

## Construction of Bi- and Tricyclic Skeletons by Domino-*Heck*–*Diels*–*Alder* Reactions

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Dedicated to Professor *Dieter Seebach* on the occasion of his 65th birthday

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Palladium-catalyzed intramolecular reactions of 2-bromo 1,6-dienes followed by intermolecular [4 + 2] cycloaddition with suitable dienophiles in one-pot operations gave hexahydroindenes **8** and **9** in yields of 40–78%, an hexahydro-*s*-indacene derivative **13** could be obtained in up to 25% yield with cyclopent-2-en-1-one (**10**) as a dienophile in the presence of different *Lewis* acids, and a spirocyclopentane-hexahydroindenone **18** could be isolated in 72% yield. When *in-situ*-formed iminium salts were used as heterodienophiles, hexahydro-1*H*-[2]pyrindinols **31** could be obtained in a one-pot two-step operation in 29–46% yield.

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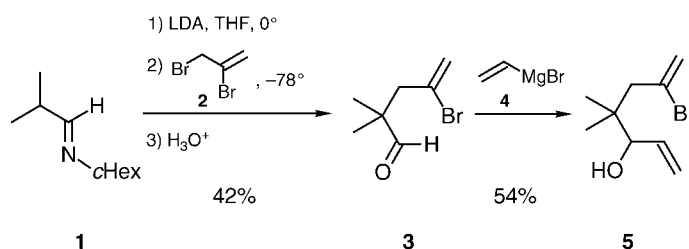
**Introduction.** – Domino reactions have emerged as a particularly versatile method for the construction of bi- and tricyclic systems, as they achieve the stereocontrolled formation of more than two new bonds in a single operational step [1]. Among the many new transition-metal-catalyzed reactions, the Pd-catalyzed *Heck* cross-coupling reaction has become one of the most important methods for C–C bond-formation [2]. Hexahydroindenes are easily prepared in a one-pot procedure starting from 2-bromo 1,6-dienes, which, by an intramolecular *Heck* reaction, first afford a 1,2-dimethyldienylcyclopentane<sup>1)</sup> that, in the presence of a dienophile, immediately undergoes an intermolecular *Diels*–*Alder* reaction. The reaction has been thoroughly studied for 2-bromo 1,6-dienes containing a dialkyl malonate unit at the 4-position, simply because the starting materials can easily be prepared by twofold alkylation of dialkyl malonates [4]. Geminal disubstitution in the open-chain precursor does play a role in the intramolecular *Heck* reaction because of the *Thorpe-Ingold* effect [5], but it is not essential for the success of the intramolecular coupling [4a]. With regard to the synthesis of natural products, the geminal ester groups would have to be replaced by geminal dimethyl groups. Therefore, in this paper, we report a study of the synthesis and Pd-catalyzed cyclization of 2-bromo 1,6-dienes with geminal dimethyl groups with respect to various Pd catalysts, solvents, bases, and ligands.

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<sup>1)</sup> Dimethyldienylcycloalkanes can also be formed by cyclization of acetylenic vinylolithiums generated from the corresponding acetylenic vinyl bromides by Li/Br exchange [3].

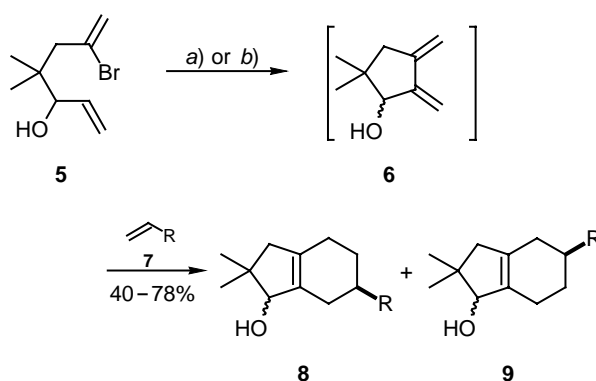
**Results and Discussion.** – *Formation of Carbocyclic Systems.* The synthesis of 2-bromo 1,6-dienes with geminal dimethyl groups is not as straightforward as that with geminal diester groups, which are disubstituted dialkyl malonates [4a]. However, the imine **1**, prepared from isobutyraldehyde and cyclohexylamine, can be deprotonated with lithium diisopropylamide (LDA) [6], and alkylation of the azaenolate with 2,3-dibromopropene (**2**) followed by acid-catalyzed hydrolysis furnishes the bromo aldehyde **3** in 42% isolated yield. Because of its instability, **3** has to be immediately converted further, *e.g.*, by reaction with vinylmagnesium bromide (**4**) to give 2-bromo-4,4-dimethylhepta-1,6-dien-5-ol (**5**) in 54% yield (*Scheme 1*).

Scheme 1. Preparation of 2-Bromo-4,4-dimethylhepta-1,6-dien-5-ol (**5**)



2-Bromo 1,6-dienes of type **5** have been shown to cyclize in the presence of  $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$ ,  $\text{Ph}_3\text{P}$ , and  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  or  $\text{Ag}_2\text{CO}_3$  to afford 1,2-bis(exomethylene)cyclopentanes of type **6**, which can subsequently undergo *Diels–Alder* reactions to give hexahydroindene derivatives **8** and **9**. As previous studies have revealed that the yields without isolation of intermediate **6** are consistently higher than those obtained in two steps, the reactions of **5** with acrylates and methyl vinyl ketone were carried out as single one-pot operations (*Scheme 2*) [4][7].

Scheme 2. Cyclization of **5** and *Diels–Alder* Reaction



a)  $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$  (5 mol-%),  $\text{Ph}_3\text{P}$  (10 mol-%),  $\text{Ag}_2\text{CO}_3$  (1.2 equiv.), MeCN,  $80^\circ$ , 18 h. b)  $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$  (5 mol-%),  $\text{Ph}_3\text{P}$  (10 mol-%),  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  (2 equiv.), MeCN,  $80^\circ$ , 18 h. For details, see *Table 1*.

In a typical experiment, a solution of the bromo diene **5** (1 mmol), the dienophile **7** (3 mmol), a base (1.2–2 mmol), Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (5 mol%), and Ph<sub>3</sub>P (10 mol%) was heated in anhydrous MeCN at 80° for 18 h.

In an effort to elucidate the conditions for this transformation, the 2-bromo 1,6-diene **5** in the presence of various dienophiles and different bases was subjected to such conditions. The products, mixtures of regioisomers and diastereoisomers **8** and **9**, were obtained in higher yields when K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> instead of Ag<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> was used as a base. The latter is known to suppress not only double-bond migration but also the *Heck* reaction (Table 1, Entries 1, 3, and 5). The best yields resulted with methyl acrylate (Entries 1 and 2), but the regioisomeric excess was low, even when the sterically more-demanding *tert*-butyl acrylate was used (Entries 3 and 4). Each regioisomer was a mixture of diastereoisomers. The diastereoisomeric ratios could not be determined from the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra of the mixtures since the peaks were not well-resolved.

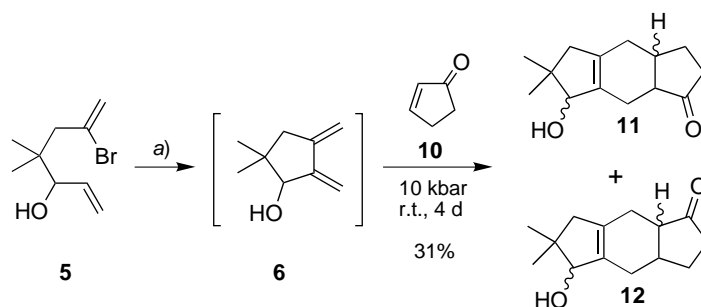
Table 1. Heck–Diels–Alder Reaction of **5** with Different Dienophiles under Various Conditions

| Entry | Base                            | R                               | Product       | Yield [%] | Ratio <b>8/9</b> <sup>a)</sup> |
|-------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------|-----------|--------------------------------|
| 1     | Ag <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> | CO <sub>2</sub> Me              | <b>8a, 9a</b> | 41        | 1.5 : 1                        |
| 2     | K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>  | CO <sub>2</sub> Me              | <b>8a, 9a</b> | 78        | 1.5 : 1                        |
| 3     | Ag <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> | CO <sub>2</sub> ( <i>t</i> -Bu) | <b>8b, 9b</b> | 40        | 1.9 : 1                        |
| 4     | K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>  | CO <sub>2</sub> ( <i>t</i> -Bu) | <b>8b, 9b</b> | 62        | 1.9 : 1                        |
| 5     | Ag <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub> | COMe                            | <b>8c, 9c</b> | 56        | 1.9 : 1                        |
| 6     | K <sub>2</sub> CO <sub>3</sub>  | COMe                            | <b>8c, 9c</b> | 70        | 1.9 : 1                        |

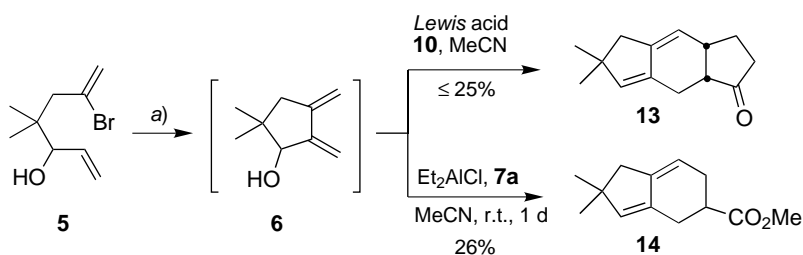
<sup>a)</sup> The ratios of the regioisomers were determined by integration of the relevant peaks in the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra after oxidation of **8** and **9** to the corresponding ketones.

With cyclopent-2-en-1-one (**10**) as a dienophile, this *Heck–Diels–Alder* reaction should allow easy access to decahydro-*s*-indacene derivatives [8]. Because of the low reactivity of **10** under the established conditions described above, only decomposition could be detected after 14 days of heating. Carrying out the reaction as a one-pot two-step operation, in which the *Diels–Alder* reaction was performed at 10 kbar [9], gave the regioisomeric decahydro-*s*-indacene derivatives **11** and **12** after 4 d in 31% yield as a mixture of diastereoisomers (Scheme 3).

