Chiral Synthesis of Cyclopropanes. Stereoselective [2 + 1] Cycloaddition Reactions of 1-Seleno-2-silylethenes with Di-(-)-menthyl Ethene-1,1-dicarboxylates

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Reaction of 1-seleno-2-silylethenes **1** with the chiral electrophiles **2**, **3**, and **4** derived from (–)menthol, in the presence of zinc halides gave the cyclopropane products **5**, **6**, and **7**, respectively, with high diastereoselectivity. The absolute configuration of **5a**, prepared by the reaction of 1-(phenylseleno)-2-(trimethylsilyl)ethene (**1a**) and di-(–)-menthyl methylenemalonate (**2**), was determined to be 2*S* by conversion to the known chiral compound **11**. The proposed mechanism, involving fixation of the (–)-menthyl group to the C=C plane by the Lewis acid in the addition step, is consistent with the experimental observations. A selenium-participating secondary orbital interaction in the synclinal addition path was elucidated by ab initio calculations and explained the observed diasteroselectivity.

Introduction

The construction of chiral cyclopropane derivatives is of continuing interest, since cyclopropane moieties are present in a large number of natural products and biologically active compounds.¹ In addition, chiral cyclopropanes are used as synthons in the synthesis of chiral carbocycles having other ring sizes by utilizing their unique structural and reactivity properties.^{2,3} Numerous synthetic methods for the preparation of chiral cyclopropanes have been developed.⁴ The most generally used methods are Simmons–Smith reactions⁵ and metalcatalyzed decomposition of diazo compounds in the presence of alkenes.⁶ However, there are relatively few methods available for asymmetric synthesis of chiral cyclopropanes involving addition to α,β -unsaturated carbonyl compounds.⁷ Accordingly, there is a need for methods that would effect such an addition to α,β -unsaturated carbonyl compounds. This is because the resulting and highly substituted cyclopropanes, including carbonyl groups, are endowed with functional diversity and are potentially useful for further elaboration.

We have recently reported the development of various Lewis acid-mediated reactions of (E)-1-(phenylseleno)-2-silylethenes (1) with α,β -unsaturated carbonyl compounds to afford cyclopropane products.⁸ These reactions have high stereoselectivity, and it was proposed that they involve a selenium-stabilized silicon migration and also involve a Se- - -C=O secondary orbital interaction in the first synclinal addition step. The stereochemistry adopted in the first addition step appears to be retained throughout the reaction course, leading to the high stereoselecc

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Table 1.[2 + 1] Cycloaddition Reactions of 1-Seleno-2-silylethenes 1 with Di-(-)-menthyl Methylenemalonate (2)^a



^{*a*} All reactions were carried out in with 1 mmol of 1, ca. 2.6 mmol of 2, and 1.5 mmol of ZnX₂ in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL). ^{*b*} 5:8 ratio was determined by ¹H NMR. ^{*c*} 9 and 10 were isolated in ca. 50% total (9 + 10) yield. The ratio of 9:10 was similar to the 5:8 ratio determined by ¹H NMR. ^{*d*} ee% was determined by HPLC using a chiral column (CHIRALCEL OF).

tivity. Since the first addition step is similar to that in concerted Diels-Alder reactions, the asymmetric induction methodology commonly employed in Diels-Alder reactions⁹ can potentially be applied. Previously, we attempted asymmetric [2 + 1] cycloaddition reactions of **1** and vinyl ketones in the presence of a BINOL ((*R*)- or (*S*)-1,1'-binaphthol)-derived chiral titanium Lewis acid. However, the reactions only gave cyclopropanes with relatively low, although reproducible, enantioselectivity.^{8c} As part of further efforts to develop this [2 + 1] cycloaddition reaction leading to efficient asymmetric cyclopropanation, we have now found and report herein that reaction of 1 with the chiral electrophiles 2, 3, and 4, containing (–)-menthyl ester moieties in the presence of a Lewis acid (ZnX₂), gave cyclopropane products 5, 6, and 7 with high diastereoselectivity (eq 1).



In addition, we have analyzed the reaction mechanism theoretically. The selenium-participating synclinal addition was carefully examined. So far, there are no detailed reports which address the synclinal addition and secondary orbital interactions precisely in terms of transition state modeling. Since the π facial selectivity of the addition is essential for the observed high diastereoselectivity, a precise and theoretical examination of the synclinal addition has been performed as is described herein.

Results and Discussion

[2 + 1] Cycloaddition Reactions of 1-Seleno-2silylethenes with Di-(-)-menthyl Ethene-1,1-dicar**boxylates.** Ethene-1,1-dicarboxylates such as methylenemalonates and 2-carbonyl-substituted ethene-1,1dicarboxylates have been shown to have high reactivity toward (*E*)-1-(phenylseleno)-2-silylethenes (**1**) in the presence of ZnBr₂.^{8b,d} Since highly diastereoselective Lewis acid-mediated Diels–Alder reactions of di-(–)-menthyl methylenemalonates have been reported,¹⁰ (–)-menthyl esters **2**–**4** are attractive substrates for diastereoselective [2 + 1] cycloaddition reactions of **1** under Lewis acid conditions. These reactions were examined as described in the following discussion.



