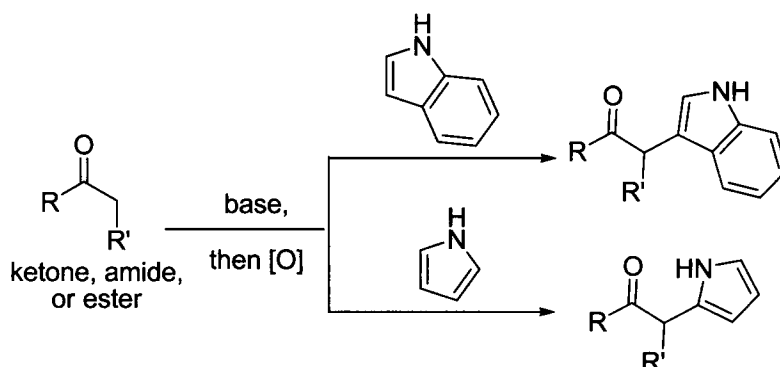


Oxidative coupling



An exciting new development of oxidative cyclization of pyrroles emerged from Baran's Laboratories at Scripps Research Institute. Building on their success with the oxidative cyclization of indoles,¹⁶ Baran *et al.* expanded the methodology to pyrroles.¹⁷

Applying the strategy of direct coupling of pyrroles with carbonyl compounds, Baran *et al.* developed a short enantioselective synthesis of (*S*)-ketorolac, Syntex's analgesic and anti-inflammatory agent.¹⁷ The antipode of ketorolac is more potent and causes fewer side effects.

