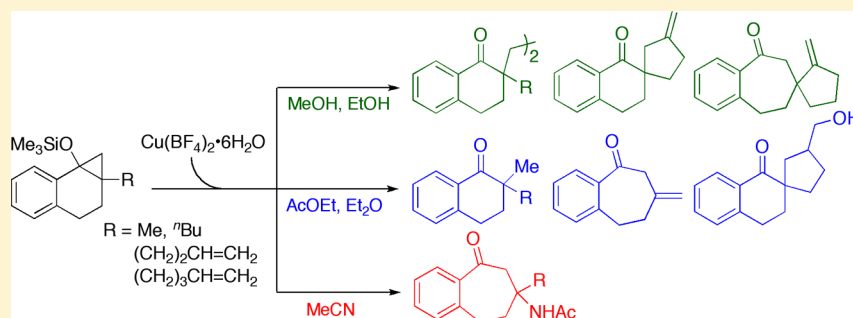


Solvent-Dependent Reaction Pathways Operating in Copper(II) Tetrafluoroborate Promoted Oxidative Ring-Opening Reactions of Cyclopropyl Silyl Ethers

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S Supporting Information

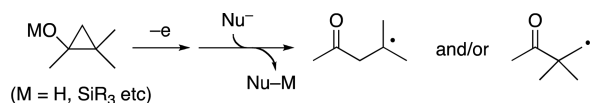


ABSTRACT: Oxidative ring-opening reactions of benzene-fused bicyclic cyclopropyl silyl ethers, promoted by copper(II) tetrafluoroborate, were investigated. The regioselectivity of cyclopropane ring-opening as well as product distributions were found to be highly dependent on the nature of the solvent. In alcohols, dimeric substances arising from external bond cleavage are major products. Radical rearrangement products are also formed in solvents such as ether and ethyl acetate. On the contrary, nucleophile addition to carbocation intermediates, generated by internal bond cleavage, occurs mainly in reactions taking place in acetonitrile. It is proposed that the observed solvent effects that govern the reaction pathways followed are a consequence of varying solvation of copper intermediates, which governs their reactivity and redox properties. In addition, the influence of counteranions of the copper salts, organonitriles, cyclic dienes, and substrate structures on the pathways followed in these reactions was also examined.

INTRODUCTION

Single-electron transfer (SET) is a fundamental chemical process that occurs in a wide variety of reduction and oxidation (redox) reactions.¹ Moreover, free radicals often serve as key intermediates in SET-promoted redox reactions of organic substances.^{1f,g} Because cyclopropanols and their derivatives are versatile synthetic building blocks, they have been frequently used in organic synthesis.² In addition, owing to the expectation that they produce useful β -keto alkyl radical intermediates, oxidation reactions of cyclopropanol derivatives have been explored in detail (Scheme 1).^{3–6} In continuing studies focusing on SET-promoted processes, we have studied oxidative ring-opening reactions of selected bicyclic cyclopropanol derivatives that occur under ground- and excited-state oxidation conditions.⁷

Scheme 1. β -Keto Alkyl Radical Generation by Oxidative Ring-Opening of Cyclopropanol Derivatives



Although copper(II) salts are often employed as SET oxidants in organic chemistry,^{1a,e,8,9} their use in inducing ring-opening reactions of cyclopropanol derivatives is limited.^{4,5,7h,10} About three decades ago, Ryu and co-workers reported the results of seminal studies which demonstrated that $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2$ promotes reactions of bicyclic cyclopropyl silyl ethers that form dimeric products (upper path in Scheme 2).⁴ When these reactions are carried out in the presence of dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate (DMAD) and water, addition of the β -acylalkyl species occurs to give Z-adducts. It was proposed that organocopper(II) intermediates are involved in these reactions. On the other hand, Snider and co-workers suggested the involvement of radical intermediates in this process based on the observation that a typical intramolecular radical trapping product is formed albeit in low yield (lower path in Scheme 2).⁵

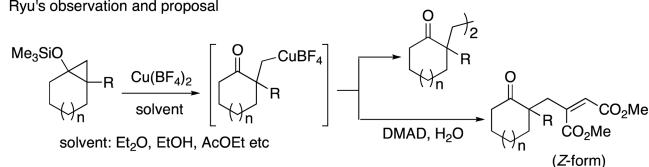
Recently, we observed that the nature of counteranions in copper(II) salts significantly influences the pathways followed in ring-opening reactions of fused benzene ring containing bicyclic cyclopropanols in MeCN (Scheme 3).^{7h} In this effort, we did not observe the formation of dimeric products like those

Received: December 13, 2015

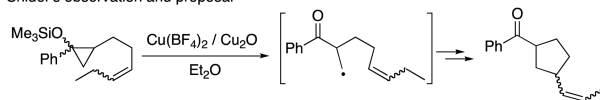
Published: January 14, 2016

Scheme 2. Previously Studied $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2$ Promoted Ring-Opening Reactions of Cyclopropyl Silyl Ethers

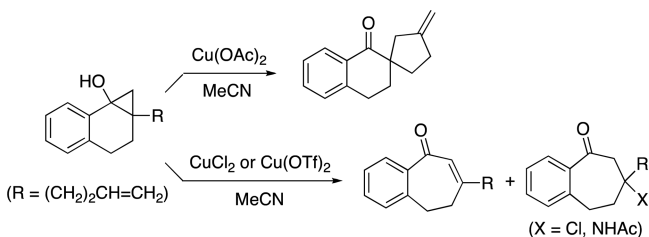
Ryu's observation and proposal



Snider's observation and proposal



Scheme 3. Our Study on Copper(II) Salt Promoted Ring-Opening Reaction of a Bicyclic Cyclopropanol



detected by Ryu,⁴ nor did we probe the use of $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2$ as an oxidant. In the earlier study, Ryu also noted that $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2$ promotes reactions of bicyclic cyclopropyl silyl ethers in MeCN and DMF that produce dimeric products in minimal yields.⁴ However, no information was provided about other products produced in these reactions. Owing to our interest in this area, we carried out an investigation aimed at more thoroughly investigating $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2$ promoted ring-opening reactions of cyclopropyl silyl ethers in various solvents including MeCN.

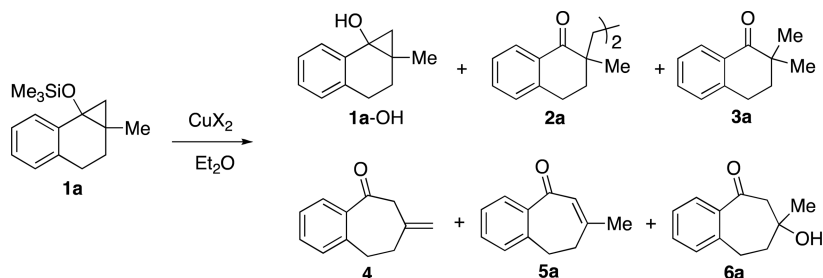
RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In the first phase of this effort, reactions of cyclopropyl silyl ether **1a** with $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2$ and other copper(II) salts in Et_2O were investigated (Table 1).¹¹ We observed that reaction of **1a** with $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ leads to formation of several products including dimer **2a**, dimethyl ketone **3a**, desilylated alcohol

1a-OH, and a small amount of ring-expanded β -hydroxy ketone **6a** (entry 1).¹² The β,γ -enone **4** generated in this process could not be isolated by using silica gel chromatography, and consequently, its structure was tentatively determined by using ^1H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture (see the Supporting Information). Moreover, α,β -enone **5a** was isolated in 21% yield by using column chromatography even though it was not present in large quantities in the crude reaction mixture. These findings suggest that **4** undergoes acid-promoted conversion to the more stable **5a** during the separation process. Thus, the ^1H NMR yields of **4** and **5a** in the crude reaction mixture are reported in Table 1. An increase in the quantity of $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2$ causes a slight decrease in the yields of **2a**, **3a**, and **4**, and **1a-OH** is nearly completely consumed (entry 2). In the reactions of **1a** with $\text{Cu}(\text{ClO}_4)_2$ and $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$, **2a** is the major product (entries 3 and 4).¹³

