

Chemical Science

rsc.li/chemical-science

The Royal Society of Chemistry is the world's leading chemistry community. Through our high impact journals and publications we connect the world with the chemical sciences and invest the profits back into the chemistry community.

IN THIS ISSUE

ISSN 2041-6539 CODEN CSHCBM 16(29) 13127–13550 (2025)



Cover

See Matthew Jenner et al., pp. 13173–13182. Image reproduced by permission of Matthew Jenner and Munro Passmore from *Chem. Sci.*, 2025, **16**, 13173.



Inside cover

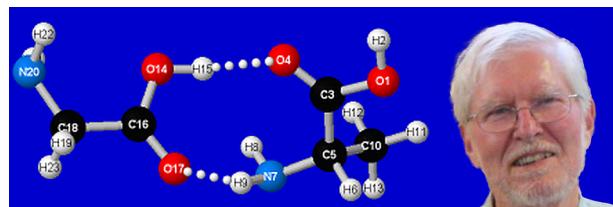
See Kentaro Yonesato, Kosuke Suzuki et al., pp. 13183–13188. Image reproduced by permission of Kosuke Suzuki and Kentaro Yonesato from *Chem. Sci.*, 2025, **16**, 13183.

PERSPECTIVE

13141

Personal recollections of a quantum chemist

Frank Weinhold*

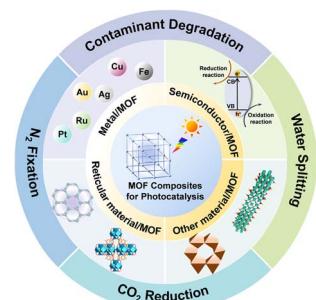


REVIEW

13149

Recent advances in MOF composites for photocatalysis

Chenxi Zhang, Yanhong Wu, Dandan Li*
and Hai-Long Jiang*





GOLD
OPEN
ACCESS

EES Solar

Exceptional research on solar energy and photovoltaics

Part of the EES family

Join
in

Publish with us

rsc.li/EESSolar

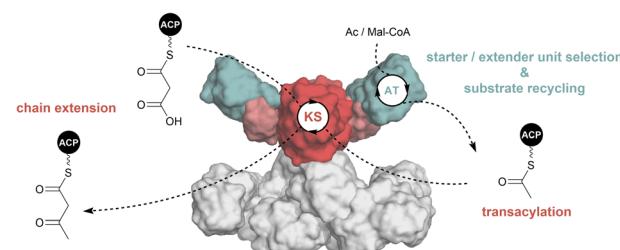


EDGE ARTICLES

13173

Biochemical dissection of a fungal highly reducing polyketide synthase condensing region reveals basis for acyl group selection

Mia E. Foran, Nazia B. Auckloo, Y. T. Candace Ho, Shaonan Liu, Yang Hai and Matthew Jenner*

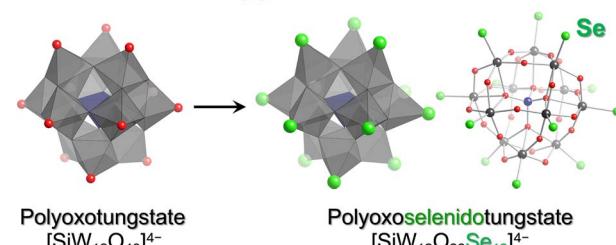


13183

Synthesis of a Keggin-type polyoxoselenidotungstate via site-selective oxygen-to-selenium substitution

Kentaro Yonesato,* Yota Watanabe, Magda Pascual-Borràs, R. John Errington, Kazuya Yamaguchi and Kosuke Suzuki*

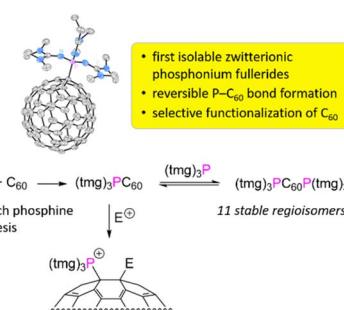
Site-selective oxygen-to-selenium substitution



