Stereoselective Formation of Alkenyl Halides via Magnesium Halide-Promoted Ring-Opening of Bis-Activated Cyclopropenes

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Supporting Information

Contents	Page
General Information	S1
Preparation of Cyclopropenes	S2
Magnesium Halide-Promoted-Ring-Opening Reactions	S2
One-Pot Magnesium Halide-Promoted Ring-Opening-Michael Reactions	S7
Stereochemical Determinations	S8
References	S9
NMR Spectra of New Compounds	S10

General Information

All non-aqueous reactions were carried out under a nitrogen atmosphere in oven-dried apparatus. THF and MeCN were dried and purified by passage through activated alumina columns using a solvent purification system from www.glasscontoursolventsystems.com. All other commercially available reagents were used as received. Thin layer chromatography (TLC) was performed on Merck DF-Alufoilien 60F₂₅₄ 0.2 mm precoated plates. Product spots were visualized by UV light at 254 nm, and subsequently developed using potassium permanganate or ceric ammonium molybdate solution as appropriate. Flash column chromatography was carried out using silica gel (Fisher Scientific 60Å particle size 35-70 micron) employing the method of Still and co-workers. Infra-red spectra were recorded as a thin film on sodium chloride plates or as a dilute solution in CHCl₃. IH NMR spectra were recorded on 500 MHz spectrometer or a 360 MHz spectrometer. Chemical shifts (δ) are quoted in parts per million (ppm) downfield of tetramethylsilane, using residual protonated solvent as internal

standard (CDCl₃ at 7.27 ppm). Abbreviations used in the description of resonances are: s (singlet), d (doublet), t (triplet), q, (quartet), app (apparent), br (broad). Coupling constants (J) are quoted to the nearest 0.1 Hz. Proton-decoupled ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on a 250 MHz (62.9 MHz for ¹³C) spectrometer. Chemical shifts (δ) are quoted in parts per million (ppm) downfield of tetramethylsilane, using deuterated solvent as internal standard (CDCl₃ at 77.0 ppm). Assignments were made using the DEPT sequence with secondary pulses at 90° and 135°.

Preparation of Cyclopropenes

Cyclopropenes 1a, 2 1b, 3 1c, 4 1d, 5 1e, 6 1f, 7 and 1g were prepared according to previously reported procedures.

Magnesium Halide-Promoted-Ring-Opening Reactions: General Procedure A

$$R^1O_2C$$
 EWG MgX_2 (1 equiv) THF EWG R^2 3a-3I

A solution of the appropriate cyclopropene (0.20 mmol) in THF (1 mL + 1 mL rinse) was added via cannula to a vial containing the appropriate magnesium halide (0.20 mmol) and a stirrer bar. The resulting mixture was stirred at the indicated temperature for the indicated time, and then filtered through a short plug of SiO₂ (*ca.* 4 cm high x 2 cm diameter) using EtOAc as eluent (*ca.* 50 mL). After the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*, purification of the residue by column chromatography afforded the alkenyl halide product.

CO₂Me (Z)-Dimethyl 2-(2-bromo-1-phenylvinyl)malonate (3a). On a 0.20 mmol scale: The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure A from cyclopropene 1a (46 mg, 0.20 mmol) and MgBr₂ (37 mg, 0.20 mmol) at room temperature for 2 h and purified by column chromatography (hexane—5% EtOAc/hexane) to give a colorless oil (60 mg, 96%).

On a 2.00 mmol scale: A solution of the cyclopropene 1a (2.00 mmol) in THF (15 mL + 5 mL rinse)

was added via cannula over 2 min to a flask containing MgBr₂ (368 mg, 2.00 mmol) and a stirrer bar. The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min, and then filtered through a short plug of SiO₂ (*ca.* 4 cm high x 2 cm diameter) using EtOAc as eluent (*ca.* 100 mL). After the filtrate was

concentrated *in vacuo*, purification of the residue by column chromatography (hexane→5% EtOAc/hexane) afforded the *alkenyl bromide* **3a** (601 mg, 96%) as a colorless oil.

