The results obtained permit two possible structures, IV and V, to be suggested for spireine.

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THE CONFIGURATION OF SOPHORIDINE

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It has been shown previously [1] that in the lactam-containing alkaloid sophoridine [2,3] the C/D rings are syn-cislinked. To confirm this, the methiodide of sophoridine (I) was reduced with $LiAlH_4$. A product was obtained the methiodide of which was identical with the dimethiodide of sophoridane (III). Consequently, reduction given sophoridane monomethiodide (II) in which the free pair of the nitrogen atom of the trans-quinolizidine (A/B) system is blocked.



The IR spectra of I exhibits the band of a lactam carbonyl (1640 cm⁻¹) and lacks the band of a trans-quinolizidine system ($2800-2700 \text{ cm}^{-1}$). The spectrum of II lacks the bands of both a lactam carbonyl and a trans-quinolizidine system, which indicates the cis-linkage of rings C/D in sophoridine.

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THE STRUCTURE OF BUCHARIDINE

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In the chromatographic separation of the combined alkaloids of <u>Haplophyllum bucharicum</u> Litv. we obtained a phenolic base with mp 251-252° C having the composition $C_{19}H_{25}O_4N$, mol. wt. 331 (mass spectrometry), and we have called it bucharidine.