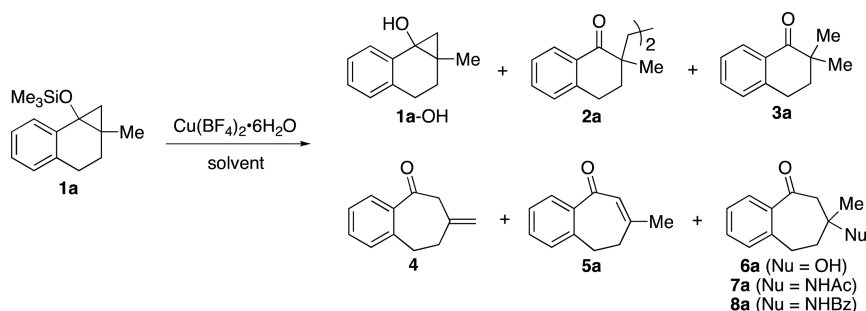
Because $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2$ is not completely soluble in Et_2O , solvents in which it is more soluble were employed for this reaction (Table 2).¹⁴ Reactions of **1a** with $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ in alcohol solvents were found to produce **2a** as a major product, while the yield of this substance gradually decreases as the alkyl portion of the alcohol solvent becomes more bulky (entries 1, 3, and 6). Reactions of **1a** promoted by 1.1 molar equiv of $\text{Cu}(\text{ClO}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ in EtOH and $\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$ in aqueous EtOH produced **2a** in 82% and 83% yields, respectively, along with small quantities of **3a** (5%) for each case (not shown in Table 2). The use of 2.2 molar equiv of $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2$ leads to a significantly increased yield of **2a** (compare entries 2 and 5 with entries 1 and 3, respectively), while reaction at 80°C results in an increase in both the yield of **2a** and the extent of isomerization of **4** to **5a** (compare entry 4 to entry 3). While **2a** is generated as a major product in acetone, THF, and DMF, the formation of **6a** becomes significant in the first two solvents (entries 7 and 8), and some quantity of **1a-OH** is recovered in the last solvent (entry 9). In contrast, reaction in AcOEt produces **3a** and **4** predominantly along with **2a** (entry 10). When the quantity of $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2$ used for reaction in AcOEt is increased to 2.2 molar equiv, **2a** becomes the major product (entry 11). In marked contrast is the observation that **2a** does not form in the reaction of **1a** with 1.1 or 2.2 molar equiv of $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2$ in MeCN (entries 12 and 13). In this solvent, the MeCN adduct,^{7h} acetamide **7a**, and **6a** are major products. A

Table 1. Reaction of **1a** with Various Copper(II) Salts in Et_2O ^a



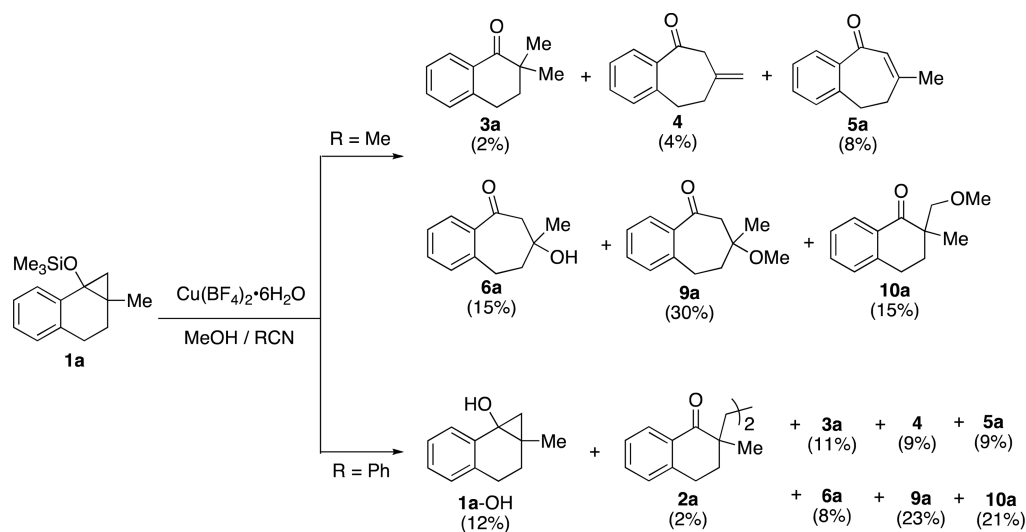
entry	CuX_2 (equiv vs 1a)	yields (%)					
		1a-OH ^b	2a	3a ^b	4 ^b	5a ^b	6a
1	$\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (1.1)	9	23 ^b	25	21	2	3
2	$\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2.2)	trace	21	18	17	3	2
3	$\text{Cu}(\text{ClO}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (1.1)	0	52 ^b	9	4	4	4 ^b
4 ^c	$\text{Cu}(\text{OTf})_2$ (1.1)	18	50 ^b	8	4	5	5 ^b

^aReaction conditions: **1a** (0.30 mmol), Et_2O (3 mL), under N_2 , rt, 6 h. ^bDetermined by ^1H NMR. ^c6.6 equiv of H_2O was added.

Table 2. Reaction of **1a** with $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ in Various Solvents^a

entry	solvent	Cu salt (equiv)	yields (%)						
			1a-OH ^b	2a	3a	4 ^b	5a ^b	6a	7a or 8a
1	MeOH	1.1	11	79	trace	trace	0	0	
2	MeOH	2.2	0	97	0	0	0	0	
3	EtOH	1.1	0	69	4 ^b	7	trace	trace	
4 ^c	EtOH	1.1	0	83	4	0	7	0	
5	EtOH	2.2	0	85 ^b	4 ^b	7	0	trace	
6	<i>i</i> PrOH	1.1	0	56 ^b	12 ^b	13	5	0	
7	Acetone	1.1	0	53	9 ^b	13	0	21	
8	THF	1.1	0	33	7 ^b	9	trace	15	
9	DMF	1.1	31	32 ^b	1 ^b	7	3	trace	
10	AcOEt	1.1	0	15 ^b	32	28	0	8	
11	AcOEt	2.2	4	26 ^b	11	10	trace	5 ^b	
12	MeCN	1.1	0	0	trace	trace	trace	13	40
13	MeCN	2.2	0	0	0	0	0	23	53
14	PhCN	2.2	0	0	0	0	6	35	44

^aReaction conditions: **1a** (0.30 mmol), Cu salt: $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (1.1 or 2.2 equiv vs **1a**), solvent (3 mL), under N_2 , rt, 6 h. ^bDetermined by ^1H NMR. ^cHeated at 80 °C.

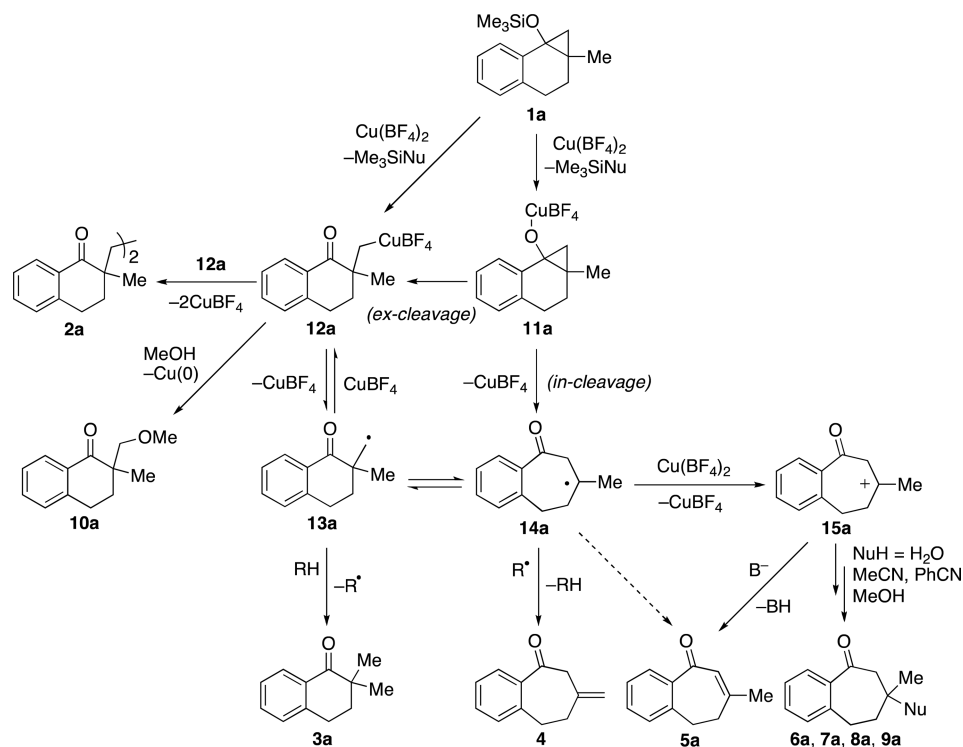
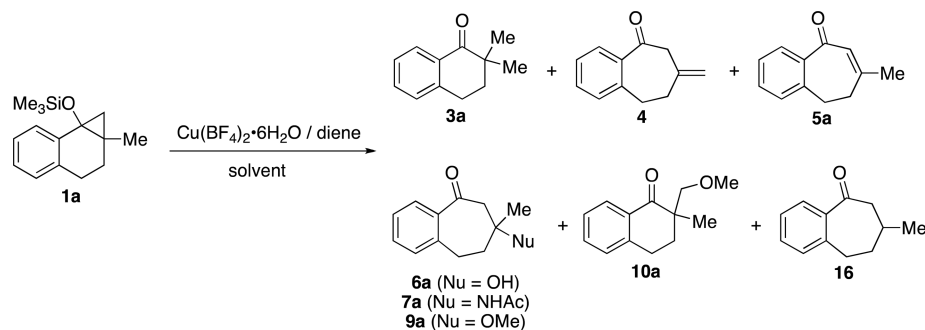
Scheme 4. Nitrile (RCN) Solvent Effect on the Reaction of **1a** with $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ in MeOH

further exploration of nitrile solvents showed that reaction of **1a** in PhCN produces benzamide **8a** (entry 14).

