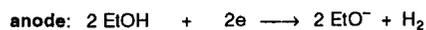




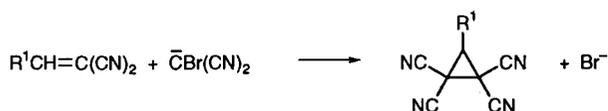
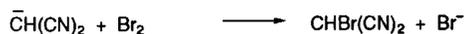
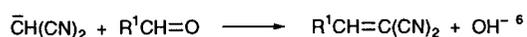
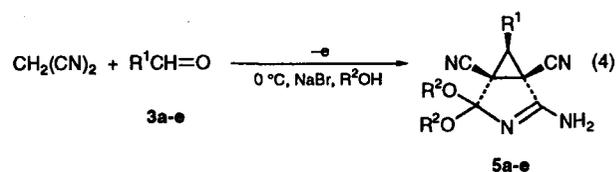
**Table 2** Electrochemical synthesis of bicyclic pyrrolines from malonodinitrile and aromatic aldehydes.

Aldehyde	R <sup>1</sup>	R <sup>2</sup>	Electricity passed /F mol <sup>-1a</sup>	Product <sup>b</sup> yield (%)
3a	Ph	Et	1.8	5a, 69
3b	3-MeOC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Me	1.9	5b, 35
3c	2-ClC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Et	2.2	5c, 46
3d	2-BrC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Et	1.9	5d, 52
3e	4-IC <sub>6</sub> H <sub>4</sub>	Et	1.9	5e, 85

<sup>a</sup> Based on malononitrile. <sup>b</sup> M.p. for 5a 247–248 °C (decomp.), m.p. for 5b–e > 250 °C.



in solution:

**Scheme 1**

have a structure of the same type as 5a. Thus the formation of 5a–e apparently involves selective attack by alkoxide ion on the cyano-group *trans* to the C–3 aryl-group in intermediate 4a–e by a mechanism which has already been suggested in our previous publication.<sup>5</sup>

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