Cyclopropyl Building Blocks for Organic Synthesis, 43^[\diamond]

Ring Opening of Methylenecyclopropane Moieties in the Palladium-Catalyzed Cross-Coupling of Methylenecyclopropyl Bromides with Metallated CH-Acidic Compounds

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Palladium-catalyzed cross-coupling reactions of bromo-(methylenecyclopropanes) 1c, 2c with the sodium enolate of dimethyl malonate 4a and the chlorozinc enolates of the glycine equivalent (diphenylmethyleneamino)acetate 4c and diethyl malonate 4d, respectively, have been found to proceed with opening of the three-membered ring in each

Palladium-catalyzed nucleophilic substitution of allylic substrates with carbon nucleophiles, proceeding via π -allylpalladium intermediates, has become one of the most important C-C bond forming processes employed in modern organic synthesis^[1]. The range of applicable allylic substrates covers a considerable structural variety, and even includes alkenylcyclopropyl derivatives^[2]. The most commonly used carbon nucleophiles are malonate and other suitably stabilized ester enolates. The enolate of ethyl α -(diphenylmethyleneamino)acetate (O'Donnell's glycine equivalent^[3]) has frequently been employed in palladium-catalyzed allylic substitutions to prepare precursors of α -amino acids^[4], including some containing a methylenecyclopropyl fragment^{[2b][2c]}. Due to their wide-ranging biological activities, α - and β -amino acids containing a three-membered ring have attracted ever increasing interest over the last two decades^[5]. In continuation of our investigations in this area^[6] we have now tested the applicability of palladiumcatalyzed allylic substitutions with the O'Donnell glycine equivalent in the preparation of amino acids containing a methylenecyclopropane fragment attached directly to the α-position^[7].

The required starting materials, the allylic bromides 2bromo-1-methylenecyclopropane (1c), bromobicyclopropylidene (2c), and 2-bromo-1-methylenespiropentane (3c) were prepared by deprotonation^[8] of the corresponding hydrocarbons $1a-3a^{[9]}$ with butyllithium and subsequent reaction of the lithio derivatives 1b-3b with 1,2-dibromoethane^[8] (see Experimental Section). case, to give the corresponding dienyl-substituted CH-acidic compounds 5-7 in moderate to good yields. On the other hand, coupling of bicyclopropylidenylzinc chloride (2d) with diethyl bromomalonate (4e) and the electrophilic glycine equivalent ethyl 2-acetoxy-2-(diphenylmethyleneamino)acetate (4f) gave 7 and 6 in 27 and 29% yield, respectively.



In order to find the appropriate conditions for the palladium-catalyzed substitution of 1c-3c with stabilized enolates, 2-bromo-1-methylenecyclopropane (1c) was treated with dimethyl sodiomalonate (4a) in the presence of palladium bis(dibenzylideneacetonate) [Pd(dba)₂] and bis(diphenylphosphano)ethane (dppe), a commonly used catalyst system for such transformations^{[2][4]}. This reaction proceeded smoothly at 60°C to give dimethyl (2'-buta-1',3'dienyl)malonate (5) as the only isolated product in 60%vield. Apparently, the substitution of bromine in 1c had taken place only with complete ring opening of the threemembered ring. However, the lithiated glycine equivalent 4b did not undergo this type of reaction with 2c under such conditions. At room temperature, no reaction was observed, whereas upon heating the reaction mixture to 35°C, complete decomposition of the starting material 4b was observed.

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Scheme 1



Among the great number of palladium catalysts available, dichloro[1,1'-bis(diphenylphosphano)ferrocene]palladium(II) [PdCl₂(dppf)] has been reported to be by far the most active and selective in the coupling reactions of n-, sec-, and tertalkylzinc and -magnesium halides, leading to high yields without any side reactions (β -elimination, etc.)^[10]. Under the action of this catalyst, the coupling of 2-bromobicyclopropylidene (2c) with the chlorozinc derivative 4c of the glycine equivalent (prepared from the lithio derivative 4b by transmetallation with zinc chloride) proceeded even at room temperature, to give the dienyl-substituted glycine derivative 6 as the only isolated product in 72% yield. The structure of 6 is indicative of the same mode of cyclopropane ring opening as that seen in the reaction of 1c with sodiomalonate to give 5. Surprisingly, no reaction of the chlorozinc derivative 4c with 2-bromo-1-methylenespiropentane (3c) could be observed under the same conditions, even after 56 h at room temperature.