13189

Phosphonium fullerides: isolable zwitterionic adducts of a phosphine with C₆₀

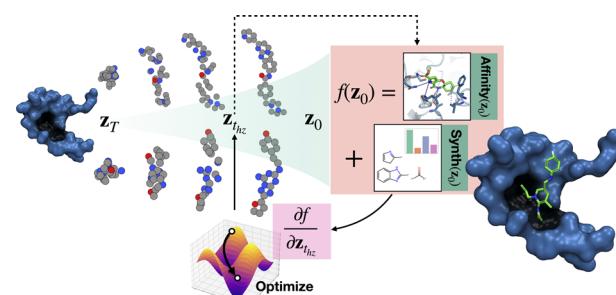
Maike B. Röthel, Jonas H. Franzen, Daniel Leitner, Thomas S. Hofer, Michael Seidl and Fabian Dielmann*



13196

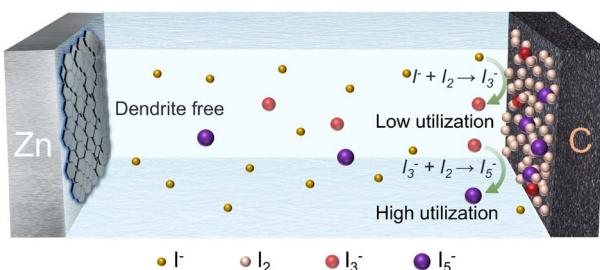
Guided multi-objective generative AI to enhance structure-based drug design

Amit Kadan,* Kevin Ryczko,* Erika Lloyd, Adrian Roitberg and Takeshi Yamazaki*



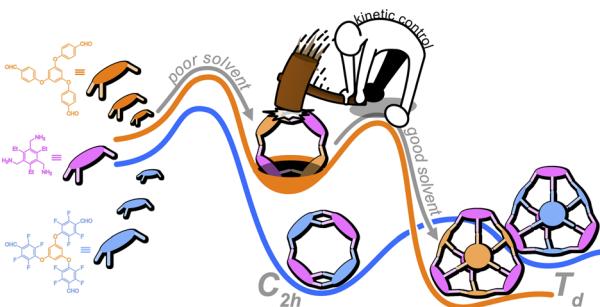
EDGE ARTICLES

13211

**Iodide-mediated intermediate regulation strategy enables high-capacity and ultra-stable zinc–iodine batteries**

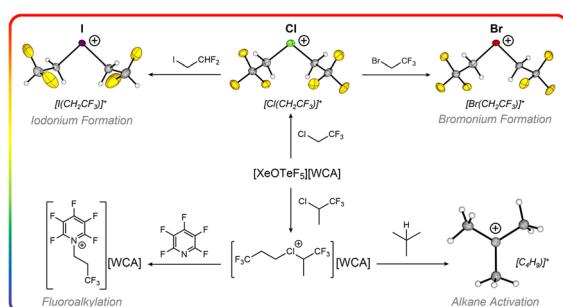
Zhijie Xu, Jiaqi Yang, Peng Sun, Yaoyu Chen, Zhengxiao Ji, Xusheng Wang, Min Xu,* Jinliang Li* and Likun Pan*

13221

**Structural control of dynamic covalent cages: kinetic vs. thermodynamic assembly and PFAS removal from water**

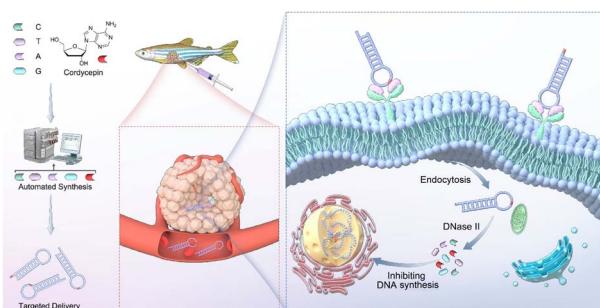
Tobias Pausch, Pablo Martínez Mestre, Fabiola Zapata, Andreas Mix and Bernd M. Schmidt*

13229

**On the synthesis and structure of reactive halonium ions**

Lukas Fischer, Michael H. Lee, Anja Wiesner, Carsten Müller and Sebastian Riedel*

