



# Exploring Green Chemistry Innovations and the Growing Emphasis on Addressing Chemical Pollution

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## Abstract

This study delves into the realm of green chemistry innovations and the escalating focus on combatting chemical pollution. Green chemistry has emerged as a transformative force, driving research and industry practices towards sustainability and environmental stewardship. It encompasses principles and strategies aimed at minimizing the ecological footprint of chemical processes and products. Key themes explored include the design of safer chemicals and materials, the development of sustainable synthesis methods, and the promotion of waste reduction and circular economy practices. Policy initiatives and educational endeavors underscore the growing global commitment to mitigating chemical pollution. While significant progress has been made, challenges persist in achieving a harmonious balance between industrial demands and environmental preservation. This literature review navigates through these complexities, highlighting the multifaceted facets of green chemistry, its influence on policy, and its pivotal role in shaping a more sustainable future.

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## Introduction

In an era marked by increasing environmental awareness and growing concerns about the impact of human activities on the planet, the field of green chemistry has risen as a beacon of hope and innovation. Green chemistry, also known as sustainable or environmentally benign chemistry, represents a paradigm shift in the way we approach chemical processes and products. It focuses on the design, development, and implementation of chemical practices that not only fulfill industrial and societal needs but also prioritize environmental sustainability and human well-being. The urgency to address chemical pollution, a global challenge with far-reaching consequences, has spurred a renewed emphasis on green chemistry innovations. Chemical pollution, stemming from industrial processes, agricultural practices, and consumer products, poses

threats to ecosystems, human health, and the overall quality of life. Green chemistry offers a comprehensive approach to mitigate these risks by advocating for responsible chemical design, minimizing hazardous substances, optimizing resource utilization, and championing cleaner, safer, and more sustainable alternatives.

This literature review aims to explore the dynamic landscape of green chemistry innovations and the growing emphasis on addressing chemical pollution. It delves into key principles, strategies, and trends in green chemistry, showcasing its transformative potential in various domains. From the development of safer chemicals and materials to the promotion of sustainable synthesis methods and circular economy practices, green chemistry offers a comprehensive toolkit to reduce the environmental footprint of chemical processes. This review highlights



the pivotal role of policy and regulatory initiatives in driving the adoption of green chemistry practices. Governments and international organizations are recognizing the urgency of implementing stringent regulations and incentives to encourage sustainable practices in industries. Additionally, educational institutions and public awareness campaigns play essential roles in shaping a future where sustainability and chemistry go hand in hand. While significant strides have been made in embracing green chemistry, challenges persist. Balancing the practical demands of industries with environmental preservation remains a complex task. Nonetheless, the literature on green chemistry innovations reflects a global commitment to sustainable practices and the aspiration to forge a path towards a cleaner, safer, and more environmentally conscious future.

#### **Origin of Green Chemistry**

Green Chemistry has its origins in the late 20th century when concerns about the environmental and health impacts of traditional chemical practices began to emerge. The movement towards Green Chemistry was driven by a growing awareness of the unsustainable nature of many chemical processes and the need for more environmentally friendly alternatives. The origins of Green Chemistry can be traced back to a confluence of factors and events. One important catalyst was the environmental movement that gained momentum in the 1970s. This movement was fueled by increasing concerns over pollution, ecosystem degradation, and the impact of industrial activities on human health. The publication of Rachel Carson's book "Silent Spring" in 1962, which highlighted the detrimental effects of pesticides on wildlife and ecosystems, played a significant role in raising public awareness about the need for more sustainable practices.

The scientific community also played a crucial role in the development of Green Chemistry. In the early 1990s, chemists Paul Anastas and John Warner introduced the twelve principles of Green Chemistry, which provided a guiding framework for sustainable chemical practices.

These principles emphasized the importance of preventing waste, using renewable resources, and designing safer chemicals. Anastas and Warner's work served as a catalyst for further research and development in the field of Green Chemistry. Government regulations and policies also contributed to the origins of Green Chemistry. As environmental regulations became stricter, industries were compelled to find alternative approaches that would reduce their environmental impact. The implementation of regulations such as the Pollution Prevention Act in the United States in 1990 and the European Union's Registration, Evaluation, Authorization, and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) regulation in 2007 pushed industries

#### **Progress in Green Chemistry**

Green chemistry has provided compelling evidence over the course of the last decade that basic scientific procedures may be conceived of and implemented in a way that is good to both human health and the environment while also protecting the economic interests of society. Key research areas, such as atom economy, alternative synthetic route for feed stocks and starting materials, bio-catalysis, green solvent, bio-sorption, designing safer chemicals, energy and waste management, have all seen significant progress in recent years.

