

# **Ruthenium silicate (RS‑1) zeolite: novel heterogeneous**  efficient catalyst for synthesis of 2-arylbenzothiazole **derivatives**

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# **Abstract**

Mesoporous silicate and transition metal  $(Ru^{+3})$  containing mesoporous silicate materials or ruthenium silicate  $Ru^{+3}/Si^{+4}$  where synthesis by using hydrothermal process. Mesoporous ruthenium silicate (RS-1) and zeolite catalyst have been successfully synthesized with variable molar ratio such as (a) Ru:Si 1:100, (b) Ru:Si 1:150, (c) Ru:Si 1:200. The elemental composition, structural morphology, crystal phase and properties and various parameters of the catalyst were examined by Fourier transform infrared spectroscopy, scanning electron microscopy, powder X-ray difraction. Energy dispersive X-ray pattern/spectroscopy analysis EDX/EDS, where as the activity of obtained catalysts was tested in the Willgerodt–Kindler synthesis between 2-aminothiophenol and substituted aryl aldehyde (1:1 mol) to form a 2-arylbenzothiazole. The novelty of the presented work was the ruthenium  $(Ru^{+3})$ metal impregnations in silicate framework for the synthesis of novel ruthenium silicate (RS-1) zeolite as a catalyst and the investigation of the various parameters, role, its stability and catalytic activity in the Willgerodt–Kindler (combined both Knovenagel and Maichel addition reaction) synthesis. The developed protocol has several benefts such as short reaction time, mild reaction condition, and good reusability of catalyst.

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#### **Graphic abstract**



**Keywords** Ruthenium silicate (RS-1) · Zeolite catalyst · Willgerodt–kindler · Benzothiazole · Synthesis · Metal insertion

## **Introduction**

Zeolite materials are used as a versatile catalyst in various organic transformations over metal oxide catalyst  $[1, 2]$  $[1, 2]$  $[1, 2]$  $[1, 2]$  $[1, 2]$ . The incorporation of metal ion into silicate framework has been review on recent report it gives ZSM-5-type structural morphology and MFI topology  $[1-5]$  $[1-5]$ . Transition metal containing zeolite catalyst material shows good catalytic activity over a long range of temperatures and more resistant to thermal path. After completion of reaction remains as it, without loss their catalytic activity, so we call them reusable catalyst. The transition metal ruthenium Ru(III) shows the good catalytic activities in various catalytic processes, such as metal hydride transfer reaction, i.e., hydrogenation reactions [[6,](#page-13-3) [7](#page-13-4)] provide a widely used alternative to direct hydrogenation reactions [[8,](#page-13-5) [9\]](#page-13-6), used as coupling agents, presence of alcohols for alkylation  $[10-13]$  $[10-13]$ , as well as oxidation–reduction reaction  $[14]$ , [15](#page-13-10)]. Ruthenium metal containing catalyst also used in cross-aldol condensation reaction in hormone steroid diastereoselective, direct aldol reactions [[16,](#page-13-11) [17](#page-13-12)], syntheses of enantiomeric pure pyrrolidine derivatives under very mild condition and Lewis acid assisted ring-closing olefn metathesis (RCM) reaction [\[18](#page-13-13)]. In C–H activation [\[19](#page-13-14)], stereo-pure functionalized asymmetric transfer hydrogenation [\[20](#page-13-15)], ruthenium

metal (Ru) containing catalyst use in many more number of organic transformation reaction [[21\]](#page-13-16). Here, we are reporting frst time to prepare ruthenium silicate (RS-1) catalyst and used as catalyst for the synthesis of 2-arylbenzothiazole derivative.