In contrast, reaction of **2c** with the chlorozinc derivative of diethyl malonate **4d** in the presence of PdCl₂(dppf) gave the dienylmalonate **7**, but only in moderate yield (24%), along with some polymeric material. This result can be rationalized by assuming a rapid bromine exchange between the compounds **2c** and **4d**, leading to **2d** and diethyl bromomalonate **4e**. The subsequent palladium-catalyzed coupling of **2c** with **2d** would then presumably produce the triene **8**, which would be prone to polymerization. The ¹³C-NMR spectrum of an unstable fraction with $R_f = 0.73$, isolated by column chromatography, showed signals consistent with the structure **8**. Thus, essentially the same product distribution was observed in the coupling of a twofold excess of the zinc derivative **2d** with diethyl bromomalonate **4e**, and compound **7** was isolated in 27% yield.

Formally, the structural transformations observed in these reactions are very similar to those reported for the coupling of bicyclopropylidene (2a) itself with haloarenes and alkenes under Heck conditions^[11]. Mechanistically, however, there is a difference. Whereas in the Heck reaction of 2a, ring opening occurs at the stage of the (cyclopropylmethyl)palladium intermediate 9, in the reactions re-

ported here, cyclopropylpalladium intermediates of the types **10** and/or **11** must be involved.



The conversion of **9** to **12** corresponds to the well-known (cyclopropylmethyl)metal to homoallylmetal^[12a] rearrangement, while the conversion of **10** or **11** to **13** and **14**, respectively, is analogous to the cyclopropylmetal (or cyclopropyl carbanion) to allylmetal (or allyl anion) ring opening^[12b].

To probe this mechanistic assumption, palladium-catalyzed coupling of O'Donnell's electrophilic glycine equivalent, the acetate $4f^{[13]}$, with bicyclopropylidenylzinc chloride (2d) was examined. The chlorozinc derivative 2d was generated by transmetallation of the lithio derivative 2b with ZnCl₂. Indeed, only the cyclopropylideneallyl-substituted glycine derivative 6 was isolated from this reaction, albeit in only 29% yield. This result confirms that the ring opening can at least occur in a cyclopropylpalladium intermediate of type 11.

Deprotection of compound **6** with 0.2 N hydrochloric acid followed by saponification (LiOH, THF/H₂O) yielded the amino acid **15**, which represents an interesting example of a highly unsaturated α -amino acid containing a methyl-enecyclopropane moiety (Scheme 2).

Scheme 2



The diene 7 was found to be rather unstable and polymerized even at -20° C, probably as a result of autooxidation. After a pure sample had been stored in a freezer for 6 months, only 4% of 7 could be recovered after repeated column chromatography, along with the cyclobutanone derivative **18** (9.2%). The ketone **18** can be formed from **7** via the intermediate diradicals **16**, **17**, or **19** (Scheme 3), with a cyclopropylmethyl to homoallyl radical rearrangement as a key step^[14].

In conclusion, palladium-catalyzed reaction of 2-bromo-1-methylenecyclopropane (1c) and bromobicyclopropylidene (2c) with deprotonated CH-acidic compounds 4a-dproceeds with an unexpected, yet readily rationalized ring opening of a three-membered ring, to produce dienyl-substituted derivatives 5–7. Compound 15 represents a new potentially interesting amino acid incorporating a cyclopropylidenepropenyl substituent. Scheme 3



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Experimental Section

¹H- and ¹³C-NMR spectra: at 250 (¹H) and 62.9 MHz [¹³C, additional DEPT (Distortionless Enhancement by Polarization Transfer)] on a Bruker AM 250 instrument in CDCl₃ solution, CHCl₃/CDCl₃ as internal reference. – FT-IR: Bruker IFS 66, measured as KBr pellets, or as oils between NaCl plates. – MS (EI) and MS (HR-EI): Finnigan MAT 95 spectrometer (70 eV). MS (HR-EI): pre-selected ion peak matching at $R >> 10\ 000$ to be within ±2 ppm of the exact masses. – CI-MS: with NH₃. – TLC: Macherey-Nagel precoated sheets, 0.25 mm Sil G/UV₂₅₄. – Column chromatography: Merck silica gel, grade 60, 230–400 mesh.

