

General Microwave-assisted Procedures for the Expedient Synthesis of Substituted Heterocycles

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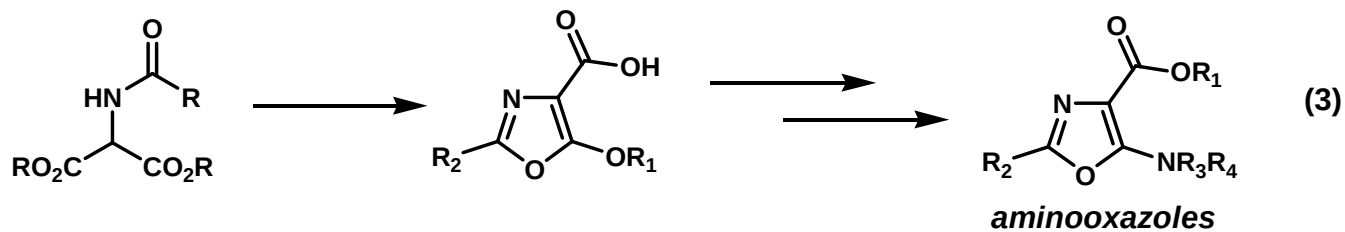
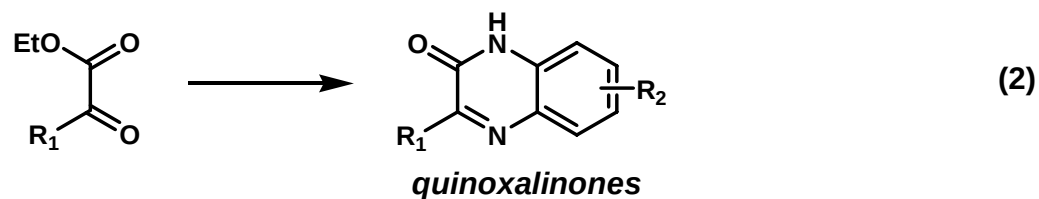
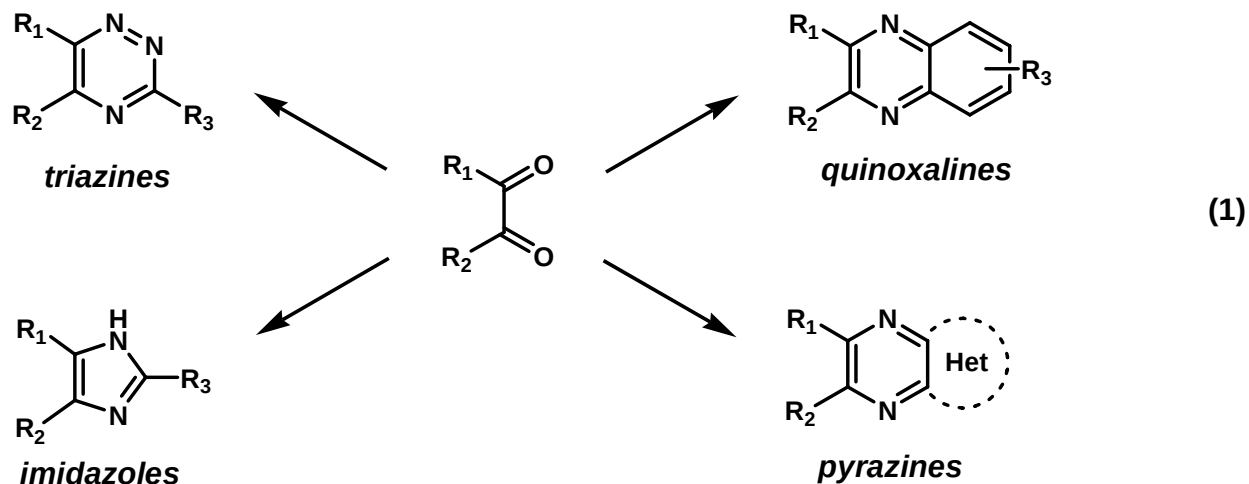
October 19, 2006

- ***Merck's Technology Enabled Synthesis (TES) Group and Microwave Reactors in Organic Synthesis***
- ***Triazines***
- ***Canthines***
- ***Imidazoles***
- ***Quinoxalines and Fused Heterocyclic Pyrazines***
- ***Quinoxalones***
- ***5-Aminooxazoles***

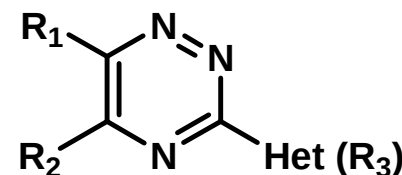
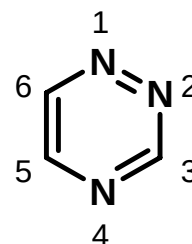
- *The TES group specializes in rapid lead discovery*
- *Focus is on analog library synthesis*
- *Rapidly developing programs and external competition are challenges that drive our efforts to maximize efficiency*
- *Assisted by four single-mode microwave reactors and automated mass-guided purification*

- ***Approximately 96% of all reactions requiring heating are conducted in the microwave reactor***
- ***Advantages of microwave heating are shorter reaction times, diminution of side products, and increased yields***
- ***Organic synthesis procedures using microwave heating are often scalable***

Heterocycle Formation

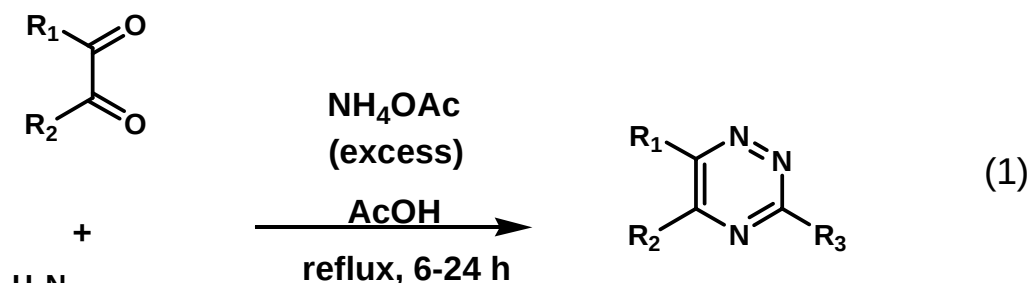


- The triazine ring system is a key component in commercial dyes, herbicides, insecticides and pharmaceutical compositions
- The 1,2,4-triazine core structure is valuable for accessing a variety of ring systems via an intramolecular Diels-Alder reaction

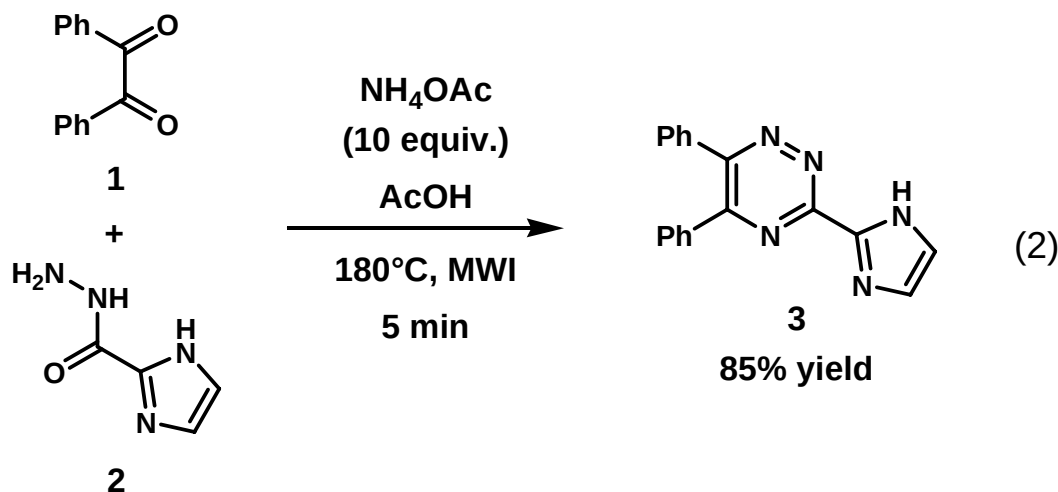


Generic and target 3-heterocyclic-1,2,4-triazines

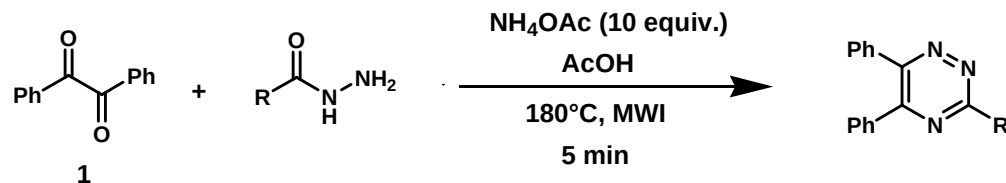
- Conventional heating with heterocyclic diketones or heterocyclic acyl hydrazides produced the target material in <30% yield with multiple side products