Benzothiazole, it consists of fve member thiazole-fused ring with benzene ring or substituted aryl benzene. In the1950s, 2-aminobenzothiazoles frst synthesized and was intensively studied as central muscle relaxants; antitumor, anticancer agents, benzoxazole and benzothiazoles are fuorescent used in DNA intercalators for studying Alzheimer  $A\beta_{1-4}$  and prion amyloid peptides, also used in dyes such as thiofavin. Benzothiazole, in its presence of unique active methyne center, to give a thermally stable compound, in general two and six positions are more active and shows chemotherapeutic activities [\[22](#page-13-17)[–27](#page-13-18)] Fig. [1.](#page-2-0)

Recently, a researcher has much interest in the synthesis and development of heterocyclic compound containing such as 1, 3-thiazole/oxazole molecular functionality. In the heterocyclic/polycyclic compound containing nitrogen, sulfur and oxygen atom (S, N, and O atom), grant as a unique and versatile scafold for experimental drug design. They are showing varies activities and have attractive chemical properties, diverse biological, pharmaceutical applications [[28\]](#page-13-19) such as antimicrobial [\[29](#page-13-20)], antidibitic, anticonvulsant, anti-infammatory, antihypertensive, antitubercular DprE1 inhibitors, antioxidant, antimicrobial and cytotoxic activities, imaging agents for  $Ca^{2+}$  channel antagonist [\[30](#page-13-21)[–38](#page-13-22)] and used as an dopants in light emitting organic electro-luminescent devices [\[39](#page-13-23)]. Similarly, also exhibit luminescent and fuorescent properties and therefore they use in designing sensor molecules of specifc interest [[40,](#page-13-24) [41\]](#page-13-25). A lot of methods have been reported for synthesis of benzothiazoles, including some of them are cericammonium nitrate (CAN),  $Sc(OTf)_{3}$ ,  $H_{2}O_{2}/c$ ericammonium,  $H_2O_2/HC$ , bakers' yeast, I<sub>2</sub>, HClO<sub>4</sub>/polyaniline [[42–](#page-13-26)[45\]](#page-14-0) and some are silica containing catalyst also use, Pd catalyst through C-H activation, lithium bromide (LiBr), Cu (OAc)<sub>2</sub>/MCM-41, silica gel, montmorillonite K-10, Cu<sub>3/2</sub>PMo<sub>12</sub>O<sub>40</sub>/  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$  [[46–](#page-14-1)[51\]](#page-14-2). These methods are quite efficient, however most of the catalysts are corrosive, toxic, difcult to separation, and some reaction provide low yields and require long reaction times or use of hazardous and volatile organic solvents  $(CHCl<sub>3</sub>$ ,  $CH<sub>3</sub>CN$ , benzene, toluene), and catalyst is not reusable. To the overcome mentioned above limitation, we have developed new sustainable cost-efective methods. Here, we are frstly reported, new solid acid catalyst ruthenium silicate (RS-1) and used in synthesis benzothiazoles synthesis.



<span id="page-2-0"></span>**Fig. 1** Benzothiazole consists of active sites of 2 and 6 position methyne center

# **Experimental**

## **Synthesis of series on ruthenium silicate (RS‑1) by hydrothermal method**

Ruthenium silicate (RS-1) zeolite was prepared by hydrothermal method from using universal solvent, ruthenium trichloride  $(RuCl<sub>3</sub>)$  and tetraethyl orthosilicate (TEOS). A solution of tetraethyl orthosilicate (20.83 mL) and tetrapropyl ammoniumhydroxide (TPA-OH) (20 mL, 20%) was added drop wise with vigorous stirring, resulting mixture was stirred for 10 min at room temperature to obtain silica sol. Ruthenium trichloride (RuCl<sub>3</sub>) (0.2614 gm) was mixed with 30 mL of dry isopropyl alcohol and stirred vigorously for 10 min, resulting mixture was added drop wise in silica sol with constant stirring at 70–75  $\degree$ C for 120 min. The pH was maintained alkaline by adding TPAOH and deionized water as a solvent. The viscous gel was formed that was transferred in Tefon-lined stainless steel autoclave treated hydrothermally under a static condition for 24 h. A solid product was fltered and dried in an oven at 100 °C for 1 h. Finally, dried product was calcined in muffle furnace at 500  $\degree$ C for 4 h under air atmosphere. The resulting material was naturally cooled, characterized and named as RS-1 zeolite. Similarly, a series of RS-1 catalyst was prepared by above same procedure with diferent lording Ru/ Si molar ratio it shows in Table [1.](#page-3-0)

