# SPOTLIGHTS ...



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**Container Molecules** 

M. Podewitz, J. D. van Beek, M. Wörle, T. Ott, D. Stein, H. Rüegger, B. H. Meier,\* M. Reiher,\* H. Grützmacher\*

# Ion Dynamics in Confined Spaces: Sodium Ion Mobility in Icosahedral Container Molecules

**Cage it**: A central  $PH_2^-$  ion (see picture, magenta) is encapsulated within a container of twelve *tert*-butoxides (red and black) in an icosahedral arrangement. The twelve or thirteen sodium countercations are dynamically disordered over the twenty corners of a regular dodecahedron (blue). The estimated activation barriers for sodium exchange are remarkably low (10–30 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>) and in the range of fast Li<sup>+</sup> ion conductors.



Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. DOI: 10.1002/anie.201003441



## **Organoplatinum** Complexes

P. Wang, C.-H. Leung, D.-L. Ma, W. Lu, C.-M. Che\*

#### Organoplatinum(II) Complexes with Nucleobase Motifs as Inhibitors of Human Topoisomerase II Catalytic Activity

**No relaxation in sight**: Platinum(II) complexes containing acetylide ligands bearing nucleobase motifs have been synthesized. The identification of the  $[Pt^{II}(tBu_3N^{\wedge}N^{\wedge}N)]^{2+}$  moieties bearing nucleobase motifs represents, to the best of our knowledge, the first examples of platinum(II)-based TopoII inhibitors, which inhibit the DNA relaxation activity of TopoII through the suppression of TopoII-catalyzed ATP hydrolysis.



*Chem. Asian J.* DOI: **10.1002/asia.201000451** 



## Gene Expression —

A. Harada,\* Y. Kimura, K. Kono

#### Cationic Polymers with Inhibition Ability of DNA Condensation Elevate Gene Expression

**Plasmid DNA molecules in polyplexes** with poly(L-lysine) (PLL) and multiarm PEG-installed PLL (*ma*PEG–PLL) adopted condensed and noncondensed states, respectively. *ma*PEG–PLL polyplexes showed comparable cell-free gene expression with naked pDNA. The inhibition ability of DNA condensation of *ma*PEG–PLL provided not only the recovery of cell-free gene expression but also elevated the gene expression of cultured cells.



*ChemBioChem* DOI: **10.1002/cbic.201000394** 

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*ChemPhysChem* DOI: **10.1002/cphc.201000334** 



*ChemMedChem* DOI: **10.1002/cmdc.201000276** 



*ChemSusChem* DOI: **10.1002/cssc.201000131** 



*ChemCatChem* DOI: **10.1002/cctc.201000093** 

## Photonic Crystals

E. Bovero, K. Yano, T. Nakamura, Y. Yamada, F. C. J. M. van Veggel\*

# Directional Study of the Optical Properties of Tb<sup>3+</sup>- and Eu<sup>3+</sup>-Doped Nanoparticles Embedded in Silica Photonic Crystals

**Angular modulation of emission lifetime** is achieved by exploiting different penetrations of the excitation beam controlled by the effect of the photonic stop band in a silica photonic crystal in which  $Tb^{3+}$  and  $Eu^{3+}$  nanoparticles are embedded (see picture).

#### Antimalarial Agents —

C. T. Behrendt, A. Kunfermann, V. Illarionova, A. Matheeussen, T. Gräwert, M. Groll, F. Rohdich, A. Bacher, W. Eisenreich, M. Fischer, L. Maes, T. Kurz\*

#### Synthesis and Antiplasmodial Activity of Highly Active Reverse Analogues of the Antimalarial Drug Candidate Fosmidomycin

**Inhibition of enzymes** involved in the nonmevalonate pathway of isoprenoid biosynthesis represents a promising strategy for the development of novel antimalarial agents. A small series of reverse hydroxamate-based fosmidomycin analogues was synthesized and evaluated for their inhibitory activity against the recombinant 1-deoxy-D-xylulose 5-phosphate reductoisomerases (DXRs) of *Escherichia coli* and *Plasmodium falciparum*, as well as for their in vitro antiplasmodial activity and cytotoxicity.

## Carbon Dioxide Capture

W. Li, S. Choi, J. H. Drese, M. Hornbostel, G. Krishnan, P. M. Eisenberger, C. W. Jones\*

#### Steam-Stripping for Regeneration of Supported Amine-Based CO<sub>2</sub> Adsorbents

Amine-based solid  $CO_2$  adsorbents have been investigated intensively in recent years. However, the focus has routinely been on their adsorption capacity and not on their regeneration. Here, a practical desorption process for supported amine adsorbents, steam-stripping, is demonstrated for the first time.

#### Spectroscopy –

O. M. Daniel, A. DeLaRiva, E. L. Kunkes, A. K. Datye, J. A. Dumesic, R. J. Davis\*

#### X-ray Absorption Spectroscopy of Bimetallic Pt-Re Catalysts for Hydrogenolysis of Glycerol to Propanediols

**Propanediols are produced** by hydrogenolysis of glycerol over nanometer size carbon-supported Pt–Re particles at 443 K, whereas analogous monometallic particles are inactive. X-ray absorption spectroscopy above the Pt and Re  $L_{III}$  edges reveal that both metals are reduced by H<sub>2</sub> at 473 K to form bimetallic particles. The presence of oxophilic Re in contact with Pt promoted the selective hydrogenolysis reaction.





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## Lanthanide Complexes

M. Regueiro-Figueroa, D. Esteban-Gómez, A. de Blas, T. Rodríguez-Blas,\* C. Platas-Iglesias\*

# Structure and Dynamics of Lanthanide(III) Complexes with an N-Alkylated do3a Ligand (H<sub>3</sub>do3a = 1,4,7,10-Tetraazacyclo-dodecane-1,4,7-triacetic Acid): A Combined Experimental and DFT Study

A study on the solution structure and dynamics of Ln<sup>III</sup>(do3a) complexes (H<sub>3</sub>do3a = 1,4,7,10-tetraazacyclododecane-1,4,7-triacet-ic acid) shows that the  $\Delta(\lambda\lambda\lambda\lambda)$  conformation is favored over the  $\Delta(\delta\delta\delta\delta)$  one. The energy barrier associated with the ring inversion is similar to that observed for Ln<sup>III</sup>(dota) (H<sub>4</sub>dota = 1,4,7,10-tetraazacyclododecane-1,4,7,10-tetraacetic acid) complexes, whereas the low energy barrier for the arm rotation is responsible for fast isomer interconversion.



*Eur. J. Inorg. Chem.* DOI: **10.1002/ejic.201000334** 



## C-Nucleosides -

J. Bárta, L. Slavětínská, B. Klepetářová, M. Hocek\*

#### Modular Synthesis of 5-Substituted Furan-2-yl C-2'-Deoxyribonucleosides and Biaryl Covalent Base-Pair Analogues

Fluorescent 5-(hetero)arylfuran C-2'-deoxyribonucleosides were prepared by Friedel–Crafts C-glycosidation of 2-bromofuran followed by cross-coupling reactions. Novel covalent nucleoside pairs were prepared by borylation and cross-coupling.



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