IR (film) 2954, 2846, 1738 (C=O), 1620, 1491, 1437, 1265, 1201, 1151, 1076 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.41-7.38 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 7.36-7.31 (3H, m, Ar**H**), 6.75 (1H, d, J = 0.6 Hz, =C**H**), 4.50 (1H, d, J = 0.6 Hz, C**H**(CO₂CH₃)₂), 3.76 (6H, s, 2 x OC**H**₃); ¹³C NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.1 (2 x C), 138.1 (C), 137.2 (C), 128.4 (2 x CH), 128.3 (2 x CH), 128.2 (CH), 110.6 (CH), 58.8 (CH), 52.9 (2 x CH₃); HRMS (EI) Exact mass calcd for C₁₃H₁₃⁷⁹BrO₄ [M⁺]: 311.9992, found: 311.9992.

CO₂Me prepared according to General Procedure A from cyclopropene **1b** (49 mg, 0.20 mmol) and MgBr₂ (37 mg, 0.20 mmol) at room temperature for 2 h and purified by column chromatography (hexane→5% EtOAc/hexane) to give a colorless oil (47 mg, 72%). IR (film) 2954, 1739 (C=O), 1616, 1510, 1435, 1308, 1196, 1151, 1022, 976 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.20 (4H, s, ArH), 6.71 (1H, s, =CH), 4.48 (1H, s, CH(CO₂CH₃)₂), 3.76 (6H, s, 2 x OCH₃), 2.37 (3H, s, ArCH₃); ¹³C NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.2 (2 x C), 138.1 (C), 137.2 (C), 135.1 (C), 129.0 (2 x CH), 128.2 (2 x CH), 110.2 (CH), 58.9 (CH), 52.9 (2 x CH₃), 21.2 (CH₃); HRMS (EI) Exact mass calcd for C₁₄H₁₅⁷⁹BrO₄ [M⁺]: 326.0148, found: 326.0151.

(*E*)-Dimethyl 2-[1-(1-bromomethylidene)pentyl]malonate (3c). The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure A from cyclopropene 1c (42 mg, 0.20 mmol) and MgBr₂ (37 mg, 0.20 mmol) at room temperature for 2 h and purified by column chromatography (hexane→5% EtOAc/hexane) to give a colorless oil (44 mg, 75%). IR (film) 2956, 2871, 1739 (C=O), 1626, 1456, 1435, 1379, 1308, 1273, 1198 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.36 (1H, d, *J* = 0.5 Hz, =CH), 4.16 (1H, d, *J* = 0.5 Hz, CH(CO₂CH₃)₂), 3.75 (6H, s, 2 x OCH₃), 2.36-2.32 (2H, m, =CCH₂), 1.44-1.28 (4H, m, CH₂CH₂CH₃), 0.91 (3H, t, *J* = 7.1 Hz, CH₂CH₃); ¹³C NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.4 (2 x C), 137.2 (C), 109.2 (CH), 56.9 (CH), 52.8 (2 x CH₃), 33.1 (CH₂), 28.9 (CH₂), 22.5 (CH₂), 13.8 (CH₃); HRMS (EI) Exact mass calcd for C₁₁H₁₇⁷⁹BrO₄ [M⁺]: 292.0305, found: 292.0304.

(E)-Dimethyl 2-[1-(1-bromomethylidene)-3-phenylpropyl]malonate (3d). The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure A from cyclopropene 1d (52 mg, 0.20 mmol) and MgBr₂ (37 mg, 0.20 mmol) at room temperature for 2 h and

purified by column chromatography (hexane \rightarrow 5% EtOAc/hexane) to give a colorless oil (59 mg, 87%). IR (film) 3028, 2954, 1738 (C=O), 1624, 1495, 1437, 1269, 1201, 1153, 1026 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33-7.29 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 7.26-7.20 (3H, m, Ar**H**), 6.46 (1H, br s, =C**H**), 4.18 (1H, d, J = 0.5 Hz, C**H**(CO₂CH₃)₂), 3.78 (6H, s, 2 x OC**H**₃), 2.79-2.73 (2H, m, C**H**₂Ph), 2.69-2.63 (2H, m, C**H**₂CH₂Ph); ¹³C NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.3 (2 x C), 141.0 (C), 136.4 (C), 128.4 (2 x CH), 128.3 (2 x CH), 126.1 (CH), 110.3 (CH), 57.4 (CH), 52.9 (2 x CH₃), 35.3 (CH₂), 33.0 (CH₂); HRMS (EI) Exact mass calcd for C₁₅H₁₇⁷⁹BrO₄ [M⁺]: 340.0305, found: 340.0302.