#### **General procedure for synthesis of 2‑arylbenzothiazoles**

To the synthesis of 2-arylbenzothiazoles 3 (a-i) from a mixture of 2-aminothiophenol (0.001 mol), benzaldehydes (0.001 mol) and catalytic amount of (0.04 gm) RS-1 under solvent free conditions was refluxed at 90 °C for the prescribed time. The reaction progress was monitored by TLC (ethyl acetate:  $PET$  ether=3:7 as eluent), after completion of the reaction, the product and catalyst were separated by simple fltration, and catalyst was easily separated from the reaction mixture. Finally, crude product obtained was crystallized from ethanol to afford desired pure product. The representative compound was characterized by  $FTIR^{-1}H$ ,  $^{13}C$ NMR and HRMS.

<span id="page-3-0"></span>

## **Results and discussion**

#### **X‑ray difraction study**

The powder X-ray diffraction pattern of pure  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$  and series of RS-1 catalysts calcined at 500  $\degree$ C for 5 h in the presence of air are shown in Fig. [2,](#page-4-0) respectively. The X-ray diffraction patterns of the pure  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$  sample as compare with RS-1 consists of broad difraction pattern because it is amorphous in nature. The Ru/Si ratio 1: 100 of RS-1 sample exhibit highly intense and sharp peak due to it is crystalline in nature. As per results from powder XRD, only pure silicate and ruthenium metal silicate (RS-1) samples difer very much indicating incorporation of Ru(III) in SiO<sub>2</sub> to form RuO<sub>2</sub>-SiO<sub>2</sub> metal containing ruthenium silicate (RS-1). The study of XRD patterns shows, an interesting observation that the pure  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$  sample amorphous structure of  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$  shown in Fig. 2a exhibits diffraction pattern of Fig. [2](#page-4-0)b due to the formation of uniform hexagonal long rods shapes of RuO<sub>2</sub>-SiO<sub>2</sub> framework, the broad peaks were obtained at  $2\theta = 21.74^{\circ}$ corresponding to the planes (100) indicates the amorphous structure of  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$ shown in Fig. [2a](#page-4-0) In the XRD pattern of series, RS-1 shows highly intense peaks at  $2\theta = 8.134^{\circ}$ ,  $23.286^{\circ}$ ,  $24.138^{\circ}$ ,  $24.776^{\circ}$  and corresponding to the planes (101), (332), (033), (313), etc., shown in Fig. [2](#page-4-0)b. It indicates the orthorhombic structure of RS-1. XRD pattern matches with stimulation data with calcined ZSM-5 structure and MFI topology of synthesized RS-1 zeolite [[52–](#page-14-3)[56](#page-14-4)]. While on the other



<span id="page-4-0"></span>**Fig. 2** XRD pattern of **a** pure SiO2, **b** RS-1 (Ru/Si 1:100), **c** RS-1 (Ru/Si 1:150), **d** RS-1 (Ru/Si 1:200) calcined at 500 °C

hand, Ru/Si increasing ratio of ruthenium (Ru) metal in synthesis of RS-1 zeolite similar spectrum observed. It would be conclude that the RS-1 successfully synthesis with various ratio shown in Fig. [3](#page-5-0).

