

Preface

I am not a specialist in studies on carbon-related materials. I attended the International Conference on Composites/Nano Engineering (ICCE), 23 July 2015, in Chengdu, China, on the invitation of Professor David Hui, University of New Orleans. I delivered a Nobel Lecture on “Cross-Coupling Reactions of Organoboranes: An Easy Way for Carbon-Carbon Bonding.” There I made many friends, including Professor Tamio Endo, Sagamihara Surface Lab, and he asked me to write the preface for this book.

In 1963 I joined the research group of Professor Herbert C. Brown, who received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry 1997, at Purdue University, Indiana, US, as a postdoctoral associate, fascinated by the interesting new reaction of hydroboration. After a 2-year stay at Purdue, I returned to Hokkaido University, where I began studying organic synthesis using organoboron compounds. We recognized the potential of organoboranes as intermediates in organic synthesis. Our discoveries of haloboration and cross-coupling reactions are fundamental contributions to the organic chemistry of boron and synthetic methodology.

The cross-coupling reaction is widely used for the stereodefined construction of carbon–carbon bonding in multifunctional systems. I have retired from the university, but I am very happy to have a chance to meet many young researchers at international meetings to discuss this chemistry. I hope this book is useful for such young chemists.

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