CO₂Me title compound was prepared according to General Procedure A from cyclopropene 1e (61 mg, 0.20 mmol) and MgBr₂ (37 mg, 0.20 mmol) at room temperature for 2 h and purified by column chromatography (hexane→5% EtOAc/hexane) to give a colorless oil (64 mg, 84%). IR (film) 2956, 2362, 1720 (C=O), 1602, 1437, 1383, 1273, 1201, 1153, 1113 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 8.06-8.03 (2H, m, ArH), 7.58-7.54 (1H, m, ArH), 7.46-7.42 (2H, m, ArH), 6.58 (1H, s, =CH), 4.45 (2H, t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, CH₂O), 4.31 (1H, s, CH(CO₂CH₃)₂), 3.73 (6H, s, 2 x OCH₃), 2.88 (2H, t, *J* = 7.0 Hz, =CCH₂); ¹³C NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.1 (2 x C), 166.3 (C), 133.1 (C), 132.9 (CH), 130.0 (C), 129.6 (2 x CH), 128.3 (2 x CH), 112.2 (CH), 61.7 (CH₂), 57.2 (CH), 53.0 (2 x CH₃), 32.6 (CH₂); HRMS (ES) Exact mass calcd for C₁₆H₁₈⁷⁹BrO₆ [M+H⁺]: 385.0281, found: 385.0285.

(Z)-Dimethyl 2-(2-iodo-1-phenylvinyl)malonate (3f). The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure A from cyclopropene 1a (46 mg, 0.20 mmol) and MgI₂ (56 mg, 0.20 mmol) at room temperature for 2 h and purified by column chromatography (hexane→5% EtOAc/hexane) to give a 9:1 mixture of inseparable geometric isomers as a colorless oil (70 mg, 97%). IR (film) 3058, 2952, 2846, 1739 (C=O), 1597, 1491, 1437, 1307, 1265, 1153 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.39-7.32 (3H, m, ArH), 7.25-7.22 (2H, m, ArH), 6.87 (1H, d, *J* = 0.6 Hz, =CH), 4.51 (1H, d, *J* = 0.6 Hz, CH(CO₂CH₃)₂), 3.72 (6H, s, 2 x OCH₃); ¹³C NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.0 (2 x C), 142.8 (C), 141.0 (C), 128.4 (2 x CH), 128.2 (3 x CH), 84.8 (CH), 59.4 (CH), 52.9 (2 x CH₃); HRMS (EI) Exact mass calcd for C₁₃H₁₃IO₄ [M⁺]: 359.9853, found: 359.9852.

CO₂Me

(Z)-Dimethyl 2-(2-bromo-1-p-tolylvinyl)malonate (3g). The title compound was CO₂Me prepared according to General Procedure A from cyclopropene **1b** (49 mg, 0.20 mmol) and MgI₂ (56 mg, 0.20 mmol) at room temperature for 2 h and purified by column chromatography (hexane→5% EtOAc/hexane) to give a colorless oil (70 mg, 94%). IR (film) 2952, 1738 (C=O), 1612, 1508, 1435, 1309, 1198, 1151, 1022, 974 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.20 (2H, d, J = 8.1 Hz, ArH), 7.16 (2H, dm, J = 8.1 Hz, ArH), 6.87 (1H, br s, =CH), 4.53 (1H, s, CH(CO₂CH₃)₂), 3.75 (6H, s, 2 x OCH₃), 2.37 (3H, s, ArCH₃); ¹³C NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.1 (2 x C), 142.8 (C), 138.1 (C), 138.0 (C), 129.1 (2 x CH), 128.1 (2 x CH), 84.4 (CH), 59.5 (CH), 52.9 (2 x CH₃), 21.3 (CH₃); HRMS (ES) Exact mass calcd for C₁₄H₁₆IO₄ [M+H]⁺: 375.0088, found: 375.0092.

(E)-Dimethyl 2-[1-(1-iodomethylidene)-3-phenylpropyl]malonate (3h). The title ÇO₂Me compound was prepared according to General Procedure A from cyclopropene 1d (52) CO₂Me mg, 0.20 mmol) and MgI₂ (56 mg, 0.20 mmol) at room temperature for 2 h and purified by column chromatography (hexane→5% EtOAc/hexane) to give a colorless oil (77 mg, 99%). IR (film) 2956, 2254, 1736 (C=O), 1437, 1265, 1153, 1028, 908, 733, 650 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (500 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.31-7.19 (5H, m, Ar**H**), 6.57 (1H, s, =C**H**), 4.26 (1H, s, C**H**(CO₂CH₃)₂), 3.75 (6H, s, 2 x OCH₃), 2.74-2.71 (2H, m, CH₂Ph), 2.65-2.62 (2H, CH₂CH₂Ph); ¹³C NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.2 (2 x C), 141.1 (C), 140.8 (C), 128.4 (2 x CH), 128.3 (2 x CH), 126.2 (CH), 84.2 (CH), 57.8 (CH), 52.9 (2 x CH₃), 39.6 (CH₂), 33.0 (CH₂); HRMS (ES) Exact mass calcd for C₁₅H₂₁NIO₄ [M+NH₄]⁺: 406.0510, found: 406.0507.

