

The *B*-alkyl Suzuki – Miyaura cross-coupling reaction:
a versatile C – C bond-forming tool

The *B*-Alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura Cross-Coupling Reaction: Development, Mechanistic Study, and Applications in Natural Product Synthesis**

Sherry R. Chemler, Dirk Trauner, and Samuel J. Danishefsky*

Dedicated to Professor Akira Suzuki

The development of new reactions that facilitate the creative and efficient synthesis of molecular structures with desirable properties continues to fascinate chemists. The test of a significant contribution is its acceptance

over time by the scientific community. The *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura cross-coupling reaction appears to be one such reaction. Since its disclosure by Suzuki and Miyaura in 1986, this reaction has been an attractive

solution to challenging synthetic problems.

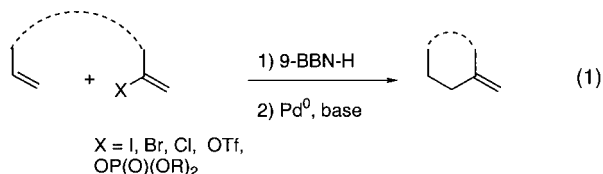
Keywords: boranes • C–C coupling • cross-coupling • Suzuki–Miyaura coupling • synthetic methods

1. Introduction

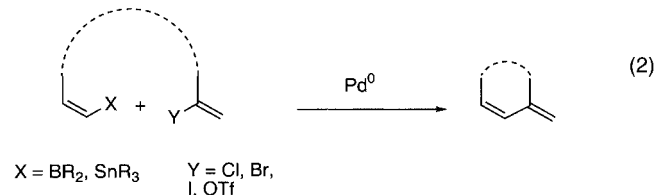
Transition metal mediated cross-coupling reactions have revolutionized organic synthesis. Many highly efficient and mild protocols for bond construction have emerged by mastery of such reactions, particularly in multifunctional settings.^[1, 2] Perhaps the most utilized C–C bond-forming cross-coupling reactions are the Heck,^[1] Stille,^[3, 4] and Suzuki–Miyaura reactions.^[5, 6] In recent years, the olefin metathesis reaction has also emerged as a particularly powerful method, especially for ring formation.^[7–12] The *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura reaction is distinguished from other Suzuki–Miyaura cross-coupling reactions in that a reaction occurs between an alkyl borane (as opposed to a vinyl or aryl borane) and an aryl or vinyl halide, triflate, or enol phosphate. We will show that this important variation, which involves an sp^3 carbon in the coupling event, fills a growing niche. This reaction, which occurs in the presence of a base and a Pd^0 catalyst, was first reported by Suzuki and Miyaura in 1986.^[13]

The various transformations that are accessible through these valuable cross-coupling methods are depicted in Equations (1)–(4) (the dashed lines represent intramolecular variations).

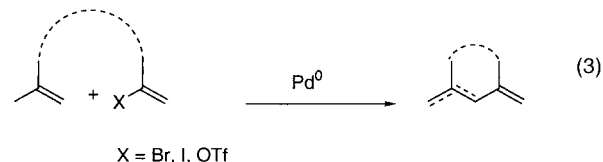
B-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura reaction



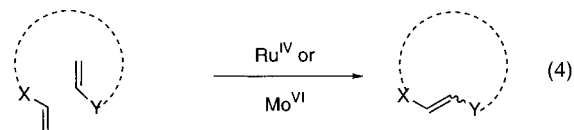
Suzuki–Miyaura, Stille reactions



Heck reaction



olefin metathesis



[*] Prof. S. J. Danishefsky, Dr. S. R. Chemler
Laboratory of Bioorganic Chemistry, Sloan-Kettering Institute for Cancer Research
1275 York Ave., Box 106, New York, NY 10021
Fax: (+1) 212-772-8691
E-mail: s-danishefsky@ski.mskcc.org
and
Department of Chemistry, Columbia University
Havemeyer Hall, New York, NY 10027 (USA)
Prof. D. Trauner
Department of Chemistry, University of California, Berkeley
Berkeley, CA 94720 (USA)

[**] A list of abbreviations can be found at the end of the article.

Other cross-coupling methods for $C(sp^3)-C(sp^2)$ bond formation are available,^[1, 2, 14] most notably the Negishi protocol,^[15–19] which utilizes an alkylzinc derivative as the organometallic component. By comparison, the strength of the *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura cross-coupling lies in the mild and versatile methods for the synthesis of the alkyl borane component, the ease of incorporation of nontransferable boron ligands, and the manageable toxicity of the boron-derived by-products (e.g. $R_2B(OH)_2^-$).^[20] Another advantage of this reaction over similar methods is its tolerance of water, which is often a beneficial additive.

Our interest in the *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura reaction first emerged in our program involving the synthesis of natural products with challenging structures. As will be demonstrated in Section 11, we have often found this reaction to be a rather valuable resource for the coupling of complex molecular fragments. In this review, a detailed account of the mechanism of the *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura reaction is presented. Factors

that affect its rate, and thereby its efficiency, are summarized. The application of this coupling method to the development of new synthetic protocols as well as illustrations of its growing use in natural product synthesis are highlighted.

2. Synthesis of the Alkyl borane Component

The alkyl borane component of the *B*-alkyl Suzuki reaction can be derived from the hydroboration of the corresponding olefin [Eqs. (5) and (6)]^[21] or, less frequently, from the alkylation of a boron-based electrophile with an alkyllithium or Grignard reagent [Eqs. (7) and (8)].^[22–24] More generally one takes advantage of the fact that alkyl boranes can be synthesized in a highly chemo-, regio-, and diastereoselective manner by means of the hydroboration reaction. In the hydroboration route, the terminal alkyl borane regioisomer is the highly favored adduct (anti-Markovnikov addition). The

Samuel J. Danishefsky was born in 1936. Under the tutelage of his father, he was exposed at an early age to the elements of logical thought and critical analysis through the study of the Talmud. He received a B.S. degree at Yeshiva University (1956). In keeping with the example of an older brother, Isadore, he took an interest in chemistry at college. A life-long fascination with organic chemistry followed from absorption of two introductory treatments of the subject—one by Raymond Brewster and the other by Louis and



S. J. Danishefsky



S. R. Chemler

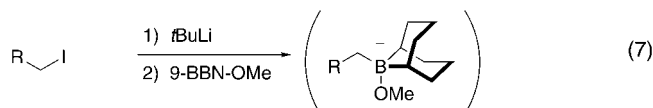
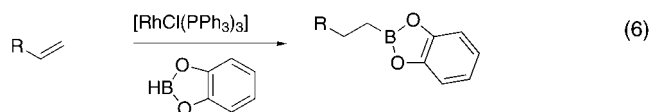
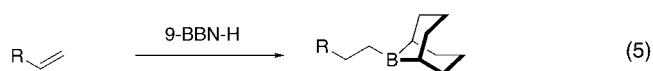


D. Trauner

Mary Fieser. This exposure led him to pursue organic studies at Harvard University where he received a Ph.D. (1962) under the direction of Professor Peter Yates. From 1961–1963 he was an NIH-sponsored Postdoctoral Fellow at Columbia University under the mentorship of Gilbert Stork. His first independent academic position, which started in 1963, was at the University of Pittsburgh where he became Professor in 1971 and University Professor in 1979. In 1980 he moved to Yale University and served as chairman of the department from 1981–1987. He was named Eugene Higgins Professor in 1984 and Sterling Professor in 1990. In 1993 he returned to New York as Professor of Chemistry at Columbia University and as Kettering Professor and first Head of the Laboratory for Bioorganic Chemistry at the Memorial Sloan–Kettering Cancer Center. His research interests have been in the areas of synthetic strategy, cytotoxic natural products, and, most recently, fully synthetic carbohydrate-based tumor antigens. In 1996 he shared the Wolf Prize in Chemistry with Gilbert Stork.

Sherry R. Chemler was born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1972. She received a B.A. from Boston University in 1994 and a Ph.D. in 1999 from Indiana University. Her doctoral research, under the guidance of Prof. William R. Roush, focused on the development of methodology for the synthesis of polypropionate-derived natural products. As an NIH Postdoctoral Fellow with Professor Danishefsky at the Memorial Sloan–Kettering Cancer Center, she has undertaken the total synthesis of phomactin A. Her research interests include the design and study of novel chemical reactions and the synthesis of molecules with beneficial functional properties.

Dirk Trauner was born in Linz, Austria, in 1967. He received his Diplom in 1994 from the Freie Universität in Berlin, Germany. In 1997 he obtained a Ph.D. from the University of Vienna, Austria, where he worked with Professor Johann Mulzer on the synthesis of alkaloids. He held an Ernst Schering Research Foundation postdoctoral fellowship at the Memorial Sloan–Kettering Cancer Center, where he completed a synthesis of halichlorine under the supervision of Professor Danishefsky. He is currently an assistant professor of chemistry at the University of California, Berkeley. His interests include neurochemistry, the total synthesis of biologically active natural products, and the development of new synthetic methods based on transition metal catalysis.



M = MgBr, Li

rate of hydroboration is sensitive to electronic as well as steric factors, although steric effects tend to predominate. Electron-rich, unhindered olefins generally react most rapidly. Thus, a substrate that contains two different olefin moieties often undergoes hydroboration at one double bond, with a high degree of selectivity (Figure 1).^[25–27]

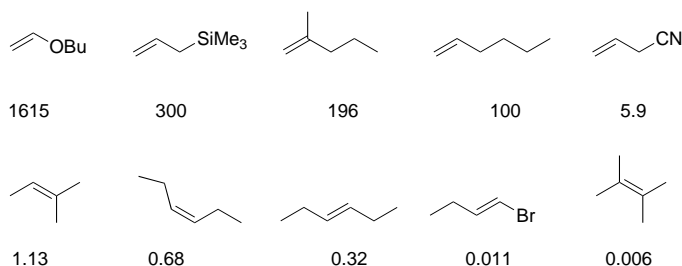


Figure 1. Relative rate of hydroboration with 9-BBN-H.

3. Catalytic Cycle

As in other cross-coupling reactions, the catalytic cycle of the Suzuki–Miyaura reaction is thought to involve a sequence consisting of an oxidative addition, a transmetalation, and a reductive elimination (Figure 2).^[5, 28]

The oxidative addition is often the rate-limiting step in a cross-coupling catalytic cycle. Under appropriate reaction

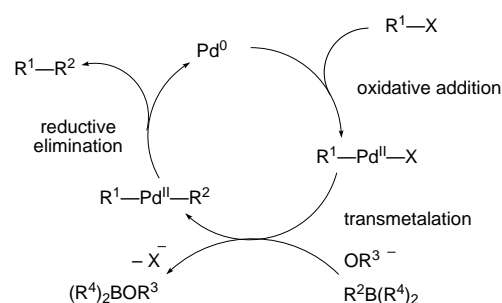
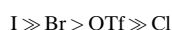


Figure 2. General Suzuki–Miyaura catalytic cycle.

conditions, alkenyl, alkynyl, allyl, benzyl, aryl, and alkyl halides may participate in the Suzuki–Miyaura cross-coupling reaction. Aryl and 1-alkenyl halides that are activated by electron-withdrawing groups are more reactive to the oxidative addition step than those with electron-donating groups. Through a competition reaction, Oh-e et al. found bromobenzene to be 2.2 times more reactive than phenyl triflate as a coupling partner in the *B*-alkyl Suzuki reaction with 9-octyl-9-BBN, whereas iodobenzene was consumed exclusively in the presence of phenyl triflate.^[29] In a separate study, Molander and Ito determined that the reaction of *p*-ClC₆H₄OTf with a benzyl borate led to exclusive coupling at the triflate position.^[20] Therefore, the order of reactivity of the electrophilic partner has been established as:^[30]



Although alkyl halides that have a hydrogen atom in the β position are considered to be problematic substrates as a result of potentially competing β -hydride elimination processes,^[5] C(sp³)–C(sp³) and carbonylative coupling reactions of alkyl iodides with alkyl boranes have been reported.^[31, 32, 101] The nature of the organoborane, the aryl, vinyl, or alkyl halide, the palladium catalyst, and the base all influence the overall rate of the cross-coupling reaction.^[33–37]

4. Experimental Factors that Affect the *B*-Alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura Reaction

In the initial reaction development reports, Suzuki and co-workers surveyed various conditions (solvent, base, temperature, and catalyst) for the cross-coupling reaction of *B*-octyl-9-BBN with iodobenzene (Table 1).^[13, 21]

4.1. Influence of the Catalyst

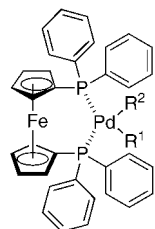
Substoichiometric amounts (3 mol %) of [PdCl₂(dppf)] or [Pd(PPh₃)₄] were found to be viable catalysts for the *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura reaction (Table 1). Subsequent to these initial studies, complexes with an electron-rich Pd⁰ center, or precursors thereof, continued to be the most widely used catalysts for this reaction.^[5]

Table 1. Cross-coupling reactions of *B*-octyl-9-BBN with iodobenzene under varying conditions.^[a]

Entry	Catalyst	Base [equiv]	Solvent	Temp. [°C]	Yield [%]
1	[PdCl ₂ (dppf)]	NaOH (3)	THF/H ₂ O (5:1)	65	99
2	[PdCl ₂ (dppf)]	TfOH (1.5)	THF/H ₂ O (5:1)	20	79
3	[PdCl ₂ (dppf)]	NaOMe (1.5)	THF	65	98
4	[PdCl ₂ (dppf)]	NaOMe (1.5)	THF/MeOH (5:1)	65	18
5	[PdCl ₂ (dppf)]	K ₂ CO ₃ (2)	DMF	50	98
6	[PdCl ₂ (dppf)]	K ₃ PO ₄ (2)	DMF	50	94
7	[Pd(PPh ₃) ₄]	NaOH (3)	THF/H ₂ O (5:1)	65	84
8	[Pd(PPh ₃) ₄]	NaOH (3)	Benzene/H ₂ O	80	97

[a] Reactions were carried out for 16 h with 3 mol % catalyst.