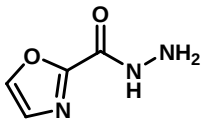
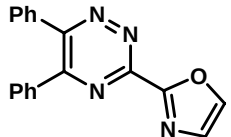
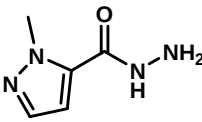
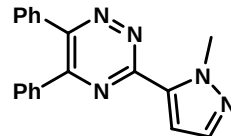
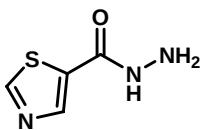
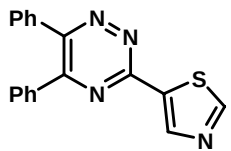
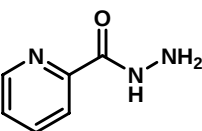
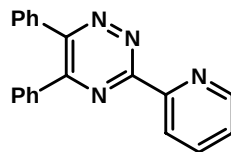
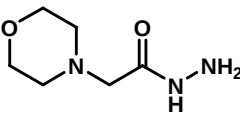
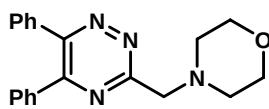


- Optimization of microwave heating conditions led to the synthesis of previously unknown **3**



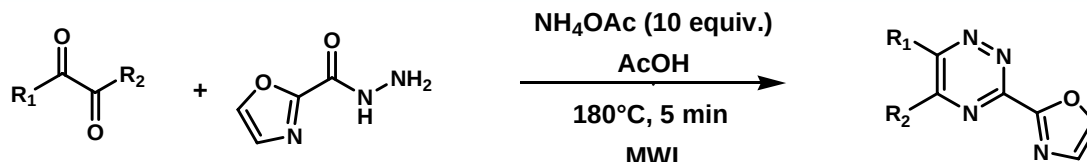
Triazine Synthesis – Scope of acyl hydrazides

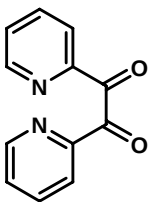
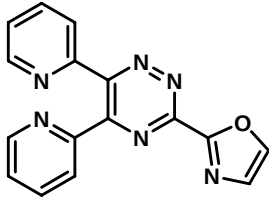
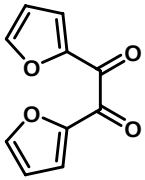
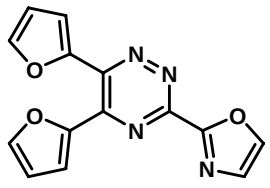
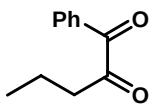
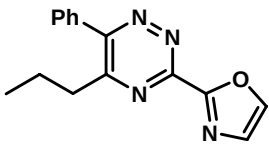
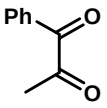
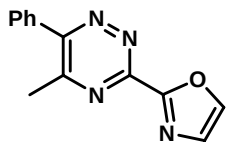


entry	RCONHNH ₂	product	yield (%) ^a
1			84
2			80
3			92
4			90
5			81

^aYields for analytically pure compounds fully characterized by LCMS, NMR, and HRMS.

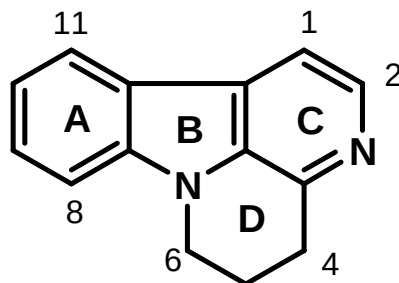
Triazines – Scope of diketones



entry	R ₁ COCOR ₂	product	yield (%) ^a
1			92
2			90
3			64 (75) ^{b,c}
4			69 (80) ^{b,c}

^aYields for analytically pure compounds fully characterized by LCMS, NMR, and HRMS.

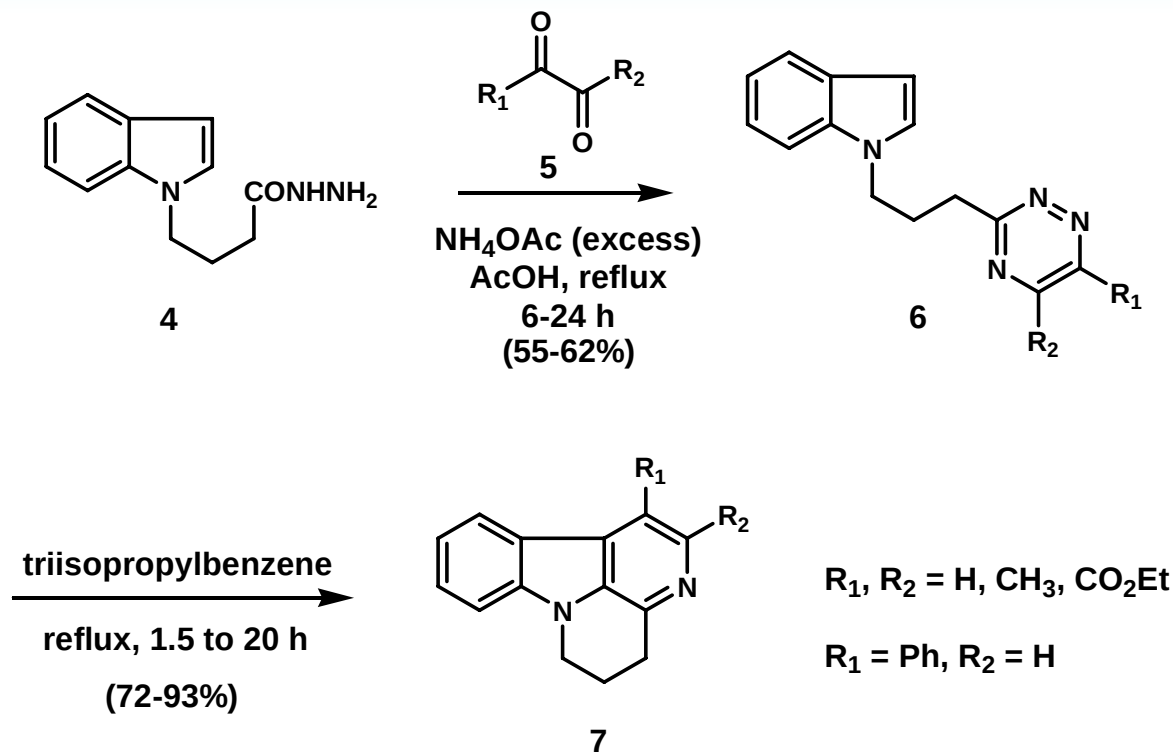
^bYields when reaction times extended to 10 min. ^c1:1 mixture of regioisomers



Canthine Tetracyclic Skeleton

- First isolated from *Pentaceras australis* in 1952
- Canthines are a tetracyclic subclass of β -carboline alkaloids that possess an additional D-ring
- Members of this family have exhibited a wide range of pharmacological activities including antifungal, antiviral, and antitumor properties

