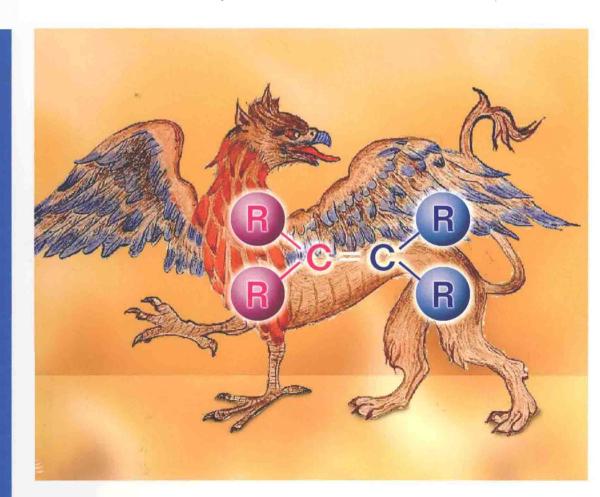


# Metathesis in Natural Product Synthesis

Strategies, Substrates and Catalysts

With a Foreword by Robert H. Grubbs

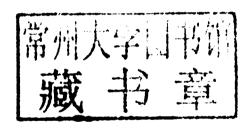


# Metathesis in Natural Product Synthesis

Strategies, Substrates and Catalysts

Edited by Janine Cossy, Stellios Arseniyadis, and Christophe Meyer

With a Foreword by Robert H. Grubbs





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#### The Editors

#### Prof. Janine Cossy

Laboratorie de Chimie Organique, ESPCI 10 Rue Vauquelin 75231 Paris Cedex 05 France

#### Dr. Stellios Arseniyadis

Laboratoire de Chimie Organique, ESPCI 10 Rue Vauquelin 75231 Paris Cedex 05 France

#### Dr. Christophe Meyer

Laboratoire de Chimie Organique, ESPCI 10 Rue Vauquelin 75231 Paris Cedex 05 France

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#### Foreword

In the last few decades, metathesis has been among the key reactions that have revolutionized the synthesis of complex molecules. Many organic chemists in academic and industrial laboratories, in the field of natural products, have used this reaction as a very practical, versatile, and selective synthetic tool. Olefin metathesis has helped to elevate the art and science of chemical synthesis to its present high level.

The examples in this book will demonstrate that organic chemists, with the metathesis reaction in hand, have a new way to consider the connections that are required for efficient access to natural products. This book assembles the most important and interesting examples in the synthesis of natural products using metathesis. Owing to the possibilities opened by olefin and acetylenic metathesis, a great variety of carbocyclic - nitrogen-, oxygen-, sulfur-containing heterocycles - natural products with small-, medium-, and macrocyclic size can be obtained rapidly. The synthetic transformations that couple metathesis steps in cascade reactions are particularly elegant. Emphasis has been put on the metathesis step showing the importance of the catalysts that are tolerant of a large variety of functional groups, very regio-, stereoselective, and even enantioselective. The power of the catalysts and of the metathesis reaction can be appreciated when alternative pathways are considered.

Every reaction and catalyst can always be improved. In the area of metathesis, the development of more active and robust catalysts, catalysts that can control the E and Z stereoselectivity of the formed olefins, particularly the stereoselectivity of trisubstituted olefins, or catalysts that can control the enantioselectivity remains a challenge. As has been demonstrated in the past, improvements of the catalyts give rise to increasingly exciting applications in the field of complex molecules and particularly in the field of natural products synthesis. This book will be a good source of inspiration for those planning future developments of metathesis reactions in the field of natural and non-natural products.

