Application of novel Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures as an antimicrobial agent and magnetic nanocatalyst in the synthesis of heterocyclic compounds

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Using the microwave-assisted method, novel Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures were synthesized. The crystallinity, thermal stability, adsorption/desorption isotherms, morphology/size distribution, and magnetic hysteresis of synthesized Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures were characterized by XRD patterns, TGA curve, BET adsorption/desorption technique, SEM image, and VSM curve, respectively. After confirming the Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures, its antimicrobial properties against Gram-positive bacterial, Gram-negative bacterial, and fungal strains based on minimum inhibitory concentration (MIC), minimum bactericidal concentration (MBC), and minimum fungicidal concentration (MFC) values were studied. The MIC values in antimicrobial activity for Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacterial strains, between 16–128 μg/ml, and for fungal strain, 128 μg/ml were observed. The results showed that the high specific surface area of Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures caused the antimicrobial power of nanoparticles to be high, and the observed antimicrobial effects were higher than some known commercial antimicrobial drugs. Another advantage of the specific surface area of Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures was its high catalytic properties in the three-component
reaction of isatin, malononitrile, and dimedone. New spiro [indoline-pyranopyrimidines] derivatives were synthesized with high efficiency. The catalytic activity results of Fe₂O₃/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures showed that, in addition to recyclability, derivatives could be synthesized in less time than previously reported methods. The results of investigating the catalytic activity of Fe₂O₃/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures showed that the spiro [indoline-pyranopyrimidines] derivatives were synthesized in the time range of 10–20 min with an efficiency of over 85%. As a final result, it can be concluded that the microwave synthesis method improves the unique properties of magnetic nanostructures, especially its specific surface area, and has increased its efficiency.

**KEYWORDS**

Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures, microwave assisted, antimicrobial agent, MIC and MBC value, spiro[indoline-pyranopyrimidines]

## 1 Introduction

Organometallic framework compounds with crystalline structures and unique properties have attracted the attention of chemists. These efficient nanostructures have been synthesized by different methods, and various applications have been reported for them (Ren et al., 2015; Al-Rowali et al., 2018). These nanostructures have excellent physical and chemical properties, based on these properties; they show broad and diverse applications. High stability against heat, high porosity, high resistance on the surface, and high reactivity was the capabilities of these compounds (Ghanbari et al., 2020). Recently, the use of MOF nanostructures as a catalyst in synthesizing organic compounds, especially heterocycles and their derivatives, has been expanding (Pascaru et al., 2019; Dhameliya et al., 2020; Goetjen et al., 2020; Purohit et al., 2020). MOF compounds with magnetic properties have also been reported so far. The importance of these compounds in the synthesis of organic compounds is their easy separation after performing the reaction by a magnet (Yao et al., 2016; Ghorbani-Choghamarani and Taherinia, 2020). Biological properties such as enzyme immobilization, enantioselective hydrolysis of (R, S)-naproxen methyl ester, and immobilization of proline activated lipase from magnetic MOF compounds have been reported (Nadar and Rathod, 2018; Nadar and Rathod, 2020; Ozyilmaz et al., 2021).

In the synthesizing of organic compounds, spiroheterocycles play a unique role, and the synthesis of these compounds has been widely reported in modern chemistry (Fatahpour et al., 2017; Pogosyan et al., 2018). Investigations show that spiroheterocycle compounds have biological properties such as anticancer, antianaphylactic, anticoagulant, spasmyloytic activities, and the synthesis procedure of these compounds has been considered due to these properties (Chen et al., 1999; Saraswat et al., 2016; Harichandran et al., 2018; Faroughi Niya et al., 2021; Al-Obaidi et al., 2022).

Pyrimidines are the main building blocks of nucleic acid. In addition, a literature review shows that pyrimidines have many biological properties such as anti-HIV agents, antitumor activity, anti-inflammatory activity, antimalarial activity, anti-microbial activity, antihypertensive activity, potassium channel antagonists, etc. (Bhat, 2017; Ahmad et al., 2021; Ahmad et al., 2022).

