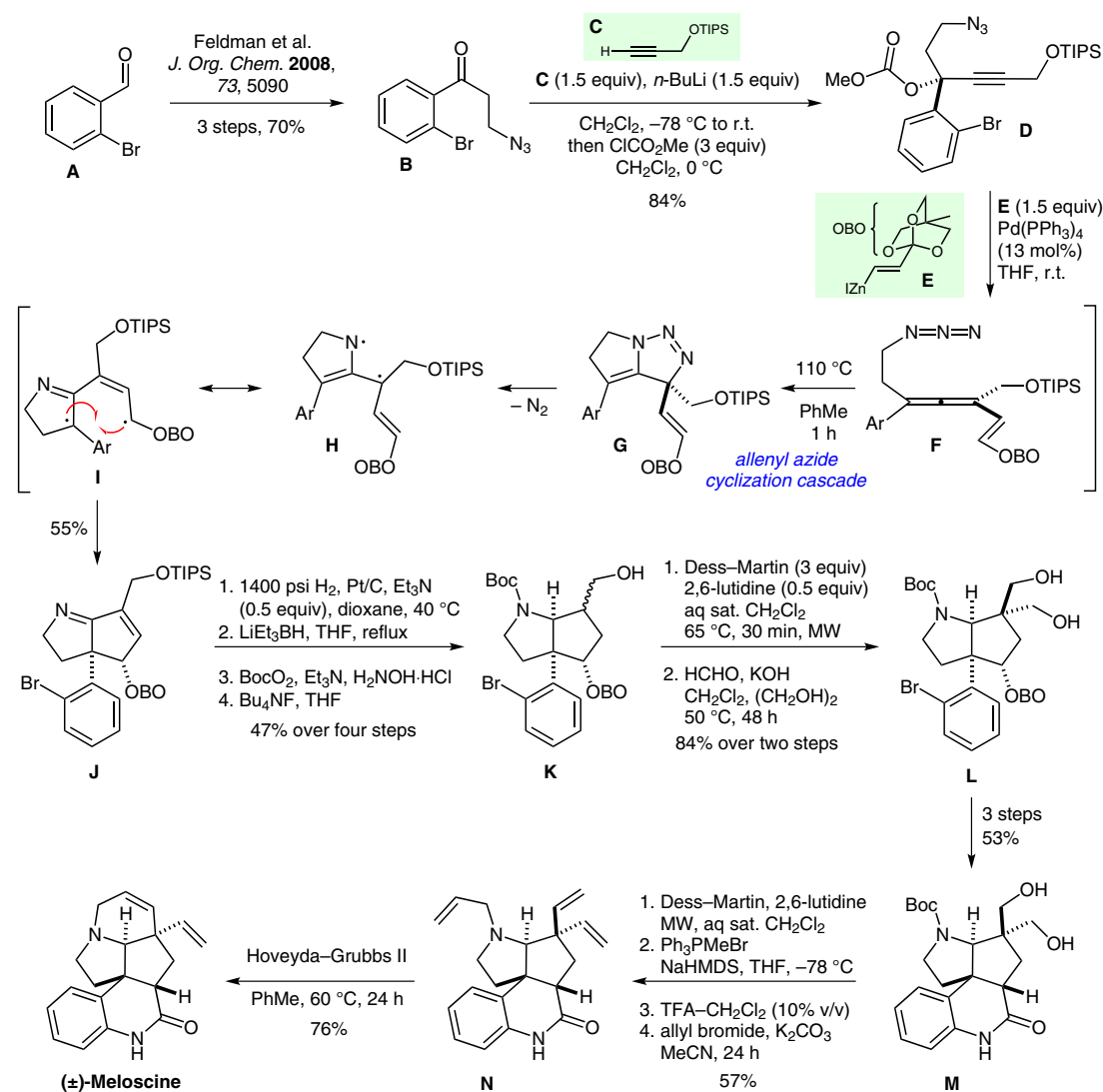


Synthesis of (±)-Meloscine



Significance: (±)-Meloscine is a *Melodinus* alkaloid containing an azabicyclo[3.3.0]octane core within a pentacyclic framework. The total synthesis was achieved here in 19 steps from 2-bromobenzaldehyde.

Comment: Bicycle **J** was formed by a key allenyl azide cyclization cascade involving loss of nitrogen and a diradical recombination in **I** to construct a C–C bond. The final ring was synthesized using ring-closing metathesis.