(E)-Methyl 4-iodo-3-phenyl-2-(phenylsulfonyl)but-3-enoate (3i). The title compound CO₂Me was prepared according to General Procedure A from cyclopropene 1g (63 mg, 0.20 mmol) and MgI₂ (56 mg, 0.20 mmol) at room temperature for 2 h and then at 40 °C for 6 h. Purification of the residue by column chromatography (5%→10% EtOAc/hexane) gave a yellow oil (68 mg, 77%). IR (film) 3062, 2952, 1745 (C=O), 1585, 1491, 1446, 1329, 1147, 1082, 910 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.91-7.88 (2H, m, ArH), 7.72-7.67 (1H, m, ArH), 7.58-7.54 (2H, m, ArH), 7.35 (1H, s, =CH), 7.34-7.32 (3H, m, ArH), 7.13-7.11 (2H, m, ArH), 5.05 (1H, s, CHCO₂CH₃), 3.73 (3H, s, OCH₃); ¹³C NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 164.4 (C), 141.2 (C), 141.5 (C), 137.6 (C), 134.5 (CH), 129.9 (2 x CH), 129.0 (2 x CH), 128.5 (3 x CH), 128.0 (2 x CH), 90.1 (CH), 74.4 (CH), 53.4 (CH₃); HRMS (ES) Exact mass calcd for $C_{17}H_{19}INO_4S$ [M+NH₄]⁺: 460.0074, found: 460.0067.

ÇO₂Me CO₂Me

(Z)-Dimethyl 2-(2-chloro-1-p-tolylvinyl)malonate (3j). The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure A from cyclopropene **1b** (49 mg, 0.20 mmol) and MgCl₂ (19 mg, 0.20 mmol) at 40 °C for 18 h and purified by column chromatography (hexane→5% EtOAc/hexane) to give a ~16:1 inseparable mixture of regioisomers as a colorless oil (43 mg, 76%). IR (CHCl₃) 3028, 2954, 1739 (C=O), 1611, 1511, 1435, 1310. 1197. 1152. 1024 cm⁻¹: ¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.24-7.18 (4H, m, Ar**H**), 6.53 (1H, s, =CH), 4.46 (1H, s, CH(CO₂CH₃)₂), 3.76 (6H, s, 2 x OCH₃), 2.37 (3H, s, ArCH₃); ¹³C NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.4 (2 x C), 138.1 (C), 134.3 (C), 133.6 (C), 129.0 (2 x CH), 128.4 (2 x CH), 120.8 (CH), 58.0 (CH), 52.9 (2 x CH₃), 21.2 (CH₃); HRMS (ES) Exact mass calcd for C₁₄H₁₆³⁵ClO₄ [M+H]⁺: 283.0732, found: 283.0728.

(E)-Dimethyl 2-[1-(1-chloromethylidene)pentyl|malonate (3k). The title compound CO₂Me was prepared according to General Procedure A from cyclopropene 1c (42 mg, 0.20 mmol) and MgCl₂ (19 mg, 0.20 mmol) at 40 °C for 18 h and purified by column chromatography (5% EtOAc/hexane) to give a ~16:1 inseparable mixture of regioisomers as a colorless oil (43 mg, 85%). IR (CHCl₃) 2957, 2873, 1740 (C=O), 1634, 1436, 1308, 1199, 1150, 1027, 948 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.20 (1H, s, =CH), 4.11 (1H, s, CH(CO₂CH₃)₂), 3.75 (6H, s, 2 x OCH₃), 2.35-2.31 (2H, m, =CCH₂), 1.42-1.32 (4H, m, CH₂CH₂CH₃), 0.91 (3H, t, J = 7.1 Hz, CH₂CH₃); ¹³C NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.7 (2 x C), 134.7 (C), 119.8 (CH), 56.1 (CH), 52.8 (2 x CH₃), 30.6 (CH₂), 28.9 (CH₂), 22.5 (CH₂), 13.8 (CH₃); HRMS (ES) Exact mass calcd for C₁₁H₁₈³⁵ClO₄ [M+H]⁺: 249.0888, found: 249.0886.

