

### Book review

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*Methodicum Chemicum, Vol. 4. Basic Skeletons; Carbon—Hydrogen Compounds and Heteroaromatics*; ed. by J. Falbe, Georg Thieme Verlag, Stuttgart-New York, 1980, xi + 402 pages. DM 350 (in German).

Volume 4 of the *Methodicum Chemicum*, a series of monographs whose editor-in-chief is F. Korte, deals with the methods for the preparation of saturated, unsaturated, cyclic, and aromatic hydrocarbons, as well as 5- and 6-membered heterocyclic ring systems. The goal of the editor of this volume was to bring the material in a way which is most helpful to the practicing chemist in industry as well as in academia. It can be said that he was highly successful. A total of 63 authors from many countries succeeded in presenting synthetic methods for the mentioned classes of compounds in a very up-to-date fashion. Older methods generally are only referred to by citing review articles. A total of 5349 literature references, including 1668 for the heterocyclic compounds, makes this volume a very useful and trustworthy guide to the synthesis of saturated cyclic and alicyclic hydrocarbons, olefins, aromatic compounds, as well as 5- and 6-membered heterocycles. Although the price of this volume is high, it belongs in the library of every institution where chemical syntheses are performed.

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