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### IN THIS ISSUE

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**Cover** See Malcolm A. Halcrow *et al.*, page 577. The consistent cooperativity shown by spincrossover compounds adopting this crystal packing motif makes it an ideal model system for the crystal engineering of functional materials. Image reproduced by permission of Ruth Pritchard, Colin A. Kilner and Malcolm A. Halcrow, from *Chem. Commun.*, 2007, 577.



### Inside cover

See Takayuki Kawashima *et al.*, page 559. The most intense fluorescent azobenzene by taking advantage of strong N–B interaction and electronwithdrawing groups on the boron. Image reproduced by permission of Junro Yoshino, Naokazu Kano and Takayuki Kawashima, from *Chem. Commun.*, 2007, 559.

### CHEMICAL TECHNOLOGY

Т9

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## **Chemical Technology**

February 2007/Volume 4/Issue 2 www.rsc.org/chemicaltechnology

### FEATURE ARTICLE

547

### Chiral catalysis in nanopores of mesoporous materials

Can Li,\* Huidong Zhang, Dongmei Jiang and Qihua Yang

This article reviews the recent progress made in asymmetric catalysis in the nanopores of mesoporous materials and periodic mesoporous organosilicas (PMOs). Some examples of chiral catalysts within the nanopores show improved catalytic performance compared to homogeneous catalysts. Factors including the confinement effect, the properties of the linkages and the microenvironment in nanopores, which affect the activity and enantioselectivity of the asymmetric catalysis in nanopores, are discussed.



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### COMMUNICATIONS

### 559



Synthesis of the most intensely fluorescent azobenzene by utilizing the B–N interaction

Junro Yoshino, Naokazu Kano and Takayuki Kawashima\*

A boron-substituted azobenzene, (*E*)-[2-(4methoxyphenylazo)phenyl]bis(pentafluorophenyl)borane, presented the most intense fluorescence among the azobenzene derivatives.

562

### A computational study of the methanolysis of palladiumacyl bonds

Steven M. A. Donald, Stuart A. Macgregor,\* Volker Settels, David J. Cole-Hamilton and Graham R. Eastham

Density functional calculations suggest that intermolecular attack of methanol may be important in the methanolysis of simple Pd–acyl systems and that the energetics of this process are strongly dependent on the metal coordination environment.



565

## Synthesis and characterization of positively capped CdTe quantum wires that exhibit strong luminescence in aqueous media

Vito Sgobba,\* Christian Schulz-Drost and Dirk M. Guldi\*

The novelty of the current work lies in the versatile synthesis of highly luminescent water-soluble CdTe quantum rods (QR) which are the first known water-soluble QR carrying positively charged stabilizer.

### 568

## Tetraphenylporphyrin picks up zinc atoms from a silver surface

Andreas Kretschmann, Marie-Madeleine Walz, Ken Flechtner, Hans-Peter Steinrück and J. Michael Gottfried\*

Adsorbed *meso*-tetraphenylporphyrin molecules can coordinate zinc atoms that are pre-deposited on an Ag(111) surface. This reaction is the first example of an oxidative dissolution of a metal by a large organic ligand under ultrahigh vacuum conditions.





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## Experimental and theoretical evidence of the first Au(I)…Bi(III) interaction

Eduardo J. Fernández,\* Antonio Laguna,\* José M. López-de-Luzuriaga, Miguel Monge, Mihai Nema, M. Elena Olmos, Javier Pérez and Cristian Silvestru

 $[Au(C_6F_5)_2][Bi(C_6H_4CH_2NMe_2-2)_2]$  displays the first example of an interaction between Au(I) and Bi(III). Calculations show the presence of a high ionic contribution and a dispersion type interaction.

### 574

### Ionic liquid passivated CdSe nanocrystals

Mark Green,\* Paula Rahman and David Smyth-Boyle

The preparation of CdSe nanoparticles passivated with a phosphonium ionic liquid is described – the optics, structure and mode of surface coordination is reported.



### 577

580

boron nanoparticles

### Iron(II) complexes with a terpyridine embrace packing motif show remarkably consistent cooperative spin-transitions

Ruth Pritchard, Colin A. Kilner and Malcolm A. Halcrow\*

Six structurally related iron(II) complexes show remarkably similar abrupt thermal spin-transitions.

Room temperature synthesis of surface-functionalised





### Alexandra L. Pickering, Christoph Mitterbauer, Nigel D. Browning, Susan M. Kauzlarich<sup>\*</sup> and Philip P. Power<sup>\*</sup>

Halogen capped boron nanoparticles have been synthesized by a simple route involving the reduction of boron bromide with sodium naphthalenide. The halogen capped species can be derivatized by reaction with alcohol to give alkoxy capped nanoparticles.



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### COMMUNICATIONS

### 583

## Highly selective *R*,*S*-coordination of non racemic (1*R*,2*R*)-(1,2-dialkyl)-1,2-diamine cyclohexane derivatives to palladium dichloride

Esfandiar Rafii, Benjamin Dassonneville and Andreas Heumann\*

In the complexes obtained the  $C_2$  symmetry of the diamine ligand is broken, and all atoms become nonequivalent in the NMR timescale. The structure has been characterized unambiguously by single-crystal X-ray diffraction.

### 586

### Pyridyl 'ring-flipping' in the dimers $[Me_2E(2-py)]_2$ (E = B, Al, Ga; 2-py = 2-pyridyl)

Felipe García, (the late) Alexander D. Hopkins, Richard A. Kowenicki, Mary McPartlin, Jared S. Silvia, Jeremy M. Rawson, Michael C. Rogers and Dominic S. Wright\*

Simply heating a mixture of the *cis* and *trans* isomers of  $[Me_2E(2-py)]_2$  (E = B, Al) gives exclusively the more thermodynamically stable, synthetically useful *trans* isomers *via* a ring-flipping process.

