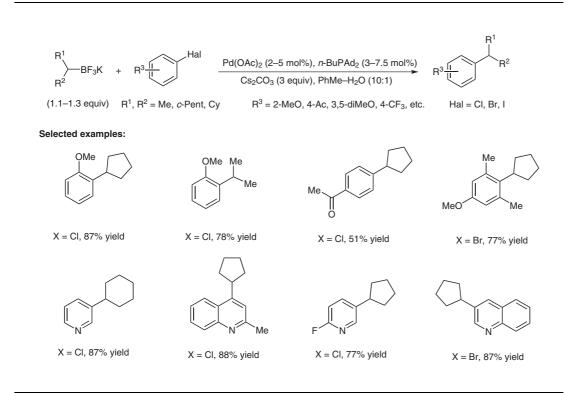
S. D. DREHER,* P. G. DORMER, D. L. SANDROCK, G. A. MOLANDER* (MERCK AND CO. INC., RAHWAY AND UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA, PHILADELPHIA, USA) Efficient Cross-Coupling of Secondary Alkyltrifluoroborates with Aryl Chlorides – Reaction Discovery Using Parallel Microscale Experimentation *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **2008**, *130*, 9257-9259.

Cross-Coupling of Secondary Alkyltrifluoroborates with Aryl Chlorides



Significance: This valuable synthetic method demonstrates the usefulness of the parallel microscale experimentation approach in the development of new methodology in synthetic chemistry. Conditions for a smooth Pd-catalyzed cross-coupling between secondary alkyltrifluoroborates and aryl or heteroaryl chlorides have been found after the screening of a number of phosphine ligands. The parallel microscale experimentation is proved to be a very promising method of investigation in synthetic chemistry that will find more and more applications not only in industry, but also in the academic research.

Comment: The experimentation was performed in 10 mmol scale in a 96-plate reactor, and 12 ligands were screened for each substrate, so that the optimization required much less time compared to standard optimization technique. The cross-coupling of isopropyl organometallics is often complicated by the formation of a linear product. As it is shown by the given experimental data, this side reaction takes place to a various extent with different substrate–catalyst pairs and the results are often difficult to predict. That makes a fast screening procedure for cross-coupling reactions quite desirable.

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Key words

secondary alkyltrifluoroborates

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aryl chlorides

parallel microscale experimentation

