METHODS FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF 3,4-2H-DIHYDROPYRROLES (Δ¹-PYRROLINES) AND THEIR CHEMICAL TRANSFORMATIONS. (REVIEW)

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Published data on the synthesis and chemical transformations of 3,4-2H-dihydropyrroles $(\Delta^{l}$ -pyrrolines) are analyzed and reviewed for the first time.

Keywords: 3,4-2H-dihydropyrroles (Δ^1 -pyrrolines), synthesis, chemical properties.

For compounds of the pyrrole series there are three possible isomeric dihydro derivatives: 3,4-2Hdihydropyrroles (Δ^1 -pyrrolines), 2,3-dihydropyrroles (Δ^2 -pyrrolines), and 2,5-dihydropyrroles (Δ^3 -pyrrolines). Of these three groups of compounds the Δ^1 -pyrrolines are the most interesting as the subjects of various chemical transformations, such as synthons in the production of other heterocyclic systems and in particular various biologically active compounds (drugs, pesticides). The interest in Δ^1 -pyrrolines arises from the fact that fragments of the pyrroline rings appear in the composition of important biologically active natural compounds such as alkaloids, steroids, hemes, chlorophylls.

A series of well developed methods for the production of Δ^1 -pyrrolines from acyclic and also alicyclic or heterocyclic compounds have been described in the literature.

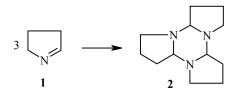
In 3,4-2H-dihydropyrroles there are several reaction centers, i.e., the C=N bond, the nitrogen atom, and the CH and CH₂ groups. Addition and cycloaddition involving the C=N bond have been studied most. There is less information on reactions accompanied by cleavage of the C=N bond with opening of the pyrroline ring. The literature contains little information on reactions at the nitrogen atom and with the hydrogen atoms at the carbon atoms of the heterocyclic ring.

1. METHODS FOR THE PRODUCTION OF 3,4-2H-DIHYDROPYRROLES

The authors of almost all the papers on the production of Δ^1 -pyrrolines from acyclic compounds have used bifunctional compounds (either diamines or compounds with two different functional groups) as starting materials. The production of Δ^1 -pyrrolines from three-, five-, or six-membered heterocyclic compounds has been described. The possibility of synthesizing Δ^1 -pyrrolines from alicyclic compounds was demonstrated.

It should be noted that the C=N bond in 3,4-2H-dihydropyrrole (1) enters readily into an addition reaction with the azomethine carbon atom of another molecule of 1. The trimer 2 is formed in this way from three molecules of Δ^1 -pyrroline:

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The formation of either the trimer 2 or mixtures during the production of the pyrroline 1 is determined by the reaction conditions and is not in most cases stated by the authors. For this reason in the present work the form of the obtained Δ^1 -pyrroline (monomer, trimer, or their mixture) or of the compound used in the reaction is given in the form described by the author of the cited paper.

1.1. From Acyclic Compounds Containing NH₂ Groups

1.1.1. From Diamines

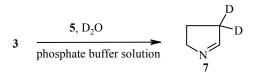
Of the compounds with two primary amino groups only 1,4-diaminobutane (putrescine) (3) and 1,8-diamino-4-azaoctane (spermidine) (4) have been used in the synthesis of Δ^1 -pyrrolines.

Under the conditions of enzymatic oxidation in the presence of diaminooxidase 5 at pH 5.7 [1, 2] or pH 7 [2] the diamine 3 is converted ito pyrroline 1 [1-5]. According to data from the authors in [2, 3], the process presumably includes the intermediate formation of the aldehyde 6.

$$H_2N(CH_2)_4NH_2 \xrightarrow{5 [O]} H_2N(CH_2)_3C \xrightarrow{O} H \xrightarrow{-H_2O} 1$$

In the presence of compound **5** the diamine **3** with the C^{14} carbon isotope at position 5 is converted into a metabolite containing up to 94% of pyrroline **1** [6-8].

In the reaction of the diamine **3** with diaminooxidase **5** in a phosphate buffer and in D_2O the pyrroline **7** containing two deuterium atoms at position **3** is formed [9].



The trimer **2** was synthesized with a yield of 32% as a result of the reaction of the dihydrochloride of the diamine **3** with NaOCl and NaOH in water at low temperature followed by treatment of the reaction mass with aqueous sodium hydroxide. The authors propose the following scheme for the process [10]:

$$3 \cdot 2 \text{ HCl} \xrightarrow{1. \text{ NaOCl, NaOH, H_2O, <0 \circ C}} \left[H_2 \text{N}(\text{CH}_2)_3 \text{CH}_2 \text{NHCl} \xrightarrow{-\text{HCl}} \right]$$

$$\rightarrow H_2 \text{N}(\text{CH}_2)_3 \text{CH}_2 \text{N}: \xrightarrow{} H_2 \text{N}(\text{CH}_2)_3 \text{CH} = \text{NH} \xrightarrow{H_2O}_{-\text{NH}_3} H_2 \text{N}(\text{CH}_2)_3 \text{C} \xrightarrow{O}_{-\text{H}_2O}_{-\text{NH}_3} \right]$$

In the patent [11] a method was proposed for the production of pyrroline 1 from the diamine 3 over W₂O₃ in an inert atmosphere at 420-540°C with a contact time of 0.5 sec.

> 3 $\frac{W_2O_3 / \text{Chromosorb W}}{0.5 \text{ sec}}$ 1 Temperature (°C), yield (%): 420, 55; 460, 63; 500, 73; 540, 70

The dehydrocyclization of the diamine 3 in the presence of various oxides, deposited on Chromosorb W, at various temperatures and with a contact time of 0.5 sec was investigated in [12] (Table 1).

Oxide	Content, %	Temperature, °C	Yield of 1, %*
P_2O_5	1	300-500	1
WO ₃	1	300	7
		500	57
$P_2O_5+WO_3$	0.98 ± 0.02	300	2
		540	29
WO ₃ +SiO ₂	0.98 + 0.02	300	14
		500	58
CuO	1	300	13
		500	49
NiO	1	300	2
		540	30
WO ₃	1	500* ²	71
WO ₃	5	500* ²	55
WO ₃	1	500 (0.25 sec.)	25
WO ₃	1	500 (0.7 sec.)	69
WO ₃ * ³	5	540	58
WO_3^{*3}	10	460	36
		500	71
WO ₃ * ³	45* ⁴	460	27
		500	85

TABLE 1. Transformation of the Diamine 3 into Pyrroline 1

* The reaction products contain pyrrolidine and pyrrole. *² In an atmosphere of helium.

^{*&}lt;sup>3</sup> The reaction was conducted in a flow-type regime.

^{*&}lt;sup>4</sup> On kaolin instead of Chromosorb.

It can be concluded from the data in [11, 12] that the highest yields of pyrroline **1** are obtained when the reaction is carried out over W_2O_3 or WO_3 , deposited on Chromosorb W, in a helium atmosphere at 500°C or over WO_3 on kaolin at 540°C.

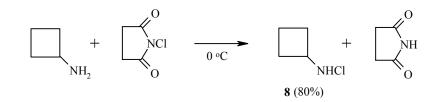
In the presence of an enzyme isolated from *Serratia marcescens* 1,8-diamino-4-azaoctane (4) is converted into a mixture of 1,3-diaminopropane and pyrroline 1. In the authors' opinion [13, 14] the latter is formed from the intermediate amino aldehyde 6.

$$H_2N(CH_2)_3NH(CH_2)_4NH_2 \xrightarrow{H_2O, O_2, Servatia marcescens} -H_2N(CH_2)_3NH_2, -H_2O_2 \xrightarrow{\bullet} 6 \xrightarrow{-H_2O} 1$$

In a more recent paper [15] the cyclocondensation of compound 4, containing tritium atoms at the two terminal carbon atoms, was realized by the action of the nicotinamideadeninenucleotide cation (NAD⁺), and the following reaction scheme was proposed:

1.1.2. Recyclization of Aminocyclobutane

There are only two reports in the literature on the production of pyrroline 1 by the recyclization of alicyclic compounds. Both papers [16, 17] describe the transformation of aminocyclobutane into pyrroline 1. This original method involves enlargement of the four-membered ring and insertion of the nitrogen from the amino group directly attached to the cyclobutane ring into the ring. In both papers the first stage of the process involves treatment of the aminocyclobutane with N-chlorosuccinimide to form the N-chloro derivative 8 [16, 17].



The N-chloro derivative **8** was either treated with potassium alcoholates [16] or was brought into reaction with potassium *tert*-butoxide in the gaseous state (under vacuum) in a flow-type system [17].

8
$$\frac{\text{ROK}}{\text{or KOH}}$$
 1 (80%)
R = CMe₃, Ad-1

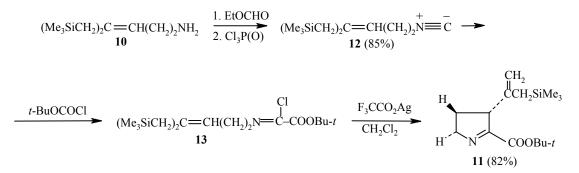
1.1.3. Cyclization of Primary Amines Containing Various Functional Groups

In this section we examine data from papers in which Δ^1 -pyrrolines were obtained from bifunctional compounds containing a primary amino group and a different type of functional group (double bond, hydroxyl, aldehyde, ketone, carboxyl). It should be mentioned that in some cases the N-derivatives of amines and also the O-derivatives of aldehydes (acetals) or acids (esters) were used.

1.1.3.1. Cyclization of Unsaturated Amines. When 1-benzoylamino-4-phenyl-3-butene is heated with phosphorus oxychloride intramolecular cyclocondensation occurs, and Δ^1 -pyrroline 9 is formed [18].

PhCH=CH(CH₂)₂NHCOPh
$$\xrightarrow{POCl_3, PhH}_{boiling, 3 h}$$
 \xrightarrow{Ph}_{9}

A more complicated path to the transformation of the unsaturated amine 10 into the Δ^1 -pyrroline was described in [19]. The amine 10 was converted into the isonitrile 12, which was brought into reaction with the acid chloride *t*-BuOCOC1. The ketoimino chloride 13 formed here was converted into Δ^1 -pyrroline 11 by the action of silver triflate.



1.1.3.2. Cyclization of Amino Alcohols. 4-Aminobutanol (14) is the only representative of amino alcohols studied as starting compounds in the synthesis of Δ^1 -pyrrolines. When the vapor of the amino alcohol 14 was passed over zeolite at 220-300°C, a mixture of pyrroline 1 (yield 1.1-3.7%), pyrrolidine 15 (yield 57%), and pyrrole (yield 8%) was obtained [20].

Cotalorat	T-marking OC		Ratio	of products in catalysate,	<i>V</i> ₀
Catalyst	Temperature, °C	1	15	1-methylpyrrolidine	16
Cu/Al ₂ O ₃	200	47	20	33	0
	225	42	45	13	0
	250	42	20	55	0
	275	10	9	71	10
	300	6	3	55	24
Cu/MgO	200	0	42	58	0
	225	0	62	38	0
	250	0	45	55	0
	275	0	45	55	0
	300	0	44	56	0

TABLE 2. The Transformation of $\rm H_2N(\rm CH_2)_4OH$ (14) over Catalysts Cu/Al_2O_3 or Cu/MgO

As a result of study of the cyclocondensation of the amino alcohol **14** under pulse chromatographic conditions over catalysts CuO, P_2O_5 , WO_3 , $P_2O_5+WO_3$, WO_3+SiO_2 , or $WO_3+CaO+B_2O_3$ at temperatures in the range of 260-420°C it was established that pyrroline **1** is only produced with the best yields (2-10%) when 1% of CuO/Chromosorb W is used at 280-360°C. Pyrrolidine **15** (21-64%) and pyrrole (0.5%) are also formed under these conditions [21].