### 589

### Fullerene acting as an electron donor in a donor-acceptor dyad to attain the long-lived charge-separated state by complexation with scandium ion

Kei Ohkubo, Javier Ortiz, Luis Martín-Gomis, Fernando Fernández-Lázaro, Ángela Sastre-Santos\* and Shunichi Fukuzumi\*

A long-lived charge-separated state of fullerene– trinitrofluorenone linked dyad is formed by photoinduced electron transfer from  $C_{60}$  to TNF in the presence of Sc(OTf)<sub>3</sub>.

### 592

## Solid state differentiation of plasma thiols using a centrifugally activated mercaptobenzothiazole disulfide exchange indicator

Samir Chahine, Callum Livingstone and James Davis\*

A solid state filter material has been developed to allow the speciation and quantitative measurement of reduced low molecular weight (cysteine, glutathione) and macromolecular (albumin) thiols within plasma.









601

q



Zn

EC

Surfactant

EO,PO,EO,

Multi-component

Assembly

## Rhodium-catalysed substitutive arylation of *cis*-allylic diols with arylboroxines

Tomoya Miura, Yusuke Takahashi and Masahiro Murakami\*

Substitutive arylation of *cis*-allylic diols occurs upon treatment with arylboroxines in the presence of a rhodium(I) catalyst, and has been extended to asymmetric synthesis.



David R. Armstrong, William Clegg, Sophie H. Dale, David V. Graham, Eva Hevia, Lorna M. Hogg, Gordon W. Honeyman, Alan R. Kennedy and Robert E. Mulvey\*

Dimetallation of benzene, difficult to achieve even with highly reactive polar organolithium reagents, can be easily accomplished using the lower reactive and much less polar metal zinc when introduced as a synergic sodium TMP-zincate reagent.

## Mesoporous carbon/silica nanocomposite through multi-component assembly

Qingyuan Hu, Rong Kou, Jiebin Pang, Timothy L. Ward, Mei Cai, Zhengzhong Yang, Yunfeng Lu\* and Jing Tang\*

Ordered mesoporous carbon/silica nanocomposites were synthesised through a novel multi-component molecular assembly and show promising potential as corrosion-resisted electrocatalyst supports.



### The first actinyl cyanide

Jean-Claude Berthet,\* Pierre Thuéry and Michel Ephritikhine

Reaction of NEt<sub>4</sub>CN with  $UO_2(O_3SCF_3)_2$  in anhydrous acetonitrile is a facile route to the first uranyl(VI) cyanide [NEt<sub>4</sub>]<sub>3</sub>[UO<sub>2</sub>(CN)<sub>5</sub>], which is a rare example of uranyl compound with U–C bonds. The geometrical parameters of the complex are compared with the values previously obtained by theoretical calculations.

### A chiral dumbbell shaped bis(fullerene) oligoelectrolyte

Nikos Chronakis,\* Uwe Hartnagel, Martin Braun and Andreas Hirsch\*

The synthesis of the first water soluble icosacationic bis(fullerene) with a rigid and almost cylindrical shape is reported.



### 610

## A new cucurbit[8]uril-based fluorescent receptor for indole derivatives

Yonghua Ling, Wei Wang and Angel E. Kaifer\*

The fluorescent dication 2,7-dimethyldiazaphenanthrenium (DPT<sup>2+</sup>) forms a highly stable complex with cucurbit[8]uril and this binary complex can be used as a fluorescent detector for indole derivatives *via* charge transfer interactions.



## Asymmetric hydrogenation of quinolines with high substrate/catalyst ratio

Wei-Jun Tang, Shou-Fei Zhu, Li-Jin Xu,\* Qi-Lin Zhou, Qing-Hua Fan,\* Hai-Feng Zhou, Kimhung Lam and Albert S. C. Chan\*

The chiral diphosphinite ligand derived from (R)-1,1'-spirobiindane-7,7'-diol has been found to be highly effective in the Ir-catalyzed asymmetric hydrogenation of quinolines with high substrate/catalyst ratio (up to 5000) and high enantioselectivity (up to 94% ee).

### 616

### Highly enantioselective nitroaldol reaction catalyzed by new chiral copper complexes

Marco Bandini,\* Fabio Piccinelli, Simona Tommasi, Achille Umani-Ronchi\* and Caterina Ventrici

Low loading of catalyst, mild reaction parameters, high ee and remarkable scope on substrates are peculiar characteristics of DAT2-copper complex in the Henry condensation.





TOF value up to 2400 h<sup>-1</sup>; ee value up to 94 %  $L_1$ 



### COMMUNICATIONS



### A highly diastereoselective, catalytic three-component assembly reaction for the synthesis of spiropyrrolidinyloxindoles

Chris V. Galliford, James S. Martenson, Charlotte Stern and Karl A. Scheidt\*

Spiropyrrolidinyloxindole compounds can be synthesized in moderate to excellent yield *via* a highly diastereoselective Cu(I)-catalysed three-component assembly reaction of an imine, diazo-compound and substituted olefin dipolarophile.

### 634

## Versatile mesoporous carbonaceous materials for acid catalysis

Vitaly L. Budarin, James H. Clark,\* Rafael Luque and Duncan J. Macquarrie

Starbon mesoporous materials were synthesized after pyrolysis of expanded starch and subsequently functionalised with sulfonated groups. Materials were found to be highly active and reusable in various acid catalysed reactions.

### ADDITION AND CORRECTION

### 637

### Chiral catalysis in nanopores of mesoporous materials

Can Li, Huidong Zhang, Dongmei Jiang and Qihua Yang





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