Pyran derivatives also have many biological properties. Biological properties such as antitumor (Sayed et al., 2019), antiviral activity (Maddila et al., 2020), antibacterial (Shehab and Ghoneim, 2016), antihypertensive activity (Morahan et al., 1972; Shehab and Ghoneim, 2016), and antimalarial activity, anti-microbial activity (Bhosle et al., 2019), and antitumor activity (Haggam et al., 2020) from heterocyclic compounds containing pyran derivatives.

Pyranopyrimidines are one of the essential polycyclic heterocyclic compounds with high biological properties. Biological properties such as antimicrobial activities (Bedair et al., 2001), anti-HIV activity (Maddila et al., 2020), antioxidant activity (Yousefi et al., 2015), anticancer activity (Bhosle et al., 2019), and antitumor activity (Haggam et al., 2020) from polycyclic heterocyclic compounds contain pyranopyrimidines derivatives have been reported.

Multicomponent reactions are an essential method in synthesizing of heterocyclic, and organic compounds and many ways have been reported in this regard (Biswa and Das, 2022; Coppola et al., 2022; Wang et al., 2022). One of the crucial factors in multicomponent reactions is the selection of the appropriate catalyst. Several catalysts such as nanoparticles and magnetic nanoparticles have been reported to synthesize organic and heterocyclic compounds in multicomponent reactions (Amoozadeh et al., 2016; Chen et al., 2019; Ghorbani-Choghamarani et al., 2019; Harikrishna et al., 2020; Arlan et al., 2021).

Considering the importance of the synthesis of new nano compounds with high capabilities, in this research, novel Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures were synthesized. After confirming their structure and determination of antimicrobial properties, they were used as
magnetic catalysts in the three-component synthesis of new spiro [indoline-pyranopyrimidines] derivatives. Significant results of nanoparticles in antimicrobial and catalytic properties were observed.

2 Experimental

2.1 General

All reagents and solvents were purchased from Merck and Sigma without further purification. XRD pattern using a Philips XPERT PRO Cu-Kα radiation was performed. TGA curves in an N2 atmosphere, by Netsch Thermal analyzer STA 409 at a heating rate of 10°C/min, were recorded. Hitachi S-4800 FESEM (Field Emission Scanning Electron Microscope) for SEM image was used. Vibrating Sample Magnetometer curves (VSM) by using Meghnatis Daghigh Kavir Co. (Kashan, Iran), MDKB model were recorded. The FT-IR spectra were recorded by Nicolet AVATAR 360 FT-IR spectrophotometer. An advanced microwave synthesis lab station (MICROSYNTH, Milestone Co.) was used to synthesize Fe3O4/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures. By Bruker FT-NMR Ultra Shield-spectrometer (300 and 75 MHz), the 1H- and 13C-NMR spectra were recorded. Uncorrected melting points of derivatives and previously reported methods were used.

2.2 Synthesis of Fe3O4/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures by using microwave irradiation

For the synthesis of Fe3O4/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures by microwave method, ZnCl2 (2 mmol), pyridine-2,6-dicarboxylic acid (4 mmol), and Fe3O4 nanoparticle (1 mmol), were added to the mixture including double-distilled water/acetic acid (30 ml, 1:1) and stirred quickly 15°min at 70°C. In the next step, the mixture was subjected to microwave irradiation with a power of 350°W for 20°min at room temperature. Finally, by using a magnet, the Fe3O4/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures were separated and washed several times with water and acetic acid and dried under vacuum at ambient temperature (Sargazi et al., 2018).

2.3 Antimicrobial activity of Fe3O4/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures

To obtain the antimicrobial property of Fe3O4/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures based on MIC, MBC, and MFC on Gram-negative, Gram-positive, and fungal strains, the clinical and laboratory standards institute (CLSI) guidelines M07-A9, M26-A, M02-A11, M44-A, and M27-A2, and previously reported methods were used (Moghadam-Manesh et al., 2020; Abdieva et al., 2022; Zeraati et al., 2022).