In order to gain more information about solvent effects on these processes, reaction of **1a** with $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2.2 equiv) in a mixed solvent system composed of MeOH and MeCN (9/1) was explored. The results show that dimer **2a** and acetamide **7a** are not produced under these conditions (upper path in Scheme 4). Instead, methyl ethers **9a** and **10a** are generated along with **6a** and small amounts of **3a**, **4**, and **5a** (compare to entries 2 and 13 in Table 2). In addition, reaction

of **1a** in a mixture of PhCN (6.5 equiv vs **1a**) and MeOH (lower path in Scheme 4) generates **2a** in a significantly lower yield. In this solvent system, no benzamide **8a** is produced and **9a** and **10a** are major products.

On the basis of the results described above as well as those made in previous studies of related reactions,^{4,5,7h} it is possible to propose the plausible mechanistic pathways outlined in Scheme 5 for formation of observed products. In these routes, addition of $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2$ to **1a** along with loss of the silyl group occurs to form the copper alkoxide **11a**,^{7h} which undergoes

Scheme 5. Plausible Mechanistic Pathways for Reaction of **1a** with $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ Table 3. Reaction of **1a** with $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ in the Presence of Cyclic Dienes^a

entry	solvent	diene	yields (%)							
			3a	4 ^b	5a ^b	6a	7a	9a	10a	16
1 ^c	MeOH	CHD	36	7	5	10		0	0	~19 ^c
2 ^{cd}	MeOH	COD	24	5	3	~9 ^c		12	~10 ^c	0
3	AcOEt	CHD	30	27	trace	13				0
4	MeCN	CHD	0	0	0	25	50			0

^aReaction conditions: **1a** (0.30 mmol), $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2.2 equiv vs **1a**), diene (6.8 equiv vs **1a**), solvent (3 mL), under N_2 , rt, 6 h. ^bDetermined by ^1H NMR. ^c**1a**-OH (11%), **2a** (trace). ^d**1a**-OH (6%). ^eCrude yield.

either external or internal bond cleavage (*ex-cleavage* or *in-cleavage*) in the cyclopropane ring.¹⁵ Among candidates to act as effective nucleophiles in the initial steps could be solvents as well as water since nucleophilic species are known to promote desilylation of cationic intermediates of silyl compounds.¹⁶ The former process gives the corresponding organocopper intermediate **12a**, which then undergoes dimerization to produce **2a**. Electrophilic addition of $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2$ to a cyclopropane carbon of **1a**, as proposed by Ryu and co-workers, is an alternative route for formation of **12a**.⁴ Because an equilibrium possibly exists between the organocopper and carbon radical intermediates,^{4b,17,18} **12a** could also undergo homolysis to give

primary alkyl radical **13a**. Cyclization and ring expansion¹⁹ of **13a** produces the stable tertiary alkyl radical **14a**. An alternate route for formation of **14a** involves simultaneous copper(I) elimination and homolytic cleavage of an internal carbon–carbon bond in the cyclopropane ring in **11a** (i. e., inner sphere electron transfer).^{3c} Kinetically controlled hydrogen atom abstraction from **14a** forms β,γ -enone **4** instead of thermodynamically more stable α,β -enone **5a**. While **13a** probably abstracts hydrogen atom from solvents, it could also serve to abstract a hydrogen atom from **14a**, which is consistent with the fact that **3a** and **4** are typically coproduced in similar yields (see Tables 1 and 2). Oxidation of **14a** by SET to

copper(II) gives the tertiary carbocation **15a**,¹⁷ which undergoes deprotonation, and nucleophilic addition of H₂O, MeCN, PhCN, or MeOH to produce **5a**, **6a**, **7a**, **8a**, and **9a**, respectively. Finally, methyl ether **10a** could arise by a substitution process involving simultaneous addition of MeOH to **12a** and metallic copper elimination.

As can be seen by viewing the results presented above, the preferential pathways followed in reaction of **1a** are highly dependent on the nature of solvent. It has been reported that the strength of the coordination bond in solvent–copper(I) complexes decreases in the order of MeCN, AcOMe, Et₂O, acetone, EtOH, and MeOH.²⁰ Thus, fragmentation of **12a** to produce Cu(BF₄) and **13a** should be less favorable in MeOH. This phenomenon would increase the lifetime of **12a** and, thus, enable it to undergo effective dimerization. On the other hand, it has been suggested that MeCN forms a strong coordination complex with copper(I), and thus, the resulting stabilization of Cu(I) leads to an increase in the oxidizing ability of copper(II).²¹ This conclusion is supported by the observation that the redox potential of Cu(ClO₄)₂ in MeCN (0.95 V vs SCE) is much greater than that in MeOH (0.0 V vs SCE).²² Thus, electron transfer between Cu(BF₄)₂ and **1a**, giving **14a** via **11a**, should be preferred in MeCN.²³ On the other hand, this electron-transfer step would not take place efficiently in MeOH and other alcohols because the oxidizing ability of Cu(II) in these solvents should be much lower than that in MeCN. Consequently, rearrangement of **11a** to **12a** would proceed. Although difficult to rationalize, reaction pathways followed by radical intermediates **13a** and **14a** in other solvents, particularly AcOEt, generate the observed products **3a** and **4**.

On the basis of the discussion described above, we anticipated that the presence of substances that serve as hydrogen atom donors and/or coordinate with metals should have an effect on the preferred reaction pathways followed. To test this proposal, reactions of **1a** with Cu(BF₄)₂·6H₂O (2.2 equiv) in the presences of 1,4-cyclohexadiene (CHD)^{24,25} and 1,5-cyclooctadiene (COD)²⁶ were explored (Table 3). As expected, the presence of both CHD and COD nearly completely suppresses formation of **2a** in MeOH (compare entries 1 and 2 in Table 3 to entry 2 in Table 2). In the presence of CHD, **3a** as well as **16** are formed as major products, likely formed via trapping of **13a** and **14a** by effective hydrogen atom donation from the diene.²⁴ On the other hand, the formation of **9a** and **10a** becomes significant, while **16** is not generated when COD is present in the reaction mixture. In addition to being a less effective hydrogen atom donor than CHD, COD²⁴ could both destabilize the copper intermediates **12a** by coordinating with Cu(I) and enhance the oxidizing ability of Cu(BF₄)₂.²⁶ In AcOEt, while no formation of **16** was unexpected, the yields of **3a** and **4** were similar to those in the reaction using 1.1 equiv of Cu(BF₄)₂ and significantly increased compared to the reaction using same quantity of Cu(BF₄)₂ in the absence of CHD (compare entry 3 in Table 3 to entries 10 and 11 in Table 2), which could be ascribed to the fact that CHD-coordinated Cu(II) assists the transformation of **12a** to **13a**. Notably, CHD caused no effect on the product distribution in the reaction in MeCN (entry 4), which is consistent with the strong coordination ability of MeCN as discussed above.

Insight into the existence of radical intermediates in the pathways for Cu(BF₄)₂-promoted reactions of cyclopropyl silyl ethers was gained from studies with **1b** and **1c**, which contain alkenyl side chains that can serve as internal radical traps

transforming radicals **13b** to **17** (eq 1) and **14c**, derived from **13c**, to **18** (eq 2), respectively (Scheme 6).^{7c,h,27} As the data in

Scheme 6. Expected 5-*exo* Hexenyl Radical Cyclizations of **1b** and **1c**

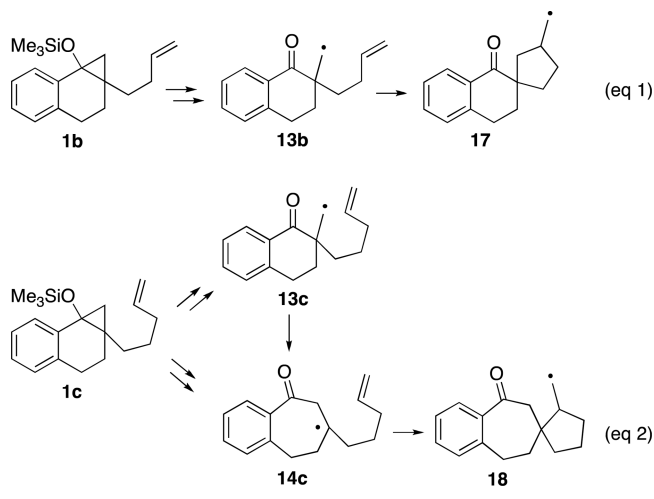
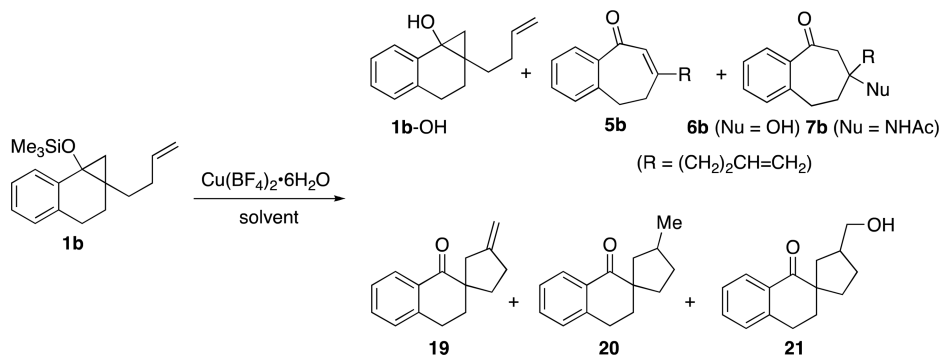


