

Cover Picture

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The cover picture shows a schematic representation of a supramolecular rod composed of *meso-meso*-coupled porphyrins. The Ag^I-promoted *meso-meso*-coupling of Zn^{II} 5,15-diarylporphyrins enabled regularly arranged arrays with 2-128 porphyrins to be assembled. An examination of the absorption spectra of these rods show that they all exhibit split Soret bands as a result of exciton coupling. As the number of porphyrins increases the low-energy Soret band is shifted to longer wavelength while the high-energy Soret band stays at nearly the same wavelength, which results in a progressive increase in the splitting energy. A study of the fluorescence spectra of the arrays shows the S₁ states are delocalized over 6-8 porphyrin units. The 128mer at 0.1-μm long is the longest monodisperse, rodlike molecule so far known, and should, together with the smaller arrays, have the potential for application as light-harvesting wires. Further details are reported by A. Osuka et al. on p. 1458 ff.