Starting Materials: Anhydrous diethyl ether and THF were obtained by distillation from sodium benzophenone ketyl. Compounds $2a^{[9a]}$, $3a^{[9c]}$, $2c^{[8]}$, and $4f^{[13]}$ were prepared according to published procedures. All other chemicals were used as commercially available (Merck, BASF, Bayer, Hoechst, Degussa, and Hüls AG). Organic extracts were dried over MgSO₄. All reactions were performed under argon.

General Procedure (GP1) for the Preparation of Bromides 1c and 3c: nBuLi (10 mmol, 4.29 ml of a 2.33 M solution in hexane) was added to a solution of the hydrocarbon 1a, 3a (10 mmol) in anhydrous THF (20 ml) at -78 °C. After stirring the solution at 0 °C for 1 h, it was cooled to -78 °C once more, whereupon 1,2-dibromoethane (1.08 ml, 12.5 mmol) was added. The mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature, then diluted with pentane (50 ml), and washed with water (10 × 50 ml) and satd. NaCl solution (100 ml). The organic layer was dried and slowly concentrated under normal (for 1c) or reduced (for 3c) pressure. The residue was bulb-tobulb distilled (20 °C, 0.1 Torr) to give 1c, 3c as colorless oils.

2-Bromomethylenecyclopropane (1c): From 1a (0.82 ml, 0.70 g, 13 mmol), 0.94 g (54%) of 1c was obtained according to GP1; b.p. 92°C. – ¹H NMR: $\delta = 0.78-1.45$ (m, 2 H, Cpr), 3.45 (m, 1 H, CH), 5.65 (br. s, 1 H, =CH₂), 5.80 (br. s, 1 H, =CH₂). – ¹³C NMR: $\delta = 12.77$, 118.43 (CH₂), 35.32 (CH), 107.18 (C). – MS (EI), *m/z* (%): 134/132 (14/14) [M⁺], 109/107 (43/41) [M⁺ – C₂H], 53 (100) [C₄H₅⁺]. – MS (HR-EI): 131.9574 (C4H5⁷⁹Br, calcd. 131.9575).

2-Bromo-1-methylenespiropentane (3c): From 3a (0.761 g, 9.5 mmol), 3c was obtained as a 59% solution in pentane (1.495 g,

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59%) according to GP1. - ¹H NMR: δ = 1.25–1.35 (m, 2 H, Cpr), 1.36–1.42 (m, 1 H, Cpr), 1.50–1.58 (m, 1 H, Cpr), 3.82 (br. s, 1 H, CH), 5.31 (d, *J* = 1.5 Hz, 1 H, =CH₂), 5.65 (br. s, 1 H, = CH₂). - ¹³C NMR: δ = 12.72, 14.40, 103.12 (CH₂), 23.40 (CH), 20.28, 136.29 (C). - MS (CI), *m/z* (%): 161/159 (25/44) [M⁺ + H], 146/144 (11/16) [M⁺ - CH₂], 133/131 (8/21) [M⁺ - C₂H₃], 121 (100). - C₆H₇Br (159.0): calcd. C 45.32, H 4.44; found C 46.32, H 5.06.

Dimethyl (Buta-1,3-dien-2-yl)malonate (5): To a solution of bis(dibenzylideneacetone)palladium(0) [Pd(dba)₂] (53.4 mg, 92.9 µmol) and 1,2-bis(diphenylphosphano)ethane (dppe) (47.2 mg, 118 µmol) in THF (1 ml), which had been stirred for 5 min at room temp., was added 2-bromo-1-methylenecyclopropane (1c) (500 mg, 3.76 mmol). After 5-10 min, the solution turned green, and a solution of dimethyl sodiomalonate, freshly prepared from NaH (100 mg, 3.33 mmol, 80% in mineral oil) and dimethyl malonate (530 mg, 4.01 mmol) in THF (3 ml), was added dropwise. After stirring at 60°C for 24 h and allowing to cool, the solution was poured into diethyl ether (20 ml), and the resulting mixture was washed with 10% NH₄Cl solution (40 ml). The aqueous phase was extracted with diethyl ether (3 \times 20 ml), the combined organic phases were dried, and then concentrated under reduced pressure. Column chromatography of the residue on silica gel (petroleum ether/Et₂O, 20:1) gave 415 mg (60%) of 5 as a colorless oil, which readily polymerized; $R_{\rm f} = 0.31. - {}^{1}$ H NMR: $\delta = 3.33$ (s, 1 H, CH), 3.79 (s, 6 H, 2 OCH₃), 5.13 (d, J = 11.0 Hz, 1 H, =CH₂), 5.20 (d, J = 17.5Hz, 1 H, =CH₂), 5.27 (s, 1 H, =CH₂), 5.41 (s, 1 H, =CH₂), 6.39 (dd, J = 11.0, 17.5 Hz, 1 H, =CH). $- {}^{13}$ C NMR: $\delta = 52.31$ (CH₃), 114.34, 120.18 (CH₂), 41.10, 137.07 (CH), 138.56, 166.91 (C). -MS (EI), m/z (%): 184 (15) [M⁺], 153 (3) [M⁺ - CH₃O], 125 (100) [M⁺ - CH₃CO₂], 65 (37) [M⁺ - 2 CH₃CO₂ - H], 59 (55) [CH₃- $CO_2^+].$

