Significance: The target molecule M is a calcitonin gene-related peptide (CGRP) receptor antagonist that is of interest for the treatment of migraine. It is one of four analogues of rimegepant that were prepared by a common strategy featuring the use of a Hayashi–Miyaura asymmetric conjugate addition (A → B) and Ellman–Davis protocol (E → G) to set two of the three stereogenic centers.

Comment: Attempts to construct the seven-membered ring from I by an intramolecular Heck reaction were thwarted by the rearrangement of the exocyclic alkene product to a trisubstituted alkene. This alkene isomerization was suppressed in part by addition of an ester group in J.