Table 4 show, reaction of **1b** with Cu(BF₄)₂·6H₂O in EtOH was found to produce spirocyclic products such as **19**, **20**, and **21** and no dimeric product (entry 1). The presence of O₂ in the reaction mixture causes a decrease in the yield of **19** and an increase in the yield of **21** (entry 2), which suggests that O₂ traps radical **18** to give **23**, precursor of alcohol **21**, in competition with capture by copper(I) to produce **22**, precursor of alkene **19** (Scheme 7).^{7c,h} In addition, reaction of **1b** in MeCN generates acetamide **7b** mainly (entry 4), which is similar to observation made previously in studies with **1b**-OH.^{7h}

To probe the influence of steric effect of the butenyl side chain in **1b** on the efficiency of dimeric product formation, reaction of sterically analogous butyl-substituted substrate **1d** with Cu(BF₄)₂·6H₂O (2.2 equiv) in EtOH was explored (Scheme 8). The results show that dimer **2d** is generated as a major product while **1b** formed **6b** (21%), **19** (29%) and **21** (23%) under the same conditions (not shown in Table 4). This finding suggests that dimerization of organocopper intermediate **12d** does proceed, and absence of dimeric product formation in the reaction of **1b** is a consequence of fast cyclization of radical intermediate **13b** to form **17**, which moves equilibrium between **12b** and **13b** forward, and not by reduction in the rate of dimerization caused by sterically repulsive butenyl side chain (Scheme 9).

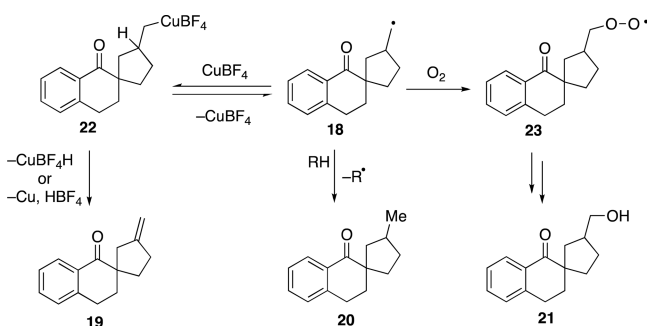
Reactions of desilylated alcohol **1b**-OH with various copper salts were also examined (Table 5). The yields of **6b**, **19**, and **21** in these reactions in EtOH are similar to those produced from **1b** (compare entry 1 to entry 1 in Table 4). Because **1b**-OH is more reactive than its silyl protected analogue **1b**,^{7h,12} Cu(OAc)₂ effectively promotes the reaction to give **19** as the major product. In contrast, in a manner that is similar to **1b**, reactions of **1b**-OH with Cu(BF₄)₂ and Cu(ClO₄)₂ in MeCN produce **6b** and **7b** as major products (compare entries 3 and 4 to entry 4 in Table 4). Thus, the fact that reactions in MeCN do not produce spirocyclic products such as **19** and **21** (see Table 4 and 5), which are diagnostic of the formation of the primary alkyl radical **13b**, suggests that direct formation of ring expanded radical **14b** from **11b** giving tertiary carbocation **15b**,

Table 4. Reaction of **1b** with $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ in Various Solvents^a

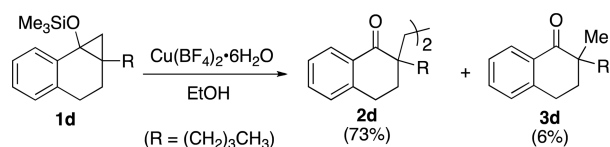
entry	solvent	yields (%)						
		1b-OH ^b	5b ^b	6b	7b	19 ^b	20 ^b	21
1	EtOH	13	0	13		35	3	18
2 ^c	EtOH	0	0	15		14	0	32
3	AcOEt	8	0	10		11	0	51
4	MeCN	24	13	13	43	0	trace	trace

^aReaction conditions: **1b** (0.30 mmol), $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (1.1 equiv vs **1b**), solvent (3 mL), under N_2 , rt, 6 h. ^bDetermined by ^1H NMR. ^c O_2 prepurged solution was used.

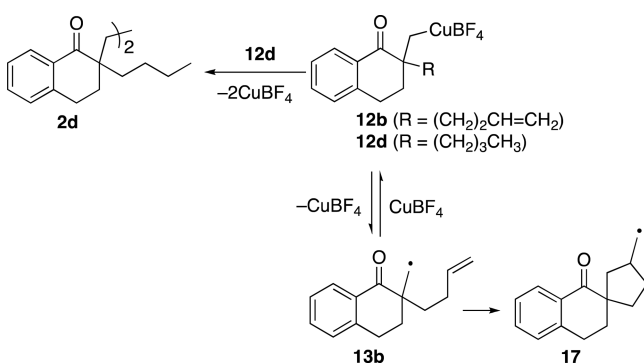
Scheme 7. Competitive Trap of Radical Intermediate **18** by Copper or Molecular Oxygen



Scheme 8. Reaction of Butyl Possessing Substrate **1d** with $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ in EtOH



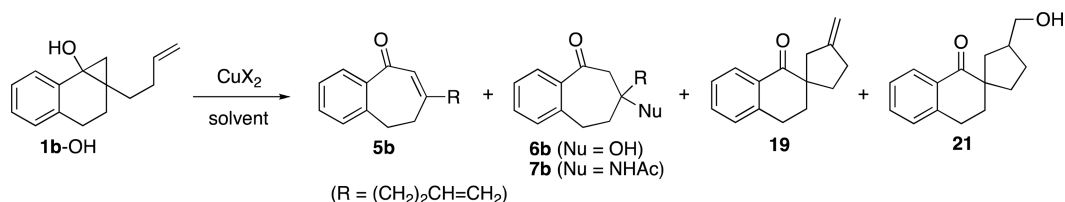
Scheme 9. Reaction Pathways of Organocopper Intermediates **12b** and **12d**



a precursor of the products **5b**, **6b** and **7b**, is the main pathway followed in MeCN (Scheme 10).

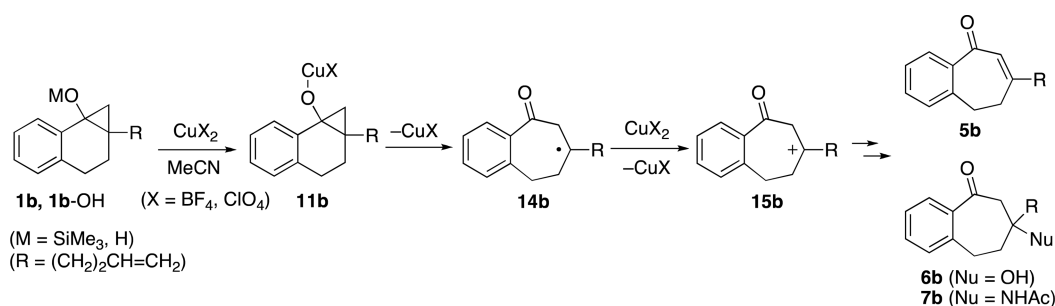
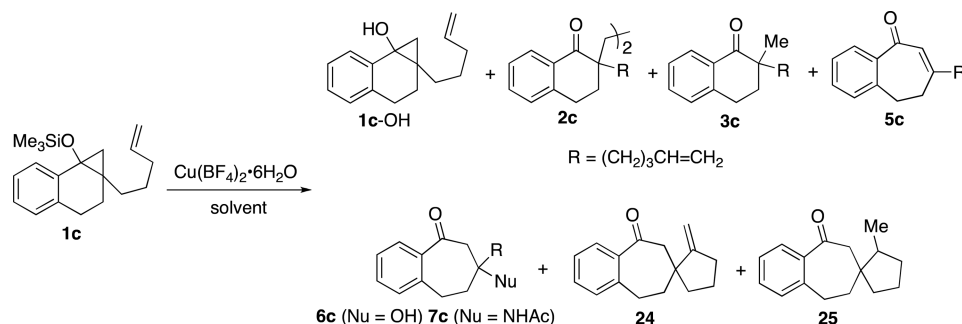
Reactions of the pentenyl linked analogue **1c** with $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2.2 equiv) in EtOH, AcOEt, and MeCN were probed next (Table 6). In contrast to that of **1b**, reaction of **1c** in EtOH produces dimer **2c** and α -methyl ketone **3c** albeit in relatively low yields (entry 1). In contrast, ring-expanded spirocyclic compounds **24** (major) and **25**, which correspond to **19** (major) and **20** derived from **1b** were obtained (see entry 1 in Table 4). Reaction of **1c** in AcOEt forms **3c** as a major product along with lesser amounts of **2c** (entry 2). Similar to product distributions generated from reaction of **1a** and **1b**, **7c** is the major product generated in reaction of **1c** in MeCN (entry 3). A notable observation is that **2c** as well as **3c** are formed in this reaction while products that correspond to those generated from **1b** were not observed (see Tables 4 and 5). This is a likely result of the relative rates of radical intermediates **13b** and **13c**. Specifically, the rate of 5-exo cyclization of **13b** to form **17** should be faster than that of ring-expansion of **13c** to form **14c**^{7d} as well as the rate of **14c** to produce **18**^{7c} (see Scheme 6).^{28,29} Thus, **13c** and its precursor **12c** are more persistent to undergo hydrogen atom abstraction and dimerization to give **3c** and **2c**, respectively.