If all of the chemical reactants in a chemical reaction are transformed into useful products, then there will be no waste created from the process in the form of chemical waste. As a result, there will be no pollution in the surrounding environment. This is something that can only be accomplished by ensuring that the circumstances are ideal for the reaction.

Not only are efforts being made to measure the environmentally friendly nature of a chemical process, but they are also being made to take into account other aspects, such as the chemical yield, the price of reaction components, the safety of handling chemicals, the requirements for hardware, the energy profile, and the simplicity of product workup and purification. In one quantitative analysis, the reduction of nitrobenzene to aniline scores 64 points out of a possible 100,

indicating that it is an acceptable overall synthesis. In contrast, the synthesis of an amide using HMDS only obtains 32 points total and is only rated as satisfactory.

Researchers are required to employ green chemistry as a potent instrument in order to examine the influence that nanotechnology has on the environment. This is becoming an increasingly popular view. To guarantee the long-term economic viability of nanomaterials, it is necessary to take into account the potential adverse effects on human and environmental health caused by both the nonmaterial's themselves and the manufacturing procedures used to create them.

In addition to this, this is something that is only doable when the circumstances are perfect for the reaction. In our day-to-day lives, we make use of a variety of different applications. It is important for us to keep in mind the following features, as they will demonstrate its many applications:

Green chemistry has many applications in our day-to-day life. The following points will show its uses:

**1. Dry cleaning of clothes** - In earlier days, tetrachloroethylene was used as a solvent for

dry cleaning. This compound is carcinogenic and also pollutes the ground water. Nowadays, liquefied carbon dioxide with suitable detergent is used for this purpose. It generated liquid carbon dioxide as a byproduct and hence causes less pollution.

**2. Bleaching of paper** - In the beginning, chlorine gas was used for this purpose; however, as time has progressed, hydrogen peroxide has taken its place. In this process, hydrogen peroxide is combined with an appropriate catalyst that amplifies the bleaching effect of the peroxide.

Green chemistry is an approach that encourages the maintenance of a healthy environment for human civilization. As responsible citizens, we should all adhere to this philosophy. If pollution were eliminated from the earth, living conditions would vastly improve, as would the average age of those who call this planet home.

**3. Atom economy (Synthesis of Ibuprofen)** - Atom economy is one of the fundamental principles of green chemistry. Atom economy looks at the number of atoms in the reactants that end up in the final product and byproduct or waste. % Atom economy =  $100 \times (\text{FW of product} / \text{FW of reactants})$

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Figure- 1 Progress in Green Chemistry

## Results and Discussion

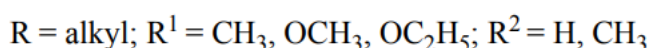
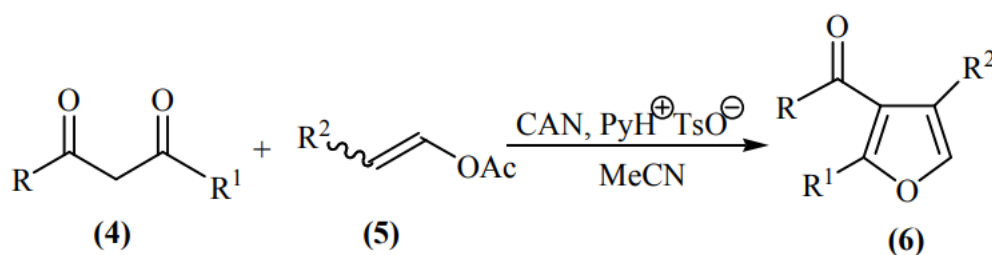
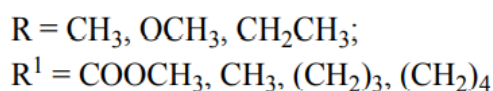
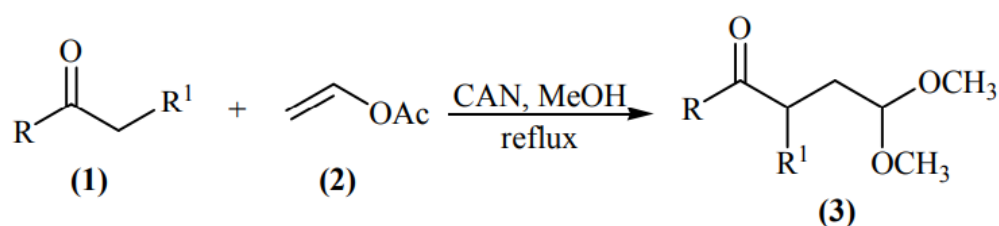
### Reactions involving carbon-carbon bond formation