The authors of [22] realized the intramolecular cyclocondensation of the amino alcohol (14) in a quartz tube in the presence of methanol over catalysts Cu/Al_2O_3 or Cu/MgO at 200-300°C. It was found that three or four compounds were formed when Cu/Al_2O_3 was used as catalyst: pyrroline 1; 1-methylpyrrolidine; 1,2-dimethylpyrrolidine (16). However, if Cu/MgO was used as catalyst, only pyrrolidine and 1-methylpyrrolidine were found in the reaction products (Table 2).

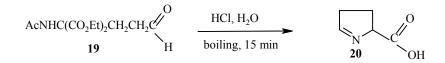
1.1.3.3. From Amino Aldehydes or Amino Ketones. Amino aldehydes and their derivatives have rarely been used as starting compounds in the synthesis of Δ^1 -pyrrolines. The acetal **17** is converted into pyrroline **1** when treated with dilute hydrochloric acid. The reaction includes a stage with hydrolysis of the acetal to the amino aldehyde **6**, which undergoes intramolecular cyclization *in situ*, giving pyrroline **1** [23, 24].

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{OEt} \\ \text{H}_2\text{N}(\text{CH}_2)_3\text{CH} \\ \text{OEt} \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} 1. \text{ 2N HCl, H}_2\text{O, Et}_2\text{O, 0 °C, 20 min} \\ 2. \text{ K}_2\text{CO}_3, \text{ H}_2\text{O} \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} 6 \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{c} \text{-H}_2\text{O} \end{array} \qquad 1 \end{array}$$

Harsher conditions are required for the transformation of the N-acetyl derivative of the amino acetal **18** to pyrroline **1** by the action of hydrochloric acid [25].

AcNH(CH₂)₃CH(OEt)₂
$$\xrightarrow{\text{HCl, H}_2O}$$
 1
18

Brief boiling of the aldehyde **19** in hydrochloric acid results in deacylation of the MeCONH group, hydrolysis of the ester groups, and partial decarboxylation of the $C(CO_2H)_2$. 5-Hydroxycarbonyl-3,4-2H-dihydropyrrole (**20**) is formed with a quantitative yield [26].



It should be noted that the literature contains a considerable number of papers describing the synthesis of Δ^1 -pyrrolines by the cyclocondensation of compounds containing a ketone group (free or in the form of acetals) and a primary amino group (free or N-acylated).

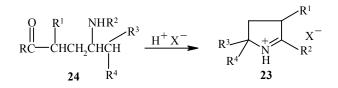
The treatment of 2-bromohexan-5-one with gaseous ammonia in ethanol resulted in the production of 2,5-dimethyl-3,4-2H-dihydropyrrole (21) [27]. Clearly, at the first stage of the process the bromine atom is substituted by an amino group. The amino ketone 22 formed here undergoes intramolecular cyclocondensation and is converted *in situ* into the Δ^1 -pyrroline 21.

$$\begin{array}{c} \text{Br} & \text{O} \\ \mid & \parallel \\ \text{MeCH}(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{CMe} \end{array} \xrightarrow{\text{NH}_3, \text{ EtOH}} \\ \begin{array}{c} \text{NH}_3, \text{ EtOH} \\ \text{20 °C, 7 days} \end{array} \left[\begin{array}{c} \text{NH}_2 & \text{O} \\ \mid & \parallel \\ \text{MeCH}(\text{CH}_2)_2\text{CMe} \end{array} \right] \xrightarrow{-\text{H}_2\text{O}} \\ \begin{array}{c} \text{Me} \end{array} \xrightarrow{\text{NH}_2} \\ \begin{array}{c} \text{NH}_2} \\ \begin{array}{c} \text{Me} \end{array} \xrightarrow{\text{NH}_2} \\ \begin{array}{c} \text{NH}_2 \end{array} \xrightarrow{\text{NH}_2} \end{array} \xrightarrow{\text{NH}_2} \\ \begin{array}{c} \text{NH}_2 \end{array} \xrightarrow{\text{NH}_2} \\ \begin{array}{c} \text{NH}_2 \end{array} \xrightarrow{\text{NH}_2} \end{array} \xrightarrow{\text{NH}_2} \\ \begin{array}{c} \text{NH}_2 \end{array} \xrightarrow{\text{NH}_2} \end{array} \xrightarrow{\text{NH}_2} \end{array} \xrightarrow{\text{NH}_2} \\ \begin{array}{c} \text{NH}_2 \end{array} \xrightarrow{\text{NH}_2} \end{array} \xrightarrow{\text{NH}_$$

р	\mathbb{R}^1	\mathbb{R}^2	R ³	R ⁴			W 11 m	D.C.
R	K'	K-	K ²	23	24	Reaction conditions	Yield, %	Reference
Me	Ac	Ac	CO ₂ Et	CO ₂ Et	CO_2H	Conc. HCl, boiling, 12 h	61	[28]
Me	Me	Ac	CO ₂ Et	CO ₂ Et	CO ₂ H	Conc. HCl, boiling, 12 h	61	[28]
Ph	Н	Ac	CO ₂ Et	CO ₂ Et	CO_2H	Conc. HCl, boiling, 12 h	55	[28]
2-HOC ₆ H ₄	Н	Ac	CO ₂ Et	CO ₂ Et	CO ₂ H	Conc. HCl, boiling, 6 h	52	[29]
2-MeOCH ₂ OC ₆ H ₄	Н	CO ₂ Bu-t	Н	CO ₂ Me	CO ₂ Me	Conc. HCl, MeOH, 20 °C, 12 h	82	[29]
Ph	Н	CO ₂ Bu-t	Н	CO ₂ Me	CO ₂ Me	CF ₃ CO ₂ H, 0°C, 0.5 h	89	[30]
C ₆ H ₁₃	Н	CO ₂ Bu-t	Н	Н	Н	CF ₃ CO ₂ H, 20°C, 3 h	77	[31]
Ph	Н	CO ₂ Bu-t	Н	Н	Н	CF ₃ CO ₂ H, 20°C, 3 h	71	[31]

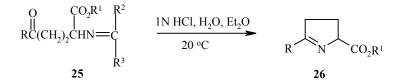
TABLE 3. Synthesis of Δ^1 -Pyrrolines **23** from Amino Ketones **24**

A series of salts of Δ^1 -pyrrolines **23** were synthesized by the treatment of amino ketones **24**, containing Ac [28, 29] and CO₂Bu-*t* [30, 31] groups at the nitrogen atom, with strong acids (Table 3).



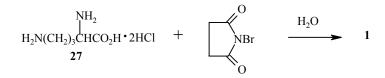
The reaction of (2*S*)-6,6-dimethyl-5-oxo-2-[N-(9-phenylfluorenyl)amino]heptanoic acid with trifluoroacetic acid in methylene chloride (boiling, 48 h) gives a 96% yield of the salt **23** (R = t-Bu, $R^1 = R^2 = H$, $R^4 = COOH$, $X = CF_3COO^-$).

Schiff bases containing a keto group at the γ position are also capable of entering into intramolecular cyclocondensation with the formation of Δ^1 -pyrrolines. Thus, compounds **25** are converted by the action of dilute hydrochloric acid into derivatives of 3,4-2H-dihydropyrrole **26** even at normal temperatures [33, 34].



R, R¹, R², R³, yield (%): Ph, Me,H, Ph, 100 (the keto group in the initial compound was in the form of CO(CO₂H)₂ O [33]; Me, Et, Ph, Ph, 67; Et, Et, Ph, Ph, 78 [34]

1.1.3.4. From Amino Acids or Their Esters. In this section two methods for the production of Δ^1 -pyrrolines are examined, i.e., by the intramolecular destructive cyclocondensation of diamino acids [3, 35-40] or by two-component condensation of diethyl aminomalonate with α,β -unsaturated ketones [41]. In most of these papers [35-40] pyrroline 1 was synthesized by treating *DL*-ornithine hydrochloride (27) with N-bromosuccinimide.

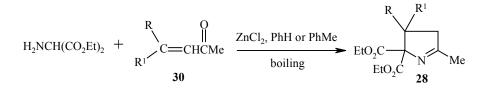


(Conditions), yield (%): (KI, H₂O, 20°C, 1 h; 100°C, 5 min), 80 [35]; (0°C, 1 h; 100°C, 5 min), 50-60 [36]; (n/i)* [37, 38]; (20°C, 1 h), n/i [40]

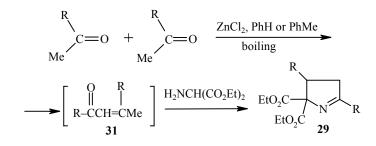
The authors of [40] reported on the synthesis of $[2^{14}C]$ -3,4-2H-dihydropyrrole from *DL*- $[2^{14}C]$ ornithine. The pyrroline **1** was obtained by boiling the salt **27** with ninhydrin in water for 1 min (yield 22%) [35] and also by oxidative destructive cyclocondensation of *D*- or *L*-lysine in the presence of plant aminooxidase [3].

Two approaches were developed for the production of polysubstituted Δ^1 -pyrrolines **28** and **29** from diethyl aminomalonate and unsaturated ketones. In the first the ready-made unsaturated ketones **30** were used, while in the second the unsaturated ketones **31** were produced at the first stage of the process from the respective saturated ketones and were brought into cyclocondensation with the aminomalonic ester *in situ*. It was found that the yields of the Δ^1 -pyrrolines in the latter case were significantly lower [41].

^{*} Here and subsequently, n/i = not indicated.

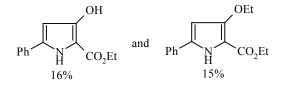


R, R¹, yield (%): Me, Me, 71; H, *i*-Pr, 77; H, 5-cyclohexenyl-2,2,6-trimethyl, 90; Me, CH₂=CH, 59



R, yield (%): Ph, 12; 3-pyridyl, 5

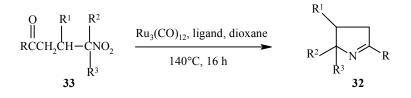
If R = Ph, the following compounds are also formed:



1.2. From Ketones Containing NO₂, CN, and N₃ Groups

In this section we examine data from papers on the synthesis of Δ^1 -pyrrolines by the cyclization of bifunctional compounds containing a keto group and various nitrogen-containing groups other than amino groups.

Japanese authors [42] developed a method for the synthesis of derivatives of Δ^1 -pyrroline **32**, involving cyclocondensation of the nitro ketones **33** in the presence of a ruthenium catalyst in an atmosphere of CO. 1,10-Phenanthroline (**34**), its derivatives, and certain other compounds were used as ligands (Table 4).



The authors of [42] consider that the zerovalent Ru-**34** complex is formed initially, after which deoxygenation of the nitro group occurs with the formation of a ruthenium-nitrene intermediate, which reacts with the carbonyl group, giving the derivative of 3,4-2H-dihydropyrrole **32** and a ruthenium-oxo complex. The ruthenium is reduced to the zerovalent state by the action of CO, thereby completing the catalytic cycle.

R	\mathbb{R}^1	\mathbb{R}^2	R ³	Ligand	Yield, %
D1					01.4
Ph	Н	Me	Me	34	91*
Ph	Н	Me	Me* ²	34	50
Ph	Н	Me	Me* ²	$PdCl_2(PPh_3) + MoCl_2$ (instead of 34)	23
Ph	Н	Me	Me* ²	$PdCl_2(PPh_3) + SnCl_2$ (instead of 34)	20
Ph	Н	Me	Me* ²	$PdCl_2(PPh_3) + SnCl_2$ (instead of 34)	46
Ph	Н	Et	Et	34	81
Me	Ph	Me	Me	34	86
Me	Н	Me	Ph	34	78
Ph	Н	Me	Me	2,9-Dimethyl-4,7-diphenyl-34	21
Ph	Н	Me	Me	2,9- Dimethyl -34	54
Ph	Н	Me	Me	2,2 ¹ -Dipyridyl	62
Ph	Н	Me	Me	Pyridine	9
Ph	Н	Me	Me	N,N,N ¹ ,N ¹ -Tetramethyl-	7
				1,3-propanediamine	
Ph	Н	Me	Me	N,N,N ¹ ,N ¹ -Tetramethylethylenediamine	17
Ph	Н	Me	Me	Triethylamine	4
Ph	Н	Me	Me	1,2-Bis(dimethylphosphino)ethane	10
Ph	Н	Me	Me	Triphenylphosphine	0

TABLE 4. Synthesis of Δ^1 -Pyrrolines **32** by Catalytic Cyclocondensation of Nitro Ketones **33**

* Without **34** the yield was 2%; without $Ru_3(CO)_{12}$ the yield was 0%. *² At 120°C.