One problem commonly associated with the coupling reactions of organometallic compounds that are metalated at sp^3 C atoms and that possess hydrogen atoms in the β position, is the proclivity of the alkyl–palladium complex to undergo β -hydride elimination instead of reductive elimination.^[13] The bidentate bis(diphenylphosphino)ferrocene ligand on the palladium catalyst $[PdCl_2(dppf)]$ is thought to help favor reductive elimination by enforcing a *cis* geometry between the vinyl and alkyl groups on the square-planar Pd^{II} complex. Thus, this catalyst would be most effective if the

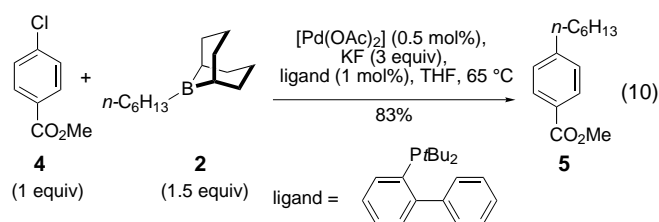
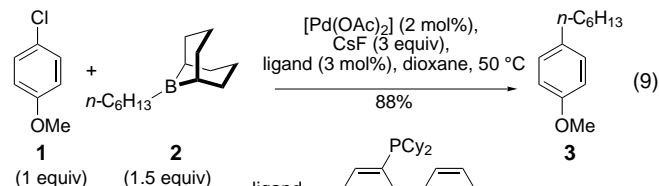


reductive elimination process is part of the rate-determining step in the coupling reaction. (If the reactive groups are initially *trans* to each other on the Pd^{II} complex, the complex must rearrange to a *cis* geometry before reductive elimination can occur.) The “bite angle” of the bidentate ligand also affects the rate of the reductive elimination: a large bite angle of the ligand forces the two alkyl

groups closer to each other about the Pd^{II} center, thus promoting the reductive elimination process.^[35]

Recent studies by Buchwald and co-workers on the effects of ligand structure on the rate of oxidative addition have led to the development of reaction protocols that enable the coupling of alkyl boranes with aryl chlorides. These were previously an unreactive class of substrates [(Eqs. (9) and (10)).^[38, 39]

Fürstner and Leitner have also developed a ligand for such coupling partners.^[40]



4.2. Influence of the Base and Solvent

A carefully selected base is essential in the projected applications of the *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura reaction. The base has been proposed to be involved in several steps of the catalytic cycle, most notably the transmetalation process (see Section 5). Miyaura and co-workers found that stronger bases such as NaOH, TIOH, and NaOMe performed well in THF/

H_2O solvent systems, whereas weaker bases such as K_2CO_3 and K_3PO_4 were more successful in DMF (Table 1).^[13, 21] These reactions were generally conducted at 50–80 °C, although the use of TIOH as the base made the reaction viable at 20 °C (Ti_2CO_3 and TIOEt are commercial available and are thus more commonly used than TIOH). Other research groups have subsequently introduced their own variations on the reaction conditions (base, solvent, ligand additives) in their applications of this reaction to methodologies and natural product syntheses (see Sections 7–11).

4.3. Influence of the Borane Substituents

Generally, unhindered electron-rich organoboranes and electron-deficient vinyl or aryl halides or triflates are the most reactive partners for the *B*-alkyl Suzuki reaction. A survey on the effect of various borane substituents on the coupling reaction is presented in Table 2.^[21, 41] A variety of hydroborating reagents such as 9-BBN-H, disiamylborane, dicyclohexylborane, and borane can be used in this reaction (Table 2, entries 1–4), although 9-BBN-H is the most commonly used. The rate of transmetalation of a primary alkyl group on boron is much higher than that of a secondary alkyl group. The coupling reactions between secondary alkyl boron compounds and iodobenzene can occur in moderate yields when

Table 2. Coupling of iodobenzene with alkyl boranes.^[a]

Entry	Organoborane	Base (equiv)	Solvent	Yield [%] ^[b]
1		NaOH (3)	THF/ H_2O	99
2	octyl–B(Sia) ₂	NaOH (3)	THF/ H_2O	82
3	octyl–B(cyclohexyl) ₂	NaOH (3)	THF/ H_2O	93
4	(octyl) ₃ B	NaOH (3)	THF/ H_2O	98
5	(2-butyl) ₃ B	KOH (3)	THF/ H_2O	40 ^[c]
6	(cyclopentyl) ₃ B	KOH (3)	THF/ H_2O	65 ^[c]
7	(cyclohexyl) ₃ B	KOH (3)	THF/ H_2O	55 ^[c]
8	octyl–B(THF) ₂	KOH (3) Ti_2CO_3 (1.5) TIOH (3)	THF/ H_2O THF Benzene/ H_2O	75 60 93 ^[d]
9	octyl–B(Phenyl) ₂	KOH (3) TIOEt (3) Ti_2CO_3 (1.5) TIOH (3)	THF/ H_2O THF/ H_2O THF Benzene	trace 41 93 84 ^[e]
10	octyl–B(OC(CH ₃) ₃) ₂	TIOH (3) Ti_2CO_3 (1.5)	THF/ H_2O THF	34 trace
11	octyl–B(OH) ₂	TIOH (3)	THF/ H_2O	trace

[a] Reactions were carried out at 50 °C with $[PdCl_2(dppf)]$ catalyst (3 mol %), organoborane (1.1 equiv), and iodobenzene (1.0 equiv) unless otherwise noted. [b] yields (GC) based on iodobenzene. [c] Biphenyl was also obtained as a by-product (10–30 %). [d] $[PdCl_2(dppe)]$ was used as the catalyst. [e] $[PdCl_2(dppf)]$ was used as the catalyst.

aqueous KOH (3 M) is used as the base (Table 2, entries 5–7). However, there are no examples of *B*-alkyl Suzuki reactions that involve secondary alkyl boranes in preparative synthetic organic chemistry.

Alkyl boronic esters can also be viable substrates in the Suzuki reaction when thallium salts such as TlOH or Tl₂CO₃ are used as the base (Table 2, entries 8–11).^[41] In contrast, other bases such as KOH are ineffective in these reactions. The special rate-enhancing effect of thallium salts in the C(sp²)–C(sp²) Suzuki reaction was first observed by Kishi and co-workers.^[42] Thallium salts have since provided a useful solution for difficult Suzuki couplings in numerous instances.^[5, 43–45] Unfortunately, the toxicity of the thallium salts restricts their widespread use.

5. Reaction Mechanism of the Suzuki–Miyaura Reaction

5.1. Stereochemistry of the Oxidative Addition

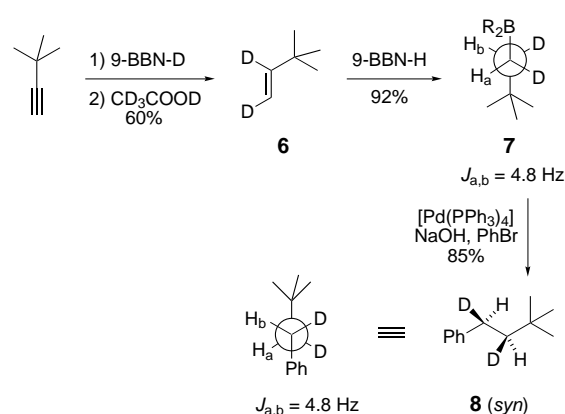
The oxidative addition process in the Suzuki–Miyaura cross-coupling reaction is thought to proceed through the broadly applicable mechanistic framework that accompanies many other cross-coupling processes. The oxidative addition of alkyl and alkenyl halides occurs with retention of configuration, whereas inversion of configuration is observed in the case of allylic and benzylic halides.^[2, 31, 46, 47]

5.2. Stereochemistry of the Transmetalation Step

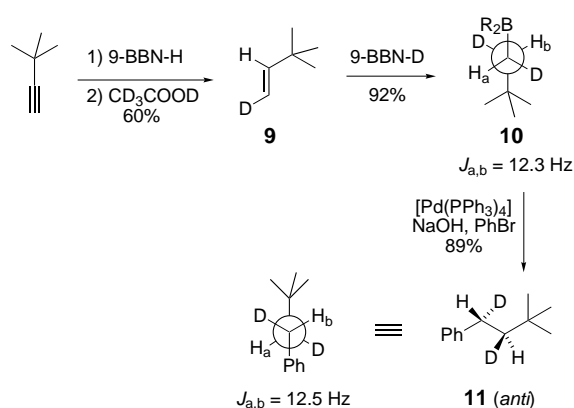
Independent studies by the groups of Soderquist^[33] and Woerpel^[34] revealed that transmetalation (R–B → R–Pd) occurs with retention of stereochemistry. Both groups used an NMR spectroscopic technique that takes advantage of the preference of bulky substituents on 1,2-disubstituted ethanes to adopt an antiperiplanar conformation.^[48] The stereochemistry can then be determined by analysis of the coupling constants of the vicinal protons.

Soderquist and co-workers prepared the known *syn* and *anti* derivatives of *t*BuCHDCHDPh, **8** and **11** (Schemes 1 and 2).^[49] Hydroboration of 3,3-dimethyl-1-butyne with 9-BBN-D, followed by treatment with CD₃CO₂D gave the dideuterated olefin **6**. Subsequent hydroboration of **6** with 9-BBN-H followed by Suzuki coupling with PhBr gave **8**, whose H_a–H_b coupling constant of 4.8 Hz is consistent with *syn* stereochemistry (Scheme 1). Hydroboration is a *syn* addition process,^[50] and reductive elimination of the Pd intermediate is known to occur with retention of stereochemistry.^[51] Soderquist and co-workers thus concluded that the transmetalation step also occurs with retention of stereochemistry. By reversing the order in which the reagent is added, the *anti* isomer **11** was produced; the H_a–H_b coupling constant of 12.5 Hz confirms that transmetalation occurred with retention of configuration (Scheme 2).

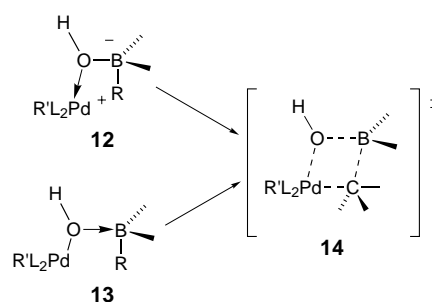
Soderquist and co-workers argued that the four-centered μ₂-hydroxo-bridged transition state model **14** (Scheme 3) is consistent with a transmetalation that proceeds with retention



Scheme 1. Soderquist and co-workers demonstrated that hydroboration of a *cis* dideuterated olefin followed by cross-coupling gives a *syn* adduct.

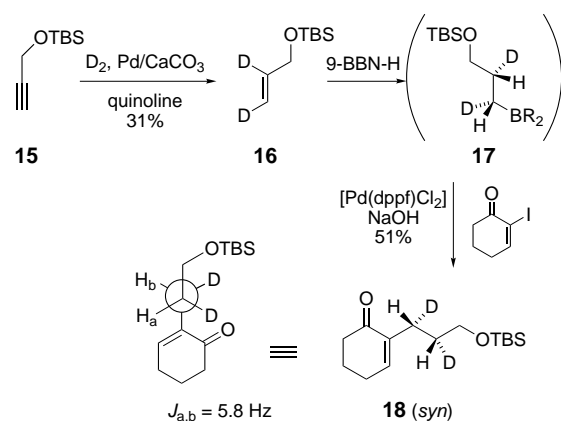


Scheme 2. The hydroboration of a *trans* dideuterated olefin followed by cross-coupling gives the *anti* adduct. These studies show that transmetalation occurs with retention of configuration at the carbon atom.

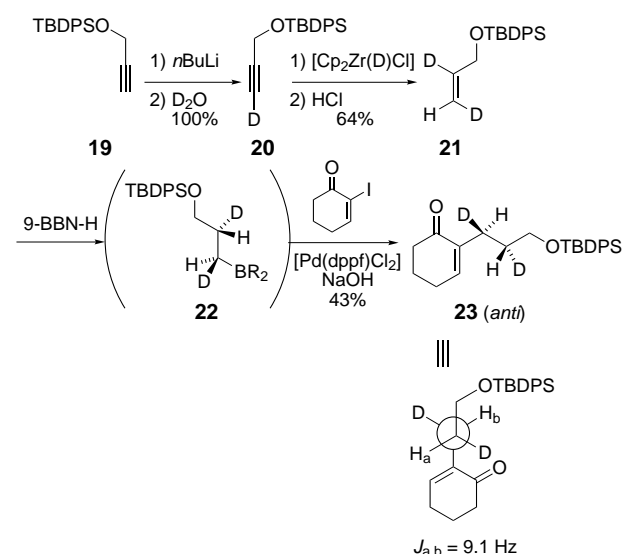


Scheme 3. Mechanism of the transmetalation.

of configuration. The transition state can arise from either the hydroxyborate–palladium complex **12** or the borane–palladium hydroxide complex **13**. Both structures had previously been suggested as possible intermediates by Miyaura and Suzuki.^[5] Soderquist and co-workers determined that the mechanism depends on the Lewis acidity of the organoborane (see Section 5.3). In a concurrent and similar study, Woerpel and Ridgway also concluded that transmetalation occurs with retention of stereochemistry (Schemes 4 and 5).



Scheme 4. Woerpel and co-workers also demonstrated that the hydroboration of a *cis*-dideuterated olefin followed by cross-coupling gives a *syn* adduct.

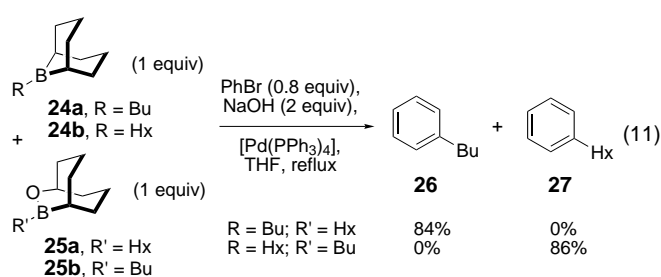


Scheme 5. The hydroboration of a *trans* dideuterated olefin followed by cross-coupling provides the *anti* adduct. These studies also demonstrate that transmetalation occurs with retention of configuration at the carbon atom.