Reaction of **1a**,**b** with di-(–)-menthyl methylenemalonate (**2**) in the presence of Lewis acid gave [2 + 1] and [2 + 2] cycloadducts **5** and **8** (eq 2), similar to the reaction of the achiral substrates such as di-*tert*-butyl and dimethyl methylenemalonates. As a Lewis acid, ZnBr₂ was first examined since the total chemical yield was high in the case of di-*tert*-butyl malonate.^{8b} The reaction leads to a high *net* yield of the cyclopropane, even though mixtures of cyclopropane and cyclobutane products resulted. ZnI₂ was also examined, and Table 1 summarizes these reactions (Table 1 containing more data is included in the Supporting Information).

To a solution of **1** in CH_2Cl_2 at -78 °C was added the Lewis acid, followed by **2** in CH_2Cl_2 . Reaction temperature and time were as shown in Table 1. Quenching with triethylamine gave a mixture of **5** and **8**. The observed trends for the total yield of **5**+**8** and the ratio are as follows. Using the same reaction temperature and time in the reaction of **1a** and **2**, ZnBr₂ gave a slightly higher amount of cyclopropane **5** than that of the cyclobutane **8**. ZnI₂ gave a slightly higher total yield (entries 1,3 vs

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 Table 2.
 [2 + 1] Cycloaddition Reactions of 1-Seleno-2-silylethene 1a with Di-(-)-menthyl Esters 3 and 4^a



^{*a*} All reactions were carried out with 1 mmol of **1a**, 1.3 mmol of **3/4**, and 1.5 mmol of ZnX_2 in CH₂Cl₂ (2 mL). ^{*b*} de% was determined by ¹H NMR. ^{*c*} A mixture of desilylated compounds including **14** was produced but could not be purified. ^{*d*} A trace amount of impurity was present, but the structure could not be determined as the corresponding diastereoisomer.

2,4). Higher temperature (+10 °C) reduced the total yield of 5+8 with ZnBr₂, resulting in desilylated byproducts (entry 1). Use of 1b instead of 1a decreased the ratio of 5 to 8, probably because steric hindrance disturbs the silicon migration (compare entry 2 with entry 5). Cyclopropanes 5a,b and cyclobutanes 8a,b could not be separated by column chromatography. The cycloadducts 5 and 8 were reduced to the corresponding alcohols 9a,b and 10a,b, which were then readily separated (eq 3). The selectivity of each reaction was examined by measuring the ee% of 9 and 10 using chiral HPLC. In all cases, reaction of 1 with a chiral electrophile 2 gave cyclopropane products 5 with high diastereoselectivity (de 77-88%, deduced from the ee% of 9). The cyclobutane 8 wasalso obtained with modest to high diastereoselectivity (de 61-84%, deduced from the ee% of 10), with some excep-tions (see the Supporting Information).



The absolute configuration of **5a** was determined by conversion to the known chiral compound **11** in eq 4, a useful synthetic intermediate for steroids, prostaglandins, and jasmonates.² Thus, the 1.8:1 mixture of **5a** and **8a**, prepared as in entry 4, was oxidized with NaIO₄ in a THF-H₂O solution at room temperature. The reaction mixture was purified by column chromatography to give the sila-Pummerer product, cyclopropane **12**, in 50%

yield.¹¹ Wittig reaction of **12** with methylenetriphenylphosphorane in THF gave **13** in 68% yield. Hydrolysis and subsequent treatment with diazomethane gave (R)-(+)-dimethyl vinylcyclopropanedicarboxylate (**11**) in 77% yield. The enantiopurity of **11** was determined to be 69– 71% ee by comparison with the reported optical rotation.¹² The absolute configuration of **5a** was also thereby confirmed to be *2S*.



Next, reactions of **1a** with 2-carbonyl-subsituted ethene-1,1-dicarboxylates **3** and **4** were examined (eq 5 and Table 2; Table 2 containing more data is in the Supporting Information). Reactions of **1a** with the corresponding dimethyl or diethyl esters gave cyclopropanes in satisfactory yields.^{8d} However, reaction of **1a** with triester olefin

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3 in the presence of ZnBr₂ or ZnI₂ proceeded sluggishly with low chemical yield (entries 1 and 2), probably due to steric hindrance from the menthyl group. Longer reaction time in the presence of ZnBr₂, higher temperature, or use of a stronger Lewis acid such as SnCl₄ resulted in formation of desilylated byproducts, e.g., 14 (entry 3). Reactions of di-(-)-menthyl 2-acylethene-1,1dicarboxylates 4 with 1a were next examined. The starting olefins 4 were conveniently prepared by reaction of di-(-)-menthyl oxomalonate (15) and acyl-substituted triphenylmethylenephosphoranes 16 (eq 6).¹³ We found that reactions of di-(-)-menthyl 2-acylethene-1,1-dicar-



boxylates 4 with 1a proceeded faster than those with triester 3 (entries 4-9). Thus, reaction of 4 with 1a in the presence of ZnI_2 at -30 °C in CH_2Cl_2 for 5.5–8 h gave 7 in 62-84% yield with ca. 95% purity.¹⁴ It should be noted that the terminal vinyl group of 4e did not participate in the cycloaddition reaction (entry 8).