2.4 Synthesis of 1-benzylindoline-2,3-dione

By using indoline-2,3-dione, benzyl halide, potassium carbonate, and potassium iodide in acetonitrile and the method reported by Auria-Luna et al. (2015) and Tehrani et al. Tehrani et al. (2016) 1-benzylindoline-2,3-dione (3f) was synthesized. 1-Benzylindoline-2,3-dione was used as a reactant to synthesize new spiro [Indoline-pyranopyrimidine] derivatives.

2.5 General procedure for the synthesis of spiro [Indoline-pyranopyrimidine] derivatives

For the synthesis of spiro [indoline-pyranopyrimidines] derivatives, malononitrile (1 mmol), indoline-2,3-dione derivatives (1 mmol), barbituric acid or thiobarbituric acid (1 mmol), and 0.03 g catalyst (Fe3O4/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures) added to 2 ml EtOH. The resultant was stirred at room temperature (optimal condition). The progress of the reaction was monitored by thin layer chromatography (TLC). After completion of the reaction, the catalyst was separated using a magnet. Finally, recrystallization of the mixture in water and ethanol was used to purify the sediments.

2.5.1 7′-amino-1-benzyl-2,2′,4′-trioxo-1′,2′,3′,4′-tetrahydrospiro [indoline-3,5′-pyrano [2,3-d]pyrimidine]-6′-carbonitrile (4K)

IR (KBr, ν cm−1): 3290, 3350 (NH2), 3156 (NH), 2940 (CH), 1717 (C=O), 1648 (v C=C). 

1H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-d6): δ 4.25 (s, 2H, CH2), 6.73 (d, 1H, J = 8.4 Hz, ArH), 6.88–6.89 (t, 1H, ArH), 7.01–7.12 (m, 4H, ArH), 6.73 (d, 2H, J = 8.4 Hz, ArH), 7.37–7.8 (t, 1H, ArH), 7.45 (s, 2H, NH2), 10.64 (s, 1H, NH), 12.41 (s, 1H, NH) ppm.

13C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d6): δ 148.17, 184.17, 163.29, 158.34, 154.07, 149.73, 140.86, 136.12, 134.57, 129.36, 128.75, 128.42, 127.46, 127.55, 126.48, 124.55, 122.07, 117.45, 109.18, 88.52, 58.24, 55.01, 47.76 ppm.

Elemental analysis (C22H15N5O3S): Calculated; C, 61.53; H, 3.52; N, 16.31; S, 7.47. Found; C, 61.57; H, 3.49; N, 16.32; S, 7.50.

2.5.2 7′-amino-1-benzyl-2,4′-dioxo-2′-thioxo-1′,2′,3′,4′-tetrahydrospiro [indoline-3,5′-pyrano [2,3-d]pyrimidine]-6′-carbonitrile (4L)

IR (KBr, ν cm−1): 3420, 3364 (NH2), 3171 (NH), 2958 (CH), 1717 (C=O), 1522 (C=C).
$^1$H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-$d_6$): $\delta$ 4.32 (s, 2H, CH$_2$), 6.77 (d, 1H, $J = 8.7$ Hz, ArH), 6.84–6.91 (t, 1H, ArH), 7.04–7.10 (m, 4H, ArH), 7.21 (d, 2H, $J = 8.4$ Hz, ArH), 7.30–7.37 (t, 1H, $J = 8$ Hz, ArH), 7.42 (s, 2H, NH$_2$), 11.04 (s, 1H, NH), 12.01 (s, 1H, NH) ppm.

$^{13}$C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-$d_6$): $\delta$ 172.38, 162.45, 158.02, 154.17, 149.28, 141.01, 135.74, 134.28, 129.37, 128.64, 128.31, 127.31, 127. 01, 126.29, 124.9, 122.76, 117.69, 109.47, 88.31, 58.44, 54.67, 47.23 ppm.

Elemental analysis (C$_{22}$H$_{15}$N$_5$O$_4$): Calculated; C, 63.92; H, 3.66; N, 16.94; O, 15.48. Found: C, 63.90; H, 3.69; N, 16.95, O, 15.46.

