# CONTENTS REVIEWS

# **Evolution of platinum anticancer**

**agents**: Research into platinum-based anticancer compounds has led to the development of a myriad of drugs, with only a small handful gaining approval. This review highlights the current techniques for improving these approved drugs to retain or improve efficacy whilst reducing toxic side effects. We focus on cancer-specific targeting, drug delivery and the prodrug approach.



# **Drug Delivery** -

Advances in Platinum Chemotherapeutics

**Resolving the problem**! The conformationally chiral bistridentate [Ru- $(dqp)_2$ ]<sup>2+</sup> complex (dqp=2,6-di(quinolin-8-yl)pyridine) was resolved by selective precipitation using [ $\Delta$ -TRIS-PHAT]<sup>-</sup> (tris(tetrachlorocatecholate)phosphate) as the chiral auxiliary. The X-ray crystal structure of one diastereomer has been solved (see picture). No evidence for racemization was observed either at elevated temperature or with visible light.



# COMMUNICATIONS

## Chirality ·

S. Sharma, F. Lombeck, L. Eriksson, O. Johansson\*......7078-7081

Resolution of Conformationally Chiral *mer*-[Ru(dqp)<sub>2</sub>]<sup>2+</sup> and Crystallographic Analysis of  $[\delta, \delta$ -Ru(dqp)<sub>2</sub>][ $\Delta$ -TRISPHAT]<sub>2</sub> (dqp = 2,6-Di(quinolin-8-yl)pyridine; TRISPHAT = Tris(tetrachlorocatecholate)phosphate)

Keep it in the family: Two novel copper–undecaniobates [{Cu- $(H_2O)L_2$ {CuNb<sub>11</sub>O<sub>35</sub>H<sub>4</sub>}]<sup>5–</sup> (L=1,10phenanthroline or 2,2'-bipyridine, an example is shown here) have been successfully synthesized by the diffusion strategy and, as far as we know, represent the first examples of copper– undecaniobates in the polyoxoniobate family.



#### **Polyoxometalates**

J.-Y. Niu, G. Chen, J.-W. Zhao, P.-T. Ma, S.-Z. Li, J.-P. Wang,\* M.-X. Li, Y. Bai, B.-S. Ji... 7082–7086

Two Novel Copper–Undecaniobates Decorated by Copper–Organic Cations  $[{Cu(H_2O)L}_2{CuNb_{11}O_{35}H_4}]^{5-}$ (L = 1,10-phenanthroline, 2,2'-bipyridine) Consisting of Plenary and Monolacunary Lindqvist-Type Isopolyniobate Fragments





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# NMR Spectroscopy

 Tunable Alignment for All Polymer Gel/Solvent Combinations for the Measurement of Anisotropic NMR Parameters



A stretching apparatus (see figure) with arbitrary scalability of alignment strength is introduced for the measurement of anisotropic NMR parameters, which works for practically all polymer gel/solvent combinations. Its use is demonstrated in applications involving the steady incrimination of residual dipolar couplings, the distinction of enantiomers, and the conformational analysis of organic compounds.

# Asymmetric Synthesis —

*S. Ogawa, N. Iida, E. Tokunaga, M. Shiro, N. Shibata*\*......7090-7095

Cinchona Alkaloid/Ti<sup>IV</sup>-Catalyzed Enantioselective Enamine-Trifluoropyruvate Condensation-Cyclization Reaction and Its Application to Druglike Heterocycles



**Drug design**: A cinchona alkaloid/Ti<sup>IV</sup>catalyzed enantioselective tandem enamine–trifluoropyruvate condensation–cyclization reaction provides a robust method for the construction of small heterocyclic molecules with a quaternary trifluoromethylated carbon center (see scheme). The series of products are attractive templates and were readily converted to drug-like trifluoromethylated heterocycles by con-

ventional methods.

# **BH<sub>3</sub> Coordination** –

*S. Marks, R. Köppe, T. K. Panda, P. W. Roesky*\*......7096–7100

## Unprecedented Zinc-Borane Complexes



A borane–borohydride and a borane– methyl zinc complex were synthesized by different synthetic pathways. In both compounds the borane molecule is  $\kappa^1$ -coordinated to the zinc atom (see figure).