Baciocchi et al. conducted a notable study focused on the oxidative addition of radicals generated from simple ketones (denoted as 1) and 1,3-dicarbonyl compounds (referred to as

4) to activated olefins, specifically silylenol ethers, enol ethers, and enol acetates (represented as 2 and 5). Their research included several illustrative instances, one of which was the synthesis of 4-ketaldehyde dimethyl acetals (designated as 3) and 3-acyl furan derivatives (identified as 6). These

compounds were synthesized through a process mediated by CAN (Cerium Ammonium Nitrate), involving the addition of carbonyl compound 1 and dicarbonyl compounds 4 to enol acetates. This study underscores the importance of oxidative addition reactions in the context of organic synthesis. It demonstrates the versatility of such reactions in constructing complex organic molecules, specifically 4-ketaldehyde dimethyl acetals and 3-acyl furan derivatives, which are of interest due to their potential applications in various fields, including pharmaceuticals and

materials science. The utilization of CAN as a mediator in these reactions highlights the significance of catalysis in modern organic chemistry. By exploring the reactivity of different compounds and the selectivity of these reactions, Baciocchi et al.'s work contributes valuable insights to the broader field of organic synthesis. These findings can serve as a foundation for further research in the development of new synthetic methodologies and the creation of diverse and functional organic compounds.



The oxidative addition of stannyl compounds mediated by Cerium Ammonium Nitrate (CAN) to silylenol ethers has been documented in previous research. Specifically, the addition of radicals, which are generated through the CAN-induced oxidation of N-1-tributylstannyl alkyl carboxamide (referred to as 7) and 2-tributylstannyl-1,3-dithiane (referred to as 10), to silylenol ethers (denoted as 8 and 11) has been reported by Narasaka and co-workers. This process resulted in the formation of products exemplified by compounds 9 and 12, respectively, as illustrated in Scheme 2.

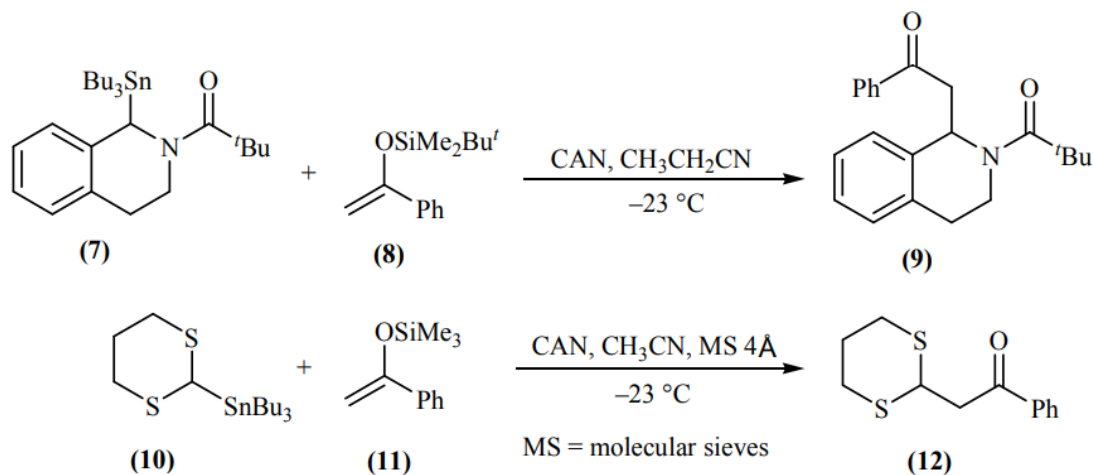
This study highlights the versatility of oxidative addition reactions in the context of organic synthesis, specifically involving stannyl

compounds and silylenol ethers. The use of CAN as a mediator in these reactions showcases the significance of catalytic processes in modern organic chemistry. Furthermore, the successful formation of products like 9 and 12 demonstrates the potential utility of this methodology in constructing valuable organic molecules, which can find applications in various fields, including pharmaceuticals and materials science.

