

particularly interesting reading. In addition to providing a good overview of the better-known examples of this class (for example, allenes, spiranes, trans-cycloalkenes, bi-phenyls, metallocenes), this chapter covers fascinating topics such as "atropoisomerism about sp^3 - sp^3 bonds," "molecular propellers and gears," and "cyclostereoisomerism."

Throughout the book, the authors have used sections in smaller print to present subject matter that "may not be in the mainstream of the argument, but may be of interest to some of our readers." Although the technique is used rather unevenly in the various chapters, I found these "nonessential" sections to contain some of the most interesting passages in the book. A few examples, chosen more or less at random, are: a discussion of holohedral and hemihedral crystals (p. 164); a discussion of the dependence on wavelength of the photostationary state in the photoisomerization of *cis*- and *trans*-stilbene (p. 583); a discussion of "in-in" and "in-out" bridged bicyclic diamines (p. 792); and a mnemonic for remembering the signs of the octant rule sections (p. 1026).

The book has a useful 20-page glossary of

stereochemical terms and a thorough 56-page index. Chapters are thoroughly referenced to the original literature, although it would have been desirable to have these citations at the bottom of the page, rather than gathered at the end of the chapter. Considering the scope and thoroughness of the book, it is a bargain at \$75, and most practicing organic chemists will probably want to have it in their personal libraries.

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Books Received

AIDS 1994. A Year in Review. M. Adler *et al.*, Eds. Current Science, London, 1994. vi, 373 pp., illus. \$74.95 or £49.95.

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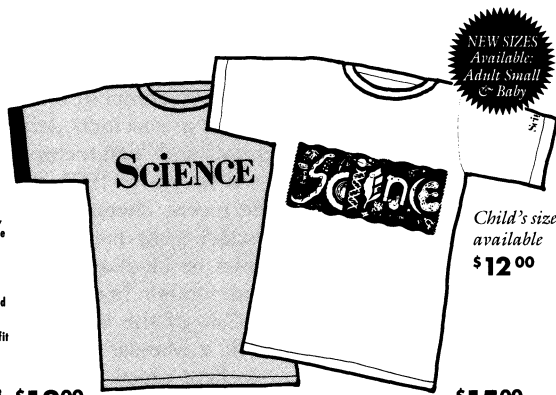
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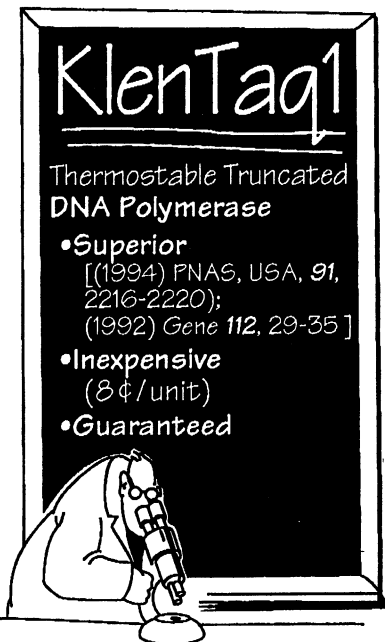
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