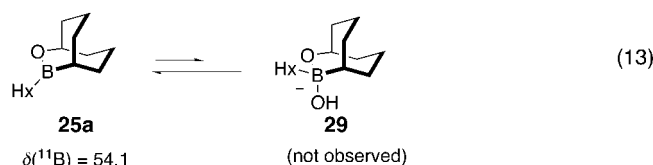
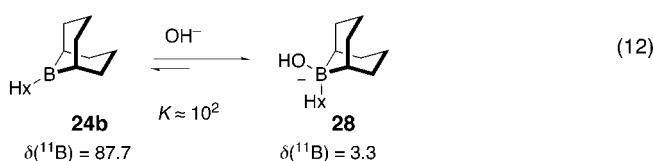
5.3. Role of the Boron Substituents in the Coupling Process

To evaluate the effects of the boron substituents on the rate of the coupling reaction, Soderquist and co-workers performed a competition experiment between the *B*-alkyl-9-BBN derivative **24** and its *B*-alkyl OBBD counterpart **25** [Eq. (11)]. The 9-BBN derivative **24** was found to be significantly more reactive than the *B*-alkyl OBBD derivative **25**, as shown by the exclusive formation of phenylbutane (**26**) in an experiment in which **24a** (*R* = butyl) and **25a** (*R'* = hexyl) competed for bromobenzene. This finding was supported by the exclusive formation of phenylhexane (**27**) in the analogous competition reaction with **24b** (*R* = hexyl) and **25b** (*R'* = butyl).

Soderquist and co-workers hypothesized that the difference in reactivity between the two boranes was related to their different Lewis acidity. This proposal was tested by the study



of the borane \rightleftharpoons borate equilibria [Eqs. (12) and (13)]. The boranes were titrated with NaOH and the changes in chemical shift in their ¹¹B NMR spectra were noted. It was found that one equivalent of NaOH shifts the ¹¹B NMR signal of the



9-BBN derivative **24b** from $\delta = 87.7$ to $\delta = 12.0$, two equivalents causes a shift to $\delta = 6.0$, and three equivalents shifts the signal to $\delta = 3.3$ (the spectrum did not change with additional NaOH). In contrast, titration of the OBBD derivative **25a** with NaOH led to no observable change in the ¹¹B NMR spectrum. These studies support the assertion that the 9-BBN derivative **24b** is much more Lewis acidic than **25a**. Thus, under the Suzuki reaction conditions, it is highly probable that the species involved in the transmetalation step in the case of **24b**, is its corresponding borate **28**, whereas the OBBD species **25a** is probably involved in the transmetalation step, rather than its borate derivative **29**. This then implies that transmetalation of the 9-BBN derivative **24a** occurs via intermediate **12**, whereas the transmetalation of the OBBD derivative **25a** occurs via **13** (Scheme 3).

5.4. Role of Base in the Coupling Process

Soderquist and co-workers have shown that the base is involved in as many as five mechanistically distinct events in the *B*-alkyl Suzuki reaction. Arguably the most essential role of the base is the conversion of the alkyl 9-BBN species into the more reactive borate species [R-9-BBN-OH]⁻. The other four roles include: 1) hydrolysis of the Pd^{II}X intermediate to the more reactive Pd^{II}OH species; 2) complexation of HOBR₂ by-products that can compete for base with the trialkyl borane (hence the need for two equivalents of base in the reaction); 3) accelerated coupling rates for the OBBD derivatives; and 4) regeneration of the catalyst.

Based on such studies, Soderquist and co-workers proposed a more detailed catalytic cycle for the *B*-alkyl Suzuki reaction that includes the important role played by the base both for the 9-BBN derived organoborane manifold (top cycle of Figure 3) as well as for the OBBD organoboranes (bottom cycle of Figure 3).

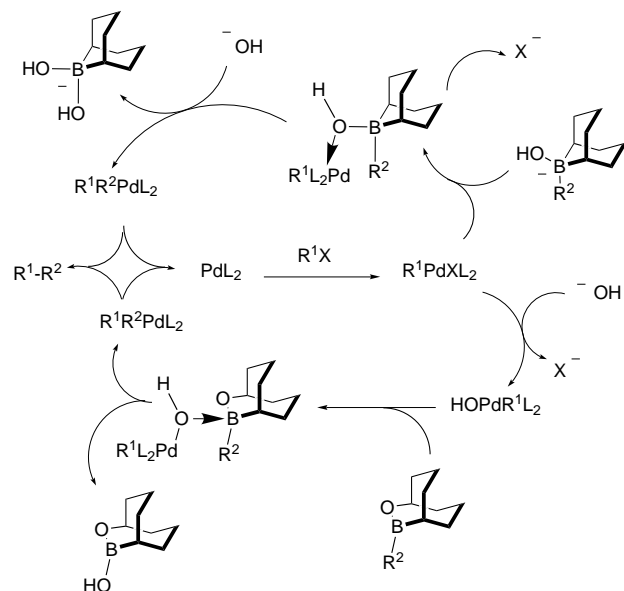
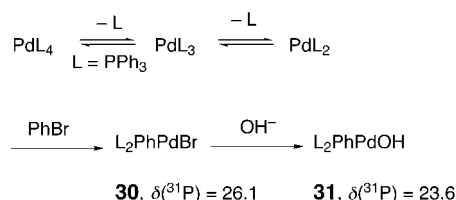


Figure 3. Modified Suzuki–Miyaura catalytic cycle.

Direct evidence for the hydrolysis of a $\text{Pd}^{\text{II}}\text{X}$ intermediate to a $\text{Pd}^{\text{II}}\text{OH}$ intermediate was observed by means of ^{31}P NMR spectroscopy. As shown in Scheme 6, the $[\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4]$ (broad singlet, $\delta = 18.0$) reacts cleanly with PhBr to produce the



Scheme 6. Evidence for the hydrolysis of the $\text{Pd}^{\text{II}}\text{Br}$ intermediate was obtained by means of ^{31}P NMR spectroscopy.

oxidative addition adduct $[\text{BrPdPh}(\text{PPh}_3)_2]$ (**30**; $\delta = 26.1$) and PPh_3 ($\delta = -3.2$). When this mixture was treated with two equivalents of NaOH, **30** was partially converted into the hydrolysis product $[\text{HOPdPh}(\text{PPh}_3)_2]$ (**31**; $\delta = 23.6$). Also, the amount of triphenylphosphane oxide ($\delta = 27.0$) in the mixture increased significantly after addition of the base, a consequence of $\text{Pd}^{\text{II}} \rightarrow \text{Pd}^0$ reduction. Heating the mixture at reflux (THF) increased the rate of conversion of **30** into **31**.

5.5. Reaction Kinetics

Soderquist and co-workers also determined the kinetics of the reaction for both Bu-9-BBN and Bu-OBBD. For the reaction of PhBr with $[(\text{HO})\text{Bu-9-BBN}]^-$, they determined that the reaction rate was independent of the concentration of the borate, but was first order in $[\text{PhBr}]$. Therefore, the oxidative addition step in the catalytic cycle is rate limiting for the coupling of Bu-9-BBN derivatives with PhBr. In contrast, the rate of the reaction of Bu-OBBD with PhBr was found to be independent of $[\text{PhBr}]$ and $[\text{Bu-OBBD}]$, but first order in base. Therefore, the hydrolysis of $[\text{BrPdPh}(\text{PPh}_3)_2]$ is rate-determining for the coupling of Bu-OBBD with PhBr.

6. Substrate Generality

6.1. Cross-Coupling Reactions of Vinyl or Aryl Halides

In their original studies,^[13] Miyaura and co-workers found that a combination of $[\text{PdCl}_2(\text{dppf})]$ and sodium hydroxide in refluxing THF/water provides adequate cross-coupling conversions, as long as there were no base-sensitive functional groups on either the alkyl boranes or on the aryl halides (Table 3, entries 1–2). Potassium carbonate or phosphate suspended in DMF at 50°C provided superior results for base-sensitive substrates (Table 3, entries 3–6).

The study included the cross-coupling reactions of alkyl boranes with a variety of vinyl bromides (Table 4).^[42, 52] These reactions again occur with complete retention of olefin geometry.

The high degree of chemo- and stereoselectivity of the initial hydroboration phase is efficiently utilized in the *B*-alkyl

Table 3. Cross-coupling reactions of aryl halide substrates with 9-alkyl-9-BBN.^[a]

Entry	Aryl halide	Alkene	Product	Yield [%]
1		1-octene		90, 71 ^[b]
2				88, 71 ^[b]
3		$\text{CH}_2=\text{CH}(\text{CH}_2)_8\text{CO}_2\text{Me}$		88 ^[c]
4		$\text{CH}_2=\text{CH}(\text{CH}_2)_8\text{CN}$		98 ^[c]
5				52 ^[c]
6				77 ^[c]

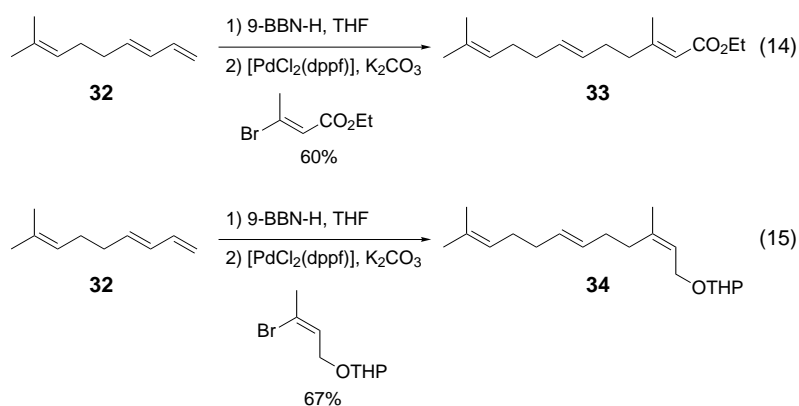
[a] Reactions were run as follows unless otherwise noted: 1) alkene (1 equiv) in THF was treated with 9-BBN-H (1.1 equiv); 2) the borane was added to a solution of aryl halide (1 equiv), $[\text{PdCl}_2(\text{dppf})]$ (3 mol %), and NaOH (3 equiv) in THF, and the solution was heated at reflux. [b] NaOMe (1.5 equiv) was used instead of NaOH. [c] K_2CO_3 (2 equiv) was used instead of NaOH and the reaction was conducted in DMF/THF at 50°C .

Table 4. Cross-coupling reaction of vinyl bromides with 9-alkyl-9-BBN.^[a]

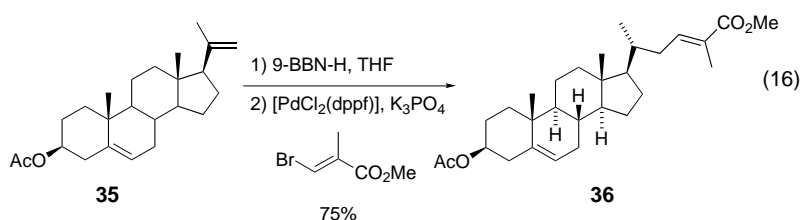
Entry	Vinyl bromide	Alkene	Product	Yield [%]
1		1-octene		85
2		1-octene		90
3		CH ₂ =CH(CH ₂) ₈ CO ₂ Me		92, ^[c] 69 ^[b]
4		1-octene		98
5				80
6		CH ₂ =CH(CH ₂) ₈ CN		80 ^[b]
7				73, ^[b] 79 ^[c]
8		CH ₂ =CH(CH ₂) ₈ CN		81, ^[b] 72 ^[c]
9				90

[a] Reactions were run as follows unless otherwise noted: 1) alkene (1 equiv) in THF was treated with 9-BBN-H (1.1 equiv); 2) the borane was added to a solution of vinyl halide (1 equiv), [PdCl₂(dppf)] (3 mol %), and NaOH (3 equiv) in THF and the solution was heated at reflux. [b] K₂CO₃ (2 equiv) was used instead of NaOH, and the reaction was conducted in DMF/THF at 50 °C. [c] K₃PO₄ (1 equiv) was used instead of NaOH, and the reaction was conducted in DMF/THF at 50 °C.

Suzuki reaction. As an example of chemoselective hydroboration, coupling products derived from triene **32** are obtained in good yields [Eqs. (14) and (15)].^[21]



The stereoselective hydroboration of 20-(21)-methylene steroid **35**, which in turn was derived from pregnenolone acetate, produced predominantly the (20*R*)-21-boryl steroid intermediate.^[53, 54] This intermediate was cross-coupled with ethyl (*E*)-β-bromomethacrylate to give **36** in 75% yield [Eq. (16)].^[21] (For another example, see Table 4, entry 7.) Corey and



Roberts have also conducted a study on the synthesis of trisubstituted double bonds through the cross-coupling reactions of alkyl boranes and vinyl iodides.^[55]

6.2. Cross-Coupling Reactions with Aryl or Vinyl Triflates

Organoboranes can also undergo cross-coupling reactions with aryl or vinyl triflates.^[29] Such triflates can be easily accessed from phenols or enolates.^[56, 57] A representative substrate pool is shown in Table 5. These cross-coupling reactions are catalyzed by [Pd(PPh₃)₄] or [PdCl₂(dppf)] in the presence of K₃PO₄ in dioxane or THF.

Molander and Ito recently reported the coupling reactions of aryl or vinyl triflates with potassium alkyl trifluoroborates (Table 6).^[20] The potassium alkyl trifluoroborates are solid, crystalline, air- and water-stable reagents that are easily prepared from the corresponding alkyl boronic acids or esters. They undergo Suzuki–Miyaura coupling with the vinyl or aryl triflates in the presence of [PdCl₂(dppf)] and Cs₂CO₃ in refluxing THF/H₂O. As shown in Table 6, a variety of functional groups are tolerated.