Reactions of 1a with olefins 3 and 4 gave C₂,C₃-cissubstituted cyclopropanes 6 and 7, respectively, and no cyclobutanes were produced, similar to reactions of 1 with the corresponding dimethyl or diethyl esters.^{8d} The C₂,C₃cis stereochemistry of 6 and 7 was detemined by a NOE



cross-peak between H₂ and H₃ in 2D-NOESY.¹⁵ The determination of configurations of 6 and 7 by conversion to other useful chiral molecules is currently under investigation in our group.

Theoretical Study of the Reaction Mechanism

To account for the diastereoselective [2 + 1] cycloaddition reaction of 1 and chiral ethene-1,1-dicarboxylates, the [2 + 1] cycloaddtion mechanism was theoretically studied and the similarity with Lewis acid promoted Diels-Alder reactions was investigated. The total reaction mechanism was proposed as shown in Scheme 1.8 The reaction involves a Se- - -C=O secondary orbital interaction in the first synclinal addition step, and also involves a selenium-stabilized silicon migration in the

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not be determined to be the corresponding diastereoisomer.

⁽¹⁵⁾ The origin of C₂,C₃-cis selectivity of **6** and **7** probably arises from the larger LUMO coefficient of C₄ than that of C₅ in $3-ZnX_2$ or 4-ZnX₂ complexes, which was shown for the corresponding trimethyl ester.8d



The approach from the si-face of the C2 atom (same as Scheme 2)



Figure 1. Proposed approaches of **1a** to **2**-ZnBr₂. For the structures of **1a** and **2**-ZnBr₂, RHF/3-21G* optimized bond lengths and bond angles are used. They are shown in Figure 5S of the Supporting Information. C_3 --- C_2 and C_4 ---Se distances are set to 3.5 and 3.7 Å, respectively, as an initial complex in the addition step. These distances are taken from the model system (see Figure 2S in the Supporting Information).

resulting zwitterionic intermediate. Using model calculations, we have determined the structure of the weakly interacting system composed of **1** and **2**–ZnBr₂ as the complex prior to the transition state.^{16,17} Such weakly interacting systems are also known in Lewis-acid promoted Diels–Alder reactions.¹⁸

The structures of 1a and $2-ZnBr_2$ were fully optimized (see Figure 1 and the Supporting Information). In the optimized structure of $2-ZnBr_2$ shown at the top of





Figure 1, both menthyl groups are fixed by chelation with ZnBr₂. A C_2 symmetry axis exists with respect to the C₁= C_3 double bond. The ester carbonyl ($C_4=O_1$) is synperiplanar to the O_2-C_7 bond, and the $H-C_7$ bond is almost syn-periplanar to the C_4-O_2 bond. In Figure 1, the proposed synclinal approaches of **1a** from the *si* face and re face of C_2 to $2-ZnBr_2$ are outlined, where C_{4-} Se and C_{3} -- C_{2} distances are set to 3.7 and 3.5 Å, respectively, as the initial complex prior to the transition state in the addition step. These distances are taken from calculated results of the model system (see the Supporting Information). Approach from the *re* face of C₂ results in steric repulsion between Se and the isopropyl carbon of the menthyl group. This proposed diastereoselection is similar to that observed in asymmetric Diels-Alder reactions involving (-)-menthyl acrylates.^{3,19} The stereochemistry controlled in the first addition step seems to be retained throughout the reaction, leading to high stereoselectivity. Thus, attack from the si-side with respect to C_2 finally leads to (2.5)-5a in the reaction of 1a and 2 according to the mechanism shown in Scheme 1.²⁰ This proposed mechanism is consistent with the experimental observation of the absolute stereochemistry of the product 5a by conversion to 11 (eq 4). Although the absolute configurations of 6 and 7 have not been determined yet, the observed high diastereoselectivity suggests the stereoselective pathway shown in Scheme 2 for the [2 + 1] cycloaddition of **1a**, and **3** and **4**.

In the case of chiral triester-substituted olefin **17** (eq 7), the Lewis acid is bidentately coordinated to two ethoxycarbonyl groups and the (-)-menthoxycarbonyl group may be not fixed in the C=C plane.^{8d} As a result,

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⁽²⁰⁾ The configuration of C_6 of **5a** was assumed as *S*, following the previous discussion on the relative stereochemistry of C_2-C_6 .^{8b}



the diastereoselectivity was low (de 33%). Thus, fixation of the (-)-menthyl group by the Lewis acid in the addition step is presumed to be critical for the diastereoselective [2 + 1] cycloadditions of **1** with (-)-menthol-based chiral electrophilic olefins.

In summary, we have shown new diastereoselective cyclopropanation reactions of 1-seleno-2-silylethene **1** with di-(–)-menthyl ethene-1,1-dicarboxylates **2**–**4** in the presence of zinc halides. The absolute stereochemistry of cycloadduct **5a** was determined by conversion to the known chiral compound **11**. The stereochemical outcome of this reaction is consistent with a selective addition step in the proposed mechanism, as shown using ab initio calculations. Thus, the readily available and inexpensive (–)-menthol is a suitable chiral auxiliary in this [2 + 1] cycloaddition reaction. Further work is in progress on the utilization of these chiral highly functionalized cyclopropanes.

