# SPOTLIGHTS ..

# Helical Polymers

Y. Hase, Y. Mitsutsuji, M. Ishikawa, K. Maeda, K. Okoshi, E. Yashima\*

Unexpected Thermally Stable, Cholesteric Liquid-Crystalline Helical Polyisocyanides with Memory of Macromolecular Helicity Chiral amines Chira **Remember it well!** The achiral sodium salt of poly(4-carboxyphenyl isocyanide) (poly-1–Na) folds into a one-handed helix induced by optically active amines in water, which remains when the amines are completely removed. Further modification of the side groups is possible without loss of memory of macromolecular helicity.

Chem. Asian J. DOI: **10.1002/asia.200700051** 

#### Aptamers

W. Zhao, W. Chiuman, M. A. Brook,\* Y. Li\*

Simple and Rapid Colorimetric Biosensors Based on DNA Aptamer and Noncrosslinking Gold Nanoparticle Aggregation

ChemBioChem DOI: **10.1002/cbic.200700014** 

# Metallofullerenes

Y. Ito, W. Fujita, T. Okazaki, T. Sugai, K. Awaga, E. Nishibori, M. Takata, M. Sakata, H. Shinohara\*

Magnetic Properties and Crystal Structure of Solvent-Free Sc@C<sub>82</sub> Metallofullerene Microcrystals

ChemPhysChem DOI: **10.1002/cphc.200700097** 

# +

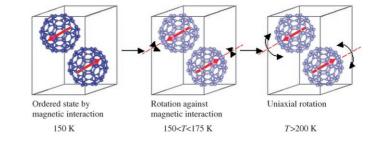
Hybridized AuNPs are stable under a chosen salt condition

**The color purple**. Upon binding of the target +, negatively charged DNA aptamers (shown in purple) dissociate from a gold nanoparticle surface; this



Unhybridized AuNPs are not stable under the same salt conditions

results in nanoparticle aggregation and a color change at a chosen salt concentration.



**Abnormal behavior** of the magnetic susceptibility of solvent-free Sc@C<sub>82</sub> microcrystals is observed between 120 K and 200 K (see figure). The presence of

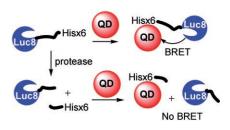
the antiferromagnetic-like interaction exerted among  $Sc@C_{82}$  molecules restricts the molecular rotation to uniaxial.

# Nanosensors

H. Yao, Y. Zhang, F. Xiao, Z. Xia, J. Rao\*

Quantum Dot/Bioluminescence Resonance Energy Transfer Based Highly Sensitive Detection of Proteases

Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. DOI: 10.1002/anie.200700280 Sensing by BRET: Quantum dot (QD) nanosensors can detect the activity of matrix metalloproteinases by measuring the bioluminescence resonance energy transfer (BRET) efficiency between the QDs and a bioluminescent fusion protein (see scheme; Luc8 = Renilla luciferase; His×6 = six-histidine tag).



# .. ON OUR SISTER JOURNALS

A novel macrocyclic ligand containing a porphyrin moiety was prepared by a stepwise condensation and used in the preparation of a rotaxane-like structure.



# Porphyrinoid Rotaxanes

J. Frey, W. Dobbs, V. Heitz,\* J.-P. Sauvage\*

A 1,10-Phenanthroline-Containing Ring Connected to a Porphyrin by a Rigid Aromatic Spacer and Its Copper-Complexed Pseudorotaxane

*Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* DOI: **10.1002/ejic.200700177** 

#### **Foldamers**

H<sub>11</sub>

A novel class of foldamers containing (S)- $\beta^3$ -homophenylglycine and D-4-carboxyoxazolidin-2-one residues in alternate order is reported. The experimental conformational analysis proved that these oligomers fold into ordered structures and theoretical calculations suggest a helix with 11-membered hydrogen-bonded rings as the preferred secondary structure type.

G. Angelici, G. Luppi, B. Kaptein, Q. B. Broxterman, H.-J. Hofmann, C. Tomasini\*

Synthesis and Secondary Structure of Alternate  $\alpha$ , $\beta$ -Hybrid Peptides Containing Oxazolidin-2-one Moieties

Eur. J. Org. Chem. DOI: **10.1002/ejoc.200700134** 

### Sol–Gel Reactions

K. Katagiri,\* M. Hashizume, K. Ariga, T. Terashima, J.-i. Kikuchi\*

Preparation and Characterization of a Novel Organic–Inorganic Nanohybrid "Cerasome" Formed with a Liposomal Membrane and Silicate Surface

oo-Chem. Eur. J. DOI: **10.1002/chem.200700175** 



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# $(EtO)_{3}Si \underbrace{\bigvee_{H}}_{H} \underbrace{\bigvee_{O}}_{H} \underbrace{\bigvee_{O}} \underbrace{\bigvee_{O}}_{H} \underbrace{\bigvee_{O}} \underbrace{\bigvee_{O}} \underbrace{\bigvee_{O}}_{H} \underbrace{\bigvee_{O}} \underbrace{\bigvee_{O}} \underbrace{\bigvee_{O}} \underbrace{$

An organic-inorganic hybrid, a socalled "cerasome", which has a liposomal bilayer structure and a polysiloxane surface, has been prepared by sol-gel reaction and self-assembly of lipidic organoalkoxysilanes. The formation process and properties of cerasomes are described in detail. It was revealed that cerasomes have high morphological stability compared with conventional liposomes.