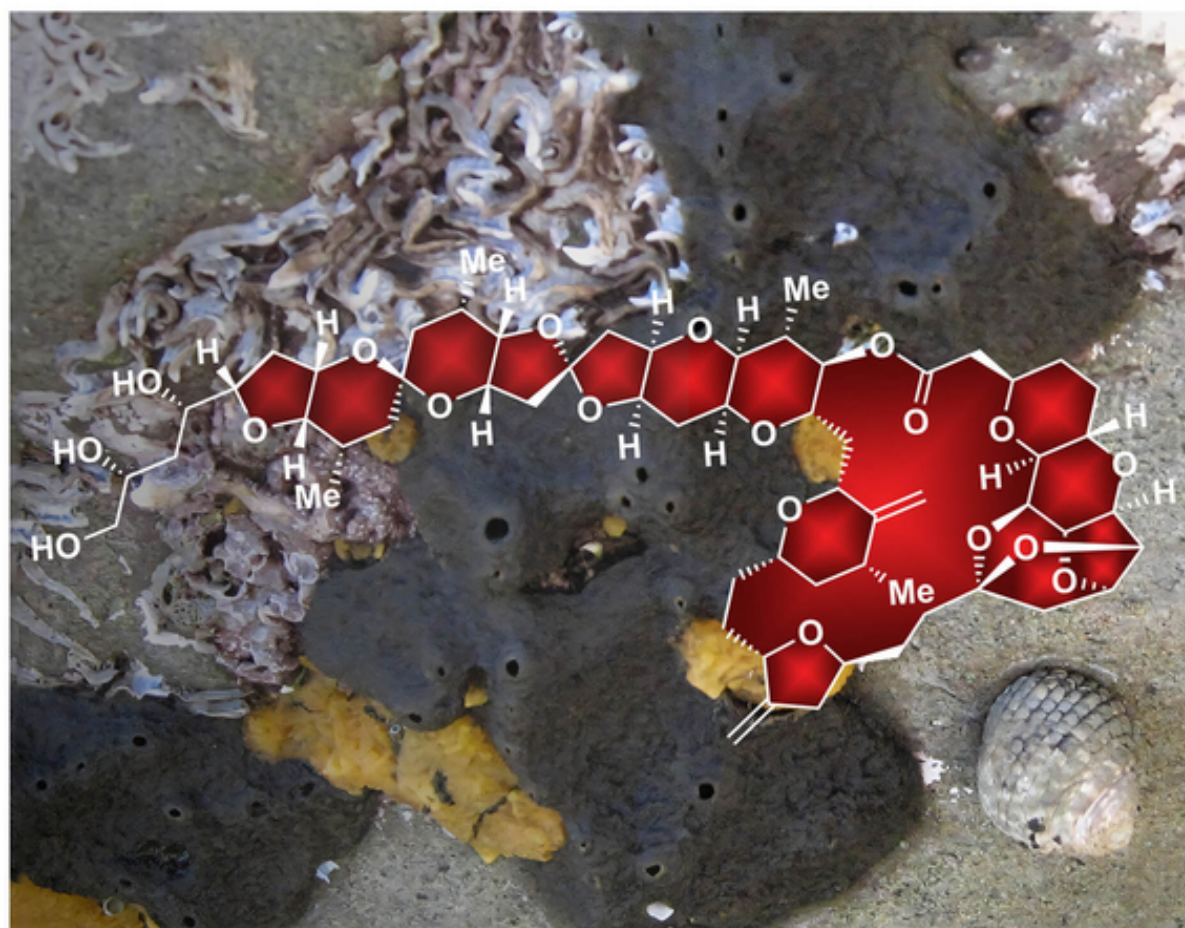


Nicolaou · Yu · Rigol

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Classics in Total Synthesis IV

New Targets, Strategies, Methods



Classics in Total Synthesis IV K. C. Nicolaou
New Targets, Strategies, Methods Ruocheng Yu
Stephan Rigol

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K. C. Nicolaou
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New Targets, Strategies, Methods

With a Foreword by
E. J. Corey

WILEY-VCH

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Foreword

It is both an honor and a pleasure to pen the foreword for the fourth volume of *Classics in Total Synthesis*, as I did for the three previous volumes. This series has emerged as a guiding light in the ever-expansive realm of total synthesis. As we embark on this intellectual journey, it is essential to reflect on the profound impact that the preceding volumes have had on our understanding of the total synthesis of complex molecules.

Classics IV seamlessly joins its predecessors, weaving together the threads of scientific discovery, challenge, and intellectual pursuit. This series has proven to be not only a chronicle of synthetic triumphs but also a celebration of the inherent complexity and beauty, which are inherent to total synthesis endeavours.

As I delve into the prepublication draft of this volume, I find the presented synthetic research remarkably clear and vivid and find each of the chapters exerting a captive force. The collection of synthetic triumphs within these pages invites readers to traverse the great complexity and variety that is characteristic for total synthesis journeys. The challenges presented verge on the impossible, demanding not only mental and practical rigor but also unwavering dedication, persistence, and hard work.

