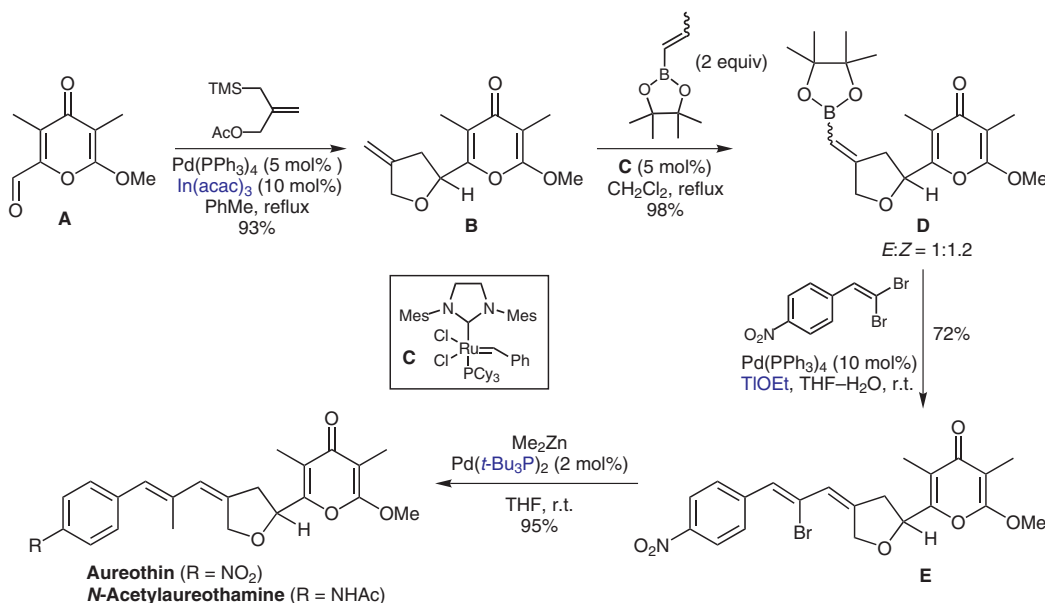


## Total Synthesis of Aureothin and *N*-Acetylaureothamine



**Significance:** Aureothin is an unusual nitroaryl metabolite of *Streptomyces netropis*. It has anti-tumor, antifungal and pesticidal activity. *N*-Acetylaureothamine is active against *Helicobacter pylori*, the cause of chronic gastritis.

**Comment:** A remarkably short and efficient synthesis of ( $\pm$ )-Aureothin (23% overall) features three Pd-catalyzed reactions and a Ru-catalyzed cross metathesis. The precipice of failure in the three Pd-catalyzed reactions was avoided by deft use of additives:  $\text{In}(\text{acac})_3$  for the [3+2] cycloaddition leading to tetrahydrofuran **B**; TIOEt for the Suzuki cross-coupling to form **E**; the highly hindered ligand  $t\text{-Bu}_3\text{P}$  for the final Negishi cross-coupling.