

PB&J: Phosphorus and Boron at the Junction of Two π -Systems

Category

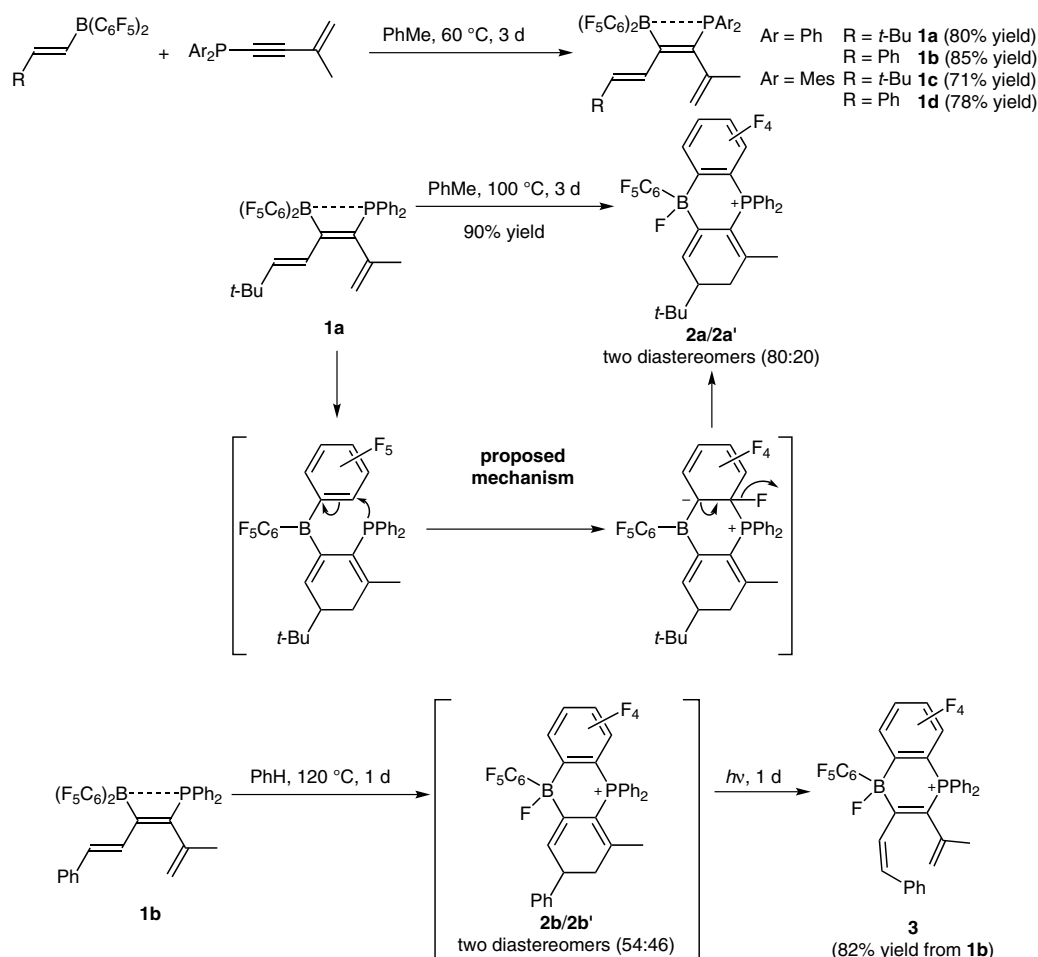
Synthesis of
Materials and
Unnatural Products

Key words

electrocyclization

ring closure

ring opening



Significance: The 1,1-alkenylboration of alkynes is an unique route to large conjugated π -systems. Erker and co-workers demonstrate that the 1,1-alkenylboration of diarylphosphino-enynes proceeds similarly to give hexatrienes **1**. Upon thermolysis, two concurrent transformations occur: 6π -electrocyclic ring closure of the hexatriene moiety and nucleophilic aromatic substitution ($\text{S}_{\text{N}}\text{Ar}$) of a pentafluorophenyl group by the phosphine nucleophile to yield heterotricyclic products **2**.

Comment: These reactions are a convenient synthetic route to new molecules containing vicinal P/B Lewis pairs. Thermolysis products are only reported for **1a** and **1b**. Would the thermolysis of **1c** and **1d**, which contain bulky (Mes)₂P nucleophiles, result in electrocyclic ring closure without concurrent $\text{S}_{\text{N}}\text{Ar}$?