

CARBON-CARBON BOND FORMATION USING MANGANESE(III) ACETATE
AS AN ELECTROCHEMICAL MEDIATOR

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(Received in USA 24 August 1990)

Abstract:

Anodic oxidation in a solution containing a variety of olefins and a small amount of $Mn(OAc)_2 \cdot 4H_2O$ brought about Mn^{+3} -mediated carbon-carbon bond formation, such as efficient carboxymethylation of styrene derivatives to the corresponding γ -aryl- γ -butyrolactones, and selective coupling of active methylene compounds with non-activated monoolefins, unconjugated dienes or 5-arylpent-1-enes.

Introduction

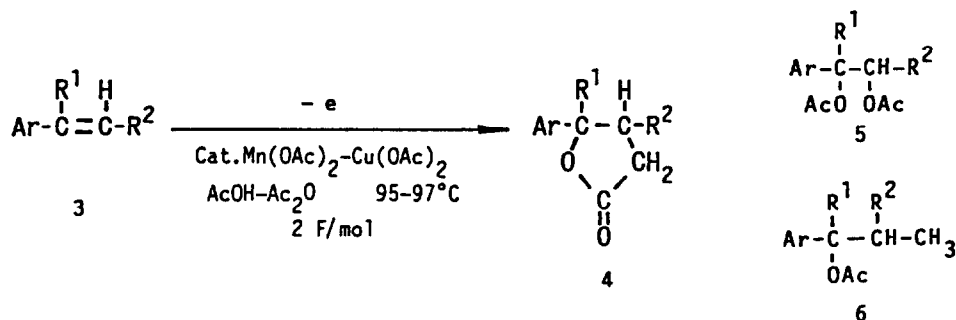
In spite of high potentiality²⁾ of $Mn(OAc)_3 \cdot 2H_2O$ (1) for oxidative carbon-carbon bond formation, practical usefulness of Mn^{+3} -promoted oxidation in organic synthesis has been considerably limited because of instability³⁾ of the manganese (III) salt 1, employment of at least 2 equivalent moles (based on substrates) of the salt 1 having a rather high molecular weight relative to those of substrates or products, and troublesome treatment of the resulting large amount of $Mn(OAc)_2 \cdot 4H_2O$ (2).

In this study, we wish to demonstrate that anodic oxidation in a solution containing a variety of olefins and a small amount of $Mn(OAc)_2 \cdot 4H_2O$ (2) brought about selective and efficient Mn^{+3} -mediated carbon-carbon bond formation, which may be characterized by no need for use of the unstable Mn^{+3} -salt 1 and for treatment of the resulting stable Mn^{+2} -salt 2, better yield, employment of only small amounts of easily available Mn^{+2} -salt (2) (1/10-1/3 equivalent moles based on a substrate), electrochemically oxidized to the active Mn^{+3} species in situ.

Results and Discussion

1. Carboxymethylation of Styrene Derivatives to γ -Aryl- γ -lactones

Mn^{3+} -mediated electrooxidation in a mixed solvent of glacial acetic acid and acetic anhydride containing styrene derivatives(3) and a small amount of 2 was found to result in efficient carboxymethylation to give the corresponding γ -aryl- γ -lactones (4) as the main products in good yields, accompanying small amounts of 1-aryl-2,3-diacetoxyethane(5) and 1-acetoxyarylpropanes(6) as by-products.



The electrolysis was generally carried out at 95-97°C with magnetic stirring under constant current conditions in a beaker-type of divided cell equipped with carbon rods as anode and cathode, and a ceramic cylinder as a diaphragm. The yields of the products 4, 5 and 6 were

Table 1. Carboxymethylation of Styrene Derivatives by Mn^{3+} -Mediated Electrooxidation^{a)}