Conventional Canthine Preparation

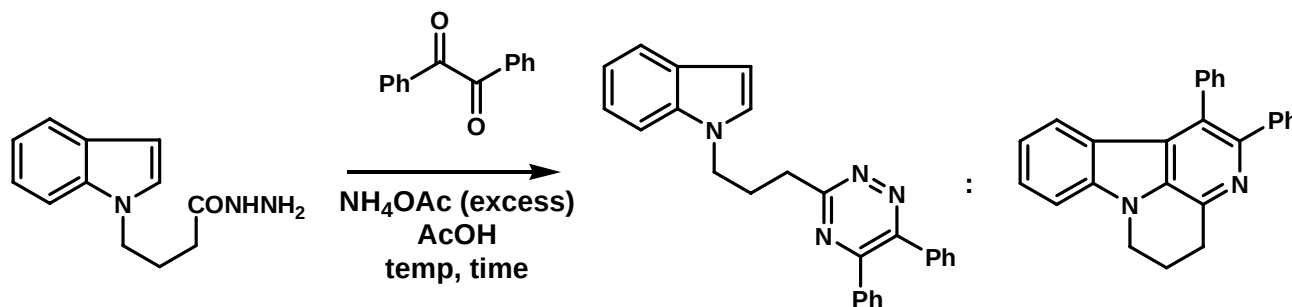


- Despite the development of this straightforward protocol, limited diversity has existed at the C1 and C2 positions of synthetic canthines

Benson, S. C.; Li, J.-H.; Snyder, J. K. *J. Org. Chem.* **1992**, 57, 5285-5287.

Optimization of Microwave Procedure

- 10 to 700-fold reduction in reaction times
- This procedure lead to the synthesis of unnatural canthines that inhibit Akt

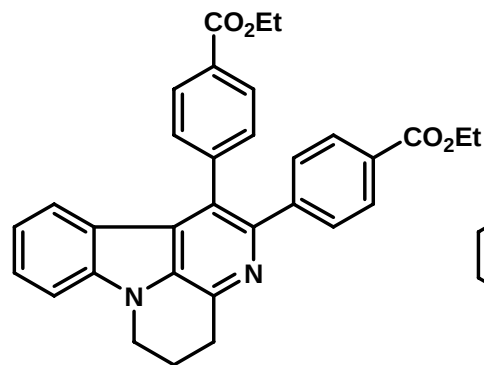


entry	time (min)	temp (°C)	6 : 7a
1	5	180	9 : 1
2	10	180	7 : 3
3	20	180	2 : 1
4	40	180	1 : 1
5	60	180	1 : 2
6	40	200	1 : 5
7	40	220	1 : 19

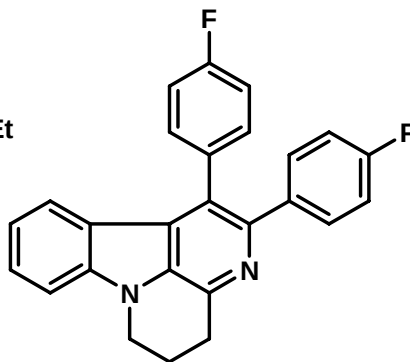
Ratios determined by analytical LCMS.

Lindsley, C. W.; Wisnoski, D. D.; Wang, Y.; Leister, W. H.; Zhao, Z. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2003**, *44*, 4495-4498.

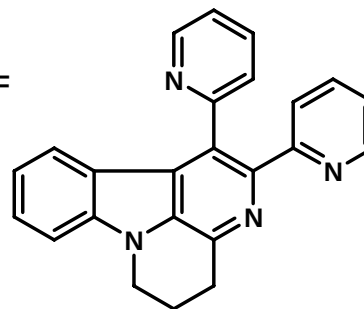
Lindsley, C. W.; Bogusky, M. J.; Leister, W. H.; McClain, R. T.; Robinson, R. G.; Barnett, S. F.; Defeo-Jones, D.; Ross, C. W.; Hartman, G. D. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2005**, *46*, 2779-2782.



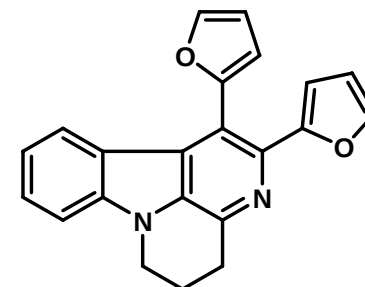
8 (81%)



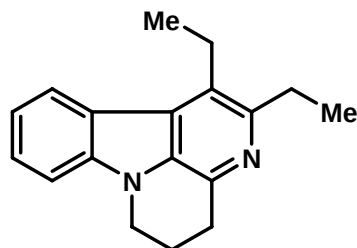
9 (83%)



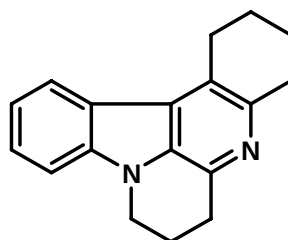
10 (59%)



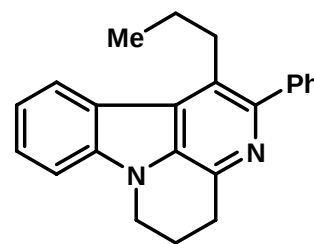
11 (62%)



12 (34%)



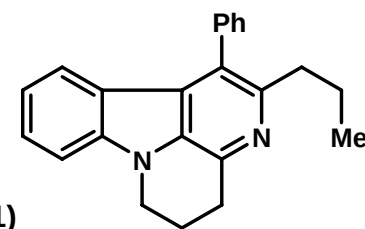
13 (26%)



14a

(1:1)

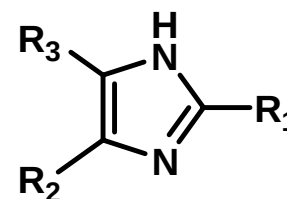
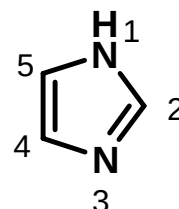
(62%)



14b

Lindsley, C. W.; Wisnoski, D. D.; Wang, Y.; Leister, W. H.; Zhao, Z. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2003**, *44*, 4495-4498.

- Imidazoles are components of many natural products, dyes, herbicides, fungicides, catalysts, and pharmaceutical compounds
- Synthetic route via the formamide synthesis uses glyoxal, formaldehyde and ammonia, and heating for four to six hours

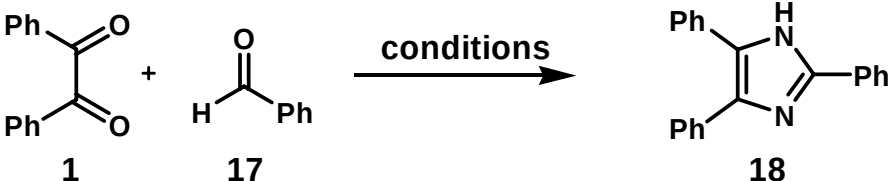


Generic and target imidazoles

(a) Grimmett, M. R. *Comprehensive Heterocyclic Chemistry*; Katritzky, A. R.; Rees, C. W., Eds.; Pergamon: Oxford, 1984; Vol. 5, pp 457-498. (b) Grimmett, M. R. *Comprehensive Heterocyclic Chemistry II*; Katritzky, A. R.; Rees, C. W.; Scriven, W. F. V., Eds.; Pergamon: New York, 1996; Vol. 3, p 77.

Optimization of Microwave Procedure

- Ultimately, heating at 180°C for five minutes provided nearly complete conversion to **18**

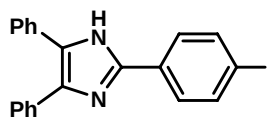
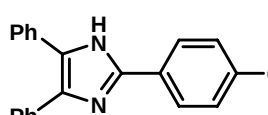
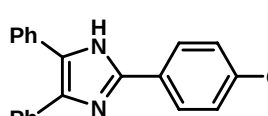
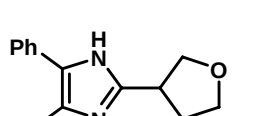


entry	temp (°C)	time (min)	conversion (%) ^a
1	60	5	24
2	80	5	51
3	100	5	61
4	120	5	68
5	140	5	87
6	160	5	98
7	160	0.5	71
8	160	1	82
9	160	3	95

Reactions run in acetic acid with 0.2 mmol each of **1**, **17** and 10 equiv. of NH₄OAc.