*Diels–Alder* reactions can be accelerated not only by high pressure (for recent reviews on high-pressure chemistry, see [9]), but also by addition of *Lewis* acids such as LiBF<sub>4</sub> [10], BF<sub>3</sub>·OEt<sub>2</sub>, dialkylaluminum chlorides, trialkylaluminum, or alkoxytitanium halides. With LiBF<sub>4</sub> added to the mixture of **5**, **10**, and the catalyst cocktail, the hexahydro-*s*-indacene derivative **13** was obtained as the only product, which must be formed from **11** by *Lewis* acid promoted elimination of H<sub>2</sub>O. The reaction time of 14 d was very long, and even the best yield was only 25% (Table 2, Entry 1). Apparently, the dimethylidenylcyclopentanol **6** is not stable enough under these conditions for extended times. Therefore, Et<sub>2</sub>AlCl was tested as a *Lewis* acid. After only 18 h, the product **13** could be isolated in 22% yield, but a large number of unidentified side products were also formed (Entry 2). In our search for a *Lewis* acid that is not as strong as Et<sub>2</sub>AlCl but strong enough to catalyze the reaction, AlMe<sub>3</sub> and Ti(O<sup>*i*</sup>Pr)<sub>4</sub> were also tested (Entries 4 and 5). With these, however, no hexahydro-*s*-indacene derivative was observed; only the starting material could be recovered. With only 1.5 equiv. of

Scheme 3. Heck–Diels–Alder Reaction of **5** with Cyclopentenone **10** as a Dienophile

a)  $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$  (5 mol-%),  $\text{Ph}_3\text{P}$  (10 mol-%),  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  (1 equiv.), MeCN,  $80^\circ$ , 18 h.

Scheme 4. Reaction of **5** with **10** in the Presence of a Lewis Acid

a)  $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$  (5 mol-%),  $\text{Ph}_3\text{P}$  (10 mol-%),  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  (1 equiv.), MeCN,  $80^\circ$ , 18 h. For details, see Table 2.

Table 2. Heck–Diels–Alder Domino Reaction of **5** with Cyclopentenone **10** in the Presence of Different Lewis Acids

| Entry | Lewis acid (equiv.), time                    | Product   | Yield [%]       |
|-------|--|-----------|-----------------|
| 1     | $\text{LiBF}_4$ (3), 14 d                    | <b>13</b> | 25              |
| 2     | $\text{Et}_2\text{AlCl}$ (3), 18 h           | <b>13</b> | 22              |
| 3     | $\text{Et}_2\text{AlCl}$ (1.5), 18 h         | <b>13</b> | 6 <sup>a)</sup> |
| 4     | $\text{Me}_3\text{Al}$ (3), 72 h             | <b>5</b>  | – <sup>b)</sup> |
| 5     | $\text{Ti}(\text{O}^i\text{Pr})_4$ (3), 72 h | <b>5</b>  | – <sup>b)</sup> |

<sup>a)</sup> Additionally, 17% of diene **6** was recovered. <sup>b)</sup> Only decomposition was observed.

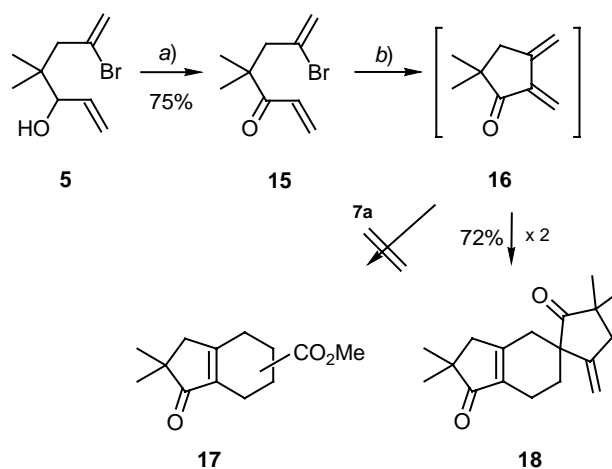
$\text{Et}_2\text{AlCl}$ , only 6% of **13** and 17% of the dimethyldenylicycloalkane could be isolated (Entry 3).

After this partial success with an added Lewis acid, the Diels–Alder reaction of the preformed intermediate **6** with methyl acrylate (**7a**) was also tested in the presence of  $\text{Et}_2\text{AlCl}$ .

Towards that end, a solution of  $\text{Et}_2\text{AlCl}$  (3 equiv.) and **7a** (3 equiv.) in MeCN, which had been stirred for 15 min, was added to the mixture containing **6**, and stirring was continued at ambient temperature for 1 d. The expected tetrahydroindene **14** could be isolated in 26% yield, along with a considerable amount of decomposition product.

To avoid the formation of diastereoisomeric mixtures, the bromoheptadienol **5** was oxidized to the ketone **15** according to the *Swern* protocol [11]. Surprisingly, when the bromodienone **15** was treated with the Pd catalyst in the presence of **7a**, the expected product **17** was not observed, but the hexahydrospiro(cyclopentaneinden)one **18** was isolated as a single product in 72% yield (*Scheme 5*). Even in the presence of a large excess of **7a** (10 equiv.), only **18** was formed. Apparently, the  $\alpha,\beta$ -unsaturated enone moiety in the 5,5-dimethyl-2,3-dimethylenecyclopentanone **16** first formed is a far better dienophile than **7a**. It is remarkable that the hexahydroindenone **18** was formed as a single regio- as well as diastereoisomer, the structure of which was established by X-ray-analysis (*Fig.*)<sup>2</sup>.

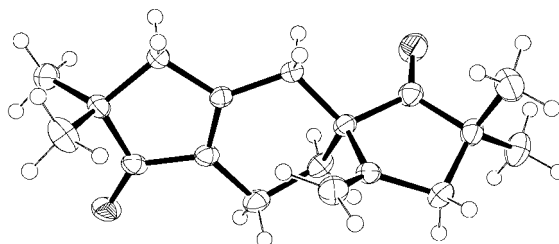
Scheme 5. Swern Oxidation of the Bromodiene **5** and Palladium-Catalyzed Reaction of **15**



a)  $(\text{COCl})_2$ , DMSO,  $\text{Et}_3\text{N}$ ,  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , r.t., 18 h. b)  $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$  (5 mol-%),  $\text{Ph}_3\text{P}$  (10 mol-%),  $\text{Ag}_2\text{CO}_3$  (1.25 equiv.), MeCN,  $80^\circ$ , 18 h.

The mono- and dimethyl-substituted bromodienes **25** and **27** could be prepared from the *t*-Bu-substituted isobutyraldehyde imine in close analogy to the synthesis of **5** with (*E*)-1,2-dibromobut-2-ene (**22**) and 1,2-dibromo-3-methylbut-2-ene (**23**) instead of 2,3-dibromopropene in the alkylation of the azoenolate. In view of the illudine sesquiterpenes with their tetrahydroindene skeleton, the synthesis of such compounds

<sup>2</sup>) Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) for the structures reported in this paper have been deposited with the *Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre* as deposition No. CCDC-185854. Copies of this data can be obtained, free of charge, on application to the CCDC, 12 Union Rd., Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK (fax: +44(1223)336-033; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

Figure. Structure of **18** in the crystal<sup>2)</sup>

with a Me group at C(4) of the hexahydroindene derivative was of interest in this context [12].

Deprotonation of **21** with LDA, alkylation with **22** or **23**, and acidic workup gave the aldehydes **24** and **26** in moderate yields of 54 and 48%, respectively. Addition of vinylmagnesium bromide (**4**) yielded the bromodienes **25** and **27** in 45 and 47% yields, respectively (Scheme 6).

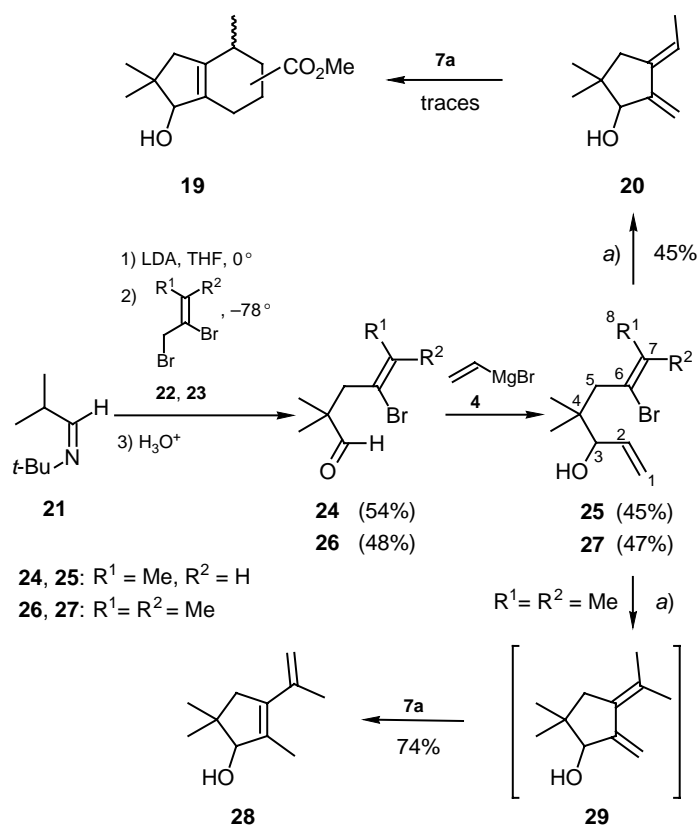
When the bromodiene **25** was subjected to the usual conditions of the domino Heck–Diels–Alder reaction, the exocyclic diene **20** could be isolated in 45% yield, but only a trace of the hexahydroindenes **19** could be detected. It is a bit surprising that the Diels–Alder reaction of **20** did not occur easily in spite of the *s-cis* conformation of its 1,3-diene unit.

Under the same conditions, the dimethyl-substituted bromodiene **27** gave no bicyclic compound at all. Only the isopropenylcyclopentenol **28** was isolated in 74% yield; **28** probably results from the exocyclic diene **29** first formed by isomerization, which can occur either by re-addition with reversed regioselectivity of the eliminated hydridopalladium bromide and subsequent elimination of hydridopalladium bromide [13], or by a concerted suprafacial 1,5-H-shift. Cyclopentadienes are known to undergo such 1,5-H-shifts rapidly at room temperature; for this rearrangement to occur in acyclic or exocyclic dienes, higher temperatures (>250°) are usually required [14], although the *s-cis* conformation of **29** should facilitate such a 1,5-H-shift. The substitution pattern in the resulting diene **28** does not favor a conformation that would allow a Diels–Alder reaction to occur.

**Formation of Heterocyclic Systems.** Since N-containing heterocyclic systems are of particular interest because of their potential biological activities, the domino Heck–Diels–Alder sequence was also applied to the preparation of azabicycles. This can be achieved by incorporation of the N-atom in the cyclization precursor, as described in an earlier publication [15].