## **FT‑IR analysis**

Fig. [4a](#page-6-0) shows the FT-IR spectrum of the synthesized pure  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$  material. The absorption band at 3400 cm<sup>-1</sup> is due to the Si–OH stretching vibration, 2337 cm<sup>-1</sup> for glass  $SiO_2$ , 1527 cm<sup>-1</sup> for the Si–OH bending mode, 1095 cm<sup>-1</sup> for Si–O stretching vibration and 802 cm<sup>-1</sup> due to the Si–O-Si bending vibration mode [\[52–](#page-14-3)[56](#page-14-4)]. Figure [4b](#page-6-0), c show the FT-IR spectrum of RS-1, Ru/Si 1:100 before and after calcined at 500 °C. Materials having absorption band at 3430 cm<sup>-1</sup> which is due to the Ru-OH/Si–OH stretching vibration. Having absorption band at  $3455$  cm<sup>-1</sup> may be due to the stretching vibration of Si–OH–Si or Si–OH–Ru the strong absorption band at  $544/548$  cm<sup>-1</sup> is due to the anti-symmetric Ru–O–Ru/ Ru–O–Si vibrational mode of RS-1. 1656/1636 cm−1 due to the Si–OH bending mode, the broad band at 900 to 1076 cm<sup>-1</sup> is due to stretching vibration of Ru–O–Si band and 1101 cm<sup>-1</sup> for Si–O stretching vibration at 795 cm<sup>-1</sup> due to the Si–O–Si bending vibrational mode [[57](#page-14-5)–[63\]](#page-14-6). In all MFI cases, showing separate IR absorbance bands near 1076 cm−1 (internal asymmetric stretch), 795 cm−1 (external symmetric stretch) and similarly, 544 cm−1 (double ring vibration) and 441 cm<sup>-1</sup> (T–O bending vibration), if the absorption bands near at 550 cm<sup>-1</sup> have been assigned to the presence of double 5-membered rings (D5R) [[64\]](#page-14-7). In this synthesis increase Ru/Si ratio 1:150, 1:200, it gives similar spectrum of above RS-1 Ru/Si 1:100 no more diference is observed, then we have concluded the transition metal Ru(III) successfully introduce in the silicate framework and conform a formation of RS-1 Zeolite with MFI topology.

From the above FTIR, data of  $Ru^{3+}$  metal ion inserted in silicate to form and confirm structure of RS-1 (a) Ru:Si 1:100 (b) Ru:Si 1:150 (c) Ru:Si 1:200 used to predict the plausible structure by referencing their IR frequency shown in Fig. [5](#page-6-1).



<span id="page-5-0"></span>**Fig. 3** Reaction, structure and framework of RS-1 zeolite



<span id="page-6-0"></span>**Fig.** 4 FTIR spectrum of **a** pure  $SiO_2$  **b** RS-1 Ru/Si 1:100 non-calcined and **c** calcined at 500 <sup>o</sup>C



<span id="page-6-1"></span>**Fig. 5** Plausible structure and framework of RS-1 zeolite

#### **SEM–EDS analysis**

The SEM produces artifcial 3-dimensional point by point reconstruction of the sample from a signal emitted when the electron beam interacts with the specimen. When the electron beam interacts with the sample, several types of signals are produced. The basic two signals are electron and electromagnetic radiation. If SEM is operated to produce an image using back scattered electrons, it should be noted that resolution is considerably reduced in back scattered mode of operation, because back scattered electrons are generated in a large volume of sample (1–3 nm deep). In this study, it is necessary to consider not only intrinsic instrument resolution, but also interaction of the incident electron beam and the sample. SEM and EDS measurements were carried out to investigate the detailed morphology, surface roughness and structure of the nanoparticles along with element detection.

Figure [6a](#page-7-0) shows the flakes like structure of  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$ , and Fig. [6](#page-7-0)b indicates the surface morphology of RS-1 shows uniform hexagonal long rods shapes and clearly indicates introduce transition  $Ru(III)$  in  $SiO<sub>2</sub>$  Silicate material and formation of orthorhombic RS-1 as zeolite catalyst. Figure [6](#page-7-0)c and d show same structure of similar synthesis or RS-1 increasing ratio. No more structural changes of framework change in increasing lording Ru/Si ratio [\[65](#page-14-8), [66](#page-14-9)]. (Scheme [1\)](#page-8-0).