In the final phase of this investigation, reactions of cyclopropyl silyl ethers **1e**, **1f**, and **1g** with $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (2.2 equiv) were briefly examined (Scheme 11; see plausible reaction pathways in the Supporting Information). Dimer **2e** and naphthol **26** are generated in reaction of the five-membered ring containing substrate **1e** in MeOH, while alcohol **6e** and acetamide **7e**, along with **26**, are formed in MeCN (eq 1). In contrast, reaction of the seven-membered ring containing substrate **1f** in MeOH does not produce a dimeric product but it does generate the ring-expanded alcohol **6f** and substituted indanones **27** and **28**, along with a significant amount of desilylated alcohol **1f-OH** (eq 2). These observations show that the ring size of the fused cyclopropanol derivative has a significant effect on the nature of products formed (see Scheme 8).^{30,31} Moreover, the results show that dimer **2g** is formed in high yield along with a small amount of

Table 5. Reaction of **1b**-OH with Various Copper(II) Salts^a

entry	CuX ₂	solvent	conv (%)	yields (%)				
				5b ^b	6b	7b	19	21
1	Cu(BF ₄) ₂ ·6H ₂ O	EtOH	72	0	20 ^b		33	13
2	Cu(OAc) ₂	EtOH	100	trace	17		51	0
3	Cu(BF ₄) ₂ ·6H ₂ O	MeCN	83	4	27	46	0	0
4	Cu(ClO ₄) ₂ ·6H ₂ O	MeCN	100	7	33	42	0	0

^aReaction conditions: **1b**-OH (0.30 mmol), CuX₂ (1.1 equiv vs **1b**-OH), solvent (3 mL), under N₂, rt, 1 h. ^bDetermined by ¹H NMR.

Scheme 10. Plausible Pathways for Reaction of **1b** and **1b**-OH with CuX₂ in MeCNTable 6. Reaction of **1c** with Cu(BF₄)₂·6H₂O in Various Solvents^a

entry	solvent	yields (%)							
		1c-OH ^b	2c	3c	5c ^b	6c	7c	24 ^b	25 ^b
1	EtOH	0	7	8	8	4		17	3
2	AcOEt	11	7	22	9	~8 ^c		6	2
3	MeCN	13	0	0	13	14	42	0	0

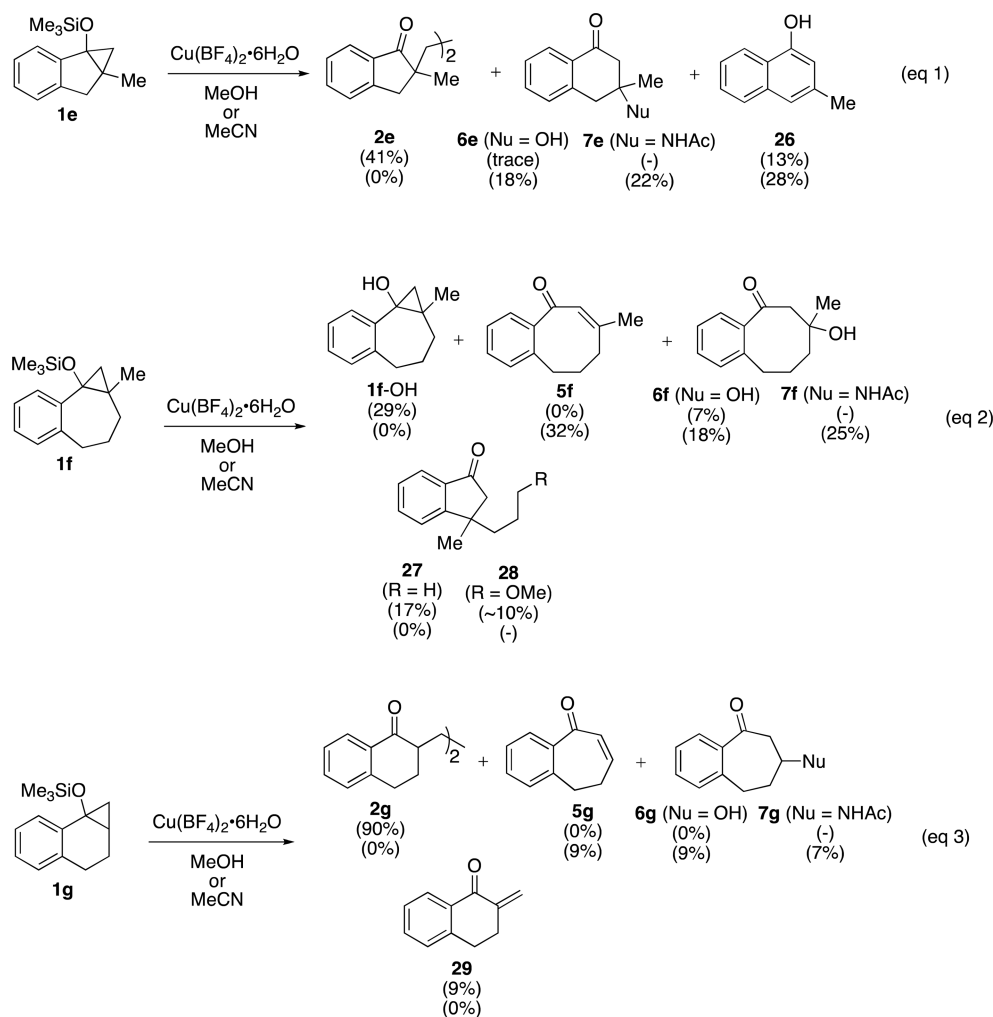
^aReaction conditions: **1c** (0.30 mmol), Cu(BF₄)₂·6H₂O (1.1 equiv vs **1c**), solvent (3 mL), under N₂, rt, 6 h. ^bDetermined by ¹H NMR. ^cCrude yield.

α -*exo*-methylene ketone **29** in the reaction of **1g**, which lacks a bridgehead substituent (eq 3). However, the complicated nature of reaction of **1g** in MeCN, in which small amounts of **5g**, **6g**, and **7g** are produced, suggest that a bridgehead substituent is necessary to promote smooth reaction in MeCN. The substituent is required to promote rearrangement of **13** to form a stable tertiary alkyl radical **14** and subsequent carbocation **15** (see Scheme 5).

CONCLUSION

In this study, we explored Cu(BF₄)₂-promoted oxidative ring-opening reactions of selected benzene-fused bicyclic cyclo-

propyl silyl ethers, which provides useful information about the nature and efficiencies of reactions of synthetically useful cyclopropanols and their derivatives. The results show that the nature and distribution of products generated in these processes significantly depend on solvent. In addition, the reaction pathways are also influenced by other factors such as, the nature of the counteranions of copper salts, presence of nitriles and cyclic dienes, and substrate structures. We propose that solvation as well as coordination of solvents and additives with copper influence reactivity of copper intermediates and the redox properties of copper salts, both of which govern the reaction pathways followed. In principle, radical intermediates generated in redox reagent promoted electron transfer (ET)

Scheme 11. Reactions of Miscellaneous Substrates **1e**, **1f**, and **1g** with $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (Upper Yields for MeOH and Lower Yields for MeCN)

reactions have a tendency to participate in following ET processes by coexisting ET reagents to generate ionic species (ionic pathway) while radical intermediates formed by a photoinduced ET (PET) are persistent to undergo radical rearrangements (radical pathway) because of low concentrations of PET-generated redox reagents.¹ Observations that are consistent with this expectation were indeed made by our previous efforts.^{7a–h} On the contrary, redox property of $\text{Cu}(\text{II})$ salts, disclosed by this and our previous study,^{7g} can be properly tuned to control both ET reaction pathways, ionic pathway and radical pathway, by choosing solvents, counter anions, and additives. Thus, if one wants to carry out $\text{Cu}(\text{II})$ promoted ET reactions, the use of MeCN as a solvent is recommended. On the other hand, in order for the favorable generation of organocopper intermediates, alcohol solvents are suggested to use. Because copper(II) salts are widely used as single electron transfer oxidants in organic chemistry,^{1a,e,8,9} observations made in this effort that solvents and additives control reactivities and redox properties of these oxidants could have far reaching importance. Finally, this study would also suggest that the interplay between solvents and redox reagents, particularly metal salts, is a crucial factor to govern ET reaction pathways in general.³²

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

General Methods. NMR spectra were recorded in CDCl_3 with Me_4Si as an internal standard at 400 MHz for ^1H NMR and 100 MHz for ^{13}C NMR. Proton-decoupled carbon data of ^{13}C NMR are reported. High-resolution mass spectra (HRMS) were recorded on a double-focusing mass spectrometer by using electrospray ionization (ESI) or atmospheric pressure chemical ionization (APCI). Uncorrected melting points are reported. Column chromatography was performed with silica gel (Wakogel C-200). Preparative TLC was performed on 20×20 cm plates coated with silica gel (Wakogel B-5F). MeCN was distilled over P_2O_5 and subsequently distilled over K_2CO_3 . EtOAc was treated with 5% aqueous Na_2CO_3 and brine and then distilled over K_2CO_3 . Other reagents and solvents were purchased and used without further purification.