Experimental Section

General Methods. Melting points are uncorrected. IR spectra were recorded in the FT mode. ¹H NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ at 200 or 400 MHz. ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl₃ at 50.1 or 100.6 MHz. Chemical shifts are reported in ppm relative to Me₄Si or residual nondeuterated solvent. Mass spectra were recorded at an ionizing voltage of 70 eV by EI or FAB. HPLC analysis was performed with a UV detector (detection, 254 nm light) and a flow rate of 0.5 mL/min using a CHIRALCEL OF (0.46 cm × 25 cm). Optical rotations were measured with a cylindrical 1 cm i.d. × 10 cm or 0.33 cm i.d. × 10 cm cell. All reactions were carried out under a nitrogen atmosphere.

Di-(-)-menthyl 2-(1-(Phenylseleno)-1-(trimethylsilyl)methyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (5a) and Di-(-)menthyl 2-(Phenylseleno)-3-(trimethylsilyl)cyclobutane-1,1-dicarboxylate (8a). 2 was prepared according to the literature.^{10b} 2 could not be purified from traces of remaining starting di-(-)-menthyl malonate, and the mixture was used in the reaction.

A Typical Experimental Procedure (entry 4 in Table 1). To a solution of 1a (255 mg, 1.0 mmol) in dichloromethane (2.0 mL) cooled to -78 °C was added ZnI₂ (479 mg, 1.5 mmol) followed by a solution of 2 (1.021 g, ca. 2.6 mmol including a small amount of di-(-)-menthyl malonate) in dichloromethane (0.5 mL). The mixture was allowed to warm to -30 °C and stirred for 90 min and then at 0 °C for 30 min. The reaction mixture was quenched by triethylamine (0.36 mL, 2.37 mmol), and then saturated aqueous NaHCO3 was added to the mixture. The mixture was extracted with dichloromethane, and the organic phase was washed with water, dried (Na₂SO₄), and evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel eluting with hexanes-ether (9: 1) to give a mixture of 5a and 8a (638 mg, 99%). 5a and 8a were obtained as a 1.8:1 mixture ($R_f = 0.4$ (hexane-ether = 9:1)); ¹H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 0.009 (s, 9H \times 0.64), 0.042 (s, 9H \times 0.36), 0.602 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 6H), 0.704–1.19 (m, 18H), 1.31–1.73 (m, 8H + 2H \times 0.64), 1.93–2.25 (m, 4H + 1H \times 0.64 + 2H \times 0.36), 2.40 (d, J = 12.7 Hz, 1H \times 0.64), 2.76 (m, 1H \times 0.36), 4.35 (d, J = 10.5 Hz, 1H \times 0.36), 4.68–4.88 (m, 2H), 7.27–7.31 (m, 3H), 7.61–7.67 (m, 2H); IR (neat) 2922, 2870, 1717, 1580 cm^{-1}; MS (EI) m/z 648; exact mass M⁺ 648.3091 (calcd for $C_{35}H_{56}O_4SeSi$ 648.3113).

Di-(-)-menthyl2-(1-(Phenylseleno)-1-(triethylsilyl)methyl)cyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (5b) and Di-(-)-menthyl 2-(Phenylseleno)-3-(trimethylsilyl)cyclobutane-1,1dicarboxylate (8b) (entry 5 in Table 1). 5b and 8b were obtained as a 1:1.5 mixture ($R_f = 0.5$ (hexane-ether = 9:1)); ¹H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm) 0.474-0.593 (m, 6H), 0.658-1.21 (m, 33H), 1.25-2.28 (m, 12H + 3H × 0.4 + 2H × 0.6), 2.50 (d, J = 12.5 Hz, 1H × 0.4), 2.75 (m, 1H × 0.6), 4.40 (d, J = 9.3 Hz, 1H × 0.6), 4.61-4.89 (m, 2H), 7.22-7.26 (m, 3H), 7.56-7.67 (m, 2H); IR (neat) 2920, 1717, 1580 cm⁻¹; MS (E1) m/z 690; exact mass M⁺ 690.3552 (calcd for C₃₈H₆₂O₄SeSi 690.3583).

Preparation of 9 and 10 (entry 4 in Table 1). LiAlH₄ (79 mg, 2.09 mmol) was slowly added to a solution of a mixture of **5a** and **8a** (1.8:1) (300 mg, 0.46 mmol) in anhydrous diethyl ether (5.9 mL) with stirring at 0 °C. The mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 4.5 h. Saturated Na₂SO₄ solution was added to the stirred mixture with icecooling. The mixture was extracted with ether. The aqueous layer was acidified by 1 N HCl and extracted with ether. The combined organic phase was dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel eluting with hexanes – ether (1:4) to give **9a** (53 mg, 30%) ($R_f = 0.4$) and **10a** (40 mg, 23%) ($R_f = 0.6$).