General Procedure (GP2) for the Palladium(0)-Catalyzed Substitution of the Allyl Bromide 2c: To a stirred solution of lithium diisopropylamide (LDA), prepared from nBuLi (9 mmol, 3.86 ml of a 2.33 M solution in hexane) and diisopropylamine (1.33 ml, 9.5 mmol) in THF (50 ml), a solution of ethyl N-(diphenylmethylene)glycinate (2.406 g, 9 mmol) or diethyl malonate (1.442 g, 9 mmol) in THF (10 ml) was added dropwise at -75°C over a period of 1 h. After stirring for a further 1 h at this temperature, a solution of anhydrous ZnCl₂ · THF complex^[15] (2.085 g, 10 mmol) in THF (10 ml) was added to the suspension of lithio compound over a period of 15 min, with the temperature maintained at -75 °C. The mixture was stirred for 0.5 h at 0°C and then for 1 h at 20°C, before being cannulated into a solution of bromobicyclopropylidene (2c) (1.590 g, 10 mmol) and PdCl₂(dppf) (365 mg, 5 mol%) in THF (40 ml) at 0°C. After stirring for 24 h at 20°C, the solution was poured into a cold, satd. NH₄Cl solution (40 ml), the resulting mixture was diluted with diethyl ether (20 ml), and the organic layer was separated. It was washed with satd. NH₄Cl solution, dried, and concentrated under reduced pressure, and the residue was purified by column chromatography on silica gel deactivated with ammonia.

Ethyl N-(Diphenylmethylene)(1-cyclopropylideneprop-2-enyl)glycinate (6): By reaction of 2c (1.431 g, 9.0 mmol) and 4b [prepared from ethyl N-(diphenylmethylene)glycinate (2.388 g, 9 mmol), nBuLi (9.4 mmol, 4.03 ml of a 2.33 M solution in hexane), diisopropylamine (1.33 ml, 9.5 mmol) and anhydrous ZnCl₂· THF (2.126 g, 10.2 mmol) in THF (50 ml)] according to GP2, 2.232 g (72%) of 6 was obtained after column chromatography (100 g of deactivated silica gel, 40 × 4 cm, hexane/EtOAc, 3:1); $R_f = 0.49$, m.p. $32-34^{\circ}$ C (H₂O/MeOH). – ¹H NMR: $\delta = 0.84-1.05$ (m, 2 H, Cpr), 1.03–1.35 (m, 2 H, Cpr), 1.22 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3 H, CH₃),

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4.19 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2 H, OCH₂), 5.09 (s, 1 H, CH), 5.12 (d, J = 11.3 Hz, 1 H, =CH₂), 5.52 (d, J = 17.8 Hz, 1 H, =CH₂), 6.55 (dd, J = 11.3, 17.8 Hz, 1 H, =CH), 7.09–7.88 (m, 10 H, Ph-H). – ¹³C NMR: $\delta = 14.17$ (CH₃), 2.67, 3.02, 60.95, 114.0 (CH₂), 127.94, 128.30, 128.42, 128.87 (2 CH), 68.12, 128.54, 130.25, 134.70 (CH), 125.63, 128.11, 136.30, 139.50, 169.89, 171.60 (C). – MS (EI), m/z (%): 345 (18) [M⁺], 272 (50) [M⁺ – CO₂C₂H₅], 182 (70) [NH₂C-Ph₂⁺], 165 (16) [M⁺ – NCPh₂], 105 (100) [C₇H₇N⁺], 77 (43) [C₆H₅⁺], 51 (10) [C₄H₃⁺]. – MS (HR-EI): 345.1728 (C₂₃H₂₃NO₂, calcd. 345.1729). – C₂₃H₂₃NO₂ (345.4): calcd. C 79.97, H 6.71; found C 80.02, H 6.47.

