

A NOVEL CYCLIZATION FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF NITROGEN-CONTAINING  
 HETEROCYCLES: THE SYNTHESIS OF (±)-HELIOTRIDANE, (±)-NUPHAR  
 INDOLIZIDINE, AND (±)-DIHYDRODEOXYOTONECINE

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As shown in a general scheme, 1,3-diketone 1 bearing the appropriate protected amino side chain is readily converted into 6 in one pot from 1 under base-catalysed conditions. This sequential process involves a formation of carbinolamine 3 via 2, followed by a retroaldol type of ring-opening to give 4, and finally a transannular cyclization of 5 (R=H). With another point of view this sequence could be briefly depicted by a crisscross sign indicating reaction sites in formula 7, and thereby named as the *crisscross annulation*. Moreover, when the protected secondary amine 1 (R=alkyl) is used as a substrate in this versatile annulation, it is of special significance to be able to intercept the strained medium-sized ketolactam 5, controlling the *crisscross annulation*. We have demonstrated a new approach to the synthesis of pyrrolizidine 8, indolizidine 9, azacyclooctanone 10, and azacyclononanone 11 by using this annulation. Further, these compounds were readily led to the alkaloids (±)-heliotridane (12), (±)-nuphar indolizidine (13), and (±)-dihydrodeoxyotonecine (14).

