

Computational Chemistry and Organic Synthesis: Let Us Build a Bridge

Speaker: Boris Maryasin
Email: boris.maryasin@univie.ac.at
Institute: Institute of Organic Chemistry/Institute of Theoretical Chemistry

Progress in quantum chemistry allows to understand and efficiently predict the outcome of organic reactions. Hereby we demonstrate the power of bridging experiment and theory on some recent examples from our lab. The Claisen rearrangement is a classical reaction.[1] However, it still holds the potential to provide new results and a series of novel Claisen-type rearrangements have recently been developed by the Maulide group.[2] Our combined theoretical/experimental study of these transformations reveals a diversity of possible pathways. The calculations clarify the experiments and predict new reactions.[3] The Maulide group has also discovered a new synthetic approach leading to imidazoles with observation of an unusual sulfonyl migration.[4] Our in-depth theoretical analysis shed more light on this rearrangement. Moreover, some reactions can even proceed via several different unclear mechanisms. One of those examples is our TEMPO-mediated aminoxylation of ynamides.[5] The calculations explain the experimentally observed phenomena.

References:

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