One of the remarkable aspects of the *Classics in Total Synthesis* series has been its ability to transcend disciplinary boundaries. While rooted in chemistry, the series establishes strong connections with biology and medicine. This interdisciplinary approach highlights the relevance of synthetic chemistry at a fundamental level to human well-being, health, and education.

The educational approach employed by the authors is enormously valuable and effective. The careful balance between historical context, comments on the molecules' impact to humankind, and the design and execution aspects of each synthesis creates a narrative that is not only clear but also intellectually stimulating. It is a sheer delight to revisit each synthetic success guided by the insightful analyses found throughout *Classics IV*.

As mentioned in the Forewords of the earlier volumes, the enormous number of achievements in total synthesis is so large that capturing them all in a single collection is an impossible task. However, *Classics in Total Synthesis* has risen to this challenge with grace, presenting a carefully made selection that not only represents outstanding achievements, namely the construction of highly complex natural products, but also covers a diverse set of synthetic methodologies.

The question arises: Have we reached a plateau in scientific or intellectual discovery within the field of synthetic organic chemistry? The answer, as echoed by the authors, is a resounding no. The opportunities for new developments and discoveries are as vast as the

synthetic targets that remain to be uncovered, chased, and conquered. Today's total synthesis is not a culmination but a prelude to a future that promises continued dynamic development, relentlessly pushing the boundaries of what we perceive as possible.

In crafting this Foreword, I thank K. C. Nicolaou, Ruocheng Yu, and Stephan Rigol for their work in sustaining the heritage of *Classics in Total Synthesis*. May the publication of *Classics IV* be met with the same enthusiasm and admiration as it was rightly the case with its predecessors. I am confident that studying the *Classics* will empower upcoming generations of chemists, fostering a profound comprehension and appreciation for the significance of total synthesis. This endeavour will instill in them a deep understanding of the value and importance of natural products through showcasing the appealing beauty inherent to their molecular architectures and such insights will serve as catalyst, inspiring these aspiring chemists to embark on their own transformative journeys of exploration, discovery, and innovation.

E. J. Corey
Harvard University
23 January 2024

Preface

As we embark on the journey into the pages of this fourth volume in the *Classics in Total Synthesis* series, we find ourselves standing at the precipice of a new chapter in the evolving narrative of organic synthesis. This series, conceived with the dual purpose of documenting historical milestones and serving as an educational beacon, has traversed through the annals of synthetic chemistry, illuminating the paths carved by the practitioners of our field.

In the preceding volumes (*Classics I*, *Classics II*, and *Classics III*), we witnessed the meticulous unraveling of nature's complexity through ingenious synthetic strategies. *Classics I* laid the groundwork, introducing us to the profound philosophy and purpose of total synthesis. Building upon these foundational principles, *Classics II* expanded our horizons with a focused exploration of the transformative potential that the 21st century holds for synthetic chemistry. *Classics III* brought us up to speed with the rapid advancements of the recent era, showcasing the elegance, brevity, and environmental consciousness that characterize the latest synthetic frontiers.

As we delve into the rich tapestry of *Classics IV*, our aim remains steadfast—to chronicle the evolving landscape of total synthesis. This volume encapsulates the culmination of new methodologies, emerging trends, and a selection of significant total syntheses undertaken from 2009 to 2022 while additionally including two earlier syntheses from 1979 and 1992 for comparison and to highlight the development of organic synthesis over the past decades. In the spirit of its predecessors, *Classics IV* seeks to inspire and educate, weaving together the historical context, the intricacies of retrosynthetic analysis, and the tactical brilliance in execution.

From the complex architectures of natural products to the streamlined synthesis of functional molecules, each Chapter in *Classics IV* unfolds a unique story. The interplay of mechanisms, reactivity, selectivity, and stereochemical aspects is thoroughly examined, echoing the pedagogical format that has become synonymous with this series. Clear Schemes and Figures accompany the text, providing a visual guide to the sophisticated dance of atoms that is initiated by organic chemists, breaking bonds between some of them and forming new ones between others to build the molecules of Nature and their designed analogues in the laboratory.

The creation of *Classics IV* has been a collaborative endeavour, made possible by the dedication and insights of numerous individuals. Besides all scientists involved in the presented synthetic journeys, we extend our deepest gratitude to Janise L. Petrey for her careful editing, ensuring a seamless reading experience and bringing clarity to complex concepts; Jenna L. Kripal for her valuable assistance in creating stimulating and engaging frontispieces for each Chapter;

and the Editorial staff from Wiley-VCH for their professional and straightforward handling of our manuscript and its translation to the finished book that you are holding in your hands now.

We dedicate *Classics IV* to the continued legacy of organic synthesis and recognize the responsibility that lies ahead. To the students, researchers, and practitioners who hold these pages, we impart the torch of innovation and the quest for knowledge. May this volume inspire the next generation of synthetic organic chemists, just as its predecessors have done, to further sharpen the art and science of organic synthesis in general and total synthesis in particular for the betterment of humankind.

