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2011–50/52



**Prebiotic Chemistry**

Review by A. Eschenmoser

**Fast DNA Sequencing**

Essay by S. Balasubramanian

**Highlights: Magnetochiral Effects · RNA Aptamers**

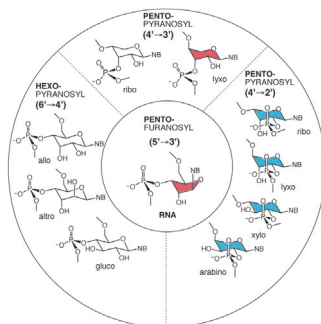
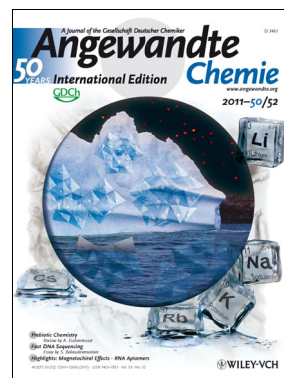
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 **WILEY-VCH**

## Cover Picture

Yu Hou, May Nyman,\* and Mark A. Rodriguez

**Polyoxoniobates (PONb)** differ from nearly all other polyanionic clusters in their unusual solubility behavior. In their Communication on page 12514 ff., M. Nyman and co-workers show that the Cs salts of PONb are the most soluble and the Li salts the least. The opposite trend holds for other polyoxometalates and anionic clusters, owing to factors such as the strong inner-sphere complexation ability of large alkali-metal ions. The excellent solubility of the Rb and Cs heteropolyniobates offers a unique system for aqueous ion-association studies.

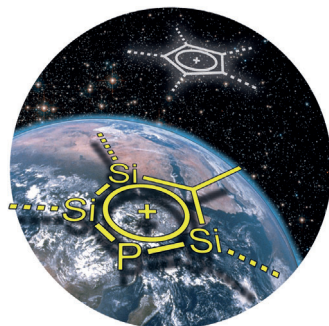


### Biogenesis

The search for life's origin is directly linked to the etiology of biomolecular structures. In his Review on page 12412 ff., A. Eschenmoser looks back on three decades of research in this field.

### Chirality

In their Communication on page 12474 ff., K. Okano, T. Yamashita et al. report how a hydrogel containing Rhodamine B shows stir-induced circularly polarized luminescence. The sense of the circular polarization can be controlled by changing the stir direction.



### CSi<sub>3</sub>P Heterocycle

H. W. Roesky, M. Scheer, D. Stalke et al. present in their Communication on p. 12510 ff. a cyclic five-membered CSi<sub>3</sub>P cation that can be considered as a formal heavier analogue of the cyclopentadienyl cation.