Robert H. Grubbs

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## Preface

In the 1960s, the ring-opening polymerization of cycloalkenes and the disproportionation of linear alkenes, both used by the polymer and the petroleum industry, were the first reported examples of "olefin metathesis reactions." Whereas those transformations were generally carried out with ill-defined catalysts, the mechanism of olefin metathesis proposed by Chauvin and Hérisson in 1971 identified metal carbenes as catalytically active species with reactions proceeding through metallacyclobutane intermediates. The mid-1970s saw the emergence of the first well-defined alkylidene-metal complexes for olefin metathesis initially based on tantalum and tungsten. However, in the late 1980s, the quest for higher functional group tolerance resulted in the development of the molybdenum complex, also known as Schrock's catalyst, which was later used by Grubbs and Fu in ring-closing metathesis (RCM) to access oxygen and nitrogen heterocycles. Up to now, several applications of RCM to natural products synthesis have been reported using Schrock's catalyst as the initiator; however, its air- and moisture sensitivity, which implies the use of a glove box or Schlenk techniques, has certainly hampered its more widespread use by organic chemists. In 1992, Grubbs and coworkers reported the first stable vinylidene ruthenium catalyst to be active in both ring-opening metathesis (ROM) and RCM. In 1995, further refinements led to the development of an air- and moisture-stable as well as highly functional group-tolerant benzylidene ruthenium complex also known as Grubbs first-generation catalyst. The latter became the first user-friendly metathesis catalyst and has allowed numerous synthetic applications. The replacement of one phosphine by a strongly  $\sigma$ -donating N-heterocyclic carbene ligand to further improve the stability of the active species and accelerate the initiation phase stimulated the discovery of the second-generation catalysts. To date, many catalysts have been devised with the goal of improving the rate of initiation and the stability of the catalytic propagating species to enable the metathesis of sterically hindered substrates. This was attained by fine-tuning the steric and/or electronic properties of the benzylidene part or the N-heterocyclic carbene of the ruthenium complexes, and/or other subtle ligand exchange. For the tremendous impact of metathesis in the science of organic synthesis, Chauvin, Grubbs, and Schrock received the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 2005.

The aim of the book is to emphasize the impact of metathesis on the synthesis of natural products and/or biologically active compounds, and highlight how they

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have provided new and elegant solutions to many synthetic puzzles. As RCM has been the first class of metathesis reactions routinely used in natural products chemistry, the first three chapters of the book will highlight its applications to the synthesis of small- to medium-size carbocycles (Chapter 1, N. Blanchard and J. Eustache), nitrogen heterocycles (Chapter 2, L. van Delft and Floris P. J. T. Rutjes), and oxygen heterocyles (Chapter 3, J. D. Rainier). Phosphorus and sulfur heterocycles synthesized via RCM also deserved a section since they have found useful applications in the stereoselective synthesis of acyclic subunits found in various natural products (Chapter 4, C.D. Thomas and P.R. Hanson). The use of RCM for the synthesis of macrocyclic compounds has also been covered (Chapter 5, A. Gradillas and J. Pérez-Castells) since it constitutes an attractive alternative to traditional routes such as macrolactonization or macrolactamization. Alkynes can also be used as reacting partners in metathesis reactions as illustrated in the two following chapters of the book. Indeed, while ene-yne metathesis catalyzed by alkylidene ruthenium complexes allows a convenient access to conjugated dienes (Chapter 6, M. Mori), ring-closing alkyne metathesis using a well-defined tungsten-alkylidyne complex or molybdenum precatalysts activated in situ offers a convenient route toward cycloalkynes (Chapter 7, P. Davies). As for many reactions, there are situations where a planned metathesis event was found to be either unsuccessful or did not operate with high efficiency, stereoselectivity, and/or chemoselectivity. Silicon-tethered metathesis (Chapter 8, P. A. Evans) and the use of an unsaturated relay allowing initiation of metathesis at an appropriate reactive site (Chapter 9, T. R. Hoye and J. Jeon) are two strategies that have been used to circumvent some of these problems. More recently, cross-metathesis (CM) has emerged as a useful catalytic and chemoselective alternative to traditional olefination methods. Applications in the context of natural product synthesis have therefore been covered (Chapter 10, J. Prunet and L. Grimaud). After disclosing the synthetic potential of each of the different metathesis reactions, it appeared important to illustrate how their combination in cleverly designed cascades has led to some impressive and elegant synthesis of structurally complex natural products (Chapter 11, M. Porta and S. Blechert). The development of chiral molybdenum or ruthenium catalyst has also enabled the achievement of enantioselective metathesis reactions whose applications yet reported to the synthesis of natural products have been listed in one chapter (Chapter 12, A. H. Hoveyda, S. J. Malcolmson, S. J. Meek, and A. R. Zhugralin). Finally, the last section of the book is devoted to solid-phase metathesis, which constitutes a useful tool in diversity-oriented synthesis for chemical biology while also simplifying the purification stages (Chapter 13, S. Barluenga, P.-Y. Dakas, R. Jogireddy, G. Valot, and N. Winssinger).

We would like to warmly thank all the authors for contributing to this book and acknowledge their expertise on the different topics that have been covered. We also thank the team at Wiley-VCH and especially Stefanie Volk for her helpful assistance during the preparation of this book.

We sincerely hope that this book will be a valuable source of information for researchers working in both academic and industrial laboratories and that it will

stimulate new applications and developments of metathesis in the field of natural product synthesis.

Janine Cossy, Stellios Arseniyadis, and Christophe Meyer.