# **Phosphorus Heterocycles -**

*T. Linder, T. C. Sutherland,*\* *T. Baumgartner*\*......7101–7105

Extended 2,5-Diazaphosphole Oxides: Promising Electron-Acceptor Building Blocks for π-Conjugated Organic Materials



**BTD makeover**—phosphorus edition: Replacing the sulfur atom in  $\pi$ extended 2,1,3-benzo[*c*]thiadiazoles (BTD) by a phosphoryl group affords the materials with improved electronacceptor properties. The significantly lower reduction potentials and competitive electron-transfer rates make the new diazaphosphole oxides excellent candidates for application in  $\pi$ -conjugated organic materials (see figure).

# 7050 —

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Amazing anatase: Anatase  $TiO_2$  tubular structures made up of microcrystallites with a high percentage of {001} facets were synthesized by a simple one-step hydrothermal process with  $ZrO_2$  fibers as a template (see graphic). The morphologies, structures and growth procedures were systematically investigated, and a plausible mechanism for the formation of these structures was proposed.

## **Hydrothermal Synthesis**

Synthesis of Anatase TiO<sub>2</sub> Tubular Structures Microcrystallites with a High Percentage of {001} Facets by a Simple One-Step Hydrothermal Template Process



**Running rings around gold**: A new cascade reaction catalysed by AuCl<sub>3</sub> that is based upon an initial cycloisomerisation reaction of enynol or enynamine derivatives, which form 1,3-buta-

diene derivatives, followed by a Diels– Alder cycloaddition reaction to give fused or spirocyclic compounds is reported (see scheme).

#### Homogeneous Catalysis —

J. Barluenga,\* J. Calleja, A. Mendoza, F. Rodríguez, F. J. Fañanás 7110-7112

Synthesis of Polycyclic Compounds by a Cascade Cycloisomerisation/Diels– Alder Reaction

Au-nanoparticle composites detect amino acids: Selective and chiroselective surface plasmon resonance (SPR) analysis of amino acids is accomplished with molecularly imprinted bis-anilinecrosslinked Au-nanoparticle composites electropolymerized on Au surfaces (see graphic).

#### COO<sup>-</sup> H<sub>LC</sub> H<sub>LC</sub>

# **FULL PAPERS**

# **Molecular Imprinting** -

Stereoselective and Chiroselective Surface Plasmon Resonance (SPR) Analysis of Amino Acids by Molecularly Imprinted Au-Nanoparticle Composites

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#### Radicals

H. Rinderhagen, J. Mattay,\* R. Nussbaum, T. Bally\*....7121-7124

Regioselective Oxidative Ring Opening of Cyclopropyl Silyl Ethers: A Quantum Chemical Study



**Spontaneous fragmentation** is observed for cyclopropyl silyl ethers (see scheme), sometimes followed by re-cyclisation to form new products, in the absence of nucleophiles, that is, under conditions where alkyl- or arylsubstituted cylopropanes do not even epimerize. In cyclic systems intermolecular addition reactions lead predominantely to the *endo*-addition products, which is caused by the selectivity of the initial fragmentation.

# Sensors -

W.-J. Xu, S.-J. Liu, X.-Y. Zhao, S. Sun, S. Cheng, T.-C. Ma, H.-B. Sun, Q. Zhao,\* W. Huang\*...... 7125-7133

Cationic Iridium(III) Complex Containing both Triarylboron and Carbazole Moieties as a Ratiometric Fluoride Probe That Utilizes a Switchable Triplet–Singlet Emission



**Probing for information**: A fluoride probe based on a cationic  $Ir^{III}$  complex contains both triarylboron and carbazole moieties. Binding of F<sup>-</sup> ions to the complex can quench the phosphorescent emission from the  $Ir^{III}$  complex and enhance the fluorescent emission from the N^N ligand, which corresponds to a visual change in the emission from orange/red to blue (see scheme). Thus, colorimetric and ratiometric fluoride sensing can be realized.

