

**alkene photocycloaddition**

*Photochemical process* leading to formation of a cyclobutane upon addition of an *electronically excited* alkene to another ground-state alkene or of an electronically excited  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated carbonyl compound to a ground-state alkene. The latter is called a *de Mayo reaction*.

Note: A special case of photocycloaddition is a *photodimerization*.  
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