Houston, TX
September 2024

K. C. Nicolaou
Ruocheng Yu
Stephan Rigol

About the Authors



K. C. Nicolaou was born in Cyprus and educated in the United Kingdom and United States. He currently holds the Harry C. and Olga K. Wiess Chair in Natural Sciences at Rice University. His previous appointments include positions at the University of Pennsylvania and joint positions as the Darlene Shiley Chair in Chemistry and the Aline W. and L. S. Skaggs Chair in Chemical Biology at The Scripps Research Institute and as Distinguished Professor of Chemistry at the University of California, San Diego. The impact of his work in chemistry, biology, and medicine flows from his contributions to chemical synthesis as described in over 800 publications. He is the recipient of numerous Prizes, Awards, and Honors (e.g., Nemitsas Prize, Wolf Prize, and the Robert Koch Gold Medal) and has been elected to several Academies, such as the New York Academy of Sciences; the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; the American Philosophical Society; the Royal Society of London; the National Academy of Sciences (USA); the Royal Society of Chemistry (UK); the Cyprus Academy of Sciences, Letters and Arts; and the German Academy of Sciences Leopoldina.

Ruocheng Yu studied chemistry at Peking University, China, as an undergraduate student under the supervision of Zhen Yang and Jiahua Chen. After receiving his bachelor's degree in 2012, he went on to pursue his doctoral studies under the guidance of K. C. Nicolaou at The Scripps Research Institute and later Rice University. In the Nicolaou lab, he completed the total syntheses of several natural and designed molecules, including gukulenin B. He is currently a postdoctoral fellow in the laboratory of Emily Balskus.



Stephan Rigol received his higher education at Leipzig University, Germany, where he obtained his undergraduate degrees, and received his doctorate in 2013 after carrying out research in the fields of synthetic organic and medicinal chemistry under the guidance of Athanassios Giannis. He then moved to the United States to join the group of K. C. Nicolaou at Rice University where he is currently conducting research in the field of natural products chemistry with a particular focus on molecules with antibacterial and anticancer activities.



Abbreviations

18-crown-6	1,4,7,10,13,16-hexaoxacyclo-octadecane	bpy	2,2'-bipyridine
4CzIPN	1,2,3,5-tetrakis(carbazol-9-yl)-4,6-dicyanobenzene	bpz	2,2'-bipyrazine
9-BBN	9-borabicyclo[3.3.1]nonane	brsm	based on recovered starting material
A	adenine	Bu	butyl
Ac	acetyl	Bz	benzoyl
acac	acetoacetate	C	cytosine
Ad	adamantane	CAN	ceric ammonium nitrate
AD	asymmetric dihydroxylation	Cap	caproyl
ADC	antibody–drug conjugate	Cas9	CRISPR associated protein 9
ADP	adenosine diphosphate	cat.	catalytic or catalyst
AIBN	2,2'-azobisisobutyronitrile	Cbz	benzyloxycarbonyl
AIDS	acquired immunodeficiency syndrome	CD	cluster of differentiation
α KG	α -ketoglutaric acid disodium salt dihydrate	CDI	1,1'-carbonyldiimidazole
AK	actinic keratosis	CFL	compact fluorescent light
Alloc	allyloxycarbonyl	CIPE	complex-induced proximity effect
amphos	di- <i>tert</i> -butyl(4-dimethylamino-phenyl)phosphine	Cit	L-citrulline
aq.	aqueous	Cl ₄ NHPI	tetrachloro- <i>N</i> -hydroxyphthalimide
AQN	anthraquinone	CMD	concerted metalation–deprotonation
ar or Ar	aryl	CNS	central nervous system
ATP	adenosine triphosphate	CoA	coenzyme A
ATCC	American Type Culture Collection	cod	1,5-cyclooctadiene
ax	axial	coe	cyclooctene
AZADO	2-azaadamantane- <i>N</i> -oxyl	Cp	cyclopentadienyl
BAIB	bis(acetoxy)iodobenzene	CRISPR	clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeats
BAr _F	tetrakis[3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)-phenyl]borate	CSA	10-camphorsulfonic acid
BDE	bond dissociation energy	CV	cyclic voltammetry
BHT	2,6-di- <i>tert</i> -butyl-4-methylphenol	cy or Cy	cyclohexyl
BINAP	([1,1'-binaphthalene]-2,2'-diyl)bis-(diphenylphosphane)	Δ	heat
BINOL	2,2'-dihydroxy-1,1'-binaphthyl	dab	2,9-bis(<i>p</i> -anisyl)-1,10-phenanthroline
BIPHEP	2,2'-bis(diphenylphosphino)-1,1'-biphenyl	DABCO	1,4-diazabicyclo[2.2.2]octane
Bn	benzyl	DAST	(diethylamino)sulfur trifluoride
BNAH	1-benzyl-1,4-dihydronicotinamide	dba	(<i>E,E</i>)-dibenzylideneacetone
Boc	<i>tert</i> -butoxycarbonyl	DBB	di- <i>tert</i> -butylbiphenylide
BOM	benzyloxymethyl	DBN	1,5-diazabicyclo[4.3.0]non-5-ene
BOP	bis(2-oxo-3-oxazolidinyl)phosphinic	DBU	1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene
		DCC	1,3-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide
		DDQ	2,3-dichloro-5,6-dicyano-1,4-benzoquinone
		DDT	dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane
		DEAD	diethyl azodicarboxylate
		DERA	2-deoxy-D-ribose-5-phosphate aldolase