Substrates **1a**,^{7c} **1b**,^{7c} **1c**,^{7c} **1e**,^{7d} **1f**,^{7c} and **1g**^{4b} and products **1a-OH**,^{7f} **1b-OH**,^{7f} **1c-OH**,^{7c} **2g**,^{4b} **3a**,^{7c} **3c**,^{7h} **5a**,^{7c} **5b**,^{7c} **5c**,^{7d} **5f**,^{7c} **5g**,³³ **6a**,^{7e} **6e**,³⁴ **7b**,^{7h} **7c**,^{7h} **16**,²⁹ **19**,^{7c} **20**,³⁵ **24**,^{7c} **25**,^{7c} **26**,^{7d} **27**,^{7c} and **29**^{31b} are known compounds. ^1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR charts of **1d**, **1d-OH**, **1f-OH**, **2a**, **2c**, **2d**, **2e**, **3d**, **6b**, **6c**, **6f**, **6g**, **7a**, **7e**, **7f**, **7g**, **8a**, **9a**, **10a**, **21**, and **28** are presented below.

Preparation of Cyclopropyl Silyl Ethers 1. Cyclopropyl silyl ethers **1** were prepared, using previously reported procedures,^{7c,e} by the treatment of silyl enol ethers with Et_2Zn and CH_2I_2 (**1a**, **1e**, **1f**, **1g**) or the reaction of bromomethyl-substituted ketone with SmI_2 followed by silylation (**1b**, **1c**, **1d**).

In the preparation of **1d**, 2-(bromomethyl)-2-butyl-1-tetralone (685.3 mg, 2.32 mmol) in THF (2 mL) was added to 0.1 M SmI_2

solution in THF (46 mL). The resulting mixture was stirred under N₂ at room temperature for 1 h, quenched with 0.1 M HCl, and followed by extraction with Et₂O (50 mL × 3). The extract was washed with water, saturated aqueous Na₂S₂O₃, saturated aqueous NaHCO₃, and brine and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. After concentration, **1d-OH** (481.0 mg, 2.22 mmol, 97%) was obtained. Then, **1d-OH** was dissolved in DMF (4 mL) followed by addition of imidazole (381.6 mg, 5.61 mmol) and chlorotrimethylsilane (0.56 mL, 4.44 mmol). The resulting mixture was stirred for 15h at room temperature, quenched with water, and followed by extraction with Et₂O (50 mL × 3). The extract was washed with water, saturated aqueous NaHCO₃, and brine and dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. After concentration, the residue was subjected to column chromatography on silica gel (EtOAc/*n*-hexane = 1/10). Distillation under reduced pressure gave **1d** (237.0 mg, 0.82 mmol, 37%).

6-Buthyl-1-hydroxy-2,3-benzobicyclo[4.1.0]heptane (1d-OH): white solid; mp 88–90 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, δ) 7.71–7.69 (m, 1H), 7.26–7.22 (m, 1H), 7.13–7.10 (m, 1H), 7.09–7.03 (m, 1H), 2.64 (ddd, *J* = 16.4, 3.6, 2.0 Hz, 1H), 2.40 (td, *J* = 15.0, 6.4 Hz, 1H), 2.09 (bs, 1H), 2.00–1.85 (m, 1H), 1.83–1.76 (m, 1H), 1.61–1.33 (m, 6H), 1.24 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H), 0.92 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.85 (d, *J* = 6.0 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, δ) 141.1, 133.3, 128.2, 126.4, 125.5, 123.9, 58.9, 32.6, 30.9, 29.7, 27.1, 23.5, 13.2, 21.7, 14.4; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₂₁O [M + H]⁺ 217.1587, found 217.1586.

6-Buthyl-1-[(trimethylsilyloxy)-2,3-benzobicyclo[4.1.0]heptane (1d): pale yellow oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, δ) 7.52–7.50 (m, 1H), 7.24–7.20 (m, 1H), 7.11–7.07 (m, 1H), 7.03–7.01 (m, 1H), 2.66–2.59 (m, 1H), 2.44–2.35 (m, 1H), 2.01–1.95 (m, 1H), 1.72–1.36 (m, 7H), 1.23 (d, *J* = 5.6 Hz, 1H), 0.94 (t, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 3H), 0.89 (d, *J* = 7.2 Hz, 1H), 0.25 (s, 9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, δ) 141.2, 133.2, 128.0, 125.9, 125.1, 124.8, 61.0, 32.5, 29.6, 29.3, 27.3, 23.5, 23.1, 21.0, 14.2, 1.4; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₈H₂₉OSi [M + H]⁺ 289.1982, found 289.1984.

Reactions of 1 with Cu(BF₄)₂·6H₂O. A typical experiment using **1a** is described (see Scheme 2). To a solution of Cu(BF₄)₂·6H₂O (114.0 mg, 0.33 mmol) in Et₂O (3 mL) was added **1a** (74.0 mg, 0.30 mmol). The resulting mixture was stirred under N₂ at room temperature for 6 h, diluted with water, and extracted with Et₂O (30 mL × 3). The extract was washed with water, saturated aqueous Na₂S₂O₃, saturated aqueous NaHCO₃, and brine, dried over anhydrous MgSO₄, and concentrated in vacuo. The residue obtained was subjected to TLC (AcOEt /*n*-hexane = 10/1) to give **6a** (1.7 mg, 0.009 mmol, 3%). The remaining portions were separated by TLC (AcOEt /*n*-hexane = 1/10) to give **2a** (11.7 mg, 0.034 mmol, 23%) and **5a** (10.8 mg, 0.063 mmol, 21%). Because **4** appeared to rearrange to **5a** during TLC separation, the yields of **4** (0.064 mmol, 21%) and **5a** (0.065 mmol, 2%) were determined by using ¹H NMR analysis of the crude reaction mixture (see Figure S1). Similarly, the yields of **1a-OH** (0.027 mmol, 9%) and **3a** (0.074 mmol, 25%) were determined by using ¹H NMR analysis. Other reactions using Cu(BF₄)₂·6H₂O or other copper(II) salts were performed in a similar manner. The yields of the products, which could not be isolated, were also determined by using ¹H NMR analysis with triphenylmethane as an internal standard when necessary.

1-Hydroxy-7-methyl-2,3-benzobicyclo[5.1.0]octane (1f-OH): pale brown oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, δ) 7.49–7.47 (m, 1H), 7.26–7.22 (m, 2H), 7.12–7.10 (m, 1H), 2.95 (td, *J* = 12.9, 7.1 Hz, 1H), 2.61 (dd, *J* = 13.2, 6.0 Hz, 1H), 2.01–1.91 (m, 2H), 1.81 (dd, *J* = 14.2, 5.8 Hz, 1H), 1.45 (m, 1H), 1.29 (s, 3H), 0.87 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 0.65 (d, *J* = 5.2 Hz, 1H), 0.42 (td, *J* = 13.4, 6.7 Hz, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, δ) 141.3, 139.2, 129.6, 128.9, 128.5, 127.1, 62.2, 33.1, 30.4, 26.2, 22.8, 22.6, 15.4; HRMS (APCI), calcd for C₁₃H₁₇O [M + H]⁺ 189.1274, found 189.1272.

1,2-Di-1-methyl-3,4-benzocyclohexane-2-one-1-ylethane (2a): pale yellow oil; mixture of diastereomers; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, δ) 8.03–7.97 (dd with dd, 2H), 7.47–7.41 (m, 2H), 7.31–7.25 (m, 2H), 7.22–7.19 (m, 2H), 2.99–2.92 (m, 4H), 2.13–2.07 (m, 2H), 1.91–1.84 (m, 2H), 1.74–1.69 (m, 2H), 1.52–1.46 (m, 2H), 1.18–1.15 (s with s, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, δ) 202.7 (2C), 143.5, 143.4, 133.2 (2C), 131.7, 131.6, 128.8 (2C), 128.1 (2C), 126.8, 126.7, 44.7, 44.6, 33.2

(2C), 30.6, 30.5, 25.5 (2C), 22.3, 22.2; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₄H₂₇O₂ [M + H]⁺ 347.2006, found 347.2006.

