## Category

Metals in Synthesis

Key words

copper catalysis

borylation

conjugate addition oxidation



## H. ITO, H. YAMANAKA, J. TATEIWA, A. HOSOMI<sup>\*</sup> (UNIVERSITY OF TSUKUBA, JAPAN) Boration of an α,β-Enone using a Diboron Promoted by a Copper(I)–Phosphine Mixture Catalyst *Tetrahedron Lett.* **2000**, *41*, 6821–6825, DOI: 10.1016/S0040-4039(00)01161-8.

## **Copper-Catalyzed Conjugate Borylation of Enones**



**Significance:** The value of boron-containing compounds in organic synthesis has been appreciated for decades. In 2000, the Hosomi group disclosed the first copper-catalyzed borylation reaction utilizing a simple monodentate phosphine as the ligand and B<sub>2</sub>pin<sub>2</sub> as the boron source. Michael acceptors, in particular enones, were used as the accepting  $\pi$ -system to afford the borylated products. This field has seen unceasing developments, particularly enantioselective variants, in the past two decades.

**Review:** Hemming et al. *Chem. Soc. Rev.* **2018**, 47, 7477–7494.

**Comment:** Notably, linear and cyclic enones were tolerated, but tetrasubstituted olefins were unreactive in the transformation, an unmet challenge in the field. The authors reasoned that the role of the phosphine was to ligate the copper complex and not to activate the diboron reagent. Using excess phosphine led to inhibition of the reaction, and <sup>31</sup>P NMR analysis of the phosphine with B<sub>2</sub>pin<sub>2</sub> showed negligible change in the chemical shift compared to the free phosphine. Conversely, the <sup>31</sup>P NMR signal of the phosphine and copper resulted in a downfield shift, suggesting coordination.

**SYNFACTS Contributors:** Mark Lautens, Bijan Mirabi Synfacts 2022, 18(11), 1222 Published online: 18.10.2022 **DOI:** 10.1055/s-0042-1753022; **Reg-No.:** L13122SF