Narasaka and co-workers' research contributes to our understanding of the reactivity and selectivity of oxidative addition reactions involving stannyl compounds and silylenol ethers, providing a foundation for further developments in synthetic

methodologies and the creation of diverse and functional organic compounds. this study reports on the oxidative addition of stannyl compounds, mediated by CAN, to silylenol ethers, resulting in the synthesis of important

organic products. This work advances our knowledge of such chemical transformations and their potential applications in organic synthesis.

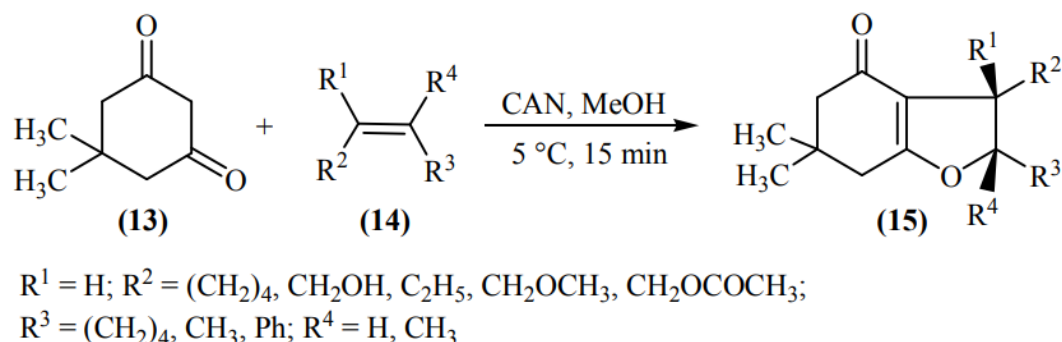


(Scheme 2)

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A comprehensive and thorough exploration of the CAN-mediated addition of active methylene compounds to a variety of  $\pi$ -systems, including unactivated alkenes, has been undertaken. This investigative effort commenced with the addition of dimedone (represented as 13) to cyclic and acyclic alkenes (depicted as 14), conducted in the presence of CAN and methanol as a solvent. The outcome of this reaction yielded the corresponding dihydrofuran derivatives

(designated as 15) in quantitative yields, as illustrated in Scheme 3. This research represents a significant advancement in the field of organic synthesis. It involves the use of CAN as a catalyst to facilitate the addition of active methylene compounds to unactivated alkenes, resulting in the formation of dihydrofuran derivatives. The ability to achieve quantitative yields underscores the efficiency and effectiveness of this methodology.



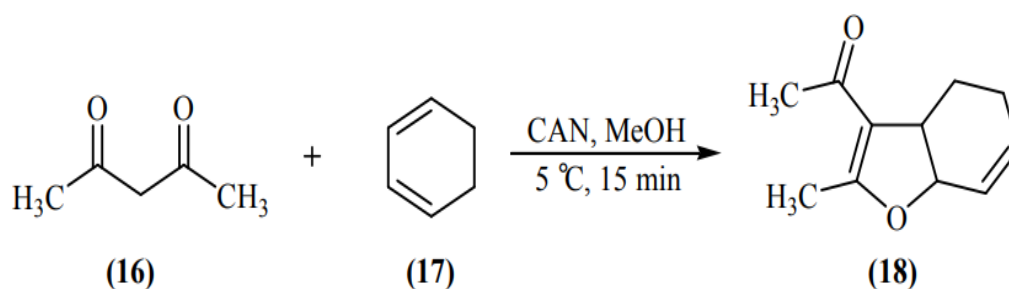
(Scheme 3)

In a noteworthy extension of this reaction, it has been demonstrated that the CAN-mediated addition of dimedone or acetyl acetone (represented as 16) to cyclic dienes (depicted as 17) in methanol provides a convenient pathway for the synthesis of novel

dihydrofuran derivatives (identified as 18) with moderate to good yields, as outlined in Scheme 4. This extension of the reaction further exemplifies the versatility and utility of the CAN-mediated methodology. By expanding the scope of reactants to include

cyclic dienes, the synthesis of dihydrofuran derivatives can be achieved, offering access to a diverse range of organic compounds. The moderate to good yields obtained in this process make it a promising approach for generating novel molecules with potential applications in various fields of chemistry and industry. the CAN-mediated addition of dimedone or acetyl acetone to cyclic dienes in

methanol represents a valuable extension of the original reaction, providing an efficient route to novel dihydrofuran derivatives. This research broadens the possibilities for synthetic chemistry and underscores the adaptability of CAN-mediated processes for the creation of diverse and functional organic compounds.