13235

**Cordycepin: a dual-function molecular element for aptamer engineering with enhanced anticancer activity**

Fei Gao, Li Na, Shuyue Fu, Jinsong Peng, Shipeng He,* Ruowen Wang* and Weihong Tan*

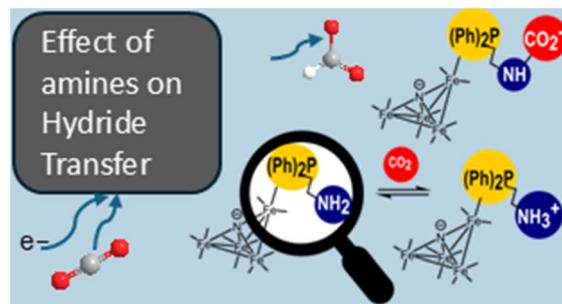


EDGE ARTICLES

13241

Amine groups alter product selectivity and rate of catalytic hydride transfer reactions

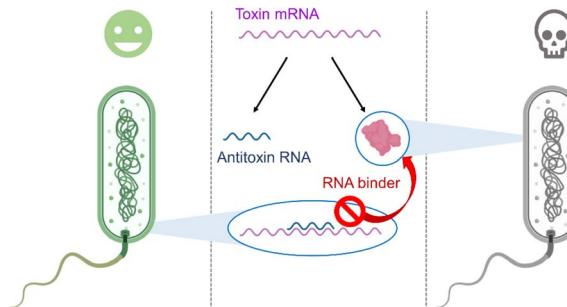
Santanu Pattanayak, Rachel E. Siegel, Yiming Liu, James C. Fettinger and Louise A. Berben*



13249

Synthetic RNA ligands as activators of type I toxin–antitoxin systems: a novel antimicrobial strategy targeting *Helicobacter pylori*

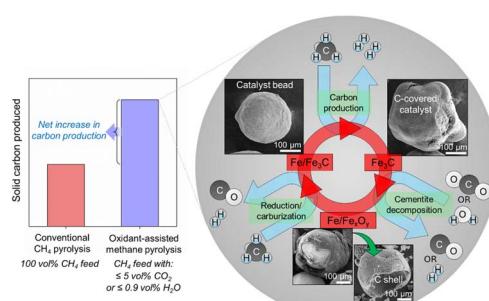
Céline Martin, Marc Panosetti, Eleonora Tesini, Stéphane Azoulay, Anthony Bugaut, Véronique Sinou, Nadia Patino, Audrey Di Giorgio, Fabien Darfeuille* and Maria Duca*



13256

Oxidant-assisted methane pyrolysis

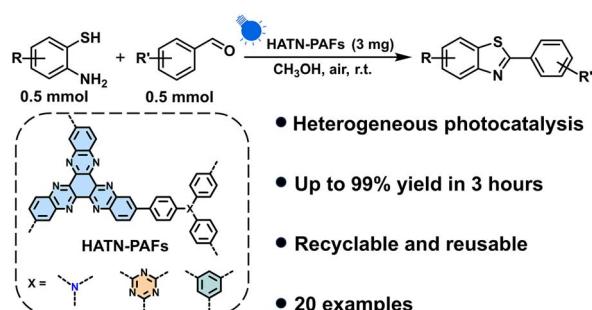
Marco Gigantino, Henry Moise, Vasudev Haribal, Andrew Tong, Jian Ping Shen, Dimitri Saad, Jacob Fishman, Alexander Nelson, Harry Voorhis, Eddie Sun, Adam Brandt, Raghbir Gupta, Arun Majumdar and Matteo Cagnello*



13267

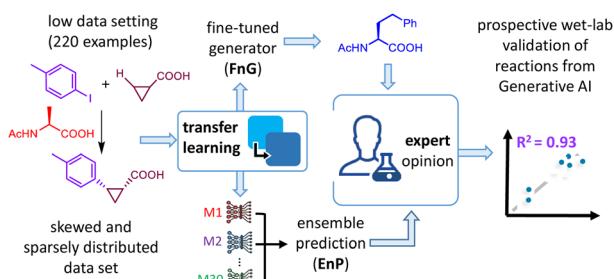
Optimal photosynthesis of 2-benzothiazoles over hexaazatrifnaphthylene-based porous aromatic frameworks

