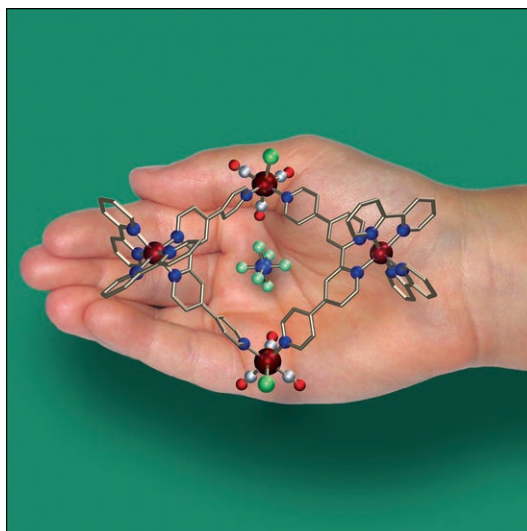


A luminescent sensor...

... for anions is described by J. A. Thomas, S. L. Heath, A. J. H. M. Meijer et al. on page 2188 ff. The sensor is composed of a heterometallic self-assembled macrocycle that has a palmate anion-binding pocket. Host-guest studies carried out in organic solvents reveal that the macrocycle functions as a luminescent sensor for anions, and the binding affinity and luminescent modulation are dependent on the structural nature and charge of the guest anion.

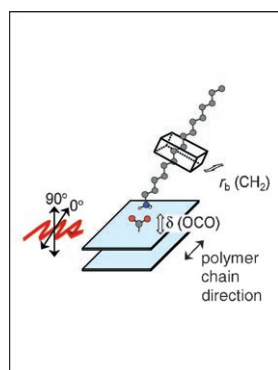
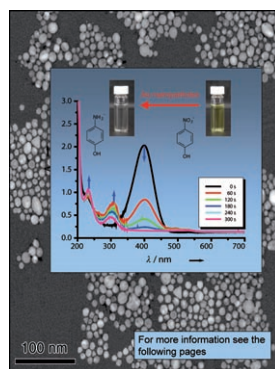


Functionalised Ionic Liquids

In their Concept article on page 2123 ff., P. J. Dyson et al. discuss some of the recent developments concerning the synthesis, properties and applications of functionalised ionic liquids. Particular attention is given to the application of functionalised ionic liquids as reaction media, to stabilise nanoparticles/modify surfaces and to generate porous materials.

Gold Nanocrystals

In their Full Paper on page 2131 ff., J. Liu, Y. Ikushima et al. describe a facile, economically viable and "green" approach for the synthesis of relatively monodisperse Au nanocrystals (average diameter = 8.2 nm, SD = 2.3 nm) by employing β -D-glucose both as reducing agent and capping agent under controlled pH environments. This Au-nanoparticle synthesis approach could be reasonably extended to the preparation of other metal nanoparticles and is currently under further investigation.



Host-Guest Recognition

In their Full Paper on p. 2139 ff., A. Matsumoto and S. Oshita describe how the orientation of the guest molecules is controlled by the tacticity of the host polymer depending on the structure of the two-dimensional hydrogen-bonding network in the polymer sheets of the crystals.

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