dF(CF ₃)ppy	2-(2,4-difluorophenyl)- 5-trifluoromethylpyridine	G	guanine
DG	directing group	G2	gap 2
DHPR	dihydropyridine receptor	gen.	generation
DHQ	dihydroquinine	Glc	glucose
DIAD	diisopropyl azodicarboxylate	GlyR	glycine receptors
DIANANE	<i>endo,endo</i> -2,5-diaminonorbornane	GOase	galactose oxidase
DIBAL-H	diisobutylaluminium hydride	HAT	hydrogen atom transfer
dibm	diisobutylmethane	hfacac	hexafluoroacetylacetonate
DMAP	4-dimethylaminopyridine	HFIP	hexafluoroisopropanol
DMDO	3,3-dimethyldioxirane	HIV	human immunodeficiency virus
DME	ethylene glycol dimethyl ether	HLF	Hofmann–Löffler–Freitag
DMF	<i>N,N</i> -dimethylformamide	HMDS	hexamethyldisilazane
DMP	Dess–Martin periodinane	HMG	3-hydroxy-3-methylglutaryl
DMPU	1,3-dimethyl-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro- 2(1 <i>H</i>)-pyrimidinone	HMPA	hexamethylphosphoramide
DMSO	dimethyl sulfoxide	HOBt	1-hydroxybenzotriazole
DNA	deoxyribonucleic acid	HPLC	high-performance liquid chromatography
DoM	directed <i>ortho</i> -metalation	HRMS	high-resolution mass spectrometry
DPBS	Dulbecco's phosphate-buffered saline	Hsp	heat shock protein
dpm	dipivaloylmethanato	HWE	Horner–Wadsworth–Emmons
DPPA	diphenylphosphoryl azide	<i>hν</i>	light
dppb	1,4-bis(diphenylphosphino)butane	IBX	<i>o</i> -iodoxybenzoic acid
dppf	diphenylphosphinoferrocene	IC ₅₀	50% inhibitory concentration
dppp	1,3-bis(diphenylphosphino)propane	IC ₇₀	70% inhibitory concentration
<i>dr</i>	diastereomeric ratio	imid.	imidazole
dtbbpy	4,4'-di- <i>tert</i> -butyl-2,2'-bipyridine	Ipc	isopinocampheyl
DTBM	di- <i>tert</i> -butyl-4-methoxyphenyl	<i>i</i> -Pr	isopropyl
dtbpy	4,4'-di- <i>tert</i> -butyl-2,2'-bipyridine	IR	infrared
EBX	ethynylbenziodoxolone	ISC	intersystem crossing
EC ₅₀	half maximal effective concentration	<i>k</i>	reaction rate constant
ECC	excitation–contraction coupling	KHMDS	potassium hexamethyldisilazide
EDCI	1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylamino- propyl)carbodiimide	LA	Lewis acid
<i>ee</i>	enantiomeric excess	LBA	Lewis acid-assisted chiral Brønsted acid
ep	error-prone	LD ₅₀	50% lethal dose
eq	equatorial	LDA	lithium diisopropylamide
equiv	equivalent(s)	LED	light-emitting diode
esp	$\alpha,\alpha,\alpha',\alpha'$ -tetramethyl-1,3- benzenedipropionic acid	LG	leaving group
ETP	epipolythiodiketopiperazine	LiHMDS	lithium hexamethyldisilazide
EWG	electron-withdrawing group	liq.	liquid
Fc	ferrocenyl	LLG-5	<i>Linckia laevigata</i> ganglioside 5
FDPP	furanyldiketopyrrolopyrrole	LLS	longest linear sequence
FMO	frontier molecular orbital	LSF	late-stage functionalization
fod	1,1,1,2,2,3,3-heptafluoro-7,7- dimethyl-4,6-octanedionate	M	molar
		M	mitosis
		Mal	maleimido
		MC	metal-centered
		<i>m</i> -CPBA	<i>m</i> -chloroperoxybenzoic acid
		MDR	multi-drug resistance

