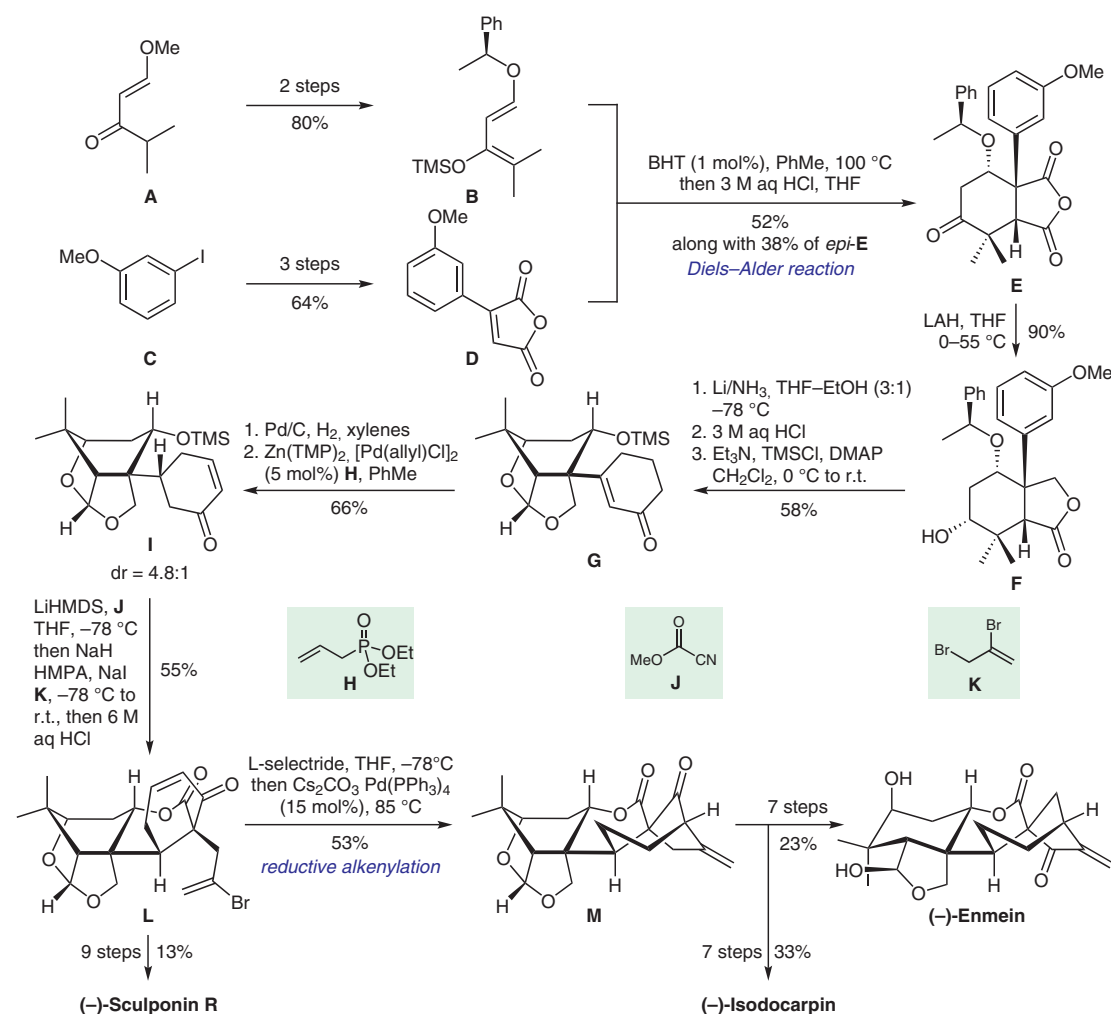


Divergent Approach to Enmein-Type Natural Products



Significance: Dong and co-workers have attained three highly oxygenated *ent*-kaurenoids from the *isodon* family of natural products by means of total synthesis. The significance of the work lies in the expeditious construction of key intermediate **L**, which was subsequently utilized as a common starting point in the preparation of (–)-sculponin R, (–)-isodocarpin, and (–)-enmein.

Comment: The authors commenced their synthetic route with the assembly of bicyclic ketone **E** by Diels–Alder cycloaddition. Birch reduction provided access to acetal **G**, which was subsequently transformed into enone **I**. In a single pot, Dong and co-workers constructed pivotal vinyl bromide **L**. Relying on reductive alkenylation strategies, this pentacycle was used to access the three highlighted natural products.