1,2-Di-1-(4'-pentenyl)-3,4-benzocyclohexane-2-one-1-ylethane (2c): pale yellow oil; mixture of diastereomeric isomers; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, δ) 8.03–7.96 (dd with dd, 2H), 7.46–7.41 (m, 2H), 7.32–7.18 (m, 4H), 5.81–5.63 (m, 2H), 5.00–4.87 (m, 4H), 2.98–2.93 (m, 4H), 2.13–1.92 (m, 8H), 1.74–1.61 (m, 4H), 1.55–1.44 (m, 4H), 1.39–1.31 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, δ) 202.0 (2C), 143.3, 143.2, 138.7, 138.6, 133.1 (2C), 132.0 (2C), 128.8, 128.1, 126.7 (2C), 114.8 (2C), 47.7 (2C), 34.4(2C), 34.0, 33.8, 30.8, 30.6, 29.9, 28.3, 25.2 (2C), 23.4, 23.2; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₃₂H₃₈O₂Na [M + Na]⁺ 477.2764, found 477.2744.

1,2-Di-1-butyl-3,4-benzocyclohexane-2-one-1-ylethane (2d): pale yellow oil; mixture of diastereomers; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, δ) 8.03–7.97 (dd with dd, 2H), 7.46–7.40 (m, 2H), 7.31–7.18 (m, 4H), 2.98–2.93 (m, 4H), 2.14–1.97 (m, 4H), 1.74–1.61 (m, 4H), 1.54–1.45 (m, 4H), 1.28–1.17 (m, 8H), 0.89–0.80 (t with t, 6H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, δ) 202.2 (2C), 143.4, 143.3, 133.1, 133.0, 132.1, 132.0, 128.8 (2C), 128.1 (2C), 126.7, 126.6, 47.8, 47.7, 34.2, 34.1, 30.7, 30.6, 28.3 (2C), 26.3, 26.1, 25.3 (2C), 23.6, 23.5, 14.2 (2C); HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₃₀H₃₈O₂Na [M + Na]⁺ 453.2764, found 453.2739.

1,2-Di-1-methyl-3,4-benzocyclopentane-2-one-1-ylethane (2e): pale yellow oil; mixture of diastereomers; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, δ) 7.75 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 1.3 H), 7.69 (d, *J* = 7.6 Hz, 0.7H), 7.62–7.55 (m, 2H), 7.46–7.32 (m, 4H), 3.16 (d, *J* = 17.6 Hz, 1.3H), 3.09 (d, *J* = 17.2 Hz, 0.7H), 2.87 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 1.2 H), 2.83 (d, *J* = 7.8 Hz, 0.8 H), 1.71–1.59 (m, 2H, overlap with H₂O peak), 1.48–1.43 (m, 2H), 1.21 (s, 2.1H), 1.12 (s, 3.9H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, δ) 211.4, 211.3, 153.0, 152.8, 136.2, 135.8, 135.1, 135.1, 127.6, 127.5, 126.8 (2C), 124.4, 124.3, 48.8, 48.8, 40.2, 39.8, 32.9, 32.8, 24.8, 23.8; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₂₂H₂₃O₂ [M + H]⁺ 319.1693, found 319.1687.

2-Buthyl-2-methyl-1-tetralone (3d): pale yellow oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, δ) 8.05–8.01 (m, 1H), 7.47–7.43 (m, 1H), 7.32–7.21 (m, 2H), 3.04–2.89 (m, 2H), 2.11–2.05 (m, 1H), 1.96–1.89 (m, 1H), 1.69–1.62 (m, 1H), 1.54–1.46 (m, 1H), 1.32–1.22 (m, 4H), 1.18 (s, 3H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, δ) 202.9, 143.4, 133.0, 131.8, 128.8, 128.1, 126.7, 44.8, 36.2, 33.8, 26.3, 25.5, 23.5, 22.3, 14.2; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₂₁O [M + H]⁺ 217.1587, found 217.1584.

3-(3'-Butenyl)-3-hydroxy-1-benzosuberone (6b): pale yellow oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, δ) 7.79–7.77 (m, 1H), 7.40–7.36 (m, 1H), 7.29–7.22 (m, 2H), 5.91–5.81 (m, 1H), 5.10–4.97 (m, 2H), 3.25 (dd, *J* = 17.2, 9.2 Hz, 1H), 3.04 (d, *J* = 11.6 Hz, 1H), 2.97–2.91 (dd with dd, 2H), 2.31–2.17 (m, 2H), 2.05–1.99 (m, 1H), 1.93–1.87 (m, 1H), 1.79–1.71 (m, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, δ) 200.6, 144.3, 138.5, 138.3, 132.1, 130.4, 128.9, 126.6, 115.4, 73.7, 54.3, 41.0, 41.0, 31.0, 27.9; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₉O₂ [M + H]⁺ 231.1380, found 231.1374.

3-Hydroxy-3-(4'-pentenyl)-1-benzosuberone (6c): pale brown oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, δ) 7.79–7.77 (m, 1H), 7.40–7.36 (m, 1H), 7.29–7.22 (m, 2H), 5.85–5.75 (m, 1H), 5.04–4.94 (m, 2H), 3.24 (dd, *J* = 16.8, 8.8 Hz, 1H), 3.02 (d, *J* = 11.6 Hz, 1H), 2.96–2.90 (dd with dd, 2H), 2.11–1.86 (m, 5H), 1.66–1.49 (m, 4H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, δ) 200.8, 144.3, 138.5, 138.3, 132.0, 130.4, 128.9, 126.6, 115.1, 73.6, 54.3, 41.7, 40.9, 34.0, 31.1, 22.6; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₆H₂₀O₂Na [M + Na]⁺ 267.1356, found 267.1349.

3-Hydroxy-3-methyl-7,8-benzocyclooct-1-one (6f): white solid; mp 92–96 °C; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, δ) 8.08 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.48 (td, *J* = 7.4, 1.6 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (td, *J* = 7.7, 1.3 Hz, 1H), 7.21 (dd, *J* = 7.6, 0.8 Hz, 1H), 3.37 (d, *J* = 12.8 Hz, 1H), 3.30–3.23 (m, 1H), 3.18–3.09 (m, 2H), 2.07 (bs, 1H), 1.96–1.80 (m, 2H), 1.56–1.51 (m, 2H), 1.38 (s, 3H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, δ) 200.7, 140.7, 138.4, 133.6, 132.3, 130.0, 127.1, 71.8, 55.7, 36.6, 34.2, 29.1, 23.7; HRMS (ESI) calcd for C₁₅H₁₆O₂Na [M + Na]⁺ 227.1043, found 227.1038.

3-Hydroxy-1-benzosuberone (6g): pale yellow oil; ¹H NMR (400 MHz, δ) 7.76 (dd, *J* = 7.8, 1.4 Hz, 1H), 7.41 (td, *J* = 7.5, 1.5 Hz, 1H), 7.30 (td, *J* = 7.6, 1.1 Hz, 1H), 7.26–7.23 (m, 1H), 4.39–4.32 (m, 1H), 3.19 (ddd, *J* = 16.2, 8.7, 2.4 Hz, 1H), 3.09 (dd, *J* = 13.2, 4.8 Hz, 1H), 3.03 (dd, *J* = 13.0, 7.4 Hz, 1H), 2.92 (ddd, *J* = 16.3, 8.3, 2.3 Hz, 1H), 2.24 (ddt, *J* = 12.1, 10.5, 6.1 Hz, 1H), 1.99–1.92 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR (100 MHz, δ) 200.9, 143.0, 138.7, 132.2, 130.3, 128.8, 126.8, 67.3,

50.7, 36.1, 30.3; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{11}H_{13}O_2$ $[M + H]^+$ 177.0910, found 177.0910.

3-(Acetylamino)-3-methyl-1-benzosuberone (7a): colorless oil; 1H NMR (400 MHz, δ) 7.77 (dd, $J = 7.8, 2.0$ Hz, 1H), 7.40 (td, $J = 7.4, 2.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.31–7.23 (m, 2H), 5.68 (bs, 1H), 3.14–2.96 (m, 4H), 2.33 (dd, $J = 14.0, 8.2$ Hz, 1H), 2.12 (dd, $J = 14.2, 9.4$ Hz, 1H), 1.94 (s, 3H), 1.57 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, δ) 200.9, 169.9, 144.1, 138.1, 132.0, 130.3, 128.5, 126.5, 54.9, 52.9, 40.0, 31.2, 26.1, 24.3; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{14}H_{17}NO_2Na$ $[M + Na]^+$ 254.1152, found 254.1149.

3-(Acetylamino)-3-methyl-1-tetralone (7e): pale brown oil; 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$, δ) 7.98 (dd, $J = 7.6, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.50 (td, $J = 7.5, 1.3$ Hz, 1H), 7.34–7.31 (m, 1H), 7.27–7.25 (m, 1H), 5.50 (bs, 1H), 3.80 (d, $J = 16.4$ Hz, 1H), 3.35 (dd, $J = 16.8, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.02 (d, $J = 16.4$ Hz, 1H), 2.60 (dd, $J = 16.8, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 1.85 (s, 3H), 1.49 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$, δ) 197.0, 170.4, 141.2, 134.3, 131.5, 129.6, 127.2, 127.0, 55.3, 49.9, 40.1, 26.0, 24.4; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{13}H_{15}NO_2Na$ $[M + Na]^+$ 240.0995, found 240.0990.