Ar	Styrene Derivative			C.E.(%) ^{b)} of the products		
	R ¹	R ²		4	5	6
C ₆ H ₅	H	H	(3a)	80 (75) ^{c)}	8	_d)
C ₆ H ₅	CH ₃	H	(3b)	75 (74) ^{c)}	_d)	_d)
C ₆ H ₅	H	C ₆ H ₅	(3c)	61 (16) ^{c)}	3	_d)
p-ClC ₆ H ₄	H	H	(3d)	58	16	5
p-CH ₃ C ₆ H ₄	H	H	(3e)	81	7	_d)
C ₆ H ₅	H	COEt	(3f)	84 (45) ^{c)}	_d)	_d)
C ₆ H ₅	H	CH ₂ OH	(3g)	78	_d)	_d)
C ₆ H ₅	H	-CH ₂ -	(3h)	63	23	_d)

a) The electrolysis was carried out in a mixed solvent of AcOH(50ml) and Ac₂O(25ml) containing an olefin(90mmol), Mn(OAc)₂·4H₂O(5.8mmol), Cu(OAc)₂·H₂O(2.2mmol), and AcONa(61mmol). b) Current yield. Current yield was obtained when 36mF of electricity(a theoretical amount(2.0 F/mol) for 18 mmol of a starting olefin) was passed. c) Reported yield of the conventional method³⁾ based on the Mn³⁺ salt 1 d) Non-detected.

considerably dependent upon current density, nature and amount of additives and supporting electrolytes. It was found that relatively low current density, use of sodium acetate as a supporting electrolyte, and presence of a catalytic amount of cupric acetate in addition of manganese (II) diacetate were requisite for effective formation of the desired product 4 in this anodic reaction.

Efficient carboxymethylation was similarly found for a variety of styrene derivatives 3a-g under the standard conditions, as shown in Table 1.⁴⁾ The numbers in the parentheses of Table 1 show the reported yields of the product 4 based on $\text{Mn}(\text{OAc})_3 \cdot 2\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (1) used, indicating some superiority of the present electrochemical oxidation to the conventional methods⁵⁾ using a stoichiometric amount of the Mn^{+3} -salt 1, especially in the reaction of stilbene 3c and ethyl cinnamate 3f.

2. Selective Carbon-Carbon Bond Formation between Non-Activated Olefins and Active Methylene Compounds by Mn^{+3} -Mediated Electrooxidation⁶⁾

Recently some examples⁷⁾ have been reported for the coupling of non-activated olefins(7) with active methylene compounds in contrast with much usefulness of the base-catalyzed addition of those compounds to activated olefins.⁸⁾

In this study, Mn^{+3} -mediated oxidative coupling of various non-activated olefins(7) with active methylene compounds such as acetoacetate(8), ethyl cyanoacetate(9), and diethyl malonate(10) has been developed by indirect anodic oxidation using a small amount of stable and easily available $\text{Mn}(\text{OAc})_2 \cdot 4\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2). For example, ethyl 2-alkyl cyanoacetates(11) were obtained as the sole products from electrooxidation of the mixture of simple olefins(7) and 9 in the mixed solvent of acetic acid and ethyl acetate containing 0.2 equivalent mole of the Mn^{+2} -salt 2 and sodium acetate as a supporting electrolyte at 40°C using a divided electrolysis cell equipped with a ceramic cylinder as a diaphragm and carbon rods as anode and cathode, until 2.0 F/mol of electricity passed through the system(condition A). It may be noteworthy that the addition of a catalytic amount of $\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ under the same reaction conditions brought about dramatic change in the formation of the product to give the corresponding ethyl α -allylic cyanoacetate(12) selectively(condition B).

Table 2 shows the results on highly selective formation of either the saturated or unsaturated coupling products, 11 or 12, depending upon the presence of $\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$, between a variety of non-activated olefins(7) and ethyl cyanoacetate(9) by the present Mn^{3+} -mediated indirect anodic oxidation.