MeOH	methanol	Nu	nucleophile
MES	mesityl (2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)	ox	oxalate
MIC	minimum inhibitory concentration	PABC	<i>p</i> -aminobenzyloxycarbonyl
MLCT	metal-to-ligand charge transfer	PAF	platelet-activating factor
MMPP	magnesium monoperoxyphthalate hexahydrate	PAFR	platelet-activating factor receptor
MMTrCl	4-methoxytriphenylmethyl	PanK	pantothenate kinase
MNBA	2-methyl-6-nitrobenzoic anhydride	PBR	peripheral benzodiazepine receptor
modp	bis(1-morpholinocarbamoyl-4,4-dimethyl-1,3-pentanedionato) [i.e., 4-[5,5-dimethyl-2,4-di(oxo-κO)-1-oxohexyl]morpholinato]	Pc	phthalocyanine
mol.	molecular	PCC	pyridinium chlorochromate
MOM	methoxymethyl	PCR	polymerase chain reaction
MoOPH	oxodiperoxymolybdenum-(pyridine)(hexamethylphosphoric triamide)	PDC	pyridinium dichromate
MPAA	mono- <i>N</i> -protected amino acid	PDP	2-({(S)-2-[(S)-1-(pyridin-2-ylmethyl)pyrrolidin-2-yl]pyrrolidin-1-yl}methyl)pyridine
MPO	4-methylpyridine <i>N</i> -oxide	PdPc	palladium(II) octabutoxyphthalocyanine
Ms	methanesulfonyl	PET	positron emission tomography or photoinduced electron transfer
MS	molecular sieves	PG	protecting group
MVK	methyl vinyl ketone (butenone)	Ph	phenyl
MW	microwave	phen	1,10-phenanthroline
N	normal (equivalent concentration)	PHOX	2-[2-(diphenylphosphino)phenyl]-2-oxazoline
NAD ⁺	nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (oxidized form)	pin	pinacolato
NADH	nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide (reduced form)	PIPES	piperazine- <i>N,N'</i> -bis(2-ethanesulfonic acid)
NADP ⁺	nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate (oxidized form)	Piv	pivaloyl
NADPH	nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate (reduced form)	PKC	protein kinase C
NaHMDS	sodium hexamethyldisilazide	PKS	polyketide synthase
Nap	naphthalenide or naphthalenyl	PMB	4-methoxybenzyl
NBS	<i>N</i> -bromosuccinimide	PMP	4-methoxyphenyl or 1,2,2,6,6-pentamethylpiperidine
NCIMB	National Collection of Industrial, Food and Marine Bacteria	PNP	<i>p</i> -nitrophenol or purine nucleoside phosphorylase
NCS	<i>N</i> -chlorosuccinimide	PPM	phosphopentomutase
Nf	nonafluorobutanesulfonyl	PPO	pyrophosphate
NHC	<i>N</i> -heterocyclic carbene	PPTS	pyridinium 4-toluenesulfonate
NHK	Nozaki–Hiyama–Kishi	ppy	2-phenylpyridine
NIR	near-infrared	PS-BEMP	polystyrene-bound 2- <i>tert</i> -butylimino-2-diethylamino-1,3-dimethylperhydro-1,3,2-diazaphosphorine
NIS	<i>N</i> -iodosuccinimide	py	pyridine
NMM	<i>N</i> -methylmorpholine	PyOX	2-(pyridin-2-yl)-4,5-dihydrooxazole
NMO	4-methylmorpholine <i>N</i> -oxide	quant.	quantitative
NMP	<i>N</i> -methylpyrrolidone	RCM	ring-closing metathesis
NMR	nuclear magnetic resonance	Red-Al	sodium bis(2-methoxyethoxy)aluminium hydride
NOE	nuclear Overhauser effect		
Ns	nitrobenzenesulfonyl	RHF	restricted Hartree–Fock model

RNA	ribonucleic acid	TES	triethylsilyl
rsm	recovered starting material	Tf	trifluoromethanesulfonyl
RyR	ryanodine receptor	TFA	trifluoroacetic acid
Sal	salen	TFAA	trifluoroacetic anhydride
SAR	structure–activity relationship	tfb*	tetrafluorobenzobarrelene
SCE	saturated calomel electrode	TFMS	zinc trifluoromethanesulfinate
SET	single-electron transfer	THF	tetrahydrofuran
Sia	siamyl	THP	tetrahydropyranyl
SP	sucrose phosphorylase	TIPS	triisopropylsilyl
sp.	species	Tle	<i>tert</i> -leucine
T	thymine	TMEDA	<i>N,N,N',N'</i> -tetramethylethylene-diamine
TAS-F	tris(dimethylamino)sulfonium difluorotrimethylsilicate	TMP	2,2,6,6-tetramethylpiperidide
TBADT	tetra- <i>n</i> -butylammonium decatungstate	tmphen	3,4,7,8-tetramethyl-1,10-phenanthroline
TBAF	tetra- <i>n</i> -butylammonium fluoride	TMS	trimethylsilyl
TBAI	tetra- <i>n</i> -butylammonium iodide	TMTU	tetramethylthiourea
TBD	triazabicyclodecene	tol or Tol	tolyl
TBDPS	<i>tert</i> -butyldiphenylsilyl	TPAP	tetra- <i>n</i> -propylammonium perruthenate
TBDPSCI	<i>tert</i> -butyldiphenylchlorosilane	TPCP	1,2,2-triphenylcyclopropane-carboxylate
TBHP	<i>tert</i> -butyl hydroperoxide	TPP	tetraphenylporphyrin
TBOx	tethered bis(8-quinolinolato)	Tris	2,4,6-triisopropylbenzenesulfonyl
TBS	<i>tert</i> -butyldimethylsilyl	Ts	4-toluenesulfonyl
TCAI	trichloroacetimidate	TS	transition state
TCPTAD	adamantan-1-yl-(4,5,6,7-tetrachloro-1,3-dioxo-1,3-dihydroisoindol-2-yl)acetate	Txn	trioxacarcin
TDAE	tetrakis(dimethylamino)ethylene	UHP	urea hydrogen peroxide complex
TEMPO	2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-1-piperidinyloxy, free radical	USSR	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Teoc	2-(trimethylsilyl)ethoxycarbonyl	UV	ultraviolet
		vs.	versus