In a particularly challenging coupling reaction of an azulene-derived triflate, Danheiser and co-workers found the Buchwald ligand (*o*-biphenyl)PCy₂ to be essential for its cross-coupling reaction with *B*-ethyl-9-BBN [Eq. (17)].^[58] Occhiato et al. found that vinyl triflates derived from six- and seven-membered *N*-alkoxycarbonyl lactams undergo cross-coupling with allyl or alkyl boronic acids and esters (Table 7). Whereas the allyl boronic esters underwent coupling under standard conditions (substoichiometric [(Ph₃P)₂PdCl₂], Na₂CO₃, THF, H₂O, reflux), the alkyl boronic acids required the addition of Ag₂O for an acceptable rate of conversion. Interestingly, the six-membered lactam-derived triflates gave much higher yields than the corresponding seven-membered triflates.^[59]

Table 5. Aryl or vinyl triflates cross-coupling with 9-alkyl-9-BBN.^[a]

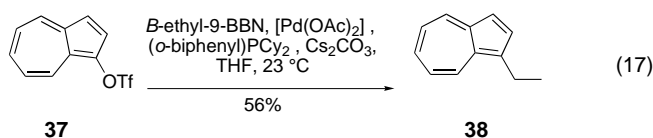
Entry	Triflate	Alkene	Product	Yield [%]
1		$\text{CH}_2=\text{CH}(\text{CH}_2)_8\text{CO}_2\text{Me}$		87, 82 ^[b]
2		$\text{CH}_2=\text{CHCH}_2\text{OPh}$		92, 70 ^[b]
3				65
4		1-octene		67 ^[b]
5		$\text{CH}_2=\text{CH}(\text{CH}_2)_8\text{CO}_2\text{Me}$		89, 86 ^[b]
6				65
7				64

[a] Reactions were run as follows, unless otherwise noted: 1) alkene (1 equiv) in THF was treated with 9-BBN-H (1.1 equiv); 2) the borane was added to a solution of triflate (1 equiv), $[\text{PdCl}_2(\text{dppf})]$ (2.5 mol %), and K_2PO_4 (1.5 equiv) in dioxane, and the solution was heated at 85 °C. [b] The reaction was carried out in THF at reflux.

Table 6. Cross-coupling of organic halides and triflates with potassium alkyl trifluoroborates.^[a]

Entry	Alkyl borane	Triflate	Product	Yield [%]
1 ^[b]	$\text{PhCH}_2\text{BF}_3\text{K}$	$p\text{-IC}_6\text{H}_4\text{OTf}$	$p\text{-TfOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$	16
2 ^[b]	$\text{PhCH}_2\text{BF}_3\text{K}$	$p\text{-BrC}_6\text{H}_4\text{OTf}$	$p\text{-TfOC}_6\text{H}_4\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$	70
3 ^[b]	$\text{PhCH}_2\text{BF}_3\text{K}$	$p\text{-ClC}_6\text{H}_4\text{OTf}$	$p\text{-ClC}_6\text{H}_4\text{CH}_2\text{Ph}$	57
4 ^[c]	$\text{NC}(\text{CH}_2)_3\text{BF}_3\text{K}$	$p\text{-NO}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{OTf}$	$p\text{-NO}_2\text{C}_6\text{H}_4(\text{CH}_2)_3\text{CN}$	73
5 ^[c]	$\text{Me}(\text{CO})(\text{CH}_2)_4\text{BF}_3\text{K}$	$p\text{-AcC}_6\text{H}_4\text{OTf}$	$p\text{-AcC}_6\text{H}_4(\text{CH}_2)_4(\text{CO})\text{Me}$	79
6 ^[c]	$\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_7\text{BF}_3\text{K}$	$m\text{-CNC}_6\text{H}_4\text{OTf}$	$m\text{-CNC}_6\text{H}_4(\text{CH}_2)_7\text{Br}$	65
7 ^[c]	$\text{Br}(\text{CH}_2)_6\text{BF}_3\text{K}$	$p\text{-AcC}_6\text{H}_4\text{OTf}$	$p\text{-AcC}_6\text{H}_4(\text{CH}_2)_6\text{Br}$	61
8 ^[c]	$\text{BzO}(\text{CH}_2)_6\text{BF}_3\text{K}$			68
9 ^[c]	$\text{CH}_3(\text{CH}_2)_7\text{BF}_3\text{K}$			75

[a] The potassium alkyl trifluoroborate (1 equiv) was treated with the triflate (1 equiv) in the presence of $[\text{Pd}(\text{Cl}_2)(\text{dppf})]$ (9 mol %) and Cs_2CO_3 (3 equiv) in THF/ H_2O , and the mixture was heated at reflux for 18 h. [b] Borates were prepared by using the corresponding Grignard reagent. [c] Borates were prepared by means of the catalytic hydroboration method.



6.3. Intramolecular Cross-Coupling

Miyaura and co-workers demonstrated that five- and six-membered rings can be accessed through the *B*-alkyl Suzuki

reaction of aryl or vinyl triflates cross-coupling with terminal olefins (Table 8).^[21] The cross-coupling reactions were carried out in THF/ H_2O solution (0.2 M) by using catalytic $[\text{PdCl}_2(\text{dppf})]$ and NaOH (3 equiv). The authors did note, however, that they were unable to gain access to larger rings by using this cyclization protocol. Clearly, competing oligomerization processes constitute risk factors that complicate prospects for cyclization. As will be shown in Section 6.4, the macrocyclization reaction can be achieved at lower substrate concentration (thus favoring intramolecular over intermolecular cross-coupling). Oh-e et al. subsequently found that both aryl and vinyl triflates are also good substrates for the intramolecular *B*-alkyl Suzuki reaction [Eqs. (18) and (19)].^[29]

Compounds that contain vinyl halide and terminal olefin functional groups linked through a two- or three-carbon tether can also be cyclized to form five- and six-membered exocyclic alkenes (Table 9).^[60] In an interesting extension of this idea, Soderquist and co-workers developed a protocol

which couples vinyl geminal dibromides with symmetrical bis-boranes, which are derived from the corresponding bis-olefins

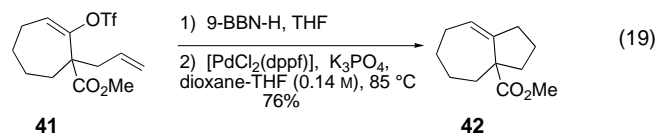
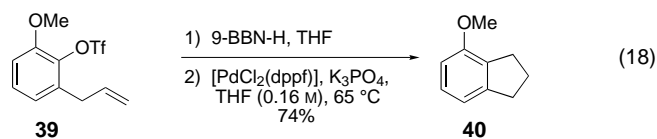


Table 7. Suzuki coupling of piperidine and azepine-derived vinyl triflates.

Entry	Borate	Triflate	Product	Yield [%]
1 ^[a]				65
2 ^[b]				93
3 ^[a]				27
4 ^[b]				22

[a] The reactions were run at 80 °C in THF/ Na_2CO_3 (aq., 2 M) with the vinyl triflate (1 equiv) and the borate (1.5 equiv) in the presence of $[(\text{Ph}_3\text{P})_2\text{PdCl}_2]$ (5 mol %). [b] The reactions were run in toluene at 80 °C with the vinyl triflate (1 equiv) and the borate (2 equiv) in the presence of K_2CO_3 (3 equiv), Ag_2O (2 equiv), and $[\text{PdCl}_2(\text{dppf})]$ (3 mol %).

Table 8. Intramolecular *B*-alkyl Suzuki reactions.^[a]

Entry	Substrate	Product	Yield [%]
1			70
2			67
3			68
4			84
5			77

[a] Conditions: 1) Olefin (1 equiv), 9-BBN-H (1.05 equiv), THF, 0 → 23 °C; 2) [PdCl₂(dppf)] (1.5 mol %), NaOH (3 equiv), THF/H₂O (0.2 M).

Table 9. Synthesis of exocyclic alkenes

Entry	Alkyl halide	Product	Yield [%]
1			71, ^[a] 80 ^[b]
2			68 ^[a,c]
3			83, ^[a] 72 ^[b]
4			51, ^[a] 69 ^[b]
5			60 ^[a]

[a] 1) 9-BBN-H (1.05 equiv), THF, 0 → 23 °C; 2) [PdCl₂(dppf)] (1.5 mol %) and NaOH (3 M, 3 equiv) in THF (0.14 M) at 60 °C. [b] Hydroboration as above, followed by [Pd(PPh₃)₄] (3 mol %), K₃PO₄ (1.5 equiv), dioxane/THF (0.12 M), 60 °C. [c] Diastereomeric mixture (3:7).

(Table 10).^[61] This process involves tandem intermolecular–intramolecular cross-coupling reactions. The authors noted that attempts to apply the methodology to the synthesis of five-membered ring systems starting from 1,4-dienes were unsuccessful.

Table 10. Synthesis of exocyclic alkenes with bisboranes.^[a]

Entry	X	R	Yield [%]
1	CH ₂	phenyl	56
2	CH ₂	<i>p</i> -biphenyl	42
3	CH ₂	<i>p</i> -tolyl	34
4	CH ₂	<i>p</i> -anisyl	76
5	CH ₂	<i>p</i> -butyl	44
6	Si(CH ₃) ₂	phenyl	45
7	Si(CH ₃) ₂	<i>p</i> -biphenyl	60
8	Si(CH ₃) ₂	2-furyl	36
9	Si(CH ₃) ₂	<i>p</i> -tolyl	25
10	Si(CH ₃) ₂	<i>p</i> -anisyl	41
11	Si(CH ₃) ₂	<i>n</i> -butyl	45
12	C(H)OTBS	phenyl	38
13	C(H)OTBS	methyl	64

[a] The olefin (1 equiv) was treated with 9-BBN-H in THF at 25 °C. This solution was subsequently treated with vinyl bromide (1 equiv), NaOH (4 equiv), THF/H₂O (0.09 M), and [Pd(PPh₃)₄] (6 mol %) at 25 °C.

In an extension of this cyclization protocol, Cho and Shibasaki reported the asymmetric synthesis of cyclopentanes **45** and **48** by using chiral ligands **49** and **50**, respectively, in the *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura reaction [Eqs. (20) and (21)].^[62] Although the level of asymmetric induction is moderate (28 and 31 % *ee*, respectively), this work constitutes a significant advancement in the field.

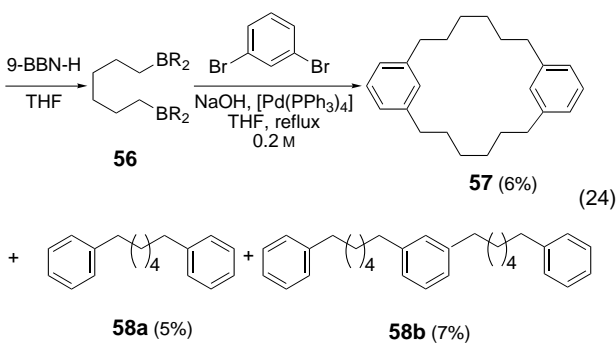
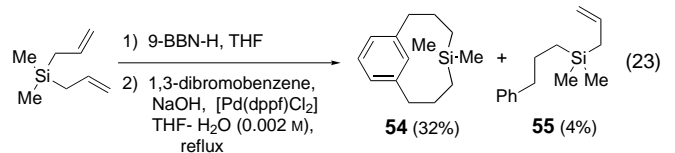
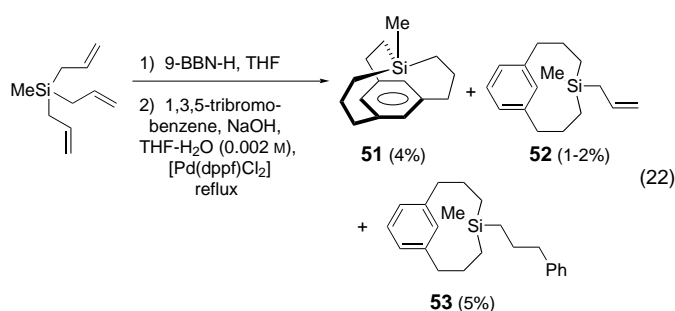
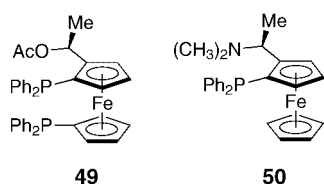
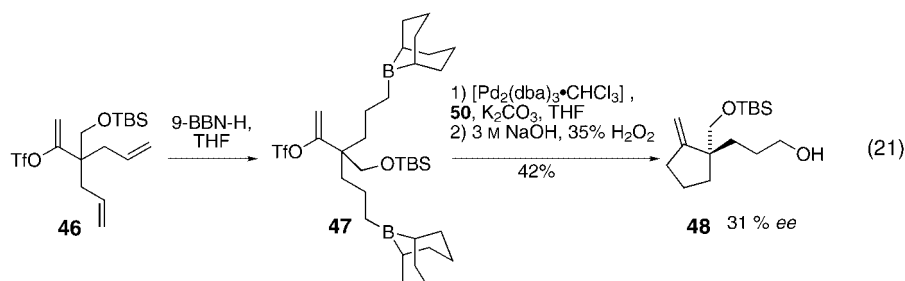
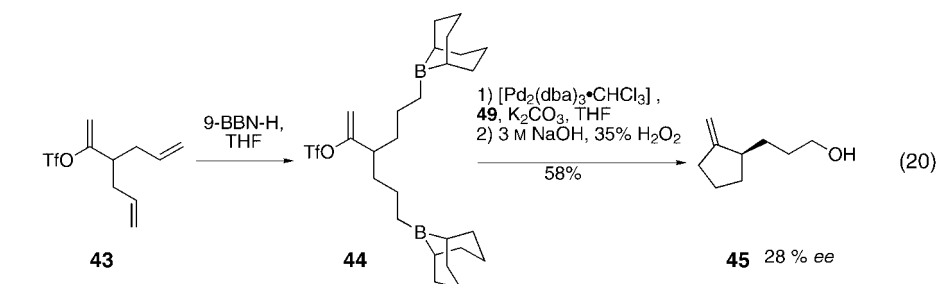
6.4. Macrocyclizations

The first moderately successful cyclizations to form rings with more than six members by means of the *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura reaction were reported by Kwochka and co-workers en route to silametacyclophanes [Eqs. (22) and (23)] and [6.6]metacyclophanes [Eq. (24)].^[63, 64]

The hydroboration of methyltriallylsilane followed by coupling with 1,3,5-tribromobenzene gave the target 4-methyl-4-sila[3^{4,10}][7]metacyclophane **51** in 4 % yield [Eq. (22)]. Silacycles **52** (1–2 %) and **53** (5 %) were obtained as undesired side products. A higher yield of macrocyclization adduct **54** was achieved in the coupling reaction of diallyldimethylsilane with 1,3-dibromobenzene [Eq. (23)]. Kwochka et al. noted that neither 1,2- nor 1,4-dibromobenzene yielded the corresponding silacyclophanes under similar conditions. Compounds **51**–**54** were used to study anisotropic effects by means of NMR spectroscopic analysis.

In an analogous study, coupling of the bis-borane **56** with 1,3-dibromobenzene led to the desired [6.6]metacyclophane **57** in 6 % yield, with adducts **58a** and **59b** as side products [Eq. (24)].