#### Ionic Liquid Crystals -

J.-H. Olivier, F. Camerel, G. Ulrich, J. Barberá, \* R. Ziessel\*.....7134–7142

Luminescent Ionic Liquid Crystals from Self-Assembled BODIPY Disulfonate and Imidazolium Frameworks



**Glow in the dark!** Ionic self-assembly involving functionalised imidazolium cations and 4,4-difluoro-4-bora-3a,4adiaza-*s*-indacene-2,6-disulfonates produces columnar luminescent ionic liquid crystals (ILCs; see figure) over a wide temperature range and luminescent patterned films when acrylates replace some of the terminal methyl groups.

# Supramolecular Chemistry -

Coordination-Driven Hierarchical Organization of π-Conjugated Systems: From Molecular to Supramolecular π-Stacked Assemblies



**Big is beautiful!** A general approach to  $\pi$ -stacked supramolecular rectangles is described. The reaction of U-shaped, bimetallic, Cu<sup>I</sup> complexes, assembled from a heteroditopic pincer, with cyano-capped  $\pi$ -conjugated linkers gives straightforward access to  $\pi$ stacked metallocyclophanes in good yields. Rectangles based upon long  $\pi$ systems stack in the solid state along infinite columns of interacting  $\pi$  systems (see figure).

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**Subtle factors**: Both trinuclear  $[Co_2M]$ (M=Mn, Fe, Co, Ni) and tetranuclear  $[Co_2M_2]$  (M=Mn, Ni) complexes were isolated from reactions of  $[Co^{II}-$  (triphos)(CN)<sub>2</sub>] and M(ClO<sub>4</sub>)<sub>2</sub>·6H<sub>2</sub>O in methanol (see scheme). The observation of antiferromagnetic or ferromagnetic coupling was rationalized by DFT calculations and found to derive from overlap patterns of the different magnetic orbitals as influenced by the angles of the cyanide bridges.

#### **Cobalt Complexes**

Cyanide-Bridged  $[Co^{II}_2M^{II}]$  and  $[Co^{II}_2M^{II}_2]$  Complexes Based on the  $[Co^{II}(triphos)(CN)_2]$  Building Block: Syntheses, Structures, Magnetic Properties, and Density Functional Theoretical Studies

# Towards nuclear imaging tracers:

Rapid and selective formation of highly stable, kinetically inert Ga<sup>III</sup> complexes over a wide pH range, together with the possibility to conjugate multiple biomolecules through amide bonds, render the ligand **PrP9** (see scheme) an ideal starting point for the synthesis of <sup>68</sup>Ga-based tracers for positron emission tomography (PET).



# **Radiopharmaceuticals** -

A Triazacyclononane-Based Bifunctional Phosphinate Ligand for the Preparation of Multimeric <sup>68</sup>Ga Tracers for Positron Emission Tomography



**Under pressure**: Films of self-assembled surface micelles of fluorocarbon/ hydrocarbon diblocks can be compressed far beyond monolayer collapse, which results in composite multilayer or dendrite formation (see images). A regular monolayer of surface hemimicelles is preserved.

#### Film Compression -

*C. de Gracia Lux, J.-L. Gallani, G. Waton, M. P. Krafft*\*....7186–7198

Compression of Self-Assembled Nano-Objects: 2D/3D Transitions in Films of (Perfluoroalkyl)Alkanes—Persistence of an Organized Array of Surface Micelles



**Borrowing pays off in the end**: The Nalkylation of ammonia (or its surrogates) and amines with alcohols to produce tertiary or secondary amines was efficiently promoted by the easily prepared and inexpensive supported ruthenium hydroxide catalyst  $Ru(OH)_x/TiO_2$ . This catalytic transformation proceeds through consecutive N-alkylation reactions, in which the alcohols act as alkylating reagents (see picture).

