
EDITORIAL



Dear Readers of Chimia,

You have in your hand the second issue dedicated to review articles ('Hot Topics' issue). Four articles are presented that highlight recent development in material sciences, organic synthesis, and enantioselective catalysis.

The contribution by **Dolder, Liu, and Decurtins** concerns the use of tetrathiafulvalene (TTF) derivatives with binding sites for metal ions. New fields of material and supramolecular chemistry are opened up by combining the redox and conducting properties of TTF with other

functionalities, such as magnetism or optical properties.

The second review by **Bazin, Feray, and Bertrand** is dedicated to the use of dialkylzincs in radical reactions. These organometallic reagents are well known for their extreme reactivity towards oxygen. Recently, it has been possible to use this feature of dialkylzinc reagents together with their Lewis acid character to design new radical chain reactions.

The third article by **Vachon and Lacour** summarizes the latest development of enantioselective phase transfer catalyzed (PTC) processes using quaternary ammonium salts. These processes are becoming increasingly important for the preparation of non-racemic molecules in both industrial and academic laboratories.

Finally, the article by **Nyfele and Renaud** is dedicated to the intramolecular Schmidt rearrangement. The intramolecular version of this rearrangement involving organic azides was discovered at the beginning of the 1990s. It rapidly proved to be a powerful tool for the rapid assembly of complex nitrogen containing heterocycles. Selected applications for the preparation of biologically relevant molecules are presented.

I hope you will enjoy reading these four review articles. The next issue dedicated to reviews will be the December issue (12/2006).

Philippe Renaud
CHIMIA Editor-in-Chief
(philippe.renaud@chimia.ch)