Derivatives of pyrroline **35** containing aryl radicals at position 5 were synthesized with high yields as a result of hydrogenation of the respective β -keto nitriles **36** in the presence of Raney nickel catalyst until two moles of hydrogen had been absorbed [43].

$$\begin{array}{c} O \\ \parallel \\ ArCCH_2CH_2CN \\ 36 \end{array} \xrightarrow{\text{Ni, 2H}_2, \text{ EtOH}} \\ \hline \\ 4 \text{ atm, 20^{\circ}C} \end{array} \xrightarrow{\text{Ni, 2H}_2, \text{ EtOH}} \\ \hline \\ N \\ 35 \end{array}$$

Ar, yield (%): Ph, 83; 4-MeOC₆H₄, 76; 3-MeOC₆H₄, 90; 1-naphthyl, 87

During hydrogenation under analogous conditions in the presence of ammonia without limiting the amount of hydrogen absorbed the keto nitrile 36 (Ar = Ph) is converted into a mixture of the pyrroline 35 (Ar = Ph) and 2-phenylpyrrolidine [44].

$$36 \quad \frac{\text{Ni, H}_2, \text{ NH}_3, \text{ EtOH}}{3 \text{ atm, } 20^{\circ}\text{C}, 24 \text{ h}} \quad 35 \quad + \quad \text{Ph} \quad \frac{\text{N}}{\text{H}}$$
$$35, 36 \text{ Ar} = \text{Ph}$$

The γ -azido ketones **38** are converted readily and, as a rule, smoothly into the pyrrolidines **37** by the action of triphenylphosphine. Clearly, at the first stage of the process the triphenylphosphine displaces a molecule of nitrogen from the azide group with the formation of the iminophosphines **39**, which then undergo an intramolecular Wittig aza-reaction *in situ* and are converted into the final compounds **37** [45, 46].

$$\begin{array}{c} O & R^{1} & R^{2} \\ RC - CHCH_{2}CHN_{3} & + & Ph_{3}P & \underline{pentane, N_{2}} \\ 38 & & & & \\ \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} O & R^{1} & R^{2} \\ RC - CHCH_{2}CHN = PPh_{3} \\ \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} O & R^{1} & R^{2} \\ RC - CHCH_{2}CHN = PPh_{3} \\ \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} O & R^{2} & R^{2} \\ R^{2} & R^{2} \\ \end{array}$$

R, R¹, R², time (h), yield (%): Me, H, H, 10, 92; 4-BrC₆H₄, H, H, 18, 82; Me, Me, H, 12, 65; Me, Et, H, 12, 61 [45]; Ph, H, H, 14, 95; 4-MeC₆H₄, H, H, 14, 84; 4-ClC₆H₄, H, H, 14, 96 [46]

The keto azides **38** (R = Ph, 4-MeC₆H₄, R¹ = R² = H) are converted into the respective pyrrolines **37** (R = Ph, 4-MeC₆H₄, R¹ = R² = H) with yields of 79 and 81% by the action of tetrathiomolybdate when the reaction is carried out in acetonitrile at 25°C for 10 h under argon [47].

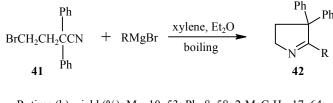
1.3. From Nitriles Containing Functional Groups Other than Keto Group

 γ -Halo nitriles and Grignard reagents have most often been used for the production of Δ^1 -pyrrolines. As a rule, the Δ^1 -pyrrolines **40** are formed with low yields as a result of the reaction of 4-chlorobutyronitrile with Grignard reagents RMgBr [43, 48].

$$CICH_2CH_2CH_2CN + RMgBr$$
 $\xrightarrow{Et_2O}$ \xrightarrow{N} R

R, yield (%): 3-MeOC₆H₄, 46; 4-PhC₆H₄, 76; 9-phenanthryl, 28; 9-anthranyl, 14; 2-thienyl, 45; 1-naphthylmethyl, 22; 2-naphthylmethyl, 26; Me, 12; benzyl, 39 [43]; Et, n/i; C₅H₁₁, n/i; 1-naphthyl, n/i; Ph, n/i [48]

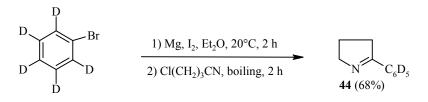
The two phenyl radicals at the α position to the nitrile group of compound **41** create specific steric hindrances for entry of the CN group into reaction with the Grignard reagents and subsequent cyclization to Δ^1 -pyrrolines **42**. During the production of the pyrrolines **42**, therefore, the reaction mixture had to be boiled for a long time in a mixture of xylene and diethyl ether [49].



R, time (h), yield (%): Me, 10, 53; Ph, 8, 58; 2-MeC_6H_4, 17, 64; 2-ClC_6H_4, 16, 42; Et, 8, 65; Pr, 8, 22

The reaction of the nitrile **41** with benzylmagnesium chloride under analogous conditions takes place in a different direction, and the reaction product is compound **43** [49].

As a result of treatment with magnesium in the presence of iodine and then with 4-chlorobutyronitrile pentadeuterobromobenzene is converted into 5-(pentadeuterophenyl)-2H-3,5-dihydropyrrole (44) [50].

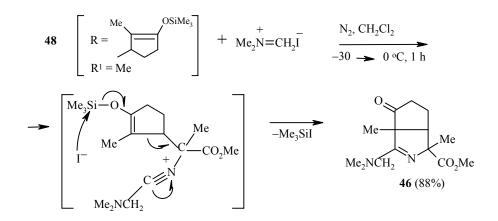


In [51] a method is described for the synthesis of various Δ^1 -pyrroline derivatives of monocyclic (45), bicyclic (46), or spiro (47) compounds. All these compounds were obtained by the reaction of the compounds RC(CN)(Me)CO₂R¹ (48) with the immonium salt Me₂N⁺=CH₂I in an inert atmosphere. It was found that various derivatives of pyrroline 1 were formed, depending on the radical R in compounds 48. Thus, if R was an acyclic radical Δ^1 pyrroline 45 was formed.

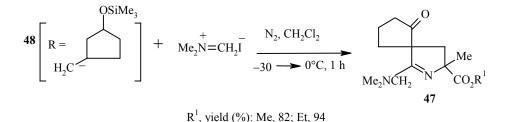
48 +
$$Me_2^+N=CH_2I^ N_2, CH_2Cl_2$$

-30 \rightarrow 0 °C, 1 h MeO_2C NeO_2C Me
45 (87%)
48 R = Me_SiOC(Me)=C(Me)CH_2, R^1 = Me

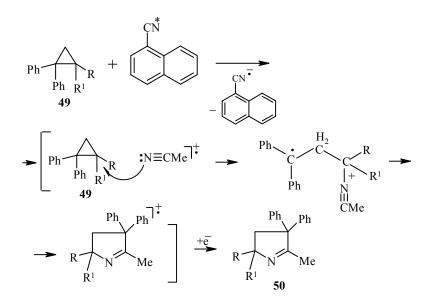
In the case where the radical R contained a cyclopentene fragment directly attached to the remainder of the molecule the reaction product was the bicyclic compound **46** [51].



Compounds with a spiro structure 47 are formed as a result of the treatment of compound 48, containing a cyclopentylmethyl radical, with the salt Me₂N⁺=CH₂ Γ [51].



The authors of [52] developed an original method for the synthesis of Δ^1 -pyrrolines. Derivatives of 3,4-2H-dihydropyrrole (50) were obtained as a result of the exposure of a mixture of the cyclopropane derivative 49 and acetonitrile to light with $\lambda = 300$ nm in the presence of 1-cyanonaphthalene. The following mechanism was proposed for this process:



R, R¹, time (h), yield (%): H, t-Bu, 40, 7; Me, Me, 83, 94

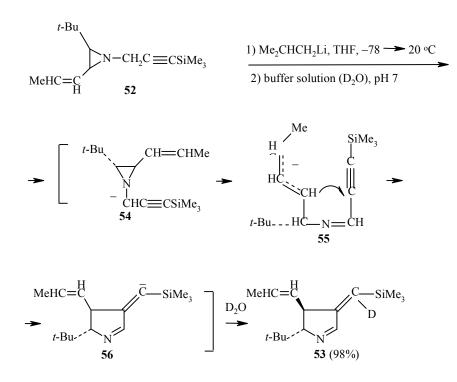
During irradiation of a mixture of compound **49** (R = H, $R^1 = t$ -Bu) with acetonitrile 1-phenyl-3,4,4-trimethyl-1,2,3,4-tetrahydronaphthalene is also formed with a yield of 72% [52].

1.4. From Heterocyclic Compounds

1.4.1. From Three-membered Compounds

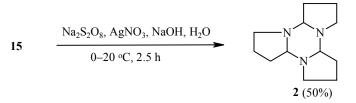
Of three-membered heterocyclic compounds only derivatives of aziridine have been used as starting compounds for the production of Δ^1 -pyrrolines. Pyrroline 1 itself was synthesized by the reaction of N-(diethoxyphosphoryl)aziridine (51) with the dianion formed in the reaction of acetoacetic ester with 1,3-diketones in an acidic medium [53].

The transformation of compound **52** into Δ^1 -pyrroline by the action of *sec*-butyllithium was explained by the authors of [54] by a reaction occurring through a number of consecutive stages. In their opinion the aziridine derivative **52** reacts with Me₂CHCH₂Li, being converted into the propargyl anion **54**, in which the aziridine ring is opened and the allyl anion **55** appears. Intramolecular cycloaddition then occurs in the latter with the formation of the anion **56**, treatment of which with D₂O gives the pyrroline derivative **53** [54].



1.4.2. From Five-membered Compounds

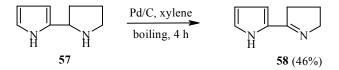
During the production of Δ^1 -pyrrolines from five-membered heterocyclic compounds the pyrrolidine **15** or its derivatives with substituents at the carbon or nitrogen atoms are as a rule used as starting compounds. The amine **15** is converted by the action of sodium peroxydisulfate in the presence of silver nitrate in sodium hydroxide solution into 1,6,11-triazatetracyclo[10.3.0.0^{2,6}0^{7,11}]pentadecane – the trimer **2** [55, 56].



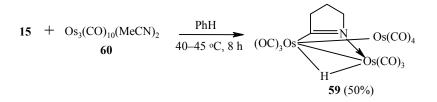
A mixture of pyrroline 1 and the trimer 2 was obtained as a result of the reaction of the amine 15 with (PhIO)_n in deuterodichloromethane at 20°C for 24 h [57].

In [57] it was mentioned that the ratio of compounds 1 and 2 changes significantly when the reaction is carried out in various solvents: In methanol the equilibrium is displaced toward the formation of the monomer, and pyrroline 1 is mainly formed; in carbon tetrachloride the reaction product is mainly the trimer 2.

On boiling in xylene in an inert atmosphere in the presence of Pd/C the pyrrolidine derivative 57 undergoes partial dehydrogenation, being converted into 2-(Δ^1 -2-pyrrolinyl)pyrrole 58 [58].



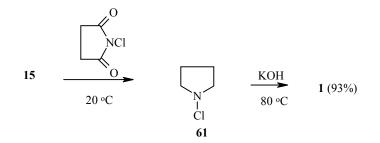
The cluster **59**, formed under mild conditions from the amine **15** by the action of osmium bis(acetonitrile)decacarbonyl (60), contains a pyrroline 1 ring [59].