# Heterogeneous Catalysis -

*K. Yamaguchi, J. L. He, T. Oishi, N. Mizuno*\*.....7199-7207

The "Borrowing Hydrogen Strategy" by Supported Ruthenium Hydroxide Catalysts: Synthetic Scope of Symmetrically and Unsymmetrically Substituted Amines

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# **Hard Materials**

Phenakite-Type BeP<sub>2</sub>N<sub>4</sub>—A Possible Precursor for a New Hard Spinel-Type Material



Hard as nails!  $BeP_2N_4$ , a novel nitridophosphate crystallizing in the phenakite-type structure, was synthesized in a multi-anvil apparatus under highpressure/high-temperature conditions (see picture). Remarkable structural and material properties are anticipated for spinel-type  $BeP_2N_4$ .

# Photocrystallography -

H. Svendsen, J. Overgaard, M. A. Chevallier, E. Collet, Y.-S. Chen, F. Jensen, B. B. Iversen\*....7215-7223

Photomagnetic Switching of Heterometallic Complexes  $[M(dmf)_4(H_2O)_3-(\mu-CN)Fe(CN)_5]\cdot H_2O$  (M = Nd, La, Gd, Y) Analyzed by Single-Crystal X-ray Diffraction and Ab Initio Theory



Making light of things: Single-crystal X-ray diffraction combined with UV illumination revealed the ground- and excited-state structures of photomagnetic heterobimetallic complexes  $[M(dmf)_4(H_2O)_3(\mu-CN)Fe(CN)_5]\cdot H_2O$ 



#### Structure Elucidation -

The Search for Tricyanomethane (Cyanoform)



**Surprise ?** In an attempt to prepare tricyanomethane, transfer of two molecules of water from concentrated sulfuric acid (!) to the dicyanoketenimine tautomer leads to the compound shown.

# 

On the Dewar–Chatt–Duncanson Model for Catalytic Gold(I) Complexes

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# **Coordination bonds defined**! A charge–displacement analysis reveals the full picture of $\sigma$ donation and $\pi$ back-donation in catalytic gold(I)– alkyne complexes (see figure; nhc=2,3-dihydroimidazol-2-ylidene).

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**Encapsulated perfectly**: A cage-type receptor that comprises two cyclopep-tide subunits covalently linked through three linkers was assembled by using click chemistry (see picture). This receptor features a polar interior, because of a converging arrangement of the cyclopeptide NH groups, that enables tight binding to sulfate ions in an aqueous environment. Interestingly, complex stability is entirely due to the huge contribution of entropy to the complex formation.



## Host-Guest Systems

*T. Fiehn, R. Goddard, R. W. Seidel, S. Kubik*\*......7241–7255

A Cyclopeptide-Derived Molecular Cage for Sulfate Ions That Closes with a Click



**Forming bonds**: It is proposed that organosoluble Lewis acidic polyoxometalates containing Zr, Sc, Y, Hf, or lanthanide atoms catalyze C–C bondformation reactions, such as the Mannich and Mukaiyama-type reactions

Heterocalixaromatics: Functionalised tetraoxacalix[2]arene[2]triazines have been synthesised efficiently by the fragment coupling approach under very mild conditions. A lower-rim dihydroxy-substituted tetraoxacalix[2]arene[2]triazine host molecule, which self-associates into a dimer in solution and a tetramer in the solid state (see figure), acts as a hydrogen-bond donor to form host–guest complexes with 2,2'-bipyridine, 4,4'-bipyridine and 1,10-phenanthroline both in solution and in the solid state.

Not only angels have halos: By utilizing a concept, which was first applied to halogens, to reaction mixtures such as Me<sub>3</sub>Si–X/[Me<sub>3</sub>Si–X–SiMe<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> (X=CN, OCN, SCN, and NNN), it was possible to prepare the first bissilylated pseudohalonium cations in high yields, thereby proving and extending the pseudohalogen concept.



(see scheme; M = metal center). These

air- and water-stable catalysts activate

imines in a Lewis acidic way, whereas

aldehydes are activated by indirect

Brønsted catalysis.

