

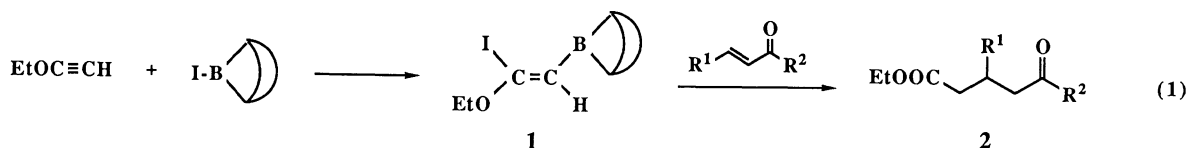
The Michael-type Reaction of B-Iodo-9-BBN/Ethoxyethyne Adduct to  $\alpha, \beta$ -Unsaturated Ketones. A Selective Synthesis of  $\delta$ -Keto Esters<sup>1)</sup>

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The adduct formed from B-iodo-9-borabicyclo[3.3.1]nonane and ethoxyethyne reacts with  $\alpha, \beta$ -unsaturated ketones under mild conditions to give  $\delta$ -keto esters in excellent yields selectively.

Recently we have reported that B-iodo-9-borabicyclo[3.3.1]nonane (B-I-9-BBN)/ethoxyethyne adduct (**1**) reacts with aldehydes under mild conditions to provide (E)- $\alpha, \beta$ -unsaturated esters, after the protic work up.<sup>2)</sup> That reaction showed the high chemoselectivity, and other carbonyl compounds such as ketones, esters, acid chlorides, and amides did not react with **1**. During the course of the study, we have found that the reaction of **1** with  $\alpha, \beta$ -unsaturated ketones via a Michael-type addition proceeds smoothly to give  $\delta$ -keto esters (**2**) in good yields (Eq. 1).



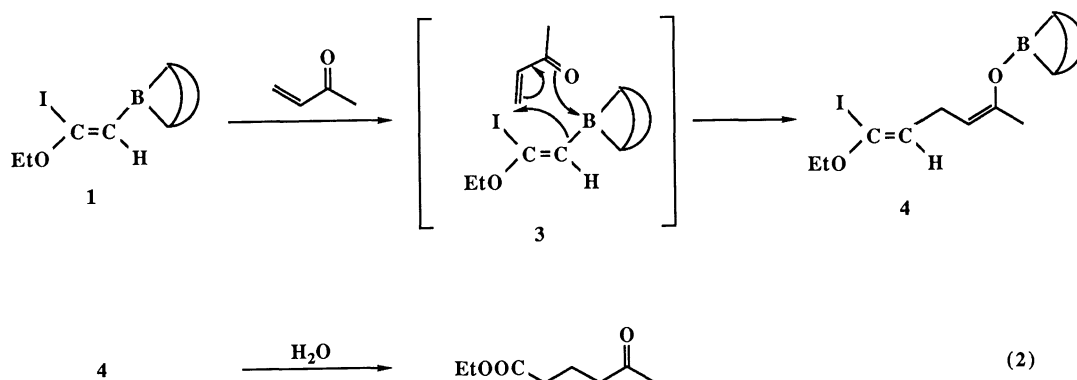
The Michael reaction of carboxylic acid esters to  $\alpha, \beta$ -unsaturated ketones is useful as one of carbon-carbon bond formation reaction. However, in the reaction of ester carbanions with enones, the 1,2-addition occurs competitively.<sup>3)</sup> Though the Lewis acid catalyzed reaction of ketene silyl acetals with enones was revealed to be effective to obtain Michael addition products selectively,<sup>4)</sup> acid sensitive ketones such as methyl vinyl ketone, gave poor results. On the other hand, the present reagent does not react with ketones via 1,2-addition, and the reaction is carried out under very mild conditions. Consequently, the Michael reaction products thus prepared are never contaminated with 1,2-addition products, and even in the case of methyl vinyl ketone, which polymerizes readily under acidic conditions, the reaction gives the expected