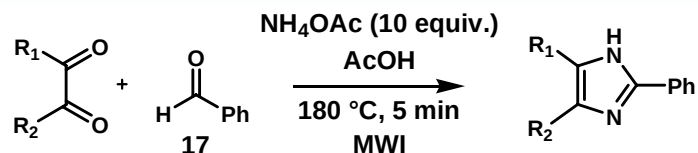
^aRatios determined by analytical LCMS, isolated yield for entry 6, 88%

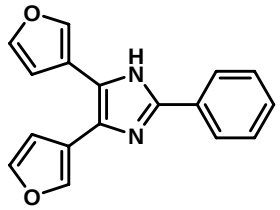
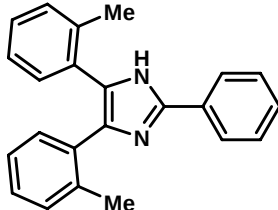
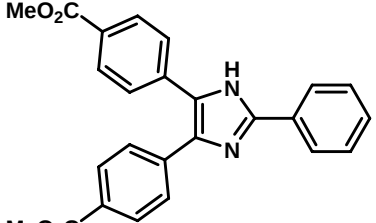
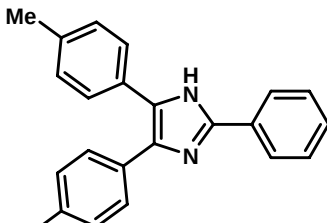
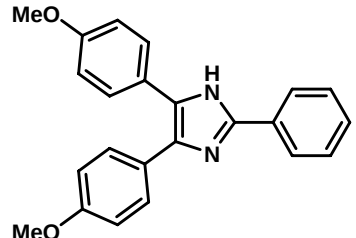
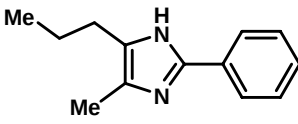
- The procedure is successful with electron withdrawing and donating substitution on the aldehyde

$ \begin{array}{c} \text{Ph} \\ \parallel \\ \text{C}=\text{O} \\ \\ \text{Ph} \\ \text{1} \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{H} \\ \parallel \\ \text{C} \\ \\ \text{R} \end{array} \xrightarrow[\text{MWI}]{\begin{array}{c} \text{NH}_4\text{OAc (10 equiv.)} \\ \text{AcOH} \\ 180^\circ\text{C, 5 min} \end{array}} \begin{array}{c} \text{Ph} \\ \\ \text{C}=\text{N} \\ \\ \text{C}=\text{N} \\ \\ \text{R} \end{array} $		
entry	product	yield (%) ^a
1		97
2		88
3		87
4		93

^aIsolated yields for analytically pure compounds after neutralization and filtration

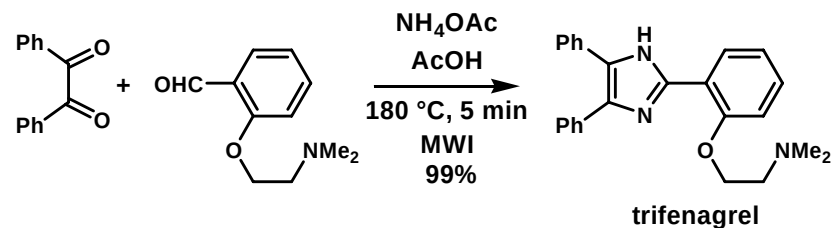
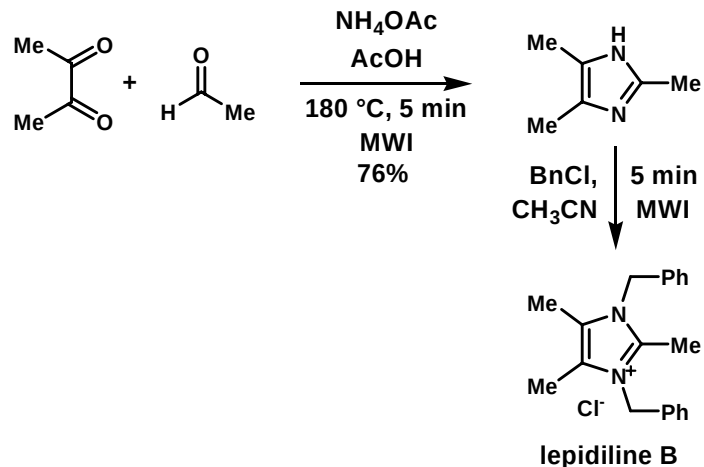
Imidazoles – diketone variations



entry	product	yield (%) ^a	entry	product	yield (%) ^a
1		89	4		94
2		95	5		94
3		99	6		93

^aIsolated yields for analytically pure compounds obtained after neutralization of the reaction mixture then filtration

Wolkenberg, S. E.; Wisnoski, D. D.; Leister, W. W.; Wang, Y.; Zhao, Z.; Lindsley, C. W. *Org. Lett.* **2004**, 6, 1453-1456.



- Natural product isolated from the roots of *L. meyenii*
- Micromolar cytotoxicity against several human cancer cell lines

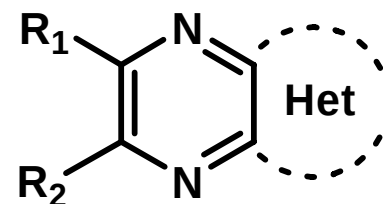
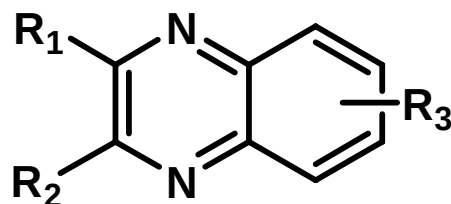
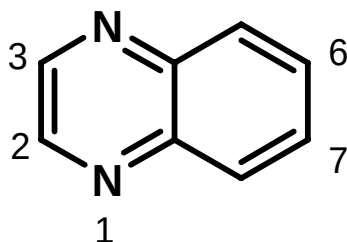
- Potent 2,4,5-triaryl imidazole arachidonate cyclooxygenase inhibitor
- Existing procedure requires two hours of reflux

Wolkenberg, S. E.; Wisnoski, D. D.; Leister, W. W.; Wang, Y.; Zhao, Z.; Lindsley, C. W. *Org. Lett.* **2004**, 6, 1453-1456.

Cui, B.; Zheng, B. L.; He, K.; Zheng, Q. Y. *J. Nat. Prod.* **2003**, 66, 1101.

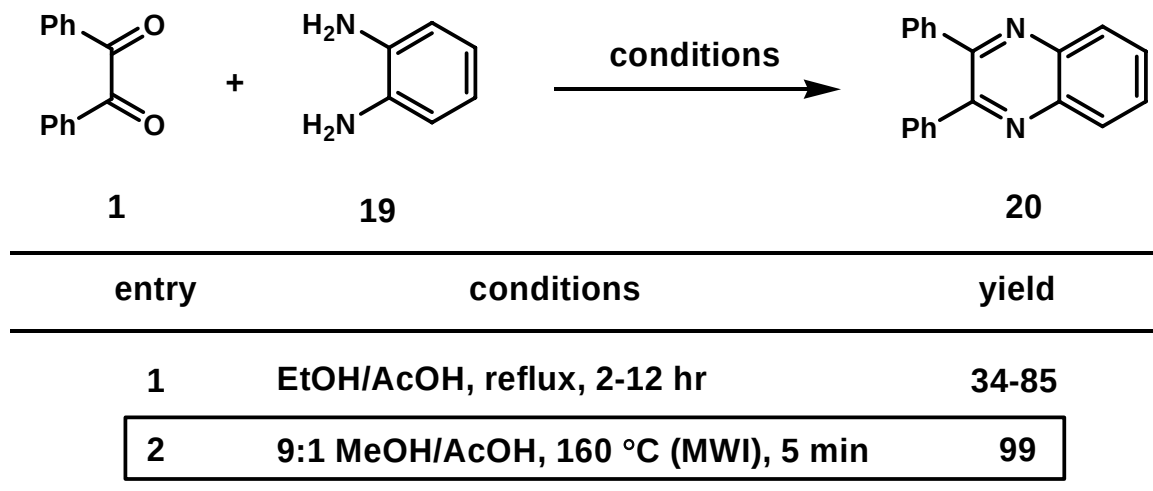
Abrahams, S. L.; Hazen, R. J.; Batson, A. G.; Phillips, A. P. *J. Pharmacol. Exp. Ther.* **1989**, 249, 359.