SEM and EDS measurements were carried out to investigate the detailed morphology, in order to study the surface morphology and structural properties of

<span id="page-7-0"></span>

**Fig. 6** SEM image of **a** SiO2, **b** RS-1 Ru/Si 1:100, **c** RS-1 Ru/Si 1:150, **d** RS-1 Ru/Si 1:200 calcined at 500 °C



<span id="page-8-0"></span>**Scheme 1** Synthesis of RS-1 zeolite catalyst and catalytic activity tested in synthesis of Aryl 2-arylbenzothiazole

synthesized catalyst RS-1 materials along with elements detection. SEM images show uniform hexagonal long rods shapes and orthorhombic crystals, which is characteristic morphology of RS-1 type zeolites. The elemental composition of RS-1 is shown in Fig. [7](#page-8-1) which confirm the presence Ru, Si and O, (atom  $\%$ ), respectively (Table [2](#page-8-2)), and Ru, Si and O peaks can be obviously found in the spectrum which indicate that the RS-1 zeolite is successfully prepared with corresponding empirical formula  $Ru_1 Si_{181} O_{459}$ .



<span id="page-8-1"></span>**Fig. 7** EDS spectrum of RS-1 (1:100) calcined at 500 °C

<span id="page-8-2"></span>**Table 2** EDS mass and atom of RS-1(1:100) calcined at 500 $\degree$ C



<span id="page-9-0"></span>

a Isolated yields

<span id="page-9-1"></span>

a Isolated yields

#### **Catalytic activity results**

Synthesized solid acid catalyst ruthenium silicate (RS-1) (Ru/Si, 1:100) zeolite used in synthesis of aryl benzothiazole by using 2-aminothiophenol (1 mmol) and substituted aryl aldehyde (1 mmol), in the presence of RS-1 catalyst (0.04 g) refux at 90  $\degree$ C under solvent free condition in modal reaction (3a) and optimize the reaction conditions. We are evaluated the effect of dissimilar solvents such as  $CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>$ , EtOH,  $H<sub>2</sub>O$ , MeCN, DMF and solvent free condition on the reaction rate under the same reaction conditions, solvent free reaction aforded the products in higher yield and shorter reaction time (Table [3\)](#page-9-0). Amount of catalyst also optimized, the 0.04 g calyst gives 93% the highest yield. In this study, the efect of diferent catalysts is investigated and shown in (Table [4](#page-9-1)), but in titanium chloride and  $FeCl<sub>3</sub>$  catalyst was employed, the corresponding product yield was obtained 70% and 65%, respectively (Table [4](#page-9-1), entry 2 and 3). However, when RS-1 zeolite catalyst was employed, the corresponding product gives the highest yield 93% (model reaction 3a). We have found that RS-1 as a better catalyst with respective to reaction time and good yield of obtained products.

In next steps, we have investigated the amounts of RS-1 catalyst (10, 20, 30, 40, 50, mg). The optimum yield of the substituted aryl benzothiazole was obtained, when 0.04 gm of RS-1 zeolite catalyst was used Table [5](#page-10-0). Therefore, in an optimized reaction condition, 2-aminothiophenol (0.001 mol), aryl benzaldehydes (0.001 mol),

<span id="page-10-0"></span>

a Isolated yields

wt. of RS-1catalyst (0.04 g, Ru/Si, 1:100), refuxed in solvent free for completion of reaction time (10–13 min) product/ derivatives are shown in Table [6](#page-10-1).

In general study of this over all process, several examples illustrating this method, in the synthesis of those polyfunctionalized aryl benzothiazole were studied, and results are summarized in Table [6.](#page-10-1) The effect of different substituent's on the aromatic aldehyde ring did show expected strong efects in terms