To a suspension of **2b**, prepared from **2a** (1.800 g, 22.5 mmol) and *n*BuLi (22.5 mmol, 9.67 ml of a 2.33 M solution in hexane) as described above, a solution of anhydrous $\text{ZnCl}_2 \cdot \text{THF}$ (5.620 g, 27 mmol) in THF (15 ml) was added at $-78 \,^\circ\text{C}$. After stirring at 20 $^\circ\text{C}$ for 1 h, the solution was cannulated into a mixture of **4f** (4.880 g, 15 mmol) and PdCl₂(dppf) (548 mg, 5 mol%) in THF (100 ml). After stirring this mixture at 20 $^\circ\text{C}$ for 24 h, the solution was worked-up according to GP2. Yield 1.488 g (29%) of **6** after column chromatography (200 g of deactivated silica gel, 40 \times 5 cm, hexane/ Et₂O, 7:3).

Diethyl (1-Cyclopropylideneprop-2-envl)malonate (7): By reaction of 2c (1.590 g, 10.0 mmol) and 4d [prepared from nBuLi (10.5 mmol, 4.51 ml of a 2.33 M solution in hexane), diisopropylamine (1.47 ml, 10.5 mmol), diethyl malonate (1.52 ml, 10.0 mmol), and a solution of anhydrous ZnCl₂·THF (2.50 g, 12 mmol) in THF (15 ml) as described abovel according to GP2, 7 (0.563 g, 24%) was obtained after column chromatography on deactivated silica gel (hexane/diethyl ether, 5:2); $R_{\rm f} = 0.40$. – IR (film): $\tilde{v} = 2982 \text{ cm}^{-1}$, 1734, 1446, 1368, 1311, 1247, 1153, 1035. – ¹H NMR: δ = 1.20-1.29 (m, 10 H, 2 Cpr, 2 CH₃), 4.14-4.25 (m, 4 H, 2 OCH₂), 4.49 (br. s, 1 H, CH), 5.04 (d, J = 12.8 Hz, 1 H, =CH₂), 5.10 (d, J = 19.2 Hz, 1 H, =CH₂), 6.59 (dd, J = 12.8, 19.2 Hz, 1 H, = CH). $-{}^{13}$ C NMR: $\delta = 13.96$ (2 CH₃), 61.41 (2 CH₂), 2.27, 3.55, 111.62 (CH₂), 53.94, 136.29 (CH), 120.57, 129.84, 168.01 (C). -MS (EI), m/z (%): 238 (3) [M⁺], 209 (7) [M⁺ - C₂H₅], 165 (100) $[M^+ - CO_2C_2H_5]$, 137 (5), 119 (17), 91 (27). – MS (HR-EI): 238.1205 (C13H18O4, calcd. 238.1205). - C13H18O4 (238.3): calcd. C 65.53, H 7.61; found C 65.27, H 7.81.

The solution of **2d**, prepared as described above from **2a** (1.593 g, 19.9 mmol), *n*BuLi (19.9 mmol, 8.54 ml of a 2.33 M solution in hexane) in THF (35 ml) and anhydrous $\text{ZnCl}_2 \cdot \text{THF}$ (4.585 g, 22 mmol) in THF (10 ml), was cannulated into a mixture of diethyl bromomalonate (**4e**) (2.391 g, 1.71 ml, 10 mmol) and PdCl₂(dppf) (366 mg, 5 mol%) in THF (50 ml). After stirring at 20°C for 24 h, the solution was worked-up according to GP2. Yield 0.641 g (27%) of **7** after column chromatography (150 g of deactivated silica gel, 40×4 cm, hexane/Et₂O, 5:2).