A widely used method for the synthesis of pyrroline **1** and its derivatives is dehydrochlorination of the N-chloro derivatives formed by the action of N-chlorosuccinimide or *t*-BuOCl on the respective compounds of the pyrrolidine series.

It should be noted that pyrroline 1, the trimer 2, or their mixture is formed when the dehydrochlorination is carried out under various conditions.

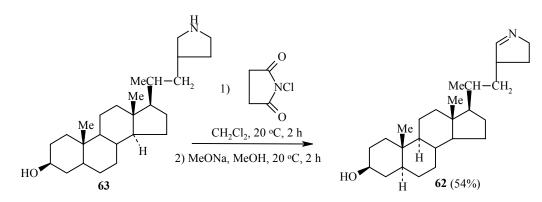
3,4-2H-Dihydropyrrole was obtained in the form of the monomer 1 in a flow-type system under a vacuum of 10^{-2} mm Hg with successive passage of the amine 15 initially over N-chlorosuccinimide at 20°C and then over solid potassium hydroxide at 80°C in a stream of nitrogen [60].



On the other hand the trimer 2 was obtained with a yield of 51% after dehydrochlorination of the chlorine derivative **61** with potassium hydroxide in boiling methanol for 30 min followed by distillation of the reaction products [61].

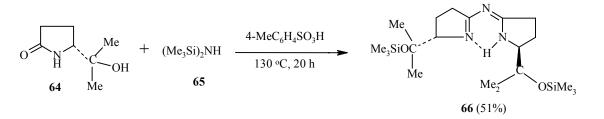
In [62] the chlorine derivative 61 was treated with sodium methoxide in methanol, and the ratio of compounds 1 and 2 was determined immediately after the reaction, after standing, and after distillation.

The new steroidal alkaloid **62** was synthesized from nor-23,26-imino-5 α -cholestan-3 β -ol (**63**) by the action of N-chlorosuccinimide and treatment of the chlorination product with sodium methoxide in methanol [63].

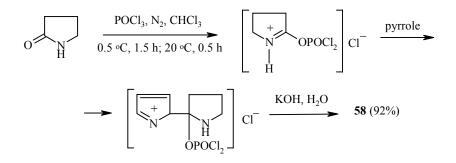


In a series of papers 2-pyrrolidone and its derivatives both with a free NH group and substituted at the nitrogen atom were used as starting compounds for the synthesis of Δ^1 -pyrrolines.

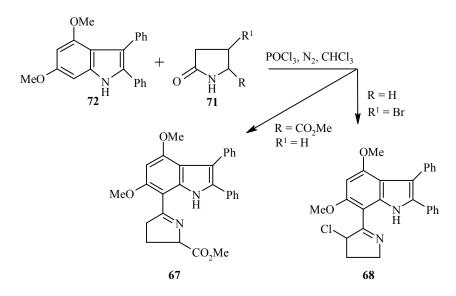
5-(1-Hydroxy-1-methylethyl)-2-pyrrolidone (64) is converted into compound 66 when heated with hexamethyldisilazane 65 in the presence of *p*-toluenesulfonic acid in a sealed tube [64].



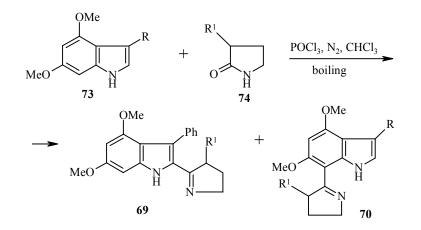
5-Substituted Δ^1 -pyrrolines **58**, **67-69**, or **70** were synthesized by the reaction of compounds of the 2-pyrrolidone series with pyrrole or with indole derivatives [58-65]. Thus, 2-pyrrolidone reacts with pyrrole in the presence of phosphorus oxychloride at room temperature with the formation of compound **58** [58].



Interesting results were obtained during investigation of the reactions of pyrrolidone derivatives with compounds of the indole series. During the reaction of pyrrolidone derivatives **71** with 4,6-dimethoxy-2,3-diphenylindole **72** in the presence of phosphorus oxychloride it was found that in compounds **68** and **67** the radicals of the formed Δ^1 -pyrroline derivatives were at position 7 of the indole ring, while the bromine atom in the initial **71** (R = H, R¹ = Br) was substituted by a chlorine atom (compound **68**) [65].



If, however, there is no substituent at position 2 of the indole derivative (compound **73**), the reaction takes place in a more complicated manner. As a result of the reactions with 2-pyrrolidone derivatives **74** two condensation products **69** and **70**, containing the Δ^1 -pyrroline fragment at position 2 or 7 of the indole ring, are formed [65].

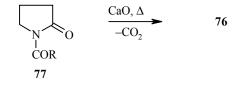


R, R¹, time (h), yield (%) of **69** and **70**: Me, H, 3, 12 and 36; 4-BrC₆H₄, H, 24, 5 and 30; 4-ClC₆H₄, H, 24, 5 and 30; 4-FC₆H₄, H, 24, 3 and 30; 4-ClC₆H₄, Br (in the reaction products R¹ = Cl), 2, traces, and 65; 4-BrC₆H₄, Br (in the reaction products R¹ = Cl); 2 (the reaction was carried out at 60°C), 0 and 65

In reaction with organolithium compounds RLi followed by treatment with strong acids and aqueous sodium hydroxide derivatives of 2-pyrrolidone **75** containing CH=CH₂ [66-68] or SiMe₃ [69] groups at the nitrogen atom are converted into Δ^1 -pyrrolines **76** containing the radicals R from the organolithium compounds at position 5 (Table 5).

$$\begin{array}{c}
 & + & RLi \\
 & N \\
 & N \\
 & R \\
 & 76 \\
 & 76 \\
\end{array}$$

A more simple and effective method for the synthesis of Δ^1 -pyrrolines **76**, developed by the authors in [70-72], is pyrolysis (heating over a naked flame) of the N-acyl derivatives of 2-pyrrolidone **77** in the presence of calcium oxide. This makes it possible to obtain the Δ^1 -pyrrolines with higher yields than the method described above.



R, yield (%):3-pyridyl, 65-67 [70, 71]; Ph, n/i [71, 72], t-Bu, 40 [72]

Proline, its esters, and certain of its derivatives are good starting compounds for the production of Δ^1 -pyrrolines.

R	R ¹	Reaction conditions	Yield, %	Reference
Pyridyl-3	CH=CH ₂	1) Et ₂ O, hexane, -78°C, 2 h 2) conc. HCl, 0°C	25	[66]
		1) Et ₂ O, argon, -78°C, 5 h; 20°C, 18 h	17	[67]
		2) HClO ₄ , EtOH, 20°C, 3 h 1) Et ₂ O, -70°C, 2.5 h; -30°C, 0.5 h	40	[69]
Pyridyl-2	CH=CH ₂	2) 1 mol/l HCl (H ₂ O) 1) Et ₂ O, hexane, -78°C, 2 h	28	[66]
		2) conc. HCl, 0°C		
3-Bromo-5-pyridyl-5	CH=CH ₂	1) Et ₂ O, argon, -78°C, 5 h; 20°C, 18 h	43	[67]
		2) HClO ₄ , EtOH, 20°C, 3 h		
Me	CH=CH ₂	1) Et ₂ O, argon, -78°C, 5 h; 20°C, 18 h	15	[67]
		2) HClO ₄ , EtOH, 20°C, 3 h		
		1) Et ₂ O, -20°C, 2 min	55	[68]
		2) 1 mol/l HCl (H ₂ O)		
Bu	CH=CH ₂	1) Et_2O , -60°C \rightarrow 0°C	71	[68]
		2) 1 mol/l HCl (H ₂ O)		
	CH=CH ₂	1) Et ₂ O, argon, -78°C, 5 h; 20°C, 18 h	37	[67]
		2) HClO ₄ , EtOH, 20°C, 3 h		
<i>i</i> -Pr	CH=CH ₂	1) Et ₂ O, -40°C, 50 min	40	[68]
		2) 1 mol/l HCl (H ₂ O)		
Ph	CH=CH ₂	1) Et ₂ O, -15°C, 1 h	79	[68]
		2) 1 mol/l HCl (H ₂ O)		
PhCH=CH ₂	CH=CH ₂	1) Et ₂ O, -20°C, 10 min	19	[68]
		2) 1 mol/l HCl (H ₂ O)		
Ph	SiMe ₃	1) THF	20	[69]
2-MeOC ₆ H ₄	SiMe ₃	1) THF	43	[69]

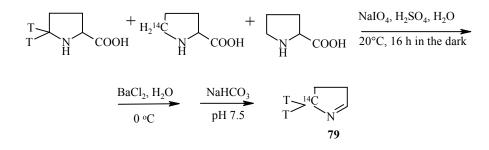
TABLE 5. Synthesis of Δ^1 -Pyrrolines **76** from Derivatives of Pyrrolidone **75** and RLi

L-Proline was first converted into pyrroline **1** by the action of an aqueous solution of sodium metaperiodate and sulfuric acid in the dark at 20° C [73].

In more recent work [74] this method was improved and was used for the transformation of proline containing hydrogen and carbon isotopes. Thus, deuterated DL-proline **78** was converted as a result of a series of consecutive reactions into pyrroline **1** containing the deuterium atom at position 5 [74].

$$\begin{array}{c|c} & D \\ & N \\ H \\ \hline & T8 \end{array} \xrightarrow{\text{D}} & \frac{\text{NaIO}_4, \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4, \text{H}_2\text{O}}{20^{\circ}\text{C}, 16 \text{ h in the dark}} \xrightarrow{\text{BaCl}_2, \text{H}_2\text{O}} & \frac{\text{NaHCO}_3}{p\text{H} 7.5} & \hline \\ & N \\ \hline & 1 \end{array}$$

The corresponding Δ^1 -pyrroline **79** was synthesized under analogous conditions from a mixture of *L*-proline containing two tritium atoms, *DL*-proline containing the C¹⁴ isotope, and proline [74].



When treated with an aqueous solution of sodium hypochlorite at normal temperature for 1 h, proline hydrochloride is converted into pyrroline 1 (isolated in the form of the aurate with a yield of 73%) [75].

The pyrroline **1** is formed (yield 82%) during the photooxidative decarboxylation of proline in aqueous sodium hydroxide at 20°C for 5 h with exposure to an ICV 100-200 GS halogen lamp in the presence of a sensitizer [Bengal rose (BR)] [76].

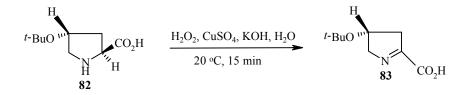
$$BR \xrightarrow{hv} BR^* + \underbrace{\prod_{H} COOH}_{H} \xrightarrow{-BR} \underbrace{i+}_{H} COOH \xrightarrow{-BR} \underbrace{i+}_{H} COOH \xrightarrow{-BR} \underbrace{i+}_{H} COOH \xrightarrow{-CO_2, -H} \underbrace{i+}_{H} \xrightarrow{-CO_2, -H} \underbrace{i+}_{H} \xrightarrow{-CO_2, -H} \underbrace{i+}_{H} \xrightarrow{-CO_2, -H} \underbrace{i+}_{H} \xrightarrow{-CO_2, -H} \xrightarrow{-H} \underbrace{i+}_{H} \xrightarrow{-CO_2, -H} \xrightarrow{-H} \underbrace{i+}_{H} \xrightarrow{-CO_2, -H} \xrightarrow{-H} \xrightarrow{-H}$$

Under somewhat different conditions proline methyl ester is converted into a mixture of 2-methoxycarbonyl-3,4-2H-dihydropyrrole (80) and 5-methoxycarbonyl-2H-3,4-dihydropyrrole (81) [76].

$$\begin{array}{c} & & & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & &$$

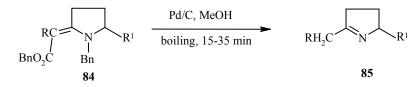
If the hydrogen atom of the NH group in proline is substituted by COMe or COOBu-*t*, photooxidative decarboxylation does not occur [76].

