

Optochemical Genetics Urea Chemistry

Review by D. Trauner et al.

Urea Chemistry

Minireview by J. Clayden and N. Volz

Highlights: DNA-Demethylation · Metal-Mediated Deformylation · Asymmetric α-Alkylation



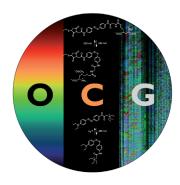
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Cover Picture

Nafiseh Memarian, Isabella Concina, Antonio Braga, Seyed Mohammad Rozati, Alberto Vomiero,* and Giorgio Sberveglieri

Hierarchically structured ZnO photoanodes for dye-sensitized solar cells can be fabricated by spray pyrolysis, as shown by A. Vomiero and co-workers in their Communication on page 12321 ff. These photoanodes can achieve a top photoconversion efficiency of 7.5%, as for ZnO-based cells. The technique is simple, cheap, and it can be scaled up to cover large areas.



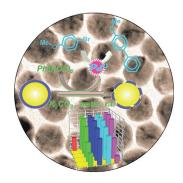


Optochemical Genetics

D. Trauner et al. show in their Review on page 12156 ff. how voltage-gated and ligand-gated ion channels can be endowed with synthetic photoswitches. The resulting artificial photoreceptors can be used to optically control neurons with exceptional precision.

"Nanoparticle" Catalysis

C. Amatore and co-workers describe in their Communication on page 12184 ff. the mechanism of a nanoparticle-catalyzed Suzuki–Miyaura coupling. The source of the catalytic activity was traced to Pd⁰ species leaching into the aqueous reaction solution.





Chemical Topology

In their Communication on page 12280 ff., D. A. Leigh et al. report the synthesis of a 76-atom trefoil knot. Copper(I) ions act both as a template to position the building blocks and as a catalyst for the final bond-forming reaction.