A macrocyclization study which is potentially more relevant to natural product synthesis was subsequently carried out by Danishefsky and Chemler (Table 11).^[45] These reactions were carried out under dilute conditions (0.003 M) and with



slow addition of the alkyl borane intermediates to the catalyst solution. In the first set of reaction conditions, the borane was

added to a dilute solution of Cs_2CO_3 , $[\text{PdCl}_2(\text{dppf})]$, and AsPh_3 in THF/DMF/ H_2O .^[65] Under a second set of reaction conditions, the borane was treated with TIOEt and the resulting mixture was added dropwise to a dilute solution of $[\text{PdCl}_2(\text{dppf})]$ and AsPh_3 in THF/DMF/ H_2O .^[43, 44] Although *ortho*-iodobenzenes gave relatively poor yields of cyclization adducts (Table 11, entries 1 and 2), the yields could be improved by extending the centers of reactivity away from the aryl ring and by increasing the ring size (Table 11, entry 3). Transannular macrocyclization was also a viable process (Table 11, entries 4 and 5), especially when TIOEt was used as the base. Apparently, the rate enhancement offered by the thallium base increased the rate of the desired macrocyclization reaction relative to competing oligomerization processes.

Table 11. *B*-alkyl Suzuki macrocyclizations.^[a]

Entry	Substrate	Product	Yield [%]
1			22 ^[b]
2			23
3			41
4			40, 60 ^[b]
5			46 ^[b]

[a] All reactions were carried out as follows, unless otherwise noted: 1) The terminal olefins were hydroborated with 9-BBN-H (1.5 equiv) for 1.5 h at 23 °C in THF (0.5 M); 2) the borane solution was diluted with THF and added over 3–5 h by means of a syringe pump to a solution of $[\text{PdCl}_2(\text{dppf})]$ (0.2 equiv), AsPh_3 (0.2 equiv), Cs_2CO_3 (3 equiv), and H_2O (40 equiv) in a 10:1 THF/DMF solution (0.003 M with respect to the substrate). [b] Water (5 equiv) and TIOEt (3 equiv) were added to the borane solution prior to the addition to the catalyst solution (Cs_2CO_3 and additional H_2O were omitted from these reactions).

6.5. Carbonylative Cross-Coupling Reactions

Another important application of the *B*-alkyl Suzuki reaction is the synthesis of unsymmetrical ketones by means of the palladium-catalyzed reaction of alkyl boranes and vinyl or alkyl halides under a carbon monoxide atmosphere.^[31, 32] The synthesis of α,β -unsaturated ketones by means of the carbonylative cross-coupling reaction of alkyl boranes and vinyl iodides proceeded smoothly in benzene or dioxane under a carbon monoxide atmosphere (1–3 atm), when K_3PO_4 was used as the base and either $[Pd(PPh_3)_4]$ or $[PdCl_2(PPh_3)_2]$ as the catalyst (Table 12).^[32] Iodobenzene and benzyl bromide are also feasible partners in the carbonylative coupling with 9-octyl-9-BBN (82 and 72 % yields, respectively, not shown).

Alkyl iodides are viable substrates for the carbonylative Suzuki coupling reaction with alkyl boranes (Table 13).^[31] These reactions were efficiently conducted in the presence of K_3PO_4 and substoichiometric amounts of $[Pd(PPh_3)_4]$ in dioxane under a carbon monoxide atmosphere. The reaction is greatly accelerated by visible light (100-W tungsten lamp), which suggests that a radical process may be involved in the oxidative addition. Generally, cross-couplings of alkyl halides that have a hydrogen atom in the β position often suffer from competitive side reactions such as β -hydride elimination, thus leading to alkenes or to the isomerization of alkyl groups. However, the carbonylative couplings do not suffer from these problems, probably because the CO insertion is very fast.

6.6. C(sp³)–C(sp³) Cross-Coupling Reactions

Alkyl halides are not common substrates for the Suzuki reaction as a result of their slow rate of oxidative addition and their fast β -hydride elimination from the derived σ -alkylpalladium intermediate. However, Ishiyama and co-workers found that iodoalkanes react with alkyl boranes in the presence of K_3PO_4 and catalytic amounts of $[Pd(PPh_3)_4]$ in dioxane to generate the corresponding coupled adducts in moderate to

Table 12. Carbonylative cross-coupling with alkyl boranes.

Entry	Vinyl iodide	Alkene	Product	Yield [%]
1				99 ^[a]
2				78 ^[b]
3				68 ^[b]
4				53 ^[b]
5				90 ^[c]
6				48 ^[a]
7				77 ^[a]

[a] Reactions conditions: 1) The alkene (1.1 equiv) was treated with 9-BBN-H (1.1 equiv) in THF, 0 °C → RT; 2) benzene, iodoalkene (1 equiv), K_3PO_4 (3 equiv), and $[Pd(PPh_3)_4]$ (5 mol %) were added, and the reaction was conducted under CO (1 atm). [b] Same conditions as above except in dioxane under CO (3 atm).

Table 13. Carbonylative cross-coupling reaction of 9-alkyl-9-BBN with alkyl iodides.^[a]

Entry	Alkyl iodide	Alkene	Product	Yield [%]
1	$C_6H_{13}I$	1-octene	$C_6H_{13}C(O)C_8H_{17}$	67
2		1-octene		65
3	$tBuCH_2I$	1-octene	$tBuCH_2C(O)C_8H_{17}$	69
4		4-allylveratrole		73
5				65
6	$MeO_2C(CH_2)_3I$	$CH_2=CH(CH_2)_8CN$	$MeO_2C(CH_2)_3C(O)(CH_2)_{10}CN$	65
7	MeI			50

[a] Reaction conditions: 1) the alkene (1 equiv) in THF was treated with 9-BBN-H (1.05 equiv); 2) the borane was added to a solution of iodoalkene (1.5 equiv), CO (1 atm), $[Pd(PPh_3)_4]$ (3 mol %), and K_3PO_4 (3 equiv) in benzene, and the solution was irradiated with a 100-W tungsten lamp for 24 h.

good yields (45–71 %, Table 14). They noted that $[PdCl_2(dppf)]$ did not act as an efficient catalyst in these reactions. Also, this reaction was not enhanced by light.

Table 16. Suzuki coupling of amino acid synthons (2).^[a]

Entry	Substrate	Product	Yield [%]
1			89
2			81 ^[b]
3			80
4			81 ^[b]
5			73 ^[b]
6			68 ^[b]
7			66

[a] 1) 9-BBN-H, toluene, 80 °C; 2) NaOH (3.2N), [Pd(PPh₃)₄] (3 mol %), 99 °C. [b] The product mixture was subsequently treated with *p*-toluenesulfonic acid in MeOH.

ki-Miyaura reaction, starting from benzyl vinyl carbamate **64** (Scheme 7).^[68] Vinyl carbamate **64**, in turn, was prepared by means of a Curtius rearrangement of acryloyl chloride. Hydroboration of **64** (1.1–1.5 equiv) with 9-BBN-H in THF followed by cross-coupling with the aryl or vinyl halide/triflate component (1 equiv) in the presence of a substoichiometric amount of [PdCl₂(dppf)] and excess aqueous NaOH (3M)

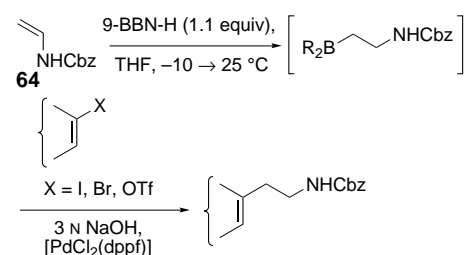

 Scheme 7. β -Aminoethylation starting from benzyl vinyl carbamate precursors.

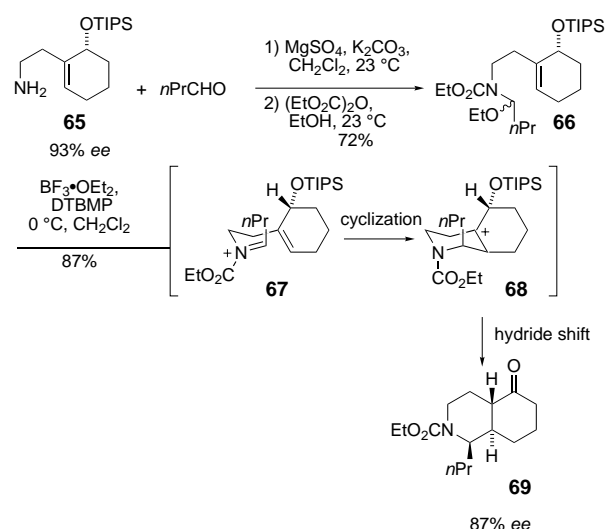
 Table 17. Aminoethylation of arenes and alkenes.^[a]

Entry	Substrate	Product	Yield [%]
1			87
2			80
3			94
4			88
5			97
6			94
7			77

[a] The coupling reactions were conducted in THF at 25 °C with the borane (1.1–1.5 equiv), the vinyl or aryl halide/triflate (1 equiv), and [PdCl₂(dppf)] (9–15 mol %) for 1–24 h. The borane residues were then oxidized by treatment of the reaction mixtures with buffered aqueous H₂O₂ (30 %).

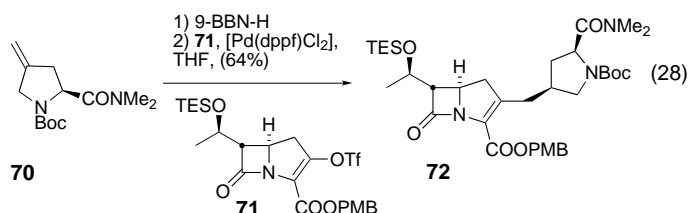
produced a variety of homoallylic amines in excellent yields (77–97 %, Table 17).

The products obtained by using this method have been used in the synthesis of decahydroisoquinoline rings, which are structural components of isoquinoline alkaloids.^[69] Condensation of the primary amine **65** with *n*-butanal under Lewis acid catalysis and ethylation/ethoxycarbonylation of the resulting imine was followed by a pinacol rearrangement. The subsequent hydride migration generated the *trans*-decahydroquinoline **69** (87 % *ee*) with an axial substituent at C1 (Scheme 8).


 Scheme 8. Synthesis of *trans*-hydroquinolines by Overman and co-workers.

9. Carbapenemes

Narukawa et al. have demonstrated the use of the *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura coupling for the preparation of highly functionalized carbapenem antibiotics.^[70] In one example, a stereoselective hydroboration of proline derivative **70** set the stage for a coupling with enol triflate **71** to afford **72** [Eq. (28)]. Other functionalized alkenes have also been employed. The hydroboration step generates a secondary stereocenter in this case.



10. (4-Arylmethyl)piperidines

An interesting study of the *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura coupling for the synthesis of 4-arylmethyl piperidines was performed by Vice et al. at Schering-Plough Research Institute en route to pharmacologically active compounds.^[71] Many functional groups are tolerated under the reaction conditions (Table 18).

11. Application of the *B*-Alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura Reaction in the Total Syntheses of Natural Products

The *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura reaction has proven to be of considerable value in natural product syntheses, especially in the coupling reactions of complex fragments. This review will conclude with a comprehensive summary of such synthetic applications and covers the timespan 1990–2001. The synthetic applications are organized according to the sp^2 -hybridized coupling partner: aryl or vinyl halides, triflates, and finally, enol phosphates.

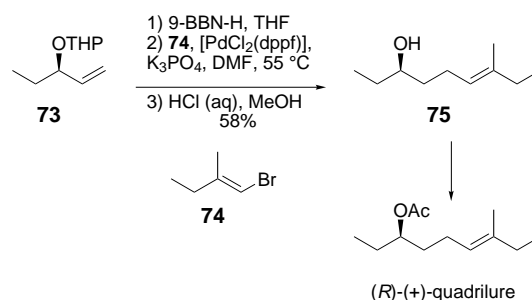
11.1. (*R*)-(+)-Quadrilure

Mori and Puapoomchareon reported the first application of the *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura coupling reaction to the synthesis of (*R*)-(+)-quadrilure in 1990.^[72] (*R*)-(+)-Quadrilure is an aggregation pheromone produced by the square-necked grain beetle. Hydroboration of the olefin moiety of intermediate **73** with 9-BBN-H, followed by Pd^0 -mediated coupling with vinyl bromide **74** and subsequent removal of the THP protecting group afforded alcohol **75** in 58% yield. Acetylation of alcohol **75** provided the natural product (Scheme 9).

Table 18. (4-Arylmethyl)piperidines through Suzuki–Miyaura coupling.^[a]

Entry	ArX	Product	Yield [%]
1			98
2			82
3			60
4			88
5			87
6			77
7			80
8			72

[a] All reactions were run as follows: The unsaturated piperidine (1 equiv) was treated with 9-BBN-H (1 equiv) in THF and heated at reflux for 1 h. The resulting borane was added to a mixture of the aryl halide (0.91 equiv), $[PdCl_2(dppf)]$ (3 mol %), and K_2CO_3 (3 equiv) in DMF, and the mixture was heated at 60 °C for 3 h.

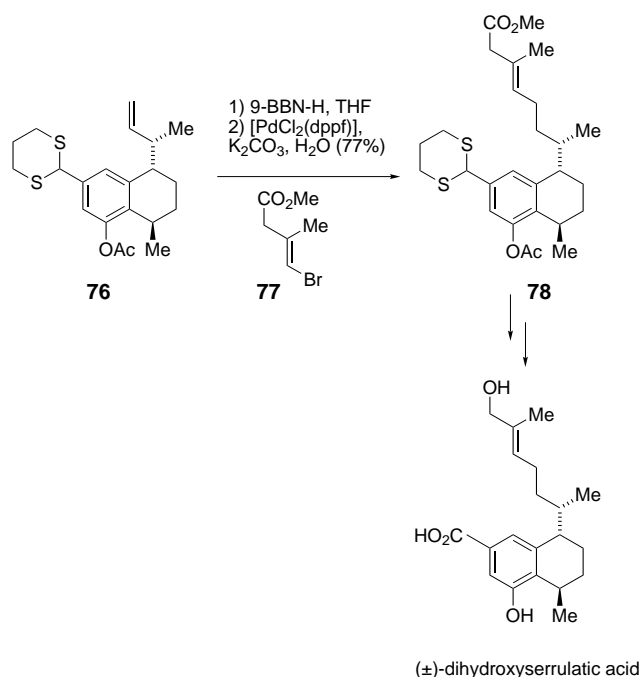


Scheme 9. Mori and co-workers were the first to demonstrate the utility of the *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura reaction in natural product synthesis.

