Modulating alkene reactivity from oxygenation to halogenation via

electrochemical O₂ activation by Mn porphyrin

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1. General

1.1 Chemicals

All reagents and solvents were obtained commercially (Acros Organics and Sigma Aldrich). [Mn^{III}(TPP)CI] (HPCL grade, \geq 95%) was purchased from PorLab, tetrabutylammonium hexafluorophosphate (TBAPF₆, supporting electrolyte), tetrabutylammonium chloride (TBACI), N,N-Dimethylformamide (DMF, anhydrous, 99.8%), cyclooctene oxide, anisole, 1-Methylimidazole, and sodium hypochlorite solution (10 % w/w) were purchased from Sigma-Aldrich and used as received. CH₂Cl₂ was distilled over CaH₂ and purified by alumina before every experiment.

Cyclooctene was purified by alumina column before experiments. Its purity was reassured by GC/MS.

1.2 Cyclic voltammetry experiments

CV experiments were performed under argon or O_2 (air saturated) atmosphere. Dry O_2 atmosphere was achieved by purging the solution with compressed air via a glass tube filled with CaCl₂. Cyclic voltammograms were recorded on a Metrohm potentiostat (AUTOLAB PGSTAT302N model). For cyclic voltammetry, the counter electrode used was a Pt wire and the working electrode a glassy carbon disk (3 mm diameter) carefully polished before each voltammogram with a 1 μ m diamond paste, sonicated in an ethanol bath and then washed with ethanol. The reference electrode used was an SCE (Saturated Calomel Electrode), isolated from the rest of the solution with a fritted glass bridge. The concentration of the supporting electrolyte was 0.1 M. Temperature regulation, when needed, was ensured by a Julabo circulation cryostat.

1.3 Preparative scale electrolysis

For controlled potential electrolysis, experiments were carried out in a cell using a glassy carbon plate as working electrode of a surface of 1.6 cm, and a SCE reference electrode closely positioned one from the other. The Pt grid counter electrode was separated from the cathodic compartment with a glass frit. During the electrolysis there was a continuous flow of dry air. Liquid samples where directly introduced from the electrolyzed solution in a GC/MS apparatus (shimadzu QP-2020).

1.4 UV-Vis Spectroelectrochemical experiments

Thin cell spectroelectrochemical data were obtained using a combination of three electrodes, a carbon paper as working electrode, a platinum grid as counter electrode as in preparative electrolysis and a carbon/Teflon reference electrode, in a thin cell (optical length = 0.1 cm otherwise noted) mounted on a UV/Vis Varian Cary 60 Spectrophotometer, equipped with a transparent dewar.¹ The former consists of a 0.2 cm quartz UV-Vis-NIR cell surmounted by a glass compartment. The entire solution was saturated with air (2.7 mM O₂ in CH₂Cl₂ and 1.2 mM in DMF ²) and the dewar was cooled to 258 K by a Julabo circulation cryostat.



2. Cyclic voltammetry and UV-Vis spectroelectrochemistry



Figure S1: CVs of 0.5 mM Mn^{III}(TPP)Cl on a 0.3 cm glassy carbon electrode, at 298 K, in 0.1 M TBAPF₆ / CH_2Cl_2 solution at various scan rate (0.1, 0.2, 0.5, 1 and 2 V/s). **A**) Under Ar. **B**) Under O₂. **C**) Variation of the cathodic peak current under O₂. **D**) Variation of the ratio between the two peaks of the anodic current under O₂.



Figure S2: Variation of the temperature in CH_2Cl_2 . CVs of 0.5 mM $Mn^{III}(TPP)Cl$ on a 0.3 cm glassy carbon electrode in a 0.1 M TBAPF₆ / CH_2Cl_2 solution, under Ar at 298K (black trace), at 253 K (black dashed trace) and under O_2 at 298 K (red trace) and at 253 K (red dashed trace).



Figure S3: UV-vis spectrum of 0.1 mM Mn^{III}(TPP)CI, at 298 K, in 0.2 M TBAPF₆/CH₂Cl₂. Under Ar (red trace) and under O₂ (black trace).



Figure S4: UV-vis spectrum of 0.1 mM Mn^{III}(TPP)Cl, at 253 K, in 0.2 M TBAPF₆/CH₂Cl₂ under O₂ and at $E_{app} = -0.45$ V vs SCE.