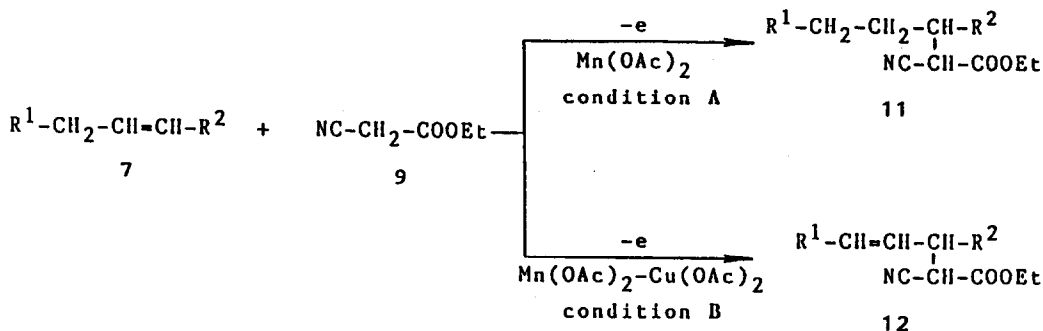
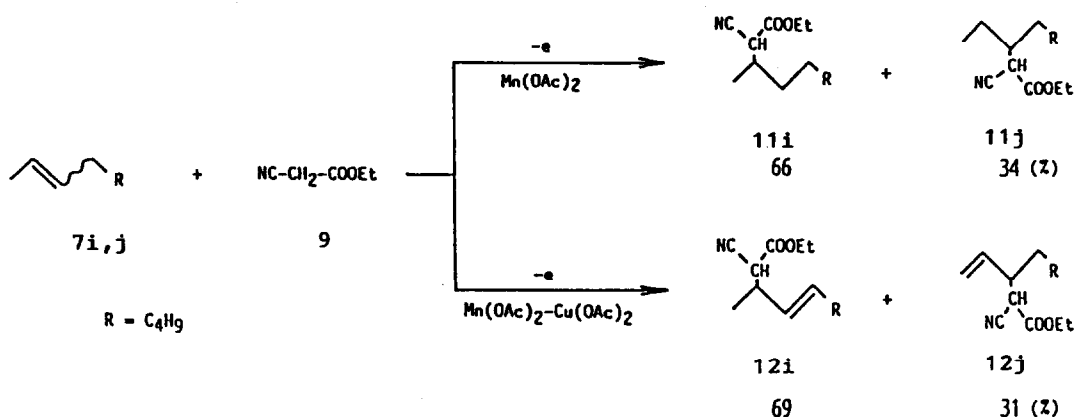


Table 2. Mn^{3+} -Mediated Anodic Coupling of Non-activated Olefins 11a-h with Ethyl Cyanoacetate 9

R ¹	Olefin	R ²	Yield (%) of Products ^{a),b)}	
			Condition A	Condition B
$\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{-}$		H (7a)	62 (11a)	45 (12a) ^{c)}
$\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{-}$		H (7b)	54 (11b)	55 (12b) ^{c)}
$\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_6\text{-}$		H (7c)	56 (11c)	58 (12c) ^{c)}
	$\text{-(CH}_2)_2\text{-}$	(7d)	64 (11d)	44 (12d)
	$\text{-(CH}_2)_3\text{-}$	(7e)	60 (11e)	53 (12e)
	$\text{-(CH}_2)_4\text{-}$	(7f)	51 (11f)	54 (12f)
	$\text{-(CH}_2)_5\text{-}$	(7g)	60 (11g)	47 (12g)
	$\text{-(CH}_2)_9\text{-}$	(7h)	50 (11h)	49 (12h)

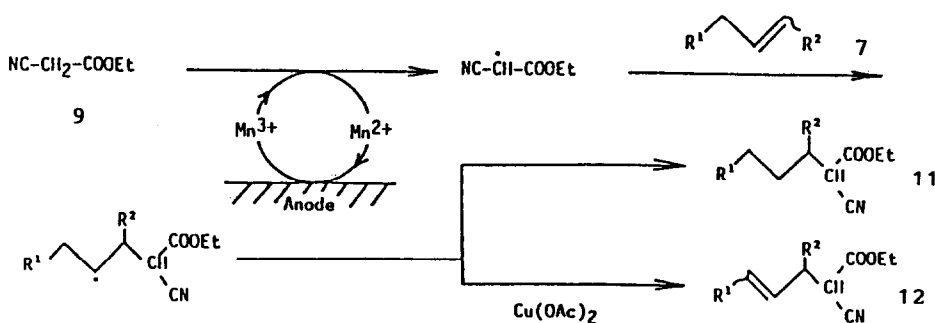
a) Satisfactory spectroscopic analytical results (IR, ¹H-NMR, and MS) were obtained for all the products 11a-h and 12a-h. b) Isolated yields based on the olefins 7, which have not been optimized as yet. c) The products 12a-c were found to consist of a (E)-stereoisomer exclusively.

It is interesting that the present oxidative carbon-carbon bond formation took place regioselectively according to the Markovnikov's rule as shown for the reaction of 7a-c in Table 2. On the other hand, treatment of a mixture of *cis* and *trans* 2-octene (7i,j) as an olefin under the similar condition A led to the formation of a mixture consisting of 2-octyl and 3-octyl adducts (11i,j) in the ratio of 66:34. The similar phenomenon was observed for the reaction under the condition B to give a mixture of 2-(3-octenyl) and 3-(1-octenyl) adducts (12i,j) in almost the same ratio of 69:31.

