Preface

During the last decades, green chemistry has emerged as a consistent discipline, with a set of concepts or thought patterns, including theories, research method, and standards. Thus, the social uneasiness about the damage to the environment and human health caused by industry, in particular chemical industry, and about the waste of non-renewable natural resources that has been a main issue from 1950 on has received an answer, or at least the direction to follow has been defined, through a strictly scientific approach. “Green” is no more an eye-catching word added to the title of a paper or a patent whenever wished, as in previous times “new” or “novel”, but rather a precise qualification that attests the belonging to a recognized discipline. Green chemistry is certainly interdisciplinary and involves contributions from every part of science (not only chemistry), but the adherence to a firm set of paradigms can be quantitatively assessed through a recognized green metrics. Within the small dimensions proper to this form, this brief wishes to share with anybody interested our view of such paradigms.

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