The book is composed mainly of three sections: small molecules (14 papers), DNA and RNA (3 papers) and proteins (10 papers). In section (1) the conformational characteristics and the results pertaining to the structure–activity relationships of biologically active molecules such as tetracyclines, ionophorous antibiotics, natural ergot alkaloids, macrotetrolide antibiotics, hypothalamic hormones etc. are discussed. The three papers in section (2) deal with rather different aspects of DNA and RNA molecules. One of the papers discusses aminocyclation of tRNA whereas the remaining two present theoretical results on accessibilities and molecular electrostatic potential in B- and Z-DNA as well as tRNA. The papers in section (3) mainly pertain to the structure–function relationships of a few enzymes and proteins, e.g. serine proteases, sulfonamide–human erythrocyte carbonic anhydrase, snake neurotoxins etc. Data obtained from X-ray crystallography, NMR, CD and quantum-chemical methods have been the basis for the discussions in most of the papers appearing in this book.

Since each of the 27 papers contained in the book is separately prepared, there are the expected variations in style and typescript. All the authors have given detailed references and a subject index is also provided.

In summary, the book embodies valuable information for crystallographers working on drug molecules, for protein crystallographers and for medicinal chemists.

The editor is to be congratulated in producing this excellent book.

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Books Received

The following books have been received by the Editor. Brief and generally uncritical notices are given of works of marginal crystallographic interest; occasionally a book of fundamental interest is included under this heading because of difficulty in finding a suitable reviewer without great delay.