11.2. (\pm)-Dihydroxyserrulic Acid

Also in 1990, Uemura and co-workers used the *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura cross-coupling reaction as a key step in the synthesis of (\pm)-dihydroxyserrulic acid,^[73, 74] which is a member of the serrulatane class of diterpenoids. The diterpenoids are known for their potent anti-inflammatory and analgesic properties. Hydroboration of the advanced intermediate **76** with 9-BBN-H, followed by cross-coupling with

(*E*)-methyl β -bromomethacrylate (**77**) in the presence of $[\text{PdCl}_2(\text{dppf})]$, K_2CO_3 , and H_2O afforded **78** in 77% yield (Scheme 10). Subsequent functional group manipulations transformed intermediate **78** into the natural product.



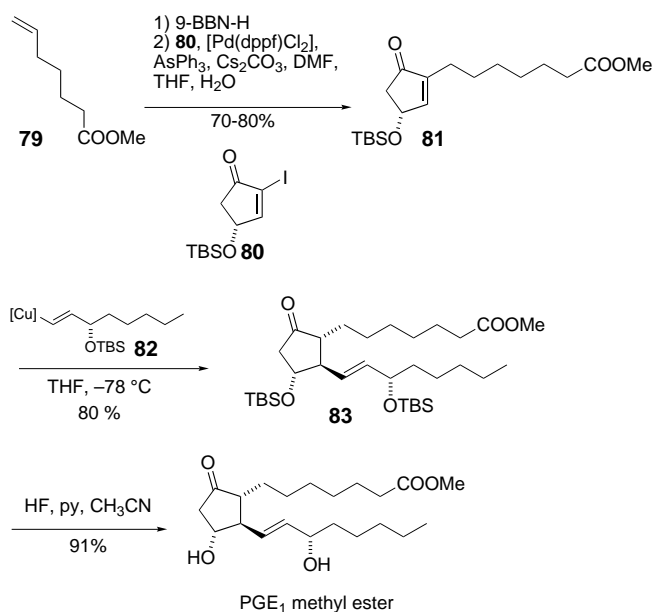
Scheme 10. Synthesis of (±)-dihydroxyserrulatic acid (Uemura and co-workers).

11.3. Prostaglandin E_1

The *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura cross-coupling was incorporated into a new variant of the three-component synthesis of prostaglandins by Johnson and co-workers in 1993. They used very mild conditions ($[\text{PdCl}_2(\text{dppf})]$, AsPh_3 , Cs_2CO_3 , $\text{DMF}/\text{H}_2\text{O}$) to effect a highly efficient coupling of vinyl iodide **80** with the alkyl borane derived from olefin **79** (Scheme 11).^[65] Subsequent stereoselective conjugate addition of cuprate **82** to enone **81** afforded **83**, which was then converted into prostaglandin E_1 . The Johnson protocols for the Suzuki–Miyaura reaction were used in the majority of later applications of this reaction in the synthesis of natural products.

11.4. Aza-*C*-disaccharides

In 1994, Johnson and co-workers reported the synthesis of an aza-*C*-disaccharide **88**, a potential glycosidase inhibitor, by means of the *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura method.^[75] This class of sugar mimetics, in which the oxygen atom of the glycoside is replaced by a methylene unit, could potentially preserve the binding properties of the parent azasugar, but be more inert to acidic or

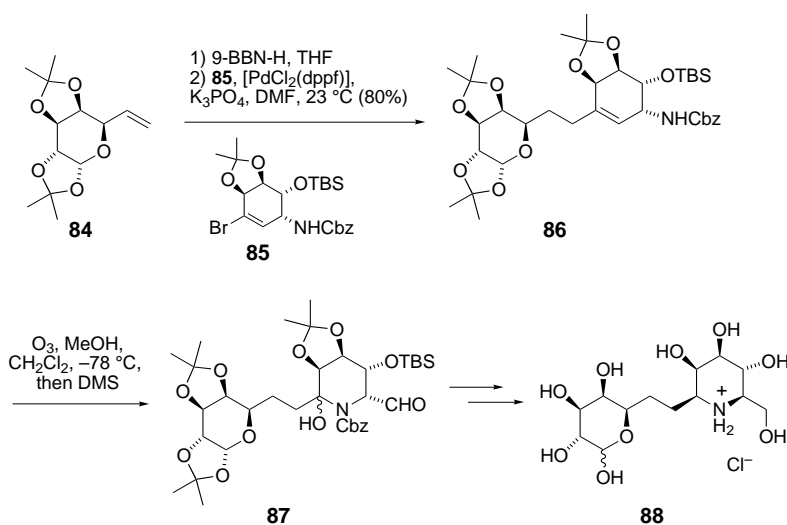


Scheme 11. Mild cross-coupling conditions were used in the synthesis of PGE₁ methyl ester by Johnson and co-workers.

enzymatic hydrolysis. The key disaccharide coupling step involved the alkyl borane derived from olefin **84** (obtained in several steps from D-galactose) and vinyl bromide **85**. Oxidative cleavage of the resulting olefin by means of ozonolysis, followed by reduction and deprotection, afforded the desired mimetic **88** (Scheme 12).

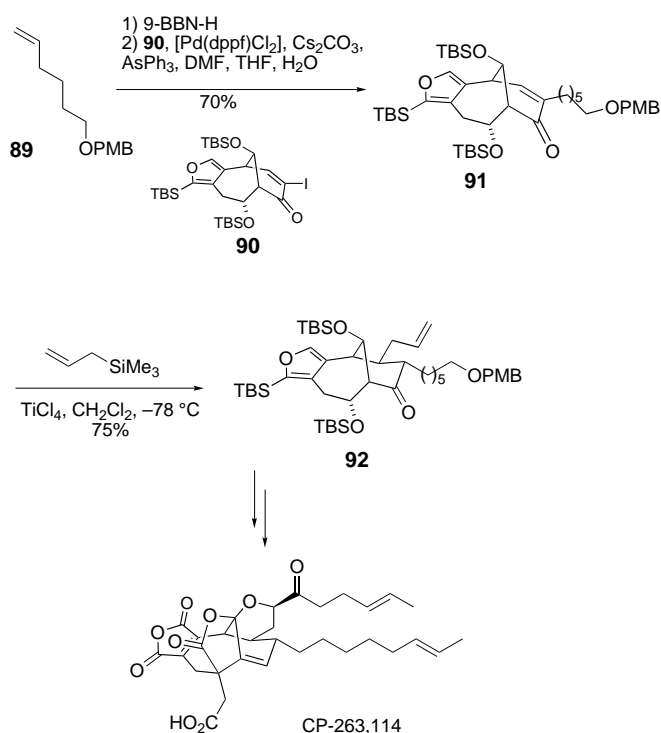
11.5. CP-263,114

Danishefsky and co-workers employed a sequence similar to the Johnson prostaglandin work in the synthesis of CP-263,114, which is a structurally unique fungal metabolite that inhibits squalene synthase and farnesyl transferase.^[76, 77] Coupling of iodo-enone **90** with the borane derived from



Scheme 12. Synthesis of aza-*C*-disaccharides by Johnson and co-workers.

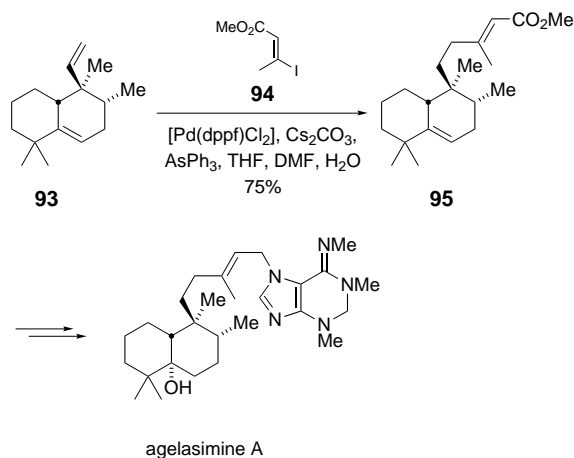
alkene **89** afforded enone **91**. A Sakurai-type conjugate addition then introduced a handle for the second side chain and installed the desired *trans* relative stereochemistry of the side chains. The resulting intermediate **92** was subsequently converted into CP-263,114 (Scheme 13).



Scheme 13. Synthesis of CP-263,114 (Danishefsky and co-workers).

11.6. Agelasimine A

The *B*-alkyl Suzuki coupling served as a key step in the synthesis of the marine diterpenoid agelasimines A by Ohba et al.^[78] A key step involved the elongation of the vinyl side chain in compound **93** (Scheme 14). Although the hydroboration of the neopentyl vinyl group with 9-BBN-H required harsh conditions (THF, reflux, 2 h), it proceeded with a high

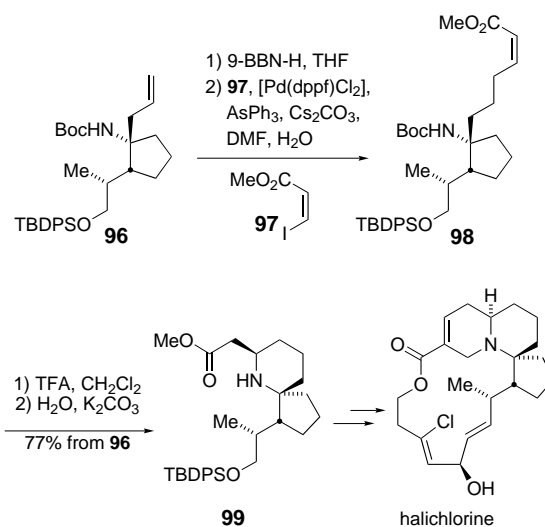


Scheme 14. Synthesis of agelasimine A (Ohba and co-workers).

degree of chemoselectivity with respect to the even more hindered trisubstituted double bond. Subsequent palladium-catalyzed cross-coupling with (*E*)-iodoalkenoate **94** then gave α,β -unsaturated ester **95**, which was transformed into agelasimine A in a series of straightforward steps.

11.7. (+)-Halichlorine

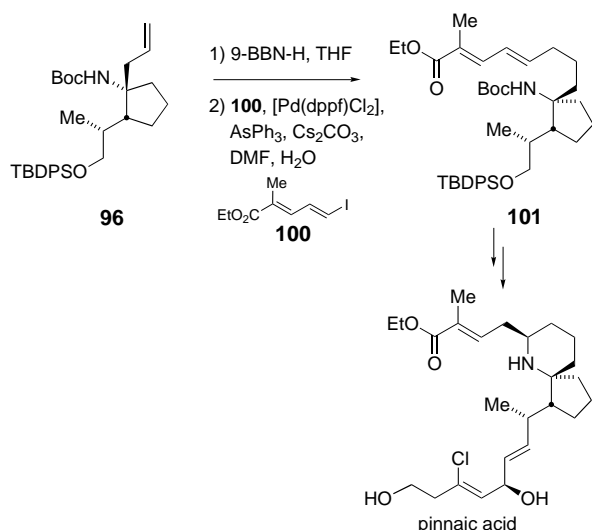
The elongation of an unsaturated side chain by *B*-alkyl Suzuki coupling set the stage for a key step in a synthesis of the marine alkaloid (+)-halichlorine by Danishefsky and Trauner.^[79, 80] Contrary to the case in the synthesis of agelasimine A (Section 11.6), the alkene delivered by the vinyl iodide partner was not retained but served as an acceptor in a subsequent conjugate addition. Hydroboration of the protected amino alkene **96**, followed by palladium-mediated Suzuki-coupling with methyl (*Z*)-3-iodoacrylate (**97**), afforded α,β -unsaturated ester **98** (Scheme 15). Upon deprotection of the amino function with TFA and subsequent basification, **98** underwent a highly stereoselective intramolecular 1,4-addition to afford piperidine **99** as the only isolated isomer. Intermediate **99** was subsequently converted into the VCAM-1 inhibitor (+)-halichlorine in eight steps (VCAM = Vascular Cell Adhesion Molecule).



Scheme 15. Synthesis of halichlorine (Danishefsky and co-workers).

11.8. Pinnaic Acid

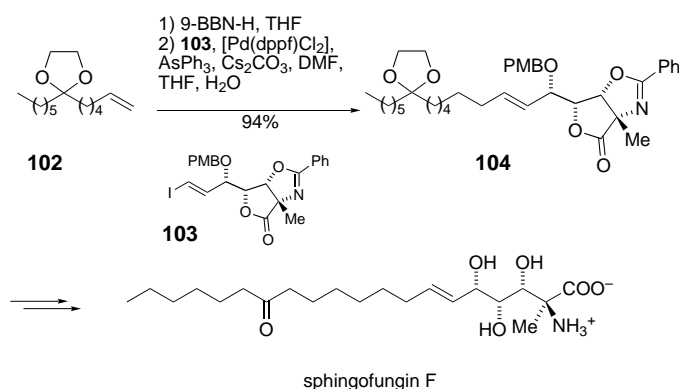
The strategy described in Section 11.7 was expanded further in a synthesis of the related marine natural product pinnaic acid, an inhibitor of cytosolic phospholipase A₂.^[81] Hydroboration of **96** followed by coupling with iododienoic ester **100** afforded compound **101** in excellent yield. This intermediate was subsequently converted into pinnaic acid (Scheme 16).



Scheme 16. Synthesis of pinnaic acid (Danishefsky and co-workers).

