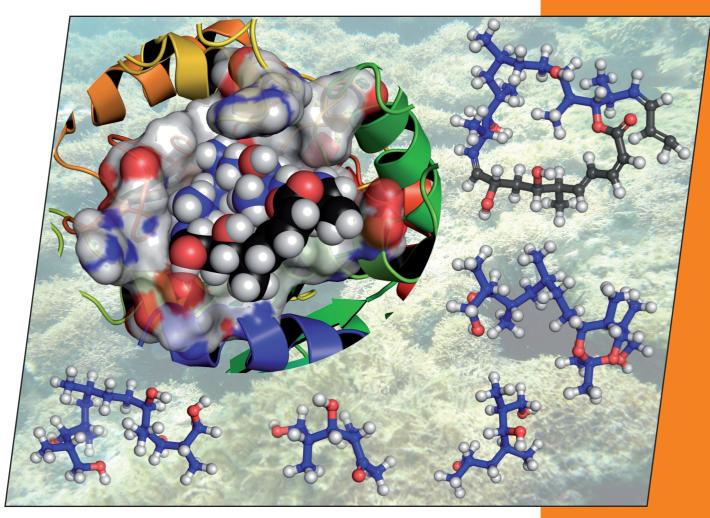


**10/2009** 1st April Issue



## **Cover Picture**

Luiz C. Dias et al.

Synthesis of the C11–C23 Fragment of the Potent Antitumor Agent Dictyostatin

## Microreview

Brian Heasley

Stereocontrolled Preparation of Fully Substituted Cyclopentanes



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(ChemPubSoc Europe) has taken the significant step into the future by merging their traditional journals, to form two leading chemistry journals, the European Journal of Inorganic Chemistry and the European Journal of Organic Chemistry. Three further members of ChemPubSoc Europe (Austria, Czech Republic and Sweden) are Associates of the two journals.



## **EDITORIAL**

## **New Citation Impact Metrics**

In January the ISI Journal Citation Reports, source of the Impact Factor and several other citation metrics, were supplemented: In addition to the well-known (2-year) Impact Factor, a 5-year Impact Factor is now included. It is meant to provide "a broader range of citation activity for a more informative snapshot over time" (http://www.thomsonreuters.com/ content/press\_room/sci/350008). However, as far as the ISI category "Chemistry, Organic" is concerned, in most cases the 5-year Impact Factor does not differ very much from the 2-year Impact Factor. Accordingly, the ranking is very similar when the journals are graded by either Impact Factor. EurJOC, for example, ranks 13th and 14th for the



Haymo Ross, **Editor EurJOC** 

regular and the 5-year Impact Factor, respectively. For more than two thirds of all journals, the shift in ranking is in the range between -2 and +2; the position does not change at all for 9 of the 56 journals compiled in this category.

Also added to the Journal Citation Reports were the Eigenfactor score and the Article Influence score (for more information, see http://www.eigenfactor.org). These Eigenfactor metrics are supposed "to reflect the prestige and citation influence of journals by considering scholarly literature as a network of journal-to-journal relationships". Eigenfactorwise, EurJOC ranks 8th in the same ISI category. Be that as it may, given the complicated algorithm the Eigenfactor metrics are based on, I doubt that they will become as largely accepted as the Journal Impact Factor, which can be calculated so easily and, hence, is much more transparent.

But there are many more citation impact metrics out there. What is not (yet?) included in the Journal Citation Reports is an h index for journals. Although the h index was introduced by J. Hirsch in 2005 for the assessment of individual researchers, several suggestions have since been made to use the h index and modifications thereof in bibliometrics. Lutz Bornmann et al. have now applied the h index to organic chemistry journals, and you can read about the results of their investigation in the Editorial Survey "Hirsch-Type Index Values for Organic Chemistry Journals: A Comparison of New Metrics with the Journal Impact Factor" on p. 1471.