

Bromine Radical-Mediated Sequential Radical Rearrangement and Addition Reaction of Alkylidenecyclopropanes

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S Supporting Information

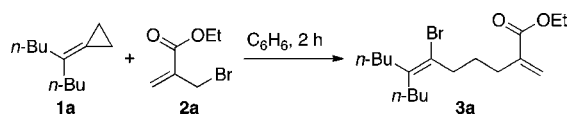
ABSTRACT: Bromine radical-mediated cyclopropylcarbinyl-homoallyl rearrangement of alkylidenecyclopropanes was effectively accomplished by C–C bond formation with allylic bromides, which led to the syntheses of 2-bromo-1,6-dienes. A three-component coupling reaction comprising alkylidenecyclopropanes, allylic bromides, and carbon monoxide also proceeded well to give 2-bromo-1,7-dien-5-ones in good yield.

Alkylidenecyclopropanes are useful building blocks in organic synthesis¹ and are found in bioactive compounds.² Based on their high reactivity derived from ring strain, the ring-opening reactions of alkylidenecyclopropanes by transition metal catalysts have been pursued vigorously. However, in contrast the utilization of alkylidenecyclopropanes in radical C–C bond forming reactions has received much less attention.^{1i,3–5} Inspired by the work of Tanko and co-workers,⁶ we have previously developed the radical bromoallylation of alkynes⁷ and allenes⁸ affording 1-bromo-substituted 1,4- and 2-bromo-substituted 1,5-dienes respectively, in which the bromine radical serves as a chain propagator⁶ and the source of the vinyl bromide moiety in the products. In the hope of extending radical-mediated diene synthesis further, we believed that 2-bromo-substituted 1,6-dienes would be obtained by the reaction of alkylidenecyclopropanes and allylic bromides in the presence of a radical initiator, via regioselective bromine radical addition so as to form cyclopropylcarbinyl radicals with their resulting ring opening leading to homoallyl radicals (Scheme 1).^{3h} Herein we report an efficient synthesis of 2-bromo-

substituted 1,6-dienes **3** via radical bromoallylation of alkylidenecyclopropanes **1** with allylic bromides **2**. We also report that alkylidenecyclopropanes **1** undergo sequential addition to carbon monoxide and allylic bromides **2** to give 2-bromo-1,7-dien-5-ones **4** in good yield, representing the first bromine radical-mediated carbonylation reaction.^{9,10}

Initially, (1-butylpentylidene)cyclopropane (**1a**) and ethyl 2-(bromomethyl)acrylate (**2a**) were chosen to test the feasibility of our hypothesis. When a benzene (1.0 mL) solution of **1a** (1.0 mmol), **2a** (1.8 mmol), and V-70 (2,2'-azobis(4-methoxy-2,4-dimethylvaleronitrile)), 0.1 mmol) was stirred for 2 h at 40 °C under an argon atmosphere, ethyl 6-bromo-7-butyl-2-methylene-6-undecenoate (**3a**) was obtained in 30% yield (Table 1, entry 1). Since the ring-opening products from the

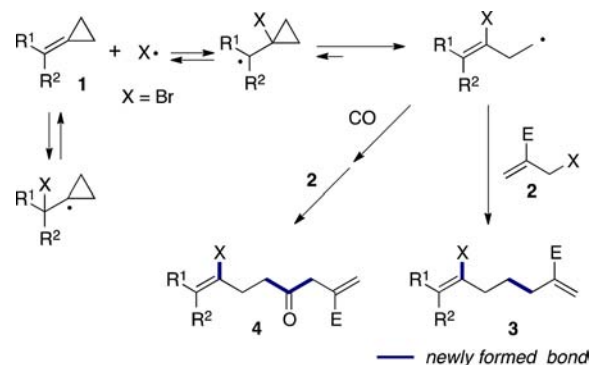
Table 1. Optimization of Reaction Conditions Using (1-Butylpentylidene)cyclopropane (1a) and Ethyl 2-(Bromomethyl)acrylate (2a)^a



entry	initiator (mol %)	Na ₃ PO ₄ (equiv)	temp (°C)	yield ^b (%)
1	V-70, 10	–	40	30
2	V-70, 10	0.2	40	74 ^c
3	V-65, 10	0.2	60	38
4	AIBN, 10	0.2	80	30
5	V-65, 30	3.0	60	63
6	AIBN, 30	3.0	80	54

^aConditions: **1a** (1.0 mmol), **2a** (1.8 equiv), V-70 (2,2'-azobis(4-methoxy-2,4-dimethylvaleronitrile)) or V-65 (2,2'-azobis(2,4-dimethylvaleronitrile)) or AIBN (2,2'-azobisisobutyronitrile), Na₃PO₄, degassed C₆H₆ (1.0 mL) under an argon atmosphere. ^bNMR yield using anisole as an internal standard. ^cIsolated yield by column chromatography on SiO₂ and preparative HPLC.

