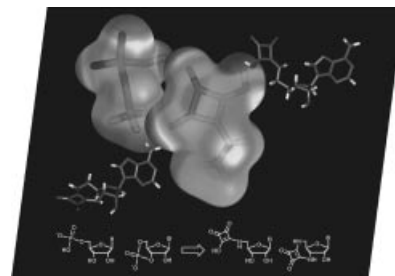




The editorial staff and the publishers thank all readers, authors, referees, and advertisers for their interest and support over the past year and wish them all a happy new year.

COVER PICTURE

The cover picture shows the electrostatic potential maps of methyl phosphate and *N*-methylsquaramide. Various analogs of nucleotides and cyclic nucleotides were synthesized by use of the squaramide moiety as an isoelectronic mimic of the phosphate group. Details are discussed in the article by M. Sekine et al. on p. 5163ff.



MICROREVIEWS

Contents

5127 Y. Ohfuné,* T. Shinada

Enantio- and Diastereoselective Construction of α,α -Disubstituted α -Amino Acids for the Synthesis of Biologically Active Compounds

Keywords: Aldol reaction / Amino acids / Asymmetric synthesis / Biological activity / Natural products