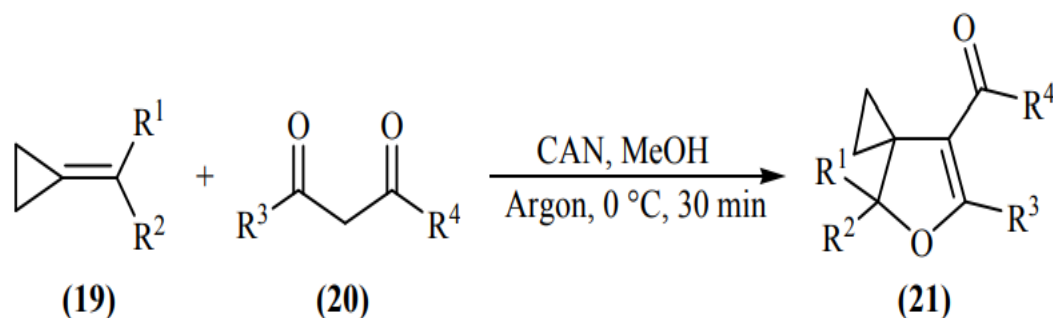


(Scheme 4)

Nair et al. conducted a noteworthy study involving the CAN-mediated oxidative addition of 1,3-dicarbonyl compounds (depicted as 20) to methylene cyclopropanes (abbreviated as MCPs, represented as 19). This reaction resulted in the formation of spirocyclopropyldihydrofuran derivatives (designated as 21) in good yields, as outlined in Scheme 5. This research represents a significant contribution to the field of organic synthesis, showcasing the capability of CAN as a mediator for oxidative addition reactions. The successful formation of

spirocyclopropyldihydrofuran derivatives in good yields illustrates the potential utility of this methodology for the creation of complex and structurally diverse organic compounds. The spirocyclopropyldihydrofuran derivatives synthesized in this study may find applications in various areas of chemistry, including medicinal chemistry and materials science. This research expands the repertoire of synthetic tools available to chemists and underscores the versatility of CAN-mediated reactions.

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R 1 = Ph, 2-naphthyl, 4-Me-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, 4-Cl-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>; R 2 = Ph, 4-Me-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>, 4-Cl-C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>4</sub>; R 3 = CH<sub>3</sub>, Ph; R 4 = OEt, Ph, Me

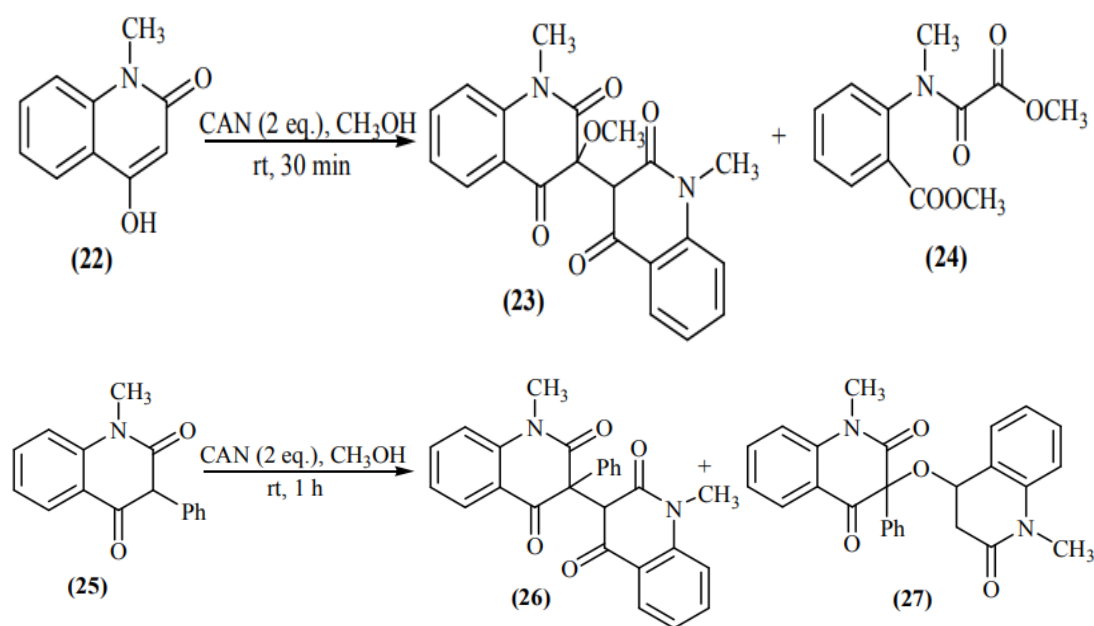
In a notable study, Xu et al. explored the CAN-mediated dimerizations of 4-hydroxyquinolin-2(1H)-one (depicted as 22) and 3-phenyl-4-hydroxyquinolin-2(1H)-one (represented as