# **List of Catalysts**

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# List of Contributors

#### Sofia Barluenga

Université Louis Pasteur de Strasbourg Organic and Bioorganic Chemistry Laboratory Institut de Science et Ingénierie Supramoléculaire 8 Allée Gaspard Monge 67000 Strasbourg France

#### Nicolas Blanchard

Université de Haute-Alsace Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Chimie de Mulhouse Laboratoire de Chimie Organique et Bioorganique associé au CNRS 3 Rue Alfred Werner 68093 Mulhouse Cedex France

#### Siegfried Blechert

Technische Universität Berlin Institute of Chemistry Straße des 17. Juni 135 10623 Berlin Germany

#### Pierre-Yves Dakas

Université Louis Pasteur de Strasbourg Organic and Bioorganic Chemistry Laboratory Institut de Science et Ingénierie Supramoléculaire 8 Allée Gaspard Monge 67000 Strasbourg France

#### Paul W. Davies

University of Birmingham School of Chemistry Birmingham B15 2TT United Kingdom

#### Jacques Eustache

Université de Haute-Alsace Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Chimie de Mulhouse Laboratoire de Chimie Organique et Bioorganique associé au CNRS 3 Rue Alfred Werner 68093 Mulhouse Cedex France

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# P. Andrew Evans

The University of Liverpool Department of Chemistry Crown Street Liverpool L69 7ZD UK

#### Ana Gradillas

Universidad CEU-San Pablo Departamento de Química Facultad de Farmacia Urb. Montepríncipe 28668 Boadilla del Monte Madrid Spain

#### Laurence Grimaud

Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Techniques Avancées Unité Chimie et Procédés 32 boulevard Victor 75739 Paris Cedex 15 France

#### Paul R. Hanson

University of Kansas Department of Chemistry 1251 Wescoe Hall Drive Malott Hall Lawrence, KS 66045 USA

#### Amir H. Hoveyda

Boston College Department of Chemistry Eugene F. Merkert Chemistry Center Chestnut Hill MA 02467 USA

# Thomas R. Hoye

University of Minnesota Department of Chemistry 207 Pleasant Street SE Minneapolis Minnesota 55455 USA

# Junha Jeon

University of Minnesota Department of Chemistry 207 Pleasant Street SE Minneapolis Minnesota 55455 USA

# Rajamalleswaramma Jogireddy

Université Louis Pasteur de Strasbourg Organic and Bioorganic Chemistry Laboratory Institut de Science et Ingénierie Supramoléculaire 8 Allée Gaspard Monge 67000 Strasbourg France

# Steven J. Malcolmson

Boston College Department of Chemistry Eugene F. Merkert Chemistry Center Chestnut Hill MA 02467 USA

## Simon J. Meek

Boston College Department of Chemistry Eugene F. Merkert Chemistry Center Chestnut Hill MA 02467 USA

#### Silvie A. Meeuwissen

Radboud University Nijmegen Institute for Molecules and Materials Heyendaalseweg 135 6525 ED Nijmegen The Netherlands

## Miwako Mori

Health Sciences University of Hokkaido Ishikari-Tobetsu Hokkaido 061-0293 Japan

#### Marta Porta

Technische Universität Berlin Institute of Chemistry Straße des 17. Juni 135 10623 Berlin Germany

#### Joëlle Prunet

Ecole Polytechnique Laboratoire de Synthèse Organique UMR CNRS 7652 **DCSO** 91128 Palaiseau France

#### **Javier Pérez-Castells**

Universidad CEU-San Pablo Departamento de Química Facultad de Farmacia Urb. Montepríncipe 28668 Boadilla del Monte Madrid Spain

#### Jon D. Rainier

University of Utah Department of Chemistry 315 East 1400 South Salt Lake City UT 84112 USA

# Floris P. J. T. Rutjes

Radboud University Nijmegen Institute for Molecules and Materials Heyendaalseweg 135 6525 ED Nijmegen The Netherlands

#### Christopher D. Thomas

University of Kansas Department of Chemistry 1251 Wescoe Hall Drive Malott Hall Lawrence, KS 66045 USA

# Sebastiaan (Bas) A. M. W. van den Broek

Radboud University Nijmegen Institute for Molecules and Materials Heyendaalseweg 135 6525 ED Nijmegen The Netherlands

# Floris L. van Delft

Radboud University Nijmegen Institute for Molecules and Materials Heyendaalseweg 135 6525 ED Nijmegen The Netherlands

#### Gaële Valot

Université Louis Pasteur de Strasbourg Organic and Bioorganic Chemistry Laboratory Institut de Science et Ingénierie Supramoléculaire 8 Allée Gaspard Monge 67000 Strasbourg France

# Nicolas Winssinger

Université Louis Pasteur de Strasbourg Organic and Bioorganic Chemistry Laboratory Institut de Science et Ingénierie Supramoléculaire 8 Allée Gaspard Monge 67000 Strasbourg France