3 Results and discussion

3.1 Characterization of Fe$_3$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures

The pattern given in Figure 1 showed the XRD pattern of Fe$_3$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures. The obtained XRD pattern was similar to the standard pattern reported for zinc and Fe$_3$O$_4$ nanoparticles (Hosseinzadegan et al., 2020; Rafiee, 2021; Zeraati et al., 2022). The calculation of Debby Scherer’s equation for Fe$_3$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework

4 FIGURE 1
XRD patterns of Fe$_3$O$_4$ (I) Fe$_3$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures (II).

5 FIGURE 2
EDX spectrum of Fe$_3$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures.
magnetic nanostructures showed that the size of the synthesized nanoparticles is 25 nm, which proves the importance of the synthesis method using microwaves.

In Figure 2, EDX spectrum of Fe$_3$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures were given which confirmed the successful synthesis of products. Based on the EDX spectrum of Fe$_3$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures, the elements in the raw materials, including C, Fe, Zn, and O, were observed in the final product.

The results obtained from the thermal stability curve of Fe$_3$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures show that in the temperature range of 90–100 °C, the partial weight decreases due to the evaporation of the solvent on the surface of the sample (Figure 3). The partial weight loss in the second stage in the temperature range of about 190 °C is related to the evaporation of the solvent trapped in the nanoparticle structure. In the third stage, a noticeable weight loss in the sample was observed first in the range of 392 °C of the pure Fe$_3$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures. Then, at near 600 °C, we see the beginning of the degradation and collapse of the final Fe$_3$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures. From the observations, it can be concluded that Fe$_3$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures had high thermal stability. The high thermal stability can be provided the advantages and potential applications of these synthesized compounds in the optimal microwave method.

The following graphs (Figure 4) were obtained using N$_2$ adsorption and desorption techniques from core-shell nanostructures of Fe$_3$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures. The BET diagram of Fe$_3$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures shows that the effective specific surface area was corresponded to the final core-shell nanostructure.
The specific surface area for the Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures was about 37,500 m²/g. The high specific surface area is an essential factor in the effectiveness of nanoparticles in catalytic reactions and biological properties. It can be related that the use of microwave method in the synthesis of these structures was an important reason for the high specific surface as well as high thermal stability of Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures.

The figure below (Figure 5) shows the FTIR spectrum of Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures synthesized by the microwave route. According to the obtained spectrum, the broad peak in the 3500 cm⁻¹ was related to water molecules and OH groups coordinated to the Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures. The absorption around the 3100 and 2900 cm⁻¹ region is related to the C-H stretching bond in the aromatic ring. The frequency in the region of about 1653 cm⁻¹ corresponds to the -COO- group present in the final structure of Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures. The peaks in the region ~1590 cm⁻¹ were due to stretching bond of C=N, C=C stretching bond appears in 1450 cm⁻¹, the peak in area 1335 cm⁻¹ for O-H bending, C-O groups appear in 1162 cm⁻¹. The peak in regions 630 cm⁻¹ was related to Fe-O (Togashi et al., 2011), and finally, the peak in region 500 cm⁻¹ was attributed to Zn-O (Raifie, 2021).

Figure 6 shows the SEM image and particle size histogram of Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures. It seems that development of the microwave method with optimal conditions has led to the production of the MOF sample with uniform morphology and high stability surface. According to the SEM and size histogram, no effect of agglomeration of particles were observed, but nanoparticles were observed in a one-dimensional form (average particle size of 24 nm) with a clear correlation which can be attributed to the use of the efficient microwave synthesis method. The evidence shows that the type of synthesis method has a significant effect on the morphology and particle size distribution. As an important result, synthesis of nanostructures with uniform size distribution and homogeneous surfaces have special applications in medical science.