Another possibility is to use N-atom-containing dienophiles, such as imines and nitroso compounds [16]. For such hetero-Diels–Alder reactions, either the imines have to be electron deficient or the dienes particularly electron rich. Activation by added Lewis acids has also been used in many cases. Larsen and Grieco reported that imines formed *in situ* from formaldehyde and an amine hydrochloride react with unactivated dienes without added Lewis acids [17]. This approach has been adopted for the use with formaldehyde and amino acid ester hydrochlorides by Waldmann [18].

Since formaldehyde would immediately reduce the Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> precatalyst to inactive Pd black, the domino Heck–Diels–Alder reaction of the 2-bromo 1,6-diene

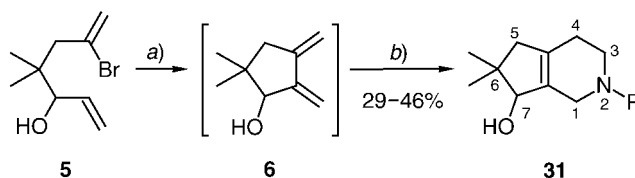
Scheme 6. Preparation of the Bromodienes **25** and **27**

a)  $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$  (5 mol-%),  $\text{Ph}_3\text{P}$  (10 mol-%),  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  (2 equiv.), MeCN, 80°, 18 h.

**5** with such iminium hydrochlorides had to be carried out by the one-pot two-step variant [15]. Thus, a mixture of **5**,  $\text{Pd}(\text{OAc})_2$  (5 mol%),  $\text{Ph}_3\text{P}$  (10 mol%), and  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  (1 equiv.) in MeCN was first heated at 80° for 18 h. After cooling to room temperature, formaldehyde, glycine methyl ester hydrochloride (**30a**), and  $\text{H}_2\text{O}$  were added. After an additional 18 h at ambient temperature, the hexahydro-1*H*-[2]pyridine derivative **31a** could be isolated in 26% yield as a single regioisomer (*Table 3, Entry 1*). This yield could be improved to 38% by reducing the amount of  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  from 1 equiv. to 0.5 equiv. (*Entry 2*) [15]. In an effort to evaluate the scope and limitations of this transformation, **5** was subjected to various conditions (*Entries 3–6*). With  $\text{Ag}_2\text{CO}_3$  as the base, the yield was only 11% (*Entry 3*). Neither using MeOH instead of water nor heating to 50° increased the yield (*Entries 4 and 5*). In a reaction with the *in-situ*-formed iminium salt from cyclopentylamine (**30d**), the change from MeCN to THF for the first step led to incomplete reaction; 45% of the exocyclic diene **6** could be recovered (*Entry 11*). In an attempt to carry out the *Diels–Alder* reaction under a pressure of 10 kbar, only

decomposition was observed (*Entry 6*). The best yields were obtained when only 0.5 equiv. of  $K_2CO_3$  was used. Under these optimized conditions, different amines were tested. The use of  $NH_4Cl$  led only to decomposition (*Entry 8*). Benzylamine hydrochloride (**30b**) gave **31b** in 46% yield (*Entry 7*); cyclopropylamine hydrochloride (**30c**) led to **31c** in only 36% yield (*Entry 9*). Cyclopentylamine hydrochloride (**30d**) and cyclohexylamine hydrochloride (**30e**) also gave low yields of 31 and 29% of **31d** and **31e**, respectively (*Entries 10 and 12*). In all cases, the iminium salts formed *in situ* gave only a single isolated regioisomer, in contrast to the reactions with most all-C dienophiles (see above).

Scheme 7. One-Pot Two-Step Domino Heck–Diels–Alder Reactions of **5** and In-Situ-Formed Iminium Salts



a)  $Pd(OAc)_2$  (5 mol-%),  $Ph_3P$  (10 mol-%),  $K_2CO_3$  (0.5–1 equiv.), MeCN,  $80^\circ$ , 18 h. b) Formaldehyde, amine hydrochloride,  $R-NH_3Cl$  (**30**, 3 equiv.),  $H_2O$ , r.t., 18 h. For details, see Table 3.

Table 3. Reaction of **5** with Amine Salts **30** as Heterodienophiles

| Entry | Amine salt <b>30</b>         | Base (equiv.)    | Product    | Yield [%]         |
|-------|------------------------------|------------------|------------|-------------------|
| 1     | <b>a</b> : $R = CH_2CO_2Me$  | $K_2CO_3$ (1)    | <b>31a</b> | 26                |
| 2     | <b>a</b> : $R = CH_2CO_2Me$  | $K_2CO_3$ (0.5)  | <b>31a</b> | 38                |
| 3     | <b>a</b> : $R = CH_2CO_2Me$  | $Ag_2CO_3$ (0.5) | <b>31a</b> | 11                |
| 4     | <b>a</b> : $R = CH_2CO_2Me$  | $K_2CO_3$ (0.5)  | <b>31a</b> | 4 <sup>a</sup> )  |
| 5     | <b>a</b> : $R = CH_2CO_2Me$  | $K_2CO_3$ (0.5)  | <b>31a</b> | 4 <sup>b</sup> )  |
| 6     | <b>a</b> : $R = CH_2CO_2Me$  | $K_2CO_3$ (0.5)  | <b>31a</b> | — <sup>c</sup> )  |
| 7     | <b>b</b> : $R = Bn$          | $K_2CO_3$ (0.5)  | <b>31b</b> | 46                |
| 8     | $NH_4Cl$                     | $K_2CO_3$ (0.5)  | —          | —                 |
| 9     | <b>c</b> : $R = cyclopropyl$ | $K_2CO_3$ (0.5)  | <b>31c</b> | 36                |
| 10    | <b>d</b> : $R = cyclopentyl$ | $K_2CO_3$ (0.5)  | <b>31d</b> | 31                |
| 11    | <b>d</b> : $R = cyclopentyl$ | $K_2CO_3$ (0.5)  | <b>31d</b> | 10 <sup>d</sup> ) |
| 12    | <b>e</b> : $R = cyclohexyl$  | $K_2CO_3$ (0.5)  | <b>31e</b> | 29                |

<sup>a</sup>) MeOH instead of  $H_2O$  was used. <sup>b</sup>) Cycloaddition at  $50^\circ$ . <sup>c</sup>) 10 kbar, 3 d, decomposition. <sup>d</sup>) In THF instead of MeCN, 45% of **6** could also be isolated.

**Conclusions.** – A one-step synthesis of bicyclic and tricyclic compounds starting from 2-bromohepta-1,6-dienes with geminal dimethyl groups has been accomplished. Although, with all-C dienophiles, the regioselectivities are not very high, this approach is noteworthy in view of its simplicity. With *in-situ*-generated iminium hydrochlorides, azabicycles are formed in low-to-moderate yields, but with complete regioselectivity.

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## Experimental Part

**General.** <sup>1</sup>H-NMR Spectra: *Bruker AM-250* spectrometer (250 MHz) at ambient temp. in CDCl<sub>3</sub> with CHCl<sub>3</sub> ( $\delta$  = 7.26) or SiMe<sub>4</sub> ( $\delta$  = 0.00) as int. standard; chemical shifts  $\delta$  in ppm, coupling constants *J* as abs. values to the nearest 0.1 Hz. <sup>13</sup>C-NMR Spectra: *Bruker AM-250* (62.9 MHz) at ambient temp. in CDCl<sub>3</sub> with  $\delta$  (CDCl<sub>3</sub>) = 77.0 as int. standard; multiplicities determined by the DEPT pulse sequence unless otherwise indicated; signals that could not be unambiguously assigned, are marked with asterisks (\*-\*\*\*) IR Spectra: *Bruker IFS-66* FT-IR spectrometer  $\nu$  in cm<sup>-1</sup>. MS: *Varian MAT-CH-7* or *MAT-731*; electron-impact (EI) ionization at 70 eV or direct chemical ionization with NH<sub>3</sub> as reactant gas. HR-MS: *Varian MAT-311, INCOS 50* with *Varian 34000* (GC/MS); preselected ion peak-matching at *R*  $\approx$  10000 within  $\pm$  2 ppm. Elemental analyses were performed by the Mikroanalytisches Labor des Instituts für Organische Chemie der Universität Göttingen, Germany. All solvents were distilled before use. Column chromatography (CC): *Merck* silica gel 60 (230–400 mesh, 0.063–0.200 mm); TLC plates: *Macherey-Nagel Alugram Sil G/UV*, detection under UV at 254 or 366 nm. For substances that were not UV active, the plates were developed with anisaldehyde soln. Unless specified otherwise, NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, NaHCO<sub>3</sub>, and NaCl were used as sat. aq. solns. Anh. solvents were prepared according to standard laboratory techniques [19]. All reactions with organometallic substances were performed under N<sub>2</sub> and exclusion of H<sub>2</sub>O. In these cases, the glassware used was heated *in vacuo* to remove all H<sub>2</sub>O. Reactions under high pressure were performed in sealed *Teflon* tubes in a commercial high-pressure apparatus from *Andreas Hofer GmbH* (Mülheim a.d. Ruhr, Germany). All chemicals were used as commercially available, unless otherwise noted. The substances N-(cyclohexyl)-N-[(1E)-2-methylpropylidene]amine (**1**) and N-(tert-butyl)-N-[(1E)-2-methylpropylidene]amine (**21**) were prepared according to literature procedures [6].

