Cycloaddition of Aziridine with CO₂ Using Hydroxyl Functional Pyridinium Halides as Catalysts

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Chemical fixation of CO_2 to useful products is undergoing extensive research owing to the potential of CO_2 as a cheap, abundant, non-toxic and inflammable C1 feedstock. Cycloaddition of CO_2 with aziridine to produce oxazolidinone forms one of the potential routes for chemical fixation of CO_2 . Oxazolidinones, are an important class of heterocylic compounds possessing wide applications as in chemical and pharmaceutical industries. The present work focuses on the conversion of 2-methylaziridine to methyloxazolidinone employing a series of hydroxyl functional pyidinium halide salt as catalyst. The role of anions as well as the synergistic effect of hydroxyl functional groups on cycloaddition are discussed. The investigation also includes the effect of reaction parameters like catalyst amount, temperature, CO_2 pressure and reaction time. Recyclability of the catalysts also was conducted.