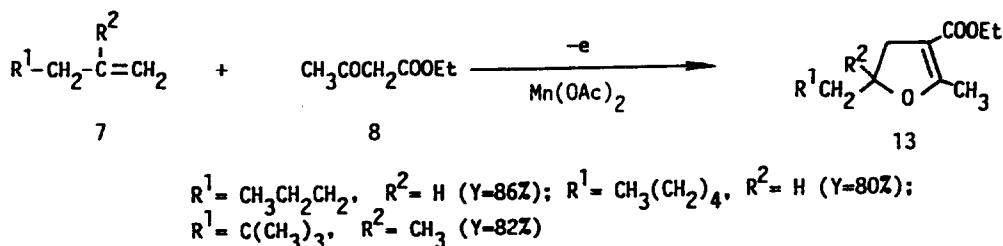


These results may indicate that regioselectivity of the carbon-carbon bond formation of the present electrooxidation is principally attributed to steric effect as well as stability of the intermediates generated *in situ*. As shown in Table 2, it may be also interesting that only (E)-allylic coupling products, 12a-c and 12i,j, were stereoselectively obtained from the reaction of 7a-c and 7i,j with 9 under the condition B.

Although a detailed mechanism of the present Mn³⁺-mediated coupling has been not clear as yet, the following scheme may be proposed as a plausible reaction pathway. A Mn²⁺-ion may be oxidized electrochemically to an active Mn³⁺-ion on the anode,⁹⁾ which has been known to give a methine radical species of ethyl cyanoacetate(9) and a Mn²⁺-ion through formation and thermal decomposition of the corresponding complex.¹⁰⁾ Addition of this methine radical to a carbon-carbon double bond of an olefin may generate a new radical intermediate which abstracts a hydrogen atom from the solvent or 9 to form a saturated coupling product 11. Presence of Cu(OAc)₂·H₂O may remarkably accelerate further oxidation of the radical intermediate to the corresponding organocopper complex¹¹⁾ followed by β-elimination to give an unsaturated product 12.

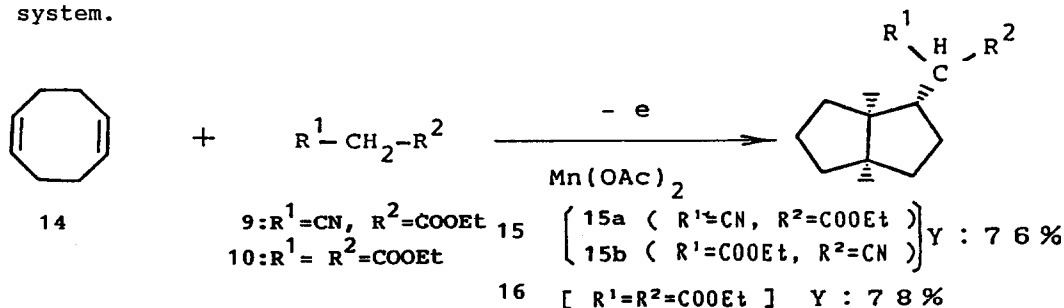


On the other hand, dihydrofuran derivatives(13) were obtained in good yields as the single products from Mn³⁺-mediated anodic coupling of non-activated olefins 7 with ethyl acetoacetate 8 using 0.1 equivalent mole of Mn(OAc)₂·4H₂O(2) under the similar conditions. The similar products were obtained by the reported conventional methods¹²⁾ using a stoichiometric amount(2.0 eq.moles) of unstable manganese(III) acetate(1).



