

Montmorillonite KSF and montmorillonite K-10 clays as efficient catalysts for the solventless synthesis of bismaleimides and bisphthalimides using microwave irradiation

Davood Habibi* and Omid Marvi

College of Chemistry, Bu-Ali Sina University, Hamedan, 6517838683, Iran

E-mail: dhabibi@basu.ac.ir

Abstract

Different bismaleimides and bisphthalimides were synthesized in a simple and environmentally benign method from the condensation reaction of maleic and phthalic anhydrides with different diamines on montmorillonite KSF and montmorillonite K-10 clays as solid acidic catalysts by microwave irradiations under the solvent-free conditions in good yields and short reaction times.

Keyword: Bismaleimides, bisphthalimides, montmorillonite K-10 and KSF clays, microwave

Introduction

Development of the simple and general synthetic routes for widely used organic compounds from the readily available reagents is one of the major challenges in organic synthesis. Maleimides are among such types of organic compounds which belong to an important class of substrates for chemical applications especially in biological,¹⁻³ synthetic⁴⁻⁶ and polymer chemistry.^{7, 8} Maleimides react quickly with cysteine residues and thus are used as chemical probes of protein structure⁹ and as linkers for conjugation of molecules to proteins.¹⁰ These derivatives may in turn serve as immunoconjugates for cancer therapy, solid supported enzymes for synthetic applications, or haptens for production of antibodies.¹¹ The maleimide functionality can be used as a synthetic platform in total synthesis due to its Michael-accepting ability and dienophilic nature. Also, thermally induced homopolymerized bismaleimides give rise to resins with good thermostabilty and low moisture absorption characteristics.¹²

Despite their wide applicability, available routes for the synthesis of these compounds are limited.¹³⁻¹⁶ On the other hand; each of these routes has its own synthetic problems when applied to a range of derivatives. For instance, synthesis of the functionalized maleimides either by direct condensation or through the intermediate acid cyclization method gives poor yields of desired maleimide derivatives.

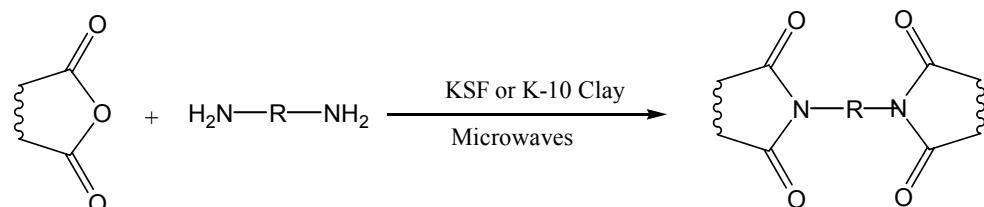
Consequently, it is desirable to develop an easy manipulative procedure, as well as to avoid using the strong acids or bases and other corrosive media and replacing hazardous or

expensive reactants and reagents by safer and economical ones. In achieving many of these goals, catalysts help the synthetic chemist in a big way. They are capable of making impracticable reactions to occur under the mildest possible conditions.

Montmorillonite clays have been used as catalysts for number of organic reactions and offer several advantages over classical acids. For example the strong acidity, non-corrosive properties, cheapness, mild reaction conditions, high yields and selectivity and the ease of setting and working-up.¹⁷

In the last few years a growing interest has been shown in the use of microwave irradiation in organic synthesis, also.^{18, 19} In addition, microwave solvent-free synthesis offers advantages for reducing hazardous explosions and removal of the high boiling solvents from the reaction mixtures.²⁰

In continuation of our studies on microwave-assisted reactions on solid surfaces,²¹ herein we wish to describe a convenient and simple method for the synthesis of different bismaleimides and bisphthalimides from the condensation reaction between an appropriate mixture of maleic or phthalic anhydrides with different diamines on montmorillonite KSF and montmorillonite K-10 clays as solid acidic catalysts and microwave irradiations under the solvent-free conditions in good yields and short reaction times (scheme 1). A comparative data between our applied procedure and the conventional method has been shown in the general procedure section.