11.9. Sphingofungin F

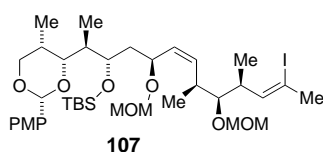
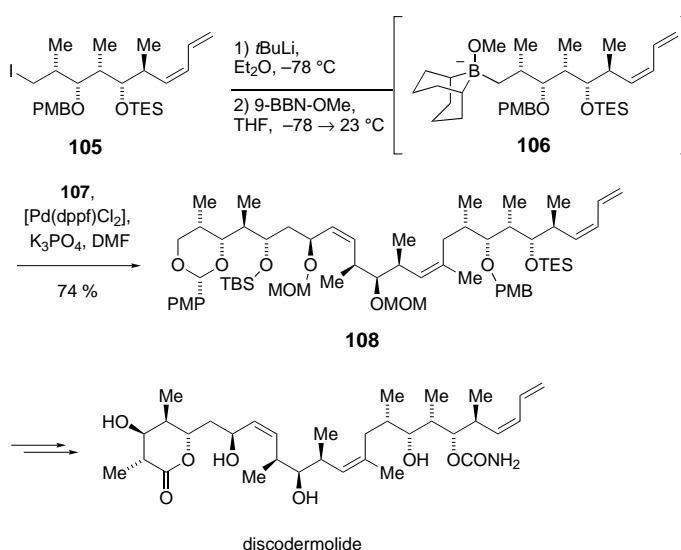
Trost and Lee used the *B*-alkyl Suzuki coupling in a synthesis of the serin palmitoyl transferase inhibitor sphingofungin F.^[82] Hydroboration of the terminal alkene **102** and cross-coupling with the densely functionalized (*E*)-iodoalkene **103** gave **104**. Global deprotection of this intermediate then yielded the natural product (Scheme 17). A synthesis of sphingofungin E that uses a similar Suzuki–Miyaura cross-coupling sequence was subsequently reported by Nakamura and Shiozaki.^[83]



Scheme 17. Synthesis of sphingofungin F (Trost and co-workers).

11.10. Discodermolide

An alternative version of the *B*-alkyl Suzuki coupling was used by Marshall and Johns in an elegant synthesis of the immunosuppressant discodermolide.^[22] Lithiation of primary iodide **105**, followed by addition of 9-methoxy-BBN gave the intermediate borate **106**, which was coupled with the trisubstituted iodoalkene **107** in high yield (Scheme 18). An alternative synthesis of the alkyl borane by means of hydroboration of the corresponding 1,1-disubstituted alkene would

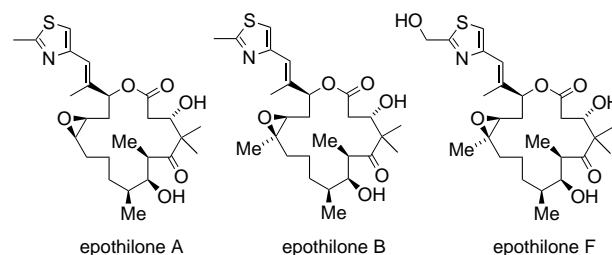


Scheme 18. Synthesis of discodermolide with an alkyl borate derived from a primary iodide (Marshall and co-workers).

not have been compatible with the (*Z,E*)-diene functionality in **105**. This efficient coupling enabled a highly convergent synthesis of discodermolide.

11.11. Epothilones

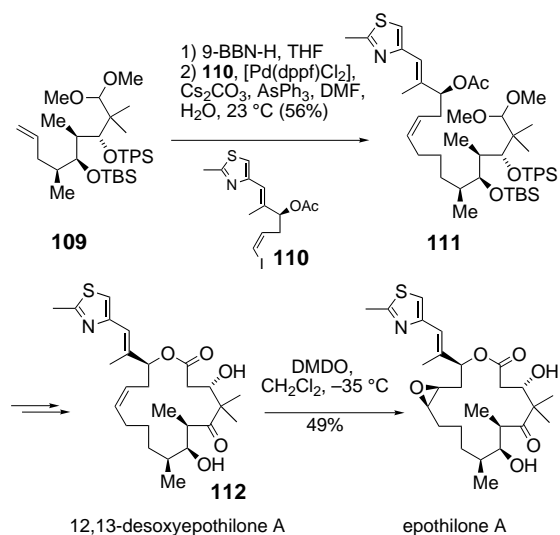
B-alkyl Suzuki coupling reactions were used extensively by Danishefsky and co-workers in the syntheses of the anticancer agents epothilone A, B, and F.^[84–88]



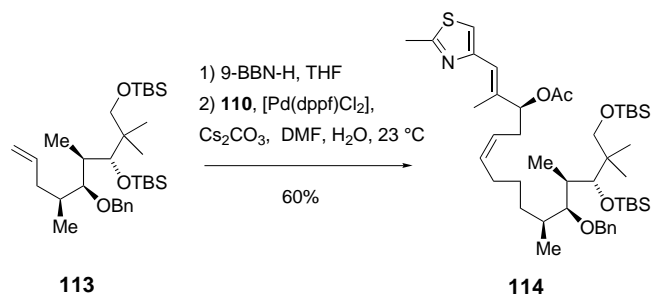
During an early approach to epothilone A, vinyl iodide **110** was coupled with an organoborane derived from alkene **109**. The product **111** was converted into 12,13-desoxyepothilone A by using an intramolecular aldol addition. Chemo- and stereoselective epoxidation then gave epothilone A (Scheme 19).

A closely related reaction was used by Zhu and Panek in the synthesis of epothilone A (Scheme 20).^[89]

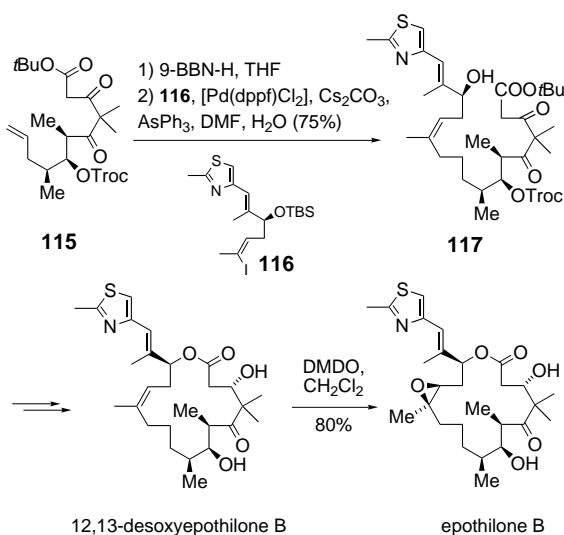
In later syntheses of the epothilones by Danishefsky and co-workers, this chemistry was extended to more elaborate and sensitive substrates (Scheme 21). Hydroboration of **115** and



Scheme 19. An early synthesis of epothilone A (Danishefsky and co-workers).



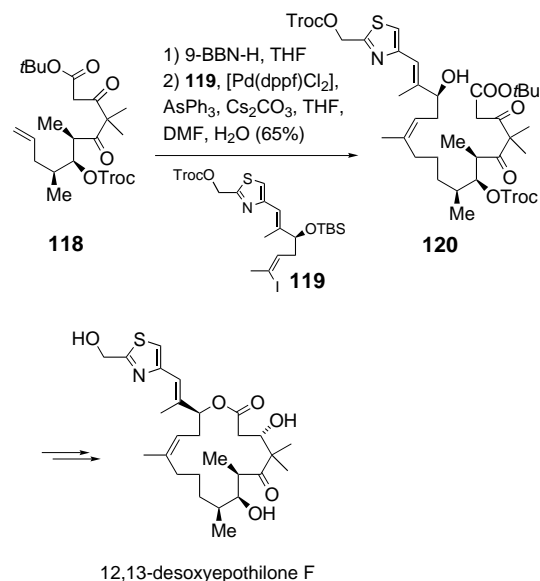
Scheme 20. Panek and co-workers used a similar method in their synthesis of epothilone A.



Scheme 21. Synthesis of epothilone B (Danishefsky and co-workers).

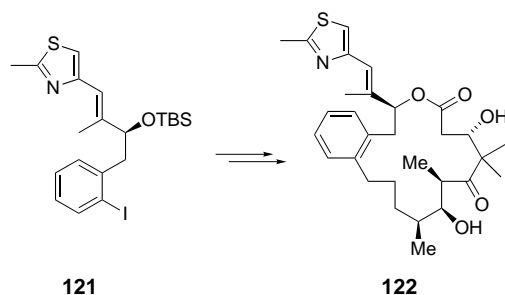
coupling with **116**, followed by treatment of the crude product with dilute hydrochloric acid afforded **117**. The two carbonyl groups and the ester functionality remain unaffected under these conditions. Stereoselective reduction of the β -ketone (relative to the ester moiety), macrolactonization, and subsequent deprotection gave 12,13-desoxyepothilone B,

whose selective epoxidation finally afforded epothilone B. A similar sequence was later used in the synthesis of epothilone F (Scheme 22).^[90]

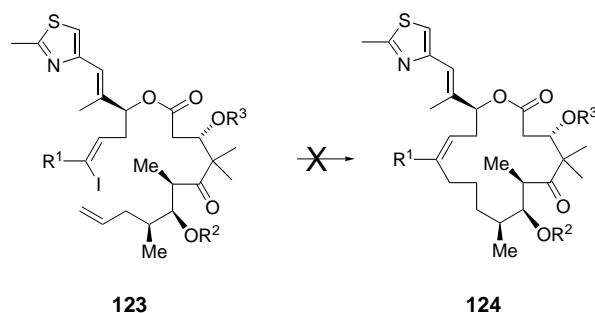


Scheme 22. Synthesis of 12,13-desoxyepothilone F (Danishefsky and co-workers).

Aryl iodides were successfully used in related coupling reactions. Compound **121** was converted into epothilone derivative **122** by using the same overall strategy (Scheme 23).^[84] Unfortunately, several attempts to effect Suzuki-macrocyclizations in this context (e.g. **123** → **124**) have thus far been unsuccessful (Scheme 24).



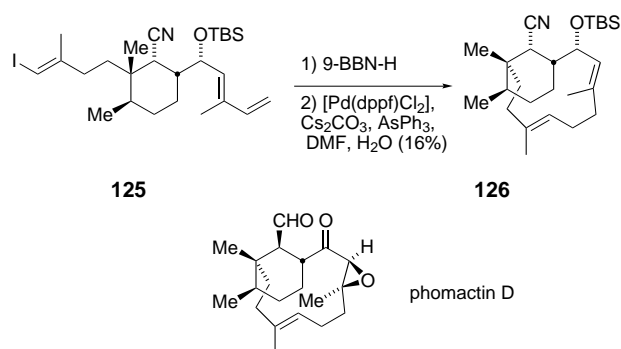
Scheme 23. Synthesis of an epothilone analogue.



Scheme 24. Macrocyclization by means of a *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura coupling failed in the synthesis of epothilones.

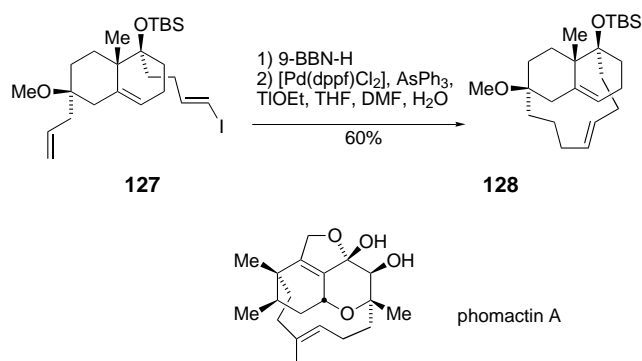
11.12. Phomactin D

The application of a ring-closing intramolecular *B*-alkyl Suzuki couplings in natural product synthesis was recently described by the Halcomb group.^[91] Regioselective hydroboration of the diene moiety in **125** followed by intramolecular cross-coupling afforded the bicyclic product **126**. A highly strained 12-membered ring is formed in the process (Scheme 25). Compound **126** is a possible intermediate en route to phomactin D, which is an antagonist of platelet activating factor (PAF).



Scheme 25. Halcomb and co-workers used a *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura macrocyclization in their work towards the synthesis of phomactin D.

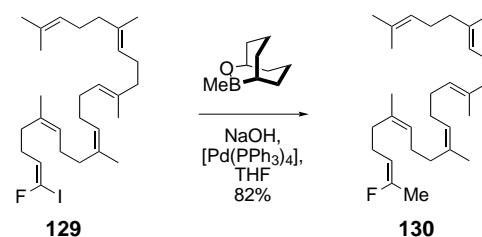
Simultaneously, a related model study was undertaken by Danishefsky's group to assess whether this chemistry is suitable for the synthesis of the related natural product phomactin A (**127** → **128**, Scheme 26).^[45]



Scheme 26. Danishefsky and co-workers used a transannular *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura coupling in their work towards the synthesis of phomactin A.

11.13. Squalene Epoxidase Inhibitor

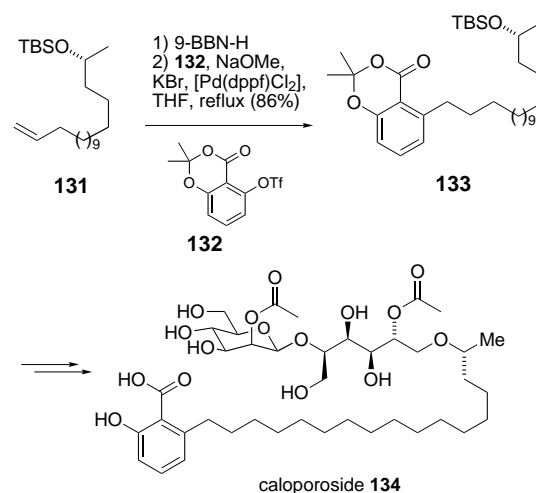
As a final example of the Suzuki–Miyaura coupling reactions between alkyl boranes and vinyl halides, Moore et al. demonstrated that vinyl iodide **129**, which has a geminal fluoride substituent, couples with methyl-OBBD to generate the squalene epoxidase inhibitor **130** in good yield (Scheme 27).^[92]



Scheme 27. Moore and co-workers used methyl-OBBD to complete the synthesis of a squalene epoxidase inhibitor.

11.14. Caloporside

Fürstner and Konetzki used the *B*-alkyl Suzuki coupling in a synthesis of the phospholipase C inhibitor caloporside (**134**).^[93] The (16*R*)-hydroxyheptadecylsalicylic acid part of the natural product was efficiently prepared by means of a palladium-catalyzed cross-coupling: aryl triflate **132** was coupled with the 9-BBN derivative of alkene **131**, to give **133** (Scheme 28).



