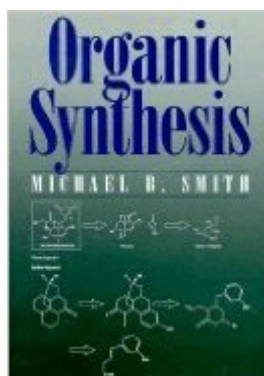


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Organic Synthesis



Synopsis

Written for a graduate or possibly senior level first organic course in synthesis/reactions for students in chemistry, medicinal chemistry, or pharmacy, "Organic Synthesis" provides in one text a review of basic techniques and tools of organic chemistry as well as a thorough introduction to the synthesis process. The focus of the book is on familiarizing the student with the reactions necessary for synthesis, identifying and developing the strategies and methods of doing synthesis as well as developing the mental processes which must be used in planning and executing a synthesis, and then doing the synthesis. The text includes a unique chapter containing total synthesis done by students along with instructor commentaries as examples of approaches and potential pitfalls to synthesis. Written so that chapters may be used independently for maximum flexibility, the text has two major parts: chapters 2-7 cover functional and protecting groups and chapters 8-9, 11-13 cover carbon bonds. Chapter 1 introduces three fundamental themes found in modern synthetic organic chemistry that are used throughout the text: disconnection, stereochemistry and conformation control. Chapters 2-5 provide a review of the basic principles and tools of organic chemistry with a focus on those reaction types necessary for synthesis, while chapter 6 describes stereochemistry and conformation as applied to organic synthesis. Chapter 10 provides a novel approach to teaching synthesis. Coming after the student has had some introduction to synthesis processes and developed some tools (Chapters 8-9), it provides the student with an overview of the various strategies and ways of doing syntheses, rather than have the student simply read or work through a list of synthesis after synthesis. Chapter 14 contains several total syntheses done by students, along with instructor commentary, as examples of approaches and potential pitfalls. Approximately 40 class-tested and evaluated homework problems accompany each chapter, many with references in the literature to actual experiments.

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Customer Reviews

I am the author and rated it high for obvious reasons. I was not going to rate it, but could not submit this form without it. I am taking the unusual step of writing because virtually all current reviews refer to the 1st edition - NOT the 2nd. This NEW book has been completely rewritten and while there are probably errors, it is NOT error-riddled like the 1st edition. I simply ask people to take a look with a fresh eye. McGraw-Hill and I have tried very hard to make it a quality book, and I am confident it will be very useful. If you have any questions or comments please contact me and I will do my best to answer them. Thanks for your indulgence.

It's amazing to me that Smith is able to gather so many resources and consolidate them into one place. Everything is there. Reagents. Cross references to books that deal only in reagents, and so on and so on. Often, one sees textbooks that give reactions and simply assume that they will work without citing a reference where someone has actually gone through the trouble to see if the reaction really will work. (This, I have found, is the quickest way to waste time in the lab. The easier it is to locate a protocol, the higher your lab productivity is.) It's also good to see that he's taken the time and trouble to whittle away some of the pretty colors that a lot of books put in in order to try to draw the reader's attention away from the glaring lack of substance. This book may, in the next few years, supercede the March text because a good number of his references are from within the past 5 years (50%, I believe), and it is such that if you are working in the lab and need to find *that* particular reference, then you can easily go and look it up.

This book has undergone several different additions and the author still has not bothered to correct the mistakes. It is possible to go to his web site to find the mistakes, however, there are still many mistakes that are not listed on his web site. I find it most disturbing when the author draws the structure of a practice problem wrong. A good student tries the problem first before looking for the answer in the primary literature. These mistakes can be very time consuming and annoying.

I am a chemical biology graduate student and previously completed an organic synthesis course at UCLA using Zweifel's book. In comparison, I found this book is really helpful by covering essential

background and fill in the gap to understand synthetic organic reaction mechanism. This book is quite special in that it comes with a Spartan software where you can do molecular modelling by learning along with the text. Overall, I highly recommend this book.

The 2/e is a comprehensive look at modern methods in organic synthesis. Smith avoids the trend, common in many books, of using too many colors and myriad worthless illustrations. He instead provides a clean, easy to read volume for the advanced undergraduate or graduate organic student. The references at the end of each chapter are outstanding. There are often in excess of 75 citations per chapter, readily allowing further study. I would like to respond to the criticism of some reviewers regarding typographical errors. The 2/e does seem to be much better than the 1/e in this regard. Also the author maintains a well documented list of typos on his website. All in all, this book is easily the rival of Carey & Sundberg's Part B and well worth the investment for any organic/pharm chemists out there.

I don't own this book, but the guy at the desk next to me does, and I plan to steal it when he's not looking. What I've read so far has been wonderfully presented in a clear, concise manner. As others have pointed out, there are no bells and whistles about this book. The book is organized by reaction type, and where applicable, representative examples from the synthetic literature are given. Smith presents the syntheses, comments insightfully on them, and in the cases where multiple syntheses of the same target have been accomplished, he makes reasonable comparisons. I don't know that this book will ultimately supplant the March text as a primary reference, but it certainly provides a valuable supplement.

This book gives a good overview of modern synthetic methods, but with mistakes on almost every page, it is not worth the trouble to figure out exactly what he is talking about. The book is exhaustively referenced, however, allowing quick access back into the primary literature to get more detailed explanations and clarifications.

This is a really helpfull book for the organic chemist, specially new ones who can find here an organized reference of any kind of routes for organic synthesis. Ive been using this book in all my thesis work, with no loose of time researching in the library. Its very easy to use and understand . For me is the best book of organic chemistry, after looking at it you would see the power you have in your hands with it.

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