It is interesting that decarboxylation is not observed during treatment of the carboxylic acid **82** with hydrogen peroxide in the presence of copper sulfate in an alkaline medium. The reaction product is the pyrroline derivative **83** [77].



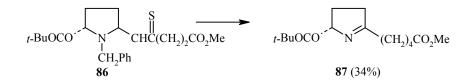
Several approaches have been developed for the synthesis of Δ^1 -pyrrolines from derivatives of pyrrolidine containing substituents at the cyclic nitrogen atom.

When boiled in methanol in the presence of Pd/C and cyclohexene, 2,5-disubstituted pyrrolidines **84** containing a benzyl group at the nitrogen atom are converted with high yields into the corresponding Δ^1 -pyrrolines **85** [78, 79].



R, R¹, yield (%): C₆H₁₃,CO₂Bu-*t*, 85; C₃H₇, C₇H₁₅, 70; C₃H₇, CO₂Bu-*t*, 87 [78]; (CH₂)₃C(Me)OCH₂CH₂O, CO₂Bu-*t*, 76 [79]

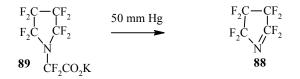
In the presence of a nickel catalyst the N-benzyl derivative **86** undergoes debenzylation and desulfurization, giving the Δ^1 -pyrroline **87** [80].



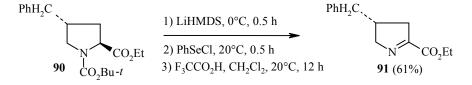
The trimer **2** is formed as a result of the action of heat on 1-formyl-2-methoxypyrrolidine with hydrogen chloride in methanol [81].

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A method for the synthesis of perfluoro- Δ^1 -pyrroline (88) by the pyrolysis of compound 89 under vacuum was patented [82].



After lithiation compound **90** was treated with PhSeCl and then with trifluoroacetic acid. As a result the pyrroline derivative **91** was obtained [83].

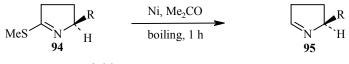


At high temperature the tetrazene 92 eliminates a molecule of nitrogen with the formation of the radical 93. The latter disproportionates, giving the pyrrolidine 15 and the pyrroline 1 [84].

$$\boxed{N-N=N-N}_{92} \xrightarrow{300-500 \circ C} \left[\underbrace{\frown}_{N}_{N} \right] \longrightarrow 15 + 1$$

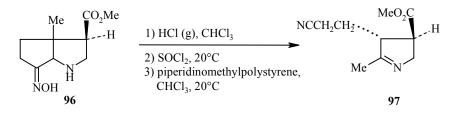
The action of zinc dust on pyrrole in hydrochloric acid (15-25°C, 1.5-2 h) gave a mixture of reduction products, from which the trimer **2** was isolated with a yield of 12% [85, 86].

The lactim thioethers **94** are converted into Δ^{1} -pyrrolines **95** when heated with Raney nickel catalyst in acetone [87].

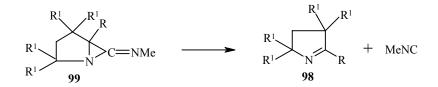


R, yield (%): CO₂Et, 40; CH₂OCOBu-t, 32

The production of Δ^1 -pyrrolines from bicyclic heterocyclic compounds was reported in two papers [88, 89]. Thus, the derivative of 1-azabicyclo[3.3.3]octane (96) was converted in a three-stage synthesis into the Δ^1 -pyrroline 97 [88].

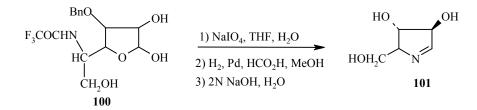


Whereas the transformation to the Δ^1 -pyrroline **97** in the case of the bicyclic compound **96** takes place with retention of all the carbon atoms, the synthesis of Δ^1 -pyrrolines **98** from derivatives of 2-azabicyclo[3.1.0]hexane is accompanied by elimination of the -C=NMe group with the formation of compounds **98** and methyl isocyanide [89].

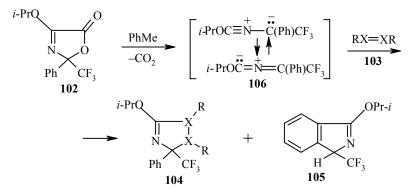


R, R¹, temperature (°C), time (h), yield (%): H, H, 90-95, 7, 67; Me, H, 80-95, 7, 93; H, Me, 80-95, 27, 86

 Δ^1 -Pyrrolines can be obtained by the recyclization of other five-membered heterocyclic compounds. For example, the tetrahydrofuran derivative **100** is recyclized as a result of a series of consecutive reactions, giving 3,4-dihydroxy-2-hydroxymethyl-3,4-2H-dihydropyrrole (**101**) [90].

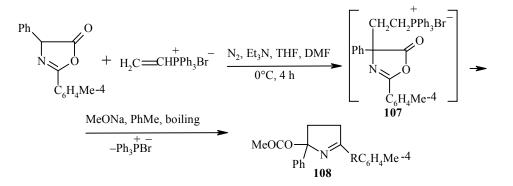


When the oxazolone derivative **102** was heated with unsaturated compounds in toluene mixtures of Δ^1 -pyrrolines **104** and 1-isopropoxy-3-trifluoromethylisoindole (**105**) were obtained [91]. It is clear that compound **102** undergoes ring opening under the reaction conditions with the elimination of a molecule of CO₂, giving the nitrile ylide **106**, which enters into 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition with the dipolarophiles **103** *in situ* to form the adducts **104** and **105**.



R, X, °C, time (h), yield (%): CO₂Et, N, 158, l, 18.5 and 26.2; CO₂Me, CH, 155, 2.5, 23 and 58.6

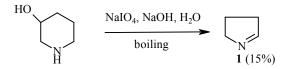
When heated with sodium methoxide in toluene compound **107**, formed as a result of the reaction of 2-(*p*-tolyl)-4-phenyl-5-oxazolone with the salt CH₂=CHPPh₃⁺Br⁻, undergoes recyclization with the ejection of Ph₃P⁺Br⁻ and is converted into the Δ^1 -pyrroline **108** [92].



1.4.3. From Six-membered Compounds

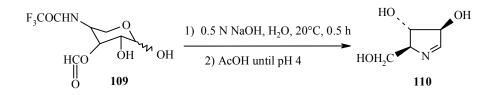
The number of publications in which the production of Δ^1 -pyrrolines by recyclization of six-membered heterocyclic compounds is described is limited.

3,4-2H-Dihydropyrrole **1** is formed as a result of the action of heat on 3-hydroxypiperidine with sodium metaperiodate in an aqueous solution of sodium hydroxide [93, 94].

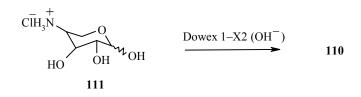


It was suggested [93] that the 3-hydroxypiperidine is converted under these conditions into 4-aminobutanal **6**, which changes into pyrroline **1** as a result of intramolecular cyclocondensation. It has been mentioned that 1-hydroxy-2-piperidone gives pyrroline **1** when heated (175-195°C) with polyphosphoric acid [95].

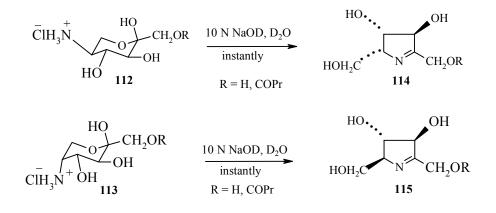
Of great interest are the numerous papers on the synthesis of Δ^1 -pyrrolines by the recyclization of derivatives of sugars containing an amino group (both unsubstituted and acylated). The derivative of deoxyarabinose **109** is converted by the action dilute aqueous sodium hydroxide solution at room temperature into the Δ^1 -pyrroline **110** with an excellent yield [96].



The same pyrroline is formed with a 90% yield as a result of ion-exchange chromatography of compound **111** [97].



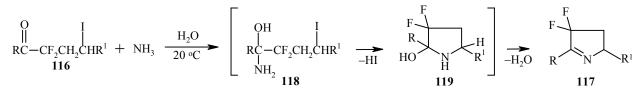
At room temperature in the presence of NaOD in D₂O the stereoisomers – the deoxyxylose derivative **112** or the deoxyarabinose derivative **113** – undergo very rapid recyclization to the Δ^1 -pyrrolines **114** or **115** without change of configuration [98].



1.5. Other Methods

Individual papers describing single cases of the production of derivatives of pyrroline 1 that do not fit into the classification of methods for the synthesis of Δ^1 -pyrrolines adopted above will now be discussed.

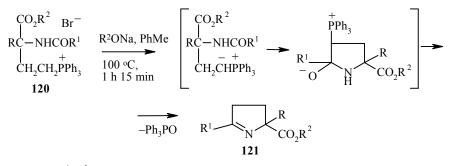
Treatment of the 4-iodo ketones **116** with an aqueous solution of ammonia gives the Δ^1 -pyrrolines **117** [99, 100]. It is clear that the *gem*-amino alcohols **118** are formed at the first stage of the process. They enter into an intramolecular $S_N 2$ reaction and are converted into hydroxypyrrolidines **119**. The latter eliminate a molecule of water *in situ*, giving the final products **117**.



R, R¹, time (h), yield (%): C₆H₁₃, CONMe₂, 12, 100 [99]; C₆H₁₃, SiMe₃, 24, 91; Bu, SiMe₃, 24, 93; Ph, SiMe₃, 24, 37 [100]

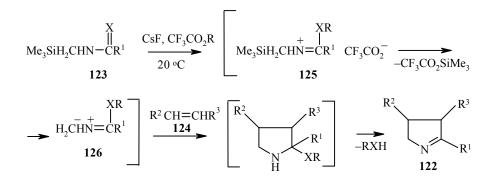
In the reaction of the ketone **116** (R = Ph, $R^1 = SiMe_3$) with ammonia 3-fluoro-2-phenylpyrrole is formed with a yield of 29% in addition to the pyrroline **117** (R = Ph, $R^1 = SiMe_3$) [100].

When heated with sodium alcoholates in toluene in an inert atmosphere the phosphine salts **120** enter into an intramolecular Wittig reaction and are converted into Δ^1 -pyrrolines **121** according to the scheme [92]:



R, R¹, R², yield (%): Ph, Ph, Me, 72; Ph, 4-MeC₆H₄, Me, 92; Me, Ph, Et, 65

A series of 3,4,5-trisubstituted Δ^1 -pyrrolines 122 were synthesized from compounds 123 and the alkenes 124 in the presence of CsF and triflates CF₃CO₂R. The salts 125 are clearly formed initially and are then converted into the dipoles 126, which enter into cycloaddition with the alkenes 124 and form the adducts 122 (Table 6) [101].