2,2-Bis(hydroxymethyl)-1-[(phenylseleno)(trimethylsilyl)methyl]cyclopropane (9a). HPLC (hexane-ⁱPrOH = 9:1) major peak t_{R1} 38.6 min, minor peak t_{R2} 81.6 min, 81% ee. The ¹H NMR spectrum was in accord with the reported data.;^{8b} [α]^{28.4}_D -9.3 (*c* 0.66, CHCl₃).

4,4-Bis(hydroxymethyl)-1-(phenylseleno)-2-(trimethyl-silyl)cyclobutane (10a). HPLC (hexane-ⁱPrOH = 9:1) major peak t_{R1} 18.1 min, minor peak t_{R2} 29.1 min, 68% ee. The ¹H NMR spectrum was in accord with the reported data.;^{8b} [α]^{24.7}_D +34.1 (*c* 1.0, CHCl₃).

2,2-Bis(hydroxymethyl)-1-[(phenylseleno)(triethylsilyl)methyl]cyclopropane (9b). ($R_f = 0.4$ (hexane-ether = 1:4). Pale yellow oil; HPLC (hexane-ⁱPrOH = 9:1) major peak t_{R1} 30.6 min, minor peak t_{R2} 52.1 min, 79% ee; ¹H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃) 0.348 (dd, J = 5.4, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 0.559–0.683 (m, 6H), 0.866–0.972 (m, 10H), 1.24 (ddd, J = 12.8, 8.0, 5.4 Hz, 1H), 2.17 (d, J = 12.8 Hz, 1H), 2.50 (bs, 1H), 2.95 (bd, J = 9.0 Hz, 1H), 3.44–3.87 (m, 4H), 7.24–7.30 (m, 3H), 7.61–7.66 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (50.1 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.317, 7.609, 18.79, 26.15, 29.77, 30.09, 64.49, 69.86, 128.0, 129.1, 129.3, 135.0; IR (neat) 3400, 2956, 2878, 1578 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z 386; exact mass M⁺ 386.1181 (calcd for C₁₈H₃₀O₂SeSi 386.1180); [α]^{30.4}_D –5.5 (c0.21, CHCl₃).

4.4-Bis(hydroxymethyl)-1-(phenylseleno)-2-(triethylsilyl)cyclobutane (10b). ($R_f = 0.6$ (hexane-ether = 1:4). Pale yellow oil; HPLC (hexane-ⁱPrOH = 9:1) major peak t_{R1} 17.9 min, minor peak t_{R2} 29.2 min, 84% ee; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 0.578 (q, J = 8.0 Hz, 6H), 0.962 (t, J = 8.0 Hz, 9H), 1.72-1.74 (m, 2H), 1.95 (ddd, J = 11.0, 9.9, 9.9 Hz, 1H), 3.64 (s, 2H), 3.81 (d, J = 11.7 Hz, 1H), 3.84 (d, J = 11.0 Hz, 1H), 4.21 (d, J = 11.7 Hz, 1H), 7.24-7.29 (m, 3H), 7.53-7.55 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.423, 7.642, 23.13, 26.74, 44.91, 50.28, 67.56, 69.28, 127.4, 129.4, 131.1, 133.0; IR (neat) 380, 2950, 2876, 1578 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z 386; exact mass M⁺ 386.1175 (calcd for C₁₈H₃₀O₂SeSi 386.1180); [α]^{25.3}_D +20.3 (c0.54, CHCl₃).

Di-(-)-menthyl 2-Formylcyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (12). To a solution of a mixture of **5a** and **8a** (1.8:1) (prepared as in entry 4, Table 1) (621 mg, 0.96 mmol) in THF (19.2 mL) and water (9.6 mL) was added NaIO₄ (1.03 g, 4.8 mmol) with vigorous stirring. The mixture was stirred for 6 h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was poured into ether and saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ solution and extracted with ether (×2). The combined organic layer was washed with water, dried (MgSO₄), and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel eluting with hexanes–ether (3:1) to give **12** (208 mg, 50%). ($R_f = 0.4$ (hexane–ether = 3:1)). Pale yellow oil; ¹H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃) 0.736 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.745 (d, J = 7.1 Hz, 3H), 0.819–1.18 (m, 18H), 1.21–2.12 (m, 14H), 2.75 (ddd, J = 8.7, 6.8, 4.9 Hz, 1H), 4.74 (ddd, J = 10.7, 10.7, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 4.76 (ddd, J = 10.9, 10.9, 4.2 Hz, 1H), 9.22 (d, J = 4.9 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (50.1 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 15.70, 16.14, 19.17, 20.87, 22.00, 22.09, 22.88, 23.20, 25.71, 26.06, 31.40, 34.15, 34.91, 37.89, 40.52, 40.66, 46.71, 47.08, 76.63, 165.5, 167.6, 196.3; IR (neat) 2960, 2872, 1727 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z (relative intensity) 435 (30) M⁺ + 1, 419 (15), 297 (100); [α]^{17.5}D – 19.2 (c 0.80, CHCl₃).