Jingjing Shao, He Wang, Xin Tao* and Guangshan Zhu



EDGE ARTICLES

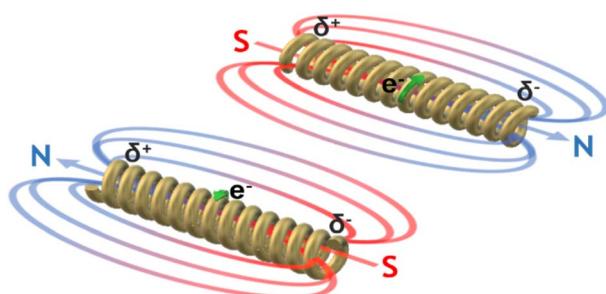
13276



Molecular Machine Learning Approach to Enantioselective C–H Bond Activation Reactions: From Generative AI to Experimental Validation

Ajnabiul Hoque, Taiwei Chang, Jin-Quan Yu*
and Raghavan B. Sunoj*

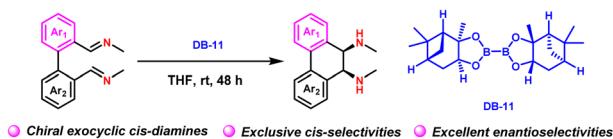
13291



Exogenous chemically-driven electromagnets

Cara Lozon, Antoine Cornet, Stéphane Reculusa,
Patrick Garrigue, Alexander Kuhn and Gerardo Salinas*

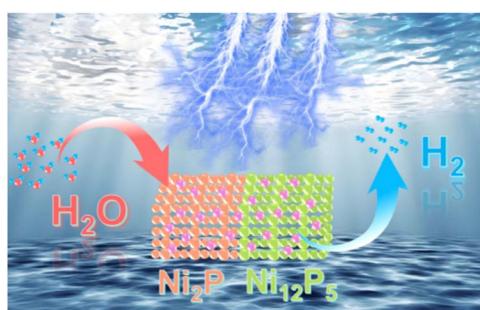
13298



Asymmetric intramolecular reductive coupling of bisimines templated by chiral diborons

Tian Chen, Hao-Yang Wang, Ronghua Xu, Guangqing Xu,
He Yang,* Jiangtao Sun,* Lung Wa Chung*
and Wenjun Tang*

13306



Microwave quasi-solid-constructed $\text{Ni}_2\text{P}-\text{Ni}_{12}\text{P}_5$ -supported Os with unique metal–support interaction for anion-exchange membrane seawater electrolysis

Qing Liu, Xiaowei Fu, Hongdong Li, Jun Xing,
Weiping Xiao, Yingxia Zong, Guangying Fu, Jinsong Wang,
Qiang Cao, Tianyi Ma,* Lei Wang* and Zexing Wu*

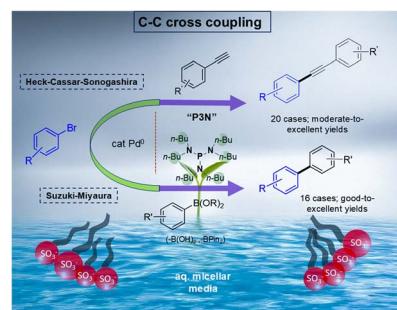


EDGE ARTICLES

13316

A new P₃N ligand for Pd-catalyzed cross-couplings in water

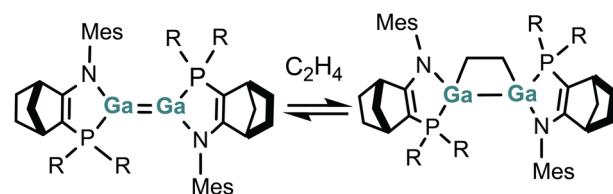
Erfan Oftadeh, Max Baumann, Marco Ortiz, Kirubel Mamo, Eduam Boeira, Esveidy Oceguera Nava, Monica S. Lopez Lemus, Shili Fang, Donald H. Aue* and Bruce H. Lipshutz*