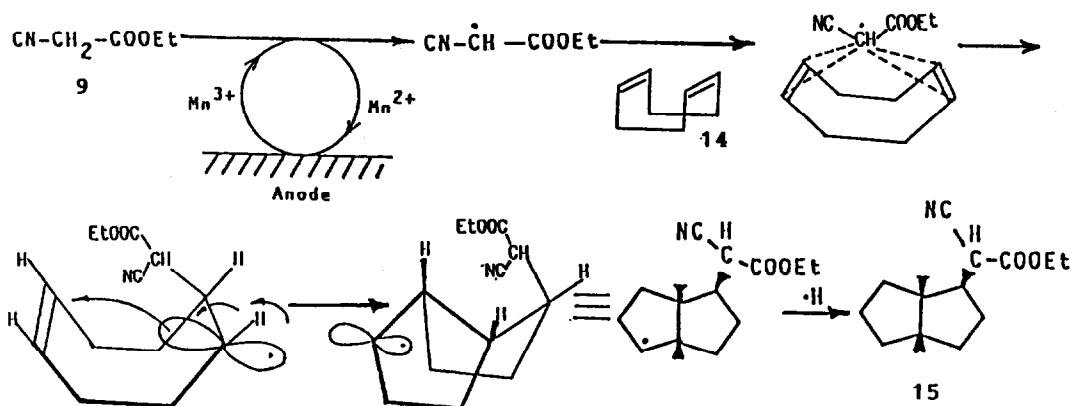
3. Mn³⁺-Mediated Coupling-Cyclization of 1,5-Cyclooctadiene with Active Methylene Compounds by Electrooxidation

we have also made further application of the oxidative carbon-carbon bond formation to the similar coupling of unconjugated or conjugated diene systems with active methylene compounds by indirect electro-oxidation in the presence of Mn³⁺-mediator. Thus, indirect anodic oxidation in a solution containing cycloocta-1,5-diene(14), 0.2 equivalent mole of Mn(OAc)₂·4H₂O(2), and ethyl cyanoacetate(9) (or diethyl malonate (10)) brought about selective formation of a coupling-intramolecular cyclization product, ethyl exo-(2-bicyclo[3.3.0]octyl)cyanoacetate (15) (or diethyl exo-(2-bicyclo[3.3.0]octyl)malonate (16))¹³⁾. The desired coupling products 15 and 16 were obtained in 76% and 78% yields under the optimum conditions at the present stage respectively, through indirect electrooxidation at 20-25 °C and 45-50 °C in a mixed solvent of acetic acid and ethyl acetate(volume ratio: 65/35) containing triethylamine as a supporting electrolyte, until 3.0 F/mol of electricity passed through the system.



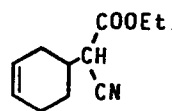
It may be noteworthy that the active methine groups of the product 15 and 16 were found to possess only exo-stereoconfiguration by detailed NMR analysis (see Experimental Section), and the product 15 consisted of two diastereoisomeric mixtures, 15a,b (ratio: ca.1:1).

The following reaction pathway may be proposed in order to explain the present stereoselective formation of the cyclized coupling products 15 and 16.

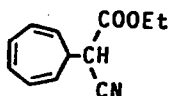


Radical species of active methylene compounds 9 and 10 formed from electrogenerated Mn^{+3} -ion as described before^{9),10)} may make "inside attack" to a carbon-carbon double bond of the folded-type conformation of 1,5-cyclooctadiene (14) to give a new radical intermediate. Interaction of this radical with the other carbon-carbon double bond may afford cyclized radical species, in which two bridgehead hydrogen atoms are oriented to the same direction as the active methine groups.¹⁴⁾

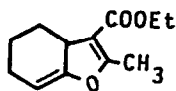
Treatment of 1,4-cyclohexadiene and 1,3,5-cycloheptatriene under the similar conditions resulted in formation of simple coupling products, namely ethyl (cyclohex-3-enyl)cianoacetate (17) and ethyl (2-cycloheptatrienyl)cianoacetate (18), in 47 and 52% yields, respectively.



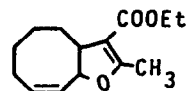
17
Yield = 47%



18
Yield = 52%



19a
Yield = 43%



19b
Yield = 41%

Employment of ethyl acetoacetate(8) as an active methylene compound in the present Mn^{+3} -mediated coupling of conjugated dienes such as cyclohexa-1,3-diene and cycloocta-1,3-diene by electrooxidation led to selective formation of the corresponding dihydrofuran derivatives 19a,b, in moderate yields, as was observed in the similar oxidative coupling reaction of nonactivated monoolefins.

4. Mn^{+3} -Mediated Coupling-Cyclization of 5-Arylpent-1-enes with Active Methylene Compounds by Electrooxidation.

Alternatively, specific cyclized products, 1-(2,2-disubstituted) ethyltetralines (21a-e) and (22a-e), were selectively obtained in good to moderate yields from the similar Mn^{+3} -mediated coupling of 5-arylpent-1-enes(20a-e) with active methylene compounds 9 and 10 by electrooxidation under the similar conditions, as shown in Table 3.