[3-(Cyclopropylidene)prop-1-en-3-yl]glycine (15): Compound 6 (2.304 g, 6.67 mmol) was stirred in 0.2 N HCl solution (200 ml) for 70 h at 20 °C, completely protected from light. The reaction mixture was adjusted to pH 8 with conc. NH₄OH solution and then extracted with Et₂O. After concentration under reduced pressure, the ethereal extract was diluted with a 3:1 mixture of THF and H₂O (120 ml) and stirred with LiOH (156 mg, 6.5 mmol) for 24 h at 20 °C. The reaction mixture was then concentrated under reduced pressure and brought to pH 2 with 0.2 N HCl solution. Subsequent concentration of the solution, filtration through Dowex-50 (3 × 20 cm column, eluent 0.9 N NH₄OH), followed by repeated concentration and recrystallization from acetone/H₂O gave 139 mg (14%) of **15**, m.p. 148–150 °C (decomp.). – IR (KBr): $\tilde{v} = 2978$ cm⁻¹, 1735, 1617, 1576, 1446, 1284, 1181, 1030, 911, 732, 696. – ¹H NMR (D₂O): δ = 1.05 (br. s, 4 H, Cpr), 4.47 (s, 1 H, CH), 5.00 (d, *J* = 11.0 Hz, 1 H, =CH₂), 5.15 (d, *J* = 18.4 Hz, 1 H, =CH₂), 6.36 (dd, *J* = 11.0, 18.4 Hz, 1 H, =CH). - ¹³C NMR (D₂O): δ = 3.23, 4.09, 114.38 (CH₂), 55.40, 135.81 (CH), 122.69, 134.63, 174.56 (C). - MS (CI), *m*/*z* (%): 187 (100) [M⁺ + 2 NH₃]. - C₈H₁₁NO₂ (153.2): calcd. C 62.72, H 7.24; found C 62.58, H 7.11.

Diethyl (2-Vinylcyclobutan-1-one-2-yl)malonate (18): Compound 7 (500 mg, 2.1 mmol) was stored at -20° C for 6 months. Thereafter, repeated column chromatography on deactivated silica gel (50 g, column 25 \times 3.2 cm, hexane/Et₂O, 5:2) gave 7 (21 mg, 4.2%) and 18 (49 mg, 9.2%); $R_{\rm f} = 0.32$. $- {}^{1}{\rm H}$ NMR: $\delta = 1.22$ (t, J =7.1 Hz, 3 H, CH₃), 1.24 (t, J = 7.1 Hz, 3 H, CH₃), 2.17 (dt, J =12.1, 7.7 Hz, 1 H, CH₂), 2.57 (dt, J = 12.1, 9.0 Hz, 1 H, CH₂), $3.08 \text{ (dd, } J = 7.7, 9.0 \text{ Hz}, 2 \text{ H}, \text{ CH}_2\text{)}, 4.16 \text{ (q, } J = 7.1 \text{ Hz}, 2 \text{ H},$ OCH₂), 4.17 (s, 1 H, CH), 4.18 (q, J = 7.1 Hz, 2 H, OCH₂), 5.23 $(d, J = 10.3 \text{ Hz}, 1 \text{ H}, =CH_2), 5.29 (d, J = 16.7 \text{ Hz}, 1 \text{ H}, =CH_2),$ 5.81 (dd, J = 10.3, 16.7 Hz, 1 H, =CH). $- {}^{13}$ C NMR: $\delta = 13.86$, 13.97 (CH₃), 19.95, 43.61, 61.43, 61.86, 116.72 (CH₂), 56.44, 134.68 (CH), 68.67, 166.80, 167.28, 207.51 (C). - MS (EI), m/z (%): 254 (4) $[M^+]$, 180 (8) $[M^+ - H - CO_2C_2H_5]$, 160 (8) $[M^+ - C_6H_6O]$, 133 (61) $[M^+ - C_6H_7O - C_2H_2]$, 115 (100) $[M^+ - C_6H_7O - C_2H_2]$ - H₂O], 111 (5), 88 (32). - MS (HR-EI): 254.1154 (C₁₃H₁₈O₅, calcd. 254.1154). – $C_{13}H_{18}O_5$ (254.3): calcd. C 61.41, H 7.14; found C 61.72, H 7.35.

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 [^{15]} Commercial ZnCl₂ was twice melted in vacuo (0.1 Torr), recrystallized from anhydrous THF, and dried at 20°C/0.1 Torr for 4 h. ¹H-NMR spectroscopic analysis (D₂O, DMSO as internal reference) of a precisely weighed sample of the product showed it to be a 1:1 ZnCl₂ THF complex. This complex shows much better solubility in THF than pure ZnCl₂ and was used in the described coupling experiments. described coupling experiments.

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