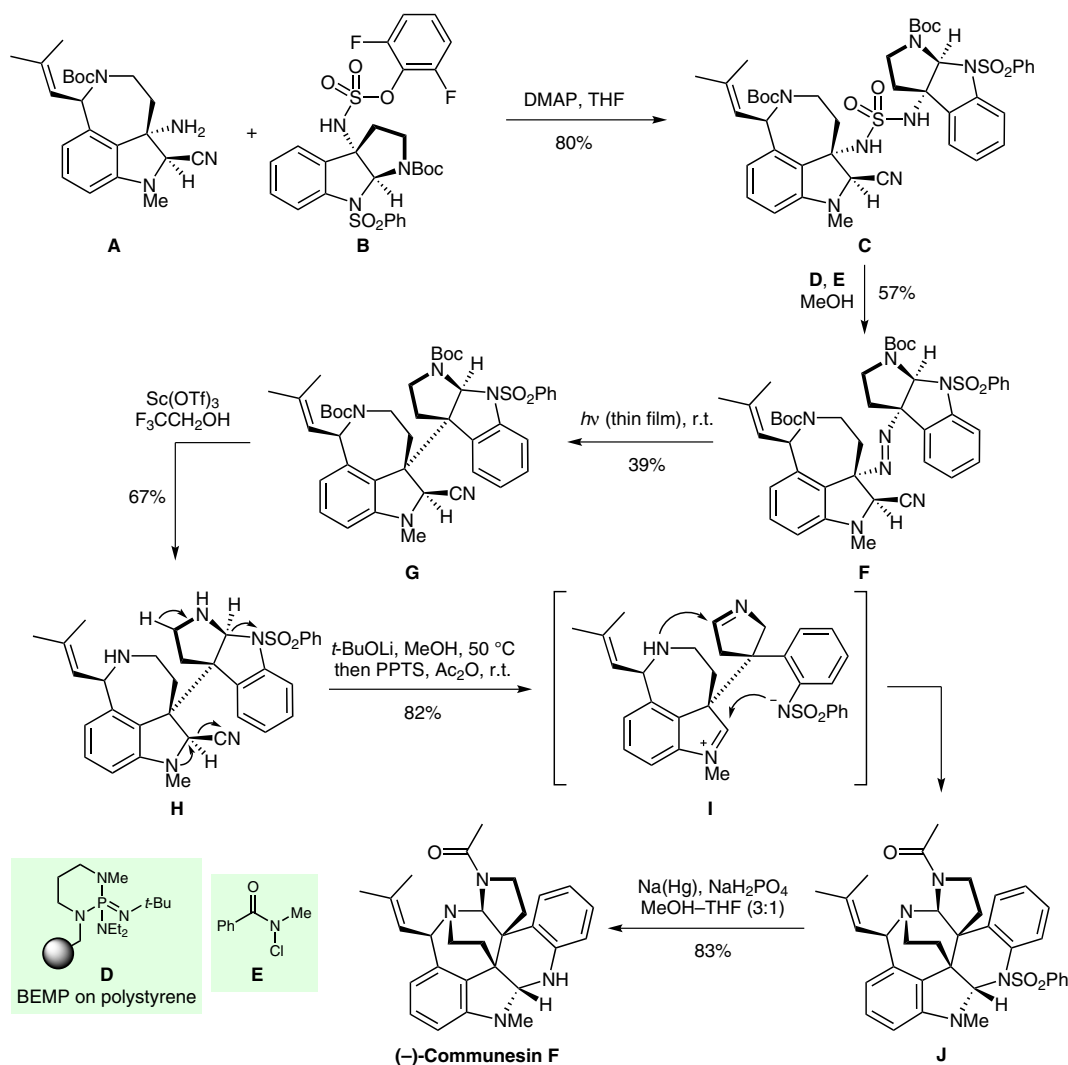


## Total Synthesis of (–)-Communesin F



**Significance:** The communesin alkaloids feature a fused heptacyclic ring system containing two adjacent quaternary carbons. Movassaghi and co-workers describe an enantioselective synthesis of (–)-communesin F, a member of this intriguingly complex natural product family. Highlights include the biomimetic heterodimerization of **A** and **B**, and amination exchange from **H** to **J**.

**Comment:** Building blocks **A** and **B** were unified through displacement at the sulfamate, followed by oxidation to diazene **F**. The diazene was irradiated to give **G** as a single diastereomer under extrusion of nitrogen. After deprotection of the Boc groups, the amination exchange was induced by *t*-BuOLi. The natural product was then obtained after deprotection.