Entry	Product structure	$R_1$	Yield $(\%)^a$	M.P (°C)	
				Found	Lit [23, 39]
3a		$4-C1$	$93(92, 92, 91.8)^b$	$115 - 116$	114-116
3 <sub>b</sub>		$\, {\rm H}$	93	114-115	$111 - 113$
3c		$2-C1$	91	$82 - 84$	$81 - 82$
3d	OMe	4-OMe	91	$122 - 124$	119-121
3e		4-Me	92	88-89	86-89
3f	HO	$2-OH$	90	130-132	131-132
3g	-OH	$4-OH$	91	227-229	230-234
3 <sub>h</sub>	NO <sub>2</sub>	$4-NO2$	93	329-230	230-131
3i	OMe HO	$2-OH$ 4-ome	85	130-132	

<span id="page-10-1"></span>**Table 6** Synthesis of aryl benzothiazole derivatives using RS-1 catalyst

Reaction Condition 2-aminothiophenol (0.001 mol), aryl benzaldehydes (0.001 mol), wt of RS-1catalyst (0.04 gm, Ru/Si 1:100), refuxed in solvent free;

<sup>a</sup>Yield after consecutive cycles, <sup>b</sup>Isolated yields.

of yields as well as completion of reaction time under these reaction conditions. Substituted aryl aldehyde containing electron-withdrawing groups  $(NO<sub>2</sub>$  and Cl) or electron-donating groups (OMe, OH groups) was employed and they were found to react well to give the corresponding aryl benzothiazoles derivatives in good to excellent yields. Aromatic aldehydes having electron-withdrawing groups on the aromatic ring (Table [6](#page-10-1), entries 3a, h) react faster than electron-donating groups (Table [6,](#page-10-1) entry 3d, g). Schematic plausible reaction mechanism of aryl benzothiazole derivatives is shown in Fig. [8](#page-11-0)

We also examined the recycling performance of RS-1 catalyst and investigated by using a 3a model reaction. After the catalyst separation, before use catalyst needs to the activation, the catalyst was washed with polar solvent for two to three times and dried at 120  $\degree$ C for 10 min and then used directly with fresh substrates under identical conditions with no further purifcation. It was shown that, the catalyst could be used for three times runs without loss of the product yield as well as its catalytic performance shown in Fig. [9.](#page-12-0) The catalyst having easy recycling performance is also an attractive property for the ecological protection and fnancial reasons.

#### **Spectral data of representative compound:**

2-(benzo[d]thiazol-2-yl)-5-methoxyphenol (3i); <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>)  $\delta$ (ppm):12.7 (S,1H, Ar-OH), 8–6.8(m, 7H, Ar-H), 3.9 (t, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>) IR (KBr):



<span id="page-11-0"></span>**Fig. 8** Schematic plausible reaction mechanism of aryl benzothiazole derivatives



<span id="page-12-0"></span>**Fig. 9** Reusability test of RS-1 for the synthesis of 3i

2970, 2991, 2678, 1672, 1594,1508, 1328, 1234, 1091., 986, 707; <sup>13</sup>C NMR (50 MHz, CDCl3) *δ*(ppm): 169, 151, 159, 148, 132, 126, 125, 122, 121, 120, 119, 116, 114, 56, HR-MS: *m/z* 258.0467.181 (M+1).

## **Conclusion**

In summary, during the synthesis, crystal growth and grain size of resulting zeolite RS-1 catalyst, estimated ratio signifcantly not afected with same time period. Where found no more efected on crystal growth and uniform look like long rods shape but XRD, SEM and EDX analysis technique helps to actual structure analysis. Synthesized ruthenium silicate (RS-1) has given as uniform hexagonal long rods shapes, highly crystalline morphology with similar structural morphology is as ZSM-5-type and MFI topology. Hence, we have successfully synthesis, a strong heterogeneous, Lewis acid, solid acid RS-1 catalyst and applied in Lewis acid catalyzed reactions. On the other hand, we have developed a new straight forward and efficient methodology for the preparation of 2-arylbenzothiazole and its derivatives via ruthenium silicate (RS-1) catalyst in solvent free condition. The RS-1 catalyst is high thermal stability and reusability without any noticeable loss of reactivity. The mild reaction conditions and simplicity of the procedure ofers several advantages such as shorter reaction time, simple experimental procedure, high yield and catalyst can be recycled and reused.

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