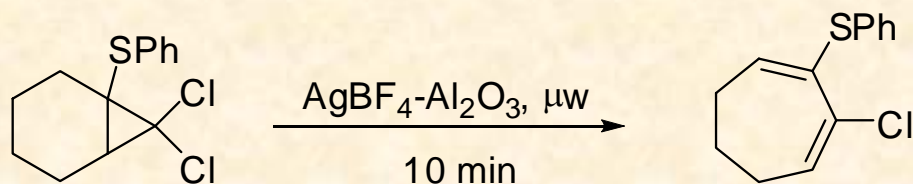
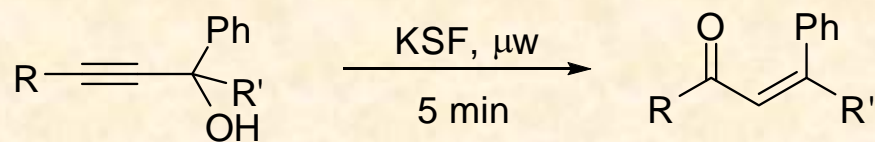
Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

2.4. Protection/Deprotection



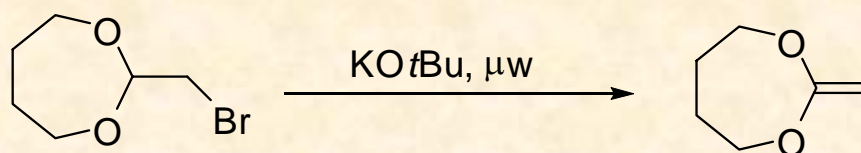
Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

2.4. Rearrangements/Isomerization

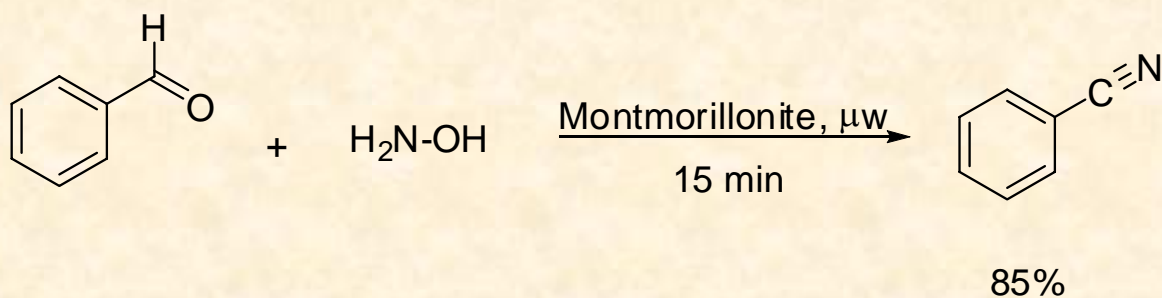


Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

2.5. Elimination

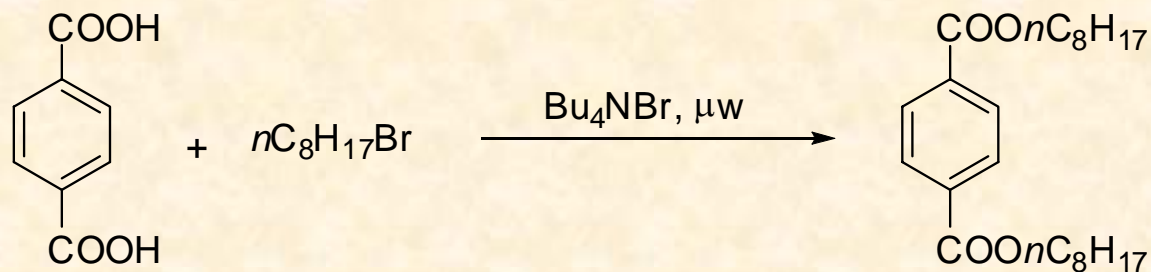
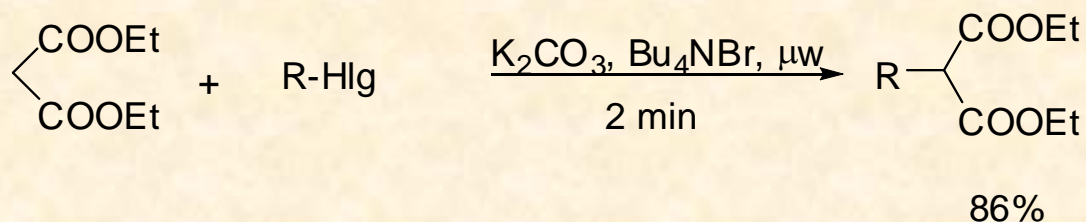