- 1) Maleic anhydride
- 2) Phthalic anhydride
- 3) 4-Chlorophthalic anhydride
- 4) 3,6-Dichlorophthalic anhydride

1a-h, 2a, 3a, 4a

Scheme 1

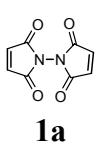
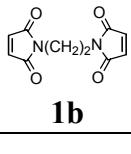
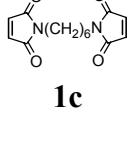
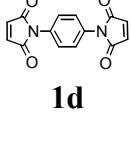
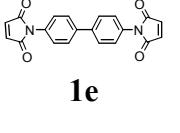
Results and Discussion

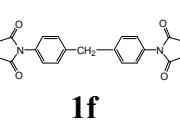
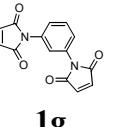
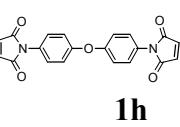
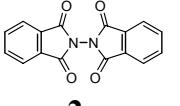
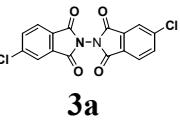
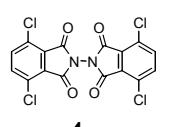
Several examples (22 entries) illustrating this simple and convenient method for the synthesis of bismaleimides and bisphthalimides were summarized in table 1. According to this table, the percentage of the products obtained by the KSF clay is more than those prepared by the K-10 clay, while the reaction times with the montmorillonite K-10 clay are less. This observation can be attributed to the more surface area in K-10 and the more acidic character of the KSF clay,

respectively.^{22g} These two characteristics usually compete with each other and due to both the small reaction time and the vigorous molecular vibrations in the microwave systems, the exact conclusion is not easy and needs further experiments, apparently.

Application of the aromatic diamines gives more yields rather than the aliphatic ones which might be related to the different stability of the products.

Table 1. The yields and reaction times for the synthesis of compounds **1a-h**, **2a**, **3a** and **4a** on montmorillonite KSF and K-10 clays

No.	Diamine	Product*	Crystallization solvent	Clay	Time (min)	Yield** (%)
1	H_2NNH_2	 1a	Dioxane	KSF	7.5	86
2				K10	5.5	81
3	$\text{H}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{NH}_2$	 1b	$\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{Ether}$	KSF	8	74
4				K10	6	69
5	$\text{H}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2)_6\text{NH}_2$	 1c	$\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2/\text{Ether}$	KSF	8	68
6				K10	6.5	61
7	$\text{H}_2\text{N}-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-\text{NH}_2$	 1d	Toluene/Ethanol	KSF	6	89
8				K10	4.5	82
9	$\text{H}_2\text{N}-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4-\text{NH}_2$	 1e	Dioxane	KSF	6.5	87
10				K10	4.5	78

11	<chem>H2N-C6H4-CH2-C6H4-NH2</chem>		CH ₂ Cl ₂ /Ether	KSF	7	84
12				K10	5	75
13	<chem>H2N-C6H4-NH2</chem>		Toluene/ Ethanol	KSF	7.5	81
14				K10	6.5	75
15	<chem>H2N-C6H4-O-C6H4-NH2</chem>		CH ₂ Cl ₂ /Ether	KSF	6.5	83
16				K10	6	77
17	<chem>H2NNH2</chem>		Glacial acetic acid	KSF	5	82
18				K10	4	76
19	<chem>H2NNH2</chem>		Nitrobenzene	KSF	5.5	81
20				K10	4	75
21	<chem>H2NNH2</chem>		Nitrobenzene	KSF	6	79
22				K10	5.5	71

* All of the isolated products are well known and their spectra and physical data have been reported in the literatures.

** Isolated yields after recrystallization.

Experimental Section

General procedures. Melting points were measured on an Electrothermal 9100 apparatus. Elemental analyses were performed using a Heraeus CHN-O-Rapid analyzer. Reactions were conducted in a commercial microwave oven model Delonghi MW 545. Chemicals were

purchased from the Fluka (montmorillonite KSF and montmorillonite K-10 clays) and Aldrich (anhydrides, diamines and solvents) chemical companies. The relevant products were characterized by the comparison of their spectra (IR, ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR), elemental analysis and physical data with the authentic samples. ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR spectra were recorded on a FT-NMR JEOL FX 90Q spectrometer. Chemical shifts were measured in ppm from TMS. DMSO-d₆ was used as a solvent as well as the internal standard. The IR spectra were obtained on a Perkin Elmer FT IR GX instrument in KBr discs.