25). In the first case, the reaction of 4-hydroxyquinolin-2(1H)-one (22) with CAN (utilized in a 2-fold excess) in methanol at room temperature led to the formation of the

quinolin-2(1H)-one dimer (identified as 23), along with smaller quantities of oxalamate (designated as 24). Surprisingly, in the second case, an unexpected product (27) was generated alongside the product (26), highlighting the ambident reactivity of the  $\alpha,\alpha'$ -dicarbonylalkyl radicals, which can act as both carbon-centered and oxygen-centered radicals, as illustrated in Scheme 6.

This research provides valuable insights into the reactivity of  $\alpha,\alpha'$ -dicarbonylalkyl radicals and their ability to form complex structures through dimerization reactions. The unexpected product formation (27) underscores the rich chemistry and versatility of these radicals in the presence of CAN. Understanding the ambident reactivity of

these radicals is essential for the design and control of chemical transformations. The study by Xu et al. contributes to our knowledge of radical chemistry and provides a basis for further investigations into the synthetic potential of  $\alpha,\alpha'$ -dicarbonylalkyl radicals in various organic transformations. Xu et al.'s study delves into CAN-mediated dimerizations of 4-hydroxyquinolin-2(1H)-one and 3-phenyl-4-hydroxyquinolin-2(1H)-one, revealing the intriguing ambident reactivity of  $\alpha,\alpha'$ -dicarbonylalkyl radicals as both carbon- and oxygen-centered radicals. This work sheds light on the rich chemistry of radical intermediates and their potential applications in organic synthesis.



(Scheme 6)

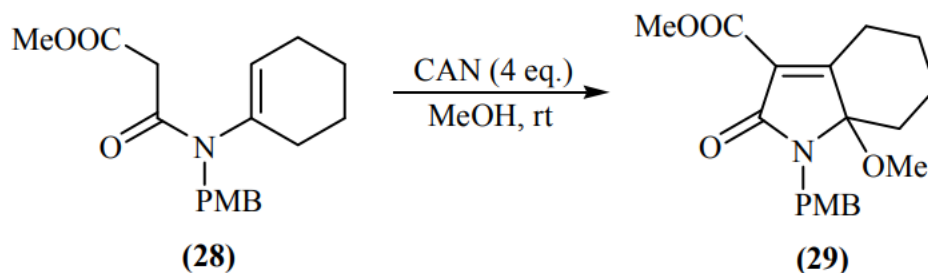
In an intriguing chemical transformation, enamide esters (represented as 28) were subjected to oxidative 5-endo radical-polar cross-over cyclization in the presence of CAN. This reaction led to the formation of C,O-disubstituted  $\gamma$ -lactams (denoted as 29) in moderate yields, as demonstrated in Scheme 7. The synthesis of C,O-disubstituted  $\gamma$ -lactams through this method is significant in the context of organic chemistry.  $\gamma$ -Lactams are important structural motifs found in various natural products and bioactive

compounds. The ability to efficiently synthesize these heterocyclic ring fragments can facilitate the development of novel drug candidates and the investigation of natural product synthesis.

