

Stereoselective Total Synthesis of (-)-Kumausallene

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Tang, W.* et al Org. Lett. 2011, ASAP



Representative Natural Products with a Bromoallene Moiety



Retrosynthetic Analysis of (-)-Kumausallene





Preparation of C_2 - Symmetric Diol 6





Synthesis of Trisubstituted THF Ring



Palladium-catalyzed Oxocarbonylation Reaction



Synthesis of Trisubstituted THF Ring



Completion of (-)-Kumausallene



Overman's Work



Overman, L. E.* et al J. Org. Chem. 1993, 58, 2468.







Ring-Enlarging Annulation

























Completion of (\pm) -Kumausallene







Completion of (\pm) -Kumausallene



Summary







(-)-Kumausallene 1 belongs to a family of nonisoprenoid sesquiterpenes with a unique bromoallene moiety. The first total synthesis of (\pm) -kumausallene was accomplished by Overman. In this synthesis, the complex dioxabicyclo[3.3.0]octane core was constructed by an elegant ring-expansion annulation strategy and the bromoallene moiety was introduced by stereoselective $S_N 2'$ displacement of propargylic sulfonate. In the first enantioselective synthesis of (-)-kumausallene by Evans, the 2,5cis-substituted tetrahydrofuran (THF) ring was prepared by an acyl radical cyclization and a very efficient biomimetic strategy was undertaken to forge the bromoallene and the adjacent THF ring simultaneously. We herein describe the first diastereo- and enantioselective total synthesis of (-)-kumausallene employing a desymmetrization strategy for the construction of the 2,5-cis substituted THF ring, which is distinctly different from two previous syntheses.



In summary, we have completed the first diastereo- and enantioselective synthesis of (-)-kumausallene in 12 steps from acetylacetone. We recognized the hidden symmetry of the target and prepared the 2,5-*cis*-substituted THF ring by desymmetrizing a C_2 -symmetric diol using a palladium catalyzed cascade reaction. A stereoselective biomimetic cyclization was realized when the 1,4-bromoetherification was conducted on the proposed enyne precursor in biosynthesis.