3-(Acetylamino)-3-methyl-7,8-benzocyclooct-1-one (7f): colorless oil; 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$, δ) 8.07 (dd, $J = 7.8, 1.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.48 (td, $J = 7.4, 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.35 (td, $J = 7.6, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.22 (dd, $J = 7.6, 0.8$ Hz, 1H), 3.43 (d, $J = 12.8, 1H$), 3.38–3.30 (m, 1H), 3.11–3.04 (d with m, 2H), 2.02–1.92 (s with m, 5H), 1.80–1.72 (m, 1H), 1.62–1.53 (s with m, 4H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$, δ) 200.6, 169.7, 140.8, 138.4, 133.8, 132.4, 129.9, 127.1, 55.4, 52.6, 34.8, 32.9, 25.1, 24.7, 23.8; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{15}H_{20}NO_2$ $[M + H]^+$ 246.1489, found 246.1482.

3-(Acetylamino)-1-benzosuberone (7g): colorless oil; 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$, δ) 7.74 (dd, $J = 7.8, 1.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.43 (td, $J = 7.5, 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.32 (td, $J = 7.6, 1.1$ Hz, 1H), 7.24 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 5.63 (bs, 1H), 4.54–4.45 (m, 1H), 3.18 (dd, $J = 13.6, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.04–2.97 (m, 2H), 2.53–2.45 (m, 1H), 1.97 (s, 3H), 1.61–1.52 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$, δ) 202.2, 169.6, 142.6, 138.7, 132.4, 130.4, 128.7, 127.0, 47.1, 45.4, 33.4, 31.5, 23.6; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{13}H_{15}NO_2$ $[M + H]^+$ 218.1176, found 218.1167; calcd for $C_{11}H_{11}O$ $[M - C_2H_4NO]$ 159.0804, found 159.0798.

3-(Benzoylamino)-3-methyl-1-benzosuberone (8a): pale yellow oil; 1H NMR (400 MHz, $CDCl_3$, δ) 7.78 (dd, $J = 7.6, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.73–7.71 (m, 1H), 7.71–7.70 (m, 1H), 7.48 (tt, $J = 7.3, 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 7.44–7.39 (m, 3H), 7.31 (dd, $J = 7.6, 0.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.29–7.24 (m, 1H), 6.44 (bs, 1H), 3.22–3.19 (m, 4H), 2.56 (dd, $J = 14.6, 7.2$ Hz, 1H), 2.24 (ddd, $J = 9.9, 9.5, 1.7$ Hz, 1H), 1.71 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, $CDCl_3$) 201.4, 167.1, 144.1, 138.3, 135.2, 132.2, 131.6, 130.5, 128.7, 126.9, 126.7, 55.4, 53.5, 40.1, 31.6, 26.3; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{19}H_{20}NO_2$ $[M + H]^+$ 294.1489, found 294.1490.

3-Methyl-3-methoxy-1-benzosuberone (9a): pale yellow oil; 1H NMR (400 MHz, δ) 7.79 (dd, $J = 7.8, 1.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.39 (td, $J = 15.0, 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.29–7.26 (t, 1H, overlapped with $CHCl_3$ peak), 7.24 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.31–3.24 (s with m, 4H), 3.15 (d, $J = 11.2$ Hz, 1H), 2.92–2.85 (m, 2H), 2.20 (ddt, $J = 8.1, 7.5, 1.3$ Hz, 1H), 1.71 (ddd, $J = 10.2, 7.5, 1.1$ Hz, 1H), 1.34 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, δ) 200.8, 144.6, 138.4, 131.9, 130.3, 128.9, 126.5, 52.8, 49.6, 39.5, 30.8, 23.7; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{12}H_{13}O$ $[M - CH_3O]^+$ 173.0961, found 173.0960.

2-Methyl-2-(methoxymethyl)-1-tetralone (10a): pale yellow oil; 1H NMR (400 MHz, δ) 8.04 (dd, $J = 8.0, 1.2$ Hz, 1H), 7.46 (td, $J = 7.5, 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.30 (t, $J = 7.4$ Hz, 1H), 7.23 (d, $J = 7.6$ Hz, 1H), 3.76 ($J = 9.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.34 (s, 3H), 3.32 (d, $J = 9.2$ Hz, 1H), 3.08–2.93 (m, 2H), 2.35 (ddd, $J = 14.5, 5.9, 4.5$ Hz, 1H), 1.92 (td, $J = 5.2, 13.6$ Hz, 1H), 1.18 (s, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, δ) 201.1, 143.8, 133.3, 131.9, 128.8, 128.1, 126.7, 77.9, 59.6, 46.4, 31.7, 25.5, 19.8; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{13}H_{17}O_2$ $[M + H]^+$ 205.1223, found 205.1225.

Spiro[(3-(hydroxymethyl)cyclopentyl]-1,2'-1'-tetralone] (21): pale yellow oil; 1H NMR (400 MHz, δ) 8.03 (dd, $J = 7.8$ Hz, 1.0 Hz, 1H), 7.45 (td, $J = 7.5, 1.5$ Hz, 1H), 7.32–7.28 (m, 1H), 7.22–7.20 (m, 1H), 3.73–7.63 (m, 2H), 3.09–2.90 (m, 2H), 2.42–2.31 (m, 1H), 2.20–1.99 (m, 5H), 1.88–1.81 (m, 1H), 1.74–1.52 (m, 3H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, δ) 202.9, 143.7, 133.3, 131.6, 128.7, 128.1, 126.7, 66.4, 53.3, 41.7, 37.6, 35.4, 35.3, 28.3, 26.6; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{15}H_{19}O_2$ $[M + H]^+$ 231.1380, found 231.1374.

3-(3'-Methoxypropyl)-3-methyl-1-indanone (28): pale yellow oil; 1H NMR (400 MHz, δ) 7.70 (ddd, $J = 7.6, 1.2, 0.8$ Hz, 1H), 7.63–7.59 (m, 1H), 7.46 (dt, $J = 7.7, 0.9$ Hz, 1H), 7.38–7.34 (m, 1H), 3.29 (td, $J = 6.4, 1.6$ Hz, 2H), 3.27 (s, 3H), 2.67 (d, $J = 18.8$ Hz, 1H), 2.46 (δ , $J = 18.8$ Hz, 1H), 1.84–1.69 (m, 2H), 1.58–1.46 (m, 1H), 1.42 (s, 3H), 1.28–1.17 (m, 1H); ^{13}C NMR (100 MHz, δ) 206.1, 162.7, 136.2, 135.1, 127.7, 124.0, 123.5, 72.9, 58.7, 50.3, 41.9, 38.8, 28.5, 25.5; HRMS (ESI) calcd for $C_{14}H_{19}O_2$ $[M + H]^+$ 219.1380, found 219.1376.

■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge on the ACS Publications website at DOI: 10.1021/acs.joc.5b02827.

1H NMR of the product mixture containing **4**; additional discussion; 1H NMR and ^{13}C NMR charts of substrates and products (PDF)

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

■ ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

This study was partly supported by a grant from the Uchida Energy Science Promotion Foundation (Japan) (No. 27-1-9). We are grateful to Professor Ilhyong Ryu (Osaka Prefecture University) for his highly valuable comments.

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(11) It should be noted that the concentrations of the substrates as well as copper salts in the reactions reported in this manuscript are approximately 10 times lower than those used in the previously reported reactions (ref 4).

(12) A use of predried $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2 \cdot 6\text{H}_2\text{O}$ (3 d at 120 °C at ca.1 mmHg) led to a significantly slower reaction: 43% recovery of **1a** and 29% of **1a-OH** were observed. On the other hand, the use of a five times more diluted condition resulted in the decreased yields of **2a** (9%), **3a** (11%), **4** (14%), and **5a** (trace) along with **6a** (5%).

(13) Both $\text{Cu}(\text{OAc})_2$ and CuCl_2 were not effective in promoting reactions to give the expected products in wet Et_2O . Significant quantity of **1a** (>70%) was recovered in the former case, while only small quantity of **5** (3%) was obtained along with **1a-OH** (32%) and 2-(chloromethyl)-2-methyl-1-tetralone (23%) in the latter.

(14) When reaction with 1.1 equiv of $\text{Cu}(\text{BF}_4)_2 \cdot \text{H}_2\text{O}$ was conducted in DMSO, a significant amount of **1a-OH** (84%) was obtained along with **4** (8%) and **6a** (8%), although **1a** was completely consumed. The same reaction in CH_2Cl_2 produced recovered **1a** (30%), **1a-OH** (51%), and small amounts of **3** (9%), **4** (4%), and **6a** (6%). On the other hand, the reaction did not proceed, and most of **1a** was recovered in benzene with the observation that this copper salt did not dissolve during reaction.

(15) The mechanism of the fragmentation of initially formed metal-organic complexes in the metal salts promoted oxidation reactions of these types of substrates, giving β -ketoalkyl radicals (ref 3c), cyclopropoxy radicals (refs 7c 7e, and 7h), or β -metalated carbonyls (ref 4), is still controversial (ref 3). Thus, we propose reaction pathways presented in Scheme 5, but the possibility that cyclopropoxy radical, which may also exist in the equilibrium between **13a** and **14a**,

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