**6-Bromo-4,4-dimethylhepta-1,6-dien-3-ol (5).** To a soln. of LDA (60.0 mmol) in anh. THF (25 ml) was added **1** (7.67 g, 50.0 mmol) and 2,3-dibromoprop-1-ene (**2**) (10.0 g, 50.0 mmol), and the mixture was stirred at –78° for 2 h. To the resulting mixture was added a mixture of AcOH/H<sub>2</sub>O/NaOAc (1:4:1, 50 ml), the aq. layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3  $\times$  50 ml), and the combined org. layers were dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>). The solvent was removed under reduced pressure to yield 4.01 g (42%) of 4-bromo-2,2-dimethylpent-4-enal (**3**), which was immediately dissolved in anh. THF (25 ml), and 30 mmol vinylmagnesium bromide (30 ml, 1.0M in THF) was added at –78°. After warming to r.t., H<sub>2</sub>O (50 ml) was added, and the aq. layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3  $\times$  30 ml). The combined org. layers were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. CC of the crude product (80 g SiO<sub>2</sub>, 3.5  $\times$  20 cm, pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 4:1) yielded 2.48 g (54%) of **5**. Colorless oil. *R*<sub>f</sub> (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 4:1) 0.34. IR (film): 3429 (OH), 2965, 2932, 2874, 1623 (C=C), 1471, 1427, 1389, 1368, 1190, 1124, 1090, 1041, 996, 930, 893. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 0.97 (s, Me–C(4)); 1.01 (s, Me–C(4)); 1.61 (s, OH); 2.42 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>AB</sub> = 14.2 Hz, H–C(5)); 2.69 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>AB</sub> = 14.2 Hz, H–C(5)); 3.95 (d, <sup>3</sup>J = 6.6 Hz, H–C(3)); 5.19–5.31 (m, 2 H–C(1)); 5.58–5.59 (m, 2 H–C(7)); 5.94 (ddd, <sup>3</sup>J = 6.6, <sup>3</sup>J = 10.5, <sup>3</sup>J = 17.1 Hz, H–C(2)). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 22.4 (Me–C(4)); 23.6 (Me–C(4)); 38.4 (C(4)); 49.0 (C(5)); 78.9 (C(3)); 117.1 (C(7)\*); 120.9 (C(1)\*); 129.9 (C(6)); 137.3 (C(2)). EI-MS: 163/161 (98/100, [M–C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O]<sup>+</sup>), 139 (44, [M–Br]<sup>+</sup>), 135/133 (26/26), 121 (17, [M–HBr–OH]<sup>+</sup>), 98 (16, [M–C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>Br–Me]<sup>+</sup>), 81 (16, [M–C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>Br–Me–OH]<sup>+</sup>), 67 (15, [M–C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O–Br–Me]<sup>+</sup>), 58 (36), 57 (32, [C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O]<sup>+</sup>). MS (DCI, NH<sub>3</sub>): 255/253 (25/27, [M+NH<sub>4</sub>+NH<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 238/236 (98/100, [M+NH<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 220/218 (25/25, [(M–H<sub>2</sub>O)+NH<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>). Anal. calc. for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>15</sub>BrO (219.1): C 49.33, H 6.90; found: C 50.56, H 7.01.

**General Procedure for the One-Pot Heck and Subsequent Diels–Alder Reaction (GP 1).** To a soln. of 1 mmol of the respective bromo diene and 3 mmol of a dienophile in 10 ml anh. MeCN in a screw-cap Pyrex bottle were added 5 mol-% of Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub>, 10 mol-% of Ph<sub>3</sub>P, and 1.25–2 mmol of base. N<sub>2</sub> was bubbled through the mixture for 5 min, then the bottle was closed and heated at 80° for the given time. The mixture was filtered through a bed of *Celite* and charcoal and washed with Et<sub>2</sub>O. The crude product was purified by CC (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O mixtures).

**Methyl 2,3,4,5,6,7-Hexahydro-1-hydroxy-2,2-dimethyl-1H-indene-6-carboxylate (8a) and Methyl 2,3,4,5,6,7-Hexahydro-1-hydroxy-2,2-dimethyl-1H-indene-5-carboxylate (9a).** Method A. According to GP 1, **5** (219 mg, 1.00 mmol) and methyl acrylate (**7a**, 258 mg, 3.00 mmol) in anh. MeCN (10 ml) were treated with Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (11 mg, 0.050 mmol, 5 mol-%), Ph<sub>3</sub>P (26 mg, 0.10 mmol, 10 mol-%), and Ag<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (345 mg, 1.25 mmol) at 80° for 18 h. CC (18 g SiO<sub>2</sub>; 2.0  $\times$  15 cm; pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 3:1) yielded 93 mg (41%) of a 1.5:1 mixture of **8a** and **9a**. Colorless oil. *R*<sub>f</sub> (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 3:1) 0.13. IR (film): 3425, 2952, 2840, 1735 (C=O), 1653 (C=C), 1437, 1363, 1169, 1033, 998. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, mixture): 1.03 (br. s, 2 Me–C(2)); 1.27 (br. s, OH); 1.63–2.67 (m, 9 H, H–C(3), H–C(4), H–C(5), H–C(6), H–C(7)); 3.68 (s, CO<sub>2</sub>Me); 3.97 (br. s, H–C(1)). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): **8a**: 22.4 and 22.7 (C(4)\*); 22.9 (Me–C(2)); 25.5, 25.8 (C(5)\*); 28.4, (C(7)\*); 28.7 (Me–C(2)); 39.8, 39.9 (C(6)); 41.1 (C(2)); 48.8 (C(3)); 51.7 (CO<sub>2</sub>Me); 86.2, 86.3 (C(1)); 134.9, 135.0 (C(3a)\*\*);

136.1, 136.6 (C(7a)\*\*); 176.2 (CO<sub>2</sub>Me); **9a**: 22.9 (Me–C(2)); 25.0, 25.1 (C(4)\*); 26.0 (C(6)\*); 28.3 (C(7)\*); 28.8 (Me–C(2)); 39.6, 39.7 (C(5)); 41.0 (C(2)); 48.9 (C(3)); 51.7 (CO<sub>2</sub>Me); 87.0 (C(1)); 133.7 (C(3a)\*\*); 137.6, 137.9 (C(7a)\*\*); 176.3 (CO<sub>2</sub>Me). EI-MS (mixture): 224 (11, *M*<sup>+</sup>), 206 (33, [M – H<sub>2</sub>O]<sup>+</sup>), 191 (56, [M – H<sub>2</sub>O – Me]<sup>+</sup>), 164 (21, [M – MeCO<sub>2</sub>H]<sup>+</sup>), 149 (48, [M – MeCO<sub>2</sub>H – Me]<sup>+</sup>), 147 (100, [M – CO<sub>2</sub>Me – H<sub>2</sub>O]<sup>+</sup>), 131 (63), 121 (16), 105 (15), 93 (21), 91 (33), 79 (25), 77 (17), 41 (21). Anal. calc. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (224.3): C 69.91, H 8.99; found: C 69.82, H 9.24.

**Method B.** According to *GP 1*, a soln. of **5** (110 mg, 0.500 mmol) and **7a** (129 mg, 1.50 mmol) was treated with Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (5.6 mg, 0.025 mmol), Ph<sub>3</sub>P (13 mg, 0.050 mmol), and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (138 mg, 1.00 mmol) in anh. MeCN (10 ml) for 18 h at 80°. A mixture of **8a** and **9a** in the same ratio as described above was isolated in a yield of 88 mg (78%).

*tert*-Butyl 2,3,4,5,6,7-Hexahydro-1-hydroxy-2,2-dimethyl-1H-indene-6-carboxylate (**8b**) and *tert*-Butyl 2,3,4,5,6,7-Hexahydro-1-Hydroxy-2,2-dimethyl-1H-indene-5-carboxylate (**9b**). **Method A.** According to *GP 1*, **5** (219 mg, 1.00 mmol) and *tert*-butyl acrylate (**7b**) (385 mg, 3.00 mmol) in anh. MeCN (10 ml) were treated with Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (11 mg, 0.050 mmol, 5 mol-%), Ph<sub>3</sub>P (26 mg, 0.10 mmol, 10 mol-%), and Ag<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (345 mg, 1.25 mmol) at 80° for 18 h. CC (18 g SiO<sub>2</sub>; 2.0 × 15 cm; pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 3 : 1) yielded 107 mg (40%) of a 1.9 : 1 mixture of **8b** and **9b**. Colorless oil. *R*<sub>f</sub> (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 3 : 1) 0.13. IR (film, mixture): 3423, 2955, 2840, 1727 (C=O), 1461, 1392, 1368, 1288, 1255, 1154, 1105, 1031, 997, 897, 850. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, mixture): 1.02 (s, Me–C(2)); 1.03 (s, Me–C(2)); 1.44 (s, C(Me)<sub>3</sub>); 1.68–2.47 (*m*, 10 H, H–C(3), H–C(4), H–C(5), H–C(6), H–C(7), OH); 3.96 (br. s, H–C(1)). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, **8b**: 22.4, 22.7 (C(4)\*); 22.9 (Me–C(2)); 25.8 (C(5)\*); 28.1 (C(Me)<sub>3</sub>); 28.4, 28.5 (C(7)\*); 28.8 (Me–C(2)); 40.8, 40.9 (C(6)); 41.0 (C(2)); 48.9 (C(3)); 80.0 (C(Me)<sub>3</sub>); 86.3, 86.4 (C(1)); 134.8, 134.9 (C(3a)\*\*); 136.4, 136.8 (C(7a)\*\*); 175.2 (CO<sub>2</sub>C(Me)<sub>3</sub>); **9b**: 22.9 (Me–C(2)); 25.0, 25.1 (C(4)\*); 25.4, 25.5 (C(6)\*); 25.9, 26.2 (C(7)\*); 28.1 (C(Me)<sub>3</sub>); 28.7 (Me–C(2)); 40.6, 40.7 (C(5)); 41.0 (C(2)); 48.8 (C(3)); 80.0 (C(Me)<sub>3</sub>); 87.0, 87.1 (C(1)); 133.9 (C(3a)\*\*); 137.6, 137.8 (C(7a)\*\*); 175.1 (CO<sub>2</sub>C(Me)<sub>3</sub>). EI-MS (mixture): 266 (3, [*M*]<sup>+</sup>), 248 (6, [M – H<sub>2</sub>O]<sup>+</sup>), 210 (24), 193 (29, [M – OC<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 192 (100, [M – C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>OH]<sup>+</sup>), 177 (43, [M – C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>OH – Me]<sup>+</sup>), 165 (9, [M – CO<sub>2</sub>C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 164 (9, [M – C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H]<sup>+</sup>), 149 (13, [M – C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>H – Me]<sup>+</sup>), 147 (71, [M – CO<sub>2</sub>C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub> – H<sub>2</sub>O]<sup>+</sup>), 131 (9), 91 (9), 57 (29, C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>9</sub><sup>+</sup>), 41 (10). Anal. calc. for C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>26</sub>O<sub>3</sub> (266.4): C 72.14, H 9.84; found: C 72.06, H 9.57.