The figure below (Figure 7) shows the magnetic property of Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures. The magnetic property for Fe₃O₄ MNPs 57 emu/g was reported (Shiri et al., 2018). The magnetic property of Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures 16.1 emu/g was obtained and proved that the core (Fe₃O₄) were covered with Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures as a shell. The importance of magnetic properties in the synthesized nanostructures was revealed when they were separated from the reaction medium. The magnetic property makes the catalyst easily separated by a magnet after the reaction is finished.

Based on the obtained spectral data, the structure of Figure 8 was proposed for Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures.
3.2 Antimicrobial activity of Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures

In the investigation of antimicrobial activities, Gram-negative strains including, Pseudomonas aeruginosa and Shigella dysenteriae; Gram-positive bacteria strains including, Rhodococcus equi and Streptococcus agalactiae; Fungi including, Candida albicans were used. Investigations showed that nanoparticles were effects on all Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacterial and fungal strains studied. The obtained results were given in Table 1.

Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures were effective against all study bacterial and fungal strains, and MBC values of 32–256 μg/ml were obtained. The effectiveness of Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures against Gram-positive strains was more than Gram-negative strains and fungi. The effectiveness of Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures was compared with the efficacy of commercial drugs in the market. More effectiveness of nanoparticles compared to drugs was observed. In general, the efficacy of Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures can be attributed to their high specific surface that engages with bacterial and fungal strains.

3.3 Synthesis of spiro [indoline-pyranopyrimidines] derivatives by Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures

In this study, based on Scheme 1, using Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures as magnetic nanocatalyst during the three-component reaction of malononitrile, indoline-2,3-dione derivatives, and barbituric acid or thiobarbituric acid, new spiro [indoline-pyranopyrimidines] derivatives were synthesized.

For the synthesis of spiro [indoline-pyranopyrimidines] derivatives, the optimal conditions of solvent, amount of catalyst, and temperature were studied according to Table 2 (for compound 4a).
The results of ICP showed that 0.03 g of Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures contain ×3.4710⁻³ g of zinc or 5.3 × 10⁻⁵ mol or Zn, therefore in optimal conditions, TON and TOF were obtained, 18×10⁵ and 180,000 min⁻¹, respectively.

According to Table 3, using optimal conditions studied in Table 1 (EtOH as a solvent, 0.03 mg of Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures and room temperature), 12 spiro [indoline-pyranopyrimidines] derivatives were synthesized, and derivatives 4k and 4L were novel and reported for the first time.
TABLE 2 Determination of optimal conditions in synthesis of spiro [indoline-pyranopyrimidines] derivatives.

| Product | Solvent | Catalyst (g) | Temperature (°C) | Time (min) | Yield (%) | TON | TOF (min⁻¹) |
|---------|---------|--------------|------------------|------------|-----------|-----|-------------|
| 4a      | EtOH    | 0.01         | r. t             | 30         | 81        | 45.76 × 10⁵ | 152,500     |
| 4a      | H₂O     | 0.01         | r. t             | 60         | 35        | 19.77 × 10⁵ | 32,950      |
| 4a      | H₂O:EtOH (1:1) | 0.01 | r. t             | 30         | 72        | 40.68 × 10⁵ | 135,600     |
| 4a      | MeOH    | 0.01         | r. t             | 60         | 64        | 36.16 × 10⁵ | 60,270      |
| 4a      | EtOH    | 0.02         | r. t             | 30         | 89        | 25.21 × 10⁵ | 84,030      |
| 4a      | EtOH    | 0.03         | r. t             | 10         | 97        | 18.30 × 10⁵ | 183,000     |
| 4a      | EtOH    | 0.04         | r. t             | 10         | 94        | 13.30 × 10⁵ | 133,000     |
| 4a      | EtOH    | 0.05         | r. t             | 10         | 88        | 9.97 × 10⁵  | 99,700      |
| 4a      | EtOH    | 0.03         | 40               | 10         | 90        | 16.98 × 10⁵ | 169,800     |
| 4a      | EtOH    | 0.03         | 50               | 10         | 83        | 15.66 × 10⁵ | 156,600     |
TABLE 3 Synthesized derivatives of spiro [indoline-pyranopyrimidines] derivatives (4a-l) by Fe$_3$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures.