conventional (64 C, 5 min)	41%
mw (64 C, 5 min)	97%



Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

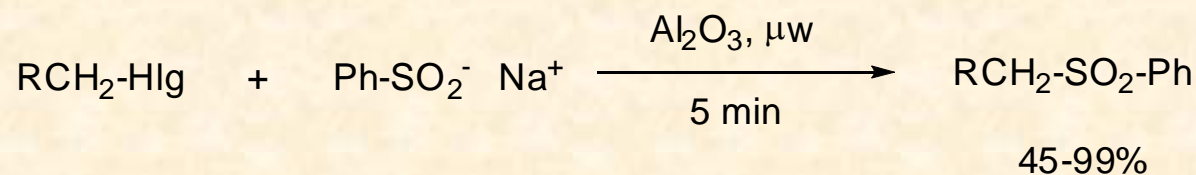
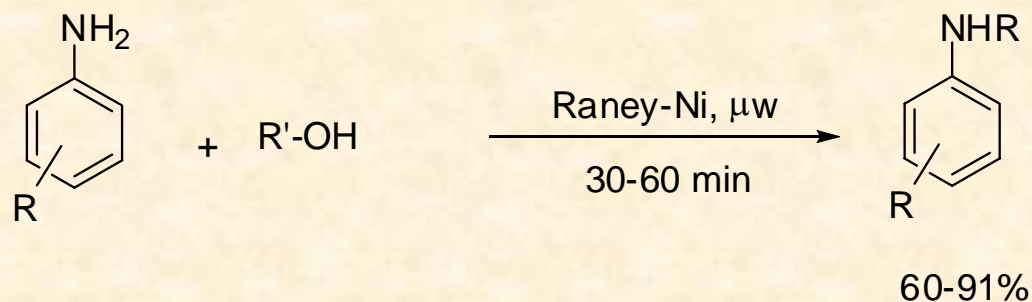
2.6. Alkylation



K ₂ CO ₃ , 175 C	20%
K ₂ CO ₃ , mw, 6 min	84%
K-salt, mw, 7 min	92%

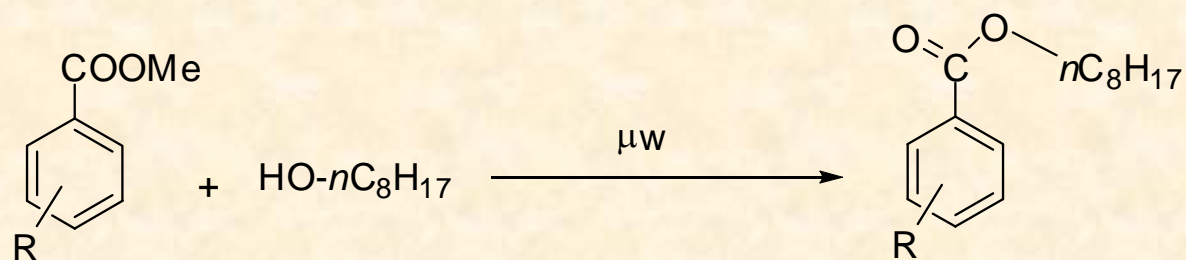
Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