**Method B.** The use of K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (276 mg, 2.00 mmol) instead of Ag<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> yielded 165 mg (62%) **8b** and **9b**. 6-Acetyl-2,3,4,5,6,7-hexahydro-1-hydroxy-2,2-dimethyl-1H-indene (**8c**) and 5-Acetyl-2,3,4,5,6,7-hexahydro-1-hydroxy-2,2-dimethyl-1H-indene (**9c**). **Method A.** According to *GP 1*, a soln. of **5** (219 mg, 1.00 mmol) and methyl vinyl ketone (210 mg, 3.00 mmol) in anh. MeCN (10 ml) was added Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (11 mg, 0.050 mmol, 5 mol-%), Ph<sub>3</sub>P (26 mg, 0.10 mmol, 10 mol-%), and Ag<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (345 mg, 1.25 mmol). The mixture was stirred for 18 h at 80°. CC (18 g SiO<sub>2</sub>; 2.0 × 15 cm; pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 1 : 1) of the crude product yielded 116 mg (56%) of a 1.9 : 1 mixture of **8c** and **9c**. Colorless oil. *R*<sub>f</sub> (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 1 : 1) 0.18. IR (film, mixture): 3433, 2925, 2838, 1706 (C=O), 1649 (C=C), 1438, 1363, 1167, 1034, 997. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): **8c**: 1.03 (s, 2 Me–C(2)); 1.41 (br. s, OH); 1.53–2.43 (*m*, 8 H, H–C(3), H–C(4), H–C(5), H–C(7)); 2.18 (s, COMe); 2.55–2.62 (*m*, H–C(6)); 3.97 (br. s, H–C(1)); **9c**: 1.01 (s, Me–C(2)); 1.05 (s, Me–C(2)); 1.41 (br. s, OH); 1.53–2.43 (*m*, 8 H, H–C(3), H–C(4), H–C(6), H–C(7)); 2.18 (s, COMe); 2.55–2.62 (*m*, H–C(5)); 3.97 (br. s, H–C(1)). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): **8c**: 22.6, 23.0 (C(4)\*); 22.9 (Me–C(2)); 25.3 (C(5)\*); 27.5 (C(7)\*); 28.1 (COMe); 28.8 (Me–C(2)); 41.0 (C(2)); 47.9 (C(6)); 48.8, 48.9 (C(3)); 86.1 (C(1)); 134.9, 135.0 (C(3a)\*\*); 136.2, 136.7 (C(7a)\*\*); 211.5 (COMe). **9c**: 22.9 (Me–C(2)); 24.8, 24.9 (C(4)\*); 25.0 (C(6)\*); 25.1 (C(7)\*); 27.9, 28.2 (COMe); 28.8 (Me–C(2)); 47.6, 47.8 (C(5)); 41.0 (C(2)); 48.7, 48.8 (C(3)); 86.9, 87.0 (C(1)); 133.8 (C(3a)\*\*); 137.8 (C(7a)\*\*); 211.5 (COMe). EI-MS (mixture): 208 (9, *M*<sup>+</sup>), 191 (13, [M – OH]<sup>+</sup>), 190 (13, [M – H<sub>2</sub>O]<sup>+</sup>), 175 (10, [M – H<sub>2</sub>O – Me]<sup>+</sup>), 163 (20, [M – OH – CO]<sup>+</sup>), 147 (100, [M – COMe – H<sub>2</sub>O]<sup>+</sup>), 131 (15), 105 (13), 91 (18). HR-MS: 208.1463 (*M*<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>20</sub>O<sub>2</sub>; calc. 208.1463).

**Method B.** When K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (276 mg, 2.00 mmol) was used as the base, 145 mg (70%) of a mixture of **8c** and **9c** was isolated.

1,2,3,3a,5,6,8,8a-Octahydro-6,6-dimethyl-s-indacene-1-one (**13**). **Method A.** According to *GP 1*, **5** (219 mg, 1.00 mmol) in anh. MeCN (10 ml) was treated with Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (11 mg, 0.050 mmol, 5 mol-%), Ph<sub>3</sub>P (26 mg, 0.10 mmol, 10 mol-%), and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (138 mg, 1.00 mmol) at 80° for 18 h. After cooling to ambient temp., cyclopentenone (**10**) (410 mg, 4.99 mmol) and LiBF<sub>4</sub> (94 mg, 1.0 mmol) were added. After the mixture had been stirred at ambient temp. for 14 d, the solvent and dienophile were removed under reduced pressure. CC (18 g SiO<sub>2</sub>; 2.0 × 15 cm; pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 4 : 1) gave 51 mg (25%) of **13** as a colorless oil. *R*<sub>f</sub> (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 4 : 1) 0.46. IR (film): 3058, 2961, 1737 (C=O), 1650, 1434, 1406, 1267, 1172, 1034, 919, 737, 703. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 0.99 (s, Me–C(6)); 1.04 (s, Me–C(6)); 1.84–1.91 (*m*, H–C(3)); 2.01–2.40 (*m*, 7 H, H–C(2), H–C(3), H–C(5), H–C(8), H–C(8a)); 2.83 (*d*, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 12.8 Hz, H–C(8)); 3.07 (br. s, H–C(3a)); 5.19 (br. s, H–C(4));

5.51 (br. s, H–C(7)). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 21.8 (C(8)); 27.5 (C(3)); 29.0 (*Me*–C(6)); 34.8 (C(2)); 43.0 (C(6)); 44.2 (C(5)); 48.0 (C(8a)); 117.0 (C(4)); 133.8 (C(4a)); 141.3 (C(7)); 147.4 (C(7a)); 219.8 (C(1)). EI-MS: 202 (46, [M]<sup>+</sup>), 187 (52, [M – Me]<sup>+</sup>), 143 (100), 131 (37), 115 (16), 91 (23), 77 (9), 41 (10).

**Method B.** Et<sub>2</sub>AlCl (3.0 ml, 3.0 mmol, 1.0M in hexane) was added instead of LiBF<sub>4</sub>, and the resulting mixture was stirred at ambient temp. for 18 h. The Et<sub>2</sub>AlCl was hydrolyzed with H<sub>2</sub>O (15 ml) and the aq. layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 × 20 ml). The org. phases were dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. CC (18 g SiO<sub>2</sub>; 2.0 × 15 cm; pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 4:1) gave 45 mg (22%) of **13** as a colorless oil. *R*<sub>f</sub> (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 4:1) 0.46.

**Method C.** The use of a soln. of Me<sub>3</sub>Al (1.50 ml, 3.00 mmol, 2M in toluene) instead of Et<sub>2</sub>AlCl did not give any cycloaddition product within 72 h.

**Method D.** When Ti(O<sup>*i*</sup>Pr)<sub>4</sub> (853 mg, 3.00 mmol) was used as a *Lewis* acid, only decomposition was observed within 72 h.

**Method E.** When the reaction was carried out with a smaller amount of Et<sub>2</sub>AlCl (1.5 ml, 1.5 mmol, 1.0M in hexane) within 12 h, only 13 mg (6%) of **13** and 24 mg (17%) of **6** (for spectroscopic data, see **31d**) could be isolated.

**Methyl 2,4,5,6-Tetrahydro-2,2-dimethyl-1H-indene-5-carboxylate (14).** According to *GP I*, **5** (219 mg, 1.00 mmol) in anh. MeCN (10 ml) was treated with Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (11 mg, 0.050 mmol, 5 mol-%), Ph<sub>3</sub>P (26 mg, 0.10 mmol, 10 mol-%), and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (138 mg, 1.00 mmol) at 80° for 18 h. After cooling to r.t., **7a** (258 mg, 3.00 mmol) and Et<sub>2</sub>AlCl (3.0 ml, 3.0 mmol, 1.0M in hexane) were added, and stirring was continued for 1 d at ambient temp. H<sub>2</sub>O was added (5 ml), the aq. layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (2 × 10 ml), and the combined org. phases were dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>). After evaporation of the solvent *in vacuo*, the resulting crude product was purified by CC (18 g SiO<sub>2</sub>; 2.0 × 15 cm; pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 4:1) to give 53 mg (26%) of **14** as a colorless oil<sup>3</sup>. *R*<sub>f</sub> (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 4:1) 0.64. IR (film): 3055, 2956, 1734 (C=O), 1437, 1367, 1267, 1199, 1106, 1027, 919, 737. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 1.06 (s, 2 Me–C(2)); 2.26–2.78 (*m*, 7 H, H–C(1), H–C(4), H–C(5), H–C(6)); 3.68 (s, CO<sub>2</sub>Me); 5.35–5.37 (*m*, H–C(3)\*); 5.45 (br. s, H–C(7)\*). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 27.5 (C(4)\*); 27.9 (C(6)\*); 29.2 (*Me*–C(2)); 39.8 (C(5)); 43.5 (C(2)); 43.7 (C(1)); 51.7 (CO<sub>2</sub>Me); 113.2 (C(3)\*); 136.3 (C(3a)\*\*); 139.9 (C(7)\*); 144.8 (C(7a)\*\*); 176.0 (CO<sub>2</sub>Me). CI-MS: 224 (96, [M + NH<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 207 (100, [M + H]<sup>+</sup>). Anal. calc. for C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (206.3): C 75.69, H 8.80; found: C 75.81, H 8.98.

**6-Bromo-4,4-dimethylhepta-1,6-dien-3-one (15).** To a soln. of oxalyl chloride (1.39 g, 0.94 ml, 11.0 mmol) in anh. CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (30 ml), DMSO (1.72 g, 1.57 ml, 22.0 mmol) was added at –60°, and stirring was continued for 20 min at ambient temp. A soln. of **5** (2.19 g, 10.0 mmol) in anh. CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (10 ml) was added, and the soln. was stirred for 1 h at –60°. After addition of Et<sub>3</sub>N (5.06 g, 6.93 ml, 50.0 mmol), the mixture was allowed to warm to r.t. The mixture was quenched with 30 ml of H<sub>2</sub>O and the aq. layer was extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (3 × 30 ml). The combined org. layers were neutralized with sat. aq. NH<sub>4</sub>Cl, washed with sat. aq. NaCl soln. (30 ml), and dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>). The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and the crude product was purified by CC (50 g SiO<sub>2</sub>; 2.5 × 20 cm; pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 20:1) to give 1.62 g (75%) of **15**. Colorless oil. *R*<sub>f</sub> (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 20:1) 0.34. IR (film): 2971, 2933, 1695 (C=O), 1624 (C=C), 1610 (C=C), 1468, 1401, 1368, 1164, 1103, 1054, 1006, 982, 893. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 1.24 (s, 3 Me–C(4)); 2.81 (s, 2 H–C(5)); 5.50–5.54 (*m*, 2 H–C(7)); 5.70 (*dd*, <sup>2</sup>*J* = 2.0, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 10.3 Hz, H–C(1)); 6.37 (*dd*, <sup>2</sup>*J* = 2.0, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 16.9 Hz, H–C(1)); 6.84 (*dd*, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 10.3, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 16.9 Hz, H–C(2)). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 24.1 (*Me*–C(4)); 46.5 (C(4)); 49.8 (C(5)); 120.6 (C(1)\*); 128.9 (C(7)\*); 129.1 (C(6)); 130.8 (C(2)); 202.8 (C(3)). EI-MS: 163/161 (5/5, [M – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O]<sup>+</sup>), 137 (100, [M – Br]<sup>+</sup>), 81 (47, [M – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O – HBr]<sup>+</sup>), 67 (13, [M – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O – Br – Me]<sup>+</sup>), 55 (50, [C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O]<sup>+</sup>), 41 (29). DCI-MS (NH<sub>3</sub>): 270/268 (11/14, [M + NH<sub>4</sub> + 2 NH<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 253/251 (100/99, [M + NH<sub>4</sub> + NH<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 236/234 (44/45, [M + NH<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>). Anal. calc. for C<sub>9</sub>H<sub>13</sub>BrO (217.1): C 49.79, H 6.04; found: C 50.03, H 6.06.