Quinoxaline and Fused Heterocyclic Pyrazines



Generic and target quinoxaline and fused heterocyclic pyrazines

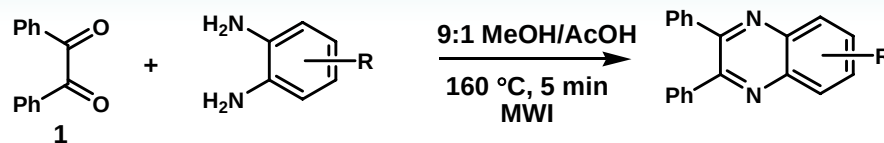
- Quinoxalines have demonstrated pharmaceutical value as antiviral agents, antibiotics, and kinase inhibitors
- The most common synthetic route requires the condensation of an aryl 1,2-diamine with a 1,2-dicarbonyl compound by refluxing in ethanol or acetic acid for two to 12 hours

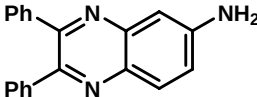
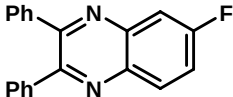
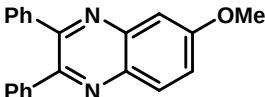
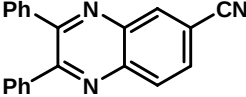
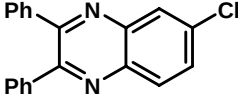
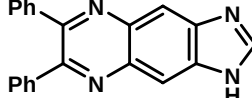
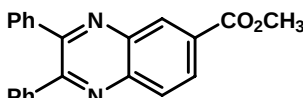
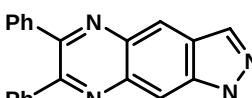


- Optimal conditions give nearly complete conversion to product **20**
- This general procedure gives quinoxalines in high yields with tolerance for variations of the 1,2-diketone and 1,2-diamine

Zhao, Z.; Wisnoski, D. D.; Wolkenberg, S. E.; Leister, W. H.; Wang, Y.; Lindsley, C. W. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2004**, 45, 4873-4876.

Quinoxaline – 1,2-diamine variations

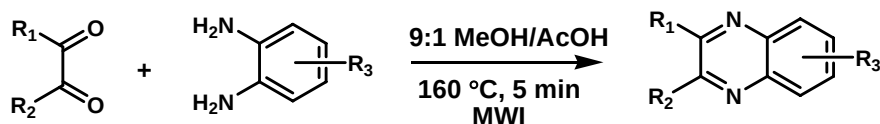


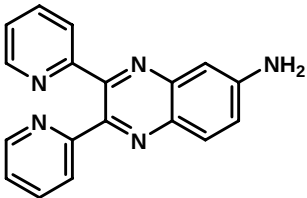
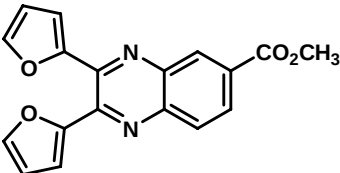
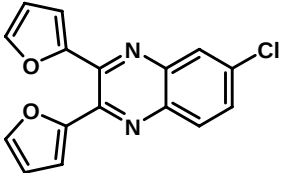
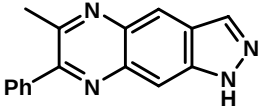
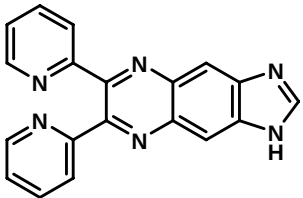
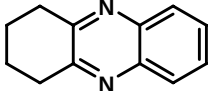
entry	product	yield (%) ^a	entry	product	yield (%) ^a
1		99	5		99
2		97	6		99
3		96	7		95
4		98	8		95

^aYields for analytically pure compounds fully characterized by LCMS, NMR, and HRMS.

Zhao, Z.; Wisnoski, D. D.; Wolkenberg, S. E.; Leister, W. H.; Wang, Y.; Lindsley, C. W. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2004**, 45, 4873-4876.

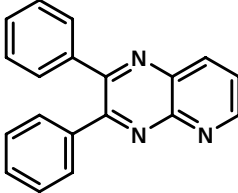
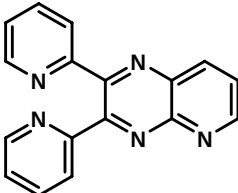
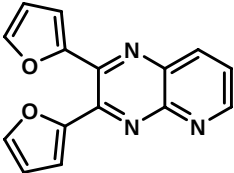
Quinoxaline – 1,2-diketone variations



entry	product	yield (%) ^a	entry	product	yield (%) ^a
1		98	4		96
2		95	5		95
3		99	6		83

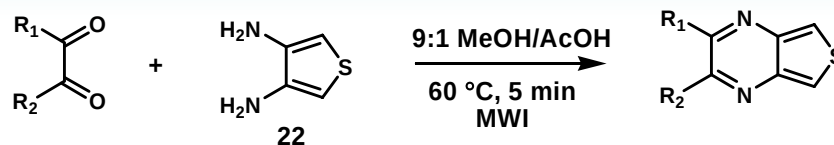
^aYields for analytically pure compounds fully characterized by LCMS, NMR, and HRMS.

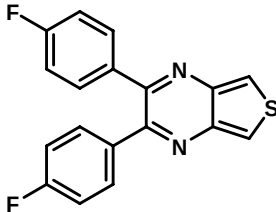
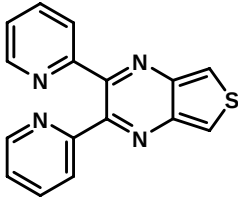
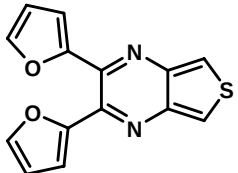
Zhao, Z.; Wisnoski, D. D.; Wolkenberg, S. E.; Leister, W. H.; Wang, Y.; Lindsley, C. W. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2004**, 45, 4873-4876.

$ \begin{array}{c} \text{R}_1\text{C}(=\text{O}) \\ \\ \text{R}_2\text{C}(=\text{O}) \end{array} + \begin{array}{c} \text{H}_2\text{N} \\ \\ \text{H}_2\text{N} \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{pyridine} \\ \text{21} \end{array} \xrightarrow[160\text{ }^\circ\text{C, 5 min MWI}]{9:1\text{ MeOH/AcOH}} \begin{array}{c} \text{R}_1 \\ \\ \text{pyrido[2,3-}b\text{]pyrazine} \\ \\ \text{R}_2 \end{array} $		
entry	product	yield (%) ^a
1		97
2		94
3		92

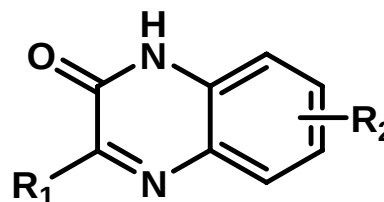
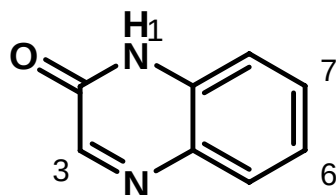
^aYields for analytically pure compounds fully characterized by LCMS, NMR, and HRMS.

Thieno[3,4-*b*]pyrazines



entry	product	yield (%) ^a
1		74
2		77
3		69

^aYields for analytically pure compounds fully characterized by LCMS, NMR, and HRMS.