The use of CAN as a mediator in this transformation highlights its role as a versatile reagent in oxidative processes, enabling the formation of complex and valuable organic molecules. This method provides a practical and efficient approach for accessing C,O-disubstituted  $\gamma$ -lactams, contributing to the

toolbox of synthetic chemists working in the field of heterocyclic chemistry and natural product synthesis. the CAN-mediated oxidative 5-endo radical-polar cross-over cyclization of enamide esters to yield C,O-disubstituted  $\gamma$ -lactams represents a valuable

synthetic methodology. This approach allows for the synthesis of essential heterocyclic ring fragments found in natural products, offering opportunities for drug discovery and furthering our understanding of complex molecule synthesis in organic chemistry.



PMB = *p*-methoxy-benzyl amine

(Scheme 7)

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The efficiency of Cerium Ammonium Nitrate (CAN) in intramolecular cyclization was harnessed by Brimble and co-workers for the synthesis of several pyranonaphthoquinone antibiotics. In this synthesis, pyranonaphthoquinone (represented as 33) was produced through CAN-mediated oxidative cyclization of the furonaphthofuran adduct (identified as 32). The furonaphthofuran adduct was, in turn, obtained through the conjugate addition of dimethyl tert-butylsilyloxyfuran (depicted as 31) to the 1,4-quinone (denoted as 30), as depicted in Scheme 8. This synthetic strategy highlights the versatility of CAN as a powerful tool for enabling intramolecular cyclization reactions. Pyranonaphthoquinones are essential structural motifs found in various antibiotics and bioactive compounds, making their efficient synthesis of great importance in medicinal chemistry.

## CONCLUSION

In the pursuit of green chemistry innovations and the mitigation of chemical pollution, we are witnessing a transformative paradigm shift towards sustainability. This shift not only challenges conventional practices but also offers pragmatic solutions to pressing environmental challenges. Green chemistry's core principles, which revolve around minimizing hazardous substances, optimizing

resource use, and championing cleaner and safer alternatives, have the potential to revolutionize industries and protect our fragile ecosystems. Mitigating chemical pollution, one of the most urgent environmental crises, stands at the forefront of green chemistry's mission. By focusing on the reduction of harmful chemical emissions and the development of inherently safer products, green chemistry actively works to lessen the ecological footprint of industrial processes. It is a beacon of hope in a world grappling with the adverse effects of pollution on both human health and the planet's well-being. Green chemistry's influence extends beyond environmental benefits; it holds the promise of economic growth and competitive advantage. Companies embracing these principles often find themselves with reduced operational costs, increased resource efficiency, and products that outperform their conventional counterparts. These advantages not only bolster their financial standing but also position them as leaders in sustainable practices, giving them a clear edge in the global market. Achieving green chemistry's ambitious goals requires collective action. Governments must enact supportive policies and regulations, incentivizing industries to adopt sustainable practices. Educational institutions play a crucial role in preparing the next generation of chemists and engineers



with the knowledge and mindset required for green innovation. Public awareness campaigns encourage consumers to make eco-conscious choices, furthering the cause of sustainability.

Despite the progress made, challenges remain. The development of green alternatives demands substantial research and development efforts, while the transition from conventional practices necessitates capital investments and a willingness to embrace change. International cooperation is required to harmonize regulations and intellectual property rights. However, these challenges also represent opportunities for innovation and collaboration. In this era of climate change, dwindling resources, and increasing pollution, the call for green chemistry has never been more urgent. It offers a vision of a sustainable and resilient future where chemistry becomes a force for good, enabling humanity to prosper while safeguarding our planet's integrity. As we collectively work towards this vision, we hold in our hands the potential to create a greener, more sustainable tomorrow for ourselves and generations to come.

Green chemistry is an area of research that focuses on the development of sustainable chemical processes and products. It is becoming increasingly important due to the growing awareness of environmental issues and the negative impact of chemical pollution on human health and the environment. In India, there has been a significant increase in the number of studies focused on green chemistry and chemical pollution in recent years. Researchers in India are working towards developing innovative solutions that can help address the challenges posed by chemical pollution. One of the innovative studies on green chemistry in India is the development of biodegradable polymers as a sustainable alternative to conventional plastics. Conventional plastics are a major contributor to environmental pollution as they take hundreds of years to decompose and are not easily biodegradable. Researchers in India are developing polymers that can be easily broken down by natural processes and do not contribute to environmental pollution.

These biodegradable polymers are being developed using natural materials like starch and cellulose. These polymers can be used in a wide range of applications, including food packaging, agriculture, and medicine.

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