**2',3',4',5',6',7'-Hexahydro-2',2',3,3-tetramethyl-5-methylenespiro[cyclopentane-1,5'(1'H)-indene]-1',2-dione (18).** According to *GP I*, a soln. of **15** (217 mg, 1.00 mmol) in anh. MeCN (10 ml) was treated with Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (11 mg, 0.050 mmol), Ph<sub>3</sub>P (26 mg, 0.10 mmol), Ag<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (345 mg, 1.25 mmol), and **7a** (258 mg, 3.00 mmol) for 18 h at 80°. CC (18 g SiO<sub>2</sub>; 2.0 × 15 cm; pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 8:1) yielded 195 mg (72%) of **18**. Colorless crystals; m.p. 108–110°. *R*<sub>f</sub> (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 8:1) 0.23. IR (KBr): 2962, 2929, 2865, 1736 (C=O), 1697 (C=O), 1654 (C=C), 1462, 1437, 1376, 1359, 1268, 1047, 986, 899. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 0.98 (s, Me–C(3)); 1.11 (s, 2 Me–C(2')); 1.21 (s, Me–C(3)); 1.41–1.52 (*m*, 1 H); 1.62–1.71 (*m*, 1 H); 2.00–2.16 (*m*, 2 H); 2.27–2.82 (*m*, 6 H, H–C(4), H–C(3'), H–C(4'), H–C(6'), H–C(7')); 4.62 (*d*, <sup>2</sup>*J* = 2.3 Hz, 1 H, CH<sub>2</sub>=C(5)); 5.05 (*d*, <sup>2</sup>*J* = 2.3 Hz, 1 H, CH<sub>2</sub>=C(5)). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 16.9 (C(7')); 24.2 (*Me*–C(3)); 24.8 (*Me*–C(3)); 25.2

<sup>3</sup>) A second fraction contained 61 mg (28%) of the starting material.

(*Me*–C(2')); 25.3 (*Me*–C(2')); 28.1 (C(4')\*); 35.0 (C(6')\*); 43.5 (C(2')); 44.2 (C(4)); 46.5 (C(3)); 46.8 (C(3')); 52.9 (C(5')); 108.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>=C(5)); 134.8 (C(3'a)); 150.2 (C(5)); 168.3 (C(7'a)); 211.9 (C(1')); 223.0 (C(2)). EI-MS: 272 (37, *M*<sup>+</sup>), 257 (37, [*M* – *Me*]<sup>+</sup>), 244 (100, [*M* – C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 229 (19, [*M* – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 201 (14, [*M* – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub> – CO]<sup>+</sup>), 173 (11, [*M* – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub> – 2 CO]<sup>+</sup>), 145 (7), 107 (8), 91 (12), 77 (6), 41 (6). Anal. calc. for C<sub>18</sub>H<sub>24</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (272.4): C 79.37, H 8.88; found: C 79.64, H 8.87.

(*E*)-6-Bromo-4,4-dimethylocta-1,6-dien-3-ol (**25**). To a soln. of 50.0 mmol of LDA in anh. THF (25 ml), **21** (4.71 g, 37.0 mmol) and (*E*)-1,2-dibromobut-2-ene (**22**) (7.91 g, 37.0 mmol) were added and stirred for 2 h at –78°. The resulting mixture was quenched with AcOH/H<sub>2</sub>O/NaOAc (1:4:1), and the aq. layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 × 50 ml) and dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>). The solvent was removed under reduced pressure to yield 4.12 g (54%) of 4-bromo-2,2-dimethylhex-4-enal (**24**), which was immediately dissolved in anh. THF (25 ml), and vinylmagnesium bromide (30 ml, 30 mmol, 1.0M in THF) was added at –78°. After warming to r.t., H<sub>2</sub>O (50 ml) was added, the aq. layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 × 30 ml), the combined org. layers were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. CC of the crude product (80 g SiO<sub>2</sub>; 3.5 × 20 cm; CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) yielded 2.13 g (45%) of **25** as a colorless oil. *R*<sub>f</sub> (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) 0.48. IR (film): 3433, 2965, 2932, 2873, 1653 (C=C), 1470, 1427, 1389, 1368, 1309, 1259, 1153, 1123, 1040, 996, 931. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 0.93 (s, *Me*–C(4)); 0.94 (s, *Me*–C(4)); 1.65 (*d*, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 4.4 Hz, OH); 1.75 (*d*, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 6.5 Hz, *Me*–C(7)); 2.42 (*d*, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>AB</sub> = 14.4 Hz, H–C(5)); 2.68 (*d*, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>AB</sub> = 14.4 Hz, H–C(5)); 3.92 (*dd*, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 3.8, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 4.4 Hz, H–C(3)); 5.17–5.29 (*m*, 2 H–C(1)); 5.74 (*q*, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 6.5 Hz, H–C(7)); 5.93 (*ddd*, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 3.8, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.1, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 10.5 Hz, H–C(2)). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 17.4 (C(8)); 22.5 (*Me*–C(4)); 22.7 (*Me*–C(4)); 38.6 (C(4)); 49.2 (C(5)); 78.9 (C(3)); 116.9 (C(1)); 124.5 (C(6)); 127.5 (C(7)); 137.4 (C(2)). EI-MS (70 eV): 177/175 (17/17, [*M* – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O]<sup>+</sup>), 153 (13, [*M* – Br]<sup>+</sup>), 135/133 (7/7), 113 (12, [*M* – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Br]<sup>+</sup>), 95 (81), 81 (17, [*M* – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Br – *Me* – OH]<sup>+</sup>), 67 (33), 55 (44, [*M* – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>4</sub>Br – H]<sup>+</sup>), 43 (100), 41 (37). CI-MS: 269/267 (100/94, [*M* + NH<sub>4</sub> + NH<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 252/250 (53/57, [*M* + NH<sub>4</sub>]<sup>+</sup>). Anal. calc. for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>17</sub>BrO (233.1): C 51.52, H 7.35; found: C 52.81, H 7.31.

4-Ethylidene-2,2-dimethyl-5-methylidenecyclopentan-1-ol (**20**). According to GP I, a soln. of **25** (233 mg, 1.00 mmol) in anh. MeCN (10 ml) was treated with Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (22 mg, 0.10 mmol), Ph<sub>3</sub>P (52 mg, 0.20 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (276 mg, 2.00 mmol), and **7a** (258 mg, 3.00 mmol) for 18 h at 80°. CC (18 g SiO<sub>2</sub>; 2.0 × 15 cm; pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 4:1 → 2:1) yielded 68 mg (45%) of **20** as a colorless oil. *R*<sub>f</sub> (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 4:1) 0.41. IR (film): 3395, 2956, 2867, 1695 (C=C), 1467, 1367, 1116, 1057, 999, 921, 736. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 0.80 (s, *Me*–C(2)); 1.05 (s, *Me*–C(2)); 1.51 (br. s, OH); 1.86 (*d*, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.3 Hz, *Me*–CH=C(4)); 2.15–2.17 (*m*, 2 H–C(3)); 4.00 (br. s, H–C(1)); 5.31–5.38 (*m*, CH<sub>2</sub>=C(5)); 5.60 (*q*, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.3 Hz, H–C(1')). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 15.3 (C(2')); 19.6 (*Me*–C(2)); 25.8 (*Me*–C(2)); 39.7 (C(2)); 45.4 (C(3)); 83.6 (C(1)); 110.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>=C(5)); 122.2 (C(1')); 135.3 (C(4)\*); 150.8 (C(5)\*). EI-MS: 152 (83, *M*<sup>+</sup>), 137 (100, [*M* – *Me*]<sup>+</sup>), 123 (33), 109 (56), 95 (31), 81 (31), 43 (26). HR-MS: 152.1201 (*M*<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>16</sub>O; calc. 152.1201).

6-Bromo-4,4,7-trimethylocta-1,6-dien-3-ol (**27**). To a soln. of 60.0 mmol of LDA in anh. THF (25 ml), **21** (6.36 g, 50.0 mmol) and 1,2-dibromo-3-methylbut-2-ene (**23**) (11.4 g, 50.0 mmol) were added and stirred for 2 h at –78°. The resulting mixture was quenched with AcOH/H<sub>2</sub>O/NaOAc (1:4:1), the aq. layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 × 50 ml) and dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>). The solvent was removed under reduced pressure to yield 5.21 g (48%) of 4-bromo-2,2,5-trimethylhex-4-enal (**26**), which was immediately dissolved in anh. THF (25 ml), and vinylmagnesium bromide (30 ml, 30 mmol, 1.0M in THF) was added at –78°. After warming to r.t., H<sub>2</sub>O (50 ml) was added, the aq. layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 × 30 ml). The combined org. layers were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. CC of the crude product (80 g SiO<sub>2</sub>; 3.5 × 20 cm; pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 10:1) yielded 2.74 g (47%) of **27** as a colorless oil. *R*<sub>f</sub> (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 10:1) 0.27. IR (film): 3445 (OH), 2966, 2932, 2873, 1644 (C=C), 1470, 1425, 1387, 1367, 1218, 1110, 1041, 994, 926, 905, 865, 798. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 0.97 (s, *Me*–C(4)); 0.98 (s, *Me*–C(4)); 1.72 (*d*, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 4.3 Hz, OH); 1.79 (s, *Me*–C(7)\*); 1.91 (s, H–C(8)\*); 2.62 (*d*, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>AB</sub> = 14.9 Hz, H–C(5)); 2.73 (*d*, <sup>2</sup>*J*<sub>AB</sub> = 14.9 Hz, H–C(5)); 3.94 (*dd*, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 4.3, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 6.6 Hz, H–C(3)); 5.18–5.30 (*m*, 2 H–C(1)); 5.95 (*ddd*, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 6.6, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 10.5, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 17.2 Hz, H–C(2)). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 21.7 (C(8)\*); 22.7 (*Me*–C(4)); 23.9 (*Me*–C(4)); 25.9 (*Me*–C(7)\*); 40.1 (C(4)); 44.7 (C(5)); 79.7 (C(3)); 116.9 (C(1)); 117.9 (C(7)\*); 133.8 (C(6)\*); 137.4 (C(2)). EI-MS: 248/246 (1/1, *M*<sup>+</sup>), 191/189 (38/39, [*M* – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O]<sup>+</sup>), 167 (34, [*M* – Br]<sup>+</sup>), 166 (54, [*M* – HBr]<sup>+</sup>), 149 (29, [*M* – HBr – OH]<sup>+</sup>), 110 (63, [*M* – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O – Br]<sup>+</sup>), 109 (100, [*M* – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O – HBr]<sup>+</sup>), 95 (27, [*M* – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O – Br – *Me*]<sup>+</sup>), 81 (20, [*M* – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>Br – *Me* – OH]<sup>+</sup>), 67 (63), 55 (32, [*M* – C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>O – C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>6</sub>Br – H]<sup>+</sup>), 43 (83). Anal. calc. for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>19</sub>BrO (247.2): C 53.45, H 7.75; found: C 53.69, H 7.65.