13333

Reversible addition of ethene to gallium(I) monomers and dimers

Ryan J. Schwamm, Malavika A. Bhide, Gary S. Nichol and Michael J. Cowley*

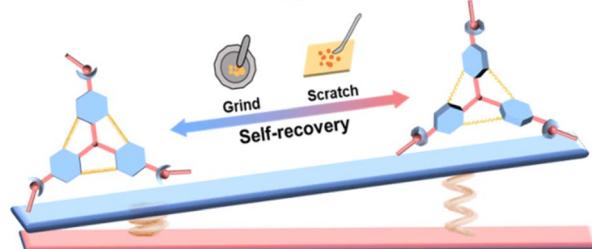


Reversible reactivity with ethene

13345

Intramolecular tension-driven self-recovering mechanochromism in organic microcrystals

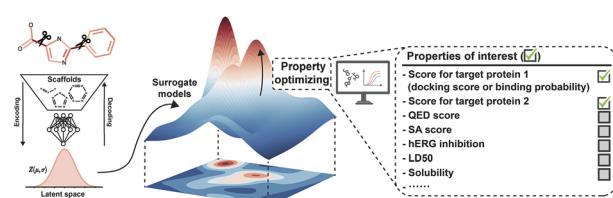
Weihuan Guo, Hua Zhao, Mingda Wang, Leilei Si, Kaixin Yang, Guomin Xia* and Hongming Wang*

Self-recovering MCF behavior

13352

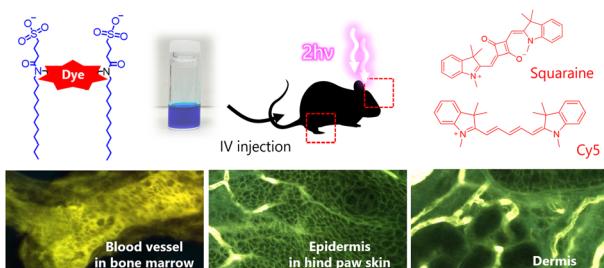
Multi-objective drug design with a scaffold-aware variational autoencoder

Tiejun Dong, Linlin You* and Calvin Yu-Chian Chen*



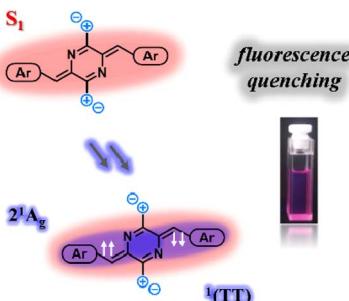
EDGE ARTICLES

13368

**Bright and water-dispersible membrane probes enable visualization of cellular morphologies and dynamics in light-scattering tissues of living mice**

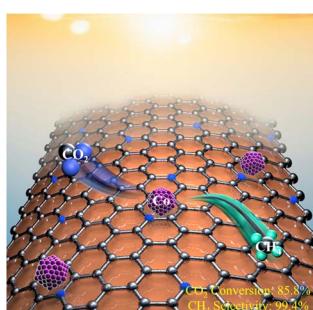
Takumi Uemura, Ryosuke Kawakami, Hitomi Seki, Satoshi Yoshida, Masamoto Murakami, Takeshi Iimamura, Hadano Shingo, Shigeru Watanabe and Yosuke Niko*

13374

**Side-chain ionization enables ultrafast intramolecular singlet fission in the azaquinodimethane skeleton**

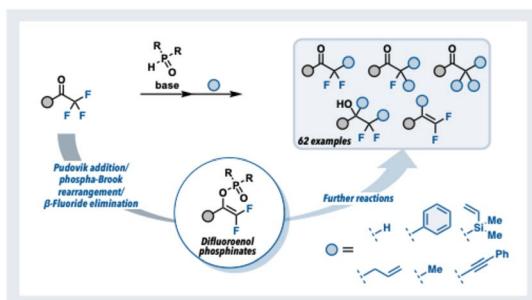
Zixiang Wu, Christopher L. Anderson, Teng-Shuo Zhang,*
Yi Liu,* Hongbing Fu* and Long Wang*

13382

**Controllable construction of cobalt nanoparticles in nitrogen-doped carbon nanotubes for photothermal CO₂ methanation**