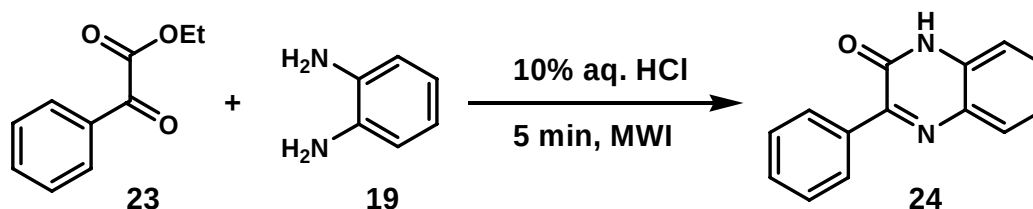
Generic and target quinoxalinones

- Although infrequently found in nature, the core structure of quinoxalinones is contained in biologically active structures with antifungal, antimicrobial, and analgesic activities
- Fernández et al. have carried out aqueous cyclocondensations of ethyl pyruvate and 1,2-diaminobenzene catalyzed by strong acids, classically called the Hinsberg reaction

Carta, A.; Sanna, P.; Loriga, M.; Setzu, M. G.; La Colla, P.; Savelli, F. *Farmaco* **2002**, 57, 19-25.

Abasolo, M. I.; Gaozza, C. H.; Fernández, B. M. *J. Heterocyclic Chem.* **1987**, 29, 129-133.

Optimization of Microwave Procedure

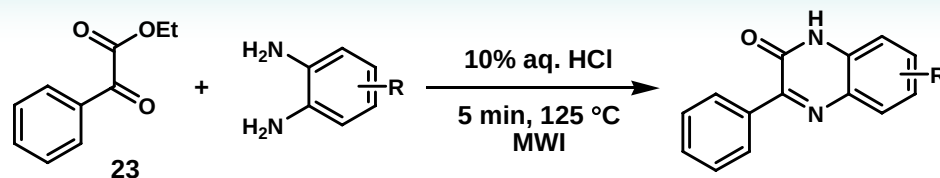


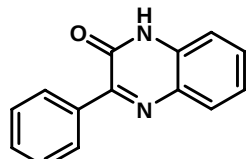
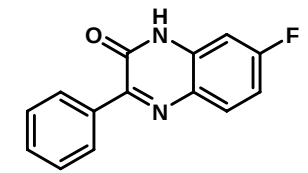
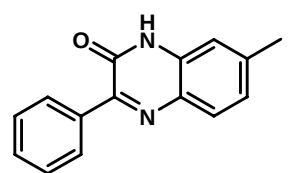
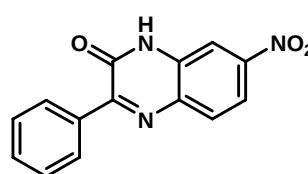
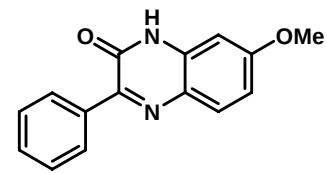
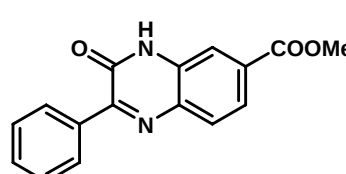
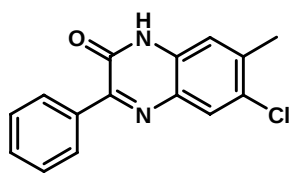
entry	temperature	conversion (%) ^a
1	60	84
2	100	90
3	125	97

^aConversion determined by LCMS

- With prototypical substrate **23**, conversion to product was nearly quantitative with heating at 125°C for five minutes

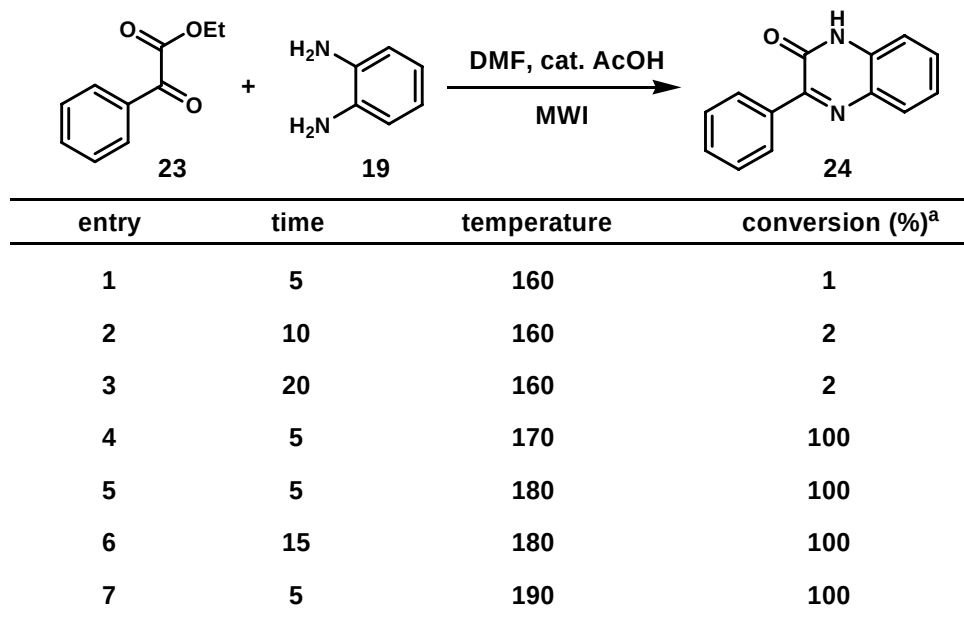
Yang, F.; Shipe, W. D.; Lindsley, C. W. *previously unpublished work*



entry	product	conversion (%) ^a	entry	product	conversion (%) ^a
1		87	5		91
2		96	6		51 ^b
3		100 ^b	7		26
4		90			

^aDetermined by LCMS. ^bIsolated as a 3:1 mixture of regioisomers (major isomer shown)

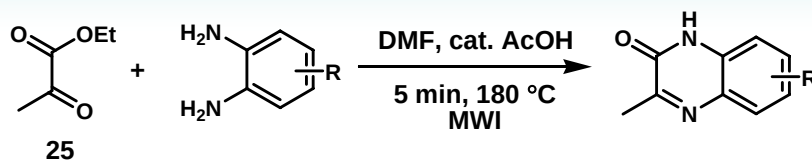
Re-optimization of Microwave Procedure

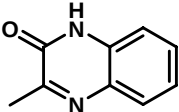
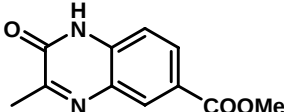
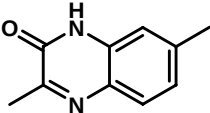
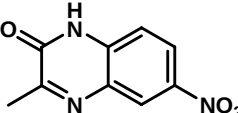
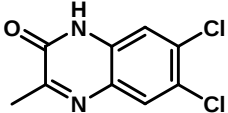
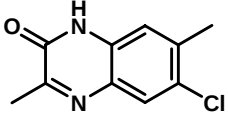


^aConversion determined by LCMS

- The re-optimized procedure improved the conversion to target material and also proved to be general with electron-deficient aryl 1,2-diamines

Quinoxalinones – scope of 1,2-diamine

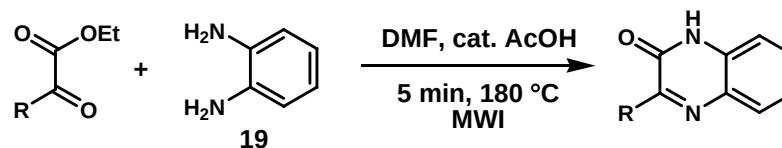


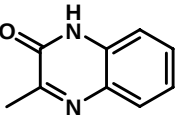
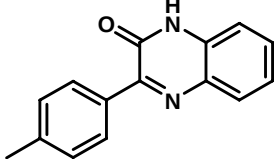
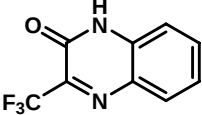
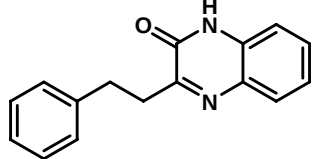
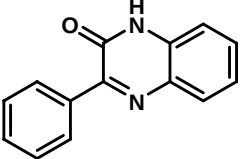
entry	product	conversion (%) ^a	entry	product	conversion (%) ^a
1		82	5		91
2		80	6		89
3		100			
4		89			