Di-(-)-menthyl 2-Vinylcyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (13). A solution of n-BuLi (1.25 M in *n*-hexane, 0.99 mL, 1.24 mmol) was added dropwise to a stirred and ice-cold suspension of methyltriphenylphosphonium iodide (443 mg, 1.24 mmol) in THF (4.2 mL). The mixture was stirred to 0 °C for 15 min. A solution of 12 (208 mg, 0.48 mmol) in THF (1.4 mL) was added to the mixture at 0 °C. After the mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature, it was stirred for 2.5 h. Water was added, and the mixture was extracted with ether. The ether layer was separated, dried (MgSO₄), and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel eluting with hexanes-ether (9:1) to give 13 (141 mg, 68%) ($R_f = 0.8$ (hexane-ether = 9:1)). Colorless oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 0.707 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.747 (d, J= 7.0 Hz, 3H), 0.849-0.927 (m, 14H), 0.956-1.09 (m, 4H), 1.21-1.53 (m, 6H), 1.64-1.70 (m, 4H), 1.83-1.94 (m, 2H), 2.04-2.08 (m, 2H), 2.56 (ddd, J = 7.9, 7.9, 8.2 Hz, 1H), 4.70 (ddd, J = 10.6, 10.6, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 4.72 (ddd, J = 10.6, 10.6, 4.3)Hz, 1H), 5.09 (dd, J = 10.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.29 (dd, J = 17.0, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 5.40 (ddd, J = 17.0, 10.0, 8.2 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃) & 16.08, 16.50, 20.24, 20.83, 22.10, 22.17, 23.21, 23.65, 26.33, 30.66, 31.48, 34.37, 34.42, 36.56, 40.92, 46.98, 47.32, 75.60, 75.81, 118.0, 133.7, 167.1, 169.6; IR (neat) 2950, 2872, 1717, 1640, 984, 913 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) *m*/*z* 432; MS (FAB) m/z 433 (MH⁺); $[\alpha]^{18.0}$ _D -28.6 (*c* 0.89, CHCl₃).

Dimethyl 2-Vinylcyclopropane-1,1-dicarboxylate (11). A mixture of 13 (534 mg, 1.23 mmol), NaOH (978 mg, 17.4 mmol), and a spatula of hydroquinone in H_2O (1.7 mL) and EtOH (3.4 mL) was heated for 8 h under reflux. The reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo, and water was added. The mixture was washed with ether (\times 3). The water phase was saturated with NaH₂PO₄·2H₂O and concentrated hydrochloric acid was added to adjust to pH = 5 with ice-cooling. The aqueous solution was extracted with ether $(\times 6)$, and the ether extracts were dried (MgSO₄) and concentrated in vacuo. The residue was dissolved in ether (20 mL), and the solution was treated with excess diazomethane in ether. The reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel eluting with hexanes-ether (9:1) to give **11** (175 mg, 77%) ($R_f = 0.4$). **11**: Pale yellow oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 1.59 (dd, J = 9.2, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 1.72 (dd, J = 7.6, 5.0 Hz, 1H), 2.58 (ddd, J = 9.2, 8.3, 7.6 Hz, 1H), 3.74 (s, 3H), 5.12-5.16 (m, 1H), 5.26-5.32 (m, 1H), 5.40–5.49 (m, 1H); $^{13}\mathrm{C}$ NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 20.58, 31.42, 35.79, 52.53, 52.68, 118.6, 133.0, 167.8, 170.0; IR (neat) 3014, 2958, 1729, 1640, 990, 919 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z 184; exact mass M^+ 184.0735 (calcd for $C_9H_{12}O_4$ 184.0735); $[\alpha]^{17.6}{}_D$ +38.2 (c 1.1, CCl₄).

1,1-Di-(–)-**menthyl 2-Methyl Ethane-1,1,2-tricarboxylate (19).** Sodium hydride (0.74 g, 57% dispersion in oil, 17.6 mmol, washed twice with hexane) was suspended in freshly distilled THF (35 mL). After the mixture was cooled to 0 °C, di-(–)-menthyl malonate (3.31 g, 8.69 mmol) in THF (2.3 mL) was added dropwise over 10 min. After 30 min, methyl chloroacetate (943 mg, 8.69 mmol) dissolved in THF (5.4 mL) was added dropwise, and the mixture was allowed to room temperature and stirred overnight. Water was added to the reaction, the mixture was extracted with ether, and the organic phase was dried (MgSO₄). The solvent was evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel eluting with hexanes–ether (19:1 to 9:1) to give the title compound (1.66 g, 42%). $R_f = 0.8$ (hexane–ether = 2:1); colorless oil; ¹H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃) 0.745 (d, J = 7.0 Hz, 3H), 0.753 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.828–1.08 (m, 18H), 1.13–1.71 (m, 8H), 1.83–2.03 (m, 4H), 2.93 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 2H), 3.69 (s, 3H), 3.81 (t, J = 7.6 Hz, 1H), 4.726 (ddd, J = 10.9, 10.9, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 4.733 (ddd, J = 10.9, 10.9, 4.3 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (50.1 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 15.99, 16.19, 20.78, 20.95, 22.03, 22.99, 23.29, 25.65, 26.12, 31.35, 33.10, 34.18, 40.46, 40.54, 46.79, 46.85, 48.31, 52.02, 75.82, 167.9, 168.1, 171.3; IR (neat) 2950, 2870, 1734, 1456, 1412, 996, 915, 845, 733 cm⁻¹; MS (FAB) m/z 453 (MH⁺); [α]^{17.6}_D –59.9 (c 0.8, CHCl₃).

