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Power Ultrasound and Microwaves in metal-assisted synthesis

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WORKSHOP ON ASYMMETRIC SYNTHESIS AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ADVANCED SYNTHETIC TECHNIQUES FOR FINE CHEMICALS AND PHARMACEUTICALS

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Abstracts' Book

Speakers:

Christos Argiris (NTUA, Greece)

Werner Bonrath (DSM, Switzerland)

Carmen Claver (Uni. Rovira i Virgili, Spain)

Giancarlo Cravotto (Uni. Torino, Italy)

Johannes G. de Vries (DSM, Netherlands)

Athanassios Giannis (Uni. Leipzig, Germany)

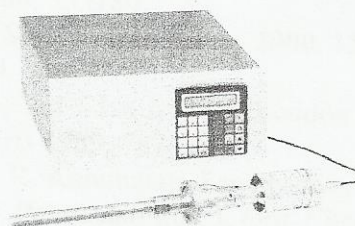
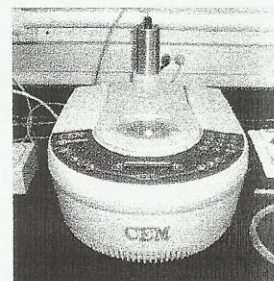
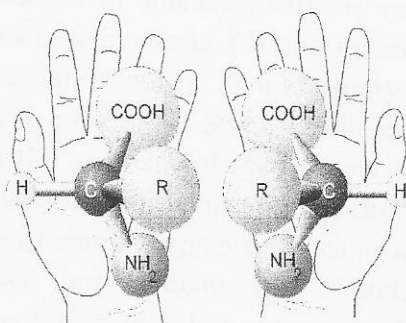
George Kokotos (Uni. Athens, Greece)

Rainer Mahrwald (Humboldt-Uni. Berlin)

Andreas Pfaltz (Uni. Basel, Switzerland)

Emanuel N. Pitsinos (NCSR, Greece)

Kalliopi A. Vallianatou (NHRF, Greece)



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Power ultrasound and microwaves in metal-assisted synthesis

Giancarlo Cravotto, Emanuela Calcio Gaudino, Laura Orio.

Dipartimento di Scienza e Tecnologia del Farmaco, University of Torino, Via P. Giuria 9 - 10125 Torino - Italy

The search for greener and more efficient regio- and stereoselective synthetic procedures to provide highly functionalized chemical structures has found, in metal-assisted reactions, a noteworthy contribution. All these reactions fall in the main domain of sonochemistry [1], no other technique can activate the metal and accelerate the process as much as power ultrasound. Although a piece of metal placed inside a microwave oven will lead to dangerous arcing, it is possible to perform organic reactions using well-dispersed fine metal particles in a polar high boiling solvent [2]. After the pioneering studies of Renaud in 1950 on metal-assisted sonochemical reactions [3], the biggest contribution came in the 80's from the group of J.L. Luche, who studied a variety of sonochemical organometallic reactions involving Ni, Li, Zn and Cu. In that decade, studies on the applications of sonochemistry in metal-assisted synthesis showed spectacular development as documented by books [4] and reviews [5]. Since the late nineties we have resorted to Barbier-like reactions (with Li, Zn and mainly In) in the synthesis of natural products, often under sonochemical conditions. Some of these are the synthesis of naturally occurring coumarins [6, 7], indole [8] and oxindole derivatives [9] and indolylbutenes [10]. The copper-catalyzed azide-alkyne cycloaddition (CuAAC) has become the paradigm for click chemistry. Sonication permits the use of simple copper turnings as an efficient and green catalyst in click reactions [11]. Further improvement was found with simultaneous ultrasound/microwave irradiation that strongly promoted heterogeneous catalyzed CuAAC [12, 13] allowing easy access to hybrid adducts that combined the properties of ionic liquids and cyclodextrins [14].

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