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Asymmetric and Symmetric Total Synthesis

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Message from the Guest Editors

Dear Colleagues,

Total synthesis of natural products stands as one of the most daunting fields of chemical synthesis. Behind the novelty and beauty of intricate three-dimensional architectures of secondary metabolites lie many challenges that require exquisite precision in the selected synthetic strategies, turning total synthesis into a fine and very demanding art. Among the vast list of synthetic strategies available, those exploiting molecular symmetry can be very powerful and effective and significantly simplify the construction of apparently complex molecular frameworks. The aim of the present Special Issue on “Asymmetric and Symmetric Total Synthesis” is to emphasize the role of symmetry in natural product synthesis, such as synthesis of symmetric molecules, symmetric strategies to construct molecules or desymmetrization strategies...

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Symmetry is ultimately the most important concept in natural sciences. It is not surprising then that very basic and fundamental research achievements are related to symmetry. For instance, the Nobel Prize in Physics 1979 (Glashow, Salam, Weinberg) was received for a unified symmetry description of electromagnetic and weak interactions, while the Nobel Prize in Physics 2008 (Nambu, Kobayashi, Maskawa) was received for the discovery of the mechanism of spontaneous breaking of symmetry, including CP symmetry. Our journal is named *Symmetry* and it manifests its fundamental role in nature.

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