# **C-C** Coupling

Chemoselective Catalysis with Organo-

# Host-Guest Systems -

*Q.-Q.* Wang, *D.-X.* Wang,\* *H.-B.* Yang, *Z.-T.* Huang, *M.-X.* Wang\* 7265–7275

Synthesis, Structure and Molecular Recognition of Functionalised Tetraoxacalix[2]arene[2]triazines



# Halogen Compounds

A. Schulz,\* A. Villinger\*... 7276-7281

Pseudohalonium Ions: [Me<sub>3</sub>Si–X– SiMe<sub>3</sub>]<sup>+</sup> (X = CN, OCN, SCN, and NNN)

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#### **Photon Chemistry**

R. Martín, L. Jiménez, M. Alvaro, J. C. Scaiano, H. Garcia\*...7282-7292

Two-Photon Chemistry in Ruthenium 2,2'-Bipyridyl-Functionalized Single-Wall Carbon Nanotubes



**Ruthenium discotheque**: A highenergy laser pulse combined with the long lifetime of  $[Ru(bpy)_3]^{2+}$ (bpy=2,2'-bipyridyl) triplets and the low energy of the valence band in single-wall carbon nanotubes (SWCNTs) leads to the formation of two distant triplet  $[Ru(bpy)_3]^{2+}$  excitons (see picture). A number of interesting photon-based mechanisms were revealed by using laser flash photolysis.

#### Enzyme Models -

P. Comba,\* S. Wunderlich . . 7293-7299

Liron-Catalyzed Halogenation of Alkanes: Modeling of Nonheme Halogenases by Experiment and DFT Calculations



A range of routes: A highly active iron complex of tetradentate bispidine ligand L can selectively halogenate cyclohexane catalytically. Experimental and computational studies suggest different possible reaction pathways that strongly depend on the oxidant used for the reaction. The mechanism may involve  $Fe^{IV}$  and  $Fe^{V}$  oxo intermediates, for example,  $[Fe^{IV}=$  $O(L)CI]^+\cdots C_6H_{12}$  (see picture; C gray, Cl green, Fe light blue, N dark blue, O red, H omitted except for FeO····C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>12</sub> interaction).

#### **Reaction Mechanisms**

Ligand-Exchange Processes on Solvated Zinc Cations: Water Exchange on [Zn(H<sub>2</sub>O)<sub>4</sub>(L)]<sup>2+</sup>·2H<sub>2</sub>O (L=Heterocyclic Ligand)



No drought here: Water-exchange reactions of  $[Zn(H_2O)_4L]^{2+.2}H_2O$ (L = imidazole, pyrazole, 1,2,4-triazole,pyridine, 4-cyanopyridine, 4-aminopyridine, 2-azaphosphole, 2-azafuran, 2azathiophene, and 2-azaselenophene)have been studied by DFT calculations $<math>(B3LYP/6-311+G^{**})$  and provide theoretical evidence that the exchange mechanism follows a limiting associative reaction mechanism (see picture) to form a six-coordinate intermediate  $[Zn(H_2O)_5L]^{2+}\cdotH_2O$ .

## **Superhydrophobicity**

Solution-Processable Flower-Shaped Hierarchical Structures: Self-Assembly, Formation, and State Transition of Biomimetic Superhydrophobic Surfaces



Flower power! Two types of scales (micro and nano) of flower-shaped morphologies that exhibit excellent water-repelling characteristics have been formed from the hierarchical self-assembly of benzodithiophene derivatives (see figure). Because of the slight structural differences in the two kinds of flowers, a transition from the Cassie to Wenzel state was realized.

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J.-H. Olivier, F. Camerel, G. Ulrich, J. Barberá,\* R. Ziessel\*....7134–7142

Luminescent Ionic Liquid Crystals from Self-Assembled BODIPY Disulfonate and Imidazolium Frameworks

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The authors have noted that there is a mistake in Scheme 1 of this Full Paper. A corrected version of this scheme is included below. The authors apologize for this oversight.



Scheme 1. Structures of BODDS-C<sub>n</sub>benzyl (n=8, 12, 16) and BODDS-P<sub>12</sub>gall.

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