1,1-Di-(-)-menthyl 2-Methyl Ethene-1,1,2-tricarboxylate (3). A solution containing 1,1-di-(-)-menthyl 2-methyl ethane-1,1,2-tricarboxylate (19) (1.81 g, 4.0 mmol) in carbon tetrachloride (7.5 mL) was treated with azobis(isobutyronitrile) (3.7 mg). Bromine (918 mg, 5.75 mmol) was added to the mixture in small portions with irradiation by a 100 V-60 W lamp. The addition rate was adjusted so that hydrogen bromide was evolved at a steady rate. After the addition, stirring and irradiation was continued for 16 h. The reaction mixture was concentrated in vacuo to give crude 1,1-di-(-)menthyl 2-methyl 1-bromoethane-1,1,2-tricarboxylate. The crude bromide (2.355 g) was dissolved in anhydrous ether (8.5 mL) and was cooled to 0 °C. Triethylamine (425 mg, 4.20 mmol) in ether (3.2 mL) was then added dropwise to the bromide solution. After the addition, the reaction mixture was stirred for 16 h at 0 °C. Water was added to the mixture, and the formed triethylamine hydrobromide salt was dissolved. The mixture was extracted with ether, and the ether extracts were dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel eluting with hexanes–ether (4:1) to give $\hat{3}$ (1.63 g, 91%). 3: $R_f = 0.7$ (hexane-ether = 2:1); colorless oil; ¹H \overline{NMR} (200 MHz, CDCl₃) 0.74-1.15 (m, 24H), 1.32-1.88 (m, 8H), 1.99-2.26 (m, 4H), 3.78 (s, 3H), 4.86 (ddd, J = 11.2, 11.2, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 4.91 (ddd, J = 11.1, 11.1, 4.3 Hz, 1H), 6.84 (s, 1H); ¹³C NMR (50.1 MHz, CDCl₃) & 15.93, 20.75, 21.86, 21.98, 22.99, 25.42, 25.94, 31.32, 34.09, 40.11, 40.52, 46.79, 47.03, 52.19, 76.14, 76.49, 128.8, 139.4, 161.8, 163.7; IR (neat) 2950, 2868, 1730, 1653 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z 450; exact mass M⁺ 450.2949 (calcd for C₂₆H₄₂O₆ (450.2982); $[\alpha]^{19.3}$ _D -69.4 (*c* 1.0, CHCl₃).

Preparation of Olefins 4. A typical experimental procedure is described for the preparation of **4a**.

1,1-Di-(-)-menthyl 2-Acetylethene-1,1-dicarboxylate (4a). To an ice-water-cooled solution of di-(-)-menthyl oxomalonate (413 mg, 1.0 mmol) in benzene (2.0 mL) was added 1-triphenylphosphoranylidene-2-propanone (318 mg, 1.0 mmol). After stirring for 2.5 h at room temperature, benzene was evaporated and ether was added. The precipitates were removed by filtration. The filtrate was concentrated and the residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel eluting with cyclohexane-CH₂Cl₂ (3:1) to give 4a (410 mg, 94%). **4a**: $(R_f = 0.5 \text{ (cyclohexane}-CH_2Cl_2 = 3:1))$. Colorless crystals; mp 70-73 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) 0.762 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.845 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.882-1.12 (m, 18H), 1.36-1.58 (m, 4H), 1.68-1.73 (m, 4H), 1.81-1.86 (m, 1H), 2.00-2.05 (m, 2H), 2.24-2.28 (m, 1H), 2.35 (s, 3H), 4.86 (ddd, J = 10.9, 10.9, 4.5 Hz, 1H), 4.91 (ddd, J = 10.9, 10.9, 4.4 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (s, 1H); 13 C NMR (100.6 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 16.04 (q), 16.14 (q), 20.98 (q), 21.02 (q), 22.05 (q), 22.17 (q), 23.19 (t), 23.23 (t), 25.67 (d), 26.14 (d), 30.73 (q), 31.55 (d), 34.28 (t), 34.31 (t), 40.17 (t), 40.75 (t), 47.07 (d), 47.22 (d), 76.38 (d), 76.78 (d), 135.4 (d), 136.2 (s), 162.6 (s), 164.4 (s), 196.1 (s). $^{13}\mathrm{C}$ multiplicities were determined by DEPT; IR (KBr) 2962, 2872, 1736, 1698, 1630 cm⁻¹; MS (\check{EI}) m/z 434; exact mass M⁺ 434.3020 (calcd for C₂₆H₄₂O₅ 434.3032); Anal. Calcd for $C_{26}H_{42}O_5$: C, 71.85; H, 9.74. Found: C, 71.69; H, 9.68; $[\alpha]^{33.9}D$ -82.0 (c 0.97, CHCl₃).

