

NATURAL PRODUCTS - AS LEADS IN CNS DRUG DISCOVERY

MSc Thesis Project in Medicinal Chemistry

Natural products comprise a rich source of molecules with diverse biological activity. In fact, some of the most important drugs today are natural products or close synthetic analogs thereof.

The objective of this MSc thesis project is to synthesize a natural product of interest (e.g. **1**) and hence investigate its biological action in collaboration with pharmacologists. Hereafter it may be of interest to design analogs.

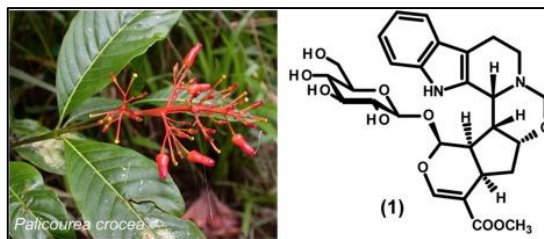
STUDENT SUPERVISION:

I hold bi-weekly project meetings with each student in the group. In addition thereto, I have an open-door policy after 13:00, where you are always welcome to drop by. As an MSc thesis student, you will also have a PhD student or postdoc as your daily co-supervisor.

ABOUT THE BUNCH GROUP AT ILF:

In the BUNCH group we focus on design and synthesis of small molecules (tool compounds), which can help to understand complex psychiatric diseases such as schizophrenia and depression. We work closely with pharmacologist at the department - and internationally - to achieve this goal.

In the group we have a strong focus on understanding organic chemistry from a mechanistic perspective. This helps us to design molecules in our medicinal chemistry projects. During the semester the group meets for “chemistry meetings”, where we discuss electron pushing problems, retrosyntheses and so on.



The MSc thesis project comprises:

- Literature search
- Retrosynthetic analysis
- Experimental work (synthesis)
- Design of analogs (computational chemistry)
- Thesis writing & oral defense

FACTS:

- ECTS: 45-60 points
- START: As agreed to

QUALIFICATIONS:

- Strong background and interest in organic chemistry

CONTACT:

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Group homepage: [link](#)