Scheme 1. Bromoallylation and Carbonylative Bromoallylation of Alkylidenecyclopropanes 1



reaction of **1a** with hydrogen bromide were observed as byproducts, we added anhydrous trisodium phosphate as an HBr scavenger, which improved the yield of 1,6-diene **3a** up to 74% (entry 2). Maintaining the reaction temperature at 40 °C or lower is very important to obtain a good yield of **3a**, since, at temperatures such as 60 and 80 °C, the isomerization of **1a** becomes serious (entries 3 and 4). The use of increased amounts of base improved the yields of **3a** (entries 5 and 6) but no better than that obtained by the reaction at 40 °C.

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With the optimized reaction conditions for **1** (Table 1, entry 2) in hand, we examined the generality of the present allylative ring-opening reaction for a wide range of alkylidenecyclopropanes **1** and allylic bromides **2** (Table 2). Cyclopropylidene-cycloheptane (**1b**) produced the desired 2-bromo-substituted 1,6-diene **3b** in 86% yield (entry 2). Similarly, 4-cyclopropylidene-tetrahydropyran (**1c**) reacted with **2a** to give **3c** in 87% yield (entry 3). The reaction of sterically hindered adamantylidene-cyclopropane **1d** also proceeded well to give **3d**

Table 2. Generality of the Reaction of Alkylidenecyclopropanes and Allylic Bromides To Give 2-Bromo-1,6-dienes^a

entry	1	2	3	yield (%) ^b
1				74
2		2a		86
3 ^c		2a		87
4		2a		97
5	1d			89
6 ^d	1d			85
7 ^e	1d			93
8		2a		84 E/Z = 36/64
9		2a		80 E/Z = 31/69
10		2a		92 E/Z = 27/73
11		2a		91

^aConditions: **1** (1.0 mmol), **2** (1.8 mmol), V-70 (0.1 mmol), Na₃PO₄ (0.2 mmol), C₆H₆ (1.0 mL), 40 °C, 2 h under an argon atmosphere. See Supporting Information for details. ^bIsolated yield. ^c50 °C, 6 h. ^d**2c** (3.0 equiv), 6 h. ^e**2d** (58 equiv), 6 h, neat.

in 97% yield (entry 4). Some other allylic bromides such as α -bromomethylacrylonitrile (**2b**), α -bromomethylstyrene (**2c**), allyl bromide (**2d**) were also tested, all of which worked well. For example, the bromoallylation reaction of **1d** with **2b** gave the expected diene **3e** in 89% yield (entry 5). Since 2-phenyl-substituted allyl bromide **2c** exhibited modest reactivity, we used 3 equiv of **2c** to increase the yield of the addition product **3f** (entry 6). In the case of allyl bromide (**2d**), the use of a large excess of **2d** compensated for the lack of reactivity toward nucleophilic alkyl radicals (entry 7).¹¹ Monosubstituted alkylidenecyclopropanes **1e**, **1f**, and **1g** gave the corresponding products, **3h**, **3i**, and **3j**, in high yields, all of which were obtained as *E/Z* mixtures favoring the *Z* isomer (entries 8–10). Phenyl-functionalized methylenecyclopropane **1h** gave 2-bromo-4-phenyl-1,6-dienes **3k** as a sole product (entry 11), which originated from the more stable benzylic radical.