Typical Experimental Procedure for Cycloadditions with 3 and 4 (entry 2 in Table 2). To a solution of **1a** (255 mg, 1.0 mmol) in dichloromethane (2.0 mL) cooled to -78 °C was added ZnI₂ (479 mg, 1.5 mmol) followed by a solution of **3** (586 mg, 1.3 mmol) in dichloromethane (0.5 mL). The mixture was allowed to warm to -30 °C and stirred for 14 h. The reaction mixture was quenched by triethylamine (0.36 mL, 2.37 mmol), and then saturated aqueous NaHCO₃ was added to the mixture. The mixture was extracted with dichloromethane, and the organic phase was washed with water, dried (Na₂SO₄), and evaporated in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography over silica gel eluting with cyclohexane–CH₂Cl₂ (4:1) to give **6a** (273 mg, 39%, de 92%). The de% was determined by integration of the ¹H signals at δ 2.74 (major) and δ 2.86 (minor).

1,1-Di-(-)-menthyl 2-Methyl 3-[(Phenylseleno)(trimethylsilyl)methyl]-2,3-cis-cyclopropane-1,1,2-tricarboxylate (6a). $(R_f = 0.6 \text{ (hexane-ether} = 4:1))$. Pale yellow oil; ¹H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃) for the major diastereomer -0.081 (s, 9H), 0.754 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.788 (d, J = 6.8 Hz, 3H), 0.837 -1.11 (m, 18H), 1.32–2.14 (m, 12H), 2.20 (dd, J=13.2, 9.5 Hz, 1H), 2.74 (d, J = 9.5 Hz, 1H), 3.19 (d, J = 13.2 Hz, 1H), 3.68 (s, 3H), 4.77 (ddd, J = 10.9, 10.9, 4.4 Hz, 2H), 7.20-7.27 (m, 3H), 7.62-7.64 (m, 2H). Selected observed NOE's were between δ 2.20 (H₃) and 2.74 (H₂) (see ¹H numbering in Scheme 1) and between δ 3.19 and 7.62–7.64.; ¹³C NMR (50.1 MHz, CDCl₃) for the major diastereomer δ -1.646, 15.90, 16.14, 21.04, 21.30, 22.09, 22.21, 22.82, 23.20, 24.07, 25.39, 26.00, 31.46, 31.52, 33.59, 34.27, 36.19, 40.40, 40.49, 40.81, 47.00, 47.17, 51.96, 75.84, 76.66, 127.6, 128.7, 129.4, 135.8, 164.3, 168.5, 168.9; IR (neat) 2930, 2344, 1730, 1578 cm⁻¹; MS (EI) m/z 706; exact mass M⁺ 706.3191 (calcd for C₃₇H₅₈O₆SeSi 706.3168); $[\alpha]^{20.2}_{D}$ -108.6 (*c* 1.0, CHCl₃).

14. Yield 86% (entry 3 in Table 2). (9:1 *trans-cis* isomers) ($R_f = 0.4$ (hexane-ether = 4:1). Pale yellow oil; ¹H NMR (200 MHz, CDCl₃) for the major trans isomer) 0.736 (d, J = 6.6 Hz, 6H), 0.819–1.05 (m, 18H), 1.21–1.96 (m, 12H), 3.70 (s, 3H), 3.73–3.87 (m, 2H), 4.63–4.77 (m, 2H), 5.73 (ddd, J = 15.4, 6.5, 2.6 Hz, 1H), 6.74 (d, J = 15.4 Hz, 1H), 7.27–7.31 (m, 3H), 7.43–7.48 (m, 2H); ¹³C NMR (50.1 MHz, CDCl₃) for major

peaks δ 15.93, 16.11, 20.60, 20.69, 21.89, 23.05, 23.29, 25.77, 25.91, 26.06, 31.20, 31.26, 34.03, 40.28, 40.75, 46.71, 46.79, 49.65, 52.28, 53.39, 54.00, 75.52, 75.73, 125.7, 126.8, 127.5, 128.9, 129.2, 132.6, 166.8, 166.9, 171.1.; IR (neat) 2932, 2872, 1730, 1609, 1580 cm^{-1}; MS (EI) m/z 634; exact mass M^+ 634.2755 (calcd for $C_{34}H_{50}O_6Se$ 634.2773); Anal. Calcd for $C_{34}H_{50}O_6Se$: C, 64.44; H, 7.95. Found: C, 64.28; H, 8.07.

Theoretical calculations. Ab initio RHF/3-21G* calculations were performed, using the GAUSSIAN 94¹⁶ program installed at the CONVEX SPP-1200/XA computer (Information Processing Center, Nara University of Education). Detailed data and related discussions are included in the Supporting Information.

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Supporting Information Available: The detailed version of Tables 1 and 2, the product characterization data for **4b**–**f**, **6b** (which appears in the detailed version of Table 2 in the Supporting Information) and **7a**–**f**, ¹H NMR spectra for compounds **3**, **4b**,**c**, **6a**,**b**, **7a**–**c**, **7e**,**f**, **9b**, **10b**, **11**–**13**, and **20**, and results of theoretical analyses using ab initio calculations. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at http://pubs.acs.org.

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