^aConversion determined by LCMS

Yang, F.; Shipe, W. D.; Lindsley, C. W. *previously unpublished work*

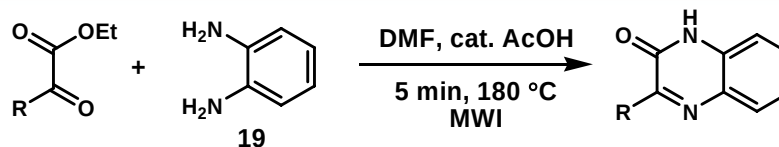
Quinoxalinones – scope of α -ketoester



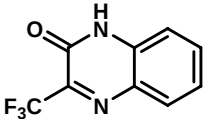
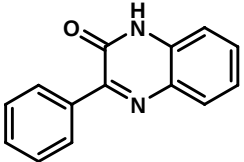
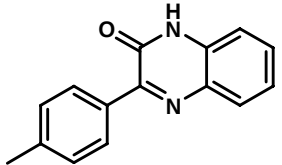
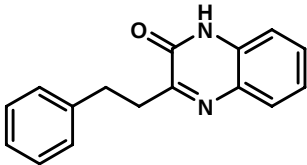
entry	product	conversion (%) ^a	entry	product	conversion (%) ^a
1		82	4		100
2		100	5		93
3		95			

^aDetermined by LCMS.

Yang, F.; Shipe, W. D.; Lindsley, C. W. *previously unpublished work*

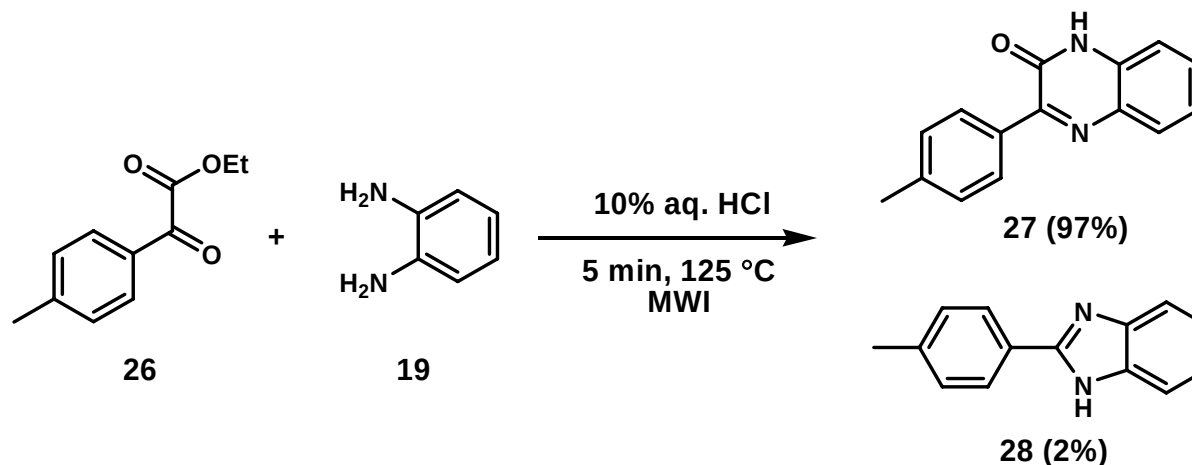


- Products are insoluble in solvents suitable for chromatographic separation
- Precipitation in methanol gives analytically pure quinoxalinones

entry	product	isolated yield (%) ^a
1		69
2		74
3		60
4		59

^aYields for analytically pure compounds fully characterized by LCMS, NMR, and HRMS.

Unexpected side product

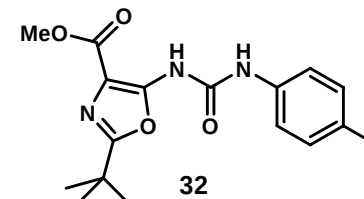
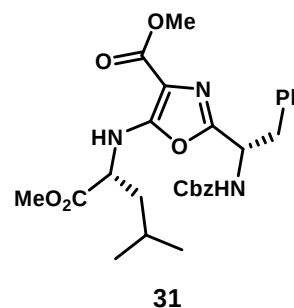
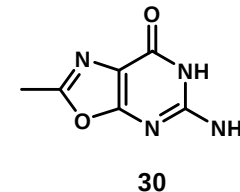
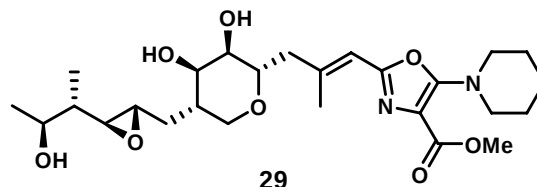


- While the appearance of side products was rare, **28** is presumable formed from the reaction with the carbonyl group of **26**, followed by oxidative decarboxylation

Yang, F.; Shipe, W. D.; Lindsley, C. W. *previously unpublished work*

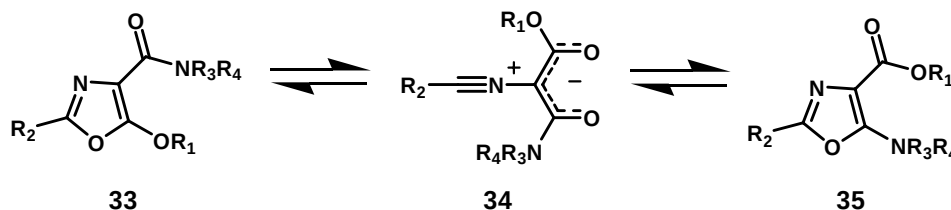
Biologically active 5-aminooxazoles

- The 5-aminooxazole moiety exists in antibiotics, inhibitors of ricin and shiga toxins, peptidomimetics, and a Raf kinase inhibitor

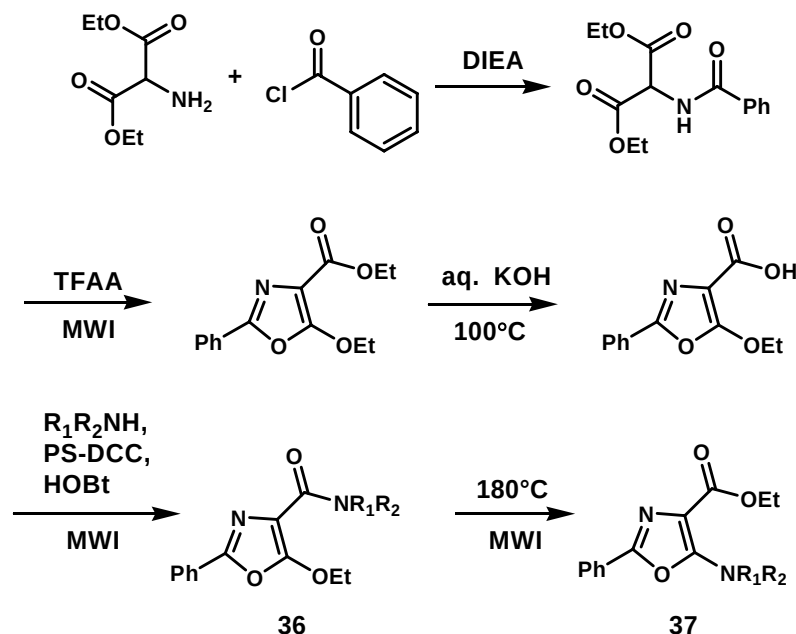


Cornforth rearrangement

- We have accessed these structures via a microwave Cornforth rearrangement, to give the thermodynamically stable product **35**



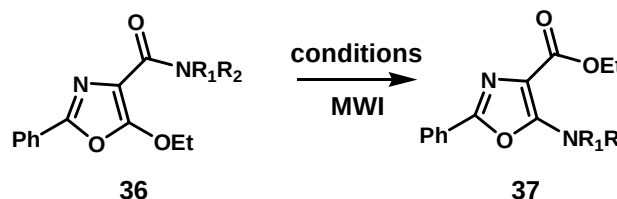
- Using a procedure borrowed from Dewar, we have incorporated microwave heating into a dramatically faster reaction sequence
- The result is a 200-fold reduction in reaction time while generating 5-aminooxazoles in good yield



Nolt, M. B.; Smiley, M. A.; Varga, S. L.; McClain, R. T.; Wolkenberg, S. E.; Lindsley, C. W.
Tetrahedron **2006**, 62, 4698-4704.