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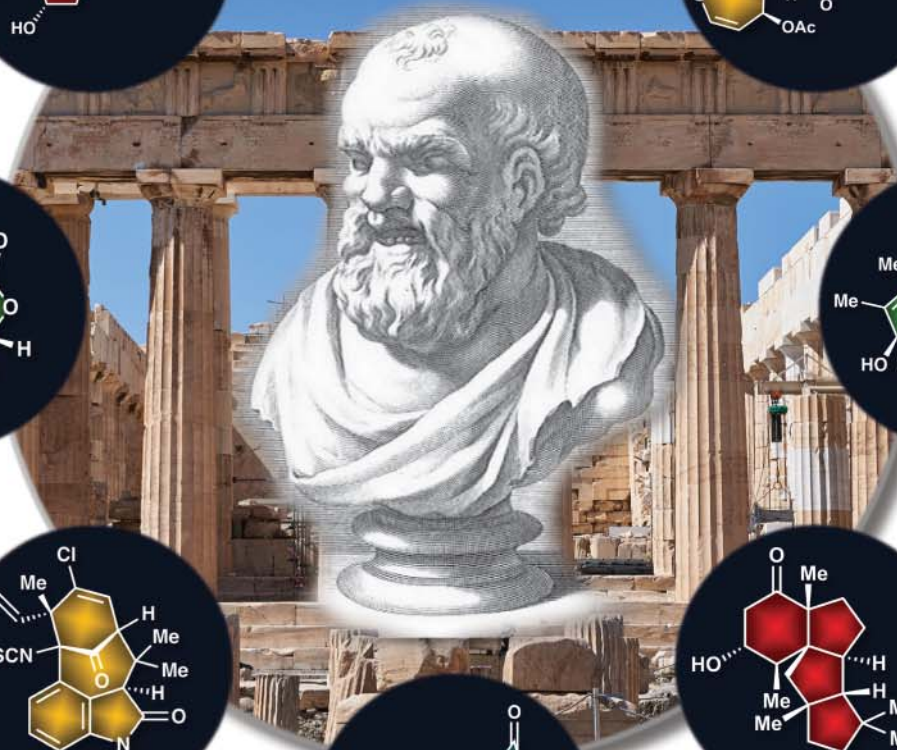
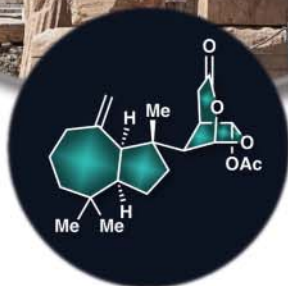
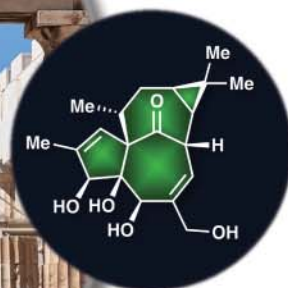
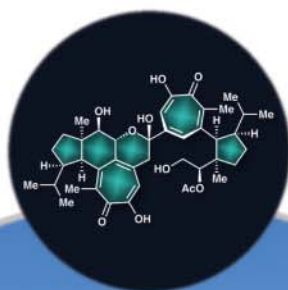
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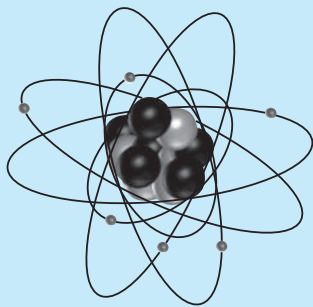
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Introduction: Total Synthesis Marching on with New Methods and Strategies and with Molecules for Biology and Medicine

With its power constantly increasing, the essence of total synthesis remains the same. What changes is its purpose. Originally, it was to confirm a proposed structure of a natural product, then it became a means to produce natural products in bulk as a means to fulfill a need for society. From here it turned into a practice to demonstrate intellect and elegance, along with an opportunity to discover and develop new synthetic methods, to test the applicability of newly discovered methods, and to fill voids where existing methods failed. The ability of biochemists and other chemists to isolate minute amounts of natural products and determine their structures created the need to render them readily available for biological investigations. This challenge was taken up by synthetic chemists in the last decades of the 20th century, who delivered, through total synthesis, not only the targeted scarce natural products but also their designed analogues for extensive biological studies. Today, total synthesis endeavours blend all these aspects of the art and science of this discipline with

constant new additions. In its modern paradigm, and with mission, total synthesis is gathering momentum as a harmonious endeavour aiming not only for its own advancement but also as a partner to biology and medicine in a systematic way. It has a profound impact on the sciences of chemistry, biology, and medicine, specifically interfacing and facilitating chemical biology, medicinal chemistry, and the drug discovery and development process in general.

