

CASE STUDY

Reaxys[®]

Fabrizio Fabris, Department of Molecular Sciences and Nanosystems,
University of Venice, Italy

Reaxys supports research and teaching in organic chemistry



SUMMARY

The Department of Molecular Sciences and Nanosystems focuses on organic, inorganic and physical chemistry. Fabrizio's research group has a special interest in cyclotrimerization; a highly specialized field of organic chemistry. Only a few research groups worldwide are active in this area.

“Every chemist should try Reaxys! It’s so simple and intuitive to use. The return of information is so fast; it’s guaranteed to save them time.”

– Fabrizio Fabris, University of Venice, Italy

Professor Fabrizio Fabris talks to us about how Reaxys supports both his research workflow and his teaching activities in the Department of Molecular Sciences and Nanosystems at the University of Venice, Italy.

Academic challenges

The department has an equal split between research and teaching. Its student faculty is comprised of both undergraduate and postgraduate students.

Fabrizio’s research group focuses primarily on cyclotrimerization reactions and the application of the generated structures in the field of supramolecular chemistry.

Reaxys addresses teaching challenges

Fabrizio teaches two laboratory-based organic chemistry courses and one theoretical course. He teaches students throughout their undergraduate career.

“I use Reaxys with my 4th and 5th year undergraduates to illustrate the principles of research — directly using it online with them in class. It helps to prepare them for postgraduate study or work. I also use it to prepare practical classes. Having instant access to information, for example melting points or a specific synthesis for a product, saves me a lot of time — which I can then use to focus on my research activities.”

Reaxys addresses research challenges

Following an initial idea, a typical workflow for Fabrizio would be to perform a set of reactions to obtain a target. Before doing that, Fabrizio uses Reaxys to check that the reactions are possible by looking for similar reactions — and to verify that his experiment has not been done already. Once he has established his experiment is unique he is able to move on, complete the research and ultimately publish it. He finds Reaxys invaluable when preparing a manuscript.

“I spend an average of 1 hour per day using Reaxys for my research — more when I am preparing a publication. Then, I use it to collect a large amount of current information on the subject. I can then check the articles and begin writing.”

Reaxys saves research time

Reaxys delivers relevant, actionable results that they can be used immediately, supporting chemists’ decision-making processes, improving efficiency, and increasing productivity.

“Reaxys is so much simpler and faster to use than other databases. We used to use CrossFire, but that was a lengthy process and data were hard to save and export. With Reaxys, not only is data return faster, but I can save the data and return to it even months later without concern.”

“A scientist without a database is like a bird without wings! You can have the greatest idea, but if you can’t explore your target, you become a flightless bird. Reaxys enables us to explore our ideas, simply and rapidly.”

– FABRIZIO FABRIS
UNIVERSITY OF VENICE, ITALY

Reaxys provides a level of depth not available with other services. In addition, links to Scopus and Science Direct enable easy, direct access to abstracts and publications, enabling more effective decision-making by considering the information from all the relevant angles.

“The synergy between Reaxys, Scopus, and Science Direct is invaluable. Combined with the ease of use and reliability of information, I spend half as much time on this type of research than I used to.”

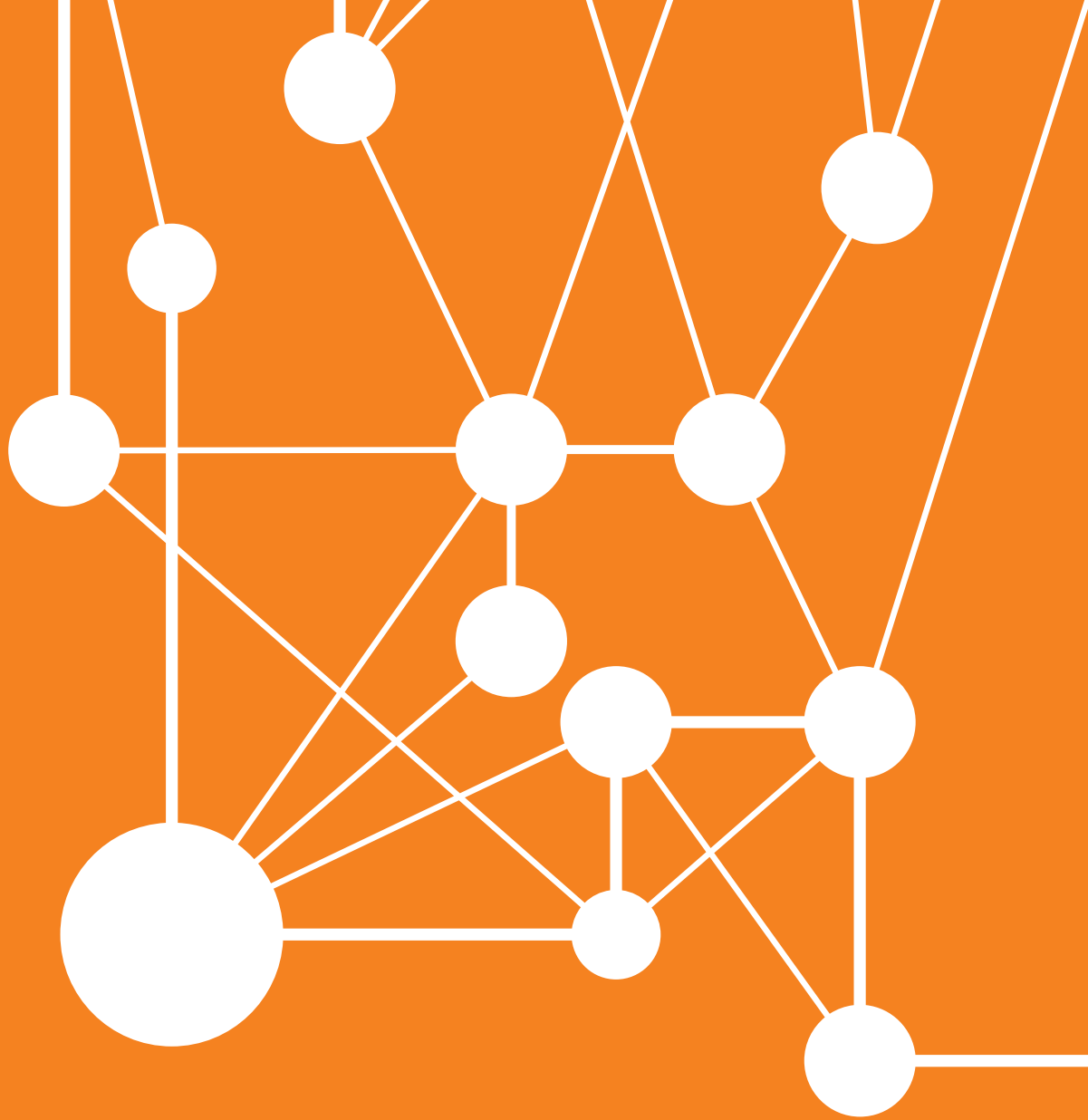
Reaxys saves money

University funding is limited. Therefore, one database that covers the remit of several other products and saves time is a good investment for an academic institution.

“Reaxys has completely substituted the other databases we used previously. It has very much lived up to expectations.”

Conclusion

A good database is invaluable; both when teaching and conducting research. Reaxys provides a simple and streamlined workflow, which can be applied to both teaching and research, saving time in both areas.



LEARN MORE

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