3-Isopropenyl-2,5,5-trimethylcyclopent-2-en-1-ol (**28**). To a soln. of **27** (247 mg, 1.00 mmol) in anh. MeCN (10 ml) was added, as described in GP I, Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (11 mg, 0.050 mmol), Ph<sub>3</sub>P (26 mg, 0.10 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (276 mg, 2.00 mmol), and **7a** (258 mg, 3.00 mmol). Stirring was continued for 18 h at 80°. CC (18 g SiO<sub>2</sub>; 2.0 × 15 cm; pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O, 5:1) of the crude product gave 123 g (74%) of **28** as a colorless oil. *R*<sub>f</sub> (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 5:1)

0.37. IR (film): 3354, 2951, 2923, 2862, 1652 (C=C); 1466, 1366, 1126, 1086, 1061, 999, 891, 798. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 0.81 (s, Me–C(5)); 1.07 (s, Me–C(5)); 1.47 (br. s, OH); 1.73 (s, Me–C(2)\*); 1.94 (s, Me–C(1)\*); 2.09 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>AB</sub> = 16.1 Hz, H–C(4)); 2.24 (d, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>AB</sub> = 16.1 Hz, H–C(4)); 3.95 (br. s, H–C(1)); 5.18 (m, 2 H–C(2')). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 20.3 (Me–C(5)); 22.4 (Me–C(1)\*); 23.2 (Me–C(2)\*); 26.3 (Me–C(5)); 39.0 (C(5)); 43.1 (C(4)); 83.4 (C(1)); 107.7 (C(2')); 128.7 (C(2)\*\*); 131.1 (C(3)\*\*); 151.6 (C(1')). EI-MS: 166 (79, M<sup>+</sup>), 151 (100, [M – Me]<sup>+</sup>), 133 (25, [M – Me – H<sub>2</sub>O]<sup>+</sup>), 109 (27), 95 (33), 81 (19), 67 (14), 41 (13, C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub><sup>+</sup>). HR-MS: 166.1357 (M<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>18</sub>O; calc. 166.1357).

*General Procedure for the Heck–Hetero-Diels–Alder Reaction as a Two-Step One-Pot Operation (GP 2).* In a screw-cap Pyrex bottle was placed the bromo diene (1 mmol) dissolved in anh. MeCN (10 ml). To the resulting soln. were added Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (5 mol-%), Ph<sub>3</sub>P (10 mol-%), and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (50 mol-%). N<sub>2</sub> was bubbled through the mixture for 5 min, then the bottle was closed and heated to 80° for the given time. After cooling to r.t., formaldehyde (1 ml, 37% in H<sub>2</sub>O), amine hydrochloride (2 mmol), and H<sub>2</sub>O (8 ml) was added and stirring was continued for the given time at ambient temp. The mixture was filtered through *Celite* and washed with H<sub>2</sub>O. The combined filtrates were extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (20 ml), and NaOH (2M) was added to the aq. layer until pH 13. The aq. layer was extracted with Et<sub>2</sub>O (3 × 20 ml). The combined org. layers were washed with sat. NaCl soln. (20 ml), dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), and the solvent was removed under reduced pressure. The crude product was purified by CC.

*Methyl (2,3,4,5,6,7-hexahydro-7-hydroxy-6,6-dimethyl-1H-[2]pyrinden-2-yl)acetate (31a).* *Method A.* As described in GP 2, a soln. of **5** (219 mg, 1.00 mmol) in anh. MeCN (10 ml) was treated with Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (11 mg, 0.050 mmol, 5.0 mol-%), Ph<sub>3</sub>P (26 mg, 0.10 mmol, 10 mol-%), and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (69 mg, 0.50 mmol) and stirred for 18 h at 80°. After cooling to r.t., a soln. of HCHO (1.0 ml, 12 mmol, 37% in H<sub>2</sub>O), methyl glycinate hydrochloride (**30a**, 251 mg, 2.00 mmol), and H<sub>2</sub>O (8 ml) were added, and stirring was continued for 18 h at r.t. After workup, the crude product was purified by CC (18 g SiO<sub>2</sub>; 2.0 × 15 cm; CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 20:1 → 10:1) to yield 92 mg (38%) of **31a** as a colorless oil. *R*<sub>f</sub> (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 10:1) 0.21. IR (film): 3340 (OH), 2955, 1749 (C=O), 1646, 1437, 1364, 1205, 1122, 1004, 701, 677, 669. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 1.03 (s, Me–C(6)); 1.06 (s, Me–C(6)); 1.95–2.21 (m, 2 H–C(4), 2 H–C(5)); 2.71 (m, 2 H–C(1)\*); 3.14–3.22 (m, 2 H–C(3)); 3.37 (s, NCH<sub>2</sub>); 3.73 (s, CO<sub>2</sub>Me); 4.03 (br. s, H–C(7)). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 23.0 (Me–C(6)); 26.5 (C(4)\*); 28.9 (Me–C(6)); 41.4 (C(6)); 48.7 (C(5)\*); 49.9 (C(3)\*\*); 50.9 (C(1)\*\*); 51.7 (CO<sub>2</sub>Me); 58.8 (CH<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>2</sub>Me\*); 85.7 (C(7)); 133.5 (C(4a)\*\*); 136.7 (C(7a)\*\*); 171.0 (CO<sub>2</sub>Me). EI-MS: 239 (2, M<sup>+</sup>), 221 (8, [M – H<sub>2</sub>O]<sup>+</sup>), 206 (3, [M – H<sub>2</sub>O – Me]<sup>+</sup>), 180 (29, [M – CO<sub>2</sub>Me]<sup>+</sup>), 165 (100, [M – CO<sub>2</sub>Me – Me]<sup>+</sup>), 150 (6, [M – CO<sub>2</sub>Me – 2 Me]<sup>+</sup>), 132 (5, [M – CO<sub>2</sub>Me – 2 Me – H<sub>2</sub>O]<sup>+</sup>), 107 (7), 91 (4), 77 (5), 42 (10). HR-MS: 239.1521 (M<sup>+</sup>, C<sub>13</sub>H<sub>21</sub>NO<sub>3</sub>; calc. 239.1521).

*Method B.* The use of K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (138 mg, 1.00 mmol) decreased the yield of **31a** to 63 mg (26%).

*Method C.* When Ag<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (138 mg, 0.500 mmol) was added instead of K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub>, only 27 mg (11%) of **31a** could be isolated.

*Method D.* The addition of MeOH (8 ml) instead of H<sub>2</sub>O lowered the yield of **31a** to only 10 mg (4%).

*Method E.* When the hetero-Diels–Alder reaction was carried out at 10 kbar, only a decomposition product and oligomeric material was obtained.

*Method F.* When the Diels–Alder reaction was performed at 50°, an unidentified side product was formed, and the yield of **31a** decreased to 9 mg (4%).

*2-Benzyl-2,3,4,5,6,7-hexahydro-6,6-dimethyl-1H-[2]pyrinden-7-ol (31b).* According to GP 2, to a soln. of **5** (219 mg, 1.00 mmol) in anh. MeCN (10 ml) was added Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (11 mg, 0.050 mmol, 5.0 mol-%), Ph<sub>3</sub>P (26 mg, 0.10 mmol, 10 mol-%), and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (69 mg, 0.50 mmol). The resulting mixture was stirred for 18 h at 80°. After cooling to r.t., a soln. of HCHO (1.0 ml, 12 mmol, 37% in H<sub>2</sub>O), benzylamine hydrochloride (**30b**, 287 mg, 2 mmol), and H<sub>2</sub>O (8 ml) was added and stirred for 18 h at r.t. CC (18 g SiO<sub>2</sub>; 2.0 × 15 cm; CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH, 20:1) yielded 118 mg (46%) of **31b** as a colorless oil. *R*<sub>f</sub> (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 20:1) 0.15. IR (film): 3358 (OH), 3062, 3028, 2953, 2900, 2838, 1667, 1602, 1454, 1362, 1265, 1199, 1065, 1028, 1004, 738, 699. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 1.04 (s, Me–C(6)); 1.06 (s, Me–C(6)); 1.95–2.22 (m, 2 H–C(4), 2 H–C(5)); 2.60 (m, 2 H–C(1)); 2.92–3.02 (m, H–C(3)); 3.12–3.19 (m, H–C(3)); 3.65 (s, 1 H, PhCH<sub>2</sub>); 3.66 (s, 1 H, PhCH<sub>2</sub>); 4.02 (br. s, H–C(7)); 7.24–7.37 (m, 5 arom. H). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 23.0 (Me–C(6)); 26.6 (C(4)\*); 28.9 (Me–C(6)); 41.4 (C(6)); 48.7 (C(5)\*); 49.7 (C(3)\*\*); 51.4 (C(1)\*\*); 62.7 (CH<sub>2</sub>Ph); 85.7 (C(7)); 127.2 (arom. C); 128.3 (arom. C); 129.3 (C(4a)); 129.4 (arom. C); 133.8 (arom. C); 136.7 (C(7a)). EI-MS: 257 (7, M<sup>+</sup>), 240 (9, [M – OH]<sup>+</sup>), 224 (12, [M – H<sub>2</sub>O – Me]<sup>+</sup>), 201 (21), 185 (35), 172 (4), 132 (3), 120 (4), 91 (4, C<sub>7</sub>H<sub>7</sub><sup>+</sup>), 65 (6), 41 (3).