Classics in Total Synthesis IV features a variety of total syntheses that have been published in the literature since 2009 and more. For comparison and perspective reasons, the total syntheses of natural products related to those covered herein are, in certain cases, included. And while the main focus of the book is still the art and science of total synthesis, aspects of new synthetic methods and analogue design, synthesis, and biological investigation are also discussed. The latter underscores the trends in the state of the art of the discipline and emphasizes its importance to the science of organic synthesis in general and its impact on biology and medicine. It is also interesting to note that total synthesis still retains, to this day, its role of structure confirmation or revision, despite the enormous progress in analytical techniques and instrumentation. Statistics based on past total synthesis endeavours originating from the Nicolaou group, which have delivered almost 200 naturally occurring molecules, show that 13% of them contributed, in one way or another, to some structural aspect of the molecule, whether absolute configuration, revision of at least one stereogenic center of the previously assigned structure, or even its total synthesis and prediction of its existence in Nature before it was discovered. These seemingly odd occurrences are still common. However, the errors should not be attributed to the heroes of isolation of natural products. Due to the scarcity of numerous naturally occurring compounds, their characterization is regularly conducted by investigating only minute amounts, which, understandably, sometimes results in inaccuracies concerning their structure. These investigators did not have the privilege of collecting sufficient quantities of their products from their rare sources, a fact denying them the full armamentarium of analytical techniques, including the optimum tool of X-ray crystallography.

1.1 Targets

Nature's molecules are of unimaginable variety, complexity, novelty, and biological activity. This is more impressive if one considers the limited collection of building blocks, reactions, enzymes, and conditions as compared to the vast number of building blocks, ever-growing number of synthetic methods, catalysts, and reaction conditions that synthetic organic chemists enjoy, and yet we still have to surpass Nature's power and beauty when it comes to biosynthesis and novelty of natural products' structures.

Figure 1 highlights a selected number of natural products featured in this book, *Classics IV*, and yet these molecules represent

