

BOOK REVIEW

The Structure-Nomenclature Cycle of Chemistry

by

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This book is a self-contained extension of an earlier monograph by the same author, published by Elsevier in 2004. It aims at a novel "overarching taxonomy" that would be applicable to all configurations in chemistry, existing or possibly emerging in future. Some treatises that had been presented in symposia have been withheld in order to present them in this book for the first time.

Clearly, it can be anticipated that there may emerge more complicated chemical compounds in the course of time. It is discussed which shapes really can be addressed as "monomers", before turning to the naming of polymers. One reason for an increased complexity may be non-planarity. Only future can tell whether the proposals made here will be accepted by the community – as a whole or in parts. Anyway, this book should be included in scientific libraries in order to allow to join the debate.

The presentation and technical quality are first class. There are about 120 figures and more than 300 references. An important item not explicitly addressed is the fact, that in chemistry the modern style of information retrieval (of course fully computerised) is going to occupy a near-monopoly. Also this fact will advance the need for a consequent rational presentation of chemical compounds.

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