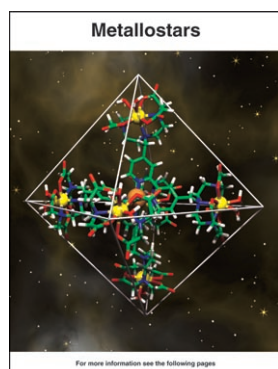
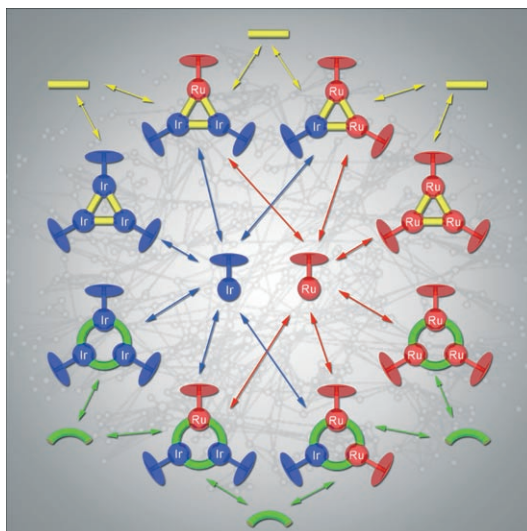


Dynamic combinatorial libraries...

... can be regarded as adaptive chemical networks, in which the library members are connected by exchange reactions. In the Full Paper by K. Severin et al. on page 1058 ff., a library of metallamacrocyclic ruthenium and iridium complexes with a unique network topology is described.

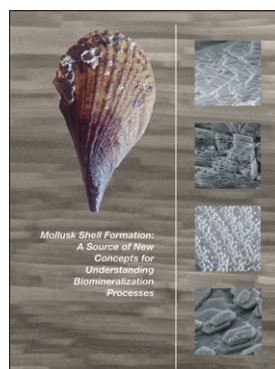


Metallostars

In their Full Paper on page 989 ff., É. Toth et al. describe the synthesis and characterization of a gadolinium metallostar compound. The metallostar has a remarkable proton relaxivity, related to two inner-sphere water molecules and their near-optimal exchange rate. The metallostar should be a particularly efficient contrast agent at very high magnetic fields.

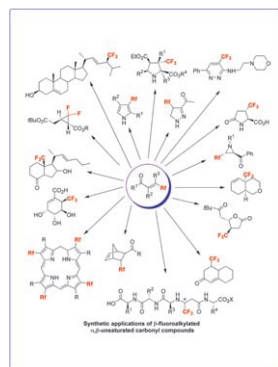
Mollusk Shell Formation

In their Concept article on page 980 ff., L. Addadi et al. present new ideas about the mechanism of formation of the pearly layer of a mollusk shell; such ideas have radically changed in recent years as a result of new observations. The results are described and new concepts are presented that may well have implications for other biomineralization processes.



Versatile Fluorine Derivatives

In his Concept article on page 974 ff., T. Billard discusses the synthetic applications of β -fluoroalkylated α,β -unsaturated carbonyl compounds as efficient building blocks for the synthesis of complex fluorinated compounds.



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