Table 3. Mn^{+3} -Mediated Coupling-Cyclization of 5-Arylpent-1-enes with Active Methylene Compounds by Electrooxidation .

5-Arylpent-1-enes			Isolated Yield(%) of Products	
R ¹	R ²	R ³	X = CN	X = COOEt
H	H	H (20a)	70 (21a)	79 (22a)
Me	H	H (20b)	58 (21b)	61 (22b)
F	H	H (20c)	53 (21c)	60 (22c)
H	Me	H (20d)	60 (21d)	73 (22d)
H	H	Me (20e)	37 (21e)	39 (22e)

The lower yields of the products 21e and 22e may be attributed to steric hindrance on addition of the radical species generated from active methylene compounds 9 and 10 to the carbon-carbon double bond of 20e. Isolated yields of the products 21b and 22b having a methyl group on their phenyl ring were almost the same as those of 21c and 22c having a fluoro group. This phenomenon indicates that cyclization proceeds through a radical mechanism.

Experimental Section

Typical Procedure for Carboxymethylation of Styrene Derivatives (3) to γ -Aryl- γ -Butyrolactones(4): The electrolysis apparatus was a divided cell equipped with a ceramic cylinder as a diaphragm and carbon rods as anode and cathode, and the cathodic and anodic chambers were 120 and 30 ml, respectively. A mixed solvent of glacial acetic acid(50 ml) and acetic anhydride(25 ml) containing 5.0 g(61 mmol) of NaOAc as a supporting electrolyte was placed in the anodic and cathodic chambers, and 9.36 g(90 mmol) of styrene(3a), 1.42 g(5.8 mmol) of $Mn(OAc)_2 \cdot 4H_2O$ and 0.44 g(2.2 mmol) of $Cu(OAc)_2 \cdot H_2O$ were added to the anolyte. Stirred with a magnetic bar and heated at 95-97°C with an oil bath, the electrolysis was carried out under constant-current conditions(current density: 1.0 A/dm²) until 36 mF of electricity, corresponding to a theoretical amount of electricity(2.0 F/mol) for oxidative transformation of 18 mmol of 3a to γ -phenyl- γ -butyrolactone(4a), passed through the system. After the reaction, the anolyte was poured into 250 ml of aqueous saturated NaCl solution and extracted with three 100-ml portions of ethyl ether. The combined ethereal solution was neutralized with aqueous saturated NaHCO₃ solution and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. After filtration of the drying agent and evaporation of the solvent, the residue was distilled in vacuo to give 2.33 g (current yield(C.E.): 80 %) of γ -phenyl- γ -butyrolactone (4a) as the main product accompanying 0.32 g (C.E.: 8 %) of α,β -diacetoxyethylbenzene(5a) as a by-product.
 γ -Phenyl- γ -butyrolactone(4a): bp 155-158 °C/3mm (Lit.¹⁵) 130 °C/1.5 mm)

Typical Procedure for Carbon-Carbon Bond Formation between Non-Activated Olefins(7) and Active Methylene Compounds(8-10) by Mn⁺³-Mediated Electro-oxidation (Condition A)

A solution of 4.92 g(60 mmol) of NaOAc in 80 ml of a mixed solvent of glacial acetic acid and ethyl acetate (volume ratio: 13:3) was placed in anodic and cathodic chambers of a similar divided cell to described above. To the anolyte were added 0.49 g(2.0 mmol) of $Mn(OAc)_2 \cdot 4H_2O$, 0.82 g (10 mmol) of cyclohexene(7e) and 3.39 g(30 mmol) of ethyl cyanoacetate(9). (Under the condition B, 0.10 g(1.0 mmol) of $Cu(OAc)_2 \cdot H_2O$ was also added.) The electrolysis was carried out under constant-current conditions(current density: 2.0 A/dm²) at 40 °C with magnetic stirring until 2.0 F/mol of electricity based on 7e passed through the system. The same usual work-up of the anolyte, as described above, followed by column chromatography of the crude mixture over silica gel(n-C₆H₁₄/EtOAc = 9/1) afforded ethyl cyclohexylcyanoacetate(11e) as a sole product in a 60% yield(1.17 g) based on 7e. (Under the condition B, ethyl (2-cyclohexenyl)cyanoacetate(12e) was obtained as the main product in a 53% yield accompanying only trace amount of 11e.)