Zhanghui Xia, Jianxin Zhai, Longfei Lin,* Xiao Chen, Cheng Xue, Shuaiqiang Jia, Jiapeng Jiao, Mengke Dong, Wanying Han, Xinrui Zheng, Teng Xue, Haihong Wu* and Buxing Han*

13390

**Difluoroenol phosphinates as difluoroenolate surrogates: synthesis and applications in defluorination and deoxygenative coupling**

Miki B. Kurosawa, Shuhei Shimoyama, Hiroki Tanaka and Junichiro Yamaguchi*

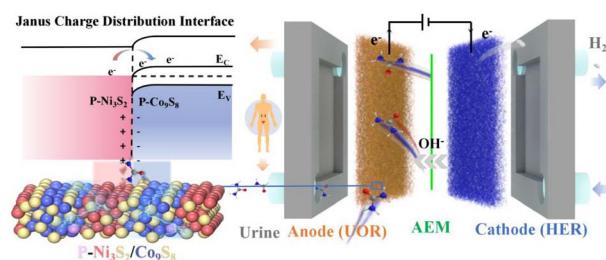


EDGE ARTICLES

13401

Activating Janus charge distribution on the P-doped $\text{Ni}_3\text{S}_2/\text{Co}_9\text{S}_8$ interface for enhancing charge-matched urea adsorption: boosting high current hydrogen production via coupled urine degradation

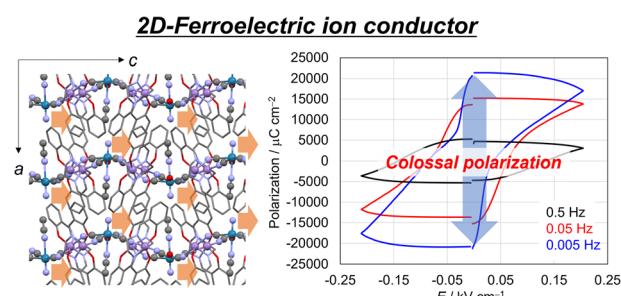
Yan Sun, Xiannan Zhang, Hairui Guo, Wenjiang Li, Huiling Liu* and Cheng Wang*



13413

A ferroelectric proton conductor with colossal polarization induced by in-plane symmetry breaking in a two-dimensional coordination polymer

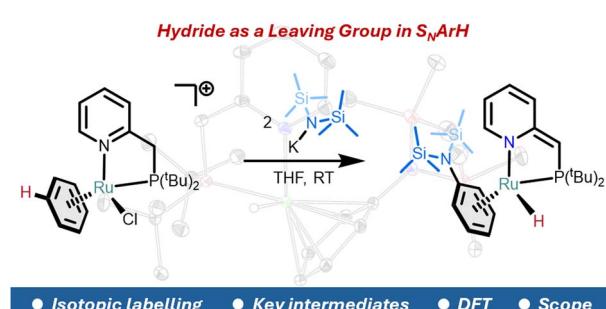
Yanqing Song, Yuta Tsuji, Kunihisa Sugimoto, Takashi Kikuchi, Yuxin Shi, Yusuke Murakami, Kotaro Hiramatsu, Benjamin Le Ouay, Masaaki Ohba* and Ryo Ohtani*



13422

Ruthenium-mediated nucleophilic aromatic substitution of hydrogen in benzene

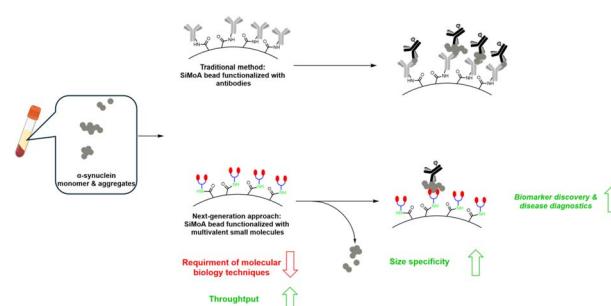
Stanislav Melnikov, Donghun Hwang, Philip Gabbert, Bohyun Park, Martin Lutz, Mu-Hyun Baik* and Daniël L. J. Broere*