(Z)-Diethyl 2-(2-chloro-1-phenylvinyl)malonate (3l). The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure A from cyclopropene 1f (52 mg, 0.20 mmol) and MgCl₂ (19 mg, 0.20 mmol) at 40 °C for 18 h and purified by column chromatography (hexane→5% EtOAc/hexane) to give a colorless oil (37 mg, 62%). IR (film) 2983, 1734 (C=O), 1493, 1444, 1367, 1306, 1151, 1095, 1032, 920 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.41-7.31 (5H, m, Ar**H**), 6.56 (1H, d, J = 0.6 Hz, =CH), 4.44 (1H, d, J = 0.6 Hz, CH(CO₂CH₂CH₃)₂), 4.26-4.16 (4H, m, 2 x OCH₂), 1.25 (6H, t, J = 7.2 Hz, 2 x OCH₂CH₃); ¹³C NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 167.0 (2 x C), 136.7 (C), 134.7 (C), 128.6 (2 x CH), 128.3 (2 x CH), 128.1 (CH), 120.9 (CH), 62.0 (2 x CH₂), 58.3 (CH), 13.9 (2 x CH₃); HRMS (ES) Exact mass calcd for $C_{15}H_{21}ClO_4N$ [M+NH₄]⁺: 314.1154, found: 314.1157.

One-Pot Magnesium Halide-Promoted Ring-Opening-Michael Reactions: General Procedure B

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{MeO}_2\text{C} & \text{CO}_2\text{Me} \\ & & \text{Q} \\ & & \text{R}^1 \end{array} + \\ \begin{array}{c} \text{AgBr}_2 \text{ (1 equiv)} \\ \text{MeCN, 40 °C} \end{array} \\ \text{Br} & \begin{array}{c} \text{CO}_2\text{Me} \\ \text{CO}_2\text{Me} \\ \text{7a-7c} \end{array} \\ \end{array}$$

A solution of the appropriate cyclopropene (0.20 mmol) in MeCN (1 mL + 1 mL rinse) was added *via* cannula to a vial containing the appropiate enone (0.40 mmol), MgBr₂ (37 mg, 0.20 mmol), and a stirrer bar. The resulting mixture was stirred at 40 °C for 18 h. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was filtered through a short plug of SiO₂ (*ca.* 4 cm high x 2 cm diameter) using EtOAc as eluent (*ca.* 50 mL) and the filtrate was concentrated *in vacuo*. Purification of the residue by column chromatography afforded the alkenyl halide product.

 $^{\text{CO}_2\text{Me}}_{\text{Ph}}$ (Z)-Dimethyl 2-(2-bromo-1-phenylvinyl)-2-(3-oxobutyl)malonate (7a). On a $^{\text{Br}}_{\text{Ph}}$ 0.20 mmol scale: The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure B from cyclopropene 1a (46 mg, 0.20 mmol) and methyl vinyl ketone (32 μL, 0.40 mmol) and purified by column chromatography (10% \rightarrow 30% EtOAc/hexane) to give a 19:1 inseparable mixture of regioisomers as a colorless oil (60 mg, 78%).

On an 8.00 mmol scale: A solution of the cyclopropene 1a (1.86 g, 8.00 mmol) in MeCN (40 mL + 10 mL rinse) was added via cannula over 5 min to a flask containing methyl vinyl ketone (1.22 mL, 15.0 mmol). The resulting mixture was stirred at room temperature for 30 min and then at 40 °C for 17.5 h. After cooling to room temperature, the mixture was filtered through a short pad of SiO_2 (ca. 4 cm high x 6 cm diameter) using EtOAc as eluent (ca. 100 mL) and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. Purification of the residue by column chromatography (10% \rightarrow 30% EtOAc/hexane) gave the alkenyl bromide 7a as a 19:1 inseparable mixture of regioisomers (2.34 g, 76%) as a colorless oil.