Figure S5: UV-vis spectrum of 0.1 mM Mn^{III}(TPP)Cl, at 298 K, in 0.2 M TBAPF₆/CH₂Cl₂ after 10 min at $E_{app} = -0.45$ V vs SCE. Under Ar (black trace) and under O₂ (blue trace). The optical path for the experiment under Ar was 0.2 cm. The intensities are normalized and the baseline of the spectra is corrected.



Figure S6: CVs of 0.5 mM Mn^{III}(TPP)Cl at 298 K on a 0.3 cm glassy carbon electrode under Ar in a 0.1 M TBAPF₆ /CH₂Cl₂ (black trace) or / DMF (red trace) and under O₂ in a 0.1 M TBAPF₆ /CH₂Cl₂ (dashed black trace) or / DMF (dashed red trace)



Figure S7: **A**) CVs of 0.5 mM Mn^{III}(TPP)Cl at 298 K on a 0.3 cm glassy carbon electrode in a 0.1 M TBAPF₆ /DMF under Ar (black trace) and under O₂ (red trace). **B**) CVs of 0.5 mM Mn^{III}(TPP)Cl at 298 K on a 0.3 cm glassy carbon electrode under O₂ in a 0.1 M TBAPF₆ / DMF (red trace) and in a 0.1 M TBAPF₆ /CH₂Cl₂ (blue trace). For the CVs: $E_{app} = -0.85$ V vs SCE during 15 s then CV recorded from – 0.6 V to 0.8 V vs SCE.



Figure S8: UV-vis spectrum of 0.1 mM Mn^{III}(TPP)Cl, at 253 K, in 0.2 M TBAPF₆ / DMF under O₂. **A**) Starting Mn^{III} complex (black trace) and after 10 min at -0.45 V (red trace). **B**) Evolution (from red trace to blue trace) after 10 min at -1.1 V vs SCE.

3. Reactivity – Preparative scale electrolysis



Figure S9: CVs of 0.5 mM Mn^{III}(TPP)Cl in 0.1 M TBAPF₆/CH₂Cl₂ on a 0.3 cm glassy carbon electrode, at 298 K. **A**: Under Ar (black trace), under O₂ (blue trace), under O₂ with 20 mM of 1-MeIm (red trace) or with 5 mM of TBACl (green trace). **B**: Under Ar (black trace) and under Ar with 440 mM of anhydride (red trace).



Figure S10: i(A) vs t(s) plot of preparative scale electrolysis at 298 K of a 0.5 mM solution of Mn^{III}(TPP)Cl in 0.1 M TBAPF₆/CH₂Cl₂ under O₂ in presence of 0.44 M of anhydride. **A)** and with 40 mM of 1-MeIm (faradaic efficiency for cyclooctene oxide 81%). **B)** and with 5 mM of TBACl with $E_{app} = -0.45$ V for 4 hours (faradaic efficiency for cyclooctene chloride 53%)



Figure S11: Preparative scale electrolysis of a 0.5 mM solution of $Mn^{III}(TPP)CI$ in 0.1 M TBAPF₆/CH₂Cl₂ under O₂ in presence of 0.44 M of benzoic anhydride, 5 mM of TBACI and 10 mM of cyclooctene. $E_{app} = -0.45$ V for 4 hours. Chromatograms before electrolysis: black trace, after: red trace and after second electrolysis of the same solution for 12 hours after addition of 1-MeIm: blue trace. The experiment where both ligands are present from the beginning gave only the oxide (Table 2 of the main text, entry 2).

Quantification was achieved by calibration curve with internal standard (vide infra) for cyclooctene oxide. For chloro cyclooctene the same curve has been used.



Figure S12: MS spectrum of the peak of the chromatogram of cyclooctene oxide, from an authentic sample.



Figure S13: MS spectrum of the peak of the chromatogram attributed to the chloro-cyclooctene.



Figure S14: Calibration curve for cyclooctene oxide. The internal standard used was anisole. The concentration of the latter was 2 mM on every sample. The concentrations of cyclooctene were: 0.25 mM, 1 mM, 2 mM and 4 mM.



Figure S15: Chemical oxidation of cyclooctene using a modified literature procedure.⁴ Stirring of two hours of the following biphasic system. Organic phase: 1 ml of Dichloromethane with 13 mM of MnTPPCI, 26 mM of TBACI as a surface factor, 0.2 M of cyclooctene. Aqueous phase: 2 ml of sodium hypochlorite solution 10 % w/w. Chromatogram obtained of the organic phase after removing the catalyst on a small silica column. Both oxidation and chlorination products are observed.

4. References

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