| Product | Structure | Time (min) | Yield (%) | TON (min$^{-1}$) | TOF (min$^{-1}$) | M.p. (°C) Found | Reported |
|---------|-----------|------------|-----------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------|
| 10      | ![Structure](image) | 10         | 97        | 18.30 × 105     | 183,000         | 272–275       | 275 (Keshavarz and Farahi, 2022) |
| b       | ![Structure](image) | 12         | 96        | 18.11 × 105     | 150,900         | 241–242       | 240–242 (Azimi and Lasemi, 2022) |
| 4c      | ![Structure](image) | 12         | 91        | 17.17 × 105     | 143,080         | 235–237       | 235 (Joshi et al., 1988) |
| 4d      | ![Structure](image) | 15         | 92        | 17.36 × 105     | 115,730         | 255–256       | 252–254 (Keshavarz, 2016) |
| 4e      | ![Structure](image) | 13         | 94        | 17.74 × 105     | 136,460         | 241–244       | 242–245 (Dadaei and Naeimi, 2021) |

(Continued on following page)
TABLE 3 (Continued) Synthesized derivatives of spiro [indoline-pyranopyrimidines] derivatives (4a-l) by Fe$_3$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures.

| Product | Time (min) | Yield (%) | TON (min$^{-1}$) | TOF (min$^{-1}$) | M.p. (°C) | Found | Reported |
|---------|------------|-----------|------------------|------------------|------------|--------|----------|
|         |            |           |                  |                  |            |        | (Dadaei and Naeimi, 2021) |
| 4f      | 13         | 93        | 17.55 $\times$ 105 | 135,000          | 231-232    | 228–230 | (Dadaei and Naeimi, 2021) |
|         |            |           |                  |                  |            |        | (Bodaghifard and Mousavi, 2020) |
| 4g      | 15         | 90        | 16.98 $\times$ 105 | 113,200          | 262–264    | 263–265 | (Bodaghifard and Mousavi, 2020) |
| 4h      | 15         | 92        | 17.35 $\times$ 105 | 115,600          | 240–243    | 243–245 | (Bodaghifard and Mousavi, 2020) |
| 4i      | 14         | 94        | 17.74 $\times$ 105 | 126,700          | 285–287    | 288–289 | (Keshavarz, 2016) |

(Continued on following page)
TABLE 3 (Continued) Synthesized derivatives of spiro [indoline-pyranopyrimidines] derivatives (4a-l) by Fe$_3$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures.

| Product | Structure | Time (min) | Yield (%) | TON (min$^{-1}$) | TOF (min$^{-1}$) | M.p. (°C) |
|---------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------------|------------------|------------|
|         |           |            |           |                  |                  |            |
|         | 4j        | 15         | 95        | 17.92 × 105      | 119,460          | 249–252    |
|         | 4k        | 17         | 89        | 16.79 × 105      | 98,760           | 279–280    |
|         | 4l        | 20         | 85        | 16.04 × 105      | 80,200           | 286–288    |

(Continued on following page)
The proposed mechanism for synthesizing spiro [indoline-pyranopyrimidines] derivatives using Fe$\textsubscript{3}$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures as a magnetic nano-catalyst was given in Scheme 1.

There have been several reports of the three-component reaction of malononitrile, indoline-2,3-dione derivatives, and barbituric acid or thiobarbituric acid for the synthesis of spiro [indoline-pyranopyrimidines] derivatives.

Some of them that were reported recently, were listed in Table 4 and compared with this study.

The comparison between the results proves that the catalyst of this study has better conditions for the synthesis of derivatives and high efficiency, and less time was its advantages.

Magnetic Fe$\textsubscript{3}$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures showed significant recycling properties. The Fe$\textsubscript{3}$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures, after acting as a catalyst, were collected by a magnet, and washed several times with water and ethanol then reused in the reaction. The results of Figure 9 showed that Fe$\textsubscript{3}$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures could be reused up to 5 times.

