Ni-Catalyzed Alkyne Cycloaddition to Give Boronic Esters

**Significance:** A new nickel-catalyzed benzannulation of cyclobutenones with alkynylboronates to yield aromatic boronic esters has been disclosed. Furthermore, a one-pot cycloaddition–coupling protocol has been developed, whereby the nickel catalyst performs firstly the benzannulation and afterwards the cross-coupling.

**Comment:** Alkynylboronates bearing sp³-based substituents show high selectivity for isomer A, whereas those bearing sp²-based substituents mainly favor isomer B.