

Current issue

March 2010 - Vol 2 No 3

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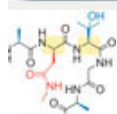
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Latest highlights

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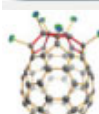


Natural product synthesis

> [Article by Inoue *et al.*](#)

Polytheonamide B is a large non-ribosomal peptide with very high bioactivity. The synthesis described here includes the first preparation of several non-proteinogenic amino acids and a general coupling strategy for large non-natural peptides. The synthesis is a key step necessary to understand and utilize the bioactivity of this and similar compounds.

+ Advance online publication

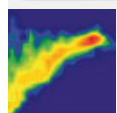


Fullerenes

> [Article by Tan *et al.*](#)

Fullerene cages that break the isolated pentagon rule are rare and often unstable. Now a range of fullerenes that feature three sequentially fused pentagons of carbon have been stabilized by chlorination.

+ Cover story



Single-molecule dynamics

> [Article by Goldsmith & Moerner](#)

FREE

A method for observing the photodynamics of single molecules, without having to immobilize them to a surface or confine them within vesicles, has been used to study the important photosynthetic antenna protein, allophycocyanin. Light-induced conformational changes and a complex relationship between fluorescence intensity and lifetime have been observed.

> [News & Views by Dedecker & Hofkens](#)

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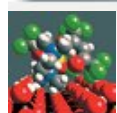


Organocatalysis

> [Review by Enders *et al.*](#)

The field of organocatalysis has grown rapidly in the past decade to become, along with metal catalysis and biocatalysis, a third pillar of asymmetric catalysis. Here, progress in the use of organocatalytic cascade reactions for total synthesis is reviewed. The elegance and efficiency of such cascades mean that they have emerged as a powerful tool in synthetic organic chemistry.

+ Research Highlights

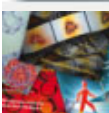


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Semiconductor nanoparticles self-assemble into twisted ribbons under irradiation and simulations reveal a pathway to the activation of a molecule on a hot surface.

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