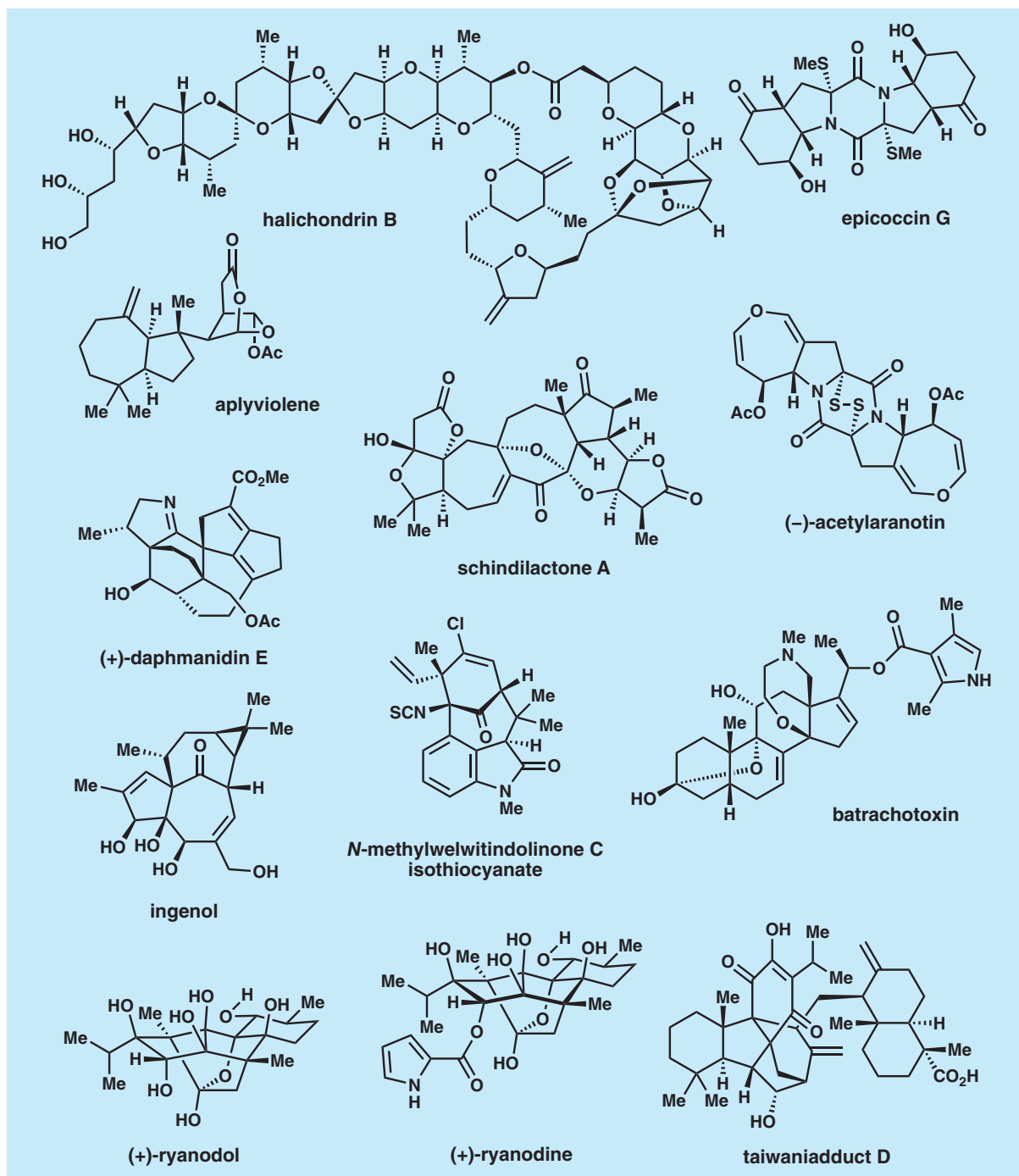


Figure 1. Molecular structures of selected natural products featured.

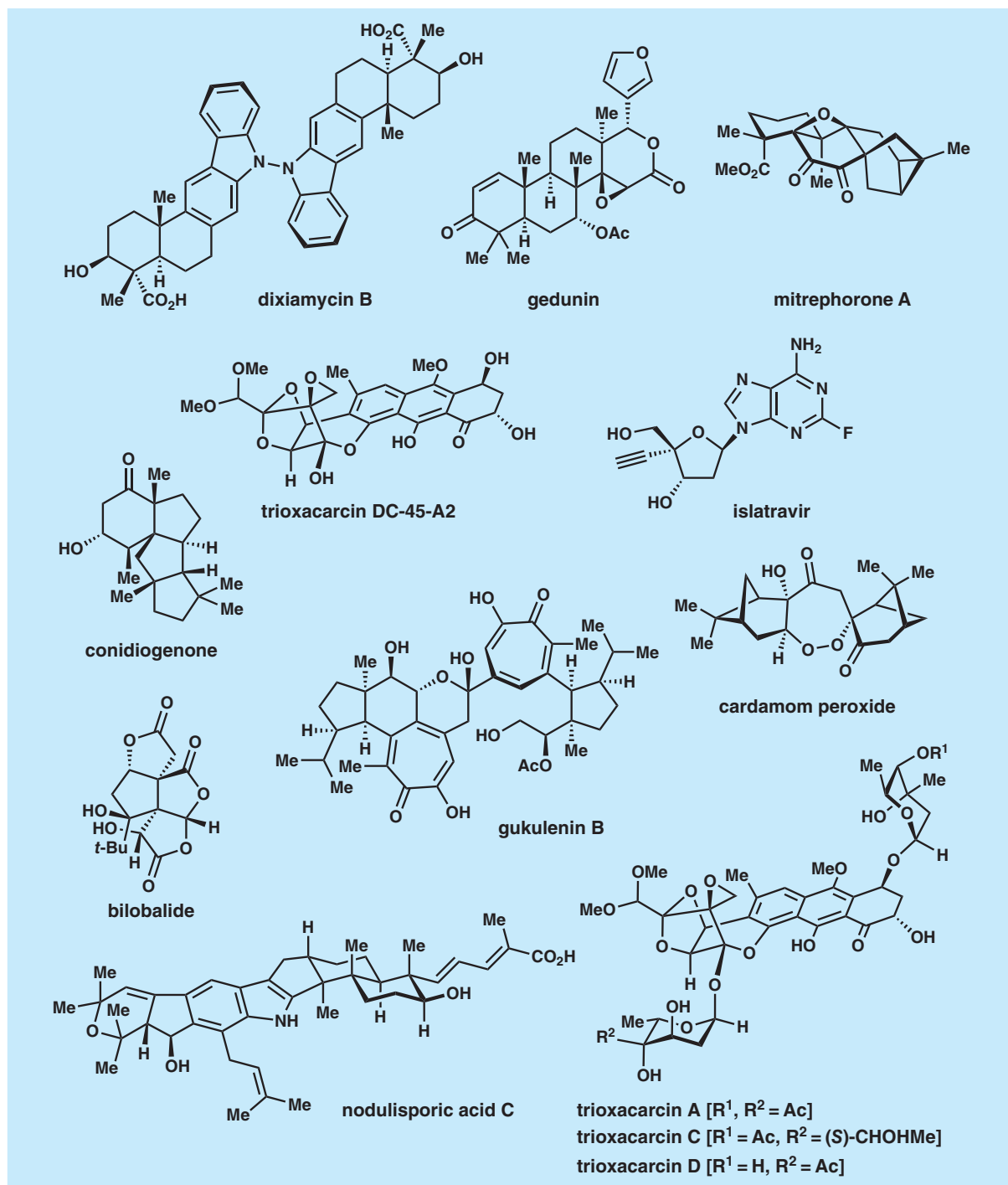


Figure 1. Molecular structures of selected natural products featured (continued).