13435

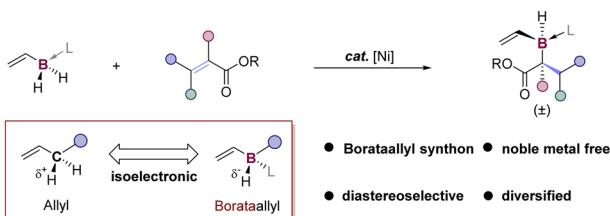
Detecting alpha-synuclein aggregates with small molecules on single-molecule array

Jeff Y. L. Lam, Timothy S. Chisholm, Hadia Almahli, Elizabeth A. English, Zengjie Xia, Yunzhao Wu, Matthew R. Cheetham,* Christopher A. Hunter* and David Klenerman*



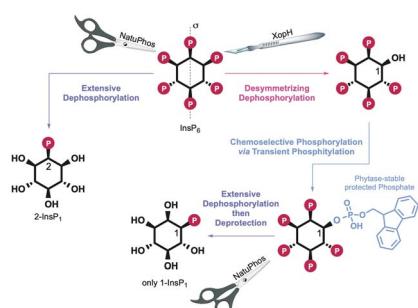
EDGE ARTICLES

13449

**Nickel-catalyzed diastereoselective hydroboration of acrylates with a vinylborane reagent**

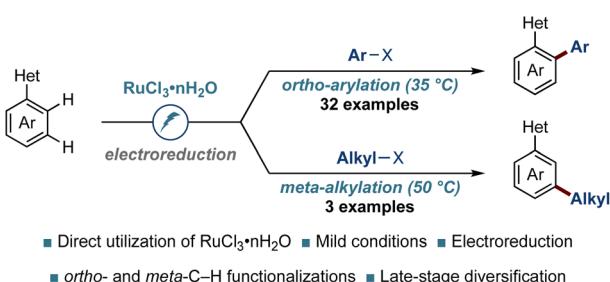
Guanwen Hu, Peiqi Zhang, Xinmou Wang, Chunteng Wan, Yiyi Fu, Wa Hung Leung, Zhenyang Lin* and Yangjian Quan*

13459

**Stereoselective chemoenzymatic phytate transformations provide access to diverse inositol phosphate derivatives**

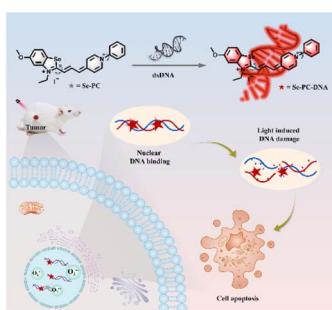
Georg Markus Häner, Guizhen Liu, Esther Lange, Nikolaus Jork, Klaus Ditrich, Ralf Greiner, Gabriel Schaaf and Henning J. Jessen*

13468

**Electroreductive room-temperature C–H activations with $\text{RuCl}_3 \cdot n\text{H}_2\text{O}$ precatalyst via cathodic ruthenium(III/II) manifold**

Takuya Michiyuki, Tristan von Münchow, Zhipeng Lin, Binbin Yuan, João C. A. Oliveira and Lutz Ackermann*

13477

**A nuclear targeted type-I photosensitizer for anti-tumor therapy**

Zipeng Li, Wenkai Liu, Wanying Ma, Changyu Zhang, Jiangli Fan* and Xiaojun Peng

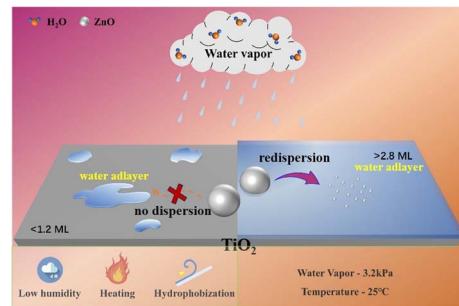


EDGE ARTICLES

13486

Mechanistic insights into spontaneous redispersion of ZnO onto TiO₂ in water-containing environments