IR (CHCl₃) 2953, 1735 (C=O), 1613, 1491, 1437, 1366, 1254, 1171, 1092, 1030 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.38-7.31 (3H, m, Ar**H**), 7.07-7.05 (2H, m, Ar**H**), 6.92 (1H, s, =C**H**), 3.71 (6H, s, 2 x OC**H**₃), 2.53-2.50 (2H, m, C**H**₂CH₂C=O), 2.27-2.24 (2H, m, C**H**₂C**H**₂C=O), 2.09 (3H, s, C**H**₃C=O); ¹³C NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 206.6 (C), 169.5 (2 x C), 141.4 (C), 137.1 (C), 128.8 (2 x CH), 128.3 (2 x CH), 128.2 (CH), 112.3 (CH), 63.7 (C), 52.8 (2 x CH₃), 39.0 (CH₂), 29.9 (CH₃), 28.2 (CH₂); HRMS (ES) Exact mass calcd for C₁₇H₂₀⁷⁹BrO₅ [M+H]⁺: 383.0489, found: 383.0492.

(E)-Dimethyl 2-[1-(1-bromomethylidine)pentyl]-2-(3-oxobutyl)malonate (7b). The title compound was prepared according to General Procedure B from cyclopropene 1c (43 mg, 0.20 mmol) and methyl vinyl ketone (32 μ L, 0.40 mmol) and purified by

column chromatography (5% \rightarrow 10% EtOAc/hexane) to give a colorless oil (56 mg, 78%). IR (CHCl₃) 3105, 2956, 2872, 1734 (C=O), 1610, 1434, 1369, 1255, 1169, 1091 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 6.46 (1H, s, =CH), 3.73 (6H, s, 2 x OCH₃), 2.52-2.49 (2H, m, CH₂C=O), 2.34-2.31 (2H, m, =CCH₂), 2.18-2.14 (2H, m, CH₂CH₂C=O), 2.11 (3H, s, CH₃C=O), 1.44-1.38 (2H, m, CH₂CH₂CH₃), 1.36-1.28 (2H, m, CH₂CH₃), 0.90 (3H, t, J = 7.3 Hz, CH₂CH₃); ¹³C NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 206.8 (C), 169.8 (2 x C), 140.5 (C), 109.5 (CH), 63.6 (C), 52.7 (2 x CH₃), 39.0 (CH₂), 32.5 (CH₂), 30.0 (CH₃), 29.6 (CH₂), 27.3 (CH₂), 23.1 (CH₂), 13.7 (CH₃); HRMS (ES) Exact mass calcd for C₁₅H₂₄⁷⁹BrO₅ [M+H]⁺: 363.0802, found: 363.0799.

$$\operatorname{Br} \begin{array}{c} \operatorname{CO_2Me} \\ \operatorname{CO_2Me} \\ \operatorname{O} \end{array} \operatorname{Et}$$

(E)-Dimethyl 2-[1-(1-bromomethylidine)-3-phenylpropyl]-2-(3-

oxopentyl)malonate (7c). The title compound was prepared according to General

Procedure B from cyclopropene **1d** (52 mg, 0.20 mmol) and ethyl vinyl ketone (40 μ L, 0.40 mmol) and purified by column chromatography (5% \rightarrow 10% EtOAc/hexane) to give a colorless oil (61 mg, 72%). IR (CHCl₃) 2952, 1734 (C=O), 1496, 1455, 1242, 1095, 1031, 753, 700, 557 cm⁻¹; ¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 7.33-7.18 (5H, m, Ar**H**), 6.59 (1H, s, =C**H**), 3.76 (6H, s, 2 x OC**H**₃), 2.81-2.76 (2H, m, C**H**₂), 2.54-2.39 (8H, m, 4 x C**H**₂), 1.06 (3H, t, J = 7.3 Hz, CH₂C**H**₃); ¹³C NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 209.4 (C), 169.6 (2 x C), 141.5 (C), 139.7 (C), 128.4 (2 x CH), 128.1 (2 x CH), 126.1 (CH), 110.4 (CH), 63.7 (C), 52.8 (2 x CH₃), 37.6 (CH₂), 36.0 (CH₂), 35.5 (CH₂), 33.4 (CH₂), 27.4 (CH₂), 7.7 (CH₃); HRMS (EI) Exact mass calcd for C₂₀H₂₆⁷⁹BrO₅ [M+H]⁺: 425.0958, found: 425.0957.

Stereochemical Determinations

• The stereoselectivities of magnesium halide-Promoted ring-opening reactions producing alkenyl halides 3a, 3d, 3k, and 7a were assigned on the basis of NOESY experiments, which displayed the following diagnostic enhancements:

• The stereoselectivities of the remaining products were assigned by analogy.

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NMR Spectra of New Compounds

















