*2-Cyclopropyl-2,3,4,5,6,7-hexahydro-6,6-dimethyl-1H-[2]pyrinden-7-ol (31c).* As described in GP 2, a soln. of **5** (219 mg, 1.00 mmol) in anh. MeCN (10 ml) was heated with Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (11 mg, 0.050 mmol, 5.0 mol-%), Ph<sub>3</sub>P (26 mg, 0.10 mmol, 10 mol-%), and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (69 mg, 0.50 mmol) to 80° for 18 h. The mixture was cooled to

r.t., and HCHO (1.0 ml, 12 mmol, 37% in H<sub>2</sub>O), cyclopropylamine hydrochloride (**30c**, 187 mg, 2.00 mmol) and H<sub>2</sub>O (8 ml) were added. Stirring was continued for 18 h at r.t. The crude product was purified by CC (18 g SiO<sub>2</sub>; 2.0 × 15 cm; CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 10:1) to give 74 mg (36%) of **31c** as a colorless oil. *R*<sub>f</sub> (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 10:1) 0.31. IR (film): 3368 (OH), 3087, 2953, 2908, 2839, 1669, 1459, 1362, 1265, 1219, 1057, 1018, 1002, 869, 826, 737, 702. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 0.46–0.50 (*m*, 4 H, cyclopropyl); 1.02 (*s*, Me–C(6)); 1.06 (*s*, Me–C(6)); 1.69–1.77 (*m*, 1 H, cyclopropyl); 1.93–2.20 (*m*, 2 H–C(4), 2 H–C(5)); 2.75 (*m*, 2 H–C(1)\*); 3.06–3.25 (*m*, 2 H–C(3)\*); 4.03 (*br. s*, H–C(7)). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 5.9 (CH<sub>2</sub>, cyclopropyl); 23.0 (Me–C(6)); 26.7 (C(4)\*); 28.9 (Me–C(6)); 38.2 (CH, cyclopropyl); 41.4 (C(6)); 48.8 (C(5)\*); 50.5 (C(3)\*\*); 51.3 (C(1)\*\*); 85.8 (C(7)); 134.1 (C(4a)\*\*); 136.4 (C(2)\*\*). EI-MS: 207 (64, *M*<sup>+</sup>), 192 (100, [*M*–Me]<sup>+</sup>), 174 (9, [*M*–H<sub>2</sub>O–Me]<sup>+</sup>), 151 (4, [*M*–Me–C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>5</sub>]<sup>+</sup>), 135 (10), 121 (6), 107 (5), 91 (6), 84 (26), 70 (14), 56 (15), 41 (22, C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>).

**2-Cyclopentyl-2,3,4,5,6,7-hexahydro-6,6-dimethyl-1H-[2]pyrinden-7-ol (31d).** Method A. As described in GP 2, a soln. of **5** (219 mg, 1.00 mmol) in anh. MeCN (10 ml) was heated with Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (11 mg, 0.050 mmol, 5.0 mol-%), Ph<sub>3</sub>P (26 mg, 0.10 mmol, 10 mol-%), and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (69 mg, 0.50 mmol) to 80° for 18 h. The mixture was cooled to r.t. and HCHO (1.0 ml, 12 mmol, 37% in H<sub>2</sub>O), cyclopentylamine hydrochloride (**30d**, 243 mg, 2.00 mmol), and H<sub>2</sub>O (8 ml) were added. Stirring was continued for 18 h at r.t. The crude product was purified by CC (18 g SiO<sub>2</sub>; 2.0 × 15 cm; CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 10:1) to give 72 mg (31%) of **31d** as a colorless oil. *R*<sub>f</sub> (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 10:1) 0.13. IR (film): 3437 (OH), 3053, 2956, 2864, 2806, 1696, 1464, 1381, 1361, 1265, 1053, 894, 868, 736, 703. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 1.02 (*s*, Me–C(6)); 1.06 (*s*, Me–C(6)); 1.48–1.76 (*m*, 6 cyclopentyl H, OH); 1.88–2.07 (*m*, 1 cyclopentyl H, H–C(4), H–C(5)); 2.15–2.27 (*m*, 1 cyclopentyl H, H–C(4), H–C(5)); 2.58–2.82 (*m*, 1 cyclopentyl H, 2 H–C(1)); 2.97–3.13 (*m*, H–C(3)); 3.22–3.38 (*m*, H–C(3)); 4.00 (*br. s*, H–C(7)). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 23.0 (Me–C(6)); 24.0 (cyclopentyl CH<sub>2</sub>); 26.1 (C(4)\*); 28.9 (Me–C(6)); 30.2 (cyclopentyl CH<sub>2</sub>); 41.5 (C(6)); 48.5 (C(5)\*); 49.1 (C(1)\*\*); 50.2 (C(3)\*\*); 67.1 (cyclopentyl CH); 85.5 (C(7)); 133.0 (C(4a)\*\*); 137.0 (C(7a)\*\*). EI-MS: 235 (62, *M*<sup>+</sup>), 218 (15, [*M*–OH]<sup>+</sup>), 206 (70), 192 (28, [*M*–C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>9</sub>N]<sup>+</sup>), 179 (45, [*M*–C<sub>5</sub>H<sub>8</sub>N]<sup>+</sup>), 163 (100, [*M*–C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N]<sup>+</sup>), 150 (6), 123 (7), 98 (10), 84 (8), 68 (14), 41 (22, C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>).

**Method B:** When the reaction was carried out in anh. THF (10 ml) instead of MeCN, in addition to 23 mg (10%) of **31d**, 62 mg (45%) of **2,2-dimethyl-4,5-dimethylidenecyclopentan-1-ol (6)** could be isolated as a colorless oil<sup>4)</sup>. *R*<sub>f</sub> (pentane/Et<sub>2</sub>O 4:1) 0.45. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 0.82 (*s*, Me–C(2)); 1.07 (*s*, Me–C(2)); 1.49 (*d*, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.9 Hz, OH); 2.22 (*m*, 2 H–C(3)); 4.06 (*ddd*, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.9, <sup>4</sup>*J* = 2.3, <sup>4</sup>*J* = 2.3 Hz, H–C(1)); 4.90 (*m*, 1 H, C=CH<sub>2</sub>); 5.10 (*d*, <sup>2</sup>*J* = 2.2 Hz, 1 H, C=CH<sub>2</sub>); 5.43 (*m*, 1 H, C=CH<sub>2</sub>); 5.48 (*d*, <sup>2</sup>*J* = 2.2 Hz, 1 H, C=CH<sub>2</sub>). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (62.9 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 19.6 (Me–C(2)); 25.7 (Me–C(2)); 39.8 (C(2)); 44.3 (C(3)); 82.6 (C(1)); 105.4 (C=CH<sub>2</sub>); 105.9 (C=CH<sub>2</sub>); 144.0 (C(5)\*); 151.0 (C(4)\*). EI-MS (70 eV): 138 (33, *M*<sup>+</sup>), 123 (100, [*M*–Me]<sup>+</sup>), 109 (12), 105 (20, [*M*–Me–H<sub>2</sub>O]<sup>+</sup>), 95 (73), 91 (11), 79 (16), 67 (30), 55 (16), 43 (16), 41 (13, C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>).

**2-Cyclohexyl-2,3,4,5,6,7-hexahydro-6,6-dimethyl-1H-[2]pyrinden-7-ol (31e).** According to GP 2, to a soln. of **5** (219 mg, 1.00 mmol) in anh. MeCN (10 ml) was added Pd(OAc)<sub>2</sub> (11 mg, 0.050 mmol, 5.0 mol-%), Ph<sub>3</sub>P (26 mg, 0.10 mmol, 10 mol-%), and K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (69 mg, 0.50 mmol). The resulting mixture was stirred for 18 h at 80°. After cooling to r.t., a soln. of HCHO (1.0 ml, 12 mmol, 37% in H<sub>2</sub>O), cyclohexylamine hydrochloride (**30e**, 271 mg, 2 mmol), and H<sub>2</sub>O (8 ml) was added and stirring was continued for 18 h at r.t. CC (18 g SiO<sub>2</sub>; 2.0 × 15 cm; CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH 10:1) yielded 73 mg (29%) of **31e** as a colorless oil. *R*<sub>f</sub> (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>/MeOH, 10:1) 0.23. IR (film): 3352 (OH), 2930, 2856, 1668, 1451, 1380, 1264, 1205, 1135, 1069, 1036, 1003, 894, 737, 702. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR (250 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): 1.03 (*s*, Me–C(6)); 1.06 (*s*, Me–C(6)); 1.14–1.36 (*m*, 6 cyclohexyl H); 1.62–2.21 (*m*, 4 cyclohexyl H, 2 H–C(4), 2 H–C(5), OH); 2.41–2.48 (*m*, 1 cyclohexyl H); 2.69 (*m*, 2 H–C(1)\*); 3.06–3.34 (*m*, 2 H–C(3)\*); 4.02 (*br. s*, H–C(7)). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR (75.5 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>, APT): 23.08 (Me–C(6)); 25.95 (cyclohexyl CH<sub>2</sub>\*); 26.25 (C(4)\*); 27.08 (cyclohexyl CH<sub>2</sub>\*); 28.80 (cyclohexyl CH<sub>2</sub>\*); 28.92 (Me–C(6)); 41.48 (C(6)); 46.17 (C(5)\*); 46.86 (C(1)\*\*); 48.70 (C(3)\*\*); 63.44 (cyclohexyl CH); 85.85 (C(7)); 134.14 (C(4a)\*\*); 137.08 (C(7a)\*\*). EI-MS: 249 (33, *M*<sup>+</sup>), 206 (100, [*M*–C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>N]<sup>+</sup>), 193 (18, [*M*–C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub>N]<sup>+</sup>), 177 (28, [*M*–C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N]<sup>+</sup>), 165 (4), 133 (5), 26 (6), 84 (13), 68 (11), 53 (14), 49 (18), 41 (15, C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>3</sub><sup>+</sup>).

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<sup>4)</sup> Compound **6** has been previously reported [20].

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