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### Book review

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*Optical Resolution Procedures for Chemical Compounds, Vol. 2, Acids*; by P. Newman, Optical Resolution Information Center (Manhattan College, Riverdale, New York 10471, U.S.A.), 1981, 2 parts 1146 pages. US \$79.00 + postage \$3.50 (outside the U.S.A. postage \$6.50).

This remarkable series of volumes describes "over 6000 resolution procedures of both organic and inorganic compounds . . .". Volume 1, dealing with amines and related compounds, was reviewed here two years ago (*J. Organometal. Chem.*, 184 (1980) C20). The present volume appears in two parts (Part I, pages 1–566; Part II, pages 567–1146) and is concerned with resolution of organic acids. The first section gives a list of relevant resolving agents, with physical constants and references to methods for their preparation or resolution. Then the major portion is taken up with descriptions of classical resolution procedures for specific organic acids, photocopied from the original literature. A substantial section (184 pages) is devoted to optical resolution of acids by chromatographic methods, then small sections deal with additional methods (preferential crystallization or entrainment procedures) and methods of determining optical purity, and a final section, of 41 pages (by S. Alexandratos), is concerned with asymmetric synthesis of carboxylic acids.

The series of volumes deserves a place in the library of every laboratory concerned with optical resolutions, and will be especially valuable in organizations where such resolutions are only occasionally attempted. Organometallic chemists must wait a while for Volume 4, which will include coverage of organometallic and inorganic compounds.

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