

Teaching about chirality in crystals and molecules,
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Why and what do we need to teach synthetic chemists about chirality in crystals? How should we set about it? The motivation behind the first question comes from the requirement of synthetic chemists to determine absolute configuration from single-crystal X-ray diffraction measurements. For the budding crystallographer or structure analyst the questions need to be set wider and to encompass the treatment and interpretation of crystals with a non-centrosymmetric structure. The goal sought after is for these people to be capable both of designing experiments appropriate to their requirements, and of interpreting and reporting the results that are obtained.

Although much of the scientific content of the material needing to be taught can be found in the author's publications [1,2,3,4,5], clearly this needs augmenting by striking illustrative examples. Furthermore it has been found essential to include material on the phase diagrams of enantiomeric mixtures and their crystallization. For the latter the monograph [6] is an invaluable source of reliable material.

During the talk a selection of the teaching materials that we keep under constant revision and modernisation will be presented.

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