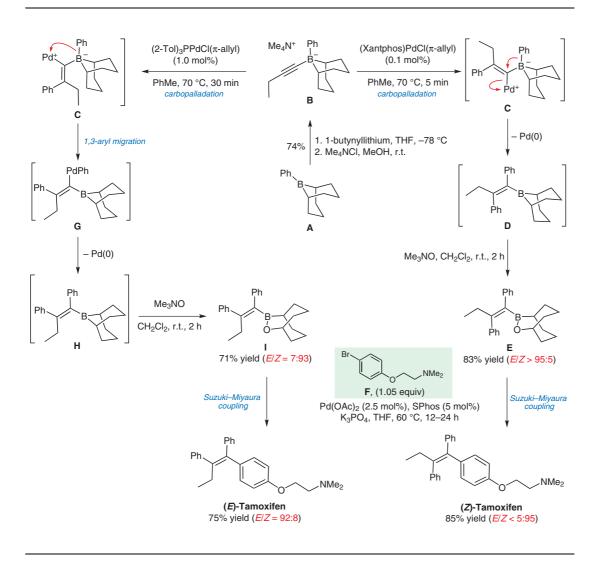
Stereoselective Synthesis of (*E*)-(Trisubstituted Alkenyl)borinic Esters: Stereochemistry Reversed by Ligand in the Palladium-Catalyzed Reaction of Alkynylborates with Aryl Halides *Org. Lett.* **2009**, *11*, 5434-5437.

## Synthesis of (E)- and (Z)-Tamoxifen



**Significance:** (*Z*)-Tamoxifen is used for the treatment of estrogen receptor positive breast cancer. The synthesis depicted features a *syn*-carbopalladation of alkynyl borate **B** followed by a 1,2-aryl migration ( $\mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{D}$ ) to generate a trisubstituted alkenylborane in high yield and stereoselectivity. Oxidation of the alkenylbornane **D** with Me<sub>3</sub>NO afforded the alkenylbornic ester **E** that participated in an efficient Suzuki–Miyaura coupling to give (*Z*)-tamoxifen. **Comment:** The fate of the *syn*-carbopalladation product **C** depended on the ligand. When the ligand was small  $[(2\text{-Tol})_3\text{P}]$ , a 1,3-aryl migration took place ( $\mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{G}$ ) to generate the alkenylborane **H** after reductive elimination. Alkenylborane **H** was converted into (*E*)-tamoxifen as shown. The borate derived from **B** is stable towards air and moisture. A further 14 examples of the synthesis of alkenylborinic esters via the 1,2-aryl migration pathway are presented.

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Synthesis of Natural Products and Potential Drugs

## Key words

tamoxifen

carbopalladation

Suzuki-Miyaura coupling

borinic esters

alkynyl borates

palladium