Since the ring-opening reaction generates homoallylic radicals, we believed that these radicals could trap CO. Indeed, the three-component coupling reaction comprising alkylidenecyclopropanes **1**, CO, and **2a** worked well to give good yields of 2-bromo-substituted 1,7-dien-5-ones **4** (Table 3). For

Table 3. Radical Carbonylation Reaction of **1 with **2a**^a**

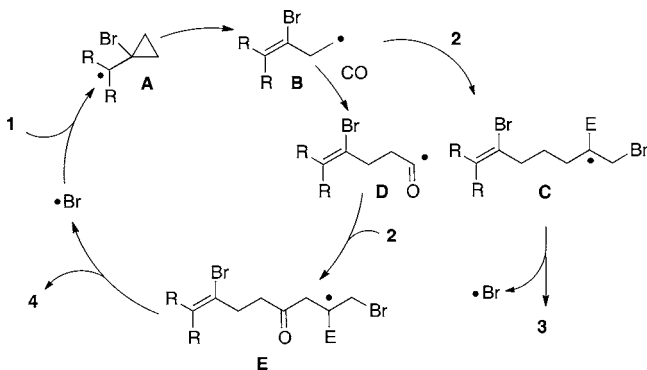
1	2a	4	yield (%)
	2a		72%
	2a		74%
	2a		71%

^aConditions: **1** (0.5 mmol), **2a** (1.0 mmol), V-65 (0.25 mmol), Na₃PO₄ (0.1 mmol), CO (80 atm), C₆H₆ (20 mL), 60 °C, 6 h under an argon atmosphere.

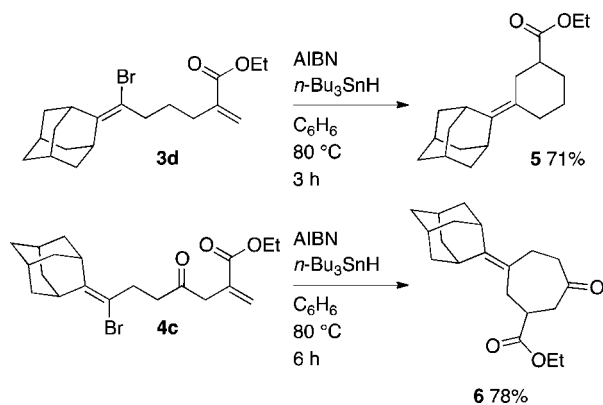
instance, treatment of a benzene solution of (1-butylpentylidene)cyclopropane (**1a**), ethyl 2-(bromomethyl)acrylate (**2a**), anhydrous trisodium phosphate, and V-65 with 80 atm of CO at 60 °C for 6 h resulted in the synthesis of ethyl 7-bromo-8-butyl-2-methylene-4-oxo-7-dodecenoate (**4a**) in 72% yield after purification by column chromatography on SiO₂.

A proposed reaction mechanism for the present bromoallylation and the carbonylative bromoallylation of alkylidenecyclopropanes is shown in Scheme 2. Initially, a bromine radical is generated from allylic bromide **2** through a radical initiation process. Then the bromine radical adds to the central carbon of alkylidenecyclopropane **1** to give cyclopropylmethyl radical **A**, which undergoes rearrangement leading to homoallyl radical **B**.¹² The homoallyl radical **B** adds to CO to form acyl radical **D**. **D** then adds to **2** to produce intermediate **E**, which undergoes β -fission to give 2-bromo-substituted 1,7-dien-5-one **4** and a bromine radical. In the absence of CO, the path to give intermediate **C** operates to sustain the radical chain.

Scheme 2. Radical Chain Reaction Mechanisms



Since the products have vinyl bromide moieties, they are amenable to many further transformations. For example, the tributyltin hydride mediated 6-endo cyclization of **3d** and 7-endo cyclization of **4c** proceeded smoothly to form disubstituted cyclohexane **5** and cycloheptanone **6** as the sole products, respectively (Scheme 3).

Scheme 3. Radical Cyclization of **3^a** and **4^b**

^aConditions: **3d** (0.5 mmol), *n*-Bu₃SnH (0.75 mmol), AIBN (0.1 mmol), C₆H₆ (10 mL), 80 °C, 3 h under an argon atmosphere. ^b Conditions: **4c** (0.5 mmol), *n*-Bu₃SnH (0.75 mmol), AIBN (0.1 mmol), C₆H₆ (10 mL), 80 °C, 6 h under an argon atmosphere.

In conclusion, we have developed a novel protocol for the synthesis of 2-bromo-1,6-dienes from alkylidenecyclopropanes and allylic bromides via radical ring-opening and S_H2' reactions. We also demonstrated that radical carbonylation could be incorporated in the reaction sequence, leading to 2-bromo-1,7-dien-5-ones. Further applications of the products as well as other multicomponent reactions are currently in progress in this laboratory.

■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information

Experimental procedure and compound characterization. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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Notes

The authors declare no competing financial interest.

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