N-Phthalimidophthalimide (2a). In a typical experiment, phthalic anhydride (2.2 mmole, 0.33 g) and montmorillonite KSF clay (1g) mixed, grinded properly, placed in a clean and dry beaker and hydrazine hydrate (1 mmole, 0.05 g) was then added. The reaction mixture preheated in a microwave oven for 1 min (power 600 W) and the heating continued for 4 min (power 780 W) to complete the reaction which was monitored by TLC using n-hexane/acetone as an eluent (3:7). The reaction mixture were allowed to cool to the room temperature and the resulting product extracted into CH₂Cl₂ (2×20 mL). The montmorillonite KSF clay was filtered off and the solvent removed by rotary. Solid clay portion was washed with methanol and dried at 120°C under the reduced pressure for 5h to be reused in the subsequent reactions. The obtained product was washed with distilled and warm water, dried in the oven (50°C, 4h) and recrystallized from acetic acid to collect *N*-phthalimidophthalimide (**2a**) as colorless prisms (9.66 g, 82%), mp >300°C (lit.^{22e} 44.5%, mp 311-313°C, reaction time 1h in refluxing with acetic acid). IR (KBr) cm⁻¹: 3028, 1783, 1745, 1657, 1601, 1493, 1377, 683. ^1H NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 7.71 (4H, dd, Ar), 8.15 (4H, d, Ar), ^{13}C NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 127.4, 132.0, 132.3, 165.5. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₆H₈N₂O₄: C, 65.75; H, 2.80; N, 9.60. Found: C, 65.14; H, 2.23; N, 9.31%.

Bismaleimide (1a). Yield 86%, mp 256-258°C (lit.^{22a} 259-260°C). IR (KBr) cm⁻¹: 3026, 2938, 2918, 1780, 1714, 1612, 1385, 709. ^1H NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 6.95 (4H, s, Vinilic), ^{13}C NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 136.4, 162.9. Anal. Calcd. for C₈H₄N₂O₄: C, 50.0; H, 2.08; N, 14.58. Found: C, 49.37; H, 2.43; N, 14.06%.

1,1'-Ethylenebismaleimide (1b). Yield 74%, mp 187-190°C (lit.^{22b} 190-192°C). IR (KBr) cm⁻¹: 2926, 1774, 1709, 1619, 1432, 719. ^1H NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 3.74 (4H, t, 2CH₂), 6.92 (4H, s, Vinilic), ^{13}C NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 39.4, 136.6, 164.5. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₀H₈N₂O₄: C, 54.55; H, 3.66; N, 12.72. Found: C, 54.81; H, 3.97; N, 12.47%.

1,1'-Hexamethylenebismaleimide (1c). Yield 68%, mp 136-138°C (lit.^{22b} 139-140°C). IR (KBr) cm⁻¹: 2914, 1768, 1712, 1623, 1468, 1378, 695. ^1H NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 1.39 (2H, t, 3-CH₂), 1.55 (2H, m, 2-CH₂), 3.48 (2H, m, 1-CH₂), ^{13}C NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 24.5, 28.7, 40.8, 136.5, 164.6. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₄H₁₆N₂O₄: C, 60.86; H, 5.84; N, 10.14. Found: C, 60.07; H, 5.36; N, 9.55%.

1,1'-(1,4-Phenylene)bismaleimide (1d). Yield 89%, mp >300°C (lit.^{22b} 346-350°C). IR (KBr) cm⁻¹: 3461, 3435, 3169, 3107, 1778, 1717, 1612, 1602, 1457, 1398, 699. ^1H NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 7.2 (4H, s, Vinilic), 7.62-7.40 (4H, d, C₆H₄), ^{13}C NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 119.8, 132.5, 136.0, 163.3. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₄H₈N₂O₄: C, 62.69; H, 3.01; N, 10.45. Found: C, 63.18; H, 3.49; N, 10.12%.

