

University of Groningen

The origin and amplification of chirality

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Stellingen:

- 1) There are many things important in life, the successfulness of your PhD is not one of them
- 2) Melting point determination is quick and simple and does not only give information about the purity and structure of your compound but it can in many cases, also give insight into interesting physical properties
- 3) An open group discussion with respect for all participants regardless of background and understanding is the best way to elevate the knowledge and skill of everybody present
- 4) If during the writing process of a PhD thesis one finds that experiments could and should have been done different, it proves that one has learned not that one was ignorant
- 5) It should not be allowed to report the synthesis of new molecules without giving at least a ^1H -NMR to confirm that the synthesis was successful and the structure correct.

Chen, J.J., et al., *3-Oxo-2-piperazinyl acetamides as potent bradykinin B1 receptor antagonists for the treatment of pain and inflammation*. *Bioorganic & Medicinal Chemistry Letters*, 2011. **21**(11): p. 3384-3389.

Deng, C.-H., et al., *Synthesis of N-Phosphoamino Acids with Long Dialkoxy Chains*. *Journal of Chemical Research, Synopses*, 1999(10): p. 589-589.

- 6) Robert Shapiro compares scientists that investigate prebiotically viable reactions performed in the lab with a golfer that hits a golf ball in the hole and subsequently argues that the ball could have gone in to the hole without him. Whilst fully agreeing with the author that a controlled lab experiment will never truly mimic the prebiotic earth, the author seems to forget that to do research one has to start somewhere.

Shapiro, R., *A simpler origin of life*. *Scientific American*, 2007. **296**: p. 46-53.

- 7) Addy Pross's concept of dynamic kinetic stability is a great step forward since it is one theory that covers the metabolism first and the RNA world hypotheses making the discussion on this topic redundant

Pross, A., et al., *Extending the concept of kinetic stability: toward a paradigm for life*. *Journal of Physical Organic Chemistry*, 2004. **17**: p. 312-316

- 8) The current slow process of applying for a defense date, leads to poor defenses and changes the event from a wonderful happening to something that still needs to be done.