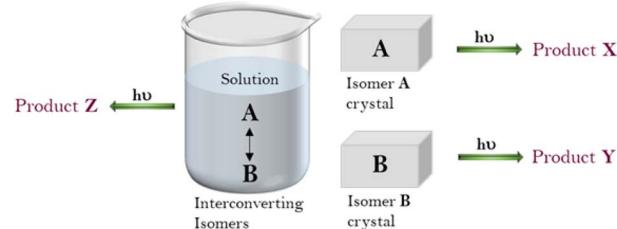
Conghui Liu, Rongtan Li, Xiaohui Feng, Yuting Sun, Yamei Fan, Jiaxin Li and Qiang Fu*



13496

Isomer-dependent reactivity in the solid state: topochemical [4 + 4] vs. [4 + 2] cycloaddition reactions

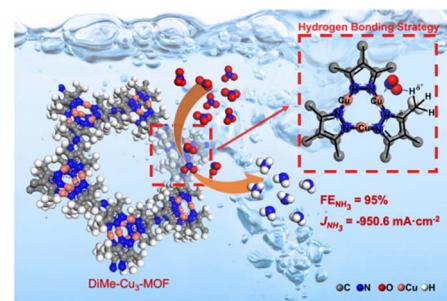
Anu Lal and Kana M. Sureshan*



13503

Hydrogen-bond mediated electrocatalytic nitrate reduction to ammonia over metal–organic frameworks with industrial current density

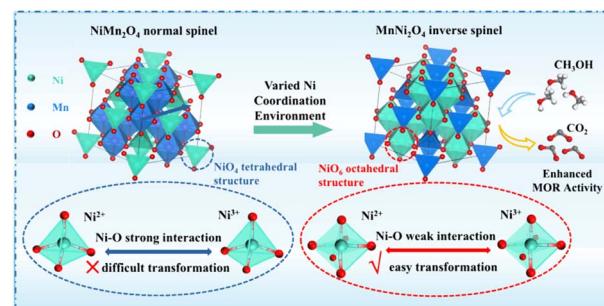
Xiao-Xue Fu, Hui Guo, Duan-Hui Si, Hong-Jing Zhu, Yi-Ying Lan, Yuan-Biao Huang and Rong Cao*



13514

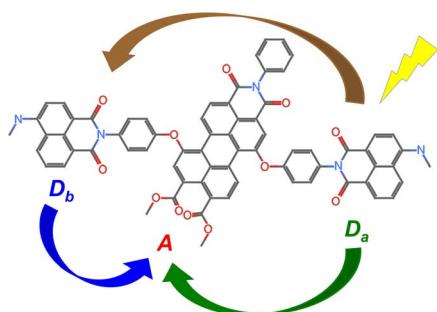
Insight into Ni active site coordination in nickel–manganese spinels for methanol electrooxidation catalysis

Ruiying Guo, Chunru Liu, Yun Yang,* Shuli Wang and Ligang Feng*



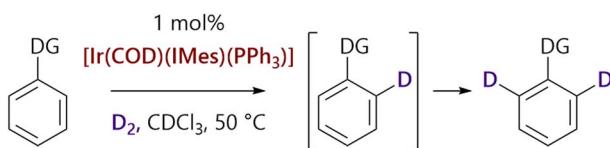
EDGE ARTICLES

13520


Simulation of ultrafast transient absorption spectra of a perylene-based light harvesting antenna

Royle Perez-Castillo, Victor M. Freixas, Aliezer Martinez-Mesa, Llinersy Uranga-Piña, Maxim F. Gelin, Sergei Tretiak and Sebastian Fernandez-Alberti*

13532



- Mono- *versus* difunctionalisation in C-H activation
- Categorisation of directing groups based on behaviour
- Key events: associative substrate exchange, C-DG rotation

Probing substrate binding and release events in iridium-catalysed hydrogen isotope exchange reactions

Daria S. Timofeeva, William J. Kerr,* David M. Lindsay* and David J. Nelson*

CORRECTIONS

13543

Correction: Pronounced electronic modulation of geometrically-regulated metallocenediye cyclization

Sarah E. Lindahl, Erin M. Metzger, Chun-Hsing Chen, Maren Pink and Jeffrey M. Zaleski*



13547

Correction: Water entropy at the threonine-rich surface of antifreeze and ice-nucleating proteins: small changes make a big difference

Debasis Saha, Rahul Aich, Arnab Mukherjee* and Biman Jana*