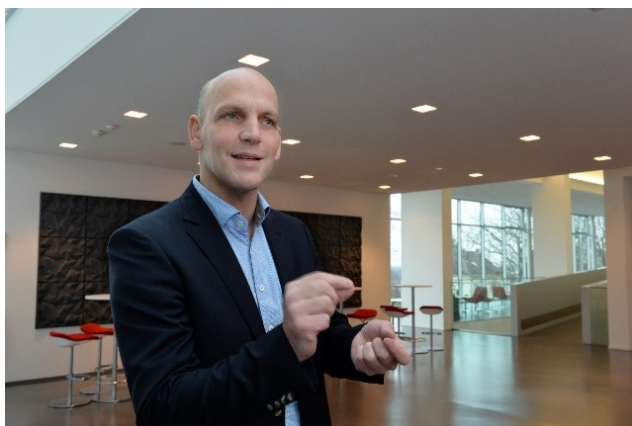


## Editorial



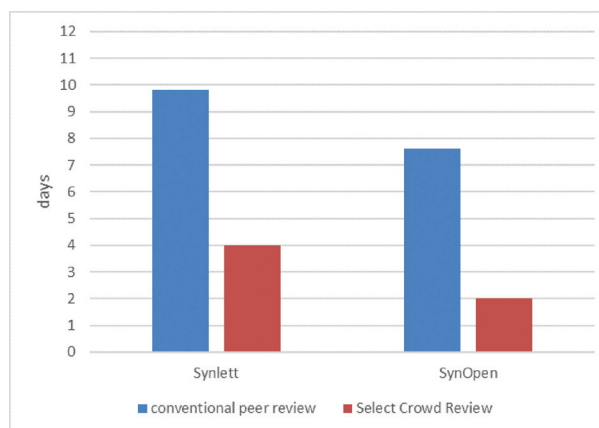
**Dear Readers,**

Happy New Year 2022 to all of you enthusiastic scientists working in chemical synthesis and catalysis! How can I best express this? I guess it is fair to say that 2021 has been a very exciting year for all of us. So let us celebrate our beautiful science and show the world what it can accomplish. In times such as those, it is ever more important to explain to our friends and relatives how chemical synthesis and catalysis affects our lives and how it contributes to healing, feeding, warming and transporting humanity.

SYNLETT continues to be committed to publishing creative and significant research, and to do this as efficiently and rapidly as possible. We are delighted to announce our latest impact factor (2020) of 2.454, an increase of 22%! We are certainly excited about this success and expect it to only mark the beginning of a rally toward strengthening our position as a high-impact forum for disseminating urgent work in chemical synthesis and catalysis.

With a review period of just four days, Select Crowd Review has proven to be a significant factor in decreasing our manuscript processing times (see Figure). For both SYNLETT and SynOpen, Select Crowd Review saves an average of six days between the time that reviewers are invited and

when the decision can be made by the Editor. We now also offer the Author Accepted Manuscript workflow, whereby our authors can choose to have their peer-reviewed and accepted manuscript published online ahead of copy-editing and typesetting. When used in tandem, the Select Crowd Review and Author Accepted Manuscript options can have a submitted manuscript set to publication within just a few days. Again, I would like to thank our crowd for all their commitment and enthusiasm in reviewing for us.



Several SYNLETT Clusters and virtual collections have been published in 2021, highlighting the diversity of work in this journal:

- *Radicals - by Young Chinese Organic Chemists* (Ang Li, guest editors: Chen Zhu, Xin-Yuan Liu)
- *Heterocycle Synthesis and Functionalization* (Tomislav Rovis, guest editor: Louis-Charles Campeau)
- *The Power of Transition Metals - In Honor of Prof. Barry Trost and 20 Years SOS* (guest editor: Gary Molander)
- *Perspectives on Organoheteroatom and Organometallic Chemistry* (Ang Li, guest editor: Xuefeng Jiang)
- *Modern Nickel-Catalyzed Reactions – Part I and Part II* (Rubén Martín, guest editor: Gary Molander)
- *Nobel Prize Winner 2021 Collection – Benjamin List and David MacMillan*
- *EuCheMS Organic Division Young Investigator Workshop Special Section*
- *Editorial Board Cluster*

We are pleased that several high-profile experts in the field will serve as guest editors for our Cluster section in 2022. The following Clusters have been initiated, and more will come soon:

- *Late-Stage Functionalization* (Benjamin List, guest editor: Tobias Ritter)
- *Machine Learning and Artificial Intelligence in Chemical Synthesis and Catalysis* (Benjamin List, guest editor: Connor W. Coley)
- *Design and Chemical Synthesis of Antivirals* (Benjamin List, guest editor: Dirk Trauner)
- *Organic Photoredox Catalysis in Synthesis – Honoring Prof. Shunichi Fukuzumi's 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday* (David Nicewicz, guest editor: Prof. Shunichi Fukuzumi)

- *Mechanochemistry* (Tomislav Rovis, guest editor: Jeffrey Moore)
- *Development and Applications of Novel Ligands/Catalysts and Mechanistic Studies on Catalysis* (Ang Li, guest editors: Zhipeng Zhang, Baoguo Zhao)

The ten most-cited research articles published in 2019 and 2020, sorted by number of citations, are listed in Table 1. The articles published in 2021 that created an above-average interest among our readers in the past year are shown in Table 2. Many of these were published as part of our Cluster sections.