Optimization of Microwave-assisted Cornforth rearrangement

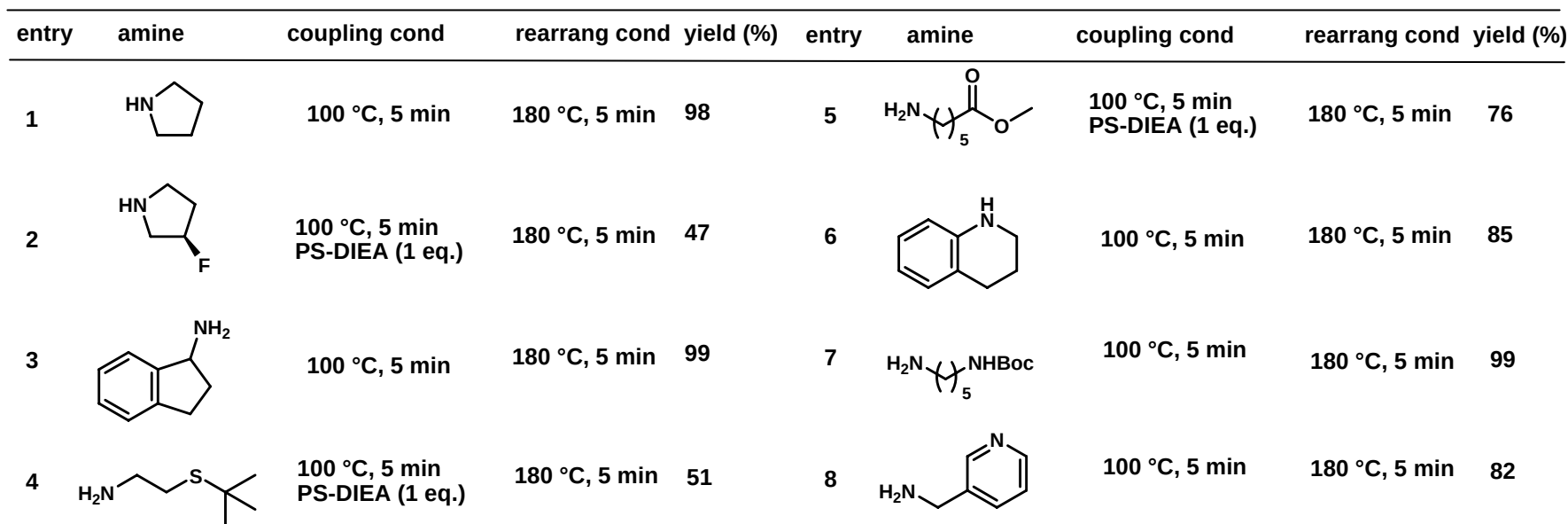
- We determined that microwave heating at 180 °C for five minutes gave the most favorable results
- Trifluorotoluene is a high boiling solvent with sufficient dipole for rapid microwave heating



entry	solvent	temperature	time	product:starting material ^a
1	CH ₃ CN	150 °C	10 min	1:99
2	CH ₃ CN	160 °C	10 min	31:69
3	CH ₃ CN	170 °C	10 min	42:58
4	CH ₃ CN	180 °C	10 min	99:1
5	PhCF ₃	180 °C	5 min	99:1

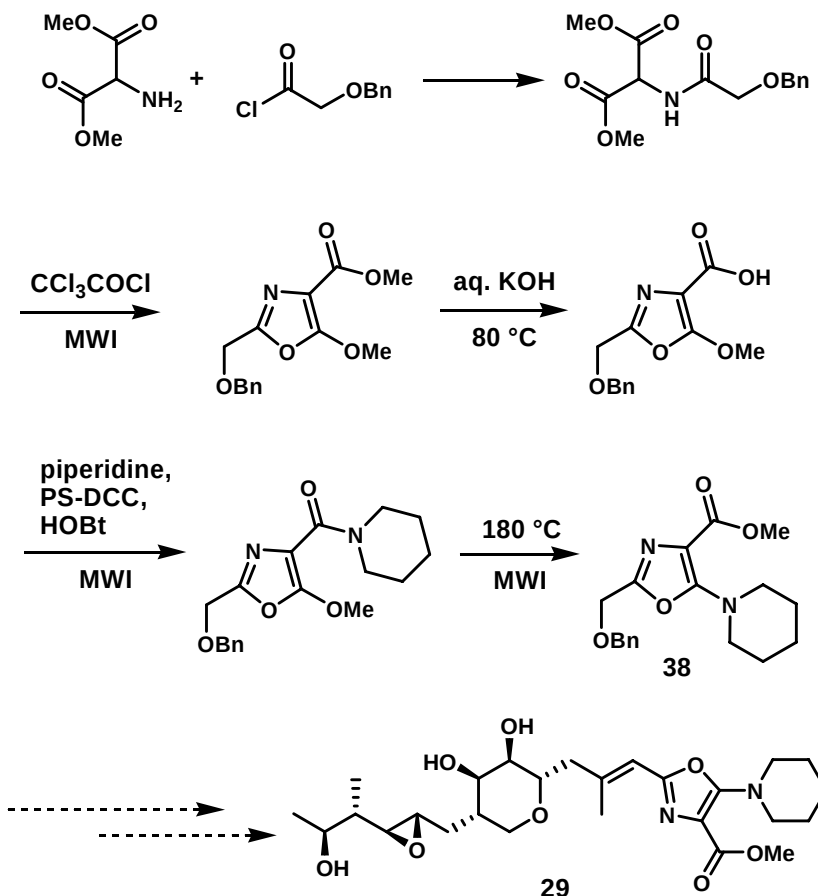
^aDetermined by LCMS. R₁R₂= piperidine

Nolt, M. B.; Smiley, M. A.; Varga, S. L.; McClain, R. T.; Wolkenberg, S. E.; Lindsley, C. W. *Tetrahedron* **2006**, 62, 4698-4704.



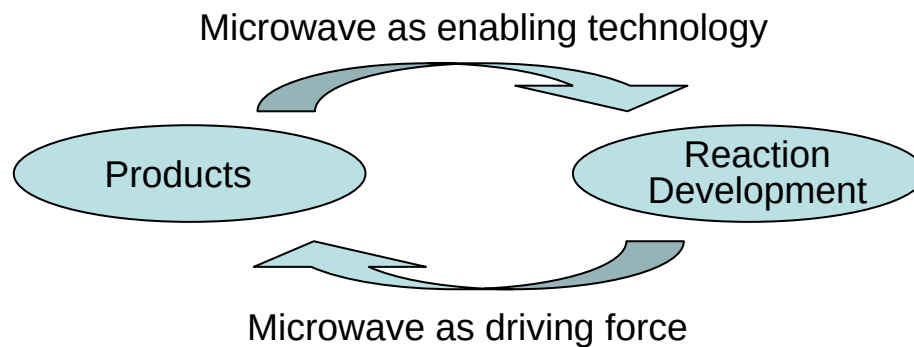
36

- We have demonstrated the utility of this procedure in the formal synthesis of 4-(methoxycarbonyl)-2-(1-normon-2-yl)-5-piperidin-1-yloxazole (**29**)
- Intermediate **38** was obtained in 29% overall yield
- Deprotection followed by halogenation and olefination would provide **29**



Nolt, M. B.; Smiley, M. A.; Varga, S. L.; McClain, R. T.; Wolkenberg, S. E.; Lindsley, C. W.
Tetrahedron **2006**, 62, 4698-4704.

- Microwave heating can significantly shorten reaction times and increase efficiency
- We have demonstrated the effectiveness of microwave-assisted heating in the formation of heterocyclic targets
- Microwave reactors have become an integral part of method development in TES



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