product in a high yield.<sup>5)</sup>

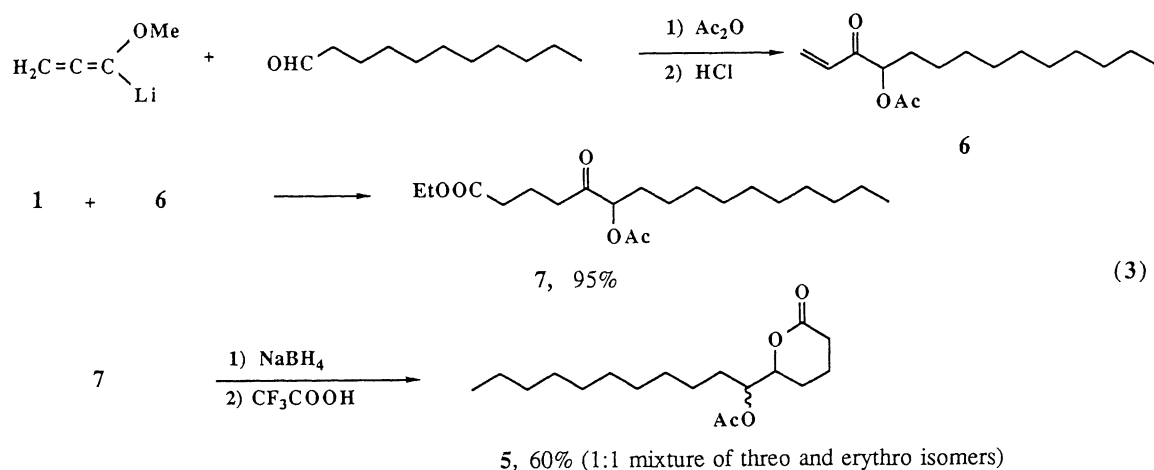
The following procedure for the synthesis of ethyl 5-oxohexanoate is representative. To a pentane solution (5 mL) of B-I-9-BBN (0.372 g, 1.5 mmol) was added ethoxyethyne (0.105 g, 1.5 mmol) at -78 °C. After stirring at -78 °C for 1 h, methyl vinyl ketone (0.07 g, 1 mmol) was added. The reaction mixture was stirred at -78 °C for 30 min and then at room temperature for 1 h. Finally, 1 mL of ethanol and 2 mL of H<sub>2</sub>O were added and the mixture was stirred at room temperature for another 1 h. The product was extracted with ether and purified by preparative tlc (silica gel/dichloromethane). Ethyl 5-oxohexanoate was isolated in 93% yield (137 mg). The representative results for the preparation of  $\delta$ -keto esters are shown in Table 1.


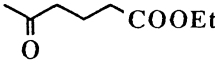
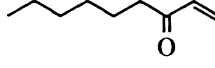
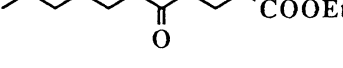
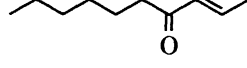
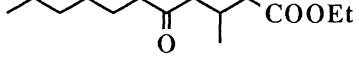
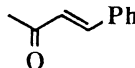
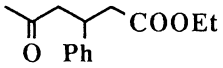
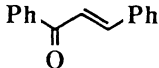
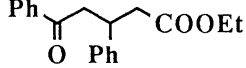
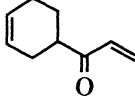
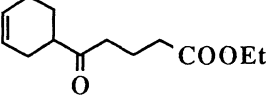
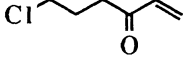
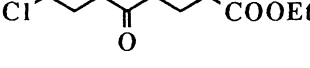
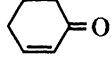
The Michael products were obtained in good yields from a variety of acyclic enones. However, cyclic enones such as 2-cyclohexenone never provided the corresponding products in the reaction with 1.

The reaction seems to proceed through the following pathway: 1) B-I-9-BBN adds to ethoxyethyne to give the adduct (1).<sup>7)</sup> 2) The adduct (1) reacts with methyl vinyl ketone via the cyclic transition state (3)<sup>9)</sup> to yield the intermediate (4). 3) The subsequent treatment with ethanol and water affords the keto ester. Since cyclohexenone is not able to have s-cis conformation, it can not react with 1 through the cyclic transition state.



Finally, in order to demonstrate the utility of this method, we attempted to synthesize 6-acetoxy-5-hexadecanolide (5), the major component of a mosquito oviposition attractant pheromone.<sup>10)</sup> The starting enone (6) was prepared from methoxy allene and undecanal in one-pot.<sup>11)</sup> The acetoxy enone (6) thus obtained, reacted with 1 selectively to give the acetoxy keto ester (7) in 95% yield. The desired pheromone (5) was synthesized from 7, by the reduction with sodium borohydride, followed by lactonization (Eq. 3).<sup>12)</sup>

Table 1. Synthesis of  $\delta$ -Ketoesters

Enone	Product	Yield/% <sup>a)</sup>
		93
		90
		73
		75
		84
		74
		95
		no reaction

a) Isolated yield based on the ketone used.

## References

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- 12) The product (**5**) was identified by the direct comparison of the authentic sample prepared by the known procedure.<sup>10g)</sup>

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