Synthesis of Cassialoin

**Significance:** A significant development in the synthesis of cassialoin is the use of the $\alpha$-ketol $F$ as a selectively protected stereogenic anthrone surrogate in which the diastereotopic faces are differentiated thereby allowing control of the C-glycosidation reaction ($F \rightarrow G \rightarrow H$) at C10.

**Comment:** A regioisomer (17%) was formed in the cyclocondensation reaction of $A$ and $B$. The $\alpha$-ketol $F$ was obtained as a single diastereoisomer. The epoxidation–reduction of glycal $K$ (66%) installed the correct stereochemistry at C1′ and C2′.