**Table 1: Most-Cited SYNLETT Articles from 2019 and 2020** (CT = Citations, as of November 30, 2021)

CT	Authors	Title	Reference
51	J. Kanazawa, M. Uchiyama	<i>Recent Advances in the Synthetic Chemistry of Bicyclo[1.1.1]pentane</i>	<i>Synlett</i> <b>2019</b> , 30, 1.
49	X. Wu, S. Sun, J.-T. Yu, J. Cheng	<i>Recent Applications of <math>\alpha</math>-Carbonyl Sulfoxonium Ylides in Rhodium- and Iridium-Catalyzed C–H Functionalizations</i>	<i>Synlett</i> <b>2019</b> , 30, 21.
41	C. Empel, R. M. Koenigs	<i>Sustainable Carbene Transfer Reactions with Iron and Light</i>	<i>Synlett</i> <b>2019</b> , 30, 1929.
34	Y. Qiu, J. Struwe, L. Ackermann	<i>Metallalectro-Catalyzed C–H Activation by Weak Coordination</i>	<i>Synlett</i> <b>2019</b> , 30, 1164.
33	Y. Takahira, M. Chen, Y. Kawamata, P. Mykhailiuk, H. Nakamura, B. K. Peters, S. H. Reisberg, C. Li, C. Chao, H. Longrui, S. Tamaki, T. Shibuguchi, P. S. Baran	<i>Electrochemical C(sp<sup>3</sup>)-H Fluorination</i>	<i>Synlett</i> <b>2019</b> , 30, 1178.
33	L. Schulz, S. R. Waldvogel	<i>Solvent Control in Electro-Organic Synthesis</i>	<i>Synlett</i> <b>2019</b> , 30, 275.
31	C. Song, K. Liu, X. Dong, C.-W. Chiang, A. Lei	<i>Recent Advances in Electrochemical Oxidative Cross-Coupling for the Construction of C–S Bonds</i>	<i>Synlett</i> <b>2019</b> , 30, 1149.
31	K. Kato, Y. Segawa, K. Itami	<i>Symmetric Multiple Carbohelices</i>	<i>Synlett</i> <b>2019</b> , 30, 370.
30	X. Liu, Y. Huang, X. Meng, J. Li, D. Wang, Y. Chen, D. Tang, B. Chen	<i>Recent Developments in the Synthesis of Nitrogen-Containing Heterocycles through C–H/N–H Bond Functionalizations and Oxidative Cyclization</i>	<i>Synlett</i> <b>2019</b> , 30, 1026.
30	A. R. White, L. Wang, D. A. Nicewicz	<i>Synthesis and Characterization of Acridinium Dyes for Photoredox Catalysis</i>	<i>Synlett</i> <b>2019</b> , 30, 827.

**Table 2: Most Downloaded Articles from 2021** (January to November, DL = Downloads, as of November 30, 2021)

DL	Authors	Title	Reference
703	E. L. Lucas, T. M. McGinnis, A. J. Castro, E. R. Jarvo	<i>Nickel-Catalyzed Cross-Electrophile Coupling of the Difluoromethyl Group for Fluorinated Cyclopropane Synthesis</i>	<i>Synlett</i> <b>2021</b> , 32, 1525.
657	C. J. O'Brien, D. A. Nicewicz	<i>Milled Dry Ice as a C1 Source for the Carboxylation of Aryl Halides</i>	<i>Synlett</i> <b>2021</b> , 32, 814.
552	V. Gopalsamuthiram, C. Williams, J. Noble, T. F. Jamison, B. F. Gupton, D. R. Sneed	<i>A Concise Route to MK-4482 (EIDD-2801) from Cytidine: Part 2</i>	<i>Synlett</i> <b>2021</b> , 32, 326.
525	M. van Gemmeren, B. List	<i>How and Why Crowd Reviewing Works</i>	<i>Synlett</i> <b>2021</b> , 32, 885.
491	P. M. Kathe, A. Berkefeld, I. Fleischer	<i>Nickel Hydride Catalyzed Cleavage of Allyl Ethers Induced by Isomerization</i>	<i>Synlett</i> <b>2021</b> , 32, 1629.

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We have so many reasons to be extremely grateful here at SYNLETT, not the least being the support of our authors, readers, and referees. Together with my associate editors and the Thieme team from Stuttgart, I wish you great success and happiness in 2022. Let us continue advancing our exciting science, and as a by-product, help improving life on this planet, the only one currently available to us.....

I wish you all a healthy and prosperous New Year 2022!

Best wishes,



Ben List  
Editor-in-Chief  
Mülheim/Ruhr  
December 2021

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Dear Ben,  
dear SYNLETT readers,

You made 2021 a very special year for us! On behalf of all Editorial Board Members and the whole Thieme team we warmly congratulate you again for winning the 2021 Nobel prize in chemistry!

Your passion for chemistry, but also your constant support and creativity is outstanding. Since 2011 when you joined the editorial board of SYNLETT, you are an indispensable member of the Thieme Chemistry family. You play a key role in shaping the journal as Editor-in-Chief since 2015, especially as mastermind and developer of the Select Crowd Review process, which combines up to date peer review with innovative technology!

Thanks for all!

With best wishes for 2022,  
Your Thieme team

Thieme Chemistry is offering free access to publications about asymmetric organocatalysis from Prof. List:  
[www.thieme-chemistry.com/nobel](http://www.thieme-chemistry.com/nobel)