

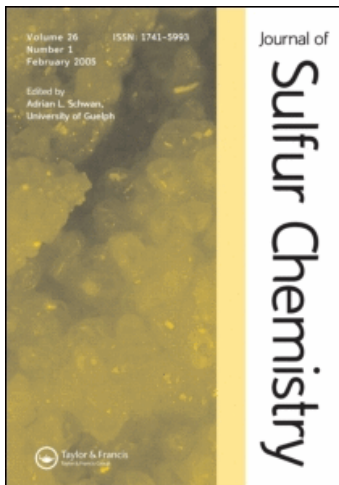
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BOOK REVIEW

S. Oae and N. Furukawa: *Sulfilimines and Related Derivatives*, ACS Monograph 179, American Chemical Society, Washington, DC, 1983, 340 p., \$101.95 (in the U.S. and Canada \$84.95).

It is both timely and appropriate that the somewhat neglected chemistry of sulfilimines and related compounds finally has been codified in a lucid and attractive monograph by two distinguished authors whose laboratories have contributed much of what we know today about this area. The chapters

1. Chemistry of Sulfilimines and Related Derivatives
2. *N*-Substituted Sulfilimines
3. Physicochemical Properties of Sulfilimines
4. Chemical Reactions: Thermolysis, Photolysis, and Hydrolysis
5. Chemical Reactions (II)
6. *N*-Unsubstituted Sulfilimines
7. Optically Active Sulfilimines
8. *N*-Halosulfilimines
9. Derivations to Sulfoximines, Sulfondiimines, and Related Compounds
10. Utilizations of Sulfilimines

are written in a clear and contagiously enthusiastic style and contain a total of 953 references. Though the preface does not reveal the exact coverage the bulk of the references appears to be pre-1979, the odd 1981 or 1982 reference notwithstanding. While the general presentation and typography (including a wealth of figures) is excellent the authors have not entirely escaped the notorious Japanese ambivalence towards the niceties of the English grammar such as the proper use of the definite and the indefinite article and of the singular and the plural (note also the tautology in the book title!). Among a plethora of excellent illustrations a few things appear to have slipped: on p. 13 a formula contains a covalent bond between a sodium ion and a nitrogen atom, on p. 14 (fig. 1), p. 55 (figs. 2 and 3), p. 58 (fig. 4), p. 62 (fig. 5), and p. 99 (fig. 1) a few figures are messily drawn and/or hard to decipher because of unclear legends. In Chapter 10 a number of patents are cited without dates and CA references.

This book is a treasure trove of information both for specialists in the area and for chemists who contemplate occasional use of sulfilimines and related compounds as intermediates etc. The price of 30 cents per page appears hefty, even by contemporary standards, and likely to limit the circulation of this fine book.

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