# Adil R. Zhugralin

Boston College Department of Chemistry Eugene F. Merkert Chemistry Center Chestnut Hill MA 02467 USA

# **Abbreviations**

Ac acetyl

acetylacetonato acac

AIBN azobisiisobutyronitrile

Ar aryl

AROM asymmetric ring-closing metathesis

BBN 9-borabicyclononane

9-BBN 9-borabicyclo[3.3.0]nonan-9-yl

Bn benzyl

Boc tert-butyloxycarbonyl **BOM** benzyloxymethyl BQ 1,4-benzoquinone

Bz benzovl

CAN ceric ammonium nitrate

Cat. catalytic

Cbz benzyloxycarbonyl CM cross-metathesis COD cycloocta-1,5-diene cyclopentadienyl Cp

Cp\* 1,2,3,4,5-pentamethylcyclopentadienyl

CSA 10-camphorsulfonic acid

Cy cyclohexyl

dba dibenzylideneacetone

DBU 1,8-diazabicyclo[5.4.0]undec-7-ene DCC N,N'-dicyclohexylcarbodiimide

DCE 1,2-dichloroethane

2,3-dichloro-5,6-dicyanobenzoquinone DDQ

DIAD diisopropyl azodicarboxylate DIPEA diisopropylethylamine **DMAP** N, N-dimethylaminopyridine DMB 3',5'-dimethoxybenzoin

dmdba bis(3,5-dimethoxybenzylidene)acetone

**DMDO** dimethyldioxirane

DMF N, N-dimethylformamide

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DMP Dess-Martin periodinane

DMP dimethoxypropane

1,3-dimethyl-3,4,5,6-tetrahydro-2-(1H)-pyrimidinone **DMPU** 

DMSO dimethylsulfoxyde

DPPA diphenylophosphoryl azide

1,3-bis(diphenylphosphino)propane dppp

EDC 1-ethyl-3-(3-dimethylaminopropyl)carbodiimide

ethyl Et

Fmoc 9-fluorenylmethoxycarbonyl

Grubbs II benzylidene[1,3-bis(2,4,6-trimethylphenyl)-2-imidazolidinylidene]

dichloro(tricyclohexylphosphine) ruthenium

**HMDS** hexamethyldisilazane

**HMPA** hexamethylphosphoroamide

**HOBt** hydroxybenzotriazole

isopropyl i-pr

2-iodoxybenzoic acid **IBX** 

dIcr (+)-?2-caranyl Im imidazole

diisopinocampheyl Ipc

potassium hexamethyldisilazide KHMDS LDA lithium N,N-diisopropylamide

LiHMDS lithium bistrimethylsilylamide m-CPBA m-chloroperbenzoic acid

Me methyl

2-methoxyethoxymethoxy **MEM** 

Mes mesityl

MOM methoxymethyl methanesulfonyl Ms molecular sieves MS

**NaHMDS** sodium hexamethyldisilazide

NBS N-bromosuccinimide NCS N-chlorosuccinimide NIS N-iodosuccinimide

**NMO** N-methylmorpholine N-oxide PCC pyridinium chlorochromate

Ph phenyl Phth phthalyl Piv pivaloyl

**PMB** p-methoxybenzyl 4-methoxyphenyl PMP

**PPTS** pyridinium p-toluenesulfonate

pTs para-toluensulfonyl

Py pyridine Quant. quantitative

**RCAM** ring-closing alkyne metathesis RCEYM ring-closing ene-yne metathesis

ring-closing metathesis **RCM** ROM ring-opening metathesis

ring-opening metathesis polymerization ROMP

relay ring-closing metathesis **RRCM** RRM ring-rearrangement metathesis

room temperature rt t-Bu tertiary butyl

**TBAF** tetrabutylammonium fluoride

tert-butyldiphenylsilyl **TBDPS** TBS tert-butyldimethylsilyl trichloroethoxymethoxy TCE

2-(trimethylsilyl)ethoxycarbonyl Teoc

TES triethylsilyl

Tf trifluoromethanesulfonyl TFA trifluoroacetic acid

2-Th 2-thienyl

THF tetrahydrofuran tetrahydropyran THP TIPS triisopropylsilyl

N,N,N',N'-tetramethylethylenediamine **TMEDA** 

**TMS** trimethylsilyl

Tol-BINAP 2,2'-bis(ditolylphosphino)-1,1'-binaphthalene **TPAP** tetra(n-propyl)ammonium perruthenate

Tr triphenylmethyl (trityl)

Trt trityl

p-toluenesulfonyl Ts transition state TS

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