1,1'-(Di-1,4-phenylene)bismaleimide (1e). Yield 87%, mp >300°C (lit.^{22b} 340-349°C). IR (KBr) cm⁻¹: 3467, 3429, 3153, 3108, 1765, 1711, 1619, 1457, 1385, 691. ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 7.16 (4H, s, Vinilic), 7.46-7.70 (8H, m, 2 C₆H₄), ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 120.8, 127.6, 132.4, 136.0, 137.3, 161.8. Anal. Calcd. for C₂₀H₁₂N₂O₄: C, 69.73; H, 3.51; N, 8.14. Found: C, 69.27; H, 3.75; N, 8.73%.

1,1'-(Methylenedi-1,4-phenylene)bismaleimide (1f). Yield 84%, mp 158-161°C (lit.^{22c} 161-162°C). IR (KBr) cm⁻¹: 3079, 3036, 1707, 1521, 1392, 1365, 1153, 886. ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 4.02 (2H, s, CH₂), 6.98 (4H, s, Vinilic), 7.28-7.38 (8H, m, 2 C₆H₄), ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 40.83, 126.15, 129.11, 129.64, 133.09, 139.27, 169.43. Anal. Calcd. for C₂₁H₁₄N₂O₄: C, 70.39; H, 3.94; N, 7.82. Found: C, 70.79; H, 4.27; N, 7.58%.

1,1'-(1,3-Phenylene)bismaleimide (1g). Yield 81%, mp 204-206°C (lit.^{22d} >200°C). IR (KBr) cm⁻¹: 3451, 3163, 3037, 1708, 1615, 1502, 1427, 1377, 1131, 682. ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 7.1 (4H, s, Vinilic), 7.22-7.49 (4H, m, C₆H₄), ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 121.78, 124.5, 128.95, 132.06, 135.4, 168.8. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₄H₈N₂O₄: C, 62.69; H, 3.01; N, 10.45. Found: C, 61.96; H, 3.32; N, 9.71%.

1,1'-(Oxydi-1,4-phenylene)bismaleimide (1h). Yield 83%, mp 182-186°C (lit.^{22c} 185-186°C). IR (KBr) cm⁻¹: 3082, 1780, 1718, 1603, 1497, 1342, 1258, 1193, 873. ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 7.02 (4H, s, Vinilic), 7.54-7.82 (8H, m, 2 C₆H₄), ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 56.7, 114.1, 128.6, 129.3, 136.7, 164.9. Anal. Calcd. for C₂₀H₁₂N₂O₅: C, 66.66; H, 3.33; N, 7.77. Found: C, 65.94; H, 3.76; N, 7.18%.

4,4'-Dichloro-N-phthalimidophthalimide (3a). Yield 81%, mp >300°C (lit.^{22f} 303-305°C). IR (KBr) cm⁻¹: 3092, 2957, 2862, 1774, 1719, 1609, 1398, 690. ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 7.70-8.14 (6H, m, Ar). ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 165.3, 137.3, 133.8, 132.4, 130.4, 128.6, 127.9. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₆H₆N₂O₄Cl₂: C, 53.18; H, 1.66; N, 7.75. Found: C, 52.85; H, 1.87; N, 7.02%.

3,6,3',6'-Tetrachloro-N-phthalimidophthalimide (4a). Yield 79%, mp >300°C (lit.^{22e} >350°C). IR (KBr) cm⁻¹: 3097, 2969, 2878, 1790, 1727, 1596, 1394, 716. ¹H NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 7.64 (4H, s, Ar). ¹³C NMR (DMSO-d₆): δ 165.8, 134.1, 133.7, 130.8. Anal. Calcd. for C₁₆H₄N₂O₄Cl₂: C, 44.6; H, 0.9; N, 6.5. Found: C, 44.81; H, 1.17; N, 8.83%.

Conclusions

In summary, the paper describes a simple and efficient method for the synthesis of bismaleimides and bisphthalimides from the relevant anhydrides on montmorillonite KSF and montmorillonite K-10 clays as heterogeneous catalysts by the help of microwave irradiation. The notable features of this procedure are the solvent-free reaction conditions, high yields of products, cleaner reaction profiles and availability of the reagents at low cost and enhanced rates which makes it a useful and attractive process for the synthesis. The simple experimental and

product isolation procedures as well as the easy recovery and reuse of the natural clays are expected to play an important role in development of the new method.

Acknowledgements

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