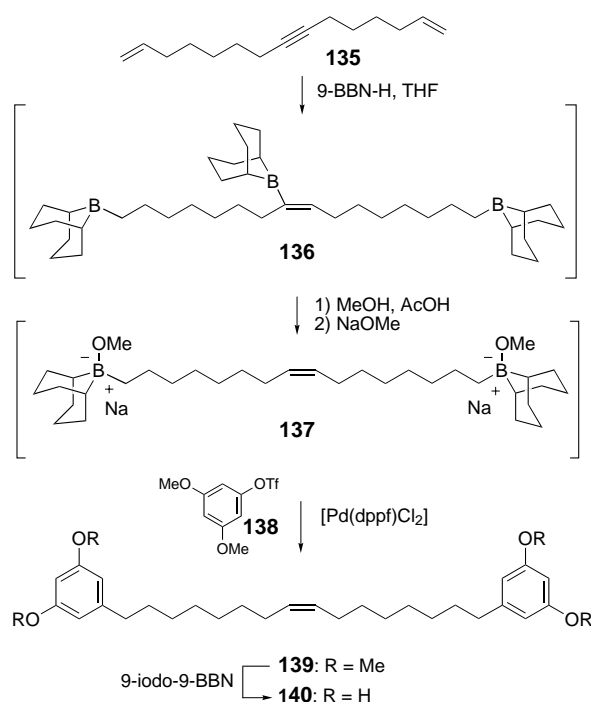
Scheme 28. Synthesis of caloporside (Fürstner and co-workers).

11.15. 5-Alkylresorcinols

Fürstner's group also described very concise syntheses of several biologically active 5-alkylresorcinols.^[94] For example, threefold hydroboration of diyne **135** afforded the trisborane **136** (Scheme 29). Selective hydrolysis of the less stable vinylic boranes as borate complexes to form **137** then set the stage for a twofold Suzuki coupling with 3,5-dimethoxyphenol triflate (**138**). Overall, this stereoselective one-pot transformation yielded aromatic tetra-*O*-methyl ether **139**. Subsequent deprotection afforded bis-resorcinol **140**, a natural product with DNA-cleaving properties.

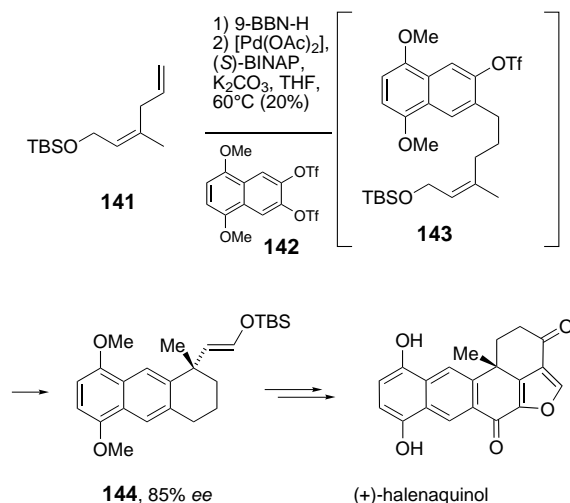
11.16. Halenaquinol

In an elegant synthesis of the bioactive sponge metabolite halenaquinol, Shibasaki and co-workers demonstrated that an



Scheme 29. Fürstner and co-workers used the *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura coupling in the synthesis of a *C*₂-symmetric resorcinol derivative.

intermolecular *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura coupling can be combined with an asymmetric intramolecular Heck-reaction (Scheme 30).^[95] Selective hydroboration of diene **141** followed by Pd-mediated cross-coupling with the symmetrical



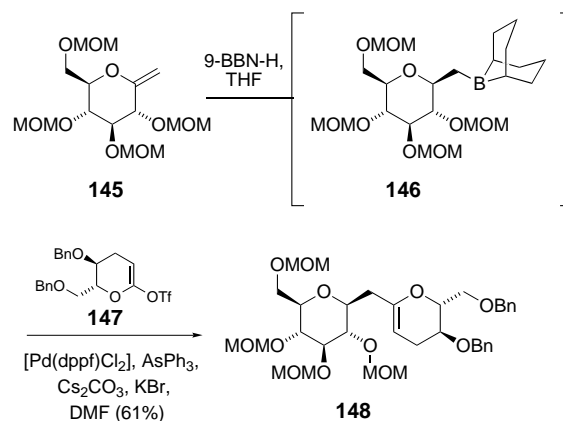
Scheme 30. The first tandem Suzuki–Heck reaction was used by Shibasaki and co-workers in their synthesis of halenaquinol.

aromatic bis-triflate **142** gave intermediate alkene **143**, which immediately underwent cyclization to afford enol ether **144**. In the presence of a chiral phosphane (BINAP), this reaction afforded the cyclization product (85% *ee*). Although the chemical yield is still unsatisfactory, this is the first example of a tandem reaction that involves a Suzuki coupling. Since many

other useful reactions (e.g. allylic alkylations or cycloisomerizations) are catalyzed by Pd⁰, further applications and other combinations can be expected to appear in the literature.

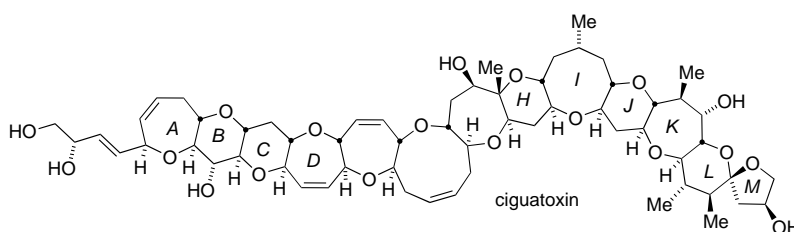
11.17. Ciguatoxin

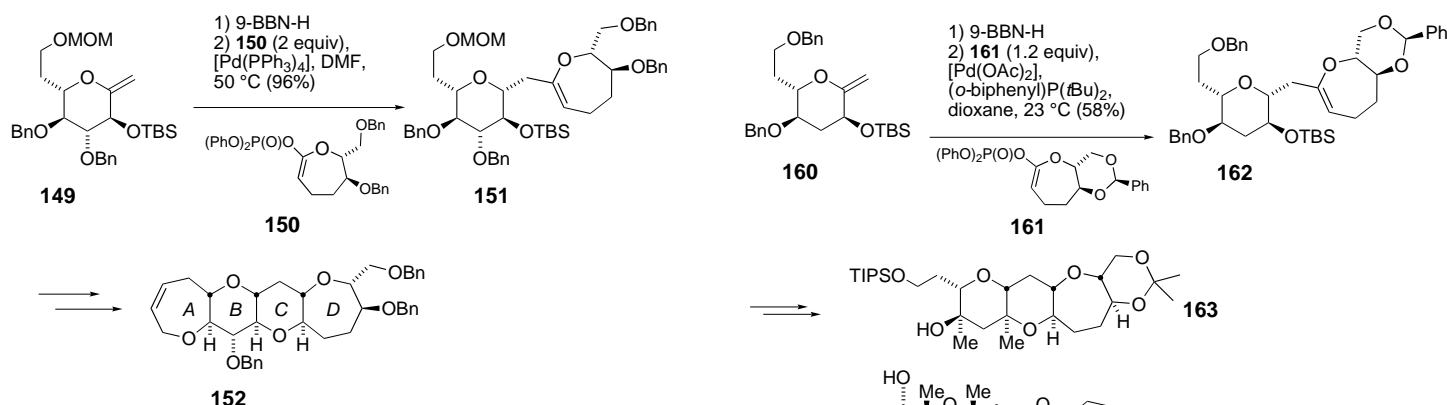
Recently, Sasaki, Tachibana, and co-workers began to apply the *B*-alkyl Suzuki reaction to the synthesis of complex marine polycyclic ethers such as the brevetoxins, ciguatoxin, or gambierol (Schemes 31–33).^[96–99] This work is unusual in several respects. On the one hand, an exocyclic enol ether, typically derived from a sugar, is used as a borane precursor. Its stereoselective hydroboration proceeds *syn* to the α -alkoxy or α -silyloxy group and generates a tertiary stereocenter. On the other hand, cyclic ketene acetal triflates or phosphates serve as coupling partners. Thus, hydroboration of enol ether **145** furnished **146**. This borane was coupled with ketene acetal triflate **147** to afford the endocyclic enol ether **148** (Scheme 31).



Scheme 31. Sasaki and co-workers relied heavily on the *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura coupling for the synthesis of polyether natural products.

A considerable portion of the marine-derived polycyclic ether ciguatoxin has been synthesized by using this chemistry. The method has been extended to the synthesis of seven- and eight-membered rings (Schemes 32 and 33). Rings A–D of this molecule were constructed as shown in Scheme 32. The hydroboration of **149** followed by palladium-mediated coupling with enol phosphate **150** gave compound **151**, which was converted into tetracycle **152** in a few steps. Rings G–M of ciguatoxin were assembled in a similar way (Scheme 33).

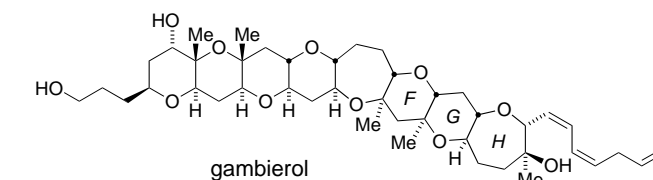




Scheme 32. Synthesis of rings A–D of ciguatoxin (Sasaki and co-workers).

11.18. Gambierol

The application of this general strategy to the synthesis of the marine polyether toxin gambierol is shown in Scheme 34.^[100] Hydroboration of **160** and palladium-catalyzed reaction with the seven-membered cyclic ketene acetal **161** afforded the coupling product **162**. This intermediate was converted into tetracycle **163**, an intermediate of the *F*–*H* portion of gambierol. The Buchwald ligand (*o*-biphenyl)P(*t*Bu)₂ greatly improves the efficiency of the coupling reaction.



Scheme 34. Work towards the synthesis of gambierol.

12. Summary and Outlook

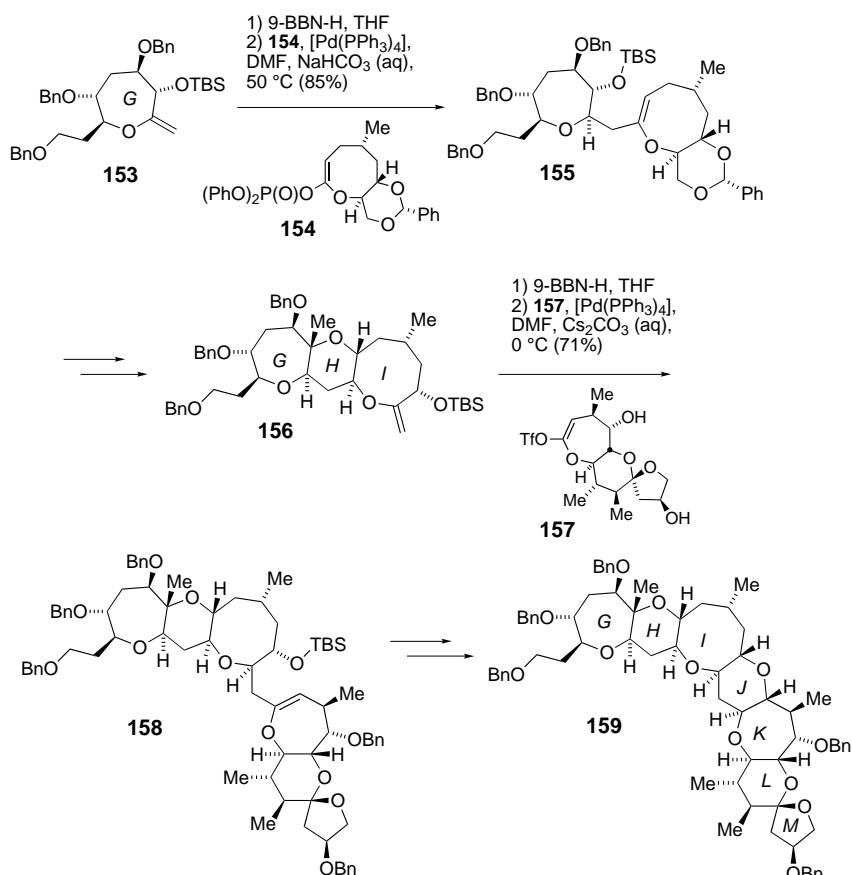
As demonstrated throughout this review, the *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura cross-coupling reaction has proven to be an extraordinarily useful tool for the construction of carbon frameworks. These products may ultimately be converted into useful compounds, including biologically active natural and non-natural products. It is probable that this area will develop

further. Potential developments include the incorporation of reagent-directed asymmetry in the hydroboration reaction, improvement in catalyst-derived asymmetry in the C–C bond-forming step, improvement of coupling yields, and synthetic applications for secondary and even tertiary alkyl boranes.

Note added in proof: Impressive sp³–sp³ *B*-alkyl Suzuki–Miyaura couplings between alkyl boranes and alkyl bromides were published by Fu and co-workers shortly after this review was prepared.^[101]

Abbreviations

9-BBN-H	9-borabicyclo[3.3.1]nonane
BINAP	2,2'-bis(diphenylphosphanyl)-1,1'-binaphthyl
Bn	benzyl
Boc	<i>tert</i> -butoxycarbonyl
Bz	benzoyl
Cbz	carbobenzoyl (benzyloxycarbonyl)
Cp	cyclopentadienyl
dba	dibenzylideneacetone
DMDO	dimethyldioxirane
DMS	dimethyl sulfide
dppe	bis(diphenylphosphanyl)ethane
dppf	bis(diphenylphosphanyl)ferrocene



Scheme 33. Synthesis of rings G–M of ciguatoxin (Sasaki and co-workers).

DTBMP	2,6-di- <i>tert</i> -butyl-4-methylpyridine
Hx	hexyl
MOM	methoxymethyl
OBBD	9-oxa-10-borabicyclo[3.3.2]decane
PMB	<i>p</i> -methoxybenzyl
PMP	<i>p</i> -methoxyphenyl
py	pyridine
TBDPS	<i>tert</i> -butyldiphenylsilyl
TBS	<i>tert</i> -butyldimethylsilyl
TES	triethylsilyl
Tf	trifluoromethanesulfonyl
TFA	trifluoro acetic acid
THP	tetrahydropyranyl
TIPS	triisopropylsilyl
TPS	triphenylsilyl
Troc	trichloroethoxycarbonyl

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