On the making of trees...

... Joyce Kilmer wrote (1914) "I think that I shall never see a poem as lovely as a tree. ... Poems are written by fools like me, But only God can make a tree." However, to the synthetic organic chemist, Woody Allen is probably more appropriate: [Kilmer] "said that 'only God can make a tree,' probably because it's so hard to figure out how to get the bark on". In their Full Paper on page 3726 ff., G. R. Newkome et al. describe the design, synthesis, and characterization of conifershaped dendritic architectures.







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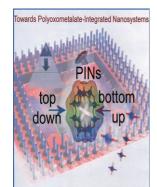
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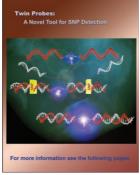


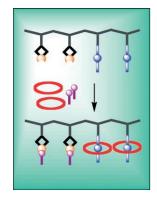
Nanoscale Devices

In their Concept article on page 3698 ff., D.-L. Long and L. Cronin describe how polyoxometalate nanoclusters could be used to develop approaches to polyoxometalate-integrated nanosystems that exploit the ability of polyoxometalate clusters to be assembled from the bottom up, and yet have sophisticated physical properties that may be utilized in molecular scale devices and computers. Recent advances in the assembly and the fabrication of such clusters means that the integration of cluster-based units into a real device is now conceivable.

Sequence Variety

In their Full Paper on page 3707 ff., A. Herrmann, K. Müllen et al. describe a new structural concept called "twin probe" for the detection of single-nucleotide polymorphism (SNP), which plays an important role in disease diagnosis, personalized medicine, and determining the genetic predisposition towards inherited diseases.





Living Polymerization

In their Full Paper on page 3789 ff., M. Weck, R. H. Grubbs, J. F. Stoddart et al. report the next generation of "universal polymer backbones" that possess recognition moieties which self-assemble with their complementary receptor molecules with very high association strengths. They have established that through the employment of living polymerization techniques the architectures of such polymeric systems can be controlled.