A hot filtration test was done based on previous reports, and no enhancement in conversion was noticed in the filtrate (Babaei and Mirjalili, 2020). Characterization data such as SEM, XRD, and VSM from catalyst after recycling was done, and it was confirmed that the structure of the Fe$\textsubscript{3}$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures was the same as before recycling (Figure 10).

### Table 3 (Continued) Synthesized derivatives of spiro [indoline-pyranopyrimidines] derivatives (4a-l) by Fe$\textsubscript{3}$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures.

| Product Structure | Time (min) | Yield (%) | TON (min$^{-1}$) | TOF (min$^{-1}$) | M.p. (°C) |
|-------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------|
|                   |           |           |                 |                 |           |

### Table 4 Reported methods for the synthesis of compound 4a.

| Entry | Catalyst | Time (min) | Temperature (°C)/Condition | Yield (%) |
|-------|----------|------------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| 1     | Silica-supported organocatalyst | 60 | 80 | (Khalafireza et al., 2013) 98 |
| 2     | Glutathione functionalized Fe$\textsubscript{3}$O$_4$ nanoparticles | 15 | 80 | (Jamatia et al., 2016) 97 |
| 3     | Tin dioxide in ethanol | 90 | 20 | (Moradi et al., 2019) 96 |
| 4     | CH$_\textsubscript{2}$NH$\textsubscript{2}$C$_\textsubscript{3}$H$_\textsubscript{3}$H$\textsubscript{3}$NO$_2$ | 10 | 20 | (Nagaraju et al., 2017) 95 |
| 5     | Pyridine-2,3-dicarboxylic acid | 6 | 70 | (Ouali et al., 2019) 95 |
| 6     | Zinc (II) immobilized on poly (urea formaldehyde)-functionalized silica-coated CoFe$_2$O$_4$ | 30 | Reflux (water) | (Bodaghifard and Mousavi, 2020) 91 |
| 7     | 1-Amino-2-naphthol-4-sulfonic acid supported on magnetic nano-CoFe$_2$O$_4$ nanocatalyst | 10 | 40 | (Faroughi Niya et al., 2021) 89 |
| 8     | Fe$\textsubscript{3}$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures (this work) | 10 | r.t | | 97 |
**FIGURE 9**

Fe$_3$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures reusability in the synthesis of compound 4a.

**FIGURE 10**

SEM (I), XRD (II), and VSM (III) of Fe$_3$O$_4$/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures reusability in the synthesis of compound 4a.
4 Conclusion

In short, in this research, new Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures were synthesized using the microwave method and characterization of their structure. It seems that the microwave irradiation synthesis route has a significant effect on the particle size distribution, and morphology, increased specific surface area, and heat stability of samples. In fact, this efficient route can produce samples in a short time with uniform morphology. The effect of the microwave synthesis routes on the morphology and particle-sized distribution is in compared with previous studies.

The high specific surface area of the synthesized nanoparticles made it have high catalytic properties and novel spiro [indoline-pyranopyrimidines] derivatives synthesized at 10–20 min with an efficiency of over 85% were synthesized.

Another advantage of the specific surface area of Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures was its high antimicrobial properties. In antimicrobial activity on Gram-positive and Gram-negative bacterial strains, MIC values between 16–128 μg/ml, and for fungal strain, MIC value of 128 μg/ml were observed. The results obtained on antibacterial and antifungal activity proved that Fe₃O₄/Zn-metal organic framework magnetic nanostructures, in some cases, had more effective than commercial drugs.

Data availability statement

The original contributions presented in the study are included in the article/Supplementary Material, further inquiries can be directed to the corresponding author.

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Author contributions

All authors listed have made a substantial, direct, and intellectual contribution to the work and approved it for publication.

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Conflict of interest

The authors declare that the research was conducted in the absence of any commercial or financial relationships that could be construed as a potential conflict of interest.

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Supplementary material

The Supplementary Material for this article can be found online at: https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fchem.2022.1014731/full#supplementary-material
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