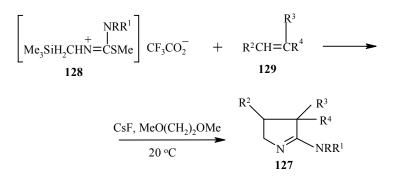
Х	R	\mathbb{R}^1	R ²	R ³	Reaction conditions	Yield, %
NH	Me ₃ Si	Ph	trans, CO ₂ Me	CO ₂ Me	MeCN, 15 h	67
NH	Me	Me	trans, CO ₂ Me	CO ₂ Me	MeCN, 12 h	73
NH	Me	Et	trans, CO ₂ Me	CO ₂ Me	MeCN, 12 h	63
NH	Me	Bu	trans, CO ₂ Me	CO ₂ Me	MeCN, 13 h	53
S	Me	Bu	trans, CO ₂ Me	CO ₂ Me	MeO(CH ₂) ₂ OMe, 13 h	68
S	Me	Bu	cis, CO ₂ Me	CO ₂ Me	MeO(CH ₂) ₂ OMe, 13 h	21
Н	Me ₃ Si	Ph	trans, CN	CN	MeCN, 14 h	69
S	Me	Ph	trans, CN	CN	MeO(CH ₂) ₂ OMe, 14 h	95
NH	Me	Me	trans, CN	CN	MeCN, 13 h	51
NH	Me	Et	trans, CN	CN	MeCN, 12 h	51
S	Me	Et	trans, CN	CN	MeO(CH ₂) ₂ OMe, 13 h	70
NH	Me	Bu	trans, CN	CN	MeCN, 13 h	58
S	Me	Ph	Н	CO ₂ Me	MeO(CH ₂) ₂ OMe, 14 h	48
S	Me	Ph	Н	COMe	MeO(CH ₂) ₂ OMe, 14 h	63

TABLE 6. The Synthesis of Δ^1 -Pyrrolines **122** from Compounds **123** and Alkenes **124**

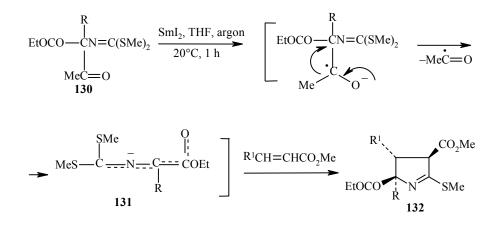
TABLE 7. The Synthesis of Δ^1 -Pyrrolines 127 from the Salts 128 and Alkenes 129

R	R^1	R ²	R ³	\mathbb{R}^4	Reaction conditions	Yield, %
Н	Ph	trans, CO ₂ Me	CO ₂ Me	Н	20°C, 20 h	71
(CI	H ₂) ₅	trans, CO ₂ Me	CO ₂ Me	Н	20°C, 20 h	38
(CI	$H_2)_5$	trans, CO ₂ Me	CO ₂ Me	Н	Boiling, 10 h	52
Н	Ph	cis, CO ₂ Me	CO ₂ Me	Н	20°C, 20 h	52
(CI	H ₂) ₅	cis, CO ₂ Me	CO ₂ Me	Н	Boiling, 10 h	35
(CH ₂) ₂ 0	$O(CH_2)_2$	cis, CO ₂ Me	CO ₂ Me	Н	Boiling, 10 h	30
Н	Ph	Н	Cl	CN	Boiling, 5 h	31
(CH ₂) ₂ G	$O(CH_2)_2$	Н	Cl	CN	Boiling, 10 h	18

The respective Δ^1 -pyrrolines **127** were synthesized by the reaction of the salts **128** with the alkenes **129** in the presence of CsF at room temperature (Table 7) [102].



In the presence of powdered SmI₂ in an inert atmosphere compound **130** is converted into the ylides **131**, which enter into reaction with the esters R¹CH=CHCO₂Me *in situ*, giving high yields of the Δ^1 -pyrrolines **132** [103].



R, R¹, yield (%): Me, Me, 90; Me, *t*-Bu, 85; Bn, Me, 80; Bn, *t*-Bu, 80

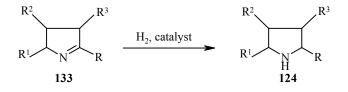
CHEMICAL TRANSFORMATIONS OF Δ^1 -PYRROLINES

2.1. Addition to the C=N Bond

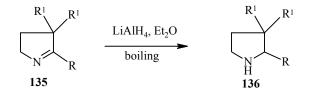
2.1.1. Hydrogenation and Reduction

The transformation of Δ^1 -pyrrolines into the corresponding pyrrolidine derivatives has been described in many papers. The process takes place both by catalytic hydrogenation and by the action of chemical reducing agents.

 Δ^1 -Pyrrolines **133** were converted into pyrrolidine derivatives **134** by the action of molecular hydrogen in the presence of various catalysts (Table 8).



High yields of the reduction products **136** were obtained during the reduction of pyrroline derivatives **135** with lithium aluminum hydride in ether [43, 49].



R, R¹, time (h), yield (%): PhCH₂, H, n/i, 54; 9-phenanthryl, H, n/i, 94; 2-thienyl, H, n/i, 88 [43]; Me, Ph, 48, 83.5; Et, Ph, 25, 75.4; Ph, Ph, 26, 86.6; 2-ClC₆H₄, Ph, 15, 91.5 [49]

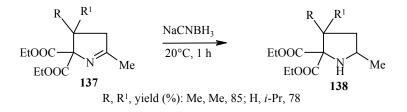
R	R ¹	R ²	R ³	Hydrogenation condition	Yield, %	Reference
Н	CO ₂ H	Н	Н	PtO ₂ , 25°C, AcOH, H ₂ O	73	[26]
Me	CO ₂ H	Н	Н	PtO ₂ , 20°C, 3 atm, 0.5 h	100	[28]
Me	$\rm CO_2 H$	Н	Me	PtO ₂ , 20°C, 3 atm, 0.5 h	100	[28]
Ph	CO ₂ H	Н	Н	PtO2, 20°C, 3 atm, 0.5 h	62	[28]
$2-HOC_6H_4$	CO_2H	Н	Н	PtO ₂ , 20°C	n/i	[29]
Me	CO ₂ Me	Н	Н	Pd/C, MeOH	n/i	[34]
Et	CO ₂ Et	Н	Н	Pd/C, EtOH	n/i	[34]
$4-PhC_6H_4$	Н	Н	Н	Ni, 20°C, 4 atm, EtOH	85	[43]
PhCH ₂	Н	Η	Н	Ni, 20°C, 4 atm, EtOH	92	[43]
1-Naphthyl- methyl	Н	Н	Н	Ni, 20°C, 4 atm, EtOH	87	[43]
Н	Н	Н	Н	PtO2, 20°C, 8 h, EtOH	n/i	[73]
Н	Н	Н	Н	PtO ₂ , HCl, H ₂ O	n/i	[75]
CO ₂ H	Т	t-BuO	Т	Pd/BaSO ₄ , 100°C, 1 h, ampul*	23	[77]
C7H15	CO ₂ Bu-t	Н	Н	PtO ₂ , 20°C, 3 atm, 4.5 h	99	[78]
C ₄ H ₉	C_7H_{15}	Н	Н	PtO ₂ , 20°C, 3 atm, 4.5 h	90	[78]
C ₄ H ₉	CO ₂ Bu-t	Н	Н	PtO2, 20°C, 3 atm, 4.5 h	96	[78]
$(CH_2)_{4/}C-Me$	CO ₂ Bu-t	Н	Н	PtO2, 20°C, 2 h, EtOH	96	[79]
O(CH ₂) ₂ O						

TABLE 8. Catalytic Hydrogenation of Δ^1 -Pyrrolines

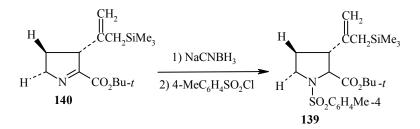
* In 133 $R = CO_2H$, $R^1 = R^2 = R^3 = H$; the reaction was conducted in an atmosphere of tritium.

5-(3-Pyridyl)-3,4-2H-dihydropyrrole or 5-phenyl-3,4-2H-dihydropyrrole was converted by the action of sodium borohydride in alcohol (20°C, 18 h) into 2-(3-pyridyl)pyrrolidine (yield 20%) or 2-phenylpyrrolidine (yield 16%) respectively [67].

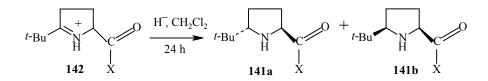
Various Δ^1 -pyrrolines are reduced to pyrrolidine derivatives with high yields when sodium cyanoborohydride is used. Polysubstituted Δ^1 -pyrrolines **137** are converted smoothly into compounds **138** by the action of sodium borohydride at room temperature [41].



The N-substituted pyrrolidine **139** was synthesized from Δ^1 -pyrroline **140** by a two-stage method (without isolation of the product formed at the first stage of the process) by the action of sodium cyanoborohydride followed by treatment with *p*-toluenesulfonyl chloride [19].



A mixture of stereoisomers **141a**,**b** in various ratios is formed when the salts **142** are heated with borohydrides, and in nearly all cases 100% conversion of the salts **142** is observed [32].



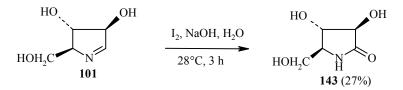
X, hydride, °C, solvent, **141a**:**141b** ratio: OH, NaCNBH₃, 66, THF, 43:57; OH, Me₄NBH(OAc)₃, 66, THF, 88:17 (100% conversion after 6 h); OH, Me₄NBH(OAc)₃, 0, THF, 66:33; OH, Me₄NBH(OAc)₃, -70, MeCN, 33:66; OH, NaCNBH₃, -40, MeCN, 50:50; OH, Me₄NBH(OAc)₃, 0, MeCN, 58:42; OH, Me₄NBH(OAc)₃, -40, MeCN, 54:46; NHMe, Me₄NBH(OAc)₃, 66, THF, 37:73; NHMe, Me₄NBH(OAc)₃, 0, MeCN, 50:50 (66% conversion after 96 h)

An original method for the reduction of 2-phenyl-3,4-2H-dihydropyrrole to 2-phenylpyrrolidine (yield 85%) involved the action of butylmagnesium chloride in the presence of Cp_2TiCl_2 at 25°C for 15 h [104].

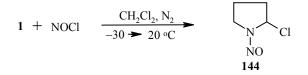
2.1.2. Reactions with Inorganic Compounds

The products from the addition of inorganic compounds to the cyclic C=N bond of Δ^1 -pyrrolines have only been reported in two papers.

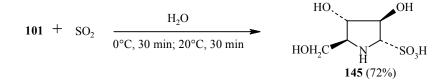
In the presence of sodium hydroxide and iodine Δ^1 -pyrroline **101** adds a molecule of water and is converted without change of configuration into (3S,4R,5R)-3,4-dihydroxy-5-hydroxymethyl-2-pyrrolidone (**143**) [96].



3,4-2H-Dihydropyrrole 1 adds nitrosyl chloride at the C=N bond in an inert atmosphere and is converted into 2-chloro-1-nitrosopyrrolidine (144) [105].



The product **145** from addition of sulfurous acid to the cyclic C=N bond of Δ^1 -pyrroline **101** was obtained by passing sulfur dioxide into an aqueous solution of the pyrroline **101** [96].



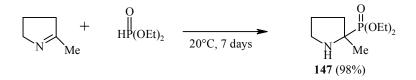
2.1.3. Reactions with Heteroorganic Compounds

The compounds of this type that have been studied most in reactions with Δ^1 -pyrrolines are phosphoruscontaining compounds.

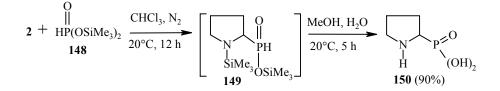
The reaction of the trimer **2** with diethyl phosphite was realized by heating in an atmosphere of argon, and as a result the addition product **146** was obtained [106].

$$\mathbf{2} + \mathbf{HP}(OEt)_2 \xrightarrow{\text{argon}} \mathbf{146} (50\%) \xrightarrow{\text{B}} \mathbf{2}$$

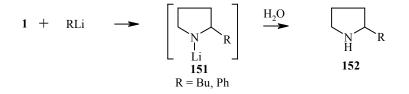
As shown recently, diethyl phosphite adds to 2-methyl-3,4-2H-dihydropyrrole even at room temperature, and the corresponding compound **147** is formed with a yield of 98% [107].