2.6. Alkylation

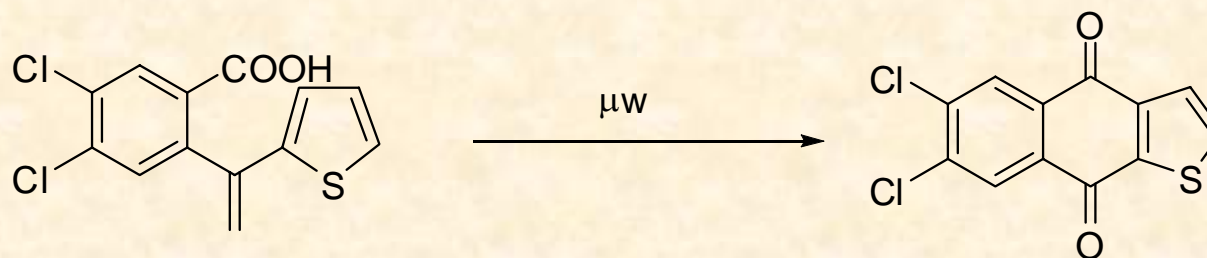


Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

2.7. Acylation



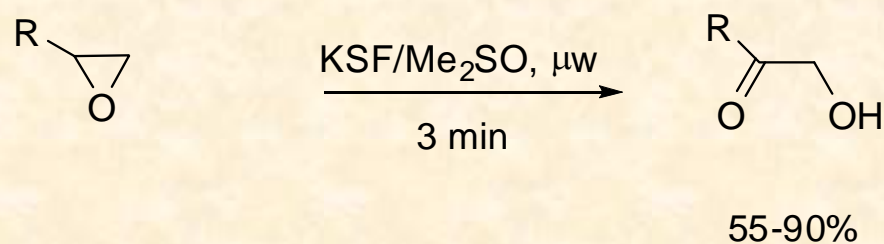
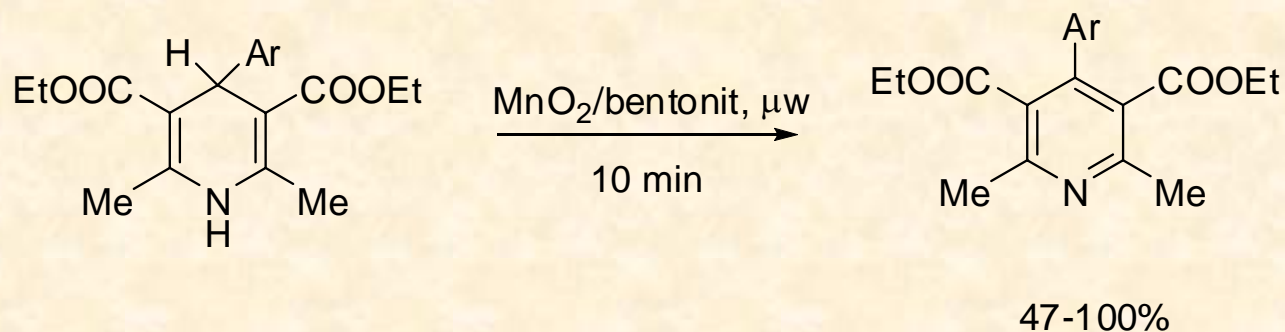
Amberlyst 15, 1 min	61%
TsOH, 2 min	97%
KF-Al ₂ O ₃ , 3 min	71%
K ₂ CO ₃ +Aliquat, 2.5 min	90%



traditional, 320 C, 1 h	61%
μw, 780 W, 3 min	92%

Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

2.8. Oxidation/dehydrogenation



Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

2.8. Organometallic compounds

Reaction Mixture	Solvent	Product	<i>t</i> (s)	Yield (%)	<i>t</i> (h) (conventional)
CrCl ₃ .3H ₂ O, carbamide, dipivaloyl-methane	EtOH–H ₂ O	[Cr(dpm) ₃]	40	71	24
IrCl ₃ . <i>x</i> H ₂ O, PPh ₃	DMF	[IrCl(CO)(PPh ₃) ₂]	45	70	12
IrCl ₃ . <i>x</i> H ₂ O, 9S3	MeOH	[IrCl ₃ (9S3)]	16	98	2
K ₂ PtCl ₄ , tpy	H ₂ O	[PtCl(tpy)]Cl.3H ₂ O	2x30	47	24-100
HAuCl ₄ , tpy	H ₂ O	[AuCl(tpy)]Cl ₂ .3H ₂ O	2x30	37	24
RuCl ₃ . <i>x</i> H ₂ O, bpy	DMF	[RuCl(CO)(bpy) ₂]Cl	3x20	70	168
RuCl ₃ . <i>x</i> H ₂ O, 9S3	MeOH	[Ru(9S3) ₂](PF ₆) ₂	6x25	49	*

dpm: 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-3,5-heptadionato; 9S3: 1,4,7-trithiacyklononane; tpy: 2,2',2''-terpyridin; bpy: 2,2'-bipyridyl * cannot be synthesized directly

Microwave Irradiation – Synthetic Applications

2.8. Organometallic compounds

Reaction Mixture	Solvent	Product	<i>t</i> (min)	Yield (%)
[Mo(CO) ₆] acetyl-acetone	AcOH–Ac ₂ O	[Mo ₂ (acac) ₄]	30	65
Mo ₆ Cl ₁₂ , AcOH, Ac ₂ O		[Mo ₆ Cl ₈][OAc] ₂ Cl ₂	8	79
RuCl ₃ ·3H ₂ O, 9S3	MeOH	[Ru(9S3) ₂](PF ₆) ₂	70	96
RuCl ₃ ·3H ₂ O, bpy	MeOH, Et ₃ N	[Ru(bpy) ₃](PF ₆) ₂	10	87
RuCl ₃ ·3H ₂ O, cycloheptatriene	EtOH	[Ru{(C ₇ H ₈)Cl ₂] ₂]	9	66
RhCl ₃ ·3H ₂ O, cyclooctadiene	EtOH–H ₂ O (4:1)	[{Rh(COD)Cl} ₂]	0,5	84

acac: acetyl-acetone; 9S3: 1,4,7-trithiacyclononane; bpy: 2,2'-bipyridyl; C₇H₈: cycloheptatriene; COD: cyclooctadiene

Microwaves/Sonochemistry – References



- Kappe, C. O., *Angew. Chem. Int Ed.* **2004**, *43*, 6250.
- Kappe, C. O. / Stadler, A., *Microwaves in Organic and Medicinal Chemistry*, Wiley, 2005.
- Loupy, A., *Microwaves in Organic Synthesis*, Wiley, 2005.
- <http://www.maos.net>
- <http://www.tan-delta.com/>