Ethyl Cyclohexylcyanoacetate(11e): bp 107-108 °C/3 mm (Lit.¹⁶) 138-139 °C/8 mm)

Ethyl (2-Cyclohexenyl)cyanoacetate(12e): bp 114-115 °C/3.5 mm. IR(neat): 2950, 2250, 1745 cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR(270 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 1.33(3H, t, J=7.0 Hz), 3.42(1H, d, J=6.0 Hz), 3.49(1H, d, J=6.0 Hz), 4.28(2H, q, J=7.0 Hz), 5.47(1H, dq, J=10.5 & 1.0 Hz), 5.60(1H, dq, J=10.5 & 1.0 Hz), 5.94(2H, br d, J=10.5 Hz). HR-MASS: for C₁₁H₁₅O₂N, m/e Calcd; 193.1103, Found; 193.1068.

Typical Procedure for Mn⁺³-Mediated Coupling-Cyclization of 1,5-Cyclooctadiene(14) with Active Methylene Compounds(9,10) by Electrooxidation

Into anodic and cathodic chambers of the same divided cell as employed before was introduced a solution of 65 ml of glacial acetic acid and 35 ml of ethyl acetate containing 6.15 g(60 mmol) of triethylamine as a supporting electrolyte, and 1.08 (10 mmol) of 1,5-cyclooctadiene(14), 3.39 g(30 mmol) of ethyl cyanoacetate(9)(or 4.80 g(30 mmol) of diethyl malonate(10)) and 0.49 g of $Mn(OAc)_2 \cdot 4H_2O$ were added into the anolyte.

Stirred with a magnetic bar, the anolyte was electrochemically oxidized at room temperature (20–25 °C) under constant-current conditions (current density: 2.0 A/dm²). After 3.0 F/mol of electricity based on **14** passed through the reaction system, the anolyte was worked-up according to the usual procedure to give 1.67 g (yield: 76%) of ethyl exo-(2-bicyclo[3.3.0]octyl)cianoacetate (**15**) (or 2.09 g (yield: 78%) of diethyl exo-(2-bicyclo[3.3.0]octyl)malonate (**16**)) as a sole product. The ¹³C-NMR spectrum of **15** showed 13 pairs of carbon-signals indicating that **15** consists of almost even ratio of the corresponding diastereomers while only 13 carbon-signals were observed for that of **16**.

Ethyl Exo-(2-bicyclo[3.3.0]octyl)cianoacetate (15): bp 128–129 °C/3mm IR(neat): 2950, 2875, 2260, 1740, 1035 cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR(270 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 1.32 (3H, t, J=7.0 Hz), 3.57(1H, t, J=6.0 Hz), 4.25(2H, q, J=7.0 Hz). ¹³C-NMR (270 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm) δ 13.74, 25.00, 25.32, 31.25, 31.74, 32.23, 32.32, 32.56, 32.69, 32.78, 32.89, 32.94, 41.79, 42.12, 43.17, 43.81, 46.77, 47.23, 47.42, 47.46, 62.19, 66.25, 115.67, 115.86, 165.85, 165.94. HR-MASS: for C₁₃H₁₉O₂N m/e Calcd; 221.1416, Found; 221.1406.

Diethyl Exo-(2-bicyclo[3.3.0]octyl)malonate (16): bp 108–109 °C/2.5mm IR(neat): 2950, 2850, 1750, 1725 cm⁻¹. ¹H-NMR(270 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 1.26(3H, t, J=7.0 Hz), 1.27(3H, t, J=7.0 Hz), 3.21(1H, d, J=9.0 Hz), 4.18 (4H, q, J=7.0 Hz). ¹³C-NMR(270 MHz, CDCl₃, ppm): δ 14.07, 25.77, 31.02, 32.58, 33.01, 33.27, 43.72, 46.96, 47.54, 57.01, 61.00, 61.06, 168.90, 169.03. HR-MASS: for C₁₅H₂₄O₄ m/e Calcd; 268.1675, Found; 268.1703.

Acknowledgment. This work was supported in part by a Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research on Priority Areas (No. 01607001) from Ministry of Education, Science and Culture of Japan.

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