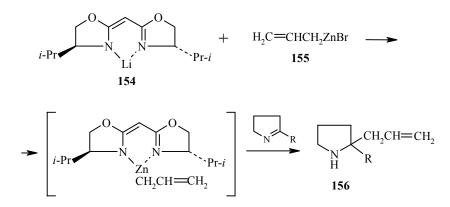
Bis(trimethylsilyl) phosphonite (148) also reacts with the trimer 2 at room temperature, giving the intermediate compound 149. The latter is converted into compound 150 by treatment with aqueous methanol [108].



Butyllithium or phenyllithium reacts with the pyrroline 1 at 20°C to form the addition products 151, which are converted by treatment with water into the pyrrolidine derivatives 152 [109].



The reaction product obtained from compounds **154** and **155** was brought into reaction with pyrroline **1** or with 5-*tert*-butyl-3,4-2H-dihydropyrrole, and the pyrrolidine derivatives **156** were synthesized [110].



R, °C, time (h), yield (%): H, -30, 8, 54; t-Bu, 0, 20, 75

2.1.4. Reactions with Compounds of the Pyrrole Series

In this section all known published data on the reactions of pyrroline **1** with pyrrole, its homologs, or indole, leading to the corresponding 2-heterylpyrrolidines, are discussed. It should be noted that investigations in this regions have been concentrated into a single paper [96]. The reaction of pyrroline **1** with pyrrole was studied in greatest detail. 2-(2-Pyrrolyl)pyrrolidine (**157**) was obtained when the trimer **2** was heated for a long time with pyrrole [93].



In cases where the pyrroline 1 was produced as a result of the transformation of some other heterocyclic compound and brought into reaction with pyrrole *in situ* the addition product 157 was formed with lower yields. Thus, the pyrroline 1 formed by heating NaIO₄ with 3-hydroxypiperidine in aqueous sodium hydroxide with heat was used in the reaction with pyrrole for 48 h at the boiling point of the mixture. As a result the addition product 157 was obtained with a yield of 20% [93].

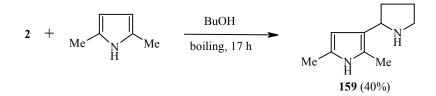
When the pyrrolidine **15** was passed (0.3 ml/min) in a stream of hydrogen (30 ml/min) though a Pyrex tube containing Pd/C, the following results were obtained. Temperature, °C, yields (%) of pyrrole, pyrroline **1**, and compound **157**: 200, 0.8, 0; 240, 5.5, 7, 11; 320, 8, 12, 16; 350, 0.15, 30; 400, 0.24, 48 [96]. Low yields of the addition product **157** were observed when pyrrole was passed over the catalyst Rh/Al₂O₃ in a stream of hydrogen [93].

<u> </u>	$5\% \text{ Rh/Al}_2\text{O}_3, \text{H}_2$ $20^{\circ}\text{C}, 24 \text{ h}$	boiling, 24 h	9.2%	157
N H	$\frac{5\% \text{ Rh/Al}_2\text{O}_3, \text{H}_2}{20^\circ\text{C}, 28 \text{ min}}$	pyrrole	31%	157

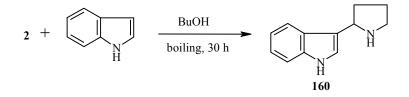
The trimer **2** reacts with 2-methylpyrrole or 3-methylpyrrole in boiling butanol with the formation of compounds **158**, in which the pyrrolidine radical is at position 5 of the pyrrole ring [93].

R, time (h), yield (%): 3-Me, 24, 72; 4-Me, 22, 33

If both α -positions in the pyrrole contain substituents, the reaction with pyrrole takes place at position 3. Thus, the product **159** was obtained by heating the trimer **2** with 2,5-dimethylpyrrole in butanol [93].



The trimer **2** enters into reaction with indole with greater difficulty, and to obtain a satisfactory yield of the reaction product it is necessary to boil the reagents for a long time in butanol. As usual, the indole reacts at position 3 with the formation of the adduct **160** [93].



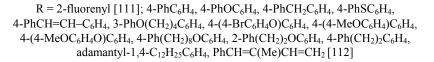
1-Methylcarbazole and carbazole do not react with pyrroline 1 under the investigated conditions [93].

2.1.5. Reactions with Methyl Ketones or β-Keto Acids

It seems logical to examine the reactions of Δ^1 -pyrrolines with ketones RCOMe or β -keto acids RCOCH₂COOH in one section (as addition to the C=N bond of pyrrolines) on account of the fact that the products of these reactions are formally adducts of methyl ketones and pyrroline **1**.

In 1974 a method was patented for the synthesis of 2-pyrrolidinylmethyl ketones **161** by heating pyrroline **1** with methyl ketones RCOMe in the presence of magnesium methylcarbonate in DMF in an atmosphere of carbon dioxide. The reaction was carried out in a stream of nitrogen in order to remove the methanol released during the reaction [111, 112].

$$\mathbf{1} + \mathbf{RCMe} \xrightarrow{\text{MeOMgOCO}_2\text{Me}}_{120^{\circ}\text{C}, 4 \text{ h}} \xrightarrow{\text{N}}_{\text{H}} \xrightarrow{\text{O}}_{\text{CH}_2\text{CR}}^{\text{O}}$$



The experimental details of this reaction were described in greater detail in [113, 114]. The yields of the obtained compounds were given, and certain limitations of the process making it possible to obtain compounds **161** were described. R, yield, %: $Ph(CH_2)_2C_6H_4$, 63; 2-anthranyl, 65 [113]; 4-PhOC₆H₄, 34; (9-fluorenylidene)=C₆H₄-4, 27; 2-fluorenyl, 65; 4-PhCH₂C₆H₄, 63 [114].

In reaction with pyrroline 1 acetoacetic acid is decarboxylated, and compound 162, i.e., the product from addition of acetone to the C=N bond of pyrroline, is formed [4].

$$1 + MeCCH_2CO_2H \xrightarrow{(phosphate buffer solution),}{pH 6} \xrightarrow{N}_{H} CH_2CMe$$

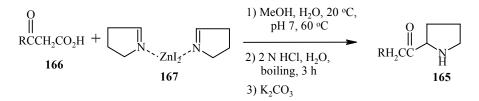
$$162$$

The synthesis of aryl 2-pyrrolinylmethyl ketones 163 by the condensation of pyrroline 1 with β -diketones 164, taking place at 20°C and pH 7, was described in a series of papers [36, 40, 115-118]. The obtained compounds are the products from formal addition of the ketones ArCOMe to the C=N bond of pyrroline 1.

 $1 + \operatorname{ArCCH}_{2}CO_{2}H \xrightarrow{MeOH, H_{2}O, N_{2}} \underset{H}{\overset{O}{\xrightarrow{N_{2}}}} \underset{H}{\overset{H}{\xrightarrow{N_{2}}}} \underset{$

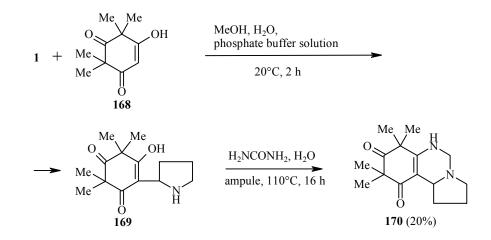
Ar, time (h), yield: Ph, 60, 53-65 [36, 115]; 4-MeOC₆H₄, 24, 88 [36]; 3,4-(MeO)₂C₆H₃, 24-38, 52-85 [36, 115, 117]; 3-MeO, 4-BnOC₆H₃, 46-60, 46 [40, 118]; 3-PhCO₂, 4-MeOC₆H₃, 40, 45.9 [116]; 4-BnOC₆H₄, 60, 61 [40]; Ph (in **1** T is at position 5, in Ph all the atoms are C¹⁴), 60, n/i; 4-OHC₆H₄ (in **1** ¹⁴C is at position 5, in 4-HOC₆H₄ T is at position 3), 60, n/i; 3-MeO, 4-HOC₆H₃ (in **1**, T is at position 5), 60, n/i [40]

The condensation products **165** were synthesized with high yields by the reaction of the β -keto acids **166** with the complex **167** at 20°C and pH 7 (phosphate buffer solution) followed by heating the reaction mixtures with dilute hydrochloric acid and the action of potassium carbonate [24].



R, yield (%): Me, 85; Ph, 88; 3,4-(MeO)C₆H₃, 92

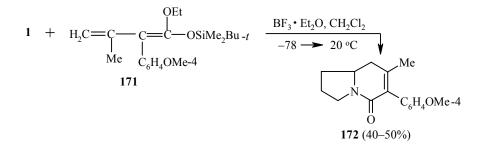
The reaction of pyrroline **1** with the cyclic ketone **168** was described in [39]. It resulted led to the product **169** from addition of the diketone at the C=N bond of the pyrroline **1**. In reaction with urea the product was converted into the *Syncarpurea* alkaloid **170**.



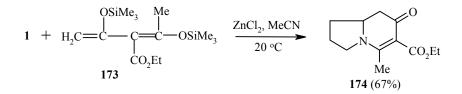
2.1.6. Cycloaddition and Cyclocondensation

In this section we review published data on the reactions of Δ^1 -pyrrolines with unsaturated polyfunctional compounds, leading to condensed systems containing a pyrrolidine ring.

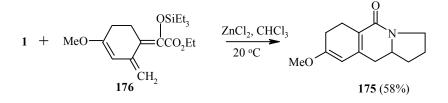
In the presence of boron trifluoride etherate the pyrroline 1 enters into an aldiminodiene cyclocondensation with the diene 171 with the formation of the bicyclic compound 172 [119].



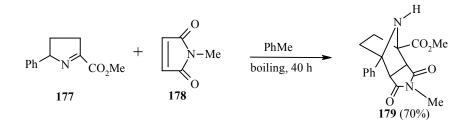
Cyclocondensation of pyrroline 1 with the diene 173 in the presence of zinc chloride gives 1-aza-2methyl-3-ethoxycarbonylbicyclo[4,3,0]nonan-4-one (174) [119].



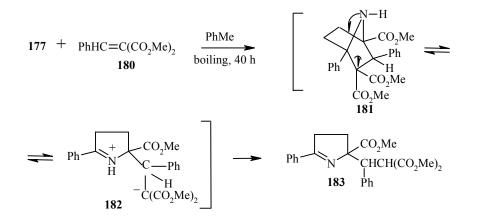
The tricyclic compound **175** was synthesized by the aldiminodiene cyclocondensation of pyrroline **1** with the cyclohexene derivative **176**, which contains two endocyclic double bonds [119].



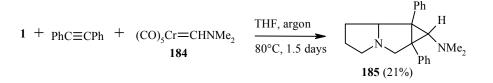
 Δ^{1} -Pyrrolines (potential azomethine ylides) are capable of entering into 1,3-dipolar cyclocondensation with alkenes containing an activated double bond. For example, the Δ^{1} -pyrroline 177 gives the adduct 179 when heated with N-methylmaleimide 178 [33].



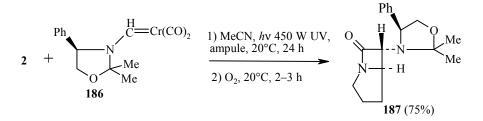
A more complicated picture is observed during the reaction of Δ^1 -pyrroline 177 with the alkene 180. Compound 181, formed as a result of 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition, can be converted reversibly into the tautomerdipole 182, the prototropic rearrangement of which leads to the final compound 183 [33].



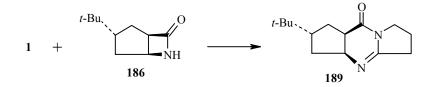
Compound **185** was synthesized by the prolonged action of heat on a mixture of pyrroline **1**, diphenylacetylene, and the carbene complex **184** in an inert atmosphere [120].



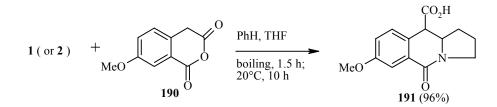
The cyclocondensation product **187** was obtained by irradiating a mixture of the trimer **2** and the carbene complex **186** with ultraviolet light followed by oxidation of the reaction mass [121].



