

CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION

1 ELECTROORGANIC SYNTHESIS AND TECHNIQUE IN GENERAL	3
1.1a The Generalized Electroorganic Reaction,	3
1.1b Reaction Variables in Electroorganic Synthesis,	7
1.2 Setting Up the Electrolysis Cell,	9
1.2.1 The Basic Laboratory Apparatus,	9
1.2.2 Two-Electrode Cells,	9
1.2.3 Three-Electrode Cells,	10
1.3 Laboratory Cell Designs,	11
1.4 Selection of Electrode Material and Cell Geometry,	11
1.4.1 The Electrode Material,	11
1.4.2 Cell Geometry,	15
1.5 Some Operational Cell Nuisances,	16
1.6 Selection of Electrode Potential,	17
1.7 Divided and Undivided Cells,	18
1.8 Preparation of the Solution for Electrolysis. Solvent and Supporting Electrolyte,	19
1.9 Temperature Effects,	22
1.10 Agitation Effects,	22
1.11 The Generalized Electrochemical Reaction from a Physical Perspective,	22

1.12	Preliminary Investigations into the Feasibility of an Electroorganic Synthesis,	26
2	A BRIEF SURVEY OF ELECTROORGANIC REACTIONS	35
	ANODIC REACTIONS	35
2.1	Hydrocarbons,	35
2.1.1	<i>Acetoxylations,</i>	37
2.1.2	<i>Cyanations,</i>	38
2.1.3	<i>Methoxylations,</i>	39
2.1.4	<i>Anthracenes,</i>	40
2.1.5	<i>Oxidation of Alkyaromatics,</i>	41
2.2	Hydroxy Compounds,	45
2.3	Carboxylic Acids,	49
2.4	Substitutions,	53
2.5	Halogenations,	56
2.6	Amines and Amides,	61
2.7	Ethers,	63
2.8	<i>N</i> -Heterocyclics,	64
	CATHODIC REACTIONS	67
2.9	Formation of Carbon-Hydrogen Bonds,	67
2.10	Carbonyl Compounds,	71
2.11	Carboxylic Acids,	73
2.12	Nitro Compounds,	74
2.13	Unsaturated Hydrocarbons,	76
2.14	Carbon-Nitrogen Bonds,	78
2.15	Sulfur Compounds,	80
2.16	Carbon-Halogen Bonds,	82
2.17	Electrocarboxylations,	86
2.18	<i>N</i> -Heterocyclic Compounds,	88

INTRAMOLECULAR ANODIC AND CATHODIC BOND FORMATIONS	90
ELECTROCATALYTIC REACTIONS	93
3 SOME SPECIAL TOPICS	97
3.1 Amalgams,	97
3.2 Organometallics,	98
3.3 The Solvated Electron,	99
3.4 Electrogenerative Organic Systems,	101
3.5 Electrolytic Formation of the Superoxide Ion and of Ozone,	102
3.6 The Molecule in an Electric Field,	102
4 THE PRAXIS OF ELECTROORGANIC SYNTHESIS	105
SAFETY PRECAUTIONS IN USING ELECTRICITY	105
PREPARATIVE EXAMPLES	107
4.1 Reductive Intramolecular Carbon-Nitrogen Bond Formation,	107
4.2 Carboxylic Acids from Primary Alcohols,	110
4.3 Cyanation of <i>N-n</i> -Propylpyrrolidine,	111
4.4 Preparation of 3,6-Dichloropicolinic Acid from 3, 4, 5, 6-Tetrachloropicolinic Acid,	112
4.4.1 <i>The Procedure</i>	114
EPILOG	119
APPENDIX	121

SOME FUNDAMENTAL ELECTROCHEMICAL CONCEPTS AND PRINCIPLES	121
A.1 The Principle of Electrolysis, 121	
A.2 The Electrode Potential and the Electrified Interface (Electrical Double Layer), 122	
A.3 The Cell Voltage, 128	
A.4 The Current-Potential Relationship, 130	
A.5 The Meaning of the Exchange Current, 132	
A.6 The Potential of Zero Charge, 133	
A.7 Adsorption at Electrodes, 133	
A.8 Electrocatalysis, 134	
A.9 Electrogeneration of Catalysts, 136	
SOLVENTS AND SOLVENT MIXTURES COMMONLY USED IN ELECTROORGANIC SYNTHESES	137
Water, 137	
Acetonitrile, 137	
<i>N,N</i> -Dimethylformamide, 138	
Methanol, 138	
Ethanol, 139	
Tetrahydrofuran, 139	
Dioxane, 139	
Dimethyl Sulfoxide, 139	
Sulfolane, 139	
APPROXIMATE POTENTIAL RANGES FOR REDUCTION AND OXIDATION OF ORGANIC COMPOUNDS	140
AVERAGE OVERVOLTAGE OF HYDROGEN ON VARIOUS CATHODE MATERIALS	142
PREPARATION OF SPONGY ELECTRODE SURFACES	142
GLOSSARY AND DEFINITIONS	143

CONTENTS

xiii

**A PARTIAL LIST OF MANUFACTURERS AND SUPPLIERS OF
ELECTROCHEMICAL EQUIPMENT**

146

GENERAL BIBLIOGRAPHY

147

INDEX

149