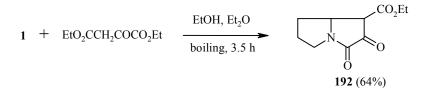
The pyrrolopyrimidine derivative **189** is formed in the reaction of pyrroline **1** with $(1R^*, 3S^*, 5S^*)$ -3-*tert*butyl-6-azabicyclo[3.2.0]heptan-7-one (**188**). The reaction takes place with retention of the configuration of the original lactam [122].



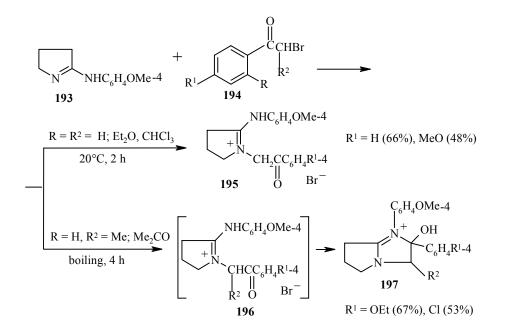
The cyclocondensation of pyrroline 1 with 7-methoxyisochroman-1,3-dione (190) takes place nonstereospecifically, and 7-methoxy-10-hydroxycarbonyl-1,2,3,5,10,10a-hexahydropyrrolo[1,2-b]isoquinolin-5-one (191) is formed as a 50:50 mixture of *cis* and *trans* isomers [123, 124].



1-Ethoxycarbonylpyrrolizidine-2,3-dione (192) (a synthon for the production of alkaloids of the *Senecio* group) is formed as a result of the cyclocondensation of pyrroline 1 with oxaloacetic ester without the use of condensing agents [125].



If the reaction of 5-(*p*-anisidyl)-3,4-2H-dihydropyrrole (193) with phenacyl bromides 194 (R = H) was carried out at 20°C, only alkylation with the formation of the corresponding salts 195 occurred. However, if the reaction of the Δ^1 -pyrroline 193 with phenacyl bromides 194 (R = Me) was carried out in boiling acetone, the reaction did not stop at the alkylation stage, but the alkylation products 196 entered *in situ* into intramolecular nucleophilic cycloaddition, leading to compounds 197 [126].

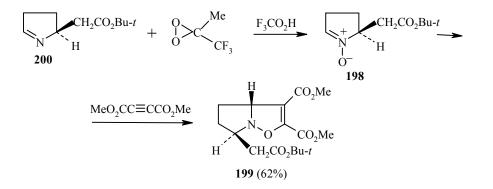


2.2. Other Reactions

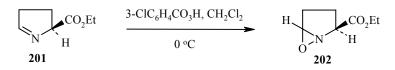
2.2.1. Dehydrogenation and Oxidation

When heated in the presence of Pd/C, 2-(Δ^1 -2-pyrrolinyl)pyrrole (**58**) eliminates a molecule of hydrogen and is converted into 2,2'-bipyrrole [58].

The attention of many investigators has been attracted to 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition as a convenient method for the synthesis of various heterocyclic compounds, including important natural compounds and, mainly, alkaloids [127]. Of considerable interest in this connection are the N-oxides of nitrogen-containing heterocycles and, in particular the N-oxides of Δ^1 -pyrrolines. It is therefore surprising that only one paper has been devoted to the synthesis of Δ^1 -pyrroline N-oxide (198) and its use in 1,3-dipolar cycloaddition with dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate. As a result the adduct 199 was obtained under very mild conditions [87].



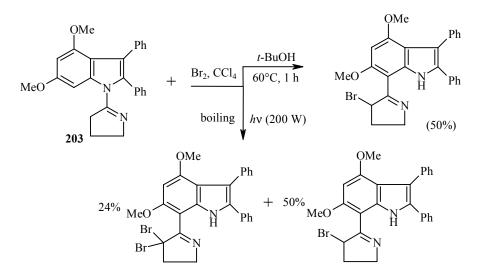
The C=N bond in 2-ethoxycarbonyl-3,4-2H-dihydropyrrole (201) is easily oxidized during the action of the peroxy acid 3-ClC₆H₄CO₃H, resulting in the formation of compound 202 [87, 107].



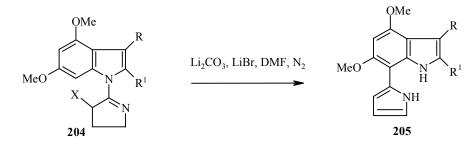
R, R¹, yield (%): CO₂Et, H, n/i [87]; P(O)(OEt)₂, Me, 57 [107]

2.2.2. Halogenation and Dehalogenation

The Δ^1 -pyrroline **203** is brominated by N-bromosuccinimide at position 4 of the pyrroline ring. The composition of the bromination products varies significantly with variation of the bromination conditions [65].

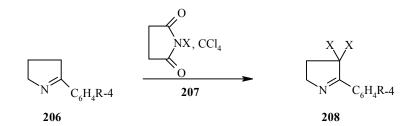


During the action of lithium carbonate and lithium bromide in an inert atmosphere the halogen derivatives **204** undergo dehydrobromination, resulting in the formation of the indole derivatives **205** with the pyrrole ring at position 7 [65].



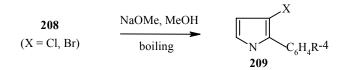
R, R¹, X, °C, time (h), yield: Ph, Ph, Br, 90, 3, 85; 4-ClC₆H₄, H, Cl, 110, 2, 85; 4-BrC₆H₄, H, Cl, 110, 24, 85

The halogenation of the pyrroline ring in the Δ^1 -pyrrolines **206** by the action of N-halogenosuccinimides **207** gives high yields. If an excess of the halogenating agent is used, two hydrogen atoms at position 4 in the pyrroline ring are substituted by two atoms of the respective halogen, and compounds **208** are formed [46].



R, X, (conditions), yield (%): H, Cl, (boiling, 10 min; 20°C, 7 h), 90; Me, Cl, (boiling, 10 min, 20°C, 14 h), 83;
OMe, Cl, (boiling, 10 min; 20°C, 14 h), 86; Cl, Cl, (boiling, 10 min; 20°C, 12 h), 98; H, Br, (65°C, 48 h), 80;
Me, Br, (boiling, 14 h), 88; OMe, Br, (boiling, 7 h), 99; Cl, Br, (65°C, 48 h), 79

The obtained dihalogen derivatives **208** were converted into 3-halogeno-2-arylpyrroles **209** by the action of sodium methoxide in boiling methanol [46].

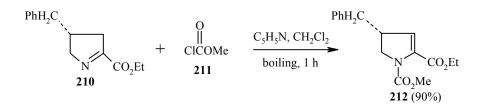


R, X, time (h), yield (%): H, Cl, 2, 95; Me, Cl, 3, 98; MeO, Cl, 3, 78; Cl, Cl, 4, 95; H, Br, 2, 85; Me, Br, 3, 82; OMe, Br, 3, 78; Cl, Br, 3, 87

2.3.3. Reactions with Carboxylic Acid Chlorides

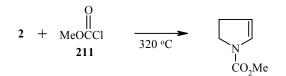
The reaction of Δ^1 -pyrrolines with carboxylic acid chlorides leads to acylation of the pyrrolines at the cyclic nitrogen atom with isomerization of the double bond from position 1-2 to position 2-3.

Compound **212** is formed when ethyl 3-benzyl-3,4-2H-dihydropyrrole (**210**) is heated with chlorocarbonic ester **211** in the presence of pyridine [84].



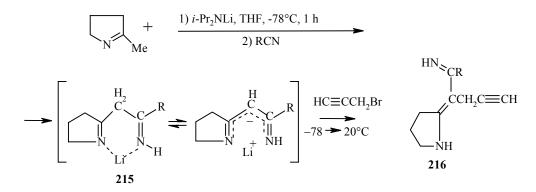
In the presence of triethylamine the trimer 2 reacts with acid chlorides 213 at normal temperature, and the acylation products 214 are as a rule formed with good yields. However, if the reaction of the trimer 2 with chlorocarbonic ester was carried out without triethylamine, it was necessary to heat the reaction mixture above 300°C for successful reaction [128].

R, yield (%): MeO, 78; EtO, 79; PhCH₂O, 74; Cl₃CCH₂O, 39; Me, 71; ClCH₂, 57

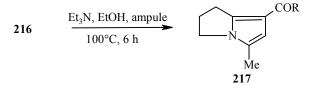


2.2.4. Reaction with Nitriles or Isonitriles

The lithium derivatives **215**, formed during the action of *i*- Pr_2NLi on 5-methyl-3,4-2H-dihydropyrrole and nitriles RCN, react with propargyl bromide, giving the condensation products **216**, which can be converted into the bicyclic compounds **217** by heating with triethylamine [129].

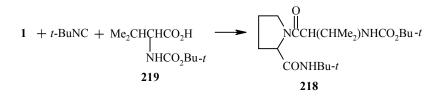


R= Ph, cyclohexyl, cyclopropyl, 2-thienyl, 2-furyl



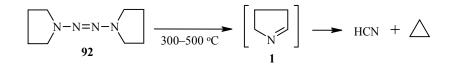
R, yield (%): Ph, 55; cyclohexyl, 71

The pyrrolidine derivative **218** was synthesized by the joint condensation of pyrroline **1**, *tert*-butylisonitrile, and N-*tert*-butoxycarbonylvaline (**219**) [130].



2.3. Reactions Accompanied by Cleavage of the Pyrroline Ring

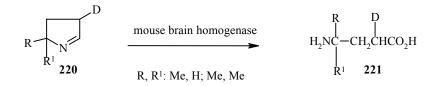
The pyrroline 1, formed during pyrolysis of the tetrazene 92, decomposes under the experimental conditions and is converted into hydrogen cyanide and cyclopropane [84].



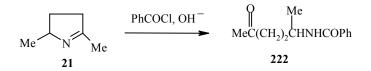
In the presence of enzyme systems the heterocyclic ring of Δ^1 -pyrrolines undergoes oxidative cleavage with the formation of the corresponding γ -amino acids. Thus, under the influence of the enzyme system containing rabbit liver catalase in the soluble fraction the pyrroline **1** is converted into a mixture of γ -aminobutyric acid and 2-pyrrolidone [131].

The pyrroline 1 deuterated at position 3 is converted in the presence of mouse brain homogenase into γ -aminobutyric acid containing the deuterium atom at position 2 [131].

The Δ^1 -pyrroline **220** also reacts under analogous conditions with opening of the heterocyclic ring, giving the derivatives of γ -aminobutyric acid **221** [131].



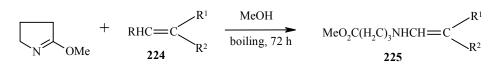
Under the conditions of the Schotten–Baumann reaction the pyrroline **21** is converted into the amino ketone benzoate **222** [27].



The reaction of the trimer **2** with 4-nitrophenylhydrazine gave the product from reaction of the hydrazine with the intermediately formed γ -butyraldehyde, i.e., the hydrazone **223** [10].

$$2 + 4 \cdot O_2 NC_6 H_4 NHNH_2 \longrightarrow 4 \cdot O_2 NC_6 H_4 NHN = CH(CH_2)_3 NH_2$$
223

Interesting transformations were observed by the authors of [132] when 5-alkoxy-3,4-2H-dihydropyrroles were heated with 1,2,2-trisubstituted ethylenes in various solvents. Compounds **225** were produced by boiling 5-methoxy-3,4-2H-dihydropyrrole with alkenes **224** in methanol [132].



R, R¹, R², yield (%): NO₂, SMe, SMe, 43; EtO, COMe, COMe, 48; EtO, COMe, CO₂Et, 38; EtO, CO₂Et, CO₂Et, 40

The reaction of 5-ethoxy-3,4-2H-dihydropyrrole with the alkene **226** in aqueous dioxane takes place in a different direction – with the formation of compound **227**.

 $\begin{array}{c|c} & & & \\$

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